



# ALAMO HEIGHTS *City news*

Your Official Source from City Hall

July 2010

## Fire Chief Retires after 20 Years of Service



*Buddy Kuhn and Bill Hagendorf*

Fire Chief Bill Hagendorf announced his retirement after 20 years of serving the Alamo Heights community with the Fire/EMS Department. Bill has been Fire Chief since 2008 and has served the Fire/EMS Department in every capacity - Fire fighter, Lieutenant and Captain. He will be enjoying his retirement in the rural community of Lake City, Colorado.

Mayor Louis Cooper expressed regret at Hagendorf's decision to retire and stated that "Bill is the epitome of a Firefighter and has made drastic enhancements to the Fire/EMS Department. The improvement of the ISO rating being one of his biggest accomplishments."

At the June 28th City Council Meeting, City Manager Ann McGlone announced the appointment of Harry "Buddy" Kuhn as Interim Fire Chief. Chief Kuhn has served as Assistant Fire Chief since January 2009. He has been a Fire Fighter since 1981, spending most of his career in the City of Terrell Hills Fire Department from 1992 to 2009, where he was Assistant Fire Chief for over 10 years.

## Thank You

The Public Works staff would like to thank the residents of Alamo Heights for their support during the clean-up efforts following the last major storm. This storm caused a lot of damage to the trees and electrical wires in and around the City.

It took several weeks to clear all the debris caused by the storm. Without the collaborative efforts and support of the residents, the clean-up would have taken much longer. Also during this time residents showed their appreciation to the crews verbally as well as providing cool beverages as they worked.

## Trap, Neuter and Release

Alamo Heights' Trap-Neuter-Return Program consists of managing the feral and stray cat population in our community by humanely trapping cats, having them spayed or neutered, vaccinated against rabies, ear-tipped, and returned to their colonies.

From time-to-time kittens are trapped and need to be socialized and prepared for adoption. Fostering is imperative in socializing kittens, helping them become more adaptable to humans, helping them get adopted and in preventing their potential euthanasia. The need for foster caregivers to provide a "foster home" for these kittens is very important. All foster caregivers are given cat bowls, cat litter and food during the course of fostering kittens. The foster program is supported in its entirety by donations.

The TNR program discourages feeding colonies in public areas such as the parking lots, sidewalks and especially along the curb and in the streets. This potentially endangers the cats by exposing them to moving vehicles and can attract unwanted "wildlife".

If you notice feral cat(s) please contact us so that we may come out to evaluate the situation and make the necessary preparations for trapping the cat(s). Have questions, need to report feral cat(s) or are interested in becoming a foster care giver, contact Amber Ramirez, Animal Care Services, at 832-2216 or e-mail [aramirez@alamoheightstx.gov](mailto:aramirez@alamoheightstx.gov). Amber is available Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and by appointment on Fridays.

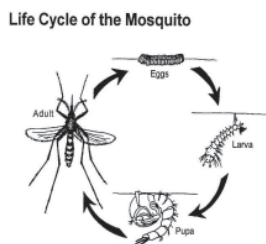


*Amber Ramirez  
Animal Care Services*

## Mosquito Control and Protection

It has been a relatively wet spring and mosquitoes have found ideal breeding grounds to increase their numbers in Alamo Heights. In an effort to provide some relief to residents and minimize the possibility of disease, the City has implemented a new type of treatment. This new treatment consists of distributing Altosid pellets in low-lying areas that often serve as breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

Like other mosquito “dunks”, Altosid stops the life cycle of mosquitoes by preventing larva from developing in standing water. Unlike other “dunks”, Altosid may be deployed during dry periods and will provide up to 30 days of mosquito control after the pellets dissolve in standing water after a rain event. The active ingredient, Methoprene, is a proven insect regulator that has no adverse effect on humans, animals, fish or vegetation.



Citizens can also assist with the effort to reduce mosquito numbers by following some simple tips.

**DRAIN** – Eliminate any potential standing water on your property.

**DEFEND** – Use an EPA-registered mosquito repellent such as DEET, Picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus.

**DRESS** – Wear light colored, loose fitting clothing that minimizes skin exposure.

## Explorer Academy - First of Its Kind

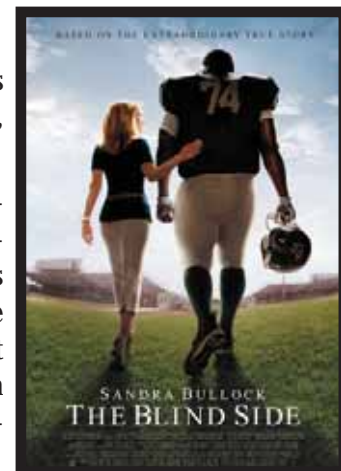
From June 14th to the 18th, the AH Police/EMS/Fire Explorer Post along with the Southside ISD Police Explorer Post conducted a one of a kind Public Safety Explorer Academy at Southside High School. Fifty Law Enforcement and Fire Explorers from eight organizations came together for a week long training academy that taught such skills as landing zone and patient loading on AirLife helicopters, police and fire building searches, arson and bomb investigation, and disaster preparedness. 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.



## Family Fun with a Cause!!

Our first two Movie Nights in the Heights events, sponsored by Grande Communications, have been a great success!

The next event is on July 30th and the feature movie is “The Blind Side”. 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.



If your community group (non-profit) is interested in selling limited concessions, please contact Brian Chandler, Community Development Director, at either [bchandler@alamoheightstx.gov](mailto:bchandler@alamoheightstx.gov) or at 832-2250. One group will be randomly selected through a lottery system for each movie. Also if you belong to a musical group, such as a quartet or a dance troupe, etc., and have an interest in performing before the movie, please contact Brian.

### CITY CALENDAR

#### JULY

Tuesday, July 20	Architectural Review Board Meeting	5:30 p.m.
Monday, July 26	City Council Meeting	Cancelled
Friday, July 30	Movie Night - “The Blind Side”	8:30 p.m.

#### AUGUST

Monday, August 2	Planning and Zoning Meeting	5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, August 4	Board of Adjustment Meeting	5:30 p.m.
Monday, August 9	City Council Meeting	5:30 p.m.