



5k walk/run
**Heart of
HEATH**
March 30, 2013

There is Still Time to Register for the Heart of Heath 5k Run/Walk on Easter Saturday, March 30

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.HEATHTX.COM

This family-friendly event is open to all ages and athletic abilities ranging from the casual walker to the elite runner.

- Run begins at 8:30 a.m. | Heath City Hall | 200 Laurence Drive.
- Experienced race management by Rockwall Running Center.
- Certified course.
- Awards based upon chip time; start and finish chip timed.
- New 5-year age categories from age 20 to 70 and over.
- Awards for Overall Male and Female winners.
- Awards for Over-40 Masters Male and Female winners.
- Every participant receives a Heart of Heath long sleeve T-shirt while supplies last.
- Drawings held after the race for prizes donated by local businesses.
- Bunny Run for children ages five and under.
- All proceeds benefit the Heath parks and trails.



City Update

GENERAL ELECTION IS MAY 11

Heath City Council candidates for Places 1, 2, 4 and 6 were unopposed, and the Council election was cancelled. For voting information regarding the Rockwall ISD School Board election and voter registration applications, visit the Rockwall County Elections Administrator's office at www.rockwallcountytx.com.

CITY COUNCIL RETREAT

The City Council and City management staff gathered for the annual retreat on February 8. In past years, the time was used for a wide variety of City issues. This year was slightly different, as participants focused the majority of the day upon the City's Capital Improvement Plan and the infrastructure needs that must be addressed now and in the future to be the City citizens want and deserve.

After reviewing a comprehensive list of capital improvements, each council person identified what they felt to be priorities. These discussions will continue during a work session currently scheduled for March 26 prior to the Council meeting. Community input is encouraged on efforts to improve Heath's roads, parks, trails and water and sewer systems.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Heath citizens approved the sale of beer and wine for off-premise consumption in the General Election last May. This enhances the City's ability to attract high quality retail development that will further expand the tax base. To date, two businesses have received permits to sell beer and wine.

The Heath Economic Development Corporation is working with urban planner, Paris Rutherford of Catalyst Urban Development, to guide commercial and retail development efforts. Concept plans and zoning regulations that uphold the vision for an upscale, attractive community are in the works for targeted areas where developer/property owner partners have approached the City.

The HEDC is also investing in upgraded street signage. The attractive new sign posts and plates reflect the high-quality brand established for the City. You can see examples of these signs if you wish to stop by City Hall.

CITY SEEKS HOA CONTACTS

Homeowners association contacts are often helpful in disseminating information regarding City news. If you would like your neighborhood to be included in future communications, please send your association's name, contact person, telephone number and email address to nduncan@heathtx.com or call 972-961-4884.

Upsize Your Household Recycling Capacity!

Every year, the United States generates approximately 230 million tons of "trash"--about 4.6 pounds per person per day, according to www.learning.org. More than 70 percent of what ends up in the landfill could be recycled.

Increase your capacity to recycle household waste by exchanging your 64-gallon blue recycling polycart for a 95-gallon recycling polycart. The enlarged cart is \$1 extra per month. Please call City Hall at 972-771-6228 if you want to upsize!

You can also contribute to a cleaner environment by participating in the following community clean-up events this spring:

Free Electronic Waste Collection
Co-sponsored by the City of Heath
Saturday, April 13, 9 a.m. to noon
RHHS Parking Lot, Heath

E-waste is any electronic equipment that has reached end-of-life or end-of-usage in your home or office. Items accepted free of charge include: computer hardware, TV's, printers, copiers, scanners, faxes, servers, cell phones, corded phones, stereos, DVD players, small household appliances, ink and toner cartridges, and batteries. Eye glasses will be collected for the Lion's Club.

For more information, 972-524-0007, ecoprograms@trashbusters.org.

13th Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Co-Hosted by the City of Heath and City of Rockwall

Saturday, April 20, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Rockwall Service Center, 1600 Airport Road, Rockwall

The event is open to City of Heath residents, who must obtain a free voucher to deliver items to the collection site. If you would like to volunteer as your neighborhood coordinator or need a participation voucher, please drop by Heath City Hall during regular business hours or call 972-771-6228.

Spring is a Great Time to be Outdoors!

IT'S ALSO A SEASON THAT CALLS FOR EXTRA CAUTION...

Active Wildlife

It is breeding season for wildlife. That means animals are more active and feeling bolder about coming onto your property. To help avoid unwanted visitors like coyotes, do not put pet food outside. Also be careful about leaving your pets unattended outdoors.

Mosquitoes

Last year's outbreak of the West Nile Virus in surrounding North Texas communities is a good reason to start taking precautionary steps now to keep your family safe.

As you tackle spring clean-up projects, pay attention to window and door screens that need to be repaired or replaced. Also look around your property for possible mosquito breeding places. Be sure to empty water from buckets, cans, pool covers, flowerpots, and other items.

Throw away or cover up stored tires or items that aren't being used. Clean pet water bowls weekly. Check if rain gutters are clogged. If you store water outside or have a well, make sure it's covered up. Encourage your neighbors to do the same. For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/westnile or call the CDC public response hotline at 800-CDC-INFO.

Stormy Weather

Spring is the peak season for severe weather and tornados. Now is the time to review safety procedures and emergency plans with your family. It is also recommended that residents purchase a battery-operated weather radio with an alert function. The radios can be found at most electronics, sporting goods, and boat and marine accessory stores. If you have any questions, please contact the Heath DPS at 972-961-4900. Additional useful information can be found at the following websites: www.fema.gov; www.spc.noaa.gov; and www.redcross.org.



Get Emergency Alerts and Weather Warnings from Nixle

The Rockwall County Office of Emergency Management offers the free Nixle notification system, which sends emergency alert emails and/or text messages to your computer, mobile phone or smart phone devices (message and data rates may apply). It takes just a few minutes to sign up for the alerts at: www.nixle.com. Do it today!