December 2013



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from the Pity of Reath!

CITY OF HEATH HOLIDAY IN THE PARK FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 6 P.M. AT TOWNE CENTER PARK

(LOCATED BEHIND CITY HALL AT 200 LAURENCE DRIVE)

Kick Off the Holidays in Heath with Your Friends & Neighbors!

Festivities include:

- Lighting of the Christmas Tree
- Performances by Choirs from Amy Parks-Heath and Dorothy Smith Pullen Elementary Schools
- Photos with Santa Claus (bring your cameras)
- Complimentary Cocoa, Wassail and Christmas cookies
- Miniature Train Rides around Towne Center Park
- Canned Food and Unwrapped Toy Collection for Local Charities

For more information: www.heathtx.com or 972-771-6228. Follow the City on Facebook for details on other Heath Holiday activities, and feel free to post your local festivities that are open to the community.



An Easy Way to Share Your Blessings...

The City of Heath is collecting canned food items and unwrapped toys for local charities. You can drop your donations off at City Hall during normal business hours by December 12. City staff and Department of Public Safety officers will deliver your contributions to Rockwall County Helping Hands in time for distribution to area families and individuals in need.

SEE NEW STAGE 3 WATERING SCHEDULE ON REVERSE SIDE

Stage 3 Water Conservation Remains in Effect

As a water customer of the North Texas Municipal Water District and the City of Rockwall, the City of Heath remains under Stage 3 water restrictions. In the winter months, that means landscape watering is limited to once every other week. You can find the most current watering schedule at www.heathtx.com. Please call City Hall at 972-771-6228 anytime you have questions.

Winter Watering Schedule | November 1 – March 31, 2014 NO WATERING ANY DAY BETWEEN 10 A.M. – 6 P.M

| Stoneleigh & Buffalo | ODD Numbered | Water 1st and 3rd |
|----------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Creek Neighborhoods | Addresses | TUESDAY of Month |
| | EVEN Numbered Addresses | Water 2nd and 4th THURSDAY of Month |
| All Other Heath | ODD Numbered | Water 1st and 3rd |
| Customer Locations | Addresses | MONDAY of Month |
| | EVEN Numbered Addresses | Water 2nd and 4th WEDNESDAY of Month |

Heath DPS Taps into Technology to Solve Crimes REMINDS CITIZENS OF IMPORTANCE OF BEING VIGILANT



Above: Heath Detective Brian Burton, left, and Lieutenant Scott Trammell.

Technology played a key role in two crimes recently solved by the City of Heath Department of Public Safety investigators.

The first involved an incident in which residents reported hearing shots fired in a rapid succession on the night of August 22. Heath DPS officers went to the scene, but found no evidence of gun shots. However, the next day, a homeowner called to report bullet holes in their upstairs windows.

With the evidence retrieved at this particular home, officers were able to use cellular technology to pinpoint the locations of one of the suspects and placed him in the area where the offense occurred, at the time the offense was committed. The second suspect was then identified, and warrants for the arrest were issued for both individuals.

"The home targeted was a result of a car sale that went bad," said Detective Brian Burton. "The homeowner was not involved in the transaction. They were actually the parents of one of the parties involved in the sale."

In a second incident, officers again used technology to break a theft ring responsible for stealing 54 Apple laptops from Rockwall-Heath High School over a prolonged period of time that began in the summer.

Thanks to an anonymous tip received by Heath School Resource Officer Matt Mayo, Heath investigators were able to pinpoint a specific time period in which to pull video taken by cameras throughout the school. Criminal activity was viewed that led to the first suspect. Additional investigative work involved tracing cell phone texts and online sales on eBay. A total of four arrests were ultimately made. Two individuals were adults; two were juveniles.

"While Heath does not experience anywhere near the volume of crime faced by other cities, our department has access to the technology, skills and interagency connections to bring investigations to a successful conclusion," said Lieutenant Scott Trammell. "We encourage residents to report any suspicious activity to us.

"This is also an opportunity to remind residents that even though we enjoy a safe community, it is important to always take proper precautions," he added. "The most important measures are to keep your garage doors closed and lock the doors to your car and home. Don't make it easy for a crime to occur."

HEATH BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT A SHOUT OUT TO A HOMETOWN BUSINESS... HEATH MARKET PLACE & SHELL STATION

Heath Market Place & Shell Station 972-772-7584

It's close to impossible to grab a snack or pump gas at the Heath Market Place & Shell Station without running into someone and visiting for a bit! And that's just the way owner, Hossain Makvandi, hoped it would be when he opened his business.

"We wanted to be a part of the community, not just a corner store," said Hossain. "One of my greatest enjoyments is seeing all the kids and their beautiful and happy faces," said Hossain, whose store is the "go-to" place for after-school treats.

Hossain is an avid supporter of local athletics, particularly the high school teams, and has raised his own children in the community. "We came to Rockwall in 1986 and fell in love with the area," he said. "It's been an honor and privilege to do business in the great City of Heath."

Locals think the Shell is pretty great, too. In addition to being a convenience store with gasoline, the business offers authentic food to go. Among the most popular items with customers of all ages are the delicious breakfast burritos.

"We look forward to seeing our City leadership remain open-minded and progressive; just like they have been during the 13 years we've been operating here," said Hossain.

Each month the City would like to feature one of our hometown businesses in the newsletter. If you have a "good news" business story to share, please contact Community and Economic Development Director Kim Dobbs at kdobbs@heathtx.com.

ANNUAL REGISTRATION REMINDERS

RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL ALARM PERMITS EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31

Anyone who has a commercial or residential alarm system in the City of Heath is required to obtain an annual permit for operation of the system. All alarm systems should be registered or renewed by January 1, 2014. The permit is good for a calendar year. A penalty of \$200.00 may be assessed if an alarm system permit is not current. A renewal form can be downloaded at www.heathtx.com under the City Documents menu or obtained at City Hall. If you have questions, please contact Customer Service at 972-771-6228.

DOG REGISTRATION

Dog registrations also expire December 31 each year. Please bring current rabies certification to City Hall to update or obtain your dog's registration tag. The annual cost is \$10 for intact dogs and \$5 for those that have been spayed or neutered.