



## NEW FUN & FIT IN THE PARK IS EASTER SATURDAY, APRIL 4 Featuring Heart of Heath 5k, Family Run & Activities for All!

BENEFITTING HEATH PARKS & TRAILS

The City of Heath Special Events Series  
is made possible in part by our generous  
sponsors. Please support them.

The City of Heath's traditional Easter Saturday celebration on April 4 expands this year to include not only the Heart of Heath 5k, but a new Family Run and fun fitness activities for all ages.

Here's a sampling of what to expect:

- USATF Certified 5k course with chip-timed start and finish lines
- 5k awards for Top 3 overall plus Top 3 male and female in each age bracket
- Family Run if you aren't ready for the 5k! (it's one mile, you can do it)
- Prize drawings and t-shirts for 5k and Family Run participants while supplies last
- Yoga, Piyo, Zumba and Taekwondo demo classes
- Little Kicker Soccer obstacle course
- Giant-size games like chess, checkers, Jenga and Connect 4
- A cool Easter kid's craft in the Artstream Mobile Studio
- Healthy treats like a complimentary mini fruit smoothie from Smoothie King

The fun begins rain or shine in Towne Center Park with a runners' warm up at 8:15 a.m.; 5k and Family Runs start at 8:30 a.m.; and fitness activities follow until 11 a.m. Find details and register online for the 5k or Family Run at [www.heathtx.com](http://www.heathtx.com).



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City Hosts Town Hall Meeting  
on Drought & Lake Ray Hubbard Conditions



Nearly 250 people attended the Town Hall Meeting on February 19 to obtain the current information on the drought and Lake Ray Hubbard conditions from the City of Dallas, which owns the water reservoir. The presentation was made by Ken DelRegno, assistant director for Dallas Water Utilities, and all attendees had an opportunity to ask questions.

A video of the program can be viewed at [www.heathtx.com](http://www.heathtx.com), but here are a few facts shared:

- The City of Dallas owns Lake Ray Hubbard, which provides water to Dallas customers.
- The City of Heath is a water customer of the North Texas Water Municipal District via the City of Rockwall. However, Lake Ray Hubbard is important to our community for many reasons including aesthetic, recreation and property values.
- Lake Ray Hubbard was built as a result of the 1950-1957 drought, when Dallas had only one reservoir.
- The current drought began in 2010; 2011 was the worst one-year drought on record; and North Texas experienced the lowest one-month precipitation on record in September 2014.
- Dallas’ water supplies are currently 33.75% depleted.
- The major water suppliers for NTWMD are equally low: Lake Lavon is 51.2% depleted; Lake Chapman is 70.8% depleted.
- Both service providers have adopted conservation programs, with NTWMD restrictions being the most extensive.
- Both entities have long-range water plans that include tapping new supplies; however, these plans focus on solutions for providing water to a growing population.
- Dallas will invest \$1 billion to build a pipeline from Lake Palestine; this project will not be completed for 10 years.
- The Texas Water Development Board has \$1 billion earmarked for water projects throughout the state.
- Dallas is not selling water from Lake Ray Hubbard to other entities.
- The Zebra Mussel problem continues to impact Lake Texoma availability; consultants have been retained to determine how to rid water supplies of the invasive species.
- Residents/businesses around Lake Ray Hubbard have asked Dallas about dredging while the lake is down; this work is cost prohibitive for multiple reasons including a lack of soil disposal locations.

**BOTTOM LINE:**

Long range plans are in place to provide water to a growing population; but only rain can alleviate the impact of the drought. “Just a couple of years of normal rain fall would fill the lakes back up,” said Mr. DelRegno.

City Council Discuss Wide Range Of Issues



City Council and staff addressed a wide range of local issues including water planning, land use, economic development, financial planning and progress of the Capital Improvement Plan during the Annual City Council Retreat on February 9 at the Hilton Bella Harbor Conference Center. During the session on the CIP, a street repair project list encompassing 19 sites was presented.

You can view the list of planned street repairs at [www.heathtx.com](http://www.heathtx.com) along with a detailed map showing the location and information for all CIP projects underway.

Biz Spotlight

**A PICTURE IS WORTH A 1,000 WORDS...  
ESPECIALLY WHEN IT’S TAKEN BY CINDY SWANSON,  
A BOUTIQUE PHOTOGRAPHER WHO HAS BEEN IN BUSINESS IN HEATH FOR  
EIGHT YEARS!**



“We have lived in this community for almost 16 years, and it’s an incredible perk, I believe, to also have my business in Heath,” says Cindy, who specializes in high school senior portraits. “Our community is full of so many great people, and it continues to be such a joy to make new relationships through my senior photography.”

A fresh, natural approach with a mix of editorial fashion is Cindy’s trademark. So is her artful and caring way of guiding each senior (especially the girls) through the entire process from initial consult and styling of the location to hair, makeup and each pose during the photo shoot. Parents and their seniors view a musical slideshow of the stunning results to make final portrait selections.

“It’s really a special time to share with a senior, just before he or she goes off to find their own way in life,” says Cindy, who has been nationally published and is a frequent guest speaker at industry events including the National Convention of the Professional Photographers Association Conference in Georgia next January.

Here at home, Cindy has been an active member of the National Charity League with her daughters. She is also a loyal donor to the silent and live auctions of Amica, Rockwall Women’s League and RHHS Senior Class fundraisers. You can view her work at [www.cindyswansonphotography.com](http://www.cindyswansonphotography.com).

Council Honors



A little more of “Margo’s Magic” sparkled at the City Council meeting on February 10 as Mayor Lorne Liechty proclaimed the day “Margo Nielsen Day” in the City. The honor pays tribute to Margo’s 25 years of incredible leadership and service as Executive Director of Rockwall County Helping Hands.

“Margo provided the leadership and assembled the team and tools that have enabled Helping Hands to accomplish and to continue accomplishing its mission of serving Rockwall residents by alleviating financial crisis and providing a medical home to the underserved,” said Mayor Liechty during the presentation.



Mayor Lorne Liechty also recently joined the colleagues, friends and family members of DPS Officer Mark Rogers to honor and congratulate him upon his retirement. Officer Rogers joined the City in 1990, making him the longest serving employee with a 24-year tenure.

“Mark has been an integral part of building one of the finest Departments of Public Safety in the State of Texas,” said Mayor Liechty. “Throughout his 24 years of service, he continuously demonstrated high moral character and has been an example of steadfast and superlative service to not only his colleagues, but the community of Heath.”

**BEFORE YOU build it, fix it or install it...  
First check if you need a PERMIT for IT.**

Get the details on construction and home improvement projects requiring a City permit at [www.heathtx.com](http://www.heathtx.com) under Departments - Building Inspections. Fines up to \$500 apply to violations.