



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

A friend recently told me he was surprised to find out that the Mayor and City Council members are not paid for their service to the City. Somewhat in jest (I think), he followed up with, "Why did you run for Mayor?" As Mayor, I get to talk to a lot of Heath residents and field a lot of questions. Other questions frequently posed to me include:

- 1. Are You Accomplishing Your Objectives?** When first elected Mayor, I set out three primary objectives: (i) to improve our roads, trails, parks, public utilities and other infrastructure, (ii) to continue Heath's high quality residential development, and (iii) to attract commercial development that will provide convenience for our citizens without altering the culture of our City. I think our City has made significant progress on all of these objectives, and I anticipate continued progress in the near future.
- 2. Do You Like Being A Politician?** Actually, I don't consider myself a politician. Rather, I consider myself a public servant. In City Government, our responsibilities (maintaining our infrastructure, providing police and fire protection, operating our parks, etc.) are nuts and bolts issues on which political party affiliation should have little impact.
- 3. How Much Time Do You Devote To Being Mayor?** It seems like almost every day, Sunday through Saturday, there is something I do related to my responsibilities as Mayor. Some days it may be as limited as responding to emails or having a few phone calls; while other days it may be full day meetings that leave little time for anything else.
- 4. What Can I Do To Have A Positive Impact On Our City?** Without great citizen involvement, we will not have a great City; it's just that simple.

RHHS DRILL TEAM HONORED...

Mayor Lorne Liechty proclaimed April 14 as Rockwall-Heath Highsteppers Day in honor of the team's state and national championships!

- 5. What Are the Biggest Issues Facing Our City?** Probably the major challenge I see is to continue to improve our growth without changing the culture of our City. Landowners have a right to use and develop their property, and we are seeing more and more interest in our City from both residential and commercial developers. However, our challenge is to work with landowners and developers to make sure that the continued growth does not detract from the small town, pastoral, lakeside community we all enjoy.
- 6. Will Heath Get A Grocery Store?** During the past few years, we have had inquiries from a number of grocers and developers who want to bring grocery stores to our City. Our City Council and Economic Development Corporation are working hard to lay the groundwork and provide incentives to attract a grocer to Heath, and because of their efforts, I think it is only a matter of time before we see a grocery store in Heath along with more restaurants and other quality commercial developments.

- Do You Like Being Mayor?** I absolutely love it! Especially the interaction with people in our community. To me, the best days we have are the days that bring us together, the Fourth of July Parade, the Heart of Heath 5k and the Christmas Tree Lighting. The common expressions of fun and enjoyment at these events are contagious, and are highlights to any year.
- If You Had A Magic Wand, What Is One Thing You Would Change About Heath?** I cannot think of any fundamental changes I would make to our City (although I would like to have all of our planned capital improvements done immediately). If I had a magic wand, I would like to go forward in time so that I could see where we are in 20 years, when our community is largely built out, our trails completed and our parks developed. It would be good to see the goals we have set forth come to fruition; but I have to remember that the journey is often more fun than reaching the destination.

Finally, to get back to my friend's question, Why Did I Run For Mayor? Well, it was for the same reason I chose to serve on the Park Board and run for City Council: I want to serve my community and make Heath the best City possible. Thanks for allowing me to serve!

Lorne O. Liechty
Mayor, City of Heath

CITY OF HEATH RECEIVES FINANCIAL ACCOLADES

The City of Heath received a clean audit report with the best possible outcome from independent auditors for the 8th year in a row. The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CARF) for the 2013-2014 fiscal year was conducted by Brooks Cardiel & Company, PLLC.

"Heath is one of the best managed cities that I have seen," said Anthony Cardiel during his presentation of the firm's audit results during the March 24 City Council meeting.

Cardiel highlighted the City's conservative fiscal management, policies and procedures that have resulted in a balanced budget and a healthy reserve fund balance. The City received an unmodified opinion, the best of four possible outcomes.

CIP PROJECTS: FOLLOW THE PROGRESS WITH NEW INTERACTIVE MAPPING

The Capital Improvement Plan adopted in January 2014 provides more than \$20 million in investments that benefit the entire city with improvements to the City's roads, trails, parks, public utilities and other infrastructure. Take a tour of these projects and follow the progress at www.heathtx.com.

COMMUNITY BEGINS EASTER WEEKEND WITH FITNESS AND FUN

The sun shined brightly on April 4 as the Heath community gathered for Fun & Fitness in the Park, featuring the Heart of Heath 5k Run, a Family Run and Fitness activities. More than 400 entered the two runs, including Tim Briles, who took first place in the 5k with a 15.33 time. Second place in the 5k was Ben Williams at 18:08; and finishing third was 13-year-old Maddie Hatfield, with an 18.17 time. Complete race results, photos and the highlights video can be viewed at www.heathtx.com and www.facebook.com/HeathTX.

- Heath Mayor Lorne Liechty congratulates Heart of Heath 5k First Place Winner Tim Briles.
- Heath DPS Officers Brandon Seery, left, and Zach Wilfong completed the 5K in FULL GEAR in a challenge to raise \$5K for Carry the Load. Learn how you can help them help our nation's heroes by contacting Officers Cody Whaley or Brian Burton at 972-961-4900.
- First three male finishers in the Family Run, from left: Ian Leinweber, Jack Warren and Kai Leinweber.
- First two female finishers in the Family Run: Lillie Dunn (1st place) and Adeline Berg.

BRING YOUR LAST-DAY-OF-SCHOOL PARTY TO OUR PARTY: MOVIES IN THE PARK FEATURES ROOKIE OF THE YEAR!

Celebrate "opening day" of summer and America's favorite pastime at Movies in the Park on June 5. Bring your picnic, lawn chairs and blankets to enjoy *Rookie of the Year* under the Texas stars in Towne Center Park. A ballpark concession stand will offer drinks, popcorn and candy, and warm up activities will appeal to every fan. Kid-friendly music begins at 7:30 p.m.; show time is twilight (about 8:45 p.m.). Stay tuned for more details at www.heathtx.com and www.facebook.com/HeathTX.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: A SHOUT OUT TO A HOMETOWN BUSINESS!



When Terry Roberts was looking for a community that said "Welcome Home" for his business, he found it here in Heath.

"We believe Heath is a magnet for growth and development" said Terry, broker/owner of RE/MAX Landmark Realtors. We wanted to be in a City that has great people, excellent education and a welcoming atmosphere."

Terry opened his full service real estate agency at 201 Laurence Dr. in 2014, and his team of experienced sales associates now take great pride in serving their clients with honesty, integrity and expertise.

Terry and his team are also dedicated to sharing their time with numerous charities including the Children's Miracle Network, CASA, Relay for Life and Texas Sentinels Foundation.

Learn more about this Heath-based business at www.rmlandmark.com

CITY SPONSORS FREE E-WASTE COLLECTION ON MAY 16

The City will co-sponsor a free E-waste Collection on Saturday, May 16, 9 a.m. to noon at Cain Middle School, 6620 FM 3097. Items accepted for recycling include: computer hardware, TV's, printers, copiers, scanners, faxes, servers, cell phones, corded phones, stereos, DVD players, small household appliances, ink and toner cartridges, batteries and eye glasses for the Lions Club. Document shredding will be available.

HEATHTX.COM -- HOME BASE FOR HOMETOWN INFO

- City Mosquito Surveillance/Abatement Program Results
- Current Stage 3 Water Restrictions and Watering Schedules

