



# JULY 2012 COMMUNITY UPDATE

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**TOWN OF LITTLE ELM**

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE LITTLE ELM LETTER CARRIERS

On May 12, 2012 the Letter Carriers at the Little Elm Post Office participated in the National Food Drive conducted each year by the National Letter Carrier Association. Sacks were distributed to all residents asking them to fill and place by their mailbox on May 12, 2012 to be picked up by the carrier when deliveries were made. Thanks to the generous residents of Little Elm, the Letter Carriers collected and deposited over 7,000 lbs. of food to the local Little Elm Food Bank. Again, thanks to the Letter Carriers and the residents of Little Elm who helped provide much needed food to the residents in need.

## GRAND OPENING "BRENDA BUTTON MILLS" SENIOR CENTER

Please join us on Saturday, July 28 at 11:00 a.m. for the grand opening of the "Brenda Button Mills" Senior Center located at 301 Main Street. There will be a dedication ceremony in her honor followed by live music, food, and social time.

## NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN TOWN

Many changes are underway in Little Elm - from road expansions to new facilities such as the Recreation Center, Senior Center, and newly completed Public Safety Center. However, several new commercial developments are in progress as well.

RaceTrac, QuikTrip, and Brakes Plus are all scheduled to soon open at the intersection of Little Elm Parkway and FM 423. Del Taco recently opened in Rosebriar Marketplace (Kroger corner). On the west side of Little Elm is the new Chevron fueling center located at Lobo Lane and Eldorado Parkway.

In addition to new phases of residential subdivisions under construction like Sunset Pointe, Paloma Creek South, Frisco Ranch, and Frisco Hills, two multi-family developments are under construction near FM 423 and Cottonwood Creek. The Mansions and The Estates are bringing luxury townhomes and resort-style urban living options to Little Elm.

In association with the new apartments is the construction of McCord Park, a 38 acre public park located along Cottonwood Creek and FM 423. The wooded park will include hike and bike trails, playgrounds, public parking, a fishing dock, pedestrian bridges, and an 18-hole disc golf course. Open to the public, the park is being constructed and paid for by developers with a total price tag of over 5 million dollars, saving the Town significant future expense.

More information on commercial development projects can be found by calling the Planning Department at 214-975-0472.

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UPDATE

The Town is undergoing a large amount of growth as a number of capital improvement projects wrap up and others begin construction. Recently the Public Safety Building was opened and the Police and Fire Departments have moved in to their new building. The Senior Center was also opened earlier this month and our seniors have already begun enjoying all the features it has to offer. In the upcoming months the new Recreation Center is scheduled to be opening which will offer many new activities to the community such as a modern work out facility, basketball courts, hobby rooms and much more. Construction of the new Animal Shelter will begin within the next few weeks and is scheduled to be completed early 2013.

Along with these building additions there are a number of road improvement projects under way as well. The construction of Lobo Lane and the Little Elm Park drive improvement will be completed and fully open for use over the next month. The Witt Road Bridge project is also under construction and is on schedule for its grand opening in November. There are a number of other CIP projects under construction or in the works to begin construction in the near future. For more details about the above projects or any other CIP project go to the Town web site at [www.littleelm.org/cipconnection](http://www.littleelm.org/cipconnection).

### Texas Department of Transportation project updates:

The highly anticipated construction of **Eldorado Parkway (FM 720)** through Town has officially begun. The TxDOT contractor has already started working on the first phase of the construction which includes site preparation, temporary paving, and storm sewer work as well as continued construction of the Little Elm Bridge. **The FM 423** middle section that is currently under construction is entering the final stages of construction. In the upcoming weeks you will be seeing the last of the concrete paving being poured for turn lanes and median opening as well as traffic opened to all six lanes. Several other TxDOT projects are in design and entering the right of way acquisition phases which include the **north section of FM 423 and FM 720 from Eldorado Parkway to US 380.**

## LEPD WORK ZONE DRIVING TIPS

By now everyone is aware of the construction on Eldorado Parkway. Not only has the speed limit dropped to 40 MPH for most of Eldorado Parkway there are several other factors to consider. Here are some tips to help during the expansion of Eldorado Parkway.

Here are the three "S's" of managing work zones safely: Speed, Space and Stress. Handle these three factors and you're almost home free.

## MANAGE YOUR SPEED:

- **Slow Down** when approaching all work zones. You will be in the work zone quicker than you think.
- **Follow Posted Speed Limits**, especially within construction zones, and try to maintain a consistent speed with the traffic flow. And adjust your speed for weather conditions.
- **Don't Resume Normal Speed** until you see roadway signs indicating it's safe to do so.

## MANAGE YOUR SPACE:

- **Leave Room.** Leave adequate braking room between your vehicle and the one ahead of you. Count out at least two seconds from the time the car ahead of you passes an object and the time your own car passes that object. Also, keep a safe distance between your vehicle and traffic barriers, trucks, construction equipment and workers.
- **Don't Pass on the Shoulder.** Don't drive across the median. This creates a very dangerous situation for you, construction workers, and other motorists -- not to mention the steep fine.
- **Leave Yourself an Out.** When stopped in traffic, leave a safe distance between you and the vehicle in front of you. A good rule of thumb is that when stopped in traffic you should be able to see the bottom of the tires of the vehicle in front of you.
- **Watch Out for Tailgaters.** Do not force tailgaters to back off by slamming on your brakes or reducing your speed significantly. This practice can lead to road rage and increases the chances of a collision. When possible, pull over and let them pass. If this is not possible, turn your headlights on and off several times during daylight hours to illuminate your taillights and warn tailgaters they are too close. If at night, lightly tap your brake pedal to illuminate your brake lights.

## MANAGE YOUR STRESS:

- **Keep Your Cool.** Calm down and don't rush. Remember, the temporary inconvenience of a construction zone will pay off with greatly improved roads soon.
- **Pay Attention.** Avoid cell phone or radio distractions, as well as those of other stopped cars or construction.
- **Expect delays.** Leave a bit earlier, if necessary, to arrive at your destination on time. Consider using an alternate route that bypasses the construction zones.

Any questions regarding this or any other traffic related issue contact Sgt. Brad Wilcox at [bwilcox@littleelm.org](mailto:bwilcox@littleelm.org) or 214-975-0469.

## MESSAGE FROM LITTLE ELM EDC

We have been working hard to encourage new businesses to expand or relocate to Little Elm and we are proud to announce Quick Trip is set to open the first week of July. For more information about new businesses coming to Little Elm this summer, visit [www.littleelmedc.org](http://www.littleelmedc.org), and find us on Facebook, Twitter or our blog.

## LITTLE ELM COMMUNITY CHORUS "AUDITIONS IN AUGUST"

We began our initial season by singing our first concert in April on the stage with the Turtle Creek Chorale in Lewisville. See the professionally produced video of that performance on: [www.Vimeo.com/40977993](http://www.Vimeo.com/40977993). We completed this first season by performing in the Arts and Sounds Festival in Little Elm on May 19. Our fall season will begin in August 2012. If you would like to be a part of the Little Elm Community Chorus in the fall, go to our website at: [www.LittleElmCommunityChorus.org](http://www.LittleElmCommunityChorus.org), click on "Join The Chorus" and fill out information for an audition August 21 and 28. Fear not !!! The audition is to let the director know what you know about music, not to exclude anyone. You will be taught how to sing in a choral setting. We are already scheduled to sing in a local choir of over 250 in September for a 911 memorial presentation. Come have fun singing. Come join the Chorus!!

## HONORING LITTLE ELM ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL

The Town of Little Elm Military Banner Program was designed to honor and recognize the Little Elm active duty military personnel. The banner signifies the Town's gratitude for their service and commitment to our nation and our community.

### Eligibility:

The designated honoree must be currently serving as active duty in a full time capacity in the United States Armed forces (Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard) and currently residing in Little Elm or have an immediate family member (parent, spouse, son, daughter, or grandparent) residing in Little Elm.

### Presentation:

The banners will be placed on the new light poles in Little Elm on Lobo Lane, Veterans Memorial Bridge, and Little Elm Park. The banners will be put on poles around military holidays (Memorial Day, Veterans Day, etc.) The banners will be presented to the honoree when they return home from their military service.

### Application:

Submit completed application for approval to: Sandy DeVault, 100 West Eldorado Parkway Little Elm, Texas 75068. [www.littleelm.org/militarybannerapplication](http://www.littleelm.org/militarybannerapplication).

## SUMMER WEATHER TIPS FOR YOUR PETS

We all love spending the long, sunny days of summer outdoors with our furry companions, but being overeager in hot weather can spell danger, warn ASPCA experts.

“Even the healthiest pets can suffer from dehydration, heat stroke and sunburn if overexposed to the heat,” says Dr. Lila Miller, ASPCA Vice President of Veterinary Outreach, “and heat stroke can be fatal if not treated promptly.” Take these simple precautions, provided by ASPCA experts, to help prevent your pet from overheating. And if you suspect your pet is suffering from heat stroke, get help from your veterinarian immediately.

**Visit the Vet:** Early summer check-ups are a must. Make sure your pets get tested for heart-worm if they aren't on year-round preventive medication.

**Made in the Shade:** Pets can get dehydrated quickly, so give them plenty of fresh, clean water when it's hot outdoors. Make sure your pets have a shady place to get out of the sun, be careful to not over-exercise them.

**Know the Warning Signs:** Symptoms of overheating in pets include excessive panting or difficulty breathing, increased heart and respiratory rate, drooling, mild-weakness, stupor or even collapse. They may also include seizures, bloody diarrhea and vomit along with an elevated body temperature of over 104 degrees.

**No Parking!** Never leave your animals in a parked vehicle. On a hot day, a parked car can become a furnace in no time-even with the windows open – which could lead to fatal heat stroke.

**Make a Safe Splash:** Do not leave pets unsupervised around a pool – not all dogs are good swimmers. Be sure to rinse your pets after swimming to remove chlorine or salt from their fur. Do not allow your pets to drink pool water.

**FIREWORKS AREN'T VERY PET-RIOTIC:** Please leave pets at home when you head out to Fourth of July celebrations, and never use fireworks around pets. Exposure to fireworks can potentially result in severe burns or trauma to curious pets, and even unused fireworks can be hazardous, many types of fireworks contain potentially toxic substances.

This and more information on Summer Pet Care, can be found at [www.asPCA.org/pet-care/pet-care-tips/hot-weather-tips](http://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/pet-care-tips/hot-weather-tips). We credit the ASPCA for the information in this article.

## PARKS & RECREATION NEWS

**This year on the shores of Lake Lewisville, the Town of Little Elm will host its Eighth Annual Independence Day Celebration, July Jubilee.** The celebration will be held in Little Elm Park on Wednesday, July 4 from 5:00 p.m. until approximately 11:00 p.m. This family-oriented celebration will include food/merchandise vendors, live musical entertainment by *121 North*, and the evening will conclude with a spectacular professional fireworks display over the lake. Limited onsite parking; convenient park and ride shuttle at LEISD Athletic Complex (provided by Durham Bus Services) from 4:30 p.m. until after conclusion of event; no personal fireworks; cooler friendly; no glass containers; no pets.

The Parks and Recreation Department is pleased to announce the opening of our new **Little Elm Recreation Center** later this month. The two-story facility is located off Main Street and is over 26,000 square feet, and is designed to promote fun and enriching recreational and fitness

programs to residents and non-residents to enjoy. The amenities include a full size basketball gym, designed with 2 full size volleyball courts for youth and adult leagues and fitness classes, a 2,000 square foot fitness room equipped with five 36" flat screen TV's to distract you as you sweat on the treadmills, stairmasters, elliptical, bikes, free weights and stationary equipment. As you head up to the second floor there is a multi-purpose room with a full commercial kitchen for special events and cooking classes. This room will host most of the group fitness and dance classes as well as be available for rentals, meetings and birthday parties. Step outside and you will enjoy the outdoor terrace that oversees the beautiful landscape of Little Elm and Lake Lewisville that can be a picturesque backdrop for photographs. The terrace will be furnished with patio furniture to encourage people to visit with friends or relax as they wait for a program to begin. The facility will also include; a room for children's art, drawing, and educational classes, a room for adult programming that includes a kiln, and locker rooms with showers and lockers. The facility will begin to take memberships for a nominal fee in mid to late July and a grand opening will be set for a date in August.

## YOUTH ATHLETICS

**LEAYSA Soccer** registration now through July 22, for girls and boys. U4 – U8 \$75; U9 – U10 \$85; U11 – U12 \$95. Late registration July 23 through July 31 for an additional \$20. You may Register online at: [www.leaysasoccer.com](http://www.leaysasoccer.com). For questions or further information contact [president@leaysasoccer.com](mailto:president@leaysasoccer.com).

**LEAYSA Baseball** registration runs July 1 through July 31, for Blastball, T-ball and Baseball 6U – 14U. Late registration August 1 through August 5. LEAYSA Baseball is now offering A (Recreation) and AA (Competitive) Leagues for 8U – 14U divisions. Register online at [www.leaysabaseball.com](http://www.leaysabaseball.com). For coaching and board opportunities contact [info@leaysabaseball.com](mailto:info@leaysabaseball.com).

**LEAYSA Girls Softball** Registration is NOW OPEN – Ages 4-14 – 6 & Under are \$70 - all others are \$95 – ENDS July 27 Sign up online at [www.LEAYSA-Softball.com](http://www.LEAYSA-Softball.com), and see when we'll be holding Live Registrations. Our Fundraising Director is looking to form a Committee, so please email us with interest; [director@leaysa-softball.com](mailto:director@leaysa-softball.com).

**LEAYSA is currently seeking Board members for Facilities/Public Relations and Fundraising/Sponsorships.** Please Contact [president@leaysa.com](mailto:president@leaysa.com) if you are interested in volunteering. For additional youth athletic information, visit [www.leaysa.com](http://www.leaysa.com). Also, **LEAYSA** is having their annual meeting on July 16<sup>th</sup> and the following positions will be up for election: Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Please contact [president@leaysa.com](mailto:president@leaysa.com) if you are interested.

## ADULT ATHLETICS

**Boot Camp Fitness for Men & Women** at Little Elm Park. Boot Camp Fitness is the quickest, easiest and most FUN way to jump start your fitness program, lose pounds and inches fast. Whether you are a beginner, an avid fitness enthusiast, or just tired of the same old gym routine, this boot camp is for you! One thing for sure is you WILL get results! Come outdoors with us and enjoy the fresh air and fun, motivating, team environment! Free Classes – try 2 free classes. First

time campers join for \$179 and continuing fitness camp members just \$99. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 5:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. & 2-Saturdays at 7:00 a.m. Little Elm Park is located at 704 W. Eldorado Parkway. For registration or more information contact Coach McLean at 214-794-0698 or [fitness@mcleanlifebalance.com](mailto:fitness@mcleanlifebalance.com). You may also visit [www.mcleanlifebalance.com](http://www.mcleanlifebalance.com) for more information.

**Camp Gladiator/Adult Fitness Bootcamp** is the most cost effective way to receive professional training at a reasonable price. The group environment creates accountability, competition and fun. Camp Gladiator is for all fitness levels and allows campers to go at their own pace. The initial fee is \$170 but consecutive campers get a discount that brings the cost down to \$5 a session. Our consecutive campers pay between \$69-\$95 dollars per camp. Camp is for 4 weeks and each session is 1 hour long. When you register for Camp Gladiator you get unlimited sessions and can come to any and all locations as many times as you like. Since there are over 100 locations in the DFW area, you have many camps to choose from. To register go to [www.campgladiator.com](http://www.campgladiator.com) or you can contact Mia Luna at [mialuna@campgladiator.com](mailto:mialuna@campgladiator.com) or 214-223-9229. Little Elm Camp Schedule: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 5:00 a.m. – 6:00 a.m., at Kroger located at 2671 Little Elm Parkway; and Tuesday and Thursday at 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., at Little Elm Park located at 704 W. Eldorado Parkway.

**Horseshoe Pitching Club** – currently taking registration for the 2012 pitching season. Men, women, and juniors are all welcome. Join our sanctioned tournaments scheduled in August and September. League and tournament play held in Beard Park at 300 E. Eldorado Parkway, Little Elm. Visit [www.littleelm.org/specialevents](http://www.littleelm.org/specialevents) for more information. Contact Coyce Allen at 817-819-5788 or [cvalen1156@aol.com](mailto:cvalen1156@aol.com) for registration and questions.

Join us for an **Open Water Swim & Aquathlon** on Sunday, July 29, at Little Elm Park Swim Beach. Youth Splash and Dash at 6:30 a.m. – 7-10 year olds, 100 yard swim and 1K run; 11-15 year olds, 200 yard swim and 2K run. Open Water Swim Challenge at 7:30 a.m. – Sprint Distance 750M; Intermediate Distance 1500M; Iron Distance 4K. Aquathlon at 7:30 a.m. – Short Course 750M swim and 5K run; Long Course 1500M and 10K run. For full race details visit [www.openwaterswimchallenge.com](http://www.openwaterswimchallenge.com).

## LITTLE ELM ADULT SENIOR PROGRAMS

**The Brenda Button Mills Senior Center will be closed on Wednesday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day.**

Get your **Vitamin B12** shot, *provided by Flu Shots of America*, on Wednesday, July 11 at 1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Shots are only \$15 per shot. Cash, check, and credit card accepted (\$1 convenience fee for credit card payments). Vitamin B12 is a nutrient your body needs to naturally give you: Increased energy; Restored mental clarity and decreased memory loss; and Reduced daily stress and irritability.

**Meet & Eat!** Join us for lunch...everyone pays their own way, just come and enjoy the company and good food. July 6 at 12:00 p.m. at Dairy Queen, located at 8855 Teel Parkway, Frisco; and July 16 at 12:00 p.m. at Mexi-Go, located at 2831

Eldorado Parkway, #112, Little Elm. RSVP to Missy Meador at 972-731-1465 if you would like to join us for one or both of these lunches.

Join us for our **Monthly Luncheon** on Tuesday, July 24 for bingo, food and fun! Bingo cards are \$1 each card and will be sold from 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Bingo will start promptly at 10:30 a.m. and no cards will be sold after. Cash money prizes, depending on how many cards are sold. Lunch will be served at 12:00 p.m. and will be fish and chicken. We ask you to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

**Movie Day and Popcorn**, every Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. Arrive a little early to claim your seat, as the movie will start promptly at 2:00 p.m. Check out our website or call 972-731-1465 for the list of movies for the month.

Join us for **Ice Cream & Wii Bowling** on Monday, July 9 at 2:00 p.m. Ice cream is served by Baskin Robbins. Wii Bowling is also played every Monday of each month at 2:00 p.m.

Join us for **Fitness Class** Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. and Thursdays at 8:45 a.m. Our fitness trainer will give you the workout you desire, at your own pace and skill level. Note on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month, fitness class will begin at 8:00 a.m.

The Area Agency on Aging of North Central Texas provides **free confidential counseling and advocacy services in the areas of benefits and entitlements**. A Benefits Counselor will be at the Brenda Button Mills Senior Center on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month from 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Benefits counseling topics include: Medicare A&B; Medicare Supplemental; Medicare Advantage; Prescription Coverage; Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income (SSI); Veteran's Benefits; Long Term Care; and Nursing Home Medicaid.

## LIBRARY NEWS

Plan a trip to the library July 17 at 2:00 p.m. for an **"Incredible Bubble Show"** – a high energy soap bubble activity show for the whole family! Then, on July 28 at 1:00 p.m. come and witness the spinning skills and art of a true yo-yo champion as the library presents **"Whirled on a String!"**

Be sure to check out our **Mystery Movie Nights** for grown-ups every Tuesday evening in July starting at 6:00 p.m. (while the kids keep busy with board games in the library).

The Little Elm Friends of the Library Adult Literacy Program is hosting a free monthly **Business Expo**. Proceeds support the Little Elm Adult Literacy Program. Vendor tables may be reserved for \$10 (\$5 for FOL members). July 28 at 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Little Elm Community Center, located at 107 Hardwicke Lane. For more information and booth registration, contact [expo@littleelmlfol.org](mailto:expo@littleelmlfol.org).

The Little Elm Public Library always has many things going on. Regular library hours are Monday/Wednesday 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Tuesday/Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., and Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. For more information about the library, call 214-975-0430, email [library@littleelm.org](mailto:library@littleelm.org), or visit the library website at [www.littleelm.org/library](http://www.littleelm.org/library).