

Join Us!

Community Calendar

Hope Village Craft Fair

Saturday, October 23, from 10 am-5 pm
Located at the corner of FM 2351 and Hope Village Road. Hope Village is hosting a craft fair, in which there will be 27 booths along with a door prize every fifteen minutes. Tea room style food will be served. For more information, contact Hope Village at (281) 482-6271.

Fifth Annual "Halloween in the Park"

Thursday, October 28, from 6 pm-8 pm
Stevenson Park
The Friendswood Chamber of Commerce is hosting their Fifth Annual "Halloween in the Park." There will be booths with candy to hand out to the Trick or Treaters. For more information, contact the Chamber of Commerce at (281) 482-3329.

Heritage Gardeners Annual "Christmas Tour of Homes"

Saturday, November 20 and Sunday, November 21
The Heritage Gardeners will be hosting their Christmas Tour of Homes in Friendswood. For more information, contact the Heritage Gardeners at (281) 992-4867.

Friendswood Chamber of Commerce's "Shop Local" Campaign

November 22-November 29
Support your local businesses! The Friendswood Chamber of Commerce is hosting "Friendswood Chamber Shop Local" week. For more information, contact the Friendswood Chamber of Commerce at (281) 482-3329.

18th Annual "Holiday Lighted Parade"

Saturday, December 11, at 6 p.m.
Down Friendswood Drive
The Friendswood Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the 18th Annual "Holiday Lighted Parade." For more information, contact the Chamber of Commerce at (281) 482-3329.

Chamber "Holiday Open House"

Thursday, December 16, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Chamber of Commerce Office
The Friendswood Chamber of Commerce is hosting "Holiday Open House." Bring an ornament advertising your business to hang on the Chamber's Christmas tree. For more information, contact the Friendswood Chamber of Commerce at (281) 482-3329.

City of Friendswood
City Manager's Office
910 S. Friendswood Drive
Friendswood, Texas 77546

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Fall 2004

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Community Calendar

"Experience the Good Ole Days"

The Friendswood Historical Society's Annual Heritage Festival is scheduled for Saturday, October 23, 2004, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. As before, events will be held at the Frank J. Brown Museum, the Perry Home and the Friends Church. Numerous events are planned throughout the day at the three locations with, of course, a lot of new additions. The ever-popular tours will be back – bus tours of the City, museum tours, and the cemetery tour. Expect to see "old timey"



Artwork courtesy of Laurie Whitehead (from "Our History, Our Heritage Friendswood U.S.A., Texas")

crafts, a petting zoo, a clown, a cakewalk, children's games, arts and crafts, local vendors booths, and entertainment. Throughout the day, a barbershop quartet will be traveling around performing at the various locations. Lots of good food will be available at all three sites.

This year's special drawing prize will be a King/Queen size quilt named "Wildflower Lonestar". It was pieced by members of the Bee Pieceful Quilting Club who meet at the Friends Church. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5, and can be purchased from any Historical Society member, and at the Chamber of Commerce. Other large prizes will also be raffled.

Back for the second year by popular demand will be Mr. Paul Wishnow, "the Antique Man," with an Opinion Day. Mr. Wishnow is an accredited national appraiser of personal goods. He will be at the Friends Church starting at 12 Noon with pre-registration at 11 a.m. For a donation to the Historical Society of \$10 for each item, you can get an opinion of its value, so bring as many items as you like. While at the Friends Church waiting to be called, browse the many booths with antiques and collectibles for sale. Lunch at this location will be full Bar-B-Que plates and sandwiches, drinks, and desserts.

Plan to bring the entire family and invite your friends and relatives. There will be something for everyone!

Frank J. Brown Museum—108 Skyview

- Museum & Bus Tours
- Cakewalk
- Armand Bayou "Old Timey Crafts"
- Old Fashion Food and Drinks
- Musical Entertainment
- Petting Zoo
- Harmony the Clown & Abby
- Artists' Booths

Nathan & Mary Perry Home—105 W. Spreading Oaks

- Tours of Home
- New York Style Hot Dogs & Drinks
- Booths with Handmade Crafts
- Quilters/Quilt Display
- Antique Car and Fire Truck Display
- Musical Entertainment

Friends Church Center—502 S. Friendswood Drive (hours here are 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.)

- Antique Man Opinions of Value
- Antique & Collectibles Booths
- Bar-B-Que, Drinks & Desserts
- Raffles
- Entertainment

COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD

Mayor Kimball W. Brizendine has introduced a special Community Spirit Award to recognize those behind-the-scenes volunteers who deserve recognition for their dedication to the City of Friendswood. The Mayor will be presenting this award quarterly. The first award was presented in June to Carol (Wood) Faulk and Bryan Faulk in honor of their dedication to the coordination and continued support of the Community Prayer Breakfasts held monthly at rotating area churches. Carol's father, past Councilmember Loren Wood, was the driving force behind the creation of the Prayer Breakfasts. Carol and John picked up that dedicated spirit when this community lost Loren Wood.

The second Community Spirit Award was presented September 20 to Mrs. Joycina Baker as the Honorary Historian for the City. She was honored for her dedication in preserving the history of this city. Joycina Baker's tireless efforts in working with the Friendswood Historical Society at the Frank J. Brown museum has provided an educational foundation for those wishing to learn about the heritage of the early beginnings of this Quaker Community.

Joycina Baker is the author of Friendswood: A Settlement of Friendly Folks. This book is a must read, providing facts about the founding community from oral history and depicting Friendswood's transition from the small Quaker colony that was formed in 1895 to the community of over 33,000 today.



For a HOWLING Good Time!

The Friendswood Public Library has a slew of haunted books and movies to keep the hairs raised and the heart pounding this Halloween season. For the children, try the *Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark* series by Alvin Schwartz, or choose from over 100 juvenile Halloween books. Get haunted house ideas from Friedhoffer's *How to Haunt a House for Halloween*. Need creepy sound effects? Use *Halloween Havoc Sound Effects* on compact disc. Need a recipe for worms au gratin or tongues on toast? Checkout Lucy Monroe's cookbook entitled *Creepy Cuisine: Revolting Recipes That Look Disgusting but Taste Divine*. For the grown-ups, try Stephen King, Dean Koontz, or choose from one of 59 classic and modern horror films on VHS or DVD. For more information, contact the Friendswood Public Library at 281-482-7135.

Focus on Friendswood • Fall 2004

Published by the City of Friendswood
City Manager's Office
Ron Cox, City Manager
Toni Yeager, Editor

Mayor	Kim W. Brizendine
Mayor Pro Tem	Jerry Ericsson
Council Position 1	Laura Ewing
Council Position 3	Tracy Goza
Council Position 4	Dave Smith
Council Position 5	Shannon Kimmel
Council Position 6	Mel Measeles

City of Friendswood Mission Statement

The Mission of the City Council and Staff of the City of Friendswood is to provide the highest level of service to our citizens at the greatest value.

Adopted: July 9, 1990
Revised: January 4, 1993
Revised: August 18, 1997
Revised: January 12, 2004

CLEAR CREEK CORPS PROJECT

People in our community have been talking about the need to clear out Clear Creek since the mid-1960s. In 1968, Galveston and Harris Counties entered into an agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to make improvements to the Clear Creek channel from the mouth of the creek in Kemah/Seabrook to the FM 2351 bridge in Friendswood.

After years of study, the construction of a second channel outlet and emergency gates in Seabrook and the purchase of some right of way between Clear Lake and I-45, there are still no improvements to the channel. Each time it rains, thoughts of flooding houses in Friendswood come to mind. Each time it rains, we remember Tropical Storm Allison, of 2001 and Tropical Storm Claudette of 1979 when hundreds of homes flooded. Each time it rains we are reminded that improvements to the channel are still being studied, and planned but no construction has taken place.

Even to this day, study continues. In 2001 the Corps of Engineers determined the entire project had to be reviewed and restudied. Thus began a two-year study called the General Reevaluation and Review (GRR). That two-year project is not slated for completion until June 2006. There are reasons for the new study and for the delays in completion. The data being used from the early 1970's was certainly old and the technology of today provides much more accurate data from which to properly plan. The scope of the study is much more extensive that it was then, with environmental considerations being much higher priority now. Nevertheless, the study continues.

This project is not without allies. The City of Friendswood, has teamed-up with its neighbors in Pearland as well as Brazoria County Drainage District #4, and the Galveston County Consolidated Drainage District to raise the awareness of the project to our congressional delegation and our state elected officials as well as the project sponsors - Harris, Galveston and Brazoria Counties.

Most notably, this group of allies has made formal presentations to **Congressman Tom DeLay**, **Congressman Nick Lampson**, and very recently, our new **Congressman Ron Paul**, as well as our **State Senator Mike Jackson**. Each has pledged their support of this project. House Majority Leader, Congressman DeLay has assumed the responsibility to ensure this project receives continued federal funding through his federal budget oversight. **State Representative Larry Taylor** has been an avid supporter of this project since before he served on the Friendswood City Council and now as the State Representative for our area. Most recently, newly assigned **Colonel Steven Haustein**, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District, met with this group. All now have a better understanding of the compelling need for the construction and completion of this project.

Our needs for a better drainage system in the Clear Creek Watershed continue to grow. Friendswood and its allies continue to do everything within our power to see that this project is eventually constructed. In the mean time, these allies have been working together to improve the flow in the Creek. Over 17,000 cubic yards of debris have been removed from the creek. This debris consists of everything from tires to large trees that have fallen from the banks into the water. With a specially made barge, this debris removal has served to improve the flow by over 17 percent in the creek. This project will be continued as funds are available. Also, our allies have constructed major regional detention facilities in the watershed to mitigate the flooding that will occur in times of heavy rains. Pearland and Friendswood purchased almost 200 homes in our cities along the flood ways of Clear Creek, after Tropical Storm Allison, at a local expense of almost \$5 million. Finally, these cities have the most stringent drainage requirements in the watershed.

These allies have made major strides with strong building regulations, local drainage improvement projects and significant financial commitments to reduce the potential for flooding. But until the Clear Creek project is completed, the dream of reduced flooding in our cities will not be fulfilled.

We will continue to work on your behalf to stop localized flooding where possible. Your continued support and voicing your concerns to our congressional delegation can only help their resolve on our behalf. Please do your part to let them know of our continued need to complete the Clear Creek Flood Control Project. Contact your representatives at these addresses: Congressman Nick Lampson, 601 25th St., Ste 216, Galveston, TX 77550
Congressman Ron Paul, 837 W. Plantation, Clute, TX 77531
Congressman Tom Delay, 10701 Corporate Drive, Suite 118, Stafford, TX 77477
Senator Mike Jackson, 201 Enterprise, Ste 600A, League City, TX 77573
Representative Larry Taylor, 174 Calder Road, Room 116, League City, TX 77573

Ron Cox
City Manager

Friendswood EMS KIDCARE FREE Childhood Immunizations Revised 2004 Schedule

When: November 6, 2004
Where: Fire Station #1
1000 S. Friendswood Dr.
281-996-3360
Time: 9 a.m. – 12 noon
A n d
When: December 18, 2004
Where: Friendswood Library
416 S. Friendswood Drive
Time: 10 a.m. – 12 noon



Public Works Projects

Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project

The next phase of this project began in August 2004. Throughout this venture the contractor will clean and TV the sewer mains, identify problem areas, and begin making needed repairs. The first objective will be to locate any problems in the 27" line located at the rear of San Joaquin for approximately 1200 feet. The contractor will then proceed to Glenshannon, Wilderness Trails, Annalea-Kingspark-Whitehall, Sunmeadow, and Wedgewood Village Subdivisions. Minor work will take place in the Forest Bend Subdivision, as most of it was completed in the last contract. Public Works will send a representative to accompany the contractor whenever possible to oversee operations. It is the department's goal to continually improve wastewater infrastructure through this project and others like it in the future. Following are more details for this project:

Blackhawk Boulevard Repairs

Recently the Public Works Department repaired several water main breaks on Blackhawk Boulevard. A 12" section of pipe was replaced at the intersection of Blackhawk and Wandering Trail; the Utilities Crew excavated part of this intersection, installed 34 feet of new PVC C900 and repaired the pavement in this



Blackhawk Boulevard repairs

area. This is the only recent water main repair in the Wedgewood subdivision that required pavement replacement on Blackhawk. Plans are in the development stage to replace a portion of the water main on Blackhawk within 1 to 2 years. This will entail replacing 1500 ft. of 12" cast iron pipe with PVC C900 between FM 2351 and Friendswood Link. This project should help reduce the number of main breaks in this area.

Asphalt Street Program

The Asphalt Street Program for FY2003-04 is now complete including the parking lot in Renwick Park. This year the program applied asphalt street overlay to Merriewood Drive (Castlewood to Briar meadow), Oak Drive (Butler to Airline), Butler Drive, McKissick Drive, N. Clear Creek Drive, S. Clear Creek Drive, Leisure Lane, Pecan Drive (E. Heritage to E. Shadowbend), Shady Nook, Baker Road, the Activity Building Parking lot located at 416 Morningside Drive, John Drive, Myrtlewood Drive, Crawford Drive, Thomas Drive, Steele Drive and Judy Avenue.

The FY2004-05 Asphalt Street Program will be evaluated during the next two to three weeks and perspective locations identified.

Improvements to Water/Wastewater Lines

The city will be constructing new waterlines to improve the water quality and pressure in five different locations. Some of the work will include the relocation of the water meters from the back yard to the front. Following more details for this project.

Dawn Street Waterline:

Construct 600 feet of 6" waterline from Woodlawn Street to Laurel Street and transfer service connections from the back yard to the front. Moving the meters to the front of the homes will make them more assessable for the meter technicians to obtain reads or for repairs that may need to be made.

W. Shadowbend Avenue:

Construct 600 feet of 6" waterline from Woodlawn Street to Laurel Street and transfer service connections from the back yard to the front. This project will also make reads or repairs easier for the meter technicians.



Woodlawn-Shadowbend

Linkwood:

The construction of 600 feet of 6" waterline from Sunset Street to Forrest View Street and the transfer of service connections to the new line. A fire hydrant will also be installed at the intersection of Sunset and Linkwood.

Misty Lane:

Construct 600 feet of 6" waterline from Sunset Street to Forrest View Street and the transfer of service connections to the new line.

Blackhawk Wastewater Treatment Plant on Bay Area Boulevard:

Construction of approximately 1,000 feet of 8" waterline from the end of an existing 6" at the plant to the existing 14" waterline on Bay Area Boulevard. This will create a loop in the system that will improve the quality and pressure.



Blackhawk Treatment Plant

Library

Corner

The Friendswood Public Library will be hosting a Book Sale December 11 through December 22, with the special preview for Friends of the Library on Saturday, December 11, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Apply for a Friends membership today for only \$5!

Children's Programs

Children's story times are from September 7 through December 3. Toddler time, which is for children up to the age of 3 years, meets at 10:10 a.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Preschool Story time, for children between the ages of 3-6 years, meets at 10:45 a.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays, and at 1:45 on Wednesdays.

Ongoing after-school activities for children ages 8-14 years including Creating New Line Designs are every Monday beginning September 7, Board game days every Friday after school starting September 10, Creating a Thanksgiving "thanks" quilt in November, and making braided rugs in December.

"Fall Craft" is October 23 at 10:30 a.m. The event is approximately 30 minutes long and is for children ages 5-7. Free tickets will be available starting October 16.

A Halloween Scavenger Hunt will be October 29 from 4 p.m.-5:30 p.m. for children ages 8-14 years. Tickets are not needed for this event.

Saturday, November 13 at 12:30 p.m. make "Pilgrim Place Cards". Children ages 8-14 years will be making

tiny pilgrim figures. Free tickets will be available at the library on November 11.

"Mother and Daughter Night" is November 18 at 7 p.m. for children and teens between the ages 8-16 years. Mothers and daughters will get to scrapbook their pictures. Free tickets will be available at the library on November 11.

November 20 at 10:30 a.m. participate in "Holiday Craft" for children ages 5-7 years. Free tickets will be available on November 13.

"Pocket Puppeteer by Party Animals" on November 22, at 10:30 a.m., for children of all ages. Free tickets will be available on November 15.

"'Twas the Night Before Christmas: a marionette show" will be December 4 at 10:30 a.m. for children of all ages. Free tickets will be available on November 24.

December 4 make "Potpourri Pine Cone Angels" at 1 p.m. for children ages 8-14 years. Free tickets will be available November 24.

Children of all ages can receive a free picture with Santa, courtesy of Kohl's Department Store on December 6 from 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Tickets will be available at staggered times starting November 29.

REMINDER! FREE Computer Classes at the Friendswood Public Library

The Friendswood Public Library, 416 S. Friendswood Drive, offers computer classes in Internet searching, Beginner's Microsoft Word, and an Online Genealogy class. Classes do not require prior computer skills, but it is recommended to start with the Beginner's Internet course if you do not have experience with using a mouse or computer keyboard.

The Beginner's Internet courses cover topics such as: what is a web browser, how to use a mouse, how to use the button bar, surfing the web, what is a URL address, how to use Subject Directories and Search Engines.

The Beginner's Microsoft Word class is designed to introduce letter and report writing, resume creation, envelopes and labels, as well as demonstrating the various templates within the program.

The Online Genealogy class provides great websites and helpful tips to make genealogy research more efficient and productive. Classes are held weekly on a first-come first-serve basis.

For more information or to sign up for a class, contact the Friendswood Public Library at 281-482-7135, or visit the Library's Reference department.

GENERAL ELECTION VOTING LOCATIONS

EARLY VOTING

The early voting location for National, State & County elections for citizens who reside in **Galveston County** is at **Friendswood City Hall Council Chambers** located at 910 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood. The dates and times are listed below:

Monday, October 18 – Friday, October 22
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Saturday, October 23 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Sunday, October 24 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Monday, October 25 – Friday, October 29
7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

The early voting location for National, State & County elections for Friendswood citizens who reside in **Harris County** is at the **Freeman Branch Library** located at 16616 Diana Lane, Clear Lake. The dates and times are listed below:

Monday, October 18 – Friday, October 22
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
Saturday, October 23 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Sunday, October 24 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Monday, October 25 – Friday, October 29
7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

ELECTION DAY VOTING

Tuesday, November 2, 2004
7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Galveston County locations for Friendswood voters who reside in **Galveston County** will be as follows:

Friendswood City Hall [Pct. 460]
910 S. Friendswood Drive

Friendswood Activities Center [Pct. 456]
416 Morningside Drive

Hope Lutheran Church [Pct. 462]
1804 S. Friendswood Drive

First Baptist Church Friendswood [Pct. 485]
202 E. Heritage

Windsong Intermediate-West [Pct. 461]
2100 W. Parkwood

Windsong Intermediate-East [Pct. 483]
2100 W. Parkwood

Westwood Elementary [Pct. 457]
506 W. Edgewood

Friendswood High School [Pct. 484]
702 Greenbriar

Harris County locations for Friendswood voters in **Harris County** have not been determined yet.

NEW POLITICAL SIGN LEGISLATION

As defined in Local Government Code 216.903, H. B. 212 was adopted and effective September 1, 2003. This Bill restricts a municipality's right to regulate signs of a political nature that are placed on private property, nor may the city require a permit or approval for the sign. Municipalities may not impose fees for placing signs as long as they are not larger than 36 square feet in area and

no higher than eight feet. Political signs exempt from Municipal Ordinances may not be illuminated or have moving parts.

The city's existing Sign Ordinance does not allow political signs to be placed on any property 45 days before an election. This new legislation will now allow political signs on private property outside of that 45-day restriction.

CITY AWARDED GRANT FOR HHW CLEAN-UP

The City of Friendswood was awarded an \$80,000 grant from the Houston-Galveston Area Council as part of the 2005 Solid Waste Management Implementation Grant Program. The grant will fund a one-day Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection event and outreach program in Spring 2005. The collection will be a joint event for the cities of Friendswood and League City providing residents an opportunity for the safe, proper disposal of HHW including:

- Batteries, Oil, Paint, Anti-freeze
- Household Batteries
- Household Chemicals

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

(Information courtesy of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality)

The average American household generates 15 pounds of HHW annually. Our homes contain an average of three to eight gallons of hazardous materials in kitchens, bathrooms, garages, and basements. A four-city study, conducted by the University of Arizona, found the following proportions of HHW in the waste stream:

- household maintenance items - 36.6 percent (paints, thinners, adhesives, etc)
- household batteries - 18.6 percent
- cosmetics - 12.1 percent (includes nail polish and removers)
- cleaners - 11.5 percent (includes polishes and oven cleaners)
- automotive items - 10.5 percent (mostly motor oil)
- yard items - 4.1 percent (includes pesticides, pet supplies, fertilizers)
- hobby/other - 3.4 percent (pool chemicals, art supplies, etc.)
- pharmaceuticals - 3.2 percent



Robbery Prevention TIPS

In light of recent driveway robberies in the Houston area, the Friendswood Police Department offers these tips to guard against such an event.

- Be alert for suspicious people loitering in the area
- Be alert for vehicles following you. If possible obtain a license plate for the car and a description of the car and driver.
 - Don't carry large amounts of money. If you must, be constantly aware of your surroundings, don't "flash" the money.
 - Keep your car doors locked while driving
 - Always check the interior of your car before entering



- Carry an extra set of keys in the event a robber takes your set
- Don't wear expensive jewelry or watches. If you must, then be alert to your surroundings at all times.
- Call the police if you have a concern

If you are robbed:

- Remain calm and do what the robber says
 - Consider all robbers as extremely dangerous
 - Make a mental note of the robber's description
 - Look for scars, deformities or tattoos
 - If possible remember the weapon description
 - Call 9-1-1 as soon as it is safe to do so
 - Give police a description of the suspect, vehicle and direction of travel
- For more Crime Prevention information, please call the Friendswood PD at 281-996-3300.

PARKS AND RECREATION EVENTS

WINTER FLAG FOOTBALL LEAGUES

Interested in forming a team for flag football? Then Friendswood has a league for you! Community Services will be offering an adult flag football league this winter. The leagues will start in January 2005 with games being played on either Mondays or Tuesdays depending on skill level. The fee will be \$265 per team this includes pool play and an end of the season tournament. For more information, please call Community Services at 281-996-3220.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Spookfest Softball Tournament – The City of Friendswood Community Services Department is hosting its annual Spookfest Softball Tournament on Saturday, October 23 and Sunday, October 24 (if necessary). The tournament will be held at the Friendswood SportsPark, 2910 W. Parkwood and will start at 9 a.m. It is open to Adult-Coed & Men's "D" Divisions and will be a double elimination format. Awards will be given to the top three teams in each division, plus an MVP award will be given out. The cost is \$150 per team (includes umpire fees) plus an additional \$15 if not ASA certified in District 31. Registration and entry fees must be turned in by 5:30 p.m., Monday, October 18 at the Community Services Department, 910 S. Friendswood Dr. There is an additional \$1 fee per person for entrance into the park. For more information, please call the City of Friendswood Community Services Department at 281-996-3220.

Lace up your running shoes and come help support the LRCF

Take a break from the hustle and bustle of the Holiday season to release some stress and tension. The City of Friendswood Community Services Department is hosting its annual Holiday Hustle 5K Fun Run / Walk & Kid's K on Saturday, December 4, 2004. The event will be held at Stevenson Park, 1100 S. Friendswood Dr. (In Pool

Parking Lot) with day of registration from 7 – 8 a.m. The Kid's K Fun Run (12 & under) will start at 8 a.m. and the 5K Fun Run / Walk will start at 8:15 a.m. and is open to all ages. Cost of the event is \$10 for the Kid's K and \$15 for the 5K until November 26. After November 26, a \$5 late fee will be charged. All proceeds from this event will go to the Laura Recovery Center Foundation in Friendswood. To find out more information on the LRCF, visit their website at www.lrcf.org.

Runners receive a trophy for top female and top male in



Volunteers from the 2003 Holiday Hustle Fun Run.

each age group, plus overall male and female. All walkers and Kid's K participants receive a ribbon and top male and female receive a trophy. Parking will not be allowed in the pool parking lot, please park behind City Hall or on Shadwell. After the event will have lots of great door prizes and a pancake breakfast for the participants.

For more information about the Fun Run & Walk, please call the Community Services Department, 281-996-3220, or visit the website at www.ci.friendswood.tx.us.



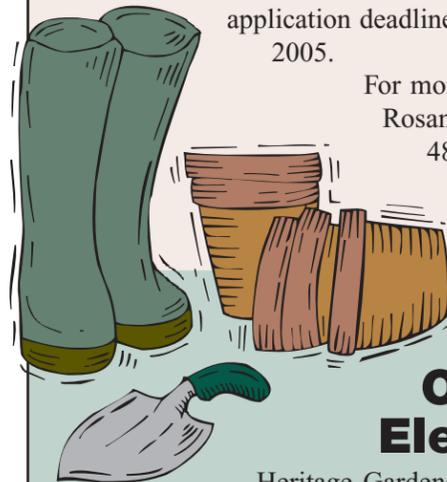
HERITAGE GARDENERS NEWS

2005 Scholarship

The Heritage Gardeners of Friendswood would like the community to be aware that the Gardeners offer a \$1000 scholarship each year. This scholarship is for a 2005 Friendswood or Clear Brook High School graduating senior. The scholarship will be awarded to a student who will be majoring in horticulture, floriculture, landscape design, landscape architecture, floral design, botany, forestry, or another related degree at a two or four-year Texas college.

Applications will be available in their high school counselor's office in October 2004. The application deadline will be March 31, 2005.

For more information, call Rosanne Malone at 281-482-6404.



New Officers Elected

Heritage Gardeners of Friendswood have announced their new officers for 2004-2005. They are: President-Jane Davis, Program-Linda O'Brian, Yearbook-Janet Flemming, Membership-Kaye Corey, Corresponding Secretary-Lorriane Worden, Treasurer-Sara Betterton, Parliamentarian-Mildred Baughmn, and Historian-Catherine Coker.

New members are always welcome. Bring a friend or join us and make new friends. In addition to laughing and learning a lot together, a little bit of extremely rewarding work is what we do for our community. The Heritage Gardeners meet on the first Thursday of each month, September through May, at 9:30 a.m., at the Marie Workman Garden Center, 112 West Spreading Oaks in Friendswood.

For more information, please call 281-992-4438.

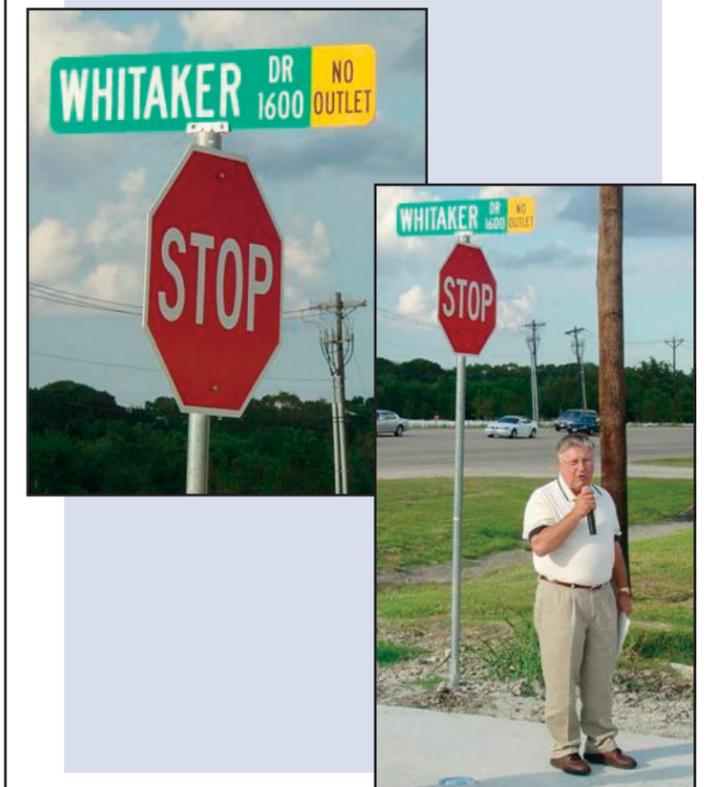
Former Mayor Whitaker Honored

The City of Friendswood honored former Mayor Harold Whitaker for his many years of dedicated service to the citizens of Friendswood on September 23, 2004. The City dedicated the street to the new Public Safety Building as Whitaker Drive.

Whitaker was Mayor of the City of Friendswood from 1997-2003, and served on several committees and boards for the City. He also served on the Friendswood Independent School District Board from 1977-1989, including five years as Board President. Whitaker currently serves as President of the Galveston County Consolidated Drainage District.

In attendance for this special event were many elected officials and dignitaries from Galveston County, the Drainage District, current and former Mayors and City Council Members, school district officials and city employees. The dedication was held at the corner of FM 528 and the new Public Safety Building adjacent to the Galveston County Consolidated Drainage District.

Former Mayor Whitaker and his lovely wife, Ann, have lived in Friendswood since 1971, where they have raised five children.



COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM (CRS)

The Community Rating System (CRS) program was created by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide further incentives for additional activities by communities that reduce flood losses and support the sale of flood insurance. Any community participating in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) may apply for CRS classification in order to obtain flood insurance premium rate credits for its residents. The community must demonstrate that it is implementing floodplain management and public information activities that exceed the minimum requirements of the NFIP.

Today, there are almost 20,000 communities in the NFIP and 1,001 communities in the CRS. Based on these numbers, those in CRS represent the top five percent of the nation's flood prone communities. The City of Friendswood began participating in the CRS Program in 1991 and has maintained a classification of 8 since that time. However, effective October 1, 2003, the City of Friendswood achieved an unprecedented rating of 5, and is now ranked in the top two percent of all communities participating in the NFIP. There is currently only one other CRS Class 5 Community in Texas and only three communities ranked better than 5 in the entire nation.

Communities may apply for CRS classification in order to obtain flood insurance premium rate credits for their residents. Friendswood has demonstrated that it is implementing floodplain management and public information activities far exceeding the minimum requirements of the NFIP. If you carry flood insurance, check with your agent for the lower premium cost (it could be reduced as much as 25 percent with our new ranking). If you do not participate in flood insurance, now is a great time to start.

This information has been compiled for citizens and property owners within the city limits of Friendswood as a part of this application process. The purpose of this article is to inform you of the flood hazards associated with flooding and suggest possible actions you can take to protect yourself.

NOTES:

1. The number below is the National Flood Insurance Program Community Number for the City of Friendswood. With this number referenced on your flood insurance policy, you are assured of getting the discount earned by the City's participation in the Community Rating System. Please be sure this number is referenced on your flood insurance policy: **Community Number: 485468**
2. Completed elevation certificates are available in the Community Development office.

This notice is a public awareness project as a part of the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System. For more information, call 281-996-3291.

City of Friendswood 2004 Flood Awareness Update

1. **LOCAL FLOOD HAZARD** - The purpose of this notification is to inform you of flood hazards associated with our local drainage-ways (Mary's Creek, Chigger Creek, Cowards Creek and Clear Creek) and suggest possible actions you can take to protect yourself.

Friendswood has a long history of flooding. In addition to our normal rainfall, we are often inundated by rain from Tropical Depressions, Storms, and Hurricanes. Some of the most devastating events include:

- 1961 – Hurricane Carla damaged 46 homes in the City of Friendswood
- 1979 – Tropical Storm Claudette flooded over 75 percent of the homes in Friendswood with 26 " of rain
- 2001 – Tropical Storm Allison produced 27 inches of rain and damaged over 530 homes in the City

The City of Friendswood has FEMA maps that designate flood zones within the city. The maps are available for viewing from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Community Development, on the second floor of City Hall at 910 S. Friendswood Drive. Additionally, if you would like a flood zone determination, you can come by or call 281-996-3291.

2. **FLOOD SAFETY** - Flooding can occur with little warning. In order to mitigate the hazards of flooding:

- Know the flood warning procedures.
- Plan escape routes to high ground.
- During heavy rainfall, monitor the level of water in the drainage-way. Stay tuned to radio or TV for possible flood warnings.
- Evacuate the flood hazard area in times of impending flood or when advised to do so by the police or fire departments.
- Do not attempt to cross a flooding stream on foot or by car.
- If your car stalls in high water, abandon it immediately and seek higher ground.
- Stay away from power lines and electrical wires.
- Keep children away from flood waters, ditches, culverts and storm drains.

3. **FLOOD INSURANCE** - Your homeowner's insurance policy will not cover losses due to flooding. Friendswood participates in the National Flood Insurance Program, which makes flood insurance available to everyone in the City. For many people, their home and its contents represent their greatest investment. *We strongly urge you to buy flood insurance to help protect yourself from devastating losses due to flooding.* Information about flood insurance can be obtained from your insurance agent. You do not have to live in the floodplain to qualify for flood insurance. Property owners can insure their buildings and contents and renters

CENTENNIAL PARK CONSTRUCTION MOVES FORWARD

Construction for the final phases of Centennial Park began in July of 2004. Plans call for the addition of 104 parking spaces and lighting of one of the existing soccer fields that was a part of Phase I. The construction of a half-mile jogging trail, the Evelyn B. Newman Amphitheatre, a restroom/concession/picnic pavilion, and a playground will be completed as part of Phase II. The construction of two

new soccer fields, one lighted football field, two lighted multi-purpose fields and the construction of a second restroom/concession/picnic pavilion will all be part of Phase III for the project. It is anticipated all the amenities will be completed by the fall of 2005.

These improvements were funded through the 2003 Bond Referendum.

*Left top: Amphitheater
Middle top: Restroom-concession-picnic area
Right top: Amphitheater foundation*

1

2

3

4

1: Conceptual drawing of Picnic area
2: Conceptual drawing of Amphitheater
3: Conceptual drawing of Master Plan
4: Conceptual drawing of Play ground

Labels in Master Plan (3): FUTURE SCHOOL SITE, EXISTING SOCCER FIELDS, NEW SOCCER FIELDS, PLAYGROUND, PICNIC / CONCESSIONS / RESTROOM BUILDING, LIGHTED FOOTBALL FIELD, LIGHTED MULTI-PURPOSE FIELDS, COVERED BASKETBALL PAVILION, AMPHITHEATER WITH COVERED STAGE AND 200 FIXED SEATS, JOGGING TRAIL, EXISTING LAKE.

BUSINESSES CONTINUE TO DEVELOP IN FRIENDSWOOD

immediately on the left find the newly completed **Townes Road Complex**, where **American National Insurance**, and



Happy Feet Carpet Co. will soon call home. Continuing west on FM 528, near Bay Area Boulevard, see how nice the



new building for **Wrinkle, Gardner, and Co.**, looks. They offer certified public accounting services in their new 5,525 sq. ft. location.



Traveling east on FM 528 in the new HEB Retail Center is **Special Eyes Optical**. Opened in September, Dr. Michelle Gragg offers full-service optometry care in a new 1,600 sq. ft. clinic. Continuing down FM 528, ground has broken for the new **Raton Plaza**, a 34,000 sq. ft. retail center. It will feature retail outlets, restaurants, and patio seating with umbrellas, and plans are to open in February 2005.



The City of Friendswood's Economic Development Office is here to help your business successfully grow in our community. The City offers economic development programs and services to assist your company in expanding and/or relocating to Friendswood such as:

- Demographic Information
- Development Review Committee
- Municipal Grant Program
- Tax Abatement and Tax Increment Finance Programs

To learn more about these and other business incentives, please call Karen Capps, Economic Development Coordinator, 281-996-3250.

City of Friendswood • 2004 Flood Awareness Update

can insure their possessions. Just because your house hasn't flooded in the past, doesn't mean it won't in the future. *There is a 30-day waiting period before a flood insurance policy takes effect, so you should call your insurance agent now to find out more.*

- 4. PROPERTY PROTECTION MEASURES** - Methods are available for retrofitting flood prone property such as flood protection levees, elevating existing structures and protection barriers. Literature is available at the City of Friendswood Public Library from FEMA regarding retrofitting. Emergency measures that can be taken to minimize damage are also explained – including moving furniture and sand bagging.
- 5. NATURAL AND BENEFICIAL FUNCTIONS** - The term “floodplain” often carries a negative connotation because of past experiences with flooding; however, the natural characteristics of a floodplain provide beneficial functions as well. Floodplains serve to protect the value of our water resources, living resources, and cultural resources. They protect natural flood storage and conveyance, water quality maintenance, and groundwater recharge. In our creeks in Friendswood, they also provide for breeding, nursery, and feeding grounds for fish and wildlife, as well as a source of nutrients for nearby wetlands.
- 6. MAP OF THE LOCAL FLOOD HAZARD** - The Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) shows the 100-year floodplain (AE), the 500-year floodplain (Shaded X), and areas outside of the designated floodplain (Unshaded X). It is available for viewing on the City's website at www.ci.friendswood.tx.us under “Departments”, “Floodplain Information”. The 100-year floodplain is the area that is prone to flooding and has a one percent chance of being flooded in any given year. The 500-year floodplain is the area that is prone to flooding with a 0.2 percent chance of being flooded in any given year. Smaller floods have a greater chance of occurring in any year and can still create a significant flood hazard to people and property close to the creeks.
- 7. FLOODWARNING SYSTEM** - The City of Friendswood has the following programs in operation in the event of a major flooding event: A call down system has been established with most of the homeowners associations; the City provides news through Mustang Cable TV at the High School (Channel 16) and on AM radio station 1650 WPMZ. Also, KTRH and KPRC provide current weather information for the Friendswood Area. The Police and Fire Departments use a mobile address system, a telephone-based warning system-First Call, and seven sirens located throughout the City to provide flood warnings.
- 8. FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT PERMITS** - The City of Friendswood has a Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance

that requires a Development Permit for building, excavation, filling, paving, grading, or otherwise developing in the floodplain. A Development Permit submittal must contain a Grading Plan. The Grading Plan must show existing topographic information, all proposed development work, and be signed and sealed by a registered Professional Engineer. Contact Community Development or visit our website at www.ci.friendswood.tx.us prior to any such development to obtain permits and information. Citizens should also report any illegal floodplain development to our office at 281-996-3294.

- 9. SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE, SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT** - Per the City's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance:

- *Substantial Damage* means damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to its before damaged condition would equal or exceed 50 percent of the market value of the structure before damage occurred.

- *Substantial Improvement* means any repair, reconstruction, or improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the structure either before the improvement or repair is started, or if the structure has been damaged and is being restored, before the damage occurred.

New construction and Substantial Improvements shall be constructed in compliance with the City's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance or be subject to a fine not exceeding \$2,000 per day per violation.

- 10. DRAINAGE SYSTEM MAINTENANCE** - The City of Friendswood, Galveston County Consolidated Drainage District (GCCDD), and Harris County Flood Control (HCFC) all have jurisdiction within the City of Friendswood and provide regular maintenance to all of the drainage ways.

Citizens should report any debris or blockages to the appropriate agency for removal. Keeping the drainage-ways clear in the event of a flood can help minimize potential damage.

For issues in Galveston County, contact GCCDD at: (281) 482-0404

For issues in Harris County, contact HCFC at: (713) 684-4000

- 11. OTHER INFORMATION**

Federal Emergency Management Agency: www.fema.gov
Texas Department of Emergency Management: www.txdps.state.tx.us

Galveston County Consolidated Drainage District: www.gccdd.dst.tx.us

Harris County Flood Control: www.hcfc.org

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clear Creek Project: www.clearcreekproject.com

BUSINESSES CONTINUE TO DEVELOP IN FRIENDSWOOD

Many new businesses and a few expansions are currently in the works in Friendswood to meet the increasing demand from our growing population. Be watching for new construction at the corner of FM 2351 and Pecan Dr. A **12,000 sq. ft. Office Building** will be built there soon. Across the road at Melody Plaza II is the **Pilates Studio** that has remodeled and is having a Grand Re-Opening! North on FM 518 on the right is the new **Ciao Bella**, a 1,200 sq. ft. gift store and interior design service, offering a variety of furniture, art, collectibles, floral, and jewelry items.



corner of FM 2351 and Woodlawn find the new **Continental Cuisine**, a new restaurant and catering business. At the corner of FM 2351 and Friendswood Dr., in the Captain's



Corner Shopping Center, in the far corner, be sure to visit **Sundance Yoga Studio** for yoga classes, massages,



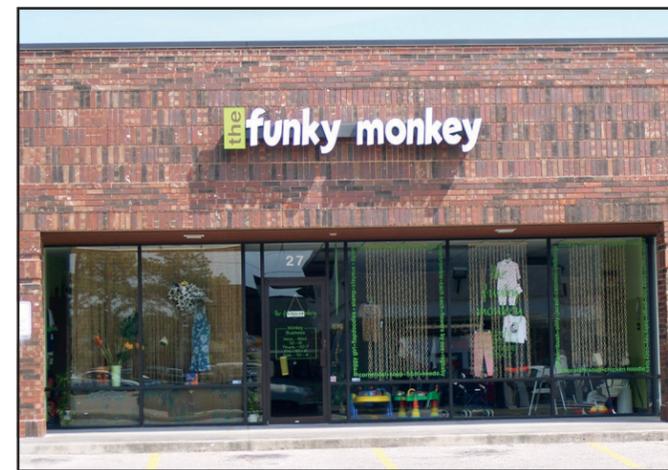
West on FM 2351, **Friends Knoll Commercial Center** is completed and has two prospective lease tenants. At the



and more! On Friendswood Dr. at the Friendswood Village Shopping Center, **Dinner Creations** has opened their convenient meal preparation business, and **Alex's Italian & Seafood Restaurant** has taken the place of the former Cecala's Restaurant. They



BUSINESSES CONTINUE TO DEVELOP IN FRIENDSWOOD



serve classic, southern Italian dishes, seafood, and more! A couple of doors down, the **Funky Monkey** has opened featuring upscale resale children's clothing, furniture, toys, etc. Continuing down Friendswood Dr. in Cowards Creek



Office Park is **Imaging Studios**, offering photography services by Trish & Alyssa for any photo needs. Taking a left on Winding Way, we find the location for the future, expanded offices of **Dr. Ronald Baden, OB/GYN**.

Traveling west on FM 528, between Schlotsky's and Blockbuster Video is the location for a new **Starbucks**, a 1,650 sq. ft. building that will feature a convenient drive-through for customers. At the Parkwood Professional Building find the new **Express Personnel Services**, a full-service staffing company focused to help companies find and keep good employees. Across the street already open in the new **Friendswood Retail Center**, is **Empress Nails**,



and soon to open, **Piccomolo's**, an Italian ice cream and coffee franchise. Also, moving into the center soon will be **Papa John's Pizza**, relocating from their current spot, and a dry cleaners.

Further down FM 528 on the right is the new office of **VideoComm Technologies**, providing video production and audio/visual services. Turning down Townes Road

