

# COMMUNITY UPDATE

## CITY OF PILOT POINT, TEXAS

102 East Main Street – Pilot Point, Texas

[www.cityofpilotpoint.org](http://www.cityofpilotpoint.org) 940-686-2165

FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2009 (Volume 1, Issue 4)



### **CHRISTMAS ON THE SQUARE** **IN DENTON COUNTY'S OLDEST TOWN** **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5<sup>th</sup> 6:00 till 8:30 PM**

The City of Pilot Point Main Street Advisory Board announced the date and time of the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas on the Square. Join us on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM to welcome Santa!

The annual **Picture with Santa** is always the main attraction for both the young and old and many consider this photo as a Pilot Point family tradition. The cost is just \$5.00 and proceeds benefit the Pilot Point Main Street program.



### **Food – Fun – Entertainment – Lights - Santa**

Many vendors will be located around the Historic Square; the Gazebo will be home to the Community Decorated Tree, and Santa will be taking requests from those who have been Nice!

The Opera House Singers will be performing a mixture of Christmas Carols on the Square as part of our entertainment.

Mark your calendar for December 5<sup>th</sup> and plan to spend your Saturday night soaking up the sights and sounds – hosted by the Pilot Point Main Street Program and merchants on our Historic Square.

For questions or if you need vendor booth or other event information, please feel free to call City Hall at **940-686-2165**.

### **HOME RULE CHARTER APPROVED** **BY CITY VOTERS NOVEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2009**

On Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, voters in the City of Pilot Point approved a Home Rule Charter as our future method of governance by a vote of 174 (58.39%) For and 124 (41.61%) Against. Home Rule governance is a very important new process for the City of Pilot Point, because we were previously governed directly by the State of Texas under regulations under General Law City status. Conversion to a Home Rule community allows for more local control.

The legal position of a Home Rule city is the reverse of General Law cities. Rather than looking to state statutes to determine what they may do, Home Rule cities look to their local Home Rule Charters to determine what they may do. Thus, a Home Rule city may take any action that is not

prohibited by the Texas Constitution or statutes as long as the authority is granted in the Charter of the city. Home Rule cities have the full power of self government and may take any action in the interest of the citizens' health, safety and welfare which is not contrary to the Texas and U.S. Constitutions or federal or state laws.

Several of the more notable changes included in the Home Rule Charter approved by local voters include:

1. The city council shall now consist of six (6) council members and a mayor, instead of five (5) council members and a mayor. The sitting city council shall appoint a qualified city resident to the new open position until the council elections in May 2010.
2. Our Mayor will now have full voting powers; previously the mayor only voted in the event of a tie.
3. The Home Rule Charter provides for a process for Recall, Initiatives, and Referendums by local citizens; previously no such provisions were available to local voters because no such provisions were provided under General Law status.
4. Council members will now be elected by a majority (above 50%), instead a simple plurality of votes. This provision creates the possibility of future runoff elections for a position, but it also assures residents that a candidate will be elected by a majority of voters in the community for each place on the city council.
5. The Municipal Court Judge must be a licensed attorney in the State of Texas; previously the Judge was not required to be a licensed attorney.
6. The City Council retains executive power to appoint the City Manager, City Secretary, Municipal Judge(s), City Attorney, and all advisory board or commission members; previously the City Council also approved the employment appointment of ALL city employees – the authority for employment appointment of all other city employees now rests with the City Manager.
7. The city budget must now include a 5-year capital improvements program for future

planning purposes; previously there was no such requirement.

Residents may secure a printed copy of the new Home Rule Charter from the Lobby of City Hall – 102 East Main Street, the Pilot Point Public Library – 324 South Washington, or you may also print a copy off our city webpage:

[www.cityofpilotpoint.org](http://www.cityofpilotpoint.org)

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### **CITY LOGO AND SLOGAN CONTEST** **ANNOUNCED BY CITY COUNCIL**

The City Council is interested in developing a new city logo and slogan and has decided to openly solicit entries through an art contest, with the winning entry receiving a \$500 cash prize. If there is a separate entry chosen for the logo and slogan, then the individuals will receive \$250 each.

The Logo/Slogan Contest Committee chaired by Bruce Thomas and co-chaired by Dick Bullwinkle will soon make a formal announcement of the list of local judges and a who's who list of celebrity judges and publicize the contest rules in December, for a scheduled kickoff of the contest in January 2010. The contest will also have its own logo/slogan website for access and logo/slogan submittals. Detailed contest information will be released in our next newsletter as we get closer to the actual kick off of the contest.

This contest will be open to young or old, professionals or amateurs, any and everyone will be welcome to enter and multiple entries are allowed.

Tentative contest schedule:

Contest Kickoff – January 5, 2010

- Press Release – Contest Website Launch
- “Call for Entries”

Contest Deadline – February 19, 2010

- Entry Deadline

Announce Winner – February 26, 2010

- Press Release
- Recognition Award Dinner

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**UPDATED**  
**NORTH TEXAS HORSE COUNTRY**  
**DRIVING TOUR BROCHURE DEBUTS**

A fully updated Horse Country brochure was delivered to participating cities this month, highlighting a driving tour covering nine (9) regional cities (including Pilot Point) and seven (7) North Texas counties. The new brochures are being delivered to Texas Tourism Centers for distribution to visitors and tour bus operators; the brochure compliments the Texas Lake Trails system.

Pilot Point leads the list of nine (9) cities with thirteen (13) major horse ranch operations. In addition, Pilot Point has bragging rights to two (2) adjacent major State Parks, and the highly popular Lantana Lodge Resort and Restaurant on Lake Ray Roberts. Pilot Point is also the home of the beautiful multi-use 20-mile Greenbelt Corridor Trail with 10-miles for equestrian use and 10-miles for hike & bike use.

Pilot Point is ideally located at the very Heart of North Texas Horse Country!

Copies of the updated North Texas Horse Country – Driving Tour Brochure are available at City Hall, the Chamber of Commerce, Lantana Lodge Resort and Restaurant, and Texas Tourism Centers.

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**HISTORIC DOWNTOWN**  
**WALKING TOUR BROCHURE**

In a collaborative effort by the Pilot Point Main Street Office, the City Historic Review Committee, and downtown merchants, a new full color Walking Tour Brochure has been developed for distribution locally and at select Texas Tourism Centers.

The intent of the brochure is to highlight the numerous historic buildings and sites in and near downtown Pilot Point and further highlights our Commercial Historic District which is listed on the prestigious and coveted “National Register of Historic Places”, commonly known as the National Register. The brochure compliments the nearly two dozen historic plaques recently placed on historic

buildings in the Historic District which provide a brief history of that site or building as part of the Downtown Historic Walking Tour Brochure.

Please visit the Square and take the time to read some of the rich history of our buildings located in the National Register of Historic Sites.

Historic Walking Tour brochures are available in several business locations on our Historic Square, at City Hall, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Texas Tourism Centers in Gainesville, Texarkana, and Waskom.

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**CITY ANNOUNCES HOLIDAY**  
**CLOSING SCHEDULE**

Thanksgiving: Thursday and Friday – November 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>

Christmas: Thursday and Friday – December 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>

New Years: Friday – January 1<sup>st</sup>

\*Water and Waste Water emergencies (after hours)  
**Call 940-368-0985**

\*Ambulance, Fire, or Police emergencies  
**Call 911**

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**OLD CITY LAUNDRY**  
**BUILDING FOR SALE**

The City of Pilot Point is offering the Old City Laundry Building “For Sale” to parties interested in locating a business in the downtown Commercial Historic District. The building is described as:

**OT Pilot Point, Block 18, Lot 1,**  
**201 South Jefferson, an approximate 2,160 sq. ft.**  
**historic commercial building built around 1901.**

Contact: For detailed information, questions, or to gain access to the building, contact:

J. C. Hughes, City Manager  
[jchughes@cityofpilotpoint.org](mailto:jchughes@cityofpilotpoint.org)  
**940-395-1898**

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## **MONTHLY \$\$ CASH \$\$ DRAWING ON THE SQUARE**

In addition to the Chamber of Commerce program asking residents to spend at least \$20 on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month in Pilot Point to help support the local economy, the Chamber previously announced the recent return of the Merchant Gift Drawing on the Square on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month.

**The next drawing will be held Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, at 4 pm on the Square. Live music will be provided at 8 pm by Bois D'arcs and Gary Kyle.**

As a reminder, you must visit and qualify at participating stores in town each month. For detailed rules on how to qualify, and a list of the participating business locations, please call the Chamber at **940-686-5385** or by emailing [chamber.ofcommerce@cebridge.net](mailto:chamber.ofcommerce@cebridge.net)

### **YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN!**

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#### **CODE ENFORCEMENT CORNER**

102 East Main St.  
Pilot Point, Texas 76258

#### **“We Need Your Help”**

Maintaining livable neighborhoods is a joint enforcement effort between city government and our residents. The city code ordinances are intended to improve the quality of life and protect property values, but we need your assistance in spotting violations.

#### **December Highlight – High Grass and Weeds**

- While high grass and weeds tend to be spring and summer issue, recent rains and warm weather have encouraged the continued growth of grass and weeds. Any grass or weeds over 12 inches in height is a code violation and must be addressed immediately.

- You are also responsible for maintaining grass and weeds to the edge of the hard surfaced roadway.

If you notice a violation of the high grass and weeds ordinance, or any other unsightly location, accumulation of debris, or any unhealthy condition, you are strongly encouraged to contact the City Code Enforcement Office at:

**Call 940-686-2165**

**Email: [lrrose@cityofpilotpoint.org](mailto:lrrose@cityofpilotpoint.org)**

***\* Please do your part to clean up Pilot Point!***

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#### **LIBRARY LINKS**

324 South Washington St.  
Pilot Point, TX 76258

Tuesday – Friday 8:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Saturday 9:00 PM – 2:00 PM

- **Health Focus:** November is Diabetes Awareness Month and the Pilot Point Community Library has an assortment of resources to help shine a spotlight on a serious disease that 24 million people suffer from and another 57 million are at risk of developing. The library will highlight a variety of books, videos and online resources all month that includes cookbooks, meal planners, self-care guides and other educational materials to assist you in managing diabetes.
- **Children’s Programs:** The library will offer area children ages 5 through 12 a special Thanksgiving craft and activity program on Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 until noon. The one-hour free program will be repeated again at 3:00 p.m. for those who are not able to attend the morning session. Children who attend will not only have a cornucopia of fun, but will also be eligible to win a copy of the Disney movie *Up* that will be given away in a drawing on November 25<sup>th</sup>.

**\*For more information about our other library services or securing a library card, please call:**

**940 686-5004**

**or visit our new Library website at:**

**[www.pilotpointlibrary.org](http://www.pilotpointlibrary.org)**



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**FIRE/EMS/AMBULANCE:**

110 W. Division St

P.O. Box 457

Pilot Point, TX. 76258

**Call 911 for Emergencies**

- Holiday Safety Tips – Fire safety is a major concern this time of year with heaters being turned on and Christmas trees and lights being installed. Be smart!
  - ❖ Install new batteries in smoke detectors – install smoke detectors if you do not have them already installed
  - ❖ Have a fire evacuation plan for your family
  - ❖ Don't overload electrical circuits
  - ❖ If you use a live tree, keep it watered
  - ❖ Never use flammable decorations on a tree
  - ❖ ALWAYS unplug tree and decorative lights when you are not home and before you go to bed
  - ❖ Never run extension cords under rugs or carpet or near water sources
  - ❖ Never leave candles unattended
  - ❖ Keep young children away from all electrical decorations
  - ❖ Have your heating system and/or fire place chimneys checked before operating
  - ❖ Keep all open heating sources away from flammable material or clothing
  - ❖ For non-emergency information or questions, call **940-686-5038** or email the fire department at: [admin@ppfd.org](mailto:admin@ppfd.org)

**Have a happy and safe holiday!**

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**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

102 East Main St.

Pilot Point, Texas 76258

**Call 911 for Emergencies**

- Holiday Safety Tips – Home and personal security are a major concern this time of year. Plan ahead to prevent thefts and break ins!
  - ❖ Santa comes down the chimney, not the doors or windows – so keep windows and doors locked and your blinds pulled
  - ❖ Alert your neighbors if you are going to be out of town during the holidays

- ❖ Be alert to all of your surroundings while shopping and going to and from your car
- ❖ Try to shop during daylight hours, or in highly lighted areas
- ❖ Try to not shop alone – take a shopping buddy along for additional safety
- ❖ Carry minimal cash and do not wear jewelry
- ❖ Have your car keys in your hand and ready to use, especially if you have a car alarm
- ❖ For non-emergency information or questions, call **940-686-2969**

**Plan Ahead and Be Safe!**

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**VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED  
FOR CITY BOARDS**

The City of Pilot Point needs volunteers on numerous Advisory Boards. We have positions available immediately for appointment by the City Council for the following boards:

- **Planning and Zoning Commission** (Dec 31<sup>st</sup>)
- **Board of Adjustment and Appeals**
- **Main Street Advisory Board** (Dec, 31<sup>st</sup>)
- **Historic Review Board**

For application forms and instructions visit:

<http://www.cityofpilotpoint.org>

Search the “City Government - Volunteer Opportunity” section or call Lisa Henderson @ **940-686-2165**.

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**CHAMBER RAFFLE TICKETS  
ARE STILL AVAILABLE**

Raffle tickets are available from the Chamber of Commerce as a Chamber Fund Raiser! 1<sup>st</sup> prize will be \$500 cash donated by Northstar Bank and Point Bank. The 2<sup>nd</sup> prize is a \$300.00 gift certificate donated by The Purple Door Day Spa. The 3<sup>rd</sup> prize is \$200.00 cash donated by Dr. Rene Scott. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 and you do not have to be present to win. Proceeds will help support community activities for your local Chamber of Commerce.

Please contact the Chamber of Commerce for a list of locations or contacts to purchase tickets or call:

**940-686-5385**

or email [chamber.ofcommerce@cebridge.net](mailto:chamber.ofcommerce@cebridge.net)

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**SOLID WASTE**  
**BULK & RECYCLING - F Y I**

IESI Customer Service: **903-564-9252**  
IESI webpage: [www.iesinorthtexas.com](http://www.iesinorthtexas.com)

**BLUE carts – RECYCLING – every THURSDAY**

**GREEN carts – TRASH ONLY**

MONDAY – (Main Street and all areas North)  
TUESDAY – (All areas South of Main Street)

**BULK SERVICE – 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> SATURDAYS**

For bulk service guidelines - please call  
Customer Service @ **903-564-9252** or email  
[iesipilotpoint@iesi.com](mailto:iesipilotpoint@iesi.com) 24 hours in advance.

Guidelines also available on the City of Pilot  
Point webpage under the “New Residents”  
section: [www.cityofpilotpoint.org](http://www.cityofpilotpoint.org)  
or call **940-686-2165**

**\*Nov - Dec - Residential Service Schedule:**

Nov 5, 12, 19, **27** – Recycling (citywide)  
Nov 7 and Nov 21 – Bulk Service (citywide)  
Nov 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 – Solid Waste (city north half)  
Nov 3, 10, 17, 24 – Solid Waste (city south half)  
Dec 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 – Recycling (citywide)  
Dec 5 and Nov 19 – Bulk Service (citywide)  
Dec 7, 14, 21, 28 – Solid Waste (city north half)  
Dec 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 – Solid Waste (city south half)

\*Additional carts are available for just \$4.50 a  
month, plus tax – contact City Hall if you are  
interested in obtaining an extra cart.

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**UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**NOVEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup> (Monday)**

**Pilot Point City Council Meeting – City Hall**  
Starts at 6:30 pm

**NOVEMBER 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> (Thursday and Friday)**  
**Thanksgiving Holiday – City Hall Closed**

**DECEMBER 5<sup>th</sup> (Saturday)**

**Christmas on the Square - Downtown**  
Starts at 6:00 pm; Pictures with Santa

**DECEMBER 12<sup>th</sup> (Saturday)**

**Drawing on the Square - Downtown**  
Drawing at 4 pm; music at 8 pm

**DECEMBER 13<sup>th</sup> (Sunday) @ 4:00 pm**

**Opera House Singers Concert – Free Admission**  
Opera House on the Square

**DECEMBER 14<sup>th</sup> (Monday)**

**Pilot Point EDC Board Meeting – City Hall**  
5:30 pm to 6:30 pm

**Pilot Point City Council Meeting – City Hall**  
Starts at 6:30 pm

**DECEMBER 17<sup>th</sup> (Thursday) @ 11:30 am**

**Monthly Chamber Luncheon**  
Pilot Point Community Center

**DECEMBER 28<sup>th</sup> (Monday)**

**Pilot Point City Council Meeting – City Hall**  
Starts at 6:30 pm

**JANUARY 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010 (Friday)**

**New Years Day – City Hall Closed**

**GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Pilot Point Band Boosters** - Help support your  
award-winning Pilot Point Bearcat Band. For  
information regarding their specific needs and  
scholarship funding: Contact Shannon Slater at  
**940-597-3533** or [shannon@dwslaterco.com](mailto:shannon@dwslaterco.com)

**Pilot Point Opera House Singers**

Meets every Thursday at 7:00 pm for rehearsal.  
If interested in joining call **940-686-2454**.

**Pilot Point Opera House**

**XCW Wrestling**

Proceeds to benefit restoration of the Historic  
Opera House Building at 110 South Washington.  
Call **940-891-3283** for more information.

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\*Non-Profit Organizations are encouraged to list  
their upcoming events in our Community  
Newsletter. Please call City Hall at **940-686-2165**  
or email [jchughes@cityofpilotpoint.org](mailto:jchughes@cityofpilotpoint.org) to list  
your community activities. Visit our website for  
updates!

