

The Cross Roads Times

Quarterly Publication of the Town of Cross Roads, Texas (Denton County)

From the Mayor's Desk

by Harv Kitchens, Mayor



Photo by [unreadable]

Mission of the Town of Cross Roads

The mission for the Town of Cross Roads has been clearly defined by this Town Council. It has three components.

- To maintain our one-acre minimum lot size
- To have no town property taxes
- To continue with road maintenance and road improvement

I want to provide you with an update of the Town's activities in the area of Road Improvements in Cross Roads. Several years ago, we hired an engineer to help

us establish the method of construction we should require to ensure us that we spend our money wisely when a decision is made to improve a specific road. This has helped tremendously in having roads re-constructed. Basically, the engineer advised us to totally regrind the existing surface and add sufficient amounts of cement creating a good base and then adding a 3-inch asphalt surface that would compact to 2 inches. This process is working well and we believe that this will continue to provide us with roads that will withstand the elements and traffic that use our roads.

Volume 9 Issue 1

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More specifically, the road committee has done an excellent job this past year using the available funds to improve our roads. The most significant improvement has been the

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From the Mayor’s Desk...(continued)

resurfacing of all our cul-de-sacs. The cul-de-sac resurfacing was started just before we experienced an abundant amount of record-setting rain. We regret any temporary inconvenience that this caused our residents; however, the end result is really outstanding. This was done to all of the cul-de-sacs in all of our sub-divisions. In addition, Keyes Road was widened and resurfaced in accordance with the established method of construction mentioned above and this provided a much safer road. We have two bridges on Historic Lane that had their under-structure replaced as well as ditch work done leading to them. We have a plan in place to have all of the right of ways mowed on a regular basis. We also have an ongoing plan to make pothole repairs.

During the budget year of 2008/2009, \$265,708 dollars (58% of the total expenses for that fiscal year) were spent on road improvements. The budget for our current year 2009/2010 includes \$147,500 for road improvements, which represents 31% percent of the total budget.

Your council takes whatever action is needed to maintain the vision our citizens have for our Town.

- One-Acre Minimum Lot Size
- No Town Property Taxes
- Road Improvement

Katherine’s Corner ... by Katherine Ritchie, Town Administrator

The **State Comptroller** has sent a reminder for people to look for unclaimed property by checking for property through their website claimittxas.org or by calling **800-654-3463**.



ODDS & ENDS

ORDINANCE UPDATE – This new section will be updated quarterly. The purpose of this update is to summarize the additions and amendments to the Town of Cross Roads “Code of Ordinances” approved in the previous quarter calendar year. Most information is germane to public health, safety, building, and zoning issues.

RESOLUTION AND ORDINANCE QUARTERLY UPDATE

1. In October of last year the Town Council approved Ordinance # 2009-1012-01, granting a Special Use Zoning from Agriculture to Agriculture with a Special Use of a Wind Mill to Re-Circulate Water in a Pond to Mr. & Mrs. Priest on Tipps Road. The Council also approved Ordinance # 2009-1012-02, finding that the current rates of CoServ Gas LTD are unreasonable; approving CoServ Gas LTD revised and uncontested tariffs; setting the effective date of new tariffs as October 1, 2009.
2. In November of 2009 the Town Council approved Resolution #2009-1109-01, approving passage of the “American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009”. The resolution allows the Town to apply for a federal “Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant”. The Town of Cross Roads, having limited financial resources, desires to support the development of energy efficiency programs. The Town may accept additional funds that become available to reduce the total energy use through sustainable and measurable energy saving improvements.

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Katherine’s Corner...continued



TOWN ELECTIONS

Below you will find a chart of important Uniform Election dates. The Town of Cross Roads will be ordering an election to fill the Mayor’s Seat, 2 Council members’ seats, and one unexpired Council member’s seat. In addition, the Town Council will be seeking re-authorization of a ¼% sales and use tax to continue providing revenue for maintenance and repair of municipal streets.

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE
May 8, 2010 - Uniform Election Date**

Authority conducting elections	*Most local political subdivisions
**First Day to File for Place on Ballot	February 6, 2010
**Last Day to File for Place on Ballot	March 8, 2010 (moves to next business day, Monday)
Last Day to Order General Election	March 8, 2010
First Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail	March 9, 2010
Last Day to Register to Vote	April 8, 2010
First Day of Early Voting	April 26, 2010
Last Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail (Received , not Postmarked)	April 30, 2010 (moves to preceding business day, Friday)
Last Day of Early Voting	May 4, 2010

**If you have specific questions pertaining to the May 8, 2010 election,
please call the office of the Secretary of State.**

Contact Information for the Secretary of State

Section Mailing Address:
Elections Division
Secretary of State
P.O. Box 12060
Austin, Texas 78711-2060

Section Physical Address:
Elections Division
Secretary of State
208 East 10th Street
Rusk Building, Third Floor
Austin, Texas 78701

Phone Numbers
1.800.252.VOTE (8683)
512.463.5650

Welcome New Citizens and Newly Opened Area Business

Michael and Holly Moore, 600 Bridle Ridge Ranch Road

Steve and Katherine Nickols, 7950 Hwy 380

Diane Marks, 135 Las Colinas

Wendell McBride, 1805 Timber Ridge Trail

Pat Harris, 1270 Sunset Pointe

Larry McClendon, 1270 Timber Ridge Trail

Charlie and Kimberly Ames, 1301 Bridle Ridge Ranch Road



Located N on Highway 380 west of the 380/720 intersection

The Aubrey Area Library Staff enjoy their Holiday Luncheon in front of the PossibiliTree



PossibiliTree opened at the Aubrey Area Library... by Jan Herbst

Many hands make light work. This proverb is indeed applicable to the completion of a massive tree collage in the program room of the Aubrey Area Library. Under the creative direction and guidance of artist Linka Behn, dozens of community members of all ages contributed the many hours required to complete the collage. The room, used for children's programs and other group functions, now beckons all to enter with its welcoming visual vista.

The PossibiliTree theme was conceived to represent life-long growth through reading and learning. Artist Behn used an entire wall to sketch the outline of a substantial, full, Live Oak-like tree. Participants were then directed to glue varying shades of torn recycled papers to the wall with an acrylic medium. Day by day, the tree began to take shape as thousands of individual bits of paper were applied. Over the weeks,

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Aubrey Area Library...continued

patrons of the library continued to comment on the development of the library's artistic asset. Each person, along with Linka Behn and other artists who contributed to the effort, signed a green leaf. Over two hundred signed leaves are now part of the PossibiliTree.

The library staff is most grateful to Linka and her artist-friends for their countless hours of donated time and artistic gifts. Additionally, this creative inspired endeavor has drawn the Aubrey Area community together in a worthwhile and rewarding experience to reach for a common goal

The entire project has been documented with additional photos, and is posted on the library's website at www.aubreyarealibrary.blogspot.com



What else is happening at your Aubrey Library?

Aubrey Book Club: meets the last Wednesday of each month at 7 pm. Everyone is invited to join the discussion. January 27: The Prince of Tides by Pat Conroy and February 24: A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith

Senior Events: meets the first three Thursdays of each month for programs, games, and lunch. All activities begin at 10 am, with lunch following at 11:30. Please sign up for lunches a week in advance at 940.365.9162.

Toddler Time: Tuesdays at 10:30 am for ages 18-36 months: stories, songs, rhymes, puppets, and movement.

Story Time: Wednesdays at 11:00 am for ages 3-6: stories, songs, rhymes, literacy activities, puppets, and crafts.

Magazine Collection: Come peruse our current magazines on travel, parenting, home decor and living, gardening, science, woodworking, fashion, cooking, health, consumer products, humor, cars, sports, and more!

Aubrey Area Library
226 Countryside Drive
Aubrey, TX 76227
940-365-9162

Kernels from Kay

Here are some thoughts on aging. They may not apply to all of you out there, but I have found that they apply to many of my friends and acquaintances, and to me.

You might be over 50 if....

You have a BFF but have no idea what it is.

You think Twitter is something birds do in trees.

Your exercise routine consists of walking or strolling around your neighborhood.

The only things you own are for your feet.

You have no idea what a SPANX is and would be amazed to discover that it has nothing to do with child abuse and that a committee of three is required to do one.

Your friends think you are rude and uncommunicative because you never recognize your own tone ring on your cell phone and can never find it in your purse anyway.

You have to call one of your children if any of your electronic devices won't work.

You have opened a Facebook account because one of your children shamed you into it, but if another person asks to be your friend you are going to throw your computer out the window.

Kay Lamb



Saying Goodbye to a Major Landmark...by Ross Schraeder



There are landmarks in every town and the one I used to see when I came through Cross Roads while going from McKinney to Denton was the impressive Walter Monk Ranch sign. Placed high on the hill with drives from Highway 380 going up the hill from both sides, it was indeed impressive. Walter died in December of 2009 at age 74 and left many memories of his contribution to the Horse Country of which Cross Roads is a part.

Walter was born on February 26, 1935 in Centerville, Texas. He met his wife to be, Wilma Sadler, on a skating rink when she was 15 and he was 16. A year later they were married. He worked in the construction business from the time he was twelve years old until he retired here in Cross Roads in 2002. He started North Dallas Drywall and Acoustic in 1963 and North Dallas Paint and Drywall in 1968.

Walter came from a family of horse people. His grandfather rounded up wild mustangs for sale and his father raised, trained and sold horses. Throughout his life, Walter enjoyed horses. Having grown up with horses and loving working with them, it was just natural for him to have horses himself as soon as he could. Wilma said they had horses during the seventeen years they lived in Coppell and of course after they came to Cross Roads and established their 25-acre ranch in 1983.

During most of that time Walter bred quarter horses with a champion stud he bought. The stud, over his 28-year life, produced over a hundred horses for racing and selling. Walter raced his horses in Texas, Oklahoma, California and Ruidoso, New Mexico.

In addition to horses, Walter loved and restored antique automobiles. Probably his favorite was a green 1930 Model-A pickup. It fit right into his ranch character. At 72 he also took guitar lessons and played during services at his church in Aubrey.

Wilma now has the ranch up for sale and being a prime commercial location it won't be too long until our landmark is gone. We will all miss it as we miss Walter.

Cross Roads Town Park

UPDATE: A stone sign is being built for the Cross Roads Town Park by Grissom Construction of Aubrey, and native landscaping will be completed by Native Springs Landscape and Irrigation located in the Providence. The Road Committee was diligent this past fall in making a top-notch gravel road that provides better access and has improved the traffic flow from either FM 424 or Fish Trap Rd. into the park.

by Becky Porter

Business Profile ...by Larry and Kae Fisher



Alfreda and Phil Moreino,
owners/operators of
Rustic Furniture Depot

As Phil Moreino described the history of Rustic Furniture Depot, I kept thinking what a remarkable journey this man and his family have taken. For all but three short years of his life, this Oklahoma transplant has grown up in Texas. His roots lie deep in what many of us would describe as a strong work ethic and committed to success. They had to be. After Phil's construction business faltered in the aftermath of 9/11 terrorist attacks, he began the soul-searching process of starting over.

While driving one day, Phil and Alfreda stopped at a roadside business that sold rustic swings. When they got back into the car Phil turned to Alfreda and said, "I can do this!" And so it began. Phil asked the man selling rustic furniture out of the back of his pickup truck if he would like to open a store.

Phil reached an agreement with the owners of the old Villa Grande restaurant to let him sell rustic furniture from their parking lot. On the very first day, Phil managed to sell \$3500 in furniture. A new business was born and Rustic Furniture Depot opened its doors at the current location in Cross Roads in October of 2002. It started as a family business and remains so today with many of the family members involved in various aspects of the business.

Rustic Furniture Depot has grown into the premier furniture store of its type in North Texas, retailing approximately one and one-half semitrailer loads of furniture each week! When asked about this remarkable achievement, Phil answers that his customers appreciate the unmatched pricing, selection and service. Because Phil deals directly with the manufacturer and eliminates the distributor, he provides quick response to customer needs and passes the savings along to his customers.

Check out their website for an introduction to their products. But to truly appreciate both the quality and variety of handsome furniture available, you need to drop by their store. They are open every day but Sunday. Immediate delivery from Rustic Furniture Depot's huge showroom inventory supplemented by the 42 shipping/storage containers comprising their warehouse minimizes your wait time. If you want a more customized look for your furniture, Rustic Furniture Depot can normally order from a wide variety of special stains/finishes and sizes to meet your needs, and deliver the order within two weeks.

As a special service for all Cross Roads residents, Phil says he will provide free delivery in Cross Roads of your purchases in January and February of this year. Whether it is furniture, accessories, mattresses, or theater seating, you are sure to find a wide selection at Rustic Furniture Depot. It's far, far more than the simple rustic swings that got the business started!

Rustic Furniture Depot
11901 US 380
940-440-0495 or 972-292-1344
www.rusticfurnituredepot.com

Town of Cross Roads, Texas

Harv Kitchens, Mayor

Ross Schraeder, Mayor Pro Tem

Tony Russo, Council Member

Virden Seybold, Council Member

Steve Smith, Council Member

Katherine Ritchie, Town Administrator

Judy Moudy, Admin. Assist.

Jeanie Burch, Editor

Cross Roads Town Hall

PHONE: 940-365-9693

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TOWN HALL MEETING SCHEDULE

Town Council Meetings 2nd Monday of the month

Planning & Zoning Commission meetings 4th Tuesday of the month

Road Repair Committee meetings the Thursday before the Town Council meeting

Comprehensive Planning Committee meetings 2nd Wednesday of the month

Town Council Workshop Meetings 4th Monday of the month

Park Board Meetings - 2nd Tuesday of the Month

All meetings except Town Council Workshop start at 7:00 pm; Council Workshop starts at 5:00 pm. All meetings are open to the public and held at Town Hall unless specified otherwise on the agendas, which are posted on the front window of Town Hall. Please call Katherine Ritchie at Town Hall if you would like to join a committee to serve your community.



Town of Cross Roads

1401 FM 424

Cross Roads, TX 76227