



from the office of the City Manager

College Station ★ Texas

*A Monthly Report to the
Honorable Mayor and City Council
February 2005*

January in Review...

After almost 40 years of service to the College Station Police Department, **Chief Edgar Feldman** took a moment to say goodbye at a January 31 reception hosted by the City and attended by more than 400 who were proud to call Edgar their friend. The following day, leadership of this outstanding department passed to the new Chief of Police, **Michael Clancey** from Westerville, Ohio as he took his oath of office in ceremonies at Municipal Court.



★ Joining the ranks of the retired is **Jim Smith**, Director of BSWMA and Assistant Public Works Director. A reception in his honor was held January 28 as he completes more than 30 years of service, the last 17 in College Station.

★ A first for **Planning and Development Services** was a **luncheon** for developers, builders and others who are frequent users of services in that department. An informational presentation on development in the City of College Station, plus population growth trends, was well received. Plans call for similar meetings each quarter to improve communication between the department and its customers.

★ As you know, the original 47 applications for Fire Chief were reduced to 15, with our search firm consultant interviewing those by phone or in person to narrow the field to five

or six finalists. Once they are identified, we will schedule interviews with them in College Station March 3-4, following a format similar to that used to select the Chief Feldman's replacement in the Police Department. **Dave**

Giordano's retirement is planned March 31.

★ Our Senior Services program director **Marci Rodgers** is continuing to provide learning

opportunities for seniors in our community. In addition to computers and international programs, a February 8 trip will find them on the road to Austin to visit the State Capitol as part of a Senior Day event. Arrangements have been made to visit and have photos made with **Senator Steve Ogden** and **Representative Fred Brown**.

★ With an eye to the next few weeks, the City's 2004 Annual Report will be distributed and filing for candidates in the May 7 election will be held from Feb. 7 - March 7.

City Manager





City Center Project Taking Shape With Public Input Sought in 2005

A city must be more than the sum of its parts. For that reason, planning for this vital and historically significant initiative began in 2004. The City Center project is intended to create a

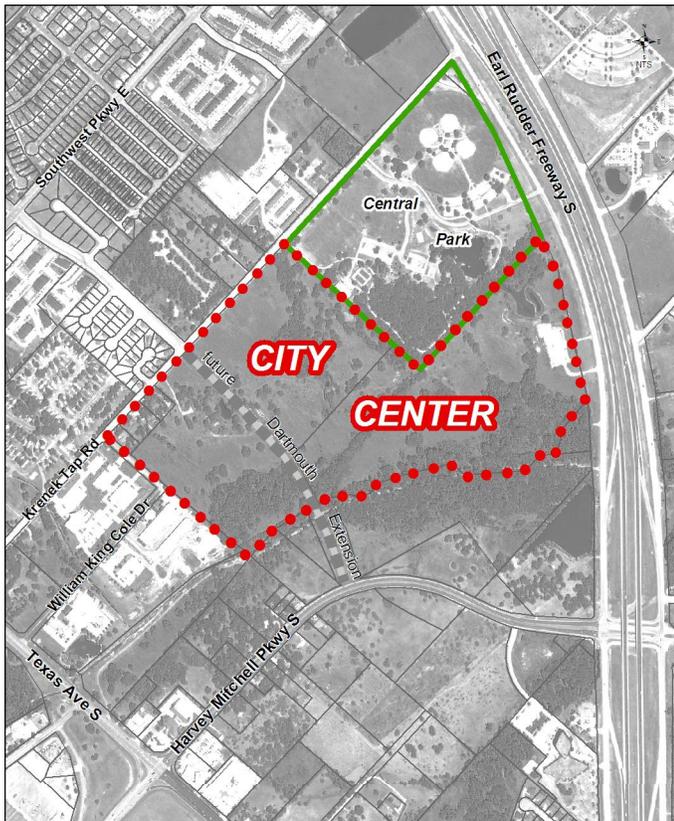
central identity point and public place for College Station citizens as well as symbolize the community's interest in education, the arts, business, and traditions of importance.

With initial funding approved by voters in 2003, a City Center Committee was appointed by Mayor Ron Silvia to begin planning on the

City Center site located on Krenek Tap Road between Texas Avenue and the Earl Rudder Freeway. A long-term goal of consolidating City offices on the site is a priority, but this project is much broader in its vision with land uses for the City Center site to include hike and bike trails, recreation, the performing arts, a community center, and other uses exquisitely located among landscaped streets, plazas, works of art, fountains, and lighting developed as a major focal point of the City's identity.

Following Council approval of a design concept recommended by the Committee, work continues to refine this concept for public presentation and citizen input in 2005. Development of the City Center is seen as an essential ingredient to creating a municipal identity for College Station as it continues moving from good to great.

(Conceptual drawing of City Center project shown below, with site map at the left.)





Briefly speaking...

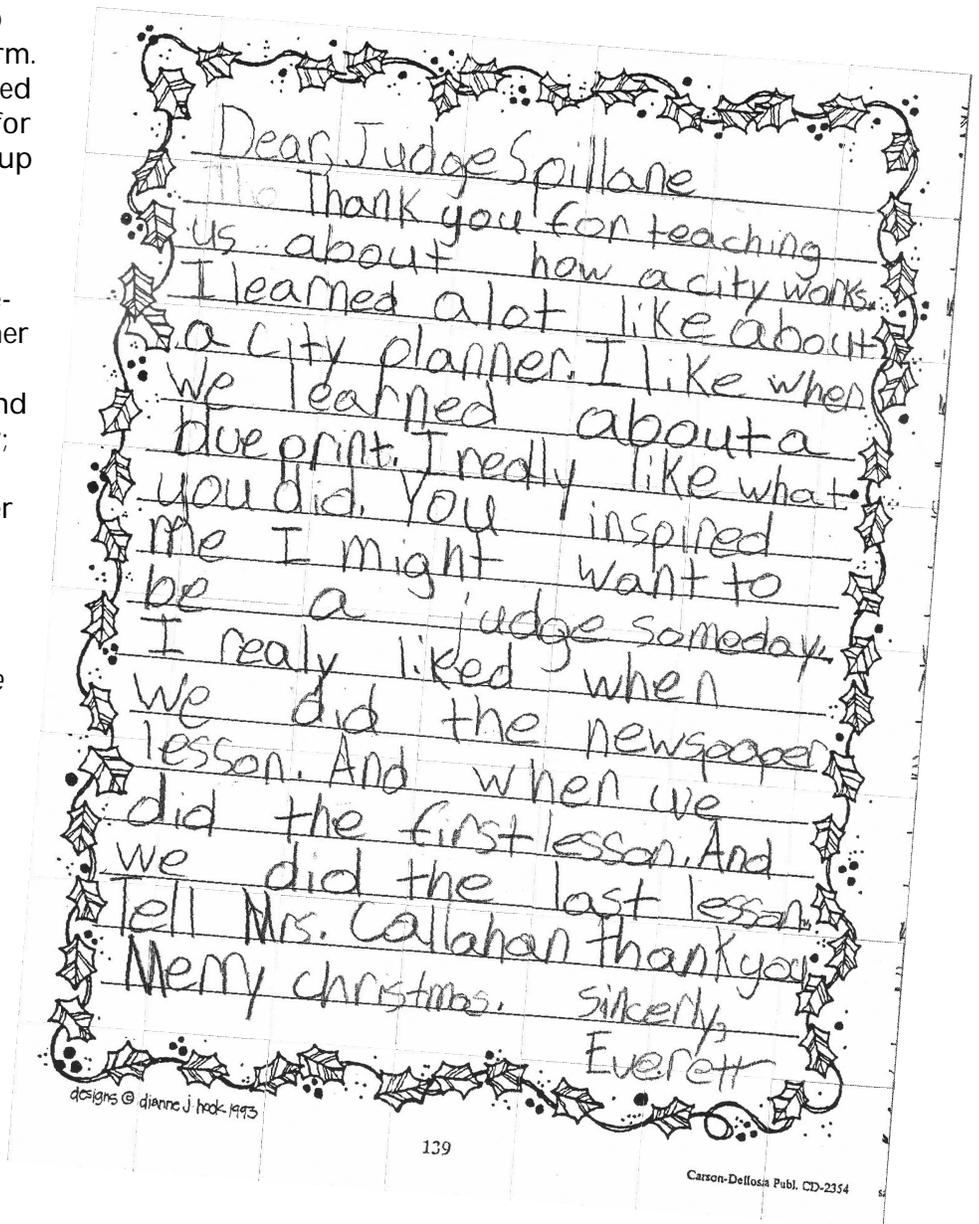
City Volunteers Continue Support Of Junior Achievement Program

The Fall of 2004 found the City of College Station once again participating in the Junior Achievement Program. Under the leadership of Eric Ploeger, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director, approximately 20 city employees spent five weeks teaching all CSISD third graders about "how cities work."

They learned what planners and builders do, how cities must be zoned for safety and quality of life, how restaurants, banks and newspapers operate -- along with skills to accompany each lesson. Third graders even learned to write a check and fill out a deposit form. Most importantly, they were introduced to the idea that you must plan ahead for what you want to be when you grow up and that hard work in school pays off later.

City volunteers for the Junior Achievement program included: Trey Fletcher and Ken Fogle, Rock Prairie Elementary; Debbie Eller, Greg Lancaster and Eric Ploeger, South Knoll Elementary; Jennifer Prochazka, Molly Hitchcock, Jennifer Reeves and Peter Lamont, Southwood Valley Elementary; and Peggy Calliham and Ed Spillane, Pebble Creek Elementary.

Letters of appreciation were sent to those who volunteered from the College Station ISD third graders who participated in the program. A sample of one delivered to Judge Spillane is shown at the right.



designs @ dianne j hook 1993



City briefs...

★ We have received the December sales tax receipts (*November sales*) from the State Comptroller’s Office. The City collected \$1,160,756.54 for the month of December, representing a 10.11% increase in revenue from the same month a year earlier. Overall, tax revenues continue to grow above the projected 2% trend. We will continue to monitor sales tax revenue projections and report accordingly should there be any changes from the forecasted amount. Monthly and year-to-date sales tax collections are summarized as follows:

<i>December FY05 Receipts</i>	<i>December FY04 Receipts</i>
\$1,160,756.54	\$1,054,182.08
Actual Difference	\$106,574.46
Percent Difference	10.11%
<i>FY05 YTD Receipts</i>	<i>FY04 YTD Receipts</i>
\$3,747,535.22	\$3,561,660.56
Actual Difference	\$185,874.66
Percent Difference	5.22%

★ Good news arrived in mid-January with official confirmation of the operational permit for the new Grimes County landfill on State Highway 30. With more than 600 acres to serve an 11-county area, the new site is tentatively scheduled to begin receiving waste in December 2008. It is funded by tipping fees from landfill operations at the Rock Prairie site and is projected to operate for a minimum of 35 years.

Approval of the permit by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ensures there will be no interruption of service as the Rock Prairie landfill, which opened in 1980, will continue operations until it reaches projected capacity in 2009. At that point, it will be transferred to the Parks and Recreation Department for use in the College Station parks system.

Special thanks to Jim Smith, who retired as BVSMA Director after securing the permit, and his staff for their efforts to make this happen.

★ Our 17th annual Christmas tree recycling event was a success, with more than 1,692 trees taken in by College Station and Bryan. Critical to the success of this project is the tremendous volunteer support from the Brazos County 4-H Equestrian Club. This group provided numerous volunteers to staff dropoff locations in College Station’s Central Park, where 357 trees were collected, and at Bryan’s Haswell Park, where 226 trees were dropped off.

In addition, sanitation divisions in each city picked up Christmas trees on their normal yard waste routes (duplex and single family residences). Between December 26 and January 14, a total of 699 trees were picked up curbside in College Station, and 391 in Bryan. An additional four trees were delivered directly to the compost facility, and 15 were taken in at the landfill.

Our goal with this event is to save space in the landfill by diverting the trees to other uses, and to help educate the public on year-round recycling efforts.



CITY OF COLLEGE STATION
Heart of the
Research Valley

1101 Texas Avenue
College Station, TX 77842
www.cstx.gov

COUNCIL CALENDAR

Monday, February 7

Council Retreat
Wastewater Plant, 8:30 am

Tuesday, February 8

Wolf Pen Creek Oversight
Committee, 4 pm
Transportation Committee,
TTI-Gilchrist Bldg. Room 102,
5:30 pm

Wednesday, February 9

Inner Circle Luncheon,
The Zone, 11:45 am

Thursday, February 10

City Council Workshop/Tour, 2
pm; Regular Meeting, 7 pm

Friday, February 11

Intergovernmental Meeting,
CSISD, 12 Noon

February 12-14

AMCC Conference (12-13)
TML Legislative Briefing (14),
Austin

Tuesday, February 15

Chamber of Commerce, 8 am

Wednesday, February 16

Research Valley Partnership,
Chamber Offices, 3 pm

Friday, February 18

Fire Department Dinner,
Pebble Creek Country Club, 6 pm

Thursday, February 24

City Council Workshop, 3 pm
Regular Meeting, 7 pm

Shining moments...

★ From Jennifer Fredericks, realtor: *"I just wanted you to know how good the Eastgate Park looks. I've had several good comments from people in our neighborhood about that area and about the median on George Bush East -- the plants were a nice touch*

"Our homeowner's association has met several times in the past few months. We are making great strides in uniting the neighborhood and improving its appearance. I've put both of you (Tom Brymer and Glenn Brown) on our quarterly newsletter mailing list, so you should start to receive them with our next issue in February. Thank you for recognizing that our neighborhood is right next to the biggest attraction in town and needs to look good for residents and visitors."

★ From Dr. Leslie Schueckler, Principal of Timber Academy in CSISD: *"On November 9, 2004, your city management team sent speakers to Timber Academy to explain city government. Then on the 11th they hosted our students and faculty on site at several city activities. We came away distinctly proud of our city and the quality of management and operations that make College Station an eviable place in which to work and live.*

"City employees were openly enthusiastic about what they do every day to make our city not only safe and comfortable but a "home town" in which we can all take pride. City offices and functions that usually appear only as a list in a city directory to most folks emerged as multidimensional, effective and important components of a dynamic reality.

"We appreciate everyone who contributed and are particularly grateful to Ms. Peggy Calliham and her Community Programs Office, which coordinated our two-day adventure into city government. The College Station management team brought a great deal of relevance to social studies academics at Timber Academy.

"We really appreciate the time and energy the city put forth again this year to lend credibility to our teaching efforts at Timber Academy."

★ Great job on Neighborhood Services' Dinner at Pebble Creek Country Club (below). Special thanks to Katie Elrod and Elisabeth Spring.

