



from the office of the City Manager

College Station ★ Texas

A Monthly Report to the Honorable Mayor and City Council

June 2005

May in Review...

June is upon us, bringing the expected warmer temperatures, outdoor activities, summer vacation, and the opportunity to plan for the future of College Station as we approach the final stages of the budget process and review our Strategic Plan.

★ And if it's June, it must be time for the **14th Ever Rod Run**, a College Station tradition that attracts large crowds to Central Park where more than 200 vintage and classic cars from as far away as Kansas will be on display. This year's event is slated June 11, 8 am - 4 pm, and June 12, 8 am to 2 pm.



★ The music continues each weekend at the Wolf Pen Creek Amphitheater as the **2005 Starlight Music Series** continues with performances by groups such as HELLS BELLS and the Texas Twisters. A complete schedule is available on the City web site.

★ If you like to fish, Central Park has more than cars and music to offer as they are one of five locations in the state selected for a **pilot program** by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. In previous years, the pond was stocked once in the spring with catfish, again in

the fall with trout. Under this program, it is now stocked with catfish every two weeks from August through November.

★ On the communications front, **Channel 19** is revamping its programming format and will be installing a new multizone automation and encoding system in June that should cut back the

number of interruptions experienced with the Scala system that has been in place for more than 10 years. The new system is being funded through education/

government fee monies provided through the franchise agreement with Cox Cable.

★ "**Aggie Spirit**", the latest addition to the City's public art program, has been well received in the Northgate District. Visitors, students and businesses in the area have indicated it is an appropriate and welcome addition.

City Manager





College Station Utilities: Quality Service and Low Energy Costs

High energy bills seem to be a fact of life these days. Costs for gasoline and natural gas are at record levels and are forecast to stay at these levels in the near future.

Electric customers of College Station Utilities, however, are enjoying some of the lowest electric rates in the state -- and this translates directly into more money available for consumers to purchase other products. While most

areas of Texas are seeing electric rates for residential service in the 9.0 to 11.0 cent per kilowatt-hour (kwh) range, College Station electric rates have maintained a steady 7.5 cents per kwh average rate over the past five years.

Low electric rates save the average residential customer in College Station an average of \$15 to \$35 per month when

compared to other electric systems in the state.

“Savings are even more dramatic during the months of May through October, the typical time when air conditioners are running,” said **David Massey**, Electric Division Manager for CSU.

He noted College Station electric rates save customers from \$8 to \$16 million in energy costs compared to higher priced electric companies. This monetary savings equates to more dollars available to spend on other services and products, providing an economic stimulus as an added bonus from the locally owned public utility system.

Known for its exemplary electric utility, CSU hosted a delegation from Georgetown Utilities who toured CSU and visited with its management staff, warehouse staff, and others regarding the operational aspects. Discussions centered on utility job costing, warehouse management, security, 24-hour dispatch operations, and material and contractor maintenance.



To: John Woody, Director of Public Utilities

I wanted to pass along a great thank you and appreciation for the excellent work and professionalism shown by all the crews we worked with during the dangerous and heavy thunderstorms last night. The crews on the street were absolutely fantastic.

I had the opportunity to speak with Marcus Leinhart in utility dispatch on several occasions via radio and phone to pass along information. On all occasions, I have no doubt he was extremely busy yet he was very courteous and professional to me. Regretfully, I don't have the names of all the employees we dealt with, but please pass along a heartfelt thanks for all their efforts.

Lt. Greg Rodgers
College Station Fire Department



Inside College Station...

Leadership Institute Graduates Complete New Training Program

"I think the most important thing the group took from the session was a sense of empowerment and responsibility, as leaders and as a group, to stand up for the things we believe to be 'right,' even in the face of adversity. Anything less is not leadership." -- Peggy Calliham

Leadership Institute, the newest addition to College Station's employee training programs, completed an intense program in May.

With a highly participative environment under the leadership of consultant Terry Childers, 15 members studied leadership from a variety of viewpoints. From characteristics and styles, to development of skills and dimensions of leadership, the class devoted four days to interactive discussion of principles and concepts such as those in their "textbook", *Good to Great* by Jim Collins.

Objectives of the class are to establish a conceptual framework of leadership, to train leaders to develop personal leadership strategies, and to introduce leaders to the Servant Leadership Model.

Completing the course with flying colors were **Ross Albrecht**, Parks; **Bruce Albright**, OTIS; **Pete Caler**, BSWMA; **Peggy Calliham**, Community Programs; **Joey Dunn**, P&DS; **Phillip Guillen**, Fiscal Svc; **Lesley Hicks**, Police; **Connie Hooks**, City Secretary's Office; **Eric Hurt**, Fire; **David Massey**, CSU; **Charles McLemore**, PW; **Ric Ploeger**, Parks; **Carol Roach**, CSU; **Carolyn Sanders**, HR; and **Cheryl Turney**, Fiscal Services.



Leadership Institute Graduates: Class of 2005

Pictured above right are (top) Carolyn Sanders, Carol Roach and Joey Dunn discussing a class assignment; and (bottom) participants with consultant Terry Childers.



City briefs...

★ College Station's **Police Department** had a busy month in May as they participated in the Torch Run for Special Olympics, raised more than \$5800 for Special Olympics through the Cops and Lobsters event, held a Police Memorial service, and announced recipients of special awards at the Police Awards program.

The Gulf Coast Leg of the Texas Law Enforcement Torch Run came through town on May 18 to raise awareness for the Special Olympics program. Following a brief press conference and check presentation at the College Station Red Lobster restaurant, officers continued the torch run to Texas State University in San Marcos, site of the Special Olympics Summer Games in May.



★ **Fill the Fire Engine** was an unqualified success, thanks to the efforts of **Kevin Simmons**, firefighter and paramedic with College Station's Fire Department, and others who organized the community-wide efforts of emergency services groups to collect items to ship to service men and women stationed in Iraq.

It began as a way to let **Canaan Blake**, CS firefighter now serving in Iraq, know he was not forgotten, but the final version impacted a much larger group. When the event ended, an estimated 7,000-10,000 pounds of items were donated, plus \$9000 in cash and \$2000 in grant money from Sam's and Wal-Mart for shipping and purchase of other items.

Participating were volunteers from College Station and Bryan Police, Fire and EMS; A & M's EMS and Police, Sheriff's department, Brazos County Fire, Texas Department of Public Safety, Guardian EMS, St. Joseph EMS, P. H. I. air medical, TEEX fire school, F. R. G. support group, American Legion, VFW and National Guard members. Lunch was donated by local restaurants.

★ **Sales tax** receipts for April (*March sales*) have been received from the State Comptroller's Office. The City collected \$1,428,678.92 for the month of March, representing a 2.16% **increase** in revenue from the same month a year earlier. Sales tax collections for FY 05 YTD are 2.98% **above** FY 04 collections, or \$9,229,570.54.

Overall, tax revenues continue to grow at or about the projected 3% 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:



April FY05 Receipts

\$1,428,678.92
Actual Difference
Percent Difference

April FY04 Receipts

\$1,398,527.53
\$30,151.39
2.16%

FY05 YTD Receipts

\$9,229,570.54
Actual Difference
Percent Difference

FY04 YTD Receipts

\$8,962,360.20
\$267,210.34
2.98%



CITY OF COLLEGE STATION
Heart of the
Research Valley

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

COUNCIL CALENDAR

Wednesday, June 8

Newman 10 Business Performance Awards Lunch, 11:30 am, Hilton Bluebonnet

June 9-10

TEX21 Statewide Quarterly Meeting, Lubbock, Holiday Inn Park Plaza

Thursday, June 9

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

June 11-12

14th Annual Rod Run, Central Park (all cars pre-1973)

June 13-14

City Council Retreat, Del Lago

Wednesday, June 15

-Research Valley Partnership, 3 pm

-Intergovernmental Joint Retreat, BVCOG Office, 5-9 pm with meal

Tuesday, June 21

- Chamber of Commerce, 8:30 am

Thursday, June 23

-Health and Safety Expo, Brazos Center, 8 am - 4 pm

-City Council Workshop, 3 pm;
Regular Meeting, 7 pm

Friday, June 24

Girls Fast Pitch Tournament/
Opening Ceremonies, Central Park, 6 pm

Shining moments...



Following the May 7 election, new City Council members Ben White, Ron Gay and Chris Scotti were sworn in May 18 and took their seats as retiring Council members James Massey and Dennis Maloney wished them well. Pictured above (from left), James Massey, Dennis Maloney, John Happ, Nancy Berry, Mayor Ron Silvia, Ron Gay, Chris Scotti, Susan Lancaster and Ben White.

★ Congratulations to **Chris Haver**, Plans Examiner in Planning and Development Services, for **passing examinations to become a Certified Building Official (CBO)**. The CBO designation requires successful completion of two examinations: CBO Technology and CBO Legal/Management. This certification is focused on the diverse profession of building officials and requires knowledge of all relevant codes and standards that are enforced. Successful completion of the exam is a great demonstration of an individual's expertise in administering a building department.

★ **Ric Ploeger**, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director, is the recipient of the **2005 Hometown Hero Award** presented each year by the Bryan-College Station Convention and Visitor's Bureau. Ric was honored for his work with the Bluebonnet Streetrodder's Rod Run car show held annually at Central Park. CVB Executive Director Barry Biggar said the award was presented "in recognition of Ric's impact upon Brazos Valley tourism and for promoting Bryan-College Station as a premier convention and tourist destination in Texas".

★ From **Canaan Blake**, CS firefighter on leave serving in Iraq: "Wanted to say thanks for all the packages we just received from the family group in College Station. The mail room was a little overwhelmed with all the packages that arrived from the "Fill the Engine" drive. Every soldier in the company got a box and we still had plenty to give out to the battalion and brigade. Everyone was very appreciative of your efforts when I told them where all that stuff came from and how you guys collected it. We definitely have enough soap and snacks to last us a while. Joceilin and I always talk about how lucky we are that we fell in with a really good bunch of folks. Can't tell you how much it means to have people go to all the trouble while we're away. You guys are the best."



**CSTV Channel 19
Program Schedule**

Issued June 2, 2005

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
06:00AM	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board
06:30AM	City View	City view	City View	City View	City View	City View	City View
07:00AM	Planning & Zoning (rpt)	Planning & Zoning (rpt)	Planning & Zoning (rpt)	Planning & Zoning (rpt)	Planning & Zoning (rpt)	Planning & Zoning (rpt)	Planning & Zoning (rpt)
08:30AM	Citizen Comm. Banquet	A&M Consol. Graduation	Police Awards Ceremony	City Council Regular Meeting	Police Memorial Ceremony	A&M Consol. Graduation	City Council Regular Meeting
09:00AM	Bulletin Board		Bulletin Board		Bulletin Board		
09:30AM	City View		City View	City View	City View		City View
10:00AM	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board
10:30AM	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move
11:00AM	Army Newswatch	Army Newswatch	Army Newswatch	Army Newswatch	Army Newswatch	City Council Workshop	City Council Workshop
11:30AM	City View	City view	City View	City View	City View	(repeat)	(repeat)
12:00PM	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bush Library TAMU	Bush Library TAMU		
12:30PM	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board		
01:00PM	City View	City view	City View	City View	City View		
01:30PM	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move
02:00PM	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Blinn College Research Valley	Blinn College Research Valley	Bush Library TAMU	Bush Library TAMU
02:30PM	City View	City view	City View	City View	City View		
03:00PM	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move
03:30PM	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Blinn College Research Valley	Blinn College Research Valley	Bush Library TAMU	Bush Library TAMU
04:00PM	Army Newswatch	Army Newswatch	Army Newswatch	Army Newswatch	Army Newswatch	Army Newswatch	Army Newswatch
04:30PM	Police Awards Ceremony	Citizen Comm. Banquet	Police Memorial Ceremony	Bonfire Memorial	Bonfire Memorial	Blinn College Research Valley	Blinn College Research Valley
05:00PM	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board
05:30PM	City View	City view	City View	City View	City View	City View	City View
06:00PM	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board
06:30PM	City View	City view	City View	City View	City View	City View	City View
07:00PM	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board
07:30PM	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move	(Council or P&Z meeting)	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move
08:00PM	A&M Consol. Graduation	City Council Regular Meeting (repeat)	A&M Consol. Graduation	City Council Regular Meeting (repeat)	A&M Consol. Graduation	City Council Regular Meeting (repeat)	A&M Consol. Graduation
08:30PM	City View	City view	City View	City View	City View	City View	City View
09:00PM	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board
09:30PM	Planning & Zoning (rpt)	Planning & Zoning (rpt)	Planning & Zoning (rpt)	Planning & Zoning (rpt)	Planning & Zoning (rpt)	Planning & Zoning (rpt)	Planning & Zoning (rpt)
10:00PM	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board
10:30PM	City View	City view	City View	City View	City View	City View	City View
11:00PM	City Council Workshop (repeat)	City Council Workshop (repeat)	City Council Workshop (repeat)	City Council Workshop (repeat)	City Council Workshop (repeat)	City Council Workshop (repeat)	City Council Workshop (repeat)
11:30PM	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board
12:00AM	Planning & Zoning (rpt)	Planning & Zoning (rpt)	Planning & Zoning (rpt)	Planning & Zoning (rpt)	Planning & Zoning (rpt)	Planning & Zoning (rpt)	Planning & Zoning (rpt)
12:30AM	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board
01:00AM	City View	City view	City View	City View	City View	City View	City View
01:30AM	City Council Workshop (repeat)	City Council Workshop (repeat)	City Council Workshop (repeat)	City Council Workshop (repeat)	City Council Workshop (repeat)	City Council Workshop (repeat)	City Council Workshop (repeat)
02:00AM							
02:30AM							
03:00AM	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board
03:30AM	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move	On The Move
04:00AM	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board	Bulletin Board
04:30AM							
05:00AM							
05:30AM							