



City of Baytown Newsletter

Special Edition



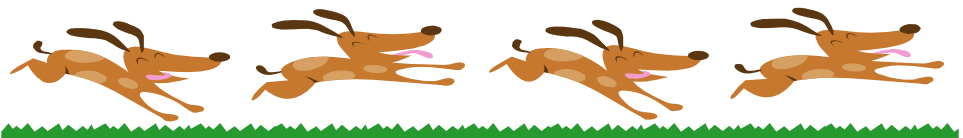
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www.baytown.org

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Message from Mayor Stephen DonCarlos

Baytown's first curbside recycling program begins on June 2, 2008. By now, you should have received your blue recycling bin for use once a week. Your pick up day should be taped on the bin. PLEASE USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RECYCLE!! Each can, plastic bottle and stack of newspapers we recycle keep these items out of the landfill and will ultimately help us reduce or at least hold the line on future garbage fees. If you currently donate your newspapers to schools, churches or other charities, please continue to do so. Also, summer is here!! Please take advantage of the many outdoor recreational opportunities in Baytown and our surrounding areas. Whether you want to fish in the Bayou or Bay, water ski, swim at Gray or N.C. Foote Parks, participate in programs at the Wetlands or Nature Centers, play in the spray ground at Roseland, or try your skills at our two skateboard parks, Baytown has something for you to do. Have a safe and happy summer!!!



Adopt a Friend

The Animal Services' building has undergone significant changes to improve conditions for animals, visitors, and employees. A fence has been added for more security, the parking area has been increased for visitors, and the office area has been painted to make the building more inviting to the public. Improvements have also been made to the holding pens. Curbs have been installed between each kennel; and a shallow open drain has been constructed at the rear of each kennel, to prevent the spread of disease from animal to animal throughout the day and especially during routine cleaning of the kennels. The building improvements were not made only for health and sanitation, they were made with the intent of making it more inviting for the public to adopt a friend. Anyone interested in adopting an animal may come by the Animal Services Division to look at the animals and possibly adopt one. The Animal Control Facility hours are Tuesdays through Saturdays, from 12:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. The Facility is closed on Sundays and Mondays.



Special Programs this July at the Library

- July 2 - Independence Day Teddy Bear Parade and Picnic, 10:15 a.m.
- July 2 - Tween Crafts, ages 8 - 11, 1 - 1:45 p.m. and 2 - 2:45 p.m.
- July 2 - Teen Crafts, ages 12+, 4 - 5:30 p.m.
- July 9 - Explore the Skies Program, all ages, 10:15 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.
- July 16 - Explore Mars Program, all ages, 10:15 a.m.
- July 23 - Carranza Puppets Program, ages 4+, 10:15 - 11:15 a.m.

Sterling Municipal Library

July

Calendar of Events

Closed July 4th & 5th

BABY TIME

Infants to 18 Months

Mondays, July 7, 14, 21, 28

10:30 - 10:50 a.m.

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME

3 - 6 Years

Tuesdays, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

10:15 - 11:00 a.m.

SPANISH STORY TIME

18 Months & Older

Wednesdays, July 2, 16, 30

11:15 - 11:45 a.m.

TODDLER TIME

18 - 36 Months

Thursdays, July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

SPANISH COMPUTER CLASS

Monday, July 7, 14, 21, 28

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

COMPUTER BASICS CLASS

Tuesdays, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

USING THE COMPUTER

Learning Series

Fridays, July 11, 18, 25

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

EVENING COMPUTER

CLASS

Mondays July 7, 14, 21, 28

TEEN LOL

Tuesday, July 1, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, July 15, 6 p.m. (movie)

For more Information

Call 281-427-7331

www.sml.lib.tx.us



2008 Baytown July 3rd & 4th Celebration

Bicentennial Park * 1001 Market Street

Two Days of Free Entertainment!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, JULY 3rd

6:00 – 7:30 PM

THE COASTLINERS

8:00 – 9:30 PM

JOHN CONLEE

FRIDAY, JULY 4th

3:00 – 4:00 PM

All Booths Open *DJ Music* and More!

4:00 – 5:30 PM

J. PAUL JR. & THE ZYDECO NUBREEDS

5:30 – 6:00 PM

4th of July Parade/Opening Ceremonies

6:00 – 7:30 PM

THE ELI YOUNG BAND

7:30 – 8:00 PM

Little Mr. & Ms. Firecracker Costume Contest

8:00 – 9:30 PM

TRACY BYRD

9:30 – 10:00 PM

Fireworks Extravaganza



Music is not the only thing going on at Bicentennial Park. There will be a wide variety of food and arts & crafts booths on site selling tasty treats and handmade creations. There will also be a children's amusement area complete with a fishing tank, wetlands touch tank, a climbing wall, and many other activities to keep the young ones busy! This year's event will feature a Little Mr. & Miss Firecracker Costume Contest.

Remember to bring lawn chairs, blankets, and sunscreen to the celebration, and tons of energy to enjoy all of the activities! We are allowing pop-up tents, shade tarps or umbrellas in the spectator area. However, they must be taken down by 6:00 p.m. There will also be 20 foot x 30 foot tents available in the spectator area to escape the sun. Space under the tents is available on a first come first serve basis.

Public parking will be available at the Eddie V. Gray Wetlands Education/Recreation Center, Robert E. Lee High School, Lee College, Goose Creek, and Sterling Library. There are also several other lots located along Texas Avenue.

There will not be any street closures on Thursday, July 3rd. However, on Friday, July 4th, starting at 10:00 a.m. and until 11:00 p.m. (after the fireworks show is over), Market Street from Stadium Drive to Texas Avenue will be closed.

When You See Red...STOP!

The City of Baytown has begun installing red light cameras at selected intersections. The cameras only photograph a vehicle if it enters the intersection after the light has turned red. A second photograph is taken as the vehicle progresses through the intersection. Vehicles that enter an intersection on a yellow light are not photographed even if they are still in the intersection when the light changes to red. The technology is designed to record motorists if they purposely enter an intersection after the signal turns red. The camera photographs the vehicle from the rear—it does not photograph the driver or the passengers from the front. The camera records the date, time, lane number, location and speed of the vehicle. This information is included on the notice of violation and is then evaluated by sworn members of the Police Department to verify that a violation has occurred and to determine whether a notice of violation should be mailed to the registered owner of the vehicle. Anyone receiving a notice of violation may request a hearing if they have reason to believe they received the notice erroneously or if they believe that they had a justifiable reason for going through a red light. For more information, please contact the City of Baytown Police Department at 281.420.6664.



Did You Know?

All business and residential alarms that can emit a signal intended to summon police or fire services must have a city permit issued. Responsibility for obtaining an alarm permit is upon the alarm system user. Operating an alarm system without a city permit can result in a Municipal Court citation being issued. There is no cost for the alarm permit. Alarm permit applications can be obtained by downloading an [Alarm Permit Application Form](#) (36k) from the City's website, www.baytown.org or paper forms can be obtained at the Police Station (3200 North Main Street), Fire Administration Office (201 East Wye Drive), or City Hall (2401 Market Street).

Baytown Skate Park 2 – The Deuce

Unidad Park



The City of Baytown Parks and Recreation Department officially opened the new Baytown Skate Park # 2 on Tuesday, June 3, 2008. The skate park is located at Unidad Park, 2510 J.B. Le Fevre Road.

The new skate park includes a concrete bowl along with a half pipe and several grinding rails that will challenge both novice and experienced skaters. The lighted facility also includes a shaded seating area, water fountain, convenient parking and a nearby picnic gazebo. The project is jointly funded by the Baytown Municipal Development District and Harris County Precinct Two Commissioner Sylvia Garcia. The skate park is open daily until 10 p.m.

Unidad Park has something for everyone including a $\frac{3}{4}$ mile long walking trail, lighted basketball court, a sand volleyball court, a large playground area, and shaded picnic areas. The park also features two practice softball/baseball fields and a soccer/football field.

If a Hurricane Watch or Warning is Issued

Listen to the radio or television for hurricane information. Follow instructions if ordered to evacuate.

Check your emergency supplies. Store drinking water in clean bathtubs, jugs, and bottles.

Bring in outdoor objects such as lawn furniture, toys, and garden tools; anchor objects that cannot be brought inside but that could be wind-tossed. Remove outdoor antennas; if possible.

Install hurricane shutters or pre-cut plywood.

Fill your car with fuel. Review evacuation routes and gather your disaster supplies in case you are instructed to evacuate.

Store valuables and personal papers in a water proof container.

If you have a boat, moor it or move it to a designated safe place, if time permits.

Have identification for your pet, a pet carrier, food, medicines and a leash.

Agree on a family meeting place outside the evacuation area with final destination at least 100 miles inland.

Keep the Lights On, Baytown

The City of Baytown spends almost \$1 million per year to pay for 4,358 streetlights. The City has to pay the same amount whether the streetlight is working or not; and the maintenance of the lights is included in the cost. We need everyone to help us to find and report inoperable streetlights. So, we make sure that we get our money's worth. You can report a defective streetlight through a link on the City's web page (www.baytown.org), on the Resident Services tab. All you need is the 6-digit number from the pole and general location. If you need assistance, call the City switchboard at (281) 422-8281. Together, we can keep the lights on in Baytown for better visibility and safety.

Call 420-5311

The City of Baytown has implemented a new system to help residents and businesses contact the City to report non-emergency services that are needed. You can now use the City's website, www.baytown.org and click on "Online Citizen Service Center" to report a problem needing City attention, or you can call 281-420-5311. The person taking the call will ask you for your name, address, telephone number, email address, and if you want to be notified by email, mail or telephone of any updates to your service request. **Please, use 281-420-5311 only for non-emergency requests. If you have an emergency, call 911.**



Message from Council Member Lena Yepez, District 1

I would like to thank all the residents of Baytown who have expressed their ideas and concerns in our efforts to make a difference in the community in which we live, work and play. The importance of being proactive in our community allows growth and understanding between districts. I encourage your neighborhood association or civic group to contact your district representative to express ideas, concerns and solutions. You are what makes our city so great.

Please Bring Your Neighbor....Come Listen and Be Heard:

District 1 Town Hall Meeting-Tuesday, June 17, 2008, 6-7 p.m. (Community Center) 2407 Market St.



Message from Council Member Scott Sheley, District 2

As you make plans for the summer be sure and discover the programs, events and activities our City offers through the Library and the Parks and Recreation Department. Another great resource for your children and grandchildren is our own Lee College. They offer many programs that youth can participate in.

The City Council has two new faces this year. This Council has some really strong leaders who will keep Baytown a community on the move. As I begin my 12th year on Council I will make myself available to all Council Members and help them with training and advice as well as give insight towards the future of our community. Mayor DonCarlos and I have discussed about 10 ideas for what we might do early on as a Council.

I would challenge our city leaders to read about issues, research what other cities might have done when faced with a similar program, ordinance or problem and bring back that research to help us make better and more informed decisions. We must take time to seek the public's input on what we call "Hot Topics", and should allow discussion during at least 3 work sessions before we take action on these subjects. Common sense, research, and having public input can really help the City Council in these important decisions.

Thanks to Baytown voters for continuing the ¼ cent street maintenance sales tax. We have a system in place that allows us to address areas that have the most street problems. This is an example of "common sense decision making for a community".



Message from Council Member Brandon Capetillo, District 3

It appears we're going to have a hot and busy summer in Baytown, thanks to the citizens approving the 2007 Bond Package. This approval will allow the city to repair and replace infrastructure, provide for new roadways, upgrade our aquatic facilities, construct new fire stations and improve our beautification efforts. You should have received your recycling bin so that our community can reduce the impact of long term or non-biodegradable waste going to our landfill. I encourage active participation of the recycling program for two reasons: 1) it is environmentally friendly and 2) it could help reduce or prevent future garbage rate increases in our city. With many families enjoying summer vacations I would like to remind you to contact the Baytown Police Department to request a "vacation check" of your home while you're gone. They can be contacted at 281-422-8371. Also, we have initiated a general call center to address city issues during city business hours. Please call 281-420-5311 to communicate your issue to the city. I hope you have a safe and relaxing summer.

Message from Council Member Terry Sain, District 4

I wish to thank all of the residents of District 4 who voted in the recent election. As you are aware, reauthorization of the 0.025% sales and use tax passed, which will allow continuance of revenue for maintenance and repair of municipal streets. Also, as your newly elected Council representative, I look forward to serving each resident in District 4 to the best of my abilities. It is with much gratitude that I extend my appreciation to Dr. Don Murray who served as this District's Councilman for the past 8 years. Thank you Dr. Murray.

As your Council representative, I have spoken with many of you about the issues I feel are vital to the continuous improvement of Baytown and to which I intend to devote my attention. Those issues pertain to public safety, litter control, and traffic congestion. I realize there are other areas of interest in our District and I intend to work toward identifying the best means of communicating with you. If you have concerns that you would like to discuss, my home phone number is (281) 424-5378. Also, my email address is district4@baytown.org. Again, thank you for the privilege of being your Councilman.



Message from Council Member Lynn Caskey, District 5

Hello District 5.

First, I would like to thank everyone for voting this past election. We will be able to repair more of our streets by continuing with the mill and overlay program made possible by passage of the 1/4 cent Street Maintenance Sales Tax.

We have begun the reconstruction of Kilgore Road. This project will improve drainage and will also be safer for our Cedar Bayou Junior High School students.

We will be starting the process of designing and constructing our new northeast fire station very soon. This new fire station will aid in our long battle for greater public safety.

As always, it is a pleasure and an honor to be your representative.



Message from Council Member David McCartney, District 6

Once again I would like to thank the voters of District 6 for placing their trust and confidence in me. I would also like to thank former Councilman Sammy Mahan for all the hard work he contributed to the citizens of District 6, as well as the entire city. I realize I will have a learning curve in the beginning, but in the long run I am sure you will be satisfied with my accomplishments, leadership and contributions to district and the city. We have some very difficult challenges facing our district in the near future. Perhaps the greatest challenge is the proposed barge terminal along Cedar Bayou. I assure you that I will do everything in my power to try to stop it. The next largest challenge will be our rezoning initiative, Unified Land Development Code (ULDC). We must rezone responsibly, with particular care and respect to older areas of the city. We need to work with business owners and investors to ensure a smooth transition. We also need to get tougher on crime. We want to send the message to criminals, that Baytown is not the place to be, if you want to commit crimes.

For any successful council-citizen relationship, communication is the key. I want to communicate with my constituents by all means available and as often as possible. I welcome any homeowners associations to invite me to their meetings to discuss their views and needs. I look forward to working together with the Mayor, City Manager, staff, my Council colleagues and especially the citizens of District 6 to make Baytown the best it can be.