



## COUNCIL ADOPTS 2008-2009 BUDGET; SETS AD VALOREM TAX RATE

After months of effort by staff and numerous budget workshops with the Council, the City Council of the City of Burnet adopted the budget for the 2008-2009 fiscal year and set an ad valorem tax rate at the September 9, 2008 City Council meeting.

The budget includes revenues of \$25.6m and expenditures of \$25.1m leaving a reserve of over \$500,000 which, if approved by Council, can be used in the event of unforeseen emergencies throughout the year.

Ad valorem taxes make up about 5% of the total revenue with the utility revenues as the largest revenue producer at 48%. Fire/EMS should generate almost \$1.3m and the airport is expected to bring in just under \$1m. Delaware Springs Golf Course is estimated at \$1.3m and Galloway Hammond at just over \$.6m. Restricted funds (hotel -motel occupancy and economic development taxes) should generate \$.5m.

The Council considered several options for the City's ad valorem rate but ultimately chose the effective rate of \$0.5574. The effective rate is the rate at which the same amount of revenue is produced this year as was the prior year. For growing communities, this is typically a lower rate than was previously paid, which is the case in Burnet. Last year's rate was \$.05819 per \$100 of valuation. This year's rate will decrease by \$.0245 per \$100 valuation. The budget is scheduled to be placed on the City's website by October 15.



## SUPER SERIES COMES TO BURNET

By Jeffrey Sanders

Galloway-Hammond Recreation Center has been a host site for National Sanctioned Youth Baseball Tournaments this year. To date, Super Series Baseball of America has played two sanctioned tournaments at Galloway-Hammond and three more are scheduled for this fall. USSSA (United States Specialty Sports Association) is also considering using the Galloway-Hammond ball fields to host youth baseball tournaments. The spring season will be very busy with 4-8 Super Series tournaments scheduled. The tournaments are two days: Saturday games are for seeding and Sunday games are single elimination toward the final championship game. Super Series has three divisions per age group: Minor, American and National. The level of play increases as the team progresses through the divisions. Burnet presently has two minor travel teams, Mean Green 11U and Burnet County Bad Boys 13U.

The Galloway-Hammond complex provides a unique opportunity for the City of Burnet. There are over 4,000 travel

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**BUILDING INSPECTOR**

JOHN GOBLE

**FALL/WINTER  
EVENTS SLATED**

The fall and winter seasons are busy for the city of Burnet. September activities include Rods & Classics Car Show, Kids Day Out, The Burnet Tri-Hard Triathlon and NFL Punt, Pass and Kick. October boasts Fort Croghan Day and the Burnet Cultural Arts Festival as well as the Genealogy Conference. The Hill Country Flyer begins making its run from Cedar Park to Burnet.

The Christmas season begins at the end of November and continues into December with the Trail of Lights, Main Street Bethlehem, Christmas Festival and Christmas at Old Fort Croghan, not to mention great Christmas shopping.

For more information on these activities and more contact the Burnet Chamber of Commerce 512.756.4297 or go online to [www.burnetchamber.org](http://www.burnetchamber.org)  
Other contacts include:  
Cultural Arts Festival—  
[www.bcafburnet.org](http://www.bcafburnet.org)  
Tri-Hard Triathlon-  
512.756.6640  
For Croghan—  
[www.fortcroghan.org](http://www.fortcroghan.org)  
Hill Country Flyer—  
[www.austinsteamtrain.org](http://www.austinsteamtrain.org)  
Main Street Bethlehem—  
[fcburnet.org](http://fcburnet.org)

(SUPER SERIES Continued from page 1)

teams in the state of Texas playing baseball on any given weekend. Burnet is centrally located to attract teams from Houston, Dallas, San Angelo, San Antonio and the Valley. These travel teams are competing for points for a National or World Series Championship.

The economic impact of travel teams coming to Burnet is outstanding.

For example the June 7-8, 2008 impact:

- ✦ Number of Teams – 27
- ✦ Number of nights in Hotel – 1
- ✦ Number per team – 25 (13 players, 3 coaches, 9 fans)
- ✦ Each Spend - \$125
- ✦ Multiplier – 3 (How many times a dollar is spent in the community)

Impact: \$253,125.00

We are fortunate to have the facilities to support youth tournaments. However, we are working toward improvements to the fields to attract more travel teams to our community. Our local Little League, softball, soccer and football will also benefit from the improved fields. Special thanks to Billy King, Sundae Hein and Winston McInnis for their support.

Fall Tournament Schedule:

September – 6-7, September – 13-14, October – 4-5, October – 18-19, Nov TBD, Dec TBD

Spring 2009 Tournament Schedule:

Estimated 4-8 Beginning February through June 2009.

For more information, go online to [www.superseriesbaseball.com/burnet.html](http://www.superseriesbaseball.com/burnet.html) or call Galloway-Hammond Recreation Center at 512.756.6180.

**CITY AWARDED RECYCLING GRANT**

The City of Burnet was notified recently that its application for more than \$21,000 in grant funds from the Capital Area Council of Government was successful. The funds will be used to purchase a recycling trailer which will be placed at the City's Maintenance Facility on Highway 29 West. Citizens will be able to bring plastic, paper and metals to the facility for recycling.

No hazardous materials will be collected. For more information contact City Hall at 512.756.6093.

**GARAGE  
SALE**

**GET YOUR GARAGE SALE  
PERMIT AT CITY HALL**



## Letters to City Hall

Chief Mark Ingram,

On July 24, 2008 some members of my family were involved in a Motor Vehicle Accident @ Hwy 281 and Greenland. My mother-in-law was en-route to a family reunion @ Lake LBJ with two other elderly (late 80's) family members when she was rear ended by a 16 year old female. The attention and professionalism that your members displayed was deeply appreciated, not only by my mother-in-law but me too. As a member of the Dallas Fire-Rescue department, I know how mundane these "minor" incidents can become. However, your firefighters took the time to evaluate the medical needs of everyone in the vehicle, stabilize the scene, and escort them back to your fire station for additional assistance. Upon arrival @ the station, they took the time to remove shards of glass from the back of the vehicle and seal the broken window with plastic and duct tape. This may seem trivial to you and I, but on a 100 degree day in Texas "Nannie" and "Little Papa" would not have fared so well.

Please forward the names of all the members that responded to this incident. At the very least. I would like to write a letter of commendation for these firefighters.

Armando Garza,  
Lieutenant  
Dallas Fire-Rescue Department

Mr Steele.

The Cen-Tex Grasshoppers held an annual tournament on [July 15-16, 2008.] I want to express to you our thanks to Mr Doug Fipps, Director of Golf for the outstanding support that he provided in making this a total success. Doug makes the golf course, he is attentive to all needs of our group and ensures that all aspects of the course are in outstanding condition. This is the 5th year that we have had our tournament at Delaware Springs and every year has been our favorite location for our golf outing. Every year that group has grown and this year we had 83 players. Please thank Doug for us for his outstanding job.

We stayed at the Holiday Inn Express and Robin (the manager of the hotel did an incredible job ensuring that the hotel took care of all of our needs.

The golf course was in beautiful condition and the entire staff and Marshalls did an outstanding job making this

tournament an extremely happy experience for all of us. We have contracted to return next year.

Jon Lahmon and Sonya Tucker did an outstanding job in the Pro Shop assisting all of our members, please thank them also.

We appreciate the support that the Tourism office provide to the tournament - again outstanding.

I thank you and the City of Burnet for taking such good care of us, in fact, my wife, Iris, and I are coming to Burnet on Friday of this week to look at houses - we will move there.

Walt Vaughan  
Director  
Cen-Tex Grasshoppers  
2007-2008



### RITTER RESIGNS

City Councilman James Ritter recently announced his resignation from the Burnet City Council noting a move to be closer to family as the reason.

Ritter was elected in February 2004 to fill the unexpired term of George Laudenschlager. He was appointed Mayor Pro-Tem in May, 2006 and has served in that capacity since that time.

Ritter spoke before a crowd of about 30 persons at the September 9, 2008 City Council meeting stating that he was proud to have served the citizens of Burnet.

Because of the timing, Ritter's position will not be filled until the May general election. The 2009 election calendar has not yet been released by the Secretary of State but typically the period for placing a name on the ballot is mid-February to mid-March. Applicants must meet the following requirements: have been a citizen of the City of Burnet for at least 12 months, is a U.S. citizen, is a registered voter and 21 years of age or older, not in arrears in the payment of any taxes or liabilities due the City, shall not have been finally convicted of a felony, is not a candidate for another office, and is not an employee of the City.

Persons interested in filing for a place on the ballot should contact the City Secretary, Christy Fath, in the first week or so of February.

City of Burnet

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

The **City Council** regularly meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at the City Council Chambers at 6:30 p.m. *Watch the web page for changes to the schedule and special meetings.*

The **Burnet Tourism Alliance** regularly meets the first Monday of the month at 3:00 pm. at City Hall.

The **Planning & Zoning Commission** regularly meets the first Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at the City Council Chambers.

The **Historical Board** meets the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the City Meeting Building, 303 E. Jackson.

The **Airport Advisory Board** meets at 3:00 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at the FOB terminal, Burnet Municipal Airport.

Check the web site at [www.cityofburnet.com](http://www.cityofburnet.com) for special meetings and changes in meeting dates and times. For reprint permission email [mail@cityofburnet.com](mailto:mail@cityofburnet.com).

# Making History



1956

Photo courtesy Mr. James Fry and the Burnet Bulletin

## THE OLD GIVES WAY TO THE NEW

Arthur Fry built the Fry Motors building in 1945, one of the first commercial buildings built in Burnet after WWII. The longtime Dodge-Plymouth dealership remained a symbol of economic success in Burnet for many years. In 2001, Cecil Atkission Motors leased the building and operated their Dodge-Chrysler-Jeep dealership there until their new facility, on highway 281 south, was built in 2003.

The building's unusual architecture stood out through the many years of its existence. Some mused that it may have been an airplane hangar or a Quonset hut that was moved onto the property, but according to James Fry, Arthur's son, it was neither, noting that his father and the building contractor worked together to come up with the design.

Walgreens, a national drug store chain, contacted the City of Burnet in late summer of 2006 to get information regarding properties around town on which to locate their new store. After considering several properties, they finally settled on the northwest corner of the intersection of highways 281 and 29.

The new 13,000 sq ft store is expected to take about seven months to complete.



Demolition work begins for the new Walgreens store to be located on the north west corner of the intersection of Highway 29 and 281 in Burnet.

**Notes From CITY HALL**

Best wishes to **David Brigner** at his recent surgery. David works for the Street Department.

Congratulations to **Scott** and Autumn **Gillaspia** at the recent birth of their son. Scott works for the Fire Department.

Our condolences to Municipal Judge **Peggy Simon** at the death of her father, Fred Shell.

Visit [www.gallowayhammond.com](http://www.gallowayhammond.com) for fall youth sports schedules or call 512.756.6180.