

THE BLUEBONNET

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF BURNET

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TEN CANDIDATES FILE

Ten candidates signed on for five positions for the City of Burnet's May 12 election, according to City Secretary Christy Fath.

The Mayor's seat and three full-term City Council seats are up for grabs. In addition, a one-year half-term position, vacated by Councilman Zack Reed, is also available.

Two candidates are vying for the Mayor's seat: Pat Riddell, a former City Councilman and local realtor; and Burnet Postmaster, Alan Smith. All three incumbents, James Ritter, Linda Turner, and Paul Shell have signed up for re-election. Other candidates seeking the two-year term are Mark Atwood and Joe Skelton. Signed up for the one-year seat are Charlie Bradberry, Ken Graham, and Gary Vaughan.

Voters will go to the Burnet County Courthouse to vote. You must be a registered voter and a resident of the City to be eligible to vote in City elections.



ENJOYING THE DELUGE

The Hill Country recently experienced several days of desperately needed rainfall after months of drought. While some low water crossings and Hamilton Creek were flooded, causing inconveniences to local travelers, these guys seemed to be having a great time down at Hamilton Creek Park.

According to the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA), inflows above Lake Buchanan have risen in response to the rainfalls but are still below levels that would require flood operations or rapid rises on Lake Buchanan. As of March 27, they expected the lake to continue to rise slowly over the days that followed the heavy rainfall. As of March 27, LCRA listed Lake Buchanan's Head Elevation (above the dam) at 999.05 ft. msl and the Tail Elevation (below the dam) at 887.76 ft. msl. The lake is considered full at 1020.0 feet msl.

The lake level at Inks Dam was expected to remain within the normal operating range of 886.9 to 888.2 ft. msl. The lake level at Wirtz Dam was near the bottom of its normal operating range of 824.4 to 825.0 ft. msl in anticipation of higher inflows from the Llano River. The Llano River, near Mason, was listed as being at "Bank Full Stage" meaning the stage at which a river will not overflow its river banks or cause any significant damage within the river reach.

Citizens can check the lake levels and flood status by going to the LCRA website at www.lcra.org and clicking on the Daily River Report link in the Lakes and Rivers section located in the upper right corner of the webpage.

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THE BLUEBONNET EDITOR
CRISTA GOBLE BROMLEY

BURNET CITY COUNCIL:

MAYOR DENNIS KINCHELOE,
COUNCILMEMBERS WILLIAM
DELEON, BILL FLYNN, ZACK
REED, JAMES RITTER, PAUL
SHELL, LINDA TURNER.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:**CITY MANAGER**

MICHAEL STEELE

**ASST. CITY MANAGER/
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & DEV.**

DAVID VAUGHN

CITY ATTORNEY

BARNEY KNIGHT ASSOCIATES

CITY SECRETARY

CHRISTY FATH

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

JOYCE LAUDENSCHLAGER

ASST. FINANCE OFFICER

CONNIE FOWLKES

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

DANNY LESTER

DIRECTOR OF GOLF

DOUG FIPPS

**DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT / AIRPORT MGR.**

CRISTA GOBLE BROMLEY

DIRECTOR PARKS & RECREATION

COLBY VANGUNDY

MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE

PEGGY SIMON

MUNICIPAL COURT CLERK

CARLA CLARK

FIRE MARSHAL

JOHN PAUL ERSKINE

CHIEF OF POLICE

ROBERT L. WATSON

FIRE CHIEF

MARK INGRAM

BUILDING OFFICIAL

ROY FYFFE

BUILDING INSPECTOR

JOHN GOBLE

**WARRANT
ROUND-UP
RESULTS IN**

The Burnet
Municipal Court reported
that the recent warrant
round-up resulted in the
clearance of 93 warrants
and garnered over \$18,000
in fines paid.

The multi-
jurisdiction effort consisted
of 145 law enforcement
entities across the state of
Texas which cleared a total
of 91,388 warrants and
collected an estimated
\$10M in fines.

"We are very
pleased with the effort,"
said Municipal Judge,
Peggy Simon, "We will
probably do it again next
year."

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City of Burnet observes the
following holidays.

New Year's Day-January 1st**Martin Luther King Day**-3rd Monday in January**Good Friday**-Friday before

Easter

Memorial Day-Last

Monday in May

Independence Day-July 4th**Labor Day**-1st Monday in

September

Veterans Day- Nov. 11th**Thanksgiving Day**-4th

Thurs in November

Friday after Thanksgiving- 4th Friday in November**Christmas**-December 25th

Holidays falling on a Saturday are
typically taken on Friday. Holidays
falling on a Sunday are typically taken
on Monday.

CITY WIDE CLEAN-UP A SUCCESS

A City Wide Cleanup held on March 24 was a success
according to City Building Official, Roy Fyffe. "We had a
good turnout," said Fyffe, "and got rid of a lot of junk."

According to Fyffe, more than 465 cubic yards of junk
and debris was collected as well as approximately 100 used
tires.

Staff and volunteers included Girl Scout Troop 114,
the Burnet Rotary Club, Terry Calhoun and family, I.E.S.I., the
33rd Judicial District Juvenile Probation Department, the City
of Burnet Public Works Department and the City of Burnet
Code Enforcement staff.

**BIGGEST LOSER IS BIGGEST
WINNER**

Several staff members at Burnet City Hall participated
in a local "Biggest Loser" contest which was based on the
popular TV show of the same name. Participants were chal-
lenged to lose weight over thirteen weeks with the person los-
ing the most weight winning the contest. The winner received a
modest cash prize (donations by the participants) and bragging
rights. Of the ten City Hall participants, Utility Clerk Cindy
Lopez was the biggest loser at 22 pounds (11%). Coming in
second was David Vaughn, Assistant City Manager, at 15
pounds and third was Municipal Judge Peggy Simon at 9.5
pounds.

A total of 63.8 pounds was lost by the team for a total
percentage lost of 3.4%. Congratulations to all.

BURNET COUNTY STILL GROWING

The U.S. Census Bureau recently released data desig-
nating Burnet County as the fastest-growing non-metro county
in Texas and 90th in the top 100 in America.

In the decade between 1990 and 2000, the City of Bur-
net experienced a 38% increase in population growth. The esti-
mated population in 2005 was just over 7,000 as compared to
4,735 in 2000, a 50% increase.



**GET YOUR PERMIT
AT CITY HALL**

NEED A FUND RAISER?
How about a golf tournament.
CALL DELAWARE SPRINGS
512.756.8471



Letters to City Hall

Email to Michael Steele
February 16, 2007

Mr. Steele and Mr. Lester

Gentlemen I would like to take a moment and thank you for a job very well done. Yesterday we had a sewer back up at our clinic located next to the hospital. We determined it was outside the building. I placed a call and you guys arrived in less than 15 minutes. They had the drain cleared in less than 10 minutes after arrival. We also suspected that a contractor installing fiber optic cables may have damaged the sewer line while trenching. Your guys went the extra mile and ran a camera down the drain to inspect for damage. Now that's what I call service!!! Your guys should be commended for the work they did here yesterday. And I want you to know that the efforts the City put out for us yesterday were greatly appreciated.

Thank you,
Jimmie Clark
Support Services Manager
Seton Highland Lakes

No Empty Windows Campaign

Been to the mall or a new retail development lately?



The one thing you don't see is a lot of empty windows. There is a reason for that. Even though there may not be a current tenant, developers know that empty windows do not inspire sales. Burnet can take a cue from those developers and fill our empty windows around town.

If you own property that currently has empty windows, this program is for you!

HOW DOES IT WORK? Your windows can be filled with any number of interesting and dynamic displays by either decorating them yourselves or partnering with other groups or businesses to fill the space.

Here are some ideas:

- If your building is for sale, ask your realtor to set up a display that gives information about the building and it's history, even some ideas that the building could be used for.
- Partner with a local non-profit group to allow them to set up a display regarding their group's activities or special events.
- Allow tourism related organizations to set up displays that reflect the vast tourism opportunities in the area.
- Work with other businesses to set up displays that advertise their business services.
- Allow local artists to display art work in the windows.

WHO DO I CONTACT? If you are a building owner or a group that would be willing to setup a display, contact Crista Bromley at the City of Burnet Economic Development office. You will be connected with participating members. For more information call

512.715.3217 or email cbromley@cityofburnet.com

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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.

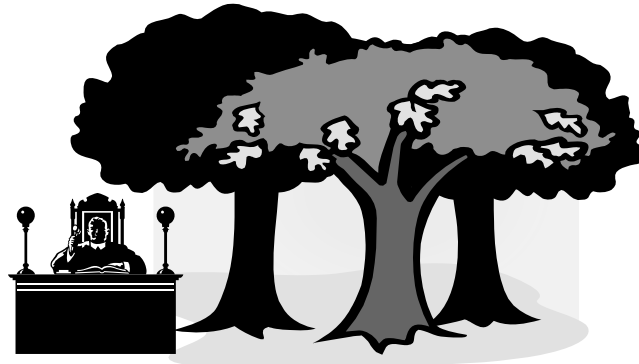
The **Airport Advisory Board** meets at 3:00 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at the FOB terminal, Burnet Municipal Airport.

Check the web site at www.cityofburnet.com for special meetings and changes in meeting dates and times.

For reprint permission email mail@cityofburnet.com

For information on using the City Meeting Building at 303 E. Jackson Street contact the City Secretary at 512.756.6093, Ext. 209.

Making History



FACT OR FICTION

The Burnet area is noted for its many colorful stories of events that supposedly occurred over its long history. Some can be substantiated and some cannot, others may be a conglomeration of both truth and fiction.

Perusing the archives of the *Burnet Bulletin* allows for a myriad of pretty interesting reading, such as the burning of the original courthouse in 1874. The *Bulletin* reported: *“Court House Burnt April 10th. Just on going to press we have to make room for the report of the burning of the Court House in Burnet. District Court closed Friday evening the 10th about (no time entered) p.m. Betwixt 12 and 1 o'clock in the night the Court house was discovered to be in flames. Before leaving that night the clerk took out a greater part of*

all books and valuable papers. He informs us that there was very few books or papers but what can be supplied with little expenses.”

The paper promises that more details will come. Interesting that the clerk removed “all books and valuable papers.” We can’t help but wonder if it was usual for the clerk to do that or if he had a hunch that something was afoot.

Legend has it that the courthouse was set ablaze by someone anticipating a poor outcome to his trial scheduled for the next day and continues that the trial was held anyway under the big courthouse lawn trees.

It is likely that further research could reveal whether or not a trial was actually held and what the outcome was, but do we really want to know? It may be more fun to just speculate.

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NOTES FROM CITY HALL

Congratulations to **Cindy and Jose Lopez** on the birth of their granddaughter, Gabriella Michelle Garza. Born 3/3/07, Gabriella was 17” long and weighed in at 4 lb. 2 oz. She is the daughter of Cyndel and Ricky Garza. Cindy is a utility clerk for the City and Jose works for the Electric Department.

Congratulations are in order for **John**

Goble on the successful completion of a 16-hour Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners exam. John is the Building Inspector for the City.

Congratulations to Officer **Matt Hartgrove** for being awarded Outstanding Officer of the Year by the Hill Country 100 Club. Also recognized was Officer **Les Daugherty** as Rookie of the Year.

Best Wishes for a speedy recovery to **Kathy Davidson** and **Marvin Adams**, both employees of Delaware Springs Golf

Course, and to **Councilman James Ritter** from their recent illnesses.

Our condolences to **Councilman and Mrs. James Ritter** at the death of her mother, Vera Sharp; to **David Brigner** and **Andrew Scott** at the death of their mother and grandmother, Donna Bird; and to **John Lamon** at the death of his father, Ernesto Salinas. David and Andrew work in the Public Works Department and John works at Delaware Springs Golf Course.

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