

CITY OF DALWORTHINGTON GARDENS

GARDEN'S GAZETTE

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Dalworthington Gardens, Texas 76016
http://www.cityofdwg.net
Emergency 9-1-1

City Council: 3rd Thursday Planning & Zoning: 4th Monday

DWG 1936-2023 "and Growing"

May 2023

Volume XVIII, Number 5

Mayor's Message:

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It's with immense joy that we announce we have the same council as we had in the past year as our incumbents were unopposed. On May 17, I celebrated my fifth year of having the ability to serve this community of fine folks. There are so many lessons I have learned over the past five years. With each passing day, I realize just how much I don't know, but thanks



to our extraordinary staff and DPS, we can conquer the world one step at a time. I am very thankful that we have a staff and council that truly work together for the betterment of our community and not for their own personal agendas. Having council members with varying ideas and opinions helps us to collectively consider all aspects of an issue before deciding what's in the best interest of the city. Your current council members are Mayor Laurie Bianco, Mayor Pro Tem and Alderman Place 4 Ed Motley, Alderman Place 1 John King, Alderman Place 2 Steve Lafferty, Alderman Place 3 Cathy Stein, and Alderman Place 5 Mark McGuire. Thank you for allowing all of us to serve you.

Phase II Roosevelt Drive Construction Project: We are excited to announce that Phase II of the Roosevelt Drive project will begin on May 30, 2023. The project is expected to take eight weeks, and will completely close the street from California Lane to Sunset Lane and divert all other traffic southbound to Bowen Road. This is always subject to change as we adapt to needs and safety measures during the project. Traffic plans are determined based on what is safest for citizens, construction crews, and staff, and what is most cost effective and easiest for our DPS to enforce from a traffic safety standpoint. We appreciate your patience during these projects as we know there are inconveniences and delays. Thank you for allowing us to improve the streets in our city. This project was funded through Tarrant County transportation bond funds.

Mowing/Code Enforcement: Tis the season for green grass and rain! This often leads to difficulty in keeping up with tall grass. City Ordinances state the below for grass, weeds, and other unsightly conditions. This time of the year, the city does receive numerous code enforcement complaints, so we do our best to be proactive when it comes to tall grass. If you receive a call from us, our goal is to work towards compliance. We appreciate that citizens have the same goals and are willing to work with the city to keep DWG beautiful.

6.04.001 Prohibited conditions. (Ordinance 17-05 adopted 2/16/17)

Items ApprovedTake Home Vehicle

April 2023

City Council News

- Take Home Vehicle Policy
- Replacement lighting on Ambassador Row
 - Water valve installation on Broadacres Lane
 - Farmer's market

Water Conservation Tips

- Always turn taps off tightly so they do not drip.
- Promptly repair any leaks in and around your taps. (One leak can waste several thousand liters of water per year.)

Laurie Bianco - Mayor - (903) 258-7354

Ed Motley, Mayor Pro Tem - (817) 265-0919

Councilmembers:

Alderman John King • Alderman Steve Lafferty • Alderman Cathy Stein • Alderman Mark McGuire

It is an offense for a person, firm, or corporation owning, occupying, or having control of property in the city, whether occupied or unoccupied, to permit the following conditions on the property, which are hereby deemed a nuisance and a threat to the health and safety of persons in the city:

- (1) Grass, weeds, or any plant that is not an ornamental planting or a cultivated crop to grow to a height greater than twelve inches on the property or between the property line and curb of an adjacent street or if there is no curb, then between the property line and ten feet outside the property line adjacent to public right-of-way;
- (2) Rubbish, brush, or other unsanitary or unsightly matter, including, but not limited to junk, rash, garbage, refuse, junk appliances, junk machinery, waste paper, scrap wood, lumber, scrap metal, glass, and similar waste materials or objects to accumulate or be present upon the property;
- (3) A hole or depression to remain on the land where water accumulates and becomes stagnant; or
- (4) The accumulation of stagnant water to remain on the land.

<u>Garbage and Recycling Services</u>: The city is requesting bids for garbage and recycling services in advance of the Republic Services contract renewal in August 2023. This is being done to ensure fiscal responsibility and that citizens are receiving the best possible service for the prices paid. You can find the bid packet on the city website at https://www.cityofdwg.net/bidding-request-for-proposals

Thought of the Day: Don't let anyone rent space in your head unless they are a good tenant.

Laurie Bianco, Mayor
2600 Roosevelt Drive
Dalworthington Gardens, Texas • mayorbianco@cityofdwg.net • (903) 258-7354

Chief's Message:

As we wrote last month, the number of residents reporting attempted or successful scams has increased. One point it brings home is how common is the availability of our personal information online and how easy it is to learn a lot about someone just by knowing their phone number or email address. This month, I want to discuss an increasingly common scheme that preys upon those using dating apps. It's called catfishing.



More single residents are using dating apps to meet new people - a survey from The Knot shows that fully 25 percent of all couples who got married in 2022 met through an online dating app. On those apps, lurk mostly date-minded people and a fair number of con artists.

Among the most common grifts now are romance scams. And in the colorful lexicon of the Internet fraudster, these romance scams quickly turn into schemes called rug-pulls and pig butchering. A rug pull happens when your new romantic interest - he or she usually has a very attractive photo and really seems just to get you - builds rapport and trust over time, and eventually, money comes into the picture.

Maybe they tell you they want to have kids or buy a home. They're often from another country, and while living in the US, they want to return to Slovenia or Thailand someday.

Or maybe, they tell you that they have been earning great money to pay for the ticket to come and meet you. They have been putting their money into this amazing interest-earning cryptocurrency account, making between \$500 and \$1000 daily.

The first step will be opening an account with an exchange, usually Coinbase or Circle. These are reputable cryptocurrency exchanges, so that seems OK. Once the account is open, they'll show you how to open a new account on a different crypto asset site. You're to transfer your money from your Coinbase crypto wallet to this new wallet. This may make you nervous, but look, they tell you, just put a couple of hundred dollars in and see what happens.

What happens is your balance goes up. A lot. And so you "invest" a little more. At some point, when the balance is high, you'll want to remove the money, and that's when trouble starts. You're asked to pay "mining fees." Or "IRS withholding." And a range of other charges, without which you can't get your money. Eventually, the fees will either be so high the victim can't pay or the victim twigs to the scam, and then the scammers do "The Rug Pull" - they shut down the site forever.

The problem is, your money was gone well before this happens; the "balance" you've been seeing is faked. The more they can get from you, the better, which is why this category of scam is called "pig butchering": they are fattening up the victim's account as much as possible before slaughtering it. When the victim realizes it's a fraud, the money is gone - and they are so embarrassed that they are less likely to report it.

We've recently spoken with victims who have lost nearly \$400,000 over several months of con work. And often, the con artists themselves are in fact forced labor, being fed scripts and direction from managers supervising entire operations dedicated to these schemes. In April 2023, the Justice Department seized more than \$112 million in funds swindled from US residents involved in cryptocurrency investment schemes like this. The FBI estimates that in 2022 alone, more than \$2.5 billion was stolen from Americans, mainly from pig butchering scams.

How can you protect yourself? When you meet someone online, run their picture through an image search tool like Google Image or Tin Eye. The person you're speaking with is not real if it comes up as a celebrity photo. Another test is to copy complete sentences of the person's messages to you, pasting the entire sentence enclosed in "double quotes" into the Google search bar and seeing if something comes up. If it does, it's absolutely a script.

But in the end, the most sensible advice we can give you is the same one you got from your parents: if it seems too good to be true, it is. If this person you're speaking with, no matter how much they seem like your soul mate, asks you to do literally anything with money? It's a scam.

Sincerely and Respectfully, Chief Greg Petty

Historical Committee News

Join us this month in welcoming the Baker family and the Escobar family to DWG.

Our annual Ice Cream Social is a great way to meet your neighbors and visit with friends. Save the date, Saturday, July 15. The Ice Cream Social will commence after the ribbon cutting for the new playground, which will begin promptly at 7pm. More details to come in the June newsletter but we do suggest that you dust off your homemade ice cream recipes if you want to contribute to the fun.

The Historical Committee's next scheduled meeting will be the first Thursday of September at 6:30pm. (We host the Ice Cream Social instead of having a regular meeting in July.)

CPSAAA News



CPSAAA is holding a contest to create a new design/logo to represent Dalworthington Gardens, our unique oasis and the best city in the metroplex! The new design will be used to sell t-shirts and hats at upcoming community events, and the funds will be used to support our DWG Department of Public Safety and Fire Department. If you have a creative spirit and talent for graphic design, live in DWG, or own a business here, submit your entry to dwgcpsaaa@yahoo.com. The deadline for entries is June 1st. A panel of judges from members of Citizens Public Safety Academy Alumni

Association & Dalworthington Gardens DPS/Fire Personnel will decide the winning submission. So, get the creative juices flowing and submit your entry! The winner will be announced in the June newsletter.

A huge **Thank You to Prespa's Italian Restaurant**, on Arkansas Ln., for the wonderful fundraiser and for your great support for CPSAAA and our Dalworthington Gardens First Responders. Thank you so much to all who attended and helped to make our fundraiser a success.

For more information on any of the above, please email us at dwgcpsaaa@yahoo.com or give me a call at 817-726-3448.

Tracy Dodson, CPSAAA President dwgcpsaaa@yahoo.com
DWGCPSAAA.org

Park Board Bulletin

Hello DWG Residents,

We are so thrilled to announce the new playground is installed and ready for our little citizens to enjoy. Thank you for your patience while the playground was under construction and to the citizens that donated their time and money to make this happen. What a great way to start the summer!! Stay tuned in for more information regarding the ribbon cutting ceremony.

A special shout out to Jill Howard for graciously volunteering to be our Easter bunny last month for our annual pictures with the Easter bunny event. It is no small feat to sit in costume for two hours straight. Additionally, we want to thank Pat Burdette and Dewayna Tigner for the delicious homemade cookies for our annual pictures with the Easter bunny event. The baking queens hit it out of the park again and we appreciate your support.

DWG Park Board parkboard@cityofdwg.net

Respect Our Park

We anticipate more foot traffic at the park now that we have our fancy playground installed. Let's keep the area looking clean, shiny, and new.

Rescheduled bi-monthly park workday due to forecasted rain: Saturday, May 27th from 9am - Noon. Annual Free Fishing Day - June 3rd

This is a recognized day across the state of Texas. It is normally a requirement to have a fishing license for individuals 17 years or age and older. However, on June 3rd, a license is not required. Bring your poles, bait, and patience to Pappy Elkins Lake.

The next bi-monthly park workday is scheduled for Saturday, May 27th and July 8th from 9am – Noon. Bring your gardening gloves and tools. The meetup location is by the marquee at the intersection of Roosevelt and Elkins Dr.

If you are interested in volunteering for park events or interested in preserving the garden beds and similar areas in the park, contact the park board via email. parkboard@cityofdwg.net

Shop DWG and Our Surrounding Businesses





