

# SOUTHSIDE PLACE TODAY

Community Newsletter

March/April 2009

## CITY CALENDAR

March 10	City Council Meeting
April 4	Heavy Trash Day
April 10	City Offices Closed Good Friday
April 14	City Council Meeting
May 9	City Council Election Date
May 12	City Council Meeting
August 3	Happy 75 <sup>th</sup> Birthday

Remember: Solid waste collection rolls to the following business day after a holiday.

### ***Planned Development (PD) District Approved for Redevelopment of Blair House Apartments***

On February 10, City Council voted 4 to 1 to approve an application from Koontz McCombs, LLC concerning construction of a new 269 unit apartment complex at the current Blair House site. This four story development with a five level parking garage is anticipated to generate annually an additional \$ 100,000 of tax revenue beginning in 2010. A water and wastewater impact contribution totaling \$ 280,000 was negotiated between city officials and the developer. Construction is expected to begin in early 2010.

### **PROPERTY TAX BILLS DELINQUENT NOTICE**

Property tax payments were due by January 31<sup>st</sup>. Monthly penalty and interest charges will be added to unpaid bills. "Homestead Exemptions Not Available" are printed on all bills.

### **No Sanitation Pick-Up on April 10**

### **MAY 9 ELECTION AT CITY HALL**

The City of Southside Place will be holding an election for Mayor, Council Position #1, and Council Position # 3. Polls will be open from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. on Saturday, May 9. Early voting will be conducted at city hall from April 27 – May 5.

### **WATER/WASTEWATER RATE INCREASE TAKES EFFECT WITH APRIL, 2009 BILLING**

On February 10, city council approved the following new water/wastewater rates based upon a cost of service and rate design study by Water Resources Management. All residential, commercial, and industrial customers will be charged a minimum bill based upon meter sizes. Meters less than 1" in size will be charged \$ 16.80. Residential water rates will increase from \$ 3.35 to \$ 4.69 per thousand. Residential wastewater rates will increase from \$ 3.35 to \$ 4.46 per thousand. Winter averaging will be used for wastewater rates. Commercial water rates will increase from \$ 3.35 per to \$ 3.87 per thousand. Commercial wastewater rates will increase from \$ 3.35 to \$ 4.65 per thousand.

### **CITY HALL CONSTRUCTION STARTS IN EARLY MARCH**

Construction of the new municipal complex will begin in early March. Drawings of the new administrative, police, and fire building are located in the city hall foyer.

## **SOUTHSIDE PLACE CELEBRATES SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS: 1934-2009**

On August 3, Southside Place will be celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday. In 1934, the city accepted its general law city status under the provisions of the Civil Status of Texas. The mayor and alderman of the city were elected by the people. Twenty-one mayors have served the city since 1934.

## **BELLAIRE BOULEVARD BRIDGE AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS**

Bids were received by city council on February 10 concerning replacement of the Bellaire Boulevard Crossing at Poor Farm Ditch. Bids ranged from \$ 1.73 Million to \$ 2.3 Million. Harris County Flood Control District officials are now reviewing the recommended contractor for the project. The city has requested an additional \$ 1.2 Million in funding from Harris County for this project. Once approved by Harris County, construction will last about 6 months.

### **Bellaire Boulevard Roadway**

The \$ 5.8 million Bellaire Boulevard reconstruction project is ahead of schedule at this time. Construction is near the intersection of Stella Link. One example of the new traffic signal poles can be viewed on the south side of Braes and Bellaire near the Metro mobility bus station. Please feel free to call or visit city hall with any suggestions or comments about the project scope.

***PLEASE REMEMBER TO REGISTER YOUR PETS WITH CITY HALL FOR 2009. Cost is \$ 5.00 for new tags***

## **2010 CENSUS UPDATE**

Although the actual census count will not take place until April 1, 2010, city staff is already working with the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) offices.

**PLEASE CONTACT CITY HALL WITH RESIDENTIAL STREET LIGHT OUTAGES. MOST LIGHTS CAN BE REPAIRED WITHIN A WEEK EXCEPT THOSE NEEDING MORE EXTENSIVE REPAIR.**

## **HEAVY TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 4**

On Saturday, April 4, the City of Southside Place will provide heavy trash pick-up for residents in the city. Please have your heavy trash on the curb by 8:00 A.M. for pick-up. Heavy Trash is collected twice a year.

## **POLICE TRADING CARDS**

Beginning next month, new police trading cards will be available for collection. Officers will be distributing them throughout the community.

**Please remember that parking is not allowed on Southside Place streets between the hours of 1 AM and 6 AM. Parking facing the wrong way on a city street is dangerous and illegal according to state traffic laws. In addition, parking is prohibited across sidewalks where children and adults walk or use mobility scooters.**

*Southside Place Today is published by city staff in conjunction with the bi-monthly water bill mailouts. We would like to hear from you concerning comments and suggestions on this publication. Your input is important to us.*