

JULY 2018 CHAMPION

City Council

Mayor: Barry L. Gordon
972.709.8239

At-Large: Patrick LeBlanc
972.572.1238

D1: Dennis Schwartz
469.567.0780

D2: Don McBurnett
972.296.4179

D3: Leslie Thomas
214.773.2682

D4: Mark D. Cooks
972.974.7643

D5: Johnette Jameson
972.780.8887



In This Issue

Calendar of Events, 2

Contacts, 2 & 11

City Government, 3

Fire Department, 4

Library, 5

Parks & Recreation, 6 - 7

Police Department, 8 - 10

About Duncanville

Situated just minutes from both downtown Dallas and downtown Fort Worth, Duncanville offers the repose of a small town, while maintaining vital access to everything that makes DFW what it is today. With a reputation for excellence in both education and athletics, Duncanville is also committed to recruiting top businesses to provide first-rate services. For more information, visit:

www.duncanville.com.



The perfect blend of **family,**
community and **business!**



July Calendar

- 3: City Council Regular Meeting - CANCELLED
- 4: Independence Day Celebration
9 am: Parade
6 pm: Evening Festivities in Armstrong Park
- 5: Library Advisory Board Meeting
6:30 pm, Library Conference Rooms
- 9: Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
6:30 pm, Recreation Center Conference Room
- 10: Friends of the Library Quarterly Meeting
7 pm, Library Programming Room
- 10: Sister City Commission Meeting
CANCELLED
- 12: Duncanville Senior Advocacy Commission Meeting
7 pm, D.L. Hopkins Senior Center Northside Room
- 12: Multicultural Social Engagement Partnership Meeting
7 pm, City Hall Briefing Room
- 17: City Council Regular Meeting
Briefing Session - 6 pm, City Hall Briefing Room
Regular Session - 7 pm, City Hall Council Chambers
- 21: DuncanSwitch Street Market: 9 am - 3 pm, DuncanSwitch
- 23: DCEDC Regular Meeting
6 pm, City Hall Briefing Room
- 25: Neighborhood Vitality Commission Meeting
7 pm, City Hall Briefing Room
- 26: Duncanville Logo Design Advisory Committee Meeting
4 pm, City Hall Briefing Room

For updates to the city event calendar or to learn more about the city of Duncanville, visit: www.duncanville.com.

Get In Touch

- After Hours Water Emergency
972.780.4959
- Animal Control
972.223.6111
- Auto Impoundment
972.298.9932
- City Hall
972-780-5000
- Code Services
972.780.5040
- Crime Victim Advocate
972.780.5037 ext. 0
- Fire Administration
972.780.4920
- Hopkins Senior Center
972.780.5073
- Jail
972.780.5039
- Municipal Court
972.780.5055
- Non-Emergency Dispatch
972.223.6111
- Personnel
972.780.5095
- Police Administration
972.780.5038
- Public Library
972.780.5050
- Public Information
972.780.5043
- Recreation Center
972.780.5070
- Utility Billing
972.780.5010
- Warrants
972.780.5092

City Hall

203 East Wheatland Road
PO Box 380280
Duncanville, Texas 75138-0280

Council Seeks Citizens to Serve on City Boards & Commissions

The Duncanville City Council is currently accepting applications from citizens interested in volunteering their time and service on one of the City's boards or commissions. To be eligible to serve, one must be a resident of the City of Duncanville and not be in arrears on City of Duncanville ad valorem taxes, fines or fees.

Applications are being accepted for the following Boards and Commissions:

- City Planning & Zoning Commission
- Zoning Board of Adjustment
- Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
- Library Advisory Board
- Sign Control Board
- Duncanville Community & Economic Development Corporation (DCEDC)
- Keep Duncanville Beautiful Board
- Multicultural Social Engagement Partnership
- Senior Advocacy Commission
- Regional Animal Shelter Board
- Civil Service (Term beginning October 1, 2018)

Applications will be accepted from June 1, 2018, thru July 9, 2018. Following the application deadline, each applicant will be contacted to schedule a brief

interview with the City Council. Appointments to the Boards and Commissions will be made by City Council during their August 21, 2018, regular meeting with new

appointments beginning on September 1, 2018, with the exception of Civil Service Commission which will begin on October 1, 2018.

Anyone interested in serving is encouraged to forward a completed application **no later than July 9, 2018.**

Materials can be sent:

Narva Walker, City Secretary, P.O. Box 380280, Duncanville, Texas, 75138; nwalker@duncanville.com; or in person at City Hall, 203 East Wheatland Road.

An application may be obtained at City Hall or by visiting the City's website: **www.duncanville.com**. For more information, call 972.780.5017.

Make sure your home is safe from outside fires. Don't Let Your World Go Up in Smoke.



Home fire safety doesn't stop at the door. There are many fire risks outside the home. You may have these in your backyard. Here are some ways you can keep your home safer from outside fire.

Grilling

Make safe outdoor cooking a priority.

- Move the grill away from siding, decking, and other things that can catch fire.
- Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill when it's hot.
- Stay with the grill the entire time you're cooking.
- Keep your grill clean so leftover grease and fat won't catch on fire.

Summer months mean grilling! Make sure your home is protected.

Keep grills 3 feet away from your house and anything that can burn.

Warning: Fireworks are dangerous to people and pets. Using them puts your property at risk.

The best way to stay safe from fireworks is to not use them. Instead, attend a public fireworks display put on by professionals.

Backyard Fire Pits

Permanent and portable fire pits bring fire danger to your home. You can prevent fire or burn injury with these simple steps:

- Make sure the fire pit is at least three feet away from your house and anything that can burn.
- Closely watch children when the fire pit is in use.
- Use a metal screen over wood-burning fires to keep sparks from floating out.
- Turn off or put out fires before you leave the backyard.
- Store matches and lighters out of children's sight and reach.

Learn more about fire prevention:
www.usfa.fema.gov

U.S. Fire
Administration



FEMA



Libraries Rock!

Libraries Rock! is the 2018 Summer Reading Club theme for all ages. Summer Reading Club is June 1 - July 31 and features eight weeks of fantastic, fun programs including musical performances, hula dancers, ballet folklorico, live animal shows, science shows, story times, arts and crafts, Manga club and movies.

One of the best things about the summer programs is the price. All library programs are **FREE!**

On June 1, kids and teens were able to visit the library and get a Summer Reading Club time log to track time spent reading. When a 25-hour reading log is complete, readers receive prizes including a free book, reading certificate and coupons to local businesses.

Kids and teens who complete the 25-hour reading log will be entered in the grand prize drawing for a free Kindle Fire!

These incentives encourage kids and teens to read for pleasure over the summer. Studies show participation in summer reading programs enable children to maintain essential reading skills during their summer vacation and as a result, they are better prepared for the upcoming school year.

Early Literacy logs will be available again this year for children ages 0-3 years. Parents who complete the 25 activities with their children can redeem the log for prizes.

Duncanville Public Library is a great place to be this summer. For more information about the Library's programs, visit: www.duncanville.com.

Celebrate the Fourth with the City!



The City of Duncanville invites you to its annual Independence Day Celebration on Wednesday, July 4. The day will begin with a parade sponsored by the Duncanville Lions Club and will close with a host of evening festivities in Armstrong Park. Attendees will be able to enjoy LIVE music, delicious food from local vendors, bounce houses for the kids and fireworks! Admission is FREE and open to the public, though **wristbands will be required for entry into the evening festivities.**

PARADE

Price:
Free to the public

Time:
9 am - 10 am

Place:
The parade route will begin at Reed Middle School, 530 Freeman Street, turn right on Wheatland Road, right on Main Street, followed by a right on Freeman Street and continue back to Reed Middle School.

Various closures will affect the Wheatland & Main Street area beginning at 7 am.

Fourth Festivities Continued...

FOOD, FUN & FIREWORKS

Price:

Free to the public

Time:

6 pm – 10 pm

Place:

Armstrong Park – 100 James Collins Blvd., Duncanville, TX 75116

- Wristbands will be required for entrance to the evening festivities and are available upon request at the Duncanville Recreation Center (201 James Collins Blvd), while supplies last. Limit 5 wristbands per person; must be 18 or older to pick up. If quantities remain, wristbands will be available at the event.
- Guests under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.
- All bags and coolers will be subject to search upon entry.
- The following items will not be permitted inside the park: alcohol, glass containers, tents, canopies, umbrellas (other than hand held), all animals other than service animals and fireworks.
- ADA-accessible parking will be located in the parking lot west of City Hall (203 E Wheatland Rd, Duncanville, TX 75116).
- Armstrong Park will be closed to the public in advance of the event, starting at 11:30 pm on July 3. Normal park hours will resume following the event.

SHUTTLE SERVICE

Price:

Free to the public

Description:

Due to various street closures and limited parking, the City of Duncanville will offer a free shuttle service to and from designated remote parking locations before, during and after the evening festivities. Remote parking will be available at Costco and Duncanville High School.

Time:

5 pm – End of Event

Two shuttle routes will be available. A North route will pick up attendees from the Duncanville High School parking lot (900 W Camp Wisdom Rd, Duncanville, TX 75116) and drop off at Efurd Properties (202 S Santa Fe Trail, Duncanville, TX 75116). A South route will pick up from the Costco parking lot (250 W Hwy 67, Duncanville, TX 75137) and drop off at the former Duncanville ISD Administration building (802 S Main St, Duncanville, TX 75137).

Guests must take the same shuttle route to return to their vehicle at the end of the evening that they took to get to the event.

For any questions regarding the Independence Day festivities, please contact the Department of Parks & Recreation at 972.780.5070, or visit: www.duncanville.com.

Dangers of Celebratory Gunfire

The Fourth of July can be a great time to socialize with family, friends and neighbors. It is a time for celebrating independence and coming together.

Enjoy the Fourth of July; however, we can celebrate without firing guns in the air. When a bullet goes up, it comes back down.

Bullets fired into the air usually fall back with terminal velocities much lower than their muzzle velocity when they leave the barrel of a firearm. Nevertheless, people can be injured, sometimes fatally, when bullets discharged into the air fall back down to the ground. Bullets fired at angles less than vertical are more dangerous, as the bullet maintains its angular ballistic trajectory, is far less likely to engage in tumbling motion, and so travels at speeds much higher than a bullet in free fall.

Bullets often lodge in roofs, causing minor damage requiring repair in most cases. Normally, the bullet will penetrate the roof surface through to the roof deck, leaving a hole where water may run into the building and cause a leak.

Celebratory gunfire remains a problem in many cities, particularly during the Fourth of July holiday season, and sadly, it can often have tragic results when innocent people are hit by the bullets and injured or killed.

Tips:

- **Grill with care.** Keep your brats and burgers tasty, the hair on your arms un-singed and the fire where it's supposed to be:
 - Keep your grill clear from overhanging branches, grass and other dry or flammable areas and materials;
 - Never grill under a tent, canopy or in a garage;
 - Do not leave the grill unattended;
 - Use long utensils and don't wear loose-fitting clothes;
 - Always keep children and pets at least 3 feet away; and,
 - Keep a garden hose, fire extinguisher or buckets of water at the ready where you grill either.
- **Stay hydrated** with plenty of water and be cautious of alcohol and caffeine consumption, especially in the heat.
- **Designate a driver** for your car or boat and be sure to have plenty of water on hand, whether you're consuming alcohol or not.
- **Know before you go.** Regardless of your plans check the weather, traffic, water conditions, and any other relevant information before you head out for the day.
- **When thunder roars, go indoors.** Your safety is never worth that last at-bat, the ninth hole, the fish on your hook or your backyard fiesta. In the event of thunder, lightning or even the threat of severe weather, move your activities and celebrations indoors and out of harm's way.

To report illegal Celebratory Gun Fire contact Duncanville Police Dispatch (SWRCC) at 972.223.6111.

Vacation Safety Tips: Prepare Your Home Before Vacation

When you are busy preparing to go on vacation, it can be easy to overlook basic steps that keep your home safe (and in many cases, save you money) while you are away.

Some home preparation tips may seem cliché, but they are a small inconvenience compared to the thousands of dollars you could lose in a burglary. Take these steps to protect your home while you're on vacation.

Fill out a Vacation Check form from the Duncanville Police Department. Forms are in the police station lobby or can be printed from the Duncanville Police Department's website. Vacation Check forms allow officers and Citizens on Patrol to know you are out of town and to make extra patrols around your home and to see if things look normal. It also provides contact information in case a situation comes up and the police need to contact someone.

Home Preparation Tips

1. Arrange for someone you trust to check on things in your absence.
2. Keep the lawn mowed.
3. Have the post office hold your mail and also place a hold on your newspapers.
4. Have a neighbor take the trash out.

Burglars will watch a house for telltale signs you are away. If you are gone for two weeks or more, the yard might start to look shaggy, the newspapers will pile up on the front doorstep, vehicles will not be coming and going and trash will not be set out. These signs are a green flag to criminals looking to break into homes. To avoid making these mistakes, make sure you have scheduled someone to take care of the yard and have the post office hold your mail. Talk to a friend and have them stop over to check on the house.

5. Turn out the lights.
6. Have one lamp on a timer.
7. Think about if your home is safer with the blinds open or closed.
8. Trim overgrown bushes.
9. Scatter your valuables.

Leaving a light on to make it look like someone is home is good, but having the same lights on in your house 24 hours a day for seven days straight can be costly, ineffective and an obvious sign you are away. Consider purchasing a light switch timer and scheduling various on/off times. Opinions differ about whether or not to close blinds, but consider the general safety of your neighborhood before making this decision. If you are at risk of neighbors or people on your street eyeing your valuables, then maybe it is better to close your blinds. However, if your neighbors are more likely to peek in and check if they suspect something strange is happening, then consider leaving your blinds as normal. An unobstructed view inside the house could be helpful to neighbors or police checking for unusual activity.

Take a walk around the outside before leaving and try to spot other obstructed views. It is not uncommon for burglars to use overgrown bushes as cover while they pry open a first-floor window or slip in a door. If someone does break in, do not make it easy for them to find what they want. If you have valuable information or documents not in a safety deposit box, scatter them throughout the house in unconventional locations like kitchen cupboards, pantries, children's rooms or the laundry room.

Vacation Safety Tips Continued...

10. Unplug appliances and electronics.
11. Set the thermostat accordingly.

Did you know items like TVs, toaster ovens and phone chargers continue to use electricity even when they are not in use? To save on electric bills and protect your belongings from power surges, be sure to unplug unnecessary items before leaving. If you are traveling in the summer and you do not have pets in the home, it is safe to set your thermostat at 90 degrees, or turn it off completely, just remember to have a friend come over and set it at the normal temperature a day or so before you return. In the winter months, keep your thermostat set to at least 50 degrees to avoid freezing pipes.

12. Purge your fridge of perishable foods.
13. Remove the spare key.

After saying goodbye to the Mexican sun or freshly-powdered mountains of Colorado, the last thing you want to come home to is a smelly kitchen. Be sure to dispose of milk, fruits and other perishables so your house will smell as good as it did when you left. Make sure your house sitter has a spare key and isn't seen pulling out a hidden key each time they venture over. Unfortunately, the hide-a-key rock just does not cut it anymore. The areas around your front door will be the first place intruders look to find your spare key.

14. Lock up!
15. Post a Beware of Dog Sign.
16. Do not post about your trip on social media until after the trip has passed.

Double checking you locked all your windows and doors could mean the difference between a safe home and a break-in. If you have a home security system, make sure it is armed. If you do not have a security system, consider sticking a "Beware of Dog" sign in the window. Burglars are less likely to break in if they think they might be dealing with a dog.

Tipping off friends, acquaintances and strangers (depending on your privacy settings) about your upcoming vacation is comparable to trusting an intruder with "checking on" your house. Save your social media posting until after you've safely returned.

Before you head out, ask yourself these questions and decide what level of precaution you need to take before going on vacation.

1. How long am I going to be gone?

The longer you will be away, the more preparation you need to do to keep your home safe.

2. Have there been burglaries in my neighborhood before?

Burglars have a tendency to return the same residences or areas so if it's common in your area, take extra precaution.

3. How well do I know my neighbors?

While a trusted group of people keeping an eye out for strange activity might not prevent a burglar, they may be able to notify the authorities and get help quickly.

If you have more question about the Vacation Check form, contact Officer Doug Sisk at 972.780.5027 or dsisk@duncanvillepd.com

HELPFUL NUMBERS

CITY OF DUNCANVILLE

EMERGENCY

Fire, Police, Ambulance.....	911
Water.....	972.780.5010
After Hrs Water Emerg.....	972.780.4959
FBI.....	972.559.5000
Poison Control.....	1.800.222.1222
Suicide Crisis Center.....	214.828.1000
Domestic Violence Hotline.....	1.800.799.7233

NEWCOMER INFORMATION

Atmos Gas.....	972.934.9227
Auto Tags/Titles.....	214.653.7811
Chamber of Commerce.....	972.780.4990
Spectrum Cable.....	1.888.438.2427
DPS: Driver's License.....	214.330.3958
Republic.....	972.225.4207
Property Tax.....	214.653.7811
ONCOR Electric.....	1.888.313.4747
US Post Office.....	972.780.1695
Passport Information.....	972.780.1438
Voter Registration *.....	214.637.7937
Water/Trash/Sewer Setup.....	972.780.5010

Newspapers:

DMN.....	214.745.8383
Focus.....	972.223.9175
Suburban.....	972.296.8600

Duncanville ISD:

710 S. Cedar Ridge, 75137	
Administration.....	972.708.2000
Natorium.....	972.708.2370
School Board:	
Carla Fahey.....	972.296.3452
Tom Kennedy.....	972.709.0015
Philip McNeely.....	972.709.7824
Joe Veracruz.....	972.965.7809
Janice Savage-Martin.....	972.709.0777
Elijah Granger.....	972.567.9982
Renee McNeely.....	972.709.7824

Tourism:

Duncanville Fieldhouse.....	972.331.8868
Cedar Hill State Park.....	972.291.3900
Community Theatre.....	972.780.5707
Cedar Ridge Preserve.....	972.709.7784
Internat'l Museum of Cultures...	972.572.0462
Lynn Creek Marina.....	817.640.4200
Red Bird Lanes.....	972.298.7143
Red Bird Skateland.....	972.298.7400

Hospitals:

Charlton Methodist Hospital.....	214.947.7777
----------------------------------	--------------

CITY OFFICES

City Hall.....	972.780.5000
City Manager.....	972.780.5069
Assistant City Manager.....	972.780.5004
City Secretary.....	972.780.5017
Building Inspections.....	972.780.5041
Bldg & Sign Permits, Certificate of Occupancy	
Code Services.....	972.780.5040
Code Enf., Garage Sale Permit	
Economic Development.....	972.780.5090
Finance.....	972.780.5094
Health Inspector.....	972.780.4963
Hopkins Senior Center.....	972.780.5073
Municipal Court.....	972.780.5055
Parks/Athletics.....	972.780.5072
Personnel.....	972.780.5095
Planning & Zoning.....	972.707.3871
Public Library.....	972.780.5050
Public Relations.....	972.780.5043
Public Works.....	972.780.5015
Recreation Center.....	972.780.5070
Service Center.....	972.780.4900
Special Events.....	972.780.5074
Utility Billing.....	972.780.5010
After Hrs Water Emerg.....	972.780.4959

Police:

Administration.....	972.780.5038
Animal Control.....	972.223.6111
Auto Pound.....	972-298-9932
Crime Prevention.....	972.780.5027
Crime Victim Advocate (ext 0)	972.780.5037
Internal Affairs.....	972.780.4905
Jail.....	972.780.5039
Non-Emergency Dispatch.....	972.223.6111
Records.....	972.780.5024
Tri-Cities Animal Shelter.....	972.291.5335
Warrants.....	972.780.5092
Or.....	972.780.5068

Fire:

Administration.....	972.780.4920
---------------------	--------------

City Council (May 7, 2016): **

Mayor - David Green.....	972.780.0348
At-Large - Patrick LeBlanc.....	972.572.1238
District 1 - Dennis Schwartz	469.567.0780
District 2 - Steven Rutherford.....	972.296.2669
District 3 - Leslie Thomas	214.773.2682
District 4 - Ron Dotson, MD....	972.298.2120
District 5 - Johnette Jameson	972.780.8887

**Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month.

OTHER HELPFUL NUMBERS

AARP.....	1.888.687.2277
Better Business Bureau.....	214.220.2000
Dallas Central Appraisal Dist.....	214.631.0910
Dallas County:	
General (Including DBA's).....	214.653.7099
Health & Human Services.....	214.819.2000
MY RIDE-Dallas.....	972.855.8084
Records.....	214.653.7131
Section 8 Housing.....	214.819.1871
Tax Office (Property/Vehicle)....	214.653.7811
Duncanville Outreach Ministries....	972.296.4986
Evictions.....	214.589.7000
Home Instead-Rides for Shut-Ins....	972.262.7787
HUD.....	214.767.8300
MADD.....	214.744.6233
Meals on Wheels.....	214.689.2639
Project Duncanville.....	214.206.0198
American Red Cross	469.261.5614
Red Cross.....	214.678.4800
Salvation Army.....	214.630.5611
Social Security.....	1.800.772.1213
State Comptroller's Office	
Tax ID & Sales Tax Permit.....	972.709.4357
On-line: www.window.state.tx.us/taxpermit	
Texas Dept of Human Services:	
Food Stamps/Medicaid.....	972.709.8075
WIC.....	214.670.6875
Texas Workforce Commission:	
Dallas.....	972.709.5377
Grand Prairie.....	972.264.5881
United Way.....	214.978.0000
Vital Statistics:	
Birth/Death Certificates:	
Dallas (City).....	214.653.7099
Grand Prairie (State).....	214.751.4040
On-line: http://dshs.texas.gov/	
Marriage License:	
Downtown Dallas- 8-4 M-F...	214.653.7559
East Dallas***.....	214.321.3182
North Dallas***.....	214.904.3032
Justice of the Peace Offices:***	
7201 S. Polk, Dallas.....	972.228.0280
106 Church St., Grand Prairie..	214.751.4040
1411 W. Beltline, Richardson	214.904.3042
841 W Irving Blvd, Irving....	214.589.7000

***Call for office hours

Local Rental Facilities:

Best Western.....	972.283.3000
City Parks and Facilities.....	972.780.5070
Duncanville Fieldhouse.....	972.331.8868
Hilton Garden Inn.....	972.283.9777
Holiday Inn Express.....	972.298.8000
Lion's Club Center.....	214.557.1581
Motel 6.....	972.296.0345

*Voter Registration "**Application**" Cards available at City Hall

Updated 1-24-2018