



# City of Duncanville

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TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Kevin Hugman, City Manager

DATE: March 22, 2019

SUBJECT: Weekly Update

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**Police Department** – This week, Crime Prevention Officer Doug Sisk spoke to approximately 225 teenagers at Holy Spirit Catholic Church about situational awareness, safety tips, and active shooter response. He received a number of thank you notes for doing so.

This week, the Duncanville Advanced Citizen Police Academy received a presentation from United States Postal Inspector Thomas Halsell. Citizens attending this advanced class are receiving an incredible education from some of the outside agencies who work with the Duncanville Police Department.

Detective Chad Berger was the guest speaker for the Noon Lion's Club meeting and presented information on consumer fraud. His presentation was well received, and several members commented on the beneficial information he presented.

**Notes on recent successes:**

- Night patrol officers were dispatched to a criminal trespass complaint at the City's contract auto pound when employees of the auto pound noticed a male inside the fenced area tampering with a stored vehicle. Just prior to officers' arrival, the employees of the pound confronted the suspect who then fled. Officers located the suspect a short distance away. The suspect was in possession of altered Vehicle Identification Numbers (VINs). It appears no vehicles were damaged or had anything stolen from them, but the vehicle the suspect was around had just been impounded after being recovered as a stolen vehicle. The person stopped is the suspect in the stolen vehicle case. He was brought to jail for possession of altered VINs, and other charges are pending.
- Officers responded to the gym at the Recreation Center regarding a fight between patrons; one of whom punched through the glass of one of the gym windows. Ultimately, it was determined the individual was exhibiting signs of a mental crisis and was taken to a mental hospital for help and evaluation.

- When a night patrol officer made a traffic stop of a vehicle for an equipment violation, the driver fled on foot from the stop. After a brief foot pursuit along an open field adjacent to I-20 and Gannon Lane, the officer was able to apprehend the evading suspect without further incident. The suspect was wanted for parole violation. (NOTE: This is a good example of why traffic stops can be very dangerous for police officers. Upon initial stop, the officer usually has no information as to the identity of the driver and/or passengers – for example, if they are wanted; their determination not to return to jail, armed or unarmed, etc. This was an excellent job by the Duncanville police officer, not only to catch up to the suspect and apprehend him, but to do so without further incident. The suspect finally complying with the officer’s commands also helped avoid further incident to all parties involved.)
- A day patrol officer towed an abandoned vehicle from W. Orange after determining it had not moved for over 30 days.
- A night patrol officer stopped a vehicle for expired registration. Upon the officer’s contact, the officer smelled the odor of marijuana emitting from the vehicle. A subsequent search of the vehicle resulted in locating the marijuana, as well as a handgun. The vehicle driver, who was the sole occupant of the vehicle, was arrested, and the contraband was confiscated as evidence.
- Directed Traffic Enforcement
  - West Daniieldale Rd. – (20) citations
  - North Main St. – (8) citations
  - South Main St. – (11) citations
  - East Wheatland Rd. – (1) citation
  - West Wheatland Rd. – (6) citations
  - South Cockrell Hill Rd. – (30) citations
  - North Cockrell Hill Rd. – (4) citations
  - Cedar Hill Rd. (near Village Tech and neighborhoods west of there) – (8) citations; (at least one citizen called Chief Brown expressing appreciation for officers’ presence in that area.)

**Fire Department** – The Department has not had any major fire or EMS events in Duncanville this week.

Personal History Statements have been received from the firefighter applicants and review will begin this coming week. If the candidates meet the hiring guidelines, interviews will be scheduled shortly thereafter. The Department will have (4) vacancies after a pending retirement on March 28. Another physical agility test has been tentatively scheduled for April 13 for the remaining candidates on the Civil Service list.

**Public Works** – Water usage was 24.027 MG the week of March 11 through March 17, down slightly from 24.513 MG the previous week. The daily peak water demand occurred on Friday, March 15, when 3.970 MG was used. There was 0.18 inches of precipitation that week.

There will be no Planning and Zoning Commission meeting on Monday, March 25 due to no agenda items.

Public Works management, Planning staff and Economic Development staff attended the Southern Dallas County Cities meeting on Thursday, March 21. Discussion included the Dallas County Mobility Plan and information regarding the Dallas County 7<sup>th</sup> Call for Projects. We will submit the Main Street / Camp Wisdom capital construction project in this Call for Projects to seek Dallas County funding participation. They have already committed funding for preliminary engineering design.

On Monday, March 18, the interim building official and code enforcement officers performed the annual apartment inspections at Candlelight Park Apartment complex located at 1407 Acton Avenue. Deficiencies were noted on the exterior of the buildings, and four vacant units were inspected. In the vacant units inspected, fixtures needed to be secured, repaired or replaced, and smoke detectors installed or replaced. The property manager was given 30 days to ready the property for reinspection. One complex will be inspected per week until the annual inspection program has been completed.

Thirty-four properties were registered for the residential rental property program since last week's report, for a total of 352 registered properties year-to-date. Thirty-three properties were inspected. Twenty-six inspections passed and seven failed. Reasons for the failures varied, but lack of smoke and/or carbon monoxide detectors, GFCI protection, and vacuum breakers on hose bibs were primary. Fourteen residential certificates of occupancy were issued, for a total of 51 certificates issued year-to-date.

**Construction and Maintenance:**

- The concrete construction crew repaired 931 square feet of sidewalk at 202, 206, 222, 223, 235, 247, and 239 Mizell Street.
- The Streets and Drainage crews restored the drainage in the temporary access road at the Fieldhouse.
- Vortex Turnkey Solution LLC continues the FY18 Pipebursting project at Mona Avenue in the Flame East Addition. Crews are currently working on wastewater lateral service lines.



**Library** – The library will be closed on Monday April 1, 2019 for specialized staff training. The library is scheduled to go live with the new Integrated Library System (ILS) software on Monday May 6, and representatives from the vendor will be onsite to train the entire library staff on April 1. The new ILS will expand the library's capabilities to provide a more robust patron experience through an updated catalog and database interface, and upgrade our circulation, records management, and cataloging

modules. Our partner Best Southwest libraries in Desoto and Cedar Hill are also exploring moving to the same vendor software, which if they do so, will allow a greater ability to collaborate and share resources amongst the Best Southwest Libraries.

### **Parks and Recreation** –

#### **Parks:**

- DBBI Field #7 lighting received some damage from the storms last week when an Oncor transformer failed and a power surge damaged some of the lighting controls. Staff continues to work with the lighting control contractor to repair the damage.
- We had an issue with Harrington Park entry gates not working properly (it was reported Monday). The issue was traced to the photo eyes being out of alignment. Staff re-adjusted the eyes and made an adjustment to the system to alleviate this issue going forward.
- The park maintenance crew cross-trained with the athletics crew to provide additional coverage when the athletic staff is short-handed or involved with educational training away from Duncanville.

#### **Fieldhouse:**

- Staff is in discussion with LionStream Media who wants to provide cameras and streaming capability of tournament games as a fee-based service. Staff had some concerns with privacy aspects of some of the features and we have discussed with the vendor removing those features for protection of our customers. The vendor has been willing to work with us and conversations are continuing.
- Fieldhouse staff provided a tour of the facility to the Leadership Southwest class this week as part of “Duncanville Day.”
- This coming weekend we have:
  - Japanese Dance Team - Friday 10:00a to 5:00p x 6 courts
  - B.O.S.S. Spring Basketball League - Friday 6:00p to 8:00p x 6 courts
  - March Fest Basketball Tournament - Saturday 9:00a to 8:00p & Sunday 9:00a to 3:30p x 6 courts
  - Fieldhouse Youth Basketball League - Sunday 5:00p to 9:00p x 5 courts

### **Economic Development** – ED staff is providing support and working on the following projects:

- Met with a local manufacturer and discussed business expansion opportunities.
- Provided an Economic Development driving tour of Duncanville for the Leadership Southwest class as part of “Duncanville Day.”
- Participated in the Sustainable Economic Development Roundtable for Southern Dallas and Northern Ellis Counties.

DCEDC took an Economic Development Driving Tour and held their Annual Planning Session this week The DCEDC Board established their 2020 Goals.

Certificate of Occupancy (CO) Permits Issued:

- None this week

Certificate of Occupancy (CO) Applications Received:

- Krystal Cleaners; 321 S. Cedar Ridge Dr. (Dry Cleaning & Laundry Services – Drop Off/Pick Up)
- Trenton, Inc.; 407 N. Cedar Ridge Dr., Suite #315 (Firearm Education)

**Public Information** – News coverage for this week:

- March 15, 2019 – [‘More than Glitz and Glam’: Salon Owners Fear Bill that would Remove License Requirements](#)
- March 18, 2019 – [Proposed Ban on Red Light Cameras Gaining Traction in Texas Legislature](#)
- March 19, 2019 – [North Texas Stores Raided, CBD Products Seized](#)
- March 19, 2019 – [Annual Flavor of Duncanville Draws Crowd](#)
- March 20, 2019 – [Police Raid Store Selling CBD Products and Seize Cash, Records and CBD Products](#)
- March 20, 2019 – [Hemp Industry Reacts to North Texas Police Action: “There Should Not be Raids...”](#)
- March 21, 2019 – [Kasey Cheshier, New Executive Director, United Way West Ellis County](#)
- March 21, 2019 – [Dallas-area Teen in Need of Transplant Asks High School Classmates to Become Bone Marrow Donors](#)
- March 21, 2019 – [Hemp About to be Removed from Texas’ Controlled Substances List](#)