

The Bedford Citizen

THE NEWS YOU NEED TO GUIDE YOUR CITY

Vol. 1 No. 20

Monday

July 23, 2007

FEATURES

TONIGHT: TOWN HALL MEETING ON GAS DRILLING IN BEDFORD

The town hall meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. tonight at the Old Bedford School, 2400 School Ln., will consist of a presentation and discussion of options for a gas-drilling ordinance in the City of Bedford.

TOMORROW'S CITY COUNCIL AGENDA TOPICS AT A GLANCE

This is a brief listing of all of the items on the agenda for tomorrow's City Council meeting.

CITY OF BEDFORD: B-SERVICE

Designed especially for Bedford's citizens, the City's InTouch™ Citizen Relationship Management Program is a service that offers Bedford residents the opportunity to converse with City staff regarding concerns, requests, suggestions and complaints.

HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBER ROUNDTABLE

The City of Bedford's Volunteer Community Affairs Commission cordially invites all Board Members of Bedford Home Owners Associations to meet other associations in Bedford.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WHO WILL PAY?

"Who will pay to remove and clean up the more than 70% of wells that go out of business?"

EDITORIAL

WI-FI FOR BEDFORD

It would appear from an article in the May 2007 issue of *Texas Town & City* magazine that adding a Wi-Fi network to Bedford would not only enhance our community's economic development, but save money and enhance the performance of the City's employees.

ABOUT THIS E-NEWS

The mission of this electronic newspaper (e-news) is to increase citizen awareness of current events and thereby increase their involvement in our government's decision-making process.

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If you find this e-news helpful and informative, please help us grow by passing it along to others.

FEATURES

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[Back to the top](#)

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TOMORROW'S CITY COUNCIL AGENDA TOPICS AT A GLANCE

[Back to the top](#)

Work Session 6 p.m. (Open to the public)

- ◆ Library Community Focus Group Results
- ◆ Code enforcement
- ◆ "Convenience fees" associated with on-line bill payment options
- ◆ Incentive compensation for employees with non-related college degrees
- ◆ Incentive compensation for employees with college degrees required by job description

Executive Session before 7:00 p.m., if time permits (Not open to the public)

- ◆ Purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property
- ◆ Economic development negotiations
- ◆ Contemplated litigation regarding the possible zoning violation(s) on the property located west of

Woodpark Ln. and north of Cummings Dr. (TR 2A and 7D of the BBB&C RR Survey A-204)

- ◆ Contemplated litigation regarding the possible zoning violation(s) on the property located south of Harwood Rd. and west of Murphy Dr. (Lots 50 and 51, J.R. Murphy Addition)

Regular Session 7 p.m. (Open to the public)

- ◆ Employee Recognition
- ◆ PERSONS TO BE HEARD
- ◆ - Greg Wampler – Benefits to the City of a Bedford wireless network
- ◆ - Mike Rozelle – Revalidation of business license for The Dragons Breath
- ◆ - Curtis Sanders – RV trailer storage at 2709 Murphy Dr.
- ◆ City Council members' procedures and rules
- ◆ Nomination and appointment of Council liaisons to Boards and Commissions
- ◆ **PUBLIC HEARING** regarding creation of a Charter Review Committee
- ◆ Proposed ordinance relative to red light camera program
- ◆ Redflex Traffic Systems, Inc., contract for installation of red light cameras
- ◆ "Adult" orientated business in Bedford

- ◆ Any action necessary as a result of the Executive Session

Open Forum

Note: The public is invited to address the Council on any topic at this time. However, in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, the City Council cannot discuss issues raised or make any decisions at this time. Issues raised may be referred to City staff for research and possible future action.

HELP NEEDED DESPERATELY!!!

Texas has dropped back to 4th place in the “What Book Got You Hooked?” contest sponsored by OneBook. With just one daily visit to <http://www2.firstbook.org/whatbook/index.php> between now and July 31, you can help Texas climb to number one and win 50,000 brand new books for children in its low-income communities.

OneBook, an organization which has been providing brand new books to children in low-income communities nationwide for the past 15 years, will award 50,000 new books to the state receiving the most votes in their “What Book Got You Hooked?” contest. Go to <http://www2.firstbook.org/whatbook/index.php> to read more about the contest, see what titles are being shared, which state is in the lead, and - of course! - to cast your vote. Visitors are permitted to vote once every 24 hours through July 31, so hurry! The sooner you vote, the sooner you can vote again!

CITY OF BEDFORD: B-SERVICE

[Back to the top](#)

Designed especially for Bedford's citizens, the City's InTouch™ Citizen Relationship Management Program is a service that offers Bedford residents the opportunity to converse with City staff regarding concerns, requests, suggestions and complaints. The service allows residents to create and submit requests online via the Internet.

For example, if you are experiencing low water pressure in your neighborhood, you may enter this information into the InTouch™ eCRM database. Your inquiry will be forwarded to the appropriate unit or department for corrective action and follow-up.

You may [track and view the status of your request](#) online, also. When a request is submitted, you are given an issue number, which you need along with the phone number entered, in order to track or view the status of your request.

City staff will use resident requests to streamline the handling of citizen concerns, requests, suggestions and complaints. For more information, contact the City's Communications Department at mmcquagge@ci.bedford.tx.us or 817/952-2107. To access the B-service, go to <http://www.ci.bedford.tx.us/>, and click on the B-Service graphic in the upper left-hand corner.

HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBER ROUNDTABLE

[Back to the top](#)

The City of Bedford's Volunteer Community Affairs Commission cordially invites all Board Members of Bedford Home Owners Associations to meet other associations in Bedford.

WHEN: 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Thursday, August 9, 2007

WHERE: Bedford Public Library, 1805 L. Don Dodson Dr. (across from City Hall)

WHO: HOA Board Members, Volunteer Community Affairs Commission representatives, Volunteer Beautification Committee representatives, City of Bedford representatives

WHY: To discuss issues of neighborhood interest and to foster a greater sense of community and see if there are suggestions for making life better in Bedford.

For more information, contact Karla Setser at 817-283-9869 or karlasetser@aol.com or Raymond Champney at 817-318-1233 or Raymond@rjcenter.com.

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER & SHOW

When the curtain goes up, the bodies start to fall. You're invited to audition for a new play. You will rub elbows with glamorous celebrities and work with a famous Hollywood director - If he lives through the night, that is! This brand new murder mystery comedy is guaranteed to keep you on the edge of your seat!

Play Murder, Old Bedford School's latest Murder Mystery Dinner & Show, is scheduled for Sat. Aug. 18 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$35, with a \$2/person discount for senior citizens and for groups of 25 or more persons. Tickets may be purchased on Visa or Mastercard at 817/952-2290 weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entertainment is presented by [US Actor's Company](#), and the meal is catered by [Sweet Memories Cakes & Catering for All Occasions](#).

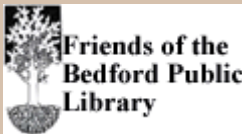


For menu and other information, go to www.oldbedfordschool.com.

AN EVENING WITH THE AUTHOR: TIM MADIGAN

It's a beautiful day in this neighborhood ... and Friday, July 27, will be a beautiful evening in our neighborhood when the Friends of the Bedford Library Tim Madigan, author of *I'm Proud of You: My Friendship with Mr. Rogers*, at the Old Bedford School. Mr. Madigan will talk about the life-altering friendship which began in 1995 when he profiled the children's icon for the *Star-Telegram*.

The evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. with refreshments and a reception honoring the author. Advance tickets are available at the library through 5 p.m. July 27 for a special rate of buy one at full price of \$10 and get the second for \$5. Tickets will be available at the Old Bedford School on the evening of the event for \$10 each with no discount for the second ticket. Copies of *I'm Proud of You* will be available for purchase at the event. The event is sponsored by The Friends of the Bedford Public Library, Bedford Public Library, the Old Bedford School and Starbucks of Bedford. For more information, contact Jeanne Green at 817/952-2370 or jgreen@ci.bedford.tx.us.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WHO WILL PAY?

[Back to the top](#)

Dear Editor,

I just read the attached article

http://www.worldoil.com/MAGAZINE/MAGAZINE_DETAIL.asp?ART_ID=3171

and I am shocked. Everyone at tomorrow night's meeting should read this -- factual and to the point.

The author concludes: "Less than one-third of wells are likely to be economic under current gas pricing scenarios....a terrible success rate...."

Who will pay to remove and clean up the more than 70% of wells that go out of business? Do you want one in your backyard? School yard? The operators will be long gone and the taxpayers may not be able clean up the mess or even sell homes on the real estate market.

I doubt if we would ever welcome a business into our town who had such a low success rate.

I will not be able to attend the meeting tomorrow night. Please take good notes and circulate this article to whomever you wish.

Thank you, Regards,
John Field, Bedford, TX

EDITORIAL

WI-FI FOR BEDFORD

By Stu Updike

[Back to the top](#)

It would appear from an article in the May 2007 issue of *Texas Town & City* magazine that adding a Wi-Fi network to Bedford would not only enhance our community's economic development, but save money and enhance the performance of the City's employees.

During the June 12 Council meeting, the Council discussed the establishment of a Wi-Fi mesh network throughout the City. Councilman Whistler said he thought it might be an aid to economic development, but Councilman Orea took the position that the decision should be driven by the City's need and that he did not feel the City had such a need. No action was taken.

One article in the magazine mentions the following cities that have installed Wi-Fi: Addison, Corpus Christi, El Paso and Lufkin. Addison was motivated to install Wi-Fi by the fact that there were areas within the city that had no Internet service. Corpus Christi saw the possible benefits of automated meter reading and of mobile work crews who could save time by interacting with the office via the Wi-Fi network. Lufkin has realized significant savings by eliminating the expensive T-1 lines and replacing their expensive phone system with a VoIP phone system.

Perhaps it would be wise to establish a group to study the benefits of Wi-Fi in greater detail.



Summer Movie Madness @ Bedford Public Library!

Kids can enjoy a free movie at the Bedford Public Library tomorrow, July 24, at 2 p.m. This week's movie hint is: *Little Red Riding Hood: A classic story, but there's more to every tale than meets the eye.* Guess the movie and come dressed as your favorite character or thing from that movie. For more information, call Jeanne Green, BPL Community Services Supervisor, at 817/952-2370.

ABOUT THIS E-NEWS

[Back to the top](#)

The mission of this electronic newspaper (e-news) is to increase citizen awareness of current events and thereby increase their involvement in our government's decision-making process. As a result, *The Bedford Citizen* will focus on providing Bedford's residents with the information they need in order to cast an informed vote. We also will include occasionally some helpful and entertaining information.

The Bedford Citizen is currently a volunteer effort which we expect to be circulated from friend to friend via email in its PDF format. If you find it helpful and informative, please feel free to pass it along to others.

During this introductory period, the subscriptions are free. This will allow us to gauge the demand and work out the bugs. Eventually, we plan to charge a fee for subscriptions. This will allow us to avoid the conflicts of interest that can arise from accepting paid advertising.

Initially, we plan to publish an issue every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, subject to volunteer availability and the amount of news to report.

To subscribe, please send us an email at Be.A.Citizen@earthlink.net Please include your name, address and email address.

The Bedford Citizen welcomes free of charge:

- ◆ News articles from any volunteer writers, provided we judge the articles are relevant to our readers and the facts can be substantiated

- ◆ Position papers from political incumbents and candidates provided these position papers clearly state that person's position and they do not attack any other party

Our policies are as follows:

- ◆ *The Bedford Citizen* does not share or sell its mailing list information.
- ◆ Paid advertising is not accepted.
- ◆ Except when identified as editorials, letters to the editor or opinion pieces, stories will contain only facts that can be verified. Writers should expect to be asked to provide documentation before articles are published.
- ◆ All submitted articles must deal with issues relevant to Bedford's residents and not exceed two pages, as published in this format.
- ◆ Only one letter to the editor or opinion piece will be accepted from a single household during any 30-day period.
- ◆ Public service announcements will be included as space allows.
- ◆ The staff of the Bedford Citizen will be the final judge.
- ◆ Submissions must be received at least 72 hours prior to publication.
- ◆ Submissions should be sent to Be.A.Citizen@earthlink.net and must include the author's name, address, email address and phone number.