The Georgetown Fire Department opened the city’s fifth fire station and an adjacent training facility in October. Fire Station 5 at 3600 D.B. Wood Road houses an engine company and a ladder truck company. The new station includes three truck bays, administration offices, dorms and offices for fire operations staff, a kitchen, common room, and a weight training room. Fire Station 5 will help with the geographic coverage of the City and Emergency Services District and will enable shorter response times in the north-west part of the city.

The new facility complex also includes a small one-story training building and a four-story training tower and burn building for live-fire training and technical rescue instruction.

City Boards and Commissions

The City of Georgetown is accepting applications to fill vacant or expiring terms on the City’s boards or commissions. The deadline to apply for one of these volunteer positions is January 11. Terms begin in March. Information and applications are available at www.georgetown.org.

Holiday Closings

City offices closed Dec. 24, Dec. 25, and Jan. 1, 2013

No solid waste or recycling pickup on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1.

For both holidays: Tues. pickup slides to Wed. Wed. slides to Thurs. Thurs. slides to Fri. Fri. slides to Sat.

Randy Stump Named Top Municipal Judge in Texas

Municipal Court Judge Randy Stump was named Outstanding Jurist by the Texas Municipal Courts Association at their annual meeting this year. Judge Stump was recognized for his “outstanding contribution to the fair and impartial administration of justice” by a committee of his professional peers in the association.

The award for Judge Stump is notable since there are more than 1,400 municipal judges in Texas. Judge Stump has served as the municipal court judge for the City of Georgetown since 1999.

In addition to his duties as municipal court judge, Stump also serves as judge for Georgetown’s Teen Court program, which won the spotlight award as the best teen court program in the state in 2008 and 2010. According to the association, “Judge Stump is recognized not only as a role model for youth before his court, but also to judges and court support personnel observing his work. He is a reminder of the value of firm, yet enthusiastic, leadership from the bench.”

Look for this billboard on Interstate 35 in north Austin. It’s part of a City marketing campaign to let people know about the holiday lights and shops on the Most Beautiful Town Square in Texas.
Sun City Holiday Home Tour, Nov. 30, Dec. 1 and 2
The 12th annual home tour features six homes professionally decorated for the holidays. Tours are November 30 from 4 to 7 p.m., December 1 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and December 2 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets are $10 in advance and $15 at the door of homes on the tour. Purchase tickets in advance from any Sun City Kiwanis member, at the Sun City Kiwanis office, at the Visitors Center, or at First Texas Bank in Sun City. Proceeds support children and youth programs. Details at www.SunCityKiwanisGT.org.

Night Before Stroll, November 30
Dessert with the Grinch, Christmas Bistro Courtyard, and performances from 6 – 9 p.m. Get all the details at TheGeorgetownSquare.com.

Christmas Stroll, December 1
The 32nd annual Christmas Stroll on the downtown Square with more than 200 art and craft vendors, Bethlehem Village, horse-drawn covered wagon rides, Santa’s North Pole and Toy Shop, Whoo-village with free activities for children, and Snowzilla, a 25-foot tall snow slide. The Stroll parade starts at noon. Festival hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Details at www.TheGeorgetownSquare.com.

Georgetown Symphony Society, December 2
The Georgetown Symphony Society presents a “Sounds of the Season” concert with the Temple Symphony Orchestra in its annual holiday musical treats. Held at 4 p.m. in the GHS Klett Center, the guest artists are soprano Teri Johnson and Metropolitan Opera dramatic baritone Robert McFarland. Tickets ($27, $20, $5) are available at both Georgetown HEB stores, the Sun City CA office, and at the door the afternoon of the concert. Details at www.gsstx.org or call (512) 864-9591.

Candlelight Service, December 6
A holiday tradition in the chapel at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Southwestern University. The service includes carols and music from the university choirale.

First Friday, December 7
Downtown live music, shops, and restaurants are open late. See the Downtown Georgetown Association website at TheGeorgetownSquare.com.

The Palace Theater
Miracle on 34th Street, The Musical, Dec. 7 – Dec. 30
Details at GeorgetownPalace.com, or call (512) 869-7469.

Bring Toys for Blue Santa to Stroll Parade
Bring an unwrapped toy for Blue Santa to the Christmas Stroll Parade at noon on Saturday, December 1. Toys will be collected along the parade route. Following the parade, toys may be dropped off at All Things Kids on the Square.

Blue Santa is a program of the Georgetown Police Department. This year, Blue Santa expects to give toys to more than 1,800 children. New, unwrapped toys also can be brought to donation barrels at many Georgetown locations.

Checks to “CPAAA Blue Santa” should be sent to the Georgetown Police Department, c/o CPAAA Programs, 809 MLK Jr. Street, Georgetown, TX, 78626. Donate $15 or more to Georgetown Blue Santa and you’ll receive a collectable Blue Santa Elf lapel pin.

For details, including application information and special donation events, visit the Blue Santa website at BlueSanta.Georgetown.org.

Trout Fishing Derby, December 8
Georgetown Parks and Recreation is sponsoring this day of fun at San Gabriel Park from 7 to 10:30 a.m. Participation is open to all, but you must be registered in order to win prizes. Any trout caught wins a prize! (Prizes are first come, first serve.) Tickets are $8. A fishing permit is required for participants 17 and older. Registration begins at 7 a.m. on December 8 (no registration before Dec. 8). Bait is available for purchase at the event. Prizes include fishing rods, tackle boxes, lures, and gift certificates.

Georgetown Heritage Society Holiday Home Tour, December 8 and 9
See six beautiful historic homes in Georgetown decorated in holiday style. Tours are noon to 5 p.m. each day. Tickets are $15 each online at www.GeorgetownHeritageSociety.com or in advance at The Georgetown Antique Mall, Diva, The Escape, the Visitors Center, and Sun City CA Office. On the days of the tours, tickets are sold only at Grace Heritage Center (811 S. Main Street) for $18 each. For details, call (512) 869-8597 or email georgetownhhs@verizon.net.

Pancakes and Pajamas Holiday Breakfast, December 8
This new family-friendly event by the Georgetown Heritage Society is 8:30 to 10 a.m. at Burger University, 119 W. Seventh Street. Kids wear holiday pajamas for breakfast along with story time, holiday crafts, a free gift, and pictures with The Elves. Tickets are $5 each through December 1 and $10 each Dec. 2 – 8. Tickets and details at www.GeorgetownHeritageSociety.com.

Holiday Movies on the Square, December 14, 21, and 28
Bring the family to a classic holiday movie on a Friday night on the downtown Square. Movies start at 6:30 p.m. See VisitGeorgetown.com for details.

Breakfast with Santa, December 15
The 12th annual pancake breakfast with Santa Claus is at the Community Center, 445 E. Morrow Street, from 8 to 11 a.m. Proceeds benefit needy families in Georgetown. Sponored by the Sun City Rotary, Extended School Enrichment Program and the Georgetown Fire Department.