

GEORGETOWN CITY Reporter



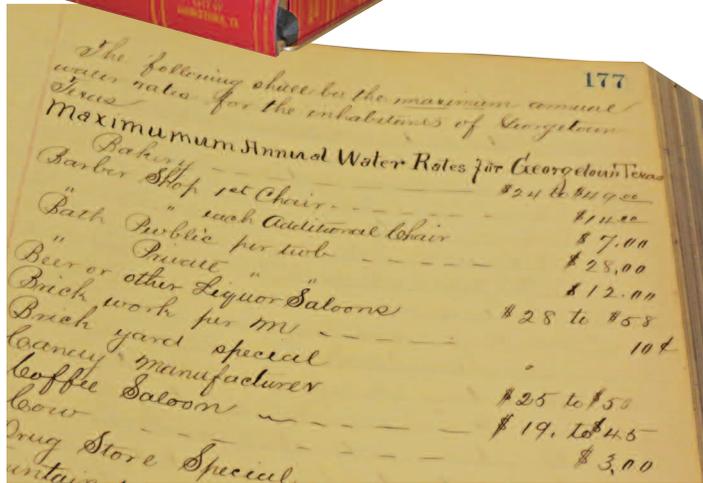
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May 2013

Preserving history

Oldest City Record Book



The City Secretary's office recently finished a project to preserve Georgetown's oldest volume of City records. The volume and a records digitization process will be highlighted at a city council meeting on May 14 to coincide with preservation month, an annual program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Robyn Rye, records coordinator with the City Secretary's office, says she was aware of the significant responsibility of sending the unique historical volume to the preservation company in Dallas. "I felt like a mom sending a kid to summer camp," she says. Other nineteenth-century City record books will be similarly preserved.

The book is a handwritten record of city council meeting minutes, resolutions, ordinances, and other business with entries from 1878 through 1884. Each entry was written in ornate script with a fountain pen.

In addition to preserving historic record books, Rye is scanning and digitizing City of Georgetown records so they will be available through the City website. The digitization process is not complete, but many historical ordinances, resolutions, and minutes are available on the City Secretary's page on the City website. Through optical character recognition, records that were typed and not hand written, which date back to the 1940s, are searchable by topic or document type.

District 7 City Council Election May 11

Voters in District 7 on the east side of Georgetown will choose between incumbent Tommy Gonzalez and challenger Brenda Baxter in the May 11 city council election. Two seats on the council representing districts on the northwest side of the city are unopposed: John Hesser for District 3 and Steve Fought for District 4.

The last day to register to vote in the May District 7 election is April 11. Early in-person voting is April 29 – May 7. For more information about voting locations and hours, go to georgetown.org or wilco.org.

Citizen Survey

Every two years, the City of Georgetown conducts a survey of city residents. Results inform the development of city budgets and project plans by the city council and city staff.

Highlights:

Top issue in the next five years?

- 40% managing growth/development
- 18% clean/available water
- 17% traffic transportation

What change would make Georgetown a better place to live?

- 20% improve traffic situation
- 18% managed growth/development
- 15% greater retail selection
- 11% add public transportation

Someone in household used in the last year?

- 62% San Gabriel Park
- 61% Georgetown Public Library
- 40% hike and bike trails

- 34% Recreation Center
- 15% City swimming pools

How safe do you feel in Georgetown?

- 73% very safe
- 26% somewhat safe

Most important aspect of economic growth?

- 29% job creation
- 18% regional shopping centers
- 16% downtown retail

Roughly 18% of your total tax bill goes to the City, with remainder going to schools and county. With that in mind, **rate the overall quality of city services vs. taxes paid.**

- 25% excellent
- 55% good
- 17% fair

To see a complete report on the Citizen Survey, go to georgetown.org.

Survey sample demographics:

- 56% lived in Georgetown < 10 years
- 58% retired
- 27% age 18 – 54
- 58% age 65 or older
- 86% own their own housing

Survey by University of Wyoming Survey and Analysis Center of 986 Georgetown households (647 paper/mail, 339 online). Survey sample is not representative of the Georgetown population.

May Events

Farmers Markets

Sun City Market, Tuesdays
9 a.m. to Noon,
2 Texas Drive at Social Center
Georgetown Market, Thursdays 3:30 - 6:30 p.m.,
Church of Christ,
1525 W. University Ave.
Details at www.gtfma.org

National Day of Prayer, May 2

Georgetown Community-Wide Prayer Event for the National Day of Prayer is 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the GISD Football Stadium, 2211 N Austin Ave. A pre-event concert with Price Hill is 6 to 6:30 p.m. This community event is free and open to the public.

First Friday, May 3

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

Brunch in the Park, May 5

A Cinco de Mayo brunch honoring mothers at the Community Center, 445 E. Morrow Street in San Gabriel Park, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Serving French toast and trimmings, ham, fruit cup, coffee, and juice. Sponsored by the Georgetown Noon Lions Club to benefit GISD scholarships, Texas Lions Camp, and early childhood vision screening.

Faith in Action Georgetown Choral Concert, May 9

Annual concert held at 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 1333 W. University Avenue. Proceeds help provide transportation and support services for Georgetown area seniors. For details, go to www.faithinactiongeorgetown.org.

Georgetown Reads! One Amazing Thing

May is Georgetown Reads! month. *One Amazing Thing*, our 2013 book selection, finds nine individuals trapped in the basement of an Indian visa office in an unnamed American city when an earthquake strikes. Conflicts are inevitable as they work together to survive. When tensions rise to the breaking point, each person tells a story—one amazing thing—that sets each character apart and brings them closer together.

Copies of *One Amazing Thing* by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni are now available at the Georgetown Public Library. Join us for the many events we have planned May 13 – 18. Go to georgetownreads.georgetown.org



for specific details on our Skype Q & A with the author, cooking demonstration, emergency communication, and One Amazing Evening finale.

Good Neighbor Fund: Donate Online

The Good Neighbor Fund is a program sponsored by Georgetown Utility Systems and administered by The Caring Place that allows utility customers to donate financial assistance to those facing a medical crisis or other emergency.

The demand for assistance far exceeds the funds available. Last year, the Good Neighbor Fund provided \$18,557 in utility bill assistance to City of Georgetown utility customers, which is only 20 percent of the total utility bill assistance of \$91,109. The remaining \$72,552 for utility bill assistance was revenue

generated by The Caring Place from the resale shop, donations, and fundraising.

Your donation to the Good Neighbor Fund can help The Caring Place do more to address the huge need for emergency assistance.

Customers can make a monthly pledge online and change or discontinue that pledge at any time. It only takes a minute to fill out the online pledge form at billing.georgetown.org/gnf. Call Customer Care at (512) 930-3640, or email billing@georgetown.org for details.

Pools Open Memorial Day Weekend

Outdoor pools open for the summer season on May 25 for the Memorial Day weekend and will be open through Labor Day on September

2. Regular summer hours begin May 28. For more information and pool hours, go to aquatics.georgetown.org.

May Events

Market Days, May 11

Handmade arts and crafts, food, and more on the Square from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Details at TheGeorgetownSquare.com.

The Palace Theater

Thoroughly Modern Millie,
May 17 – June 16
Details at GeorgetownPalace.com, or call (512) 869-7469.

Memorial Day Weekend Concert, May 26

The 36th Infantry Division Band from Camp Mabry performs in this free public Sunday concert at 7 p.m. at the Georgetown-Williamson County Veterans Memorial Plaza, 2 Texas Drive in Sun City. The concert includes a variety of Big Band and patriotic songs. Details at www.sctxca.org.

Memorial Day Ceremony, May 27

The 10th annual Memorial Day Ceremony starts at 9:30 a.m. on Monday at the Veterans Memorial Plaza, 2 Texas Drive. The ceremony, which is free and open to the public, honors men and women who gave their lives while serving in the U.S. military forces. The 36th Infantry Division Band will perform. Details at www.sctxca.org.

Memorial Day Monday, May 27

City facilities closed

Normal solid waste and recycling collection

The *Georgetown City Reporter* is a publication of the City of Georgetown Public Communications Department, P.O. Box 409, Georgetown, Texas, 78627. For questions or comments, contact Keith Hutchinson, public communications manager, at (512) 930-3690 or by email at keith.hutchinson@georgetown.org.

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