Fire Department Expands EMS

The Georgetown Fire Department is set to become the primary Emergency Medical Services provider in Georgetown and in Emergency Services District 8 on October 1. The move to fire department-based EMS follows a unanimous vote by the City Council in March.

The Fire Department hired 12 paramedics in February, including those with experience in other cities. By October 1, the Fire Department plans to have 32 paramedics on staff. The department also will deploy four Transitional Response Vehicles for medical transport. These dual-purpose vehicles carry equipment for fire and rescue response as well as medical equipment for treatment and transport of patients. In addition, Georgetown will transition its fire engines to be advanced life support vehicles.

The shift also means that the City of Georgetown 911 center will handle all emergency dispatch for fire, police, and EMS in the Georgetown area, reducing call transfer delays and improving operational efficiency.

Changes for EMS in Georgetown are the result of two years of discussions between the City and Williamson County. “As we do every day, we will continue to work cooperatively with Williamson County,” says Georgetown Fire Chief John Sullivan. “For fire or medical calls to 911 in the Georgetown area, 75 percent are medical. This transition makes sense in providing the best emergency care for our residents.”

David Morgan Starts as City Manager

David Morgan started as city manager for the City of Georgetown on May 4. The City’s top administrator was selected by the City Council in a unanimous vote in March.

“David is an accomplished professional and dynamic leader who will embrace the community and provide a strong vision as we continue to grow,” said Mayor Dale Ross. Morgan was chosen for the position following an extensive national search with 71 applicants from 25 states. Morgan has more than 19 years of local government experience including most recently as deputy city manager for Richardson, Texas. Morgan received a bachelor’s degree in communication arts from Austin College and a master’s degree in public administration from Texas Tech University.

City Annual Report

An annual report for the City of Georgetown 2013 – 2014 fiscal year is now available online and in print copies. The report, titled Shaping Our Future, highlights projects, initiatives, and financial information for the fiscal year that started on October 1, 2013 and ended on September 30, 2014. The report is available online at files.georgetown.org/annualreport. Free printed copies are available at the Georgetown Public Library, 402 W. Eighth Street.

HOT Grant Applications

The Convention and Visitors Bureau Board is accepting applications for Hotel Occupancy Tax grants for events occurring between October 1, 2015 and September 30, 2016. The deadline to apply is July 31, 2015. Grants are awarded to arts, cultural, and sporting events that bring overnight guests to Georgetown hotels or bed and breakfast inns. For an application, go to files.georgetown.org/hot-funds-reimbursement-grant-application.
Discover the latest news about the city at www.georgetown.org

July 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

The Palace Theater
Hank Williams: Lost Highway,
July 17 – Aug. 16
Details at GeorgetownPalace.com, or call (512) 869-7469.

First Friday, July 3
Downtown live music, shops, and restaurants are open late. See the Downtown Georgetown Association website at TheGeorgetownSquare.com.

Sertoma July 4 Celebration
The annual Independence Day July 4 celebration sponsored by the Georgetown Sertoma Club in San Gabriel Park is on Saturday. Children’s parade with bikes and wagons starts at 11 a.m. by the low-water crossing. Entertainment at the gazebo starts at noon and lasts until the fireworks begin after dark. Visit craft vendors, a children’s area, and food vendors. Admission is free.

Market Days, July 11
Handmade arts and crafts, food, and more on the Square from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Details at TheGeorgetownSquare.com.

Movies in the Park, July 16
Parks and Recreation will be showing the movie Paddington (PG) starting at 8:45 p.m. This free family event is at the gazebo in San Gabriel Park.

Fleet Services

ASE Blue Seal of Excellence

For the seventh time since 2009, the City’s Fleet Services shop was awarded the ASE Blue Seal of Excellence. Georgetown is one of only 11 municipal vehicle shops in the state that are currently recognized.

The ASE Blue Seal of Excellence program recognizes the competence of the City’s auto repair shop technicians who service more than 500 vehicles and pieces of equipment and hold a total of 97 professional certifications. ASE certifications are third-party assessments of technicians based on their knowledge and skills.

Georgetown Public Library

Summer Reading Programs

The Summer Reading Program for children—Every Hero Has a Story—continues at Georgetown Public Library. July’s events include a Martial Arts Demonstration for kids (ages 0 -12), Superhero Training for Tweens (ages 9 -12), and an Art Party for teens (ages 12 - 18). Pick up a Summer Reading calendar at the children’s desk or see details online at library.georgetown.org. Children logging reading hours or number of books read earn chances to win an iPad Mini.

Fireworks Prohibited

The Georgetown Fire Department reminds residents that City of Georgetown ordinances prohibit the use of fireworks in the city limits of Georgetown or within 5,000 feet of city limits. Use of fireworks could result in fines of up to $2,000.

Areas within 5,000 feet of the city limits include, but are not limited to, the neighborhoods of Cedar Hollow, Crystal Knoll, Escalera, Fountainwood, Indian Creek, Logan Ranch Road, Lost Rivers, Oak Crest, Olde Oak Estates, Serenada, Shady Oaks, Turtle Bend, Woodland Park, and areas along D.B Wood Road.

To see a map of the area where fireworks are prohibited, go to files.georgetown.org/fireworks-ban-map. To report the unauthorized use of fireworks in the city limits, call the Georgetown Police Department at (512) 930-3510.

Summer Concerts

Music on the Square

Music on the Square continues on Friday nights from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Bring a camp chair for these free concerts on the Courthouse lawn.

Here’s the July lineup:

July 3 – Ricky and Darrell Boen playing classic country
July 10 – Ken, Chris, and Karen playing John Denver favorites
July 17 – Escape Band playing classic rock
July 24 – Bill Harris playing Neil Diamond favorites
July 31 – Cactus Groove Jazz Trio

Concerts are sponsored by the Georgetown Convention and Visitors Bureau, Williamson Museum, and the Downtown Georgetown Association.