

Georgetown Reporter



Caption below

News from the City of Georgetown and Georgetown Utility Systems

City Events

Summer Concerts

Music on the Square

Enjoy free live music on the Courthouse Square each Friday night in July from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Music on the Square summer concert series. Here's the lineup for July:

- July 1 - Square Tones
- July 8 - Bluegrass Showmen
- July 15 - Wilson String Band
- July 22 - Bob Case
- July 29 - Jimi Lee

For the full summer lineup, go to VisitGeorgetown.com.

Sunset Movie Series

The Good Dinosaur - July 23

Bring some snacks and enjoy the family movies this summer brought to you by Georgetown Parks and Recreation. On Saturday, July 23 come see the movie *The Good Dinosaur* at San Gabriel Park near the gazebo. The movie starts at sunset, which is about 7:45 p.m.

Sertoma July 4 Celebration

The annual Independence Day July 4 celebration sponsored by the Georgetown Sertoma Club in San Gabriel Park is on Monday. 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.

Independence Day Holiday

City offices will be closed on Monday, July 4. There will be regular solid waste and recycling collection on July 4.

Garey Park

In May, Jack Garey presented a check for \$5 million to the city for the development of Garey Park. The donation follows the 2004 announcement by Jack and Cammy Garey that they were donating their 525-acre ranch on Leander Road to the city to become a public park. Design work is now underway and construction should begin late this year. The ranch donation, plus \$5 million and the remainder of the estate, is the largest gift ever received by the city. Pictured above are Glen Garey, Doris Garey, Jack Garey, and Kimberly Garrett, parks and recreation director for the city.

Teen Court Wins State



Four teams of attorneys from Georgetown's Teen Court program went to the state teen court competition in Southlake in April. One Georgetown team with Ben Brody, Caroline Jones, and Jacqueline Massey, took first place in the state competition. Three more teams from Georgetown each placed in the top ten. All 12 teens involved in the competition are students at Georgetown High School and were honored at the City Council meeting on April 26.

Pictured in the photo, left to right in front row, are Jacqueline Massey, Keely Martinez, Kathrynne Thomas; middle row: Ricardo Romero, GHS Coordinator liaison, Kristina Neitsch, Tyler Tidwell, Sydney May, Caroline Jones, Philip Lloyd, Timbery Abell, and Tina Heine, Teen Court Coordinator; back row: Ben Brody, Robert May, local attorney and trainer, Judge Randy Stump. Competition team members not photographed are Bethany Wilson, Jackie Madden, Ethan Skipper and substitute member Brent Whalen.

Georgetown Utility Systems

Recognition for Reliability and Safety



Georgetown was one of 29 electric utilities in the nation to earn Reliable Public Power Provider, or RP3 status, earlier this year by the American Public Power Association. Georgetown earned platinum level recognition for providing reliable and safe electric service to its customers. The recognition was based on a review of the electric utility operations by a panel of 18 experts from across the nation.

The RP3 designation recognizes public power utilities that demonstrate proficiency in four key disciplines: reliability, safety, workforce development and system improvement. In total, 219 of the more than 2,000 public power utilities nation-wide and eight in Texas hold the RP3 designation.

In addition to the RP3 honor, the Georgetown electric utility also won a safety award at the APPA meeting. The award is based on an annual evaluation of the utility's safety program.

"Our results are that we had 78,000 exposure hours—that means 78,000 hours that the linemen are out there working in a high-voltage environment, and still coming back safe," says Glenn Dishong, utility director. "We had no incidents. We actually took first place." This year 107 utilities nationwide were recognized for the Safety Award of Excellence by APPA.

2015 Annual Report

A 2015 annual report for the City of Georgetown is now available. Titled *The Power of Innovation*, the report highlights projects, initiatives, and financial information for the 2014 – 2015 fiscal year that started October 1, 2014 and ended September 30, 2015.



The report is available online at files.georgetown.org/annualreport. A limited number of free printed copies are available at the Georgetown Public Library, 402 W. Eighth Street.

Sprinkler System Checkup

As we head into summer, sprinkler systems are used more often which increases the risk for failures in the different components. A broken nozzle, sprinkler head or an underground PVC pipe could waste thousands of gallons of water in one month. Unfortunately, many customers never know there is a break since the irrigation system runs at night or while they are away.

To make sure you don't have a break that is wasting water, perform a visual inspection of all irrigation zones on a regular basis. You may need to look at your irrigation controller owner's manual as a refresher on how to manually operate the irrigation zones. Run each irrigation zone for three to five minutes to make sure the equipment is operating properly and to make adjustments to the spray areas. And remember to replace your controller battery regularly to ensure your irrigation cycles continue to run smoothly in the event of a power flicker or outage.

Hot Tips to Keep Cool

Did you know that you use three to five percent more energy for each degree that your air conditioner is set below 75 degrees Fahrenheit? Here are some ways to keep cool this summer without boosting your utility bill.

- A programmable thermostat saves energy and money by running a scheduled program and allows you to avoid manual changes.
- Turn off your air conditioner before you leave home for an extended period of time. Or at least turn up the thermostat.
- Ceiling fans use less electricity than air conditioners or furnaces.
- Opening windows in the summer mornings and evenings costs nothing, but it can save on energy.
- Heat up the food, not the house. A microwave is much more efficient at heating things up than an oven.

For more tips on energy conservation, go to conservation.georgetown.org.