NEWS FROM THE CITY OF GEORGETOWN



Note: This newsletter was printed Aug. 19. All information is current through that date. Due to the pandemic, City-sponsored Halloween events, National Night Out, and the rescheduled Red Poppy Festival, have been canceled in October. Please visit bit.ly/COVID19GTX for the latest COVID-19 pandemic information.

CITY EVENTS



Art Hop XIII

Art Hop is an annual statewide competition that celebrates
Texas artists sponsored by the Georgetown Art Center. Accepted artworks will be displayed in one of two locations: at the Georgetown Art Center and the Georgetown Public Library. The exhibit runs from Oct. 2-31. The competition categories include 2D abstract, 2D representational, 3D, and photography. For more information, visit library.georgetown.org/art.

City Council election

The City Council election typically held annually in May was postponed to Nov. 3 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The election includes races for Georgetown mayor, and City Council districts 2 and 6.

Candidates for District 2 include Shawn Hood, Lisa King, and Jason Wirth; candidates for District 6 are incumbent Rachael Jonrowe and Michael Walton; and candidates for mayor are Larry Brundidge, Jonathan Dade, and Josh Schroeder. Incumbent Mayor Dale Ross is not seeking re-election.

For updates about the city council election, go to **georgetown.org**. View council district maps at **maps.georgetown.org**. Polling places, dates, times, and safety protocols are available at **wilco.org/elections**.

IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES:

OCT. 5: Last day to register to vote (postmarked)

OCT. 23: Last day applications for Ballot by Mail must be received

oct. 13-30: Early in-person voting period

NOV. 3: Election Day



Fire Prevention Week

As Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 4-10, approaches, Georgetown Fire Department encourages residents to "serve up fire safety in the kitchen."

Cooking fires—especially unattended cooking—are the leading cause of home fires, which is why this year, Georgetown Fire is teaming up with the National Fire Protection Association to encourage Georgetown residents to focus on cooking safely to prevent fires at home.

FOLLOWING THESE STEPS CAN HELP KEEP YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY SAFE:

- 1. Learn how to properly extinguish a grease fire with a lid, not water or fire extinguisher.
- 2. Stay focused and alert while cooking.
- **3.** Keep flammable items—oven mitts, wooden utensils, and food packaging—away from your stove top.

The fire department will have educational materials, including fire safety videos available on its website for Fire Prevention Month in October.

For more information about Fire Prevention Week and cooking safety, visit **fire.georgetown.org** or contact Georgetown Fire at **512-930-3473**.





Do you know where your water shut-off valve is located?

A water leak in your home can quickly become a disaster. Damage to carpets, wood flooring, cabinets, and sheetrock can be costly. In addition to the obvious damage a water leak can cause, it can wreak havoc on your water bill.

Knowing where your main water shut-off valve is located and how to turn it off can save hundreds, if not thousands of dollars in repairs. The water shut off will be outside near the house, and often within view of (or even inside) the City's water meter box. It will likely be inside a plastic box with a green cover. However, different builders use different equipment. Talk to your builder or landscaper if you don't know where to find your valve.

For assistance, call Customer Care at **512-930-3640** or visit **gus.georgetown.org/water**.

Sign up for E-bills

The City's water and electric utilities online billing portal provides residents a way to manage usage and payments more effectively. Customers can log on to the customer self-service portal located at gus.georgetown.org/customer-care/bill-information/new-customer-portal. Once logged in, customers can pay bills, track and compare usage, and receive timely information and updates. By creating an account, customers can sign up to receive billing and service notifications and set up auto pay by debit/credit card or bank draft. Call Customer Care at 512-930-3640 for assistance

Mobility Georgetown Bond 2021

Thank you to all who took time to share your priorities for improving transportation in Georgetown through our survey. The 16-member Mobility Georgetown 2021 Citizen Advisory Committee will use your feedback to help select projects for a bond election in May 2021. Once the citizen advisory committee has narrowed down the project list, we'll ask for your feedback again. For more information and updates, check bonds.georgetown.org.

Cyber security tips

October is Cyber Security Awareness Month. Everyone should take ownership in protecting their information and securing their devises.

HERE ARE SOME STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO PROTECT YOURSELF:

- **1.** Use "passphrases" instead of simple passwords.
- 2. Use 2-factor authentication or multi-factor authentication whenever available.
- 3. Be wary of clicking on links or downloading anything that comes from a stranger or that you were not expecting.
- 4. Keep all software on internet connected devices up-to-date to reduce risk of infection from ransomware and malware. Configure your devices to automatically update or to notify you when an update is available.

- **5.** Protect your work, music, and photos by making an electronic copy and storing it safely.
- Every time you sign up for a new account, download a new app, or get a new device, configure the privacy and security settings.
- **7.** Think before posting about yourself and others online.
- **8.** Limit what you do on public WiFi, and avoid logging in to key accounts.

Your voice matters

2020 CENSUS

If you haven't had the chance yet, you can still respond to the 2020 Census by Oct. 1. The easiest way is online at **my2020census.gov**. To respond by phone, call **1-844-330-2020** for English or **1-844-468-2020** for Spanish. It takes just a matter of minutes, and all your answers are safe and confidential.

Every person who is counted represents \$1,500 in funding for new roads, schools, hospitals, housing loans, and more. And the census count is the basis for your political representation at the local, state, and federal level.

In August and September, census takers are following up in person with homes that have not yet responded. All census takers are wearing masks and following safety protocols.



For more information about cyber security, visit **pd.georgetown.org/ crime-prevention**.

