



Georgetown Reporter



Blue Santa

The Georgetown Police Blue Santa program is asking residents to help make the program a success. Blue Santa asks to please consider making monetary contributions in lieu of unwrapped toys, but unwrapped toys are always appreciated.

Checks to "CPAAA Blue Santa" should be sent to the Georgetown Police Department, c/o CPAAA Programs, 3500 D.B. Wood Road, Georgetown, TX, 78628. Blue Santa applications will be accepted until 11:59 p.m. Dec. 11. For application and donation information, email bluesanta@georgetown.org or visit BlueSanta.Georgetown.org.

Breakfast with Santa | DEC. 23

The 23rd annual Breakfast with Santa is from 7:30 to 11 a.m. at the Community Center, 445 E. Morrow St. Enjoy pancakes and sausage made by Georgetown firefighters and served with juice and coffee. Children can have a picture taken with Santa and get up close to a fire truck. Tickets are \$6 at the door or in advance from Sun City Rotary Club members. Tickets for children age 12 and younger are free with an adult. The event is sponsored by the Sun City Rotary, Georgetown ISD, and the Georgetown Fire Department. Proceeds benefit children and families in need in Georgetown during the holidays. For more information, visit bit.ly/3qQA7FJ.



Christmas Stroll | DEC. 1-2

The 42nd annual downtown Christmas Stroll will feature artisan, craft, and food vendors, as well as children's activities, live entertainment and a parade at 10 a.m. Saturday. Festival hours are Friday from 5 to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. See details at thegeorgetownsquare.com or on Facebook at facebook.com/GTXChristmasStroll. The Stroll is brought to you by the Downtown Georgetown Association with support of the City of Georgetown.



Be a Super Water Saver and prep your irrigation system for winter

During the winter months when grasses are dormant, the City encourages you to turn off your irrigation system. You'll save on water and lower your utility bill. When you turn off your system for the winter, it's also a good time to replace the battery on the controller and cover outdoor hose bibbs and back flows to prepare for freezing temperatures. For more tips on water conservation and to take the water conservation pledge, visit water.georgetown.org.

Help your neighbors this holiday season

Consider rounding up your utility bill to help our neighbors in need. The Good Neighbor Fund is 100 percent supported by customer donations and is administered by The Caring Place. Customers who donate can set a designated monthly amount or choose to round up their utility bill to the next dollar each month online in the customer payment portal. With either option, the amount will show up on utility bills as a line item. Make a donation, change it, or discontinue at any time in your utility online billing portal at gus.georgetown.org/customer-care-paying-your-bill. Customers experiencing difficulties paying their bills can find information about utility assistance at gus.georgetown.org. Questions? Contact Customer Care at customer-care@georgetown.org.



GET MORE INFORMATION

Use the QR code to find additional news from the City of Georgetown and sign up for the Georgetown Weekly.

Holiday string lights recycling

The City has again partnered with Texas Disposal Systems to continue its free holiday string-light recycling program to Georgetown residents. Drop-off broken or old holiday string lights Nov. 27 through Jan. 31 at one of three collection stations, including the Georgetown Municipal Complex, 300-1 Industrial Ave.; or Georgetown Public Library, 402 W. Eighth St. Sun City residents may also drop off old or broken string lights at the Cowan Creek Pavilion, 1433 Cool Spring Way, in Sun City. Only string lights will be accepted. For more information, visit recycle.georgetown.org.



Collectible Christmas Ornament

A limited-edition collectible brass Christmas ornament featuring the Williamson County Courthouse in recognition of the City and County's 175th anniversary will be available in early November. The cost of the ornament is \$35. The 17th annual ornament sale is a project of the Georgetown Main Street Program. Ornaments may be purchased at the Visitors Center, 103 W. Seventh St.

All proceeds fund Main Street projects and the Façade Fund Grant Program.

Holiday Closings | DEC. 25-26 & JAN 1

City offices closed Dec. 25-26 in observance of the Christmas holiday and Jan. 1 for New Year's Day. There is no solid waste collection Dec. 25 or Jan. 1. Collections slide one day. To see your solid waste collection schedule, visit texasdisposal.com/waste-wizard.

Prepare your home for winter weather

Now is the time to start getting your home prepared for winter weather. Here are some tips:

- Check caulk and weather-stripping on doors and windows
- Learn how to shut off water valves
- Clear rain gutters; repair roof leaks; and cut away tree branches that could fall on a house or other structure
- Gather supplies in case you need to stay home for several days without power

Learn more at ready.gov/winter-weather.



Use holiday lighting safely.

Throw away light strands with frayed or pinched wires. Turn off all your holiday lights before going to bed or leaving your home.

Holiday fire safety

Nearly half of holiday decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source. As you deck the halls this season, be fire smart.

- Inspect holiday lights for frayed or pinched wires before putting them up.
- Water your Christmas tree every day. A dry tree can catch on fire easily.
- Consider using battery-operated flameless candles.
- Make sure lit candles are in stable holders where they cannot be knocked down easily and keep away from pets and children.
- Overloaded electrical outlets are a major fire hazard.
- Some lights are for indoor or outdoor use only—not both. Be sure to check packaging before installing them.

By following a few simple practices and precautions, you can create a fun and perfectly fire-safe holiday for you and your loved ones. And remember, have working smoke alarms in your home and create a home escape plan. For more information and free fire-safety resources, visit usfa.fema.gov.

Art in the Library

The Georgetown Public Library, 402 W. Eighth St., hosts two art shows through Dec. 31. In the Second Floor



Galleries, Central Texas Pastel Society's "Impressions of Georgetown," depicts the landscapes, cityscapes, people, and places of our surrounding area in the vibrant pastel medium.

In the First Floor Café Gallery, Janet Fulk, Martha Kull and Lily Ramphal Naley host a joint exhibit that offers the imaginings of three local female artists in "Imagination will get you Everywhere." The exhibit will include artwork in a variety of techniques and mediums including oil, acrylic, watercolor, and collage.

Learn more about this show and other art exhibits at the library at library.georgetown.org.