

MARCH 2003

## Upcoming Events

### March 17th

City Council Meeting  
7:00pm Civic Center Auditorium

### April 7<sup>th</sup>

Monday with the Mayor  
7:00pm Civic Center Auditorium

### April 12th

Easter Egg Hunt & Dance  
5:00pm-10:00pm JV Pavilion

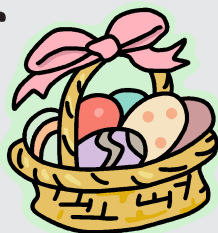
### April 13th

American Legion Post#324  
5:00pm Civic Center Auditorium

### May 3rd

Municipal Election

## Easter Egg Hunt & Dance



Recreation and Events will be hosting the annual Easter Egg Hunt and Dance at Clark Henry Park. The event will be Saturday, April 12, 2003. The Easter Egg Hunt will be from 5 p.m. until 6 p.m., with a dance to follow from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. Please plan to attend! Pizza will be served for just 25cents per slice!

## City Council Actions from February

At the February meeting, the City Council approved a call for the general election on May 3, 2002, which includes the Mayor's position and council positions 2 and 3. City Council also approved conducting a joint election with the Jersey Village Crime Control and Prevention District for the referendum on the continuation of a half-cent sales tax for the Jersey Village Crime Control and Prevention District. The City will be using the new electronic voting system, E-Slate.

City Council discussed possible demolition of a structure at 15801 Tahoe. Council is aware of the existing deteriorated condition of the structure but decided to defer additional discussion and action until the property owner presents his plan to repair the structure at the March 17<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. Council approved Ordinance 03-03, which prohibits the on-street parking of commercial vehicles except during a business transaction. Council is in the process of revising the current definition of what constitutes a commercial vehicle. Below are the other actions approved by Council at the February 17, 2003 meeting.

- Approved the minutes of the January 20, 2003, regular session Council meeting.
- Approved the Appointment of Megan Sharp to the Parks and Landscaping Committee.
- Approved Ordinance 03-09; raising the speed limit on State Highway 290, in accordance with the State, from 55mph to 65mph.

- Authorized the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Pate Engineers and Harris County to complete a preliminary engineering report for the extension of Jones Road.
- Approved Resolution 03-02; providing for the adoption of an inter-jurisdictional comprehensive all hazard mitigation plan.
- Adopted amendments to current fiscal year budget.
- Passed Resolution 03-03 declaring expectation to reimburse general fund expenditures from future debt issuance related to the \$5 million street bond program.
- Passed Resolution 03-04 authorizing the city manager to declare expenditures from the general fund to be reimbursed by future debt issuance. this will allow the city to conduct for engineering design of the street bond program and pay for such services prior to issuance of the general obligation bonds.
- Called a joint public hearing on four specific issues is to be held with the City Council and the Planning and Zoning Commission in conjunction with the next regular session Council Meeting on March 17 at 7:00p.m.

*(continued on page 3)*

### Also in this issue:

#### Capital Improvements

A note from Parks & Landscaping

Who Has the Right-of-Way?

JVFD Celebrates 50 Years of Service

# Capital Improvements

Each year, the City of Jersey Village allocated hundreds of thousands of dollars for maintaining and improving the infrastructure that sustains our community. Our Public Works Department reports on the progress of these efforts at the monthly Council Meeting, and the STAR will include this update as a regular feature.



TASK/PROJECT	%COMPLETE	COMMENTS
Philippine Street Reconstruction	100%	Hamilton Circle surface drainage has not been resolved by the Engineer, they are waiting for the survey information.
Lakeview/Rio Grande Reconstruction	100%	Completed
Lakeview Water-Honolulu to WOB	100% Design	Project Bid Date March 4, 2003
Chichester Drainage Improvements	100% Design	Project Bid Date March 4, 2003
Lakeview Paving- Honolulu to WOB	100% Design	Project Bid Date March 4, 2003
Fire Station project	70%	Exterior of the building is being temporarily dried in to facilitate the completion of the interior drywall. The roof construction continues and is about 80% complete. Estimated completion date for project is March 30, 2003.
Senate Avenue / Landscaping and Lights	50%	Conduit has been installed and wire is being pulled. The sprinkler system is completed. The fill dirt will start to be delivered next week. As soon as the wire is pulled the poles will be installed.
Repaint Elevated Storage #1	100% Design	Project will be re-bid April 2003
Castlebridge connection	100% Design	This Harris County Project scheduled to bid March 18, 2003.

## Now is the Time...

It's that time of year again to brighten up the city, starting right at home! Did you know that landscaping does not only add to the overall appearance of your home and neighborhood, it can increase the value of your home?



During the month of March, new shrubs, trees, grass, and flowers should be planted in order for them to take root and flourish through the spring and summer seasons. Here are a few tips to consider:

- Remove old shrubs that are too close to the house
- Choose low maintenance shrubs such as hawthorns or clevera
- Create wider flowerbeds to allow space to add rocks for drainage
- Plant contrasting colors such as aztec grass against green shrubs
- Replace old rotting flowerbed timbers

- Fill in bare spots with grass palettes or thin out tree limbs to allow more sunlight through
- Get rid of pesky weeds in flowerbeds and in your yard.

Please do your part by maintaining and beautifying your yard. You will be glad you did and so will your neighbors.

The Parks and  
Landscaping Committee

## Sandy's Corner

### **“Who Has the Right-of-Way?”**

By: Officer S. Joachim

Most of us in this great country often have difficulty distinguishing what exactly are entitlements, a right and simply a privilege. Despite what most of us believe, the fact of law is you don't have a right to drive. Driving is a privilege granted to you by the state of Texas. The state gives you a license and the state can take it away. What brings all this up? Well... the simple answer is the number of people who have called asking, “who has the right of way when passing a parked car?” Several streets are in question, including Village Dr. and Lakeview Dr. I have been asked on several occasions as to “who has the right-of-way when vehicles are passing parked cars.” The law states: *An operator MAY NOT drive on the left side of the center of the roadway in passing another vehicle unless:*

*(1) The left side is clearly visible and free of approaching traffic for a distance sufficient to permit passing WITHOUT interfering with the operation of the passed vehicle or a vehicle approaching from the opposite direction.*

*(b) An operator passing another vehicle shall return to an authorized lane of travel: before coming within 200 feet of an approaching vehicle or as soon as practicable.*



Now for the rest of us what does this say? If you desire to go around a

vehicle, and your vehicle has to cross over into on coming traffic, you must wait until it is clear for you to pass. Anytime your vehicle crosses over the center of the roadway, into on coming traffic, the oncoming traffic has the right of way. Sorry – be mad, but we cannot change state law and unless the roadway is clear for you to pass the parked vehicle, you are in the wrong!

I hope this has answered everyone's questions about passing parked vehicles. I know several people, including myself, have fallen victim to “near misses”. Learn more about safe driving, there are a number of ways to continue your education. Brush up on the “Rules of the Road”. Get a copy of the driving handbook. Take a safe driving course. Try your insurance agent or your local auto club for more information on courses in your area. If you have any farther questions or concerns about safe driving, please feel free to contact Officer S. Joachim at 713-466-5824. ■

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*(council actions continued)*

The first item of the public hearing between City Council and the Planning and Zoning Commission will receive comments regarding a proposal to amend the City Zoning Ordinance to allow for a multi-family senior housing facility in district G. This facility would be located on a six-acre site at Castlebridge and Saville.

The facility in question will be an age-restricted development for senior citizens which requires an additional public hearing for granting a specific use permit as a multi-family senior housing development.

The second issue open for public comment is to amend the regulations relating to the parking of recreational vehicles and parking on unpaved surfaces in zoning districts A, B, C, C-2, or M.

The third issue open for public comment is to amend the regulations relating to prohibiting the parking of commercial vehicles, trailers, other than recreational vehicles, and towed vehicles in front and side and back yards. ■

## *Around the Village...*

### **Notes from the City**

The City Hall Offices have relocated to the Municipal Government Center at 16327 Lakeview; however, the mailing address will remain 16501 Jersey Drive. A drop box has been installed in the front door at this location for utility payments.

### **Get your Child's Car Seat Inspected**

Weekday Appointments only,  
Jersey Village Emergency Services,  
16327 Lakeview Drive.

### **Election Time**

City Council Election to be held May 3<sup>rd</sup> for Council members place 2 and 3 as well as the Mayoral election. The polls will be open from 7:00 am until 7:00 pm at the Civic Center at 16327 Lakeview.

Early voting: weekdays, April 16-29, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, with special extended hours on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 am until 1:00 pm at the City Secretary's office at 16327 Lakeview.



## **JV Emergency Services to Celebrate Golden Anniversary**

**Jersey Village Emergency Services is looking for information on previous members. The department will soon be celebrating 50 years of service to the community and we want to include as many of our former members as possible in this observance. Please call the Fire Department to provide names, addresses, phone numbers or any information you can contribute to our search. Contact Chief Hutchens or Judy Landriault at 713-466-2130.**

### **JV Police Department**

Calls for Service	446
Vehicle Theft	6
Aggravated Assault	0
Burglary, business	0
Burglary, vehicle	2
Disturbance	39
Narcotics, felony	3
Minor accidents	66
Major accidents	10
Alarms	66
Suspicious person	42
Traffic control	26
Traffic hazard	33

### **JV Emergency Services Department**

Building Fires	6
Auto Fires	1
Other Fires	2
Rescue/EMS incidents	47
Hazardous Conditions	4
Service Calls	2
Smoke or odor calls	8
False alarms/cancelled enroute	5
Total Ambulance Transports	30



**Watch for a Special Edition of the Star featuring Flood Control Updates coming soon!**