

★ Jersey Village Star ★

October 2007

Harris County Tax Office Takes Over City Property Tax Collections

The Harris County Tax Office will take over Property Tax collection for the City of Jersey Village starting October, 2007. All payments will be processed by the Harris County Tax Office. Recent delinquent tax bill notices will refer taxpayers to the county as well.

For individual property tax assistance, please visit any of the 15 Tax Office branches or call **713-368-2000** for more information. Also you can obtain online help anytime by visiting the Tax Office Web site at www.hctax.net

Please note that you will not receive a tax bill from the City of Jersey Village. **Your city tax bill will appear as a separate line on the tax bill you receive from Harris County.** Council approved this change to provide a better service to residents while lowering overall costs the tax payer.

Statistics for Aug 2007 JV Police Department

Calls for Service	97
Vehicle Theft	5
Aggravated Assault	0
Burglary, business	6
Burglary, residence	2
Burglary, vehicle	1
Disturbance	61
Narcotics, felony	0
Minor accidents	58
Major accidents	15
Alarms	66
Suspicious person	66
Traffic control	2
Traffic hazard	9

JV Emergency Services

Building Fires	2
Auto Fires	3
Other Fires	1
Rescue/EMS incidents	61
Hazardous Conditions	4
Service Calls	3
Smoke or odor calls	1
False alarms/cancelled enroute	25
Total Ambulance Transports	48

Important City Phone Numbers

Emergency Call	911
Main Number	713-466-2100
City Manager	713-466-2108
City Secretary	713-466-2102
Fire Dept	713-466-2130
Police Dept	713-466-5824
Permits	713-466-2110
Public Works	713-466-2133
Code Enforcement & Animal Control	713-466-2129
Water Billing & Taxes	713-466-2111
Municipal Court	713-466-2124
Golf Course	713-896-0900
City Pool	832-467-1032
JV STAR	713-466-2108

For more information visit
www.jerseyvillage.info

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Sandy's Corner

Safety on Halloween

by Officer S. Joachim, special to the Jersey Village Star

Kids love Halloween! They get to dress up and get lots of free candy. Give your kids some precious Halloween memories that they'll have for life. There are many ways to keep your child safe at Halloween, when they are more prone to accidents and injuries. The excitement of children and adults at this time of year makes them forget to be careful. Simple common sense can do a lot to stop any tragedies from happening.

Make sure your kids dress up safely:

- Pick out or make a costume that will be fire proof with their name and address attached.
- Keep costumes short to prevent trips, falls, and other bumps in the night.
- Make sure kids wear light colors or put

reflective tape on their costumes.

- Trick-or-treaters should be in-groups so they aren't a tempting target for real-life goblins. Parents should accompany young children.
- Tell children to stop only at familiar homes where the outside lights are on.
- Make sure someone has a flashlight and pick well-lighted streets.
- Make sure kids know not to enter strange houses or strangers' cars.

TREATS

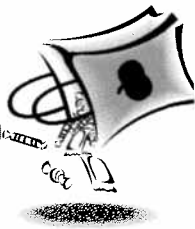
- Kids need to know not to eat their treats until they get home.
- Check out all treats at home in a well-lighted place.
- What to eat? Only unopened candies and other treats that are in original wrappers. Don't forget to inspect fruit and homemade

goodies for anything suspicious.

Parents and adults should:

- Establish a curfew for older children.
- Prepare for trick-or-treaters by clearing porches and placing jack-o-lanterns away from doorways.
- Drive slowly.
- Exit driveways carefully.

Make Halloween a fun, safe and cheerful time for your kids and they will carry on the tradition that you taught them to their own families some day!



Telemarketing Fraud

by Officer S. Joachim, special to the Jersey Village Star

Telemarketing fraud is a billion dollar business in the United States. You can protect yourself by being aware of the most common types of fraud, by checking out the companies before doing business and by taking the time to carefully consider any purchase. Senior citizens are a favorite target; they make up 30 percent of telemarketing fraud victims.

Once a consumer has lost money to a fraudulent telemarketer, it is difficult to get it back. Telemarketing con artists are quick to close up shop and move to another city or state to avoid police. The best way for a consumer to protect

himself or herself is to be able to identify fraudulent telemarketers before becoming a victim. A telemarketer may be a con artist if:

- The telemarketer uses high-pressure tactics.
- The offer sounds too good to be true.
- The consumer must act "now"—or the offer will no longer be good.
- The telemarketer is unwilling to provide references or written material.
- The telemarketer asks for a credit card or checking account number for any reason other than to make a purchase. (i.e. for "verification" purposes, to pay shipping and handling, redemption fees, gift taxes on a purportedly "free" gift or prize, etc.)

Under Texas Law, a telemarketer may not call your residence before 9 a.m. or after 9 p.m. on a weekday or Saturday, or before noon or after 9 p.m. on Sunday.

DON'T give your credit card number over the phone unless you know the company is reputable. The same applies to bank account numbers and other personal finance information. When you receive an unsolicited telephone sales call, remember—they called you; you didn't call them.

Think About Fire Safety

Safety is one of the most important aspects of life that a lot of people just take for granted. It is not something we think about regularly. In the fire service we are always thinking about safety. Everyday we are helping the citizens we are always thinking about our own safety. We do this so we can return to our families safe and sound. Safety is so important we wonder if you have thought about your safety. How many of you have checked to make sure your smoke detectors are in working order? Have you cleaned them or changed the battery in them? How about a fire escape plan? Has your family developed an escape plan and discussed all the ways of getting out of your home in the event of a fire? **October is fire prevention month.** In the next month your children and grandchildren will be learning all about fire safety. Jersey Village Fire Department will visit nearly 5,000 students and teach them about fire safety. You too can learn from them. The day they come home after learning about fire safety, take a moment to ask them what they learned. They just might teach you something you don't already know. If you do not have children or grandchildren and you need information, feel free to stop by the fire station and pick up information on safety around your home.



Upcoming Events:

October is Fire Prevention Month

- We will visit around 5000 students this month in their classrooms.

October 26 - Fall Frolic

- From 6:30 - 9:30 join us for dancing, games, contest, food and fun!

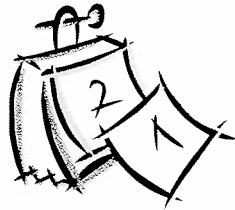
October 27 - Fire and Police Departments Open House

- Come join us for fire truck rides, live car fire and jaws of life demonstrations and much more.

December 7-9 and 13-16 - Santa is Back

- The fire department fundraiser will again have Santa, Mrs. Claus and their elves arrive in style on fire trucks ready to deliver gifts.

We have limited space available. Reservations have opened and slots are filling fast! Call 713-466-2130 for details!



*Mark
Your
Calendars!!*

Curb Drainage

There are many houses in the Jersey Village area that have curb drains in the front yards. The Public Works Department has noticed an increase in such drains around the city. Failure to acquire a permit for the curb drains is a violation of City Ordinance. A citation may be issued to the owner of the property or resident living at the address if a permit is not obtained through the City's permit office. This type of drainage requires the approval of the Public Works Director. There is also a selected procedure for this type of drainage. The City requires that curbs be saw cut and not broken with a hammer. The saw cutting procedure better protects the rest of the curb from future cracking.

Are You Registered With 211?

The 211 phone number was created to assist persons with special needs. Harris County defines a person with special needs as anyone who will need assistance with evacuation. Are you a person with special needs? There are two ways to find out if you are a person with special needs. Visit www.211.org or **phone 211 direct**.

The City of Jersey Village is encouraging residents with special needs to register today. As with any situation you want to be prepared. If you know someone who may need assistance getting out of harms way, encourage them to call 211. Operators are standing by 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to take your call.

Fall Frolic to be held on October 26

Mark your calendars and don't forget to come to the Fall Frolic on Friday, Oct. 26 from 6:30-9:30 p.m.! This event will be held at the Pavilion at Clark Henry Park (by the swimming pool) and features a dance with a DJ; Halloween costume contest and games, all with prizes; and hot dogs, chili dogs, nachos, frito pie and sodas. We'll be looking for you!



Parks Review Committee Formed

In the August City Council meeting, Council approved an Ordinance to create a Parks Review Committee. The City of Jersey Village is now accepting applications for this five-member committee.



The Parks Review Committee has been established to study and make recommendations regarding the development of future parks for Jersey Village. The City has access to several tracts of land within the city limits that could be utilized for different types of parks. This committee will receive input from different groups and determine the greatest needs of the citizens of Jersey Village. There are numerous types of parks created by other governmental entities such as skateboard, dog, sporting fields, water, and playgrounds. What does our city need and what will be most beneficial to the residents?

If you would like to serve on this committee, you must fill out an application and return it to the City Secretary. The committee should complete their recommendations within six months, so this is not expected to be an ongoing committee. It is expected, however, that the committee will be quite active and meet numerous times within those six months. If you are interested in obtaining an application, please call the City Secretary, LaKeisha Cannon-Scott, at **(713) 466-2102**. Alternately, you can obtain an application through the city's web site at www.jerseyvillage.info. From the home page, highlight the "City Secretary Office" link, then the Board Application Link.

Fire and Police Stations Open House

Join us for this annual event, taking place on Saturday, October 27 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the fire and police stations.

Both departments will have station tours, special demonstrations, refreshments and fire truck rides for children of all ages! Also, the Blood Mobile will be located at the fire station to receive anyone wanting to participate in the gift of life. See you there!



City Council Actions

- Approved minutes from the July 16, 2007, Regular Session held at 7:00 p.m. and Minutes of the August 13, 2007, Special Session held at 6:00 p.m.

- Approved ORDINANCE NO 2007-30 – Amending Section 4 of Ordinance 90-31; designating the City Secretary as Records Management Officer

- Approved ORDINANCE NO 2007-31 – Amending the FY2006-2007 Budget (Ambulance Billing)

- Approved ORDINANCE NO 2007-32 – Amending the FY2006-2007 Budget (Tahoe Replacement)

NEW BUSINESS

- Approved RESOLUTION NO 2007-32 – Red light cameras/contract with ATS

- Approved RESOLUTION NO 2007-33 – Authorizing a contract with Brooks

And Sparks, Inc. for engineering services for paving, water line and storm sewer improvements

- Approved RESOLUTION NO 2007-34 – Collection of ad valorem property taxes by Harris County

- Approved ORDINANCE NO 2007-33 – Amending chapter 62 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Jersey Village, Texas by continuing to tax certain goods-in-transit

- Approved ORDINANCE NO 2007-34 Creating a Parks Review Committee; appointing members and a chairperson of said committee

Discussion ensued among Council and Staff regarding a possible water rate increase to recoup the additional costs from the rate increase from the City of Houston and the Harris County pumpage fee.

Recycle Pick Up

Recycle Pick Up remains

The City of Jersey Village has two months of recycle pick up remaining in the trial

project with Tascon.

Recycling Fun Fact:
Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a TV for three hours – or the equivalent of a half a gallon of gasoline.

We are averaging about 25% participation each week. In order for this to be successful and continue after the 6-month

trial period we need to increase participation to 50%. For more information please e-mail Courtney at cmr@ci.jersey-village.tx.us

Remember that recycle pick up is curbside by 7:00 a.m. every Wednesday. Please have paper in black plastic bags and aluminum and plastic in a white plastic bag.



Recycle



Recycling Fun Fact:
Every Sunday 500,000 trees could be saved if everyone recycled their newspapers.

Jersey

Village

Star

City of Jersey Village
16501 Jersey Drive
Jersey Village, TX 77040

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