

Jersey Village Star

VENDORS WANTED for Holiday in the Park 2012

The City of Jersey Village Recreation & Events Committee announces there is still time to request and return an application to obtain booth space to be a vendor at this popular event. It will take place on Sunday, December 2, 2012, from 1:00PM - 4:00PM, at Carol Fox Park, corner of Senate and Jersey. There is no booth space fee for residents of the City

of Jersey Village, and non-residents pay a booth space fee of just \$10.00.

If you have a craft, product, business or service that you would like to showcase and promote please request an application by email from Barbara or Doris: JVHolidayinthePark@gmail.com. ★

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**Statistics for September 2012
JV Police Department**

Calls for Service	1228
Vehicle Theft	2
Aggravated Assault	5
Burglary, Business	0
Burglary, Residence	6
Burglary, Vehicle	6
Disturbance	52
Narcotics, Felony	2
Minor Accidents	110
Major Accidents	14
Alarms	87
Suspicious Person	248
Traffic Control	3
Traffic Hazard	32

JV Fire Department

Building Fires	2
Auto Fires	0
Other Fires	1
Rescue/EMS Incidents	63
Hazardous Conditions	3
Service Calls	18
Smoke or Odor Calls	0
False Alarms/Cancelled Enroute	4
Total Ambulance Transports	34



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Emergency Call	911
Main Number	713.466.2100
City Manager	713.466.2108
City Secretary	713.466.2102
Fire Department	713.466.2130
Police Department	713.466.2123
Permits	713.466.2110
Public Works	713.466.2133
Code Enforcement	
& Animal Control	713.466.2129
Water Billing	713.466.2111
Municipal Court	713.466.2124
Golf Course	713.896.0900
City Pool	832.467.1032
JV Star	713.466.2108

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Jersey Village Star

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**For more information visit
www.jerseyvillage.info**

Art's Article

By: Art Petitt

Holiday Safety Tips for Home and Away

The holiday season is one of the most anticipated times of the year. Unfortunately, criminals also look forward to the season as more people are out shopping and leaving their homes unattended during holiday travel. Combine this season of opportunity with yet another holiday in a bad economy, and crime rates for things such as burglary, burglary of a motor vehicle, etc. are particularly high.

SAFETY TIPS AROUND THE HOUSE

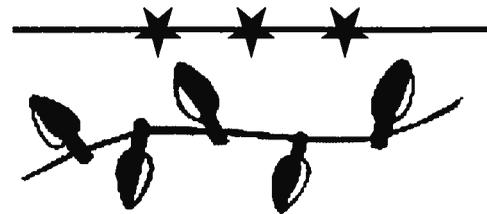
- Before traveling, contact our

dispatcher and ask to have your home placed on our "house watch." JV Police Department 713-466-5824

- Try to make your house look lived in while you are away. Consider picking up some inexpensive timers for lights and radios and have them come on at times when you are normally home.
- Ask a friend or neighbor to pick up your mail.
- Leave a spare key and emergency telephone number with a trusted neighbor or friend.
- Remove garage door openers from cars parked in the driveway.
- Lock garage entry doors.
- Do not leave remnants of Christmas morning by the curb.

HOLIDAY SHOPPING SAFETY TIPS

- Use the buddy system. It is always a good idea to shop in pairs as thieves are less likely to target two or more individuals.
- Lock your gifts in the trunk.
- Consider moving your car when you drop off presents.
- Don't flash your cash.
- Ask for a security guard escort.
- Keep credit and debit cards close.
- Have keys ready and don't take your time getting in your car.
- Park in well-lit areas. ★



Safety While Shopping

The Holiday Season is around the corner. It's the day after thanksgiving and you are standing in a line waiting for the doors to open. You're thinking, how many other people are going to try and get the same thing I want to buy? I am going to run as fast as I can and make sure it is mine. The door opens, the crowd rushes in and you seem like you're in a bee hive trying to make your way in and out.

What most people fail to do during the busiest shopping time of the year is think of their personal safety. How many of you ever thought what if an emergency occurred while I was in this store? What would I do? How would I get out?

Most businesses are required by code to maintain multiple exit doors

for emergency egress. Plan ahead this year. Visit the stores you plan on shopping during the busy holiday season and plan your escape route in the event of an emergency. We talk with your children about having two ways out of your home in an emergency during our school visits. You too, should be thinking about the secondary ways out of the businesses you visit.

Emergencies come at undesirable times and in places you do not expect. Thinking out side the box and preparing yourself gives you the upper hand and just may help save your life this holiday season! ★

Happy Holidays!

**Jersey Village Fire Department
Fire-Rescue-EMS**

Jersey Village Christmas Decorating Contest 2012

On Monday and Tuesday, December 17th & 18th, from 7:00pm-10:00pm, judges will be out looking for the best decorated Jersey Village homes. There is plenty of time to start checking those lights and yard displays to make sure everything is in good working order.

To promote our city pride and community involvement, please take the time to discuss with your neighbors the holiday decorating theme for your street or section. Don't have a theme? There is still time! Discuss what might be a good option for your street or section. It does not matter if that theme is already in use elsewhere.

Perhaps one neighbor has woodworking or painting skills for themed yard signs, another may have tools such as a ladder on which to put up holiday lights. Let's promote neighbor helping neighbor, street by street, section by section. Happy decorating! ★

City of Jersey Village Notice of Charter Review Commission Public Hearing

NOTICE is hereby given that a public hearing will be conducted on November 8, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. by the City of Jersey Village Charter Review Commission in the Civic Center Meeting Room at 16327 Lakeview Drive, Jersey Village, Texas. The purpose of the public hearing is to give all interested residents of the City of Jersey Village the right to appear before the Commission and provide any recommendations that they may have for amendments to the City's current Charter.

The City of Jersey Village public facilities are wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. Requests for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact ADA Coordinator at (713) 466-2102 or FAX (713) 466-2177 for further information. ★

Lorri Coody, City Secretary
City of Jersey Village, Texas

City Offices Closed for the
Thanksgiving
Holiday

City offices will be closed on Thursday, November 22, 2012 and Friday, November 23, 2012 in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. The Police Department, Fire Department and Emergency Medical

Budget Wrap-Up

By the time you read this article, city council will have passed the budget for the next budget year and set the tax rate. Budget years in Jersey Village run from October 1 to September 30. This is similar to the federal budget. I will not post specific numbers in this article, as the city's budget is over 300 pages in print and difficult to reduce to a simple set of figures. The approved budget will be available for viewing on the city's web site. The budget will also be available for viewing at city hall. Passage of the budget represents the culmination of a six-month process that involves multiple public hearings and workshops. All of the meetings and workshops are open to public attendance.

Next year's proposed budget is in keeping with the conservative nature that characterizes budgets of the recent past. In light of the economic environment of the past several years, (both national and regional) the amount of equipment proposed for purchase remains modest. Staffing levels have remained flat, and there are no proposals to add positions in the near future. At the direction of city council, staff adjusted expenditures to match flat or slightly declining revenues. Should economic conditions worsen, or the recovery is extended for

Service personnel will be on duty for emergencies and other City personnel in other departments will be on-call, if required. City offices will re-open for business at the

several years, Jersey Village will be able to weather the storm better than most.

Several proposed projects are noteworthy. The city will continue with Phase 3 of its street reconstruction program. The entire cost of Phase 3 (\$ 6.5 million) will be paid from existing cash reserves. By paying cash for this project, the city avoids millions of dollars of interest payments that would arise had the project been funded through the issuance of debt. In addition, the city will spend a considerable amount meeting unfunded mandates promulgated by state and federal legislators. The city will spend nearly one million dollars over the next three years replacing its entire radio communications system to meet federal requirements. New federal security requirements require the replacement of Police Department laptop computers. Those of you who attend council meetings on a regular basis will appreciate the scheduled replacement of civic center chairs.

Each budget is constructed with a set of assumptions in mind. For the budget that was just passed, the city assumed a slightly improving economic condition. The city remains committed to living within its means, while providing a superior level of service to Jersey Village residents. ★

regular time on Monday, November 26, 2012.

There will be regular residential garbage collection on Friday, November 23rd. ★



Jersey Village Star

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Tax Exemptions for the City of Jersey Village

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTIONS:

In 2003, members of the City of Jersey Village Council approved a homestead exemption of 8% of the appraisal value with minimum exemption of \$5,000.

AGE 65 OR OLDER AND DISABLED EXEMPTIONS:

Individuals 65 and older qualify for an additional \$50,000 exemption and disabled homeowners can apply for an exemption of \$20,000. If the individual qualifies for both, he or she should choose one or the other.

VETERAN DISABILITY EXEMPTION:

The amount of the exemption depends on the veteran's disability rating from the branch of the armed service and it is as follows:

Disability rating 10% to 30% - Exemption Amount \$5,000 from the property's value

Disability rating 31% to 50% - Exemption Amount \$7,500 from the property's value

Disability rating 51% to 70% - Exemption Amount \$10,000 from the property's value

Disability rating 71% to 100%- Exemption Amount \$12,000 from the property's value

RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION EXEMPTIONS:

Religious or charitable organizations may receive a property tax exemption for the year in which the qualifying property was purchased.

If you need more information on this subject or any other matter related to property taxes, please contact our Finance Department, our telephone number is 713-466-2100 and we will be glad to help you with any questions or clarification.

Other taxing entities (School District, Harris County Appraisal District, etc.) offer exemptions of varying amounts. You should contact these agencies directly to determine if you are eligible for an exemption.