



# Election Results

City news,  
features,  
and  
updates

This Week in Huntsville

November 6,  
2015

Many thanks to all who voted in the November 3 General Election! Ward Councilmembers Joe Emmett (Ward 1), Tish Humphrey (Ward 2), Ronald Allen (Ward 3), and Joe Rodriguez (Ward 4) were re-elected to terms running through the November 2017 general election.

The 4B Economic Development Corporation Sales and Use Tax was not adopted by the voters, so no change in the allocation of sales tax will occur. (Neither the adoption or failure of the measure would have affected the amount of sales tax collected, so there is no change there, either.)

The mayoral race resulted in no single candidate receiving a majority of all votes cast for the office, so a runoff will be held between Councilmembers Andy Brauning and Keith Olson. The City Council will meet in a special session on Tuesday, November 10, at 6 p.m., to discuss the scheduling details and consider an Election Services Contract with Walker County.

To meet all the requirements of the Texas Election Code and the City Charter, the runoff election will be held on either Saturday, December 5 or Saturday, December 12, 2015. Early voting will begin seventeen calendar days prior to the selected date, and run through the fourth calendar day before the election. Two 12-hour days of early voting will be designated during that period.

On Monday, November 16, at 6 p.m., an additional special session is scheduled to canvass the other November 3 results. Walker County Judge Danny Pierce will then swear in the Ward Councilmembers.

The City Council's regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 17, at 6 p.m., at which the City Council is expected to formally call the runoff election by ordinance.

Full runoff election information will be available in future issues of *This Week in Huntsville*, on the City's website, via social media, and announced at City Council meetings. To subscribe to the City's press releases, visit the home page at [www.huntsvilletx.gov](http://www.huntsvilletx.gov) and click on the blue Stay Notified button. Select General City News under the News Flash heading. For any questions, please contact the City Secretary's office at 936-291-5403 or [citysecretary@huntsvilletx.gov](mailto:citysecretary@huntsvilletx.gov).

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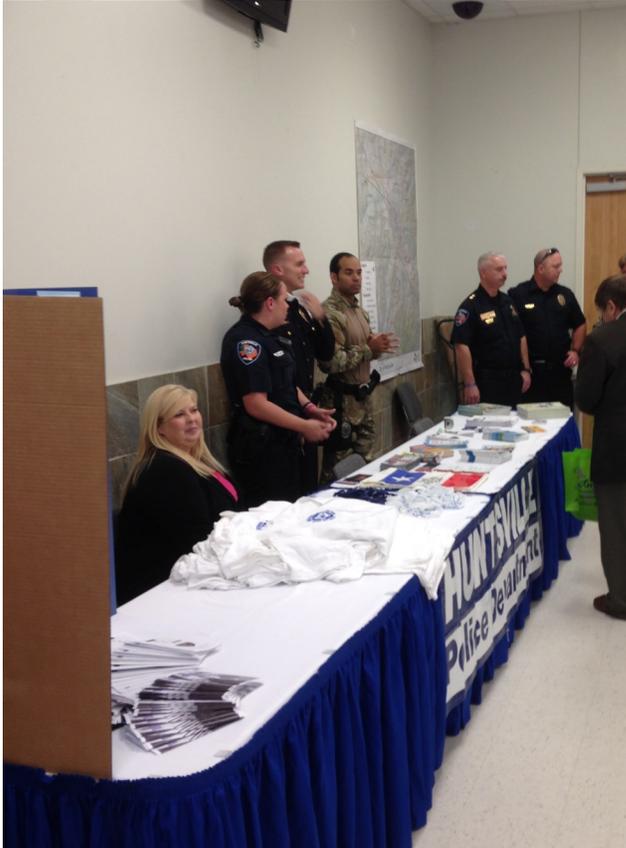
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# State of the City was great - were you there?

The City's third annual State of the City address was held on October 27 at the Walker County Storm Shelter, hosted by the Huntsville-Walker County Chamber of Commerce. Attendees enjoyed a delicious buffet by caterers from Huntsville Memorial Hospital and were able to chat with any of the nine Councilmembers. Each City department had displays on their work and services, and staff was available for questions and conversations.

City Manager Matt Benoit gave a presentation on the City's projects from the last year, and provided background and resources for voters to use in educating themselves on the 4B ballot proposal. Everyone appeared to have a great time, so we hope you will look for State of the City to add to your calendar next fall!



# Authors Night at HPL

Be at the Huntsville Public Library November 12 from 5:00-6:30 p.m. to meet eight local authors. Just in time for holiday shopping, the highlighted books will be available for purchase and signing. This second annual Authors Night is sponsored by the Friends of the Library and will feature a variety of subject matter and styles so you can find something for the children, young people, and adults in your life! Refreshments will be available and purchases will be by check or cash only.

## HPL Regular Activities & More!

### Holiday Closures

- Closing Nov. 13 from 2:00-5: for the Annual Staff Charity Bowling Tournament
- Closed Thursday, Nov. 26-29 for the Thanksgiving holidays.
- Closed Dec. 24-27 for Christmas, will reopen at 10:00 a.m. on Dec. 28
- Closed New Year's Day, January 1, 2016

**Holidays Around the World** - The second annual event teaches visitors about how various countries and cultures celebrate holidays in December, and will feature country booths sharing traditions, various cuisines, and take home crafts. Dec. 5 from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

**Christmas Music** - Jan Cole will be playing Christmas music at the library on Dec. 21 from 10:30 a.m. -noon. Refreshments will be served. Whether you prefer to sing along or just sit back and listen, come prepared to enjoy yourself. Requests of holiday favorites are welcome!

**Mother Goose Lapsit** - This new program is designed for parents and infants aged birth to 24 months, and features songs, toys, and stories on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. - Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30; Dec. 7, 14, 21, & 28; Jan. 4, 11, 18, & 25

**Story Time** - Every Wednesday and Friday at 10:45 a.m. Parents and their children are invited to enjoy songs, stories, and crafts with a new theme each session. Nov. 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20, & 25; Dec. 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, & 30; Jan. 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, & 29

**Drama Story Time** - Presented by the SHSU Dept. of Theater and Musical Theater. The program uses pantomime, rhythm, tableaux, and movement to present stories to elementary-aged students. Tuesdays from 4:00-5:00 p.m. Nov. 3, 10, & 17

**Lego Club** - An elementary-aged building program on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month from 5:00-6:00 p.m. Legos are supplied and participants are encouraged to build themed creations each session. Nov. 5 & 19; Dec. 3 & 15; Jan. 7 & 21

**Family Movie Night** - Doors to the Community Room open at 5:00 p.m. with the movie beginning promptly at 5:20 p.m. (5:30 in Dec. & Jan.) Family Movie Night is sponsored by the Texas Children's Health Plan Program. Complimentary drinks and popcorn are served and all viewers are encouraged to bring a pillow or blanket. Nov. 6; Dec. 11; Jan. 8

**Wii Friday** - An exciting new program for elementary through high school-age students to enjoy the library's Wii system. From 4:00-6:00 p.m. Nov. 20; Dec. 4; Jan. 22 & 29

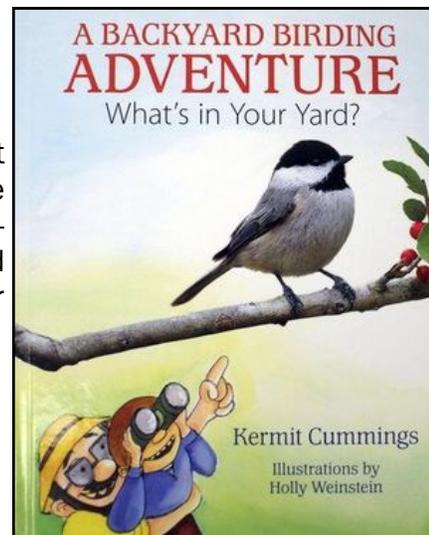
**Read with the Dogs** - The monthly Read with the Dogs program is held with help from Huntsville Pets Helping People. Children are invited to read to trained therapy dogs in 15-minute segments. Participants also receive a sticker with a picture of the dog they read to. Sign up for a session is available beforehand, but not required. 4:00-5:30 p.m. Nov. 16; Dec. 21; Jan. 18

**Healthy, Happy Holidays with Essential Oils** - Special event on Monday, Nov. 30 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in the Community Room. Melissa Gonzalez, EOS instructor, will demonstrate several "recipes" for attendees who will then be able to create their individual essential oil beauty product, natural health remedy, or cleaning product. Essential Oils have long been used for food preparation, beauty treatment, and health-care practices. Refreshments will be served, and everyone who attends will have an opportunity to win a grand door prize. Registration is required, so be sure to reserve your spot soon.

**Muralist Artist Richard Haas is coming to Huntsville** - HPL and the Huntsville Arts Commission invite you Thursday, Nov. 19 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. to meet muralist artist Richard Haas and view his works in the Community Room. Haas, known for his architectural murals, as well as his use of the trompe l'oeil style, will make remarks at 5:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

**Teen Seminar - "Getting the Job!"** - This teen seminar teaches teenagers the ins and outs of hiring and is presented with help from Workforce Solutions Huntsville. Sign-up is required. Nov. 18 at 4:30 p.m.

For more information about any Children's programs at the Huntsville Public Library, please contact Children's Coordinator Rachel McPhail at 936-291-5910; for adult programs, contact Adult Services Coordinator Mary Kokot at 936-291-5471; for teen programs, contact Teen Services Coordinator Ashley Newsome at 936-291-5912.



## Yoga Class at the Library

Are you looking for a convenient way to try yoga for the first time? Try attending our free Adult Yoga Program for Beginners at the Huntsville Public Library each Thursday from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. It's the perfect opportunity to learn and practice yoga techniques with other enthusiasts. All we ask is for you to bring your own mat or towel. The program will take place in the Library's Community Room on Thursday, December 3, 10, and 17 and will continue after the holidays on January 7, 14, and 21. Please consult your doctor before starting any new exercise program. Sign up at the library, online at [www.mylibrary.com](http://www.mylibrary.com), or call Mary Kokot at 936-291-5471.

# Are you connecting with the *City Connection*?

So you have subscribed to *This Week in Huntsville* and read every issue in its entirety (yea, we're proud of you!), but, could you still be missing something? Well, maybe...

Each month, the City includes the *City Connection* newsletter in each utility bill, distributes 500 copies around town in public places, and loads it to the City website at [www.huntsvilletx.gov](http://www.huntsvilletx.gov). If you do not receive a City utility bill (you live outside the city limits, your water is included in your rent, or your spouse handles all the bills and inserts, etc.), you probably want to see what you're missing in the *City Connection*.

Some information is also included in the *This Week in Huntsville* e-newsletter, but not all of it. Most months the *City Connection* contains expanded information on Solid Waste/Recycling guidelines and programs that you may want to clip and save to post on the refrigerator.

If you aren't seeing the *City Connection*, look for it monthly on the home page of the City website ([www.huntsvilletx.gov](http://www.huntsvilletx.gov)) under the Publications tab mid-page, or, better yet, subscribe to it like you have for this publication (from the [www.huntsvilletx.gov](http://www.huntsvilletx.gov) home page, click on the blue Stay Notified button).

## It's important to stay *Connected* with your city!

### CITY CONNECTION

Volume 12, Issue 2  
November 2015  
Calendar

#### November 2015

- 3 - Election Day - returns at City Hall from 7:00 p.m. (no Council meeting)
- 4 - Yard Waste Trimming Collection
- 5 - Planning Commission - City Hall at 12 p.m.
- 11 - Heavy Trash & Large Yard Waste
- 17 - City Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- 18 - Yard Waste Trimming Collection
- 19 - Planning Commission - City Hall at 5:30 p.m.
- 25 - Heavy Trash & Large Yard Waste
- 26-27 - Thanksgiving - City offices closed

#### December 2015

- 1 - City Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- 2 - Yard Waste Trimming Collection
- 3 - Planning Commission - City Hall at 12 p.m.
- 9 - Heavy Trash & Large Yard Waste
- 15 - City Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- 16 - Yard Waste Trimming Collection
- 17 - Planning Commission - City Hall at 5:30 p.m.
- 23 - Heavy Trash & Large Yard Waste
- 24-25 - Christmas - City offices closed
- 30 - Yard Waste Trimming Collection

Submit requests for Heavy Trash pick-up before noon on Wednesday, the week prior to pick-up, at 294-5796.

Learn more about City events at [www.huntsvilletx.gov](http://www.huntsvilletx.gov)

### Charity events hosted by the City help the community

Dr. Sherry McKibben, Director of the Neighborhood Resources Department, and Lindsey Owings, Program Administrator, coordinated the City's Charity Bowling Tournament, the United Way Campaign, and the United Way Socks and Undies Drive this past year. 2015 will mark the third year City staff has generously given their time and efforts to help raise funds for local non-profits that are vital to the residents of Huntsville. Employees have also donated non-perishable food items and money to help support these local charities.

The Annual Bowling Tournament, held each year in November, allows staff to assemble at the Huntsville Lanes Bowling Alley to enjoy friendly competition and win raffle prizes donated by local vendors. The tournament in 2014 raised \$12,124.34 to support the SAAFE House, Walker County Senior Citizen Center, Rita B. Huff Humane Society, and the Community Organization for Missionary Endeavor (COME Center). Non-perishable food items were donated to the Good Shepherd Mission.

During the fall of 2014, City staff pledged \$2,360.00 to the United Way of the Piney Woods through their Annual Giving Campaign. These funds are used to help Walker County non-profits with their programming.

For the second year in a row, the City has raised money to support the United Way Socks and Undies Drive, raising \$500.00 for this charity. The funds are used by the Huntsville Independent School District to assist students in need.

Dr. McKibben said, "We are very proud of the way City staff embraced these events. This is a way to give back to the community and we truly enjoy coordinating these events."

The City is proud to be a part of these positive impacts in the community.



### CITY CONNECTION

Volume 11, Issue 12  
September 2015  
Calendar

#### September 2015

- 1 - City Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- 2 - Yard Waste Trimming Collection
- 3 - Planning & Zoning Commission - City Hall at 12:00 p.m.
- 7 - Labor Day - City facilities closed - regular garbage collection
- 9 - Heavy Trash & Large Yard Waste
- 15 - City Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- 16 - Yard Waste Trimming Collection
- 17 - Planning & Zoning Commission - City Hall at 5:30 p.m.
- 23 - Heavy Trash & Large Yard Waste
- 30 - Yard Waste Trimming Collection

#### October 2015

- 6 - City Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- 7 - Yard Waste Trimming Collection
- 8 - Planning & Zoning Commission - City Hall at 12:00 p.m.
- 14 - Heavy Trash & Large Yard Waste
- 20 - City Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
- 21 - Yard Waste Trimming Collection
- 22 - Planning & Zoning Commission - City Hall at 5:30 p.m.
- 28 - Heavy Trash & Large Yard Waste

Submit requests for Heavy Trash pick-up before noon on Wednesday, the week prior to pick-up, at 294-5796.

Learn more about City events at [www.huntsvilletx.gov](http://www.huntsvilletx.gov)

### HPD encourages back-to-school driving safety

*Remember school zone speed limits, cell phone safety*

The Huntsville Police Department asks all citizens to be especially mindful with the beginning of the school year and the associated traffic concerns.

According to HPD Lieutenant Jim Barnes, the increased presence of Sam Houston State University students on main roadways and the renewed enforcement of school zones and the laws pertaining to school buses should be on the minds of all drivers.

"The Huntsville Independent School District, Sam Houston State University, and other local campuses will be back in session, and there will be a lot more traffic and kids to consider," Barnes said. "We're encouraging all citizens to be aware, plan accordingly when driving within the city, and be patient and cognizant of your surroundings."

Barnes said citizens should review the locations of school zones on their daily travel routes as well as the speed limits in effect during drop-off and pick-up hours.

"Every campus has protocol on entering and exiting," he said. "Officers are often available to assist and answer questions, but they can issue citations for those who violate traffic laws."

"When you're driving near school zones, remember to keep an eye out for children who will be walking or riding their bikes to school."

Within residential areas, drivers are also cautioned to observe the laws related to school bus stop signs, Barnes said.

"There are numerous bus stops throughout residential areas, and citations will be issued for those not stopping for school bus signs," he said. "When the stop signs on a school bus are out, vehicles are required to stop whether they are behind that bus or across the street from it."

"In these situations, please be patient, and consider alternative routes to avoid temporarily congested areas."

Finally, Barnes said drivers on Sam Houston Avenue and 11th Street should be ready for an influx of university student drivers who are unfamiliar with the Huntsville area.

"We're asking that drivers remember many incoming freshman may be driving in Huntsville for the first time," Barnes said. "Again, please be patient, but if there is a situation which you feel may require law enforcement attention, make us aware of it."

Citizens are reminded that the use of cell phones in school zones when active is against City ordinance and punishable by a fine not to exceed \$200. This regulation applies to both calling and texting, and the same fine applies to speeding in school zones.

Additionally, drivers should consider road construction projects that may be along their routes from home to schools, and be prepared for increased drive times.

For more information or with any questions, contact Barnes at (936) 291-5496.

#### Citizens: Please be mindful of school zone period speed limits

Huntsville High School: FM 2821  
7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m./3:15 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. - 35 miles per hour  
Huntsville Intermediate & Scott Johnson Elementary:  
US 190 - 7:30 a.m. to 8:05 a.m./3:15 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. - 20 mph  
Huntsville Elementary: 87 Martin Luther King Drive

Gibbs Elementary: 19th Street Stewart Elementary: 3400 Boettcher  
Sam Houston Elementary: 1600 7th St. Mance Park Middle School: 8th Street  
All five campuses: 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m./2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. - 20 mph

Speeding or use of cell phone is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$200.  
Call the Huntsville Police Department for more information at (936) 291-5480.

## Fall Fun Pack Raffles

ENTER TO WIN ONE OF SEVEN RAFFLES VALUED AT A MINIMUM OF \$250 EACH!

\$1 PER TICKET  
OR \$5 FOR 6 TICKETS

### DRAWING DATES:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31ST  
@ SCARE ON THE SQUARE  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5TH  
@ DOWNTOWN CHRISTMAS FAIR

For More Information Contact:  
City of Huntsville  
Main Street Program  
(936)291-5920  
mainstreet01@huntsvilletx.gov



# Getting the Job

This Job Seminar is  
brought to you by  
**Workforce  
Solution  
Huntsville**

November 18, 2015  
4:30 pm

### Sign-up is required

Being held at the Huntsville Public Library. Register online at [myhuntsvillelibrary.com](http://myhuntsvillelibrary.com). For more information, call Ashley Newsome at 291-5912.

## Downtown *Save the Dates*

Downtown Farmers Market - Fall Edition - Saturdays from 8 a.m.-noon until Thanksgiving (University Avenue between 11th and 12th Streets). Call the Main Street office at 936-291-5920 for more information.

Downtown Christmas Fair and Winter in the Park - Saturday, December 5, from noon-5 p.m. Booth applications are now available through the Main Street office at 936-291-5920.





# H2O in concert

SINGING GOSPEL AND OTHER FAVORITES



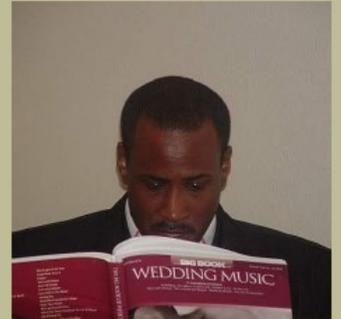
Isiak Holiday



George Oliver



DuWayne Holiday



Keith Williams

## SATURDAY

## NOVEMBER 7, 2015

PERFORMANCE AT 2:00 PM

ENCORE PERFORMANCE AT 5:30 PM

THE WYNNE HOME ARTS CENTER

1428 Eleventh Street

Huntsville, TX 77340

936-291-5424

[www.thewynnehome.com](http://www.thewynnehome.com)