



Mayor Eric Hogue

## FY 2014-2015 Budget Grows City Forward

One of the most important roles of the Mayor and the City Council is to discuss, debate, and determine the city's annual budget. Reviewing the needs of our departments to successfully run this community is a long, challenging process that begins in June and ends with an approved budget in September.

Thankfully our City Manager Mindy Manson, Finance Director Linda Bantz, the entire Finance Department and our department directors work each year to bring the council a balanced budget so we can gain understanding, ask questions, suggest ideas and gather feedback on the items needed to meet their departmental needs.

I am very pleased to announce we are once again lowering our tax rate by half a cent. While this is not a huge decrease, it shows a continued trend as the economy continues to grow stronger. This marks the third year in a row we have been able to lower the tax

rate, even though the 2005 bond package, when passed, projected continued increases in the tax rate. While we want to provide all of the services that our citizens have come to expect and reward our staff for a job well done, I strongly believe we have the responsibility to lower taxes within our community when possible.

I have said it before, but it is no secret that the City of Wylie has a high tax rate. The 2005 bond built our new city hall, recreation center, library, and Fire Station 3; funded improvements to Founders and Community Parks; and provided resources to reconstruct FM 1378 (Country Club),

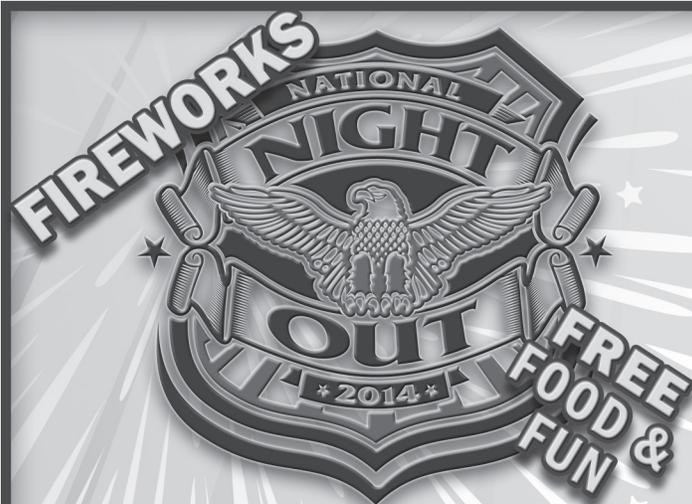
East Brown, and West Brown — needed projects citizens asked for and voted for, whose debt will directly impact the budget for many years to come.

As a growing community, we also have to meet the new demands of our citizens.

Over the last year, we focused on public safety through the purchase of much-needed equipment for our Police and Fire Departments, and planned ahead with the acquisition of land

See **BUDGET**, back page

*“This marks the third year in a row we have been able to lower the tax rate ...”*



**Tuesday, October 7**  
**Olde City Park**  
**5:30 pm - 8 pm**

**Fireworks • Police/Fire Displays**  
**Hot Dogs, Drinks & Kettle Corn • Bounce Houses**  
**Game Truck • Pony Rides • Face Painting**

The Wylie Police Department wants to hear about your National Night Out event or neighborhood activity. To register as a National Night Out participant, or schedule a visit from Wylie Police or Wylie Fire Rescue, please contact Crime Prevention Officer Angie McIntosh, [angie.mcintosh@wylietexas.gov](mailto:angie.mcintosh@wylietexas.gov).



Celebrate as a Community,  
Return Home,  
Turn Your Porch Light On,  
Meet Your Neighbors



## Weekly Watering on Trash Day Through October

Wylie residents can water once a week on trash day, through October. The drought continues, but the more frequent schedule has been recommended by North Texas Municipal Water District in order to maintain water quality.

## Handmade Craft, Fine Art Vendors Wanted

The 5th annual Wylie Arts Festival is Saturday, December 6, 10 am – 7 pm, at the First Baptist Church Events Center in Historic Downtown Wylie. We are currently seeking applications for fine artists and handmade crafters to fill more than 100 vendor spaces.

The event focuses on fine art of all disciplines including but not limited to painting, sculpture, photography, handmade crafts in wood, leather, metal, ceramics and other materials.

For more information email [carole.ehrlich@wylitetexas.gov](mailto:carole.ehrlich@wylitetexas.gov) or call 972-516-6023. Email [craig.kelly@wylitetexas.gov](mailto:craig.kelly@wylitetexas.gov) for details on sponsoring the Wylie Arts Festival. Go to [www.WylieTexas.gov/artsfestival](http://www.WylieTexas.gov/artsfestival) to download the vendor and sponsor applications.



## National Preparedness Month

The City of Wylie encourages all citizens to recognize the importance of preparedness and observe the month of September as Emergency Preparedness Month. Wylie Fire Rescue and the Wylie Police Department believe that awareness and preparation can help save lives and encourage every citizen to be vigilant and take personal responsibility by developing a disaster plan, preparing an emergency supply kit, signing up for NIXLE email and text message alerts, and purchasing a weather radio.

For more information on preparedness go to [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov). Sign up for NIXLE today. Text your ZIP code to 888777 or go to [www.NIXLE.com](http://www.NIXLE.com).

## 5th Annual North Texas Fallen Firefighters Memorial Golf Tournament October 17, Woodbridge Golf Club

Register today to play in the 5th Annual North Texas Fallen Firefighters Memorial Golf Tournament or consider a sponsorship, and support Wylie Fire Rescue as they raise funds for the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Fund. Go to [golf.firehero.org/tx/northtexas/](http://golf.firehero.org/tx/northtexas/) for details and registration.



## Medication Disposal

**Saturday, Sept. 27**

**10 am - 2 pm**

**Wylie Police Department  
2000 North Highway 78**

Prevent pill abuse, theft and accidents, by ridding your home of expired, unwanted or unused prescription and over-the-counter medications. The service is free and anonymous — no questions asked. Syringes and needles will not be accepted.

## Fun & Learning

### Rita & Truett Smith Public Library

300 Country Club Road, Building 300

972-516-6250

[www.WylieTexas.gov/library](http://www.WylieTexas.gov/library)

<b>Hours:</b>	<b>Mon., Tue. &amp; Thurs.</b>	<b>Noon - 8 pm</b>
	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9 am - 6 pm</b>
	<b>Friday</b>	<b>11 am - 5 pm</b>
	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9 am - 4 pm</b>
	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Closed</b>

### All Events Are Free and Open to the Public

#### Banned Book Author Event, Sept. 27, 2:30 pm

Celebrate Banned Books Week with an author panel and book-signing featuring children's and young adult authors Rosemary Clement-Moore, Polly Holyoke, Kay Honeyman and Lindsay Cummings. Barnes & Noble will be on hand to sell copies, or guests may bring their own.

A collection of books that have been banned through the years will also be on display at the library for the entire month in observance of Banned Books Week, Sept. 21-27.

#### Comic Book Night Out, Oct. 7, 6:30 pm

Join artists Joe Eisma, Brian Delaney and Mike Lopez for a discussion and Q&A on the creation of comics. Come early at 5 pm for a free comic book giveaway while supplies last.

#### Ghost Hunting with DAPS, Oct. 9, 6:30 pm

The Dallas Area Paranormal Society returns with its investigative equipment and more evidence. Best suited for teens and adults.

#### The Writing Life with Jade Lee, Nov. 6, 7 pm

The author of the "Tigress" and "Bridal Favor" series answers your questions about what it's really like to be an author with a career that spans more than 30 novels. A signing follows and books will be available for purchase.

### Budget, *continued from front page*

for a future Fire Station 4. The 2014-2015 budget provides new equipment for our Public Works Department used to maintain and improve our streets and alleys. We also added additional funds for the Police Department's growing narcotics unit and new commercial vehicle unit, expanded our library hours, and provided more personnel at our animal shelter. Bottom line — we met the goal of growing our city forward.

The city staff has continued to serve our community with unwavering dedication and commitment, and our appreciation and thanks should go out to each and every one of them for helping to make Wylie a great place to call home!

Thank you all for your continual support of our community, our city staff and our city council. **Your Mayor, Eric Hogue.**