

**FREE
EVENT**

WYLIE JAZZ ARTS FEST

music • fine art • food • fun

www.WylieTexas.Gov/JazzArts

Artists & Sponsors Wanted

Saturday, April 18

Wylie Municipal Complex

9 AM - 9 PM

#WeLoveWylie

We wanted to know why you thought Wylie is a great place to raise a family — so we asked at Facebook.com/WylieTexas.

"A community with family growth – topnotch schools and administrators, parks, sports programs, library, recreation/fitness center and a selection of churches to choose. Also plenty of neighborhoods to choose and raise your children!" **Charles Daniel**

"Wylie is a wonderful place to live. The school system is on point. It has the small-town country feel. Downtown is so very charming and full of history. We have a beautiful artistic city hall building that houses our recreation center and fabulous library. We are a growing city with new adventures around every corner. Wylie has been honored again as a great place to raise a family, we rank #2 in the country among cities with populations up to 100,000. We have a VERY low crime rate." **Rachel Baird**

"This is the town I grew up in. I moved away when I graduated and when I started my own family we came back. There is no other place I would want to raise my child. Even though it's growing it still has the small-town feel that I remember and love. A tight-knit community with so much love and kindness to share." **Lacy Jennings**

"I love Wylie so much that six months after I bought my house here, my mother bought one too. She loves having everything she needs close and with very little driving. The bonus was how friendly the people are and what a fantastic place this is to live. The quality of life is wonderful, and it was so easy to make friends and for Wylie to feel like home." **Lisa Frederick**

"The people! And it is a growing city with a small-town feel!" **Patricia Lawley Stone**

"Great community, great school district, great public servants. My son had a birthday party at home and the fire department was scheduled to come out. It rained on his party but they still came and gave the kids lessons inside our home and then took them out one by one with their umbrellas to get on the fire engines and explore the fire truck. They were ecstatic." **Sharonda L. Lawson**

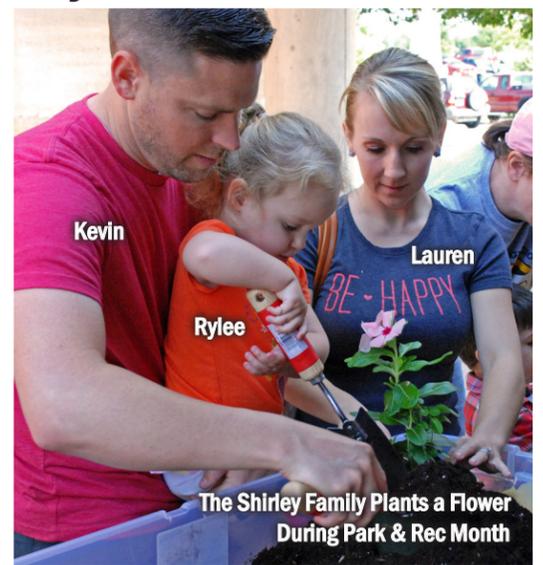
"Having a family of 3 little boys, I chose Wylie to raise them for its rich tradition, amazing schools and not to mention the community. I believe friendship is a very important part of growing up and what's better than having friends since pre-school. I feel if my boys can grow up with their friends just as the community continues to grow. A solid foundation should be laid for them to be ready for the real world." **Michkel Cain**

"For me it's new place to start my new life. As I moved from India to Wylie last year in April, I got a great feeling about Wylie. I visit the library and got a library card too. I hope I can visit Wylie downtown in festive season. Great Going Wylie." **Asutoshgiri Goswami**

"Small-town feel with big-time amenities! And a school system that truly cares for each and every student and the success of each one. A very rare gem we are blessed to call home!" **Monica Berry Ponts**

 **Find us on Facebook**
facebook.com/wylietexas

Wylie Ranked #2 Best Small City in Nation for Families

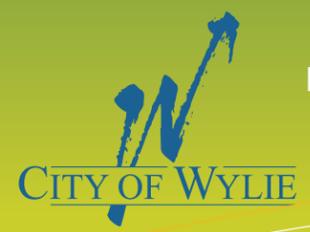


The Shirley Family Plants a Flower During Park & Rec Month

Wylie has been named the second-best small city, among those with populations of 25,000 to 100,000, in the country for families. The list of top 10 cities was compiled by NerdWallet.com, a personal finance website, utilizing criteria including income and affordability, prosperity and growth, and family friendliness.

"It is exciting to see that others have recognized what we in Wylie already know: that this is a wonderful place to raise a family," said Mayor Eric Hogue. "People come to our community and stay for many reasons including the small-town feeling we've been blessed to maintain, while at the same time growing our community with retail options and move-up home opportunities for our citizens."

NerdWallet noted Wylie's proximity to Dallas and its location near Lake Ray Hubbard and Lake Lavon providing recreational opportunities. The school district received strong ratings at GreatSchools.org, and the city's population is growing along with the median income. It also mentioned the Wylie Recreation Center with activities for the whole family, including the climbing wall, fitness facility, and a variety of classes. More details can be found nerdwallet.com. *Cont. on Back Page; We Love Wylie*



February 2015

Wylie Living

stay connected

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 **Nixle.com**
Emergency Alerts

 **GoRequest**
Mobile App

972-516-6000 WylieTexas.gov



Strong Railroad Ties
Story Inside

make note

State of the City Address
Mayor Eric Hogue
March 24, FBC Event Center, 11:30 am
Tickets: WylieChamber.org

X-Treme Green Recycling
March 28, 8 am - 4 pm
WylieTexas.gov/xtremegreen

General Election May 9
Last day to file for council seat Feb. 27
Last day to register to vote April 9

Wylie Police Dept. Reports Drop in Crime Rate

The Wylie Police Department reports the city's 2014 crime rate per 1,000 population decreased by 5% from 2013 figures, despite a 4% increase in population.

"The decreased rate in crime continues to show the outstanding work performed by the men and women who serve as members of the Wylie Police Department," says Mayor Eric Hogue. "Every resident of our city should be thankful for the excellent job our police officers do each and every day for our community. I am so proud of the work they do to help in building a bright future for Wylie."

Crime rate numbers are based on the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting system, defined as the number of crimes committed per 1,000 population. Part I crimes are comprised of seven offenses, broken down into two categories. Violent crime includes homicide, rape, robbery and aggravated assault; property crime includes burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft.

Crime rate is calculated by dividing the total number of Part I Crimes reported to the police by the population. In 2014 there was a total of 586 Part I Crimes reported to Wylie Police. Wylie's estimated 2014 population was 45,970; the result is a Part I crime rate of 12.75 Part I Crimes for every 1,000 Wylie residents. More details at fbi.gov or WylieTexas.gov.



Strong Railroad Ties: KCS Intermodal Facility

The City of Wylie's rich history has its roots in the railroad dating back to 1886 when the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railway laid tracks a half mile north of a small town named Nickelville. Recognizing the opportunity the railroad presented, Nickelville relocated with the name Wylie, in honor of Col. W. D. Wylie, a right-of-way agent for the rail company. Since Wylie's incorporation in 1887, the railroad has played a role in shaping the city, and its impacts continue to this day with the construction of the 500-acre Kansas City Southern Railway intermodal facility, destined to bring both progress and challenges to the community.

City officials have been aware of the intermodal project since the mid-1990s when land was purchased on the east side of town near an existing switching yard. Staff and city council began to explore ways to address the facility's impact and infrastructure needs and maximize its benefits to the community.

In 2001, Wylie successfully worked with KCS to relocate the railroad tracks running parallel to Hwy. 78. This major accomplishment opened hundreds of acres of light industrial and retail property, stimulating quality development. In addition, tracks were rerouted around Wylie's historic downtown district and 12 crossings were closed. Wylie Economic Development Director Sam Satterwhite said at the time, "the move will positively impact the Wylie community, and the effects will be seen for the next 50 years." His prediction has proven correct.

In 2008, Wylie City Council began the process to establish railroad quiet zones, taking steps to continue the partnership with the railroad and improve quality of life for citizens. The zones were established in 2009, with road barriers installed in early 2010 in preparation of potential increased rail traffic.

Now, with the construction of the intermodal facility underway north of Hwy. 78 between Spring Creek Pkwy. and Skyview Ct., the city and the railroad continue their relationship. The \$58-million project includes a 250-acre light industrial park facing Hwy. 78. With a minimum taxable

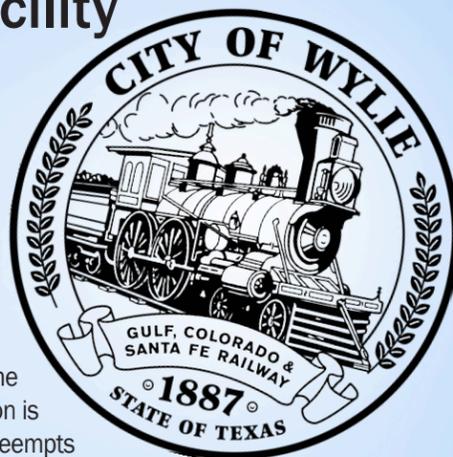
value of \$313 million and more than 2 million sq. ft. of developable space, the park is expected to add significantly to Wylie's tax base.

The project is not without challenges to Wylie including increased traffic and lighting and noise at the intermodal site. Cooperation is critical since federal law preempts local zoning and permitting regulation for rail activities. County representatives and city staff met with KCS throughout the preplanning stages and construction phase to work through concerns, such as the location of the facility's entrance and the truck access on and off Hwy. 78.

Traffic concerns have also been addressed through a detailed thoroughfare plan developed by the city in conjunction with Collin County officials. In addition to the increased truck traffic, the North Central Texas Council of Governments projects a daily traffic count on Hwy. 78 of 88,000 by the year 2035, an increase of more than 300 percent. Planning is critical to ensure continued mobility and adequate infrastructure as Wylie grows and continues to attract new businesses.

Regarding lighting and noise, KCS agreed to install lighting fixtures to control excess spill light, containing the light only on the property. The existing classification yard will shield the facility on the north, and the industrial park will do so on the south, keeping noise to a minimum.

Like many Texas towns the railroad played a key role in Wylie's beginnings and continues to impact the community's growth and prosperity. Careful planning, strong relationships and a cooperative spirit will ensure that Wylie continues down the right track.



Register Now For Spring Break RecCenter Camps



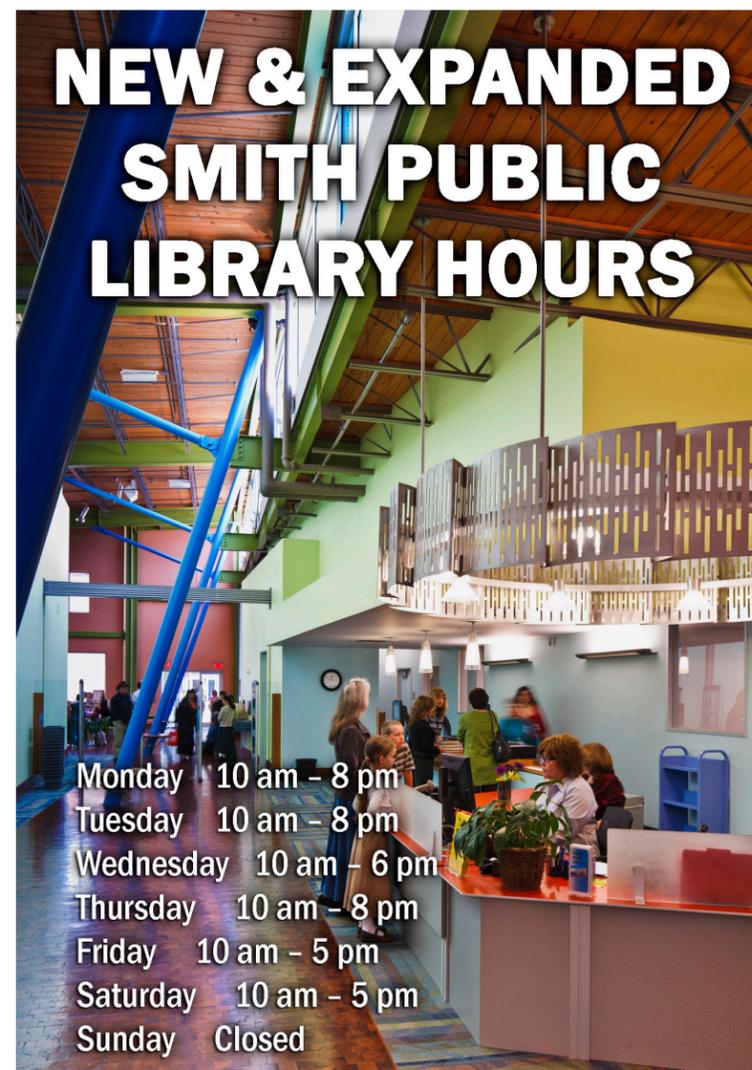
Explorer Course and Survival Games, for ages 6 - 12, teaches kids to overcome extreme weather, challenging terrain, wild animals and unique scenarios in order to survive in the wilderness.

Participants will learn to track wildlife, identify plants, navigate varied terrain and administer first aid. Camp meets March 9 - 12, from 9 am to noon, and cost is \$99.

Friday FUNshops feature fast-paced fun, including brain-teasing activities, new skills and friendship for kids age 6 - 12. In these mini-workshops that introduce science, music, art, math and more, kids will experiment with a variety of tools and learn to apply their new skills to everyday life. **Crazy Science! Fossils** meets March 13 from 9 am to noon. Cost is \$18. Also offered is **Math Mania and Art**, which meets March 13 from noon to 3 pm. Cost is also \$18.

Total Volleyball, open to kids 6 to 12, teaches basic volleyball curriculum as well as rules and fundamentals in small group and team settings. Participants will improve hand-eye coordination, core strength, footwork, power, discipline, motivation and nutrition as they learn to serve, pass and play defense. Meets March 9 - 12 from 12:30 - 3:30 pm. Cost is \$99.

All camps meet at Wylie Recreation Center, 300 Country Club, Building 200. Register online now at Apm.ActiveCommunities.com/Wylie or in person at the center. Call 972-516-6360 for more information.



Monday 10 am - 8 pm
 Tuesday 10 am - 8 pm
 Wednesday 10 am - 6 pm
 Thursday 10 am - 8 pm
 Friday 10 am - 5 pm
 Saturday 10 am - 5 pm
 Sunday Closed

Help Prevent Crime Don't Fall Victim to Phone Scams

The IRS will not contact you by phone without first sending a bill.

- Never give your Social Security, checking account or credit card number or other personal info to a caller, even if they ask you to "confirm" a number.
- Beware of callers who say you've been specially selected for an offer; you'll get a free bonus if you buy; you've won big money in a foreign lottery; an investment guarantees a high return; you have to make up your mind right away; or they'll put shipping and handling charges on your credit card.
- Check out any charity before you donate.
- Don't send cash by messenger, overnight mail or money transfer; you may lose your right to dispute fraudulent charges.
- If you receive a suspicious call, report it to the Federal Trade Commission, www.ftc.gov. You can also sign the National Do Not Call Registry there, which will stop most calls.

For questions or more information about how to handle unwanted phone calls, contact Officer Angie McIntosh at Angie.McIntosh@wylietexas.gov or 972-442-8170.



Mayor Hogue Inspires Students from the Wylie High School Leadership Class During a Recent Tour of City Hall