Heroes of Wylie

Sept. 11, members of the community gathered to dedicate the newest addition to Wylie's public art collection, "Heroes of Wylie," and pay tribute to first responders who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks of 9/11.

Wylie Mayor Eric Hogue and other city officials spoke at the unveiling event. In his remarks, Mayor Hogue noted that Wylie's crime rate continues to drop and that the fire department has maintained its ISO-1 rating. He said it is gratifying to have a piece of art to honor the public servants for their dedication.

Cont. Inside, What is a Hero?

October 2015

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What is a Hero?

Printed in the Oct. 2 Dallas Morning News NeighborsGO

By Mayor Eric Hogue

I've considered this question often in recent weeks. On Sept. 11 of this year, the Wylie community gathered to dedicate a bronze sculpture, "Heroes of Wylie," at our Public Safety Complex. We chose the anniversary of the terrorist attacks of 9/11 to pay tribute to the first responders who courageously ran into those doomed buildings with little hope of finding a survivor or of being a survivor themselves.

But they weren't the only heroes to whom we paid tribute that day. The statue depicts a firefighter and a policeman, those who have decided, by their own accord, to be the protectors and peacekeepers for the citizens in our community.

President Woodrow Wilson once said, "There is no question what the role of honor in America is. The role of honor consists of the names of men who have squared their conduct by ideas of duty." Our firefighters, our police officers, and those who serve in the military whole-heartedly embrace those "ideas of duty."

I hope that, as Wylie citizens and visitors view the statue, they will be reminded to honor the people who put their lives at risk on behalf of their families, their friends, their neighbors, their fellow citizens, and the strangers who come within our city limits.

While in cities around the country we have recently seen those communities and their leaders show a lack of respect and support for their uniformed employees, that is not the case in Wylie, Texas. That is not how we do things here ... we are family.

As Wylie's highest-ranking elected official, I promised those gathered that day that I will never stand against our first responders or hide behind them. I will always stand right beside them. I will always have their backs, because I know they have mine.

Our uniformed personnel represent an incredible group of men and women; the work they do every day is amazing. The city's low crime rate and our fire department's ISO-1 rating are just two shining examples of the work they do and how fortunate we are to live in Wylie. On behalf of the community, I want to say thank you for their dedication and commitment to the city.

They are truly the "Heroes of Wylie."

As I reflect on their commitment, I'm reminded of the words of former President Ronald Reagan. "The future does not belong to the faint-hearted; it belongs to the brave."

Thank you, men and women of Wylie Police Department and Wylie Fire Rescue. You are indeed the brave, and you are the living answer to the question, "What is a hero?"

Bronze sculpture "Heroes of Wylie" is 6 feet, 3 inches tall, 5 feet wide and weighs 650 pounds. It was created by Tucson, Ariz., artist Sid Henderson, who studied over 50 photographs of Wylie firefighters and police officers to ensure that all details were meticulously represented. Wylie funds public art displays by earmarking 1 percent of Capital Improvement Project costs as well as events such as Bluegrass on Ballard. "Heroes of Wylie," which cost $41,000, is the first artwork created solely by funds generated by the events. "Heroes of Wylie" is located at Wylie's Public Safety Complex, 2000 N. Hwy. 78.

Fire Prevention: Hear the Beep Where You Sleep

Throughout the month of October members of Wylie Fire Rescue are reminding members of the community – and especially kids – to take fire prevention seriously.

To help spread the word by engaging Wylie's youngest citizens, firefighters known as the "Wylie Wild Bunch" are touring elementary schools, performing a new 30-minute, live fire prevention program.

This year's show, "Hear the Beep Where You Sleep," emphasizes the importance of having working smoke detectors in every bedroom, of holding exit drills in the home and agreeing on a meeting place, of getting low in smoke, and remembering to "stop, drop and roll."

The National Fire Protection Association reports that, in 2014, there were 1.3 million fires reported in the U.S., causing 3,275 deaths, 15,775 injuries, and $11.6 billion in property damage. Wylie Fire Chief Brent Parker said many deaths could have been prevented with the proper use of smoke detectors, and he makes these recommendations:

- Change smoke alarm batteries when they set their clocks back with the end of Daylight Saving Time Nov. 1.
- Have a smoke detector in every sleeping area and immediately outside sleeping areas.
- Check the function of smoke detectors monthly and change batteries twice a year.
- Replace smoke detectors that are more than 10 years old.
- Do not disable a chirping smoke detector. The battery is low and the detector needs immediate attention.

Wylie Fire Rescue will install detectors free of charge; anyone in Wylie's fire district should call any fire station or the non-emergency number 972-442-8171 to schedule a free inspection and free installation.

National NIGHT OUT 2015

1. RN Medic Kristi Davis-Yarbrough helps 4-year-olds Samantha Gaither and Vincent Torres out of the PHI Air Medical helicopter that landed on Ballard Avenue during National Night Out October 6 in historic downtown Wylie.

2. Hailey Apkaria, 3, considers a future in firefighting, while her mom Katie takes her picture.

3. Aaron Dahl, grandson of Councilman David Dahl, poses on Olde City Park's monkey bars.

4. Members of the Wylie Citizens Police Academy and the P.O.L.I.C.E. Club man the hot dog table. From left, Sharon DeHart, Madison Brunskill, Lyllie Nguyen, "grill master" Kevin England, Elaine Montoya and Cheyenne Montoya.

5. Mini Ranger fan Dominick Meaders, 1, looks on as Amy Moss introduces her son Hudson, also 1, to Finch, a rescue dog with Lone Star Search and Rescue.

Night of Wonder

Family Fun Featuring Award Winning Illusionists

October 29 ★ 7:30 - 9 pm

FBC Wylie Event Center
200 N. Ballard Ave.

Tickets $10

Magic Week Events

Mayor Hogue proclaims National Magic Week on the steps of the Brown House, 301 N. Ballard Ave., October 25, 2 pm

Magicians perform in downtown restaurants, October 26-28

Street magicians at Boo on Ballard, October 29, 6–8 pm

City of Wylie · Dallas Magic Clubs · Magic of Wylie · Discover Downtown Wylie

TheMagicOfWylie.com

Trick-or-Treat in Historic Downtown Wylie on Ballard Avenue

Ride the zip line, challenge the mechanical bull, play in the foam pit, and take on Wipeout at Park & Rec's Glow in the Park in Olde City Park.

One Night, Two Events, Historic Downtown Wylie

Boo On Ballard

Oct 29 6-8 pm Free

DiscoverWylie.com

Wylie Arts Festival

Saturday, December 5

10 am - 5 pm • FBC Wylie Event Center

Vendors Wanted

Fine artists, handmade crafters and unique vendors are invited to participate in the Wylie Arts Festival, slated for Saturday, Dec. 5 at the First Baptist Wylie Event Center. Climate-controlled indoor shopping, live performances, and a wide variety of festive fair foods all make for one of the most popular festivals in North Texas. Vendor and sponsorship brochures are available at WylieTexas.gov/artsfestival.

For more information, contact City Secretary Carole Ehrlich at 972-516-6020 or email carole.ehrlich@wylietexas.gov.

WylieTexas.gov/ArtsFestival

X-treme CWD Green Event

November 14 8 am - 4 pm

Wylie Service Center

949 Hensley Lane

(Behind Founders Park)

WylieTexas.gov/xtremegreen

The City of Wylie and Community Waste Disposal are pleased to announce another X-treme Green Event for the disposal of residential household hazardous waste, electronics, household metal appliances, automotive tires and document shredding. Brush and bulk will not be accepted. For complete details including, acceptable items and limits, go to WylieTexas.gov/xtremegreen.