

neighborsgo
neighborsgo.com The Dallas Morning News

Your stories, your news.

SHARE

Neighborsgo is the community news operation of *The Dallas Morning News*. Every Friday, 10 print editions are delivered to about 260,000 households in the Dallas area. We encourage you to post your news directly on our website, **neighborsgo.com**, because that is where we go to find the photos, events and stories you see in print.

SIGN UP

Visit **neighborsgo.com**, click on the "Register" link (upper right) and fill out a brief form. The process takes about five minutes, and you should be able to start sharing your community news immediately.

FEEDBACK

We want to profile people, places and events that are near and dear to you. Please send story suggestions, news tips and story feedback to us at **feedback@neighborsgo.com**.

SOCIAL



Like us at [facebook.com/neighborsgo](https://www.facebook.com/neighborsgo)



Follow us @[Plano_News](https://twitter.com/Plano_News)

ON THE COVER

Wylie Mayor Eric Hogue greets Melanie Bush and her children, Eleanor, 4 (middle), Evelyn, 3, and Eliza, 3, (not shown) at Smith Public Library in Wylie. Read the story on **Page 14**.

Photo by ALLISON SLOMOWITZ/
special contributor

CORRECTIONS

Neighborsgo welcomes your comments about information that might require correction or clarification. You can submit your comments to Allison Wisk by calling 214-977-8172 or emailing awisk@neighborsgo.com.

Wylie Council OKs expanding its downtown historic district

The City Council unanimously approved an expansion of the downtown historic district to include residential properties west of the railroad tracks at its Jan. 13 meeting.

The area includes homes along Cotton Belt Avenue from Elliot Street to Brown Street and north of Brown Street on Keefer Street.

The council overturned a December decision by the Planning and Zoning Commission, saying the proposal would not pose a burden to homeowners looking to remodel. The new district includes a "non-contributing" section to account for newer homes in the added section.

Meredith Shamburger

Collin College officers allege retaliation, file lawsuit

Three Collin College police officers said they became the victims of retaliation after uncovering an alleged scheme to defraud the college of more than \$1 million.

"Their investigation began with a low-level employee and started to show a complex scheme that led to high-

BRIEFS

ranking employees at Collin College," said Victoria Neave, a Dallas attorney who is representing the officers in a whistleblower lawsuit.

Collin College officials are denying all of the allegations of fraud, cover-up or retaliation.

They said the lawsuit is without merit and was filed by disgruntled employees.

Officers Billy D. Burlison III, Jon J. Mark and Craig A. Bennight are seeking more than \$1 million in the lawsuit.

An investigation into the theft of books from a Collin College bookstore began revealing "a complex scheme to defraud Collin College of more than \$1 million worth of textbooks and college funds," according to the lawsuit.

Rather than retaliating or ignoring the officers' allegations, "we immediately investigated the matter," Collin College spokeswoman Lisa Vasquez said.

"No evidence to support the officers' allegations was found, but the perceived issues were primarily the result of implementation of a new computer system," according to a statement issued by the college.

Mark told a Collin County sheriff's deputy that he found a threatening note taped to the back door at his home and

believed it was connected to a case he was investigating at the college, according to documents.

Wendy Hundley

Plano approves new rec fee for PISD households

A resolution approved by the City Council on Jan. 12 will lower recreation fees for households outside Plano but inside Plano ISD.

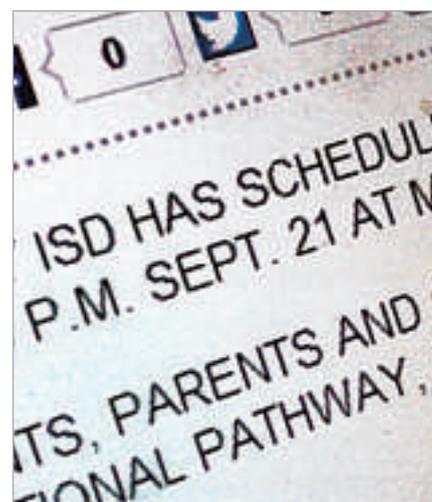
Recreation fees under the new rate will be \$119 annually and \$16 monthly for ages 3 to 15; \$195 annually and \$22 monthly for adults; \$149 annually and \$19 monthly for seniors; and \$509 annually and \$59 monthly for families.

The resolution also adds additional rates for family members under the "Work in Plano" rate, which is available to people who are employed by a Plano business. Rates will be the same as the Plano ISD rates. The new rates will take effect Feb. 1.

Nonresident Plano ISD households used to receive the same rates as residents, but the city changed its policies in 2007 to discontinue this practice and saw a drop in memberships. City officials estimate that the new rates are expected to raise \$40,000 annually.

M.S.

NEIGHBORSGO.COM: Three things to remember when posting



1 Please don't shout: Sure, typing your message in all caps is one way to get attention. But it's not necessary on your posts. Our editors peruse the site for content, looking for relevancy over attention-getting tactics.

2 Don't forget a headline: The opposite of trying to attract attention is forgetting to include a way to get to your work. We've all done it, including editors. When posting to the site, remember to add a headline in the title field.

3 Don't hesitate to seek help: We use WordPress the world's largest blogging interface. If a posting issue arises, consult the **HELP** tab in the upper right corner of the dashboard. Or, turn to your search engine of choice.



If you have questions or comments about neighborsgo.com, email Tommy Cummings, assistant managing editor for digital, at tcummings@neighborsgo.com or call 214-977-8042. Follow him on Twitter at [@tommymcumings](https://twitter.com/tommymcumings).