

A Holiday Message from Mayor Felix

The holiday season is upon us: a time to gather with friends and family and appreciate the blessings of life. We work as your public servants to create opportunities for you and yours to be blessed within your community. I hope that you have had a chance to attend one of the many activities offered by the city throughout the year. It is our goal to provide many family-oriented events for the citizens of Sachse. We continue updating and improving them in order to give our citizens the best of both worlds, a small-town community feel with all the big city amenities. Sachse truly is a great place to live and work!

Staff joins me in hoping that your family is able to participate in the wonderful holiday events planned this year. You can find all the details in this newsletter or on the city's website for Pancakes with Santa, the tree lighting ceremony, story times at the Library, the Christmas lighting contest, the Christmas parade, and Cookies with Santa. Cookies with Santa will include family activities and entertainment this year at the City Hall amphitheater. And, let's remember those less fortunate by donating to the Fraternal Order of Police Toy and Food Drive.

Let me thank the many citizens who volunteer their time and efforts by serving on boards, commissions or committees. I also want to thank our city staff who continue to take pride in their work and provide outstanding service to our citizens throughout the year.

I sincerely hope that your holidays are filled with happy times spent among family and friends. The City Council joins me in wishing your family health, happiness, and prosperity during this holiday season and throughout 2013.

Sincerely, Mike J. Felix, Mayor

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR CITY OF SACHSE OFFICES

City offices will be closed **November 22 and 23** for Thanksgiving holiday; **December 24 and 25** for Christmas holiday; and **January 1, 2013** for New Year's holiday. If you experience a water or sewer emergency while city offices are closed, please call 972.495.2271 and press 2. A technician will be dispatched to assist you.

TRASH PICK-UP AND CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING SCHEDULE

Trash and recycle will **NOT** be picked up on Thursday, Nov. 22. The Thursday route will be picked up on Friday; and the Friday route will be picked up on Saturday. Trash and recycle will **NOT** be picked up on Tuesday, Dec. 25 or Tuesday, Jan. 1. Service will be delayed by one day for these days. Bulk trash pick up will run from Dec. 26 thru 31 to allow for pick up of Christmas trees, boxes, wrappings, etc. Bulk trash routes will be picked up throughout the city but may not be picked up on your normal trash day. Place your bulk out the morning of Dec. 26 and it **WILL** be picked up. Regular bulk pick up will resume the week of Jan. 7 thru 11. You may also participate in the Christmas tree recycle program by discarding your tree in the Allied Waste dumpster at Salmon Park, 4302 Williford Road, from Dec. 26 to Jan. 4. Please remove all decorations and do **NOT** place it in a bag. For more information, call City Hall at 972.495.1212, press 1 or check the city's website.



TOY AND FOOD DRIVE ASSISTS SACHSE FAMILIES IN NEED

The Fraternal Order of Police Toy and Food Drive has collected new, unwrapped toys, non-perishable food items, and monetary donations for needy Sachse families for the past 13 years. With Officer Richard Oliver at the helm since the beginning, and with the help of the Sachse High School Beta Club and Officer Steven Doerr, this volunteer organization is able to fulfill many requests for help. Children who attend Cookies with Santa on Dec. 8 are asked to bring a non-perishable food item or a new, unwrapped toy and drop them off at the FOP booth. Collection actually starts on Nov. 15 and ends Dec. 15. Residents may bring donations of toys or non-perishable food items to the Public Safety Building, 3815 Sachse Road, Building D or to the Cookies with Santa event. Officers will deliver items to needy families between Dec. 17 and 24. If you have questions or know of a family in need, please contact Officer Oliver at 972.495.2271, ext. 1222.



PANCAKES WITH SANTA AND RAFFLE FOR TWO APPLE IPADS

The Sachse Firefighters Association hosts Pancakes with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. at Fire Station No. 1, 5805 Bryan Street. For the admission price of \$5.00, receive all-you-can-eat pancakes, one piece of sausage, orange juice, milk or coffee and a photo with Santa. There will be raffles for two Apple iPads. Raffle tickets are \$10.00 each and may be purchased at the event on Dec. 1. The drawing will take place at the end of the breakfast event and the winner can take the iPad home with them. The winner does NOT have to be present to win. Drop by and have breakfast with Santa. Parents are welcome to bring your camera and take pictures with Santa or pictures with the fire truck. Please contact Jody Krizan at 469.429.9810 or 214.755.7585 with any questions.

TREE LIGHTING AND STORY TIME

City Council and staff invite you to the annual city Christmas tree lighting in the City Hall rotunda on Thursday, Dec. 6 at 6:30 p.m. The Hudson Middle School Choir Ensemble will perform songs of the holiday season and Mayor Felix will light the city's tree.

We will then stroll over to the Library for Christmas Story Time with Santa at 7:00 p.m., where the choir will perform more songs of the season. Sponsored by the City of Sachse Library and assisted by the Friends of the Library, Santa will present each child with a book to remember this special evening. There is no charge for either event. For more info, please call Denise Vice at 469.429.4771, the Library at 972.530.8966 or visit the website at www.cityofsachse.com.



COOKIES WITH SANTA

Join Santa at City Hall on Dec. 8 for Cookies with Santa. Santa arrives at 10 a.m. and will visit until 11:30 a.m. Share your wish list with Santa, receive a special gift, enjoy a cookie and drink, and then join us in the amphitheater for fun and entertainment. There will be bounce houses provided by Fun Times Party Rental, booths provided by Smile Magic and Sports Clips, and a Sachse FOP booth for you to drop off your non-perishable food items or new, unwrapped toy donation for needy Sachse families. They will also have the child ID kit available for the parents to pick up. Every child will receive a raffle ticket that will be entered into the prize drawings held **throughout the event**. You **MUST BE PRESENT** at the time of the drawing to win. The last drawing will be called at 11:00 a.m. The award-winning Sachse High School Madrigal Singers will perform in the City Hall rotunda starting at 10:30 a.m. The Park Lake Church Praise Team will take the stage in the amphitheater at 11:00 a.m. followed by Teresa Stephenson's vocal students at 11:30 a.m. What a great line-up of events! Check the details on the Park Department's Special Events page of the city's website.

SACHSE'S FIFTH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARADE DECEMBER 8th

Calling all organizations who want to join us and march in Sachse's 5th Annual Christmas Parade on Dec. 8. The parade line-up starts at 8:30 a.m. at Hudson Middle School, 4405 Hudson Drive. For those who want to come out and catch a glimpse of the parade, start time is 9:30 a.m. from Hudson Drive to Miles Road, north on Miles Road to Sachse Road. We will cross Sachse Road and turn in the parking lot at the municipal complex. The parade will last approximately 30 minutes, ending at City Hall, where Santa invites children to join him for Cookies with Santa and other fun activities in the city's amphitheater. To register for the parade, please call Denise Vice at 469.429.4771, or Cynthia Wiseman at 469.429.6275.



HOLIDAY LIGHTING CONTEST REGISTRATION FORM

I am submitting my registration in the following category (check one below):

- Family Regular Lot (lot size below 1/2 acre)
- Family Large Lot (lot size 1/2 acre and larger)
- Street
- Business

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Completed registration forms must be received *no later than Thursday, Dec. 13*. Forms to the attention of Cathy Cade may be mailed or dropped off at Sachse City Hall, 3815 Sachse Road, Building B, placed in the utility payment drop box, or sent by email to ccade@cityofsachse.com. Judging will be Sunday evening, Dec. 16, between 6 and 9 pm.

(Cut along dashed line and submit to City Hall.)

27th ANNUAL HOLIDAY LIGHTING CONTEST GUIDELINES

All residents and businesses are invited to participate in this annual tradition.

| CATEGORY | DESCRIPTION |
|---------------|---|
| Family | Most artistic and plentiful use of lights/decorations for an individual home. (First, second, and third place awards for large lot (1/2 acre and up) and regular lot (less than 1/2 acre)) |
| Street | Most artistic and plentiful use of lights/decorations for an entire street. (First, second, and third place awards) |
| Business | Most artistic and plentiful use of lights/decorations for a business. (First, second, and third place awards) |
| Judges' | This award may be in any one of the categories above and represents a winner whose artistic use of lights/ |
| Special Award | decorations is worthy of more than an honorable mention. (Single award) |

Contest Entry: Those wishing to participate must complete the registration form above and return it to Sachse City Hall, 3815 Sachse Road, Building B, by mail, place the entry form in the utility payment drop box, or email it to ccade@cityofsachse.com by 5:00 p.m. Dec. 13.

Judging: The Mayor will appoint non-Sachse residents as judges. Judging will occur Sunday, Dec. 16 between 6 and 9 p.m. **Only entries submitting a registration form will be judged.** In the event of inclement weather, judging will occur the first clear night following Dec. 16.

Awards: All winners will receive a certificate and a yard sign, delivered by a Sachse City Councilmember. A list of the winners will be published in the newsletter, in the local newspaper, and on the city's website.



DECORATE SAFELY

Holiday decorations are beautiful but can also be dangerous. Sachse Fire and Rescue offers these tips:

- Make sure any artificial trees are fire resistant.
- If you purchase a live tree, make sure the branches are trimmed and the trunk stays moist.
- Place the tree away from all heat sources and make sure not to block doorways or foot traffic.
- Be careful if using artificial snow sprays. They can irritate lungs if inhaled.
- Check lights for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections.
- Use no more than three standard-size sets of lights per single extension cord.
- Turn off all lights on trees and other decorations when you leave your house or go to bed.
- Keep lighted candles away from evergreens and never leave candles burning when leaving the house or going to bed.
- Do not burn wrapping paper or boxes in fireplaces. They can ignite suddenly and may cause flash fires. Sachse Fire and Rescue wishes your family a happy and safe holiday season!!

DO NOT BECOME A VICTIM THIS HOLIDAY

The holiday season is a time when busy people can become careless and vulnerable to holiday crime. To help you be more careful, prepared and aware during the holiday season, the Sachse Police Department offers the following holiday tips:

- Shop during daylight hours when possible. If you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.
- Dress casually, comfortably and avoid wearing expensive jewelry.
- If possible, do not carry a purse or wallet and avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- If you do carry a wallet or purse, be extra careful. You are prime targets of criminals in crowded shopping areas, bus stops, on buses or other rapid transit areas.
- Always carry your Drivers License or Identification Card along with necessary cash, checks and/or credit cards you expect to use.
- Pay for purchases with a check or credit card when possible.
- Keep any cash you are carrying in your front pockets.
- If your credit card is lost, stolen or misused, notify the credit card issuer immediately. Keep a record of all of your credit card numbers in a safe place at home.
- Even though you are rushed and thinking about a thousand things, stay alert to your surroundings.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages. It is important to have clear visibility and freedom of motion to avoid mishaps.
- Beware of strangers approaching you. "Con-artists" may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings. Taking a few extra preventive measures can keep your holiday season safe and joyous for your family.



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