

# Woodway TODAY

November / December 2015

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE CITY OF WOODWAY



## CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Donald J. Baker      Mayor Pro Tem Jane Kittner  
 Scott A. Giddings          Bob Howard  
 Gil Lillard                  Mike Tamberella  
 Barbara Grandy

## MEETING DATES

### City Council

Second and Fourth Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m.

### Parks and Recreation Commission

Fourth Thursday of the month at 5:30 p.m.

### Planning and Zoning Commission

Second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.

### Woodway Beautiful Commission

Third Thursday of the month at 5:30 p.m.

### Youth Commission

First Thursday of the month at 5:30 p.m.

## NUMBERS TO KNOW

Emergency .....	9-1-1
Carleen Bright Arboretum.....	399-9204
City Hall .....	772-4480
Code Enforcement.....	772-4470
Community Services & Development.....	772-4050
Public Safety.....	772-4470
Water and Trash Inquiries.....	772-4480
Woodway Family Center.....	772-7491

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City of Woodway  
 922 Estates Drive

www.woodway-texas.com  
 www.StayInnWoodway.org

## Whitehall Center Reopens Its Doors

The paint is dry, acoustical panels added, and the surrounding butterflies weren't chased off during the five-month, \$254,000 renovation of the Whitehall Center in Woodway. The 1,800-square-foot structure at the 16-acre Carleen Bright Arboretum recently re-opened after city officials closed the doors to upgrade the facility after hosting more than 1,500 events since its opening in 1999.

"A lot of boots have danced on that floor," Carleen Bright Arboretum Director Janet Schaffer said. City Manager Yost Zakhary said the city council started to put away money a few years ago to complete the project, which ultimately came in under budget and ahead of schedule. Zakhary said the city council doesn't want to borrow money, except for major water and sewer projects. Every building the city owns-minus the recently opened The Pavilion at the arboretum-was saved for and purchased in cash, he said. A decade ago, he said, the council created a plan to be debt-free by 2017. "We'll make it," he said.

The Whitehall Center, around the corner from city hall, sits amongst more than eight acres of botanical gardens, walking trails and an amphitheater with covered gazebo off Bosque Boulevard. The Whitehall Center, which has stained-glass windows, an adjacent terrace and 1,100-square-foot patio, received a bridal room, updated kitchen and bathrooms, new floor and wall tiles to help with acoustics, a new paint job, the addition of security cameras and acoustical panels.

The arboretum itself was named after Carleen Bright, who spent 30 years on the Woodway City Council. She celebrated her 100th birthday earlier this year.

The \$3 million, 10,000-square-foot Pavilion at the Carleen Bright Arboretum opened three years ago. The arboretum itself continues to thrive as a local meeting place for Baylor University departments, local organizations and societies, and for those who just want to walk their dog amongst the flowers down the trails, Zakhary said.

Zakhary said the city does some advertising for the Whitehall Center, but largely the location sells itself. He said The Pavilion or the center can be rented for a flat fee, unlike other locations that tack on surcharges. He said the flat fee covers one chair and table, or all the center's chairs and tables. "People don't feel like they get nicked and dined to death," he said.

Mayor Don Baker, who has been on the council since 1991, said having six hotels in the city limits has provided for a healthy hotel/motel tax. But revenue from that fund has to go toward the tourist industry and facilities to attract tourists, Baker said. The Whitehall Center has attracted people from across the state as well as nationwide, so improving the center has been ideal for that fund, he said.

Schaffer said in January the center will begin looking into how to create a children's garden. She said the space would be more than a place for children to sit and look at growing vegetation, but would allow them to get their hands dirty and help cultivate life in the area.

Mayor Pro Tem Jane Kittner said Woodway is known for its trees and natural beauty. She said most people who live in the city have moved to the area because of that. The city's efforts to keep the quality of the Whitehall Center high have been a part of that effort to improve the quality of life, she said.

Article written by Cassie L. Smith with the Waco Tribune Herald

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## In Memory of Carleen Bright



*Carleen Evelyn Bright*

*March 15, 1915 -  
October 21, 2015*

Longtime Woodway Councilwoman Carleen Bright, an advocate for her hometown and a dedicated friend, passed into Grace on October 21st. Carleen started her life of dedication to the City of Woodway by serving on several volunteer boards and commissions. Carleen served for 30 years on the City Council, 20 of those years as Mayor Pro Tem.

Much of the rich heritage of Woodway's current status is based on her vision 40 plus years ago. The 16 acre Carleen Bright Arboretum, dubbed the "hidden jewel of Woodway," was named in Carleen's honor. The Whitehall Center at the Arboretum was designed based on a photograph Carleen owned that was taken when she was a child at the Whitehall church.

Carleen was described as a "rare individual encircled by an aura of serenity interlocked with power and endowed with wit and wisdom." She was a good friend to many and a blessing to everyone she met. Carleen was one of a kind.

She will be sorely missed.

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## National Night Out - Huge Success



Thank you to the over 500 people who came out to celebrate Woodway's Annual National Night Out! It was an extraordinary event that featured 10 parties and an evening of entertainment. Every party enjoyed meeting all of our Public Safety Officers, as well as taking tours of the fire trucks and police cars. A special thanks to Bush's Chicken for providing dinner for all who attended the National Night Out at the parks and also thanks to Target for the bouncy castles! The Public Safety Officers were so appreciative for the support they received from the several hundred participants at this National Night Out and we look forward to doing this again next year!

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## Children's Garden Fair Scarecrow Contest Winners



*Best in Show -  
Pivoine Flower Boutique*

*Most Original -  
Texas Document Solutions*



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## High Grass, Weeds and Brush

The City is asking for voluntary compliance and help to keep grass, weeds, and brush mowed and trimmed according to the City Ordinance. All grass, weeds, and brush should be kept to a height no taller than twelve (12) inches in any location. Keeping grass cut to the proper length also helps lessen the possibility of grass fires and aids in controlling mosquitoes, fleas, tick, and other pests.

Currently, every Wednesday is brush pick-up day, along with recycling pick up. All brush and tree limbs should be cut to specifications and placed at the curb for collection. Limbs should not exceed 4 inches in diameter and be no longer than 5 feet. Progressive Waste Solutions will pick up one truck load per week.

For more information, or if you have questions, please contact the Code Enforcement Officer, Albert Lopez, at 772-4470 or Customer Services at 772-4480.

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## Winterizing Your Home

Autumn brings with it crisp, cooler weather and the signs of the colder season to come. Now is the time to take measures to winterize your home against the long chilly months. Weatherproofing is a cheap way to make a big difference in the comfort of your home. A home winterization checklist provides the needed steps to prepare your home for winter.

- Gutters and Roof
  - Furnace, Heating System and Fireplace
  - Exterior, Doors, and Windows
  - Foundations
  - Plumbing
  - Pipes
  - Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors
  - Landscaping / Plants
  - Emergency Kit
- 
- 



*The Arts*

**Whitehall Center  
Renovations Completed**



Save the Date  
Memorial Day Weekend  
May 27 & 28, 2016

The City of Woodway presents the

*Woodway Roadrunner Festival*

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[www.WoodwayRRFest.com](http://www.WoodwayRRFest.com)

City of Woodway  
922 Estates Drive  
Woodway, Texas 76712



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## City Offices Closed

### **November 11 - Veterans Day**

*All trash collections on regular day*

### **November 26 & 27 - Thanksgiving and the Day after Thanksgiving**

*Thursday collection on Friday;*

*Friday collection on Saturday*

### **December 24 - Christmas Eve**

*All trash collections on regular day*

### **December 25 - Christmas Day**

*Friday collection on Saturday*

### **January 1 - New Year's Day**

*Friday collection on Saturday*

Merry Christmas &  
Blessed New Year  
From Everyone at the  
City of Woodway

## Winter Safety Tips for Pets

### **Winter Weather Woes**

As most pet lovers know, winter can be a challenge for our pets. Cats and dogs are attracted to the sweet smell and taste of antifreeze, and will often sample some if left out in a container or spilled on the garage floor. Antifreeze is highly toxic. Other sources of this deadly chemical are: heat exchange fluids (sometimes used in solar collectors), some brake and transmissions fluids.

### **Pets need to have fresh water at all times**

#1 Tip - Water: Make sure the water is not frozen during this time of year. Heated pet bowls are a solution for frigid temperatures.

#2 Tip - Caloric Intake: Pets that live outdoors may need additional food (calories) to sustain body temperature as well.



**For more info, please  
contact Albert Lopez,  
Animal Control at 772-4470**