

COMMUNITY UPDATE

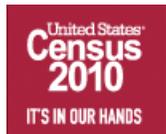
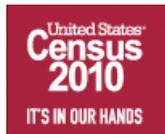
CITY OF PILOT POINT, TEXAS

102 East Main Street – Pilot Point, Texas

www.cityofpilotpoint.org

940-686-2165

FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2010 (Volume 2, Issue 3)



2010 CENSUS

ACCURATE COUNT IS IMPORTANT

The U.S. Census Bureau is gearing up for the 2010 Census and Pilot Point needs your help!!

Once every ten (10) years the U.S. Constitution requires an accurate count of every resident in the United States. A key point to make is that the Constitution states every “resident” must be counted, both citizens and non-citizens.

New Census Form - In the 2010 Census Count, every resident will receive a short questionnaire of just 10 questions that will take about 10 minutes to complete; it's simple and fast.

10 GOOD REASONS TO COMPLETE THE 2010 CENSUS

2010 Census Information is needed to:

- Direct services to children and adults with limited English language proficiency.
- Determine areas eligible for housing assistance.
- Attract new businesses to state and local areas.
- Develop adult education programs.
- Plan budgets for government at all levels.
- Plan for hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, and locations of other health services.
- Direct funds for people in poverty.
- Develop assistance programs for low-income families.
- Create maps to speed emergency services to households in need of assistance.
- Make decisions at all levels of government.

Census workers are currently only knocking on doors to verify address information. *The Census Bureau will not ask for Social Security, bank account, or credit card numbers, nor will employees solicit donations. Any one asking for that information is NOT with the Census Bureau.*

If a U.S. Census worker knocks on your door, they will have a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag, and a confidentiality notice.

Eventually, Census workers may contact you by telephone, mail, or in person at home. However, the **Census Bureau will not contact you by Email**, so be aware for email scams impersonating the Census. Never click on a link or open any attachments in an email that are supposedly from the U.S. Census Bureau.

For more advice on avoiding identity theft and fraud, visit www.bbb.org

For information contact the Census Bureau at 1-800-923-8282 or visit www.2010census.gov

For information about jobs with the Census Bureau, call toll free at 866-861-2010.

ELECTION INFORMATION

The May 8, 2010 Election is just around the corner! Anyone interested in running for Mayor or a City Council position can pick up a candidate packet at City Hall or find information online. Candidates must be at least 18 years old, a resident living in the corporate City Limits, and a registered voter. The last day for filing for a place in the election is March 8, 2010.

**NTTA PUBLIC MEETING
ON TOLL ROUTE
MARCH 9th - 6:00 PM
POINT BANK COMMUNITY CENTER**

NTTA has announced a Public Meeting to be held in Pilot Point on March 9th to receive input on the proposed routes for the next extension of the Dallas North Tollway.

Data and responses received during this Public Meeting are extremely important and will have a direct impact on the eventual location of the extension of the tollway. We stand to receive millions in property and sales tax benefits that can help Pilot Point prosper and grow the closer the tollway extension is to Pilot Point.

Mark your calendars now to attend this important meeting!

For information on the Public Meeting, contact HNTB Engineers at 972-628-3111, email dnt45@ntta.org or contact City Hall at 940-686-2165.

MAIN STREET

Do You Care About Our Square?

My name is Bruce Thomas. I am the new Main Street Director and I took this job because I want to see our town square add another chapter to its history.

Pilot Point started as the “point” where wagon train “pilots” could find their way west. Over time the square developed into a major commercial center with an active market, the first brick building in Denton County, even an opera house. Still evolving over the last century, the square was home to many of the businesses you now visit on Highway 377.

Pilot Point’s town square is now at an important crossroads in its history. There are two paths. The south side of the square represents one path and the newly opened Purple Door Day Spa on the north side is the other. Which paths will the square take? It’s not up to me. It’s up to you.

Do you care about our square? If you do, I’d simply like to know who you are. Email me at bthomas@cityofpilotpoint.org or send a note to city hall. There’s no obligation. No committee to join. No petition to sign. Just send me a simple message – I CARE ABOUT OUR SQUARE. With the support of the people who care, whatever form that takes in the future, I am of the firm belief that the future of the square will be as exciting as its past.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

**Trash, Litter, Debris,
& Inoperable Vehicles**

The general exterior picture that your house presents to the neighborhood is very important. An unsightly home can be a message to criminals, drug dealers, and other unauthorized persons that this is a property where nobody pays attention to what is going on.

Trash, litter, and debris on your premises can be an invitation to criminal activity, graffiti, and illegal dumping. Inoperable vehicles take up limited parking spaces and may create a nuisance, as well as provide places to conceal drugs. Excess storage on your porch is unsightly and can contribute to infestations of insects and rodents, and often promotes moisture damage to the supporting structure.

All of the above items are violations of the City’s of Pilot Point ordinances and can result in the issuance of administrative citations along with possible fines if not promptly corrected. If you have any questions, please contact the Code Enforcement Officer at 940-686-2165 or email rose@cityofpilotpoint.org. You may also access city ordinances related to these matters at www.cityofpilotpoint.org See *City Documents/Ordinances*.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Wildlife as Pets

Many people have contact with wild animals and especially if the animals are young, are tempted to take them home as pets. Baby animals are often cute, cuddly and responsive to attention. The temptation to remove them from their natural environment can be very strong, but before you try to make a pet out of a wild animal, please consider the following:

Most wild animals will not live very long in our normal household surroundings. Baby animals that do survive will undergo a drastic behavioral change as they become adults. They often become very aggressive and continually try to escape back to the out-of-doors. A tailor-made pet does not result from declawing, descenting, neutering or removing fangs from a wild animal. In addition, attempting to return such animals to the wild when their behavior becomes intolerable is a death sentence.

The dietary requirements of most wild animals are different from domestic pets. An improper diet can result in serious nutritional deficiencies such as rickets and other crippling conditions. Most wild animals are normally most active at night. This perfectly normal behavior can be very disruptive to persons trying to sleep and attempts to change it may be very frustrating to the animal itself. Even healthy-looking wild animals can carry many diseases that affect people. Rabies is one such disease and others include leptospirosis, tularemia and plague. Preventive vaccines against these diseases are not approved for use in wildlife. Various federal and state laws protect most wild animals. Permission from the proper authorities must be obtained before keeping a wild animal. When you are tempted to take home a wild animal for a pet, ask yourself these questions:

- Am I willing to risk destroying the animal?
- Am I willing to risk the health, and possibly the life, of my family and myself?
- Am I willing to change my lifestyle to conform to the animal's natural and unalterable behavior?
- Is what I am doing legal?

If you cannot truthfully answer "yes" to each question, do not attempt to keep a wild animal as a pet.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Spring Break

Spring break is upon us and a lot of families and students are leaving town for vacations. Families deserve a break, and in many cases their vacation is earned. So know before you go, and make some educated decisions before you pack your bags.

Pack Smart – Pack light and simple, bringing as few valuables as possible. Nobody in Aruba cares about your Prada flip-flops, so why bring them? Consider packing inexpensive alternatives to your daily items (sunglasses, clothes, jewelry, bags) so that if you do happen to lose them, it's no great loss. Must bring items include: cell phone, identification, health insurance information, contact numbers and medication. You might also consider packing a simple first aid kit.

Broadcast Your Whereabouts – Short of implanting a tracking device, you should do as much as you can to let people know where you are at all times. Make sure someone back home has your contact information, for every place your going to be, and as much of your itinerary as you can pre-plan. Also provide contact information for others in your group.

Home Security – If you're leaving your home (apartment, business, etc.) unattended, practice some basic safety:

- Turn off all appliances, unplug everything (saves you on your electric bill, too),
- Lock all doors and windows
- Only give someone you completely trust the responsibility of feeding your pets and collecting your mail and newspapers.
- Notifying your local police department and request a vacation watch.

LIBRARY

324 South Washington St.

Tuesday – Friday 8:30 AM – 5:30 PM

Saturday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Closed on Sundays and Mondays

National Craft Month: The library will feature dozens of crafting books in the front lobby through the months of March and April. Learn how to make patchwork bags, bead jewelry, glass paintings, crocheted and knitted items, children's crafts, sock dolls, wood boxes, ceramics and birdhouses.

If you already know how to craft, we have materials that will help enhance the skills you already have.

Storytime: Don't forget to bring your preschoolers to the library every Wednesday morning at 11:00 for 25 minutes of stories and hands-on activities for ages 3 and up. All library programs are free to area residents.

Closures: The library will be closed all day Friday, April 2nd in observance of Good Friday.

For more information about any of our library services or to find out how to get a free library card, call 686-5004, email library@cityofpilotpoint.org or visit us at www.pilotpointlibrary.org.

FIRE/EMS/AMBULANCE

Brush Fire Safety

With our long winter now coming to a close, we have been pleasantly surprised by some recent warm weather. With warmer weather comes dry vegetation that can result in brush fires that burn and spread quickly. It is important to take into consideration some landscaping and home maintenance tips to ensure safe surroundings.

Landscaping Tips

- Remove weeds and keep grass cut.
- Properly dispose of dead and piled up vegetation.
- Stack any firewood left over from the winter away from structures.
- Limit the use of flammable plants in your landscaping, contact your local home and garden center if you have questions about safe plants.
- Plant trees and shrubs with room to grow in sparse and separate areas, and choose trees that don't have too many branches. The distance from tree to house should always be greater than the height of the tree.
- Try not to use plants that develop dead undergrowth.
- Provide adequate water to keep plants healthy & green.
- Keep sprinkler systems in good working order.
- Trim dead wood off of trees.

Home Maintenance Tips

- Trash and debris should be disposed of properly.
- Store flammable liquids properly.
- Always dispose of cigarettes carefully.
- Keep the roof clean and clear. If possible, wash the roof on a regular basis.

For non-emergency fire and EMS information or questions: call **940-686-5038** or email:

admin@ppfd.org

Practice Fire Safety at Home!

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Keep Pilot Point Beautiful

KPPB is seeking community businesses and professionals to sponsor T-shirts, bottled water, and additional publicity for the 5th Annual Trash-Off. Contact Linda Bush @ 940-686-0200 or Joyce Wood, Exec. Director @ 940-686-2442 if interested in sponsoring.

Pilot Point Senior Center

The Pilot Point Senior Center is looking for donations of particular items such as: VCR/DVD Player, TV Console/Entertainment Center, Senior Friendly Exercise Equipment & Video workout tapes/DVD's and an Upright freezer or Refrigerator. For more information please contact Karen at kschoonover@cityofpilotpoint.org or 940-688-2165 ext. 19.

Non-Profit Organizations are encouraged to list their upcoming events in our Community Newsletter. Email kschoonover@cityofpilotpoint.org to list your community activities.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO REMEMBER

City Hall	(940) 686-2165 (MAIN NUMBER)
Animal Control	(940) 686-2165
Burn Permits	(940) 686-5038
Chamber	(940) 686-5385
Fire Department	(940) 686-5038 (NON-EMERGENCY)
IESI Trash/Recycle	(903) 564-9252
Library	(940) 686-5004
Main Street	(940) 686-6488
Municipal Court	(940) 686-4707
Police Department	(940) 686-2969 (NON-EMERGENCY)
Post Office	(940) 686-2924
Post Signal Paper	(940) 686-2169
PPISD	(940) 686-8700 (MAIN NUMBER)
PPYSA	(940) 595-0288 (GENE NICODEMUS)
Senior Center	(940) 686-2639
Water/Sewer	(940) 368-0985 (AFTER HOURS)
Water Department	(940) 686-2165

EMERGENCIES DIAL 911

COMMUNITY EVENTS

March 8, 2010	Monday	
	City Council Meeting – City Hall	6:30 pm
March 8, 2010	Monday	
	Pilot Point EDC Meeting – City Hall	5:30 pm
March 9, 2010	Tuesday	6:30 pm
	NTTA Tollway Public Meeting Point Bank Community Center	
March 13, 2010	Saturday	
	Drawing on the Square	4:00 pm
March 18, 2010	Thursday	
	Chamber Luncheon	11:30 am
March 22, 2010	Monday	
	City Council Meeting – City Hall	6:30 pm
April 2, 2010	Friday	
	Holiday – City Offices Closed	
April 10, 2010	Saturday	
	5 th Annual Trash-Off Sign up on the Square @ 8:30 a.m.	
April 26, 2010	Monday	
	Early Voting Starts	