

The Cross Roads Times

Quarterly Publication of the Town of Cross Roads, Texas (Denton County)

From the Mayor's Desk

by Ross Schraeder, Mayor



2010-2011 year's income. As a result, it appears that Cross Roads' normal operational performance is acceptable. Also, please note that the above numbers do not include the \$203K major road resurfacing that was paid for by reserves set aside in previous years.

Cross Roads Town Budget for 2010-2011

2010 Financial Performance

As most of you know, Cross Roads' financial year starts on October 1 and ends on September 30. So, we have just finished the Town's 2009-2010 fiscal year. Whereas numbers for September are not yet finalized, for the year, it looks as though the operating revenues were \$468K, which is about ten thousand dollars below budget. Expenses were \$437K, or about forty-three thousand dollars below budget, resulting in a net income delta of a positive \$33K. It should be noted, however, that \$32K of the revenues were a result of payments from Huffine's Providence Development, which will not be seen in the

The Town's budget for the 2010-2011 fiscal year was finalized and passed at the September town council meeting. The town's budget committee based the income and expenses on the 2009-2010 actual expenses, discounting any one-time only income and a reduction in interest income due to lower bank rates. It was the judgment of both the committee and the council that any projected turnaround in the economy could not yet be counted upon. The only increased expenses were a minor increase in salaries of the town's two paid employees and a small increase in Cross Road's support of the Aubrey Area Library. The library is

Special Interest Articles



Katherine's Corner 2



Aubrey Area Library 4



Kernels from Kay 4

Individual Highlights

The Spotted Leopard 3

Retirement of Harv Kitchens 4

Geo-Caching 4

Community Sale in Town Park 4

Minding My P's and Q's 6

Do You Know Gale Bacon? 7

used by our citizens and is seeing funding and employee reductions.

There have been some indications of a turn-around, but nothing very solid. Once the council is convinced that the economy has turned around, there are a number of projects the town council needs to consider.

Continued on page 2

From the Mayor's Desk...(continued)

Major Road Resurfacing

The road committee did an outstanding job of asphalt resurfacing Naylor Road and chip and seal resurfacing of the roads in Oak Shores, Spring Mountain, and Bridle Ridge. Once money is available, the next major road to be resurfaced probably will be Potter Shop. Until that time, only road repair, maintenance and minor improvements are planned.

The "Wal-Mart Development"

BBSI, the banking company holding ownership of The Village at Cross Roads mixed development, continues to work to find a company to purchase the property for future development, but has not made any final decisions as of the writing of this article. However, it is going to happen and when it does BBSI, the developer, and Cross Roads' citizens will all be winners.

Residential Subdivisions

Cross Roads includes some beautiful residential subdivisions. The older subdivisions like Oak Bluff,

Spring Mountain, Bridle Ridge, and Oak Shores are now seeing significant new building and sale of homes. The newer gated communities of Forrest Hills, Stone Mountain, and the residential part of The Village at Cross Roads, are now starting to see activity. All of the subdivisions have their own unique character, and as the economy accelerates Cross Roads will be a magnet for quality family homes.

The Future

As a citizen of Cross Roads, you have a right to the beauty and happiness that living in Cross Roads makes possible. Take advantage of it and promote getting more families interested in our laid back country style of living. Remember, our town is based on one-acre minimum lot size, no town property tax, and no debt. You are welcome to get involved in town business by serving on one of our support committees.

All citizens are invited to come to the Town's Council and Staff meetings. Details of these meetings are on the last page of this newsletter.

Katherine's Corner...by Katherine Ritchie, Town Administrator



Harvey



I received an email recently from a citizen who would like to get a charitable message to as many individuals as possible. In the past we have highlighted benevolent acts by our citizens, so I thought it would be appropriate to include this request.

Mr. Laird Doctor who has served as the Chairman of the Architectural Review Committee for the Town of Cross Roads has a daughter, Katie, who has begun a collection campaign of new or gently used soccer, football, and baseball shoes, as well as dress shoes for both boys and girls. The shoes will be distributed here in the United States and internationally. I know she would appreciate your donations. **You may drop off your donations of shoes at Town Hall and I will get them to her.**

She is calling her campaign **Short Time Shoes**. Katie wrote, "If as a result of this (effort) I'm able to donate even one box of shoes I will be thankful...anything more that comes from this will be gravy..."

Continued on Page 3

Katherine's Corner *(continued)*

COMMUNITY EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS

If you would like to receive email notifications of town meetings and community wide activities please email me and place in the subject line, "**ADD ME TO YOUR EMAIL DISTRIBUTION LIST.**" My email address is townsecretary@crossroadstx.gov. I will send out information only using **BLIND COPY** status so your email address will not be displayed in the address box.

The Spotted Leopard...by Larry and Kae Fisher



Co-owner Geri Newton warmly greeted us at the door of the fashion accessories store she and her business partner, Heidi Cox, began just two months earlier. Geri's lifelong interest in art and design moved her to begin making jewelry and creating original artwork back in 1997. After years of operating several businesses with her husband and working as a church secretary, Geri felt it was time for her life to take a new direction. And that new direction resulted in the "The Spotted Leopard".

For years Geri traveled along US 380 without seeing any retail businesses specifically designed to appeal to women. Drawing on her passionate interest in art and jewelry, Geri felt compelled to remedy that retailing oversight! Sharing this

vision with her friend Heidi, they quickly determined that Cross Roads was the perfect spot to launch The Spotted Leopard.

The space they currently occupy sits directly across from Prairie House. They have enough room to carry a wide variety of jewelry and decorating accessories while remaining intimate enough to encourage a sense of comfortable hospitality among their growing set of enthusiastic customers.

Every month, Geri and Heidi select a "Texas Artisan of the Month" to feature at their shop. In October, they selected an artist that crafts unique crosses. Uniqueness is a major theme at The Spotted Leopard. For example, you can string your own unique piece of jewelry from a large selection of beads and baubles that fit your personal sense of style and color!

The Spotted Leopard features a variety of one-of-a-kind items including purses, baby clothing, jewelry, beads, and even a substantial selection of wonderful salsas from Geri's husband's company. Their customers favorably respond to the ever-changing product selection and also love the inviting and personable approach of the owner/operators. One customer commented, "You have no idea how uplifting your shop is. My heart and spirit have been uplifted. This shop is a ministry to women. You are great encouragers!" Once you meet Geri, you too will know exactly what the customer is talking about.

Take the opportunity during the next few weeks to explore The Spotted Leopard and meet the owners. When you do, Geri asks me to have you bring in your copy of this newsletter, have her autograph it and she will give you a special 20% discount on the item of your choice!

Continued on page 4

Retirement for Harv Kitchens, Mayor and Council Member



On June 14, 2010, Harv Kitchens retired from 16 years of dedicated service to the town of Cross Roads. Harv was elected council member in 1994, and served in that capacity for eight years. Then he was elected mayor and served faithfully for eight more years. Heartfelt gratitude was expressed to him by the outgoing and incoming council members, residents, and friends who attended the June council meeting where he was honored.

Thank you, Harv Kitchens.

Geocaching, Anyone? ...by Gail Bacon

Combine the ancient game of 'hide and seek' with GPS coordinates and hidden treasure, and you have the modern day game called 'Geocaching'. Played by millions of people across the globe, Geocaching is gaining even more popularity now with the advent of cell phones equipped with GPS locators.

So, how do you play? Well, first, someone puts out a 'geocache' and registers the GPS location at <http://www.geocaching.com>. A cache is any kind of container with a lid. It usually contains one or more 'trinkets' and perhaps a log, where you can write down your name. Then you can take an item from the cache box, and replace it with cache of your own. A cache can be anywhere – buried in the ground, hanging in a tree, or hiding in plain sight. To get started, log on to the geocache website, write down the coordinates or download them into your GPS device, and away you go. It's that easy. You don't have to go very far to find a cache. We have quite a few caches right here in our own town of Cross Roads!



First Community Sale in Town Park...by Gale Bacon

The first Cross Roads' community sale at the Town Park took place on Saturday, October 9, 2010. The day was beautiful; there was a slight breeze, and the oak trees provided great shade for the afternoon. Eight local families participated in selling items. Naomi Hauf and Sue Weaver did fund-raising for their American Cancer Society **Relay for Life** team.

Thanks to all of the people who helped make this sale a success.

Another sale may be planned for next spring. Watch this newsletter for more details.

Another Library Resource...by Jan Herbst



Dr. Malcolm Green delivered the poem, *Ode to the Haggis* by Robert Burns at **An Evening in Scotland** in the library's Community Center. Dr Green is from Glasgow, Scotland, and a former professor of Roman Antiquities at the University of Glasgow.



The Community Room is available for functions as varied as your imagination. It was used on Memorial Day for this colorful event.

Beyond the books, magazines, and computers in the Aubrey Library, lies another valuable community resource: The Community Center. This spacious, 4800 square foot room is part of the library building and is available for rental for social, civic, business, cultural, recreational, or charitable purposes. Family reunions, wedding receptions, birthdays, showers, training seminars, benefit dinners, town hall meetings, dances, holiday parties, along with the library's summer reading programs, have all taken place in the Community Center.

The Center has 40 six-foot tables and 150 chairs for use, and is fire coded for 300 people. Additionally, a well-equipped kitchen with adequate preparation space, refrigerator, freezer, range with oven, microwave, and dishwasher can be part of the rental.

The rental fee for Aubrey residents is \$50 per hour, non-residents \$60 per hour. The kitchen is a flat \$50 per event. The City of Aubrey requires a \$100 deposit for the Community Center or \$150 deposit for the Center and kitchen. The deposits are refunded after the event, if the rooms are left cleaned and there is no damage.

Kernels from Kay

Things I Have Learned From My Grandchildren

1. Do not go to somewhere people like on a Saturday.
2. A flip-flop will not flush down the toilet, but an army man will.
3. It will not kill a child to drink from an algae ridden bird bath, or the dog's bowl.
4. It will not kill a child to eat a dog biscuit.
5. It will not kill a child to eat a pill bug; they are protein, anyway.
6. If a child is determined to wear a plaid shirt with patterned shorts, let him- who really cares?
7. If a child wants to gel his hair up in a Mohawk for Vacation Bible School, let him. Who really cares?
8. Even Tide with Bleach will not get out some stains.
9. Just because a dog has never bitten does not mean he never will.
10. It is not humanly possible to be at three soccer games at the same time.

Kay Lamb



Come visit the Community Center and envision how you could use it. How would you arrange the tables and chairs and use your own decorations to make your event spectacular? There is still time to plan your holiday gala. You can reserve the space up to six months in advance by making your deposit at the library.

Give us a call at **940-365-9162** for more information. Please check out our website for information about activities at the library.

www.aubreytx.net/library



Minding My P's and Q's Quilt Shop

...by Larry and Kae Fisher

In April of this year and after 12 years working in the corporate environment at Sally Beauty, Jill Baxter felt God nudging her to even more fully embrace a passion she had developed- quilting. Quilting apparently runs in the genes of Jill's family. Her mother was an accomplished quilter and Jill's daughter, Amy Anderton, not only quilts but also assists Jill in running Minding My P's & Q's Quilt Shop.

Jill began making her first quilt while helping care for her hospitalized mother. She completed the quilt and entered it in a quilting contest at Sally Beauty, where it won first place! The same quilt earned 3rd place in an exhibition of Denton County Quilters. With that encouragement, Jill began expanding her quilting skills and interests.

By 2005, Jill was creating custom quilts in her home for a growing number of appreciative customers. Encouraged by these experiences, Jill started looking for an appropriate location for her quilt shop. Earlier this year, with the help of her business property locator son-in-law, she chose her current location in Cross Roads. You'll recognize it by the old Texas country-themed covered wagon sitting in front of the Minding My P's & Q's Quilt Shop.

When she opened her business in June of this year, approximately 250 people, many of them members of Quilt Guilds, came through her doors for the first time. What these visitors discovered was a local source for beautiful fabrics, supplies, and even completed quilts. Moreover, the Quilt Shop, as it is commonly known, regularly offers quilting classes custom designed for every level of quilting enthusiast, from beginner to advanced-level quilter.

If you are an experienced quilter, you will find a friendly, knowledgeable staff able to answer your questions and provide you with the support you need to craft your quilts. If you are a beginner or are simply curious about quilting, you'll find the same friendly faces anxious to help you with your needs.

The Quilt Shop offers its customers some unique capabilities including a new long-arm quilting machine, custom quilts, unique embroidery, and an impressive inventory of colorful bolts of fabric. Jill is even starting to think about expanding her business to include... well, you might want to ask Jill or Amy when you see them!

In the meantime, bring in your copy of The Cross Roads Times newsletter, get it signed, and get a free "fat quarter" of fabric. Don't know what a "fat quarter" is? You need to stop at the covered wagon and ask Jill. She'd love to tell you!

Minding My P's & Q's Quilt Shop
8500 Hwy 380, Cross Roads, TX
940-365-5933

Store Hours:

Tuesday - 10 am to 7 pm

Wednesday thru Saturday - 9 am to 6 pm



Do You Know Gale Bacon? ... by Kim Dickey

Gale Bacon just cheers up a room when she comes into it. She is spunky, sincere, genuine, and always seems to speak from her heart. It's hard to meet Gale and not know where her passions lie. Gale and her husband, Bill, have lived in Bridle Ridge in Cross Roads since 2001. Everyone has his/her own unique story about finding a home in Cross Roads, but hers is truly a story with a silver lining meant to be.

Gale grew up in Austin Texas, with her parents and her older brother. She graduated from UT Austin with an MS degree. She went to work as a software programmer and that is when she met Bill. They worked together for several years and became great friends. They even tried dating at one point, but it did not seem right at the time. In 1994 they both moved to Dallas with separate jobs and remained good friends,

enjoying similar activities, interests and laughing about each other's botched dates over the years.

In March of 2000, Gale received the life-changing news that she was diagnosed with CML Leukemia. As she faced the prospects of treatment and chemotherapy, Bill immediately came to her side and moved in to her house to take care of her throughout this amazing ordeal. He had been there as her dear friend for better and now he was going to be there for the worst. He took care of her and her home and endeared himself to her as her "Smoothie King", creating concoctions to help her maintain her health and energy.

The next year was a battle that Gale fought by maintaining her positive mental attitude and making small goals for each day. In April, as Gale felt she was at her worst, Bill won a sales trip to Hawaii and encouraged her to come with him. She spent the first few days in the hotel room, but after a while, she was able to venture out a bit- enough so that Bill brought her down to the beach and proposed to her. Of course she said yes. Who could reject such an amazing proposal from your best friend who had already been there for better and worse?

When they returned to Dallas, a new trial drug was released which put her leukemia into remission; where it has thankfully stayed for the past 9 years. She also had a new focus – to find a home with acreage for herself and Bill. As many of us did, she stumbled upon Cross Roads by accident. She was driving around Denton and somehow ended up on 380 and turned up Rock Hill. As she turned again, she came to the sign at New Hope and started to cry, knowing this was truly a "sign". Almost immediately she saw a For Sale sign in Bridle Ridge and knew where she wanted to live. Gale and Bill moved into their beautiful house on the hill in August of 2001.

Gale truly lives a life of gratitude and always looks for the silver lining. She serves as the chairperson of the Park Committee for the Town of Cross Roads and is an active member of the local Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, even occasionally participating in their half-marathons! She enjoys her free time at home with Bill and their animals, loves to travel and just recently discovered the joys of owning a sports car and driving with the top down!

Please Welcome Our New Residents and Businesses to Cross Roads

The Nail and Spa, 10000 Highway 380, #200

Kyle Johnson, 5001 Fishtrap, PO Box 165, Cross Roads, TX 76227

Town of Cross Roads, Texas

Ross Schraeder, Mayor
Tony Russo, Mayor Pro Tem
Kim Dickey, Council Member
Larry Fisher, Council Member
Virden Seybold, Council Member
Steve Smith, Council Member
Katherine Ritchie, Town Administrator
Judy Moudy, Admin. Assist.
Jeanie Burch, Editor

Cross Roads Town Hall

PHONE: 940-365-9693
 FAX: 940-665-6898
 www.crossroadstx.gov

TOWN HALL MEETING SCHEDULE



Town Council Meetings 3rd Monday of the month

Planning & Zoning Commission meetings 4th Tuesday of the month

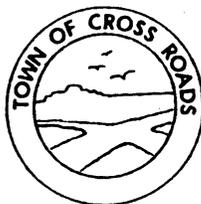
Road Repair Committee meetings the Thursday before the Town Council meeting

Comprehensive Planning Committee meetings 2nd Wednesday of the month

Town Council Workshop Meetings as needed

Park Board Meetings – 2nd Tuesday of the Month

All meetings start at 7:00 pm, or will be posted if different. All meetings are open to the public and held at Town Hall unless specified otherwise on the agendas, which are posted on the front window of Town Hall. Please call Katherine Ritchie at Town Hall if you would like to join a committee to serve your community.



Town of Cross Roads

1401 FM 424

Cross Roads, TX 76227