



March 13, 2009

- The City launched the **Affordable/Moderately Priced Housing Voluntary Roundup program**. This is a program all city of Franklin utility bill customers can participate in by rounding up their utility bill to the nearest dollar and the extra change will go into a fund to help lower income families reduce the fees they pay for a new construction home. Anyone can make a donation. For more information on this, it's posted on the main page of our web site at [www.franklintn.gov](http://www.franklintn.gov) Local TV channels 4, 2 and FOX covered the story for us, in addition to the Williamson Herald and the Williamson A.M. **Kudos go to all those who served on the committee from Codes and Planning** and also **Aldermen Pearl Bransford and Michael Skinner**.
- **The Police Department's new text tip system was featured on CNN** earlier this week. **Deputy Chief David Rahinsky** was interviewed on the morning show live. The new system will allow anyone with a cell phone to text tips to the Police Department. We are hopeful this initiative will encourage the community's young people, especially students in our schools, to report information about criminal activity in a very proactive way while having the opportunity to remain anonymous. Special thanks to **Chief Jackie Moore, Deputy Chief Rahinsky and Sergeant Charles Warner** for setting up the interview and getting the great local and national press on this story. To see the video and read the press release go to our web site at [www.franklintn.gov](http://www.franklintn.gov) or the direct link at: <http://www.franklintn.gov/police/dep-chief-rahinsky-on-cnn.html>.
- In anticipation of the city adopting the latest edition of the Electrical Code, The **City of Franklin Codes Department Electrical inspectors'** facilitated a meeting to discuss the changes. There were approximately 80 Electrical Contractors and Electricians from the area in attendance in addition to the Electrical Manufacturer representatives who brought new electrical products to demonstrate. Tentatively, staff intends to present the new code to the BOMA in May with an adoption date of July 1, 2009.
- **The Parks Department** is partnering with the **Williamson County Drug Court** to help with a community service project at Liberty Park Disc Golf Course. The course is currently under construction but the area is filled with trash and debris left from years of collections within a dense, wooded area. We are planning the grand opening for summer 09. Yet, this type of work has to be done prior to opening the new recreational facility. Thanks to **Anna Shuford** who spearheaded this project.
- We have a winner for the "Name the Newsletter" contest. **The City Insider** won with 83 votes, City Connection received 50 votes, Franklin Frontline got 29 and the other two had too few votes to count. Thanks to everyone who participated. The March newsletter will be released on March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- A note to all staff, when any member of the media calls, please refer those calls to our **Communications Manager, Milissa Reierson**. This will ensure the city communicates

as effectively, consistently and accurately with the media as possible. Effective communication with the media also helps the city manage emergencies and correct misconceptions. Communicating with the media is a skill that requires special training and experience and which benefits from adherence to established procedures. For this reason, whenever possible, the communications office is the primary point of contact for inquiries from the media. The communications staff may arrange for an interview with staff or serve as the department spokesperson, depending on the issue, but should always be informed of media calls **before** the city responds or provides information. For more information on the city's media policy, please go to inside the city under shared documents.

***Excellence, Innovation, Teamwork, Integrity, Action-Oriented***