

CITY MANAGER'S BIWEEKLY UPDATE

May 15, 2020

UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 16th – Kilgore Police Department Cruise Night – Downtown 7pm-9pm
- May 17th – City of Kilgore celebrates the KHS Class of 2020 with a parade downtown 2 p.m.
- May 23rd – Pirtle BBQ at Pirtle United Methodist Church
- **May 26th- City Council Meeting 5:30 p.m.**
- May 29th – Spring Swing 2020 at Tempest Golf Course
- May 30th – Classic Car Hop at Kilgore Mercantile and Music 5pm
- May 30th – Atwoods Ranch and Home Kilgore Blood Drive
- June 5th – Fridays After 5 with TBA music at the World's Richest Acre
- June 6th – Tractors, Trucks, and Fun, Downtown Kilgore
- **June 9th – City Council Meeting ***CANCELLED*****

PUBLIC WORKS AND PROJECTS

- Trim covering was added around the Splash Pad Pavilions posts.
- Downtown flower beds have been weeded and set with summer arrangements.
- All golf carts have been relocated to their new home in the beautiful new cart barns!
- Meadowbrook Golf Pro Shop has reopened, observing all CDC recommended guidelines.
- The Parks Department has removed several downed trees as a result of the past few storms.
- All A/C filters have been replaced in city owned buildings.
- Construction on the Wells St. extension storm drainage system began this week.
- Trails Phase II construction continues
- Concrete for the repair of the drainage structure at the E. Lantrip drainage outfall was poured this week.
- Well 3A was cleaned using sonar jetting, a controlled explosive charge that generates sonic waves to remove scale from the well screens.
- The surface water treatment plant has been operating for a couple of days a week.
- Minor repairs to Rusk St. elevated storage tank were completed.
- Crescent St. waterline replacement was put into service.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Longview Fire Department will be conducting voluntary COVID-19 testing to all Emergency personnel in Gregg County. This will take place as soon as possible and after they get an accurate count of those who would like to be tested.
- The Governor's Office has tasked Fire Departments state wide to assist in conducting COVID-19 testing in their regions for nursing home facilities. This will be in conjunction with the Texas Department of Health.
- Assistant Police Chief Gage has become an Assessor for the Texas Police Chief's Association and is assisting with an on-site re-recognition for Alvin PD. Due to the virus he is reviewing the policies and practices remotely.
- Daniel Morgan is completing his FAA classes to become a drone pilot.
- Officers Frank McCullough and Bradley Greener completed their Field Training program and have been assigned to a shift.
- Kilgore Police Department is investigating Kilgore's first homicide of 2020. Much of our staff along with Gregg County DA Tom Watson have been involved in the investigation.

QUALITY OF LIFE

- May is typically a fast and busy month, full of events, but we are in a different season this year. However, from our trails and parks, to your own backyard, you can still experience the great outdoors this year. From the wildflowers blooming to the fantastic sunsets, something is refreshing about experiencing our piney woods. Kilgore is opening up for business, so there are some events to think about attending safely in the near future, but in the meantime, continue to support local, safely.
- Plans are underway for the July 4th Fireworks Extravaganza. We're not sure what all we'll be able to do, but we know it will be a great time!
- The playscapes and play equipment in the City's parks have been being sanitized several times a week by Mosquito Joe. This has been a very generous donation of their time and materials that has allowed us to leave those amenities open.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

- The Planning and Zoning Board will meet next week on Wednesday, May 20 to review and make recommendations on three zoning cases. They will appear on the City Council agenda at the May 26 meeting.
- The Main Street Advisory Board will hold their first meeting since February, this upcoming Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 5:30 at Kilgore City Hall.
- Burke's Outlet received their Certificate of Occupancy for the new location.
- The first "[Code Corner](#)" video has been attached to the City website.

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

- Since opening on May 4 with limited services, the Library has seen of 170 visitors. Thank you to Danny Downing and Greg Howell for helping us prepare to open safely by installing the plexiglass shields.
- A new Little Free Library has been installed at the Houston St. entrance to the Creekside Trail. Thank you to Danny Downing and the Parks Department for installing it for us, Jan Hattaway for filling it with books, and John Leppert for building it for us!

Highlight of the Week – City's Low Budget Videos – Entertaining and Educational!

To be clear, when we say low budget, we mean no budget. Whether you laugh with us or laugh at us, you'll learn a little something when you check out the "[Mosquito Minute](#)" and "[Code Corner](#)" Playlists on YouTube.



[Mosquito Minute](#) – Join Kilgore's own B.J. Owen, Director of Special Services as he fights off hordes of mosquitos while explaining how to reduce mosquito populations and avoid getting bit.



[Code Corner](#) - Featuring Justin Windham, Code Compliance officer as he explains what codes are and how we can all help to improve the appearance and health safety of our City.

Lantrip Street Outfall



Free Library

