



New 2019-20 budget addresses basic City needs

The new 2019-20 fiscal year budget developed by City Council is designed to address basic City of Panorama Village needs and restore funds to our emergency surplus account.

The total approved 2019-20 budget is \$3.2 million in projected revenues with estimated expenses of \$2.7 million. This should create a surplus of \$526,000, more than half of which will be used to cover estimated shortages of \$290,000 from the Panorama Golf Club.

Thanks to recent accounting changes, the Golf Club budget has been substantially reorganized and now includes all expenses associated with the golf course and clubhouse operations. In the past, expenses like electricity, water, insurance, building repairs and equipment leases

were paid by the City and not included in the Golf Club accounting.

It was also difficult, for example, to compare clubhouse staff expenses against revenues from food and beverage operations. In the future we will have the ability to see monthly profit and loss statements for each profit center, which will give us the confidence to demonstrate that the club is moving steadily toward a breakeven status.

“Other than the Golf Club, street restoration is probably our number one need at this point,” said Mayor Scott. “We have budgeted approximately \$50,000 each year for the past several years for street repairs,” he said, “but that’s not enough to do much more than isolated patch work.”

The council is considering a complete \$550,000 restoration of all Panorama roads

with an expected life of ten years for heavily traveled roads and 15-20 years for light traffic. To finance this work, residents will be asked to vote on a bond issue in May. A certificate of obligation is also being considered as an alternative to the bond approach. Whichever financing plan is used, it will be retired by assessing each homeowner approximately \$600, payable in monthly payments of \$10 over a five year period.

Two other budget items of note: the Water & Sewer Department may add one new person in the coming year to offset the anticipated loss of several longtime employees who are approaching retirement age. The 2019-20 budget also includes a new vehicle for the Police Department and one new patrolman to be hired mid-year.

Village seamstress adds glamour to special occasions

Since she was ten years old, Panorama Village resident Emily Waits has been sewing things for people. She started out making dresses for her mother and sister, then around 1985 she started making things for other people too.

Today, Emily has a thriving business based entirely on word of mouth and referrals. Everything from wedding dresses, prom dresses, Masonic and Shriner robes, even chair and bassinet

covers. She once made a pair of pants from Crown Royal bags for a man to wear to a party in New Orleans.

Over the years, Emily has produced a lot of outfits for Eastern Star chapters, which is affiliated with the fraternal order of Masons. Each chapter’s outfits are different. At one time, she was doing

work for eighteen Eastern Star groups around the state.

If you need something stitched together, give Emily a call at 281-856-7814.



Party bridge couples wanted

The Tuesday night party bridge group is seeking new players. The group starts playing at the clubhouse at 4:00 pm, breaks for dinner at 5:15 and continues playing until 7:30 or so. You must have a partner to play. If you’d like more information, please call Jean Benson at 936-856-9720.

Pecan orders now being taken

The Garden Club is taking orders for fresh-picked Texas pecans, which should be delivered before Thanksgiving in time for holiday baking. One pound bags (halves or pieces) are being sold for \$12 per bag. Call Charlotte Branham (936-525-9004) or Joan Jackson (713-542-8577) to place your order.

Get ready to count

The 2020 U.S. Census is coming soon, and it’s important that every Panorama resident be counted. You will have a chance to fill out your Census form online, by mail, or if you procrastinate, in person with a Census enumerator showing up at your door.

Not only is census data used to determine Congressional representation for each state, it is also used to allocate more than \$675 billion in federal government aid to cities and states.

The promotional program starts in January, with mailings going out in March and a due date of April 1. The Census Bureau is hiring hundreds of temporary workers in Montgomery County to assist with this massive effort. Hourly pay is \$19/hour and hours are flexible. Call 855-JOB-2020 if you’re interested in applying for a position.

ON THE TEE BOX *With Ruthie McGrath*

Sometimes we play golf for years with friends and never know much about their younger life or how they began their love of golf. My parents played golf at Port Arthur Country Club in southeast Texas where I grew up. Both were active and enjoyed playing, and I remember going to the golf course during those years. I know my dad had a hole in one and my mom was a nine hole player just like I am now.

As an adult I took a few group lessons at Inwood Forest Country Club, but since I taught school and had young children, I didn't play much. I occasionally would play at a par three course near Sharpstown in Houston with another teacher. When I retired I was given a golf bag so I went to Golf School at Waterwood Country Club and ended up later moving to Panorama.

Margaret McCreedy invited me to join the Niners and I then played in the

Pacesetter Interclub and I was hooked. I don't play as much as I used to, but love the game and enjoy the outdoors.

Cathy Bason's dad, after retiring, worked at Mallard Cove Country Club in Lake Charles, Louisiana where she is from. Her first sport was tennis, but she enjoyed playing golf with her dad and a preacher friend. He made her clubs and they played together for years. They would take one of those large video cameras and record and critique themselves.

Marian Leighty took golf as a PE credit in college and then didn't play for years. Later when her children were older she began to play with friends. Her husband, Bob, was a golfer and she wanted to play well enough to play with him and others and enjoy it. She did take some group lessons to learn the basics and says she was terrible at first... boy, has that changed! Someone told her not to be so hard on herself and just

think of a double bogey as a par so it didn't sound so bad.

Nancy Florer took up golf when she could no longer play tennis. She took two 3-day courses and learned the basics of golf as well as things like weight transfer and how to strike the ball properly. Denise Peel got into golf because of her sales job in the shipping business. That group always had a lot of golf tournaments and she usually rode on the beer cart. She ended up playing once and really like it. She moved to Panorama and took one lesson and began to play. When she worked in Angola, Africa, everyone had Sunday afternoons off so they played golf in the sand. It wasn't the best conditions, but a fun activity to do in the compound.

No matter your background or how you got started, golf can be such an enjoyable sport and enrich your life with many good times and great friends!!

Bingo Night at the club

Thursday, October 31,
7:00 - 9:00 pm.
\$20 tickets available at
City Hall or Pro Shop. Cash only.



Friday Food Specials

- Oct 4** Chicken Parmesan dinner \$11.95
- Oct 11** Pork Loin dinner \$11.95
- Oct 19** Fish Fry \$10.50
- Oct 25** No Friday Night Feature due to Club Championship

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Oct 1** City Council meeting , 6:00 pm at Clubhouse. Special location for meeting to discuss bond issue and street repair assessment.
- Oct 4** Panorama Ladies Association at the clubhouse. Check-in 10:30, program 11:00, lunch at noon. Excerpts from upcoming Creighton Theater productions will be presented. Call Jo Broome at 936-701-2340 for information.
- Oct 10** Liberty Belles Republican Women at the clubhouse. Dinner and program at 6:00 pm. District Judge Kristin Bays will discuss personal income tax amendment on Nov 5 state ballot. RSVP at libertybellesrw.com.
- Oct 17** Panorama Garden Club at the clubhouse, 10:00 - 11:30 am. Flower Arranging 101. Guests should call Denise Harp (206-227-7298) for details.
- Oct 23** Panorama Lions Club at the clubhouse at 7:00 pm. Speaker is Kristi Leggett of Bridgewood Farms. Open to the public.

Yard of the Month

Patsy Rowell
10450 Parkside

