

Community Connection

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Council Welcomes Rydell, Dist 3; Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem Re-elected

Brandt Rydell was elected to the Taylor City Council on May 12 to represent District 3. He currently serves as assistant general counsel for the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc. (ERCOT).

A Taylor native and 1989 graduate of Taylor High School, Rydell earned his bachelor's degrees in English and history from the University of Arkansas and his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law.

Rydell served on the city's Planning & Zoning Commission since 2007. He currently serves on the board of the Taylor Conservation and Heritage Society and Project LOOP and as a volunteer for the Mentoring a Pasemann Student (MAPS) program and Taylor Meals on Wheels.

At the May 17 council meeting, Chris Gonzales was sworn in for his second term and Rydell was sworn in as a new council member. Mayor Don Hill and Mayor Pro Tem Chris Gonzales were re-elected by the Council to serve an additional one-year term. Former Councilman John McDonald chose not to run again for District 3 and was recognized for his nine years of service.



2012 City Council. Seated: Mayor Don Hill and Mayor Pro Tem Chris Gonzales. Standing: Jesse Ancira, Jr., Brandt Rydell and Chris Osborn.



TAYLOR
VIDEOS



View City Council meetings at
www.taylor.tx.gov.
Click on the Taylor Videos button
on the home page.



City Manager's Message

A new service is available!

Now you can view the meetings of the City Council on the city's website: www.taylor.tx.gov.

On the home page of the website, the "Taylor Videos" button will take you to live or recorded video of the council meetings.

A copy of the agenda for each meeting also is provided. Now you can see and hear your government at work. This is the latest initiative of our commitment to providing transparency in your local government. Our goal is to keep you fully informed on the way the city is managed by both the council and staff. And, of course, my door is always open!

Jim D. Dunaway

Community Connection is a monthly publication of the City of Taylor

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Taylor Recreation Center Preview

Coming soon will be the newest addition to the regional park area. Construction begins this summer on the new Taylor Recreation Center, a beautiful state-of-the-art facility that will include an indoor pool (lap pool, children's activity pool and warm spa); a fitness center with cardio and free weights, aerobics programming and a theatre room with exercise machines; nursery, toddler and kid's gym and teen area with computer/gaming station and movie screen room; and a social area and meeting room. The center will be located at the entrance to the Taylor Regional Park and Sports Complex and the East Williamson County Events Center. The Taylor Recreation Center should open in 2013.



Free Tax Assistance Pays Off

The Williamson County Financial Stability Coalition coordinated two sites in Taylor and five sites elsewhere in the county where area residents could get free tax assistance for the second year. This year volunteers for the Coalition served 2,958 people and facilitated refunds totaling \$4,574,418.

This is money that goes back into the community and provides income to those who filed. This free service saved these taxpayers more than \$100,250 in fees they would have had to pay for professional help.



Jose Orta, Kristee Watts, Mayor Don Hill, Tommie Gage, Jr.

The City of Taylor partnered with the Coalition by providing office space to do the returns. The Coalition includes the following organizations: United Way of Williamson County, AARP Tax-Aide, Williamson Burnet County Opportunities, Literacy Council of Williamson County and the Internal Revenue Service.

John McDonald Recognized for Service

John McDonald was honored for his nine years of service on the City Council during which time he served as Mayor Pro Tem for two terms.

Prior to being elected to the council, he also served seven years on the Planning & Zoning Commission.



What Is It?



This is a QR code, short for Quick Response. These are appearing everywhere, in magazine and newspaper advertising, billboards, web pages and more. They are used to transfer the information into a cell phone that has a QR code reader, usually a free download for most phones. Once it is in the phone, it can transfer you to details about the program.

Special Events

*New Summer Program
Taylor Public Library*

**Into the Realm
Of the Unknown**

*Taylor Teens Reading Program
Starts June 14 - July 19*

What is it?



See Story at Bottom Left

The Taylor Public Library is now using QR codes to share information about its programs. For more information, contact the Library at 352-3434.

Don't Miss

"KidFish"

8:30 a.m. - 12 noon

Saturday, June 23

Bull Branch Park

(Dellinger & Davis Streets)

For ages up to 16 years old

For information, call 352-3675



IMPORTANT REMINDER

FOURTH OF JULY CLOSURES

All City of Taylor offices and Taylor Public Library will be closed July 4, 2012.

Garbage service will not be affected.