



Newsletter

FROM THE CITY OF BENBROOK, TEXAS

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PLEASE NOTE: Certain material included in this newsletter is provided by other entities. Any opinions expressed by those entities do not necessarily reflect the official views of the City.

The City reserves the right to edit as necessary; however, the City does not guarantee the accuracy of the information provided and is not responsible for errors or omissions.

Benbrook's 30th Annual Tree Lighting and Fireworks Show

Capture the spirit of the season by joining the fun during Benbrook's 30th Annual Tree Lighting and Fireworks Show at 7 p.m. on December 4, 2021, at Dutch Branch Park behind the Benbrook Community Center YMCA (1899 Winscott Rd.). Attendees can watch Mr. & Mrs. Claus ride in on the Fire Truck, take pictures in the old-time sleigh, and even enjoy a cup of hot cocoa during the lighting of the tree and the fireworks show. The event is free to the public and hot cocoa will be available for purchase.

STAY UP TO DATE:

When emergency situations arise, the City of Benbrook works tirelessly to keep our community informed about safety protocols, resources, and announcements. City staff provide real-time status updates that are intended to be helpful to our residents and business community. The City's website (www.benbrook-tx.gov) and Facebook page are the official platforms for citizens to find the latest information.



Watch public meetings live on our Benbrook Government Access Cable Channel: Spectrum, Channel 190



Benbrook Heritage Fest Featured Pie Recipe ~ WINNERS ~

Benbrook Water Authority (BWA) Modifies Sewer Billing Method

BWA is taking steps to modify its sewer billing method from a total metered water basis (capped at 1,500 cubic feet for residential customers) to a winter quarter average basis. Changes in the billing method will not be reflected on customer bills until spring 2022.

This new method will stabilize each customer's monthly sewer bill, so they will not experience the spikes in their sewer charges during the summer months, as they have in the past. These increases were typically due to irrigation, washing cars, and other outdoor uses. Beginning in the spring of 2022, the sewer portion of each customer's bill will be fixed for a 12-month period, based on the average monthly water usage from December 2021 through February 2022.

However in 2023, and moving forward, the month of March will be used as the calculation month to set monthly sewer bills for the next 12 months. Water charges will not be impacted by this change and will continue to be based on actual metered water consumption each month.

To realize the greatest benefit from this change next year, customers should practice conservation this coming winter.

For more information, visit the BWA website at www.benbrookwater.com.



BENBROOK WATER AUTHORITY

FUDGE PECAN PIE RECIPE

Pie Crust:

- 1 ¼ cup flour
- ½ teaspoon granulated sugar
- ½ cup butter (chilled)
- ¼ cup water (cold)
- ¼ teaspoon salt

Pie Filling:

- ½ cup butter
- 2 eggs
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- 1 cup flour
- 3 tablespoons cocoa
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 3 ounces evaporated milk
- 2 ounces corn syrup
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ¾ cup chopped pecans

Instructions

Cream butter, eggs, and sugar. Whisk in salt, flour, cocoa, vanilla, milk, and syrup. Stir in pecans and pour into the prepared pie crust.

Bake at 350 degrees on middle oven rack for 55 minutes.

**Submitted by: Taryn White
(Best Tasting: 18 & Under Category)**



CHERRY PIE RECIPE

- 4 ½ cups halved & quartered pitted cherries from Door County, WI (Sequist Orchards is recommended)
- ¾ cup granulated sugar
- ¼ cup cornstarch
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- ¼ teaspoon almond extract
- 1 tablespoon cold unsalted butter, cut into small cubes
- Egg wash: 1 large egg beaten with 1 tablespoon (15ml) milk
- Coarse sugar for sprinkling on crust

Instructions

The crust: Prepare pie crust with Crisco recipe directions. Double crust is our favorite.

In a large bowl, stir the cherries, sugar, cornstarch, lemon juice, vanilla, and almond extract together until thoroughly combined.

Roll out the chilled pie dough: On a floured work surface, roll out one of the discs of chilled dough (keep the other one in the refrigerator). Turn the dough about a quarter turn after every few rolls until you have a circle 12 inches in diameter. Carefully place the dough into a pie dish. Bake for 5-10 minutes at 425 degrees until slightly golden.

Add cherry filling and cover with remaining pie crust.

Egg wash pie crust top, sprinkle sugar, and vent with knife.

Bake at 425 degrees for 15 minutes, reduce heat to 350 degrees and bake for 30 minutes until pie bubbles.

**Submitted by: Cassidy Conroy
(Best Tasting: 19 & Up Category)**





Winter Safety Tips for Pets

Exposure to winter weather can be dangerous to all pets. Winter walks can become life threatening if chemicals from ice-melting agents are licked off bare paws. Follow these safety tips to help prevent cold weather dangers from affecting your pet's health.

- All pet owners should monitor weather forecasts and keep their pets inside a warm, dry, safe place when the temperature gets below 40 degrees. Longer-haired and thick-coated dog breeds are more tolerant of cold weather, but no pet should be left outside for long periods in temperatures that get close to freezing.
- Provide your pet with shelter from the wind and precipitation. The floor of the shelter should be off of the ground to minimize heat loss. Do not use blankets or towels for bedding; they can get wet easily and attract insects. Straw or hay make good insulators.
- Make sure pets have unlimited access to fresh, non-frozen water.
- Coolant and antifreeze are lethal poisons for pets. Be sure to thoroughly clean up any spills from your vehicle.
- Make sure to have enough food, water, and any prescription medicine on hand for at least five days.



Benbrook Community Center YMCA News



Need a safe place for the kids during the school winter break?

Winter Break Camp Week 1 is December 20 - December 23 and Week 2 is December 27 - December 30. Camp costs: \$150 members and \$175 nonmembers per camp. For more information, email ychildcare@ymcafw.org.

The YMCA's Homeschool P.E. program is designed to help kids improve fitness and motor skills. Register now for the next six-week session starting December 10 and running through February 4. Classes are every Friday from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Stop by the branch to register, or visit ymcafw.org/programs/homeschool-programs.

Register your kids for winter basketball today!

The YMCA basketball program is designed to build teamwork, self-confidence, and help kids realize their potential. The season starts January 8 and runs through February 26. For more information, email sports@ymcafw.org, or visit ymcafw.org/programs/youth-basketball.

Benbrook Community Center YMCA / 1899 Winscott Rd., Benbrook, TX / 817-249-0500

Senior News



Grab your boots and jackets because winter is here! The Benbrook Senior Citizen Center offers many indoor engaging events and activities for seniors. If you feel like movin' and groovin', drop by the Senior Dance on January 21 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. You are also invited to participate in Ceramics with Steve on Tuesdays at 1 p.m., and join us Thursdays for Canasta at 9 a.m., Mahjong at 10 a.m., and Spades at 1 p.m. Learn more about upcoming events and activities by visiting the Benbrook Senior Citizen Center's Facebook page at [Facebook.com/BenbrookSeniorCenter](https://www.facebook.com/BenbrookSeniorCenter).

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Benbrook Senior Citizen Center is looking for volunteers to assist in setting up and organizing monthly dances and events. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact Karol Arnette at [817-249-6300](tel:817-249-6300).

A Holly Jolly Holiday at the Benbrook Public Library



The Benbrook Public Library will host its 7th Annual Holly Jolly Holiday celebration on Saturday, December 11, 2021, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This free holiday celebration is for the entire family. It will feature trackless train rides, the Uptown Carolers performing holiday songs, balloon making, a special appearance by Mrs. Claus, and much more. There will be arts and crafts, laser engraved ornaments, and refreshments throughout the day. All ages are invited to attend and celebrate the holiday season. For questions, call the Benbrook Public Library at [817-249-6632](tel:817-249-6632).

Christmas Tree Disposal

For your convenience, Republic Services offers curbside Christmas tree pick-up. Simply place your tree at the curb by 7 a.m. on Wednesdays, to be picked up within 72 hours, like normal brush collection. Please remove any nails, stands, plastic bags, and decorations from all trees.





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Public Notices

Holiday Closures

Benbrook City Hall will be closed December 23 & 24, 2021, for Christmas and December 31, 2021, for New Year's Eve.

Trash & Recycling Collection Dates

The 2021 holiday schedule will not impact regular trash and recycling services.



Election Results

During the November 2 election, Benbrook residents voted on four Benbrook City Council seats.

Jason Ward received 53.44% of the vote for Mayor, incumbent Larry Marshall received 62.21% for Place 3, Gary Addison received 55.09% for Place 5, and Keith Tiner ran uncontested for Place 7.

City Council acknowledged issuance of certificate of election to the newly appointed council members during their special called meeting on Thursday, November 11, 2021.

SUPPORT BENBROOK BUSINESSES BY SHOPPING LOCAL!



The City of Benbrook's new ZoomBusiness website makes it easy to find shops and services in Benbrook.

Simply visit BenbrookZoomBusiness.com.

If you are interested in listing your Benbrook business for **FREE**, call the Economic Development Department at **817-249-6990**.