



# City of BUNKER HILL VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



**December 2020**

## ELECTED CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor Robert Lord  
Mayor Pro-Tem Jay Smyre  
Councilmember Susan B. Schwartz  
Councilmember Keith Brown  
Councilmember Eric Thode  
Councilmember Laurie Rosenbaum

## CITY STAFF

Karen Glynn City Administrator  
Steve Smith Dir Public Works/Bldg Official  
Valerie Cantu Court Admin/Office Mgmt.  
Susan Grass Finance Manager  
Laurie Gantt Utility Billing/Permit Clerk  
Gama Escamilla Public Works Team Leader  
Oziel Reyna Public Works/Animal Control  
Cindy Arevalo Part Time Admin Assistant

## OFFICE HOURS

7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Monday through Thursday  
7:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon on Fridays  
We may be reached at

**713 - 467 - 9762**

Press "9" for After Hours Emergencies  
Or Call Memorial Villages Police Dept.

**713 - 365 - 3700**

**Municipal Court: 713-827-1772**

**Fax: 713-827-8752**

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE

[www.bunkerhilltx.gov](http://www.bunkerhilltx.gov)

## 2020 HOLIDAY HOURS

### *Christmas*

City Hall will be open:  
Mon., Dec. 21 and Tues., Dec. 22  
7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Wed., Dec. 23  
7:00 a.m. until Noon

### *New Years*

Mon., Dec. 28, Tues., Dec. 29, and  
Wed., Dec. 30  
7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
We will reopen  
Mon., Jan. 4, 2021 at 7:00 a.m.

**On behalf of the City Council and  
Staff, we wish all of you  
Happy Holidays!**



*From the Mayor*

**Dear Residents - Happy Holidays from the City!**

I know all of you join me in saying, "What a Year!" I am truly thankful to the City Council, City Staff, and all of you for your support as we worked together to thrive during this unprecedented time. Thank you for joining us for the Twinkle Light Parade! I am so happy we were able to celebrate with all of you as safely as possible during this holiday time! We were also able to celebrate our volunteers, consultants, City Council, and City Staff at our annual holiday reception, which was held this year outside City Hall with social distancing and a drive by opportunity. During this event, I was honored to select this year's award recipients:

**MVPD Chief of Police Ray Schultz – Public Servant of the Year**

**Jack Christiansen – Volunteer of the Year**

*(see page 5 for more information)*

As I look toward 2021 (and beyond), we have so much to look forward to over the next few years! We will have a beautiful new school for Bunker Hill Elementary School students and a newly refurbished Fire Station for the Village Fire Department. Please see articles in this newsletter for more information.

Unfortunately, these large-scale projects come with inconvenience. **The Spring Semester will be a challenge for us as we work with SBISD to accommodate Bunker Hill Elementary carpool at Strey Lane and Taylorcrest Road** while they construct a new roadway on the north end of the site. We are trying our best to minimize the disruption by making any possible accommodations and are thankful this phase will only be for the Spring Semester and not the entire 18-month project timeframe. Please do your part and avoid this area during morning and afternoon carpool rush if at all possible, so we can focus on the adjacent residents who will take the brunt of this impact.

It is with deep sadness and remorse that I share that the Villages community has suffered four suicides so far this year. Many thanks to all of you who joined us in remembering those victims and their families by adding the white ribbons to trees. We hope this was a means of providing hope and support during this time. Together we are better.

Here's to a safe, healthy, happy, and prosperous New Year for all of our great Bunker Hill residents!

Humbly yours,

**Mayor Robert Lord**

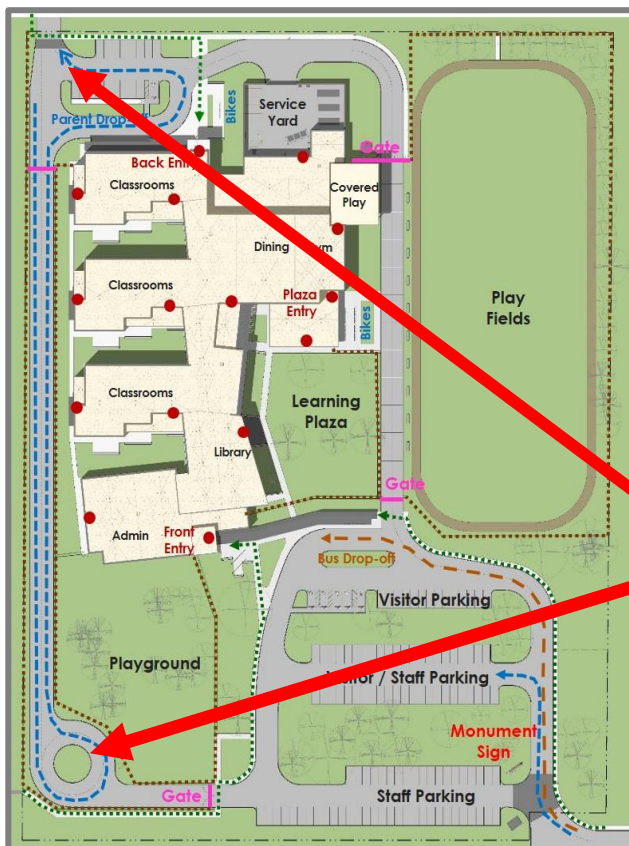


# Bunker Hill Elementary School

Reconstruction in 2021 – 2022 ★ New School to Open in Fall 2022



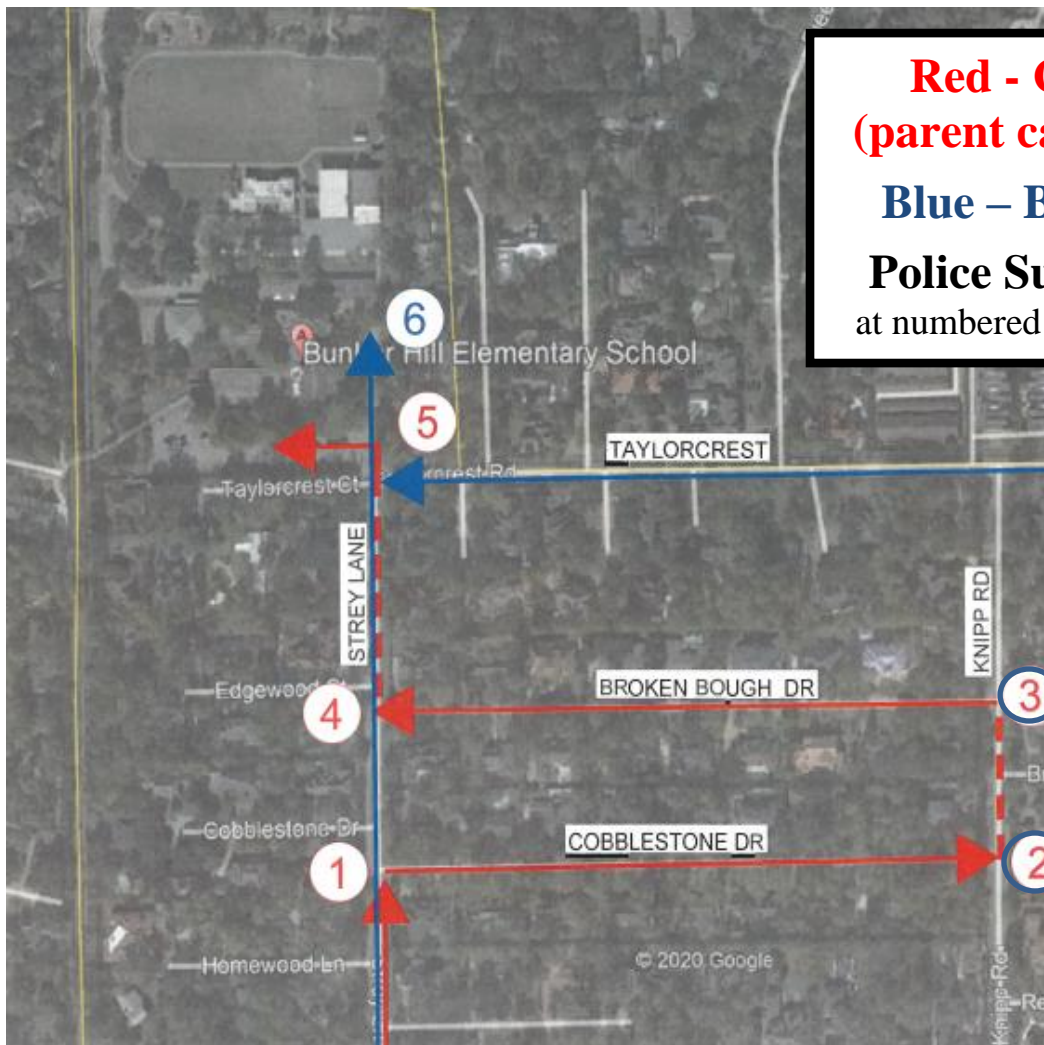
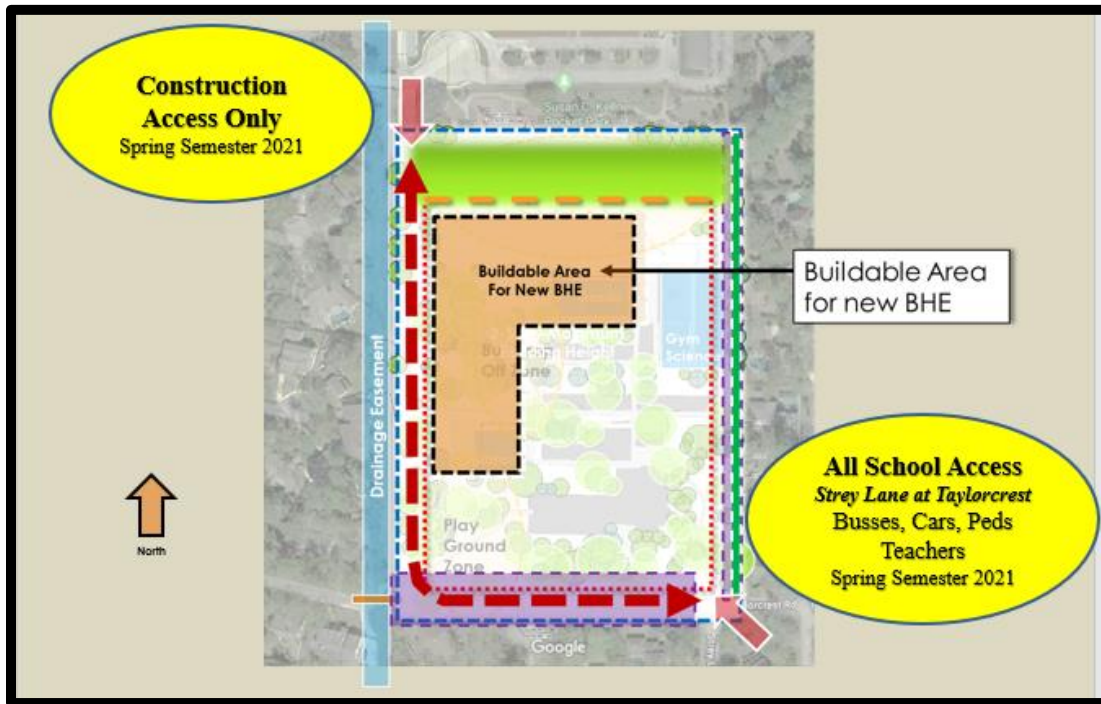
Bunker Hill Elementary School located at 11950 Taylorcrest is scheduled for reconstruction per the District's approved 2017 Bond Referendum. *Students will remain on campus during the construction of the new building.* The construction will begin in January 2021 after the Holiday Break. Thank you for your support and understanding as we work through the construction process and welcome students to the new building in 2022! Here are some renderings of the new building, an aerial view and the site layout planned for the reconstructed campus.



**Phase 1 of the Project** will begin with the construction of the north entrance and a new west drive. This will accommodate the stacking of carpool for the new school. This is expected to take 4 – 5 months (2021 Spring Semester) to be completed. The City has given permission to work weekends to expedite this schedule.

# Phase 1 Traffic Plan for Bunker Hill Elementary

Spring Semester 2021



**Red - Cars**  
**(parent carpool)**

**Blue - Busses**

**Police Support**  
at numbered locations

**Expect Traffic and Delays**  
**During these Critical Times:**

**Mornings 7:15 – 8:15 a.m.**  
**Afternoons 2:50 – 3:50 p.m.**

**Please avoid this area if possible, during critical times. Traffic will be stacked on side streets to keep all major streets open for emergencies.**

**NO STACKING**  
**On Strey, Taylorcrest, or Knipp.**

# Village Fire Station Reconstruction



The Village Fire Department Fire Station located at 901 Corbindale Road is currently under reconstruction. You may have noticed the tents and temporary facilities that have been moved to the site to provide temporary housing for EMS and Firefighters and to provide protection for equipment. The initial station was constructed 40 years ago for a shift of 6 firefighters. Today, each shift has a minimum of 10 firefighter/paramedics and up to 13. The Department will host an Open House when completed. Please note, there will be no change in responding to your needs during this construction.

## ***More Reconstruction ...***

### **Accessing City Services 24/7**

[www.bunkerhilltx.gov](http://www.bunkerhilltx.gov)

As most of us experienced during the pandemic, online access for goods and services has become a lifeline! Many thanks to all residents, contractors, and visitors for accessing the City's website for permits, payments, questions, comments and more.

City Staff has been working with our website consultant in analyzing our website data to see our highest uses and are working to upgrade the website to make it easier to navigate and find your needs.

Although we love to see you, handling payments and permits online is much more efficient and secure.

We are also working to install a new mailbox/dropbox at City Hall where you can drive up and drop off payments or paperwork without getting out of your car. This new mailbox will also highlight and display a typical "secure" mailbox that can be installed at your home to avoid mail theft.

We should launch the new website and have the mailbox ready in early 2021! (*we will send a vlink when ready so make sure you register and/or update your information!*)

## **Welcome Finance Manager**

### ***Susan Grass***

The City is pleased to introduce our new Finance Manager, Susan Grass. Susan joined the City in September and has done an excellent job with our interim audit and our COVID-19 reimbursement requests to Harris County as well as the day-to-day financial needs of the City. Susan has 25 years of finance experience, primarily in audit, bringing great expertise and experience to the City.



## **Summer Intern**

### ***Join us for the summer***

The City will once again be seeking a Bunker Hill College Student to join the City as our Summer Intern. Students working toward a degree in Business, Engineering, Government, Public Relations and/or Public Administration are preferred. As a small City, the projects and experience will be very broad and tailored to the selected applicant. This is a paid position. [Go to the website for an application.](#) Applications are due by March 1, 2020.

# Honorees of the Year

As noted in the Mayor's letter, Mayor Lord has the privilege of naming the City's Honorees of the Year. This year he was very proud to name the 2020 Recipients:

## **MVPD Chief of Police Ray Schultz**

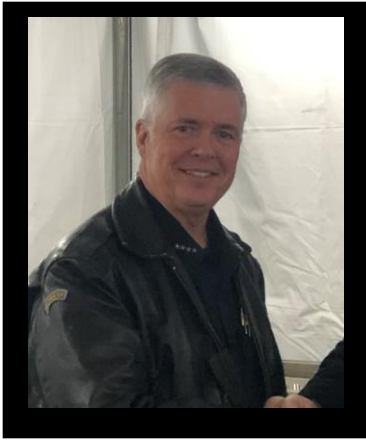
### *Public Servant of the Year*

Ray Schultz has been a leader in our City as Chief of Police for the Memorial Villages Police Department since 2017. Chief Schultz has been our voice to the Community, sharing information through his weekly emails and his reports during emergencies. Chief Schultz works closely with the City, especially in 2020 as we endured the pandemic and prepared for the above average number of hurricanes in the gulf. Chief Schultz has the heart of a public servant and has been an asset to the City during his 5-year tenure with the Department.

## **Resident Jack Christiansen**

### *Volunteer of the Year*

Jack Christiansen has lived in Bunker Hill Village since 1993 and has been our busiest volunteer in 2020 serving on both the City's Drainage Committee and the Planning and Zoning Commission. The Drainage Committee has been consistently meeting by Zoom even during the pandemic, making recommendations to the City Council on key drainage projects and ordinances. Mr. Christiansen serves as the Drainage Committee Chairman. The Planning and Zoning also had a busy Zoom year with two Specific Use Permits being processed which included workshops, public hearings, and recommendations to the City Council for ultimate approval. Both were ultimately approved with key provisions. Mr. Christiansen is instrumental in these roles with his dedication and level of detail on behalf of all residents.



*The City is proud and thankful to have honored 14 individuals in 2020 with the dedication of 10 trees and 4 benches. Many thanks for your donations and for adding to our beautification efforts.*



## *In Memory of* **William R. "Bill" Purifoy** 1931 - 2020



The City Council, Staff and Residents lost a true friend with the death of Bill Purifoy in September 2020. Mr. Purifoy was rightly named the Resident of the Year for 2014 serving in a volunteer capacity with the City since 1993, serving under 7 different mayors.

Mr. Purifoy provided his strong work ethic, leadership, and professionalism in all of his volunteer efforts and earned the respect, admiration, and high regard of all those with whom he came into contact.

Mr. Purifoy began his volunteer service on the City's Board of Adjustment. He was then appointed to the Planning and Zoning Commission in 1999. Mr. Purifoy was also named the City's Election Judge in 2004 and served in that position until 2013.

Mr. Purifoy continued his service on the P&Z serving as Chairman until his passing in September. He led the P&Z through an extensive review of our development ordinances including zoning, subdivision, and our establishment of the new Chapter 4, Development, Building and Construction. Mr. Purifoy was on Zoom at the last P&Z Meeting in August.

The City will be installing a bench along Memorial Drive to honor and thank Mr. Bill Purifoy and his family.

# Courtesy Tips as submitted by Residents

Back by Popular Demand from the April Newsletter *and with a few more*

- Please Note the City's [Good Neighbor, Noise & Construction Ordinances](#) (*No contractors on Sundays plus limits on daily hours .....and always remember to follow the golden rule!*)
- Enjoy our ["Back Door" Trash & Recycling Services](#) during these Winter Months (*Must be visible from the street*)
- Keep Dogs on Leashes (*Not everyone is a "Dog Person"*)
- Please Pick-Up Dog Waste & Dispose Properly (*We have added stations and are servicing more often*)
- Please Share the path with Walkers and Bikers (*No Bikes Allowed on Streets with Sidewalks*)
- Please Watch Your Vehicle Speeds (*There are more pedestrians and bikers out and about*)
- Please Keep the Proper Distance When Walking (*Just a mere 6 Feet*)
- Please Maintain Your Yards (*Code letters are based on complaints*)
- Enjoy the Beautiful Holidays!! (*We will too!*)
- Thank you for reading the newsletter!! (*Hope it is informative!!*)



## Your 2021 Checklist:

### Set Up Auto Pay by Credit Card or Bank Draft

We encourage residents to take advantage of automatic payments from your bank account or your credit card. Visit the website [www.bunkerhilltx.gov](http://www.bunkerhilltx.gov) and look for the green "Online Payments" icon. It will take you to ["Utility Bills"](#) to set up your payment by credit card. If you prefer to use your bank account, go to "Citizen Services" – [Utility Billing Auto Draft Request "Auto Draft"](#) is secure, debits your account on the due date and ensures no late fees or cut offs. ***This can be very helpful as we bill every other month.*** Make sure you have your previous utility bill handy with your account information.

### Sign Up or Update Your V-line and Register Your Alarm

V-line is the City's most effective means of communications with our residents and also serves as the way to register your alarm and share any special needs. Please take a few minutes and review your information so it will be up to date for the new year! The Police Chief and the City have used this throughout 2020 to share information regarding the pandemic, storms, City Council Meetings, and our newsletters. The Chief also sends a weekly email. (*The newsletter is also included hard copy with utility bills*). Please register your alarm and note any special circumstances.

There will be **no trash services on Christmas Day or New Year's Day**. However, Friday's normal pick up will be **moved to Saturday on both weeks**. **Trash must be placed at the curb.**

Normal trash will resume on **Monday, January 4.**

Texas Pride has informed us that Christmas **Trees can be placed curbside on any service day**; however, there will be a **special pick up for tree recycling on Saturday, January 9**. Trees must be placed at the curb/street and need to be clean of all stands, ornaments, and lights. **Flocked trees cannot be recycled.**

**No Construction is allowed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.** Construction Activity is allowed; however, no inspections will be made on New Year's Eve, December 31.

### Dear Residents –

*Your City Staff offers our sincere thanks to all of you for your understanding this year as we worked through the challenges of the pandemic. You are all very much appreciated! We are very proud to be your staff and we are looking forward to 2021.*

*We hope you find this newsletter helpful. Please let us know if you need any more information!*

*Happy New Year!*

*Karen Glynn, City Administrator & Staff*

Thank You Bunker Hill Elementary Students for the artwork! We wish this too!  
Everyone Please Stay Safe!

