



# City of Converse Texas

*Connecting Community + Commerce*

Volume 2 Issue 4 • July/August 2016

Published bi-monthly by Neighborhood News



## Letter From the Mayor

*Dear Citizens of Converse,*

We are having a great 2016 here in Converse! Our city is financially sound and we have a very strong reserve fund. Your City Council is working together to make Converse a better place to live. Thanks to all the Converse residents for contacting us and providing their continuous feedback to help us out. Your city staff: City Manager, Assistant City Manager, City Secretary, Police Chief, Fire Chief, Public Works director, Human Resources director, Community Development director, Library manager, and Finance director are working diligently to provide you with the best services possible. Go Team Converse!

The FM 1516 TXDOT Roadway Expansion project is well underway. Several structures have been demolished and utilities are being relocated to facilitate space for the new 5-lane roadway expansion from FM 78 to FM 1976.

The Annexation process of 18.2 acres of Extra-territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) land located at the intersection of FM 78 & FM 1604 (corner adjacent to JBSA-Randolph AFB) has been completed. A warm welcome to all the land owners, EDC will provide immediate assistance to help develop the area.

At the City Council's request, TXDOT has installed a Traffic Light at the intersection of FM 78 & Converse Center Street/Shadow Creek Ln. This Traffic Light will facilitate the safe expeditious flow of traffic in & around the vicinity. The City Council recently approved a "Speed Bump" test program that will commence in August on Ralston Dr. & Norris Dr. East. If proven effective, the City Council will consider a speed bump program throughout the city at the discretion of the City Manager & Police Chief. With the increased population (22,000 plus) in Converse we are exploring new ideas to manage the safe flow of traffic throughout our city. We will continue our proactive approach for the safety of all our residents.

On June 21st, the City Council discussed the re-surfacing problems of Toepferwein Road (from Kitty Hawk Road to FM 1976) with the City Engineer and Contractor. City Council voiced their concerns for the safety of all residents and ordered the Contractor to provide a remedy ASAP. The Contractor mutually agreed to repair Toepferwein Road at the earliest date possible. The City Manager, City Engineer, Public Works Director and City Attorney will be monitoring the progress of Toepferwein Road.

The City Council meetings are now streamed "LIVE" on the city website at [www.conversetx.net](http://www.conversetx.net). Please note that all Council meetings are video-recorded

and available online for viewing at a later time. Our ultimate goal is to broadcast the City Council meetings "LIVE" on Time Warner Cable. City Council recently approved a new Solar Ordinance that will facilitate the safe installation of all Solar Panels within the city limits of Converse. In addition, Council and Staff are considering possible incentives to encourage Solar Panels on commercial & residential structures. The City Council 2016-17 Budget process is well underway, and some of the proposals under discussion will be a City & Sidewalk Master Plan. Additional Police Officers will be considered to address the extensive population growth here in Converse.

Our Economic Development Corporation (EDC) continues their proactive approach to expand our retail development. EDC recently honored our Veteran owned local business' for their long term commitments to the city of Converse. Congratulations to A to Z Pawn, A to Z Rentals, Anytime Fitness, Cars America SA, Converse Mini Storage, Express Lube, FM 78 Auto Care Center, Jack's Paint Place, J.R., Inc., K.D. Logo, KL&E Bookkeeping & Tax Service, Papa Dante's Italian Restaurant, Precision Saw & Tool Tex Inc., R & R Custom Cycle, TLC Academy and Wire-Tech Manufacturing, LLC. Let's welcome Kiny's Café/Diner/Bakery located on FM 78 near FM 1604 to the Converse Family. Thank you all for making Converse a better place to live.

CONGRATULATIONS to our employees of the month City Secretary Holly Nagy (May) and City Attorney Felix Arambula (June). Thank you for your OUTSTANDING service to the Converse Community.

Finally, we encourage everyone to attend City Council meetings, which are held at 7:00 pm on the first and third Tuesdays of every month. Your City Council, City Staff, & Employees are working together as ONE COHESIVE TEAM... for one common GOAL ... to make Converse a better place to live, work and raise a family. If you have a complaint, concern, question, or suggestion, please contact me anytime at 210-658-5356 (office), 210-204-0557 (cell) or email: [mayorsuarez@conversetx.net](mailto:mayorsuarez@conversetx.net). Please stop by and visit me at "MAYOR'S CALL" on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays of every month from 8:00 am to 10:00 am (City Hall Conference Room/405 S. Seguin).

### **NO APPOINTMENT IS NECESSARY**

Let's keep making a difference together! We look forward to hearing from you very soon! Let's stay involved!

My Best Regards to everyone,

*Converse Mayor Al Suarez*

# Job Hunting Tips II

In our last article, we emphasized the need to know the requirements for the job you apply for, to make sure your resume clearly shows your qualifications, and to use a cover letter to provide relevant, valuable information not easily seen in your resume. This is a continuation from the previous article on job hunting tips.

1. Be neat, and use good grammar and good organization in a resume. If your grammar and writing skills are weak, or if your resume doesn't look sharp, get help from someone who is strong in those areas and who will read your resume and help you. Use proper grammar and be concise.
2. Don't exaggerate your skills, education or other qualifications. Doing so is not only unethical, it may cause you to be disqualified for a job or, if hired, dismissed from a job. Be accurate. State facts.
3. Provide an email address as a means of contact; but, don't use a corny, silly or unprofessional username. For example, you may not be the most interesting person in the world, but for job hunting purposes, don't use an email username like, boring@.
4. If a requirement of the job posting is to submit an application, then complete and submit the application. If you fail to follow instructions, you may be disqualified from consideration. The point here: follow the directions in the job posting and/or job description.

Job opportunities with the City can be found at <http://www.conversetx.net/jobs.aspx> or by calling Human Resources at (210) 658-5357 and selecting option 2. Applications are accepted only for open, posted positions and to be considered, applicants must submit a properly completed Application.

Applications for Fire Department uniformed positions may be found at <http://www.conversetx.net/DocumentCenter/View/956> and more information obtained by calling (210) 658-8900.

Applications for Police Department and 911 Dispatcher job openings may be found at <http://www.conversetx.net/jobs.aspx> under Tools and more information obtained by calling (210) 658-2322.

Applications for all other jobs may be found at <http://www.conversetx.net/DocumentCenter/View/767>.

The City is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability or any other legally protected status in employment or the provision of services.

# Growth

This is a good time to live and work in Converse. Converse is experiencing unprecedented growth.

At the moment, there is one new subdivision under construction and three subdivisions expanding. There are several more in the planning stages.

- ◇ Scheel Farms- 110 houses
- ◇ Hanover Cove- 101 houses
- ◇ Rolling Creek- 82 houses
- ◇ Copperfield- 63 houses

The Heights of Converse, a beautiful 200-unit apartment complex, is scheduled to open soon. This makes for a total of 556 homes that will open soon in Converse.

Growth is everywhere! The new WalMart Neighborhood Market will open soon on Kitty Hawk near Toepperwein. New businesses open every week. Some of the recently opened are:

- ◇ San Antonio Masonry & Tool Supply
- ◇ The Learning Center Academy
- ◇ Snack Attack
- ◇ Flowers by Carol
- ◇ Kiny's
- ◇ Little Caesars
- ◇ Dominos Pizza
- ◇ Lockaway Storage

Growth has reached Converse and we have become a great location in which to live, shop, work and go to school. People in this part of Texas are looking for a place like Converse to live and raise their families!

Converse is a well kept secret! Tell your friends and family about this great little town in N.E. Bexar County!

Lanny S. Lambert, City Manager  
Converse, Texas

★ *We Serve our Local Community* ★

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Meetings are at 7:30 PM the  
second and fourth  
Thursdays of each month.  
For more information email  
[lions@converselions.org](mailto:lions@converselions.org) or visit  
**[WWW.CONVERSELIONS.ORG](http://WWW.CONVERSELIONS.ORG)**

# Converse Public Library

Summer Reading is in full swing!



Every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. we have a Summer Reading Storytime for children up to age 10! After each program we give a free book to keep until supplies run out! It is free but registration is required! Registration forms can be found at the Circulation Desk and it is not too late to join us in the fun!

Lunch will be provided through the San Antonio Food Bank Summer Food Service Program for all children ages birth to eighteen from 11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. on Wednesdays!

For teens (ages 10 to 18) we meet every Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. for board games, book club and more fun! Registration is also required.

Snacks will be provided through the San Antonio Food Bank Summer Food Service Program for all children ages birth to eighteen on Wednesday afternoons from 3:30 to 4:30!

End of Summer Reading Party will be held on August 17 at 10:30 am for children up to age 10. Teens your party is set for 2:00! We will be drawing our raffle tickets you earned from your completed reading logs! Remember you must be present to win! Prizes include tickets to a San Antonio Stars game, books and more! We will have pizza and prizes at both parties so Get Ready, Get Set, Read!



## Family Vacation and Traveling Safety



As we enjoy our travels across state and nation, take the following precautions:

1. Let your extended family and neighbors know of your traveling itinerary.
2. Ask them to watch for any suspicious activity at your home for the duration of vacation.
3. Cancel the delivery of the newspaper and suspend mail delivery for the duration of vacation.
4. Watch the weather forecast at least three (3) preceding your family activity.
5. If you are flying, be prepared to enjoy the lines at the airport.
6. If you are driving, take your vehicle to the shop to have the tires & engine checked & fluids checked and re-filled.
7. Have roadside emergency numbers at the ready.
8. Have a map that clearly delineates your preferred route and secondary route, if necessary.
9. Be patient with your passengers as you all spend hours together developing memories.
10. At each and every stop, assess the level of your family' security and threat level.

### Exposure safety

As we enjoy the great outdoors, be mindful of the following:

1. Watch the weather forecast at least three (3) preceding your family activity.
2. Watch the hourly weather forecast the morning of your family activity.
3. Dress family members in comfortable that will allow you all to beat the heat!
4. Pack a first aid kit, insect repellent and allergy medications in case of an incident.
5. Apply sunscreen to all areas of your physique that may be exposed to the sun.
6. Wear a hat to protect your face and your head.
7. Keep a fully charged cell phone within easy reach in the case of an emergency.
8. Establish an emergency evacuation plan upon arriving at your destination.
9. Watch your surroundings as you arrive and periodically make note of those around you.
10. Keep bottled water in your backpack or sports bag to stay hydrated.

### Swimming pool safety

If you are visiting a public pool, be aware of the following:

1. Ask pool staff for all rules of the pool.
2. Ask pool staff when the last time they checked chlorine levels was. This should be check hourly.
3. Secure you valuables to minimize the chance of theft.
4. Ensure that a life guard is on duty when you family is swimming.
5. Diving areas may not be available.
6. Be aware of the depths of the pool prior to entering the pool.
7. Watch your children as they enjoy the water. Horseplay can be life-threatening.
8. Apply SPF 50 to face, arms, legs and torso (front & rear) at least 15 minutes before entering pool.
9. If you can find shade to rest your family, do so.
10. As you exit the facility, take a head count and property inventory.

## HOT LUNCHES for SENIORS



**GRASP**  
**SENIOR CENTER**

11:30 a.m.  
250 Donalan, Converse

**658-3578**

TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE  
(Funding by AACOG, United Way & Bexar County)

# CONVERSE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## THINK SAFETY AROUND YOUR HOME



### Kitchen Safety

- Understand how to use all appliances and plan for kitchen emergencies.
- Keep dish towels, potholders, loose clothes, long sleeves and long hair away from hot burners
- Keep a 24 once box of baking soda within reach of oven to suffocate any flames.
- Turn the handles of pots and pans inward so you can't knock them off and spill something or burn yourself.
- Always use a dry potholder or oven mitt when handling pots and pans.
- Put foods gently into boiling water so it will not splash on you.

### Bathroom Safety

- Use a non-slip mat or adhesive safety strips inside bathtub/shower and floor.
- Use only ground fault interrupter (GFI) outlets in the bathroom.
- Carefully use electrical appliances (shavers, blow dryers electric heaters, etc.) around sink and tub/showers.
- Store medicines in child-proof containers and out of the reach of children.
- Store cleaning chemicals out of the reach of children.

### Bedroom/Living Areas Safety

- Check the batteries on both the smoke and carbon monoxide detectors annually.
- Use the appropriate wattage of light bulbs in light fixtures.
- Keep closets free of clutter and remove clutter on a weekly basis to maintain clear paths of travel.
- Remove all furniture that is broken or presents a hazard to occupant's paths of travel.
- If you have a firearm in your home, locate the weapon where it is not readily accessible to children.
- Floors & Window Safety
- Keep all flooring surfaces free of dirt and clutter.
- Keep window panes and screens clean inside and out.
- Replace broken window panes and screens immediately.

### Garage & Laundry Room Safety

- Remove clutter daily and keep paths of travel clear of trip hazards.
- Do not allow oily or greasy to accumulate. Dispose immediately.

### Backyard & Outdoor Safety

- Treat lawn areas with pest control as needed and keep trees, shrubs and vegetation trimmed.
- Spray and remove all wasp nests from eaves and overhangs.
- Check driveway and sidewalks for cracks and separations. Fill with flexible and waterproof material caulk.

### Cleaning Solutions & Chemical Safety

- Keep cleaners and chemicals in original containers.
- Locate chemicals where they are not readily accessible to children.



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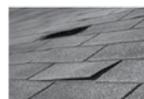
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## City of Converse Economic Development Corporation News

By Kat Lindquist, Business Retention & Marketing Manager



The Converse Economic Development Corporation attended the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) RECon in May 2016. The delegation included our esteemed Mayor Al Suarez, Councilman Rick Davis, City Manager Lanny Lambert, EDC President Marc Gilbert, EDC Executive Director Kate Silvas and me, Kat Lindquist. RECon is the global convention for the shopping center industry and provides networking, deal making and educational opportunities for retail real estate professionals from around the world. This year over 36,000 delegates attended the event with over one thousand exhibitors.

During the conference, the Converse delegation met with over 30+ appointments with retailers, developers and hotel chains.



### Veteran-Owned Business Appreciation Event

On Thursday, July 14th from 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Converse EDC will host its quarterly Business Appreciation & Networking Event at the Greater Randolph Area Services Program (G.R.A.S.P) located at 250 Donalan in Converse, Texas. This popular event will honor our veteran-owned businesses. Converse proudly boasts about our veterans who own local businesses, which include:

- |                        |                                  |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| A to Z Pawn            | J.R., Inc.                       |
| A to Z Rentals         | K.D. Logo                        |
| Anytime Fitness        | KL&E Bookkeeping and Tax Service |
| Cars America SA        | Papa Dante's Italian Restaurant  |
| Converse Mini Storage  | Precision Saw & Tool Tex Inc.    |
| Express Lube           | R & R Custom Cycle               |
| FM 78 Auto Care Center | TLC Academy                      |
| Jack's Paint Place     | Wire-Tech Manufacturing, LLC.    |

Military ensemble and honors to the nation are planned.

Converse EDC thanks our veteran-owned businesses all for their years of service!!!!

### Support our New Businesses in Converse

- **Kinny's Restaurant**
- **Flowers by Carol**
- **Snack Attack Ice Cream**

Remember to Buy Local and Buy Converse!

# go green

## LET'S DO OUR PART IN HELPING THE ENVIRONMENT!

We are proud to announce we are now offering YOU to "opt-in" to having your Neighborhood Newsletter delivered electronically!

### How?

- 1 Visit [www.NeighborhoodNews.com](http://www.NeighborhoodNews.com)
- 2 Click on: "Let's do our part" and follow the instructions.

### What will change?

Well... nothing! You will begin receiving your neighborhood newsletter by email on the very next publication! We'll be sure to remove your address from the mailing list, while you enjoy your digital copy.

We are so pleased to be offering this new service!

Questions? Feel free to contact Neighborhood News at (210) 558-3160 with any website-related questions.

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# CONVERSE UTILITY DEPARTMENT - OPERATIONS

The City of Converse is currently observing Normal Year Round Water Restrictions. Citizens are permitted to use the water for irrigation, filling of pools and for pressure washing facilities without approval from the Utilities Director. However, **excessive** waste of water on impervious surfaces is still not allowed.

The Water Distribution Division has completed the extension of the water mains along the north and south side of Kitty Hawk Drive, which will service and loop the Heights of Converse Apartment complex as well as and the Kitty Hawk Retail project. We have also completed the Meadow Lark water main loop project located between Rolling Creek and The Meadows of Converse subdivisions. With the continued assistance of the Water Production and Wastewater Collection Divisions, we continue to diligently strive toward managing and repairing all city leaks as quickly as possible.

The Water Production Division is currently preparing to begin taking lead and copper samples. These samples are taken every three years from thirty selected houses built after 1982. We will need the help from you to ensure a proper sample is taken.

## **What Is the Purpose of the Lead and Copper Regulations?**

The purpose of the lead and copper regulations is to protect public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water, primar-

ily by reducing water corrosivity. Most regulations require sampling at entry points to the distribution system. Because lead and copper in drinking water is mainly due to the corrosion of service lines and household plumbing materials, tap water samples are collected at kitchen or bathroom taps of residences and other buildings. This requirement significantly complicates sample collection, requiring coordination with the people you serve.

The Wastewater Division has been combating the Inflow & Infiltration issue with manholes and sewer mains. We have fixed a number of manholes using a combination of contractors and the Wastewater crew. We are in the process of setting up a demo for trenchless repair for the sewer mains throughout the city. This means when sewer mains are televised and there is a bad spot, repairs can be performed without digging up the road, in most cases. We will start televising sewer lines in the Cimarron Valley Subdivision in a couple weeks and ending in the Quail Ridge Subdivision before the roads get a face lift.

In order to help us maintain the quality of our system, we encourage all residents to report any observed water or wastewater issues by calling the Converse Utility Billing Department at (210) 658-1965 or the Utilities Department at (210) 658-3453 during normal hours of operation of Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. After 5 p.m., please contact the Converse non-emergency Police Dispatch at (210) 658-2322.



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**Coupon expires at the end of the 2016 summer season.**

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# CITY OF CONVERSE STORM WATER DEPARTMENT

## Working For A Clean & Safe Environment

"The City of Converse Storm Water Department is now in its eighth year. The City's third report of our five year permit was approved by TCEQ in April 2016. Over the last year the city has mapped out the rest of the cities outfalls and inlet storm water system adding the new subdivisions as they were completed. The Storm Water Department has performed over 624 inspections on construction sites so far this year, repaired six drainage ditches and assisted seven residents with drainage problems on their property.

As of June 20, 2016, the city has received 26 1/2 inches of rain this year. All Converse inlet systems with storm drains have been marked with plaques stating "NO DUMPING DRAINS TO CREEK". These inlet systems were inspected for necessary repairs to be done to insure good water flow.

It is illegal to dump trash or debris over fence lines into the City's drainage. The fine(s) for illegal dumping in the City of Converse is up to \$500.00 a day for each offense. REPORT ILLEGAL DUMPING. If you see illegal dumping, please call Converse Police Department at 658-2322.

The Converse website has been updated with information to help the citizens maintain a healthy home and safe environment. Education flyers have been placed in all city buildings for information or you may contact the Storm Water Department at 658-3453.

If any person or group would like to participate in a roadside clean up please contact Larry Moxley at the Storm Water Department at 658-3453.

The City of Converse thanks you for your help and support. Let's keep Converse safe and clean for the citizens and the environment.

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# CONVERSE FIRE DEPARTMENT



The Converse Fire Department wishes everyone a safe and happy summer. Please remember to stay properly hydrated when engaging in outdoor activities. Pool accidents can lead to serious injury or death so please use caution when swimming. Please remember to keep watch on children when in the vicinity of pools or other bodies of water. Diving accidents are another common accident that can result in serious injuries. We would also like to remind everyone that it is against state laws to conduct outdoor burning inside the City Limits of Converse. Use caution when cleaning out your Bar-B-Que pit, and make sure the fire is completely extinguished prior to placing ashes in a trash container. Please keep an eye on children when they are in the vicinity of outdoor cooking activities to ensure they are not injured. Please contact us at 210-658-8900 if you have any questions on fire safety.

**GET THE WORD OUT.**



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[www.conversetx.net](http://www.conversetx.net)

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(210) 658-5356

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City Council.....(210) 658-5356  
Economic Development.....(210) 659-9163  
Finance.....(210) 658-5357  
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Published and distributed by:  
**Neighborhood News, Inc.**  
3740 Colony Drive Suite 120  
San Antonio, TX 78230  
(210) 558-3160 \* (210) 558-3163 fax

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