



## **City of McKinney Press Release**

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

### **Carey Cox Memorial Park dedication ceremony**

*Opening for park near Wilmeth Elementary features choir performance*

McKINNEY, Texas (May 19, 2010) – A dedication ceremony is scheduled to celebrate the opening of Carey Cox Memorial Park, McKinney's newest neighborhood school park. The public and surrounding community is invited to join the ceremony on Wednesday, May 26 at 3:15 p.m. at the 10-acre park, located at 1611 Stonebridge Dr. near Wilmeth Elementary School. The Wilmeth Elementary School 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade school choirs will provide musical entertainment at the event, which will recognize the contributions of the late Carey Cox to the community.

“Our neighborhood school parks create a sense of identity within a neighborhood by offering a place for recreating as a community. They also allow us to honor important McKinney citizens who have had an impact on our city’s parks, like Carey Cox,” said Steve Brainerd, Parks Development Superintendent. “Like all of McKinney’s 24 neighborhood parks, Carey Cox Memorial Park is a place where families and school children can enjoy exercise in the outdoors.”

Carey Cox Memorial Park features significant topographic relief, two age-appropriate playgrounds, climbing boulders, swings, pavilion with picnic tables, jogging trails, extensive tree plantings and turf grass areas suitable for play.

The park is named after the late Carey Cox, a long-time McKinney resident and civil servant who was named Outstanding Citizen of the Year in 2001. In 1982, he opened the McKinney-based Carey Cox Company, a real estate organization. This company still operates in McKinney with sons David and Bill Cox active in the business. Throughout the lives of his children, Carey Cox volunteered and supported Parks and Recreation in McKinney. While his efforts in coaching and raising money for facilities went unnoticed by some, his impact on the community was great. He was involved in the first Mickey Mantle World Series in McKinney, raising money and volunteering. He also served as President of the McKinney Jaycees, McKinney United Way and McKinney Rotary Club, and was Founding Chairman of the Collin County Community College Board of Trustees.

The Parks, Recreation and Open Space administration staff will host an open house of their new offices immediately following the Carey Cox Memorial Park ceremony. The

offices are located in the northwest portion of Carey Cox Memorial Park. Contact the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Department at (972) 547-7480 for more information.

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### **About McKinney**

McKinney, Texas, is unique by nature. As one of the fastest-growing cities in the U.S., McKinney has a current population of 126,500. Incorporated in 1848, the city is located 30 miles north of Dallas and is the county seat of Collin County. McKinney offers rolling hills, lush trees, a historic downtown square and unique neighborhoods and developments, and it was recently ranked as one of the Top 10 Best Places to Move by Forbes Magazine. Visit the city's Web site at [www.mckinneytexas.org](http://www.mckinneytexas.org).

**Media Contact:** Anna Folmsbee, [afolmsb@mckinneytexas.org](mailto:afolmsb@mckinneytexas.org), 972-547-7525