

Weekly Beat

December 12th, 2025

Stay in the know—your community, your news, your future.



IN THIS ISSUE

News from the City

Christmas Parade

Departmental
News and Update

City of Seymour Upcoming Events

By Jeffrey L. Brasher, Ed.D.

- December 18th, 2025 at 7:00 PM City Council Meeting
- January 15th, 2026 City Council Meeting at 7:00 PM City Hall
- February 21st, 2026 Trout Fishing Tournament at Salt Fork Recreational Facility: 9:00-11:00 AM.
- First Thursdays Bingo at Portwood Pavillion 6:00 PM

Superheroes Bring Holiday Magic to Seymour



In the photos above, Grand Marshal Kay Bradely is escorted by Mayor Mark McCord and Neill Ellington in a 1928 Ford, Model A Phaeton. Pictured Right is the first place winner of the Float Competition the First Baptist Church Youth.

Seymour, Texas -- Downtown Seymour sparkled with holiday magic on December 11th, 2025, as families, friends, and neighbors gathered for the annual Lighted Christmas Parade. The streets were filled with laughter, music, and dazzling displays that reminded us all why this tradition is so special. The parade featured a wonderful lineup of floats, including entries from the Water Department, Electric Department, and Street Department — each showcasing their pride in serving the community while adding their own festive flair.

Float Competition Winners

- First Place: First Baptist Church
- Second Place: Spider-Man Float with Knoxx Brasher
- Third Place: Seymour Rehabilitation Center

Special Category Winners

- Best ATV: United Ag
- Best Vehicle: Rocky Hickman Towing
- Best Bicycle: Channing Moore

Honorable Mentions Local businesses also joined in the fun with festive floats, including Harvest Fellowship, Seymour Medical Supply, Coach's, Bigg's Pizza, Vita Auto Parts, Tractor Shop, and many of Seymour and Baylor County Emergency Response Vehicles. Their participation added even more sparkle to the night.

Leading the celebration was our Grand Marshal, Kay Bradley, lovingly known as *Mrs. Christmas*. Her vision and dedication have made the lights in the park a shining success, and it was only fitting that she guided this year's parade. Adding to the excitement, Mayor Mark McCord made a special appearance, greeting the crowd with holiday cheer. The Seymour Police Department and the best Fire Department in Texas — our very own Seymour Volunteer Fire Department — lit up the route with sirens, smiles, and a delicious hamburger feed that preceeded the parade. Of course, no Christmas parade would be complete without a visit from Old St. Nick himself, Santa Claus, who delighted children and adults alike. And just to keep things interesting, the Grinch showed up too — though even he couldn't steal the joy of Seymour's Christmas spirit! As the final float passed and the lights twinkled against the winter sky, the City of Seymour extended heartfelt wishes to everyone: *Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*

This parade was more than just a celebration — it was a reminder of the importance of community. When we come together, whether to build, serve, or celebrate, we create something brighter than any string of lights. The spirit of Seymour shines strongest when we work hand in hand, supporting one another and carrying that unity into the year ahead.

From Streets to Services: Seymour's Weekly Department Highlights

Animal Control Officer Rick Shumate remained busy this past week, continuing his efforts to keep Seymour safe and comfortable for both residents and animals. Over the course of the week, he picked up five dogs, all of which were successfully returned to their owners. Wildlife management also kept him on the move, as he removed three possums, four raccoons, four cats, and one skunk from different areas of town. To help prevent future issues, a total of fourteen traps were placed around Seymour to address areas of concern. In addition to these activities, Officer Shumate responded to five animal-related calls, providing timely assistance and reinforcing the city's commitment to community well-being. His work reflects the ongoing dedication of Seymour's Animal Control to public safety, humane treatment of animals, and the overall quality of life for residents.

This week, under the supervision and leadership of Ronnie Kolacek, the **Seymour Street Department** continued its dedicated work to improve the community. Crews made progress on demolishing the dilapidated property on Tackitt Street, an effort that enhances both safety and neighborhood appearance. Around town, potholes were patched to ensure smoother travel for residents, while the team also prepared their floats for the annual Lighted Christmas Parade, proudly showcasing their spirit and service.

In addition to these projects, the department responded to multiple work orders, addressing citizen needs promptly and effectively. They also test drove a new skid steer to evaluate its potential for future use, ensuring that the department remains equipped with the right tools to serve Seymour. Calls for service were handled with care and efficiency, reflecting the department's ongoing commitment to making the community better each day. Through a combination of infrastructure improvements, public service, and community celebration, the Seymour Street Department continues to demonstrate the value of teamwork and leadership. Their efforts this week highlight not only their dedication to maintaining the city but also their pride in being part of Seymour's growth and spirit.

During the past week, the **Reverse Osmosis Plant** produced a total of 4.1 million gallons of treated water, which was distributed to both the City of Seymour and the Baylor Water Supply Corporation. Plant operators remained busy ensuring water quality and system performance. They monitored chlorine residuals throughout the town, tracked the amount of wastewater discharged from the plant, and took daily readings on the primary RO units. In addition, the team changed the pre-filters for one of the primary RO trains to maintain efficiency and reliability. Beyond daily operations, staff also worked on gathering supplemental documentation required by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for authorization to use Well 4B. This effort reflects the City's commitment to compliance and to expanding water resources for the community. Supervisor John Davis and the RO Plant team continue to provide safe, efficient, and dependable service, ensuring that Seymour's water treatment facilities operate at the highest standards.

The **Electric Department**, under the supervision of John Joyce, carried out a full range of operational and maintenance tasks this past week. Routine vehicle maintenance checks were completed, and weekly readings of reclosures were taken to ensure system reliability. Crews performed locates and drove out Circuit 5 to monitor performance. Power was inspected on East Davis Street, and trimming work was conducted along West Reiman Street to maintain clear lines. The department also tested the city's sirens and repaired an open secondary on the 200 block of West Reiman Street. Power was disconnected and reconnected on West Custer Street as needed, and brush was dragged to clear work areas. In addition to these duties, staff changed the oil in Unit 8 to keep equipment in good condition. Seasonal responsibilities were also a focus, with crews working on Christmas decorations and preparing for the parade. Their efforts ensured both reliable electrical service and festive community celebrations.

The Water Department, supervised by Chase Hoyt, remained active throughout the week addressing both operational needs and community activities. Crews repaired leaks on North Donald Street to restore service and prevent further water loss. At the wastewater plant, plumbing was redone to improve reliability and ensure proper function of the system. Staff also dedicated time to preparing for the upcoming Christmas parade, contributing to the city's seasonal celebrations. In addition to these tasks, the department organized shop inventory to maintain efficiency and readiness for future work. Locates were performed to support safe excavation and utility management, and crews filled holes to restore ground surfaces and maintain public safety. Overall, the Water Department balanced essential infrastructure maintenance with community support, ensuring dependable service while contributing to Seymour's holiday spirit.



Pictured above, the Spider-Man themed float earned 2nd place in the competition, with Knoxx Brasher as the man behind the mask.



Pictured above, the Seymour Rehabilitation float captured third place with its festive candy cane design, decorated in striking red and white balloons