

The logo for Webster Way features a stylized 'W' in a black square with a gold outline, followed by the words 'Webster Way' in a black serif font with a gold outline.

Webster Way

JANUARY 2022



PET HEALTH SAFETY DRIVE-THRU

Webster Humane Services will be hosting its annual Pet Health Safety Drive-Thru on Saturday, January 22, at the Webster Service Center.

Pet owners can stop by to microchip and register their furry friends. Various vaccinations will also be available. A complete list of services and prices will be posted on social media and the website closer to the date of the event.

Stop by on Saturday, January 22, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Webster Service Center, located at 855 Magnolia Ave., in Webster. The event is open to the public, and we ask that pets arrive in crates or on leashes. Contact Webster Humane Services at 281.316.3700 for more information.

2022 ELECTION INFO

SATURDAY, MAY 7

The City of Webster will conduct a General Election on **May 7, 2022**. Residents must register to vote by April 7, 2022. Council Positions 3, 4, and 5 will be on the May ballot.

EARLY VOTING

**BEGINNING APRIL 25
ENDING MAY 3**

REGISTER TO VOTE BY APRIL 7

Voter registration cards are available at the Harris County Clerk's Office. Don't forget to bring your picture ID to vote.

VOTING BY MAIL DEADLINE APRIL 26

Last day to apply for a ballot by mail is April 26. Submit an application for a single election starting January 1.

ELECTION DAY MAY 7

A voting device to assist voters with a disability will be available during Early Voting and on Election Day. For more information, contact the City Secretary's Office at 281.332.1826.

LISTENING SPACE: A BARBERSHOP GUIDE TO PROBLEM-SOLVING

New book highlights the impressive life of Webster Resident and Business Owner Carlos Villagomez



Carlos Villagomez is a long-time resident and business owner in Webster. In a new book written by Barbara Radnofsky, the author illustrates a "how-to" guide to peaceful problem-solving, bringing to life the remarkable stories of the small-town barber and his famous astronaut customers.

"Carlos' most famous hair appointment was no surprise; it was scheduled well in advance. Carlos had already visited his friend Alan Shepard's home to cut the astronaut's hair before the Apollo 14 moon mission and knew he would be seeing Shepard immediately after the mission," the first page of *Listening Space: A Barbershop Guide to Problem-Solving* reads.

"What Carlos did not know was that Commander Shepard would call him on the way back to Earth, personally confirming the first-ever hair appointment from space, as NASA patched through the headline-making phone call. Shepard put Carlos on the map."

You can get a copy of *Listening Space: A Barbershop Guide to Problem-Solving* now on Amazon.

Christmas Yard Decorating Winners



FIRST PLACE

WEST: 214 Linda Ln.
EAST: 667 Bedias St.

SECOND PLACE

WEST: 403 Travis St.
EAST: 622 Stone Crossing

THIRD PLACE

WEST: 327 Linda Ln.
EAST: 18207 Anne Dr.

HONORABLE MENTION

WEST: 320 Linda Ln.
EAST: 635 Pedernales St.



WEST
1ST



EAST
1ST



WEST
2ND



EAST
2ND



WEST
3RD



EAST
3RD



WEST
HM



EAST
HM



RECENT RETIREMENTS

Three dedicated Webster employees are celebrating their retirement this month



Carol Fontenot
41 Years of Service

After an impressive career in Webster, Accounting Technician Carol Fontenot will be retiring on February 1, 2022.

Her first day on the job was June 16, 1980, and her duties included HR, payroll, and utility billing. But, as the City grew, employees were hired, and her main focus became utility billing and payroll.

"This has been my home, my family, for over 41 years, and this new chapter in my life will take time to get used to," Carol said. "I will miss every aspect of my job."

Carol plans on making new memories with her eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren-with two more on the way.

Carol is known for her creativity and will enjoy spending more time crafting and working in her home.



Erich Pen
27 Years of Service

Chief Building Official Erich Pen has been inspecting buildings, reviewing building plans, and working within the Webster community for the past 27 years.

His career started as an Electrical Engineer before becoming an Electrical Inspector, Combination Inspector, Deputy Building Official, and ultimately, the Chief Building Official in Webster.

He has greatly influenced the quality of construction in the City of Webster, and he says he will miss the interactions he had with coworkers, architects, engineers, and construction workers.

His advice to the new Chief Building Official: Prepare to be very busy.

Erich's plans for retirement are to spend more time with his family.



Tommy Riehl
32 Years of Service

Tommy Riehl began his career in Webster 32 years ago in the Water/Sewer Division within the Public Works Department. Since that time, he earned certifications and licenses, and when the City was looking for a plumbing inspector within the Building Division, Tommy moved to City Hall.

His last day is in January, and his tip to the new Deputy Building Official is to learn constantly.

"Every project is sometimes challenging, but a lot of times it is rewarding to work with different contractors and workers and help them learn," he explained. "And I also learn a lot from them."

Upon retirement, Tommy plans to spend more time woodworking and keeping busy as he adjusts to the new schedule.

A LOOK INSIDE THE POWER OF GIS

If you visit the Maps section of the City of Webster website, you'll see a broad range of maps to explore, each filled with relevant information, active links, and detailed images. This is all thanks to Webster's Geographical Information Systems (GIS) Division.

GIS is a means to give data a geographical location. Spatial data is used to discover trends or create predictive models. It can be used to find optimal locations for a business or service. Spatial data can be used to find the path of least resistance for new road construction or to calculate the cost of filling for a ditch or an abandoned pond.

When GIS Manager Richard Parkin arrived in Webster in 2001, the City GIS was elementary. Since then, Webster GIS has grown into one of our area's most developed GIS divisions. Webster was the second city (after the City of Houston) in the Metro area to offer online internet maps to the public by clicking a property on a map to obtain information.

GIS is only as good as the amount of data it has access to and its accessibility to employees and the public. Due to Webster's small size, the GIS Division has completed large data acquisition projects. They have also made significant strides in creating interactive internet maps. This abundant and growing amount of GIS data provides City departments and the public access to a robust and accessible GIS.

Without GIS, essential data and information would be challenging to obtain. For example, if a pipeline company wants to know how deep existing utilities are in a given right-of-way, they would click the segment of roadway on the internet map, and it will bring up all the blueprints and plans available, including the relevant page number for that particular location of the project. This repetitive request for data saves many hours of staff time and saves engineering firms from lengthy delays to access the data.

In 2016, the division integrated drone aerial photogrammetry into the GIS for aerial imagery updates. The drone imagery has ensured site utility construction follows the platted easements, among other uses.

The division has also recently completed a project which automatically updates internet maps by creating two software models. One map is of vehicular accidents, and the other is of select crime incidents.

"This was a very difficult project to complete," Richard said. "Particularly difficult was getting the model to republish maps to the internet all on their own. The models have completely automated the map-making and publishing process and are scheduled to run updates twice daily. It's amazing technology."

You can check out the internet maps for yourself by visiting cityofwebster.com/1018/maps.



Pictured: GIS Manager Richard Parkin and GIS Technician Jason Fife fly the City's DJI Phantom 4 Pro Version 2.0 Drone at Green Acres Park.

About GIS Manager Richard Parkin:

"I had always been fixated with maps, and in my youth, my favorite books were different types of atlases in a time before Google Maps and Street View," Richard said. "I went to Carleton University in Ottawa, ON and obtained a four-year Bachelor's degree in Geography. Later, I took a post-grad certification for 1.5 years full-time at Fleming College in Lindsay, ON, to study Geographic Information Systems. After graduating, I thought I would apply for some jobs in a warmer climate and came across one on an internet job site for Webster, TX. I researched Webster and discovered it was near NASA and near the Gulf of Mexico – paradise. I had a telephone interview and later a video interview before receiving a job offer for the position of GIS Specialist."

About GIS Technician Jason Fife:

"I first became interested in GIS when I watched a video about it on YouTube," Jason said. "Additional research prompted me to enroll in GIS courses at Lone Star College, Cy-Fair campus. I enrolled in courses such as Vector Data Analysis, Raster Data Analysis (2D and 3D), and Remote Sensing. While there, I obtained an Associate's in GIS, Summa Cum Laude. After obtaining my degree in GIS, I proceeded to apply to Webster."

"I have numerous accomplishments during my tenure; however, none can compare to the Economic Development Interactive maps that are updated monthly."

BE A WEBSTER SPORT

WITH MAYOR ROGERS

While Webster's footprint may be small, it's home to more than 2,500 businesses. Recently, Mayor Donna Rogers took an active role, quite literally, in visiting Webster's sports venues and engaged in the various exhilarating, exciting offerings.

The first stop was **FunCity Sk8 & Play**, located at 1500 N. Texas Ave. It is a Webster icon that opened in 1974. Guests of all ages enjoy the unique programming that continuously evolves inside the venue, along with extensive menu offerings and a full bar.

Just as FunCity Sk8 & Play renders the high-energy sport of skating, **Topgolf** magnifies the wow factor for golf. Topgolf, located at 21401 Gulf Fwy., features a magnificent three-level venue with over 100 climate-controlled hitting bays – open daily even in inclement weather.

Baseball and softball training venues abound in Webster and enable players of all ages and skill levels to practice and enjoy one of America's most beloved and popular sports.

D-BAT, located at 20251 Gulf Fwy., has delivered premier indoor baseball and softball training programs since January 2020.

The growing company is renowned for its highly-skilled, engaging professionals who tailor instruction to fit individual players of all skill levels and harness players' strengths. This baseball/softball academy destination offers private and group instruction, camps, and clinics, as well as a pro shop.

Another phenomenal indoor, climate-controlled baseball/softball training facility is aptly called "**Inside the Lines**," located at 1415 Atlantis Dr. This venue offers camps, classes, and clinics with high-quality instruction for all ages and experience

levels with a focus on pitching fundamentals, hitting and swing fundamentals, base running, workout program, fielding fundamentals, and speed and agility.

Another indoor training facility that caters to various youth sports, including baseball and softball, is **RedLine Athletics**, located at 1425 Atlantis Dr. RedLine Athletics offers customized training for nearly every sport. The full-service sports training center provides programs for the very young and adults – such as adult boot camp or customized functional workouts for all skill levels- and introduction to sports for ages 3-7. There are batting cages, a basketball/volleyball court, a low-profile turf training area, and a Hammer Strength weight room.

USA Ninja Challenge, located at 309 Ibis St., offers a ninja warrior course for youth, ages 4 to 17, to undergo various activities to increase strength, stamina, confidence, and team-building acumen. There are six levels to master with various progressions, drills, and challenges – mixed with a lot of fun and excitement. Ninja is one rapidly growing, global sport, and Webster features a dedicated venue with classes, camps, special events, and parties.

Bowling, an Olympic sport added to the summer games in 2020, has two terrific Webster venues. **Bowlero**, located at 318 W. Bay Area Blvd., offers unique bowling, dining, and nightlife experience with 40 pro-quality bowling lanes, interactive arcade games, billiards, air hockey, sports bar, cafe, and pro shop.

Bowlero Webster has vigorous year-round league business-- and during the busiest summer months, approximately 14 leagues are in session.

Main Event, located at 1125 Magnolia Ave., is another fabulous venue

whose central attraction is bowling. Main Event is state of the art and exhilarating for professionals, intermediates, and beginners with 28 pro-level lanes.

The riveting sport of volleyball offers a riveting workout amid an incredible venue in Webster. The advent of **Absolute Volleyball Academy**, located at 380 Green Wing St., represents a game-changer for the beloved Olympic sport. The venue features eight magnificent indoor courts, a pro shop, special viewing areas, meeting areas, and a fitness trainer.

Although dance is an art, dance most definitely is also a sport. **Fred Astaire Dance Studio**, located at 1408 W. NASA Pkwy., offers private lessons, group lessons, and social events that enable dancers to learn, practice, and refine skills in a wide variety of dance styles. Instructors offer choreography, wedding dances, and competitive training in addition to ballroom, Latin, country dance, and more.

At **Dance Vision Studios Clear Lake**, located at 20810 Gulf Fwy., Owners Mariel and Daniel Blain specialize in teaching partnership and social-style dance, such as ballroom dances, Latin dances, smooth dances, rhythm dances, and country dances-- both in private and group lesson settings.

While dodgeball isn't yet an Olympic sport, the sport has a serious following. Webster kicks up the high-action sport inside **Urban Air Adventure Park**, where guests of all ages play "Ultimate Dodgeball" inside the dodgeball arena. Urban Air Adventure Park offers a variety of sports, located at 20251 Gulf Fwy. In addition to dodgeball, there are wall-to-wall trampolines, obstacle courses, ropes courses, climbing walls, and more.

One of the newest entries to Webster's fitness lineup is **Goldfish Swim School**. Located at 20251 Gulf Fwy., Goldfish Swim School offers various programs, multi-day clinics, family swim, special events, and a competitive "Swim Force" team. Goldfish Swim School is an impressive "safety-first" venue with an indoor pool heated to a tropical 90 degrees year-round, a state-of-the-art water purification system to keep the pools clean and sanitary, certified swim instructors, and small class sizes.

When it comes to engaging, novel, and unusual sports offerings, archery is a leading contender. Webster is most fortunate to be home to an indoor archery range and pro shop that offers lessons, leagues, tournaments, competitions, and individual or group practice to novice and experienced archers. Located at 1424 W. NASA Pkwy., **Gulf Coast Archery** provides a fun, exciting sporting experience. Archers of all ages can practice in the 20-yard indoor range.

Shooting, an Olympic sport since 1896, is widely regarded as one of the most physically and mentally-demanding fine motorsports. In Webster, competitive and recreational gun sports enthusiasts can hone their skills year-round at **Shoot Point Blank**, located at 360 E. NASA Pkwy. Shoot Point Blank offers a climate-controlled gun range with 20 shooting lanes, retail components, and a wide range of training classes. Shooting lanes are 25 yards long to accommodate both handgun and long guns. The full-service venue offers a variety of handguns and long guns to rent to enable guests to try out various firearms before purchasing. And, there are membership tiers for ease in reserving range dates and times and training courses.

The sporting life is alive and well in Webster. The benefits of engaging in the sporting life are resoundingly positive. Be a sport in Webster, and reap the rewards.



City Council Recap | NOVEMBER 2 & NOVEMBER 16 MEETINGS

November 2 Meeting

- *Derrick Rankin with Marathon Pipeline LLC presented a grant to the Fire Department to purchase air/gas meters.*
- *City Council adopted the 2021 Edition of the International Fire Code to maintain current standards, including ISO rating and Best Practices.*
- *City Council authorized the purchase of a new Pierce Velocity fire truck from Siddons-Martin Emergency Group through HGAC for \$1,414,923.27 from the 2021A Bond.*
- *City Council authorized an agreement with Carahsoft Technology Corp./OpenGov, LLC for the budgeting capital planning and position control software by OpenGov, Inc. for \$90,830.16.*
- *City Council approved the City's participation in the Opioid Settlement with the State of Texas to receive funds for remediation of the effects of opioids in Texas.*
- *City Council authorized the purchase order to Way Engineering LTD to replace water piping for \$326,122.38.*
- *City Council authorized the purchase order to RJN Engineering Group for \$130,240.00 to perform Phase 2 of the sanitary sewer evaluation survey as identified in the 2019 Flow Monitoring Study.*
- *City Council authorized the purchase order to Freese*

and Nichols, Inc. to perform an Impact Fee Study for \$69,500.00.

November 16 Meeting

- *City Council authorized the Webster Economic Development Corporation's Purchase and Sale Agreement with GWR Webster, LLC.*
- *City Council approved the reappointment of Judge Baker for a two-year term as Associate Judge beginning December 7.*
- *City Council approved the reappointment of Presiding Judge Woltz, Associate Judge Salinsky, and Associate Judge Tittle for two-year terms beginning on November 15, 2021.*
- *City Council authorized the purchase order to rehabilitate the storm sewer on Magnolia Avenue for \$59,629.00.*
- *City Council authorized the Mayor to execute the revised engagement letter with Belt, Harris, Pechacek, LLLP, Certified Public Accounts for additional fees to cover a Single Audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021.*

Visit cityofwebster.com for information on the next City Council Meeting.

CITY COUNCIL

Donna Rogers
Mayor

Jennifer Heidt
Council Member Position 1

Bill W. Jones
Council Member Position 2

Larry Tosto
Council Member Position 3

Beverly Gaines
Mayor Pro Tem
Council Member Position 4

Edward Lapeyre
Council Member Position 5

Martin Graves
Council Member Position 6

City Hall Main Number
281.332.1826

EMERGENCY
9-1-1

Fire (Non-emergency)
281.332.2711

Police (Non-emergency)
281.332.2426

Public Works
281.316.3700

Webster Way Editor
281.316.3764

Animal Control
281.316.3700

Civic Center Rental
281.316.4108

Utility Billing
281.316.4120

Municipal Court
281.338.6702

Trash and Recycling
713.726.7300 or
844.737.8254

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CITY OF WEBSTER, TEXAS GOVERNMENT

JANUARY

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- 04** CITY COUNCIL MEETING*
Canceled
- 11** WEBSTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION MEETING
*6 p.m. at City Hall**
- 14** SENIOR GAME NIGHT
- 17** MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY
City offices closed
- 18** CITY COUNCIL MEETING*
6 p.m. at City Hall
- 22** PET HEALTH SAFETY DAY
From 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Service Center, 855 Magnolia Ave.
- 27** 64TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY INCORPORATION
- 28** SENIOR GAME NIGHT

FEBRUARY

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- 01** CITY COUNCIL MEETING*
6 p.m. at City Hall
- 08** WEBSTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION MEETING
*6 p.m. at City Hall**
- 11** SENIOR GAME NIGHT
- 15** CITY COUNCIL MEETING*
6 p.m. at City Hall
- 21** PRESIDENTS' DAY
City offices open
- 25** SENIOR GAME NIGHT

**Special meetings may be added, and meetings may be canceled if there are no agenda items. Check the City website at cityofwebster.com for meeting information.*

AARP TAX AIDE

FEBRUARY 1 - APRIL 13

CALL 281.506.4951 FOR AN APPOINTMENT

MONDAY	9 A.M. - 5 P.M.
TUESDAY	10 A.M. - 2 P.M.
WEDNESDAY	11 A.M. - 7 P.M.
SATURDAY	9 A.M. - 1 P.M.