Webster Way

Monthly Newsletter February 2017

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EAGLE UPDATE

Watch the Webster Eagles as they incubate their egg

CERTIFIED STORMREADY

StormReady certificate presented to the City

THE PERFECT PAIR

Space Center Houston teams up with the City

Facebook.com/WebsterTexas

Instagram: @CityofWebster

REGISTER FOR LIFE ALERT

YOU'LL *NEVER* BE ALONE

The City of Webster first responders are highly trained and eager to help all residents in need. But, if you don't have a way of contacting 9-1-1, they won't know you need help.

Each year more than 5,000 calls are made using Life Alert, saving a life from potential catastrophe every ten minutes. If you are home alone and you fall, and you can't get up, the Life Alert emergency pendant that you wear will get you in contact with emergency services and give you the assistance you need.

The pendants are waterproof, keeping you safe even in the shower, and can work up to an 800-foot vicinity around your home. The battery can even last up to seven years. The service gives families peace of mind and allows seniors to live alone without ever being alone.

The Webster Fire Department pays for 100 percent of the service for anyone who requests it. Visit the Webster Fire Department at 18300 Highway 3 or call 281.316.3742 to apply. After completing an application, it takes around two weeks for ADT to come to your home and set it up. You must be a Webster resident to receive this service.

"It's a great service for anyone who needs it," said Webster Fire Chief Patrick Shipp. "We have had it activated a few times, and we are more than happy to expand the program."

WE ARE WEBSTER

ALLETHIA "DEAN" COUSIMANO

If they say that hairdressers bring color to the world, then Allethia "Dean" Cousimano has been bringing color to Webster for 61 years!

It started in Timpson, TX when Dean was just 15 years old. She would curl her teacher's hair using a pencil and bobby pins.

"I will never forget her," she said. "Her name was Mrs. Wallace, and she loved the way I fixed her hair."

One Saturday morning, Mrs. Wallace and Dean took a day trip to Center, TX where a woman walked up to the teacher and complimented her on her beautiful hair. At that moment, Dean was determined to fulfill her dream of becoming a hairdresser.

After graduating high school in 1945, Dean moved to Webster to take classes to receive her cosmetology license. Before classes started, she got a job at the Schwander Grocery Store that once stood where the Whataburger now stands. It was there that she met her husband, who she married in 1946.

He was in the Navy, which brought the pair to California in 1947. When they moved back to Texas in 1951, Dean continued on her path to being a hairdresser. She opened her first salon in South Houston, but after one of her clients had moved to Webster, she was compelled to move, as well.

She opened a hair salon on NASA Road 1 where The Hop is currently located. Within the building was a Humble Gas Station that later became Exxon, an auto repair shop, a grocery store that had a post office inside of it, and Allethia's Beauty Shop.

She eventually moved to another location on NASA Rd. 1 before permanently moving the salon into the garage in her home in 1988. Her son, a construction worker, helped transform it into a quaint, little hair salon.

Dean, 89, retired her cosmetology license last year, but she still holds her shop license, and her daughter, Pam, has taken over the business.

"It runs in the family," she said. "I had two cousins that became hairdressers, too."

Although Dean is now retired, she still finds time to style her own hair each day. She also spends her spare time with her three children, eight grandchildren, and 17 great-grandchildren.

The near 90-year-old said that although she spends most of her time relaxing at home, she still finds a way to make herself a nice meal every day.

In all the years she has been in Webster, she has seen the City develop at a rapid speed. She recalls the neighborhood that she now calls home, being just a wooded area.

"I have enjoyed my years of being a hairdresser in Webster," Dean said.

The City appreciates Dean and her ability to bring color to Webster.

CITY HALL CONNECT

CITY MANAGER WAYNE SABO

At just five years old, Webster City Manager Wayne Sabo told his mom that he wanted to be a soldier, and he never wavered from that passion.

On the west side of Chicago, in a Hungarian neighborhood, he attended high school and was a Military Cadet for four years in the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC). Following high school, he attended college at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he continued for four more years as a Military Cadet in the ROTC serving in both units as the Cadet Battalion Commander.

Knowing that he would be commissioned in the Army, Wayne decided to major in Urban Development. It was not something he was particularly interested in at the time, but it was something that paid off in the end, he said.

Upon graduation in 1972, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Infantry and was a Distinguished Military Graduate.

His military career took him all over the globe. From Fort Benning to Forts Hood and Leavenworth, and from Vietnam, to Germany, to Israel and all points in the Middle East, Wayne became a well-traveled man.

Holding many high-ranking positions spanning Lieutenant to Lieutenant Colonel, he would go on to be a Commander in the 3rd United States Infantry and Escort to the President (The Old Guard) for President Reagan.

Texas became his home after over a year in Iraq during Desert Storm. He retired from the military and started up an environmental company, Byotech Services in 1993. The company ultimately got him involved in municipalities, advising cities and industry on wastewater plants and issues.

His Urban Development degree became valuable when he began working for cities including Manvel, Alvin, and La Porte as a City Administrator, City Planner/Public Services Director and Director of Community Development and Engineering.

In 2008, he heard that the City of Webster was hiring a City Manager and he decided to send in his resume. After two challenging interviews filled with tough questions from the Webster City Council, he was offered the job.

Under the leadership of Wayne and City Council, each department in Webster has seen a positive change. Most notably, the fire department has transformed from a volunteer department with a 12-14 minute night time response, to a full-time department with a 4 minute 24/7 response time. He doubled the size of the wastewater plant, giving the City room to grow in the future, and he created four new internal Code Enforcement positions without adding Staff. The list of the positive changes he has made throughout the City is unending.

On the weekends, Wayne cheers his daughter Deirdre and horses on at United States Dressage Federation Competitions. She operates an 80-acre equestrian center with 70 horses in Belton, TX, that Wayne and his wife Morag enjoy visiting. Deirdre was a 2016 United States Championship Silver Medalist.

He is an animal lover, with four dogs and six cats. Over the past twenty years, 16 stray animals have wound up on his five-acre property and found their way into his heart.

He served his local community for ten years as the President of the Manvel Economic Development Corporation and still serves as Vice President of both the Iowa Colony Zoning Board of Adjustment and Brazoria County Municipal Utility District No. 29.

In the past nine years, the City has progressed considerably, and it is clear that the dedicated City Council along with City Manager Wayne Sabo, have been instrumental in that.

"I love this City and the staff," said Wayne. "Our City Council is focused and understands the vision for the City, and you can't get much better than that."

Wayne can be contacted at wsabo@cityofwebster.com

Above: City Manager Wayne Sabo with President Ronald Reagan.

YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

Webster is always working to improve the City, whether it is at our parks or on our roadways. Check out what crews have been up to recently!

Project Genesis Phase 1 detention pond excavation has begun.

Walnut Park track replacement is complete.

Texas/Kobayashi sidewalk project is complete.

Civic Center parking lot light replacement is complete.

The National Weather Service's StormReady program helps arm America's communities with the communication and safety skills needed to save lives and property--before, during and after the event.

Webster Emergency Management Director Joe Ferro received correspondence from the Houston/Galveston StormReady Advisory Board, recognizing the measures that the City of Webster has taken and certified the City as StormReady for the next three years.

The City uses Regroup Mass Notifications to get weather related information to its citizens. Webster also has an active severe weather preparedness and education program.

On January 17, Warning Coordination Meteorologist Dan Reilly attended the Webster City Council Meeting where he presented the certification to the City.

#WEBSTEREAGLES

FEBRUARY UPDATE

In the November edition of Webster Way, Resident Paul White was introduced to the community after he began to monitor a pair of bald eagles that had moved into a tree on his Webster property.

Since then, White received a new surveillance camera and computer software that enhanced the quality of the videos he uploaded to Facebook.

His Facebook page gained momentum once Mama and Papa Webster returned for the winter. Daily videos of the birds are now posted, as the two keep busy incubating an egg that is expected to hatch around Valentine's Day.

The majestic birds were even featured on the ABC 13 Houston Evening News in January. Paul hopes in the future to set up a live stream video of the eagles.

If you have not had the chance to see the videos, visit the Webster Facebook page, City of Webster Government, to see videos shared from Paul's Facebook page.

THE CITY OF WEBSTER & SPACE CENTER HOUSTON

THE PERFECT PAIR

For the past 17 years the City has capitalized on its highly successful, unique, year-round partnership with Space Center Houston (SCH). In January, the pair executed an agreement for the annual tourism marketing program for 2017.

In 2016, SCH set an annual record, welcoming more than 1 million visitors to the center. The more people that visit the Smithsonian Affiliate, the more people that shop, dine, and play at Webster businesses.

The marketing and tourism program includes services, such as title sponsorship of the spring exhibit, special advertising campaign during spring break, distinctive hotel online referral services on the SCH website, and many other year-round initiatives.

WELCOME TO WEBSTER

The City is excited to welcome four new businesses to Webster. OshKosh B'gosh opened at Baybrook Square in December. The new baby and children's clothing store is an extension of Carter's.

Sub Zero Ice Cream and Yogurt is now open in the Webster Plaza shopping center. The unique shop serves ice cream that is frozen with liquid nitrogen right before your eyes.

Orangetheory Fitness is now open in the Bay Area shopping center. It offers residents a one-hour group personal training workout to keep you burning calories for up to 36 hours.

El Pollo Loco is completing construction along Bay Area Boulevard, and the City looks forward to seeing the authentic Mexican Grill open in the future.

Be sure to check out these exciting new businesses in Webster!

PRESIDENTS' DAY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Webster City Offices will remain open and trash schedules will run the regularly scheduled pick up.

EXPLORE AND LEARN WITH WEBSTER SENIOR TRIPS

If you are looking for a way to become involved in the City and meet other residents, here is your chance!

The City of Webster invites seniors in the community to a night of fun and games. Join your neighbors for a light meal and conversation. Stay a while and play a game of "42", Pinochle, Farkle, Spinner, or whatever may interest you.

Game nights are held on the second and fourth Friday of every month from 6 p.m.- 9:30 p.m. at the Webster Recreation Center, 311 Pennsylvania Ave. City of Webster Recreation Manager Bryan Morgan also schedules monthly senior day trips to destinations around the Houston area. The outings are open to any senior interested, and requests for trip ideas are always welcome. Contact Recreation Manager Bryan Morgan at 281.316.4137 or bmorgan@cityofwebster.com for more information.

PRO TIP: REGISTER FOR REGROUP

When a crisis threatens the community and every second counts, it is critical that the residents are quickly alerted of danger. Webster officials can issue evacuation orders, instruct people to shelter-in-place and more from the new Regroup Mass Notification program.

This program saves time and ensures that citizens have the ability to take steps to get out of harm's way, said Webster Emergency Management Director Joe Ferro. By visiting the City's website, cityofwebster.com you can register for the emergency notifications. By registering you can receive notifications by e-mail, text message, or phone call. Residents are urged to sign up as soon as possible.

Holiday Yard Award Winners!

EAST SIDE WINNERS

1ST PLACE:	18507 ANNE DR.
2ND PLACE:	19514 OLD GALVESTON RD.
3RD PLACE:	608 SABINAL DR.
HONORABLE MENTION:	19418 OLD GALVESTON RD.

WEST SIDE WINNERS

1ST PLACE:	203 LIVE OAK ST.
2ND PLACE:	216 HENRIETTA ST.
3RD PLACE:	218 WASHINGTON AVE.
HONORABLE MENTION:	402 GREENE ST.

Congratulations to the 2016 Holiday Yard Award Winners! On the evening of Monday, December 19, the Holiday Yard judges toured the entire City looking for the top residential holiday displays. There was a fantastic turnout of festive decorations and it wasn't an easy decision as all the holiday adornments and trimmings were charming and cheerful!

▼MEETINGS

The Webster City Council will have regular meetings on **Tuesday, March 7 and Tuesday, March 21 at 6 p.m.** in the Council Chambers, 101 Pennsylvania Ave. The Webster Economic Development Corporation will meet on **Tuesday, March 14 at 6 p.m.** in the Council Chambers.

Special meetings may be added and meetings may be cancelled if there are no agenda items. Check cityofwebster.com for meeting information.

▼HEALTH FAIR

The FREE Health and Wellness Fair will be in March, with several healthcare vendors in attendance. Attendees can consult with a variety of healthcare providers, participate in screenings and exams, and gain awareness of new services, products, and technologies. Public Safety joins representatives from the healthcare industry to provide attendees with educational materials, product examples, and consultations. The annual Webster Health Fair will take place in the Webster Civic Center, 311 Pennsylvania Ave, and the date will be announced soon on the Webster Facebook page.

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GET E-MAIL AND TEXT UPDATES WHEN THE LATEST ISSUE OF WEBSTER WAY NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE ONLINE! SIGN UP BY VISITING THE PUBLICATION PAGE OF CITYOFWEBSTER.COM.

▼AARP TAX AIDE

Tax season is right around the corner, don't let the numbers frustrate you! AARP Tax-Aide is here to help!

February 1 – April 17, AARP representatives will be offering FREE tax-aide at the Webster Recreation Center, 311 Pennsylvania Ave, during the following hours:

Mondays – 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Tuesdays – 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Wednesdays 12 p.m. – 7 p.m., and Saturdays – 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

▼SPRING CLEAN UP WEEK

Beginning Monday, March 20, the City will provide residents with FREE curbside pickup of household trash, furniture, appliances, and tree limbs. Curbside pickup will continue through Friday, March 24.

Discarded items may also be disposed of at one of the dumpster sites. Dumpsters are available throughout the week at Green Acres Park, 901 Whitehall Ln., the Civic Center Complex, 311 Pennsylvania Ave., and the Public Works Service Center, 855 Magnolia Ave. For more information visit the City website.

▼ON THE ROAD FOR A REASON 5K FUN RUN

The City of Webster welcomes back Bay Area Alliance for Youth and Families to the City, for their 7th Annual Fun Run on Saturday, March 4!

Runners will travel through Walnut St., Magnolia Ave., Kobayashi Rd., and the westbound section of the NASA Bypass. The roadways will be closed off from approximately 6:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 4 to accommodate the Fun Run.

City Hall Main Number 281.332.1826
All officials and offices can be reached using the main number

City Officials
Mayor Donna Rogers ..... mayorrogers@cityofwebster.com
Position 1: Jennifer Heidt ..... jheidt@cityofwebster.com
Position 2: Andrea Wilson ..... awilson@cityofwebster.com
Position 3: Larry Tosto ..... ltosto@cityofwebster.com
Position 4: Beverly Gaines ..... bgaines@cityofwebster.com
Position 5: Edward Lapeyre ..... elapeyre@cityofwebster.com
Position 6: Martin Graves ..... mgraves@cityofwebster.com

City Offices
EMERGENCY 9-1-1
City Manager Wayne Sabo ..... wsabo@cityofwebster.com
City Secretary Crystal Roan ..... croan@cityofwebster.com
Community Relations and Webster Way Editor Katie Stamy ..... kstamy@cityofwebster.com
Community Development Director ... dhebert@cityofwebster.com
Economic Development Director .. bgiusto@cityofwebster.com
Emergency Management Director .... jferro@cityofwebster.com
Finance Director ..... mrodgers@cityofwebster.com
Marketing and Tourism ..... cthrailkill@cityofwebster.com
Recreation ..... bmorgan@cityofwebster.com
Fire Dept. (Non-emergency) ..... sricicar@websterfd.com
Municipial Court ..... court2@cityofwebster.com
Police Dept. (Non-emergency) ..... vkeener@websterpd.com
Public Works Service Center ..... jtobey@cityofwebster.com

City Services
Animal Control 281.316.3700
City Trash Hauling 281.316.3700
Civic Center Rental 281.316.4114
Republic Services (Residential) 281.446.2030
Tickets–To Pay By Credit Card 281.338.6702
Utility Billing 281.316.4120
Water/Sewer Line Breaks 281.316.3700

The City of Webster
101 Pennsylvania Ave.
Webster, Tx 77598

www.cityofwebster.com
281.332.1826

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February 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 **AARP Tax Aide begins at the Webster Civic Center until April 17** *Hours on Pg. 7*	2 **Groundhog Day**	3	4 **Pet Health Safety Day! 1-4 p.m. at the Webster Civic Center**
5 SUPER BOWL LI IN HOUSTON!	6 **Webster Aerobics** *Mon. & Wed. 6:30 p.m..- 7:30 p.m*	7 **City Council Meeting** *6 p.m.*	8	9	10 **Senior Game Night** *6 p.m.- 9:30 p.m.*	11 **Webster Aerobics** *Every Saturday 7:30-8:30 a.m.*
12	13	14 **WEDC Meeting*** *6 p.m.* **Valentine's Day**	15	16	17 *Last day to file an application to be placed on the general election ballot*	18
19	20 PRESIDENTS' DAY	21 **City Council Meeting** *6 p.m.*	22	23	24 **Senior Game Night** *6 p.m.- 9:30 p.m.*	25
26	27 **Webster Tae Kwon Do** *Every Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday*	28				

Webster TEXAS

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