Webster Way

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2018

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WEBSTER FD IN CALIFORNIA

A recap of the firefighters' experience

THE BRAVE AND BLUE

All about Webster Police Chief Bo Rogers

ABOUT THE COVER

Jackson Dean Construction Superintendent Jim Western and Sr. Project Manager Wayman Loughry in front of the new building.

@WEBSTERTEXAS

COSTCO OPENING OCT. 19

One hundred and ten days. Less than four months. That is the average length of time it takes to build a 157,589 square foot Costco Warehouse from pad-ready.

The newest location in Webster is no different, and will officially be completed and open to the public on Friday, October 19.

Jackson Dean Construction builds the Costco facilities around the world, and Superintendent Jim Western and Senior Project Manager Wayman Loughry have the process down to a science. Western has over 30 years of experience with Costco Wholesale, and Loughry has 20 years of experience. They oversee the 210 workers on site, and make sure it all goes according to schedule.

The City is looking forward to the world's second-largest retailer opening in the city limits. Residents can begin registering for a membership at the sign-up tents that will continue to be set up in the area.

Webster's northwest quadrant has completely transformed. On October 19, check it out for yourself.

A LOOK INSIDE THE STORE IN SEPTEMBER 2018.

LOCAL HEROES IN CALIFORNIA

WEBSTER FIREFIGHTERS RETELL STORIES FROM THE CARR FIRE

The morning of Wednesday, August 8, Webster Firefighters Zachery Hon and Orlando Zepeda headed to Redding, California to assist in fighting the Carr Fire.

Hon and Zepeda were two of 100 Texan Firefighters who were sent across the country to aid in the fire. The fire had even summoned the help of international firefighters from Australia.

It started on July 23, after a flat tire on a vehicle caused the wheel's rim to scrape against the asphalt, creating sparks that set off the fire.

The blaze wreaked havoc, and a horrifying Fire-Tornado ripped through a small town, causing more damage, and taking the life of a local fire inspector.

The conditions were harsh, as Hon and Zepeda spent their 24-hour days hiking along the mountains.

According to the firefighters, the terrain in California is much different from that in Texas. Adjusting to the steep mountains was tough.

"In California, we would park the truck, and stretch the hose. So, while we were hiking, we were pulling the hose and laying down hose every 500-600 feet," explained Hon.

"It was really physically demanding," Zepeda added. "The wildfires here in Texas are on mostly flatlands, so we can stay near the trucks."

They were also introduced to what the Californian Firefighters called snags.

A snag is a dead tree that after burning on the mountainside, falls down and proceeds to roll down the mountain. Firefighters had to constantly be wary of the falling trees.

"It was a lot of fire," said Zepeda. "It was crazy when you got to a mountaintop and you'd look down and see a whole mountainside gone."

Hon and Zepeda stayed in California for two weeks and returned to Texas on August 22. The fire was reported 100 percent contained on August 30.

229,651
ACRES BURNED

EIGHT
FATALITIES

MORE THAN
$1.659
BILLION
IN DAMAGES

SIXTH
MOST DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN CA. HISTORY

FIRE CONTAINED AFTER
38 DAYS

Medication Take Back Day will be on Saturday, October 27. You can participate by driving through the Webster Fire Station, where law enforcement will take medications for proper off-site disposal.

All unused or expired prescription or over-the-counter medications are accepted. **NO SHARPS.**

We encourage the community to take advantage of the day to clear out your medicine cabinets and get rid of unused medication in a safe way.

PROJECT Rx

For more information, please call the Bay Area Alliance for Youth & Families at 281-284-0370 or visit www.ccisd.net/alliance

Webster Police Department will be at Fire Station 1 18300 Hwy. 3 in Webster

OFFICERS OF THE MONTH

AUGUST

The Webster Police Department Crisis Intervention Training Team was named the August Employee(s) of the Month. The team consists of Lieutenant Jeremy Edge, Sergeant Leroy Romero, Officer Brenda Muniz, Corporal Brandon Cis, and Officer Edith Quintana. This group of highly trained officers did an outstanding job in organizing and hosting the recent 40-hour Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) class.

With increasing frequency, officers are being called upon to respond to individuals in a serious mental health crisis. It is necessary for officers to understand mental illness and the tactics and techniques that have been proven to work most effectively when responding to individuals in these situations.

As one of the course learning objectives states: Crisis Intervention Training is foremost about officer safety. It is designed to educate law enforcement officers in the basic elements of specific mental illnesses and prepare them to utilize practical applications of de-escalation techniques. This training is intended to assist officers in being able to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental illness and to respond effectively, appropriately, and professionally. We applaud the efforts of the CIT training team to better educate our officers, and we congratulate them on a job well done!

RECORDS MANAGEMENT DAY

MONDAY, OCTOBER 8

While state and federal offices, post offices, and banks will be closed in observance of Columbus Day on Monday, October 8, the City of Webster will take a day to manage departmental records.

All employees will report to work as usual, but City offices will be closed to the public to take advantage of an uninterrupted day to sort through paperwork and process records in compliance with state and federal guidelines.

The City holds this annual event to improve customer service and efficiency in locating documents and reducing storage needs.

Regular garbage service, police, and fire will operate as normal and all emergencies will be handled as usual.

For more information contact Records Manager Rose Hamidian at 281.316.4136.

MOSQUITO SPRAYING INFORMATION

Public Works employees are now working three nights a week to control the mosquito population.

Crews spray for mosquitos for three hours each night. They have also placed larvicide in standing water around the City to aid in controlling the mosquito population. The Public Works Department is taking whatever steps necessary to fight the pesky mosquitos.

To help with the process, Street Maintenance Foreman Bill Beale asks residents to dump any standing water they may have around their home (ex: bird bath). The standing water only provides mosquitos with more opportunities to reproduce.

He also suggests visiting a home improvement store to buy other products to deter the mosquitos.

The Brave and Blue

ALL ABOUT WEBSTER POLICE CHIEF BO ROGERS

Police Chief Bo Rogers' interest in the Police Department started when he was young.

Now, after 35 years in law enforcement, Chief Rogers looks back on his career, his accomplishments, and the memories he has made along the way.

Police Chief Bo Rogers began his career at the Galveston Constables Office in 1983. After ten years in Galveston, he moved to the Webster Police Department in 1993.

He patrolled the streets until 1996 when he was presented with an opportunity to join the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Task Force as a Webster Police employee.

Some of Rogers' proudest career moments took place while serving on the task force. Photos of these moments are saved in a photo album in his office.

While flipping through the pages, Rogers pointed out a photo taken after five tons of drugs were seized from a boat. Other photos showed large amounts of cash that were found in hotel rooms.

Needless to say, Rogers has played a crucial role in making sure dangerous drugs are off of our streets.

He even went undercover in some cases, buying drugs on the street in an effort to delve deeper into an investigation.

He remained in the DEA for several years before being promoted to Corporal. In the years following, Rogers moved from Sergeant to Lieutenant and eventually to Assistant Police Chief in 2015.

In March 2018, Rogers was selected by City Council to lead the Webster Police Department as Police Chief.

During his first six months as Police Chief, Rogers has made it a goal to educate the community on the proper response to active shooter instances.

He began the process by providing an opportunity for the ALICE training institute to be taught in Webster. The training took place in July, where three Webster Police Officers and several other community leaders were certified to teach the program to others.

In August, Chief Rogers and Officer Andrew Brooks took their presentation to McWhirter Elementary School, where they taught teachers and staff how to properly respond.

"In the next budget year, we are going to start going to the churches and businesses and teaching them how to respond," he explained. "There are 18 churches in our 7 square miles. We can't mandate that they implement anything, but we can show them what they should do, and the steps or measures they should take."

Outside of work, Rogers said his greatest accomplishment in life was meeting his wife, Mayor Donna Rogers. He is also incredibly proud of his three sons.

"I think your kids show a lot of who you are," he said. "Just seeing them accomplish things is a reflection on the parenting style."

Similarly, Chief Rogers believes that the officers on the streets are the direct reflection of the Police Department's administrative staff.

"We are very proud of those guys," he said. "From supervisors to the rookie on night watch. I am very proud of this organization, and it is an honor to lead it."

PHOTO TAKEN IN 1995 WHEN ROGERS WAS NOMINATED FOR THE ROTARY CLUB OFFICER OF THE YEAR.

HALLOWEEN Festival

OCTOBER 31
FROM 6 P.M. - 10 P.M.

TEXAS AVENUE PARK
17100 TEXAS AVE.

Whether your kids are in preschool, or in high school, the Webster Halloween Festival is the place to be this Halloween.

Beginning at 6 p.m., kids can collect candy, dance, and take photos under the Texas Avenue Park Pavilion.

While the Pirate DJ is playing music, characters will be walking around the park to take photos with your children.

As the sun sets, older kids can begin riding on the Haunted Hayride at 7 p.m.

The spooky ride will take you through the zombie-infested forest at the farthest corner of Texas Avenue Park.

The ride is sure to spook, so please ride along with young children.

The free event is the perfect way to safely celebrate Halloween.

Webster has partnered with Whataburger for the Costume Contest, which will award winners Whataburger prizes up to $50 each!

So dress up, and head over to the Webster Halloween Festival on Wednesday, October 31.

NOVEMBER ELECTION

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

On November 6, the registered voters in the City of Webster will have the opportunity to vote on five propositions. We encourage all citizens to exercise their right to vote. Contact the City Secretary's Office at 281.332.1826 or visit the City's website at cityofwebster.com for more information.

HOW TO REGISTER

The last day to register to vote in the election is Tuesday, October 9, 2018.
To register for the election, visit hctax.net and request an application online OR visit a Harris County Clerk's Office branch to receive a voter registration card. Send completed applications to P.O. Box 1148, Houston, TX 77251.

VOTING BY MAIL

The deadline for submitting an application for a ballot to be voted by mail is October 26, 2018.

EARLY VOTING

Early Voting By Personal Appearance will be conducted each weekday in Harris County at precinct locations from Monday, October 22 - Friday, November 2.

ELECTION DAY

On Election Day, Tuesday, November 6, voting will be conducted at Webster Recreation Center, 311 Pennsylvania Ave., from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
A voting device to assist voters with a disability will be available during Early Voting and on Election Day.
A voter must present a photo identification to qualify to vote.

RESIDENTS CAN VISIT THE CITY WEBSITE AT CITYOFWEBSTER.COM TO REVIEW THE PROPOSITIONS ON THE BALLOT.

FALL clean-up
October 15-19, 2018

Beginning Monday, October 15, the City of Webster will provide FREE curbside pick up of household trash, furniture, appliances, tree limbs, etc. for residents. Curbside pickup will continue until Friday, Oct. 19.

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.

Items that are ineligible for disposal include paint, unknown chemicals, items over 250 pounds, vehicle engines, and trailers.

Residents are also encouraged to participate in our 2018 City-Wide Garage Sale Day on Saturday, October 20, from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Interfaith Caring Ministries (ICM) will make an initial sweep through the neighborhoods at approximately 2:30 p.m. to pick up unsold or unwanted items. ICM will make a final sweep through the neighborhoods at 4 p.m.

All items other than furniture pieces must be boxed or bagged for pick up. Additionally, all items must have a large label, clearly visible to the driver as items being donated to ICM. For more information, visit cityofwebster.com.

Today's home fires burn faster than ever. In a typical home fire, you may have as little as one to two minutes to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds. Knowing how to use that time wisely takes planning and practice.

*The "Look. Listen. Learn." campaign highlights three steps people can take to help quickly and safely escape a fire. **LOOK** for places fire could start. **LISTEN** for the sound of the smoke alarm. **LEARN** 2 ways out of every room. Find more information at firepreventionweek.org.*

YARD OF THE MONTH

First Place

Residential:
18222 Anne Dr.

Commercial:
Gulf Coast MRI

Second Place

Residential:
18400 Anne Dr.

Commercial:
Putt Putt Fun House

Honorable Mention

Residential:
625 San Madina

Commercial:
Medical Offices
330 E. Medical Center Blvd.

WEBSTER WATCH

NOVEMBER

UPCOMING MEETINGS

The Webster City Council will have a regular meeting on Tuesday, November 6 and November 20 at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 101 Pennsylvania Avenue. The Webster Economic Development Corporation will meet on Tuesday, November 13 at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

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

VETERAN'S DAY

Veteran's Day is November 11, and the City of Webster honors all those who served!

City offices will be closed on Monday, November 12 in honor of the day, and offices will reopen on Tuesday, November 13.

THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving is on Thursday, November 22 and the City of Webster is thankful for its amazing residents!

City offices will close at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 21 for the holiday and offices will reopen on Monday, November 26.

Residents should be aware that there will not be trash pick-up on Thanksgiving Day. Republic Services will resume trash pick-up on the next regularly scheduled service day.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Get an extra hour of sleep when Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m. on Sunday, November 4.

This is also a good time to change the batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

THE SPLASH PAD AT TEXAS AVENUE PARK WILL BE CLOSING FOR THE FALL/WINTER ON NOVEMBER 1. THE SPLASH PAD WILL REOPEN SPRING 2019.

City Hall Main Number 281.332.1826

All officials and offices can be reached using the main number

ELECTED OFFICIALS

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

CITY OFFICES

EMERGENCY.....9-1-1
City Manager.....wsabo@cityofwebster.com
City Secretary.....croan@cityofwebster.com
Community Development..dhebert@cityofwebster.com
Communications Specialist & Webster Way Editor Katie Stamy Vela.....kstamy@cityofwebster.com
Economic Development...bgiusto@cityofwebster.com
Finance.....mrodgers@cityofwebster.com
Marketing & Tourism.....cthrailkill@cityofwebster.com
Recreation.....bmorgan@cityofwebster.com
Fire (Non-emergency).....sricicar@websterfd.com
Municipial Court.....court2@cityofwebster.com
Police (Non-emergency).....vkeener@websterpd.com
Public Works.....jtobey@cityofwebster.com

CITY SERVICES

Animal Control.....281.316.3700
Brush and Tree Limb Hauling.....281.316.3700
Civic Center Rental.....281.316.4108
Police (Non-emergency).....281.332.2426
Republic Services (Residential).....281.446.2030
Utility Billing.....281.316.4120
Water/Sewer Line Breaks.....281.316.3700

THE CITY OF WEBSTER
101 Pennsylvania Avenue
Webster,Tx 77598

www.cityofwebster.com
281.332.1826

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OCTOBER 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 **Webster Martial Arts** *Every Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday*	**2** **City Council Meeting*** *6 p.m.*	**3** **Webster Aerobics** *Every Monday & Wednesday 6 p.m.-7 p.m*	**4**	**5**	**6** **Webster Aerobics** *Every Saturday 8 a.m.-9 a.m.*
7	**8** **Records Management Day!** *City offices closed*	**9** **Webster Economic Development Corporation Meeting*** *6 p.m.*	**10**	**11**	**12** **Senior Game Night** *6-9:30 p.m.*	**13**
14	**15** **Fall Clean-Up Week Begins**	**16** **City Council Meeting*** *6 p.m.*	**17**	**18**	**19** **Fall Clean-Up Week Ends**	**20** **City Wide GarageSale**
21	**22**	**23**	**24**	**25**	**26** **Senior Game Night** *6-9:30 p.m.*	**27** **Medication Take Back** *10 a.m.-2 p.m.*
28	**29**	**30**	**31** **Webster Halloween Festival** **6 p.m.- 10 p.m.**			

*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!