Webster Way

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2018

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Webster Fire Station decorated for the holiday season

@WEBSTERTEXAS

Christmas in the Park

DECEMBER 15 AT TEXAS AVENUE PARK

Ring in the holiday season with the City of Webster at Christmas in the Park! Bundle up and enjoy local vendors as the Space City Big Band performs holiday favorites for the community.

Following the concert, a showing of The Polar Express will play on the Texas Avenue Park lawn. Santa will also be in attendance to take photos with kids.

The community is invited to bring blankets and chairs and enjoy the festivities on Saturday, December 15, beginning at 5:30 p.m at Texas Avenue Park, 17100 Texas Avenue. The movie will begin around 7 p.m.

For more information, visit the City of Webster Facebook page.

Our home, Our Decisions

It's the place where you and your family live. It's your home, your neighborhood, your community. And you should have a voice in decisions that affect you and everyone in your community.

But your ability to continue having a voice in vital decisions affecting your neighborhood and your community is under assault from politicians in state government in Austin. They want to force every town and city in Texas to conform to their ideas and they have the power to do it.

One size does not fit all.

As Texans, we're proud that our state is unlike any of the others and the same holds true for our pride in our hometowns. The unique character of each city is shaped by the priorities and values of the people who live there.

Texans don't want to be told they have to conform to one way of thinking or one way of living – whether it comes from Washington or from Austin. Texans don't care whether people in other communities make decisions that differ from the ones in their hometown. Whether it's burnt orange or maroon, sweetened or unsweetened, red salsa or green – there's not just one way of being Texan.

But there's one thing all Texans can agree on: We want to continue making our own decisions about our hometowns. For more information, visit tml.com/ourhomeourdecisions.

Don't Mess With Texas Or California

FIREFIGHTERS TRAVEL TO THE WOOLSEY FIRE

The Woolsey Fire devasted Southern California in November and called for the help of nearly 4,000 firefighters. Texas Governor Greg Abbott authorized the deployment of 10 task forces of fire equipment and over 200 firefighters through the Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS) to assist California in the deadly wildfires.

Webster Fire Department sent Fire Chief Patrick Shipp, Shift Commander Jason Myers, and Firefighter Zachery Hon to help with fighting the blaze. During this deployment, Webster Fire Chief Patrick Shipp was designated as the Group Supervisor for the 10 Texas Strike Teams.

This is the second time in the past three months that Webster Fire Department has been deployed to California. Webster Firefighters Zachery Hon and Orlando Zepeda were also recently deployed to Northern California for the massive Carr Fire in August.

The Woolsey Fire broke out Thursday, November 8 near Simi Valley, and by Saturday, November 10, it had consumed an estimated 83,275 acres in Los Angeles and Ventura counties.

When Texas Firefighters arrived, more than 95,000 acres had been destroyed.

TIFMAS State Coordinator Keith Kiplinger stated, "This is a shining example of the willingness of cities across our State to help neighbors in need."

Pictured from left: Shift Commander Jason Myers, Chief Patrick Shipp, Firefighter Zachery Hon

OFFICER OF THE MONTH

OCTOBER

Congratulations to Webster Police Detective David Nettles for being chosen as the Employee of the Month for the month of October.

Detective Nettles was selected for his remarkable work on a sexual assault case which originally listed only one victim. However, after executing search warrants and reviewing other forensic evidence, Detective Nettles was able to locate additional victims of what turned out to be a serial offender. Detective Nettles' exceptional work helped to prevent further assaults, while also bringing some sense of closure to the victims.

Detective Nettles also worked a fatality hit and run case in which a pedestrian was hit and killed while walking along the roadway in October. Thanks to a tip, the suspect vehicle was recovered the next day, and Detective Nettles then tenaciously pursued the case until the suspect driver was identified, arrested, and charged. Detective David Nettles is a true asset to this City.

Holiday Events

SENIOR LUNCHEON

Join us at the annual Senior Holiday Luncheon on Thursday, December 13 at 11:30 a.m. The event will take place at the Recreation Center, 311 Pennsylvania Ave., and all senior residents are welcome to attend. There will be delicious food and wonderful company.

CHRISTMAS YARD DECORATING CONTEST

Judges will make their rounds to the Webster neighborhoods on Tuesday, December 18 beginning at 6 p.m. A first, second, third and honorable mention will be chosen for both the east and west side of Highway 3. Yards are judged based on the use of color, creativity, aesthetic beauty, and variety of decorations used.

Storm Drains in the Fall

Debris such as leaves, sticks, and grass clippings can quickly cause problems in the storm drains and in the ecosystem. Stormwater Coordinator Jesse Espinoza is asking for your help to solve this problem.

PROBLEM

Leaves and other debris can block drains and contribute to localized flooding.

SOLUTION

Do not place debris next to the curb, driveway, or street. Clear it away from storm drains if they begin to clog.

PROBLEM

Storm drains carry debris into streams, which blocks the sun from aquatic life. The decomposition of debris then stimulates algae growth.

SOLUTION

Use the leaves and debris on your lawn for a boost of free nitrogen and phosphorus.

Do not attempt to clear a catch basin if the street or intersection is flooded. Report clogged storm drains to Public Works by contacting Jesse Espinoza at 281.316.3700 or jespinoza@cityofwebster.com.

Ultra-Low Tax Rate

IT'S THE WEBSTER WAY

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary definition of affordable certainly describes the cost of living in Webster. The price of housing, taxes, and utilities are among the lowest in the area. Yet, the City provides many services with a personal touch that is seldom seen in government. These are just some of the characteristics that make Webster such a unique place to live.

One can easily determine after a quick drive around town that commercial activity proliferates throughout the community. This flow of commerce contributes mightily to sales and property tax revenue for the City. Businesses pay approximately 80 percent of the property taxes in the City of Webster. Sales tax revenue, our primary source of revenue, directly lowers the property tax rate by nearly 40 percent or the equivalent of $203 per year on a $100,000 home. A flourishing economy is not just good for business, it also benefits a Webster taxpayer.

The average residence will pay $980 per year to the City of Webster for property taxes and utility service in 2019. That amount supports police and fire protection, parks and recreation, water and sewer services, code enforcement, and economic development.

Most folks would call that a bargain. Around here, we call it the Webster Way!

Comparison of Utility Bills for 5,000 Gallons of Water Consumed

Entity	Total	Entity	Total
Clear Lake City Water Authority	$28.00	Sugar Land	$49.08
Pasadena	$40.30	League City	$51.15
Webster	$43.36	Nassau Bay	$52.50
Friendswood	$46.95	Seabrook	$59.38
Humble	$47.20	Pearland	$64.86

CAPTAIN JAMES GREENWOOD (RET.)

WEBSTER IT ADMINISTRATOR JIM GREENWOOD RETIRES FROM THE U.S. ARMY

Webster IT Administrator Jim Greenwood retired from the U.S. Army after over 30 years of service.

Greenwood has had an impressive military career. He began as a soldier in 1987 in Fort Hood, Texas. He went from the 2nd Infantry Division in Korea, to the Texas National Guard, and became a commissioned officer in 2008.

Greenwood did one tour in Afghanistan from November 2012 until July 2013 as part of a Security Forces Advisory Training Team. There, his job was to train the local police in the use of radios. He earned a Combat Action Badge performing operations while being engaged by the enemy.

He was reassigned as Public Affairs Team Leader with the 100th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment in August 2013. There he became a Public Affairs Officer (PAO) and earned the rank of Captain.

Finally, in December 2016, Jim became the PAO for the 72nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team.

In November, he was recognized in front of City Council for his many years of service to the country.

Webster Police Department

PROTECTING FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Webster Police Department will be hosting a Faith-Based Security Awareness Seminar

DECEMBER 7, AT 9 A.M. IN ENGLISH &

JANUARY 18, AT 9 A.M. IN SPANISH

at the Webster Police Department Training Room, 217 Pennsylvania Ave.
Call Police Chief Bo Rogers at 281.316.4189 or drogers@websterpd.com to reserve a spot

WHAT YOU DO MATTERS!

***This is *NOT denomination specific*, and there is no cost associated with training**

ELECTION RESULTS

A total of 1,477 Webster residents voted in the 2018 election, which had five propositions on the ballot. All propositions were approved.

Changes that will be implemented include the following:

- The Mayor and each respective councilmember can serve for a term of three years or until their successors are elected.
- "The Municipal Court of Record in the City of Webster" will be established and maintained for the trial of misdemeanor offenses.
- The presiding judge and any associate judges of said court will be appointed by City Council to serve at the discretion of the Council. Any such judge should be an attorney licensed and practicing in the State of Texas for two or more years and shall be a resident of the State of Texas relative to municipal courts.
- There will be a municipal clerk of said court appointed by the City Manager and named by Ordinance by the City Council.
- The City Manager may remove, suspend or discharge any Assistant City Manager(s) and any and all department heads. Any assistant manager(s) or department heads so disciplined may, if the employee elects, appeal the City Manager's decision to City Council.

For more information on the election results, visit www.cityofwebster.com.

TEXAS POWER SWITCH

Group buying program gives Webster residents the chance to lower their electric bills

The City of Webster has partnered with energy broker iChoosr to offer its residents the opportunity to benefit from group buying power in order to lower individual monthly electric bills. The Webster Power Switch program provides residents a way to better understand the confusing, deregulated energy market, and potentially offers a way to save money. There is no cost to register and no obligation associated with the program.

The more people that register for the program, the better the opportunity for the broker to secure a low-cost energy deal. Webster is just one of a number of Texas cities, including Dickinson and Farmers Branch, participating in the program. Visit the City of Webster's website at http://www.cityofwebster.com to learn more and to register.

NEW YEAR'S DAY
TUESDAY, JANUARY 1

WEBSTER WATCH

JANUARY

UPCOMING MEETINGS

The Webster City Council will have a regular meeting on January 15 at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 101 Pennsylvania Avenue. The regularly scheduled meeting on January 1 has been canceled. The Webster Economic Development Corporation will meet on Tuesday, January 8 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.

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Offices will be closed on New Year's Day, Tuesday, January 1 and will reopen on Wednesday, January 2.

Trash services will be impacted and customers will receive services on the following day.

Please be respectful of neighbors, and remember that fireworks are prohibited within city limits. Fines for those in possession of fireworks can be up to $566. Celebratory gunfire or discharging a weapon into the sky is illegal, as well.

WEBSTER BIRTHDAY

The City of Webster was incorporated on January 27, 1958, making it 61 years old! With a population of over 200 people, it was first a Village and later incorporated as a City.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

The City of Webster offices will be closed on Monday, January 21 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Offices will reopen on Tuesday, January 22. Trash services will not be impacted.

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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DECEMBER 2018

*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!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	**3** First Day of Hanukkah	**4** City Council Meeting* *6 p.m.*	**5**	**6**	**7** Senior Game Night; Faith-based Security Awareness Seminar	**8** Webster Aerobics *Every Saturday 8 a.m.-9 a.m.*
9	**10** Webster Martial Arts *Every Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday*	**11** Webster Economic Development Corporation Meeting* *6 p.m.*	**12** Webster Aerobics *Every Monday & Wednesday 6 p.m.-7 p.m*	**13** Senior Holiday Luncheon *11:30 a.m.*	**14**	**15** Christmas In The Park
16	**17**	**18**	**19**	**20**	**21**	**22**
23	**24** Christmas Eve Offices Closed	**25**	**26** First Day of Kwanzaa	**27**	**28**	**29**
30	**31** New Years Eve					