



# The Webb County Link

A Publication Of The Webb County Public Information Office

October 2015

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## Important Dates

- \* 11/1 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- \* 11/2 Jury Duty
- \* 11/9 Commissioners Court Meeting 9:00am
- \* 11/11 Veteran's Day County Offices Closed
- \* 11/16 Jury Duty
- \* 11/19 New Employee Orientation
- \* 11/23 Commissioners Court Meeting 9:00am
- \* 11/26 Thanksgiving Day County Offices Closed
- \* 11/27 County Offices Closed

## Breast Cancer Awareness Month Recap

October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month and all throughout the county, departments, elected officials, and employees joined as one to raise awareness against this very important cause.

After a proclaiming October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Commissioners Court commemorated the event by having the Webb County Courthouse light up in pink all month. The Courthouse lights, organized by Commissioner Wawi Tijerina, joined many other buildings across the nation in shining a light of hope for those battling the disease.



The Commissioners Court was also visited by the founder and executive director of the Pink To Do Breast Cancer Awareness Association, Elizabeth Benavidez, who stood before the court with 2 breast cancer survivors to invite all of Webb County to support the awareness movement of breast cancer. This association has been helping breast cancer survivors in Laredo for over 13 years.

Webb County Administrative Services Department, in observance of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month teamed up with BC/BS, and Mammos On The Move (M.O.M.) to provide FREE Mammogram and Bone Density Scans for employees and dependents covered by Webb County BC/BS as part of the yearly preventive screening. The event was a huge success and set a new record for by providing 66 screenings in a single event. M.O.M. increased productivity and cost reduction to employees and county alike.



Departments all across the county also showed their support for this cause by wearing pink on Fridays throughout the month of October.

## Hero Salute Veteran Express Transportation

Recognizing how transportation for area veterans is much needed, Commissioner Jaime Canales, with support from the Commissioners Court, launched a pilot program called the Hero Salute Veteran Express Transportation. The program will aim to serve to provide free transportation services to veterans to and from the Webb County Veterans Office, doctor visits/medical appointments, grocery stores and Volunteers Serving the Need. Veterans interested in registering for the program can call the Fernando Salinas Community Center at (956) 722-1458 or (956) 722-1125 for more information.



## Laredo Environmental Summit 2015

The 6th annual Laredo Environmental Summit was held at Texas A&M International University. Webb County Commissioner Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina presented the annual "Webb County Environmental Stewardship Report" that detailed how the county continues to beautify and protect our environment year after year. The mission of the Laredo Environmental Summit is to engage and empower our citizens, elected officials, business sectors, and grassroots leaders with the ultimate purpose of identifying environmental issues and tangible solutions that will bring about positive and sustainable change to our environment. The day-long event, spearheaded by the office of Senator Judith Zaffirini, covered important topics concerning the environment, including weather changes, green building, and recycling.



## Drug Awareness Concert



The Webb County Sheriff's Office joined by local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and officials gave a warm welcome to Geneva "Mika" Camarena, widow of former DEA Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena. The W.C.S.O. was honored to have her speak to the youth about the dangers of using drugs and the importance of living a drug-free lifestyle at the Sheriff's Office 7th Annual Drug Awareness Concert. Agent Camarena was an undercover agent for the United States Drug Enforcement Administration who lost his life while on assignment in Mexico in 1985. The annual Red Ribbon Week, which teaches school children and youths to avoid drug use, was established in his memory.



**Bur Oak Tree Planting Ceremony**

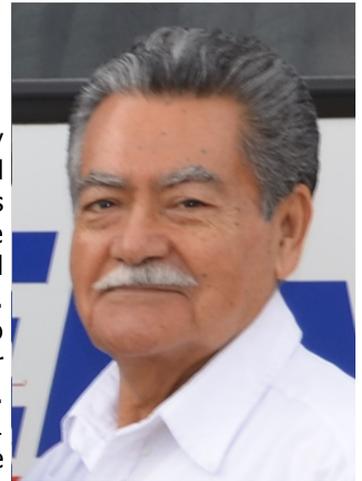
Judge Tano Tijerina and the Webb County AgriLife Extension Office joined LISD superintendent, Dr. Marcus Nelson, and the kids from Milton Elementary in planting and promising to care for a Bur Oak Tree. In celebration of One Day 4H, the Forest Service provided one bur oak tree, a tree that can grow successfully in all 254 counties of Texas, to each county to be planted in a public venue.



**Defensive Driving Training**

The Webb County Administrative Services presented all county employees with a defensive driving training entitled "Coaching The Experienced Driver". This mandatory training was designed to help improve a driver's ability to observe and respond safely to potential collision-producing situations. Emphasis was placed on scanning the surrounding areas around you while driving, having a cushion of safety around the vehicle, and always communicating with other vehicles and pedestrians through the use of signal lights, honks, and vehicle position. The training also served to make drivers aware of the dangers that can arise at any given time while on the road. Driving is an activity that requires 100% of our attention. The training highlighted the importance of keeping loved ones and streets safe and avoid distractions while driving.

**Best Wishes to Mr. Jose Villagran**



The Webb County Community Action Agency El Aguila Rural Transportation is sad to announce the retirement of a principled and remarkable employee. The department would like to recognize and express their sincere gratitude to Mr. Jose B. Villagran for his 21 years of exceptional service and dedication as Driver Supervisor. During his 21 years of service, Mr. Villagran managed to implement many changes from drivers' schedules to route set-up. Mr. Villagran will be greatly missed and as the department moves ahead towards another chapter of El Aguila, they will always be grateful for his selfless loyalty and the time he contributed to this department. On behalf of the entire Webb County family, we would like to wish Mr. Villagran a happy retirement, best wishes, and many blessings always.



**Red Ribbon Parade**

The Head Start program has emphasized that parents should be their children's first teachers by learning through their examples. As such, the Webb County Head Start Program encourages parents to participate in all aspects of the program and community as advocates for their children. The Red Ribbon Parade was one of the first parent activities of the new school year that allowed volunteering parents the chance to be their child's first role model. A great group of parents joined with Head Start at the former civic center to advocate against drugs. These parents joined with many across the nations to raise awareness and to declare that it's never too early to teach children to say "No" to drugs.

## Workplace Behavior Seminar

The Webb County Administrative Services Department held a Workplace Behavior Guidelines & Standards Seminar with the end-goal of making Webb County a more professional and tolerable working environment. Guest speaker, Garry L. Parker, gave all attending employees a new perspective concerning diversity, sexual harassment, workplace violence, and discrimination. The seminar included various videos that illustrated how words and unintentional actions can affect employees in the workplace as well as in society. Mr. Parker ended the seminar by encouraging everyone to show more empathy towards each other. Webb County would like to thank Mr. Parker for a very informative, entertaining, and thought-provoking presentation.



## Community Center Event Roundup



The **La Presa Community Center's** elderly participants had a great time during their arts and crafts time. Spooky, funny, and artistic pumpkins were carved out in anticipation of the upcoming Halloween festivities.



The **Bruni Community Center** held their Annual Bruni Community Center Health Fair. The elderly and students from WCISD students also enjoyed learning about their BMI (body mass index), blood glucose levels, and blood pressure checks.



The **Larga Vista Community Center**, in collaboration with La Raza 95.7 FM, had a Halloween Costume Giveaway to 60 children that attend the Kids Café. Hotdogs and drinks were also given to the children that attended this great community event.



The members of **Santa Teresita Community Center's** Elderly Nutrition Program enjoyed a fun and spooky time at Sheriff Martin Cuellar's Halloween Dance. Participants were treated to a delicious meal and plenty of dancing.



Before

### Eagle Pass Road

The Webb County Road and Bridge Department performed much needed maintenance to a bridge on Eagle Pass Road. The old bridge was completely rebuilt, strengthened, and retrofitted to handle the traffic passing through it. Eagle Pass Road, also known as FM 1472, runs parallel to the Rio Grande before reaching the end of its designation north of Carricitos Creek.



After

Submit your department stories for next month! E-mail your story along with any pictures to [webbpio@webbcountytx.gov](mailto:webbpio@webbcountytx.gov). Stories will be edited for style, grammar, and length. Please be advised that, due to space limitations, we cannot guarantee that all stories will be publicized.