



The Webb County Link

A Publication Of The Webb County Public Information Office

February 2015

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Important Dates

- * 3/8 Daylight Savings Time Begins (Set Clocks Forward 1 Hour)
- * 3/9 Commissioners Court Meeting 9:00am
- * 3/16 Jury Duty
- * 3/17 St. Patrick's Day
- * 3/18 New Employee Orientation
- * 3/23 Jury Duty
- * 3/23 Commissioners Court Meeting 9:00am

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New Justice of the Peace Sworn In

Inside the Precinct 2 Justice of Peace Building in South Laredo, family, friends, well-wishers, and special guests looked on as Webb County Judge Tano Tijerina swore in newly-appointed judge, Danny Dominguez, as Justice of the Peace, Precinct Two. Judge



Dominguez was selected from among the top three candidates by the Webb County Commissioners Court to fill the vacant seat. Judge Dominguez stated that his goal was to ensure efficient public service by balancing justice and empathy without sacrificing dignity and respect for the rule of law.



Read Across America Proclamation

Webb County Judge Tano Tijerina, in conjunction with the City of Laredo and LISD, proclaimed the week of February 24 through February 28 as Read Across America Week in Webb County. Speaking to the attending elementary students from across LISD, Judge

Tijerina encouraged them to continue reading as it would open many doors for their future. Read Across America is spearheaded by the National Education Association and is a national celebration of Dr. Seuss's birthday on March 2 that aims to promote reading and adult involvement in the education of a community's students.

CEAP Grant Renewal

Webb County begins the year with action to accept a major grant contract award. This grant will serve to continue a program of services by the Webb County Community Action Agency. The program, known as the Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP), was created to provide direct client services to eligible elderly, disabled and low income residents of Webb County. These services are intended to provide aid for these households in meeting their immediate energy needs by assisting them with paying from 6 to 8 calendar months of energy consumption. The CEAP contract is made by and between the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, a public and official agency of the State of Texas. The \$1,126,862.00 contract is set to run from January 1st through December 31st of this year and it is estimated to improve the quality of life of over 2,000 households in Webb County. "This project is something very big and important for the people of Webb County," said Judge Tano Tijerina, "it is something that will benefit our people and help those who need it the most." Through a newly acquired client-tracking software, the application procedure will be facilitated for the applicants and, in turn, enhance the way Webb County services its clients. To qualify for assistance by this program, households must meet certain income criteria. For more information on what documentation is required in order to apply or for any other assistance, potential applicants are encouraged to contact any of the following community centers: Rio Bravo Community Center, Larga Vista Community Center, Fernando Salinas Community Center, or Lilia Perez Community Center. For home visits for qualifying home bound elderly or disabled persons with no transportation, please call (956) 523-4182.



Best Wishes To Sara Coffman

The Webb County Commissioners Court and District Clerk Esther Degollado recently presented Ms. Sara Coffman a retirement plaque for all her years of service to Webb County. Ms. Coffman, Chief Deputy District Clerk, will be retiring from Webb County after thirty-eight years of service. During her remarks to the Commissioners Court, Ms. Coffman stated that she looked forward to spending time with her family. On behalf of the whole Webb County family, we wish Ms. Coffman all the best in this new chapter in her life!

New Equipment for Water Utilities

The Office of Webb County Commissioner Frank Sciaraffa has worked diligently to make vast changes at the Water Utilities and Water Plant in Rio Bravo. The most recent purchase for more efficient service is "The Vector." "The Vector," an industrial sized vacuum, has multiuse purpose. It keeps the sewage system free from obstructions, and cleans sediment pools at the water treatment plant. "While before the county had to reach out subcontractors, the new piece of equipment not only prevents future problems, it saves tax payer money and makes for a faster response," said Commissioner Frank Sciaraffa. The new equipment is valued at \$330,000. In the past, wait time for services was inconvenient for residents. Also, each cleaning of the sediment pools used to cost up to \$15,000 every two months.



PAL's Gym Boxers Hit It Big

Webb County Sheriff's Office PAL's gym boxers won big at the 79th Annual RGV Regional Golden Gloves Boxing Tournament in Brownsville, Texas, held February 13-15. The PAL's gym boxers proved to be at the top of their game once again. Out of the 10 boxers the Webb County Sheriff's Office sponsored, 8 of them brought home trophies and medals. The boxers, ranging in ages from 8-23, went up against hundreds of competitive athletes. The dedicated team and coaches also brought home top honors as they were awarded the Best Team trophy for their overall achievement in sweeping in the most won boxing matches. "They went out there, gave it their best and it clearly showed with the number of wins and the best overall team trophy they brought home," said Sheriff Martin Cuellar. "I know they will continue to advance and make Laredo proud." The Sheriff's Office would like to congratulate the following young dedicated boxers. First place winners: Joshua Juarez, 17, Alana Garcia, 21, Luis Jaramillo, 17, Jose Martinez, 15 and Giancarlo Rodriguez, 8. Second place winners: Carlos Alcocer, 23, and Juan Garcia, 12. Third place winner: Fidencio Ibarra, 19. "It wasn't an easy feat for our young boxers," said Rodolfo "Cobra" Gomez. "But I knew they would bring home trophies and medals because they are a great group of motivated and dedicated boxers. The support from Sheriff Martin Cuellar and the Sheriff's Office has helped many of these boxers stay out of trouble and stay focused in and outside of the ring." The team would also like to acknowledge Coach Jaime Manuel "Shotgun" Gomez and Javier Juarez and Marco Rodriguez for all of their success. Joshua Juarez will now advance to the Texas State Golden Gloves Tournament.



County Snapshots



Human Resources staff attended a full day training in San Antonio, sponsored by National Seminars titled "HR Law 2015."



The elderly from Larga Vista Community Center played "Loteria" with Cindy from Bee First and were given fun prizes.



Commissioner Frank Sciaraffa assists Dr. Henry Carranza handing out food bags and blankets to the elderly at La Presa Community Center.



Commissioner Frank Sciaraffa and many other County employees donated blood at the Webb County Blood Donation Drive.



Judge Monica Z. Notzon was joined by students from Finley Elementary School who visited the courts to learn more about the judicial system.

Human Resources Special Notice

Administrative Services Emergency Numbers

*** * * REMINDER * * ***

If ever there is a vehicle accident, please note the phone numbers you need to call if the accident happens *after business hours*. Please post the following information and/or advise those in your department about this important change.

Vehicle Accident Liability

Monday – Friday; 8-5 pm:
Liz Araiza (956) 523-4141
Cynthia Mares (956) 740-9422
Will advise HR for testing.

Vehicle Accident Drug Testing

Weekdays after 5 pm & Weekends:
Human Resources Staff (956) 236-2512
Cynthia Mares (956) 740-9422
Will advise Liability for reporting purposes.

NOTE: The previous number (956) 236-3376 for post accidents is *no longer available* as an option.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact
nrodriguez@webbcountytx.gov or cmares@webbcountytx.gov or call (956) 523-4144.

St. Valentine's Day Roundup



The Honorable Monica Z. Notzon and the 111th District Court staff would like to thank everyone who stopped by their Annual Valentine's Day Merienda and hope everyone had a great Valentine's Day.

Sheriff Martin Cuellar and the Webb County Sheriff's Office hosted a Valentine's Day Crime Prevention Event. The purpose of the event was to be proactive in presenting safety tools, skills and services that will assist the elderly from becoming victims of crime. Information shared with the community members included home safety, identity theft, and nutrition tips, amongst several other booths. The senior citizens will also enjoyed music provided by the W.C.S.O. Community Affairs Division.



The **Bruni Community Center** held the 2015 Valentine Elderly King & Queen Coronation Presentation and named Mr. & Mrs. Eliseo Cremar to the prestigious titles.



Jose Arturo Pantoja, Director of the **Fernando A. Salinas Community Center**, sharing in the gift of love with all of the participants during the center's Valentine's Day celebration.



The **Larga Vista Community Center** hosted a Valentines Kids Café Party. The kids enjoyed some delicious cupcakes and a candy bag.

Submit your department stories for next month! E-mail your story along with any pictures to 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.