

November Neighborhood Association Meetings

Saturday, November 7

Brookview General Meeting, 10 a.m.
@ S.J. Guthrie Park Pavilion

Steppin' Out Service Day, 1 – 4 p.m.
@ Neighborhoods around Waco

Monday, November 9

Sanger Heights General Meeting, 6 p.m.
@ Art Forum of Waco

Thursday, November 19

Alta Vista General Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
refreshments / 7 p.m. meeting
@ Family of Faith Church of the Nazarene

North East Riverside General Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
@ Bledsoe Miller Community Center

Monday, November 23

Brook Oaks General Meeting, 6 p.m.
@ Sul Ross Community Center (T)

Tuesday, November 24

Carver General Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
@ Carver Academy Library (T)

Cooking Oil and Grease Disposal

Frying some goodies this holiday season? Please don't dump cooking oil and grease down the drain. Waco has drop-off stations where you can take your oil and grease. Just collect used cooking oil in a sealed container at home, then take the container to one of our 5 Used Cooking Oil Recycling Drop-off Stations and pour the oil into the marked drop-off station container. Free and easy!

The 5 Drop-Off Stations are:

- Riverside** (24 hrs.) 200 Colcord Ave.
- Mt. Carmel** (24 hrs.) 5701 Lakeshore Dr.
- Street Services** (24 hrs.) 7801 Monkey Run
- Cobbs Center** (44th Street, between Cobbs and Trice), Tues. – Sat. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- WMARSS Plant**, 1147 Treatment Plant Rd. Mon. – Fri., 8 a.m. to 5p.m.

Thank you for not pouring grease down the drain. It can clog pipes and the City's sewer system, causing foul odors, sewer overflow, and the need for repairs.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS NOVEMBER

3	City Council Meeting *
4	Building Standards Commission Mtg.
11	Veterans Day / WCCC-TV Live Parade Broadcast
16	Plan Commission Meeting *
17	City Council Meeting *
26	Thanksgiving

* Carried LIVE and replayed weekly on WCCC-TV Cable Channel 10 and available for viewing on the City website. A more complete calendar is available online at www.waco-texas.com.

Zoo Tunes! Coming November 1st

Join us for ZooTunes! Sunday, November 1st at Cameron Park Zoo. The event will be held from noon to 4:30 p.m. and is free with paid zoo admission. Sponsored by the Waco Symphony Council and Cameron Park Zoo, the afternoon will feature live concerts by area orchestras, inflatables, face painting and an instrument petting zoo. Hear sounds from the Baylor Campus Orchestra, Waco Symphony Youth Orchestra and more. There will be fun and music for all ages. In case of inclement weather, the event will be cancelled. For more information or questions, contact Lanita Bristow at hsbristow@aol.com.

Youth Basketball Registration

Youth basketball registration is under way for the City of Waco youth basketball league. Registration is open until November 13 and league games begin January 9. The cost is \$375 for team registration or \$50 for individual registration, ages 5 to 14. For more information or to register, please call 254-750-5875.

Feast of Sharing - New Location

Bring the family out and enjoy a turkey dinner and activities for the kids at this year's annual Feast of Sharing, now at a new location. HEB will host Feast of Sharing on Tues., December 8 at the Waco Convention Center in downtown. The event is free to the public from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. For information, call 662-7500.

Ranger Museum Honors All Military

The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum is hosting Military Appreciation Day on Veterans Day – Wednesday, November 11. Active duty personnel, retirees and Veterans will receive FREE admission to the Museum while their family members will receive discounted admissions. Please show a valid id or documentation of service – medals, service records, and photographs are accepted.

The museum is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily with the last guest admitted at 4:30 p.m. The museum is accessible from the University Parks Drive Entrance. For more information, visit www.TexasRanger.org or call 750-8631.



Veteran's Day Parade
A Time to Say
"Thank You"

Zoo Fun
Fall at
the Zoo

Library Activities
Tons of Fall Fun
at the Libraries

City of Waco Limits

NOVEMBER 2015

The City of Waco would like to wish you and your loved ones a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Friends of the Library Book Sale

The Friends of the Waco-McLennan County Library invite everyone to attend the 52nd annual book sale Thursday, November 5 through Sunday, November 8 at the Extraco Events Center. One of the largest book sales in the Southwest, the Friends sale features over 110,000 books, CDs, DVDs and more. Paperbacks are priced at \$1, hardbacks and tradepaper at \$2, childrens books from .50 to \$1.50, CDs/DVDs at \$3, or as marked, and collector's books individually priced.

Don't miss Collector's Corner, with rare and special interest items individually priced. Pick up like-new hardbacks for only \$4.

Thursday admission is at 9 a.m., with wristband sales starting at 8 a.m. Cost is \$5 per adult, and free for children 12 and under. Admission will be free for each of the following three days (no sales tax Thursday and Friday). Saturday is Teacher Recognition Day: with a valid school ID, teachers can save 20% (excludes Collector's Corner) from 2 to 6 p.m. Bargain shoppers will love Green Sunday (noon to 6 p.m.), when admission will be free, and hardback and paperbacks will be only \$10 per bag, tax included. With proof of tax exempt status, non-profits can take left over books at no charge (must provide boxes). Midnight Madness, with remaining books offered to the public (all you want for \$10) is Sunday from 7 to 9 p.m.

More information about the book sale is available online at www.wacofriendsofthelibrary.org. Proceeds from the sale provide quality materials and programs for all four branches of the Waco-McLennan County Library.



Holiday Camps

Registration is ongoing for the City of Waco Parks and Recreation holiday camps. Bledsoe-Miller, Dewey, and South Waco will offer holiday camps for kids ages 5 to 13 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. during holiday breaks. Bledsoe-Miller and Dewey Community Centers will combine their camps at Bledsoe-Miller (during renovations to the Dewey building).

Children will take part in recreational activities, field trips, arts, crafts and more. The Thanksgiving camp is offered November 23 to November 25 and registration is \$40 per child. The Winter Camp is offered December 21 to January 4 and registration is \$70 per child. The camps will provide snacks, but campers must bring a sack lunch. For more information or to register, contact the community centers at South Waco 750-8650 and Bledsoe-Miller and Dewey at 750-8684.

Veterans Day Parade in Downtown Waco

Have you thanked a veteran lately? On Wed., November 11, Central Texans will come together to show their appreciation for our nation's veterans at Waco's Annual Veterans Day Parade in downtown Waco, starting shortly after 11 a.m. The parade features a variety of floats, bands, cheer squads, drill teams and our beloved veterans.

All the action will be broadcast live on the Waco City Cable Channel [Time Warner channel 10 or Grande channel 10] in HD, from five different cameras. The station will also offer live parade commentary from the corner of 5th St. and Austin Ave. The same LIVE coverage can be seen on the WCCC.TV Web Channel and mobile app at www.wccc.tv, viewable from anywhere in the world over the Internet or mobile device. Join us in celebrating the lifelong dedication of those who have served our country and fought to defend the freedom we all enjoy.



Tellabration!

Families can enjoy a great meal and a concert of stories with Allen Ware and THE WARE HOUSE PUPPETS at Tellabration! The celebration of storytelling will be held on Sat., November 14 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Austin Ave. United Methodist Church.

Other exciting, animated tellers will include students and adult members of The Heart of Texas Storytelling Guild. Cost is \$12 for adults, and \$5 for kids under 12. For more information, call Vivian Rutherford at 717-1763 or email: vivian.rutherford@thestorylady.org.

Zoo Stampede & Wildlife Wonderland

Whether you are as fast as a cheetah or as slow as a tortoise, we have got the race for you! Join us for our annual family fun run this November 14th and run for the animals. There are newly designed and certified 5K and 10K courses, and a new 1K course for participants of all ages. Chip timing will be included with 5K & 10K registration (1K will be untimed). Fri., November 13 is early packet pickup at the Zoo Gift Shop. Sat., November 14 is race day, with registration from 6:45 to 7:45 a.m. There will be an Awards Ceremony following race completion. Visit www.cameronparkzoo.com for registration costs, plus race and prize information. After the races, runners can show their race numbers for FREE admission to the zoo, and 10% off their Zootique Gift Shop purchases.

After Stampede, enjoy "Wildlife Wonderland" from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Learn from the different Keeper talks about the zoo's enrichment program as the animals enjoy their enrichment activities. A schedule of events will be posted on the zoo website at cameronparkzoo.com.



Texas Ranger Hall of Fame Receives Generous Donation

In September, the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame received a generous donation from the Fiat-Chrysler Foundation and Ram Trucks. Ram Marketing Director Becky Blanchard presented \$100,000 to representatives from the museum, the Texas Rangers, Ranger Association Foundation, and the City of Waco. The grant will help to complete the renovation of the museum's special exhibits, and will go toward preparing the museum for the 200th anniversary – the Bicentennial – of the Texas Rangers. The funding will also support the TRA Foundation scholarship program, which last year awarded 51 college scholarships to deserving children of active Texas Rangers.

This is the 2nd donation from the Fiat-Chrysler Foundation and Ram Trucks. Last year, the company became the first bicentennial corporate partner, donating \$100,000. In addition to the donations, Ram Trucks has been spreading the word about the Texas Ranger Bicentennial with its gorgeous Texas Ranger concept truck. Visit the museum online at: www.texasranger.org for photos and details.



Renewing Waco's Infrastructure

Infrastructure refers to all of the fundamental facilities and systems essential to enable, sustain and/or enhance living conditions and the economy in an area. Typically, this includes things like roads, bridges, tunnels, water treatment, storage and distribution, sewers and sewer treatment. These facilities and systems don't last forever. They're built with an approximate, "life expectancy." In some cases, structures are intended to function for as long as 40 or 50 years. Cities across the country are still reliant on facilities and systems built during the 1940's. Like many other cities, in Waco, much of our infrastructure has grown very old. In fact, some parts have lasted well beyond 50 years. Within the city's water system, one structure has now been in use for 86, and another for more than 65 years.

These facilities and systems, essential for living, must be repaired or replaced, and these projects are known as Capital Improvement Projects. The City of Waco is embarking on a 10-year Capital Improvement Program which includes many projects. Included in the program are \$110 million of water system projects and \$135 million of wastewater projects that were selected for inclusion after extensive engineering studies determined the most critical projects.

Just as our Waco forefathers built the infrastructure that has benefited us all, it's now our turn to maintain them, paying forward to future generations. In order to pay for these vital projects, modest increases to water and wastewater rates will be implemented effective January 1, 2016. How much of an increase depends on how much water is used; for instance, a customer using 8,000 gallons of water and 5,000 gallons of sewer will see a total monthly increase of \$4.66. It's important to remember that water and sewer rates have not increased at all in the past five years and that even with these modest increases, Waco's rates will remain significantly lower than many surrounding cities our size. As you hear words like infrastructure and capital improvement more frequently, remember that we're talking about some very important things... like maintaining our quality of life.

Shelter Update: We Need You, Waco!

Our Animal Shelter Renovation Campaign was successful, Waco! The community has really opened their heart to this cause by helping us raise \$2.6 million to improve this regional shelter serving numerous Central Texas cities.

Now comes the even harder part... during the renovation and construction process we'll have to shuffle some things around. We'll have a temporary dog kennel area set up for up to 120 days that could lower the available space we have for dogs. During this time adoption and fostering are CRUCIAL to maintaining a high live exit rate. In recent months we've held no-kill status. Our ultimate goal is a no-kill community and we need your help to stay there!

If you're interested in adopting or fostering an animal, please visit online at: www.humanesocietycentraltexas.org and take a look at available pets. You can also visit the shelter at 2032 Circle Road in Waco. To learn more about the renovation, visit the shelter online at: www.animalshelterwaco.com.

REMINDER:

The Solid Waste Offices and Cobbs Recycling Center will be closed Nov. 26 and 27 for Thanksgiving. Thursday's trash will be collected Wed., Nov. 25. Friday pickup will not change.

Fall Library Fun!

The Waco-McLennan County Library system has a huge variety of fun activities and experiences for children of all ages. Here's just a sampling:

Science Lab: Ages 7 to 11 are invited for a Thanksgiving-themed Science Lab at Central Library on Sat., November 14 at 1:30 p.m. Be prepared for fun science experiments that will entertain the whole family at Thanksgiving!

Lego Lab: Our monthly LEGO lab for ages 7 to 12 will be held at Central Library on Sat., November 21 at 1:30 pm. We supply the LEGO bricks and you create a masterpiece to display for the following month at the library. Meet other LEGO enthusiasts and get some ideas.

Baby Time: This 6 week series for ages 12 months and younger (with a caregiver) will be held at West Waco Library on Tuesdays, November 3, 10 and 17 at 10:30 a.m. The series offers stories, rhymes, lap activities and music appropriate for this age group.

Block Party: The monthly Block Party for ages 5 and under will be held at Central Library on Sun., November 1 at 1:30 p.m. A variety of blocks and other manipulatives are available for free play.

Game Time: Use our board games or bring your own for a fun time at the West Waco Library, Thurs., November 5 at 4 p.m.

Please register online at www.wacolibrary.org or call 750-5956 for more information on any of the library's Kids' Activities.

Special Note: The library will be closed Thurs., November 26 and Fri., November 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Homework Tutor @ Central Library: Free tutoring for students in K through 8th grade is held weekly at Central Library on Thursdays from 5 to 6 p.m. Please register online at www.wacolibrary.org or call 750-5942 for more information or to confirm your attendance.