

January Neighborhood Association Meetings

Monday, January 11
Sanger Heights General Meeting,
7 p.m. @ Art Forum of Waco
(1826 Morrow Ave.)

Thursday, January 21
Landon Branch Meeting, 6 p.m. Dinner/
6:30 p.m. meeting @ Uncle Dan's Barbeque
(Lake Air & Valley Mills)

North East Riverside General Meeting,
6:30 p.m. @ Bledsoe-Miller Center
(300 N. MLK, Jr. Blvd.)

Monday, January 25
Brook Oaks General Meeting,
6 p.m. @ Sul Ross Community Center
(15th St. and Waco Dr.)

Tuesday, January 26
Carver General Meeting,
5:30 p.m. @ Carver Academy Library
(1601 J.J. Flewellen Rd.)

Get Covered, America!

Enroll America is the nation's leading health care enrollment coalition. An independent nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, EA works with more than 4,600 partners in all 50 states to create tools, analyze data, inform policy, and share best practices in its mission to maximize the number of Americans who enroll in and retain health coverage under the Affordable Care Act.

Seven in ten uninsured citizens say they want one-on-one help understanding their options. The Get Covered Connector helps Texans schedule a time to meet with an expert who will provide help for free. Once they schedule a time slot, they'll receive email and text message notifications to remind them of their appointment.

You can find the Connector on the Waco-McLennan County Public Health website at www.wacomclennanphd.org.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS JANUARY

1	New Year's Day, City offices closed
5	City Council Meeting *
6	Building Standards Commission Mtg.
18	MLK, Jr. Holiday, City offices closed
19	City Council Meeting *
26	Plan Commission Meeting *

* 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.

Chipping of the Green

When the holidays are over, please hang onto your Christmas tree! Keep Waco Beautiful will host its annual "Chipping of the Green" Christmas tree recycling event on Saturday, January 9 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Paul Tyson Field parking lot. Bring trees to be recycled and receive a bag of wonderfully scented tree mulch. For more information, contact Keep Waco Beautiful at 750-5728.



The Cobbs Recycling Center at 2021 N. 44th Street also accepts Christmas trees. The center is open Tues. through Sat. from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contact Solid Waste Customer Service at (254) 299-2612 to learn more.

Victim Services Volunteers Needed

Waco Police Department Victim Services Unit is now taking applications for volunteers. As a volunteer for the unit you will provide assistance and support to victims of crime. This may include death notifications, assisting officers on scene, sexual assaults, family violence, homicides and many more.

The 4-week Victim Service Volunteer Academy will start on February 1. The classes will be held on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m. A background check will be conducted for eligibility. Read more about Victim Services on the City website at www.waco-texas.com under "Police." Please contact Tami Parsons at 254-750-7525 if you are interested in volunteering.

Safe Ride Home

Don't risk a ticket or accident New Year's Eve. Take advantage of Waco Transit's "Safe Ride Home" program, a FREE service that will take you to and from your New Year's Eve event (within 5 miles of Waco). Call 750-1917 during business hours to pre-book a ride for one or for your whole group. If you drove to an event but you've had a few too many, call Safe Ride Home and get yourself and your vehicle home safely.

Library FUN!
Get Creative, Educated and Entertained at Your Local Library

Citizens Police Academy
Register Now for the Upcoming February 5 Training Session

Green in 2016
Make a Resolution to Help Keep Our City Clean & Green

WACO City Limits

JANUARY 2016

The City of Waco wishes all of our Waco-Central Texas family a very Happy New Year!

City Election Filing Deadlines

The City of Waco General Election for Mayor (At Large), District I and District III will be Saturday, May 7, 2016. Wednesday, January 20 is the first day a candidate may file an application for a place on the City of Waco Ballot. Friday, February 19 is the last day to file for a place on the ballot.

Applications must be received in the City Secretary's Office by 5:00 p.m. on the last day to file. For more information contact the City Secretary's Office at 254-750-5750 or visit the City of Waco Elections webpage at www.waco-texas.com.

File applications in person *[Dirección física para presentar las solicitudes en persona para un lugar en la boleta]* at the City Secretary's Office on the First Floor of City Hall (300 Austin Avenue) or mail applications to *[Dirección a donde enviar las solicitudes para un lugar en la boleta en caso de presentar por correo]:* Esmeralda Hudson, City Secretary
PO Box 2570
Waco, TX 76702

[La elección general de la Ciudad de Waco será el Sábado, 7 de mayo. El primer día para solicitar un posición en la boleta electoral de la Ciudad de Waco es el miércoles, 20 de enero. El último día para solicitar un lugar en la boleta electoral es el viernes 19 de febrero, 2016. Las posiciones disponibles para la Ciudad de Waco son alcalde, Concejal de Distrito I, y Distrito III para que sirvan los términos completos de dos años.]

Para más información póngase en contacto con la Oficina de la Secretaria de la Ciudad al 750-5750 o visite el sitio de internet de la Ciudad de Waco en www.waco-texas.com.]

New Family Member?

Adding new pet members to the family is a wonderful way to start the New Year! For a healthy, safe pet, please follow the guidelines below, from our friends at SpayStreet Waco:

- Prevent costly diseases with vaccinations and deworming.
- Prevent rowdiness and other behavior problems with spay/neuter at 4 months of age.
- 1 in 3 pets will escape, so please be sure to microchip your cat or dog so they can be returned to you quickly.

To help give your new pet a great start, ABC (Animal Birth Control) Clinic is offering free microchipping and spay/neutering services when you present your City of Waco water bill on the morning of surgery. Visit www.animalbirthcontrol.org online to learn more, or call the SpayStreet Waco volunteers at 752-7729.



Citizens Police Academy Training Sessions



Registration is underway for the 49th Volunteer Citizens Police Academy, beginning Feb. 4. The class meets from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Waco Police Department every Thursday for 12 weeks. The academy covers a variety of topics, such as Investigations, Prevention, Firearms Instruction and more. The course consists of lectures, demos, tours and hands-on activities, with a graduation ceremony. To apply, fill out the online application at waco-texas.com. Click "Police" under Departments. (Note: Applicants will be subjected to a background check prior to acceptance.) The deadline to apply is Jan. 9 by 5 p.m. For more information, call Dan Ferguson at 750-1764.

Genealogy Class

The Waco-McLennan County Library together with the Central Texas Genealogical Society will sponsor a Beginner's Genealogy Class on Saturday, January 23 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the West Waco Library & Genealogy Center, 5301 Bosque Blvd.

The class is free to anyone interested in discovering their family history, and will cover topics such as how to use genealogy forms, an introduction to basic records such as Census and Immigration records, Internet sources, and a tour and orientation of the Genealogy Center's collection.

The instructors for the class will be Norma Cannata of the Central Texas Genealogical Society and Bill Buckner, Manager of the Genealogy Center. For more information, call Bill Buckner at 750-5945.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Events

In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, City of Waco offices will be closed. A wreath laying ceremony will be held on Monday, January 18 at noon at the King Memorial, located on the east side of the suspension bridge.

Visit the City of Waco's Community Calendar online at www.waco-texas.com for updates on local MLK observations and events.

Miracle Match Marathon

Join the movement with the Scott & White Marrow Donor Program and Waco Professional Firefighters Assn. and participate in the Miracle Match Marathon. The annual event will include a marathon, half-marathon, 5k fun run, 1-mile walk and the Miracle Match KIDS race. The 26.2 mile marathon showcases areas of downtown Waco, Cameron Park and along the Brazos River. Races will be held on Saturday, January 30 and Sunday, January 31.

For more information or to register, please visit the Foundation's marathon website at: miraclematchmarathon.net.

Fire Safety, City of Waco Fireworks Ordinance

In cold weather, please keep combustibles at least 36" away from electric and gas heaters (NO extension cords should be used with electric heaters). When using the fireplace, be sure to use the screen guard, and keep a fire extinguisher handy. Please keep candles in a safe place, away from children and combustibles.

The Waco Fire Department reminds us to celebrate New Year's safely. It is a violation of City ordinances to possess, use, make, sell, give away, transport or discharge fireworks within Waco city limits or within 5,000 feet of city limits without a permit from the fire marshal. "Snakes," smoke bombs, "snap and pops," sparklers and champagne poppers sold by retail stores are allowed. Fireworks purchased at stands outside city limits (except items above) are illegal to use or own.

Winter Fun at the Libraries

January Storytimes: For ages 3 through 6, Storytimes feature stories, songs, crafts and snacks that teach, entertain, and encourage young book lovers -- all for free! Storytimes all take place at 10:30 a.m. at the locations below:

Tuesdays:	Bledsoe-Miller Center	(300 N. MLK Blvd.)	750-5941
Wednesdays:	West Waco Library	(5301 Bosque Blvd.)	745-6018
Thursdays:	Central Library	(1717 Austin Ave.)	750-5941
Fridays:	South Waco Library	(2737 S. 18th St.)	750-8621

January Topics: "1,2,3 Count with Me" (Jan. 5-8); "Winter Wonderland" (Jan. 12-15); "Animals in Winter" (Jan. 19-22); "Health Awareness" (Jan. 26-29).

Sensory Storytime: Sensory Storytime, for special needs children ages 3 to 12 years, will be held Jan. 14 at West Waco Library at 4:30 p.m. Register online at wacolibrary.org. or call 745-6018.

Kids' Computer Classes: This class is designed to help kids in 3rd through 5th grades learn about different computer-related topics. This month's class on Word Processing will be held on Jan. 21 at 5:30 p.m. at West Waco Library. For more information, call 745-6018 or visit wacolibrary.org.

Game Time: Kids 5 to 11 years old can use the library's wide assortment of board games or bring their own for this free, fun event. The next Game Time will be Jan. 7 at West Waco Library at 4 p.m.

LEGOS Lab @ Central: LEGOS Lab will meet at Central Library on Saturday, January 16, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Young LEGO maniacs, ages 6 to 12 can come enjoy a LEGO adventure! Register online at www.wacolibrary.org.

Toddler Time: Designed for ages 1 and 2, Toddler Time is held at Central Library on Wednesday mornings (Jan. 6, 13, 20 and 27) at 10 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. and features stories & activities that keep this age group engaged.

Baby Time: This six-week series for ages 12 months and under (and caregiver) is held on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. at West Waco Library starting Jan. 26. Space is limited, so sign up by calling Stacy Phillips at 750-5956 or register online at www.wacolibrary.org.

Block Party: This is a free-play session with blocks and other age-appropriate manipulatives for ages 1 to 4 years. The free monthly class is held on Sundays at 1:30 p.m. at Central Library. The next Block Party will be Jan. 17.

Pizza & a Book Club: Come have a slice of Pizza and discuss your favorite books on Jan. 6 at 4:30 p.m. at West Waco Library!

Minecraft Club: Ages 11 to 15 years can come build & mine "Land of the Dragonborn" on Jan. 16 at 2 p.m. at Central Library. Kids can bring their own computers or use the library's. For more information, call 750-5941.

Gone Graphic Reading Club: On Jan. 20, adults can enjoy a favorite Manga, Graphic Novel, or Comic book, catch a superhero movie, test their trivia IQ, or learn about new graphic novels at Central Library at 7 p.m. For details, call 750-5941.

Resolve to Keep Waco Clean & Green!

Even after more than 25 years of the Don't mess with Texas® anti-litter campaign, people still drive our roads, tossing trash from their car windows and letting litter fly out of their truck beds. Cigarette butts, fast food wrappers, and Styrofoam cups may be small, but they're still trash, and they leave our fine city less beautiful than it should be. If you're a litterbug, make a resolution in 2016 to clean up your act! Here are some helpful tips:

- Use the trash cans at the parks and downtown.
- Keep a plastic bag/litter bag in your car at all times. Once you get home, please don't forget to separate your trash from your recyclables.
- If you smoke, always use a container for cigarette butts (especially in your car) instead of throwing them out the car window.
- Take part in neighborhood clean-ups. You can find information at your neighborhood association or at keepwacobeautiful.com.
- Use plastic trash bags and tie the bags before putting your trash in your trash cart or dumpster.

What to Do with Doggy Doo

Dog waste can be a major source of "bad stuff" that can wash away with rainwater, into the storm drain and eventually into local waters. Leaving dog waste on the ground is never a good idea. When pet waste is left on the ground, it can be picked up by stormwater runoff and washed into stormdrains or nearby waterbodies. Since Waco's stormdrains do not connect to wastewater treatment facilities, untreated dog waste will end up in one of our streams or Lake Waco.

You can be a good pet owner and a good neighbor by remembering to bag it! The quickest, easiest way to get rid of your dog's waste is to put it in a plastic bag, tie the bag, and either drop the bag in your trash can or flush the bag's contents down your toilet. Carrying waste bags when walking your dog will help keep Waco clean and green!

City Note:

City of Waco offices and the libraries will be closed Friday, January 1 for New Year's Day. Thursday's trash will be picked up Wednesday, December 30.