

January Neighborhood Association Meetings

Monday, January 9
Sanger Heights General Meeting, 6 p.m.
@ Provident Heights Elementary
(2415 Bosque Blvd.)

Tuesday, January 10
Austin Avenue General Meeting, 7 p.m.
@ St. Albans Parish Hall
(305 N. 30th St.)

Thursday, January 12
North East Riverside General Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
@ J.H. Hines Elementary
(301 Garrison St.)
Questions, Transportation call 744-1389.

Monday, January 16
Mountainview General Meeting, 6 p.m.
@ Mountainview Elementary
(5901 Bishop Dr.)

Thursday, January 19
Landon Branch General Meeting, 6 p.m. dinner /
6:30 p.m. meeting
@ Uncle Dan's Barbeque
(1001 Lake Air Dr.)

Thursday, January 24
Brook Oaks General Meeting, 6 p.m.
@ Dewey Community Center
(925 N. 9th St.)

Carver General Meeting, 6 p.m.
@ Carver Academy Library
(1601 J.J. Flewellen Rd.)

Kids Computer Class

A free, monthly Computer Class for grades 3 through 7 will be held at the South Waco Library, 2737 S. 18th, on the second Thursday of each month from January through April, 2012.

The monthly class meets from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Please sign up by calling Stacy Phillips at 750-5956 to reserve a seat for each month you would like to participate.

Topics Include:

- January 12 – (Microsoft) Word Processing
- February 9 – Internet Web Sites
- March 8 – Internet Search Skills
- April 12 – Using the Online Library Catalog

CALENDAR OF EVENTS JANUARY

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| 1 | New Year's Day |
| 2 | City of Waco Holiday - City Offices Closed |
| 3 | City Council Meeting * |
| 4 | Building Standards Commission Mtg. |
| 7 | Chipping of the Green |
| 17 | City Council Meeting *
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day |
| 24 | Plan Commission Meeting * |

* Replayed weekly on WCCC-TV Cable Channel 10 and available for viewing on the City Web site. A more complete calendar is available online at www.waco-texas.com

Do Well, Be Well with Diabetes Class

Do Well, Be Well with Diabetes self-management classes and Cooking Well with Diabetes nutritional classes are offered year-round at various locations in and around the city of Waco. Please visit www.waco-texas.com/cms-healthdepartment for class schedules, diabetes information and resources.

Beginner's Genealogy Class

The Waco-McLennan County Library together with the Central Texas Genealogical Society will sponsor a Beginner's Genealogy Class on Saturday, January 28, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the West Waco Library & Genealogy Center, 5301 Bosque Blvd, Suite 275.

The class is free 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/orientation of the Genealogy Center's collection. Instructors will be Norma Cannata of the Central Texas Genealogical Society and Bill Buckner, Manager of the Genealogy Center. For details, call Bill Buckner at 750-5945.

Bledsoe-Miller Center Events

Rejoice! Participants will learn a creative dance and perform in the Black History Program.

Dates:	Mondays, from Jan. 9 to Feb. 13
Time:	5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Where:	Bledsoe-Miller Community Center (300 MLK Jr. Blvd.)
Cost:	\$35.00 (covers uniform)
Ages:	5 and up (boys and girls)
Contact:	254-750-8684

Health Fair The public can receive important information about immunizations, diabetes, allergies, weight management and more.

Date:	January 21
Time:	10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Where:	Bledsoe-Miller Community Center
Cost:	Free
Ages:	Youth and Adults
Contact:	254-750-8684



Tree Recycling
Bring your tree to Chipping of the Green

Solid Waste Calendar
Never miss a trash pick-up day again with this handy calendar

Library Fun for Kids
A variety of FREE library programs for kids of all ages

2012 WACO City Limits

JANUARY 2012

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

Earned Income Tax Credit

Dedicated local volunteers want Waco-area workers to know that they could be eligible for a tax refund of up to \$5,751, and they're even willing to help fill out the appropriate paper work. The Asset Building Coalition of Waco (ABC Waco), operated by local nonprofit, NeighborWorks Waco, represents more than 50 organizations and institutions that are spreading the word about Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and free tax prep services.

ABC Waco promotes financial awareness through supporting two free tax preparation programs in Waco: an IRS/ VITA site at A.J. Moore Academy and six sites through AARP. They also help connect taxpayers with asset-building services provided by the local non-profit community, such as financial literacy and Individual Development Accounts.

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is a refundable credit available to certain individuals and families who have low-to-moderate levels of earned income (combined wages, salary, tips, bonuses, earnings from self-employment must total less than \$49,000) and are taking care of at least one or two minor children. In certain cases, a taxpayer with low earned income and no children may also qualify. Visit www.abcwaco.org or call HOTCOG (Heart O' Texas Council of Governments) at 211 to see if you qualify.

Taxpayers can get free help at the A.J. Moore Academy VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) site at 500 N. University Parks Dr., or at any of the AARP sites listed at right. Last year, 1,638 tax returns were completed at the VITA site, with \$3,032,202 in total refunds. The program at A.J. Moore runs from January 19 to April 16 (closed the week of March 12 for Spring Break), and operates Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. For more information, call 753-6486.

Heart of Texas Goodwill Industries is also providing volunteer income tax assistance. IRS certified volunteers are ready to prepare and e-file tax returns for the public at no charge at the Heart of Texas Goodwill Learning Center, located at 1700 S. New Road. The program is offered Mondays and Thursdays, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. from January 23 through April 16. Please bring all pertinent documentation with you (listed at right).

AARP SITES:

NeighborWorks Waco, 922 Franklin
Mon. through Fri., 12:00 to 4:30 p.m.
Jan. 23-Apr. 14 752-1647

West Waco Library, 5301 Bosque
Tues. and Sat., 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Thurs., 4:30 to 8:30 p.m.; Fri., 1 to 5 p.m.
Jan. 24-Apr. 14 745-6018

Providence Hospital, Young Tower, Rm. 6
Mon. & Wed., 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Jan. 30-Apr. 11 751-4731

South Waco Community Ctr., 2815 Speight
Tues. & Thurs., 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Jan. 31-Apr.12 750-8650

Hewitt Community Center, 208 Chama
Tues. & Thurs., 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Feb. 2-Apr. 12 666-2442

(ABC Waco) VITA SITE:

A.J. Moore Academy, 500 N. University Parks
Mon., Tues. & Thurs., 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Jan. 19-Apr.16 753-6486

WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU:

Income or IRS Documentation: 2010 W-2; 1099; Real estate tax paid in 2010; 1098; Self employment income/expenses; other income information.

Official Photo ID: Driver's License, state issued photo ID, student ID, passport.

Social Security Card: One for each tax payer, each claimed dependent. Call your AARP TaxAide site for more information or for details on what to bring.

WATCH US LIVE!

The Waco City Cable Channel (WCCC-TV) is now offered in live streaming video on our City of Waco website at www.waco-texas.com. Now, viewers can conveniently enjoy the same great programming offered on WCCC-TV on their computers, too -- in high definition.

Recycle Your Tree at Chipping of the Green

Keep Waco Beautiful will host its annual "Chipping of the Green" Christmas tree recycling event, Saturday, January 7th at Paul Tyson Field Parking lot, on Lake Air Drive (just past the horse barn area of the Coliseum), from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

After the holidays, load up your Christmas tree, bring it to be recycled, and receive a bag of wonderfully scented tree mulch plus a native Texas sapling. Mulching your tree is a wonderful way to end your holiday season and planting a native tree sapling is a great beginning to the New Year! For questions, call Keep Waco Beautiful at 750-5728 or email Sherri Street at: sherri6491@aol.com.



Volunteer Opportunity

The Waco Police Department's Victim Services program was developed in order to serve the needs of victims and witnesses of crime and their families.

The unit provides on-scene crisis intervention, death notifications, victim education, follow-up contact, assistance with compensation and victim impact statements, legal advocacy, court accompaniment, referral services, as well as other pertinent needs.

Victim Services utilizes specially trained volunteers to fill the needs of the community. Volunteer Crisis Teams work various shifts, 7 days a week, responding to a wide range of calls including homicide, suicide, accidental death, robbery, sexual assault, family violence and various other relevant services.

Victim Services volunteers are required to complete a 4-week training course that will meet Mon. and Wed. from 6 to 9 p.m. starting February 20. The training provides the skills and knowledge to answer calls in the field.

If you are interested in joining our team please contact Melissa Beseda at 254-750-7526 or visit the Victim Services tab on the Waco Police Website @ wacopolice.com.

Miracle Match Marathon

Join the movement with the Scott & White Marrow Donor Program, Waco Firefighters Association and the City of Waco and participate in the Miracle Match Marathon. This year's event will be held on January 28 and 29 at Indian Spring Park.

Each year the Miracle Match Marathon brings thousands of participants from across the country to showcase Waco and help bridge the gap between bone marrow donors and recipients. The Miracle Match KIDS race, 5k and 1-Mile fun run will be held Saturday and the Marathon, Half-Marathon and Marathon Relay will be held on Sunday. For details or to register, visit <http://miraclematchmarathon.org>.

Black History Program

February is Black History Month, and an ideal time to explore, remember and celebrate the contributions and history of African-Americans. In honor of the annual celebration, the Bledsoe-Miller Community Center will host the annual Gospel Explosion on Thursday, February 23. The free program will be held from 6:30 to 9 p.m. and will feature historical reflections, musical performances and praise dancing. For details, call 750-8684.

Taking Control of Diabetes

Diabetes is a devastating disease, but individuals can take control and still live happy and productive lives. Take these five simple steps daily to manage your diabetes: 1. Stay active. 2. Check blood glucose levels. 3. Control blood pressure and cholesterol. 4. Take medications on schedule. 5. Eat healthy meals and snacks.

For Your Safety: City of Waco Fireworks Ordinance

The City of Waco Fire Department encourages everyone to have a safe New Year's holiday, free of fires. It is a violation of City ordinances to possess, use, manufacture, sell, give away, transport or discharge fireworks within the city limits of Waco or within 5,000 feet of the city limits without a permit from the fire marshal. The ordinance also prohibits the possession of fireworks by a minor. The only fireworks allowed in the city limits without a permit are "snakes," smoke bombs, "snap and pops," sparklers and champagne poppers and fireworks sold by retail stores such as Wal-Mart, Target, etc. Fireworks purchased at stands outside city limits (except those above) are illegal to use or own.

Solid Waste Calendar for 2012

Saturday, Dec. 31, 2011 - New Year's Eve
Cobbs Recycling Center and the Landfill will be open.

Monday, Jan. 2, 2012 - New Year's Day (City holiday)
The Solid Waste Offices will be closed. The Landfill will be open.
Monday's trash will be collected on Wednesday, January 4.

Monday, Jan. 16, 2012 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
The Solid Waste Offices will be closed. The Landfill will be closed to the public, but will accept franchise haulers until 4:30 p.m.
Monday's trash will be collected on Wednesday, Jan. 18.

Friday, April 6, 2012 - Spring Holiday
The Solid Waste Offices and Cobbs Recycling Center will be closed
The Landfill will be closed to the public, but will accept franchise haulers until 4:30 p.m.
Friday's trash will be collected on Wednesday, Apr. 4.

Monday, May 28, 2012 - Memorial Day
The Solid Waste Offices and the Landfill will be closed. Monday's trash will be collected on Wednesday, May 30.

Wednesday, July 4, 2012 - Independence Day
The Solid Waste Offices, Cobbs Recycling Center and the Landfill will be closed.

Monday, Sept. 3, 2012 - Labor Day
The Solid Waste Offices and Landfill will be closed. Monday's trash will be collected on Wednesday, Sept. 5.

Thursday and Friday, Nov. 22 & 23, 2012 - Thanksgiving
The Solid Waste Offices and Cobbs Recycling Center will be closed both days.
The Landfill will be closed on Thursday, and will be closed to the public on Friday but will accept franchise haulers until 4:30. Thursday's trash will be collected on Wednesday, Nov. 21;
Friday's trash will be collected on Friday as usual.

Monday, Dec. 24, 2012 - Christmas Eve
The Solid Waste Offices will be closed. The Landfill will be closed to the public but will accept franchise haulers until 4:30 p.m.
Monday's trash will be collected on Monday as usual.

Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2012 - Christmas Day
The Solid Waste Offices, Cobbs Recycling Center and the Landfill will be closed.
Tuesday's trash will be collected on Wednesday, Dec. 26.

Monday, Dec. 31, 2012 - New Year's Eve
The Solid Waste Offices will be open.
The Landfill will be open.

Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2013 - New Year's Day
The Solid Waste Offices, Cobbs Recycling Center and the Landfill will be closed.
Tuesday's trash will be picked up on Wednesday, Jan. 2.



Library Fun for Kids

The Waco-McLennan County Library will host a variety of childrens activities this month.

Storytime, for ages 3 – 6 years of age, resumes January 10 at 10:30. The free activity time introduces pre-reading skills and the library to young children through stories, rhymes, music, crafts, and food. The schedule is:

Tuesdays, East Waco Library, 901 Elm Ave.
Wednesdays & Fridays, West Waco Library, 5301 Bosque Blvd.
Thursdays, South Waco Library, 2737 S. 18th St.

Toddler Time, geared for the interests/attention span of ages 2 years and under, will be held at the South Waco Library at 9:45 and 10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays. Toddler Time resumes January 11. There is plenty of activity, music, and interaction in this free, weekly session.

Baby Time, a free six-week class for ages 12 months and under, will be held on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. at the West Waco Library. The class runs January 31 – March 6 and repeats March 27 – May 1. Space is limited so please call 750-5956 to preregister. For more program information, please visit the Library webpage at www.wacolibrary.org or call 750-5942.

Cool Kids Crafts, a free monthly craft activity time for ages 5 to 10 years, will be held at the West Waco Library from 4 to 5 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month from January through May, 2012. The craft themes and dates are:

January 5 – Winter Wonderland
February 2 – Be My Valentine
March 1 – Windy Day
April 5 – Easter Fun
May 3 – Mother's Day Surprise

For more information please call the library at 750-5956.