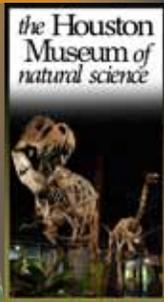


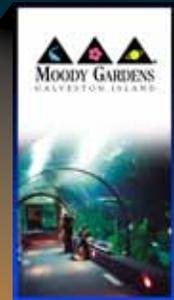
# GATEWAY

**Webster**  
TEXAS

Spring 2012  
Volume 20, Number 1



**Webster**  
TEXAS



**Tourism!**

**Webster's in the Center of the Hottest Attractions**



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## Calendar of Events

### March 2012

6	6 p.m.	City Council Meeting
7	6 p.m.	Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (if needed)
9	6 p.m.	Senior Game Night
13	6 p.m.	Webster Economic Development Corporation Meeting
20	6 p.m.	City Council Meeting
21	6 p.m.	Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (if needed)
23	6 p.m.	Senior Game Night
26-30		Webster Clean-up Week

### April 2012

3	6 p.m.	City Council Meeting
4	6 p.m.	Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (if needed)
7	10 a.m.	Annual Easter Egg Hunt - Walnut Park
10	6 p.m.	Webster Economic Development Corporation Meeting
13	6 p.m.	Senior Game Night
17	6 p.m.	City Council Meeting
18	6 p.m.	Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (if needed)
27	6 p.m.	Senior Game Night

### May 2012

1	6 p.m.	City Council Meeting
2	6 p.m.	Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (if needed)
8	6 p.m.	Webster Economic Development Corporation Meeting
11	6 p.m.	Senior Game Night
15	6 p.m.	City Council Meeting
16	6 p.m.	Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (if needed)
25	6 p.m.	Senior Game Night
28		City Offices Closed for Memorial Day



### Easter Egg Hunt

Join the Webster Recreation Department for its Annual Easter Egg Hunt. The hunt begins promptly at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 7, at Walnut Park. This FREE event is designed for children 10 & under and seniors.

# GATEWAY

COVER – Webster is the exclusive accommodations partner with the area's hottest attractions.

## GATEWAY

Spring – 2012  
Volume 20, Number 1

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Please contact 281.316.4121 or email [ctrailkill@cityofwebster.com](mailto:ctrailkill@cityofwebster.com) with questions or comments. It is the editorial policy of the City to publish community news that impacts the constituency of Webster.

# Focus on Finances

## Utility Bills Unwrapped

Webster employees read over 1,100 water meters throughout the City to generate utility bills each month. Look closely – there is a lot of information on that single sheet of paper. This edition of *Focus on Finances* unveils the mystery behind all of those figures.

The amount of water consumed each month varies by customer. Some use large amounts of water seasonally for irrigation, while other consumers' usage may fluctuate only slightly. The City has created three customer classes to reflect these different usage patterns: residential, apartments, and commercial. To ensure that the costs of providing service are adequately recovered, each class is charged according to its impact upon the utility system.

### Water Service

Water charges on a utility bill actually consist of two parts: a base rate and a volumetric charge. The base rate is related to the size of the water meter. A larger meter requires greater capacity to meet the potential demand. Thus, the price increases as the size of the meter increases. A typical 5/8" residential meter is charged \$5.31, while a 2" commercial meter is invoiced \$15.40. The base rate for residential customers includes 2,000 gallons of water per month.

Customers are billed also for the amount of water they use. The volumetric rate, when multiplied by the amount of water consumed (in thousands of gallons), reveals the amount due. For the residential, apartment, and commercial classes, the rates are \$2.70, \$3.25, and \$2.92, respectively. Residents are billed only for usage above the 2,000 gallons included in the base rate. For example, the typical resident who consumes 5,000 gallons of water through a 5/8" meter would be billed \$13.41 as

shown below.

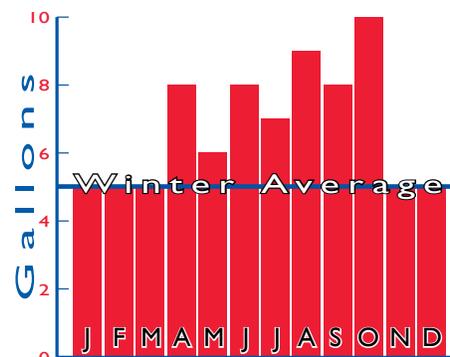
$$\begin{aligned} & \$5.31 \text{ Base water charge} \\ + & \$8.10 \text{ (3 x \$2.70) Volumetric water charge} \\ = & \$13.41 \text{ Total amount charged.} \end{aligned}$$

### Sewer Service

Like water, the sewer bill consists of base and volumetric charges. The base rate for sewer is \$6.99 for all classes regardless of meter size. The volumetric charge is \$4.04 per thousand gallons for each class. Two thousand gallons are included in the base sewer rate, as well.

A distinctive characteristic of sewer billing includes the use of winter averaging. Because sewer lines are not metered, winter averaging is used to estimate the amount of wastewater that is returned through the sewer lines and treated at the wastewater plant. Winter months are more accurate because little or no irrigation occurs during this time. Once calculated, the average determines the maximum amount of wastewater volume for which a resident can be charged throughout the year.

The winter average reflects water usage from November to February. To illustrate: if 5,000 gallons of water are used each month during the winter months, predominantly for toilets, showers and laundry, then the winter average is 5,000 gallons. If the customer then uses 8,000 gallons of water during the month of June, the bill would reflect charges for 8,000



gallons of water but only 5,000 gallons of sewer (the winter average). The amount due would be \$19.11.

$$\begin{aligned} & \$6.99 \text{ Base sewer rate} \\ + & \$12.12 \text{ (3 x \$4.04) Volumetric sewer charge (capped at winter average)} \\ = & \$19.11 \text{ Total charged for sewer service.} \end{aligned}$$

### Drainage Fees

In July 2009, City Council established a fee for all real property within the City for drainage utility services. Customers are charged based upon the amount of impervious surface cover – areas where rain can't penetrate. This methodology applies the logic that customers with the most impervious surface cover contribute more to the storm water runoff that enters the system. Whereas single family residences are charged a flat fee of \$1.12 per month, apartments/condominiums and nonresidential customers are charged 66¢ and 69¢ per 1,000 square feet of impervious surface, respectively.

### Billing Information

As shown on the utility bill, payments are due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. A 10% penalty is added for payments received after the due date. Failure to pay the amount due can also result in the disconnection of service. The City accepts payment by Visa or MasterCard at City Hall or online at [www.cityofwebster.com](http://www.cityofwebster.com). Customers can set-up an automatic bank draft – a hassle-free way to pay bills.

For more information about the billing process or specific accounts, call the Finance Department at 281.316.4120.

Each quarter, "Focus on Finances" presents a brief article on a specific aspect of the City of Webster's finances. Is there something you would like to read about in the future? Do you have any financial questions about the City? Call Michael Rodgers, Director of Finance, at 281.316.4102.

# Hot News for One of Webster's Hottest Markets: Tourism!

The City of Webster, with its 17 hotels, is capitalizing on an unprecedented opportunity to preside as the exclusive accommodations partner with six of the region's top attractions. This summer, Houston's and Galveston's best family fun destinations, including Space Center Houston, Houston Museum of Natural Science, Houston Zoo, Moody Gardens, Schlitterbahn, and SplashTown have teamed up in a concerted effort to attract record numbers of visitors from the top-ranked Dallas/Fort Worth market.

## *ExcursionHouston.com*

Webster hotels will be marketed as the sole attractions' accommodations partner in television ads and on a dedicated website, ExcursionHouston.com, where TV viewers will be guided for special discounts to the attractions and Webster hotels.

Webster hotels are the beneficiary of this inaugural program that links the best attractions with their new summer exhibits and activities to the region where the majority of visitors will originate. Since the State of Texas' Economic Development Tourism Division began researching travel demographics more than a decade ago, Dallas/Fort Worth consistently ranks as the highest or most concentrated point of origin for Texas travelers visiting the Houston/Galveston area; therefore, it makes perfect sense to advertise in the "destination market area" where the return will be greatest – Dallas/Fort Worth. In fact, the collective number of non-Texan travelers from the top eight regions combined (including Los Angeles, CA; New Orleans, LA; Chicago, IL; Lafayette, LA; Baton Rouge, LA; San Diego, CA, Washington DC; and Atlanta, GA) cannot compete with Dallas/Fort Worth.

## *As seen on TV*

The six attractions and Webster, as the accommodations partner, will launch a television campaign in the top visitor market, Dallas/Fort Worth, for the summer travel season that will air Memorial Day weekend and run throughout June and July.

While Webster is quite small in terms of square miles (just 6.7), the municipality is mighty in its branding and positioning prowess. Webster is aligned with the region's top attractions in this tourism campaign and situated right in the middle of the action. Visitors from the Dallas/Fort Worth market will perceive the benefit of experiencing multiple attractions during their stay and require hotel accommodations that place them in the nucleus – Webster.

For the top-ranked destination market area's consumers who drive (using just a tank of gas), the allure of Galveston's Moody Gardens and Schlitterbahn, combined with Space Center Houston – NASA's official visitors center, the Houston Museum of Natural Science, Houston Zoo, and SplashTown, make selecting advertised, exclusive accommodations that are midway between Galveston and Downtown Houston easy, convenient, and affordable.

Webster reaps the rewards of joining forces with the Houston-Galveston Area Attractions Consortium as the top attractions unveil their latest exhibits and activities.

## *Houston Museum of Natural Science*

Perhaps the most publicized, highly anticipated attraction for summer will be the Houston Museum of Natural Science's new Paleontology Hall. This \$85 million, four-story expansion, that will double the museum's exhibition space, invites visitors to embark on a prehistoric safari through exhibits

with 21<sup>st</sup> Century interactivity.

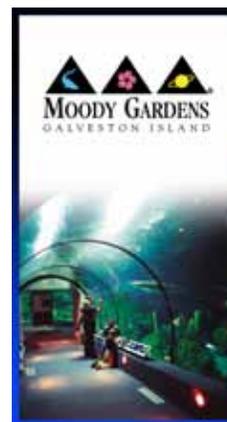


The magnificent Paleontology Hall will feature over 60 new major mounts, more than 30 dinosaurs in action poses, and recently discovered dinosaur specimens.

This phenomenal exhibit will feature an abundance of fossils seldom seen by the public. For example, the trilobite collection consists of sea arthropods with distinctive spikes that lived in shallow waters more than 500 million years ago and flourished as swimmers, crawlers, and burrowers for 350 million years – which renders this species the most successful of all animal life forms. Most intriguing will be the interactive display for the fossils. Dinosaurs will be displayed in their habitats as fighting, fleeing, feeding, or assessing an opponent as a meal or mate. Visitors will be riveted by five types of saber-toothed tigers, the seven-ton T. Rex in pristine condition, a triceratops, and the world's only didelphodon – a powerful, ferocious marsupial mammal.

## *Moody Gardens*

On Galveston Island, amid 242 acres, Moody Gardens attracts over 2 million visitors annually, with its mission to utilize nature in the advancement of rehabilitation, conservation, recreation, and research. Moody Gardens features the Aquarium



Pyramid, Rainforest Pyramid, which recently underwent a \$25 million enhancement, Discovery Pyramid, Palm Beach, Ridefilm theatres, and much more. New for summer 2012 will be “Bodies Revealed,” an exhibit that showcases real human bodies preserved through a revolutionary process that enables visitors to see themselves in a novel and fascinating way.

*Schlitterbahn*

Also on Galveston Island,



Schlitterbahn, ranked as the number one waterpark in the world by *Amusement Today*, is a 26-acre oasis featuring an indoor/outdoor 70,000 square foot heated, convertible waterpark area.

Not only does Schlitterbahn offer its patented, famous Transportainment™ river system that combines three unique rivers into one floating adventure but also this year-round attraction touts 30 state-of-the-art activities, including the recently unveiled 100,000 gallon wave lagoon, called “Shipwreck Harbor.”

*Space Center Houston*

NASA’s Official Visitors Center,



Space Center Houston, continues to hold the title as Houston’s favorite attraction. Since 1992, this \$75 million, 180,000 square foot “edu-tainment” complex features an array of actual spacecraft, spacesuits, and other space

artifacts, amid the Starship Gallery, Blast Off Theater, NASA Tram Tour, Space Center Theater, Living in Space, and Space Center Plaza.

Space Center Houston is renowned for its fascinating, interactive exhibits that change three times annually and include a mix of exciting themes.

New for summer 2012, Space Center Houston will unveil a major addition to its permanent collection – a true to life size Orbiter. Also, inside Blast Off Theater, Space Center Houston will launch a new venue entitled “Mars Rover Curiosity: Landing on a Red Planet Near You” where guests will journey along with NASA’s largest, most powerful Mars Rover ever built.

*Houston Zoo*

“Naturally wild,” the Houston



Zoo features 6,000 animals and 900 species amid 55 acres. The Houston Zoo, ranked as the seventh most visited zoo in the nation, continually updates its facilities and exhibits as

it strives to foster “appreciation, knowledge, and care for the natural world.”

Recently, the Houston Zoo completed the first phase of the African Forest, a \$100 million project that recreates an awe-inspiring habitat for chimpanzees, rhinos, and giraffes and brings visitors closer to the animals than before in an environment that simulates the mysterious and beautiful forest landscape of western equatorial Africa.

*SplashTown*

SplashTown Waterpark, ensconsed on 53 acres, is poised for summer fun with new events and festivals to

complement action-packed rides, slides, and massive wave pool. Thrill seekers can plunge down 36 waterslides, like Stingray Racer, RipQurl, Tornado, Thunder Run, and Texas Freefall. The Wild Wave Pool features

500,000 gallons of fun, while 15 rides, like Space Rapids, are guaranteed to reduce summer temperatures. From lazy rivers to an abundance of children’s play areas, SplashTown complements the Houston-Galveston Area Attractions offerings.



*Tourism means \$\$\$*

While tourism is one of Webster’s top economic drivers, as overnight visitors to the city generate hotel occupancy tax, as well as sales tax from retail, restaurant, and entertainment venues, the City has cultivated this important industry sector that has resulted in 17 hotels and annual revenues of more than \$700,000.

Whereas many cities have experienced declining hotel occupancy tax revenues for myriad reasons, such as reduced corporate travel, fewer family vacations, or diminished disposable income, Webster hotels, as a group, continue to prosper. Webster’s inclusion in the Houston-Galveston Area Attractions Consortium as the exclusive accommodations partner is a boon to the City’s hotel sector and will have a beneficial impact on complementary businesses, as well.

Tourism results in money coming into the City from outside the City – and with this revenue infusion, Webster’s hotels, retailers, restaurants, and entertainment venues profit.

## Inside the Medical Center of the South

*Bay Area Regional Medical Center Targets Spring 2013 Completion  
And Clear Lake Regional Medical Center Holds Expansion Groundbreaking*

With Houston's title as the world-class medical center of the north, Webster is renowned as the medical center of the south. For more than a decade, Webster has held these naming rights, which continue to be fueled by new facility growth, exceptional healthcare providers, and increased patient demand.

Webster is the only medical center in the region to replicate many services that formerly were found only in Houston's Medical Center, such as pediatric surgery, pediatric intensive care, Level IIIb neonatal intensive care, or a cardiovascular hospital with Level III chest pain accreditation. Webster's impressive healthcare providers and facilities accommodate a medical service area population consisting of 1.7 million patients who rely on top-notch services and highest quality of care for which the medical center of the south is famous. In fact, the medical center of the south is perceived as the "go to" sector for a super-regional population who resides in 24 cities surrounding Webster and finds easy access, free parking, affordable hotel accommodations, and excellent variety of restaurants – all within a three-mile quadrant – highly appealing.

### *Bay Area Regional Medical Center*

Webster's medical center continues



*During its third year of operations, Bay Area Regional Medical Center will employ a workforce of 500.*

to grow as Bay Area Regional Medical Center (BARMC), located at 200 Blossom, projects spring 2013 as its completion date for construction of the state-of-the-art 375,000 square foot tertiary, acute care hospital. The hospital, which has been designed to withstand Category 5 hurricane winds, is in the final stages of completion for its exterior building shell. BARMC is poised to offer a full range of medical and surgical clinical services in areas such as women's and children's health, diagnostic and imaging, heart and cardiology, orthopedics, urology, and pulmonology. The Hospital will include three medical/surgical floors, ten operating rooms, endoscopy procedure rooms, emergency treatment rooms, emergency pediatric observation units, intensive care units, neonatal intensive care units, pre- and post-operation holding areas, and multiple patient floors. Surgical Development Partners will operate the hospital that will initially house 104 beds and have the capacity to readily accommodate 175 beds amid 11 floors.

Not only will BARMC augment the medical service area population that Webster serves but also the hospital will have a salutary effect on the region's workforce. Prior to BARMC's opening, the hospital will employ a full-time staff of 152; by the end of the inaugural year's operation, that number will escalate to 395; and by the end of the second year, the hospital projects a workforce of 515 full-time employees. Upon opening, the hospital expects more than 200 physicians on its medical staff and more than 300 after the first year.

### *Clear Lake Regional Medical Center*

Clear Lake Regional Medical Center's (CLRMC) recent

groundbreaking event heralded the advent of the hospital's \$92 million expansion and renovation that will advance its women and children's services, add a new patient tower, and enhance more than 40 medical services.

CLRMC's commitment to providing exceptional healthcare for a growing patient population is evident in this impressive addition that will feature a three-story patient tower encompassing 154,470 square feet designed to accommodate the latest technology and innovation in operating rooms, spacious pre-operating rooms for patients and their families preparing for surgery, and comfortable recovery rooms, along with a 30-bed adult intensive care unit.

Additionally, nearly 80,000 square feet of renovations will transpire to transform the women's and children's center, as well as provide private birthing suites, Cesarean section suites, and a newborn nursery.

The medical center of the south is keeping pace with the super-regional population it serves and the commitment to provide world-class healthcare. To accomplish this mission, both BARMC and CLRMC are on track with major investments and projects that reinforce Webster's stellar reputation.



*Webster Mayor, Floyd H. Myers and Clear Lake Regional Medical Center CEO, Stephen Jones, turn the first shovels of dirt on the new addition.*

# Water Savvy

## *Flow from Lawn to Bay*

When statistics show that more than 60% of water usage in Texas is used for landscaping, the questions arise as to where the runoff winds up and what solutions can be found to reduce excessive irrigation practices. Locally, irrigation is a major concern not only in light of the recent drought, which has been deemed the worst in history, but also in terms of the dangerous impact to Galveston Bay. The act of watering lawns and maintaining landscaping at homes, apartment complexes, and businesses results in runoff pollution for the Galveston Bay watershed and constitutes the top source of pollution in area bayous. Too, the problem of runoff pollution is exacerbated when too much fertilizer and pesticides are utilized.

Solutions exist for both minimizing the serious impact to watersheds and the amount of water used for landscaping. First, fertilizer and pesticide usage should be monitored very carefully with the intent of discontinuing the practice altogether. With the use of hardy, native, and adaptive plants, fertilizer, pesticide, and water consumption will decrease significantly. Second, over-watering green spaces should be avoided, especially when those areas contain fertilizer and pesticides.

As runoff from lawns and landscaped areas flows untreated into the storm drain system, which winds



*Xeriscapes use native and adaptive plants to lessen water demand, as well as pesticides and fertilizers.*

up in the Galveston Bay watershed and impacts the ecological balance for aquatic life and the food chain, it is important to know how smart irrigation and landscaping practices can help immensely in solving a big problem.

## *Webster's Water Source*

As water becomes more and more precious and expensive, the act of conserving this limited resource grows increasingly more essential. In the region, population and business growth fuel great demand for water, as does irrigation, fire protection, energy production, and more. On the heels of a severe drought in the second half of 2011, coupled with the possibility of another drought this year, water conservation aptitude and practice are of paramount importance. On the positive, proactive side, water conservation not only saves the consumer money on water and utility bills but also helps the environment by reducing the burden on conveyance, treatment, storage, and distribution facilities – which, in turn, affects cost of services that are ultimately paid by the consumer.

An interesting and important component of water conservation is knowledge about the origin of one's daily water, which, in the case of the City of Webster, is the Trinity River. The City of Webster has ownership in the Southeast Water Purification

Plant (SEWPP), located in Houston at 3100 Genoa-Red Bluff Road. Webster contracts with the City of Houston, the managing partner, for its share of the operation and maintenance of the plant and receives its allotment of water. While the SEWPP is a 200 million gallons per day facility, Webster's allocation is for 4.05 million gallons per day.

Webster's water transmission system has evolved in the past decade to serve its growing community. Webster's water from the SEWPP is delivered through a loop design system that is much more reliable than a single source line, which is what Webster operated and maintained prior to 2008. Formerly, Webster had only two "take" points or water supply taps – one for Plumley Water Plant at Highway 3 and one for Magnolia Water Plant, also on Highway 3, providing only a single source feed that was vulnerable to water main breaks and water outages. In an effort to ensure a more dependable water supply, plans were developed to add a third tap location within the water transmission system that would reduce the City's vulnerability to water outages. An emergency back-up supply line was constructed to provide water from the 24" waterline on Bay Area Boulevard to Plumley Water Plant, thereby creating a reliable loop transmission system.



*Water flows from SEWPP to Webster via a 42" pipe along Highway 3 and a 36" pipe following Beamer Rd.*

## Pavilion Reservations

The covered picnic pavilion at Texas Avenue Park, 17100 Texas Avenue, can now be reserved for parties, gatherings, and corporate events. While the covered pavilion can be reserved for a nominal fee, the other areas of the 20-acre park will remain open to the public.

Call 281.316.4114 for information on rental terms, costs, and park hours.

## Water Conservation Practices

### Outdoors

**Lawns, Gardens, and Greenspace**— Purchase drought-tolerant, native, or adaptive plants. Use mulch to retain moisture. Water only in the morning or evening to avoid evaporation.

**Driveways, Sidewalks, and Walkways** — Instead of the hose, use a broom or leaf blower to remove dead leaves, dirt, or debris.

**Hoses**— Repair leaks and install a water-saving shutoff nozzle that can be adjusted to the task at hand.

**Swimming Pools**— Watch the water level to avoid unnecessary spillage and use a cover to prevent excess evaporation.

**The Car**— When washing vehicles, don't allow water to run needlessly; instead, use a shutoff nozzle.

### Indoors

**Doing Dishes**— When washing dishes by hand, use wash and rinse basins, rather than running water. Soak pots and pans before washing. Use detergent that requires less rinsing. When using a dishwasher, only wash when loads are full.

**Preparing Food**— Thaw frozen food in the refrigerator, and wash foods in a basin of water, rather than using running water.

**Daily Hygiene**— Faucet aerators reduce water use while maintaining flow. Take shallow baths. Keep showers short; use a low-flow showerhead, and shut off water while soaping or shampooing.

**The Toilet**— If toilets are not low-flow models, install a water-saving displacement device in the tank to reduce the amount of water needed to flush.

**Laundry**— Match washer's water level to load size. Repair any leaks from faucets, hose connections, or pipes. A leaky faucet can waste up to 3,000 gallons of water annually.

## Community Emergency Response Team Training

2012 marks the second year in which the City of Webster has facilitated training for disaster preparedness and response for its constituents under the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program. Under the leadership of the City's Emergency Management Coordinator, Webster has partnered with area municipalities, like La Porte and Seabrook, to provide education, drills, and exercises to enable volunteers to improve safety in their communities, prepare for disasters, respond to emergencies, and assist first responders.

### Preparing for Disaster

Community Emergency Response Teams are members of the community who are trained to provide assistance during an emergency, especially when

first responders cannot meet the demand for fire and medical services due to many factors, such as number of victims, communication failure, and road blockages. Through an eight-week CERT training class, volunteers learn and practice skills designed to strengthen a community's disaster preparedness and response. CERT provides training in emergency assistance for victims, damage assessment, volunteer management, shelter support, crowd control, and evacuation.

As CERT enhances the partnership among community members, local government, emergency management, and response agencies, the education and experience are invaluable. Staff members from the City's Police, Fire, and Emergency Management divisions will present the next CERT eight-week training course that begins April 19 at Webster's Remington College, 20985 Gulf Freeway.

For more information about registering for CERT, check the Emergency Management page of the City's website, [www.cityofwebster.com/CERT](http://www.cityofwebster.com/CERT), or contact Joe Ferro at 281.316.3712.



Members of Webster City Council participated in the first Community Emergency Response Team Training in 2011.

Top photo, Mayor Pro Tem Beverly Gaines leads a team to the staging area during week eight's disaster simulation drill.

In the photo to the right, Council Member Melvin Ellis portrays an injury victim at the mock drill.



## Election Information

The City of Webster will conduct a General Election on May 12, 2012.

### *Register to Vote*

You must be registered to vote by April 12, 2012 if you wish to vote in the May 12 election. Contact the Voter Registrar's Office for Voter Registration Information.

### *File to Run for Office*

The filing period to apply for a place on the General Election ballot is February 4-March 5, 2012, 5 p.m.

### *Positions on the Ballot*

Positions on the Ballot for election are Council Position 1 and Council Position 2.

Candidates are: (in order of appearance on ballot)

Position 1 – Susan Levy, Diana Newland, and Edward Lapeyre;

Position 2 – Alexandra (Alex) Dietrich, Douglas (Doug) North, and Carlos Villagomez.

### *Early Voting*

Early voting will be conducted in the City Secretary's Office at City Hall, 101 Pennsylvania Avenue as follows:

April 30-May 3, 7:30am-5:30pm

May 4, 7:30am-11:30am

May 7 & 8, 7am-7pm

### *Vote by Mail*

The period for submitting an application for a ballot to be voted by mail is March 13-May 4, 2012.

### *Election Day*

On election day, voting will be conducted at the Webster City Hall, 101 Pennsylvania Avenue, from 7am-7pm.

Contact the City Secretary's Office at 281-332-1826 or visit the City's website at [www.cityofwebster.com](http://www.cityofwebster.com) for more information.



## Información Sobre la Elección

La ciudad de Webster conducirá una Elección General el 12 de mayo del 2012.

### *Regístrese Para Votar*

Si desea votar en la elección del 12 de mayo, usted necesita estar registrado para votar para el 12 de abril del 2012. Comuníquese con la Oficina del Registrador de Votación para obtener información para registrarse para votar.

### *Solicitud Para una Posición*

El período para solicitar una posición en la boleta en la Elección General es del 4 de febrero hasta el 5 de marzo, 2012, 5 p.m.

### *Los Puestos en la Boleta*

Las posiciones electorales en la boleta son para el Concejal Posición 1 y el Concejal Posición 2.

Candidatos para el Concejal: (en orden de aparición en la boleta)

Posición 1 - Susan Levy, Diana Newland, and Edward Lapeyre;

Posición 2 - Alexandra (Alex) Dietrich, Douglas (Doug) North, and Carlos Villagomez.

### *Votación Temprana (Adelantada)*

La votación temprana (adelantada) se conducirá en la Oficina de la Secretaria de la Ciudad en la Alcaldía, 101 Pennsylvania Avenue, Webster, durante las fechas siguientes:

30 de abril al 3 de mayo, 7:30am-5:30pm

4 de mayo, 7:30am-11:30am

7 & 8 de mayo, 7am-7pm

### *Votación por Correo*

El periodo para solicitar una boleta para votar por correo es del 13 de marzo al 4 de mayo, 2012.

### *Día de la Elección*

El día de la elección, la votación se conducirá en la Alcaldía de la Ciudad de Webster, 101 Pennsylvania Avenue, de 7am-7pm.

Para más información, comuníquese con la Oficina de la Secretaria de la Ciudad al 281-332-1826 o visite la página web de la Ciudad al [www.cityofwebster.com](http://www.cityofwebster.com).

## Photo Identification to Vote in Election

The Texas Legislature approved Senate Bill 14, the Voter Identification Bill, which requires a voter to present a photo identification to qualify to vote in all elections held in Texas. The bill was to become effective on January 1, 2012, but is currently pending subject to approval by the U.S. Justice Department. Currently the traditional certificate will be accepted as a qualifier for a person to vote, but because it is unknown when or if the Justice Department will approve the Bill, Texas voters should also bring an acceptable form of photo identification.

Under Senate Bill 14, the acceptable forms of photo identification include documents issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety, such as a Texas driver's license, personal identification card, concealed handgun license, U.S. passport, U.S. military identification card, or a U.S. citizenship certificate with a voter's photo.

For more information, contact the City Secretary's Office at 281.332.1826.

La Legislatura de Texas aprobó la Ley Senatorial 14 (Senate Bill 14), Ley de Identificación del Votante (Voter Identification Bill), la cual requiere al votante a presentar una identificación con foto para ser calificado para votar en todas las elecciones celebradas en Texas. Este proyecto de ley iba a hacerse efectivo el 1 de enero, 2012, pero este asunto está actualmente pendiente de ser aprobado por el Departamento de Justicia de los Estados Unidos. Actualmente, el certificado tradicional de votación será aceptado para calificar a una persona para votar, pero, por no saberse cuándo o si el Departamento de Justicia aprobará esta Ley, los votantes de Texas deberán también presentar un tipo aceptado de identificación con su foto.

Bajo la Ley Senatorial 14, las formas aceptables de identificación con foto incluyen documentos expedidos por el Departamento de Seguridad Pública de Texas, tal como una licencia de manejar de Texas, tarjeta de identificación personal, licencia para cargar arma oculta, pasaporte de los Estados Unidos, tarjeta de identificación militar de los Estados Unidos, o un certificado de ciudadanía de los Estados Unidos con la foto del votante.

Para más información, comuníquese con la Secretaria de la Ciudad al 281.332.1826.

## New Fire Station Announced



Webster's new fire station will be located on Highway 3, adjacent to City Hall and the Police Station.

Excellent progress is being made toward the City's new fire station that will be built on Highway 3 within the City's municipal complex. This long-awaited fire station enhances Webster's ability to provide comprehensive public safety and administrative services in one central locale.

The modern station has been designed with the most advanced technologies for responding to emergencies, housing fire apparatus, and providing seamless service. Just as Webster's fire station will be wind-rated to Miami-Dade windstorm

requirements of 146 miles per hour, the facility will feature a back-up emergency operations center and have the capacity to accommodate emergency medical services (EMS). The new station will have ample room for all of Webster's current and planned firefighting apparatus and feature comfortable quarters for firefighters who work around the clock.

Webster's new fire station that has been planned for several years will augment the City's capacity for delivering enhanced fire protection, fire suppression, and emergency response.

## City-wide Clean-up

As part of the City's contract with its waste provider, Republic Waste, two weeklong City-wide clean-up events are scheduled annually. The week of March 26-30 has been designated as "spring clean-up," and the week of October 22-26 will be "fall clean-up." During these two events, the City will haul disposable articles from residents' property free of charge, and Republic Waste will have collection dumpsters at three locations.

Not only are Webster residents encouraged to place furniture, appliances, lumber, and other items at their curb for pick-up by the City's Public Works crew but also they can utilize dumpsters at these locations:

Webster Civic Center: 301 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Fire Station #2: 18208 Egret Bay Boulevard  
Public Works Service Center: 855 Magnolia Avenue

For more information about the City-wide clean-up weeks and items that cannot be disposed, such as those weighing more than 250 lbs, engines, trailers, paint, and certain chemicals, contact the City's Public Works Department at 281.316.3700.

## Mayor and Council Members Honored



Mayor Floyd H. Myers (center), Mayor Pro Tem Beverly Gaines (right), and Council Member Bill Jones (left) received special recognition by the Texas Municipal League Institute for completion of specialized education programs designed for elected officials in the State.

## Renewal Voter Registration Certificates Delayed

As a result of ongoing redistricting litigation, the mailing of new voter registration certificates has been delayed. While all previously issued voter registration certificates expired on December 31, 2011, only the cards expired; voter registration remains valid.

Therefore, voters who are currently registered and have no address or name changes do not need to take any action for their automatic renewals.

If registered voters have changed names or addresses, but have remained within the county, then they need to submit updated information to the County Voter Registrar.

If registered voters have changed their county of residence, they must submit a new voter registration application no later than 30 days before the election.

For additional information about voter registration, please contact Harris County Elections at 713.755.6965 or visit [www.votetexas.gov](http://www.votetexas.gov).

# Public Meeting Notes

## *November 1, 2011, City Council Meeting*

- Held a Public Hearing to receive all comments on an amendment to the NASA Parkway Revitalization Plan Map.
- Held a Public Hearing to receive all comments on amendments to the Zoning Ordinance, Ch. 98, Art. II, Sec. 98-21, and Art. VIII, Sec. 98-141. (Minor amendments to the Zoning Ordinance related to the NASA Parkway District.)
- Held a Public Hearing to receive all comments on amendments to the Subdivision Ordinance, Ch. 74, Code of Ordinances. (Procedural amendments related to plat approval and recordation.)
- Held a Public Hearing to receive all comments on the ad valorem taxation of tangible personal property in transit pursuant to Section 11.253 of the Texas Tax Code.
- Approved a Pipeline Permit Application for Enterprise Crude Pipeline, LLC, for the installation of a 134.99 foot section of 18-inch Crude Oil Pipeline crossing the Old Galveston Road Right of Way in the Cherokee Webster Development with conditions. (Unanimous)
- Adopted the first reading of an ordinance amending the NASA Parkway Revitalization Plan Map. (Unanimous)
- Adopted the first reading of an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinance, Ch. 98, Art. II, Sec. 98-21, and Art. VIII, Sec. 98-141. (Minor amendments to the Zoning Ordinance related to the NASA Parkway District.) (Unanimous)
- Approved the first reading of an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Ch. 74 (Subdivisions). (Procedural amendments related to plat approval and recordation.) (Unanimous)
- Approved the first reading of an ordinance approving the taxation of goods-in-transit that are otherwise exempt from taxation by Texas Tax Code 11.253. (Unanimous)
- Accepted the Investment Report for the quarter ended September 30, 2011. (Unanimous)
- Approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 18, 2011. (Unanimous)

## *November 15, 2011, City Council Meeting*

- Adopted the second reading of an ordinance amending the NASA Parkway Revitalization Plan Map. (Unanimous)
- Adopted the second reading of an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinance, Ch. 98, Art. II, Sec. 98-21, and Art. VIII, Sec. 98-141. (Minor amendments to the Zoning Ordinance related to the NASA Parkway District.) (Unanimous)
- Approved the second reading of an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Ch. 74 (Subdivisions).

(Procedural amendments related to plat approval and recordation.) (Unanimous)

- Approved the second reading of an ordinance approving the taxation of goods-in-transit that are otherwise exempt from taxation by Texas Tax Code 11.253. (Unanimous)
- Extended the Depository Services Contract between the City of Webster and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. for a period of one year from January 1, 2012, to December 31, 2012. (Unanimous)
- Appointed Kim Vaughn-Andrews, Director of Sales and Marketing for the Holiday Inn Express located at 900 Rogers, to the Bay Area Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau Board of Directors. (Unanimous)
- Approved to cast the ballot for Ed Heathcott to the Board of Directors of the Harris County Appraisal District. (Unanimous)
- Cancelled the second scheduled City Council Meeting for December 20, 2011. (Unanimous)
- Approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 1, 2011. (Unanimous)

## *December 6, 2011, City Council Meeting*

- Held a Public Hearing to receive all comments on a Special Use Permit request for a landscaping nursery, with outside storage of materials and products exceeding 20 percent of the area of the principal building, to be located at 20050 Gulf Freeway, in the Second Commercial (C-2) district.
- Authorized the closure of various City streets for the Bay Area Alliance for Youth and Families 7K Fun Run/2K Walk from 6:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 11, 2012. (For: Ellis, Gaines, Waltz, Dolan, Jones. Against: Myers)
- Approved a Special Use Permit request for a landscaping nursery, with outside storage of materials and products exceeding 20 percent of the area of the principal building, to be located at 20050 Gulf Freeway, in the Second Commercial (C-2) district. (For: Ellis, Gaines, Waltz, Dolan, Jones. Abstain: Myers)
- Approved an Urban Area Security Initiative Program (UASI) Grant. (Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Waltz, Dolan, Jones)
- Approved a contract with Motorola Solutions for the upgrade of the four City of Webster Police Department Dispatch consoles and replacement of fifteen analog mobile radios with digital mobile radios. (Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Waltz, Dolan, Jones)
- Awarded a bid for the Green Acres Water Line Project that was opened on November 2, 2011 to Matula & Matula Construction, Inc. (Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Waltz, Dolan, Jones)

- Appointed Floyd H. Myers, by acclamation, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the City of Webster Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 1 (TIRZ) for a term ending January 1, 2013. (Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Waltz, Dolan, Jones)
- Appointed Doug North, by acclamation, alternate member to the Zoning Board of Adjustment and Appeals for a term expiring June 30, 2013. (Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Waltz, Dolan, Jones)
- Appointed Natalie Dolan, by acclamation, representative of the governmental body to the Board of Trustees of the Fireman's Relief and Retirement Fund S.B. 411 of Webster, Texas for a term ending January 1, 2014. (Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Waltz, Dolan, Jones)
- Postponed approval of the Mayor's and City Council's annual cost of living stipend. (Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Waltz, Dolan, Jones)
- Approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 15, 2011. (Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Waltz, Dolan, Jones)
- Excused the absence of Mel Donehue. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Dolan, Jones. Abstain: Waltz)

## *January 3, 2012, City Council Meeting*

- Approved a resolution providing that a General Municipal Election be held on May 12, 2012. (Unanimous)
- Received a report and held a discussion regarding the status of the Fire Station Project.
- Approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 6, 2011. (For: Myers, Ellis, Gaines, Waltz, Dolan, Jones. Abstain: Donehue)

## *January 17, 2012, City Council Meeting*

- Recognized the Finance Department for receiving the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting (CAFR) for year ended September 30, 2010.
- Received a report and held a discussion regarding performance measures as provided under the Contract for Tourism Services with Bay Area Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau for Fiscal Year 2011-2012. (This item was requested by Bay Area Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau.)
- Approved Option 2: Rescind approved Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Bay Area Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau contract, and approve new proposed, standardized contract. (For: Ellis, Gaines, Waltz, Dolan, Jones. Against: Myers, Donehue)
- Accepted the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the Fiscal Year ended September 30, 2011. (Unanimous)
- Approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 3, 2012. (Unanimous)



**City Officials**

Mayor: Floyd Myers.....	281.332.1826
Council Position No. 1: Melvin Ellis.....	281.332.1826
Council Position No. 2: Beverly Gaines.....	281.332.1826
Council Position No. 3: Mel Donehue.....	281.332.1826
Council Position No. 4: Steve Waltz.....	281.332.1826
Council Position No. 5: Natalie Dolan.....	281.332.1826
Council Position No. 6: Bill Jones.....	281.332.1826

**City Offices – 101 Pennsylvania Ave.**

EMERGENCY Ambulance-Fire-Police.....	9-1-1
City Hall Main Switchboard.....	281.332.1826
Building Permits.....	281.338.2925
Chief Building Official.....	281.316.4138
City Manager.....	281.332.1826
City Secretary.....	281.332.1826
City Planner.....	281.316.4122
Code Enforcement.....	281.316.4106
Community Development Director.....	281.316.4129
Economic Development Director.....	281.316.4116
Economic Development Specialist.....	281.316.4135
Emergency Management.....	281.316.3712
Environmental Health Inspector.....	281.316.4113
Finance Director.....	281.316.4102
Fire Department (Non-Emergency).....	281.332.2711
Fire Station #1 – 17100 Texas Avenue.....	281.332.2711
Fire Station #2 & Fire Marshal – 18208 Egret Bay Blvd.....	281.332.2711
Human Resources (Personnel).....	281.332.1826
Marketing & Tourism.....	281.316.4121
Municipal Court.....	281.338.6702
Police Department (Non-Emergency) 217 Pennsylvania Ave.....	281.332.2426
Public Works Service Center.....	281.316.3700
Recreation.....	281.316.4137
Webmaster.....	281.316.4121

**City Services**

Animal Control.....	281.316.3700
City Trash Hauling.....	281.316.3700
Civic Center Rental.....	281.316.4114
Republic Services (residential).....	281.446.2030
Republic Services (commercial).....	713.849.0400
Tickets - To Pay By Credit Card.....	281.338.6702
Utility Billing.....	281.316.4120
Water/Sewer Line Breaks.....	281.316.3700

**Telephone & Utility Services**

AT&T.....	800.464.7928
CenterPoint Energy.....	281.534.4569
Comcast.....	800.776.9993
Reliant Energy.....	713.207.7777
Verizon.....	800.483.4000

**Government Services**

Clear Lake City Water Authority.....	281.488.1164
Clear Lake Courthouse Annex.....	281.486.7250
Harris County Tax Office.....	713.224.1919
Harris County Public Health.....	713.439.6000
Poison Control (UTMB).....	800.222.1222
Texas Dept. of Public Safety (Drivers License).....	281.486.8242
U.S. Post Office, 17077 Texas Avenue.....	281.316.0379

**Community Services**

Bay Area Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau.....	281.474.9700
Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership.....	832.536.3255
Bay Area Houston Transportation Partnership.....	832.771.0773
Bay Area Turning Point Hotline (domestic violence, sexual assault, homeless).....	281.286.2525
Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce.....	281.488.7676
Clear Lake City-County Freeman Branch Library.....	281.488.1906
Innovative Alternatives.....	832.864.6000
Interfaith Caring Ministries.....	281.332.3881

**City Council**



**Melvin Ellis**  
Council Position 1



**Beverly Gaines**  
Council Position 2



**Mel Donehue**  
Council Position 3



**Floyd H. Myers**  
Mayor



**Steve Waltz**  
Council Position 4



**Natalie Dolan**  
Council Position 5



**Bill Jones**  
Council Position 6