



City offices will be closed Good Friday, March 25, 2016



CITY COUNCIL CALLS BOND ISSUE FOR THE MAY BALLOT

The Portland City Council has called a May 7th election to allow voters to consider a bond package to rehabilitate and expand the Daniel P. Moore Community Center and two of the City’s sports complexes. The City Council took the action after hearing recommendations from a citizen’s exploratory committee. The project includes consolidating baseball activities and adding additional ball fields and amenities at Memorial (13-Acre) Park; constructing a youth football field, improving softball fields and adding parking and other amenities at the Softball Complex, and rehabilitating and enlarging the Community Center. If approved by voters in May, \$25,200,000 in bonds will be sold to finance the projects.

Citizens can review the proposed bond election materials as well as a description of the projects and tax implications on the City’s website at www.portlandtx.com or by calling the City Manager’s office at (361) 777-4500.

BELL WHITTINGTON LIBRARY

LIBRARY BOOK SALE

Come and stock up on treasures! The Friends Group is getting ready to display all the wonderful books it has saved up for the last 6 months, and the bargains will be terrific!

- March 9 6 PM-8 PM Preview Sale (\$15 to become a “Library Friend” also gets you into the preview)
- March 10 9 AM to 8 PM
- March 11 9 AM to 5 PM
- March 12 10 AM to 2 PM
- March 14 9 AM to 8 PM BUCK-A-BAG DAY!



“So many books, so little time!”

SPRING BREAK FAMILY FUN

March 18th, 10AM

Library

Join Mr. Bill for a musically goodtime!



Friends of the Library Egg Hunt is scheduled for **Thursday, March 24th** at the Bell Whittington Library. Please meet in the children's area, bring your camera and a basket.

Egg hunt starts promptly at **10AM** so don't be late!



**After school program
Toddler Time story hour
Mr. Kippy story times**

**Mondays from 4-5 PM
Tuesdays at 10 AM
Thursdays at 9 & 10 AM**

New utility rates

The water and sewer utility system operates through an enterprise fund much like a business. Rates are established to cover the cost of the water we purchase and daily operation of the systems, as well as generating sufficient funds to pay for capital projects to keep the water and sewer system functional and fiscally sound.

Ordinance No. 2129 increased water and sewer rates to meet our current costs and ensure the City has funds to complete planned maintenance and improvements on the systems. Customers will see the increase on their March 29, 2016 billing. The “AVERAGE” residential monthly bill increase from \$73.29 to \$78.75, a difference of \$5.56.

The new rate schedule for both water and sewer rates can be found on the City website at www.portlandtx.com. Go to “Utility Billing” under “Departments.” If you have any questions, please call the Utility Billing Department at (361) 777-4500.

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 Comments or Questions:
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www.portlandtx.com

SENIOR SERVICES

March 4th, 6:30PM SENIOR DANCE Community Center

Join us at the Portland Community Center for our monthly Senior Dances. Grab your dancing shoes and come out for live music, snacks, dancing and lot of fun! Every first Friday of the month, except holidays from 6:30 to 9:30 PM. Cost is \$3.00 per person.



March 10th, 5:30 PM PORTLAND OPRY Community Center

Don't miss the Opry! Doors open at 6:00 PM. Join us for dinner! Hot food available at additional cost. The show starts at 7 pm, and you will be blown away by the amazing talent we have here on our Portland stage! So come on down and enjoy the show! Thursday, March 10, 6:30-9:30 PM Cost is \$7 per person.



SILVER SNEAKERS

Tues, Thurs & Fri, 10:30 AM Community Center

The Silver Sneakers Fitness Program is a comprehensive older-adult fitness program that addresses the needs of the Medicare population (age 65+). Silver Sneakers is a chair based fitness class focused on retraining useful movements that decline with age. This is a great class with activities paced for you, set to fun, catchy tunes. Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 10:30 AM.

No cost to Silver Sneakers members; \$4 for Senior Citizens



March 9th, 1pm GAME DAY Senior Center

Games Galore! Don't want to be stuck playing the same old games? We have Game Day at the Senior Center the second Wednesday of each month (excluding holidays). Come join your friends for light refreshments, cards, dominoes, and bingo. Free for all to participate.



San Patricio County Adult Literacy Council, Inc.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO MADE OUR FEBRUARY SCRABBLE TOURNAMENT A REAL SUCCESS!



We thank all our volunteers, Board members, and our sponsors: Axis; H E B; 1st Community Bank; Cheniere; Allen Samuels Dodge Jeep RAM of Aransas Pass; Cass Real Estate; Caveman Studios; Bell Whittington Public Library; Ed & Hazel Richmond Public Library; Ingleside Friends of the Library; Books INK; Workforce Solutions; Beverly Moore and Pizza Hut.

PUBLIC WORKS

Phase 9 Street Overlay & Reconstruction Program

In February 2014, the City's consulting engineer completed a Comprehensive Street, Parking Lot, Sidewalk and Trail Study to develop a long-range plan for maintaining and improving infrastructure throughout Portland. The plan identifies approximately \$15,000,000 of street seal coats, overlays, rehabilitations and reconstructions to be completed within the next six years. Notice to Proceed was issued on January 25, 2016. Construction will begin the week of February 29th. The following streets will be affected during the project:

Amistad St.	Crosby St.
Austin St.	Dolphin Cirs. & Dr.
(Crosby to Lang)	Falcon Dr.
Bayview Dr.	Matagorda Dr.
(from Cliff Dr.)	Pecos Dr.
Boca Chica Dr.	Tarpon St.
Copano Dr.	

Residents are reminded that when they are notified, they will not be allowed to park on the street from 7 AM to 6 PM on days that their streets will be affected. The contractors will leave flyers advising of the specific day(s). For more information, visit our website at <http://www.portlandtx.com/index.aspx?nid=251>

Spring Pruning Reminders



With this gorgeous weather, many of us are getting our yards spruced up! The City's brush and bulky trash pickup service through Republic Services is generally heavier in the spring and summer. With pruning and trimming time quickly approaching, here are some helpful reminders about the service to assist in expediting your pick up:

- * The trash/recycling/brush schedules are available on our website at www.portlandtx.com.
- * Piles must be placed four feet from potential obstacles including signs, mailboxes, water or gas meters, and fire hydrants.
- * Items must be placed out by 7 AM on the Monday of your week
- * Items must be placed in front of your residence. Items placed in empty lots will not be picked up.
- * Please do not park in front of brush piles. The claw truck must be able to park beside the pile.
- * Tires, TV's, paint, hazardous materials and bagged household trash will not be picked up. The items must be disposed of separately by the resident.
- * Bagged leaves should be disposed of in in your trash cart. If you place them out for brush service, please do not place them with additional brush.
- * Brush and bulky pickup is a single-family residential service. The contractor will not pick up items in front of businesses, multi-family residences (with dumpsters), churches, or schools. These properties must contact Republic Services directly.
- * Professional landscapers and tree trimmers must be registered with the City and remove debris. They may not leave the brush in front of your homes.

Please contact Public Works at (361) 777-4601 with any questions. Thank you for your cooperation and your patience as we keep Portland beautiful!

