



the Breeze

Official news from the City of **portland**
of possibilities.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

*Seasonal Hours at the Aquatic Center Oct. 1-April 30

M-F, 6:30-9:30 a.m.
(Competition Pool Only)
M-Th, 5:00-7:30 p.m.
(Competition Pool Only)

For details, call 361.777.3301

Senior Dance

Fri., March 3, 6:30 p.m.

Community Center

For detail, call 361.777.3301

Portland Opry

Thu., March 9; Doors open at
6 p.m.; music starts at 7:00 p.m.

Community Center

For details, call 361.777.3301

Senior Game Days

Fri., March 8, 1:00 p.m.

Senior Center

601 Wildcat Drive

For details, call 361.643.9431

Teen Library Lounge

Bell/Whittington Library

Thu., March 23, 4:30 p.m.

For details, call 361.777.0921

*Weather permitting



CITY PARD GEARING UP FOR SPRING/SUMMER SEASON

The Portland Parks & Recreation Department (PARD) is gearing up for summer safety and preparing for the summer hiring season.

Classes start with the Ellis & Associates Lifeguard Training Course. The class includes CPR, first aid, oxygen administration, AED, and lifeguard skills. Two classes are offered in March, with more in April and May. Completion of the course may not guarantee employment. For details and costs, call 361.777.3301.

Summer means Kidz Kamp is in full swing. The City is seeking applicants 18 years of age or older to use leadership, communication, and team building skills to work

with children ages 5-12. This is a licensed program and all staff will receive comprehensive training. A variety of shifts and schedules are available. For details, call 361.777.3301.

And to start the swim season off right, the City will hold the 4th Annual Splash Course in Water Safety on Saturday, May 6, from noon to 2 p.m. Learn how to play it safe in and around the water this summer. This is a free swim day at the Portland Aquatic Center.

PARD staff is developing a full slate of spring and summer activities—including Park It!, Kid Katch, and dive-in movies. Details on those programs will be available soon.

NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY EXTRAVAGANZA SET FOR APRIL 1

On Saturday, April 1, students from the Gregory-Portland Y-Lead Council will present the Neighborhood Safety Extravaganza. The event will feature presentations to promote and educate the community about safety, including information about the rollout of the Portland Police Department's neighborhood watch program. There will be lots of food, games, music, attractions, and even door prizes.

It all happens from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Portland Community Center Pavilion, located at 2000 Billy G. Webb Drive. The event is free and open to the public.

The Youth Leadership Enrichment

and Development (LEAD) Program was launched in 2014 by Cheniere. It brings together the next generation of community leaders and engages them in public service in their local communities.



CITY OF PORTLAND
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FRIENDS BOOK SALE SLATED FOR MARCH

The **Friends of the Bell/Whittington Public Library Book Sale** takes place **Monday, March 20 through the following Monday, March 27** at the library. The annual sale features books of every kind—all at remarkably low prices. The sale is open to the public.

Private shopping hours for Friends members only are from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 21. Memberships may be purchased at the door for \$15. Additional shopping days and times are: Tuesday, March 21 through Thursday, March 23, 9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.; Friday, March 24, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Saturday, March 25, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.; Monday, March 27, 9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. for \$1-a-bag day.

Proceeds benefit the Bell/Whittington Public Library. The library is located at 2400 Memorial Parkway. For more information, call 361.777.0921.



LIGHTS ADDED TO SCHOOL ZONE SIGNALS



School zone speed limit signs have a new look on streets across the city. In February, crews began installing additional flashing lights on the back of the existing school warning lights. The change is designed to let drivers entering in

the middle of a school zone see that the lights are flashing and that the school zone is active. Now the flashing lights are visible from either direction so drivers will know school zone speed limits are in effect.

The new lights are 12" LED signals, powered by the solar collectors in place on some of the existing lights and by electricity on the remaining ones. Lights have been installed in school zones along Lang Road and Akins Drive (W.C. Andrews Elementary), Memorial Parkway and Billy G. Webb Drive (T.M. Clark Elementary), Buddy Ganem Drive (northwest side of Gregory-Portland High School), Broadway Avenue (East Cliff Elementary).

ANNUAL WINDFEST FESTIVAL BRINGS MUSIC, CONTESTS, AND FAMILY FUN TO PORTLAND



Every year, Windfest, the largest festival in Portland, ushers spring in to the Texas coast. This year Windfest takes place Friday, April 7 through Sunday, April 9.

This year's talent headliners include: Texas native Curtis Grimes, a country music traditionalist in the vein of George Strait and Alan Jackson; Jake Ward, hailed as the best kept secret on the Texas music scene; and, Portland native Steve Trevino, one of the hottest comics in the country. Other acts include Los Arroyos del Rio, Robert Ray, Luke Prater Music, and the Reverend's Daughter.

Windfest is known for bringing a bit of four-legged fun to the party...and this year is no different. In addition to the wiener dogs of the ever-popular Dachshund Dash, Swifty Swine Pig Races will join the lineup. These little pigs sprint to the finish line in an Oreo-fueled frenzy, delighting audiences and eliciting squeals of laughter from children of every age.

There are lots of competitions in the two-legged category, too. Windfest has two fun runs, a people parade, a hot dog eating contest, a youth golf tournament at NorthShore Country Club, plus the ever-popular washer and horseshoe pitching tournaments.

Every year some of the best cooks in South Texas and beyond compete in the annual cook-off. Categories include: a pizza cook-off designed especially

for young chefs, a chili cook-off, barbecue cook-offs for both ribs and brisket, a dessert cook-off, and the Chef's Choice Cook-Off.

With three days of music, contests and races of every kind, plus food galore, there's something for everyone at Windfest 2017. But the entertainment options don't stop yet—there's also an exotic animal petting zoo, photo ops with 'Mater and Lightning, BoardHouse Surf & Skate demonstrations, and the thrill-a-minute Windfest Midway & Carnival.

Spring is in the air—and that means Windfest in Portland. For more information, visit Windfest.org or call the Portland Chamber of Commerce at 361.777.4650.