

Gatesville

Spur Capital of Texas

NEWSLETTER

Volume 4 Issue 4

NOV. 4, 2016

City Manager's Corner

By: William H. Parry III

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Paydays:

November 10, 2016

November 23, 2016

Anniversaries:

Peggy Barrow - 11/92 - 24 years

Cullar Andrew A. - 11/15 - 1 year

Leslie Ortega - 11/07 - 9 years

Ronald L. Schmidt 11/14 - 2 years

Eva Vasquez - 11/87 - 29 years

Birthdays:

John Curtis Buster - 11/08

Kendal D. Latham 11/06

Raymond Perkins - 11/11

Kelsey Snyder - 11/12

Kenneth Snyder - 11/11

Council Meetings:

November 22, 2016 - 5:30 p.m.

Municipal Court Dates:

November 3, 2016 - 3:00 p.m.

November 7, 2016 - (Jury Trial) 9:00 a.m.

November 10, 2016 - 3:00 p.m.

Date To Remember:

November 11, 2016 - Veteran's Day

November 24 & 25, 2016 - (Thurs. & Fri.) Thanksgiving Day!

Thanksgiving Lunch - Nov. 18, 2016 (FRI.) at 12:00 (Noon)
(City Hall - Council Chambers)





NOVEMBER 4, 2016

Congratulations to Eva Vasquez who is celebrating her 29-year employment anniversary with the City of Gatesville this month. As I look through the list of birthdays for the month, I realize that many of them weren't born when Eva started working for the City. Thank you for your many years of dedicated civil service and what you do to help Wendy and the Department Heads. Congratulations are also in order to Peggy Barrow for 24 years of service to the Police Department as a dispatcher, and head Municipal Court clerk Leslie Ortega on her 9th anniversary with the City.

Hats off to Faye Nichols and the Library staff for another great Boozaar this past weekend. Did Chad Newman really dress up as Barney Rubble? If you were there, you saw first-hand that Boozaar is a community event that the citizens of Gatesville enjoy, and provides an opportunity for many non-profit organizations to raise money for programs to help others.

Another important community event is our annual Christmas in the Park, and it promises to be bigger and better this year. Thanks to the Street Department who spends numerous hours getting that ready and maintaining it. Our CVB Director Cheri Shepherd is diligently working with local businesses and organizations to sponsor the displays in order to offset some of the City costs in providing this popular attraction. Our plan is to have it open by the 10th of December, which is the night of the Christmas parade.

There are three days off in November – Thanksgiving and the Friday after will be observed as holidays this year, as will Veterans Day on the 11th of November. I thank our employees who have served (or are still serving) in one of the military services, and ask that all of us thank a veteran – not just on the 11th – who were willing to risk their lives so that we could live in peace and freedom. Our annual Thanksgiving lunch (“Turkey with a Twist”) for employees will be held on Friday the 18th.

With elections on November 8th, the City Council will take on a different look. Many thanks to Councilmembers Ollie Inmon and Sandra Shepherd-Cain for their many years of dedicated service to the City and the residents of Gatesville.

We are very close to beginning a major water/sewer/street infrastructure replacement project on Live Oak/Park Streets. Speaking from a position of experience, much of that was put in before any of us were born and has reached the point where it is no longer cost-efficient to continue to repair it – it needs to be replaced as does an estimated 70 percent of the City's infrastructure. It will be a slow and expensive process, but we simply have no other feasible options. I continue to work with the Department Heads on cost-saving initiatives to free up revenues to replace the infrastructure – many of which I will update you on in the coming months. Those include implementing an energy savings performance contract, a solar array to help power the Leon Wastewater Treatment Plant, and leasing vehicles as opposed to buying them. As I have told all of you, there is a balance between expenses and revenues – and my ability to generate additional revenue in the short term is limited; therefore we are looking at every possible way to reduce our expenses – and I think these are three good initiatives to help us do that.

Again, thanks for everything you do to make our City great – and thanks for letting me lead our team!

