

Mayor's Message

By Mayor Chris Riley

TOWN HALL MEETING

Saturday, January 23, 2016
at the Conference Center –
8:30 am – 12:30 p.m.

Town Hall Meetings are "the wisest invention ever devised by the wit of man for the perfect exercise of self-government." **Thomas Jefferson**

The 6th annual Town Hall Meeting will take place on Saturday, January 23rd at the Conference Center. These meetings develop our city's "To Do" list on what to focus on and get done as a community. In January, 2015, three topics were discussed: Forming a public private partnership with the Leon Valley Historical Society, to make the Huebner-Onion Homestead and Property an attraction and economic development generator; Emergency Preparedness; and Home Rule Charter.

In the January, 2016 meeting, Assistant Chief Billy Lawson will update the fire department's progress implementing an emergency preparedness plan. Other general topics to be possibly added to the Town Hall agenda include the Forest Oaks Community Association pool issue, police



enforcement and presence, evaluation of the defeated home rule charter, the hike and bike trail, a city wide clean-up day, as well as the public private partnership. The final agenda will be voted on by city council at a December council meeting. Notification of the final agenda will be forthcoming.

The plans to build a new fire station and renovate the police and administration buildings, add the Children's wing to our library, develop a new brand for our city (Leon Valley: Deep Roots, Big Ideas), the 4th of July expanded festival and Fall festival, and new street signs, are all ideas which came from this annual planning meeting!

Hope to see you there at 8:30 am for coffee and light refreshments with the meeting starting at 9:00 a.m. Dr. Francine Sanders Romero, Associate Dean at UTSA, will serve as our facilitator. Electronic clickers (on loan from VIA) to gauge citizen opinions on a variety of topics will be used again.

Continued on next page

Did You Know?

Facts about Leon Valley

- Did you know that NISD Administration and the NISD Police are Headquartered right here in Leon Valley?
- Did you know that the Leon Valley Fire Department has won the Lone Star Achievement Award from the Texas Fire Chiefs Association for the most innovative and progressive fire prevention program?
- Did you know that Leon Valley has a street named after one of the Monkey's, (Mike Nesmith)?
- Did you know that the Tree Advisory Board and the Park Commission are working together looking for sustainable trees to plant in Raymond Rimkus Park?
- Did you know that Leon Valley is currently updating the Master Plan, which is a tool used to guide the growth and redevelopment of our Community?
- Did you know that Leon Valley has been designated Tree City USA and is only one of 84 communities in Texas that is recognized for its preservation of trees?

Leon Valley Holiday Fest

Unfortunately the Leon Valley Fall Festival scheduled for October 24th was rained out. However, the Leon Valley City Council has saved the day and voted to reschedule the Festival in conjunction with the existing Beethoven concert on December 13th. The Leon Valley Holiday Fest will be a Family Friendly event and it will be

from 1 to 7pm and will kick-off with a "special guest" arriving on a Fire Truck at 1:00. You are welcome to join the Fire Truck as it enters the area along Kinman Alley. There will also be a musical performance by the Beethoven Band and will include a performance by Leon Valley very own Jennifer Felan and Allan Hendrickson from the area.

This event will showcase the grounds of the Leon Valley Community Center, Conference Center and Library. The Christmas Tree will be lit and the grounds will be festive. The highlight of the afternoon will be Augie Meyers and his Vox Continental band. There will also be an assortment of food and beverages booths, face painting, holiday arts and crafts, storytelling,

Continued on next page

Mayor's Message

Continued from cover

PUBLIC – PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

We have had two public meetings on the Public Private Partnership (PPP), since last January's Town Hall Meeting where 95% of the participants approved the concept. A committee has been formed to develop a preliminary memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Leon Valley Historical Society (LVHS), owner of the .58 acre Homestead and grounds, and the City of Leon Valley, owner of the 36 acre balance of the original Huebner-Onion property, now known as the Natural Area. This MOU will be discussed at the Town Hall meeting. On January 9, 2016, the quarterly Walk with the Mayor will meet at the Community Garden at 8:45 am and walk to the Homestead to see first-hand the improvements the LVHS has proposed.

UPDATE ON THE HIKE & BIKE TRAIL

The revised Hike & Bike trail will now connect the Leon Valley park system to Crystal Hills Park, as originally planned. \$933,000 in federal funds is waiting for our use in construction upon completion of Bexar County's drainage program in Huebner Creek, anticipated in 2017.

LEON VALLEY ROADS

- The public appears to be well pleased with the re-construction work on Evers Road. Many have asked when the City of San Antonio portion will be completed, which I will find out. 5.2 miles of Leon Valley roads are budgeted for

maintenance this year. To find out if your street is proposed to be repaired this fiscal year, go to http://www.leonvalleytexas.gov/government/public_works/streets.php.

- On November 17th, the City Council voted to apply for a \$2.2 million grant from the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for a new bridge on Evers at Huebner Creek between Kinman Alley and Poss roads. We hope to receive some of the approximately \$100 million in newly available MPO funds, but funding is highly competitive with the other counties and cities. The MPO is expected to make a decision in April, 2016. A Plan B will be developed if we do not receive this grant.

SILO PARK

The Silo Park is on Huebner Road, next to the Mormon Church. The 1920's era silos originated with the Steurentaler family farm, which they acquired from the Evers family. Our goal is to make a useable recreation place for our citizens and to preserve our history with the silos. The silos are on privately owned land adjacent to the city's parkland and no guarantees have been made to save the silos from demolition. We have met with the owner/developer to encourage saving the silos. Public Works will construct a simple trail with a few benches this fiscal year. The citizen survey indicated the majority of residents prefer to keep the park in a natural state.

SAN ANTONIO AQUARIUM

Did you know that approximately

750,000 people visited this destination in the first year of operation? The Aquarium has invested in expanding an outdoor area which includes pony rides, small carnival-type rides for children, an alligator area, and many other interactive exhibits. They also added trees and landscaping, which not only beautified the addition, but added to the city's 10,000 tree goal by 2020! The City of Leon Valley also participated with the Aquarium in collecting coats, sweaters and blankets for the San Antonio Children's Shelter for Thanksgiving. Thanks to all who participated.

TEXAS RECYCLES DAY

On November 15th, our citizens overwhelming responded by dropping off a variety of recycled items at Public Works! This event was sponsored by our Earthwise Living Committee, with the support of Melinda Moritz, Public Works Director, Police Chief Randall Wallace, Yvonne Acuna, Administrative Assistant, and two Public Works employees. Over 100 pounds of medication were collected! Citizens have asked when we will do this event again and we will let you know, hopefully with a hazardous waste component added. This event reaffirmed what last year's St. Mary's University survey said – our residents rely on the Lion's Roar for information about city events. This event was only advertised in the Lion's Roar. Thanks for helping to keep Leon Valley beautiful!

On behalf of the city council and staff, wishing everyone a joyful holiday season – be safe!

Sincerely, Chris

Holiday Fest

Continued from cover

and moon bounce for the kids, as well as other magical surprises.

Shhhh, it's a secret, there may also be a visit by someone in a red suit. This grandpa like figure, with a white beard, a large belly and he has been known to frequently say "Ho, Ho, Ho." In addition, rumor has it that he takes holiday wishes from children of all ages who have been well behaved throughout the year. Bring your

camera and your wish list, because I know you have not been naughty this year. Meanwhile, the Leon Valley Police Department has received a report; and is on the look-out for flying reindeers and elves. Yes elves! Should you see any of the fugitive reindeers or elves, we ask that you notify the Police Chief right away.

In the holiday spirit of giving back there will also be an opportunity to donate can goods to the area Food Bank. Should it rain on December

13th, everything will move indoors to the Community Center, Conference Center and Library. The event and parking are free, and it is open to the entire community. We encourage you to take a break out of your hectic holiday preparation schedule and enjoy the afternoon with your friends and family and make some holiday magic right here in Leon Valley.

Look for additional details about the Leon Valley Holiday Fest on our Home page.

Flood Emergency Response Plan (FERP) Developed To Improve Service

By Luis Valdez, Fire Chief

The City of Leon Valley has worked to improve our response readiness to the threat of flooding by creating a Flood Emergency Response Plan (FERP). This plan is modeled after a best practice guide provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The basis of the plan is to provide an understanding of key player's roles and responsibilities, and their coordination with each other, including our citizens. If used correctly, it provides the guidance necessary to help us respond to the threat of flooding to ensure greater life-saving success in the event of a catastrophic flood event. This plan was developed jointly from city staff and is intended to help us provide even better

service by creating consistency in how we respond to each separate flood event.

With this plan, each time flooding occurs we respond with constants that help us respond and prepare. In this plan, certain things trigger certain actions to help us respond so that we do not miss anything, and are better prepared if things go from bad to worse. For instance, when there is severe weather in our forecast, we can pre-deploy road closure barricades and place extra staff on standby. When the water reaches a certain color marker that we have placed, we close the roads and send out a pre-scripted message through social media outlets (Twitter, Facebook, Nextdoor, city website). When the water hits other

markers, we hit the flood watch siren and place our emergency shelter and mutual aid partners on standby, etc... We use a color coded system to communicate clearly to each other on our response. Rather than state that we may need 10 different things done, we simply say "We are moving to Green" (or whatever color we are moving to) and everyone simply turns to that color-coded page. We literally are now responding on the "same page". But, in order to be most affective we need our citizens to be familiar with this plan so that you know what to do when we announce the color we are moving to, and be able to respond accordingly.

Please take time to review the FERP guide on this insert, and read more on our website at the following location; http://www.leonvalleytexas.gov/government/fire_and_ems/flood_warning.php

We need to PLAN when a flooding event is imminent






Prepare – (prior to the event)

- Have an emergency checklist
- Have family discussions on your emergency plan
- Find alternate routes of travel in case of road closures
- Gather supplies for people/pets in case of evacuation

Learn – (prior to, during and after the event)

- Monitor the weather conditions
- City of Leon Valley website
- Leon Valley Fire Department Facebook
- Understand the flood warning siren system

Actual Event – In the event of an actual flooding event situation, the City of Leon Valley will use a color coded system to relay severity

-  **Silver** – Minor flooding conditions may develop
-  **Yellow** – Minor flooding conditions are occurring Poss Rd/Evers Roads closed Raymond Rimkus Park closed
-  **Green** – Moderate flooding conditions are occurring Anticipate flood watch siren
-  **Red** – Major flooding conditions are occurring Anticipate flood warning siren Residents in low lying areas should evacuate
-  **Blue** – Terminate the event

No more threat – Review this event and ascertain if you need to make changes to the Prepare and Learn aspects of your PLAN

Emergency Numbers

911 or 684-8897 (Communications Center)

For concerns/complaints/questions
684-ONIT (6648)

Non Emergency Numbers

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| City Hall | 684-1391 |
| Animal Control | Ext 229 |
| Code Enforcement..... | Ext 230 |
| Community/Conference Rentals..... | Ext 225 |
| Economic Development..... | Ext 231 |
| Municipal Court..... | Ext 215 |
| Park Reservations..... | Ext 210 |
| Planning – Permits..... | Ext 226 |
| Utility Billing | Ext 224 |
| Fire Department..... | 684-3219 |
| Library | 684-0720 |
| Police Department..... | 684-3215 |
| Public Works..... | 681-1232 |

Other Helpful Numbers

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| City Public Service | 353-2222 |
| San Antonio Water System | 704-7297 |
| Waste Management | 800 800-5804 |
| Overhead Street Light Outage | 353-2747 |

www.leonvalleytexas.gov

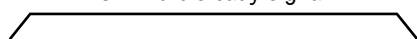
FLOOD WATCH

90 second rise/fall signal



FLOOD WARNING

Imminent Danger – Evacuate Immediately
3 minute steady signal



30 SECOND TEST SIGNAL

1st Wednesday of the month @ noon



If a big storm is coming...

Are you Ready?

Some disasters strike without any warning. Have you thought about those supplies you'll need the most? They will usually be the hardest to come by. Enlist your children to help gather supplies for your family's emergency kit. It'll bring you a sense of relief, and your kids a feeling of empowerment.

Make sure you have enough supplies to last for at least three days. Think about where you live and your needs. Consider having a large kit at home, and smaller portable kit in the car or your workplace.

Remember to:

- ✓ **Fill your car with gas**
- ✓ **Fill plastic bags with water and place them in the freezer**
- ✓ **Get extra cash out of the bank**
- ✓ **Fill prescriptions**

Emergency Supplies List

- 3-day supply of non-perishable food (dried fruit, canned tuna fish, peanut butter, etc.)
- Can opener
- Paper plates, plastic cups and utensils, paper towels
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Water – at least a gallon per person, per day for drinking and hygiene
- First aid kit
- Prescription medication and glasses
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for everyone in your family
- Change of clothes to last for at least 3 days, including sturdy shoes; consider the weather where you live
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Toothbrush, toothpaste, soap and other personal items
- Feminine hygiene supplies
- Fire extinguisher
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Dust mask, and plastic sheeting and duct tape, to help filter contaminated air
- Battery-powered or hand-cranked radio and extra batteries
- Flashlights and extra batteries
- Cell phone with charger, extra battery and solar charger
- Whistle to signal for help
- Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper (when diluted nine parts water to one part bleach, bleach can be used as a disinfectant. Or in an emergency, you can use it to treat water by using 16 drops of regular household liquid bleach per gallon of water. Do not use scented, color safe or bleaches with added cleaners.)
- Local maps
- Cash or traveler's checks
- Emergency reference material such as first aid book or information from www.ready.gov
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, ID, and bank records in a waterproof, portable container
- Pet supplies
- Infant formula and diapers
- Paper and pencil
- Books, games or puzzles (let your kids pick these out themselves!)
- Your child's favorite stuffed animal or security blanket
- Pet food and extra water for your pet

Don't forget to think about infants, elderly, pets, or any family members with special needs!

Petition for Mandatory Detention in Huebner Creek Watershed

By Luis Valdez, Fire Chief

We are pleased to report that the City of San Antonio has granted the City of Leon Valley's petition to extend the designated Mandatory Detention zones to include the entire Huebner Creek Watershed upstream of Leon Valley.

This action works to lessen the impact of storm water runoff from future development or re-development by eliminating the option previously offered to developers that allowed them to pay a fee in lieu of (FILO) providing onsite storm water detention. The FILO fees are used to fund regional flood control projects. From now on, new development or re-development will have to provide on-site storm water detention

instead of being able to simply drain the water into Huebner Creek.

The threat of flooding has not been eliminated. However, with more strict development requirements upstream placed on San Antonio, we have effectively reduced/controlled additional storm water runoff being added to the creek for years to come.

This is just one initiative that your staff has taken on in order to improve the City's response to the threat of flooding. With a new emergency shelter agreement between NISD and the Red Cross and the development of a new Flood Emergency Response Plan (FERP), we are making

big improvement in our emergency preparedness.

Additional initiatives include working towards earning a rating on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Community Rating System that would effectively lower flood insurance rates across Leon Valley; additions to the City website regarding floodplain development and preparedness, researching technology improvements to the flood warning system, and of course, holding our community safety courses on the 2nd Monday of each month at the fire station. Stay tuned for more improvements coming your way soon, and make sure to also follow us on Facebook or NextDoor.com for the most up-to-date information. As always, we will continue to work to reduce the threat of flooding and search for other opportunities to keep our citizens safe.

The Holidays Are Approaching!

It's that time of year... **THE 27th ANNUAL BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**, a joint venture of the Leon Valley Public Library and the Friends of the LVPL, is around the corner! Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 5 from 8:00 am – 10:30 am at the Leon Valley Community Center. Tickets are on sale at the Leon Valley Public Library. Purchase in advance at \$5 and you will receive \$6.00 worth of food tickets! Come prepared for the **SILENT AUCTION...LOADS** of great items...to benefit Children's Services at the Leon Valley Public Library.

We will be having craft and holiday activities the entire month of December, including a present wrapping evening, ornament making, a special showing of the Grinch Who Stole Christmas, reindeer food making, and a special San Antonio Symphony presentation geared to the preschool set. Stop by the library to get a calendar for dates, or follow our FaceBook Page for more information.

At 6pm on Tuesday, December 22 we will have a special **POLAR EXPRESS STORYTIME**. Wear your jammies if you dare. Come listen

to this special story, sip hot chocolate, nibble nougat, and help us ring bells, if you believe! We hear Santa has already marked his calendar for this event! He's sure going to be a busy guy in Leon Valley this year!

And Our Monthly Events:

STORYTIME will be held the first week of December, on both Wednesday and Thursday at 10:30 am. The rest of the month, we will have special activities during our regular storytime hours. Don't stop coming to see us, lots will be going on!

SMART SHOPPERS is the Third Tuesday of each month at 10:30 am. Learn about couponing, birthday clubs, GroupOn and how to live smarter without spending a fortune!

CHESS GROUP is the 2nd and last Thursday of each month. All ages and skill levels welcome!

ADULT COLORING will be held on Thursday December 3 and Tuesday December 15 this month, always 6-8pm. Sounds like the new Harry Potter Coloring Book should arrive for the 15th event. Watch our calendar!

ONE FINAL REMINDER.

The library offers free notary services to our citizens. Please call the library at 684-0720 to ensure the notary is available and set an appointment.



HOLIDAY HOURS:

We hope to see you during the holidays, our hours are adjusted only slightly!

Tuesday, Dec. 22..... 10 am – 8 pm
Wednesday, Dec. 23..... 10 am – 6 pm
Thursday, Dec. 24..... CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY
Friday, Dec. 25..... CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY
Saturday, Dec. 26..... 10 am – 2 pm
Sun Dec 27/Mon Dec 28
..... CLOSED AS USUAL
Tuesday, Dec. 29..... 10 am – 8 pm
Wednesday, Dec. 30..... 10 am – 6 pm
Thursday, Dec. 31..... 10 am – 5 pm
Friday, Jan. 1..... CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY
Saturday, Jan. 2..... 10 am – 2 pm



YOUR Leon Valley Public Library...CHECK US OUT!

www.leonvalley.lib.tx.us • <https://www.facebook.com/leonvalleypubliclibrary>

Artwork permissions at: <http://www.ala.org/alsc/issuesadv/kidscampaign/kidslogoandart> Photo courtesy of the artist.



Leon Valley City Hall
6400 El Verde Road
Leon Valley, TX 78238

PRSRD STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SAN ANTONIO, TX
PERMIT NO. 1675



CITY COUNCIL

- Mayor** Chris Riley
- Place 1** David Edwards
- Place 2** Carmen Sanchez
- Place 3** Monica Alcocer
- Place 4** Benny Martinez
- Place 5** David Jordan

LION'S ROAR

The Lion's Roar is published by The City of Leon Valley, Texas., six times a year. Any publication of The City of Leon Valley, whether draft or final is the sole property of The City of Leon Valley and cannot be reproduced or distributed in any way, whether in print or electronically, without the express written consent of The City of Leon Valley. For questions or comments regarding the information contained herein, contact:

The Lion's Roar

City of Leon Valley
6400 El Verde Road
Leon Valley, Texas 78238
(210) 684-1391, x. 226

CITY STAFF

- City Manager**
Kelly Kuenstler
684-1391 x 219
- City Secretary**
Sandra Passailaigue
684-1391 x 216
- Finance Department**
Vickie Wallace, Director
684-1391 x 223
- Community Development**
Elizabeth Carol, Director
684-1391 x 227
- Economic Development**
Claudia Mora, Director
684-1391 x 231
- LV Public Library**
Sandy Underwood, Director
684-0720
- Fire Department**
Luis Valdez, Fire Chief
684-3219
- Police Department**
Randall Wallace, Police Chief
684-3215
- Public Works**
Melinda Moritz, Director
681-1232

Communications Department
Darrick Green, Director
684-1391 x 253

CITY MEETINGS
All meetings at City Hall
unless otherwise specified.

- City Council**
1st & 3rd Tuesday - 7:00 p.m.
- Board Of Adjustment**
Meets as required
- Coffee with the Mayor**
Quarterly, 4th Saturday -
9-11 a.m.
- Community Events Committee**
4th Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.
- Earthwise Living Committee**
2nd Wednesday -
5:30 p.m. Public Works
- Library Board**
2nd Tuesday - 5:30 p.m. - Library
- Park Commission**
2nd Tuesday - 7:00 p.m.
- Stormwater Committee**
Quarterly, 1st Monday - 7:00 p.m.
- Tree Advisory Board**
1st Monday - 6:00 p.m.
- Zoning Commission**
4th Tuesday - 7:00 p.m.
- Community Advisory Group**
Meets as required
- Beautification Committee**
3rd Wednesday - 5:30 p.m.

- CITY NUMBERS**
Keep these numbers handy
- Emergency Number for POLICE, FIRE and EMS** 911
- City Web Site Address**
..... www.leonvalleytexas.gov
- City Hall** 684-1391
- Animal Control & Code Compliance** 251-1797
..... 204-9979
- Fire** 684-3219
- Police** 684-3215
- CAT** 684-ONIT (6648)
- Human Resources** 684-1391
- Dead Animal Pickup** 1- 800-800-5804
- Public Works** 681-1232
- Library** 684-0720
- Waste Management**
..... 1- 800-800-5804
- Community Center Rental** 684-1391 ext. 225
- Senior Citizen's Club** 522-9966

City Hall, non-emergency Police and Fire operations may be contacted at the above numbers Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Closed weekends and holidays. Public Works Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

