



Leon Valley ENews

November 22, 2011



Upcoming Meetings & Events

The next Regular City Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 6, at 7 p.m. All City Council Meetings are open to the public. Look for agenda postings on the City's official website: www.leonvalleytexas.gov and on the official bulletin board at City Hall.

Other Important City or Community-related meetings & events ~

Now Accepting Applications & Resumes for the City of Leon Valley Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors through Friday, December 30, 2011 by 11 a.m.



Applications and resumes are being accepted to be considered during the appointment process for the City of Leon Valley's Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors through Friday, December 30th at 11 a.m. An application form and description follow this document. For more information, please contact Kristie Flores, Community Development and Interim Economic Development Director by email at k.flores@leonvalleytexas.gov or by calling Ms. Flores at 684-1391, Extension 227.

You're Invited to Attend:



Breakfast with Santa, Saturday, December 3rd, 8:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. at the Leon Valley Community Center, located at 6427 Evers Road, Leon Valley, 78238. The tickets for Breakfast with Santa are available now at the Leon Valley Public Library. Advance tickets are \$5 and that's \$6 worth of food coupons at the event.

The Leon Valley Tree Lighting Ceremony, Monday, December 5th, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., at the Leon Valley Community Center, 6427 Evers Road, Leon Valley, 78238. The event features Mayor Chris Riley, the Leon Valley Elementary Choir, Music by the Pat Neff Middle School, and introduction of a Special Guest (wearing red and white and speaks in terms of ho-ho-ho) of the City of Leon Valley.





The Holiday Concert, featuring our designated community band, the Beethoven Band, on Sunday, December 11th, 2:30 p.m. - 4 p.m. at the Community Center, 6427 Evers Road, Leon Valley, 78238.

For more information on these important community events, contact Ms. Sylvia Gomez, staff liaison, Community Events Committee, at her new location at Leon Valley City Hall, 6400 El Verde Road, 78238, phone Sylvia at (210) 684-1391, extension 225, or email her at s.gomez@leonvalleytexas.gov. Conference and Community Center rentals can be done at City Hall, Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. and on Fridays, 7:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

CPS Energy Announces Smart Meters Program

CPS Energy has notified the City of Leon Valley that its residents will begin receiving letters regarding the availability of what are termed 'smart meters.'

Leon Valley residents will begin receiving notification letters of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) System (smart meters) starting over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend. Exactly what are 'smart meters' and why should residents be interested in having the equipment voluntarily installed at their residence? According to CPS Energy information, a smart meter is a digital electric meter equipped with wireless communications technology. For more information, please visit the CPS Energy website: <http://www.cpsenergy.com/>. In the white box between the CPS logo and the word 'search' type in the words **advanced metering**. From the choices that are returned, select the Frequently Asked Questions About Advanced Metering link (the second link down).

Save the Date:

- **Next Quarterly Walk with the Mayor ~ January 7th, Meet at City Hall at 8:30 a.m., for a Walk through Seneca III**



- **Town Hall Meeting, January 28th, City of Leon Valley Conference Center, the time is still to be determined**

➤ Next Earthwise Living Event ~

23rd Anniversary Earthwise Living Day, Saturday,
February 25th from 10 a.m. -
2 p.m. at the Leon Valley Community Center



Volunteer Now for the City's Boards & Committees



Give to the community - Volunteer!

The newly updated Volunteer Form (attached) offers the chance to become involved. Help other volunteers involved in reporting graffiti and persons who may be interested in serving on the City Council's ad-hoc committee set to work on commemoration activities honoring both the City of Leon Valley's 60th Anniversary and the Historic Huebner-Onion Homestead's Sesquicentennial (150th) Anniversary.

The City Council's Boards, Committees, and Commissions welcome volunteers interested in serving their community. For the most current volunteer form, please contact the City Secretary's office at j.willman@leonvalleytexas.gov.

Leon Valley Public Library News



Bookworms of the world unite!

Seeking a free and local source of news, information, and worthwhile entertainment?

Look no further than the books, movies, and any other of the fine resource materials available through our public library. For more information on the latest events at the City's Library, see the City of Leon Valley Library website at: <http://www.leonvalley.lib.tx.us>. Speaking of our very fine Public Library... Watch their website for updates on upcoming events.



The Leon Valley Farmer's Market ~

Shop Leon Valley first, shop early, shop fresh!

Visit the Leon Valley's Farmer's Market, Wednesdays, from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Here's what happens in the event you've never shopped the Farmer's Market. Local farmers gather in a parking lot with fresh seasonal produce for sale. They gather in the parking lot adjacent to the Leon Valley Public Library located 6425 Evers Road, Leon Valley.



Parks Buck\$~ Contribute to our City Park! Sign up now!

Parks Bucks is a program designed to assist in the development of the City's park through contributions and donations. If you are interested, complete the form on the City's website and return it to the City of Leon Valley. The form is located on the tab for the Department of Public Works.

Thanksgiving Holiday Closings



City Offices and the Leon Valley Public Library will be closed in observance of the Thanksgiving Holidays on Thursday, November 24th and Friday, November 25th.

City Offices will re-open for regular business on Monday, November 28th at 7:30 a.m.

Things for which we're thankful:

- ✓ The reauthorization of the Street Maintenance Sales & Local Use Tax.
- ✓ The \$800 plus successful bid for the two Cowboys Luxury Box Tickets which will benefit the Friends of the Leon Valley Public Library Children's Wing Expansion Project.
- ✓ The 5,285 plus pounds of food donated to the San Antonio Food Bank resulting through the collection efforts of the Leon Valley Fire and Police Departments.





Leon Valley Economic Development Corporation (LVEDC) Now Accepting Board of Director Applications Through December 30, 2011

BACKGROUND:

The 4B economic development sales tax was passed by Leon Valley residents on November 4, 2008, by a 3 to 1 margin in favor of the proposition. This 1/8 of a cent sales tax began generating revenue in April 2009 to improve the quality of life for Leon Valley residents, and to help area businesses and tourism thrive for a healthy economy. Along with this sales tax passage, an Economic Development Corporation (LVEDC) was established by City Council. The LVEDC is operated by a seven member board, consisting of three Directors and four Officers.

APPLICATIONS & DUTIES:

Applications for the Leon Valley Economic Development Corporation's Board of Directors are available online. Directors serve two year terms. This is a volunteer position. The Board of Directors meets once per month. Depending on the level of business to be transacted, the Board can and does meet more often.

Directors review and vote on economic development projects for the LVEDC, and make project recommendations to the Leon Valley City Council on project expenditures exceeding \$10,000. Public hearings are held to receive input from residents on any project expenditure over \$10,000.

Applications are available online at: www.leonvalleytexas.gov, under "Economic Development Department", and on the City's main webpage. Applications are also available at the City's Economic Development Department Office located at: 6400 El Verde Road, Leon Valley, TX 78238.

REQUIREMENTS & DEADLINE:

Applicants for Board of Director service should possess a business background, and be familiar with the business affairs of the Leon Valley business community. Applications with resumes will be received until **11 a.m. on December 30, 2011.**

Applications with resumes will be reviewed with the most eligible candidates selected for interviews. A recommendation will be made by the LVEDC to the Leon Valley City Council with official appointment by a majority City Council vote following interviews.

If interested, please submit your application and resume to: LVEDC Director Application, Attention: Kristie Flores, Community Development / Interim Economic Development Director, 6400 El Verde Road, Leon Valley, Texas, 78238. You may also email your application and resume to: K.Flores@leonvalleytexas.gov. If you have questions, please contact Kristie Flores at (210) 684-1391, Extension 227.



Leon Valley Economic Development Corporation
Application for Membership on the Board of Directors

Name _____
Home Address: _____ City _____
Work #: _____ Home: _____ Cell: _____ E-mail: _____
LV Resident for ___ years; LV Business owner? Y ___ N ___; Occupation _____
Education (grade level/degree) _____ Major Course of Study _____
Special business knowledge or skills (attach separate sheet if needed): _____

Non-profit Experience? Y ___ N ___ Where? _____
List any community activities: _____

Briefly describe why you would like to serve on the LVEDC Board: _____

Have you previously served on a City Board or Commission in Leon Valley or elsewhere?
(Please list if not included in above.) _____

Have you attended any Board, Commission or City Council meetings? (Describe) _____

Do you have a significant interest in the City of Leon Valley's business community? If so,
describe: _____

If selected as a Board member, I understand the information contained on this application is subject to the Texas Public Information Act, and may be disclosed to anyone requesting this information. I also understand that the Act does allow a Board Member to choose whether or not to allow public access to information in the custody of the City or the LVEDC Board records that relates to home address, home phone number, social security number, or that reveals whether or not the Board Member has family members.

*If selected as a Board Member for the LVEDC for the City of Leon Valley,
I choose to: () allow, or () not allow the above mentioned information.*

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Submit application and resume to: LVEDC Application for Board of Directors
Attn: Kristie Flores, Interim Economic Development Department Director,
City of Leon Valley, 6400 El Verde Road, Leon Valley, TX, 78238
Call (210) 684-1391, Ext 227, for more information.

City of Leon Valley - VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

Volunteers help to make the City of Leon Valley a great place to live, work and do business! If you are willing to share your time and talents with your community, we would very much be interested in hearing from you. Please consider these opportunities to meet new community members, learn more about your City and help make Leon Valley its best.

- Bandera Road Site - Community Advisory Group:** This Group meets quarterly to listen to updates from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) about the contaminate water plume in the City and inform the Council and the community about the EPA's actions and findings and make suggestions in the remediation and investigation process. The water plume is centered at approximately the intersection of Grissom and Bandera Roads. They usually meet quarterly at 5:30 p.m. at the Leon Valley Conference Center.
- Board of Adjustment:** The Board of Adjustment (BOA) has the power to review and approve variances from zoning ordinance requirements and administrative decisions (Zoning Interpretations) that create unnecessary hardships in the development of property because of exceptional or extraordinary conditions. Unlike other boards or commissions, the BOA makes the final decision on items that come before it; variances are not passed on to City Council for final approval. Meetings are held on call and are typically held on Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall. There are five (5) members and four (4) alternates.
- Business Managers' and Owners' Alliance Committee (BOMA):** This committee, formerly the Business Alliance Committee, has taken a new name and a new emphasis to act as a business advisory committee to City Council and local businesses on business-related topics. Additional goals are: to assist in providing business incentive ideas and programs to encourage a robust economy and to retain and attract businesses; to advise on specific efforts that will market the Leon Valley business community; to facilitate business vitality by new and existing business retention, expansion, and beautification projects; and to assist the City in creating a unified theme of development that will promote future business development and redevelopment of existing properties. Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month, at 1:00 p.m. at the Leon Valley Kinman House, 6417 Evers Road.
- Community Events Committee:** The Community Events Committee (CEC) is committed to providing volunteer support and coordination for the various City-sponsored civic events including the 4th of July Celebration, the Beautification Awards Program, the Grandparents' Day Concert, and the Holiday Lighting Program. Monthly meetings are held on the third Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Conference Center or Kinman House.
- Earthwise Living Committee:** The Earthwise Living Committee (EWLC) is dedicated to providing community education that will develop a sustainable way of life in harmony with the natural surroundings. The EWLC sponsors and coordinates the annual Earthwise Living Day held on the last Saturday in February. Monthly meetings are held on the second Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. at the Public Works Service Center off Evers Road.
- Library Board of Trustees:** This Board of seven appointed members serve for terms of 2 years, and meets the second Monday of each month in the Library at 7:00 p.m. to discuss Library projects and plans and to review Library policies.
- Park Commission:** The Park Commission (PC) is an advisory commission, of Leon Valley citizens, which makes recommendations to the City Council regarding park ordinances and policies, as well as serves as a liaison for the City with the public for park matters. Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. There are nine (9) members on this commission.

- Tree Advisory Board:** This seven member (7) Board with three (3) alternate members will meet to oversee the Leon Valley Tree Challenge and work toward the City's goal to plant 10,000 trees by the year 2020. Board members serve a term co-terminus with the Mayor. This Board began meeting in July 2009 and holds their meetings monthly at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

- Zoning Commission:** The Zoning Commission (ZC) acts as an advisory board to the City Council on land use and zoning matters. The Commission holds public meetings on all matters relating to:
 - the creation of zoning districts
 - the enforcement of zoning regulations
 - amendments to all zoning ordinances
 - any other matter within the scope of the zoning power
 Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall. There are seven (7) members and three (3) alternates.

- Leon Valley Now Volunteers:** These volunteers serve as volunteer code enforcement assistants. They patrol a designated area of the City and report violations of City Code which the Code Enforcement Officer will investigate. There are no formal meetings after the initial training sessions. These volunteers work closely with the Community Development Department and the City's Code Enforcement Officers.

- Volunteer Park Patrol:** This new volunteer group assists the Leon Valley Police Department in to helping to manage our recreational and trail areas within the City. The volunteers will be called upon to assist staff in providing a safe environment for park patrons. The Park Patrol volunteers will receive basic training in various subjects related to the position, including public relations, first aid, CPR, policies and procedures, and special event assistance. Please see the homepage of the City's website at www.leonvalleytexas.gov for additional information.

- Other Volunteer Activities:** If you would like to assist with the graffiti abatement reporting, in our library shelving books and etc., or just when there is a special event - consider checking this box. You will be assigned duties on the day of the activity and your help is always welcomed!

- Commemoration Committee:** If you would like to assist with the planning and staging of the commemoration activities celebrating the City of Leon Valley's 60th Anniversary and the Huebner-Onion Historic Homestead's (150th) Sesquicentennial Anniversary, please check this box. This is an ad-hoc Committee of the City Council.

- I would like to serve on the Committee(s) I have checked above.** Please contact me with further information regarding meetings and appointment.

- I'm not able to volunteer at this time, but perhaps in the future.**

Name	Address
Phone Number	E-mail Address
Alternate Phone Number	

Where to return your application:

Mail or drop off your application in care of the Mayor's Office at Leon Valley City Hall, 6400 El Verde Road, Leon Valley, Texas 78238-2399, or fax your application to (210) 684-4476, or email to Mayorriley@leonvalleytexas.gov.



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1. What is the CPS Energy Smart Meter?

AMI is an advanced technology smart meter and a utility designed to improve customer service.

2. What is a smart meter?

A smart meter is a digital electric meter equipped with wireless communications technology. Smart meters are a key part of establishing the smart electric grid of the future. Customers will be able to proactively manage their energy use, save money and reduce their impact on the environment with advanced meters.

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3. When will customers receive smart meters?

Starting in January 2011, CPS Energy will install 40,000 smart meters throughout San Antonio. The new meters will replace existing ones, many of which have reached their final years of service. Following an initial project assessment, additional meters will be installed over a five-year period throughout the remainder of the city.

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4. Why are the traditional meters being replaced with smart meters?

In a time of increasing concerns over energy prices, regulatory influences, and the environment, smart meters are a more energy efficient option. With near-immediate reports on energy use, customers can exercise options on how and when electricity is used. Those smart choices will, in turn, help meet current and future energy needs.

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5. How will CPS Energy notify customers when smart meters are going to be installed?

Customers receiving smart meters will be notified by mail, then a phone call the week prior to the install, and a door hanger on the day of the installation.

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6. Can appointments for the meter installation be made?

Because so many meters must be changed, it will be impossible to schedule appointments. CPS Energy will make every effort to notify customers in advance of meter installation.

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7. Do I need to do anything to be sure the meter upgrade takes place?

Provide a clear pathway to your meter and be sure dogs are put away. You do not need to be at home for the upgrade to occur.

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8. Will the installation of the new meter affect my power?

CPS Energy is making every attempt to avoid power outages. However, there could be a brief outage at an individual home or business for up to 15 minutes when the meter exchange (from traditional to smart) occurs.

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9. Can a customer opt out of receiving a smart meter?

In order for everyone to experience the benefits of advanced metering, such as automatic meter reading and connection of service, every customer must receive this service upgrade. Advanced metering relies on updating the meters for all customers in the CPS Energy service area.

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10. Will a customer be able to read his or her own smart meter?

Yes. Smart meters have an easy-to-read digital display instead of a series of dials. In the coming months (or Summer 2011), a customer could also track daily electricity use on the Internet.

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11. Where can customers access their electricity usage information?

Once a meter is installed, the customer will have the ability to view his or her electricity usage in 15-minute increments through a web portal. The website address and more information about this and other features will be provided in the coming months (or Summer 2011). Having access to more timely and detailed information about electricity usage will allow a customer to make informed energy use choices.

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12. Will customer account and energy use information remain secure and confidential?

Yes. The Landis + Gyr Smart Meters and the communications systems reside on a secure network. The meters and the associated communications system are encrypted and equipped with security features to prevent unauthorized access. In addition, CPS Energy is required to comply with all state and federal laws regarding privacy, protection and disclosure of personal information.

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13. Do smart meters use radio frequency communication?

Yes, and all communications equipment used for the CPS Energy system complies with federal licensing requirements.

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14. Will the communications system interfere with home equipment?

Since the smart meter utilizes wireless technology, there should not be any interference with other equipment. All communications equipment meets criteria set by the Federal Communications Commission.

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15. Will a meter reader still need to visit to read the meter?

During the phase-in assessment (about six months), a meter reader will continue to read the meter onsite on a monthly basis following installation. After that time, the meter will be read remotely. That will eliminate

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