



LEON VALLEY CITY COUNCIL ELECTION

The May 6th Leon Valley election for at-large Places 1, 3 and 5 resulted in only one change on city council. In Place 1, incumbent Councilman Benny Martinez was re-elected with 59% of the vote. In Place 5, incumbent Councilman Will Bradshaw was re-elected without opposition. In Place 3, Councilor Jed Hefner chose not to run for a second term and newcomer Philip Campos was elected with 61% of the vote. Returning to council to complete the second year of their two year terms are Mayor Pro Tem Rey Orozco, Councilman Josh Stevens and me.

Councilman Martinez is originally from Albuquerque, NM and has lived in Leon Valley since 2001. He is married to Pat and has 4 children. He owns QualTel Communications, serves on the board of the Northwest Chamber

Mayor's Message

By Mayor Chris Riley

"It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit." Harry S. Truman"

- Harry S. Truman

of Commerce and is an Amateur Radio operator. Benny was first elected to City Council in 2014.

Councilman-Elect Philip Campos is a native San Antonian, graduating from Thomas Jefferson High School where he met his wife Anna. They have 3 children and 8 grandchildren and have lived in Leon Valley since 1979. He graduated from Texas A&M University and is a certified public accountant. After owning his own CPA firm for many years, Philip transitioned to working for the City of San Antonio and San Antonio Water Systems. For the last 14 years he has served as Senior Contracting Director at SAWS, managing over \$500 million in contracts.

Councilor Will Bradshaw was re-elected to his third term on City Council. He was born and raised in Mesa, Arizona and is one of seven children. Will majored in Business and earned a dual BS degree in Marketing and Supply Chain Management from Arizona State University. He currently is Director of Supply Chain at Tower Semiconductor Co. He is single and has two border collies.

Proposition A: Whether the City of Leon Valley Crime Control and Prevention District should be continued for 5 years and funded with a 1/8 cent sales tax. This tax passed with 64% in favor. This tax funds the annual salaries of the assistant police chief and two full time police officer positions.

Proposition B: The Reauthorization of the ¼ cent sales tax to continue providing revenue maintenance and repair of municipal streets passed with 79% in favor. This tax will expire in four years unless it is reauthorized.

Only 1,033 of 7756 registered voters cast a vote in our municipal election, a 13% turnout.

The new council will set a date for a council retreat with City Manager Caldera for sometime this summer.

LEON VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICERS

As I block-walked this spring in my neighborhood, citizens' number one concern was speeding in their neighborhood and lack of

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Mayor's Message

Continued from cover

police presence. I assured our citizens the police are out in the neighborhoods, but you have to be in your front yard to see them pass by (or see them on your Ring doorbell)! Did you know that Police Chief Gonzalez has assigned one police officer to each neighborhood in our City? The following is a list of each Leon Valley neighborhood and the patrol officer's name. To report an issue, ask a question or to ask your officer to drive by your house while you are out of town, email by first initial.last name@leonvalleytexas.gov.

Neighborhood

Assigned Officer

Linkwood	J. Becerra
Pavona Place	J. Fernandez
Grass Valley	G. Castro
Bandera Pass	A. Griego
Old Mill	C. Carrillo
Leon Valley Ranches	J. Azar
Seneca West	J. Mendez
The Ridge at Leon Valley	R. Wigton
Shadow Mist	J. Breton
Monte Robles	Marites Sanchez
Canterfield	L. Abajian
Forest Oaks	Eddie Pena
Forest Oaks Estates	R. McEntire
Sun Valley	R. Guerra
Castle Estates	J. Guerrero
Seneca Estates	E. Guadarrama
Brisa Estates	H. Rodrigues
Rollingwood	A. Gonzalez
Althea/Hodges	J. Urbina

The number to the Leon Valley police department administration is (210) 684-6557 to leave a message for your neighborhood officer. The non-emergency dispatch number, answered by Bexar County, is (210) 684-8897. In case of an emergency, Dial 9-1-1. Be safe and thank you for being the eyes and ears in our neighborhoods!

NEWS FROM CPS ENERGY

City Manager Caldera and I attended a CPS Energy Suburban Cities semi-annual summit on May 12th. There are a number of new equity focused programs that may interest many of our citizens:

- Free home energy assessment either in-person or virtually;
- HVAC tune-ups – a no cost service geared to improve your HVAC efficiency and achieve savings without replacing the unit;
- Expanded weatherization providing free energy-saving upgrades for qualifying residential customers, income based.

Regarding solar panels: The local rebate provided by CPS to add solar to your home ended in December, 2022. However, a federal tax credit remains and more customers continue to add solar to their roof tops.



Photo by Mark Mayfield

San Antonio is number 1 in the state for solar energy and 5th in the nation.

There will also be an opportunity in the future to buy into Community Solar. This is where a consumer can purchase solar panels from a solar farm and receive the benefits of solar energy on your electric bill. If you move within the CPS Energy service area, the solar credits move with you. If you move outside their area, you can sell the panels.

For more information on any of these programs, please call (210) 353-2SAV (2728) or visit cpsenergy.com/savenow.

FOURTH OF JULY EVENTS

Hope to see everyone at the 4th of July night parade, beginning at 7 pm and fireworks show at 9:45 pm. There is also the Pioneer Firecracker 5K Run/Walk, co-sponsored with the Leon Valley Historical Society beginning at 7:30 am. For more information and details about registration, visit their website at www.leonvalleyhistoricalsociety.com. All Leon Valley citizens will receive a postcard with details of events planned, as well as street closures. The band Spazmatics will return again this year and perform at 8 pm. There will be food trucks and other entertainment. Please bring your chairs, blankets, and ice

chests. Thanks to Crystal Miranda, Community Relations Director, our entire city staff and volunteers for helping to make this a great event for our city. There will be additional security and shuttle service due to the anticipated crowds. For more information, please call (210) 812-3328.

My door is always open. If you would like to meet, please call (210) 684-1391, Ext. 210 to set up an appointment.

Sincerely, Chris

(210) 618-2092 (cell)

mayorriley@leonvalleytexas.gov



“Daniel Blystone”

Welcome Daniel Blystone as the City of Leon Valley’s Technology Director. Daniel started with us in April 2023. Daniel brings

Meet your Leon Valley Technology Director

with him 27 years of experience in the technology field. Most recently, he was the Technology Director for a community mental health agency in Lytle, Texas with 28 sites spread out over 13 counties in South Central Texas. Prior to working in healthcare, Daniel was the Technology Director for TMI Episcopal school, one of the oldest college preparatory schools in Texas. While at TMI

Episcopal he led the technology team and taught a 6th grade coding class, a high school animation class, and mentored high school students as they earned community service hours running the audio-visual technology for daily chapel services. Daniel said that he “looks forward to working for the City of Leon Valley and help shape the city’s technology future.”

Summer Travel Technology Tips

by Daniel Blystone

While traveling this summer here are a few tips and tricks as well as a warning from the FBI about public charging stations.

Summer is the best time to travel with the family. Everyone will want to take their technology with them when they go. Our personal technology is at its most vulnerable while we travel. We don't have access to our normal sources of charging and cyber criminals are all too willing to help you charge your devices and steal your data and dollars. This theft is being called "Juice-Jacking" and is described in an article by Sumeet Wadhvani, Assistant Editor of Spiceworks Ziff Davis. The rise of "Juice-Jacking" has caught the attention of the Federal Bureau of Investigations and the Federal Communications Commission. (Go to <https://tinyurl.com/JJCharging> to read the full article.) Wadhvani summarizes that the cyber criminals are loading malware that will infect your devices while plugged into public

USB charging stations. How do we protect ourselves from this attack and manage to keep our devices safe?

Here are a few of my safety tips to help protect your devices while traveling:

- Invest in a portable power bank. They cost anywhere from \$20 to \$200 depending on how much power you need. The larger ones in the \$200 range are great for taking the family camping and charging cell phones and portable gaming devices. The smaller ones can charge a cell phone and earbuds multiple times and prevent you from being juice-jacked.
- A carrying case is a great investment for traveling. There are many styles to choose from, such as backpacks and messenger bags. I recommend a bag that can hold your devices and their chargers as well as your portable power bank and other accessories.
- Backing up your data can save you if your device is damaged, lost, or stolen. The easiest way to do this is to store your data on a USB drive.

Pick one that has enough space to backup all your data and can be kept separate from your devices. You can also use an online storage service such as Apple's iCloud or Microsoft's OneDrive. They offer considerably large storage that can automatically save your data, including those invaluable and once in a lifetime photos.

- Protect your devices and online accounts with strong passwords, pin-codes, biometric, or multi-factor authentication methods. This makes it harder for cyber criminals to get access to your data and financial information.
- Check with your homeowner's insurance company and see if you have coverage for your devices while travelling. This is a big help to prevent an additional and unwanted expense while traveling.

Ultimately, keeping a vigilant eye on your devices is the best policy. However, we all get distracted when we travel. Keeping these tips and tricks in mind will help you enjoy your travels with your technology more.





LEON VALLEY

"Land That I Love"

**Tuesday,
July 4,
2023**

Pioneer 5k - 7 a.m.

Parade - 7 p.m.

The Spazmatics - 8 p.m.

**Vendors, Food Trucks,
Beer/Wine**

Small Business FunZone

**Fireworks Display - 9:45
p.m.**

Concert Ends at 10:30 p.m.

**Raymond Rimkus Park
Leon Valley, TX 78238**

www.leonvalleytexas.gov

**Accepting: Vendors,
Sponsors, & Volunteers!**

Email: c.miranda@leonvalleytexas.gov



LV Summer Fun

THINGS TO DO

MAY

27th Pools Open for Memorial Day Weekend!



FREE SWIM Every

Tuesday @

Forest Oaks Pool

FREE SWIM Every

Wednesday @

Community Pool

29th FREE Swim Day - Memorial Day - Both Pools

JUNE

3rd Pools Open for the Season!

5th Big Rig Petting Zoo @ Raymond Rimkus Park

9th Bubble Party @ Library

11th Chalk the Walk @ Library

12th Dairy Cow Visit @ Library

14th Flag Day Ceremony @ Veterans Park

15th Intergenerational Game Day @ the Senior Center

16th Kindness Rocks @ Library

20th Science Heroes: Saving the Earth Together @ Library

21st Dentist Magician @ Library

23rd Movie in the Park @ Raymond Rimkus Park

25th Family Escape Room @ Library

JULY

4th Fourth of July Celebration- "Land That I Love"

4th FREE Swim Day - Both Pools

7th Clay Creations @ Library

10th Doseum @ Library

19th Happy Tails Entertainment Mobile Zoo @ Library

21st Movie Night @ Raymond Rimkus Park

Community Pool

Closed Every

Tuesday

Forest Oaks Pool

Closed Every

Wednesday

IN LOVING MEMORY

Born

October 29,
1928



Passed

May 22,
2023

Irene S. Baldrige

"Your legacy will remain in our hearts
and our city"



Beloved former Leon Valley Mayor Irene Baldrige died peacefully at home on May 22, 2023, after a brief illness, at the age of 94.

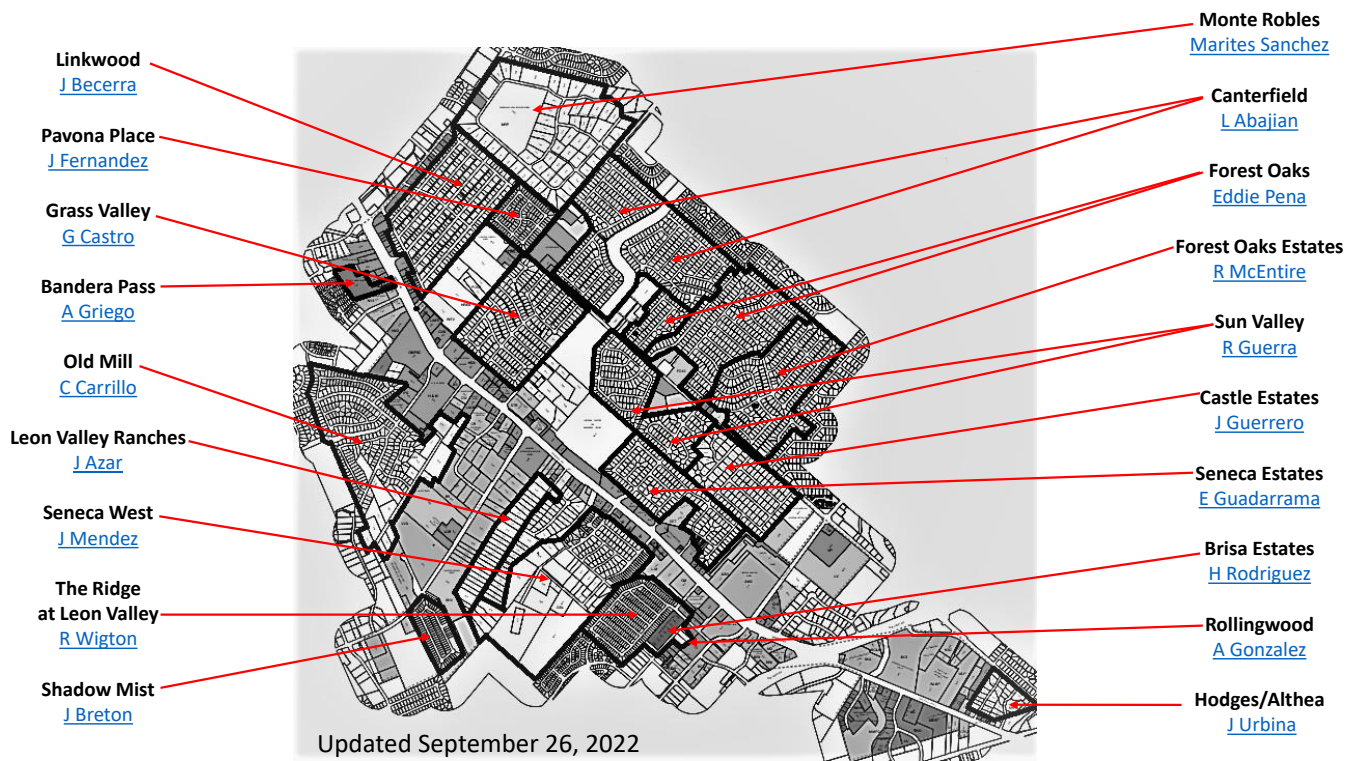
Irene served a total of 20 years on the Leon Valley City Council, including 10 years as mayor (1984-1994). As mayor, Irene oversaw the construction of the Community Center, the library building and the public works building, and the city's development of the Linkwood subdivision, among many other accomplishments.

After her most recent city council service (2007-2013), Irene continued to volunteer on several city committees. She was also a longtime board member of the Leon Valley Historical Society, helping to preserve the Huebner-Onion Homestead.

Irene's selfless devotion to her community will be greatly missed. A memorial service will be held at 10 am on Saturday, June 17th at Western Hills Christian Church at 8535 Huebner Road, San Antonio, TX. 78240.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Leon Valley Historical Society in memory of Irene.

Partner-up with Your Neighborhood Officer



All patrol officers of the police department are assigned as liaisons to specific residential neighborhoods throughout the city of Leon Valley. Along with their primary duties of patrolling their assigned areas and responding to calls, officers are tasked with familiarizing themselves with the neighborhood and the residents.

Officers accomplish the first of these goals by learning the streets and boundaries of their designated areas, resulting in quicker response times when answering dispatched calls for service. Acceptable response times assure residents that police are committed to providing service in an efficient manner, and act as a great deterrence to crime. Criminals are known to research certain neighborhoods and are less likely to target areas with a frequent police presence or satisfactory responses to calls for service.

The second goal of officers familiarizing themselves with residents is accomplished not only via calls for service, but also by contacting them personally through routine patrol.

Officers often stop and introduce themselves while residents are out walking in their neighborhoods or in their front yards. These encounters are welcomed by residents and usually lead to long-lasting friendships. The rapport built from these meetings is invaluable and maintains good community relations.

Furthermore, officers on patrol contact residents to ask about security concerns, such as suspicious persons loitering in the vicinity, or vehicles suspected of surveilling the area. Officers also distribute flyers containing crime prevention tips such as not leaving personal items in a parked vehicle, locking the doors to their vehicles when parked and knowing their neighbors. Residents are encouraged to exchange information concerning possible criminal activity with their neighbors, which can be shared with their assigned officers to promote a working alliance committed to the prevention of crime in their neighborhoods.

Contact the Leon Valley Police Department for information on how to reach the patrol officer assigned to your neighborhood.

City of Leon Valley

0% Percent Interest Loan Program

The City of Leon Valley and LiftFund are partnering to support small business owners and entrepreneurs with funding to reach their business goals.

- Fixed interest rate at 0%
- Loans up to \$100,000
- For small businesses located in the City of Leon Valley or relocating within the city limits*
- Businesses must sell products or services that generate sales tax*



FUNDS MAY BE USED FOR:

- Working capital
- Inventory
- Equipment and machinery
- Other business-related expenses*



**This program is subject to LiftFund's underwriting guidelines and availability of funds. Sales and Use Tax certificate and certificate of good standing required. For a full list of requirements, use of funds and program details, please scan the code below.*

Learn more and APPLY today!
www.LiftFund.com/LeonValleyZeroPercentLoan



Park Etiquette - Please Do Your Part!

Leon Valley's Raymond Rimkus Park is the place to be on the weekend, especially in the spring and summer months. There is a bustle of activities including soccer, softball, volleyball, barbeques in the pavilions, children playing on the playground and much more. The new neighborhood parks also have a lot of amenities for residents to enjoy.

As everyone is enjoying our parks, it is important to remember to be respectful of others and not block the walking paths with shade structures, chairs, coolers, bikes, vehicles, or other miscellaneous items.

Additionally, all pets must be kept on a leash at all times while visiting the parks and pet waste must be removed and disposed of properly. One of the most common complaints we receive is about dog owners not picking up after their pets. Dog waste stations have been installed at most locations for your convenience. Dogs are not allowed in the Huebner-Onion Natural Area Park, as they can and do disturb the deer and other wildlife.

Finally, please remember to be good stewards of the environment/park and pick up after yourself and others if necessary. Recycle your plastic water bottles and soda cans and throw away any non-recyclable trash.

For more park information, please visit our website at www.leonvalleytexas.gov.



Photos by Ben Murray





High Water Bills? Call the City of Leon Valley for a Free Water Audit

The Public Works Departments performed numerous water audits over the past year as a water conservation measure, and to help our water utility customers lower their water bills. The audit is a comprehensive checklist that will help you find ways to conserve water.

We'll begin the audit by providing the customer with a 12-month summary water usage report. We'll then ask that all water fixtures, both inside and outside the house, be turned off. Once the fixtures have been turned off, we'll check the water meter to determine if the meter is turning. In many instances, we can determine if there is a leak by this method, and we can usually pinpoint the location of the leak.

Other information shared during the visit include measuring water pressure (PSI), checking for potential leaks from water heater, water softener, toilets, irrigation system, pools, interior and exterior faucets, and discussion of the City's water rebate programs. In addition, we will provide information on switching to native and low water use plants. Other helpful tips will be shared to save water both inside and outside the home.

Leon Valley Water Crew Foreman Albert San Miguel says, "I enjoy helping our customers locate any leaks, potentially saving them money on their water bills, and helping to save water wasted from our Edwards Aquifer. We only have one Edwards Aquifer, and we must work together to conserve water as a region."

So, what are you waiting for? Call the Public Works Department at 210-681-1232 and schedule your water audit today!

DELIVERY AVAILABLE FOR HOMEBOUND PATRONS
Contact the library at (210)684-0720 to schedule a delivery.



LEONVALLEY.LIB.TX.US



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

PRSRTD STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SAN ANTONIO, TX
PERMIT NO. 1001



CITY COUNCIL

- Mayor** Chris Riley
mayorriley@leonvalleytexas.gov
- Place 1** Benny Martinez
benny.martinez@leonvalleytexas.gov
- Place 2** Josh Stevens
josh.stevens@leonvalleytexas.gov
- Place 3** Philip Campos
philip.campos@leonvalleytexas.gov
- Place 4** Rey Orozco
rey.orozco@leonvalleytexas.gov
- Place 5** Will Bradshaw
will.bradshaw@leonvalleytexas.gov

LION'S ROAR

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The Lion's Roar
City of Leon Valley - 6400 El Verde Road
Leon Valley, Texas 78238
(210) 684-1391, x 228

CITY STAFF

- City Manager**
Crystal Caldera
210-684-1391 x 219
- City Secretary**
Saundra Passailaigue
210-684-1391 x 216
- Finance Department**
210-684-1391 x 223
- Planning & Zoning Department**
Mindy Teague, Director
210-684-1391 x 234
- LV Public Library**
Regina Reed, Director
210-684-0720, x 240
- Fire Department**
Michael Naughton, Fire Chief
210-684-3219, x 281
- Police Department**
David Gonzalez, Police Chief
210-684-3215, x 255
- Public Works**
Melinda Moritz, Director
210-681-1232, x 203
- HR Director**
Lisa Hernandez
210-681-1391, x 212
- Community Relations Director**
Crystal Miranda
210-681-1391, x 228

CITY MEETINGS

All meetings at City Hall unless otherwise specified. All meetings subject to change due to Covid-19

- City Council**
1st & 3rd Tuesday - 6:00 p.m.
- Board Of Adjustment**
Meets as required
- Citizens Police Advisory Committee**
Quarterly, 3rd Wednesday - 6:00 p.m.
- Coffee with the Mayor**
Quarterly, 4th Saturday - 9 -11 a.m.
- Earthwise Living Committee**
2nd Wednesday -
5:30 p.m. City Hall
- Economic and Community Development Advisory Committee**
Meets as needed
- Library Board**
2nd Tuesday - 5:30 p.m. - Library
- Park Commission**
2nd Thursday - 6:30 p.m. -
Conference Center
- Planning & Zoning Commission**
4th Tuesday - 6:30 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** 210-684-1391
- Animal Control & Code Compliance** 210-684-6557
- Non-Emergency Fire** 210-684-8897
- Police** 210-684-3219
- Human Resources** 210-684-3215
- Dead Animal Pickup** 210-684-6557
- Public Works** 210-681-1232
- Library** 210-684-0720
- Tiger Sanitation** (210) 333-4287
- Community Center Rental** 210-684-1391 ext. 228

City Hall, non-emergency Police and Fire operations may be contacted at the above numbers Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Closed weekends and holidays.
Public Works Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

