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PINK Heals



On October 25th, the Big Spring Fire Department was seeing "pink," as in a big, pink fire engine rolling through Big Spring. The engine was part of the Pink Ribbon Tour that came to town in an effort help the Big Spring Fire Department celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness Month!

It just happened that Big Spring's only female firefighter, Birdie Soto, heard that the "Pink Ribbon Tour" was in the West Texas area. Thanks to her efforts, the "Guardians of the Ribbon" made a stop in Big Spring.

The "Guardians of the Ribbon" are a group of firefighters and police officers whose purpose is to raise awareness and money for the fight against cancer for the women of this Country. The Pink Ribbon tour was

founded in 2007 by Dave Graybill, a firefighter from Arizona. The organization began when he and other members of this male

dominated profession decided they wanted to do their part to support and care for the women in their communities. Graybill believes that driving pink fire trucks across the nation is a way to honor breast cancer patients as well as all women enduring any kind of cancer.

This year's tour, which features two pink fire trucks and three firefighters who wear pink uniforms, includes stops in 25 cities in 13 different states. Last year's tour visited more than 40 cities and logged about 10,000 miles in one pink fire truck.

In addition to the two pink fire trucks, the tour also features is a trailer hauling a ten foot silver fountain in the shape of the cancer awareness ribbon. The ribbon will be installed in Arizona after the tour has

been completed. The trucks are decorated with signatures of cancer survivors or remembrances of those who have died of the disease.

The tour's visit coincided with this year's Breast Cancer Awareness fund raising campaign. Big Spring firefighters raised money for the cause by selling pink t-shirts in the community. The pink t-shirts were worn October 26th -28th by firefighters and City staff. All proceeds from the sale of the t-shirts went to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation.

Thank you to everyone who purchased a shirt and a special thanks to Birdie Soto and all the Big Spring firefighters for their efforts. For more information on the Pink Ribbon Tour go to www.pinkribbonontour.com.

Photos: (Left) Fire Chief Brian Jensen and his daughter, Mica, get a close look at the silver fountain. (Right) Members of the Pink Heals Tour with Big Spring firefighters in front of the pink fire truck parked at Station 1.



Webb Reunion a Success

The Webb Air Force Base Reunion held last October brought in over 200 people from all over the United States including those military and civil service personnel who were involved with the World War II Big Spring Bombardier School and the Webb Air Force Base which trained jet pilots during the Korean and Vietnam War era. The reunion kicked off with a "Meet and Greet" lunch at the Hangar 25 Air Museum followed by an aerial acrobatics performance by Jan Collmer. The group took tours of the city, the Alon Refinery, the former Webb AFB facilities and housing area, and the local Wind Farms. A large group of Webb AFB alumni traveled to Midland for the CAF Air Show. There were families present in honor of loved ones who were stationed at Webb, members of the Royal Danish Air Force who had trained at Webb, and many others who had ties to the base and community.



A vintage photograph of the Webb AFB Post.

The Blue Cross Blue Shield Personal Health Manager is a free, interactive online tool available to all City employees. There is an endless amount of information available on the website that can be used in your everyday life. If you do not already have an account, go to www.bcbstx.com to set up your account. You will need your BCBS ID number and group number, which can be found on your BCBS card.

The Personal Health Manager allows you to customize the entire website to fit you. The health risk assessment tool will help you understand where you stand and what changes you need to make in order to achieve and maintain a healthy lifestyle. Other tools on the website include:

- Medical and Wellness Tracker - Track everything from blood pressure to cholesterol.
- Get Fit - Build a workout program that's customized just for you.
- Eat Right - Track your daily calorie intake and food servings, view a custom-built menu and create shopping lists specific to your individual needs and preferences.
- Live Well - Take a skills assessment to help you discover your strengths and weaknesses.



ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVE THE USE OF SEAT BELTS

In accordance with State Law, it is mandatory to wear seat belts when operating or riding in a vehicle. This covers passenger vehicles and light weight pickups. The City views this as a law which reduces injuries and saves lives. For this reason, the City is going one step further by requiring the mandatory use of seat belts in all City vehicles, except vehicles that have uncovered driving areas without rollover protection, example: riding lawn mowers, tugs, etc. If rollover protection is provided in open vehicles, seatbelts must be worn.

There will be periodic inspections of drivers to assure the law is properly obeyed. Additionally, Police Officers are instructed to pay special attention to City drivers and to issue proper citations when violations of the State Law are observed.

All City personnel traveling in a City vehicle are required to have their seat belt properly fastened prior to the vehicle moving.

Disciplinary action may be initiated for failure of any employee to comply with this policy.

This policy is written with the safety of City drivers always foremost in mind. Please make sure the seat belt rule is strictly obeyed for your own protection.



PHOTO: The newly renovated main entrance to the Big Spring City Hall.

City Hall Gets a Makeover

Big Spring is taking action to make sure City Hall complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Renovations began last summer with the installation of automatic doors at the east entrance to the building. The doors are in full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Architectural Guidelines. In December, crews completed construction of a new ADA ramp that was also installed at the east entrance. The new doors and ramp will ensure independent access for all people in wheelchairs. Construction of a new ramp located on the south side of City Hall is still underway.

RESOLUTIONS in the WORKPLACE 2010

The New Year is a way to wipe the slate clean, start all over and begin again. A New Year's resolution is how we do that. This year, try making some employment-related New Year's resolutions. The key to success in both your personal and professional life is to take an active approach, as opposed to a passive one. In today's world, it is critical to make your own opportunities.

• **Seek more responsibility.** Volunteer for challenging tasks and exhibit a take-charge attitude. By assuming additional responsibilities, you demonstrate how you can increase value for the corporation.

• **Meet your boss's boss.** At the next company event, go out of your way to meet those at least two rungs higher on the administrative ladder. They are the ones who can advance your career.

• **Join a company committee.** Whether it is a committee developing new workplace policies or simply planning the company holiday party, joining or volunteering can help you build relationships with other people in your company whom you might otherwise never meet.

• **Find and/or become a mentor.** Mentoring and being mentored provide a different perspective and new ideas about career goals and how to achieve them.

• **Attend meetings and company-offered development courses.** This illustrates your willingness to be on board with the company's future plans.

• **Discover ways to save money.** Find ways to increase efficiency and performance while decreasing costs. You will be making a significant contribution to

the organization's profitability.

• **Become an expert on one facet of your field.** It is important to be a generalist, but knowing more than anyone else on a specific issue or topic will help make you the "go-to" person for anyone in the company who has a question on that area.

• **Focus on the positive.** Every time you make head way with a New Year's resolutions, praise yourself. Every time you steer away from any resolution, peacefully let it go and bring focus back on the good you have done. People are much more productive when they feel good and know that they are valued. If you criticize someone all day, all you do is build resentment and fear. This goes the same for how we treat ourselves.

Remember, the more we encourage ourselves with our progress made with New Year's resolutions, the more progress we will make. Make this year the year you make good on your New Year's resolutions.

BIRTHDAYS

January

Lt. Craig Ferguson	1/1
Michael Calley	1/8
Eddie Castillo	1/9
Brian Soto	1/9
Arthur Dehlinger	1/10
Rae Baxter	1/11
Jeff White	1/13
Jonathan Marlow	1/14
Brenda Garrett	1/16
Gary Osburn	1/20
Eric Hilario	1/20
Wayne Wright	1/22

February

Jared Moren	2/1
Kevin Murphy	2/6
Miklos Szabo	2/9
Jim Piper	2/10
Thomas Booth	2/10
Lesla Gamble	2/11
Monty Stayner	2/16
Gloria Blackburn	2/18
Felicia Guerra	2/19
Rebecca Pritchett	2/21
Terry Jenkins	2/22
Juan Guzman	2/24
Steven Davenport	2/26
John Medina	2/27
Timothy Green	2/27

March

Mike Rivera	3/2
David Weaver	3/3
Tami Davis	3/3
Bob Menges	3/4
Shawn Haney	3/4
Kenny Davis	3/5
Ann Reid	3/5
Kip Patterson	3/7
Abel Solis	3/8
Chanley Delk	3/8
George Oliver	3/9
Raul Martinez	3/9
Irby Williams	3/10
Joe Trevino	3/13
Salvador Reyna	3/13
Kimberly Rubio	3/14
Zachary Cornett	3/14
Robert Muller	3/15
Shaun Pollard	3/15
Connie Wood	3/21
Linda Sjogren	3/21
Christopher Lopez	3/21
Terry Wegman	3/28
Gerald Cobos	3/28
Charles Womack II	3/29
Linda Summersell	3/30
Lt. Tim Childers	3/30
Chris Beserra	3/30

Congratulations to our
STAR EMPLOYEES

TRAVIS RYAN

October 2009

OFFICER BEN BIAS

December 2009

Thank you both for a job well done!

W-2 FORMS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED ON OR BEFORE FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2010.

W-2 FORMS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED WITH EMPLOYEE PAYCHECKS. IF YOU HAVE DIRECT DEPOSIT, YOUR W-2 WILL BE IN WITH YOUR DIRECT DEPOSIT STUB.



Rich History | Big Possibilities

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This newsletter is put forth by the City of Big Spring for City employees. If you would like more information or would like to submit information to be placed in the newsletter, please forward the information to the Human Resources office or email to sking@mybigspring.com.

For Wellness Sake...

On average, 43% of New Year's resolutions have something to do with weight loss and self improvement. Whether or not you made a resolution for the new year, the evidence is in for fitness. Regular exercise has been associated with more health benefits than anything else known to man. Studies show that it reduces the risk of some cancers, increases longevity, helps achieve and maintain weight loss, enhances mood, lowers blood pressure, and even improves arthritis. In short, exercise keeps you healthy and makes you look and feel better. Why not make 2010 the year to join the Wellness Program and start getting in shape?

The Wellness Program offers gym memberships to all employees at for only \$5 a month. Participating gyms are the YMCA and Techno. The only requirement is that you work out at least three times a week or twelve times a month.

If you cannot commit to the workout requirement you can still sign up for a gym membership. For Techno, employees pay a monthly charge of \$15 and for the YMCA the monthly charge is \$32. Family memberships are also available. Signing up this way allows you to control your workout schedule.

Other benefits available with the Wellness Programs include the Tobacco Cessation Program and the Employee Assistance Program which provides counseling to employees. Contact the Human Resources office for more information if you are interested.

WELCOME

New City Employees

Juan Guzman - Utilities
Charles Hale - Fire Department
Charles Womack - Fire Department
Rae Baxter - Senior Center
Thomas Hodges - Code Enforcement
Jessica Marlar - CVB
Stacy Austin - Municipal Court
Tamara Bishop - Code Enforcement
Salvador Reyna - Wastewater Treatment
Michael Burden - Utilities
Lionicio Rodriguez - Sanitation
Radonia Mathes - Animal Control
Paul Smith - Utilities
Tom Cruz - Landfill
Michael Saucedo - Police Department
Terry Clark - Police Department
Keith Jones - Police Department

BLOOD DRIVE

2/17/10

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

City Council
Chambers

Contact Laura
Larue at
264-2347

to schedule an
appointment.

The 2010
Leadership
Class is hosting
a Food Drive.
Drop off your
non-perishable
food donations
at City Hall.

**MARCH 14TH—DAYLIGHT
SAVINGS TIME BEGINS**

Upcoming City Holidays

New Year's Day
January 1st

Martin Luther
King, Jr. Day
January 18th

President's Day
February 15th



To everyone who submitted a contribution card for the United Way. Your contributions are greatly appreciated. Next year, City employees will contribute almost \$11,000 to the United Way organization! Everyone who agreed to contribute will be entered in the drawing for a free one-night stay and dinner for two at the Moss Creek Ranch. The winner will be chosen this month. The City would like to express its great appreciation to the Moss Creek Ranch for their generous donation.