



City of Willow Park

www.willowpark.org
Newsletter, July 2020

Willow Park Police Department Receives “Recognized Law Enforcement Agency” from the Texas Law Enforcement Recognition Program

Helpful numbers:

City Hall
817-441-7108

Municipal Court
817-441-7107

Fire Department
817-441-8020

Police Department
817-441-9747

Public Works
817-441-7708

City Council:

Mayor Doyle Moss
dmoss@willowpark.org

Mayor Pro Tem Lea Young
lyoung@willowpark.org

Council Member Place 1
Eric Contreras
econtreras@willowpark.org

Council Member Place 2
Amy Fennell
afennell@willowpark.org

Council Member Place 3
Greg Runnebaum
grunnebaum@willowpark.org

Council Member Place 5
Nathan Crummel
ncrummel@willowpark.org

Regular City Council Meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. at the WP Municipal Complex 516 Ranch House Road



On June 5, 2020, the Willow Park Police Department received the award of “Recognized Law Enforcement Agency” from the Texas Police Chiefs Association Law Enforcement Recognition Program. Begun in 2006, the Recognition Program evaluates a Police Department’s compliance with over 168 Best Business Practices for Texas Law Enforcement.

These Best Practices were carefully developed by Texas Law Enforcement professionals to assist agencies in the efficient and effective delivery of service and the protection of individual’s rights. These Best Practices cover all aspects of law enforcement operations including use of force, protection of citizen rights, vehicle pursuits, property and evidence management, and patrol and investigative operations.

This voluntary process required the Willow Park Police Department to conduct a critical self-review of the agency’s policies, procedures, facilities and operations. Beginning in July 2019, the department begin the lengthy process to become a “Recognized Law Enforcement Agency” by preparing proofs of compliance for each of the Texas Law Enforcement Best

Business Practices. Upon completion of the internal review, an outside audit and review was requested. The result of this review was then sent to the Texas Police Chiefs Association’s Recognition Committee for final analysis and decision to award “Recognized” status.

On June 5, the department was notified that it had been awarded the coveted “Recognized Law Enforcement Agency” award. The Willow Park Police Department has always considered itself to be one of the best in the state. This process provided for an independent review of the department’s operations and should assure the citizens of Willow Park that its Police Department is conforming to the current state of the art in law enforcement.

The actual presentation of the award will take place at a Council Meeting in the near future. The department will also be recognized at the Texas Police Chiefs Association annual conference in April 2021.

More information a description of the program may be viewed on the Texas Police Chiefs Association website at <http://www.texaspolicechiefs.org>.



Way to go, Willow Park!

Our city has a response rate of 77.4 percent for the 2020 U.S. Census, well above the state response rate of 56.1 percent. There is still time to respond and get our number to 100 percent!

Why is the census important?

- The results are used to adjust or redraw electoral districts, based on where populations have increased or decreased. The U.S. Census Bureau provides states with population counts for this purpose.

- The results of the 2020 Census will inform decisions about allocating hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding to communities across the country—for hospitals, fire departments, school lunch programs, and other critical programs and services.

- Business owners rely on census results to make decisions, such as where to open new stores, restaurants, factories, or offices, where to expand operations, where to recruit employees, and which products and services to offer.

Visit 2020census.gov to be counted!

July dates to remember

June 29-July 10: early voting for primary runoff election

July 14: primary runoff election day

July 21: Planning and Zoning Commission meeting

Schedule subject to change.

Visit www.willowpark.org for up-to-date information.

Fun Facts: Fourth of July

The Beginning of Independence
The Declaration of Independence was approved on July 4, 1776, by the 2nd Continental Congress leading 13 colonies to gain independence. This holiday of freedom is celebrated with various festivities that include fireworks, parades, concerts, and time with family. There were 56 signers to the Declaration of Independence and among them a committee of 5 (Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Roger Sherman, and Robert R. Livingston) drafted the declaration.

A New Free Nation
2.5 Million — The number of people living in the new free nation in July 1776.
328 Million — The nation's estimated population on July 4, 2019.

Celebrating With a Bang!
• **Approximately \$319 million** — The value of fireworks imported into the United States in 2019.

Stars and Stripes
• **\$6.7 million** — The value of U.S. imports of American Flags in 2019.
• **\$9.1 million** — The value of U.S. flags exported in 2019.

Backyard Barbecues
In 2017, there were...
• **Roughly 160** — The number of businesses in the United States that make household appliances, including **barbecue grills**.
• **About 300** — The number of businesses in the United States who use paper and cardboard to make different products, such as **paper plates and cups**.
• **Approximately 675** — The number of snack food manufacturers in the United States.

Then & Now
Population of the 13 colonies and their representation.

	Then		Now	
	Signers	Estimated Population*	116th Congress	Population Estimates
Pennsylvania	9	434,373	18	12,801,989
Virginia	7	747,610	11	8,535,519
Massachusetts	5	378,787	9	6,892,503
New Jersey	5	184,139	12	8,882,190
Connecticut	4	237,946	5	3,565,287
Maryland	4	319,728	8	6,045,680
New York	4	340,210	27	19,453,561
South Carolina	4	249,073	7	5,148,714
Delaware	3	59,094	1	973,764
Georgia	3	82,548	14	10,617,423
New Hampshire	3	141,885	2	1,359,711
North Carolina	3	393,751	13	10,488,084
Rhode Island	2	68,825	2	1,059,361

*The United States did not conduct its first official census until 1790—these estimates were cobbled together from a variety of sources.
Sources: Data on this page come from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2019 Population Estimates, 2019 International Trade Statistics, 1790 Census, Whole Numbers of Persons within the District of the U.S. report, Historical Statistics of the United States: 1789-1945 report, Fourth of July Facts for Features, My Congressional District, U.S. Population Clock, and 2017 County Business Patterns.

United States Census Bureau | CENSUS.GOV/SCHOOLS

STATISTICS IN SCHOOLS

Leave the fireworks to the pros!

It is illegal to possess and use fireworks within the city limits of Willow Park. If you set off fireworks inside the city, you could be cited and fined. Worse, if any damage occurs, you could be charged with arson.

“It shall be unlawful for any person to give away, sell, offer or expose for sale, or have in possession with intent to give away, sell or to use, discharge or cause to be discharged, ignited, fired or otherwise set in action, or to possess with the intent to discharge or cause to be discharged, ignited, fired, or otherwise set in action, within the limits of the city, any fireworks, firecrackers, rockets, sparklers, torpedoes, roman candles, fire-balloons, or other fireworks or substances or any combination whatsoever designed or intended for pyrotechnic display, except as hereinafter provided.” (Ordinance 307-91, sec. I(A), adopted 11/19/91; 1993 Code, sec. 5.401)

There are a number of shows in our area you can enjoy instead, with none of the risk. We wish all our residents and businesses a safe and enjoyable Independence Day holiday!