

## 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



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.

## 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

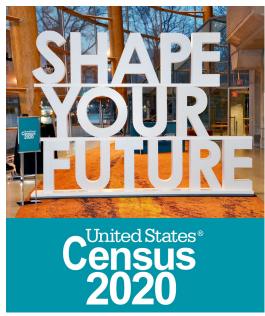
Council Member Place 1 Eric Contreras econtreras@willowpark.org

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



## July dates to remember

election day

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!



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!