



ARANSAS PASS NEWS

Issue: 1

November 2017



HOUSING: Post Harvey Update

City Staff continues to work on short-term housing for our displaced citizens. They are in constant contact with FEMA representatives who are qualifying victims. The General Land Office (GLO) will deliver the actual housing services through contractors and the Council of Governments (COG) will administer the program. Sorry for all the red-tape you have to go through!! If you have not already done so, be sure to register with FEMA at <disasterassistance.gov> Once FEMA has qualified you, they will contact you and help you choose one of the four options. Those options can be seen at www.glo.texas.gov/texasrebuilds/ When you have chosen the option that best suits your needs, the GLO will be responsible for delivering those services whether it is a Mobile Housing Unit (MHU); a Recreational Vehicle (RV) or repairs to your home. After the services have been delivered to you, you will be assigned a case worker from the COG who will oversee the remainder of the program. FEMA and the GLO do not have a timeline for completion.

“Dear Aransas Pass Resident. This is the first monthly newsletter designed for local residents. If you know of someone who would like to receive a copy send us the email address.; or tell us if you don’t want to receive a copy . Gary Edwards City Manager

The Aransas Pass Police Department continues this year with the annual tradition of spreading the Holiday Spirit. More than ever, with the Hurricane Harvey recovery underway, these charitable events are needed. The PD’s goal is to reach as many residents as possible. The PD efforts are only possible through your generous contributions. Visit <ap-police.com> the Police Department website.





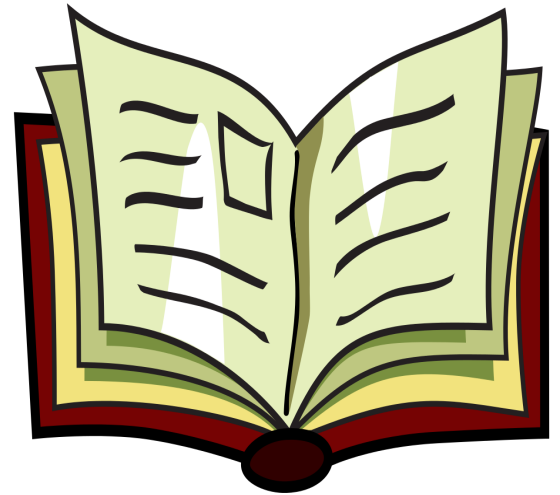
After more than two months of providing lodging for Harvey recovery volunteers from around the nation, the Aransas Pass Civic Center Parking lot is vacant. The last of these great people left on Friday, November 3rd. The community extends its heartfelt thanks. This picture was taken Saturday, November 4th. The parking lot had been filled with cars, vans, trucks, semi trucks, tents and temporary meeting rooms. A few other volunteer organizations in town are continuing to work with local citizens.

CIVIC CENTER RECOVERING

Although it might not be visible from the outside, the Aransas Pass Civic Center was severely damaged by Hurricane Harvey. The roof was compromised and there was minor structural impairment. The primary damage was caused by wind-driven rainwater getting into the building. The morning following the storm on August 26th, there were 3-4 inches of standing water in 70% of the building. The City has had to cancel all events until the end of the year in order to restore the structure. The Aransas Pass Civic Center provides the largest and most modern meeting facilities in this region. All steps are being taken by City Staff to re-open this facility. We look forward to re-opening the Aransas Pass Civic Center in early 2018.

Aransas Pass Library to reopen soon

After weeks of being closed to the public because of Hurricane Harvey related damage, the Aransas Pass Library is just days away from re-opening. The Library Staff and Library Board have been working to keep the regular library services up-to-date and ready for re-opening day. It is anticipated there will be heavy usage by regular and new library patrons.



ELEVATED WATER TANK REPLACEMENT UNDERWAY

An elevated half-a-million gallon city water tank collapsed during Hurricane Harvey. (See picture to the right). Steps are being taken by the City Public Works Department to replace the tank but design it stronger than the collapsed structure. Additionally, a goal is to think about long-term city water needs as work on the new tower proceeds. This project is part of the ongoing city effort to come out of the Hurricane disaster stronger than before the storm. Funding for the new water tower has been located with an anticipated minimal impact to the City's budget.

TOWN HALL MEETING IN NOVEMBER

Plans are being finalized for a Town Hall meeting for Aransas Pass citizens. Its purpose is to update local residents about the storm recovery and issues such as housing and infrastructure. Details will be made public when available.



TRASH/BRUSH AND BULKY ITEMS COLLECTION

REGULAR TRASH COLLECTION. This section refers to regular trash pick-up and not the storm debris pick-up. The trash collection days are determined by where you live. Residential trash is collected twice per week. The pick-up of bulky items and brush occurs once a month. On collection day, by 7:00 A.M. residential trash carts must be placed curbside and as close to the roadway as possible without being a traffic hinderance. All trash **MUST** be bagged. Neither the City nor Absolute Waste will pick-up loose un-bagged garbage. Additionally, tires, car batteries, paint cans, concrete, building materials, pallets and any household hazardous wastes will not be collected.

BULKY ITEMS. Bulky items and brush collection are a service provided within the City limits to those with a trash account. Bulky items will not be picked up on vacant lots. Bulky items and limbs should be in separate piles. Construction debris will not be picked up. Each resident is allowed 15 cubic yards.

Bulk items are defined as Stoves, refrigerators without freon, air conditioning units that are de-energized of chlorofluorocarbons, water tanks, washing machines, mattresses, box springs, carpet and furniture.

NOT TOO EARLY TO THINK

LONG-TERM

Although there still is much work to do when it comes to the City's short-term recovery from Hurricane Harvey, it is not too early to start thinking long term. Short-term recovery includes such things as removing debris, restoring power, opening roads and providing temporary housing. Long-Term recovery begins to re-establish a healthy, functioning community. For example: permanent housing; re-establishing our economic base; attracting people back to Aransas Pass who left after Harvey hit; rebuilding infrastructure. A long-term program provides an opportunity for Aransas Pass to come back stronger than before Hurricane Harvey. In late October, the City Council and Department Heads met for a half-day retreat to begin planning for the City's Long-Term Recovery. You'll be hearing more about this with the invitation to participate.

Contact Us

Aransas Pass City Hall
600 West Cleveland Blvd
Aransas Pass, Tx 78336

361-758-5301

Visit us on the web at
www.aransaspasstx.gov

If you would like to start receiving a copy of the monthly City of Aransas Pass newsletter, contact the City Manager's office. If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter contact the City Manager's office.

