

RESACA CITY RECORD

AUGUST 2016

OFFICIAL ONLINE NEWSPAPER FOR THE CITY OF SAN BENITO

City awarded VBLF \$494,755 park grant

The City of San Benito has received word that the Valley Baptist Legacy Foundation has awarded a \$494,755 grant for the construction of South Park - Phase 1.

“We need to thank our Mayor and Commissioners for their support and leadership in winning this greatly-needed grant,” said Parks Director Art Garza. “They have shared with us their vision for improvements in San Benito and we are working to reach those goals.”

The funds will be matched by \$134,207 in the City’s Community Development Block Grant Program, \$104,864 set aside in the General Fund budget, as well as \$14,270 in in-kind services from the Boys and Girls Club, Cameron County Master Gardeners, Keep San Benito Beautiful and the Parks & Recreation Board. All totaled, the park project will total \$748,097.

The Valley Baptist Legacy Foundation supports organizations that promote healthy lifestyles and improve the quality of life in the Rio Grande Valley. It is the goal of the Foundation to work with others, financially and strategically, to measurably improve the overall health here.

The new park will be built on City-owned property located off of South Sam Houston, behind Fire Station No. 1.

“We are so excited to receive this fantastic news,” Mayor Celeste Z. Sanchez said.

The new park will consist of soccer fields, a half-mile multi-uses trail, restrooms, bleachers, picnic tables, barbecue pits, trash receptacles and parking, said Garza.

The trail will be configured to allow for walking, jogging or biking, he said.

“The soccer fields will add diversity and expand our Parks & Recreation pro-



grams. In addition we plan to offer free Zumba classes and health fairs to raise health and nutrition awareness,” Garza said. The grant funds will cover infrastructure costs including earthwork and drainage, construction of an access road and parking, a trail, walkways, installation of utilities.

“This park will be a great benefit to the citizens of San Benito who have never even had a real playground before. It’s a long-time coming, but now we are going to make it happen,” said Mayor Pro Tem Tony Gonzalez.

“This is great because this is the first City-owned park south of the Expressway. This new park will give families a place to play, exercise and gather for memorable events,” City Commissioner Joe D. Gonzalez said.

“Because there are no parks in that area of the City, it makes it very dangerous for residents who live in that area to walk or bike safely to other parks. The

creation of a park south of the expressway will provide residents with access to outdoor amenities and recreational programs,” said Commissioner Rene Villafraanco.

“With this new park, we will be able to expand existing youth recreational programs to that are. We will also add programs for adults, such as soccer leagues and free exercise classes,” said Commissioner Esteban Rodriguez.

“One thing that worked in our favor was that we provided information that demonstrated to the Valley Baptist Legacy Foundation that we care about the health and welfare of our citizens, just as they do.

“We said that diabetes, high blood pressure and obesity are prominent in our area. This new park would be utilized to increase health and wellness activities as preventive measures for both children and adults to help combat these issues,” Garza said.

Veterans' Board seeks worn US/Texas



The City of San Benito hosts Veterans' Day and Memorial Day marches and ceremonies to pay tribute to our Military personnel. Commemorative bricks can be purchased within the Veterans War Memorial. Please see form below. Call 956-361-3800 for details.

By **MARTHA McCLAIN**
City of San Benito

The San Benito Veterans Advisory Board is collecting old, tattered US, Texas and Military flags for proper disposal.

Residents wishing to drop off their retired flags may do so at the San Benito Municipal Building, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Veterans Board Chairman Victor Garza said he has received inquiries dealing with how to properly dispose of a flag that are no longer suitable for flying. The requests spurred the Veterans Advisory Board to initiate a campaign to collect flags ready for disposal.

Garza said he will arrange a date and time for burning the flags, as per protocol, with the assistance of the San Benito Elks Lodge and Boy Scout Troop 25.

Deadline to drop off flags is Aug. 19 at 5 p.m.

As a revered symbol of freedom and justice, the flag of the United States of America needs to be treated with the utmost respect, according to the Federal Flag Code. This respect extends to the flag's eventual retirement and destruction. The United States Flag Code (4 USC Sec 8 Para (k) Amended 7 July 1976) states: "The Flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem of display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning. Proper disposal of flags, according to the Code, which is followed by the Veterans of Foreign War, is as follows:

The flag should be folded in its customary manner.

Place the flag on a fire of sufficient intensity to ensure complete burning of the flag.

Individual(s) at the flag burning can come to attention, salute the flag, recite the Pledge of Allegiance and have a brief period of silent reflection.

After the flag is completely consumed, the fire should then be safely extinguished and the ashes buried.

"Flag burning is not a ceremony, per se, but a respectful way to professionally retire our flags that serve as a revered symbol of freedom," Garza said.

For more information, please contact Garza at 361-7464, or Veterans Advisory Board Liaison Martha McClain at 361-3800.

Commemorative Brick Order Form

I wish to purchase an engraved Brick to Commemorate:

Check all that apply

- A Veteran who died during active military service
- A Surviving Veteran
- A Deceased Veteran
- A Non Veteran
- Resident(s) of the area
- A Former Resident of the area
- A Business
- Other _____

Please Print
Name of Purchaser: _____ Phone _____ Cell _____
Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

INFORMATION TO APPEAR ON BRICK

Line 1 (include spaces between words)

Line 2 (include spaces between words)

Line 3 OPTIONAL (include spaces between words)

Check or money order enclosed (Payable to San Benito Veterans' War Memorial—Brick Fund)

Cost: \$100 / Brick

Charge my: Visa Mastercard

Card Number # on back

Expiration Date _____ Print name as it appears on card _____

Signature _____

Cost: \$100 / Brick

Send Order Form and payment to

San Benito Veterans' War Memorial- Brick Fund
City of San Benito
401 N. Sam Houston Blvd.
San Benito, Texas 78586