



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- City Retirees
- Easing Holiday Stress
- Police Department Swears In Two New Police Officers
- Thank A Public Service Worker
- Wellness Corner—Diabetes. Living With It.
- BSPD Recognizes Officers
- BSPA's 2011 Shop With A Cop Event

**NA NA NA NA  
HEY HEY HEY**

## GOODBYE

The new year will bring the departure of four key members of the Big Spring Fire Department.

On December 2nd, members of the Big Spring Fire Department gathered to offer their well wishes at a retirement banquet held for Fire Chief Brian Jensen, Deputy Chief Steven Hedges, Deputy Chief Alex Calvio and Deputy Chief Glenn Graves.

After more than 20 years with the City of Big Spring, Fire Chief Brian Jensen will be retiring on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Chief Jensen was a firefighter first and foremost, working a fire truck for the first years of his career. When the City took responsibility of the ambulance service in 1995, he stepped up and became one of the departments first certified paramedic. Over the years, Chief Jensen worked his way through the ranks to become the EMS coordinator and then the Fire Chief.

Chief Jensen wore many hats within the department; he was the fix-it guy, the find it guy and perhaps, most notably, he was the joker guy. Brian was often the perpetrator of jokes at the fire house.

One of the most notable pranks took place at the City Hall station. Brian rigged up a water hose on a sensor so that when someone crossed through the door, they would be squirted with water. It was funny until the City Manager walked through and was soaked.



The Fab Four, pictured from left: Deputy Chief Steve Hedges, Deputy Chief Alex Calvio, Chief Brian Jensen, Deputy Chief Glenn Graves

And who can forget the sound devices put in just the right spot so it would drive you crazy all day long?

Most of us will remember Chief Jensen as a good father, husband and humanitarian and most importantly, a good person. He will be missed by everyone at the City of Big Spring.

In addition to the retirement of Chief Jensen, the new year will bring the retirement of Deputy Chief Steven Hedges after thirty years of service with the BSFD. Deputy Chief Alex Calvio will end his thirty-four year career and Deputy Chief Glenn Graves will retire with thirty years of service to the department.

Lt. Robert Muller also retired from the department in December after thirty-four years of service.

Throughout their respective careers, these gentlemen have provided outstanding service to the community. Their dedication over the years and the leadership they have provided to the Big Spring Fire Department has enhanced the excellent service provided to Big Spring residents. We offer each of them our heartfelt congratulations on their retirement and wish them well in their endeavors.

## CONGRATS ON YOUR RETIREMENT!

*Rick Boiles*

D&C, 19 years of service

*Jim Piper*

D&C, 24 years of service

*Steven Patterson*

Service Center, 32 years of service

On behalf of the city administration and staff, we offer each one of you our congratulations and best wishes on your retirement!

## Thanks

On December 24th, while most of us were enjoying the holiday break, a water pipe at the intersection of 15th and State burst open in the middle of the night. The city's utility crew headed out at 3 a.m. and worked on that pipe for hours in the snow and freezing temperatures. While everyone else was sleeping in a warm house, these utility workers were hip deep in freezing water, working to fix the pipe and restore water service.

Our public service workers — utility service workers, sanitation drivers, water treatment plant operators— do not get the THANKS they deserve! There is no fanfare or fanciful prestige attached to their job descriptions. These are individuals who are out there, regardless of the weather, fixing the water pipes and picking up the trash. They keep the water running and the dumpsters from overflowing. As a community, we take that all for granted far too often.

Stop and think about the utilities you use every day and consider all the people who help make those possible. Say thanks to a sanitation worker, or a utility service worker, or the workers that have to put on the hip waders when something goes wrong down at the wastewater treatment plant.

We might not have to plunge into icy water at 3am when a water pipe bursts, but someone out there does. And that's worth a thank you. So take that moment, when you step out of the shower or take out your trash for pick-up, to be grateful for the utilities and services we've got, and for the workers who make them possible.

On behalf of the City Administration and staff, we offer a huge and overdue thank you to our public service workers. Your tireless service to our community has not gone unnoticed and we are truly grateful and honored to have each of you as part of our team.

## congratulations

**Officer Amie Soles**

**2011 BSPD Officer of the Year**

**Sgt. Chad Williams**

**2011 BSPD Supervisor of the Year**

**Det. Steve Henry**

**2011 Detective of the Year**

**Lynn Creswell**

**2011 Communications Officer of the Year**

*Thank you for your dedication, hard work and service to our community. We are proud to have you as members of the Big Spring Police Department. Each of you have proven to be a valuable asset to the City of Big Spring and we congratulate you on a job well done.*



We are pleased to announce the addition of two new members the Big Spring Police Department. Officers Willie Wright (below, left) and Anthony Acosta (below, right) were sworn in on December 16, 2011 by Chief Lonnie Smith following their graduation from the Permian Basin Law Enforcement Academy in Midland.

Both officers successfully completed the rigorous, paramilitary sixteen week basic police training program that provided classroom lectures, physical fitness training, practical exercises, firearms and defensive tactics training. They will continue their training within Big Spring Police Department working with experienced field training officers and learning firsthand the intricacies of everyday police work. Upon successful completion of field training, each officer will be assigned to one of the three patrol shifts and assume the role of patrolman.



JANUARY

Lt. Craig Ferguson  
 Dylan Mauzey  
 Daylon Glover  
 Tyler Fairchild  
 Michael Chandler  
 Michael Calley  
 Eddie Castillo  
 Cpl. Art Dehlinger  
 Fred Rubio  
 Jeff White  
 Jonathon Marlow  
 Brenda Garrett  
 Jay Sudell  
 Gary Osburn  
 Wayne Wright  
 Det. Steve Henry  
 Bob Langford  
 Gilbert Paredes  
 Jean Little  
 Sgt. Chad Williams  
 Dusty Kirby



FEBRUARY

Kevin Murphy  
 Miklos Szabo  
 Thomas Booth  
 Lesa Gamble  
 Hunter Neel  
 Monty Stayner  
 Leo Granillo-Chairez  
 Blain Matthews  
 Gloria Blackburn  
 Felicia Guerra  
 Rebecca Pritchett  
 Lt. Steve Davenport  
 John Medina  
 Timothy Green

MARCH

David Weaver  
 Tami Davis  
 Jacob Marin  
 Bob Menges  
 Shawn Haney  
 Kenny Davis  
 Ann Reid  
 Amber Wooldridge  
 Sgt. Kip Patterson  
 Abel Solis  
 Lt. Chanley Delk  
 Cpl. George Oliver  
 Raul Martinez  
 J.J. Barrientos  
 Salvador Reyna  
 Matthew Hindman  
 Zachary Cornett  
 Lt. Robert Muller  
 Shaun Pollard  
 Connie Wood  
 Linda Sjogren  
 Chris Lopez  
 Rebecca Green  
 Linda Summersell  
 Chris Beserra



December 12, 2011 was a special day for fifteen young children in Big Spring. That was the night of the Big Spring Police Association's 2011 "Shop With a Cop" event.

During the "Shop with a Cop" event, Big Spring law enforcement officers were paired with children from the community for a shopping spree at Wal-Mart, where each child received \$250 to spend however they wanted. For some children, decisions came easy, and for others, there was so many toys to choose from.

The "Shop with a Cop" program is designed to encourage children to see police in a positive light. This was the first year that the Police Association held the Shop With a Cop Event. Throughout the year, the Police Association raised funds for the event along with donations from area businesses and individuals. As a result of the association's efforts, \$3,500 was raised and these fifteen children received a Christmas they'll likely never forget.

Many shoppers in Wal-Mart that evening were amazed at the officers and what they were doing. As the officers were shopping around the store, several shoppers handed them money to put toward the cause.

The five Big Spring Police Officers who participated in the shopping sprees were Cpl. Keith Jones, Officers James Saint, Kayla Johnson, Terri Clark and Kevin King. Our sincerest gratitude goes out to the members of the Big Spring Police Association because, without them, this event would not have been possible.

**DIABETES:**  
 It's your life, live it well!

Living with diabetes is a challenge. Through education and lifestyle changes, you can learn to successfully manage your diabetes so that you can live well!

**DIABETES-LIVING WITH IT**

A FREE education seminar presented by Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

This is a six-week course done in one hour sessions led by SMMC's Clinical Dietician, Nelson Guadalupe, D.H.Ed, MS, RD, LD and other clinical professionals.

Topics include understanding diabetes, proper nutrition, exercise, medications, managing "sick" days and more. Each participant will receive a FREE glucose monitor and a personalized diet and nutrition plan.

The next class will begin in early 2012. Please contact Stacie King in the Human Resources office at 264-2347 if you would like more information.



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Jennifer Gonzales	Senior Center
Raul Hernandez	Sanitation
Shon Davis	Fire Dept.
Jay Sudell	Fire Dept.
J.J. Barrientos	Utilities
Wesley Warlick	Streets
Jacob Marin	Utilities
John Vega	Sanitation
Albert Cavazos	Fire Dept.
Robert Dalsing, Jr.	Parks
Miles Boadle	Water Treatment
Ray Bryant	Sanitation



Make **2012**  
*a Year of Healthy Resolutions!*

Did you know that **quitting smoking** is one of the most common New Year's Resolutions? Get a fresh start to the new year! The City of Big Spring has many resources to help motivate and support you in your quest to get healthy by losing weight or quitting smoking. Information is available in the Human Resources office.

# What's Happening

## Holidays on the Horizon

City offices will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

### ***New Year Holiday***

Monday, January 2, 2012

### ***Martin Luther King Jr. Day***

Monday, January 16, 2012

## COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Friday, February 24, 2012 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at City Council Chambers. All employees who donate will be entered in the drawing for a free day off with pay!

Call HR at 264-2347 to schedule an appointment. WALK INS ARE WELCOME!

TML Training at Dora Roberts Community Center on Wednesday, February 22, 2012:

8 a.m. - "Following the Rules"

1 p.m. - "Vehicle Operation for Public Entities"

Training is FREE to all City Employees



As the holiday season wraps up and a new year begins, many people experience feelings of anxiety, depression and stress. If you are feeling down or stressed, especially if you feel down for more than a few weeks or if you are experiencing changes in sleeping or eating patterns, talk to your health care provider. The city provides employees with counseling sessions through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). If you need to speak to someone, contact the Human Resources office at 264-2347. Participation in the EAP is completely confidential. The EAP program is available not only to employees but also to any dependents covered on the employee's health insurance plan.



*May every day of the new year glow with good cheer and happiness for you and your family. We appreciate our dedicated and faithful employees. We're grateful for all of your work this past year and wish you a Happy New Year!*