



# The Webb County Link

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## Important Dates

- \* 9/1 Labor Day County Office Closed
- \* 9/8 Commissioners Court Meeting 9:00am
- \* 9/15 Jury Duty
- \* 9/17 New Employee Orientation
- \* 9/22 Commissioners Court Meeting 9:00am
- \* 9/25 Webb County Safety Fair

## Quote of the Month

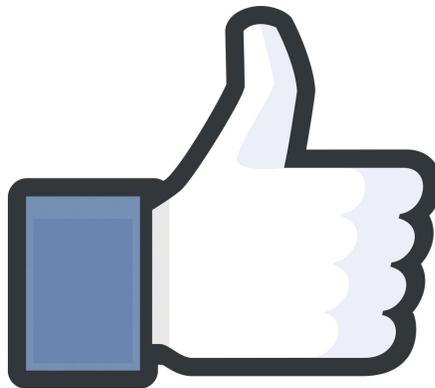
The real difference between men is energy. A strong will, a settled purpose, an invincible determination, can accomplish almost anything; and in this lies the distinction between great men and little men.

—Thomas Fuller

## Juvenile Drug Court Grant



Webb County was awarded \$975,000 in federal funds. This past month, Congressman Henry Cuellar announced that this contribution was granted to Webb County from the Department of Health and Human Services through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The use of this allotment will be to expand the Juvenile Treatment Drug Court Program. This program is a collaborative operation between the Webb County Court at Law II and Serving Children and Adults in Need (SCAN). The Juvenile Treatment Drug Court Program provides aid to adolescents who have substance abuse disorders and who have become criminally involved with the law. At a recent press conference held at Webb County, Congressman Cuellar, County Court at Law II Judge Jesus "Chuy" Garza, SCAN CEO Iseal Dabdoub, Sheriff Martin Cuellar, Treatment Courts Manager Victor Oliveros, Commissioner John Galo and County Attorney Marc Montemayor gathered to speak out about the benefits that the expansion of this program will bring to the youth in our community. It has been determined that this well-founded movement will help over 200 participants throughout its implementation period.



## Webb County Now On Facebook

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# Find us on Facebook



### ALS Ice Bucket Challenge

This month the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge took over Webb County. Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that attacks nerve cells and pathways in the brain and spinal cord. When these cells die, voluntary muscle control and movement slowly shuts down, eventually leading to death. The ALS Ice Bucket Challenge trend was followed by many, including our Webb County Commissioners, in hopes of spreading awareness on ALS and with the intent to donate enough funds for research to find a cure for this disease. Check out the Webb County ALS Ice Bucket Photo Album on [www.facebook.com/webbcounty](http://www.facebook.com/webbcounty).



### Sheriff's Office PAL'S Gym boxers Win Big at World Championships

Following a weeklong of bout after bout, several Webb County Sheriff's Office PAL's Gym boxers brought home 1st place belts and a 2nd place trophy while participating in the 2014 Ringside World Championships held in Independence, Missouri. The Sheriff's Office sponsored 16 young boxers to participate in this competition. Out of the 16 boxers, 10 made it to the finals. Our first place winners include 13 year old Jose Cardenas, 14 year old Jose Alfredo Martinez, 14 year old Joshua Juarez and 14 year old Lonnie Rodriguez, who brought home a 2nd place trophy. It wasn't an easy feat, the boxers, ranging in ages from 11-25, went up against thousands of well-seasoned boxers.

Sheriff Martin Cuellar also provided transportation for other local boxers from Los Dos Laredos and Polo's boxing team.

"Many of these children come from single parent households or may be lacking a support system, said Sheriff Martin Cuellar." The art of boxing has proven to motivate them, keep them focused and out of trouble.

Their coaches Manuel (Shotgun) and Roberto (Cobra) Gomez said the PAL's boxers are a great dedicated group and they look forward to continue molding the young boxers.



"My goal is to make sure we always provide programs for our youth. Programs that will teach them to set goals and accomplish them, while at the same time preparing them for a bright future," added Cuellar. "We can rest assured that the next world champ will be one of our own."

Submit your department stories for next month! E-mail your story along with any pictures to [webbpio@webbcountytx.gov](mailto:webbpio@webbcountytx.gov). Stories will be edited for style, grammar, and length. Please be advised that, due to space limitations, we cannot guarantee that all stories will be publicized.

## Best Wishes To Maria Luis Vasquez

Special congratulations go out to Ms. Maria Luis Vasquez on her retirement. Ms. Vasquez served for 25 years with the Webb County Community Supervision and Corrections Department. On behalf of CSCD Director Melinda Vidaurri, the CSCD Staff, and all of Webb County, we would wish Ms. Vasquez the very best in all her future endeavors and thank her for her years of dedication to CSCD, Webb County, and the community.



## Jesus Olvera III

Jesus Olvera III was presented with an award by Commissioner Wawi Tijerina for winning the Sheriff's local boxing tournament for his age group of 13-14 years of age 85 lbs. Jesus qualified for the Ringside World Championships in Independence, Missouri that took place from July 28 – August 2 at the Independence Event Center. Eight fighters were in his category and Jesus won the World Title. Jesus is a participant at the **Larga Vista Community Center** and his parents are very active volunteers.



## Saito School Champs

The Webb County Commissioners Court proudly recognized the achievements of Jimena Elizondo and Ernesto Saucedo. They are both enrolled in Saito School of Martial Arts and recently took 1st and 2nd place in a Taekwondo Tournament. This has qualified them to move on up to compete nationally and, soon, internationally. Jimena won the gold medal in her tournament in Muju, Korea.



## Laredo Main Street

Judge Danny Valdez and the Commissioners Court gave Laredo Main Street special recognition for recently receiving recent awards on the 2014 Nationally accredited Main Program, 2014 Texas accredited Main Program, Certification for "El Centro de Laredo Farmers Market", and Certification for "Go Texas" Program. Laredo Main Street's mission is to preserve the downtown heritage by fostering community pride and involvement. Activities held by Laredo Main Street include the annual UETA Jamboozie, the El Centro de Laredo Farmer's Market, and the SOL Masquerade Ball.



## Blood Drive

The Webb County Administrative Services Department held a blood drive in conjunction with the South Texas Blood & Tissue Center. The Administrative Services Department wishes to thank all the departments who answered the call for help and donated. For more information visit: [www.southtexasblood.org](http://www.southtexasblood.org)

## Back To School Roundup

In anticipation of the 2014-2015 school year, the Webb County Sheriff's Office distributed essential school supplies and backpacks to 150 underprivileged children living in the Laredo and Webb County area during the Sheriff's **"Back To School" Fest**. "It's truly heartwarming to see the smiles on the faces of these children," said Sheriff Martin Cuellar. "To know that we are able to assist in sending them back to school prepared is a rewarding experience." The children not only received school supplies, but were also given vouchers for haircuts. And during the distribution, the children were also treated to pizza, popcorn, soft drinks and music.



It was a busy summer for kids at the **Santa Teresita Community Center**. The center held several camps this summer along with a radKIDS course, and a basketball camp hosted by Latin Hall of Fame Inductee Tom "The Bomb" Trevino. Texas Department of Transportation instructed parents on how to properly fasten their kids and provided them with brand new child seats as well. As summer came to a closing the Colonias children received free backpacks and supplies, a total of 150 backpacks were distributed.



**Webb County Judge Danny Valdez Community First, Guerra Communications, IBC and AEP** teamed up to present and award the local school districts with a financial contribution. During a press conference on August 14th, the United Independent School District and the Laredo Independent School District received a donation of over \$7,500 each for the purchasing of school supplies. The funds donated were collected and granted with the purpose of providing needy students in our community with all the supplies and resources necessary to allow them to focus on their education at their fullest capacity. Judge Valdez spoke out about the importance and meaning behind this humanitarian collaboration, "Our students shouldn't have to focus or worry on what materials they are missing to get through each day of school, our teachers need not focus on which students have or don't have enough supplies. The main thing here is education, and that is why we have chosen to come together, to make sure that these children have all the tools to reach their goals."



The children from the **Rio Bravo Activity Center** had a fun-filled summer. The summer days included doing activities and playing at the Imaginarium, a visit from Dino Children's Speech & Language, movie night with the US Border Patrol and culminating in a Back to School party.

