

# #BayCityTx4U | Newsletter

www.cityofbaycity.org \* 1901 5th St. Bay City Texas 77414 \* 979-245-2137

## National Night Out is Tuesday, October 7, 2025



### Bay City Police Department Invites You to National Night Out

The Bay City Police Department is excited to announce that National Night Out will be celebrated on Tuesday, October 7th, 2025. This community-building campaign promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie, with the goal of making our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live.

National Night Out is about more than a single event—it's about neighbors coming together, building stronger relationships with law enforcement, and fostering a sense of unity that strengthens the entire community.

Across the country, millions of neighbors will participate in block parties, cookouts, and other neighborhood events, all with one common goal: to make our communities safer and stronger.

We encourage residents to take part by hosting an event in your own neighborhood. Whether it's a simple gathering in your driveway, a block party with your neighbors, or an activity at a local park, every event makes a difference in building trust and connection.

If you are interested in hosting a National Night Out event in your neighborhood and would like to register with the Bay City Police Department, please contact our Crime Prevention Team at 979-245-8500. Registration ensures that officers and city representatives can stop by, visit with your group, and show their support for your community.

Together, we can continue to build a Bay City where safety, unity, and community pride thrive. Let's make October 7th a night to remember!

### The Great Silly String Battle Returns!

Kick off National Night Out with laughter and community spirit at the Bay City Public Library! Back by popular demand, the Great Silly String Battle invites kids, families, and even grown-ups to join in the colorful fun. This lighthearted tradition is more than just silly string—it's a way to bring neighbors together, celebrate community partnerships, and set the tone for an evening focused on safety and connection.

If your neighborhood isn't hosting a block party, come to the Library from 5 -6 pm and join the Bay City Police Department, first responders, and neighbors for the kickoff celebration and fun activities.

National Night Out is all about strengthening bonds between residents and law enforcement. What better way to start than with a playful battle that leaves everyone smiling?





## The Mayor's Musings

As your Mayor, I'm honored to lead our vibrant community, and I enjoy sharing updates on city progress. On a more personal note, I'd like to share something a little different. Beyond just official business, I believe it's important to reflect on the broader principles and personal philosophies that guide us as individuals and as a community.

In this spirit, I'd like to share a few personal quotes that have resonated with me throughout my life, along with some reflections on what they mean to me. These thoughts are not meant to represent any City policies or political agenda. Instead, they are simply an opportunity for shared reflection, encouraging us all to consider how we can contribute to a better Bay City and a better world, a little at a time.

### Welcome to... "The Mayor's Musings"



**"It has been said that people are the problem; I believe people are the solution."**

From time to time, it's important for us to pause and reflect on the world we live in and more importantly, the way we treat one another.

We often hear conversations about how divided the world has become. But the truth is, the world is made up of people like us. And when we see so much division, anger, or misunderstanding, it's a sign that we, as individuals and communities, have work to do.

Somewhere along the way, we've forgotten how to truly listen, how to disagree respectfully, and how to come together even when we see things differently.

We've become too quick to judge and too slow to understand. Too often, it becomes "us versus them," instead of all of us, working together. But it doesn't have to stay this way. The change we need starts with something simple: kindness. Respect. A willingness to listen.

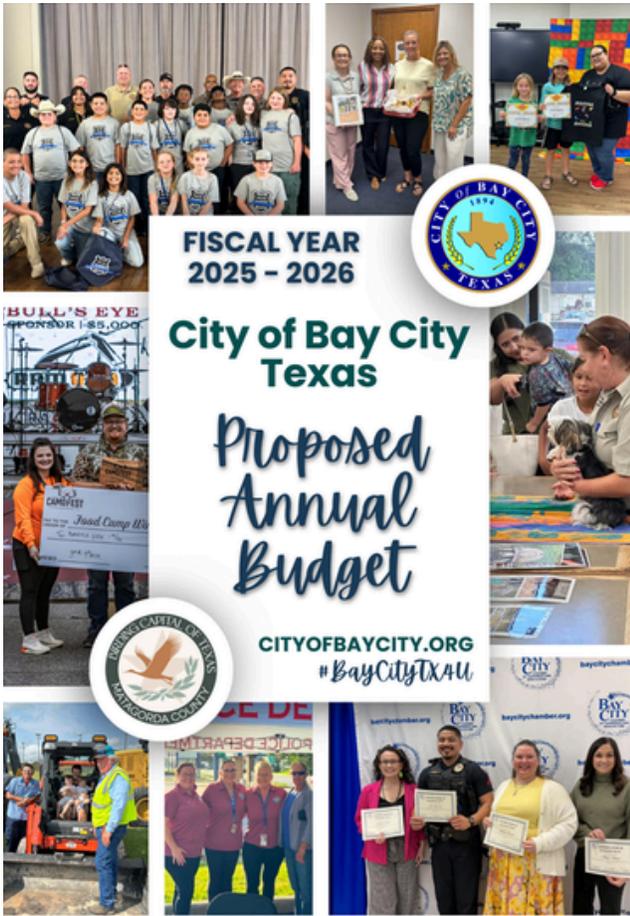
Let's bring back critical thinking, empathy, and good old-fashioned common sense. Let's remind ourselves that we're more alike than we are different—and that everyone deserves to be treated with dignity.

At the end of the day, most of us want the same things: peace, purpose, connection, and a better future. If we start treating others the way we'd like to be treated, imagine what we could build together.

**"Standing in the garage doesn't make one a car, sitting in a pew doesn't make one a Christian."**

Many of us attend places of worship seeking peace, guidance, and strength. But what happens after we leave those doors? Do we carry that spirit of Jesus Christ's compassion, kindness, and growth with us into our daily lives? It's not just about where we sit on Sunday mornings, but how we choose to walk through the rest of the week. It reminds us that true goodness comes from how we live, how we treat people, and how we hold ourselves accountable.

This is an invitation, for all of us, to pause and take a look in the mirror. Let's reflect on our values, our beliefs, and how we show up in the world. Let's make space to grow, to understand, and to lift each other up. Together, we can help make Bay City, and our shared world, a better place for everyone.



## Join Us in Shaping Bay City's Future: Attend the Budget Public Hearing

Want a say in how Bay City spends your tax dollars? The City Council invites all residents to the Public Hearing for the Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget and Five-Year Capital Improvement Program on Tuesday, September 16, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers (1901 5th Street)

This is your chance to review how funds are planned for day-to-day services and long-term projects – from roads and parks to utilities and more.

Budget documents are available on the City's website and at the City Secretary's Office

By attending, you help make Bay City stronger, more transparent, and more responsive. See you at City Hall!

## City of Bay City Holidays

Sep. 1 (Labor Day)  
 Nov. 11 (Veterans' Day)  
 Nov. 27-28 (Thanksgiving)  
 Dec. 25-26 (Christmas)  
 Dec. 31 (New Year's Eve)

## Understanding Utility Billing

Check out our website! [www.CityofBayCity.org](http://www.CityofBayCity.org)  
 The Utility Billing web pages provide a plethora of information! From payment options to frequently asked questions, it's the first place to go to find your answers! Just a few highlights below:

### Payment Options

Your water bill is due on the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month. The City provides multiple options for paying your bill.

- **Pay Online** on the website. Fees are applicable.
- **Call automated phone system** at 979-245-2322, click option #1. You will need to input your account number and your street number address.
- **Bank Draft Autopayment** – Complete the online form and upload your blank voided check. Your payment will be drafted on the due date with no fees.
- **In Person** – We love to see you! Our office and drive-through are open Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, except holidays.
- **Night Box** – When our office is closed, you can drop off your payment (NO CASH) in our night box, located next to our drive-through window.
- **Mail** – Important to remember, mail is S-L-O-W, be sure to mail your payment early to avoid late fees.

**Payment Extensions** – A payment extension allows the customer to extend their payment date to the 5<sup>th</sup> of the following month. The payment includes the current bill, plus overdue amount.

### Eye On Water

Pictorial instructions to download the app to your phone. The app enables you to view your water usage and set usage alerts.

### Other Utility Billing Forms

Need to add a second occupant? Update your phone number or email address? Start your irrigation meter? Cancel your bank draft? Update your trash service? Apply for sewer credit?

### Billing

How does the City bill my account? This web page provides an illustration of the residential billing rates and a billing example.

### Frequently Asked Questions

General questions often asked to the Utility Billing department.



## Stay Safe this October: Fire Prevention & Halloween Safety Tips

Dan Shook, Fire Marshal  
City of Bay City

The City of Bay City is proudly observing October as Fire Prevention Month, with a focused effort on Fire Prevention Week, running from October 5-11.

This year, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has announced the theme for Fire Prevention Week as "Charge into Fire Safety™: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home." This timely theme highlights the growing importance of understanding and safely handling devices powered by lithium-ion batteries. These batteries are found in a wide array of everyday items, including your smartphones, tablets, laptops, e-bikes, and various power tools. When not used correctly or if they become damaged, these batteries can pose a serious fire risk.

The Bay City Volunteer Fire Department and the Bay City Fire Marshal's Office, in collaboration with the NFPA, urges all residents to take a moment to learn about the safe use, charging, and disposal of these common devices. Here are some vital tips to help you "Charge into Fire Safety":

- **Buy Listed Products:** When purchasing any product that uses a lithium-ion battery, always look for a safety certification mark from a nationally recognized testing laboratory, such as UL, ETL, or CSA, on the packaging. This indicates the product meets established safety standards.
- **Charge Devices Safely:** Always use the charging cables that came with the product and follow the manufacturer's instructions carefully. Avoid overcharging your devices, and never charge them under pillows, on beds, or on couches, as this can trap heat.
- **Recycle Responsibly:** It's crucial not to throw lithium-ion batteries in your regular trash or recycling bins. Improper disposal can lead to fires. Instead, recycle your devices and batteries at a designated battery recycling location. You can find a safe recycling spot near you by visiting [www.call2recycle.org](http://www.call2recycle.org).

You can find even more valuable resources and in-depth information on the NFPA website to help keep your home and family safe from fire hazards.



As October also brings the excitement of Halloween, the Bay City Volunteer Fire Department and the Bay City Fire Marshal's Office wants to share some important safety advice to ensure everyone has a fun and safe holiday, free from fire risks:

- **Costume Considerations:** When choosing or creating costumes, opt for materials labeled flame-resistant. If possible, use non-toxic makeup instead of masks, as masks can sometimes obstruct a child's vision, especially when crossing streets or navigating steps. Consider adding reflective tape or glow sticks to costumes and treat bags to enhance visibility for motorists.
- **Decorating with Care:** Keep all Halloween decorations, especially those made of flammable materials like dried flowers or crepe paper, far away from open flames, heat sources, and light bulbs.
- **Pumpkin Safety:** For illuminating your jack-o'-lanterns, choose battery-operated lights or glow sticks as a safer alternative to traditional candles. If you do use candles, place them on a stable, non-flammable surface, away from anything that could catch fire, and ensure they are never left unattended.
- **Home Fire Preparedness:** Halloween is a perfect reminder to test your home's smoke alarms and ensure they are in working order. Also, review and practice your family's home fire escape plan.

Let's work together to make this October a safe and enjoyable month for everyone in our community!



## Community Service Providers for Bay City Municipal Court

Bay City Municipal Court is updating its process for community service providers. All organizations interested in being on our official contact list and having community service hours accepted and approved must now complete an application process. A requirement of this new process is that all providers must have a valid 501(c)(3) on file with the court. If your organization is a 501(c)(3) and you would like to be added to our community service contact list, please visit our webpage to fill out and submit the new Community Service Provider Agreement. <https://www.cityofbaycity.org/210/Community-Service>  
For any questions, please contact our Court Administrator, Katy Plunkett, directly at 979-323-1647.



## Summer Blues: ArtWalk 2025 Brings Hundreds Together for a Celebration of the Arts

The Bay City Civic Center was alive with color, music, and creativity on Saturday, August 23rd, as the community gathered for the 2025 MC ArtWalks: Summer Blues. The event drew an estimated 400–500 attendees, to enjoy a day dedicated to supporting and celebrating the arts.

With 23 vendors in attendance, guests had the chance to browse and purchase unique works from local and regional artists. The variety of exhibits showcased the talent within the community, ranging from fine art to handcrafted goods, offering something for every visitor to enjoy.

Entertainment was a highlight throughout the day. Live music by Man of Sky set the atmosphere, while art cars provided by Houston Art Car Klub and a mesmerizing aerial dance performance by Bambi La Bomba captivated audiences. One of the most talked-about moments came during the speed painting challenge, which kept the crowd on the edge of their seats as participants rushed to create an image randomly selected within 15 minutes. In a thrilling surprise, a guest speed painter, The RVN took the stage and completed a striking portrait of Stevie Ray Vaughan in under six minutes, earning enthusiastic applause from onlookers.

Families and young artists were not left out of the fun. The Bay City Public Library hosted the Kids Imagine Area, where children were encouraged to paint their own artwork and enjoy face painting, adding an interactive and creative element especially for the youngest attendees.

The Art League's sip and paint activity gave attendees a chance to create their own masterpieces, while delicious food, wine, and desserts added to the festive experience.

By the end of the evening, one thing was clear, MC ArtWalks: Summer Blues 2025 was a resounding success. Beyond the fun and excitement, the event fulfilled its deeper purpose: bringing people together in support of the arts and advancing cultural initiatives within the community.

Organizers expressed their gratitude to all vendors, performers, and attendees who made the day possible. The ArtWalk has solidified itself as a cherished tradition for our community, and with the continued enthusiasm and support, its future looks brighter than ever.





Matagorda Youth Leadership session 3 kicked off in August. Led by Judge Seiferman and CDC director Jessica Russell this program aims to educate and elevate our area's juniors and seniors. They cover all parts of government, industry, medical, safety, and. Economic development. The class runs throughout the school year and ends with a graduation ceremony in May.

# Santa's Fly-In Storytime

Presented By  
 Bay City Regional Airport, Bay City Public Library & Van Vleck HS Theatre

Save  
 The  
 Date

December 11, 2025

Bay City Regional Airport  
 3598 FM 2540 North

Admission is completely free, so  
 bring your entire family!

Join us for a story, cookies and  
 milk, and pictures with Santa.





## Bay City Parks & Recreation: Stay Active with Our Senior Wellness Programs!

Bay City Parks & Recreation offers fitness programs for residents aged 55 and older. The long-running Senior-Cize program, led by Carolyn Irvine, is in its tenth year and is designed to improve strength, endurance, and mobility.

This free, low-impact fitness class meets at the USO Service Center (2105 Avenue M) every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. The program includes fall-prevention drills, upper-body exercises, and gentle cardio. Participants can choose to exercise standing or seated, making the class safe and accessible for all fitness levels.

No registration is required. As with any new exercise program, participants should consult their physician before starting.



## NEW Senior Wellness Programs!

Looking for a new way to stay active? Bay City Parks and Recreation is partnering with the Area Agency on Aging to offer two free wellness programs for adults 55 and up at the USO Building, located at 2105 Avenue M.

Join Tai Chi for Health to improve your balance, strength, and mobility with gentle Sun-style Tai Chi. The class runs from 1:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, October 21st and 28th, as well as on Tuesdays and Thursdays from November 6th to November 20th.

You can also try Bingocize, a fun program that combines bingo with gentle exercise and health education to boost physical strength and brain power. It follows the same schedule as the Tai Chi class.

Registration is required:  
In-person at the Parks Admin Office (1209 10th St)  
Online at [cityofbaycity.org/190/Parks-Recreation](http://cityofbaycity.org/190/Parks-Recreation)  
By phone at 979-323-1660

## Bay City's HomeTown Christmas 2025

Bay City Parks and Recreation is gearing up for the annual HomeTown Christmas Celebration, a month-long series of events designed to bring the community together. This year's festivities are bigger than ever with exciting new additions.

Join in the holiday fun with events like the Lighted Christmas Parade on December 4, and the Christmas in the Park Celebration on December 6. New events include the Jingle Jog, a fun run on December 13, and a Movie in the Park screening of "The Star" on December 19.

The celebration also includes the popular Wilderness Trail of Lights, which runs from December 6 to January 1, with a hayride available from December 6 to 14. Local schools, non-profits, government agencies, and businesses are also invited to decorate a site along the trail.





## Pavilion and Park Rentals

Parks and Recreation offers pavilions, gazebos, and park facility rentals. These spaces provide ideal settings for family gatherings, birthday parties, and community events, giving residents and visitors the perfect spot to celebrate or relax outdoors.

***Amistad Park Pavilion*** features a splash pad, playground, basketball court, GaGa ball pit, corn hole, BBQ grills, and a rentable pavilion.

***Community Park*** offers pickleball courts, a basketball court, Joe Davis Baseball Field, and a pavilion coming soon!

***Duncan Park and Pavilion*** includes a pavilion, BBQ pit, swings, playground, basketball and volleyball courts, horseshoes, and restrooms.

***Liberty Park Gazebo*** features a historic 1905 gazebo, picnic tables, and grills.

***Le Tulle Park*** offers the DreamScape Playground, picnic areas, three pavilions, a lake, disc golf course, birding stand, and plenty of shady Live Oaks.

***Riverside Park*** with the Tejas and Colorado Cove Pavilions; camping, fishing, kayaking, RV sites, trails, and family-friendly amenities.

***Sports Complex*** includes softball fields, a football field, basketball pavilion, and playground swings.

***MOPAC Train Depot*** with meeting room, kitchen, patio, and seating for up to 50 guests.

***USO Building*** with auditorium, stage, meeting rooms, and kitchen, accommodates 400 guests.



## Go Wild! at Riverside Park!

Parks & Recreation invites residents to Go Wild! and discover the natural beauty and recreational opportunities available at Riverside Park.

### ***Go Wild! with the Riverside Rangers***

Join the Riverside Rangers for free outdoor adventures on the first Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. at the Tejas Pavilion. Discover the diverse plants and wildlife of Riverside Park.

For information, call 979-245-0450.

### ***Go Wild! with Fishing 101 @ Riverside Park***

Learn to fish with certified instructors. This free class is perfect for beginners of all ages and is held on the 2nd Saturday of every month at 10 a.m. at Riverside Park, 7330 FM 2668.

Learn how to cast, handle fish, and more.

### ***Calling all Seniors – Let's Go Fishing!***

If you're 55 or older, join a free guided fishing trip on the 2nd Wednesday of every month from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Riverside Park. All equipment is provided. A fishing license is required if you were born after January 1, 1931.

For information on these programs, 979-323-1660.

## Riverside Park Yearly Passes!

Snag a yearly pass for just \$100! This deal covers one carload of fun, sun, boating, and fishing at the park for a whole year. The ultimate ticket to adventure!

[www.campriverside.org](http://www.campriverside.org) 979-245-0340



## Movies in the Park is BACK!

Bay City Parks & Recreation invites you to cozy up under the stars for FREE family-friendly movie nights this fall & winter! Bring your blankets, lawn chairs, family & friends – we'll bring the big screen.

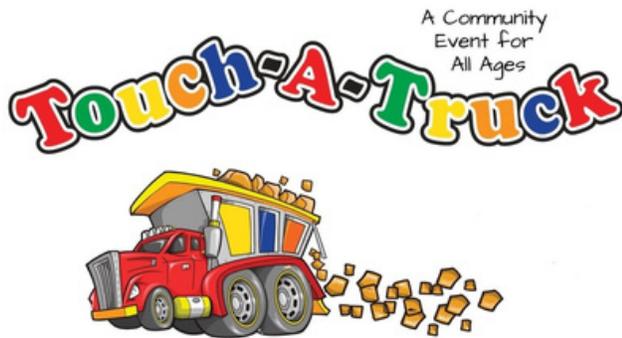
### 2025–2026 Lineup

- Oct 24, 7p – Frankenweenie | Riverside Park
- Nov 14, 6:30p – How to Train Your Dragon | Le Tulle
- Dec 19, 6:30p – The Star | Riverside Park
- Jan 23, 6:30p – Secret Life of Pets | USO
- Feb 20, 6:30p – Moana | Le Tulle
- Mar 13, 7p – Minions | Riverside Park

FREE admission

Hot cocoa & popcorn – \$1 each

“It’s more than just a movie – it’s about bringing our community together.” – Kelly Penewitt



## Get Ready for Big Trucks & Big Smiles!

This is your chance to explore and climb aboard a variety of impressive vehicles, including police cars, fire trucks, public works vehicles, and more.

The event will be held on Saturday, September 13, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Sports Complex at 2414 FM 3156, Bay City.

A special Sensory-Friendly Hour is available from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., with no horns or flashing lights.

Admission is free for all ages. For safety, please remember to wear closed-toe shoes and ensure children are supervised by an adult.

If you have a vehicle you'd like to feature or are a food truck vendor, contact [parcs-rec@cityofbaycity.org](mailto:parcs-rec@cityofbaycity.org) or 979-323-1660. You can also register your vehicle online at [cityofbaycity.org/489/Touch-A-Truck](http://cityofbaycity.org/489/Touch-A-Truck).



## Survive the Scare at Bay City's Zombie Fun Run!

Get ready for a frighteningly fun adventure at the 2K & 5K Zombie Fun Run on Saturday, October 18, 2025, at Riverside Park in Bay City. The 2K kicks off at 9:00 a.m., followed by the 5K at 10:00 a.m.

Runners are encouraged to dress in their best zombie, monster, or biohazard costumes as they race through the park's rugged wilderness trail.

Registration is \$40 per person, with an early bird price of \$35 if you sign up before October 8.

There's a \$5 discount for seniors (55+), military, and children ages 5-12, while kids under 5 can run for free.

All participants will receive a t-shirt and medal, with trophies awarded to 1st and 2nd place finishers in designated divisions.

To register, visit [cityofbaycity.org](http://cityofbaycity.org).

Volunteers are also needed to help out—if you're interested, you can email [parcs-rec@cityofbaycity.org](mailto:parcs-rec@cityofbaycity.org).

Don't miss your chance to outrun the undead!

For more information call 979-323-1660

Scan to register





The Bay City Public Library will host its annual Trunk or Treat on October 25th from 3:00pm - 5:00pm. Families can enjoy decorated trunks, costumes, and candy in a safe, festive setting. Community members interested in hosting a trunk are encouraged to contact the library to reserve a space at 979-245-6931.



ART | LIVE MUSIC | FOOD | DANCE



# DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS 2025

BAY CITY, TX



Presented by:

MATAGORDA • PALACIOS • SARGENT

Visit **BAY CITY TX**  
Where Country Meets The Coast!



**DOUBLE O ENTERTAINMENT**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2025**

**& SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2025**



The 7th Annual Día de los Muertos Festival takes place Friday, October 31, 2025, at the Bay City Civic Center from 7p.m. to 11p.m., featuring live performances by ConXzion, La Fiebre & music by Double O Entertainment! The celebration continues Saturday, November 1, 2025, at Le Tulle Park from 4p.m. to 10p.m., with performances by Jennyy B, Mike Gonzalez & The Iconiczz, Double O Entertainment, Danzas Folklóricas de Solei, & Lucky Joe our headliner!



**ConXzion**



**LA FIEBRE**



**LUCKY JOE**  
CON DIOS PRIMERO  
TOUR 2025



**JENNY B**



**MIKE GONZALEZ & THE ICONICZZ**

#BayCityTX4U

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