



Riverside, Texas est. 1872

October 2023



Your flower is the Marigold

Your October Birthday Trivia

You share your month with some cool people! Jimmy Carter, Julie Andrews, Mahatma Gandhi, Kelly Ripa, Kate Winslet, Toni Braxton, Margaret Thatcher, Marie Osmond, Evander Holyfield, Mickey Mantle, Snoop Dogg, Shaggy and Henry Winkler. "aaaaaaaaaay"

Did ya know? 10-1-1908 the Model-T went on sale for the first time. On 10-4-1957 the "Space Age" began with Sputnik being launched by Soviet Russia. Martin Luther King, jr became the youngest recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize on 10-14-1964 and he donated his \$54,000 prize money to the Civil Rights movement. The shoot out at the O.K. Corral in Tombstone, Az occurred on 10-26-1881. Finally, on 10-30-1938 Orson Welles and his Mercury Players broadcast "The War of The Worlds" and panicked millions of Americans who thought it was real.

Have a safe, super, spooky October birthday, y'all!!



Your birthstones are the Opal and Pink Tourmaline



National Night Out October 3, 2023, from 7-9pm



You're Invited!!! Where: Outside Riverside City Hall and Riverside VFD at Walker Street / FM 980

When: October 3, 2023 from 7-9pm

Activities: Dunk Tank, Children's Christmas Ornament Decoration Station, Face Painting, ChillOut Shaved Ice, Children's activities with the fire fighters, see and touch the emergency vehicles!

Participants: City of Riverside, Riverside VFD, Thomas Lake VFD, Dodge VFD, Riverside Baptist Church, Riverside Global Methodist Church, Walker County EMS, Sheriff's Dept and Pct 3 Constable, Texas DPS, Crocket Air Evac, MidCoast Medical Center -Trinity, Carolina Creek Christian Camp, Daisy's Café, Frank's Taco Station, Tallent Sausage, Riverside Bank, Lone Star Commissary.

Come on Out and Meet Your Neighbors and First Responders!

!VOTE! Mayor's Monthly Message !VOTE!

Sample ballots for the **November 7, 2023 general election** can be found at www.co.walker.tx.us . Your deadline to register to vote is October 10th www.votetexas.gov . Early voting is October 23 through November 3 Mon-Fri at the Walker County Storm Shelter. Check the Walker County website, above, for times. Let your voice be heard.

God Bless America!

riversidemayor@windstream.net or riversidetx@windstream.net

Remember your sewer and garbage are separate entities from your water department. Sewer and garbage must go through Riverside City Hall whether you have Riverside Special Utilities District or Shorewood Forest water. If you need a trash cart or a small dumpster to clean out the garage or a roll-off dumpster for bigger projects, call us and ask. We can get it scheduled for you.

Next Regular City Council meetings are Tuesday, October 10th and November 14th at 6:00 pm, here at City Hall. Workshops are usually at 5:30 prior to the meeting. If you wish to add something to the meeting agenda *or speak on an agenda item*, please contact City Hall no later than **noon October 3rd for the October meeting or November 7th for the November meeting**. If you'd like to be recognized to speak on any subject you'd like during the Public Comment portion of the meeting, please arrive 10 minutes early to sign up. **** You must sign up to be recognized to speak. ** Forms available on the podium at sign in.** The meeting decorum ordinance is also available on the podium. Agendas are always posted at the Riverside Post Office and at City Hall. You can also call city hall at [936-594-2520](tel:936-594-2520) or email riversidetx@windstream.net and we can send one to you. Agendas are available after 3pm the Friday prior to the scheduled meeting.

All are welcome to respectfully observe your city government at work.

City Business

Correction- Last month we prematurely posted that the council had passed a building moratorium. This has not happened yet.

∞ The City Council has adopted a building and development code. All new construction must contact city hall prior to work being done. The code is available on the city website.

- **Remember that you MUST contact City Hall for all your dumpster, garbage / trash removal needs. If you live within the city limits, you may not use any other garbage / dumpster companies due to the city's contractual obligations.**
- **Faith Baptist Church** meets every second Saturday at the Riverside bank and gives out a free meal. Pastor Shane started this to give back to the community. They start at 11:00am and stay until about 1:00pm. It is free.
- Please take a few minutes to go to our website, www.cityofriversidetx.com and set up your online account. Whether you choose to make your payments online, set up auto draft or not make any payments online at all, setting up your account will allow you to receive a text message and / or email once the monthly billing is complete. It is free to set up your account.
- **ALWAYS CALL 811** before you do any digging. Even fencing!
- **Littering is against the law** in Texas, and you can be fined up to \$500 for trash less than or equal to five pounds or five gallons. Repeat the offense, and you could face a fine of up to \$2,000 and 180 days in jail.



The current English name *Halloween* traces back to medieval Christianity. The word *hallow* is derived from the Middle and Old English words for *holy*. In those days, the Christian holiday we know as All Saints' Day was called All Hallows' Day, and the day before, when an evening mass was held, was All Hallows' Eve. That name eventually got shortened to Halloween.

The ancient Gaelic festival of Samhain, which occurred on November 1 but kicked off the evening before, is considered the earliest known root of our secular Halloween traditions. It marked a pivotal time of year when seasons changed, but more importantly, observers also believed the boundary between this world and the next became especially thin, enabling them to connect with the dead. This is also where the history of Halloween gains its "haunted" connotations.

With the Christian celebration of All Saints' Day came All Hallows' Eve, or Halloween, on October 31st.

As the Roman holiday spread to Christianized areas, traditions merged with local cultures, including Celtic communities that formerly celebrated Samhain, giving rise to Christian Halloween traditions like jack-o-lanterns, bonfires, and costumes. The early pagan holiday of Samhain involved a lot of ritualistic ceremonies to connect to spirits, as the Celts were polytheistic. While there isn't a lot of detail known about these celebrations, many believe the Celts celebrated in costume (granted, they were likely as simple as animal hides) as a disguise against ghosts, lit jack-o-lanterns, and enjoyed special feasts.

Over time, as Christianity took over and the pagan undertones of the holiday were lessened.

The Irish custom of lighting jack-o-lanterns to ward away evil spirits came to have a Christian-themed allegory attached to it: A character named Stingy Jack outsmarts the Devil and avoids Hell, but his sinful dealings keep his soul out of Heaven. Instead, his soul roams the Earth, lighting his path with an ember held in a carved radish.

Please check with your local Churches for family friendly Halloween events! Some have trunk or treats or Fall Festivals. Whatever you decide to do please watch for the kiddos on 10-31 and HAVE FUN!

Mayor LeMaire, Stormy and Jeri