



the Breeze

Official news from the City of **portland**
of possibilities.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Adult Coloring

Bell-Whittington Public Library

Wed., Jan. 3, 6:00 p.m.

For details, call 777.4560.

Mystery Book Club

Bell-Whittington Public Library

Thu., Jan 4, 6:30 p.m.

For details, call 777.4560.

Portland Farmers Market

Joe Burke Pavilion

(2003 Billy G. Webb Dr.)

Sat., Jan. 6, 9:00 a.m.-Noon

For details, call 777.4670.

Portland Opry

Portland Community Center

Thu., Jan. 11, 7:00 p.m.

(Doors open at 6:00 p.m.)

For details, call 777.4670.

Makerspace Event- Valentine Mesh Wreath

Bell-Whittington Public Library

Thu., Jan. 18, 6:00 p.m.

& Sat., Jan. 20, 11:00 a.m.

For details, call 777.4560.

(Suggested donation: \$15)

Registration required

Classics & Coffee

Bell-Whittington Public Library

Fri., Jan. 19, 10:00 a.m.

For details, call 777.4560.

(Title: *Witness for the Prosecution*)



THE WALL THAT HEALS COMING TO PORTLAND THIS SPRING

The Wall That Heals, a replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, along with a mobile education center, is coming to Portland March 1-4, on the grounds of the Portland Community Center, 2000 Billy G. Webb Dr. The exhibit will be open 24 hours a day and is free to the public. *The Wall That Heals* honors the more than three million Americans who served in the U.S. armed forces in the Vietnam War, and bears the names of the more than 58,000 men and women who died in Vietnam.

The replica wall is displayed in a chevron shape, like the original memorial in Washington, D.C. It is constructed of powder-coated aluminum, supported by an aluminum frame and made up of 24 individual panels, each containing six columns of names.

The names on *The Wall That Heals* replicate the names on the original memorial. As on The Wall, the names are listed alphabetically

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LIBRARY TO HOLD "TAKE YOUR CHILD TO THE LIBRARY DAY"

Saturday, Feb. 4, is "Take Your Child to the Library Day." This is part of an initiative that began in Connecticut in 2011 to encourage families to take their children to the local library. It quickly spread around the nation. The event highlights the importance of a library to the local community and raises awareness of the services and programs offered to children. If your child hasn't been to the library yet, this is a great opportunity to visit...and if he or she has been to the library, this is a great time to come back. **Magician Cody Fisher will perform at 11:00 a.m.**

The event is free and open to everyone. Library cards will be available with a valid government-issued ID and proof of current address. Parents can even register their kids for a library card. The Bell-Whittington Library is located at 2400 Memorial Parkway. For more details, call 361.777.0921.

CITY OF PORTLAND
1900 Billy G. Webb Drive
Portland, Texas 78374
Phone: (361) 777-4500
Fax: (361) 777-4501
Comments or Questions:
webmaster@portlandtx.com

THE WALL continued...

by day of casualty. Beginning at the center/apex, the names start on the East Wall (right-hand side) working their way out to the end of that wing, picking up again at the far end of the West Wall (left-hand side) and working their way back in to the center/apex. Thus, the beginning and ending of the conflict are joined at the center, signifying an epoch in American history.

During the Vietnam era (Aug. 5, 1964-May 7, 1975), 2.7 million Americans served on active duty in Vietnam. The number of U.S. service men and women killed was 58,148, while 304,000 were wounded. Although the percentage of U.S. troops killed was similar to other wars, the number of wounded was 300 percent higher than in World War II.

FATHER/DAUGHTER DANCE, FEB. 9

The 9th Annual Father/Daughter Dance happens **Friday, Feb. 9, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.** The '80's Night theme means songs from some of the biggest stars and groups of the decade will dominate the playlist, as well as popular favorites from today. Both dads and daughters are encouraged to wear attire inspired by the decade, but it's not mandatory.

This year's dance promises to be the best yet. Food and karaoke will be served in the Community Center ballroom; while the dance portion of the event will be in the gym. The fun photo booth and sundae bar—both popular favorites—return this year. Photos by a professional photographer will be available at an additional cost.

All school-age girls are invited, along with their father, grandfather, uncle, brother, or other father figure. Tickets are \$25 per father/daughter duo and \$10 for each additional child, and can be purchased at the Portland Community Center and all Kidz Klub sites.

The Father/Daughter Dance takes place at the Portland Community Center, 2000 Billy G. Webb Drive. For details and ticket information, call 361.777.4670.

RESIDENTS CAUTIONED ABOUT VENTS



With post-Harvey roof repairs in full swing, the Portland Fire Department warns residents about roof vents. If improperly installed, covered over, removed, broken off, or disconnected, vents can do damage or impact health.

The best way to know if the vents are installed in their proper locations is to walk around the house before the roofing work begins, making a list (or taking photos) of the vents and their locations. At the end of the project, recheck the list and/or photos. During a roofing job debris can fall into a vent, so be sure to turn on all the fans and listen for any debris rattling in the piping.

Residents should know to be particularly careful about vents from natural gas appliances or furnaces. If those vents are either covered up, disconnected, or improperly installed, carbon monoxide (CO) can build up. CO is colorless and odorless, so watch for warning signs such as headaches or flu-like symptoms. In emergency situations, the Portland Fire Department can respond and do a meter check for carbon monoxide build-up.

One of the most important types of vents to look for are plumbing stacks. These are PVC pipes that stick up through the roof and connect to toilets, showers, and sinks. While these vents don't typically get covered over, they can become disconnected. If that happens, sewer gases can be released into the attic and that could pose a health hazard.

Other vents to watch for are the dryer vent, bathroom vent, and kitchen vent. Talk to the contractor to ensure all vents are properly checked.

TRAFFIC SWITCH MAY AFFECT COMMUTE INTO CORPUS CHRISTI

Effective Dec. 28, 2017, northbound and southbound traffic on West Causeway Boulevard has been moved to the bridge over US 181 between Burluson Street and the Port of Corpus Christi as part of the Harbor Bridge Project. The traffic switch will include two-way traffic movement in this area, where it was previously configured for one-way traffic only. Traffic signs will assist with navigating motorists through the newly created route. **The traffic switch will remain in effect through April of 2020.**

Drivers should be aware of the lane closures, consider using alternate routes, follow all traffic control devices, and slow down in the work zones. For information about all current and upcoming lane closures related to the Harbor Bridge Project, visit HarborBridgeProject.com.