

December 2018

"Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in awhile, you could miss it" - Ferris Bueller

Serving With Pride

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Holiday Hours

Non-Emergency City of Alvin offices will be closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Likewise, offices will be closed New Years Eve and New Years Day.

Please remember that there will be no trash pick-up on Christmas Day and New Years Day. Pick-up will shift to the next day from the day of the holiday to the end of the week. Friday's collection will be on Saturday.

Alvin City Hall
216 West Sealy
Alvin, Texas 77511
281-388-4200

Office Hours:
Monday—Thursday
7:00 a.m. — 6:00 p.m.
www.alvin-tx.gov



Community Connection

Alvin's Municipal Court: A Bittersweet Transition

As the City of Alvin said a reluctant goodbye to long-time Municipal Court Judge, Donna Starkey, in September 2018, recognizing and celebrating her achievements throughout her decades-long service, they welcomed new Municipal Court Judge, Deanie King.

Judge King brings over 30 years of experience from private practice, to Municipal Court Judge, to District Attorney's Chief Juvenile Prosecutor, to Assistant DA and educator in the Law Enforcement Academy at Brazosport College.



"Judge King brings a depth of experience with her that will continue to provide our city with best-in-class, municipal court services. I've had the privilege of serving under Judge Starkey and am looking forward to continuing to bring innovative services to our citizens under Judge King," said Sonya Cates, Court Administrator for the City of Alvin.

Judge King's short and long-range plans for the municipal court include increasing efficiencies and effectiveness, adopting new technologies to enable paperless processing. She also envisions streamlining court dockets and the actual process for citizens when they come to court.

"Judge Starkey was an awesome mentor to me and to all the municipal court staff and Judge King is already continuing the mentoring me and the staff. We are fortunate to have Judge King and are looking forward to the continued opportunity to learn from her wealth of knowledge," said Cates, "We've won several awards and look forward to continuing to excel in our public awareness campaigns to increase the safety for all our citizens in Alvin."



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Spread the Joy!

Tis the season to spread the joy! For many, the Christmas Holiday season is full of celebrations, giving of gifts and family time. In the hustle and bustle of 'preparing' for all the gift-giving, remember there are many ways to give gifts to others right here in Alvin! Alvin Hope has numerous blessing box needs; look for Salvation Army's Red Kettle drive at area stores with local Alvin residents ringing the red bell, there are numerous local non-profits, local veterans, fire and police, local civic groups, and many local stores have opportunities to give to local citizens in need. In addition to those opportunities to share the joy of Christmas season, there are many ways to show kindness to fellow neighbors and community members in seemingly small ways such as being more thoughtful and courteous while driving on the road. What are some other ways you can help spread Christmas Cheer?

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Scam Alert!

Recently, scammers have been contacting residents in our area claiming to be "water testers" working with or for the City of Alvin and ask to enter the home to "test" the water. City of Alvin employees will NOT ask to enter your home to test water, and City of Alvin employees wear uniforms.



Be cautious about letting unknown persons into your home, answering questions about who lives in the home, etc. If you are contacted or are in doubt about someone who comes to your home, please contact the Alvin Police Department at (281) 388-4370.

16 Graduate from 2018 Citizens Academy

The Alvin City Council recognized the graduates of the 2018 City of Alvin Upfront Citizens Academy during the November 15 city council meeting. 16 members of the Alvin community graduated from this year's academy.

Over the course of six consecutive Monday evenings, Citizens Academy graduates participated in presentations from operational areas including: Administration and Finance, Police, Fire, EMS, Public Works, Economic Development, Parks and Recreation, Engineering, and the Alvin Convention and Visitors Bureau. In addition to learning how each department functions, graduates learned ways in which they can further become an active member of the community through serving on boards and commissions and volunteering for various City events.



Staff Spotlight

Sonya Cates

Municipal Court

Court Administrator

Length of time working for the City of Alvin:

4 years 4 months

Three things most people don't know about you: 1)

I pass out at the sight of blood, 2) I'm a very picky eater, and 3) I taught Sunday school for several years.

What would people be surprised if they knew: I

created and run a juvenile delinquent program for juvenile charges for over 8 years.

What is your Motto or personal mantra: *Dream it. Wish it. Do it.*

What have you always wanted to try but never have: *Snorkel (but I can't swim. LOL)*

