FIRE! From cooking to decorating, make fire safety a priority this winter

Late fall and winter are the busiest times for the fire department. Home heating, home cooking, and seasonal decorations are the culprits of this increase in fire calls, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), citing that half of all home fires occur from November through February each year.

“The first thing you can do to ensure your home and your family are protected is to check your smoke detectors,” Fire Marshal Justin Jurek said. “A good rule of thumb is to change the batteries whenever the time changes. Smoke detectors are the first line of defense in saving lives.”

Smoke detectors need to be checked to make sure they are working properly. Many people don’t realize that smoke detectors have a shelf life and can go bad within ten years. Both the Rosenberg Fire Department and Red Cross offer yearly smoke detector inspections, a great first step in fire protection.

While a working smoke detector helps save lives, prevention is key. Learning proper cooking, decorating, and heating safety can go a long way in keeping your home and family protected from potential fire hazards.

When using space heaters, be sure to plug them straight into the wall outlet and not into a power strip. Only plug in one heat-producing appliance per outlet, and be sure that it is positioned away from flammable objects such as curtains or furniture.

When cooking, turn off burners when not in use and NEVER put a wet or frozen turkey straight into a fryer.

Lastly, check cords and wires on holiday decorations. Your safety is the number one thing on our Christmas list!

Holiday Fire Safety Tips:

**Cooking or Frying:**
- Turn off burners when not in use
- Don’t use your turkey fryer on a wood deck or other flammable surface
- Never put a frozen turkey into the fryer
- Do not put a wet turkey into the fryer
- Turn handles on pans and cookware to avoid spilling or bumping into them
- Keep children away from the oven or fryer

**Decorating:**
- Replace lights with broken cords or loose bulb connections
- Check to see if decorations are for indoor or outdoor use only
- Choose flame resistant/flame retardant decorations
- Use clips instead of nails to hang lights
- Do not overload outlets or power-strips

Learn more by visiting rosenbergtx.gov/holiday-fire-safety or NFPA.org
Trash Pick-Up

Holiday

RepubSon Services will close for both Christmas on Tuesday, December 25, 2018, and New Year’s Day on Tuesday, January 1, 2019. That means trash services will move to the following day. Tuesday Bulky Item Pickup will move to Wednesday; Wednesday Residential Garbage Pickup will move to Thursday. Commercial account services will also move to the following day. See the schedule below to determine your trash pick-up date during the holiday service window.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>New Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/25</td>
<td>12/26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/26</td>
<td>12/27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/27</td>
<td>12/28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/28</td>
<td>12/29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/01</td>
<td>1/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/02</td>
<td>1/03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/03</td>
<td>1/04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/04</td>
<td>1/05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rosenberg Development Corporation (RDC) was created by election in 1995. It is a Type-B economic development corporation funded by a one-half cent sales tax. State law authorizes the RDC to engage in projects related to primary job creation. Primary jobs are jobs that infuse new dollars into the local economy by creating or selling a product or service that is ultimately exported to regional, state, national, or international markets. The RDC is comprised of a seven-director board. Four of the members are appointed by the Rosenberg City Council, and the remaining three members are City Councilors.

The RDC Board of Directors is made up of Ted Garcia, Chairperson; Teresa Bailey, Vice Chairperson; John Herne, Treasurer; Laurie Cook, Secretary; Mayor William T. Benton, Director; City Councilor Richard Olson, Director; and City Councilor Lisa Wallingford, Director.

The RDC has many current projects that continue the City’s positive trend of economic growth.

In 2018, the RDC assisted local business Benedetti Cabinetry extend storm sewer infrastructure across its property, which allowed the company to complete an on-site expansion of 54,750 square feet, nearly doubling its previous footprint of 61,000 square feet. Benedetti employs more than 300 people. Also in 2018, Bearden Investments started construction of three buildings in the Rosenberg Business Park. The first of those will house Century AC’s new warehouse/distribution center. Near the intersection of I-69 and FM 2218, the deed-restricted business park is a partnership with Fuller Realty and the City of Rosenberg, which extended water and sanitary sewer to the site in 2015. The RDC has also funded several completed and ongoing projects that improve accessibility to commercial developments and help generate increased sales tax revenue.

In 2016, the RDC completed the first phase of a parking lot in Historic Downtown Rosenberg. In 2015, The RDC committed $2.5 million over the course of ten years to facilitate construction of a 5,000-student Texas State Technical College campus in Rosenberg, a project that will strengthen the local workforce significantly. In 2013, the RDC recruited ALDI, Inc. to build their headquarters and distribution center in Rosenberg. ALDI invested more than $60 million into the local economy and created more than one hundred jobs. To learn more about the Rosenberg Development Corporation, visit rosenbergeodev.com.
On Monday, November 12, 2018, Jarret Nethery joined the Rosenberg Police Department as the new Assistant Chief. Nethery has worked in law enforcement for nearly 14 years and is no stranger to Rosenberg, where he began his career in 2005. From Rosenberg, Nethery moved on to the Fort Bend County Sheriff’s Office. The larger jurisdiction gave him an even greater opportunity for career growth, allowing him to work in many departments such as enforcement, detention, and investigations. “Working for the County offered me the opportunity to plug into different facets of law enforcement,” Nethery said. “But I always hoped to end up back in Rosenberg. I feel like I can bring back a lot of diverse experience to Rosenberg.”

Nethery grew up in the Houston area, attending Sam Houston State where he earned his bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice and his Master’s Degree in Criminal Justice with an emphasis in Leadership Management. He spent several years working on Federal Task Forces and has labored alongside the FBI, Homeland Security, and Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC). He is excited to put his leadership and training to use for Rosenberg as the City grows.