



# TXK PULSE

## Mayor's Message

One of the many advantages of serving as the Mayor of the City of Texarkana, Texas is the privilege of working with such talented and dedicated employees. This month of November, the city will honor our employees with an Employee Appreciate Luncheon at the Southwest Center. However, in all reality, a one-day event is not enough recognition for these hard-working public servants who give of themselves day after day to ensure that this city is beautiful, efficient, and one that we can all be proud to call "home". There are over 640 employees at the City of Texarkana, Texas and Texarkana Water Utilities who work tirelessly, at a myriad of positions, to make sure the people of Texarkana are well-cared-for. Often, we do not think of those who are fixing water lines, taking 911 calls, conducting fire inspections, providing birth and death certificates, or paying the city's bills until we need them, but today I would like to say "Thank You" to all of the great women and men who make our city work. You are appreciated!  
-Mayor Bob Bruggeman

## 15th Annual Bramlett Beans and Cornbread

Annual fundraiser event will take place on Thursday, December 5th, 2013 from 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. at the Southwest Community Center. Every year, former Mayor Bramlett rolls up his sleeves and serves lunch and gets to know the wonderful people who attend the community event. The cost for lunch is \$5.00 or 6 non-perishable food items.

Money and food items donated at the lunch go towards putting together food baskets for truly needy families in this area— a coordinated effort between Texarkana Water Utilities and the City of Texarkana, TX. For more information, call Parks & Recreation at (903)798-3978.

## Annual Employee Appreciation Luncheon

The annual Employee Appreciation Luncheon will be held on Thursday, November 14th, 2013 from 11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. at the Southwest Community Center. All employees and retirees are invited to attend for food, fun and fellowship. Lunch will be provided by Big Jake's BBQ and door prize drawings will be held throughout the luncheon. You must attend and register to win, so make sure to come participate in this fun event! You may bring 5 canned food items or a new toy for our holiday baskets to receive one additional chance for the prize drawings or 10 canned food items or 2 new toys to receive two additional chances for the prize drawings. Longevity checks and years of service pins will be given out at the luncheon as well.

## The City of Texarkana, Texas connects with the public on Social Media

As of November, the city now has a Facebook page and Twitter page that will help us better connect with the public, businesses, civic and community groups and beyond! In the first day, our Facebook page exploded with over 100 "likes"! Please find us, connect with us, and share us with your friends! We can be found on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/texarkanatexas> or Follow us on Twitter at @CityTxkTX. We are excited to keep our community informed and up-to-date.

## City Manager's Memo

In my short time on the job in Texarkana I have discovered that there is always something going on for our citizens to enjoy. November is no exception. I am looking forward to my first Employee Appreciation Luncheon and Bramlett Beans and Cornbread. Also the national tradition of honoring the nation's veterans is so important. I encourage everyone to seek out a Veterans Day event to honor the brave men and women who have served in all parts of the world enduring countless hardships. Our veterans willingly placed their personal safety at risk so that we could continue to treasure the freedoms of this great country. By taking part in the many events offered by the Arts Community, the City, Churches, Schools, and other Not-For-Profit organizations you help ensure their continued success and offerings. Approaching the holiday season is such an exciting time you should be trying to sort out from all the choices exactly what you will be doing on any given day. Having some fun and being entertained is your choice, don't let it pass you by!  
-John A. Whitson, ICMA-CM