Westlake celebrates grand opening of new Fire-EMS station

Children help celebrate the grand opening of the new Fire-EMS station in Westlake, Texas, by pushing a fire truck into the engine bay, Saturday, March 23, 2019.

By Nicholas Sakelaris

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KELLER CITIZEN

# Westlake opens iconic fire station that feels just like home

**BY NICHOLAS SAKELARIS** *SPECIAL TO THE STAR-TELEGRAM*

MARCH 26, 2019 10:00 AM, UPDATED MARCH 26, 2019 06:09 PM

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Children lined up with towels to do a ceremonial cleaning and drying of one of the engines. Then, with the truck in reverse, they got behind the front bumper and did a ceremonial push into the engine bay.

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Mayor Laura Wheat called the station a “labor of love.”

“It’s like our coming out party. It’s an incredible structure,” she said. “More importantly it really does stand as a testament of the work that these people do on a day in and day out basis.”

The first thing people will notice about the building is the intricate stone facade.

“Each of these stones were hand-picked. The color is intentional,” Wheat said. “The way they go from the large to the small from the bottom to the top.”

Stephen Hilt, civic studio director for BRW Architects, said the facility demonstrates that Westlake will stick to the same standards the commercial and residential developers follow.

“This is the absolute nicest I’ve ever done. There is a standard Westlake has for their building construction and aesthetics for the town,” Hilt said. “It gives it that quasi old world feel but not really, it’s not mimicking anyone else — it’s their own style.”

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Each fire truck has a special hose that carries away exhaust as the truck pulled out of one of the four bays.

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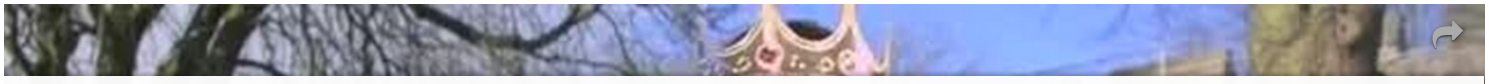

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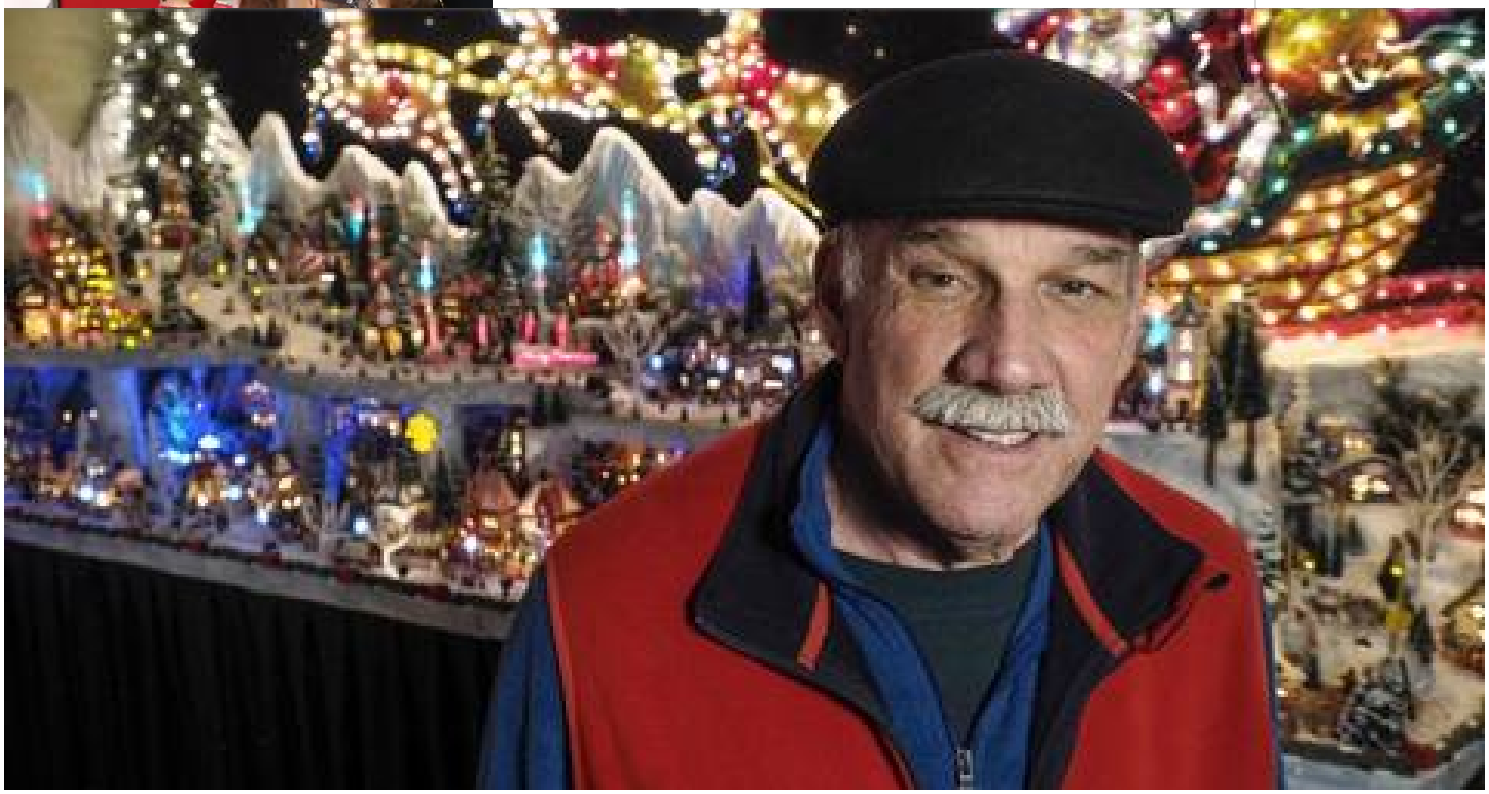

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