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REPORTER NEWS

Friendswood Edition

Your Independent Local News Source Since 1984

VOLUME 53, ISSUE 10

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2022

USPS 013362

50 CENTS



Around Town

Fridays until April 8

LENTEN FISH FRY
Knights of Columbus Council 8494 will be providing a Lenten Fish Fry on Fridays during Lent from March 4 to April 8 at Mary Queen Catholic Church in Friendswood. Drive-thru only. Serving from 5:30 to 7:30pm. \$12 catfish dinner includes catfish, corn on the cob, french fries, and hush puppies. Cash, check, credit/debit cards accepted. All proceeds will benefit church charities.

March 12 CRAWFISH FESTIVAL
Mary Queen Catholic Church at 606 Cedarwood in Friendswood is hosting its 2nd Annual Crawfish Festival Saturday, March 12 from noon to 4 pm. For \$20, guests will get 2 lbs of crawfish or 1 lb. of shrimp with corn, potatoes and two drink tickets. To participate, contact Andrew J Mambretti at 409-963-4999 or email Andrew.mambretti@gmail.com. Contact Andrew also to volunteer or sponsor.

TOMATO STRESS MANAGEMENT PRESENTATION
Galveston County Master Gardeners will present Tomato Stress Management, Part 3 of 3 Saturday, March 12 from 9 - 11:30 am at the Galveston County AgriLife Extension Office located inside Carbide Park at 4102-B Main Street (FM 519), La Marque. The event is free. Register at <https://galveston.agrilife.org/horticulture/mgseminars/>.

March 14-17 CHILDREN'S FISH CAMP
Friendswood Fish Camp will be held March 14 thru 17 from 9am to 10:30am at Lake Friendswood Park 2533 David Prairie Lane in Friendswood. The camps are already full but are accepting waitlist registration. Choose one of four different classes offered. Class content includes hook safety, knot tying, rod assembly, local fish identification, practice casting and reeling and catch fish. Register for a free class at parks.friendswood.com. Friendswood residents only - limited space (12 registrants per class). Class materials and equipment are only allocated for registered participants. Parent / legal guardians must be present during class. For more information call 281-996-3220 or email rec@friendswood.com.

March 17 BINGO & ST. PATRICK'S DAY TRIVIA
Wear green and have fun with seniors at the Bingo and St. Patrick's Day Trivia event at the Activity Building on Morningside in Friendswood.

March 18 FHS BAND MULCH SALE
The Mighty Mustang Marching Band Second Annual Mulch Sale is going on now through Friday, March 18. Get your Spring mulch for \$5 per bag with pickup or delivery on March 26. Delivery areas include all FISSD attendance zones. Products include 2 cubic foot bags of hardwood mulch, black mulch, and red-wood mulch. Delivery fee is \$20. To order go to <https://form.jotform.com/220397214217148>.

March 19 CURCUBITS & SUCCESSFUL CONTAINER GARDENING
Galveston County Master Gardeners will present two gardening programs on Saturday, March 19: Cucurbits - the Squash and Cucumber Family will be presented from 9 - 11:30am. Galveston County Master Gardener Kevin Lancon will provide an overview of how to grow cucumbers, squash, and melons in home gardens. Successful Container Gardening will be presented from 1 - 3pm by Galveston County Master Gardeners Karoly Gephart and Kaye Corey. Container gardens will be created and raffled to the audience at the conclusion. Events are free and presented at the Galveston County AgriLife Extension Office located inside Carbide Park at 4102-B Main Street (FM 519), La Marque.

March 26 YOUTH SPORTS DAY PARADE
The Friendswood Youth Sports Day Parade will be held Saturday, March 26 along FM 2351 to Stadium Drive and the ball parks. The parade kicks off the spring youth sports season. Traffic will be rerouted during the parade.



Night Circus Gala brings library to life

The Friendswood Public Library pulled out all the stops this past weekend when converting the entire building into an engaging, interactive experience where guests mingled with fortune tellers, magicians, circus performers, and acrobats. The event brought to life the book for which the gala was titled: *The Night Circus*, by Erin Morgenstern. A story about a magic circus that appears at random, much like the seemingly overnight conversion of the library.

Kicking off the event, Library Director Matt Riley welcomed guests and took time to thank the volunteers and sponsors who made the event possible.

Gala Chairs Mike and Lorrie Foreman then followed up with the presentation of the inaugural Brizendine Award to Kim & JoBeth Brizendine. The award recognizes the decades of service they have given to the library. The award will be given to a new recipient annually, but will always carry the Brizendine name.

In keeping with the theme, volunteers turned each wing of the building into a different interactive experience. Out front, guests were greeted by aerialist Super K as she hung

from her trapeze under the porte cache. In the cafe, revelers danced to live music performed by the gypsy jazz quintet, Swing Rendezvous. In the computer room, fortune tellers drew cards from tarot decks and spun stories of the future for captivated partygoers.

Meanwhile, the crafty magician Bud Kula moved about the venue leaving laughter and awe in his wake. In the children's department, attendees donned virtual reality headsets and became immersed in a 360 degree recording of Cirque du Soleil. In the Community Room, strongman Super Duper Shane walked across a bed of nails eliciting gasps and applause from the audience. Outside, Chef Brian Campbell set donuts aflame and served them with a mound of gelato and a sprinkle of sea salt.

And in one quiet corner, past the Hall of Mirrors there was a quiet nook full of bottled memories, each labelled with minimal instructions. Some read "Shake Me", others had "Smell Me" and a select few, for those who dared, were simply labeled "Drink Me".

The eclectic combination of cocktails and curiosities was created in partnership between

library staff and the Friends of the Friendswood Library, a sort of booster club, that raises money for library initiatives. In the past, the Friends have purchased VR headsets, WiFi hotspots, online streaming services, and library swag.

This year the Friends' goal is to purchase a Bookmobile to be used by the Library to deliver books and movies to homebound residents. The Bookmobile will also make it easier for the Friendswood Library to do outreach with the community through popular events such as Halloween in the Park and the 4th of July. A final tally of the funds raised at the gala has yet to be released, but Councilman Steve Rockey, who served as Treasurer for the event, is confident that they met their goal. "We should be able to announce the total amount raised sometime next week", said Rockey.

The Friends of the Library have not yet set a date or chosen a theme for the next gala. If you missed this event and want to catch the next one you can follow @librarygala on Instagram or @friendsoffwdlibrary on Facebook.

Seniors lead junior high students into workforce

By CARSON BONNER
Special to The Reporter News

Skills USA is a CTE (Career Technological Education) based organization that prepares students for their career paths. It focuses on resume building, interviewing skills, career specific knowledge, and more. Three seniors at Friendswood High School spent their first semester learning these skills in the classroom, and are now carrying out their service project.

"We're competing in the community service portion of the competition," Elizabeth Sala said. "It's about how we impact the community."

For the last several weeks, Elise Marx, Elizabeth Sala, and Zoe Sellers have been traveling to FJH to teach a career prep class as their project for the Community Service Action competition.

"Since they are closer to the age of entering the workforce, we get a lot of students who are really interested in career prep and students really seem to love learning," Elizabeth said.

Presentations and interactive activities are used to engage students in the classes, which average about six students. According to Elizabeth, leading with conversation and interview practices has been important to help students understand how their responses to

certain questions might not convey what they hope to convey.

"My favorite part of the project is talking to the students and just getting their opinions... I'm like, 'you're not going to get a job [with that kind of response]," Elizabeth said. "We usually give them a different answer that means the same thing."

Along with interview skills, Elizabeth, Elise, and Zoe have been teaching other professional skills such as handshakes, resume building, cover letter writing, job applications, and time management.

"I think finding a way [to teach] it that would get them interested

is the hardest part," Sala explained. "Once we made it more interactive, they started caring a lot more about it, and a lot more students started showing up."

The goals of the project are rooted in personal experience. Marx, Sala, and Sellers felt they were underprepared and unaided when entering the workforce as teenagers. "I work at Chick-fil-A," Sala said. "I knew people who worked there already, that's how I learned to finish my application and get the interview. I don't think I would be able to do it by myself."

They feel that it is important that information about choosing a

career is shared with others, especially young people who are, more often than not, uninformed and unsure about starting in the workforce.

"They are closer to the age of entering the workforce," Sala said. "We get a lot of students who are really interested in this [class] and the students really seem to love it."

In fact, the course is being extended due to the positive feedback from the middle schoolers. The program draws inspiration from the high school's career prep course.

"In the career prep program we learn about all of those skills like interviewing," Sala adds. "Everything we learned in the beginning of the class, we teach to them."

Now with the experience from the classroom and from teaching the junior high kids, these students are going to compete at Skills USA on Feb. 26. Their service project was only meant to be for the competition, but now they are thinking about continuing it.

"We were only supposed to do the course for five weeks and they asked us about high school and had a lot of questions about that," Elizabeth said. "We're going to continue past the competition but we might try to get the juniors to continue the program into next year."



Elise Marx practices handshakes with a student.

FRIENDSWOOD POLICE REPORT

FEBRUARY 28 thru MARCH 7

ROBBERY

Mar. 1 (9:03 p.m.) A home invasion robbery is being investigated at a residence in the 2900 block of Autumn Cove Court. The resident reports that two males with guns broke into her home, tied her up, and robbed her. The victim was left wrapped in tape and extension cords. The police department has extensive history at the residence and does not believe the incident was random.

BURGLARY

Mar. 4 (1:59 a.m.) At approximately 2:00am, Friendswood Police were dispatched to a burglary in the 600 block of S. Friendswood Dr. The caller advised police that an unknown white male wearing a mask and long sleeve shirt had stolen one cash register and was attempting to steal another. When officers arrived on scene, they found two cash register drawers on the ground. The Friendswood Police K9 and drone units began to search for the suspect believed to be on foot. At approximately 3:15am, Friendswood Police received an additional burglary alarm call in the 100 block of S. Friendswood Dr. Officers responded and located a male matching the description of the suspect. Officers were able to obtain surveillance footage from local business owners to confirm the verbal description of the suspect. Santiago Arriaga, 40, of Baytown, TX was located with a substantial amount of cash on his person along with other items that were confirmed stolen. He was taken into custody without incident and charged with two counts of Burglary of a Building.

THEFT

Feb. 28 (4:23 p.m.) A theft of prescription medication was reported from Wal-

greens located at 102 N. Friendswood Drive. Corporate officials were investigating a shortage of Phentermine tablets from the pharmacy. A pharmacy technician is accused of stealing the controlled substance and was terminated from her employment.

Mar. 1 (11:28 a.m.) A Friendswood man's monthly check to his church was not received by the church in December. However, the check was cashed and deposited into an unknown person's account. He believes the check was stolen either in transit to or once it arrived at the church.

Mar. 1 (5:43 p.m.) A package was stolen from the front porch of a home in the 1900 block of Cloud Croft Dr. The porch pirate was a white male driving a small four door tan or silver passenger car. He appeared to be between 17 and 25 years of age, brown hair, thin brown facial hair, and medium build. He was wearing tan pants, a black hoodie, black Nike shoes, and a tan hat (on backwards).

Mar. 2 (10:53 a.m.) A catalytic converter was stolen from a Schlotszky's company vehicle located at 109 E. Parkwood Avenue. The manager believes the theft occurred sometime between 2:00 a.m. and 3:00 a.m.

Mar. 3 (2:02 p.m.) A catalytic converter was stolen from a Magic Blinds van at 810 S. Friendswood Drive sometime overnight.

FRAUD

Feb. 28 (10:49 a.m.) A Friendswood woman reported that two bank accounts were opened using her personal identifying information.

Mar. 1 (8:18 a.m.) A Friendswood man recently purchased a new vehicle bearing a new temporary tag. He received a letter from the North Texas Toll

Authority regarding unpaid tolls. He discovered that someone driving a Lincoln that was equipped with the same temporary tag and was running the tolls and had amassed fines over \$200.

Mar. 1 (11:55 a.m.) On February 28, at approximately 2:28 p.m., a young male passed four counterfeit \$50 bills for the purchase of Vanilla gift cards.

Mar. 2 (11:13 a.m.) An officer was dispatched to Walgreens at 102 N. Friendswood Dr. where a man was attempting to reload a VISA gift card app on his phone with a counterfeit \$50 bill. The manager confiscated the counterfeit bill and gave back the real money. The man exited the store before the police arrived. He was described as a Hispanic male wearing two shirts - a blue short-sleeved shirt and a blue long-sleeved shirt, blue jeans, and a ball cap.

Mar. 3 (1:14 a.m.) Jeremy Austin Lawrence, 30, of League City, was charged with Fraudulent Use or Possession of Identifying Information. Lawrence was stopped for a license plate violation in the 1900 block of S. Friendswood Drive. During the contact, Lawrence provided the officer with consent to search the vehicle. During the search, the officer found cocaine residue, two Texas license plates, checkbooks, a driver's license, and a social security card belonging to persons other than Lawrence. Contact was made with the husband of a person whose name was on one of the checkbooks - the checkbook owner is deceased.

Mar. 4 (3:32 p.m.) A Friendswood woman was alerted to fraudulent activity on her debit card. The two fraudulent charges were made in Arizona.

ASSAULT

Mar. 1 (7:29 p.m.) A 49-

year-old Friendswood man is accused of assaulting his wife at their home in the 16300 block of Blackhawk Blvd. He left the residence before officers arrived. A warrant for his arrest is pending.

Mar. 3 (3:38 p.m.) An arrest warrant is pending for a 30-year-old El Lago man. Officers responded to a disturbance in a vehicle near the intersection of Blackhawk Blvd and Friendswood Link Blvd. Officers arrived in the area and contacted the victim as she was backing out of a driveway in the 16700 block of Blackhawk Blvd. The suspect was inside the home and refused to answer the door. He is accused of assaulting the mother of his child.

NARCOTICS

Mar. 1 (11:53 p.m.) Naomi Kaye Hart, 41, of League City, was charged with Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. A vehicle was stopped in the roadway in the 4000 block of Friendswood Link Road obstructing the roadway. The driver and the passenger were asleep inside the vehicle. Once the occupants were identified, they provided consent for a search of the vehicle. During the search, the officer found Hart in possession of a methamphetamine pipe.

Mar. 7 (3:50 a.m.) Robert Max Bynum, 43, of Houston, was charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance in Penalty Group 1. Bynum was driving a vehicle with a stolen license plate in the 4700 block of FM 2351. Bynum was identified and had an outstanding burglary warrant in Harris County. The vehicle did not have a registration sticker and the key was broken off in the ignition. The last time the vehicle was inspected was in 2009. Bynum was taken into custody for the warrant.

Award-winning research focuses on English learners with disabilities

For Goretti Rerri, studying special education is more than just her profession—it is her life's calling. After beginning her professional career in the corporate business world in Nigeria and even attaining an MBA there, her own child's diagnosis of autism made her re-evaluate her career path. She returned to college, received a master's in special education, and has been teaching special education in Pasadena Independent School District for 18 years.

Rerri is receiving her doctorate in educational leadership with a concentration in special populations from University of Houston-Clear Lake this December and said she'd changed the path of her life because she wanted to do anything to help her child. "That's why I'm here," she said. "This is why I changed the path of my life."

Her research in this area has been recognized by the Southwest Educational Research Association, which has just named her the recipient of the Dean's Award for Exceptional Graduate Student Research.

"My research topic is about the experiences of teachers of Spanish-speaking English learners with disabilities and the impact of the students' intersectionality on teachers' practices," Rerri said. "I chose this topic because English learners with disabilities are caught in an intersectional gap. This means that they are learning English on one hand, and on the other, they have a learning disability. People from cultural or linguistic minority groups that are learning English and people who have disabilities have historically been marginalized. So, being members of two marginalized groups places the students in a uniquely challenging position."

She said the particular space between being disabled and learning a second language causes specific learning needs that have implications on how the students are taught and how they show what they have learned.

"The problem is that many bilingual and special education teachers are not trained to address the students' unique needs simultaneously," she said. "Bilingual education teachers are not trained in special education intervention strategies and the special education teachers are not trained to provide the socio-cultural and linguistic support that the students need."

As a result, Rerri said the students are caught in the middle of two separate disciplines, neither one of which can fully address the dual needs of the students. "There is a real shortage of qualified teachers who are trained in bilingual special education," she said.

Rerri explained that the deficiency of teachers with these qualifications has only recently been acknowledged in the state of Texas. "Only last year, Texas passed a law, House Bill 2256 that creates a bilingual special education certification in the state," she said.

Children who find themselves in this intersection between disability and language learning are not getting adequate instruction. "They're not making appropriate academic progress," she said. "This is why my study looks at teachers. We need to know how these intersectional needs impact teachers' instruction and what the barriers are."

She said she hoped the study would make education more equitable for English learners with disabilities. "The ultimate goal of my research is consistent with the requirements of Every Student Succeeds Act, which requires all schools to provide an equitable, accessible education to all students," she said. "I hope this study will help to raise awareness of the need to adequately train teachers to provide a more equitable education for English learners with disabilities."

Most significantly, she said she hoped the impact of her research would improve the emotional well being of English learners with disabilities.

"Research suggests that bilingualism, or the use of two or more languages in education, is a highly recommended approach for English learners," she said. "Bilingualism is generally not encouraged in many school systems. Instead, efforts are on making children learn to speak English, with little or no attention paid to the students' home languages and culture."

She said children learn best when they feel they can own their own language and culture with pride and use it as leverage to access the school curriculum.

Rerri added that the SERA Award will open doors for her. "I hope to advocate for people with disabilities in a non-profit organization," she said. "I had such wonderful support from my professors here at UH-Clear Lake. My research is what it is because of the guidance from my doctoral committee, (Professors) Laurie Weaver, Leslie Gauna, Elizabeth Beavers and Judy Marquez. And I received so much support and motivation from Associate Professor of Educational Leadership Antonio Corrales, who is the program coordinator of the Educational Leadership Doctoral Program."

For more information about the Educational Leadership doctorate options at UHCL, visit www.uhcl.edu/academics/degrees/educational-leadership-edd

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Original Mobile Game

- Across**
- Marienbad, for one
 - A Guinness aspirant might try to break one
 - Prepare to swallow
 - "American Idol" reject William
 - Porky's love
 - "Pipe down!"
 - Loud and clear
 - Fungal spore sacs
 - Squirmy
 - Audible range
 - Afflict
 - Cheerful disposition
 - Big mouth
 - Be itinerant
 - School mos.
 - Vanishing act
 - Vinegary
 - Actor LaBeouf of "Constantine"
 - Bit of smoke
 - Appreciative
 - Draws
 - Princes, e.g.
 - Dog biter
 - Fatigues
 - Ruling class
 - Frock wearer
 - ___ du jour
 - Away
 - Back on track
 - "___ Town Too" (1981 hit)
 - Extras
 - "Definitely!"
 - Mint
 - Auto mechanic
 - "___ and the King of Siam"
 - Insurance company employee
 - Heavy, durable furniture wood
 - Attends
 - Swayed by a wave
 - Good name for a lawyer?

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14			15		16						17			
18				19							20			
21									22		23			
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		28	29			30					31			
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37							38				39	40	41	42
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47					48			49	50					
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59					60	61				62	63			
64									65			66	67	68
69					70	71	72	73						
74					75						76			
77					78							79		

- Down**
- "Heartbreak House" writer
 - Engine sound
 - Con
 - Bank
 - In-flight info, for short
 - Edit out
 - "___ moment"
 - Angry, with "up"
 - Suez Crisis figure
 - Modest
 - "Keep quiet!"
 - Accompny to a party
 - Load separate from colors
 - Mass power generation units
 - Influence
 - Film graphics initials
 - Level, in London
 - ___ few rounds
 - Boat propellers
 - D-Day beach
 - Prefix with surgery or transmitter
 - Economic bloc headquartered in Indonesia
 - Spring (from)
 - Hanging ends
 - "The Bells" poet
 - Cream-filled pastries
 - Birdbrain
 - Actress Phoebe
 - Pleasant thing in winter
 - Less cordial
 - Court figure
 - "Over here!"
 - Bounded
 - "Go team!"
 - ___-bodied
 - St. Patrick's home
 - Boy
 - Brawl
 - Fixed
 - First-aid item
 - Bowls
 - First name in mystery
 - Deal breaker?
 - Comfortable, as accommodations (Var.)
 - Tokyo, formerly
 - Doofus
 - Hawaiian strings
 - Bridges of Los Angeles County
 - Kid
 - "Yadda, yadda, yadda"
 - Arctic bird
 - Ed.'s request

Solution to last week's puzzle available at myreporternews.com

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FHS BUSINESS STUDENTS WIN BIG AT STATE

Last week 10 FHS students traveled to Fort Worth to compete at the state level of Business Professionals of America. Several of them placed and will advance to Nationals in Dallas in May. In the individual events, Jillian Hermes placed 1st in Payroll Accounting, Skyler McKee placed 1st in Advanced Accounting, Kai Todd placed 3rd in Fundamental Accounting, Isabelle Bartlett placed 3rd in Advanced Spreadsheet, and Matthew Dilick placed 7th in Personal Financial Management. Hermes, McKee, Todd, and Bartlett will all advance to Nationals. In the team events, Friendswood students Bryden Camp, Skylar McKee, Preston Pearson, and Kai Todd took 4th place in Financial Analyst. Lisa Sargent is the Business Professionals of America Sponsor at Friendswood High School. Pictured left to right: Matthew Dilick, Kait Todd, Isabelle Bartlett, Bryden Camp, Jillian Hermes, Preston Pearson, and Skylar McKee.

Pearland ISD Communications wins 15 state PR awards

The Pearland Independent School District Communications Department celebrated 15 awards - including one top distinction - at the Texas School Public Relations Association conference in late February.

The district won one prestigious Crystal Commendation award for Pearland ISD's 2020 Angel Tree Program. The award goes to the top entry in each of the crystal categories, with school districts competing against districts of all sizes. Additionally, Pearland ISD won the Best of Category award for the Communications Department Christmas Card. The Best of Category award goes to the top Gold Star entry in each competition category, with school districts competing against same-sized districts.

Pearland ISD won the following awards:

- Crystal Commendation:** School/Community Partnership - 2020 Angel Tree Project
- Best of Category and Gold Star:** Holiday/Greeting Card - Communications Dept. Christmas Card
- Gold Star:** Phase 1 Rapid Testing Program Flyer (Materials in a Language Other Than English)
- Gold Star:** Handbook/Manual - Plan to Proceed
- Gold Star:** Image/Identity - Plan to Proceed
- Gold Star:** Published News Release - RISE

- Gold Star:** Video: General Event - Service Awards
 - Gold Star:** Video: Promotional - VATRE animated
 - Gold Star:** Video: Marketing - Pearland ISD intro
 - Gold Star:** Video: Training/Instructional - COVID Bus Procedures
 - Gold Star:** Social Media Campaign - Teacher Appreciation Week
 - Silver:** Video: Training/Instructional - COVID Cleaning Procedures
 - Bronze:** Flyer - District Profile
 - Bronze:** Published News or Feature - Weimer
 - Bronze:** Published News or Feature - Kane Berger
- Fostering an open relationship between Pearland ISD and the public, the Communications Department manages many avenues of district communication and community relations, including the website, social media, print and electronic newsletters, press releases, RISE Mentoring, media relations and emergency communications.
- Communications team members include former Executive Director of Communications Kim Hocott, Cissa Madero, Victor Bushfield, Aliana Peska, Mandy Benedix, Tamara Hanson, Christine Merritt, Martha Stanley and Cindy Brown.



Pearland ISD announces 15 National Merit finalists

Pearland Independent School District proudly announces 15 finalists in the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program.

These finalists include Dawson High School's Neeraj Anantha, Andy Gu, Charles Gundlach, Bidisha Halder, Bryan Li, Jorryn Li, Edwin Ling, Stephen Mao, Aruna Muthupillai, Michael Pasala, Helen Sanderson, Isabella Soares, Melissa Tariq Rodriguez, Enjia Wang and Raina Zhang.

These students number among approx. 15,000 finalists nationwide competing for 7,500 National Merit,

corporate-sponsored and college-sponsored scholarships.

Beginning in March and continuing to mid-June approximately, finalists will be selected to receive scholarships.

About National Merit Scholarship Program

In spring 2022, finalists will compete for approximately 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth a combined value of more than \$30 million. Less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, the highest-scoring test-takers in each state, were chosen as semifinalists

in the fall.

To become Merit Scholar finalists, students must not only have outstanding academic records throughout high school but also earn high SAT scores and demonstrate leadership in school and community activities.

Finalists will compete for the following awards:

- 2,500 National Merit Scholarships (worth \$2,500 each) awarded on a state-representational basis
- 1,000 corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarships provided by approximately 220 corporations/businesses

• 4,000 college-sponsored scholarships from 180 colleges and universities for finalists who will attend the sponsor institution

Mayor Mike delivers State of the City

The theme of this year's State of the City was "Moving Forward" as Friendswood begins to find its footing in a post-COVID world. Mayor Mike Foreman highlighted improvements throughout the City including new sidewalks and traffic lights in downtown as well as the new detention basin adjacent to 1776 Park.

Foreman also emphasized the current property tax rate of 48.7 cents per \$100 and the crime rate of 6.51 per thousand are both the lowest the city has ever seen. A fact he jokingly reiterated to former mayors David Smith, Harold Whitaker, and Kim Brizendine who were in attendance.



Mayor Mike Foreman poses with newly appointed Friendswood Legend Tony Banfield.

New construction projects coming to the city include the conversion of the old Food Lion into the new Public Works facility, a project funded by a \$2 million bond that was voted for by Friendswood residents and a \$1 million grant. Fire Station 2, new playgrounds in Stevenson and Centennial Park, and the second phase of the Public Safety Building are also underway.

Foreman took a moment to recognize the loss of Friendswood Police Officer Sgt. James Dement. Dement served with the department for 22 years before losing his battle with COVID in December.

Like previous years, Foreman finished his address with the recognition of three new Friendswood Legends. This year's honorees were former mayor David Smith, State Senator Larry Taylor, and retired professional football player and local businessman Tony Banfield.

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- Class A .. Class B .. Class C (Diesel Pusher)
- No Title OK!
- We Buy 5th Wheels
- Damaged OK!
- We Buy Bumper Pulls
- Leaks OK!
- We Buy Boats
- Not Running OK!
- Looking To Buy
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Brief Explanatory Statements of Proposed Constitutional Amendments Special Election, May 7, 2022

Proposition Number 1 (SJR 2)

SJR 2 proposes a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for the reduction of the amount of a limitation on the total amount of property taxes that may be imposed for general elementary and secondary public school purposes on the residence homestead of a person who is elderly or disabled in order to reflect any statutory reduction in the maximum compressed rate of the maintenance and operations taxes imposed for those purposes on the person's homestead from the preceding tax year.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for the reduction of the amount of a limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed for general elementary and secondary public school purposes on the residence homestead of a person who is elderly or disabled to reflect any statutory reduction from the preceding tax year in the maximum compressed rate of the maintenance and operations taxes imposed for those purposes on the homestead."**

Proposition Number 2 (SJR 2)

SJR 2 proposes a constitutional amendment increasing the amount of the residence homestead exemption from property taxes for public school purposes from \$25,000 to \$40,000.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment increasing the amount of the residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation for public school purposes from \$25,000 to \$40,000."**

FREE TAX PREP

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2022 VITA SITES

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4005 Technology Rd.
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Angleton, TX 77515
979-849-9402

[BY APPOINTMENT ONLY]

WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS
FEBRUARY 2ND-APRIL 14TH
9AM-3PM

(VITA SERVES BRAZORIA COUNTY HOUSEHOLDS EARNING UP TO \$55,000 IN 2021)

Valid Photo ID

Social Security Card or Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN) for all members of your family

All W-2 Forms

If Filing Jointly, Your Spouse Must Be Present

Copy of Prior Tax Return (if applicable)

1099 Form (if applicable)

Form 1095A, proving that you had Marketplace in 2019



FAITH MATTERS

By Rev. Dr. Brian Gige

WITH EVERY BREATH WE TAKE

“This is what God the LORD says—the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out, who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it, who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it...”

~ Isaiah 42:5

And the 40 days of Lent press on... This past week I was holding my two-year-old grandson prepping us both for a well-deserved nap. He was resistant at first, but I've learned that I am far too patient, and I have too many words and songs to gently gift his ear drums thwarting any chance of him winning the battle of who can stay awake the longest. I have found this to be true with my two-year-old granddaughters as well... both of them... their struggle is real... but I always win... and ... and... it is such a joy to feel them calm down into relax mode and experience their giving in to the strong, loving arms of a grandfather such as myself. And it's in that moment of calming down I remembered something ancient and holy...

Do you recall what happened to Moses when he was on the hillside minding his own business... tending the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro... when God showed up in the form of a burning bush in order to give Moses a task that changed his life and the history of the world forever? Good. I do, too. It's one of the most profound stories of anyone called upon to deliver a message... and when one delivers a message it's always good that the messenger knows the giver's name. And since Moses didn't know God's name, he asked. And since Moses asked, God told him.

And... God's name? YHWH... pronounced ...'yaw-whay'... a name so profound and so important that it does not require vowels... YHWH... the name which means... "I am who I am" or even better... "I will be whom I will be". Try to put THAT God in a box...

So, this name... YHWH is about the one who gives breath to all people... from the very beginning... breathing sounds... as in YH (breathe IN) ... and WH (breathe OUT)

... try it! And this is what I experienced as my grandson began to drift off... a confident rhythm ...very deliberate and very profound... YH (a short breath IN) an WH (a short breath OUT) ... over and over and over...

Isn't God good? We should all take hope in this... that God is with us... with every breath we take... as the name of God goes rolling over our lips...

This whole idea... and trust me... I didn't make this up... caused me to think back of so many moments in my life... you know moments like when you raced the next door neighbor down the street and whether you won or not you both found yourselves winded... hands on your hips with a big breath in... and then a big breath out... over and over... YH-WH... YH-WH... YH-WH until you catch your breath again and just breathe YHWH normally... or that time when you bring your first child home from the hospital and within the first 24 hours you find yourself leaning over the crib and placing your finger under the baby's nose and you can feel YHWH... YHWH... YHWH and you walk away feeling secure in the love and care of God... along with those moments filled with tears... or in deep belly laughter... in our sleep and as we wake... breath after breath... YHWH... YHWH... YHWH ... and that time I sat with the family at the bedside of their dying grandmother... who slowly and with some pain breathed in and out... YHWH... YHWH... YHWH... until there was no more breath at all... trusting the notion what belongs to God from the beginning... given in love... remains God's for all time and eternity... So... breathe in... breathe out... YHWH... YHWH... God is always near!

The Rev. Dr. Brian K. Gige is a long-time resident of Pearland, having pastored four churches over the last four decades in Texas and Louisiana. Read more following Brian's blog 'murmurings' at <https://briangige.wordpress.com/>. Send comments and/or questions to godworks247365@gmail.com.

Brazoria County Library Foundation presents 'Evening with the Author' on March 29

The Brazoria County Library System Foundation presents its 11th annual Evening with the Author on Tuesday, March 29 featuring Matthew Wendel, author of *RECIPES FROM THE PRESIDENT'S RANCH, Food That People Like to Eat*. He will speak about growing up in Danbury as part of a cooking family and his evolution to chef in the George W. Bush White House. He is the current Assistant Chief of Protocol and General Manager of The Blair House in Washington, DC. There will be copies of his cookbook for purchase and he will be happy to sign copies after the dinner.

A special treat will be that Velvee Ann's Family Catering, run by Mr. Wendel's family members in Danbury, will be providing the dinner using recipes from his cookbook.

Doors open at 6 p.m. and dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. at the Brazoria County Fairgrounds Auditorium in Angleton,

Texas. Tickets are \$45 per person and include dinner. Tickets can be purchased from any Foundation board member, your branch library or by calling the Library Administration office at 979-864-1505. Event sponsorships are still available. There will be a silent auction of book-themed gift baskets assembled by the Friends of the Library groups that support the libraries in the County.

This year's Author Dinner will benefit the Library System's Summer Reading Program. Over 8,000 Brazoria County children and teens participated in last year's 2021 Summer Reading Program, which helps prevent Summer Slide, or decline in students' reading ability over the summer. Proceeds from the Author Dinner and silent auction will provide special programming for this year's Summer Reading Programs at each branch, funding materials for activities and special guest presentations.



Berry Miller Junior High was recently recognized as a School to Watch by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform and the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals (TASSP) as part of a national recognition program. Berry Miller's principal Tony Barcelona (center) and assistant principals Dawn Thomas (left) and Crystal Felix (right) lead the school's staff and strive to inspire and empower students to have a successful future.

Berry Miller School once again named "Texas School to Watch"

Berry Miller Junior High was recently recognized for the second time as a School to Watch by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform and the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals (TASSP) as part of a national recognition program. Berry Miller JH is among only about 30 other schools across Texas to earn such distinction and honor.

Leaders selected Berry Miller for its academic excellence, developmental responsiveness, social equity and organizational structure and processes. In addition, Berry Miller has proven to have strong leadership, teachers who work together to improve curriculum and instruction and a commitment to assessment and accountability that brings about continuous improvement.

"Being redesignated as a Texas School to Watch affirms that our school provides a positive culture, academic excellence and high expectations that are in line with national and state standards to help produce and prepare our students for their future." Berry Miller principal Tony Barcelona said.

The Schools to Watch selection process is based on a written application that requires schools to show how they meet criteria developed by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform. Schools that appeared to meet the criteria were then visited by state teams, which observed classrooms, interviewed administrators, teachers, students and parents, and looked at achievement data, suspension rates, quality of lessons and student work. Schools are recognized for a three-year period and, at the end of three years, must demonstrate progress on specific goals in order to be re-designated.

"Berry Miller's staff is resilient and dedicated to adjusting and improving their craft each day. Teachers are the backbone to any great school and Berry Miller has proven time and time again that our teachers inspire and empower our students," Barcelona said.

Berry Miller administration will be recognized in Austin at the Making Middle School Matter Symposium hosted by TASSP on February 28. The school will also be recognized nationally with other Schools to Watch from across the country in Washington DC at the National Forum's National Schools to Watch Conference on June 23-25. Additionally, campus and district officials will be holding a ceremony and celebration towards the end of the school year, which will welcome key community members and stakeholders to celebrate this achievement.

"This achievement is a testament to show that continuous hard work and concentrating on what we can achieve today will create excellence in the future. This has been a difficult 2-3 years in general but, with a positive mindset, anything is achievable," Barcelona said. "Thank you to our Bobcats and their families for making Miller a success."

About Schools to Watch

Launched in 1999, Schools to Watch began as a national program to identify middle-grade schools across the country that were meeting or exceeding 37 research-based criteria developed by the National Forum. The Forum developed the website www.middlegradesforum.org featuring online tours of schools, as well as detailed information about selection criteria used in the recognition program. There are now 17 states which have trained Schools to Watch State Teams with more than 480 schools recognized across the country.

FHS band taking orders for annual mulch sale

The Friendswood High School Mighty Mustang Marching Band is having its second annual Mulch Sale with orders being taken now. All sales benefit the band program.

The group's fundraiser offers hardwood mulch, black mulch and redwood mulch.

The band students will deliver the product in all areas of the FISD attendance zone.

Delivery fee is \$20. Mulch is only \$5 a bag. All products are two cubic foot bags.

Orders will be taken through Friday, March 18.

The Hardwood Mulch is triple-ground with a fine texture, uniform size and medium to dark brown color. This mulch provides a natural, finished touch to any planting bed. Hardwood Mulch conserves water, suppresses weeds, moderates soil temperatures and adds valuable organic content to planting beds. In the fall, mulch preserves bare soil, prevents erosion and protects plants. It has no dyes added.

The Black Mulch is Premium Colored Mulch and comes in a variety of colors. Made from recycled tree trimmings, the black mulch is color enhanced with a non-toxic dye. Black mulch looks great under shrubs and trees. The dark color highlights the plants above it and makes any landscaped area stand out. It's also ideal for use against cool tones such as grey brick and stone.

Red Mulch is also a Premium Colored Mulch available in a variety of colors. Made from recycled wood, the red mulch is colored with a non-toxic dye. Red mulch makes any landscaped area stand out, especially when installed in an area bordering green grass. It also complements warm tones such as golds and terra cottas

To order, go to <https://form.jotform.com/220397214217148>.




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For more information about the

Food for Seniors program

please call Leiza, Director of Client Services, at 281-332-3881 x1104 or email help@icmtx.org

SPORTS

From the Cluttered Desk

by Dr. David Davis

Sharing pain helpful to others

There was a little six-year-old boy who loved to ride his bicycle. He especially loved to ride his bicycle by going from his driveway and crossing the street to the neighbor's driveway. His parents had warned him that this was dangerous and that he shouldn't do it because he could get hit by a car.

One day, not paying attention to his parents' warnings, he was fatally struck by a car in front of his home. Obviously, his parents were heartbroken. Jason was tragically gone from his family.

A few days after the funeral, the little girl who lived next door was out in her yard playing. She had played with Jason almost every day. She decided to go next door to visit with Jason's mother.

The little girl's mother, who was doing her housework, looked out the window to check on her little girl. Unable to see her in the yard, she walked out on the front porch just about the time her little five-year-old was walking around the bushes from the house where Jason lived.

She waited until her daughter came up to the house and then asked, "Where did you go?" The little girl said, "I went over to Jason's house." The mother, thinking her daughter didn't understand about death said, "Honey, Jason doesn't live there anymore." Her daughter immediately responded, "Oh, I know. I just went to talk to Jason's mother."

The mother thought, "What could my little girl possibly say to comfort Jason's mother?" She said, "Sweetheart, what did you say to her?"

The little girl said, "Oh mother, I didn't say anything to her. I just crawled up into her lap and cried with her."

Sharing in the personal disappointments in the lives of others is very important. Especially in the loss of a loved one.

Or it may be a time of heartache when circumstances change in a person's life.

I think we all go through all of life asking others, "How are you doing?" They ask, "How are you doing?" and we all answer with the standard "Fine!"

Have you ever asked someone how they were doing and you didn't really want to know, but they decided to tell you anyway? And we quickly try to excuse ourselves while thinking, "Why did I ask that?"

When we come to that place in life that we really care — we won't be afraid to ask how someone is doing. Life is too short to travel through life without reaching out to others. And, who knows, there may be someone who is just waiting for you to really care so they can share their pain.

We may not always have the answer to the "Why's" in life — but we can let people know that we care and understand.

Old friend Robert said, "The world doesn't care that you know - until first - they know that you care."

E-mail: drdaviddavis@yahoo.com
www.reporternewsports.com
Twitter: @drdavis111

Grays, Taylor, Micheaux-Giles headline All-District picks

By DR. DAVID DAVIS
Reporter News Staff

The Pearland Lady Oilers and the Shadow Creek Lady Sharks battled to 11-1 district marks to share the District 23-6A title. When the two teams played to see who would be the No. 1 seed entering the post-season, it would be Pearland winning the game to grab the top spot.

While Shadow Creek's head coach Latoya Micheaux-Giles was selected the "Coach of the Year" - first-year Pearland head coach Jere' Adams certainly deserved strong consideration to have shared the award - both were deserving.

Pearland finished with a 28-10 overall record and 11-1 in league play. Shadow Creek finished 11-1 in district and 29-5 overall. Dawson was 15-19 overall and 4-8 on district under first-year coach Sharee Griffin.

Pearland junior Rylee Grays was selected as the district "Most Valuable Player." Grays averaged 17.8 points per game while hitting 91-of-168 free throws. Grays collected 188 rebounds, 40 steals, 11 blocked shots, and 27 assists.

Shadow Creek senior R'Mani Taylor was named "Offensive Player of the Year." Taylor averaged 14.2 points per game while hitting 46-of-153 three-point shots. Taylor hit 83-of-116 free throws (72%) while snaring 141 rebounds

and dishing out 135 assists with 86 steals and three blocks.

"Co-Defensive Players of the Year" were Alyssa Prier of Alief Taylor and Melinda Winston of Alief Hastings.

"Newcomer of the Year" was

Nataliyah Gray of Alief Taylor.

Pearland senior Aryelle Stevens was named to the All-District first-team. Stevens averaged 11.7 points per game while collecting 190 rebounds, dishing out 16 assists, 48 steals, and nine blocks. She hit 65-

of-131 free throws.

Shadow Creek junior Ace Edmond was named to the All-District first-team after averaging 7.6 points per game. Edmond hit 15-of-49 three-pointers and 40-of-71 free throws. Edmond grabbed 138 rebounds with 64 assists and 52 steals.

Shadow Creek senior Brooklin Brown was named first-team All-District and surpassed the 1,000 point mark this season. Brown averaged 14.6 points per game while hitting 52-of-171 three-pointers and 61-of-84 free throws (73%). Brown grabbed 231 rebounds, dished out 67 assists while getting 92 steals with 27 blocked shots.

Dawson junior Kennedy Ford was named to the All-District first-team as she averaged 11.3 points per game while hitting 41-of-147 three-pointers and making 61-of-97 free throws. Ford had 83 rebounds, 46 assists, and 111 steals.

Dawson senior Kennedy Williams was a first-team All-District pick after averaging 9.6 points per game while making 26-of-166 three-pointers and 74-of-130 free throws. Williams also had 91 rebounds, 76 assists, 59 steals, and six blocks.

Named to the All-District second-team was Jordan Skaggs (Dawson), La'Niah Thornton (Pearland), Paige Bonner (Pearland), and Nyla Price.



DISTRICT 23-6A MVP - Pearland junior Rylee Grays was named District 23-6A "Most Valuable Player" after leading the Lady Oilers to the No. 1 seed in the playoffs and a share of the 23-6A crown.

Friendswood named finalist for Sportsmanship Award

By DR. DAVID DAVIS
Reporter News Staff

For the fifth time in the past nine years, the Friendswood Mustangs have been selected as a finalist for the Sportsmanship Award by the Touchdown Club of Houston.

Title sponsors for the gala are Comerica Bank and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. The event was held Wednesday, March 2 at noon at the Bayou City Event Center.

Schools that have been selected for the Sportsmanship Award Luncheon are based upon voting by the Texas Association of Sports Officials (TASO), Houston Football Officials chapter, for the 2021 high school football season.

Friendswood is in Class 5A and the following schools were named finalist for this distinguished award.

Class 5A: Angleton, Foster, Friendswood, Galena Park, Kempner, Magnolia, Manvel, Milby,

Northside-HISD, Katy Paetow, Sharpstown, Sterling-Goose Creek, Waltrip, Willowridge, Wisdom-HISD.

First place - Katy Paetow

Second place - Angleton

Third place - Magnolia

The finalists for the award are



The Mustangs won this award in 2013 and placed third in 2015.

This year's 5A winners were:

chosen on five criteria: 1) Actions of the team, 2) Action of the coaches and support groups, 3) Respect

for the American flag, 4) A score based on the number of personal fouls incurred during the game, and 5) A score based on the number of unsportsmanlike conduct fouls. Voting was done electronically by the Texas Association of Sports Officials (TASO), Houston football chapter, who are the refs covering the high school games in Greater Houston.

The winner of the award will receive a traveling trophy that is kept for one year and a permanent plaque to keep. All finalists receive a certificate.

"We are honored to be a finalist for the Houston Touchdown Club Sportsmanship Award," said Friendswood head coach Robert Koopmann. "This is voted on by the Houston football officials and proud to say this is our fifth finalist award in the last nine years while winning the award in 2013."



Pearland sophomore defender Ella Johnson (4) fakes an Alief Taylor defender as she pushes the ball up the field. Johnson would score a goal as the Lady Oilers got a big 8-0 win over the Taylor Lady Lions. The win keeps the Lady Oilers perfect through district play with just one week left. The final showdown of district play will see No. 20 state-ranked Pearland looking to secure the district championship vs Dawson with the Lady Eagles needing a win to make it a tie for the district title. Game is Friday, March 11, at 7:30 p.m. at Dawson High School.



Pearland senior goalkeeper Samuel Munoz (in yellow) stops a shot vs Alief Hastings. Munoz was excellent all night, with only a penalty kick given up as the Oilers got the 2-1 win over the Bears with two goals by forward Yousef Elnokali. The victory keeps the Oilers in third place in district as they look to secure a playoff spot vs Dawson on Friday, March 11, at 7:30 p.m. at The Rig.



Mustang Water-Polo off to good start in first tournament of the season, girls undefeated

The Friendswood High Girls and Boys Water Polo teams competed in the Ascension Tournament, held at Shadow Creek in what marked their first games of the season.

The Girls team had 4 wins and 0 losses in their first weekend of play beating Clear Brook, Lamar, Clear Lake & Clear Creek.

The Boys team had 1 win and 3 losses with a win over Clear Brook and several narrow losses in play versus Lamar, Clear Lake & Clear Creek. The tournament was a highly competitive one with close games.

Both teams will continue playing more games this upcoming weekend in the Wyatt Earp tournament at Clear Lake High School Friday 3/4 & Saturday 3/5.

alphabetical order) are:
Abby Dare
Lacey Drouet
Molly Fruehan
Nicki Hansen
Riley Holcomb
Brooke Hubenak
Madeline Long
Nicole Medina
Amelia Morgan
Addysin Pendle
Hallie & Emmie Ratcliff
Genevieve Ringo

The Mustang Boys' Water Polo team members (by last name in alphabetical order) are:
Cooper Barden
Canon Cashen
Nathan Jennings
Luke LeCompte
Ethan Long
Austin Madeksho
Daniel Morgan
Paul Podrebarac
Andrew Rubio
James Saul
Talon Welch
The Mustang Swim and Dive Team is coached by Head Coach Craig Sikkema and Varsity Assitant Monica Whitsett.

CLASSIFIEDS

281-485-7501

LEGALS

LEGALS

Published March 2 & March 9, 2022

CITY OF PEARLAND, TEXAS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids will be received by the City of Pearland Purchasing Division, 3519 Liberty Dr., until **2:00 P.M., CST, Wednesday, March 23, 2022** and all bids will be read aloud via virtual meeting. Interested parties may join the meeting by calling into the meeting at: Dial in #: 281-652-1955; Meeting #: 1775#; Access Code #: 0971# on that date for:

INVITATION TO BID FOR QUARTERLY PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE OF GENERATORS BID NO. ITB-0222-06

Bid forms, specifications and all necessary information may be obtained from the following website: <https://pearland.ionwave.net>. Vendors are encouraged to return the bid response electronically using the City's e-bid system but may submit by hard-copy to City Secretary, with either manner due by the closing date and time stated above.

Vendors should register on the City's e-bid system at <https://pearland.ionwave.net> (if not already registered). Once registered on the City's e-bid system, bid documents may be viewed on the site. If further assistance is needed, please email ebids@pearlandtx.gov no later than 5:00 P.M. Monday, March 14, 2022. Make reference to **ITB-0222-06**. Bid Closing Date: **March 23, 2022**

First Publication: **March 02, 2022**
Second Publication: **March 09, 2022**

LEGALS

LEGALS

Published March 9 & March 16, 2022

CITY OF FRIENDSWOOD, TEXAS NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID BID NO. 2022-06 CITY WIDE PARKS AND FACILITY MOWING SERVICES

Sealed Competitive Bids shall be submitted via two (2) electronic copies, each copy on one flash drive or CD. Each flash drive/CD must contain only one (1) file in PDF format and must match identically. The PDF files must include the ink signature of a person with the authority to bind the vendor into a contract. All submitted materials must be clearly marked with **BID NO. 2022-06**, and addressed to the City of Friendswood, Attn: City Secretary, and are to be received at Friendswood City Hall, City Secretary's Office, 910 S. Friendswood Dr., Friendswood, TX, 77546 before 2:00 P.M., **Thursday, March 24, 2022**.

The City of Friendswood reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in the bids received. The City of Friendswood pays for goods and services according to the provisions of Chapter 2251 of the Government Code.

Plans and specifications may be downloaded from the City of Friendswood's website at <https://www.ci.friendswood.tx.us/Bids.aspx> or may be reviewed/inspected during regular business hours in the City Secretary's Office, City Hall, 910 South Friendswood Drive, Friendswood, TX 77546.

A **Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting** is scheduled for Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at Friendswood City Hall, 910 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood, TX 77546.

The person to contact for additional information on this item is **James Toney, Director of Parks and Recreation** at 281-996-3220 or email to jtoney@friendswood.com.

/s/ Leticia Brysch, City Secretary

LEGALS

LEGALS

Published March 9 & March 16, 2022

CITY OF PEARLAND, TEXAS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids will be received by the City of Pearland Purchasing Division, 3519 Liberty Dr., until **2:00 P.M., CST, Wednesday, April 06, 2022** and all bids will be read aloud via virtual meeting. Interested parties may join the meeting by calling into the meeting at: Dial in #: 281-652-1955; Meeting #: 1775#; Access Code #: 0971# on that date for:

DEPOSITORY SERVICES BID NO. RFA-0222-01

Bid forms, specifications and all necessary information may be obtained from the following website: <https://pearland.ionwave.net>. Vendors are encouraged to return the bid response electronically using the City's e-bid system but may submit by hard-copy to City Secretary, with either manner due by the closing date and time stated above.

Vendors should register on the City's e-bid system at <https://pearland.ionwave.net> (if not already registered). Once registered on the City's e-bid system, bid documents may be viewed on the site. If further assistance is needed, please email ebids@pearlandtx.gov.

First Publication: **March 09, 2022**
Second Publication: **March 16, 2022**

Onsite Early Childhood Education Academy coming to Meridiana

A new early childhood education facility is coming to Meridiana providing families in the top-selling community with an onsite academy offering innovative curriculum for pre-school, kinder readiness and before and after school programs.

Located in the heart of the community at Iowa Colony Boulevard and Iowa School Road, Houston's first Future Explorers Academy will open in early 2023 for children ages six weeks to 12 years. The academy is open to both residents and non-residents.

Parents can meet the academy's leadership team during a pre-registration kick off on Saturday, March 12 starting at 2 p.m. in the Meridiana Conservatory, 4003 Meridiana Parkway. A special presentation from Crocodile Encounters of Angleton will follow from 3 - 6 p.m.

Founded by Meridiana resident Margaret Madariaga and longtime early childhood director Sarah Mashuga-Day, the Future

Explorers Academy will use The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool. This is a comprehensive, research-based curriculum which features exploration and discovery as a way of learning, enabling children to develop confidence, creativity, and lifelong critical-thinking skills.

The curriculum also has support, built into every experience, for English-language learners and those with special needs.

Full-time students will receive a healthy breakfast, lunch, and up to three snacks daily. Breakfast and snacks will be provided for before/after-school Explorers. The state-licensed facility also will offer before and after-school pick up from Meridiana Elementary and Bel Nafegar Sanchez Elementary.

Further details on the new academy, its founders and curriculum can be found at www.futureexplorersacademy.com.

The opening of the Future Explorers Academy continues Meridiana's ongoing commitment to offering top-quality education experiences for all ages. The award-winning community is also home to the onsite Meridiana Elementary and Jackie Doucet Caffey Junior High. In August, the brand-new Iowa Colony High School will open adjacent to the community.

As Houston's first community of new homes dedicated to education for all life stages, Meridiana also offers a collection of outdoor learning labs where families can experience various principles of science through play.

One of the nation's 50 top-selling master-planned communities, Meridiana is conveniently located minutes south of Pearland. To reach the community, take the Meridiana Parkway exit from Texas 288, just minutes south of Pearland, heading north or south.



Future Explorers Academy Founders Sarah Mashuga (left) and Margaret Madariaga.

Up to \$842M in assistance grants available to Texas homeowners

Notice is being sent to Galveston County property owners eligible for Homeowners Assistance Funds through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA). These funds are part of the American Rescue Plan and will help qualified homeowners avoid foreclosure as a result of late mortgage or property tax payments as well as with unpaid insurance, and homeowner association and condominium fees due to the COVID pandemic. Up to \$25,000 is available for qualified individuals. These funds are NOT A LOAN rather they are grants with no repayment required. Payments will be made directly to the companies, HOAs or taxing authorities.

Eligibility requirements include the following:

- You must own and occupy a home in Texas as a primary residence (homestead exemption is not required)
- You must have experienced a qualified financial hardship after January 21, 2020 (lost income or increased expenses resulting from the pandemic). Please note that our interpretation is that everyone purchasing protective equipment (eg masks) or incurred additional child care expenses are considered to have increased pandemic expenses.
- You must be late on one or more mortgage, property tax, property insurance, HOA or condo fees

• Household income must be at or below 100% of the area median income (AMI) OR 100% of the median income for the U.S. (whichever is greater). The income limit for our area is \$79,200 but all in need should go online to www.TexasHomeownersAssistance.com or call 1-833-651-3874

Required documentation includes the following:

- Approved form of identification (TDL, SS card, Military or State ID, birth certificate, etc.)
- Proof of occupancy (a utility bill)
- Verified income document (such as W2, IRS Form 1099, tax return, pay stub, etc.)
- Evidence of delinquency (delinquent tax statement, notice from attorney, etc.)

The Galveston County Tax Office Property Tax Department team is ready to provide assistance with regard to evidence of overdue taxes. The team will research all delinquencies (including non GCTO tax collection customers) in order to ensure our property owners are able to secure payment for all late taxes. Those requiring assistance with this information should call (toll free) 877-766-2284 (and ask for the Property Tax Department) or 409-766-2481.

We want to dedicate this space to our new subscribers this week...

- Sara Peters
- Judy Wiggins
- Mark Rowley
- Meg Crowley
- Lew Fincher
- Desiree Hopping
- Brett Banfield
- Ron Cox
- Chris Turner
- Lorrie & Mike Foreman
- Cary Haskell
- Niki Rhodes
- Shannon Stanford
- Alan Stanfield
- Ashley Mannschreck
- Suzanne Banfield
- Eileen Mehnert
- Geni & Toby Miller
- Janet McKay
- Elita Caldwell

- Luis Briones
- Kelly Browning
- Debbie Berkenmeier
- Patricia Mainer
- Michael Fernandez
- Lauren Moore
- Stacy Parsons
- Marsha Tucker
- Matthew Hunter
- Marsha Brister
- Rena Turnbaugh
- Alinda Martin
- Kathy Molinaro
- Mary Perroni
- Morad Kabiri
- Theresa Gustafson
- Matt Riley
- Trish Hanks
- Brent Erenwert
- Stephen Hundley

Thank you!

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Brazoria County Environmental Center

Home Chemical Collection Site & Learning Center

ABSOLUTELY NO LATEX PAINT!!!

<p>Accepted:*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ignitable - Oil Based Paint, Paint Thinners, Petroleum Distillate Cleaners Oxidizers - Fertilizers, Pool Chemicals Corrosives - Acids, Bases, Cleaning Solutions, Drain Cleaner Poisons- Pesticides, Fungicides, Herbicides, Wood Preservatives Automotive Materials - Oil, Anti-freeze, Transmission Fluid, Brake Fluid <p><small>*1 gallon or smaller containers</small></p>	<p>Not Accepted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Latex Paint Explosives - Ammunition, Fire Works, Compressed Gas Any Regulated Waste from Regulated Entities - Asbestos, PCBs Large quantities - 50 pound limit & not more than 5 gallons total (in 1 gallon containers only) Commercial/Industrial/Agricultural Waste Trash, Debris, 55 gal. Drums, Medical Waste, Radio Active Waste, Smoke Detectors Electronic Waste - No Batteries <p><small>*5 gallon total limit</small></p>
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***ATTENDANT MUST BE PRESENT!**

Operating Days/Hours:
Second Saturdays 8:00 a.m.-4:00p.m. (Only)
Brazoria County Environmental Center,
10310 FM 523, Angleton, TX 77515

Keep Brazoria County Beautiful Association, P.O. Box 206, Lake Jackson, TX 77556