



April 2013



Commissioner Grady Prestage's
PRECINCT 2 COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Boys & Girls Clubs Of Fort Bend County

Ready For Summer!



As summertime quickly approaches, kids will be anxiously looking for something to do while parents will be looking for a safe, productive place for their kids. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Fort Bend County are the perfect place to satisfy the child's and parent's needs during the summer! Fort Bend County has been partnering with the Boys & Girls Club since the year 2000. The county own two facilities that are operated by the Boys & Girls Club. These clubs deliver evidence-based programs that engage youth in diverse activities to help them achieve three priority outcomes: **1. Academic Success, 2. Healthy Lifestyles, and 3. Good Character & Citizenship.**

This year, each club will participate in the Summer Learning Program. As part of this program, participants will be exposed to fun learning opportunities through STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), ELA (English Language Arts), as well as Fine Arts activities and programs.

Components of the Summer Learning Program include:

- Interactive learning blocks in STEM, reading and fine arts, dance & drama
- Awesome field trips to local attractions-museums, sporting games, parks, nature centers, colleges & universities
- Community Service Engagement-club care, garden projects, health & career fairs
- Exhibition Week-quiz bowls, talent shows, and science fairs

"Here at the Boys & Girls Club, our most important responsibility is to create a safe environment so our members can enjoy our programs. In our Summer Learning Program, we offer diverse activities based on the interest and needs of the boys & girls served in our community", stated Ashley Shields, Program Coordinator at the Stafford Boys & Girls Club.

The Summer Learning Program extends from June 10th – August 16th with an enrollment fee of \$20.

For more information on the Boys & Girls Clubs of Fort Bend County, contact the following:

Stafford Club



3110 5th Street
Stafford, Texas 77477
281.261.5737

Stafford@bgclubs-houston.org

Fort Bend Club



5525 Hobby Road
Houston, Texas 77053
281.438.4720

ftbend@bgclubs-houston.org

April Deemed National County Government Month

Every year during the month of April, we celebrate National County Government Month. The significance of the month-long celebration was to raise awareness about the functions of county government and give the public a better understanding of how county government operates.

So in celebration of National County Government Month, we focused on a particular aspect of county government that is important to Fort Bend County and many other counties across the nation.

Fort Bend County Veterans Service Office

ATTENTION! Fort Bend County recognizes the sacrifices that our veterans make to protect our country and is proud to serve them once they come back home. The Fort Bend County Veterans Service Office actively promotes the rights of veterans and dependents of the United States Armed Forces and ensures they receive the entitlements they deserve for the sacrifices they endured.

Services offered include:

While driving through the county, have you ever noticed new county buildings, roads, bridges, schools and many other infrastructures? Most of these items are financed through tax-exempt municipal bonds.

These bonds are the most important tool in the U.S. for financing investment in schools, roads, water and sewer systems, airports, bridges and other vital infrastructure. State and local governments financed more than \$1.65 trillion of infrastructure investment over the last decade (2003-2012) through the tax-exempt bond market according to a joint report-*Protecting Bonds to Save Infrastructure and Jobs* –issued by NACo (National Association of Counties), NLC (National League of Cities), and USCM (U.S. Conference of Mayors). Ninety (90%) percent of infrastructure municipal bonds financing went to schools, hospitals, water, sewer facilities, public power utilities, roads and mass transit over the last 10 years. In 2012 alone, more than 6,600 tax-exempt municipal bonds financed more than \$179 billion worth of infrastructure projects across the country.

So next time you see a new county building being erected , or a new roadway, school or hospital, these vital infrastructure projects are financed through the tax-exempt municipal bonds.

- Inform veterans, dependents and survivors about benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Home visits to the elderly and disabled.
- Completion of various VA forms
- Explanation of Federal Benefits
- Explanation of State of Texas Benefits

According to the Veterans Service Office, there are several documents the veteran and spouse should obtain and keep in a safe place when applying for benefits through the VA:

- Original Discharge or DD-214. If you have the original it is recommended that you have it recorded at the County Clerk’s Office.
- Original or certified copy of your marriage license issued by the County Clerk’s Office.
- Divorce decree/death record of prior marriage(s) for self or current spouse. **If these documents are not available, it is recommended that you record these important dates.**
- Birth certificates of children or adoption decree
- Social Security numbers for you, your spouse and children.

For more information, Fort Bend County Veterans Service Office is located at 307 Texas Parkway, Suite 235, Missouri City, Texas, or call [281.238.3587](tel:281.238.3587).

Email: commpct2@co.fort-bend.tx.us

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