



Commissioner Grady Prestage's
PRECINCT 2 COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

January 2017



(Click Video to Watch)



***The PINNACLE Senior
Center in the News!***

***Fort Bend County Health &
Human Services Wins
Recognition for Emergency***

Line Dance Toy Drive



The Pinnacle Senior Center Line Dance Toy Drive brought out a multitude of line dance students and enthusiasts to have a good time and donate to a worthy cause. Sheila "Happy Feet" Brown, who has been a volunteer instructor since the opening of The Pinnacle, and many patrons and supporters of the Pinnacle were in attendance at this event for the second consecutive year. Participants of the event showed off the many steps learned in the weekly classes while others simply admired as they looked on.

Once again the event was a success as the many participants donated toys. Toys for ages birth to 3 years old were donated to The Battered Women's Shelter. Toys for ages 3 and up were donated to Santa at the Ensemble who holds an annual event for local school age children. This was the third year donating to these organizations.

Senior Tech Talk



Preparedness Program!!

The Fort Bend County Health & Human Services' Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program has been recognized by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) for its ability to plan for, respond to, and recover from public health emergencies.



This recognition confirms that the Fort Bend County Health & Human Services Public Health Emergency Preparedness program has a thorough and coordinated emergency response plan in place and that staff have the training to protect the health of the community during an emergency.

Dr. M. desVignes-Kendrick, Director of Health & Human Services and NACCHO past-president, was delighted with the recognition. "Our preparedness team has worked long and hard to make Fort Bend Preparedness a world-class program. And meeting NACCHO and the CDC's benchmark criteria is a clear demonstration of just how well our team is working together."

NACCHO will formally award Fort Bend County Health & Human Services with a recognition plaque during the Annual Preparedness Summit in Atlanta, Georgia, April 25th-28th, 2017.

"NACCHO commends Fort Bend County Health & Human Services for being a model of public health emergency preparedness..." said Dr. LaMar Hasbrouck, NACCHO Executive Director.

The Missouri City - Sugar Land Chapter of Jack and Jill, partnered with Best Buy's Geek Squad and held a Senior Tech Talk for the members at the Pinnacle Senior Community Center in Fort Bend County. Seniors were able to ask questions about their smart phones, tablets, and laptop computers. The young members of Jack and Jill, grades 6th-8th grade were there as Jr. Geeks to give some one on one help. The room was full of learning and laughter as the seniors were able to learn at their own pace.

New Hire to assist On-Site Library

Fort Bend County Libraries has hired a new library clerk to aid in the public use of the PINNACLE's on-site Library. Chanta' Madison graduated from Alief Elsik High School and went on to earn a BA in Mass Communications from Houston Baptist University.



Madison's previous employment in customer service will stand her in good stead as she performs duties that mainly focus on interacting with the public. Her duties at the Pinnacle Center will include shelving materials, assisting patrons using the self-check machine and computers, processing materials and other clerical tasks. Madison will also assist County librarians in presenting computer classes and host a monthly book club. Madison will start her new role on Monday, January 30th, 2017.

Community Development Block Grant Applications Now

NACCHO

National Association of County & City Health Officials

For more information on Project Public Health Ready, including recognized sites, project tools, and resources, please visit <http://www.naccho.org/PPHR>.

City Council and Stafford MSD Look to Fill Several Seats!

The Stafford MSD School Board and Stafford City Council are looking to fill several seats in its upcoming election on Saturday, May 6th, 2017.

This year SMSD, will hold a general election for the purpose of electing two (2) trustees to serve for 3-year terms ending in May 2020. Trustees are elected at-large by qualified voters and the candidates



receiving the most votes will be elected. Each trustee represents Stafford MSD at large. The last day to file an application for a place on the general election ballot is Friday, February 17th, 2017. Candidate application packets for the general election ballot are available at the SMSD Administration Building.

The Board of Trustees consists of seven (7) members elected to serve, without compensation, for overlapping terms of three (3) years each. Following the annual election, the board elects a president, vice-president, and secretary to serve for a one-year term.

SMSD Board of Trustees meet monthly

Available for Missouri City

Missouri City's annual Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Applications for projects beginning July 1, 2017 are available and will be accepted through the 5 p.m., Friday, March 10th deadline.



The CDBG program works to ensure decent affordable housing, to provide services to the most vulnerable in our communities, and to create jobs through the expansion and retention of businesses. CDBG is an important tool for helping local governments tackle serious challenges facing their communities. The CDBG program has made a difference in the lives of millions of people and their communities across the Nation.

The City's Consolidated Plan has established the following five priority areas for CDBG funds:

- Education of youth and adults
- Health and welfare services for children
- Senior/adult services
- Disabled population services
- Homeless services

Missouri City's estimated CDBG allocation for Program Year (PY) 2017-2018 is approximately \$300,000. Funding for public service activities is capped at 15 percent of the annual allocation.

CDBG applications can be picked up in-person at the City's Development Services Department located at 1522 Texas Parkway, or download them here:

CDBG Grant Application [Form 1](#)

on the second Monday at 6:30 PM in the SMSD Administration Building Board Room. Meeting agendas, information about each agenda item and past meeting videos are linked to the district website under the Board of Education. Upcoming Meeting Dates: February 13th, March 20th, April 10th & May 8th, 2017. Trustee Election (May 2017). For additional information, please contact Sonya Austin with questions. Email to elections@staffordmsd.org or call 281-261-9202.



Stafford City Council is composed of members elected at large by the city's residents to serve four-year terms. As the city's legislative body, the City Council is responsible for the implementation of programs and services provided by the city, as well as hearing the concerns of local citizens. The City Council has appointment authority for positions such as City Manager and also appoints citizens to various advisory committees.

This time around, four positions currently held on City Council will be up for the May election. Persons interested in running for any of these positions can obtain a candidate's packet at City Hall at 2610 Main St, Stafford, TX 77477 with the necessary information and forms to be used by the candidate. The last day for filing an application appear on the ballot for City Council is also Friday, February 17, 2017.

CDBG Grant Application [Form 2](#)

A public hearing and informational meeting to help guide applicants through the process and answer questions will be held by Development Services at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 9th, in the Old Municipal Courtroom, 1522 Texas Parkway. A second public hearing at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 3rd, will be held in City Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, 1522 Texas Parkway.

Missouri City's Third Annual Black History Month Celebration To Feature Music, Art, Dance, Food Trucks & More!

Missouri City will celebrate its Third Annual Black History Month Celebration on Saturday, Feb. 11th, through a day-long ceremony of music and culture that will pay tribute to the many Fort Bend County African-American leaders and advocates—past, present and future.

The event will be held at the Community Center in the City Hall Complex at 1522 Texas Pkwy, and include a live DJ, art displays, food trucks, face painting, a gaming truck, balloon artists, a photo booth, a bounce house obstacle course and more. Featured performers include Angel Taylor, formerly of Trin-I-Tee 5:7, Step Rideau & the Zydeco Outlaws, and the Fort Bend Academy of Arts & Dance.

The day's full agenda is as follows:

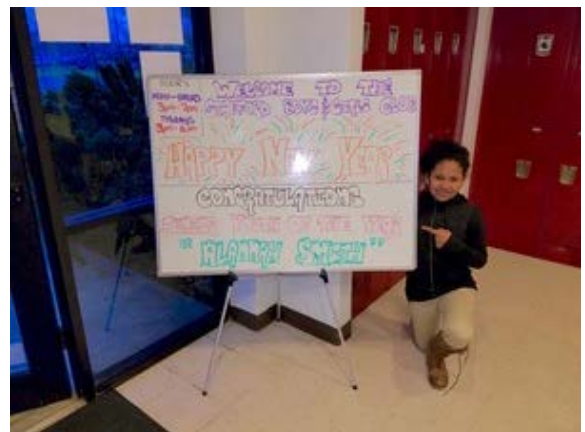
- ***Event Program: 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.***
- ***Cultural Cuisine Tastings &***



Citizens desiring to vote in the election must submit a voter registration application by Thursday, April 6th. Early voting will begin on Monday, April 24, and run through Tuesday, May 2nd at City Hall and other locations. Election day voting will occur exclusively at City Hall on Saturday, May 6th. For additional information on voter registration in Fort Bend County, [Click Here.](#)

Stafford Boys & Girls Club member Receives Highest Honor

The Boys & Girls Club of Greater Houston is proud to announce that Stafford Boys & Girls Club member Alannah Smith was chosen as the First Ever Junior Youth of the Year! Youth of the Year is the Boys & Girls Clubs' premier recognition program celebrating the Club member's achievements.



Smith competed against 18 other Jr. YOY candidates where they would present a portfolio that included: photos, artwork, school projects, creative writing

- Performances: 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.**
- **Celebration of Culture, Music & Art featuring Step Rideau & the Zydeco Outlaws: 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**
 - **Fun Festival with DJ music, local art, a photo booth, face painting, and local food trucks: 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.**
 - **Dance Showcase featuring the Fort Bend Academy of Arts & Dance: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

“We’re proud to see our Black History Month tradition continue to recognize African-American culture and accomplishments. This year we wanted to seamlessly blend together celebrations of history, community leaders, local advocates and area youth,” said City Manager Anthony Snipes. “We also wanted to offer exciting entertainment through food and live music. This event will be a joyous celebration.”

Partners include St. John Missionary Baptist Church, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc., Suburban Houston-Fort Bend Alumnae Chapter—Delta Sigma Theta, amongst others. Additional musical performances will be provided by the Hightower High School African Dance group. Food vendors include Micheaux’s Diner & Catering Inc., POParazzi’s Gourmet Popcorn, Cajun Pits, and Bahama Bucks.

Volunteer opportunities are available for this event; interested residents may contact Media Relations Specialist III Cory Stottlemeyer at cstottlemeyer@missouricitytx.gov or at 281-403-8532.

pieces, vision boards, and video clips. The candidates would also participate in a mock interview then write and recite speech to judges.

Smith credits the club for new and positive friendships and learning the importance of being respectful to others and finding confidence within herself.

Alannah love’s the club’s ‘SMART Girls’ program and has gained many new skills while working with other girls her age.

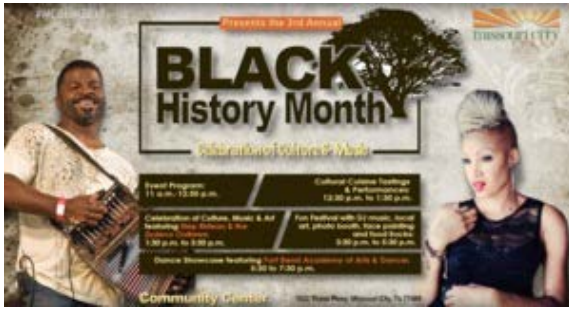
Alannah Smith is an A/B Honor Roll Student at Missouri City Middle School and has numerous awards in Reading Art, Science and Music. She plans to be attend Texas A&M University where she will study to become a Veterinarian.

A private, nonprofit organization, **Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Houston** has been the region's leading youth-development organization, improving young lives as well as the communities that surround and support us. The organization relies on private, corporate, individual and United Way funding to fill the gap between annual membership dues and operational expenses.



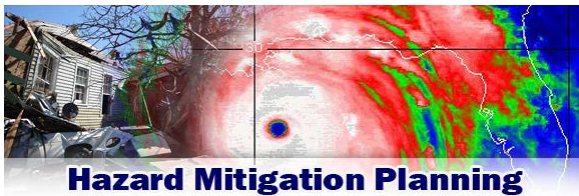
Job-Search Assistance Series at Missouri City Branch Library

Fort Bend County Libraries’ **Missouri City Branch Library** will present a 5-week series of free Job-Search Assistance programs in February and March. JoAnn Kawamoto from Texas Workforce Solutions will offer tips on a variety of topics for job-hunters. All



Meadows Place developing Hazard Mitigation Plan

The City of Meadows Place is engaged in hazard mitigation planning with Fort Bend County to identify risks and vulnerabilities associated with natural disasters, develop long-term strategies for protecting people and property from future hazard events and lessen risks to community assets. The current plan expires Oct. 11 2017, but city leaders are already working on a new plan.



Hazard Mitigation Planning

Participating from Meadows Place were Mayor Jessup, Police Chief Gary Stewart, Public Works Director Danny Segundo, Finance Director Anna-Maria Weston, Parks Director Colene Cabezas and City Secretary Courtney Rutherford. There will be a series of meetings, evaluations, public outreach and significant data gathering to bring the mitigation plan to life. Estimated completion date for the preliminary draft is June, 2017.

Are You a Parent of a Fort Bend County High School Senior?

The Fort Settlement Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas is offering a college scholarship of \$1000 to a high school senior, living in Ft. Bend County, who submits a winning essay on

programs will take place from **1:00 to 3:00 pm**, in the Meeting Room of the library, located at 1530 Texas Parkway.



The schedule of programs is as follows:

- **February 1:** Creating Resumés & Writing Cover Letters
- **February 8:** Interview Skills
- **February 15:** Making Connections (Social Media)
- **February 22:** Evaluating Your Skills & Developing a Job-Search Plan
- **March 1:** Creating Resumés & Writing Cover Letters

Kawamoto is the Regional Facilitator with Workforce Solutions. She has more than 10 years of experience helping people find jobs, keep jobs, and get better jobs. She conducts job-skills seminars that connect potential employees with employers throughout the 13-county Gulf Coast region.

The programs are free and open to the public. For more information, call the Missouri City Branch Library at [281-238-2100](tel:281-238-2100).

Do You Have A Story? We'd Like to Hear from You!

Texas history.

The essay must be at least 5 pages (typewritten) with 5 or more references (no more than 2 being from the Internet).

The subject must be of interest to students of Texas history, and the deadline is **March 15th, 2017**.

All entries should be mailed to:
Katie Neely, 904 Winston Dr, Richmond,
TX, 77469. If you have questions, contact
Connie at [281-980-5939](tel:281-980-5939) or [281-630-1952](tel:281-630-1952).



This is your space! We want to hear from you, so send us your news. We may even publish your article in a future newsletter (although we reserve the right to edit for length and content). Try to keep your submissions to 150-200 words.

Submit articles to:
commpct2@fortbendcountytexas.gov
Write away!

Fort Bend County Precinct 2 Commissioner Grady Prestage
303 Texas Parkway, Suite 213
Missouri City, TX 77489 / Phone: (281) 403.8000
EMAIL: commpct2@co.fort-bend.tx.us