



Commissioner Grady Prestage's
PRECINCT 2 COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

August 2018

"COMMISSIONER'S CORNER"



(Click Video to Watch)



Community Operation Back-to-School Health Fairs Serve 2,000 Children!



Unprecedented numbers of families benefited from this year's Community Operation Back-to-School Health Fairs. In celebration of National Health Center Week, AccessHealth hosted fairs on August 4th in Richmond and August 11th in Missouri City. Backpacks pre-filled with school supplies were given to 1,750 students.

Of the many years AccessHealth and partners have been collaborating for this effort, this year's health fairs had the highest attendance with the largest

AccessHealth Heart of Fort Bend Event to Honor Three Special Volunteers

Under the leadership of co-chairs Holly Kaminga, Brenda Patton and Beth Wolf, the committee is putting together a wonderful evening, moving from a Thursday evening fundraiser to a Saturday evening gala.



Access Health is pleased to honor three outstanding citizens of Fort Bend County: Ann Smith, Dr. Betty Baitland, and Nell Ciancarelli. Each one of these women has served Fort Bend County for over forty years in various civic, charitable, and professional roles. Smith is the owner of Pamela Printing. Baitland served as Superintendent of Fort Bend ISD. Ciancarelli was the Community

numbers of screenings and immunizations provided. Health screenings included dental, vision, speech and scoliosis screenings. A combined total of 473 screenings were provided free of charge. AccessHealth and Fort Bend County Health and Human Services administered a combined total of 235 vaccines, also free of charge. Additionally, 26 children received sports physicals, and 40 children received free haircuts.



Presenting sponsors included Reliant, an NRG Company, Fort Bend County, City of Richmond, City of Missouri City and St. John's United Methodist Church. Other generous sponsors included Community Health Choice, Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Cigna and CenterPoint Energy.

"This was a joint effort made possible by many sponsors, vendors, volunteers and the collaborative force of Fort Bend County partners including Commissioner Grady Prestage, Precinct 2; Fort Bend County Social Services; Health and Human Services; the Office of Emergency Management and Fort Bend County Constable Gary Majors, Precinct 2," said event Co-chair and AccessHealth Community Engagement Manager, Sharonda DeBose.



For more about the Back-to-School Health Fairs or *Heart of Fort Bend* sponsorship opportunities, please contact Sharonda DeBose at (281) 633-3144 or sdebose@myaccesshealth.org. For patient information, please visit www.myaccesshealth.org.

Missouri City Fire and Rescue Services partner with Fort Bend County EMS

Relations Manager at Nalco-Champion.

As community leaders, these ladies clearly realize the importance of AccessHealth in Fort Bend County. They became volunteers for the annual Heart of a Fort Bend gala several years ago. Since then, they have served on committees, volunteered their time, and given their support to every facet of the event. Their collective knowledge of the people and the history of Fort Bend County has been an invaluable asset to AccessHealth.

"I have been a part of this event since year one and I am very excited that we are moving to a Saturday evening this year with live music and even more excited that we will be honoring these three dynamic ladies who have supported us so much along the way," said Holly Kaminga.

"This event has grown year after year, and we are hopeful that with the move to a Saturday night, that momentum will continue to build," said Beth Wolf. "With the projected population growth in our county, access to quality, affordable healthcare will continue to be paramount. We hope everyone will join us for an exciting time while raising funds to provide healthcare for our community's low-income and uninsured families and individuals."

The event will be held on **Saturday, October 13th** at 6:30, in the Infinity Room at Safari Texas Ranch. The music will be provided by "Double Vision", a band comprised of Houston based physicians and dentists, who also make great music. This was made possible by our Entertainment Underwriter, OakBend Physical Therapy. Other event underwriters include, Phoenix Designs, Sterling McCall Lexus and Pamela Printing.

Other sponsors to date include Gold Level Sponsor, Memorial Hermann Sugar Land, Silver Level Sponsors, Houston Methodist Sugar Land and NRG and Bronze level sponsor Si Environmental.

"On behalf of the committee and the board of directors I want to thank those who have already joined with us and encourage those of you who haven't to consider supporting this event," said Brenda Patton.

AccessHealth provides integrated healthcare services without regard to income or circumstance to improve the quality of life in Fort Bend County. AccessHealth is a United Way agency, and the main Center in Richmond is recognized as a Patient-Centered Medical Home by the National Committee for Quality Assurance.

For more about *Heart of Fort Bend* sponsorship opportunities or AccessHealth services, please contact Cindy Reaves at creaves@myaccesshealth.org.



City and county leaders along with staff from MCFRS and FBCEMS officially placed Medic 8 in service on a full-time basis at Fire Station 1 after a six-month trial period.

Medic 8, formally the Mobile Intensive Care Unit assigned to the Greatwood/New Territory area of Fort Bend County is now based full time in Missouri City. Medic 8's primary district covers Hwy 6 from Dulles to Thompson Ferry Rd., south on University to the City of Sugar Land and north of Hwy 6 to Quail Valley Rd and the City of Stafford. Medic 4 (Texas Pkwy.) and Medic 5 (Sienna Pkwy.) continue to also serve Missouri City from Fire Stations 3 and 4.

"This is great cooperation between the city and the county," said MCFRS Chief Campbell. FBCEMS Chief Temple added "this partnership will improve responses to emergency medical calls in the City of Missouri City.

Fort Bend County Libraries to host 'Job-Survival' Workshop!

Have you been searching for a job and not having any luck? Maybe it's time for a change in your game plan. Fort Bend County Libraries' Sienna Branch Library will present a free, two-part series of "Job-Search Survival Tips," beginning on **Monday, September 17th**, from 5:30 to 8:30 pm, in the Meeting Room of the library, located at 8411 Sienna Springs Blvd in Missouri City. The series will continue on **Tuesday, September 18th**, at the same place and time. Different topics are discussed each night.

The two-part series is designed to help all job-hunters, from those applicants applying for a position at a fast-food restaurant to executives looking for a position in a large company. The tips that are presented can help any applicant plan a more efficient job hunt and make a more favorable impression.



Missouri City Launches METRO Community Connector Transit Service

On **Monday, Aug. 27th** at the Community Center in the City Hall Complex, the "Show Me City" and METRO officially launched a new MCTX Community Connector bus service within Missouri City limits.



Last April, Missouri City Council Members unanimously approved a resolution that grants consent and approval to the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (METRO) to provide a community connector option within Missouri City. METRO currently offers the Community Connector option in only one other Houston-area community and Missouri City is the first community in Fort Bend County to offer this custom service. The Missouri City buses feature the "Show Me City"-themed design in the image above. METRO and MCTX design teams collaborated on the customized wrap.

METRO's MCTX Community Connector will bring personalized, curb-to-destination service to Missouri City residents and visitors. This on-demand service allows individuals to travel anywhere within a zone, seven days a week, from 5 a.m. to 7 p.m. The new service will connect residents to jobs, grocery stores, hotels, restaurants, the new HCC Missouri City Campus and METRO's local bus network.



METRO's fare policy will be applicable to the Missouri City Community Connector service. Passengers using a METRO Q Fare Card will pay \$1.25 for the initial boarding and can make unlimited boardings in any direction within a three-hour time period. All other options that fall under METRO's fare policy, including the "free ride" 70+ card and Day Passes, will be accepted as METRO fare. Half-price rides are available for students and seniors with a discount METRO Q Fare Card or METRO Day Pass.

For more information about this initiative and other Missouri City programs and services, please watch the City website: www.missouricitytx.gov or download



Learn tips on writing a better resumé, researching prospective employers, interviewing and non-verbal skills, making a great first impression, networking, and much more. By developing an organized plan of action, the applicant is able to experience a more efficient job hunt with an increased chance of success.

In the series, a team of 10 professionals, with decades of experience in corporate America between them, will share their insight and the experiences they themselves have had in the business world – from the perspective of the employer doing the hiring as well as the employee looking for a job. The job-search survival team includes business owners, financial and mortgage advisors, computer consultants, sales and marketing professionals, and advertising and communications executives – all of whom volunteer their time for this workshop.

The sessions are free and open to the public. Registration is not required, and late arrivals are welcome. For more information, call the Sienna Branch Library at [281-238-2900](tel:281-238-2900) or the library system's Communications Office at [281-633-4734](tel:281-633-4734).

Fort Bend ISD Board of Trustees Call for November Bond Election



As the 2014 Bond Program nears completion, Fort Bend ISD students are benefiting from the community's investment. Fort Bend ISD has opened four new schools, added classrooms, invested in additional safety measures and upgraded our technology infrastructure, and planning has continued to consider future capital needs and ensure safe and effective learning environments throughout the District.

During its August 13th, 2018 meeting, the Fort Bend ISD Board of Trustees unanimously voted to call a November 6th bond election to address capital needs

the **MCTX Mobile app** (available for free in Google Play and the Apple app store).

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

FLASHING RED = STOP!

Passing a school bus while the stop sign is extended and the lights are flashing is **unsafe and unlawful**.

Avoid tragedy by obeying the law.



Whether it's preschool, grade school, high school or college, the new school year means increased pedestrian and vehicular traffic in neighborhoods and around schools throughout the county. The changing season will also bring increasingly shorter days, less daylight and reduced visibility. Here is a list of reminders to keep commuters, parents, students, pedestrians and bicyclists safe as we get back to school!

- Stop for any school bus that has its lights and “stop arm” activated to load and unload children. Drivers must stop in both directions, unless separated from the bus by a median.
- Be alert when around school zones or buses.
- Build extra time into your schedule to accommodate the increased congestion and delay surrounding school start and end times.
- Pay attention to your surroundings, on streets or sidewalks; do not assume others see you or that you have the right-of-way.
- Slow down and be alert for children, walking or biking; they may be difficult to see and may appear suddenly and unexpectedly.
- Do not block crosswalks or intersections; look ahead to determine whether you can get completely across the intersection to avoid “getting stuck” in it or on a crosswalk.
- Leave extra distance between you and the car in front of you, especially when in school traffic; anticipate frequent and unpredictable stop-and-go traffic; and look ahead for pedestrians and to avoid blocking intersections and crosswalks.
- Parents: Talk to your kids about traffic safety, even before they reach driving age, to get them thinking about it; set ground rules for your inexperienced driver and the consequences of breaking them.

related to new construction, safety and security, renovations to address maintenance and adequacy throughout the District, and transportation and technology.

The development of the \$992.6 million bond referendum follows an extensive Facilities Master Planning process that began in January of 2018 to ensure that the District is providing the best learning environments, valuable opportunities and access to programs in accordance with the Board-adopted Profile of a Graduate. This Facilities Master Planning process helped to identify construction projects and other life-cycle maintenance and adequacy needs essential for the next six years, and led to the development of an updated capital plan. This capital plan also includes additional funding for safety and security, technology, and transportation needs.

The \$992.6 million bond referendum will fund the first of a two-phase, six-year plan to address capital needs in the District, which is expected to serve more than 85,000 students by the year 2027. Phase one includes the \$992 million bond referendum, followed by a projected \$705.2 million bond plan in 2021. The Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce (445 Commerce Green Blvd. Sugar Land, TX 77478) will be holding a Fort Bend ISD Bond Update with Superintendent, Dr. Charles Dupre on **Friday, September 7th**, from 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM. If you would like to register for the event click [HERE](#). For more information and a full listing of items on the 2018 bond referendum click [HERE](#).

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



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).

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



In Honor of Donald Perkins...

With great sadness Commissioner Grady Prestage, Staff and all of Fort Bend County,

Precinct 2 acknowledge the passing of our good friend and City of Houston District K, Chief of Staff Donald Perkins.

Donald was a much-loved and respected collaborator of Fort Bend County who served the city of Houston for over 20 years.



Donald Perkins earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette with a degree in Urban and Regional Planning and later obtained his master's degree from Texas Southern University in Transportation Planning and Management. He went on to provide exemplary service to Houston residents through his work in the public sector.

Please join us in offering our sincerest condolences to his family, friends and colleagues. Donald will be greatly missed.

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