



*Commissioner Grady Prestage's*  
**PRECINCT 2 COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER**

February 2018



(Click Video to Watch)



***Samsung Helps  
Stafford Boys & Girls  
Club Recover in Wake  
of Hurricane Harvey***

***Are You Eligible  
for Owner-Occupied  
Housing  
Rehabilitation***

## *Program?*



After the disaster that was Hurricane Harvey, Commissioner Grady Prestage and Fort Bend County officials discovered the Stafford Club was one of the many buildings suffering flood damage. Once the waters receded and the clean up began, workers found mold on and inside the Clubs walls which would mean the building would have to be closed, displacing more than 1,000 students who participate in its sports and academic programs.



On **Friday, Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>**, Commissioner Prestage joined U.S. Rep. Al Green and officials from the Boys and Girls Clubs of Houston and Samsung Electronics America to unveil the Clubs new Tech Center! As a part of the Tech Center makeover, the previous space was overhauled with new flooring, furniture, and fixtures, including flexible seating that can be rearranged to best meet the studying needs of the students. In addition, students discovered the club's new computer and technology equipment including laptops (Notebook 9 Pro), tablets, and televisions (65-inch and 55-inch frame TVs, and an 82-inch 4K UHD TV).

As part of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, the Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program uses federal funds to assist low and moderate-income Missouri City homeowners with rehabilitating their homes.



“The Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program provides financial assistance through grants of up to \$10,000 to qualified low-income homeowners to complete minor home repairs,” Community Development Coordinator LaToya Ricketts said. “The goal of the program is to preserve the housing supply in Missouri City. This program accomplishes one of the City's Consolidated Plan high priority goals, which is housing rehabilitation.”

The objectives of the City's Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program are:

- To prevent hazardous health conditions and code violations in owner-occupied homes in Missouri City.
- To prevent the deterioration of property and neighborhoods.
- To improve the quality of the owner-occupied housing stock for low- and moderate-income persons.
- To provide financial assistance to low- and moderate-income persons





A long-time partner of Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA), Samsung worked closely with Greater Houston Clubs to help renovate locations that were the most in need following the storm. The Stafford Club suffered flooding that not only impacted the Clubs, but also members' homes in the surrounding areas.

Since 2014, Samsung has partnered with the Boys & Girls Clubs of America with a shared commitment to empower youth to explore a future in STEM. Together, Samsung and BGCA have developed programs designed to provide STEM learning opportunities and engage in STEM related projects and activities to foster this commitment and help build the future leaders of tomorrow.

"After the storm, this club was truly imperiled. All the furniture, sports equipment and computers were destroyed by the flood waters," said Commissioner Prestage, "The Stafford Club does wonderful things for the community and we're so grateful for Samsung's generosity." To date, Samsung has donated technology and resources valued at over \$300,000 to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Houston. These in-kind donations are a part of the \$1,000,000 gifted to the Houston community immediately following Hurricane Harvey.

The Stafford Club is located at 3110

for housing rehabilitation activities.

To be considered for assistance, an applicant must meet the specific criteria as described in the application:

- Persons must be in the low to moderate-income bracket.
- Persons must own the house to be rehabilitated, and it must be their primary place of residence.



The CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program application may be obtained [HERE](#) on Missouri City's website, or in-person at the City's Development Services Department. Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until further notice. Upon receipt of the completed application, the applicant's name will be placed on the Housing Rehabilitation Waiting List. For more information, contact Egima Brown at [egima.brown@missouricitytx.gov](mailto:egima.brown@missouricitytx.gov) or by calling 281-403-8641.

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***Animal Services Takes Steps Toward "No Kill" Status***

Fifth St. For more information about the club and about their programs, visit [www.bgegh.org](http://www.bgegh.org).

## ***Commissioners Court Approves CDBG Recovery Application***



After holding a public hearing regarding Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery applications for infrastructure and housing for the long-term recovery from the floods of 2016, Fort Bend County Commissioners Court approved an action to submit an application to the Texas General Land Office for the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery program.

While some residents expressed concern over the disbursement of funds from the program not going to Brazos River area residents, the Commissioners Court was quick to remind everyone that this is to address the flooding from over two years ago and that the County probably won't have a hearing on Harvey [CDBGDR applications] until 2019.



Administrative & Budgets Manager Ann Werlein stated that Commissioners have officially applied for the funding since the County has finalized the project list that the funds would be used for. Werlein expects that once a notice to proceed is

The Fort Bend County Animal Services shelter has received the results of a 2017 assessment that included several acknowledgements as well as recommendations to further assist the shelter in moving toward “no-kill” status.



Brent Toellner, Regional Director, Great Plains and South Central Regions for Best Friends Animal Society, performed the assessment, commending the staff and leadership at Animal Services. Toellner's report states, “the single most important element in building a successful life-saving organization is having compassionate leadership that is dedicated to providing safe and positive outcomes for the pets in the community.”

The Best Friends report provided Animal Services with several recommendations to maintain the change toward “no kill”. One of the recommendations, which will be implemented first, calls for more transparency and public awareness of the number of animal intakes, adoptions, rescues, redemptions to owners and of those euthanized. Animal Services plans to publish this data monthly on the County website and on social media. Animal Services is also researching guidance on Trap Neuter Return (TNR) and Shelter Neuter Return (SNR) programs, including the steps that would be necessary to implement pilot programs.



“We are thrilled that the external



filed from the Texas General Land Office, then the county will begin initiating contracts within the affected cities.

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## ***Fort Bend County Libraries Offering Free Income-Tax Help***

Fort Bend County Libraries are now hosting representatives from the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), who are providing free income-tax-preparation assistance for low-income taxpayers at several locations in the Fort Bend County library system now through **April 17<sup>th</sup>**.

Income-tax forms will no longer be available at the libraries, but patrons may use the libraries' computers and printers to download and print out the forms from [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov), during regular library hours. A library card is needed to use the printers, and the cost to print is 10¢ per black-and-white page.

Patrons should bring the following information to the session if possible: a photo ID; Social Security card(s) for self, spouse, and all dependents; last year's tax return; W-2, 1099s; unemployment compensation statements, and any other compensation received in 2017; and any other documents that are necessary to complete your return. For More Details, Locations and Schedule please [CLICK HERE](#).

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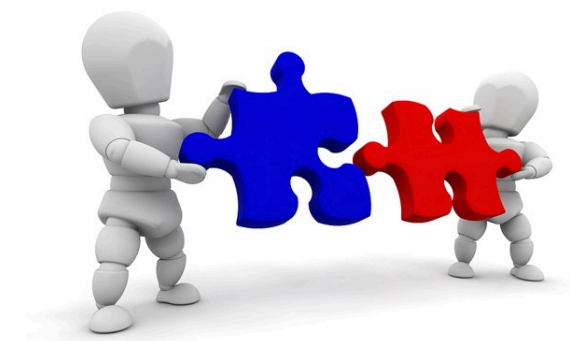
## ***REMINDER: Sienna Annex Open House in Precinct Two***

assessment highlighted the hard work that our staff does for the pets that arrive at our shelter. Our goal is to keep progressing toward 'no-kill' status," said Rene Vasquez, Director of Animal Services. "We could not have come this far without the amazing support of volunteers, rescue groups, fosters, elected officials and those who donate supplies and funds. Helping us find permanent homes for as many animals as possible will continue to take a community effort."

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## ***FBISD partnering with local businesses for Summer Resource Fair***

For parents of children with special needs, summer vacation often poses a challenge. To support these families, Fort Bend ISD's Special Education Department is hosting its first *Summer Resource Fair* on Saturday, **March 3<sup>rd</sup>**, from **9am - 12pm** at Clements High School, 4200 Elkins Drive, Sugar Land 77479.



FBISD is collaborating with and bringing together local business and organizations that are designed for or accommodating of students with special needs such as Theatre Under the Stars (TUTS) "The River," Houston Children's Museum, Fort Bend County Libraries, Texas Swim Academy and more. The goal of the resource fair is to connect parents to resources, programs, camps and activities they can take advantage of during the summer.



Officials of Fort Bend County invite you to stop by and see the new Sienna Annex in Precinct Two on **March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018** from **1pm - 4pm**.

Located at 5855 Sienna Springs Way, The Sienna Annex allows those residents living on the East side of Fort Bend County the convenience of county services a little closer to home.

Please stop by and visit with elected officials and staff, tour the building and enjoy coffee and cookies.

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

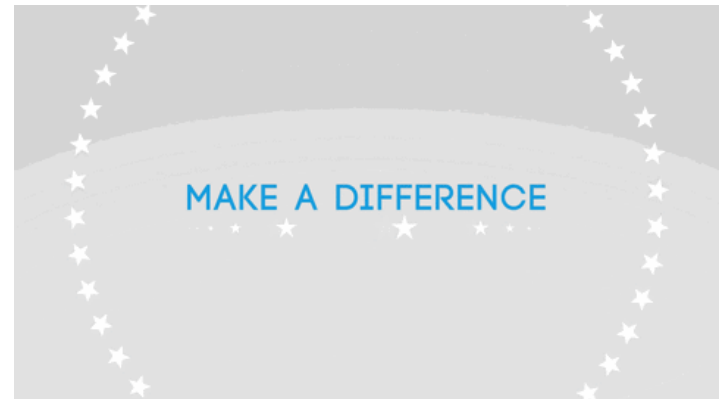


This is your space! We want to hear from you, so send us your news. We may even publish your article in a future newsletter (although we reserve the right to edit for length and content). Try to keep your submissions to 150-200 words.

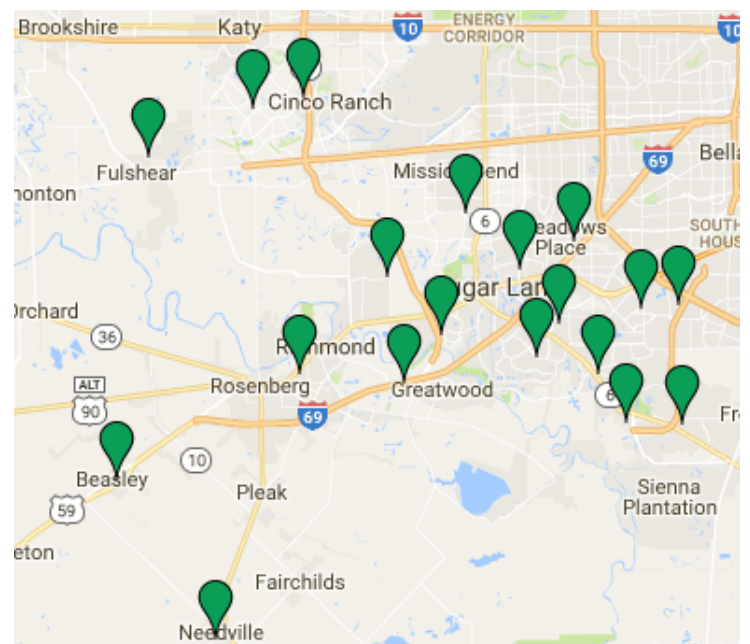
Submit articles to:  
[commpct2@fortbendcountytexas.gov](mailto:commpct2@fortbendcountytexas.gov)  
Write away!

This event is free and open to the community. For more information, contact FBISD's Special Education Department at [281-634-1143](tel:281-634-1143) or [visit their webpage](#).

## ***DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!***



The Joint Primary, scheduled for **March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018** is around the corner. However, Early Voting has already begun, and will continue through **Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>**. During the early voting period, you may vote at any early voting polling location. Voters are required to show [identification](#) at any polling location before he/she is permitted to cast a vote. Click [HERE](#) for the list of early voting centers and scheduling. You can also check [HERE](#) for your Voter's Registration!



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