



Club and Finish Line Celebrate Gymnasium Expansion Gear Up for Annual Back-to-School Health Fairs



On Wednesday, July 25th, Commissioner Grady Prestage joined by elected officials of Fort Bend County and dignitaries from the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Houston and Finish Line held a ribbon cutting for the Stafford Club's new gymnasium expansion. The new 9,900 square foot construction totaling \$1,388,350 is funded through the 2015 Facilities Bond. The new structure is connected to the existing facility via covered sidewalk is a full-size gymnasium that includes a



The first two Saturdays in August, AccessHealth in partnership with Fort Bend County, City of Missouri City, City of Richmond, Reliant, an NRG Company and St. John's United Methodist Church will host two FREE *Community Operation* Back-to-School Health Fairs. Sponsors, vendors and volunteers will join forces to assist parents with the medical and financial demands of preparing their children to return to school. storage room for gym equipment, bleachers, restrooms, and supervisor's offices.





Since taking office in 1991, Commissioner Prestage has always been an advocate for preparing young people for the future and ensuring that Fort Bend County youth and families have equal opportunities and access to clean, safe environments for afterschool and summer activities.

Fort Bend County has partnered with The Boys and Girls Club of Greater Houston since 1991 to provide structured programs and enrichment services for families and youth in our county.



The Finish Line Youth Foundation is a national partner of Boys & Girls Clubs of America. The focus of this partnership is to prepare youth for great futures with local and national career readiness programs. Through this partnership, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Houston was awarded a Legacy Grant. Legacy Grants are awarded to non-profit organizations with a designation to new facilities improvements and/or renovations to existing buildings, grounds, and property. Through the grant, Finish Line was able to supply the club with all new equipment and furniture that was previously damaged after Hurricane Harvey.

The *Community Operation* Health Fairs will be held at 400 Austin Street, Richmond, Texas on August 4, 2018, and at 307 Texas Parkway, Missouri City, Texas on August 11, 2018. Both fairs will be held from 9:00 am until noon. The two fairs will be open to the public and will offer over 20 informational booths as well as snacks and children's activities.

With several neighborhoods served by AccessHealth in Richmond and Missouri City impacted by the Brazos River flooding after Hurricane Harvey, this year's Back-to-School season will be more challenging for some than previous years. The *Community Operation* Health Fairs will offer immunizations, dental screenings, vision screenings, speechlanguage screenings, backpacks and school supplies, haircuts and a limited number of sports physicals.



"Reliant is excited to join forces with AccessHealth's Community Operation

The Stafford Club is located at 3110 5th St. For more information about their programs, visit <u>www.bgcgh.org</u>.

Community Members Invited to Participate in FBISD Board Leadership Academy

Members of the Fort Bend ISD community who are interested in learning more about FBISD are invited to apply for the Fort Bend ISD Board Leadership Academy. The nine-month long program provides participants with an opportunity to learn more about FBISD and get a behind-the-scenes look at the systems and processes utilized in the day-to-day operations of the award winning District. Accessification's Community Operation Health Fairs for the fifth year in a row," said Leanne Schneider, Director of Community Relations, Reliant. "We know this will be a challenging back-to-school season as we approach the one year anniversary of Hurricane Harvey, so Reliant is happy to increase our support and help more children receive the necessary school supplies, immunizations and health screenings they need to thrive."

Additional *Community Operation* sponsors to date include Community Health Choice, Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital, MD Anderson Cancer Center, CenterPoint Energy and Fort Bend County Constable Precinct 2, and Cigna. Last year, more than 1,600 individuals received assistance through the *Community Operation*Health Fairs. AccessHealth and community partners hope to exceed that number this year.

ParentsMUSTbringtheirchildren'simmunizationrecords.Backpackswill be issuedONLY tochildren present the day of the fair.

During its inaugural year, 14 participants learned firsthand from District leaders about finance and budget; curriculum; planning and accountability; legislative issues and advocacy; and collaborative communities.



"We are excited to welcome a new cohort into the FBISD Board Leadership Academy, which is truly a unique learning experience," said FBISD Board of Trustees President Jason Burdine. "Participation allows individuals to gain a better understanding of how we operate – and ultimately, how we work together to achieve our District mission."

Between September and May, participants will attend seven evening sessions, a halfday opening retreat and a day trip to the Texas Capitol. They will also be required to attend one Board of Trustees Regular Board meeting and one Agenda Review Workshop meeting of their choice. Participants will be required to attend the opening retreat and will only be able to miss one training session in order to graduate from the program.

To apply, community members should fill out an online form, available **HERE**. Applications will be accepted until August 17, and those who are selected will be notified via email on August 31. Tuition is \$125 due upon notification of acceptance and scholarships are available for those who may need financial assistance.

Fort Bend ISD's Board Leadership

AccessHealth, a United Way agency, provides integrated healthcare services without regard to income or circumstance to improve the quality of life in Fort Bend County. For more about the *Community Operation* Health Fairs or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Sharonda DeBose at (281) 633-3144 or click <u>EMAIL</u>.

Autism Resource Fair Aspires to Support Fort Bend Families

Hope For Three is partnering with Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Hospital to host a FREE resource fair to provide much needed resources for the autism community in Fort Bend. On Saturday, Aug. 18th, from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Hospital in the East Tower Conference Room, a variety of providers, therapists, nutritionists, and professionals will be on hand to share information and give help and hope to local families. You can preregister for the resource fair here at hopeforthree.org/events.



Autism advocates. Providing help. Creating hope.

Located in Stafford, Texas, Hope For Three is the only non-profit in the Greater Houston area to focus solely on autism. Additionally, the organization is the only non-profit in the Fort Bend County area to provide financial assistance. Autism is the fastest-growing developmental disability in the United States affecting 1 in 59 children and 1 in 45 school-age children. Over 3,000 children diagnosed on the autism spectrum are enrolled in Fort Bend County public schools.

Academy is a part of FBISD's ongoing partnership and collaboration with the community it serves, and both the District and the Board of Trustees have been recognized as the best in the state in H-E-B's Excellence in Education Awards. In 2017, the FBISD Board of Trustees was named Board of the Year in the annual recognition program and received a \$25,000 cash award. Most recently, Fort Bend ISD received the 2018 Large School District H-E-B Excellence in Education Award, which included a \$100,000 cash award.

International Cultural Exchange looking for Host Families in Fort Bend!

Fort Bend County residents have an opportunity to expand cultural awareness by being a host family for foreign exchange students! Host families provide a room (can be shared), meals when not in school, some transportation to school events and lots of love and support!



For more information on the many ways Hope For Three Autism Advocates supports families and children with autism spectrum disorder, call 281-245-0640, or click <u>EMAIL</u>!

Help Us Welcome Dr. Devalle!

Fort Bend County, Precinct 2 would like to welcome AccessHealth's newest member of its medical provider team, Dr. LaCindy DelValle! She will be serving as the organization's first pediatrician at its Missouri City clinic which has provided and full health insurance. Host families are eligible for a tax



deduction for hosting. Learn about another country as your student shares his/her culture with you!

Students are 15-18 years old. They are from Europe, Asia, Australia and South America (over 20 countries). Students live as a member of the host family (not a guest) and participate in family activities, respect host family rules, and help with chores.

Host families can open their home for a semester only or a full calendar school year. Serving as welcome families for a few weeks is also an option. Contact Local Coordinator, Angela Price angela.price79@gmail.com if at interested. Also visit: www.icesusa.org for more program information.

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).

primary care for adults since 2010.

Originally from Tyler, Texas, Dr. DelValle earned her undergraduate degree from Prairie View A&M University. She then went on to receive her Doctorate of Medicine from The University of Texas Medical School at Houston.

Since 2003, Dr. DelValle has been a driving force of service to others, specifically serving in pediatrics. She chose to work with AccessHealth because of their commitment to serving the community, which pairs well with Dr. Delvalle's personal goal of continually being available to those in need.

AccessHealth's team of Board Certified Pediatric Providers specialize in providing healthcare to infants, children and teenagers through the age of 18. The health center's clinical teams understand that the health of children is of the utmost importance to parents. As such, AccessHealth makes every possible effort to provide quality, comprehensive and affordable healthcare, accepting Medicaid, Medicare, CHIP, most private insurances and offers a sliding fee scale to qualified patients.



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

Private Insurance, Medicaid and CHIP Accepted Sliding Scale Fee Available

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