



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

MAY 2018

**"COMMISSIONER'S CORNER"**



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***Fort Bend County  
Commissioners  
Authorize Lawsuit  
Against U.S. Army  
Corps of Engineers***

Fort Bend County Commissioners voted during their regular meeting this month to approve a lawsuit that seeks a declaratory judgement from a Federal District Judge regarding the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' operation of the Barker Reservoir. The County and the Fort Bend County Drainage District believe the Corps does not have the legal authority to inundate property the Corps does not own in its operation of the Barker Reservoir.



***Boys & Girls Club of Greater  
Houston Honor Fort Bend  
County Hero Dee Koch***

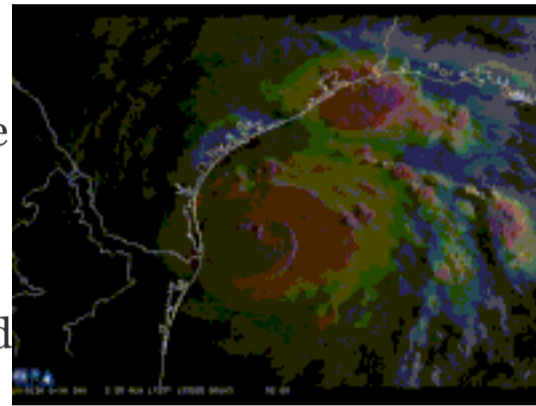


On Wednesday, **May 16<sup>th</sup>**, Commissioner Grady Prestage joined the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Houston and Sugar Land Skeeters at Constellation Field in celebrating Dee Koch for years of service in the community, her leadership, legacy, and lasting influence on Fort Bend County. Fort Bend County dignitaries, friends and family from near and far, came to celebrate her for her notable contributions.

Dee Koch is the founder of two community engagement programs — Youth-in-Philanthropy (YIP) and the Leadership Excellence for Nonprofit program. She also served as the Director of Community Engagement for The George Foundation where she presented grants totaling \$135

Together with Fort Bend County Drainage District (together "Fort Bend"), Fort Bend will allege that the Corps knowingly operated the Barker Reservoir, located on the west side of Houston, in a manner that unlawfully flooded land the Corps did not own. The lawsuit seeks a declaration that the inaction of the Corps, especially intentionally using land upstream it did not own to store water, was unlawful. The lawsuit also seeks an injunction that would prevent further impounding of floodwater on land it doesn't own upstream of the Barker Reservoir.

According to the County, the Corps designed and constructed the Barker



Reservoir to protect the City of Houston from flood damages by detaining and storing floodwaters in the Addicks & Barker Reservoirs. But, the Corps failed to acquire sufficient land to store the amount of water the Reservoirs were designed to detain.

In its complaint, Fort Bend will allege that the Reservoirs' design and modifications, combined with the Corps' standard operating procedures laid out in its Water Control Manual, made it inevitable that the limits of the Corps' property would be exceeded, thereby flooding land for which the Corps had no property rights upstream of the Barker Reservoir, if the Reservoir reached near full capacity.

According to the Corps' own analysis, the Corps knew about the inherent risks of its operating procedures, and knew that the possibility of litigation based on its inaction was high. As a result, the Corps' unlawful policies caused extensive harm during Hurricane Harvey and continue to jeopardize the property rights, economic interests and welfare of Fort Bend County, the Fort Bend County Drainage District and county residents.

The suit will be filed on behalf of the Plaintiffs by Texas law firm AL Law Group in the United States Southern District of Texas, Houston Division.

## ***Heated Competition at AccessHealth's 6th Annual Community Challenge***

Million. Koch has been instrumental in various community projects including the George Memorial Library, Access Health, the University of Houston Sugar Land, Memorial Hermann, the Fort Bend County Museum and the Mamie George Community Center.



## ***Around Precinct 2***



Commissioner Grady Prestage joins newly elected Council Member Martha Castex-Tatum at the Fort Bend Houston Bridging the Community Divide meeting at the Briargate Community Clubhouse. Held every third Friday, the Fort Bend Houston Bridging the Community Divide meeting is part of former Council Member Larry Green's efforts to gain knowledge of "untapped resources" within the Fort Bend Houston community. The meeting is a roundtable discussion to network and share resources among each of the organizations represented. If you know someone from a Fort Bend area organization, church or community group who could benefit and contribute to our meetings or for more information, please call **832-393-3016** or [email: districtk@houstontx.gov](mailto:districtk@houstontx.gov)



Congratulations to Judge Joel Clouser on Re-Election for Fort Bend County Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2! First Elected in 1992, this will be Judge Clouser's seventh term.





The competition was fierce Saturday, **April 28<sup>th</sup>**, at the *6<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Challenge Tournament*. Six softball teams, six kickball teams and four fajita cook-off teams competed for championship titles. The most heated competition of the day was the kickball tournament. Returning champions Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital fought hard to defend their title, but Community Health Choice came out on top. Memorial Hermann Sugar Land won the softball championship, and the following cook-off teams took home Championship trophies: City of Richmond for 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the specialty category; *When Pigs Fly* for 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the steak category as well as the People's Choice Award; AccessHealth for 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the specialty category; and Niagara Bottling for 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the steak category.

“Thank you to our Honorary Chairmen, Grady Prestage, Fort Bend County Commissioner Precinct 2 and Vincent Morales Jr., Fort Bend County Commissioner Precinct 1, for your participation,” said AccessHealth CEO, Mike Dotson. “Congratulations to Community Health Choice, Memorial Hermann Sugar Land and Niagara Bottling for winning top honors in their brackets. Thank you to the City of Missouri City, all our generous sponsors, the players and all who came out to support AccessHealth’s mission of increasing access to quality healthcare.”

Held at Missouri City’s Community Park, the event raised funds to provide integrated health services for the low-income and uninsured families or individuals in Fort Bend County and surrounding areas who would otherwise go without the medical care they need. With clinics in Richmond, Stafford and Missouri City, AccessHealth is the only provider in Fort Bend offering comprehensive healthcare services for a sliding scale, discounted fee.

Sponsors included Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital as the Challenge Champs Underwriter and the City of Missouri City as the Home Run Sponsor. Also supporting the event were Community Health Choice as a Sizzling Hot Sponsor; Allegiance Bank, Corgan/Jones; Carter/Rogers-O’Brien, Medical Search; Healthcare Recruiter Becky & Dennis Parmer and Memorial Hermann Sugar Land as Dugout

Commissioner Grady Prestage swears in Stafford Municipal School District’s School Board Vice-President Elect Xavier Herrera. First elected in 2015, this will be Herrera’s second term.



Commissioner Grady Prestage swears in Fort Bend Independent School District’s Trustee and Vice-President Addie Heyliger. First elected in 2015, this will be Heyliger’s second term.



***Please help us in CONGRATULATING our own Brenda Long! Brenda Long celebrates 20 years of OUTSTANDING service to Precinct 2 and Fort Bend County!***



***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).

Sponsors; and Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Sugar Land and the City of Richmond as Umpire Sponsors.

For more information about AccessHealth, its services or upcoming event sponsorship opportunities, please contact Sharonda DeBose at [281-633-3144](tel:281-633-3144) or [email sdebose@myaccesshealth.org](mailto:sdebose@myaccesshealth.org).

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

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