



#### Missouri City!



On **Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>**, Commissioner Grady Prestage joined company leaders, local officials and employees at Best Buy's new distribution center in Missouri City to celebrate the facility's official Grand Opening.

The 550,000-square foot distribution center is focused on large items and will help Best Buy meet growing demand for products including 4K TVs, refrigerators, washers and dryers. The facility will replenish inventory at more than 70 Best Buy stores in Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi, and support customer deliveries. It reduces the burden on the company's other Texas delivery distribution center, which is located 250

# Bend Drivers to Get Checked!

According to the Independent Monitor of Takata and the Coordinated Remedy Program, more than 2.1 million defective airbag inflators remain unrepaired across the state of Texas.



The new, targeted program represents the next extension of the Airbag Recall: **Operation Find & Fix** program that launched earlier this year, first in Southern California, then in South Florida. Building on these programs, the Houston effort will involve daily outreach to Fort Bend County drivers through frequent recall-check events and other community-based efforts and seek to raise awareness of the recall and increase airbag repair rates across three communities: Sugar Land, Missouri City and Sienna Plantation. In these three

miles away in suburban Dallas. The facility has more than 100 employees spread across three shifts.

"This is an exciting day for all of us as we open this new distribution center here in Missouri City," Ingram said. "It marks the beginning of a great relationship with the broader community. We're looking forward to being your trusted partners, your neighbors and your friends."

"On behalf of the 800,000 people who call Fort Bend County home, we want to welcome you all to Fort Bend County." Said Commissioner Prestage.



As part of the grand opening celebration, employees from the Missouri City distribution center and Best Buy stores across the Houston area assembled more than 50 bikes for Heart of the Kids Social Services. The local nonprofit places abandoned and abused neglected, children from newborn to 18 years old, into safe, nurturing homes.

Best Buy also will also donate \$1,000 to the organization on behalf of the employee volunteers who helped assemble the bikes.

#### Fort Bend County Social Services and Partners help Bring Christmas to Area Children

For most, Christmas



communities alone, tens of thousands of drivers have vehicles with unrepaired defective airbags that can explode like a grenade upon impact, blasting sharp metal fragments into the passenger compartment.



At least 15 people – including two Houstonians, one of whom lived in Fort Bend County – have been killed by defective airbags, and at least eight Houstonians and 220 Americans have suffered injuries, including cuts or lacerations to the face or neck, broken or fractured facial bones, loss of eyesight and broken teeth. The risk of serious injury or death is particularly acute in Texas, due to the state's high temperatures and humidity, which cause these defective airbag inflators to degrade more quickly over time.

While the Takata airbag recalls impact 19 automakers, certain 2001-2003 Hondas and Acuras as well as 2006 Ford Ranger and Mazda B-Series trucks are considered high-risk, and are unsafe to drive. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, defective airbags in 2001-2003 Hondas and Acura's pose up to a 50 percent or higher chance of exploding upon deployment. Parts for higher-risk vehicles are in good supply at area dealerships, and free towing is available. The repair is absolutely free.

Local residents can find out if their vehicle defective airbag has a bv visiting <u>AirbagRecall.com</u>. If their vehicle is affected, they can use the website to connect with a local dealership and schedule a free repair. They can also check their vehicle by using the free Airbag Recall app, now available on Google Play or iTunes. The easy-to-use app provides all the same information as the website, plus it allows users to scan license plates directly from their mobile device.

can be a magical time made up of cherished childhood memories. But for many Fort Bend County area children, Christmas

is often just a reminder of their families' struggles.

Collaborative Fort Bend County System (FBCCIS), Information a collaborative made up of 11 nonprofits, are once again aiming to bring a little glimmer of hope and magic into our children's lives this holiday season. The 5<sup>th</sup> annual Santa Claus is Coming to Fort Bend County is underway in an effort to collect enough toys to provide a memorable Christmas to Fort Bend County area children. The goal is not only to collect toys for kids, but to also let children get a chance to meet Santa Claus as he delivers their very own toys.

Donations of gifts and toys are being sought from community members to make this drive a success. Donated toys and gifts for children (ages 0-14) can be

Fort Bend County residents who do not own high-risk vehicles that may be waiting for replacement parts for their vehicle, or who are not affected by the current recall, are also encouraged to call their local dealer and confirm that their contact information is up-to-date, so they can receive recall-related updates.

## **MCTX METRO Service Expands**, Launches 364 Flex Route

Missouri City and METRO have again expanded local transportation options for residents and visitors by adding a Missouri City Flex Route (364 MCTX Flex) to connect riders of the Park & Ride

dropped off until December 7<sup>th</sup> at any of the following partnering locations:

- Fort Bend County Social Services, Rosenberg Annex, 4520 Reading Rd Rosenberg, TX 77471
- Fort Bend County Social Services, Missouri City Annex, 307 Texas Pkwy, #235 Missouri City, TX 77459
- Rosenberg Fire Department Administration, 336 Hwy 36 South Rosenberg, TX 77471
- Rosenberg Fire Department stations:
  - Station 1, 1021 Fourth Street Rosenberg, TX 77471
  - Station 2, 5320 Reading Road Rosenberg, TX 77471
  - Station 3, 6226 August Green Drive, Rosenberg, TX 77471

Volunteers are also needed. If you can spare time to be an elf for a day, or help decorate Santa's Toyland then contact Fort Bend County Social Services at 281-344-6116.

Take the opportunity to be a part of bringing a little Christmas joy to our local children.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program Launches New Game App: Mosquito Mayhem



The Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program at Fort Bend County Health & Human Services has developed a mobile app game in cooperation with Zco Corporation to create public awareness of mosquito breeding conditions and ways they can be eliminated routes (Fondren Park and Highway 6) with five popular destinations and some locations on Highway 6 that are within city limits.



The new service comes onboard more than a month after the MCTX Community Connector bus launched and offers customers additional flexibility to travel to work, school, home and businesses in the area, METRO and Missouri City officials said.

This transport provides hourly fixed-route service at select bus stop locations in Missouri City, as well as flexible curb-tocurb bus service along and up to one-half mile on either side of Highway 6, between Dulles Avenue and the Missouri City Highway 6 Park & Ride (within city limits).

Residents may begin their ride from one of the seven fixed bus stops and exit the bus at any of the other fixed bus stops. A special reservation request is needed if the customer would like to be dropped off at any location within a half mile of the route on Highway. 6. To make a reservation, call **713-739-3823**.

The seven permanent bus stops throughout Missouri City, offering regular service each hour includes:

- *Missouri City Park & Ride* (13849 Fondren Rd.)
- Fort Bend County Annex (307 Texas

"This app is a great way to introduce public health to the new generation of mobile users. It will engage our youngest residents of the county and hopefully instill good mosquito preventive habits," said Dr. M. desVignes-Kendrick, Local Health Authority and Director of Fort Bend County Health & Human Services.

*Mosquito Mayhem* provides a fun and exciting way to learn about the routine activities people can do to control the attack and breeding of mosquitoes around their home.

The app "gamifies" these activities by using a typical home as the main setting of the game. Around the home, there are multiple problem areas where mosquitoes can breed. These problem areas and preventive actions are executed as minigames within the app. The gamer has to provide maintenance to the breeding

- Pkwy.)
- City Hall Complex, Missouri City Library, Houston Community College (1522 Texas Pkwy.)
- *Missouri City Public Safety Headquarters* (3849 Cartwright Rd.)
- Walmart (5501 Hwy. 6)
- *Aldi Food Market* (6016 Sienna Ranch Rd.), *Houston Methodist* (8200 Hwy. 6)
- Missouri City Hwy. 6 Park & Ride (10250 Hwy. 6)

The 364 Flex Route will utilize a minivanstyle vehicle which can accommodate up to four passengers plus one person in a wheelchair.

## Animal Services Hopes to Increase Adoptions with New Hours

spots in a timely manner to prevent mosquito attacks. The mini-games emphasize the need for people to prioritize mosquito control efforts and the elimination of breeding sites.

The game is now available to the public for free download on <u>Android Google</u> <u>Play</u> and <u>Apple App Store.</u>

## Non-Profit Looking to Aid in Harvey Recovery



Endeavors is a 49-year old non-profit ready to provide case management for long-term disaster recovery. Since March 2018, Endeavors Smart Social Services, working through Texas Health & Human Services Commission in a partnership with Fort Bend County to help area resident who were impacted by Hurricane Harvey develop recovery plans and resource referrals.

If you are recovering and looking for assistance with area resources, please Endeavors is happy to help! You can find more information on their <u>WEBSITE</u>, call the office at 832-680-1755 or email: <u>dcm-tx@endeavors.org</u>.

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).



Starting November 1<sup>st</sup>, Fort Bend County Animal Services (FBCAS) will be open for adoptions on Saturdays and Sundays from 11am to 3pm and will close to the public on Mondays.

"We are excited to make this change at the shelter! We hope that the community takes advantage of the new hours and comes by the shelter on Sundays to meet our adoptable pets," said Rene Vasquez, Director of FBCAS.

New FBCAS Adoption Hours:

- Saturday, 11am 3pm
- Sunday, 11am 3pm
- Monday, closed
- Tuesday, 10am 4pm
- Wednesday, 10am 4pm; 5-7pm (closed 4-5pm for cleaning)
- Thursday, 10am 4pm
- Friday, 10am 4pm

FBCAS is located at 1210 Blume Rd. in Rosenberg, TX 77471.

#### Save the Date for Stuff the Squad Car & Fire Truck!

The annual Operation Thanksgiving Stuff the Squad Car & Fire Truck is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m., Public Safety Headquarters, in the bay of Fire Station 1 located at 3849 Cartwright Rd.

This initiative allows the community to

Submit articles to: <u>commpct2@fortbendcountytx.gov</u> Write away! share in the holiday spirit by filling the squad cars and fire trucks with nonperishable goods which will be donated to local charities.



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