Record turnout at the polls
Over 22% of County voters went to polls during first week of early voting

BY RYAN WEST
Palacios Beacon-Publisher

During the first of what will be a three-week early voting period, local voters have taken to the polls or mailed their ballots in record numbers.

A total of 4,934 votes have been cast during early voting period in Matagorda County for the November General election, a 35% increase from 2016’s record setting (at the time) 3,654 early votes. The 2016 first week total was just short of 14.5% of the countywide total. In the Pet. 4 area of Blessing, a total of 1,363 registered voters voted. The early voting period in Matagorda County, with a population of nearly 73,000, has 22,069 registered voters. The total is an increase of 480 over the 2016 total count of 21,583 registered voters.

Early ballots may also be cast at the Bay County Service Center, located at 2105 Ave. M in Bay City.

Jaws-of-Life needed to help free woman from three vehicle crash Sat.

BY RYAN WEST
Palacios Beacon-Publisher

The Jaws-of-Life were needed to extract a Palacios woman after being involved in a three vehicle crash on 12th St. (CR 317) north of the City last Sat. (Oct. 17).

Palacios Volunteer Firefighters were notified at 8:44 p.m. and when they arrived on the scene they found a white Chevrolet pick-up with a crumpled front end off the roadway and the driver, Anne Yanes, pinned inside.

Utilizing the Jaws-of-Life, the driver’s side door was cut out from the vehicle before Yanes could be rescued. She was transported to the PCMC Emergency Room before a transfer to Memorial in Houston.

Registered voters top 22k in Co.

BY ALAN C. SCHULMAN
Palacios Beacon-Reporter

For the upcoming General Election on Nov. 3, Matagorda County, with a population of nearly 73,000, has 22,069 registered voters. The total is an increase of 480 over the 2016 total count of 21,583 registered voters.

The City area with Precincts 1A - 1F, accounts for 1,208 voters.

Suspense voters are able to vote at the polling place, but they may not have cast an early ballot and they may not be able to vote at the polling place for the upcoming General Election.

Seawall eyes more sand for beaches

BY RYAN WEST
Palacios Beacon-Publisher

Bringing sand to the beach is not to do it, that’s exactly why the Commissioners of Matagorda County - Palacios Seawall Commission agreed to do last week’s regular monthly meeting morning.

Several years ago the Sea-wall Commission conducted a beach nourishment project along South Bay, creating an expanded beach that has been an attraction for visitors and local residents alike.

Now, as some of the sand has eroded or moved eastward, the commissioners have opted to apply for a permit from the Corps of Engineers to replenish the lost sand.

Council gives City Manager 3% raise

BY RYAN WEST
Palacios Beacon-Publisher

While there are always grumblings about those in charge, the proof is in the pudding.

After a 17-minute start, the executive session at the end of last week’s regular Council meeting, the members of the Palacios City Council returned to open session and unanimously approved a 3% pay raise for City Manager Larry Lanfear.

The Council adopted Resolution Number 2019-77, which applies the professional service fee for the City of Palacios Beach Improvement Projects.

Council approved the sub-mission of the proposal for Federal Grants.

Council awarded Grant-week 3 funding for a service contract for the CD

(See CITY, Page 4)
Honest & Reliable PALACIOS BEACON

Area Briefs

No room for transgender in LISD dress code

LOUISE: Louise schools will hold firm to its dress code policy, district leaders say, after a transgender student was not allowed on campus Tuesday for being in violation of hair length rules for boys. LISD senior Sanae Martinez, whose legal name is Shawn, is a biological male who came out as a transgender female in August while attending remote classes at Louise High School due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Tuesday was Martinez’ first day to attend school in-person this year after the district discontinued online education. Attempting to enter Louise High School, Martinez was prohibited due to hair length and pierced ears. “My hair was in Dutch braids, and I was wearing female-related dress code clothes, so I was in dress code,” stated Martinez. “When I went to go into the school, (Louise High School principal Donna Kuta) recognized me and she was like, ‘Oh no. You are not coming to school looking like that.’” - El Campo Leader-News

Illegal gambling nets two arrests

HUNGERFORD: On Thursday, the Wharton County Sheriff’s Office executed two search warrants simultaneously at the locations of 8122 Colorado St. and 7803 Colorado St., both in Hungerford. In a news release from the WCSO, it said detectives had been working the case for nearly six months after the locations were paying cash prizes, which violates state law. In the seizure, 59 machines and $13,886 in cash were seized. These items will be kept for safe keeping until a proper court proceeding takes place. Two arrests were made. The machines were transported to a secure location. The investigation continues, the WCSO said. - Wharton Journal-Spectator

Three Fayette Co. stops net drugs, cash

La GRANGE: The Fayette County Sheriff’s Department has been busy over the last weeks, recently discovering and seizing marijuana, cash, and heroin in large quantities. Marijuana: Marijuana bundles with a street value of approximately $126,500 were found during a routine traffic stop Monday morning on Interstate 10. Heroin: Fayette County Sheriff’s Office Narcotics Canine Unit, Sgt. Randy Thumann and K9 partner Kolt, seized 16 pounds of heroin in a routine traffic stop on Sept. 29 on Interstate 10. Money Laundering: Fayette County Sheriff Keith Kuykendall reports that Interdiction Investigator David Smith conducted a traffic stop Sept. 30 on a vehicle on I-10 west bound. Smith detected several criminal indicators and consent to search was granted. During the search, Smith located tampering to a natural void in the rear wall of the vehicle. Smith then located several vacuum-sealed bundles of U.S. Currency, which were hidden and packaged consistent to that of drug trafficking and money laundering organizations. The monies were taken to the bank and totaled $136,000. - The Banner-Press Newspaper

VOTE-

(Continued From Page 1) they choose. If a voter lives in the same county as his or her voter registration but resides at a different address, then the voter must vote in their old precinct. Typically, this means state-wide races and some federal, legislative and judicial district races. No county or municipal races are included on a limited ballot. Suspense voters are removed from the rolls if they do not vote any time before two even years general elections have passed since they were placed on the suspension list.

THE Gratitude Project passed out free books to Palacios youth last Saturday in the Great Book Giveaway drive-thru. Project Members pictured are: (left to right) Sac Dao, Cynthia Garrett, Andrew Bates, Sarah Hickman, Diva Vasquez and Margaret Troughtly. (Beacon Photo by Brandi G. West)

Great Book Giveaway drive-thru...

THE Gratitude Project passed out free books to Palacios youth last Saturday in the Great Book Giveaway drive-thru. Project Members pictured are: (left to right) Sac Dao, Cynthia Garrett, Andrew Bates, Sarah Hickman, Diva Vasquez and Margaret Troughtly. (Beacon Photo by Brandi G. West)

Karankawa exhibit artwork on display at City by the Sea Museum

ARTIST Isaiah Caldwell (left) unveiled his trio of paintings depicting the Karankawa Indians at the City by the Sea Museum that will be part of an upcoming exhibit on the Native Americans that resided in the area. After last week’s presentation, the Palacios Area Historical Association (PAHA) welcomed new members Emerolda Salinas, Carol Ferdinamnd, Ryan West and Markus Sandy, (Beacon Photo by Ryan West)
AEP Texas reminds area residents that state law now requires motorists approaching parked service utility vehicles with blue or amber flashing lights to “Move Over” to an adjacent lane or “Slow Down” by 20 miles per hour to prevent the posted speed limit.

We thank our state lawmakers for their concern about the safety of all utility workers who are working to restore power. Remember, “Move Over or Slow Down — It’s the Law.”
Are you looking to read more of this week’s edition of the Palacios Beacon???

Pick one up at the Beacon office, located at 310 Fifth St., at one of Palacios area’s retail establishments, or purchase a yearly subscription, just $30 in Matagorda Co. and $40 everywhere else.

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