

**Ribbon Cut
At Sacks
Thrift Ave.**

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**Blessing Hotel
Receives \$50,000
Grant From LCRA**

SEE PAGE 2



**Sharkettes
Mixed Bag
At Tourney**

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Council extends City Manager thru 2030

BY MARICA ELLIS
Palacios Beacon

The City of Palacios now has its lead lady at the helm thru 2023 after a contract extension for City Manager Cindy Raleigh was approved at last week's regular City Council meeting.

Following a brief stay behind executive session's closed doors, a motion was made by Councilwoman Donna Schulman. "I move to extend the City Manager's contract by an additional three years, with a new expiration date of October 2030, in recognition of the foundational work achieved in building a cohesive team, setting project priorities, securing funding, and fostering strong relation-

ships with management, staff, council and the community. This extension supports continuity and stability for Palacios' future growth and development."

Council, minus members Joe Ramirez and Raylynn Samora, approved the extension, 5-0.

Forced water meter installation ordinance tabled

A proposed ordinance to require water meter installations with base monthly utility charges on all vacant lots within the City of Palacios was tabled.

There was general consensus among Council and city personnel, that further information and exploration of the water meter matter, would be prudent.

Grant Update

An impressive October 2024 update report was presented to Council via HR/Grant Manager Tammy McDonald outlining numerous pending grant applications and those currently processed. At this time the City is administering 15 grants which include funding for coastal resiliency, police department overtime, police officers, police gear wear cameras and bulletproof vests, water mains, airport maintenance, comprehensive plans for roads and sidewalks, animal control and park improvements.

The City has recent grant applications for waterlines, drainage, park upgrades, a community hub center, that could be used as a shelter.

"In the next two (2) months, we are going to be applying for sidewalks, ADA ramps, lighting, waterline replacements, park improvements and more," McDonald said. "The application for an EPA Community Change grant is for the hyper shelter, the plan being, to partner with the YMCA for the use of the facility on a daily basis, and in the event of a disaster, the building would be used as a community shelter. It would have a kitchen, show-ers and everything needed to shelter during emergencies. . . .with the last hurricane, Beryl, we realized that we have no place to put anyone during a hurricane or disaster, here. That was a big deal for us—we didn't even have

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**WEDNESDAY
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(361) 972-3009
palaciosbeacon@gmail.com
Website: palaciosbeacon.com

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**BEACON
BRIEFS**

Community Thanksgiving Thurs. at TBE

The Palacios Ministerial Alliance will be holding a Community Thanksgiving Meal on Thurs. (Nov. 24) from 5 - 7 p.m. at the Texas Baptist Encampment Dining Hall, located at 101 1st St. Come enjoy fellowship and a meal. Baked goods are needed and will be auctioned off to help support the Ministerial Alliance.

Thanksgiving Bake Sale Thurs. at Rainbowland

Rainbowland Daycare, located at 905 6th St. will be holding a Thanksgiving Bake Sale from 12-6 p.m. on Fri. (Nov. 22). Selection of goods to include, but not limited to: cookies, cakes, brownies, pies, tamales, tortillas and pumpkin rolls. For more info or to donate baked items, contact Melinda Cruz, at 361-972-2831.

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Miss Palacios 2025

THE lovely Annabelle Starrett, daughter of Brandon and Samantha Starrett, was crowned the 2025 Miss Palacios at last weekend's 52nd annual Miss Palacios Pageant, sponsored by the Palacios Rotary Club. For more winners from this year's pageant see Page 12. (Beacon Photo by Brandi G. West)

Seawall hears plans from new Luther Hotel owner

BY RYAN WEST
Palacios Beacon-Publisher

What once was the Luther Hotel will be renamed the Hotel Tres Palacios.

The new name was dropped by new property owner J.P. Bryan at last week's regular meeting of the Matagorda Co. - Palacios Seawall Commission.

Along with the new name, Bryan expressed his preliminary plans for the longtime Palacios waterfront landmark

and its amenities, but also his ambition to see the Palacios Pavilion rebuilt from its hey-day over the water on the 4th St. Pier.

"What we're doing here is major," Bryan said. "It'll be transformative in a positive way for the community."

He reminisced about his youth growing up in Freeport and its famed Tarpon Inn.

"It was so similar to the Luther Hotel, with its porch

(See SEAWALL, Page 5)

PISD Trustees in disbelief of 9-1-1 dispatch mix up

BY BRIENN PANIAGUA
Palacios Beacon

The November meeting of the Palacios ISD Board of Trustees was an interesting one, full of conflicting emotions as they both recognized students and they presented some distressing news. Many proud parents and family members were in attendance as the board recognized student council candidates, a cross country athlete and the Palacios FFA but they left before the board was presented with a proverbial bomb of grief.

Security Update

District Police Chief Joseph Felan provided the security updates, confirming rumors that EMS had been called to Palacios Elementary during an emergency of a student and they had instead gone to the old Central El-

ementary campus.

The shock was viscerally felt by the entire room in a wave of distress and disappointment. "I thought it had been taken care of," He told the board. With one quarter of the school year already out of the way this announcement is grave to hear. "We're going to hopefully fix it," he told the board. "We've invited those companies to come and visit, so they can see where we're at, but they didn't show up."

Board president Karen Botbyl voiced what was surely the thoughts of everyone in the room and requested an update as soon as one was available. "Well, the thing is that from admin it seems to be okay, but, from the classrooms, I guess there's an issue"

(See PISD, Page 4)



Hub's 4th annual Community Thanksgiving draws a crowd

THE Palacios Community Hub's 4th annual Community Thanksgiving at the Texas Baptist Encampment fed the masses last Thursday. (Beacon Photos by Brandi G. West)



Little Mr. & Little Miss

THE 2025 Little Mr. and Little Miss Palacios scepter and crown were bestowed upon Garlin Stuhrenberg and Anastasia Jimenez. (Beacon Photo by Brandi G. West)

• Deadline for Articles, Classified & Display Ads 4:30 p.m. Friday •