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Unanswered requests, park upkeep & splash pad

BY RYAN WEST
Palacios Beacon-Publisher

A Councilwoman airs her unanswered information request, the revived Palacios Beautification Committee steps in to save the City's landscaping from disaster and a crash course on City Gov. 101 were packed into last week's near two-hour long Palacios City Council meeting.

Council's freshest face, Pos. 4's Victoria Duran wasted no time in letting her displeasure be known after having her request to City staff for information, fall on deaf ears.

"It's kind of shameful that I didn't get an answer," Duran declared.

She detailed her request for information from April sent via email to City Secretary

Aleigha Galvan.

"If I need to send an email to certain people," Duran said of her info request, "The only reason I sent it to (City Secretary) Aleigha, is because she had sent the packet out."

Duran also requested the City's financial statements be written in a more simple way.

"It looks like you're giving Joe Blow \$500 but it doesn't tell me what it's going to and where it's coming from," she noted. "I'd like to see (the City credit card) broken down. Who's card is it coming out of? What are we paying? It just has Mastercard - but doesn't have it broken down which Mastercard."

"If we're going to be distributing something in the paper, we need to have it broken down," Duran said.

Councilman Larry Glenn agreed with Du-

ran's sentiment for more details.

"There just needs to be more information given to us. Why we're paying it out and what it's going to," he said.

"We need more transparency for us, to answer people asking us questions."

Beautification Committee picks up landscape tab

Annette Singer of the Palacios Beautification Committee addressed Council during the Citizens Forum over the recent transition from lawn care professionals to City crews at the City's landscaped features.

"The landscape projects at the entrances to the City and at City Park, they really need professional maintenance," Singer stated. "They're very expensive projects, over \$100,000 each when they were put in."

"The Beautification Committee stepped in when we realized (the City) couldn't do it and realized (the City) had real money issues and if not (the City) wouldn't have dropped it," Singer continued. "We've gotten the funds to maintain it for six months with a professional which will get you through the next budget period. We'll cover maintenance, replacing plants that need to be replaced in all three locations." We hope that gives you enough time to take care of them.

Fellow member of the Beautification Committee, D.C. Dunham noted the situation at the City landscaped entrances and City Park and the efforts to maintain them has taken precedent.

"If we wait until Oct. it'll take a fortune to

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Except for paid advertising, all articles, photos or other information submitted on Monday will be published on a space available basis only.

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Observing Our
118th
Year
1907-2025

BEACON BRIEFS

Palacios PD
Cops & Bobbers
fishing Saturday
at 4th St. Pier

The Palacios Police Dept. will host *Cops & Bobbers* from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Sat. (June 7) at the 4th St. Pier. Grab your fishing pole and team up with the local Palacios PD 'superheroes' for a day of fishing fun. A limited number of poles and bait will be provided. Feel free to bring your own and join the fun.

La Pachanga
Cook-Off, Dance
at El Maton Hall
this weekend

Save the date for La Pachanga VIII, El Maton BBQ Cookoff and dance set for June 6 and 7 at El Maton National Hall, 565 FM 1095, just down the street from Tidehaven High School. There is a \$100 minimum entry and categories include: brisket, chicken, port ribs, fajitas and side entries: gumbo, chili & beans, potluck, dutch oven, dessert and bloody Mary. Put our dancing shoes on Friday, June 6, from 8 p.m.- midnight and enjoy Joel Nava, The Texas Border Band. For more information, call or text Eric Kacer at (512) 848-8790.

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A two-car collision in front of the local Donut Palace during the early morning rush last Thursday resulted in a minor scene. A Jeep Grand Cherokee was traveling west on Henderson Ave. when a Chevy pickup truck exiting the Donut Palace parking lot entered the roadway and struck the vehicle on the driver's side door. Palacios Volunteer Firefighters were called to extract the driver of the Jeep as the door left the driver with no room to exit. (Beacon Photo by Ryan West)

City coffers
boosted by
15% increase
in sales tax

BY BRANDI GARCIA WEST
Palacios Beacon

The City of Palacios' sales tax payment from the state comptroller's office totaled \$116,076 which is 15.4% more this month than the same time last year having received \$100,580. April's sales tax revenue is based on sales made in March and reported to the state in April. Year to date is also 19.32% more than 2024 with Palacios' total rising to \$460,193. The State of Texas sales tax revenue totaled \$4.24 billion in April, 7.1% more than last April.

"State sales tax collections were likely driven in part by businesses in the manufacturing sector ordering materials to get inventory delivered before the tariffs announced in February and March took effect," Hegar said. "Collections from all sectors grew robustly compared with April 2024, coming in well above the rate of general price inflation. This is a dramatic contrast to March 2025 collections, which were down year-over-year."

"Receipts from other sectors driven by business spending were mixed. Collections from the mining

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117th Collegeport Day celebrated on Mopac House's 90th birthday

Across the waters of Tres Palacios Bay, the 117th celebration and homecoming for Collegeport Day was held last Saturday with a community gathering at the Mopac House, which was also celebrating its 90th birthday. G.W. Franzen (above) provided the welcoming remarks, including brief history and restorative efforts on the Mopac House over the prior year. Once the blessing was said, the meal was enjoyed by all. (Beacon Photo by Ryan West)

Local veteran honored at Disney World Flag Retreat

Don Simons of Matagorda was honored last week at the Disney Flag Retreat in Disney World.

Disney honors veterans daily through a tradition called "Flag Retreat" at both Walt Disney World and Disneyland. Each day, a veteran or service member is chosen to participate in the ceremony, which includes the lowering of the American flag and a display of patriotism. This ceremony is a way for Disney to thank and honor those who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. The veteran or service member is selected randomly from park visitors each day. The chosen veteran or service member participates in the Flag Retreat ceremony, which takes place at Main Street, U.S.A. in Magic Kingdom. The Flag Retreat ceremony includes the Pledge of Allegiance, the playing of the national anthem, and the lowering of the American flag. The ceremony is a way for Disney to express their gratitude and appreciation for the service and sacrifice of veterans and service members. The Flag Retreat tradition has been in place at Walt Disney World since the park first opened in 1971. Disney also honors veterans and their families in other ways, including:

Shelley Anderson-Ledwig, daughter of Don Simons, said "We have been to Disney many times before

(See SIMONS, Page 3)



MATAGORDA Co. resident and veteran Don Simons stands at attention as the Stars & Stripes is folded during the Disney Flag Retreat at Disney World. (Submitted Photos)



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