Coming Down Henderson
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Medicaid Funding Restored To Texas Hospitals
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Shark 7th Sink Teeth Into Win
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MCND#1 approves 6-month 25% rent reduction

BY RYAN WEST
Palacios Beacon-*Publisher*

Amidst record high fuel prices and near record low prices for wild caught Gulf shrimp, the Matagorda Co. Navigation District #1 stepped in to provide a bit of financial relief for Palacios' beleaguered seafood industry at last week's regular monthly meeting.

The commissioners ultimately settled upon a 25% dock lease rate reduction for six months for commercial dock leases engaged in, or supporting the seafood industry on a unanimous 4-0 vote, but it wasn't without much discussion.

The original item on the MCND agenda was a proposal for a 12-month, 25% rate reduction.

Commissioner Victor Eggemeyer was not a fan of the 12-month proposal.

"Why is it going to be for a whole year?" He questioned. "If the war gets over, supposedly the price of fuel drops, that's going to be 50% right there."

He proposed the six month reduction, and should the economic hardship continue for the Port's tenants, the issue could be revisited by the commissioners.

"During COVID, we dropped it 50% for six months," Eggemeyer said. "(The tenants) took $80,000 and never gave a penny back. Things got better for a few years. We always give away, and never get nothing back."

Eggemeyer noted when the Port asked tenants to clean up property within the Port confines, it took a year and a half before things were cleaned up.

"We ask them to get a piece of paper to say 'we're going to build pipeline here, put an electric line here, or put a building there," Eggemeyer added. "They won't do it."

"We shouldn't have to make people do stuff."

Commission chair Alan Schulman directed the conversation to the item at hand.

"I see it as we're just trying to ensure that we have customers," he said. "Because if they go out of business, ain't nobody else going to want to lease this dock space."

Eggemeyer didn't agree with Schulman's sentiment.

"I think we've got other people who want to come rent dock space. People from other ports," quipped Eggemeyer.

"People from other ports, they're dying too," Schulman rebutted.

Eggemeyer referenced how in Sabine Pass, an 80-foot long bock dock space is $600 per month and when another is parked alongside, an additional $400 per month.

"That's $1000 for two boats," Eggemeyer calculated. "You can back three boats over here in for $500."

"It's not like we're killing them," he said.

Commissioner Jimmy Neeley recalled when the Port did similar rental reductions and deferments, the tenants repaid the difference when things improved.

"Here we're just saying we're going to give everybody a pay cut," Neeley said.

According to Schulman, the repayment option isn't on the table.

"The shrimpers have expressed that they don't want to do just delay the payment and have that on their shoulders," he noted.

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Beacon Deadline
4:30 p.m. Friday

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

Open 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Beacon Closed Wednesday

Observing Our 119th Year
1907-2026

BEACON BRIEFS

Homecoming Community Pep Rally Wed. at Shark Stadium

The Palacios Athletic Booster Club will be holding a Community Homecoming Pep Rally at 7:30 p.m. on Fri. (Sep. 23) at Shark Stadium Bring your most creative, spirited and Shark-tastic sign. Top three sigsn will win a prize.

Blood Drive Sat. at Eagles

The Fraternal Order of Eagles Post 3821 invites the community to help save lives by donating blood during a Gulf Coast Blood Drive on Saturday, Sept. 26, from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Donor Coach. Appointments are preferred, but walk-ins are welcome. Donors are reminded to eat, drink plenty of fluids and bring a valid ID. To schedule an appointment or learn more, contact Trina Bigelow at (979) 240-4450 and use sponsor code F204.

PPA's Classic Series fundraiser Sat. at Rec. Center

The Palacios Preservation Assocation invites the public to the PPA Classic Series: An Evening of Broadway, Swing, & Silver-Screen Romance, featuring a dinner, live auction and classic movie on Sat. (Sep. 26) at the Palacios Recreation Center. Tickets are $35 per person.

Palacios BEACON

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Covering up her bones...

AFTER months of cutting, hammering and nailing away to help reinforce and strengethn the framing 'bones' of the former Luther Hotel and soon to be Hotel Tres Palacios structure, construction crews began covering up the exterior of the stud framing with sheets of particle board. (Beacon Photo by Ryan West)

Adopt-A-Beach Fall Clean-Up

The annual Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Fall Clean-Up was held last Saturday. Participants met at the gazebos adjacent to the South Bay Boat Ramp, where site coordinator Amy Nowlin, local Coastal & Marine Resources rep for the Matagorda Co. Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service. Overall, a total of 10 volunteers - including State Rep. AJ Louderback, pitched in to collect 19 bags of trash, including piping, flooring, cardboard boxes and netting. (Beacon Photo by Ryan West)

PALACIOS Junior Senior High candidates for 2027's Homecoming King & Queen are: (back) Queen candidates Aubrey Castaneda, Corynn Garcia, Makena Bowers, Anahi Perez and Christina Nguyen; (frong) King candidates Issiah Castaneda, Trey Weixelman, Robert Sandoval, Joseph le and Kaiden Utley. (Suvmitted Photo)

Palacios ISD gets report cards on student progress

BY AMY LIPSCOMB
Palacios Beacon

The Palacios ISD Board of Trustees received report cards on student progress in the district at last week's regular monthly meeting.

Dr. Jamey Johnson, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction and Federal Programs, presented an update on the recent TEA accountability ratings. The state of Texas grades each school district.

Overall Palacios ISD achieved a score of 82 or a B rating. The ratings were broken down into domain areas representing STAAR testing, academic growth, relative performance, and closing gaps in education. These scores were compiled from last year's 2025-2026 data.

PISD scored 81 in testing, 63 in academic growth, 86 in relative performance, and 71 in closing the gaps in education.

Palacios Elementary School, where the campus received a 70 overall rating and obtained the same score in testing. Student academic growth was measured at 71 and relative performance scored 74. Buddy Kelley, Principal of PES, noted the challenge at the elementary school is Math. The new Bluebonnet math program

(See PISD, Page 3)

Free men's health screenings offered Sat. at AFOC

A free men's health screenings will be offered on Saturday, Sep. 26, at the Agape Family Outreach Church, located at 1811 Newsome Blvd.

The Black Heart Association will be bringing its mobile screening van to Palacios to provide: blood pressure screenings, glucose screenings, lipid panel, Lopoprotein genetic screening, and a kidney function assessment. The grill beings at 4 p.m., followed by The Message at 5:30 p.m. For more info, visit www.agapefamilyoutreachchurch.com.

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