



City lands grant to repair Koontz bridge

BY RYAN WEST
Palacios Beacon-Publisher

Residents, fishermen and bait seekers can rejoice as the long closed Koontz Rd. Bridge will finally be getting the necessary upgrades to reopen.

"I'm pleased to announce that the City has been awarded a \$50,000 grant from the Ed Rachal Foundation to be used towards repairs on the Koontz Bridge," reported Jon Branson, Palacios City Manager.

"I'd be remiss if I didn't thank Mayor Pro Tem Larry Glenn and D.C. Dunham for helping to move that along."

Councilwoman Victoria Duran asked on the timeline on getting the bridge work done.

"We'll have to reach out to the contractor and let them know we're ready to move forward. He'll have to order supplies, should take about a month, and start construction shortly thereafter," Branson noted.

Council unanimously approved the acceptance of the grant

Ratification Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust Grant submission

Council ratified the grant request submission to the Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust in the amount of \$750,000 for I&I work to be done on the City's sewer system.

"Matt Glaze of Urban Engineering, D.C. Dunham and Jackie Miller and others worked at length to get the application submitted,"

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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
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**BEACON
BRIEFS**

Halloween Fun in Palacios

Downtown Palacios Trunk or Treat will be dishing out treats around the 400 block of Main St. & Commerce. Among the participating locations are Mikes on Main, The Right Look, Grassy Point Kayak, City by the Sea Museum, the Fraternal Order of Eagles #3821, Pirate Queen Designs & The Cove, and the Palacios Preservation Association.

Haunted House at the Sanford Community Center, located at 907 8th St., on Sat. (Oct. 31) beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Palacios Community Medical Center will hold a Trunk or Treat in the parking lot located at 311 Green Ave. on Sat. (Oct. 31). From 5 - 9 p.m.

First Baptist Church will host its Fall Festival, Cowboy Corral - Herding People to Jesus on Sat. (Oct. 31) from 4 - 6 p.m.

Nightmare on 3rd St. - The Hurtado Family at the corner of 3rd St. and Morton Ave. invite the community to stop by the Nightmare on 3rd St. beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Sat. (Oct. 31) for a spooktacular night of trick or treating, treats, haunted performances and family fun. Special guests will be The Scoop & More, and Mama Tori's Cleaning Services.

LWC hosts Nina Bedell for Sun. services

The Living Word Church, located at 1402 12th St., welcomes guest Evangelist Nina Bedell for services in English at 10 a.m. on Sun. (Nov. 1)



Pedal Palacios 2026

AND their off at the Palacios Chamber of Commerce's annual Pedal Palacios Bike Ride brought cycle enthusiasts from near and far for a ride on routes of 12, 30 and 60 miles held last weekend. (Beacon Photo by Brandi G. West)

MCND to eat reduced rent in budget

BY RYAN WEST
Palacios Beacon-Publisher

Rather than amend the budget for discounting dock lease rates, the Matagorda Co. Navigation District #1 (MCND) will absorb the revenue loss.

The agenda featured discussion and potential action on the MCND's yet-to-be approved budget for 2026-27 to accommodate for the \$75,425.10 loss in revenue associated with a six month, 25% reduction in dock lease rates for 28 seafood industry and associated tenants approved at last month's meeting.

However, instead of looking for places to trim from the Port's budgeted expenses, Palacios Port Director Blake Welborn reported

(See MCND, Page 5)

Early voting ends Fri., election day Tuesday across the state

If you want to beat the Election Day lines on Tues.

(Nov. 2), early voting in the November General Election runs through Oct. 30.

Thus far during early voting, a total of 4,105 ballots have been cast in Matagorda Co., over 18% of Matagorda County's 22,526 registered voters.

During the first week of early voting, the busiest day for ballot casting was Oct. 20, when 827 in person voters passed through the polls.

On the Ballot

On the Nov. ballot is a host of races local voters will have a say in from U.S. Senator & U.S. Representative, to statewide races for Texas Governor, Lt. Gov, Attorney General, and more, to a pair of commissioner seats on the Matagorda Co. Navigation District #1.

Local ballots will be cast for early voting and on Election Day, Nov. 3, at the Palacios Community Hub, located at 1001 5th St.

In the most local of races first, there are a pair

Over 18% of Matagorda Co. registered voters have already cast ballots

of incumbents seeking another term at the commissioners table of the Matagorda Co. Navigation District #1.

Incumbent in Pos. 3, Jimmy Neeley will have to contend with challenger, Gary Hafernick.

In Pos. 4, incumbent Victor Eggemeyer draws challenger Kevin Harvey.

County Races

Republican incumbent Matagorda Co. Judge Bobby Seiferman has to contend with write-in candidate Patrick Brown for the seat at the bench.

Statewide Races

On the local voter ballot for District 30 State Rep. is incumbent Republican AJ Louderback and Democrat challenger Crystal Sedillo.

Three candidates are on the ballot in the race for Governor of Texas, with Republican incumbent Texas Governor Greg Abbott, Democratic nominee Gino Hinojosa and Libertarian nominee Pat

Dixon.

Incumbent Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick has three challengers on the ballot in Democrat Vikki Goodwin, Libertarian Anthony Cristo and Green Party candidate Kevin McCormick.

In the race to replace Ken Paxton as Texas Attorney General features Republican Mayes Middleton, Democrat Nathan Johnson and Libertarian Tom Oxford.

The Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts is a four-way race with quasi-incumbent, Republican Don Huffines, Democrat Sarah Eckhardt, Libertarian V. Alonso Echavarria-Garzia, and Green candidate Sheila Faizi.

Commissioner of the General Land Office features incumbent Republican Dawn Buckingham, Democrat Benjamin Flores, and Libertarian Neill Snider.

(See VOTE, Page 4)

Matagorda Co. to put Pct. 3 Annex on the auction block

The longtime Matagorda County Annex and former Palacios Police Dept. on Commerce St. is bound for the public auction block.

At the Oct. 12 meeting, the Matagorda Co. Commissioners authorized Pct. 3 Commissioner Troy Shimek to oversee the sale of the 4,405-sq. ft. County-owned building located at 405 Commerce, which would occur via public auction.

The building currently houses the office of Matagorda

Co. Justice of the Peace Pct. 3 and Pct. 3 Constable.

There has yet to be any announcement as to when or where the auction is to be held, nor have any relocation plans been made public for the Justice of the Peace and Constable offices.

The Commissioners also approved a real property sale agreement with the eventual auction winner, once the required public notice and auction requirements are satisfied.



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