Driving On The Water
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Medicare Open Enrollment Options Discussed At CofC
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Alumni Go Down Fighting
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Texas goes *Blue*, Matagorda Co. stays *Red*

BY RYAN WEST
Palacios Beacon-*Publisher*

The Lone Star State and much of the nation was engulfed in a Blue tsunami as last week's midterm election results saw Republicans washed from statewide offices and the U.S. House and Senate turning from red to blue.

Not only did a Democrat win a state-wide election for the first time in 32 years, but they busted out the broom on the Texas leadership.

The U.S. Senate race saw statewide voters favor Democrat James Talarico tally 55.1% of the vote over former Texas Attorney General, Republican candidate Ken Paxton.

Multi-term incumbent Governor of Texas, Greg Abbott was sent packing by Democrat Gina Hinojosa, who tallied 52.8% of the statewide vote.

Incumbent Lt. Governor Dan Patrick was trumped by Democrat Vikki Goodwin, won with 41.7% of the statewide ballots.

In the race to replace Paxton as Texas Attorney General, Democrat Nathan Johnson picked up the victory with 52.4% of the vote over Republican candidate Mayes Middleton.

The Texas Comptroller race saw recently the installed Republican incumbent Don Huffines fail to retain his position as Democratic challenger Sarah Eckhardt finished with 51.3% of the vote.

The Texas Railroad Commissioner's race was won by Democrat Jon Rosenthal with 52.5% of the vote over Republican challenger Bo French.

The Texas Land Commissioner's race saw Republican incumbent Dawn Buckingham fall to former Bay City Councilman Benjamin Flores behind 51.4% of the vote.

In the race to replace Sid Miller as Texas Agriculture Commissioner, Democrat Clayton Tucker registered 51.3% of the vote to sink the Republican candidate, Nate Sheets.

Incumbent Republican District 27 U.S. Rep Michael Cloud managed to retain his seat over Democratic challenger Tanya Lloyd on a 51.2% to 48.8% vote margin.

Palacios High School alum and incumbent Republican in the Texas House District 30, AJ Louderback secured 71.7% of the vote to hold off Democratic challenger Crystal Sedillo.

In races closer to home, Matagorda Co. Judge Bobby Seiferman, Republican, managed to fend off the challenge of write-in candidate Patrick Brown, 6,994 to 1,905.

Change wasn't just limited to the two colored political system, but the wave of change saw the two Matagorda Co. Navigation District #1 incumbents routed by their challengers.

The two longest tenured Commissioners saw their reign come to an end, as Jimmy Neeley was ousted by Gary Hafernick, 999-208, for the Pos. 3 chair.

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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

Veterans Day festivities at FOE

The Palacios Fraternal Order of Eagles #3821, located at 204 4th St., will celebrate Veterans Day on Wed. (Nov. 11) with a free chili cheese hot dog dinner for all service members and their families. The general public can dine for $5. There will be Military Trivia beginning at 5 p.m., as well as Open Mic Night. Stop in an enjoy music, supper and local talent and celebrate Veterans.

Live music each Fri. & Sat. at *The Cove*

Stop in for a glass of wine or a beer and enjoy live music courtesy Al Flores each Friday and Saturday night at *The Cove*, located at 405 Main St.

Book signing at Old Main Sat.

The author of the children's book, Matagorda Magic: The Hidden Life of a Texas Bay, Kimberly Ridley will be signing copies of the book from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. on Sat. (Nov. 14) at Old Main Bookstore, located at 438 Main St.

Live music Sun. at *El Maton National Hall*

The *El Maton National Hall*, located at 565 FM 1095 in El Maton opens its doors every Sun. at 1 p.m., with live music from 3-5 p.m. Stop in, wet your whistle and hear some tunes.

Palacios BEACON

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Miss Palacios Pageant Sat. at FAB



The Palacios Rotary Club will present the 54th Miss Palacios Pageant at 7 pm. this Sat. (Nov. 14) at the Palacios ISD Fine Arts Building. Entry is $5. Seeking the Miss Palacios crown are: (above, l-r) Juana Zamora-Pena, Carly Chapman, Ava Moreno, and Cheyenne Sweet. Vying for the crowns of Little Mr. and Little Miss Palacios are: Fernanda Almaraz, Camila Carrillo, Brynlee Crowley, Valentina Guerrero, Aubree Killings, Brylie Rush, Sierra Pina, Blakely Werner. Little Mister - Leonel Borja, Ramon Guerrero, Angel Ortiz, Joshua Sablatura-Heath Jr., Jeremias Serna, Rayden Solis. Not pictured is Little Miss contestant Rya Espinosa.

South Bay packed for Taste of Palacios Seafood Festival





THE 3rd annual Taste of Palacios Seafood Festival was blessed with a picturesque day along the waterfront of South Bay last weekend as it welcomed hundreds of visitors to town seeking the best culinary delights the City by the Sea could offer. (ABOVE) South Bay Blvd. was transformed into a promenade featuring a music stage and seating, while the seafood tasting tent opped up on the lawn of the Hotel Tres Palacios and a multitude of food, craft and game vendors lined South Bay Park from 4th St. to 6th St. (LEFT) Aaron Johs primes his mollusk at the tasting booth of Palacios' own Oyster Bros., manned by Cade Slaughter & Mathew Aparicio. (beacon Photo by Ryan West)

PEDC partners with CofC for part-time Executive Director

BY RYAN WEST
Palacios Beacon-*Publisher*

Palacios students and small business owners will get hands-on training close to home through a partnership between the Palacios Economic Development Corporation (PEDC), the Palacios Chamber of Commerce and LaFleur Leadership Institute.

The PEDC board approved $2,000 for two workshops - one will help Palacios ISD students prepare for the workplace and the other will introduce AI efficiency in the workplace for small businesses, at last week's regular monthly meeting/

New Part-Time Executive Director

The PEDC board reporting having 10 applicants for the recently reestablished executive director position. A round of interviews of six individuals and voted to contract with Brandi G. West, executive director of the Palacios Chamber of Commerce, to provide part-time executive director services to the PEDC.

The board also approved a $22,000 agreement with the Chamber to cover office space, operations and supplies.

(See PEDC, Page 4)

West relinquishes ownership stake in *Palacios Beacon*

BY RYAN WEST
Palacios Beacon-*Publisher*

The ownership of Palacios' 119-year old institution, the *Palacios Beacon* now rests in just one West - Ryan.

Brandi Garcia West, the former majority shareholder of the *Beacon's* parent company City by the Sea Publishing, parted ways with her 51% share to her husband, co-owner and Beacon publisher, Ryan West.

She was recently approved as part-time executive directer with the Palacios Economic Development Corporation (PEDC) at last week's meeting

"In anticipation of accepting the part-time Executive Director position with the (PEDC), I have decided to gift my entire 51% ownership interest in the *Palacios Beacon* newspaper to my husband, Ryan G. West, effective Thursday, November

(See BEACON, Page 3)