

COVID-19 CASE TRACKER:

PI/SPI/LV/LH Cases
361/59/89/30
Recovered
237/47/55/25

Cameron County Cases
18,559
Recovered/Deceased
11,861/478

Texas Cases
582,623
Recovered/Deceased
424,685/11,043

U.S. Cases
5.5 Million
Recovered/Deceased
N/A/173,000

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Candidates selected for SPI election

By GAIGE DAVILA
editor@portisabelsouthpadre.com

Both incumbents are running for reelection in South Padre Island's mayor and council elections later this year.

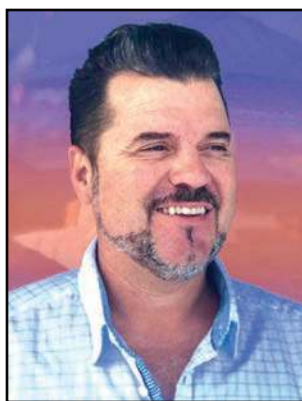
Patrick McNulty, who won a runoff election against Darla Jones in 2019, is running for mayor again. Alita Bagley, current council member for Place 4, has also filed for reelection.

McNulty has one challenger, Brandy Buntin, who ran for the city's Place 2 council mem-



MCNULTY

ber seat in 2018 against incumbent Kerry Schwartz then again in 2019 against Ken Medders for the council member Place 1 seat. Buntin lost



BUNTIN

both elections to the current incumbents.

Bagley has two challengers: Thomas Bainter, the president and treasurer of the non-profit Costa



BAGLEY

Cleanups who ran for the city's Place 5 council seat in 2018 against incumbent Eva Jean-Dalton; and Lydia Caballero, who was on the city's



BAINTER

Parks & Keep SPI Beautiful committee.

On Facebook, McNulty said some of his goals, if re-elected, included renovating Laguna Bou-



CABALLERO

levard; developing a public boat ramp; completing a Wind and Water Sports Park north of the Convention Center; completing See **CANDIDATES**, Page 5

BACK TO SCHOOL



Before the big day

PI-ISD staff arrange iPads and Chromebooks for students at Derry Elementary. Students will use the technology to virtually report to school starting Aug. 24. (Photo courtesy of PI-ISD)

PI-ISD virtually reopening next week

By GAIGE DAVILA
editor@portisabelsouthpadre.com

Point Isabel Independent School District (PI-ISD) continues to hand out iPads and Chromebooks before school starts on Monday, Aug.

24, holding parent technology sessions in English and Spanish as students prepare to virtually attend local schools.

PI-ISD also began distributing school supplies, giving pens, pencils, highlighters, paper and

composition notebooks to students along with their computers.

Port Isabel High School virtually held their annual "Fish Camp" this year, an onboarding for freshman students usually held on campus in

the summer just before the school year starts.

PI-ISD schools will hold classes virtually for at least four weeks, with the option for PI-ISD's school board to extend virtual learning See **PI-ISD**, Page 5

Garza arraigned on child porn charges

By GAIGE DAVILA
editor@portisabelsouthpadre.com

A Port Isabel man has been arraigned in court for possessing child pornography and aggravated sexual assault and indecency with a child.

Javier Garza, 22, who was arraigned in the Port Isabel Municipal Court on Aug. 14, has a total \$170,000 in bonds: \$20,000 for possession of child pornography; \$100,000 for aggravated See **RESIDENT**, Page 5



Arraigned

Javier Garza is arraigned in Port Isabel's Municipal Court on Aug. 14. (Courtesy photo of Port Isabel Police Department)

PI plans Tex. Supreme Court appeal in Meza case

By GAIGE DAVILA
editor@portisabelsouthpadre.com

The highest court in the state will decide whether a lawsuit against the City of Port Isabel from its former city manager will ever see a courtroom.

After the state's Thirteenth Court of Appeals, which serves Cameron County and several other South Texas counties, denied the City of Port Isabel's request for rehearing en banc, the City of Port Isabel plans to appeal the decision to the Texas Supreme Court, Port Isabel City Manager Jared Hockema told the PRESS. As of press time, the motion has not been filed, according to Texas state court documents.

The case was first argued in the federal Southern District Court of Texas in 2016, after Edward Meza, then-City Manager of Port Isabel, was fired by the City of Port Isabel in 2015 and did not receive a severance package he and the city agreed upon in 2010. The city alleges the agreement and contract for Meza's severance package was not valid, voting to rescind the severance package in May 2015. The agreement was approved in 2010 by previous city commissioners.

The case moved to the 444th District Court of Cameron County, where the City of Port Isabel had filed a preliminary See **MEZA**, Page 5

New food service director outlines meal plans for school year

By GAIGE DAVILA
editor@portisabelsouthpadre.com

Though no buses will zip through the Laguna Madre area's streets for the foreseeable future, different vehicles will, filled with hot meals for Point Isabel Independent School District (PI-ISD) students.

The "Grab & Go, Eat at Home" program is PI-ISD's school-year version of meal programs started in March, when PI-ISD suspended in-person classes after COVID-19 cases started rising in Texas. Leading the program is PI-ISD's new Food Service Director, Angela Olivares, a Brownsville native who studied food science and nutrition from Texas A&M University, working as Food Operations



OLIVAREZ

Director at a large grocery store chain.

"When I did a lot of community involvement, I saw the need for having someone our community trusted to provide meals and nutrition to our students," Olivares said, describing her transition from retail to a school district.

"Through these unprecedented times, I was on the frontlines of it from See **DIRECTOR**, Page 5

Rio Hondo Bobcats 'Zoom' into school Aug. 24

By ANDI ATKINSON
Special to the PRESS/NEWS

The Rio Hondo Bobcats will "Zoom" into the 2020-21 school year on Monday, Aug. 24.

The students of Rio Hondo Independent

School District will attend classes virtually for the first five weeks of school with the option of returning to campus on Monday, Sept. 28. Students who do not have a computer and/or internet access at home should

contact the assigned school for accommodations. All students should pick up their work packets and schedules from their assigned schools if they have not done so already.

During the period

of online/remote learning, student breakfast and lunch meals may be picked up from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the elementary, middle or high school.

According to Superintendent Roger Ellis, plans and procedures may continue to change as the school year unfolds, but the education of the students will continue.

"We will work through

this pandemic and continue to problem-solve so that our students receive a safe and quality education," Ellis said "Though the school year is starting in an unconventional way and there will be more safety protocols in place when the students return to class, it is all to ensure that our students start and finish the school year strong."

For any back-to-school questions, visit www.RioHondoISD.net to view the "2020-21 School Start-Up Plan" and "Start-of-School Frequently Asked Questions" pages. People may also call the Rio Hondo ISD main line at (956) 748-1000 to be routed to the appropriate school or department.

Abbott requests USDA Disaster Designation for RGV

Special to the PRESS/NEWS

AUSTIN—Governor Greg Abbott has sent a letter to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) requesting a disaster designation for eight counties in the Rio Grande Valley directly impacted by Hurricane Hanna. A USDA disaster designation would make federal assistance, such as emergency loans, available to agricultural producers who have suffered losses in designated counties, as well as in counties that are contiguous to a designated county. The Governor's request includes the counties of Brooks, Cameron, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Kenedy, Starr, Willacy, and Zapata.

"Texas agricultural producers continue to be greatly affected by the severe weather and flooding caused by Hurricane Hanna, which made landfall on July 25, 2020, and caused severe flooding,

which presently continues," reads the letter. "Hurricane Hanna produced damaging weather conditions which substantially affected producers and caused severe production losses. These producers are in need of this assistance to return to normal operations."

Abbot declared a disaster in 32 Texas counties on July 25, 2020. The governor also requested that President Trump issue an emergency declaration, which the president promptly granted a day later.

Furthermore, the letter states, "early estimates

made by Texas Citrus Mutual show Texas citrus sustained a minimum average of a 30 percent loss to the crop in Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy counties; Texas Citrus Mutual also reports cotton acres lost to Hurricane Hanna are estimated to be 138,680 acres in Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy counties. Total damage assessments are still being calculated, but daily agriculture operations have been slowed by both the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and by the severe flooding caused by Hurricane Hanna."

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NOTICE OF 2020 TAX YEAR PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX RATE FOR CITY OF SAN BENITO

A tax rate of \$0.728125 per \$100 valuation has been proposed for adoption by the governing body of CITY OF SAN BENITO. This rate exceeds the lower of the no-new revenue or voter-approval tax rate, and state law requires that two public hearings be held by the governing body before adopting the proposed tax rate.

The governing body of CITY OF SAN BENITO proposes to use revenue attributable to the tax rate increase for the purpose of Increase Maintenance & Operations.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.728125 per \$100
PRECEDING YEAR'S TAX RATE	\$0.728125 per \$100
NO-NEW REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.656844 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.772183 per \$100

The no-new revenue tax rate is the total tax rate needed to raise the same amount of property tax revenue for CITY OF SAN BENITO from the same properties in both the 2019 tax year and the 2020 tax year.

The voter-approval tax rate is the highest tax rate that CITY OF SAN BENITO may adopt before voters are entitled to petition for an election to limit the rate that may be approved to the voter-approval tax rate.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE ABOVE RATES CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

property tax amount = (rate) x (taxable value of your property) / 100

For assistance or detailed information about tax calculations, please contact:

Belen Peña
City of San Benito Finance Director
485 N. Sam Houston Blvd., San Benito, TX 78586
Tel 956-361-3804 Ext. 222
bpena@cityofsanbenito.com
www.cityofsanbenito.com

You are urged to attend and express your views at the following public hearings on proposed tax rate:

First Hearing: 09/01/2020 5:30 P.M. at Cesar Gonzalez Meeting Hall, San Benito, Texas
Second Hearing: 09/08/2020 5:30 P.M. at Cesar Gonzalez Meeting Hall, San Benito, Texas

WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE

The CAMERON COUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT #3 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2020 on August 31, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. Due to health and safety concerns related to the COVID-19 emergency, and pursuant to the Governor's disaster declaration, this meeting will be conducted by teleconference. No Board members will be present at the District Office. At least a quorum of the Board will be participating by telephone in accordance with the provisions of Section 551.125 of the Texas Government Code that have not been suspended by order of the Governor.

Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal:	Ronaldo Garcia, Mathew McCarthy, Randall McMurray
AGAINST the proposal:	None
PRESENT and not voting:	None
ABSENT:	None

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.147218/\$100	\$0.147218/\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 value		\$0.00/\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		0.00 %
Average appraised residence homestead value	<u>\$83,933.00</u>	<u>\$84,803.00</u>
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$1,830.00	\$1,266.00
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$82,103.00	\$83,537.00
Tax on average residence homestead	\$120.88	\$122.98
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	\$2.10 1.74%	

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Members of the public may access this meeting as follows:
***Dial 1-718-362-6360 and
***enter PIN: 111-0442

Public comments related to this meeting will be handled as follows:

Comment may be made by emailing the District's General Manager at ccdtrain_3@yahoo.com before 9:45 p.m. on August 31, 2020. The email will be read during the public comment period.

All individuals desiring to address the Board by telephone must be registered to do so, prior to the open comment period. Members of the public desiring to make a comment shall call the District at (956) 399-7637 between 8:30 a.m. and 9:50 a.m. on August 31, 2020, and register by providing his or her name. The registered speaker will access the meeting as stated above. When is time for comments to be heard, a moderator will move through the list of registered speakers, stating the name of each, at which time the speaker will make his or her comments.

Stories from our Past

More San Benito 'Firsts' unearthed

Special to the PRESS/NEWS

Editor's note: In celebration of the 25th anniversary of the founding of the San Benito Historical Society, a series of stories will be presented throughout the year. These stories about the people and history of San Benito are partially exhibited at the current museum located in the Community Building and at the website, www.sanbenitohistory.com. The exhibits will be expanded upon when the museum develops its topics in the new facility, including famous San Benito natives and veteran displays, among other original presentations.

For more "firsts," visit www.sanbenitohistory.com, where you will find the project designed by Thomas A. Garza, local pharmacist, under the direction of Sandra Tumberlinson, when he was a 7th grader at Berta Cabaza Middle School.

Firsts of San Benito
1st Electric Light at Jail-

San Benito News, 1961. January 20, 1913, saw the vote for an electric light in the jail passed by City commission.

The First Fire Truck
San Benito News, 1961. The First Fire Truck had a pink rose painted on the side-San Benito's severe first fire was in 1911.

The air was damp, and a heavy rain had fallen. Most of the pioneer residents retired early, and most of them were sound asleep when the ominous cry, "Fire! Fire!" was heard. Agar's Warehouse was afire. Volunteers in various stages of dress dashed into the muddy streets and hurried in the direction of the call. Bucket brigades were formed in a desperate attempt to extinguish the flames. In 1915 there was another alarm and people began to consider the fact that San Benito was growing rapidly and needed something more than a spur-of-the-moment bucket brigade. It was a thrilling day in 1917 when the first fire engine was delivered to Mayor and Toolan's garage. The engine was purchased by public subscription and featured a Model T chassis mounted with two 30 gallon chemical tanks. However, the crowning glory was a large, full-blown pink rose which adorned the toolbox.

First Paved Highway through San Benito
San Benito News, 1961. First Paved Highway through San Benito was built in 1921. Before the advent of the Iron Horse to Cameron County (1904), the Military Highway and the Old Alice Road were the main

arteries of access into the Lower Valley. While the Military Highway was primarily just what the name implies—a road for the transfer of military forces—it was also used for travel between Fort Ringgold and Fort Brown and the towns which had blossomed around each fort, Rio Grande City and Brownsville. Paso Real, northeast of the town of Rio Hondo, was an overnight stagecoach stop for travelers using the Old Alice Road, which connected Brownsville with Alice, and the trip was far from comfortable over the dusty, bumpy road. With an increase in population and commerce, the necessity for better roads became very apparent, so in 1914-15, Highway 83 received attention with a grading between San Benito and Harlingen and the erection of a low water crossing over the Arroyo Colorado. Paved roads first appeared in the lower Valley in December 1920. The first paved road was completed in Brownsville and was a scant 15 feet wide. The second concrete span ran from Four Corners west of Harlingen, through San Benito to the infamous "Dead Man's Curve" so dubbed because of the high toll of accidents which occurred at the treacherous bend.

La Posada bids farewell

Special to the PRESS/NEWS

As August closes, La Posada Providencia will be saying goodbye to two very familiar faces. After more than 30 combined years of dedicated service, Sisters Zita Telkamp and Margaret Mertens bid farewell to their beloved Rio Grande Valley.

"Throughout their invaluable work here, they have made a very positive impact on the lives of thousands of asylum seekers, refugees, and immigrants. Their selfless work and consistent dedication to serving those finding shelter at La Posada, have helped make significant strides toward achieving a world of compassion, justice and peace," read a press release from La Posada.

Sisters Zita and Margaret expressed their deep gratitude for the experiences they have had at La Posada. To them, serving the clients has been an honor and a privilege.

"Since Sister Margaret Mertens and I, Sister Zita Telkamp, are both octogenarians, the leadership of our community, the Sisters of Divine Providence, Marie de la Roche Province, asked us recently to consider transitioning to our central location in Allison Park, PA," said Sister Telkamp.

"The pandemic has not provided ample time and opportunity to express our gratitude and say our 'good-byes' in person. Upon leaving La Posada, we naturally feel sadness. We are leaving what has been our home. Yet, we have a strong feeling of gratitude to God that La Posada has not only



MARGARET MERTENS



ZITA TELKAMP

been our home, but also our ministry and mission for a combined thirty-three years," continued Telkamp.

In June 2008, Sister Zita Telkamp succeeded Sister Margaret in becoming La Posada's third Program Director since its founding in 1989. Prior to her arrival at La Posada, Sister Zita ministered as an educator. She was an elementary teacher and principal for 35 years of the 49 years she served in Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, Missouri and the Diocese of Springfield, Illinois. From 1995 through 2001, she was a member of the provincial council for the St. Louis Province of the Sisters on Divine Providence. Beginning in 2001 through 2007, she ministered at Room at the Inn, a shelter sponsored by the Sisters of Divine Providence for homeless women and families. In 2013, Bishop Daniel E. Flores of the Diocese of Brownsville, TX, nominated Sister Zita for the prestigious Catholic Extension Lumen Christi (Latin for "light of Christ") award. This award honors an individual or group working in a U.S. mission diocese

who demonstrates how the power of faith can transform lives and communities. Sister Zita was one of a select few finalists for the award. As a Lumen Christi finalist, Catholic Extension honored Sister Zita with a \$10,000 donation to support and further the ministry of La Posada.

The Sisters of Divine Providence instituted the Ketteler Award in 1998 to honor individuals who demonstrate a strong commitment to social justice. Both Sister Margaret and Sister Zita were nominees and received the Ketteler Award for Social Justice in 2019.

On Monday, August 24, 2020, La Posada Providencia will host a car parade for Sisters Zita and Margaret. The parade will take place at St. Theresa Catholic Church, 1300 Combes St., San Benito.

Lineup will begin at 6 p.m. and the parade will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. La Posada asks all attendees to enter from East Combes Street, turn right on Encino Street, turn left on Paseo Union Street, turn left on Centro Street to exit. We ask all attendees to please confirm by calling 956-399-3826.

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PUBLIC NOTICE: Request for Proposals for the Assessment and Investigation of the Beach and Dune Conditions at South Padre Island



The City of South Padre Island is soliciting Statements of Proposals (SOP) until 2:00 p.m. on Friday, September 11th, 2020 from experienced research organizations to provide services for the assessment and investigation of the beach and dune conditions at South Padre Island. The selected organization will need to perform all necessary tasks including but not limited to surveying, design/engineering, and creating a beach maintenance plan for the City of South Padre Island's shoreline. The RFP packet is available on the City's website at www.myspi.org. All inquiries regarding the RFP should be directed to: Kristina Boburka at 956-761-3837 or via email at kboburka@myspi.org.

Statement of Proposals are due by **2:00 p.m. on September 11th, 2020** after which all qualified responses will be opened and acknowledged at 4601 Padre Boulevard South Padre Island, Texas 78597. Any proposals received after the specified deadline will be returned unopened.

Sealed SOPs are required to be clearly marked with the RFP number (2020-SL02), the title (Assessment and Investigation of the Beach and Dune Conditions at South Padre Island), and must be addressed to the City of South Padre Island- City Secretary. The SOPs must be delivered using one of the following methods:

Hand Delivery to:	Mail to:	Ship to (FedEx, UPS, DHL):
4601 Padre Blvd.	4601 Padre Blvd.	4601 Padre Blvd.
South Padre Island	South Padre Island	South Padre Island
TX 78597	TX 78597	TX 78597

The City of South Padre Island reserves the right to reject any or all responses.

In compliance with the National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration and the Texas General Land Office, the following information is to be released with this publication:

Federal Funding Allocation:	60% Total Project Cost	\$90,000.00
Local Funding Allocation:	40% Total Project Cost	\$60,000.00

Prevention Works

This year our community spent a lot of time at home and with summer still in full effect, our youth continues to spend most of their time there.



EDUARDO SALINAS
PRC Public Relations

see an increase in the number of OSAR screenings in region 11. In 2017 there were a total of 2,068 unduplicated screenings, while in 2019 that number

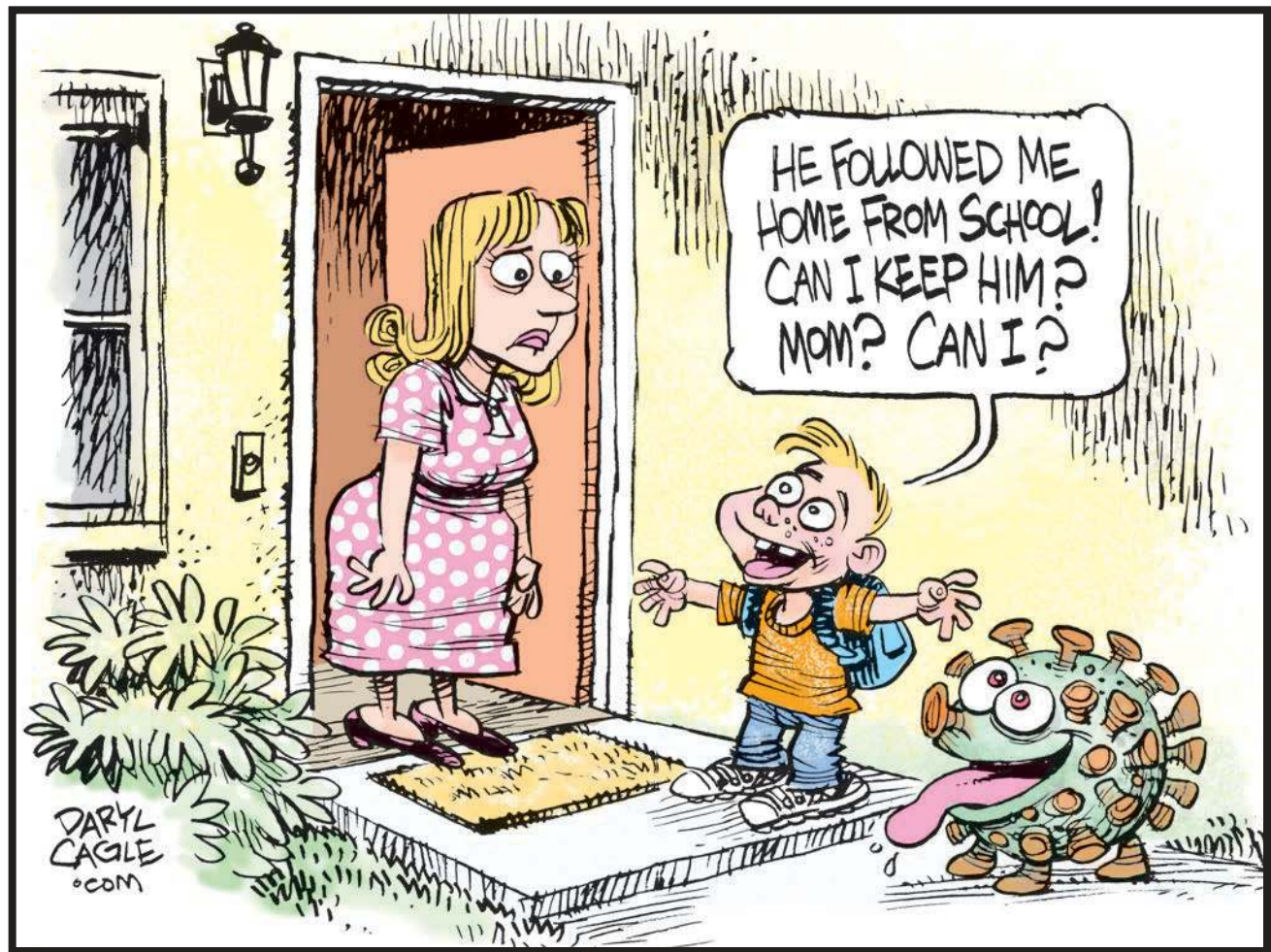
With the number of the novel coronavirus cases still surging throughout our region and a lot of school districts opting for remote-only learning during the first weeks of the upcoming school year, it is clear to see that the time at home is not yet over. Though spending some downtime with family can be beneficial, sometimes parents and guardians are busy with work while youth and young adults may be isolated. Taking the correct preventative measures during these trying times can be key to decreasing the risk factors associated with substance abuse and misuse.

went up to 2,633 unduplicated screenings. This data on OSAR screenings can be considered a risk factor because it shows a rising number of individuals seeking services, but they can serve as a protective factor in the same way.

In an effort to decrease risk factors in the home, parents should try to safeguard or lock up any medication, alcohol and other substances that children and young adults may be exposed to. Data collected from the Texas Department of Public Safety shows that in 2019 there were a total of 108 juvenile arrests out of a total of 15,228 arrests related to liquor laws, driving under the influence and drunkenness. Furthermore, an HHSC report shows that in 2019 a total of 4,390 individuals in region 11 received treatment services for substance use disorders. It is important to also keep in mind that not all arrests and treatment numbers may be reflected in the numbers provided as there may be various gaps in data within our region.

As stated in the Texas Health and Human Services (HHSC) website, outreach, screening, assessment and referral (OSAR) is a service available to all individuals interested in information about substance use services. In a report provided by HHSC, we can

An important factor to keep handy, prevention works. Communication is the key to prevention and during this current world-wide situation, parents should have the time to talk to their children about the dangers See **PREVENTION**, Page 12



Pharmacists on the frontlines

When a COVID-19 vaccine becomes available, there will be a race to ensure it is widely administered and Americans are protected. Whether that happens in six or 18 months from now, one way we can ensure rapid adoption of the vaccine is by ensuring that pharmacists like me are equipped and authorized to administer it.

With many America's hospitals and clinics devoted to caring for COVID-19 patients, the role pharmacies play on the frontlines of public health has become increasingly vital. Since nine out of 10 Americans live within five miles of a community pharmacy, we can swiftly help ensure widespread adoption of the vaccine.

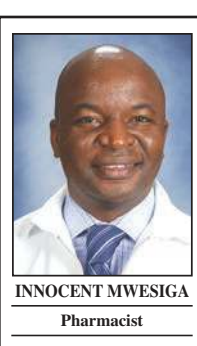
As a community pharmacist, my ability to help

protect the population is built on trust and relationships. I can reach a large population of busy adults on a regular basis as people frequently stop to pick up medications or other necessities.

In a recent study, when asked which services their pharmacy could add to make health care more convenient, 29 percent of older adults cited access to all vaccines.

Adult vaccination rates across the United States remain lower than what is recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and well below the goal of 'Healthy People 2020' of 90 percent.

Pharmacies can help expand access and offer



INNOCENT MWESIGA
Pharmacist

an additional safe, convenient place for adults to get vaccinated.

Pharmacists are trained and equipped to deliver vaccines, and they can be vital to flattening the curve of pandemics.

A Johns Hopkins University study found that during the H1N1 pandemic, pharmacists were critical to expanding access to the vaccine, thus helping stop the spread of the disease.

All 50 states allow pharmacists to vaccinate for the flu, but with other vaccines availability at pharmacies varies widely state by state.

Aside from the eventual COVID-19 vaccine, there are several vaccines that adults 19 years

and older need to have in order to protect themselves and others from potentially life-threatening illnesses.

At the beginning of the pandemic, many of my patients were anxious to take any steps they could to protect them from the virus. Many came in for the pneumonia vaccine, which we regularly administer. They brought their elderly family members in search of answers – because of the relationships we have built over time, pharmacists are trusted partners in the system of care.

Being able to go to a pharmacy without a prescription and get these vaccines will make it easier on adults, and likely lead to increased rates of vaccination. See **PHARMACISTS**, Page 12

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Emasculating a nation To The Editor,

I want no part of the Republican Party while Trump is in office. President Donald J. Trump has emasculated his followers while stripping them of any good ethical standard.

He is left with all non-thinkers while being the King of the stupid. Let me give you one example.

The POTUS claims it is China's fault for the current pandemic. Let's say he is right. But what was he thinking when he placed all those tariffs on China? Did he think China was not going to retaliate?

What was he thinking when he openly cursed the Chinese for causing the U.S. pandemic? He cursed one and a half billion people! Did he think they were going to say "Thank You" for the accusations?

A lot of other problems have aggregated to our nation that is tied to the POTUS actions. The list is long.

We don't need friends or enemies for good fortunes. We just need to think of the consequences when we say or do something. This President just thinks about himself. He is screwing a nation. And

all this time he plays the Pollyanna card.

He lies about everything and faults everybody else for the nation's problems. In the meantime, he and his family are stuffing their pockets with taxpayers' money.

I say a lot of Americans are currently resting in their laurels. I just wonder when it is going to stop.

Santiago Perez
San Benito

Open Letter To Port Isabel Mayor And Commissioners To The Editor,

During the past four years or more, I have watched the abusive treatment of your former employee Mr. Edward Meza both in the courtroom and, through you, in the news media. Besides being employed by the City of Port Isabel for approximately 20 years, he is also a taxpayer and homeowner in this community.

I have attended each and every hearing of the lawsuit regarding his severance agreement including the appellate court hearing.

First, I would like to quote verbatim the statement by the Texas Workforce Commission, "Exceptional consideration

is given when there is an agreement between the employer and the employee".

Aside from that statement we have watched excessive court delays by your city attorney Mr. Hinojosa. These delays, in my opinion, were orchestrated to deny Mr. Meza due process, and to raise the cost of litigation, hopefully beyond his ability to move forward with this lawsuit. Due to Mr. Hinojosa's waste of court time seeking a different jurisdiction, Judge Sanchez ordered the City of Port Isabel to pay Mr. Meza's attorney an extra \$11,000 to cover the cost for that wasted time.

Mr. Hinojosa told Judge Sanchez of the 444th court that "he (the Judge) just didn't get it".

Just as he told the Appellate Court Judges, three of them, that they were also wrong in their assessment of the facts even though his demands were repeatedly and unanimously denied not once, not twice but three times. Please tell me that you're not pinning your hopes and taxpayer dollars on a bag of tricks and the arrogance of your city attorney.

It is my understanding that the amount now be-

ing sought is almost three times the original cost of the agreement due to those abusive delays. If you were each responsible for the cost of this litigation it would have been settled long ago. Fortunately for you, we the taxpayers collectively share the financial burden of your decisions.

Also, how do you pledge allegiance to the flag, particularly the part about "Justice for all." Justice for all includes Edward Meza and if you can't guarantee justice for him, then you need to stop pledging to do that and perhaps not run for reelection.

The taxpayers are paying the price for the games you play. As leaders of this community you need to do your job and stop letting your city attorney make decisions that endanger the financial enrichment of our community. Edward Meza is a good City Manager and worked hard for the betterment of this town. He should not have been required to sue the City for an agreement that was unanimously approved by the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,
Glenda Stafford
Port Isabel

(USPS 479-060)
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'Hit harder than New York'

County infection rate exceeds metro areas

By **DAVID LOPEZ**

editor@sbnewspaper.com

Last Friday's Cameron County press conference exposed some distressing figures but some encouraging statistics as well.

Cameron County Health Authority Dr. James Castillo compared the County's rate of infection with New York City, which peaked in March and April. Around three percent of their population was confirmed infected, Castillo said, and here, it is worse.

"As of today, here in Cameron county, over 4 percent of the population has been confirmed by PCR testing of having been infected by COVID 19," Castillo said, noting that New York City saw 3,000 people infected per 100,000. "Here in Cameron County, we now have

over 4,100 confirmed infections per 100,000 residents... Everything that we've seen, to put it in a national perspective, is we've gotten hit harder than New York. That's why we've had to take such drastic action."

Castillo noted, however, that New York City took even more drastic action by shutting down completely. He conjured the images of empty streets in NYC at the beginning of the pandemic in March and April and contrasting that to what we see here: more open businesses and places of employment.

"And here we are in the middle of this pandemic that's affecting our community, and we're not shut down; we're open, and that's why you see us so concerned for our residents here. Everybody now

knows somebody who's lost a loved one. It didn't have to be that way," he said.

The County extended its emergency orders until September 7 last week, including its mandate of facial coverings, curfew, shelter-in-place, limiting gatherings, and closing beach accesses.

During the press conference, Judge Eddie Treviño said he has noticed people are not respecting the curfew and said citations for those who disobey would begin again. However, he did not specify when and how.

Furthermore, Castillo revealed the positive news: a downward trend of hospitalizations and positive daily cases.

"We have the potential still for a lot more suffering, but I'm seeing a really en-

couraging trend here... We were over 700, 800, 1,000 cases reported in a day; now we're down to 300 in a day."

Castillo said he believes it is because everybody follows the protocols and recommendations of the emergency orders that the County is witnessing a downward trend. However, Castillo said it is not enough to move entirely towards normalcy.

"People ask me, 'When can we start relaxing back more towards normal?' And the answer is when our daily cases are very consistently less than 50 per day... If we keep this up, hopefully, we won't have another wave, because we're just seeing the end of the first wave."

Castillo also pointed to the latest numbers on hospitalizations, which indicate

non-ICU dedicated COVID beds at 84 percent occupancy, and COVID dedicated ICU beds at 97 percent, an improvement from the 115% occupancy seen at the beginning of the month.

Cameron County Health Administrator Esmeralda Guajardo said the County is caught up with the previous backlog in counting cases and deaths, so the reports are now the community's actual numbers.

When a reporter asked Castillo during the press conference to respond to those who said his claims comparing the County to New York City were alarmist, Castillo responded that the numbers prove his claims. "Right now, we still have 60 to 80 people on ventilators. These people are taking a long time to get better, and

a lot of them may not. The number of hospitalizations is down. We're much smaller than New York, but the numbers turned out that in terms of proven infections, to this day, we have 25 percent more than those counties near New York City here in Cameron County."

Furthermore, Castillo pointed to the larger counties infected in Texas. Harris County saw 1.8 percent of its population infected, whereas Bexar County saw 2.1 percent infected. Cameron County was over four percent infected.

"I didn't think we could get as bad as New York; we don't have subways, we don't have skyscrapers... But we have families; we have a close-knit community. It hit the big cities first, but now it's right here."

Resident

From "Resident," page 1

ed sexual assault of a child; and \$50,000 for indecency with a child. Garza was transported to the Carrizales-Rucker Detention Center in Olmito, Texas.

Port Isabel Police Department (PIPD) officers arrested Garza after the mother of a child he allegedly abused called the police. PIPD Chief Robert Lopez told the PRESS officers pursued Garza through Port Isabel on foot before arresting him

sometime around 9:00 a.m. on Aug. 12. Social media posts calling for his arrest were shared thousands of times by residents across the Rio Grande Valley.

Child pornography sites were found on Garza's phone history, along with videos of himself abusing a three-year-old girl, a person familiar with the investigation told the PRESS, saying Garza admitted to abusing the child after his

arrest. A source familiar with the investigation said the child's mother discovered the videos on Garza's phone, prompting her to call the police.

PIPD concluded their investigation, transferring the case to the Homeland Security Investigations agency of the Department of Homeland Security. Federal charges are now possible against Garza, Lopez said, referring to the transferring of the case.

Meza

From "Meza," page 1

motion for dismissal before the case reached a jury. Judge David Sanchez denied the motion.

The state's Thirteenth Court of Appeals, in a July 2, 2020, memorandum opinion by Justice Gloria Benavidez, affirmed the 444th District Court of Cameron County's denial of the City Port Isabel's motion for dismissal, in a unanimous decision.

The Thirteenth Court of Appeals heard oral arguments from the city's

attorney, Gilberto Hinojosa, and Meza's attorney, Daniel Goldberg, in October 2019.

Goldberg told the PRESS he is confident the case will go to trial.

"It's just that the law, the facts, the Trial Court Judge's decision and the 13th Court of Appeal's unanimous opinion all make it really easy for the Supreme Court Justices to just affirm the decision and save their time for a tougher question in another case," Goldberg

said. "I hope they choose to just pay Meza what the City has legally owed him since 2015."

Goldberg and Meza have told the PRESS that the city's pursuit of appeals are wasteful to Port Isabel's taxpayers.

In response, Jared Hockema, Port Isabel's city manager, told the PRESS that Meza "needs to look in the mirror."

A trial date is tentatively set for Oct. 26, according to Texas state court documents.

PI-ISD

From "PI-ISD," page 1

for another four weeks. If board members decide to delay in-person instruction another four weeks, any subsequent delays must apply for waivers from the Texas Education Agency. PI-ISD's goal is to return to in-person instruction by the second six weeks period,

which starts October 5, according to PI-ISD Superintendent Theresa Capistran.

Cameron County Judge Eddie Treviño, Jr. and Cameron Health Authority James Castillo issued an order to postpone in-person instruction until after Sept. 28.

Tarpon Athletics was also impacted by the county's order.

The Tarpons' district football season will be two games long, after District 16-4A Division 11 coaches agreed to split the district into two zones: Ingleside, Robstown, Rockport-Ful-

ton, Sinton and Corpus Christi West Oso in the North Zone; and Rio Hondo, Raymondville and Port Isabel in the South Zone, RGVSports reported.

Port Isabel's Athletic Director and Head Football coach told the PRESS previously that student

athletes from football and volleyball have been attending Google Classroom sessions as a virtual form of practice.

Tentatively, Port Isabel is playing Rio Hondo on Oct. 23, and Raymondville on Nov. 6. The post-season game begins with

a bi-district round on Nov. 12. Initially, between Point Isabel Independent School District's (PI-ISD) start date, Aug. 25, and Sept. 28, Port Isabel High School had four scheduled football games on Aug. 28, Sept. 4, Sept. 11, and Sept. 25, according to MaxPreps.

Candidates

From "Candidates," page 1

the Tompkins Park Skate Park; continue plans for a second Causeway; and completing the city's comprehensive plan.

The PRESS has contacted Buntin and is awaiting comment.

For the Place 4 seat, Bainter also mentioned a focus on developing a second Causeway.

"No real platform, no donations accepted and common sense deci-

sions with a balance of growth and protections for residents at the forefront," Bainter said in a statement to the PRESS. "Want to figure out how to work better with the county and get the second causeway fast tracked. No dirty politics and no trash talking."

Caballero, a retired nurse, told the PRESS her interest in running for the Place 4 seat comes from the Island being her

"forever home," after living there for the past 5 years. Caballero said her campaign would focus on promoting the Island for year round tourism, utilizing the city's parks and beaches equally, creating awareness of the Island being a Certified Retirement Community by the state; and social media training programs for small businesses; and "stronger ties" to governmental agencies like the

Cameron County and other agencies. Regarding taxes, Caballero said she wants to see "more coming and less going out," referring to property and the hotel occupancy tax, colloquially known as the HOT tax.

The PRESS has contacted Bagley and is awaiting comment.

If elected, the candidates will serve a three year term, as do all South Padre Island council

members.

Early voting for the South Padre Island's election is between Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2020, through Friday, Oct. 30, 2020, excluding weekends. Polls will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with the exception of Thursday, Oct. 22, 2020, and Thursday, Oct. 29, 2020, where the hours will be from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. All early voting and election day voting will be at South Pa-

dre Island City Hall, at 4601 Padre Blvd.

The deadline to register to vote is Oct. 5, 2020, for the November election. For more information on how to register to vote, please call (956) 544-0809 or visit the Cameron County Elections Department at <https://www.cameron-county.us/elections/>.

Election Day is on Nov. 3.

Director

From "Director," page 1

the beginning," Olivares said, noting the COVID-19's pandemic strain on grocery stores and providing food to children. "I think it's a good transition for me because I've seen it firsthand."

Olivares said she wants PI-ISD's child nutrition department to be an extra hand for Laguna Madre area families needing to feed their children this school year. About 25 staff members are in the Child Nutrition Depart-

ment, with another 14 in the Transportation Department.

The "Grab & Go, Eat at Home" program used the district's bus routes to determine its 102 stops along the Laguna Madre area, where students and parents can walk to pick up hot breakfast and lunch meals, regardless of grade level. PI-ISD will use school buses, with its seats removed, to transport meals, packaged in bento-style boxes inside

coolers, after which the cold and hot food will be placed in a bag and distributed to students. The program is similar to other programs outside of the region, but PI-ISD's program is unique in using its bus routes to drop off food, Olivares said.

The program, which starts on Aug. 24, the first day of school, will also serve food curbside, as the district did from May to August, at Port Isabel High School and Garriga

and Derry Elementary.

All the meals will be made at Port Isabel High School, Garriga Elementary and Derry Elementary, with food from Labatt Food Services, the district's food provider.

Unlike the spring and summer food programs, only students enrolled at PI-ISD can pick up the meals, using their student identification numbers or a district meal card, the latter provided by the district. In the spring and

summer programs, any person under 18 could receive a meal from the district's curbside food program.

Curbside meal service will still be available, from Monday to Friday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Port Isabel High School, Garriga Elementary and Derry Elementary.

"My staff is willing to do whatever it takes to make sure that we get the meals to our students," Olivares said. "They

take pride in what they do each and every day."

The first meal of the year will be cheeseburgers, Olivares said. Tamales and quesadillas, and pizza on Fridays, are also part of PI-ISD's to-go menu.

Locations, times and routes for bus stop meal pickup will be posted on Friday Aug. 21 on www.pi-isd.net. To contact the PI-ISD Child Nutrition department, call (956) 943-0095.

Texas becomes fourth state to surpass 10,000 COVID-19 deaths

By EMMA PLATOFF
The Texas Tribune

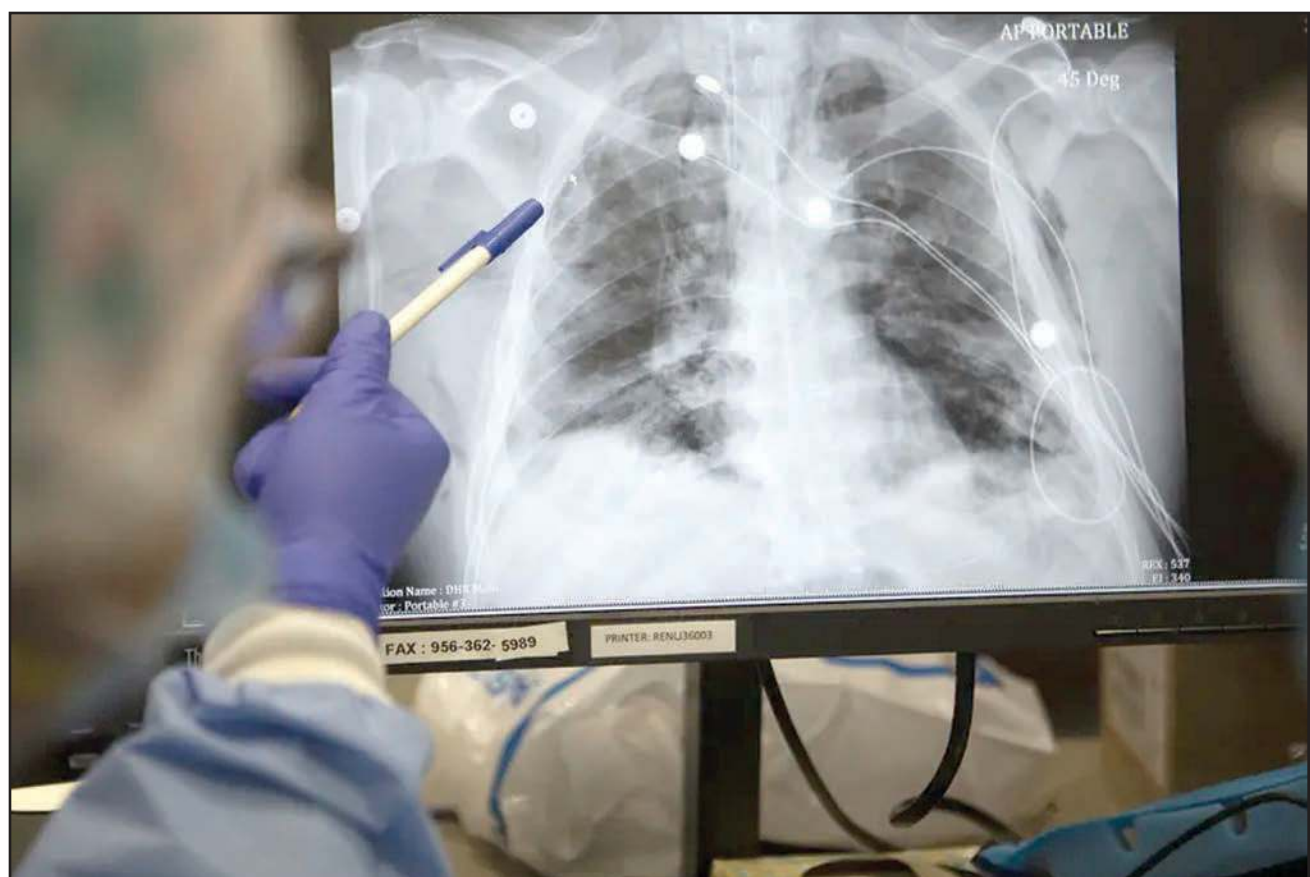
Texas is mourning more than 10,000 known COVID-19 fatalities, 100 times more people than were killed in Hurricane Harvey, according to new figures released by state officials Monday. It's a somber mark that only three other states have passed since the pandemic hit the United States earlier this year.

Among those who died were 65-year-old Robert Rhodes, a "professor's professor" for decades at Texas Christian University; 40-year-old Jimmy Sanchez, a San Antonio thrift store owner; and

55-year-old Jimmy Miller, a first-term justice of the peace in Jasper County.

New Jersey, New York and California have also exceeded 10,000 known COVID-19 fatalities. Experts say Texas' official death toll is all but certain to be an undercount given insufficient testing, particularly at the beginning of the pandemic.

Hispanic Texans make up 53.4 percent of the state's 10,034 coronavirus fatalities, far more than their 40% share of the population. In Texas and across the country, COVID-19 has proved deadlier for communities



Nurses look over the X-rays of COVID-19 patients at Doctors Hospital at Renaissance Health System in Edinburg. The virus has been especially deadly in the Rio Grande Valley.

(Credit: Miguel Gutierrez Jr./The Texas Tribune)

OBITUARIES

María Natividad Meza



María Natividad Meza, peacefully passed from this life on August 14, 2020 surrounded by her loving family. María was born in La Paloma, Texas to Guillermo Cruz and Dominga Ramírez Cruz on March 21, 1936.

She loved to crochet, to do word search puzzles, and to work in her garden and was a faithful member of St. Helen's Catholic Church in Rio Hondo.

Maria was preceded in death by her husband, Manuel Meza, Sr., and her daughter, Mercedes Meza.

Left to treasure her memory are her sons, Manuel (Rosalinda) Meza, Jr.; Guadalupe Santos Meza, Domingo Meza, and daughter, Melida (Sergio) Palacios; grandchildren, Jennifer Marie McCray, Jacklyn Nicole Meza, Jessica Lee Meza, Melina Jean Perez, Manuel Meza III, Elizabeth Justine Pérez, D'Angelina Meza Clay; great-grandchildren, Yvanna A. Bryant, Taliyah L. Donnell, Dalaysia Green, Rylan J. Donnell, Makyah McCray, Valentina McCray, and Jawan McCray, Jr.

Special thanks to Kindred Hospice, Jessica Longoria and Amanda Gutiérrez from WellMed, and to Tío Willie for numerous breakfast tacos, Tía Nena and Brenda for the numerous dinners, and to everyone who prayed for Maria Natividad and the Meza family. Also, to all family and friends who came to visit her during her last days.

Memorial services for María will be held at a later date.

Floral tributes may be sent to 6106 Shelburne Street, Humble, TX 77396.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to San Benito Funeral Home, 1400 W. Business 77, San Benito, Texas 78586. 956-361-9192 • www.sanbenitofuneralhome.com.

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of color.

Meanwhile, the number of hospitalizations in the state has been trending steadily downward since a peak in July. Experts believe that a statewide mask mandate, which Gov. Greg Abbott issued in early July, has helped slow the spread of the virus.

The positivity rate — a rolling average of how



many coronavirus tests revealed positive cases — is still at an alarming level of 11.8 percent. Abbott has said any level above 10 percent is a "warning flag."

Still, the positivity rate has dipped considerably since last week, the apparent result of a data dump Friday of some 95,000 tests from a single lab that served many hospitals. The abrupt increase in testing lowered the state's positivity rate from a record-high 24.5 percent. State health officials blamed the data issues on lab backlogs,

coding errors and a system upgrade.

Disclosure: Texas Christian University has been a financial supporter of The Texas Tribune, a nonprofit, nonpartisan news organization that is funded in part by donations from members, foundations and corporate sponsors. Financial

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Editor's note: "Texas becomes fourth state to surpass 10,000 COVID-19 deaths" was first published at <https://www.texastribune.org/2020/08/17/texas-coronavirus-deaths/> by The Texas Tribune.

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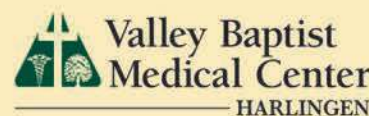
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HOROSCOPE — AUGUST 23, 2020

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Who is asking? Who is looking? Who benefits? The answer changes everything about what unfolds. It will be impossible to direct every scene, but you can at least be the star of your own story. Think about your life in a way that empowers you. There is power in service, too, as long as you claim it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your impressions are neither wrong nor right, they just are. Keep track of them this week because there's actionable information there, especially when you refrain from judgment. Observe as many details as you can and leave the analysis for later. You don't need to side with anyone. Clarity is free of bias.

GEMINI (May 21-June

21). Needing to be liked is the enemy of social grace. You'll have none of it. You will bring your own happiness and make yourself comfortable. You will seem to contain your own weather. As a self-charging system, you'll become very useful and attractive to others and will be in a position to carefully choose your company.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Did you violate your own rules? While it's not ideal, it's also not the end of the world. You have to cross those lines sometimes before you realize your need for better structures. This is why fences, checklists and schedules were invented. You will come up with new ways to keep yourself in line and act in your own best interest.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).

Uncertainty and the possibility for disaster make people more upset than actually seeing bad things happen. Have compassion for the worriers in your life. Not everyone can be as accepting of reality and as trusting of the future as you are this week. You'll be the brave risk-taker, and others will be amazed at your daring.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Sometimes, you are able to focus deeply for hours at a time completely on your own volition. Other times, it's like you have to convince yourself of it. That's where good training comes in. Focus is another one of those stellar abilities you acquire with practice over time. Your ability to really dig in will net spectacular results.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct.

23). Often, a thing will prosper when enough individuals in a society have a love of said thing. You'll be among a group keeping the entity alive by enjoying, talking about, supporting and loving it. The crowd attracts numbers. The numbers exponentially multiply. Maintain your individuality as the social tides rise and fall.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Can one really be over-educated? Only in so much as the knowledge slows or paralyzes the action. There's a ratio to hit between knowing and doing. As you seek useful knowledge and apply it well this week, you'll also learn what cannot be immediately applied and file it for later.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There was a

time when you didn't feel well supported. Now, that is turning around. However, it should be noted that one community is not enough. Ideally, you need friends in every area of life -- some professional, some personal, some who know about your favorite things. You'll find them this week, too!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There are always different ways to think about a thing, but most people go with their initial reactions. You're not most people. You'll ask around. You'll move to the left, to the right, get close up and look for anything that can elevate you to the top-level view. Ultimately, curiosity will serve you amazingly well.

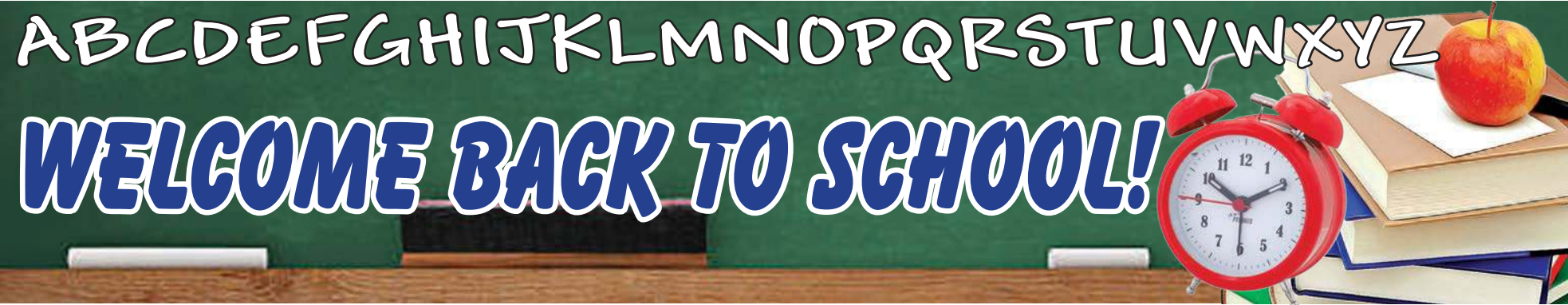
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). When it comes to

people, there is no such thing as a neutral effect. However mild a person's energy may be, you always leave the presence of another person with more or less energy. Choose your company mindful of the ability of each person to drain or energize another.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Make your tomorrows easier by adding very few new things to it. If you feel you must make additions -- in the form of purchases, friends, possessions, activities and other -- then at least go for the entities that are likely to be low buy-in and low maintenance. Don't make your future self pay for impulsivity.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.

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 State 345 (956) 748-3026

Pastor Joe P. Hinojosa
ABUNDANT LIFE FULL GOSPEL CHURCH

299 West Ocean Boulevard
 Los Fresnos • 233-8283

Pastors Rev. Steve Muse
THE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF RIO HONDO

122 S. Mira Mar • Rio Hondo
 956-357-3330

Pastor Chris Edge
IGLESIA EVANGELICA 'CRISTO ES LA ROCA'

101 North Williams Rd.
 San Benito

361-0409 or 622-0955
 Pastor Francisco Cantu

CROSS CHURCH

901 W. Exp. 83 • San Benito
 399-5590

Pastors Jaime and Rose Mary Loya
TEMPLO EL SHADDAI

32521 FM 2520 • San Benito
 956-577-6514 • 956-200-10531

Pastor Candelario Guerrero
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

400 N. Sam Houston • San Benito
 956-399-2187

Rev. Melissa Nelson
 9:15 a.m., Adult Sunday School

9:30 a.m., Sunday School
 Children & Youth


10:30 a.m., Worship in Saturday
LIVING STONE

2007 E. Expressway 83
 San Benito

Pastor Ernesto & Elizabeth Garcia

GOODE ELECTRIC LLC
TECL #17980
Everything Electric
Residential - Commercial - Industrial
300 E. Stenger, San Benito
956-399-3231
"Be still — know that I am God."
Ps. 46:10

TRIPLE AAA BRICK & TILE
735 W. Ocean Blvd.
233-9054 or 233-9074
American & Mexican Brick Sand Gravel • Cement Foundation Products

Harlingen Medical Center
The Community's Choice
 Harlingen Medical Center is more than a hospital. It is a place where people come to heal. It is a part of the community that fosters health and represents hope.
 Our dedicated physicians, nurses and support staff provide treatment, comfort, and compassion. They make the difference in healthcare and are the reason people choose Harlingen Medical Center. We know how to care for you, and your family, with the kind of compassionate, quality and effective care you deserve.

5501 S. Expressway 77 • Harlingen, TX
956-365-1000 • harlingenmedicalcenter.com

Area Church Schedules

ZIMCO MARINE INC.
943-2672
 400 Washington Pl, TX 78578

TROY GILES REALTY
 5813 Padre Blvd.
 South Padre Island, Texas
956-761-2040
 Visit www.tgreo.com for ALL AREA LISTINGS!

Padre Island Brewing Company
 EST. 1995
Family Dining at its Best
3400 Padre Blvd.
956-761-9585

EJ's Sandbox REALTY
EVA-JEAN DALTON
 Broker
956-279-5753


CHAPEL BY THE SEA
 (956) 761-5636
 33425 State Park Road 100,
 South Padre Island, Texas 78597
www.ChapelByTheSeaSPI.com
TIME OF SERVICE
 April - October Sunday 9:30 am
 Multi-Denominational
 Sam Steele, Chaplain
 Come as you are - coffee served
 Open for live service and facebook.

CROSS CHURCH BAY AREA
 1441 Santa Isabel Blvd.
 Laguna Vista, TX 78578
 956-543-5595
CrossChurchOnline.com
 Senior Pastors Jaime and Rose Mary Loya
 Campus Pastors
 Robert & Maria Kimberling
 Service Times:
 Sunday 10AM - English

LIGHTHOUSE ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH
 Corner Port Road and Hwy. 100
 943-5372
 Pastor Steven D. Hyde
SUNDAY
 Worship Service - 10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
 Children, Youth & Adult
 Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
 Family Night - 7:00 p.m.
 All services translated in Spanish
 Nursery Provided

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
 Longoria and Washington Streets,
 118 E. Washington St.
 956-292-5129
 Pastor: Steve Martinez
SUNDAY
 Worship on-line using a platform
 called Zoom until March 31st.
 Sunday morning, use one of these links:
 9:00 AM - <https://zoom.us/j/475237538>.
 11:00 AM - <https://zoom.us/j/976797451>.
 Also, all of our on-campus ministry events
 have been suspended until March 31st.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 101 W. Adams St., P.O. Box 1085
 Port Isabel, TX 78578
 956-943-2485
 Pastor Jenna Purdy
 Please Call the Church Office
 For Worship Times & Schedule

FISHERS OF MEN LUTHERAN CHURCH
 603 S. Tarnava Street, Port Isabel

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH
 705 S. Longoria, Port Isabel
 Confessions
 Monday-Thursday - 5:00 p.m.
 Saturday - 4:00 p.m.
 Schedule of Masses
 Saturday - 5:00 p.m. - (English)
 Sunday - 8:00 a.m. (Spanish)
 10:00 a.m. - (English)
 12:00 Noon - (English)
 Laguna Heights
 Saturday - 7:00 a.m. - (Spanish)
 Weekday Masses
 Mon. & Wed. - 6:00 p.m. (Spanish)
 Tues. & Thurs. - 6:00 p.m. (English)
 Friday - 7:30 a.m. (English)

CHURCH OF CHRIST
 310 Tarnava & Washington Street
 Port Isabel
 956-943-1844
 Tum Crum, Minister
SUNDAY
 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. - Worship Service
 6:00 p.m. - Evening Service
WEDNESDAY
 7:00 p.m. - Night Service

ST. ANDREW'S BY THE SEA EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 1022 North Yturria at North Shore Dr.
 Port Isabel, TX 78578
 956-943-1962
standrewsportisabel.org
SERVICES ON FACEBOOK
Sunday Services restart June 21 at 10 a.m.

MARANATHA WORSHIP CENTER ASSEMBLY OF GOD
 401 E. Madison, Port Isabel
 956-943-4878
 Pastor Sonia y Manuel Gonzalez
 Sunday Maranatha Kids (English)
 10 a.m. - 12 pm
 Domingo Escuela Dominical (Estudio)
 5 p.m.-6 p.m.
 Domingo Servicio de Adoracion - 6 p.m.
 Martes De Intercecion Familiar
 7-8:30 p.m.
 Miercoles Servicio Familiar - 7 p.m.

CORNERSTONE CHURCH BY THE BAY
 2nd Madison Grove on Ted Hunt Road
 Bayview, Texas
 956-434-1425
 Sunday School, Nursery & Fellowship
 Bible Study #101 - 9:15 a.m.
 Worship - 10:30 a.m.

ISLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
 107 W. Mesquite, South Padre Island
 (South of the Water Tower)
 761-5029
 Bill Waddell, Pastor
 Greg Judd, Pastor of Worship
SUNDAY
 8:15 a.m. - Traditional Service
 10:45 a.m. - Contemporary Services
Services also available online at islandbaptist.org.



The Original
DOWNTOWN THOMAS-GARZA
Funeral Directors
Albert Vega
Karla Olivarez
1-800-950-1331
 395 S. Sam Houston, San Benito
956-399-1331

COMPLIMENTS OF ISLAND SERVICES
761-2649

Las Palmas Shopping Center
Managed by TARANTINO PROPERTIES
1710 Hwy. 100
Port Isabel, TX
713-974-4292

Texas Pack, Inc.
 Navigation District
 956-943-5461

"We are proud to serve this community."

This church feature is provided through the support of these civic minded businesses

Island Cinema reopening this weekend

STAFF REPORT

Island Cinema is reopening on Friday, August 21.

Island Cinema is reopening alongside several theaters nationwide, according to a press release

from Courtney Hayden, managing partner of Island Cinema, after the National Association of Theater Owners held virtual meetings and established Reopening-Operations protocols.

"Dozens of theaters around the country have signed on to implement these protocols, and Island Cinema is right there with the big corporations in promising to do so," Hayden states.

Island Cinema stated they will sell no more than 25 seats per showing, in accordance with social distancing guidelines.

All visitors over two-years-old have to wear face coverings at all times

while in the building, only to be removed momentarily when consuming food and drink.

"Certainly this is something we are not used to, but we are not currently in usual times," Hayden said.

Island Cinema's reopening showings include "Unhinged," the 10th anniversary re-release of "Inception," "Jaws," "Sonic the Hedgehog," and "Words on Bathroom Walls."

PI chamber president deemed #EmpoweredTexasWomen candidate



BETTY WELLS

STAFF REPORT

Betty Wells, Port Isabel Chamber of Commerce President, has been selected by L&F Distributors as their Bud Light Seltzer #EmpoweredTexasWomen candi-

date.

"Throughout her personal and professional life, Betty has been blessed to come across many strong, supportive and courageous women who have fought fearlessly to rise above their

challenges," a press release from L&F Distributors states, noting Wells' economic contributions to the area and her 26-year run as Tournament Director of the Texas International Fishing Tournament.

"I try to make a positive difference every day, no matter how small, and I continue to be excited about what lies ahead," Wells said.

Wells is now featured on several billboards throughout the Rio

Grande Valley, including on N Cage Hwy in Pharr, Expressway 77 of Alton Gloor in Brownsville, Expressway 83 at Bryan Road in Mission, canton Road in Edinburg, and Texas Avenue in Mercedes.

CLASSIFIEDS



classifieds@portisabelsouthpadre.com



HOW TO PLACE AN AD: BY EMAIL: Send your classified to classifieds@portisabelsouthpadre.com • **BY PHONE:** (956) 943-5545

BY MAIL: P.O. Box 308, Port Isabel, TX 78578 • **IN PERSON:** 406 Garcia Street, Port Isabel, TX (Open Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-5 p.m.)

DEADLINE FOR THURSDAY'S PAPER: Wednesday 12:00 p.m.



SOUTH PADRE ISLAND HOUSE FOR SALE: Six bedrooms, four bathrooms, three kitchens, two living areas, two garages and a garage apartment. Renovated and ready for you to choose the wall colors and flooring of your choice. Great large family home or investment. Possible Owner Finance. CALL 225-235-6739.



SMALL MARINA in Port Isabel. Possible short term owner finance. Covered and uncovered **boatslips** for rent. Call 225-235-6739.



COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT AVAILABLE SOON: Stop by 415 E. Washington St., Port Isabel or call 956-943-7664 for more information.



EFFICIENCY APARTMENT at 811 S. Garcia, Port Isabel. Upstairs, adults only, water paid. \$400 per month/\$400 deposit. Call 956-792-0588.

FOR RENT: South Padre Island Large one bedroom apartment near the bayside entertainment district. No pets. Utilities are not included. Trash is included. Six month or 1 year lease. \$950 per month. \$950 deposit. Call 214-850-7438.



JAKE'S NOW HIRING EXPERIENCED BARTENDER, COOKS, CASHIERS. Apply in person at 2001 Padre Blvd., SPI.

HELP WANTED: Bakery department position available at the Blue Marlin. Apply in person at 2912 Padre Blvd., South Padre Island.

BLACKBEARDS RESTAURANT is now hiring cashiers, hostesses, servers and kitchen help. Apply in person at 103 E. Saturn Lane, SPI or call 956-761-2962.

HELP WANTED: Ely's Salon in Laguna Vista. Cosmetologist with license. Call 956-525-5026.



IMMEDIATE OPENINGS in maintenance, housekeeping and front desk. Please apply in person at Sapphire Condominiums. 310A Padre Blvd., SPI, TX 78597.



CHIEF ENGINEER NEEDED at a high-rise on SPI. The ideal candidate must have at least 10 yrs experience in HVAC and heat pumps, have working knowledge of commercial motors and variable speed drives, must be knowledgeable of high-rise plumbing systems, and general maintenance. Knowledge of pool maintenance and landscaping is a plus. Send resume or apply in person at 310A Padre Blvd., South Padre Island, TX 78597.



SUMMONS IN DISTRICT COURT, WELLS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA
JOHN THEODORE MEAGER, PLAINTIFF VS ESTEFANY MUNOZ, DEFENDANT
SUMMONS CIVIL NO.
The State of North Dakota to the above-named defendant:

You are hereby summoned and required to appear and defend against the complaint in this action, which (is herewith served upon you) (will be filed with the Clerk of this Court), by serving upon the undersigned an answer or other proper response within twenty-one (21) days after the service of the summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the



NOW HIRING Salesperson
THE PORT ISABEL-SOUTH PADRE PRESS/SOUTH PADRE PARADE ENTERTAINMENT MAGAZINE IS LOOKING FOR A SELF-MOTIVATED ADVERTISEMENT SALES CONSULTANT TO FILL A FULL-TIME POSITION.
Competitive salary, paid vacations. Sales experience preferred. Reliable transportation with insurance and valid driver's license required.
MUST BE RELIABLE, DEPENDABLE, AND WORK WELL WITH OTHERS.

Please email resume to rayq@portisabelsouthpadre.com
SERIOUS INQUIRIES ONLY/E.O.E.
PORT ISABEL PRESS SOUTH PADRE PARADE



complaint.
NOTICE OF TEMPORARY RESTRAINING PROVISIONS
Under Rule 8.4 of the North Dakota Rules of Court, upon service of the summons, you, and your spouse, are bound by the restraints following:
(1) Neither spouse shall dispose of, sell, encumber, or otherwise dissipate any of the parties' assets except:
a. For the necessities of life or the necessary generation of income or preservation of assets; or
b. For retaining counsel to carry on or to contest the proceeding;
If a spouse disposes of, sells, encumbers, or otherwise dissipates assets during the interim period, that spouse shall provide to the other spouse and accounting within 30 days.



(2) Neither spouse shall harass the other spouse.
(3) All currently available insurance coverage must be maintained and continued without change in coverage or beneficiary designation.
(4) Neither spouse shall remove their minor child(ren) from North Dakota without the written consent of the other spouse or order of the court except for temporary periods.
IF EITHER SPOUSE VIOLATES ANY OF THE PROVISIONS, THAT SPOUSE MAY BE IN CONTEMPT OF COURT.
Dated June 3, 2020.
Carla Johnson,
Clerk of Court
John Theodore Meager
900 Adams Ave.
Harvey, ND 58341
701-399-9720
(8-13-20; 8-20-20; 8-27-20)

TOWN OF LAGUNA VISTA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2021 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

The Town of Laguna Vista will hold a public hearing on the proposed 2021 fiscal year budget. Due to COVID-19 the public hearing will be held as a virtual meeting at 6:00 p.m. on September 8, 2020. The public is encouraged to review the Town's proposed budget on the Town of Laguna Vista website at www.lvtexas.us or view a paper copy of the budget in the City Secretary's office.

This budget will raise more total property taxes than last year's budget by \$54,748 or 4.84% increase and of that amount \$35,090.33 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year.

The public may comment by providing written comments either through the mail at 122 Fernandez, Laguna Vista, Texas 78578, or by fax at 956-943-2371. Any written comments will be included with information provided to the Town Council for their consideration.

Members of the public are encouraged to provide input through any means available and/or to participate in the public hearing. Due to COVID-19, citizens should email info@lvtexas.us, mail to City Secretary's Office at 122 Fernandez, Laguna Vista, Texas 78578, fax to 956-943-2371, or call 956-943-1793 to register to speak by phone. You will receive a response with instructions on how to participate in the public hearing by phone.

Classifieds



For information, call
956-399-2436



20 PUBLIC NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION/POSTING — DIVORCE WITH CHILDREN — TRC 109 & 114, FC 6.409 & 102.010 THE STATE OF TEXAS 2020-DCL-02602-B CAROLINA PESINA VS ELADIO REYES-MELO IN THE 138TH DISTRICT COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS
TO: Eladio Reyes-Melo
No Known Address, RE-SPONDENT: GREETINGS:

20 PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney does not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 am on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 day after the date you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you."

The petition of **Carolina**

20 PUBLIC NOTICES

Pesina, Petitioner, was filed in the 138th District Court of Brownsville, Texas on the **1st day of June, 2020**, against **Eladio Reyes-Melo**, Respondent(s), numbered **2020-DCL-02602**, and entitled: **Carolina Pesina vs. Eladio Reyes-Melo** And In the Interest of **Annalise N. Reyes; Eladio I. Reyes**, a child (or children).

The suit requests **Original Petition For Divorce** as is more fully shown by the

20 PUBLIC NOTICES

Petition on file in this suit.

The date and place of birth of the child/children who is/are the subject of the suit is/are:

"[*The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree dissolving the marriage and providing for the division of property that will be binding on you.] The court has authority in this suit to render an order in the child's/children's interest that will

20 PUBLIC NOTICES

be binding on you, including the term of the Parent-Child Relationship, the term of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's/children's adoption."

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Brownsville, Texas, on this the 10th day of June, 2020.

Attorney: Ricardo Barrera
24071959
956-428-2822

20 PUBLIC NOTICES

1314 E. Harrison Ave.
Harlingen, TX 78550

Elvira S. Ortiz, District Clerk
of Cameron County
974 E. Harrison Street
Brownsville, TX 78520

By: Adriana Munoz,
Deputy Clerk
(8-21-20)

LEGAL NOTICE


LEGAL NOTICE APPLICATION HAS BEEN MADE WITH THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION FOR WINE AND BEER RETAILERS PERMIT BY HERNANDEZ TORTILLERIA & MAS LOCATED AT 600 W. ROBERTSON ST., SAN BENITO, CAMERON COUNTY, TX. OWNERS/MANAGERS ARE VIVIANA MASCORRO AND MARIN HERNANDEZ.
(8-21-20; 8-28-20)

7 MISCELLANEOUS


FOR SALE AT MONT META MEMORIAL PARK: 1 Plot, Section 8, Lot 339, Crypt 1. \$2,000.
Call 830-535-6509.
(8-7 - 9-25)




18 PERSONALS

DEAR HEART OF JESUS,
 in the past I have asked for favors. This time I ask you this very special one (mention favor). Take it dear Jesus and place it within your own heart where your father sees it. Then in your merciful eyes it will become your favor not mine. Amen. Say this prayer for 3 days, promise publication and favor will be granted. Never known to fail.
M.P.B.

18 PERSONALS

DEAR HEART OF JESUS,
 in the past I have asked for favors. This time I ask you this very special one (mention favor). Take it, dear Jesus, and place it within your own heart where your father sees it. Then in your merciful eyes it will become your favor, not mine. Amen. Say this prayer for 3 days, promise publication and favor will be granted. Never known to fail.
D.B.

18 PERSONALS

DEAR HEART OF JESUS,
 in the past I have asked for favors. This time I ask you this very special one (mention favor). Take it dear Jesus and place it within your own heart where your father sees it. Then in your merciful eyes it will become your favor not mine. Amen. Say this prayer for 3 days, promise publication and favor will be granted. Never known to fail.
K.B.

18 PERSONALS

THANK YOU SACRED HEART OF JESUS
For Miracles Granted.
D.B.

THANK YOU SACRED HEART OF JESUS
For Miracles Granted.
K.B.

20 PUBLIC NOTICES

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20 PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE AND INVITATION TO BID

The Cameron County Irrigation District No. Two (CCID2) will accept sealed bids for the Purchase and Delivery of Materials for Canal "F" Improvements, **until 2:00 P.M., August 31, 2020**, at the Office of Ambiotec Engineering, 5420 Paredes Line Road, Brownsville, Texas. Bids received after this time will not be considered.

Detailed specifications may be requested via e-mail from Sonia Lambert at ccid2@swbell.net or Anne Whitko at awhitko@ambiotec.com. The same information is available on compact discs at CCID2 Office, 26041 FM 510, San Benito, Texas or the office of the Project Engineer, Ambiotec Engineering, 5420 Paredes Line Road, Brownsville, Texas.

Two sets of the bid documents (one original and one copy) shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope and shall be plainly marked on the **outside of the envelope and on any carrier's envelope**: "BID FOR PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF MATERIALS FOR Canal "F" IMPROVEMENTS, August 31, 2020, 2:00 P.M.", and send to the attention of Anne Whitko, Project Manager, Ambiotec Engineering, 5420 Paredes Line Road, Brownsville, Texas 78526.

CCID2 and Ambiotec Engineering are not responsible in the event that the U.S. Postal Service or any other courier system fails to deliver the sealed bids to Ambiotec Engineering by the given deadline above. Alternatively, you may choose to submit your bid electronically to awhitko@ambiotec.com, however, if you choose this option you do so at your own risk and neither CCID2 or Ambiotec Civil Engineering Group, Inc. will be responsible for bids that fail to be transmitted, for any reason, by the 2 p.m. cut-off.

CCID2 reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive irregularities contained therein and to accept any bid deemed most advantageous to CCID2.

By: Sonia Lambert
Cameron County Irrigation District No. Two
(956) 399-248 - Phone
(956) 399-4721 - Fax

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ISSUE CITY OF SAN BENITO, TEXAS CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Commission of the City of San Benito, Texas will convene at its regular meeting place in the Municipal Building in San Benito, Texas, at 5:30 o'clock P.M., San Benito, Texas time on October 20, 2020, and, during such meeting, the City Commission will consider the passage of an ordinance or ordinances and take such other actions as may be deemed necessary to authorize the issuance of one or more series of certificates of obligation in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$9,000,000 for the purpose or purposes of paying contractual obligations of the City to be incurred for making permanent public improvements and for other public purposes, to-wit: (1) constructing, acquiring, purchasing, renovating, enlarging, and improving the City's utility system; (2) acquiring fire-fighting and other public safety equipment and vehicles, including a fire truck; (3) the purchase of materials, supplies, equipment, machinery, landscaping, land, and rights-of-way for authorized needs and purposes relating to the aforementioned capital improvements; and (4) the payment of professional services related to the design, construction, project management, and financing of the aforementioned projects. The certificates of obligation (the *Certificates*) will be payable from the levy of an annual ad valorem tax, within the limitations prescribed by law, upon all taxable property within the City and from a lien on and pledge of certain revenues derived by the City from the operation of the City's utility system. In accordance with Section 271.049, as amended, Texas Local Government Code, (i) the current principal amount of all of the City's outstanding public securities secured by and payable from ad valorem taxes is \$19,700,000; (ii) the current combined principal and interest required to pay all of the City's outstanding public securities secured by and payable from ad valorem taxes on time and in full is \$22,246,569; (iii) the estimated combined principal and interest required to pay the Certificates to be authorized on time and in full is \$12,213,430; (iv) the maximum interest rate for the Certificates may not exceed the maximum legal interest rate; and (v) the maximum maturity date of the Certificates to be authorized is February 1, 2045. The Certificates are to be issued, and this notice is given, under and pursuant to the provisions of the Certificate of Obligation Act of 1971, as amended, Texas Local Government Code Section 271.041 through Section 271.064, Chapter 1502, as amended, Texas Government Code, and the City's Home Rule Charter.

/s/ Ruth McGinnis

City Secretary,
City of San Benito, Texas

Classifieds



For information, call
956-399-2436



20 PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF SALE ISSUED JULY 28, 2020 out of the 107th DISTRICT COURT of CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS, in CAUSE NUMBER 2018-DCL-01030-A WHEREIN **PROPEL FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC, AS AGENT AND ATTORNEY IN FACT FOR TLF NATIONAL TAX LIEN TRUST 2017-1** is PLAINTIFF and **ROSALIO SOLIS, ET AL** are DEFENDANT(S), I did on JULY 29, 2020 levy upon and seize all of the rights, titles and interests of said DEFENDANT(S) in and to the following described real property situated in CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS, to wit:

Property (including any improvements):
LOT NUMBER TWENTYTWO (22), BLOCK NUMBER TWO (2), COOLIDGE SUBDIVISION, IN THE CITY OF BROWNSVILLE, CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS ACCORDING TO MAP OF SAID SUBDIVISION RECORDED IN CABINET 1, **SLOT 65-A AND 65-B, MAP RECORDS OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS.**

Tax Account
#02-3100-0020-0220-00
Commonly known as: 2309 SAN RAFAEL, BROWNSVILLE, TX 78521.

By which said land is most generally known, and located as shown on said map, and between the hours of 10:00 o'clock A.M. and 4:00

20 PUBLIC NOTICES

o'clock P.M. more particularly beginning exactly at 10:00 o'clock A.M. on SEPTEMBER 01, 2020 the first Tuesday of the month of SEPTEMBER at 974 E. Harrison St., at the Judicial Building (Courthouse) Brownsville, Cameron County, Texas I will sell said land at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash.

Omar Lucio, Sheriff
Cameron County, Texas

By: Mario Gonzalez
(8-7-20; 8-14-20; 8-21-20)

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF SALE ISSUED JULY 27, 2020 out of the 197th DISTRICT COURT of CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS, in CAUSE NUMBER 2019-DCL-04791-C WHEREIN **Ovation Services, LLC** is PLAINTIFF and **CAMERON COUNTY, ET AL** ARE INTERVENOR and **RITA CATHERINE ROBINSON SALDANA** are DEFENDANT(S), I did on JULY 29, 2020 levy upon and seize all of the rights, titles and interests of said DEFENDANT(S) in and to the following described real property situated in CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS, to wit:

Property (including any improvements):

LOT 18, BLOCK 2, ESPANOLA SUBDIVISION OF THE CITY OF SAN BENITO, IN CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS, ACCORDING TO

20 PUBLIC NOTICES

MAP OF SAID SUBDIVISION RECORDED IN VOLUME 31, PAGE 40 OF THE MAP RECORDS OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS.

Tax Account
#58-1850-0200-1800-00
Commonly known as: 161 Rebecca St., San Benito, TX 78586.

By which said land is most generally known, and located as shown on said map, and between the hours of 10:00 o'clock A.M. and 4:00 o'clock P.M. more particularly beginning exactly at 10:00 o'clock A.M. on SEPTEMBER 01, 2020 the first Tuesday of the month of SEPTEMBER at 974 E. Harrison St., at the Judicial Building (Courthouse) Brownsville, Cameron County, Texas I will sell said land at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash.

Omar Lucio, Sheriff
Cameron County, Texas

By: Mario Gonzalez
(8-7-20; 8-14-20; 8-21-20)

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF SALE ISSUED JULY 01st, 2020 out of the 404th DISTRICT COURT of CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS, in CAUSE NUMBER 2018-DCL-00041-G WHEREIN **Ovation Services, LLC** is PLAINTIFF, and **JORGE BELMONT, ET AL** are DEFENDANT(S), I did on JULY 08th, 2020 levy upon and seize all of the rights, titles and interests

20 PUBLIC NOTICES

of said DEFENDANT(S) in and to the following described real property situated in CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS, to wit:

Property (including any improvements):
LOT SEVENTEEN, BLOCK TWO, LA POSADA SOUTH SUBDIVISION SECTION IV IN CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS, ACCORDING TO MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN CABINET 1, PAGE 547-A, OF THE MAP RECORDS OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS.

Tax Account
#04-4735-0020-0170-00
Commonly known as 3019 Palacio Real Circle, Brownsville, TX 78521.

By which said land is most generally known, and located as shown on said map, and between the hours of 10:00 o'clock A.M. and 4:00 o'clock P.M. more particularly beginning exactly at 10:00 o'clock A.M. on SEPTEMBER 01, 2020 the first Tuesday of the month of SEPTEMBER at 974 E. Harrison St., at the Judicial Building (Courthouse) Brownsville, Cameron County, Texas I will sell said land at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash.

Omar Lucio, Sheriff
Cameron County, Texas

By: Mario Gonzalez
(8-7-20; 8-14-20; 8-21-20)

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
— **TRC 109 & 114**
THE STATE OF TEXAS
2016-DCL-06870-B
MARIO CASTRO VS
MARY T. HAMILTON
IN THE 138TH DISTRICT COURT OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS

TO: The Heirs-at-Law, Whether Known or Unknown of Mary T. Hamilton,

DEFENDANT-GREETINGS:

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by

20 PUBLIC NOTICES

10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after the date this citation was issued, a default judgment may be taken against you."

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the **Plaintiff's First Amended Petition** at or before 10:00 o'clock A.M. on the Monday next after the expiration of 42 days after the date of issuance of this citation before the Honorable 138th District Court of Cameron County, at the Courthouse in said County in Brownsville, Texas. Said **Plaintiff's First Amended Petition** was filed in said court on the 18th day of October, 2019 in the above entitled suit.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: Trespass to Try Title as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's First Amended Petition on file in this suit.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Brownsville, Texas, on this the 1st day of July, 2020.

Attorney: Armando Escamilla
06662100
956-421-3937
Law Office of Armando Escamilla
1105 E. Tyler
Harlingen, TX 78550

Elvira S. Ortiz, District Clerk of Cameron County
974 E. Harrison Street
Brownsville, Texas 78520

By Adriana Munoz,
Deputy Clerk
(8-7-20; 8-14-20; 8-21-20; 8-28-20)

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
BY VIRTUE OF AN EXECUTION ISSUED JULY 07, 2020 out of the 404th DISTRICT COURT of CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS, in CAUSE NUMBER 2009-09-05383-G WHEREIN **SMS Financial Recovery Services, LLC, successor-in-interest to FIRST FV HOLDING CO., LLC** is PLAINTIFF, and **THE LILITH**

20 PUBLIC NOTICES

NYSSA CORP. INC. AND ALFREDO GONZALEZ are DEFENDANT(S), I did on JULY 21, 2020 levy upon and seize all of the rights, titles and interests of said DEFENDANT(S) in and to the following described real property situated in CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS, to wit:

Property (including any improvements):

Parcel 1:
Lot 2, Block 2, New Hope Subdivision, Cameron County, Texas, according to the plat thereof recorded in Cabinet 1, Slot 2259-A, Map Records, Cameron County, Texas, more commonly known as 2201 N. G St., Harlingen, Texas 78550.

Parcel 2:
Lot 7, 107 Parkside Estates, an addition to the Town of Combes, Cameron County, Texas, as shown by the map recorded in Cabinet 1, Page 2496-B, Map Records, Cameron County, Texas, more commonly known as 21485 Rusty Ln., Harlingen, Texas 78552.

Parcel 3:
Lot 3, Block 3, New Hope Subdivision, Phase 2, Cameron County, Texas, according to the Map thereof recorded in Cabinet 1, Slot 3211, Map Records of Cameron County, Texas, more commonly known as 817 W. Matz Ave., Harlingen, Texas 78550.

By which said land is most generally known, and located as shown on said map, and between the hours of 10:00 o'clock A.M. and 4:00 o'clock P.M. more particularly beginning exactly at 10:00 o'clock A.M. on SEPTEMBER 1st, 2020 the first Tuesday of the month of SEPTEMBER at 974 E. Harrison St., at the Judicial Building (Courthouse), Brownsville, Cameron County, Texas, I will sell said land at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash.

Omar Lucio, Sheriff
Cameron County, Texas

By: Ronnie Moore
(8-7-20; 8-14-20; 8-21-20)

20 PUBLIC NOTICES

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TOWN OF RANCHO VIEJO ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS COMMON AREA GRASS CUTTING AND MAINTENANCE IN RANCHO VIEJO, TEXAS

Sealed Bids will be received by the Town of Rancho Viejo, Texas for a project entitled: "COMMON AREA GRASS CUTTING AND MAINTENANCE IN RANCHO VIEJO, TEXAS" at the Town Municipal Office, 3301 Carmen Avenue, Rancho Viejo, Texas 78575, until Wednesday, September 30, 2020 at 2:00 P.M.

Sealed bids will be opened then and there and publicly read aloud. Sealed bids received after the time announced will not be considered.

Copies of the areas to be maintained and description of the work required may be obtained at the Town of Rancho Viejo Municipal Office, 3301 Carmen Avenue, Rancho Viejo, Texas 78575, Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. or online at www.ranchoviejotexas.com.

Each Bid shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope and shall be plainly marked on the outside of the envelope, "COMMON AREA GRASS CUTTING AND MAINTENANCE IN RANCHO VIEJO, TEXAS".

Each Bid shall constitute an offer to the Town of Rancho Viejo, Texas as outlined therein and shall be irrevocable after the time announced for the opening thereof.

The Town of Rancho Viejo, Texas specifically reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive irregularities or informalities in any or all bids and to accept any bid which is deemed to be in the best interest of the Town of Rancho Viejo.

Fred Blanco, Town Administrator
Town of Rancho Viejo

20 PUBLIC NOTICES

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BUDGET CITY OF SAN BENITO

THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SAN BENITO WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021.

THE PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 AT 5:30 P.M. AT THE SAN BENITO MUNICIPAL BUILDING (CESAR GONZALEZ MEETING HALL), 401 NORTH SAM HOUSTON, SAN BENITO, TEXAS.

IF APPROVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION AT THE PUBLIC HEARING THIS PROPOSED BUDGET WILL TAKE EFFECT AUTOMATICALLY ON OCTOBER 1, 2020.

A COPY OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION AT THE OFFICE OF THE FINANCE DIRECTOR.

**FINANCE DIRECTOR
BELEN PEÑA
485 N. SAM HOUSTON BLVD.
SAN BENITO, TEXAS 78586**

SPOTLIGHT ON BUSINESS



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Prevention

From "Prevention," page 4

of alcohol and other substances. Utilizing protective factors in the home and in our communities could lower substance abuse disorder numbers within our community and help many at risk individuals.

The Prevention Resource Center (PRC), a program of Behavioral Health Solutions of South Texas, serves as the central data collection repository for region 11 and the developer of a yearly Regional Needs Assessment (RNA), which is available to community members at

no cost. To find out more about the prevention work being conducted in your community, download the latest Regional Needs Assessment at our website: www.prc11.org/ data. If you are interested in becoming a part of this project and would like to play a role in the 2020 Regional Needs Assessment process, please contact Eduardo Salinas, PRC Public Relations Coordinator, at (956) 787-7111 ext. 243 or Karen Rodriguez, PRC Data Coordinator, at (956) 787-7111 ext. 245.

Pharmacists

From "Pharmacists," page 4

Expanded access to vaccines saves lives. As we look at the post-pandemic world and try to prevent the next outbreak, it is prudent to also look at what regulations may need to change to help facilitate greater access for patients.

In Texas, one such measure would be to change statute to allow pharmacists to vaccinate children over 14 and adults without being required to have an individual prescription from a physician or be under a physician's order.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services authorized pharmacists to order and administer COVID-19 tests, enabling us to step up and help address the pandemic.

Having easy access to critical vaccinations makes it more likely that the entire population is

safeguarded against vaccine-preventable diseases. It only makes sense for pharmacists to be able to administer routine vaccine shots like they currently do with flu shots.

We have been rightly working to "flattening the curve" to ensure we don't overwhelm our hospital systems with COVID-19 cases. Working now to give pharmacists greater access to deliver vaccines will allow us to stay ahead of the curve, and ready to defeat COVID-19.

Our patients are hungry for a COVID-19 vaccine. We want to be prepared to deliver it to them.

Editor's Note: Innocent Mwesiga is a pharmacist in College Station, Texas. This piece was originally published in the Bryan-College Station Eagle.

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To those who sewed masks for us, THANK YOU!

We answer COVID-19 questions!

1. Stay home if possible and call office before coming in for triage care and for any symptoms you are worried about.
2. If you have symptoms: treat them, like cough with cough med, decongestant with antihistamine, etc.
3. PT/INR, Hemoglobin A1-C, lipid panel, urine, glucose, same day results.
4. Call you neighbors to see if they need food, medicine, supplies that can eliminate more people in stores.
5. Pray for everyone.

HOURS:
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