

SEPTEMBER 2019

PECAN GROVE

monthly

The Big One-Oh! JR.

is a 'rich show' with amazing local talent

PLUS What to expect at
the 83rd Fort Bend
County Fair & Rodeo



A publication of the

Fort Bend  Herald
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PECAN GROVE *monthly*

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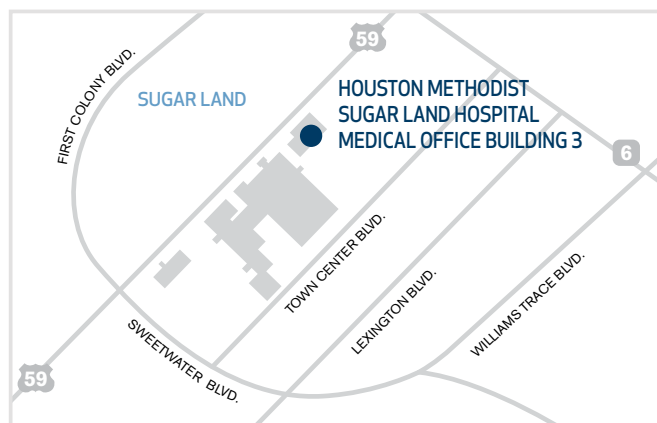
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The Big One-Oh! JR.

is a 'full rich show with lots of layers and personality'

by MARQUITA GRIFFIN & ALISHA McMILLEN

Having read the book *The Big One-Oh!* by author Dean Pitchford, 12-year-old Alexandria Deanne Gomez is energetically awaiting the opening of Inspiration Stage's first show of the 2019-2020 season — a world premiere pilot production "The Big One-Oh! JR" — especially because she will appear in the production's ensemble.

"This is my second pilot production, but this one is even more exciting because it is a brand new musical," said Gomez, who is appearing in her ninth Inspiration Stage production.

"The Big One-Oh! JR." follows the story of Charley Maplewood as he turns 10 years old and decides to throw a party for himself, complete with a House of Horrors theme. Charley, however, has never been one for parties especially those that would require friends, which, unfortunately, he doesn't have. So in trying to make friends, little Charley ends up inviting the class bully Cougar to come — and that's before he ruins the cake and sets the garage on fire.

As the story progresses it becomes evident that his ideas aren't going according to plan and a pressing question begins to become apparent: Will Charley be able to pull everything together before he turns 10 years old?

"I'm so proud of my ensemble role. There is not a limit to how many characters you play, and it's challenging to have costume changes, multiple characters to portray and dances to learn," said Gomez, a home-schooled seventh grader. "With the ensemble role you also get to work closely with the other ensemble members which you become a team with on stage. Ensemble works to

create a full rich show with lots of layers and personality."

Playing the lead character is 11-year-old Jaxon Daniel, who lives in Sienna Plantation.

"I am excited to play Charley," said Daniel, who said this production is his eighth Inspiration Stage show. "It will be a fun experience to create the entire show. This brand new pilot production is an amazing opportunity for everyone at iStage."

The show, said the show's director and choreographer, was viewed and worked by the authors, composers and creators of the show from New York City.

"As the premiere pilot of a new junior show, the actors and artistic team have the opportunity to create original characters, create the scenic design and create the choreography," said director and choreographer Mandy Seymore-Sensat, who is also Inspiration Stage's artistic director. "I'm beyond excited about the journey ahead of us. This pilot and world premiere is a huge honor and we are all jazzed to be a part of it."

"This is an amazing opportunity for our production staff and cast — we get to breathe life into this fabulous children's book, from page to stage."

Inspiration Stage is producing "The Big One-Oh! JR" in cooperation with and at the special invitation of iTheatrics and Music Theatre International (MTI). iTheatrics adapts main stage Broadway musicals so they can be performed by kids in school and after-school settings. These adaptations are created for a distinguished list of clients, including MTI, one of the world's leading theatrical licensing agencies. Through the pilot process, Inspiration Stage's creation of this brand-new musical will eventually be available for all theatres to license in the future.

Inspiration Stage is also working closely with the NYC-based composers and creators of the show, including: Tim McDonald, iTheatrics founder and librettist for the show; Dean Pitchford, the lyricist and writer of the source material book, *The Big One-Oh!*; and two-time Tony Award winner Doug Besterman, who provided orchestrations.

With four shows over the weekend of Sept. 6 - 8, "The Big One-Oh! JR" has a production team including music directors Benjamin Luss and Relana Gerami-Luss and stage manager Courtney Sackett.

Showtimes are: Sept. 6 at 7:30 p.m.; Sept. 7 at 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; and Sept. 8 at 3:30 p.m.

For information and tickets, visit inspirationstage.com.



Photo by Mandy Seymore-Sensat | The cast during the "Big One-Oh JR's" first rehearsal.

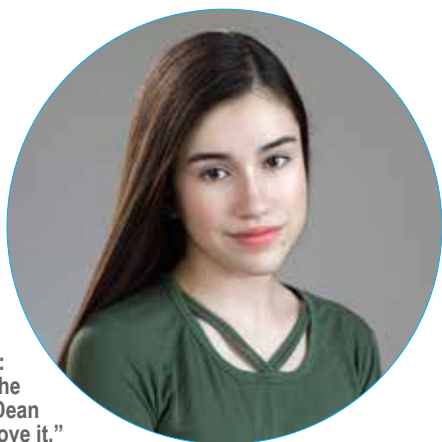


Charley Maplewood loves his 'Monsters and Maniacs' comic books, but will they make a good theme for his big 10th birthday party?



Photo by Benjamin Luss | Director/Choreographer Mandy Seymore-Sensat speaking to students at The Big One-Oh JR: Pilot Production auditions.

“We get to breathe life into this fabulous children's book.”
— Mandy Seymore-Sensat



Fieldstone resident and ensemble member Alexandria Deanne Gomez said: “I read the book ‘The Big One-Oh!’ by Mr. Dean Pitchford and love it.”



Jaxon Daniel, a 6th grader at First Colony Middle School is playing Charley Maplewood.

Turn to the Arts & Entertainment on page 21 for a peek at Inspiration Stage's remaining 2019-2020 production schedule.

THE 83RD FORT BEND COUNTY FAIR & RODEO

FAIR PRESIDENT MARJORIE POLLARD: THE FAIR IS 'ALL ABOUT THE KIDS'

By being elected president of the Fort Bend County Fair Association, Marjorie Pollard said she is carrying on a family tradition with her service to the fair. Pollard, a former livestock exhibitor, can recall the days the fair was held on the original fairgrounds in Rosenberg.

"I started showing cattle in the old fair barn on the original fairgrounds on Highway 90," Pollard said of her early fair memories. "We showed Charolais cattle in the open show — I must have been about 9 or 10 years old. My momma had us wash the cattle, feed them and get them ready for the show."

Pollard's grandfather was involved in the founding years of the fair, her uncle served on the board in the '70s and her mother,

the late Helen Ann Booth, and her aunts were involved in the early arts and crafts exhibits in the Women's Department.

"As a kid, I remember going up the stairs to the Women's Department. At that time only women would have entries of home-made goods like kolaches, canned goods, vegetables, crocheted items and quilts. They would be displayed on the huge wooden cases."

"I grew up all over those fairgrounds."

The 2018 president James Duke welcomed Pollard officially to the position, and Pollard said she is honored to serve as president and anticipates a great year.

"For decades I have personally been coming to this fair, and now to be president — it is an honor for my family and me," she said.

"The fair gave me a learning and growing environment," Pollard said in an open letter to the public. "I have fond memories of attending the fair — from the laughs and thrills my sisters and I found in the carnival, to watching my grandmother purchase the Grand Champion Turkey year after year, to learning from my mother and aunts the true meaning of volunteering and giving back as they worked in the Women's Department."

"As I continue to enjoy all these values and traditions while making new memories with my own family and grandchildren, I find it only fitting to choose as this year's Fort Bend County Fair theme: A Home Grown Fair."

Pollard has been involved with several committees including Cowboy Camp, fair queens, entertainment, adult creative arts and reception committees.

"Before I became a director I helped start Cowboy Camp. We would feed the cowboys and the rodeo personnel of both the youth rodeo and the PRCA rodeo," said Pollard, who became a board member in 2004. "We served up chicken and dumplings, brisket and stew. So now as a director, I am still helping to serve

Fort Bend County Grand Champion Charolais Bull exhibited by Marjorie Pollard in the 70s.



hot meals for the entertainers and their bands and working with wonderful caterers for many of our fair receptions."

Pollard has also participated in the parade, livestock shows and has been a buyer or bidder at several auctions. From checking in exhibits to set up, Pollard has been involved or behind the scenes.

"Being involved with the fair means being there for our kids, the youth of this county. It is all about the kids," stressed Pollard, a mother of three adult children and grandmother to nine grandchildren. Notably, her children and grandchildren have been livestock show exhibitors.

Pollard and her husband Charles live in Richmond and she is an alumnus of Lamar Consolidated High School.

Her love for country music, western lifestyle and her deep family-fair roots have given her a lifetime of grooming for the role of fair president. She has served on several boards and as a volunteer with Lamar Educational Awards Foundation, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and supports numerous charities and organizations throughout our community.

"I am thrilled to be able to support our kids [and] give our community a fair to enjoy, as I did and as my family did, growing up. It is a tradition for me to come to the fair and I can only hope to help inspire other families to do the same," Pollard said. "Whether it is the livestock shows, the fair food, the rodeo action or the carnival rides, I want our fair to be a place where all families can enjoy."



2019 Fort Bend County Fair Association President Marjorie Pollard

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FAIR NEWS

QUEEN CANDIDATES EXPERIENCE ENRICHMENT DAY

The 2019 Fair Queen candidates and 2018 Fair Queen Hannah Hunt participated at the 3rd Annual Fort Bend County Fair's Queen Enrichment Day hosted by the Fort Bend County Fair Queen Scholarship Committee.

"Being Fair Queen is a tradition at the Fort Bend County Fair. While we have one winner, all these young ladies who take the opportunity to run for Queen will endure an experience and acquire a set of skills that they will be able to take with them into their college years and beyond into their careers," said Fair President Marjorie Pollard. "Our Fair Queen Scholarship Committee is making a difference in these candidates' lives."

The day started with a group workshop on interview techniques and safe social media practices. Breakout sessions soon followed with public speaking exercises, make-up tutorials, fashion tips, etiquette enhancement, nutrition/well-being discussion, and hair 101.

Later, candidates attended an afternoon at a Kentucky Derby themed dinner held at the Ol' Railroad Café. Hats, heels, and a delicious meal allowed the candidates to practice what they learned in the morning workshops.

Fort Bend County Fair President Marjorie Pollard, Queen Scholarship Committee members, several past fair queens, fair manager Cindy Schmidt and fair board member Vickie Todd Autrey all attended the social event with the candidates. The young ladies vying to be Fair Queen represent several high schools within Fort Bend County.



From left are the 2019 Fair queen candidates: Sedona Trevino, Bethany Anne Bromonsky, Hayley Rosilez, Maya Bergen, Zoë Holden, Amanda McDowell, Kate Rabich, Jillian Voehl and Alondra Leyva and 2018 Fort Bend County Fair Queen Hannah Hunt.

Zelda Sosa of Mighty Moose, Charles Gilbert of Fort Bend Impact, Ammi Miller of the Retreat Boutique Salon and Day Spa, January Lincoln of Rustic Closet Boutique, and Bill and Barbara Robertson with Magana Media presented at the workshop. A business-based etiquette instruction was presented by Pollard to help lay the foundation for future college or career situations.

The queen contestants receive scholarships and prizes as part of the competition. The 2019 Fort Bend County Fair Queen will be crowned on Sept. 27.

LIFE MEMBER CARDS DEBUT

New for the 2019 Fort Bend County Fair will be Life Member Cards. As a way to streamline and better serve the lifetime members, the credit-card size passes will be issued this year. The cards will be good until July 2025.

The paper season-passes will be a thing of the past; however, the new plastic cards will fulfill the same purpose. Each Life Member will receive two cards, one for themselves and one for a guest. The cards will be good for admission, fair club and anywhere the season pass was used.

For the Life Members who serve on committees, their badge and parking pass will still need to be picked up in person. Life Members who are committee members will only be issued two passes. No person, member or committee-member will get more than two cards.

The new Life Member cards will be more convenient, said fair officials.

Life Members only need to renew their cards upon expiration. In 2025 with all cards expiring, renewal will be membership



wide, including for new Life Members who may have joined the previous year.

There will be an announcement soon regarding the times and dates for pick up.

THE SCHULZE FAMILY NAMED 2019 FAIR HONOREES

The Schulze family has been recognized as the 2019 Fort Bend County Fair and Rodeo honorees.

Actively supporting the fair for decades as sponsors, buyers, exhibitors and fair-goers, the Schulze family has passed its commitment to the Fort Bend County Fair from generation to generation. The Schulze family owns and operates Schulze's Bar-

B-Que and Catering and Schulze Family Restaurant.

Siblings Teresa Schulze Mielsch, Kathie Schulze Sablatura and Clifford Schulze have carried on the traditions that their father, Alvin Schulze, started in 1980. The siblings have passed their passion of participating in the fair's undertakings down to their children and grandchildren.

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"The Schultze family has always been part of our fair for as long as I can remember. You see their family at the auction, in the livestock arena, in the rodeo arena, and all over the fair," said Fair President Marjorie Pollard. "Helping the kids and being there for the kids — that is what their family has always done. The Schulze family is very well-deserving of being honored."

The Schulze Family is best known for serving up a hot meal.

"My first memory of being involved with the fair is catering. We would be catering a reception or event. That is really where it all began," recalled Teresa Schulze Mielsch.

For 44 years the Alvin Schulze family has been in the restaurant business.

"We have been proud to be able to cater the buyers' receptions, cowboy camp and countless other fair events," added Mielsch. "It is what we do."

The Schulze and Sablatura families' participation have continued to grow over the years.

"Our involvement quickly evolved into buying at the Jr. Livestock Auction. Dad and Clifford started supporting the auction and as a family we wanted to help the kids and give back. It is all about helping the kids. It is my favorite part of the fair," said Mielsch.

Year after year the Schulze family and their extended families' names have been a staple on the buyer's list.

"I am thankful for the Schulze family. Years ago they purchased my steer. Today I am a college student and can easily thank them for helping me further my education," said WCJC student Taylor Lutringer. "Raising a steer and making the auction is one part, it is the buyers like the Schulze family who help make dreams come true."

Today, the family looks forward to the fair with a certain excitement. Showing animals, participating in the rodeo, volunteering at the Exceptional Rodeo and even helping with media interviews, makes their involvement a family affair. In 2018, Kathie Schulze Sablatura's grandson, Needville Junior High School's Brance Farrell, won AOB Grand Champion Steer. The family celebrated the first-place finish and were thrilled to bring home the top honors.

In 2016, Coby Sablatura earned volunteer of the year honors for his hard work with the Rodeo Committee. When Coby passed away in 2017, a tribute was held in his memory and a memorial bench placed in his honor.

"The family is always there for our fair. I can call them, and they always want to know what we need to be done," said Pollard. "Time and time again, they have always put their best forward for our fair."

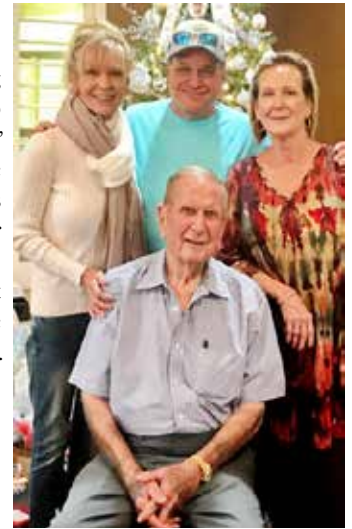
The Schulze family can be found just about anywhere at the

fairgrounds during fair time.

"I have helped with serving stew at Senior Citizens Day to working the admission gates," said Mielsch. "The fair is who we are, the Fort Bend County Fair is important to my family and our community. It is part of us."

The Schulze family will be part of many fair events including the kick-off parade on Friday, Sept. 27.

Standing from left are Teresa Schulze Mielsch, Clifford Schulze and Kathie Schulze Sablatura. Sitting is Alvin Schulze.



2018 Fort Bend County Fair President James Duke, 2019 Fort Bend County Fair President Marjorie Pollard, Teresa Schulze Miesch and her husband Gary Miesch.

THE FAIR ASSOCIATION'S ROAD TO HIGHER EDUCATION

More than \$200,000 in scholarships were awarded to deserving Fort Bend County students at the Fort Bend County Fair Association scholarship reception. A total of 50 scholarships and three Queen scholarships were presented to deserving recipients.

This year, more than 100 scholarship applications were submitted.

"This night is all about the kids. Some of these kids have been showing animals, marching in the band at the parade or coming to our fair for years. And for some, this is their first chance to get to know our fair," said Fair President Marjorie Pollard. "We help kids continue their education through our Livestock and Art auctions, and now through these scholarships." The 2019 scholarship recipients represent high schools and school districts from all over Fort Bend County.

The scholarship winners are pursuing a wide range of fields of study including, agriculture, medical, law and education.



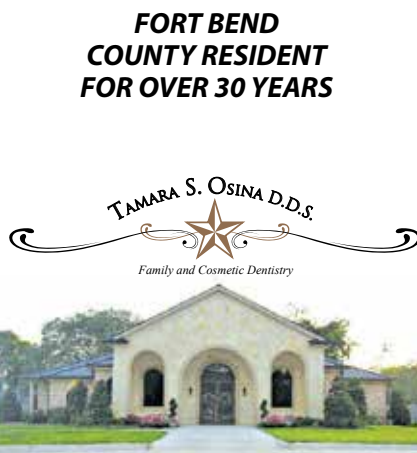
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FORT BEND COUNTY FAIR FUN WITH THE SKEETERS

2018 Fort Bend County Fair Queen Hannah Hunt threw the ceremonial first pitch of the game between the Skeeters and the Long Island Ducks on July 12 at Constellation Field. Hunt was accompanied by the 2019 Fort Bend County Fair Queen candidates at this game that doubled as a night of family fun. This was the fourth year that the Sugar Land Skeeters and the Fort Bend County Fair Association join forces for such an event. A video featuring the fair, including who is playing was shown prior to the game on the big screen and the night was capped with a full fireworks display.

"It is always a fun time at the ball park, but when you mix in our fair members and supporters, it is a great evening," said Fair President Marjorie Pollard. "There is a large group of us and our families, and the Skeeters are coming off a championship season, so we will had plenty to cheer for."



PHOTOS LEFT-RIGHT Photos By Scott Reese Willey:

• Fort Bend County Fair Queen Hannah Hunt and mom Angie mingle with other Fair staff and board members during Fort Bend County Fair Day at the Skeeters.

• Fair Board President Marjorie Pollard, center, was among those who took advantage of the promotion to enjoy the afternoon at Constellation Field. Joining her are, from left, Bobby Poncik, her son Justin Fikes, Pauletta Klemstein and Jana Poncik.

A LITTLE FAIR HISTORY

The first Fort Bend County Fair was held in October 1933. The original fairgrounds were located between Rosenberg and Richmond on Avenue H and the only interruption in the county fair was during the years of World War II. In 1974, however, the fairgrounds were moved to the existing location at 4310 Highway 36 South in Rosenberg. Through the years, the Fort Bend County Fair and Rodeo has grown into one of the largest and most successful fairs in the State.

The beloved traditions of the Fort Bend County Fair & Rodeo continues this year Sept. 27 through Oct. 6.

The 2019 Fort Bend County Fair theme is "A Home Grown Fair" and will kick off with the annual Fair Parade on Sept. 27 at 9 a.m. . Featuring nearly 200 entries, spectators will be able to enjoy the sights and sounds that travel from the Historic Court House in Richmond west down Highway 90A to Jennetta Street in Rosenberg.

FAIR GATE ADMISSION PRICES

Season Pass: \$40
Adults: \$15 at the gate
or \$12 online
Children 6-11: \$5
Children 5 & under are free



FAIR HOURS

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9/27: 10 a.m. - midnight:
(McDonald's Day: Kids free until 6 p.m. &
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9/28: 10 a.m. - 1 a.m.
9/29: noon - midnight
9/30: 5 - 11p.m.
10/1: 5 - 11p.m.
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FAIR FUN

MCCOY HOOKER SALGADO HEADLINE 2019 FAIR ENTERTAINMENT

Bringing out the boots and dust off the Stetson, the 2019 Fort Bend County Fair has an entertainment lineup that is full of talented artists.

"We are thrilled with this year's entertainers," said 2019 Fort Bend County Fair President Marjorie Pollard. "We work to give our fairgoers what they want to hear, but we do also try our best to bring acts that are unique to our area."

The 83rd annual fair will kick off with Wade Bowen on Sept. 27.

Bowen returns to the fair after a year that literally saw the Texas country music veteran go through life-changing challenges. Bowen allows a raw look at his life in the short film *Inconsistent Chaos*, where he shares his story of having to undergo vocal cord surgery and enduring a singing sabbatical to recover fully. The now healthy singer/songwriter is on a summer tour that has him playing all over the United States and Europe.

Opening for Wade is Katy's rising star, Hayden Baker. Baker, has opened for Willie Nelson and is nominated for the 2019 Texas County Music Association Emerging New Artist award.

On Saturday, Sept. 28 if you are a fan of traditional country, specifically George Strait and Alan Jackson, this is a night you don't want to miss. Southern County Line will be entertaining the crowd, and they are also a part of a special tribute concert that pays homage to George Strait. Derek Spence gives a genuine rendition of King George's look, sound and mannerisms. Also, in the lineup will be Doug Brewin, who will be playing all of Alan Jackson's hits. In 2018, Southern County Line was named band of the year for the Texas Country Music Association.

On Sunday, Sept. 29, there will be a full day of live Tejano music. Master of the accordion, Michael Salgado, will be headlining. The multi Latin Grammy winner will be bringing his Tejano sounds including his hits "Cruz De Madera" and "Palomita Blanca." Returning to the fair will be the all-sister sensation band, Las Fenix. The Houston-based group is talented to no end, from their vocal skills to their musical capabilities, they know how to entertain. Las Fenix has been a fan favorite and will be returning to the fair. Lucky Joe, Beatriz Gonzalez, and Mariachi Autlan will also be performing.

Debating at this year's fair will be Bag of Donuts on Wednesday, Oct. 2. The New Orleans based band is a powerhouse in entertainment. The 80s cover band brings extravagant costumes, a flamboyant performance and a song list that is filled with hits.

Texas native and Country Music veteran, Neal McCoy, will be bringing his talents to the fair on Friday, Oct. 4. For more than three decades, McCoy has continued to tour and sell out venues. His ability to combine traditional country-music and his unwavering patriotism keeps him a music industry icon.

Millions of fans are reached daily on his Facebook Live Pledge of Allegiance ritual. Neal has a string of hits, including "Wink" and "The Shake." South Texas Country newcomer, Robert Ray, will be opening for McCoy. Ray just released "Good Country Song" this June and the song is already moving up the charts.

East Texas' favorite son, Jody Booth, will be playing on Saturday, Oct. 5. Booth grew up in Livingston, Texas and came from a long line of musicians.

"I like to tell folks that my two greatest musical influences are my momma and Merle Haggard. I love real country music and sharing that music with others. That's why I'm thrilled to be playing the Fort Bend County Fair," said Booth. "It's the perfect event for me and the band. Life is good."

His song "Life of My Love" is gaining airplay and his tour has him playing all over the Lone Star state. Bellville's own, David Lewis, will be opening.



JAKE HOOKER



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To close out the fair on Sunday, Oct. 6, will be Jake Hooker and the Outsiders. This king of swing is a phenomenal entertainer. His iconic stand-up bass and western-attire suit add to his unique vocal arrangements. His music includes timeless classics, gospel and western swing.

The Fort Bend County Fair's schedule will have nightly rodeo action, carnival rides and livestock shows. Shopping and food vendors will provide plenty of options. All admission tickets include artists' concerts.

FUN EVENTS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

SEPTEMBER

Saturday, Sept. 14
6:30 p.m.: Life Member /
Committee Kickoff Dance

Saturday, Sept. 21
10 a.m.: Jr. Fair Royalty
Pageants - Fair Prince &
Princess Contest
1p.m.: Jr. Fair Royalty
Pageants - Fair Duke &
Duchess Contest
3 p.m.: Jr. Fair Royalty
Pageants - Jr. Fair Queen
Contest

Monday, Sept. 23
8 a.m.: Senior Citizen's Day

Thursday, Sept. 26
7 p.m.: Turkey Show

Friday, Sept. 27
8 a.m.: Rabbit Show
9 a.m.: The Fort Bend County
Fair Parade.
11 a.m.: Parade reception;
Commercial Heifer Show
1 p.m.: Student Fun Day.
6 p.m.: Goat Show
Fair Queen Contest.
7:30 p.m.: Mutton Bustin'

Saturday, Sept. 28
9 a.m.: Broiler Show
10:30 a.m.: Diaper Derby.
11 a.m.: Talent Show

Noon: Commercial Heifer
Sale
5 p.m.: School Art Auction
6:30 p.m.: Steer Show

Sunday, Sept. 29
2 p.m.: Lawn Tractor Races
4 p.m.: Swine Show

Monday, Sept. 30
5 p.m.: Ag Mechanics Project
Show
8 p.m.: Roaster Show

OCTOBER
Tuesday, Oct. 1
6:30 p.m.: Lamb Show

Wednesday, Oct. 2
7 p.m.: Scramble Heifer
Show

Thursday, Oct. 3
7 p.m.: Jr. Livestock Auction

Friday, Oct. 4
7 p.m. Bucket Calf Show

Saturday, Oct. 5
8 a.m.: Jr. Livestock Judging
Contest
8:30 a.m. Jr. Heifer Show
10:30 a.m.: Stick Horse
Rodeo
11:30 a.m.: Pet Show
12:30 p.m.: Freezer Sale
3 p.m.: Tractor Pull

These are the listed dates as of press time. For the dates, times, rules and locations of the Champion BBQ Cookoff, Lil Wranger BBQ Cook-off, 4-H Department, Grapes on the Brazos, Mutton Bustin', Open Adult and Open Youth Creative Arts Department, TEEA, School Youth Department competitive events, rodeo events or for more information on all other events, visit fortbendcountyfair.com.



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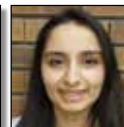
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VOTE FOR SUE

Fort Bend Seniors Volunteer Sue Lang chosen as a WellCare Champion

A longtime Fort Bend Seniors Meals on Wheels Volunteer, Sue Lang, has been chosen as one of five WellCare Champions. Lang, who is representing Fort Bend Seniors, is one of five WellCare Champions but the only contestant from Fort Bend County.



FBS Volunteer and Outreach Manager Rick Branek and FBS volunteer Sue Lang

As a Champion, Lang is in the running to win

\$25,000 for Fort Bend Seniors. The nonprofit is encouraging the public to vote for Lang at bit.ly/VoteSue4FBS.

People can vote every day from every device they own — desktop computer, laptop, phone and tablet — until Sept. 13.

“Sue Lang’s role with Fort Bend Seniors Meals on Wheels is to deliver meals to seniors in Sugar Land and Stafford twice a week, but she does so much more,” said Fort Bend Seniors officials. “If she sees an additional need, whether picking up an extra item from the grocery store, offering a ride to a doctor’s appointment or helping around the house, she immediately steps in to lend a hand. Sue has also been personally responsible for bringing more volunteers to help the increasing number of seniors the organization serves.”

The Literacy Council gears up for the 10th Annual Great Grown-Up Spelling Bee

The Literacy Council of Fort Bend’s 10th Annual Great Grown-Up Spelling Bee is slated for Sept. 12 from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Quail Valley City Centre.

This year’s Bee is presented by CenterPoint Energy and Houston Federal Credit Union and co-chaired by Taylor Connor and Fallon Moody.

Current sponsors for this event include Allen Boone Humphries Robinson, C&M Favre Foundation, Carpenter & Carpenter, CenterPoint Energy, Costello, Inc, Dispatch Health, Exchange Club of Fort Bend, Fallon and Yves Sivuilu, Fort Bend Herald, Fort Bend Independent School District, Frost Bank, Houston Federal Credit Union, Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital, Jim McClellan, Judge David and Shayne Newell,



From left Co-Chair Fallon Moody, Executive Director Kelli Metzenthin, and Co-Chair, Taylor Connor.

Liquid Frameworks, Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Hospital, Roberta K. Randall Charitable Fund, Roberts Markel Weinberg Butler Hailey PC, RVOS Farm Mutual Insurance, Tax Tech, Varun Gupta, WJ Interests, LLC and Wessendorff Insurance.

Sponsorship and underwriting opportunities are still available ranging in price from \$500-\$1,250.

You can also choose to sponsor a word to be used during the Bee for \$200 or purchase a letter for \$100. Spectator tickets are available for \$50 and include dinner.

For more information about these opportunities, and other ways to be involved, emailing the events coordinator, asanchez@ftbendliteracy.org or call 281-240-8181.

Elizabeth Smart to speak at Annual Healing & Hope Luncheon

Child survivor, advocate and author Elizabeth Smart will be the guest speaker at the 4th Annual Fort Bend Women’s Center’s Healing and Hope Luncheon at the Sugar Land Marriott Time Square in Sugar Land on October 17.

At age 14, Smart was taken from her bed in the middle of the night and was victimized for nine long months by her abusive captors, before being returned to her parents by police on March 12, 2003, making headlines nationwide. Smart will share her personal story and how she transformed from victim to advocate, traveling the country to educate and spread healing and hope to others.

Smart founded the Elizabeth Smart Foundation, which aims to end crimes against other victims. She is also involved with the National AMBER Alert, The Adam Walsh Child Protection & Safety Act and other safety legislation in the country. Smart has released two books sharing her story of tragedy and how she is healing and moving forward.

The Healing and Hope Luncheon is Fort Bend Women’s Center’s annual keynote event, in recognition of Domestic Violence



Awareness Month.

“We are very pleased to have Elizabeth Smart speak at this year’s luncheon. Her story demonstrates an outcome that we would hope for all of our clients and strive to help them to achieve every day,” said Fort Bend Women’s Center CEO Vita Goodell. “We are beyond grateful for all of the supporters who make that possible by continuing to bring healing & hope to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and their children. We could not do this work without them.”

Sponsorship packages for Fort Bend Women’s Center’s Healing and Hope Luncheon begin at \$1,500 for a table of 10. Individual tickets are also available starting at \$100.

For more information on the Healing and Hope luncheon, visit www.fbw.org.

For more information or to request an interview with Elizabeth Smart at the Healing & Hope Luncheon, contact Leslie Wendland, Chief Development Officer - 281-344-5756 or 832-886-7104 - lwendland@fbwc.org or Eva Rushing, Communications Coordinator - 281-344-5761 - erushing@fbwc.org.



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MERCY GOODS

Social enterprise endeavor offers at-risk youth job skills and opportunities

by **ALEX WUKMAN** | awukman@fbherald.com

Since Zach Lambert founded Mercy Goods in 2018, his non-profit furniture-making business has generated headlines almost as fast as it has cranked out reclaimed wood tables. The organization's attention-getting business model of hiring at-risk high school students to create \$60 cutting boards and \$5,000 custom tables has resonated with the Richmond/Rosenberg area.

"We've been accepted by this community, this is home and my kids will be able to say they grew up in Fort Bend County," Lambert said, sinking into a faded yellow colonial style sofa.

Located at 501 Morton St. in Richmond, Mercy Goods is a partner organization with Attack Poverty and has been fondly embraced by local civic organizations, particularly the Central Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce.

"The chamber has been great for us," Lambert said. "We've gotten a lot of work from their recommendations."

The positive response Lambert and his wife April have received since they relocated to Fort Bend County in 2017 has allowed



Zach Lambert, who cofounded Mercy Goods with wife April in 2017, shows off the wood shop where youth learn to make furniture, T-shirts, cutting boards and other items that can be sold.

Continued on page 22

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RICHMOND POET EARNS MANUSCRIPT PRIZE

Richmond poet Terry Jude Miller, recently won the Poetry Society of Texas' Catherine Lubbe Manuscript Prize for his book, "The Drawn Cat's Dream."

The book will be published later this year and will be available at Amazon.com.

Miller also won the Georgia Poetry Society's Langston Hughes Award.

Miller is recipient of many Poetry Society of Texas poetry awards, including the 2018 Catherine Case Lubbe Manuscript Prize, the Maxwell Prize, and the Inez Grimes Award, the Georgia Poetry Society 2018 Langston Hughes Award, a Juried Poet for the 2011 and 2012 Houston Poetry Festivals and winner of the Global Peace Poem competition of the 2012 Tyler Peace

Festival.

His work has been published in the Southern Poetry Anthology and in scores of other publications including anthologies of the Austin International Poetry Festival and the Rio Grande Valley International Poetry Festival, the Texas Poetry Calendar, Harbinger Asylum, Postcard Poems and Prose Magazine, Everyday Poets, the University of Houston's Bayou Review, Ancient Paths, Orbis, Stepping Stones Magazine, Furnace Review, Shine Journal, Blue Skies Poetry, Survivor's Review, Live Oak Review, Lamplighter Review, Bijou Poetry Review, Chaffey Review, Foundling Review, Houston Literary Review, Boston Literary Magazine, the Edison Literary Review, and the Birmingham Arts Journal.

Miller's books of poetry, are titled: "The Day I Killed Superman," "What If I Find Only Moonlight?" and "The Butterfly Canonical."

His books may be purchased at barnesandnoble.com and amazon.com. He is a member of the Academy of American Poets, the Poetry Society of Texas, the Gulf Coast Poets Society, and Poets Northwest Houston.

He is the creator of the Texas Poets Podcast, a retired professor of eMarketing and held an Innovation Fellowship at Kaplan University.

Keep up with Terry Jude Miller at www.terryjudemiller.com.



Terry Jude Miller



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INSPIRATION STAGE ANNOUNCES 2019-2020 SEASON SHOWS

Following its season opener — “The Big One-Oh! JR” — Inspiration is already gearing up for the remainder of the season.

The upcoming production schedules include:

- Disney’s My Son Pinocchio JR: Oct. 4-6
- The Addams Family High School Edition: Oct. 18-20
- Disney and Cameron Mackintosh’s Mary Poppins JR: Nov. 1-10
- Disney’s Frozen JR: Dec. 6-15
- Into the Woods JR: Jan. 3-5
- Lyle The Crocodile: Feb. 28- March 1
- Harriet the Spy: April 3-5
- Honk JR, April: 17-19
- A Chorus Line - High School Edition: May 1-3

Inspiration Stage is a national award-winning performance arts studio located in the historic Sugar Land Auditorium at 226 Lakeview Dr. The 2019/2020 season includes 10 youth productions, as well as acting and production classes. Tuition assistance is available to qualifying participants. For tickets and information, visit www.inspirationstage.com.

LEFT PHOTO: “The Big Bad Wolf gets directions to Granny’s house from the Little Red Riding Hood in the Stephen Sondheim classic, Into the Woods JR” – Photo credit Chris Dyess

RIGHT PHOTO: “Drake doesn’t see eye to eye with Ugly the duckling in Honk JR, a retelling of the classic tale of The Ugly Duckling” – Photo credit Chris Dyess



“The cold never bothered her anyway” – Elsa and her Snow Chorus build an ice palace fit for a queen in Disney’s Frozen JR from Inspiration Stage’s showcase performance at Junior Theatre Festival West 2019 in Sacramento, California” – Photo credit Marcus Woolen



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT Continued on page 23

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Photo By Alex Wukman | Dominick Butler sands down a slab of pecan wood in Mercy Goods' workshop. Butler has been working at Mercy Goods for a few months and hopes to open his own clothing line someday soon.

them to build Mercy Goods on a foundation of support.

"My wife and I created Mercy Goods as an opportunity to teach carpentry and furniture design to individuals that had a hard time finding employment due to previous life choices or circumstances," said Lambert, taking a swig from a Topo Chico bottle he'd stuffed in the couch's cushions.

Lambert's end goal is to partner with Lamar Consolidated ISD as part of the district's work-study program.

"Students will go to school and, with an off period in the afternoon, they will be able to come work at Mercy Goods," he said. "The students will learn the basics of furniture design and construction— including power tools, welding and finishing techniques."

Although work-study recognition has been part of the plan for more than a year, Lambert admits hasn't been able to put much effort into pursuing the partnership with LCISD.

"We've been working to get the shop open and keep up with the demand," he said. "We haven't approached the district yet, but we plan to."

Without an official school-to-business pipeline, Lambert has been relying on personal relationships to find a labor pool.

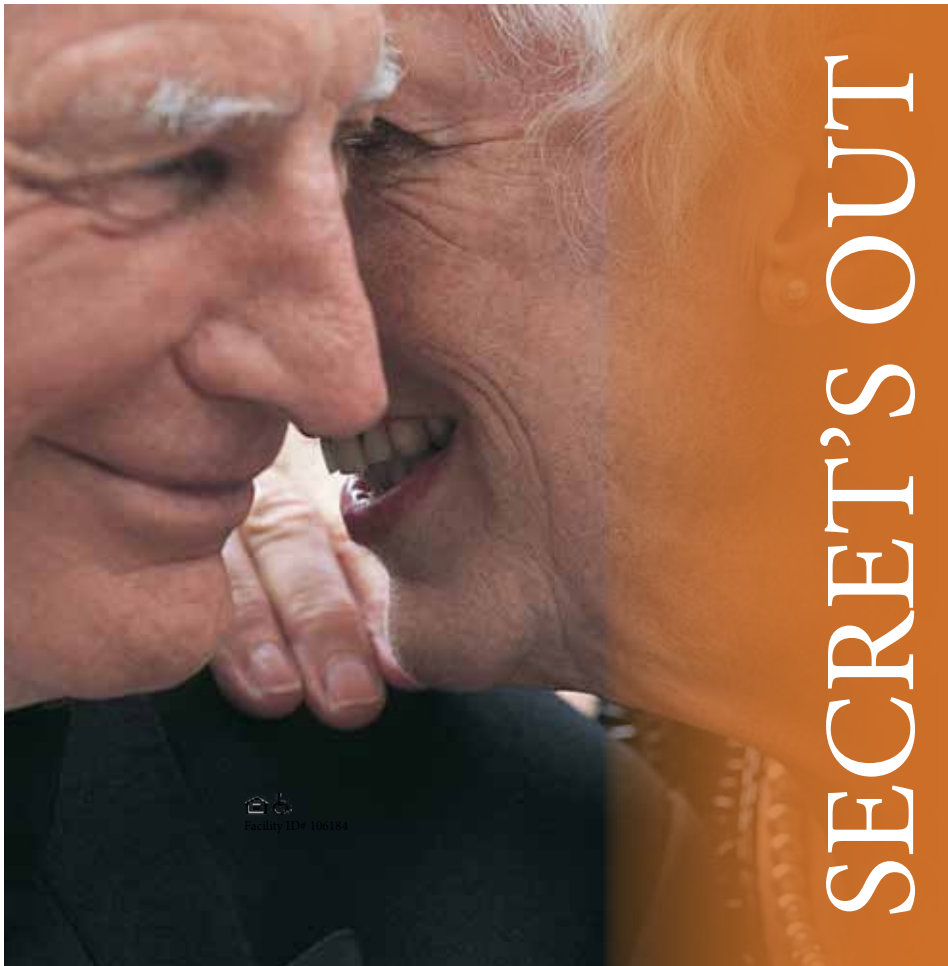
"The students working here now are ones that my wife recommended or ones that we meet in the community," Lambert said.

For the students currently employed by Mercy Goods, one of the things that separate working for Lambert from a regular after school job is the commitment to service.

"When I first met Zach he talked about serving the community," Magno Guiloen said. Another thing that attracted Guiloen to Mercy Goods was the chance to learn something practical.

"I've always been a little bit interested in woodworking," Guiloen said.

Continued on page 24



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LOCAL LIBRARY INTRODUCES A SPECIAL FRIDAY FILM SERIES

The University Branch Library is hosting a Friday Film Series starting Sept. 6 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in Meeting Room 1.

The day's movie is a 1967 musical comedy is an adaptation of a Pulitzer Prize-winning Broadway hit, based on Shepherd Mead's book, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* — a satirical "instructional manual" providing guidelines for getting ahead in the business world. Armed with the titular manual, an ambitious J. Pierrepont Finch rises from window washer to chairman of the board of the World Wide Wicket Company. This film is not rated.

The series continues on Sept. 20, again at 1 p.m. in Meeting Room 1. In late 2007, filmmakers Ariel Schulman and Henry Joost sensed a story unfolding as they began to film the life of Ariel's brother, Nev. They had no idea that their project would lead to the most exhilarating and unsettling months of their lives. A reality thriller that is a shocking product of our times, this 2010 docudrama is a riveting story of love, deception and grace within a labyrinth of online intrigue. Rated PG-13.

FAMILY-FUN LEGO EVENT SCHEDULED

The University Branch Library's LEGO Club will meet Sept. 16 from 4:15 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Meeting Room 1. Families with kids of all ages will have an opportunity to get creative with LEGO building blocks at the library. Different-sized LEGO pieces will be available for the varying ages in attendance. Materials for this event are made possible by the Friends of the University Branch Library.

MOVIES ON MORTON CONTINUES

The City of Richmond continues its Movies On Morton series with "The Princess Bride," showing on Sept. 6 in historic Downtown Richmond in front of City Hall, located at 402 Morton Street.

The city organized these screenings to provide a free family event for residents and visitors. Rotary club of Richmond will provide free popcorn and Access Health community healthcare will provide free water and lemonade.

The city encourages everyone to bring their own chairs, though Friends of North Richmond will supply chairs if you don't bring your own. Watch the City of Richmond TX Facebook page for updates.

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One of Mercy Good's major selling points for students is flexible scheduling, said Amanda Peccora, HR director for Attack Poverty.

"Students don't need to be working all night if they have the SATS or the STAAR test in the morning," Peccora said.

Flexibility and understanding don't end with standardized testing, Lambert said. Adapting to the needs of the students is central to the Mercy Goods ethos.

"One of our students had to go to Milwaukee for family stuff," he said. "We don't know when he's coming back, but he's got a job waiting for him."

By the time Lambert's wayward employee returns, he hopes to have more than just a job waiting for the wandering Wisconsinite. Lambert plans for Mercy Goods include a more formalized training regime.

"We plan on offering classes and mentoring," Lambert said. What form the mentoring and classes might take has yet to be decided, he added. "We're interested in doing peer to peer and adult to student to mentoring," Lambert said.

Of the current crop of students working at Mercy Goods, one is being mentored on starting a clothing line.

"We've taught him silk screening and we're helping him navigate the application process to go to TSTC," Lambert said.

Even though Mercy Goods has yet to fully open its doors, and may not be fully open until Labor Day, Lambert is already looking at the organization's next evolutionary stage.

"I'd like to get the students paid directly for their work," he said, gesturing to a display cabinet filled with cutting boards. "We'd sell the students' items on consignment."

Lambert believes that selling items on consignment will help the students he's working with developing a sense of ownership and, possibly, move beyond the label some of them have been stuck with.

"I don't like the phrase 'at risk'," he said. "It's reductive. Everyone is 'at risk.' I'm at risk. You're at risk. We're all at risk. We're all one bad day or one poor decision away from poverty or prison."

For more information, visit Mercy Goods at 501 Morton St., or shop online at mercygoods.co or on Facebook at Mercy Goods Co.



Magno Guiloen sands a piece of pecan wood in Mercy Goods workshop. The wood came from a tree that was felled by Hurricane Harvey. Guiloen started work at Mercy Goods in June; he was attracted to the business for its commitment to the community.





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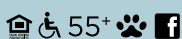
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OAKBEND MEDICAL CENTER

—OakBend physician retires after 37 years—

OakBend Medical Group's Dr. James R. McClamroch has retired after 37 years of practice as a cardiologist with OakBend. McClamroch was inspired to become a physician by his interest in science, biology, and the desire to have relationships with people while having a positive impact on their lives and health.

Despite not having any other physicians in his family, they were all very encouraging and supportive of him in his endeavors.

At his retirement party, thrown by the OakBend Medical Group and attended by board members, colleagues and staff, Dr. McClamroch stated, "I'm

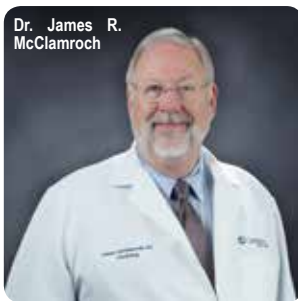
speechless. To have folks that have meant so much to me over the years and I've depended on in this hospital and doing what we all do which is to care for patients, it means so much to me to have you hear to wish me well.

"I am a quiet and introverted person and not used to being in the spotlight but it does mean a lot and I appreciate it.

"It's a two-way street and what we do in health care and caring for patients is never a single person, it takes teamwork with all of my colleagues, medical staff and the clinical departments, case managers and administration.

"It takes all of us to achieve what we need to achieve and the thanks is mine being able to take care of my patients with your help.

Dr. James R. McClamroch



"You are thanking me but that works both ways and the gratitude is mine. It's been a great ride and we've had some ups and downs like in any career, but for the most part, I feel very good about what we have accomplished and I am going to miss all of you.

"Great days are ahead for all of us."

After his retirement, Dr. McClamroch plans to spend time with his family, his three grandchildren and to read, travel and possibly take up a new hobby. He is also open to doing some volunteer work part-time, either in or out of health care.

Dr. McClamroch received the Physician of the Year Award in 2014.

The award is an honor given annually to one outstanding physician who possesses significant practice experience, compassion, kindness and sincerity that translate not only to their patients, but to their nurses and other staff members that work closely with them.

OakBend Medical Center is the last remaining independent, nonprofit hospital in the Greater Houston area, providing exceptional service with its three hospitals and many specialty centers.

OakBend follows an innovative model of care that makes the patient the captain of the care team, up-ending the traditional approach to nursing where the doctors and nurses act as leaders of the team.

This patient-centered care drives OakBend's services and programs, including its signature No Wait ER, an advanced trauma center and the Jack and Billie Wendt Acute Care for the Elderly (ACE) unit.



For the past three years, OakBend Medical Center employees have donated to the Employee Giving Campaign raising more than \$295,000. 2019's efforts were the most successful to date with employee giving exceeding \$102,000. This year, 400-plus employees donated to the campaign.

HOUSTON METHODIST SUGAR LAND HOSPITAL

—welcomes Dr. Rosalyn Miller—

Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital is pleased to welcome obstetrician-gynecologist Rosalyn Miller, DO.

Miller is the first hospital's first OB-GYN employed by the Houston Methodist Physician's Organization, and began seeing patients Aug. 1 at her new practice, Houston Methodist Obstetrics and Gynecology Associates at Sugar Land.

Miller is board-certified in obstetrics-gynecology and has extensive experience dealing with high-risk pregnancies, including patients with hypertension and diabetes. She also provides the full range of gynecological care, including minimally invasive surgeries.

"I am pleased to be joining Houston Methodist Sugar Land at such an exciting time," Miller said. "Houston Methodist continues to make significant investments in women's health services, and the recent opening of the new \$60 million expansion and renovation strengthens our Childbirth Center's standing as the facility of choice for moms-to-be in Fort Bend and



Dr. Rosalyn Miller, DO, OB-GYN

surrounding areas."

Miller earned her medical degree from Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine. She completed her residency at OhioHealth Doctors Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. Most recently, she was an OB-GYN on staff at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

The newly renovated and expanded Houston Methodist Childbirth Center at Sugar Land offers a patient and family centered experience that now includes more spacious birthing rooms, additional operating rooms for cesarean sections, mother-baby rooms, expanded Level II continuum care and well-baby nurseries. This expansion will bring the

hospital closer to opening a level III neonatal intensive care unit, which will be the first in Fort Bend County.

Miller's practice is located in Medical Office Building 3 on the Houston Methodist Sugar Land campus, 16605 Southwest Freeway, Suite 335. To make an appointment with Dr. Miller, call 281.882.3130.

To learn more about Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital, visit houstonmethodist.org/sugarland or the Facebook page at [fb.com/methodistsugarland](https://www.facebook.com/methodistsugarland) for the latest news, events and information.

Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital awarded for Childbirth Center campaign

Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital recently won a top honor in the 2019 Crystal Awards, presented by the Houston chapter of the American Marketing Association.

The marketing and business development department won first place in the annual competition's "Social Media Campaign: In-House" category for a multi-faceted program in support of the hospital's Childbirth Center.

The campaign included e-mail marketing, a unique e-guide for expectant mothers, a landing page for the hospital's website, digital media advertising, the creation of a photo wall designed specifically for social media photographs, and more.

The program's theme – "Where the experience is as perfect as the moment" – was designed to showcase the Childbirth Center's many unique amenities, all of which contribute to a memorable experience.

"Our message was tailored specifically for millennial moms, who view pregnancy as more than just childbirth – it's a journey that includes everything from tours and classes to social media opportunities," said Leena Taneja, director of marketing and business development. "Thanks to the work of our team, we were able to deliver that message in a fun, creative and informative way through a variety of platforms to achieve the project's objectives."

The campaign was unveiled during an ambitious physical expansion of the Childbirth Center and related women's health facilities. The hospital was able to limit the impact of construction and keep the Houston Methodist Childbirth Center at Sugar Land a top choice for new moms.

"All of us at Houston Methodist Sugar Land know first-hand the value that our marketing and business development team delivers, so it's especially gratifying to see their efforts recognized and honored by their peers," said Chris Siebenaler, regional vice president and CEO of Houston Methodist Sugar Land. "The Childbirth Center campaign was an important component of our overall marketing in 2018 and I'm proud of the team for their ideas and execution."

The Crystal Award is one of Houston's most prestigious marketing honors. More than 600 local marketers attended the awards banquet, held May 23 at the Bayou City Event Center.

To learn more about the Houston Methodist Childbirth Center at Sugar Land, go to houstonmethodist.org/childbirth-sl or call 832-968-7181.

Crystal Award with storyboard that was submitted.



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SEPTEMBER

September 3

Coastal Prairie Texas Master Naturalists' Fall training sign up

Sign up for Fort Bend, Waller Counties' Texas Master Naturalist Coastal Prairie 2019 Class Sept. 3, 10, 17 and 24 at 7 p.m. at 1402 Band Rd #100 in Rosenberg. Train with volunteers and professionals dedicated to the beneficial management of our natural resources and natural areas.

September 6

Texana Center Fundraiser

Hosted by the musical band Shark Bait, this fundraiser will be held from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Briscoe Manor in Richmond.

September 7

3rd Annual Ride to Rosenberg Car Show

Hosted by Rosenberg Arts Alliance and Rosenberg Main Street Program, this event will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Downtown Rosenberg. For entry forms please contact: Renee Butler at reenebnr@yahoo.com. Music, art and cars will be featured.

Togetherness Trot

This 5K Run/Walk event will held at 7:45 a.m. at the Brazos River Park in Sugar Land to bring awareness to ovarian cancer. Guest Speakers include ABC13 Chief Meteorologist Travis Herzog and ovarian cancer survivor, Leslie Newton. Proceeds will Benefit Ovarcome, an Ovarian Cancer Foundation. Tickets available at runsignup.com.

For Your Pets

Rosenberg Animal Control and Shelter is hosting its third semi-annual For Your Pets shelter adoption event from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Kroger Marketplace, 24401 Brazos Town Xing in Rosenberg. Kroger staff will be asking customers to purchase pet items inside the store and donate them to the shelter. A brand ambassador will also be handing out coupons and cat/dog food samples.

September 8

83rd Annual Bazaar

Holy Rosary Catholic Church's 83rd Annual Bazaar will be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 1416 George Street in Rosenberg. Food, games and fun featured.

September 9

Book Club

The University Branch Library's Book Club will meet at 7 p.m. in Meeting Room 2. The book to be discussed is *Outliers: The Story of Success*, written by Malcolm Gladwell.

September 10

Resumé Workshop

The George Memorial Library will host this workshop at 2 p.m. in the Computer Lab. Learn the basics of putting together a resumé. Registration required.

Casino Night for Moms of Children With Autism

Hope for Three is helping to bring Southwest Houston's 2nd Annual Moms Mingle for moms of children with autism from 6:30 p.m. to

9:30 p.m. at Safari Texas Ranch. A fun casino night of free food, drinks, laughs, inspiration, prizes, and a night to connect with other moms on the same journey. www.therapyandbeyond.com

September 12

Women's Pelvic Floor Health Talk

Memorial Hermann Sugar Land will host a Women's Pelvic Floor Health Talk, a panel discussion featuring physicians affiliated with the hospital's Pelvic Floor Health Center, at 6 p.m. in the East Tower conference rooms at Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Hospital.

2019 Mission of Love

The 2019 Mission of Love will honor former county commissioner James Patterson at Safari Texas Ranch at 6:30 p.m. Proceeds from this event help individuals, families and seniors in Fort Bend County and the Mamie George Community Center. CatholicCharities.org/missionoflove

September 13

2nd Annual More than a Meal Luncheon

Fort Bend Seniors Meals on Wheels' luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Bud O'Shieles Congregate Center. FBS will be honoring Fort Bend County Attorney Roy Cordes for his many years of support. fbsmow.ejoinme.org/sponsorships2019

Michael Jackson Cover

Sugar Land Town Square will host a tribute series featuring Michael Jackson impersonator, Danny

Dash Andrews — one of the world's most in-demand tribute artists. The event will be held from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Andrews has made numerous film and television appearances, including performing on America's Got Talent, performing live with Lady Gaga, and appearing with Latoya Jackson. www.sugarlandtownsquare.com.

September 14

Teddy-Bear Picnic

The Bob Lutts Fulshear/Simonton Branch Library will host a Teddy-Bear Picnic at 9 a.m. in the Meeting Room. Children are invited to bring their families and their teddy bears to a special Teddy-Bear Picnic at the library.

Fall Book Sale

The Bob Lutts Fulshear/Simonton Branch Library will host a Fall Book Sale from 9 a.m. to noon in the Annex, next door to the library. Gently-used adult and children's books, magazines, DVDs and videos. Prices range from 25¢ for paperback books up to \$5.00 for select hardback books. The University Branch Library will also host a book sale from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Meeting Room 1. This book sale will feature a large selection of Chinese-language books, including translations of American fiction, youth romance and sets of books by famous authors.

Fall Fun Fest 2019

The Rosenberg Railroad Museum's fundraiser will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the museum, 1921 Ave. F in Rosenberg. The very popular theme, "May the Steam be With You," is returning this year

featuring model steam trains, the trackless ride-on steam train, a Star Wars figurine photo scavenger hunt and more. Admission is \$8 for everyone 2 years old and older. Groupons, memberships and other discount admissions are not valid.

Boots for Life Gala

Pregnancy Resource Medical Center will hosts its Boots for Life Gala from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Rosenberg Civic Center.

Bites & Brews

The Fort Bend Museum's Bites & Brews event, featuring wine, beer, hors d'oeuvres from local eateries, music, historic house tours and more will be held from 6:30 to 9 p.m. www.fortbendmuseum.org/bites-and-brews.html

Movie under the Moon

Mary Poppins Returns will show for free from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Sugar Land Town Square Plaza.

September 15

Fall Vegetable Gardening

Fort Bend County Master Gardener Ralph Fuller will provide an overview of fall vegetable gardening at the Bob Lutts Fulshear/Simonton Branch Library at 6 p.m. in the Meeting Room. Fuller will talk about recommended vegetable varieties for this area and how to build and maintain a garden.

September 16

Fulshear Book Club

This Bob Lutts Fulshear/Simonton Branch Library club will meet at noon in the Meeting Room. The book to be discussed is *Before We Were Yours*, written by Lisa Wingate.

Job-Search Survival Workshop

The University Branch Library will host this workshop from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. in Meeting Room 2 on Sept. 16 and 17. This 2-part workshop is designed to help all job-hunters. Learn how to write a better resumé, research prospective employers, interview for a job, improve non-verbal skills, make a great first impression, network and more. Reservations are not required.

September 18

Open-Mic Night

The George Memorial Library will host an open-mic night from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Meeting Room. Performances are limited to five minutes or less, and they must not contain any profanity or other insensitive topics. This event is for adults and teens aged 14 and above. Registration required to perform only.

Culinary Book Club

This University Branch Library club will meet at 1:30 p.m. in Meeting Room 1. This month's the theme is "Hispanic Heritage."

September 19

Book Break

Held at the George Memorial Library, this break will take place at noon in Room 2A. This month's book is *State of Wonder*, written by Ann Patchett. Guests can bring a lunch.

Story Spinners Writing Club

This George Memorial Library club will meet from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in Room 2C. This month's topic will be "action." This program is recommended for adults and teens aged 14 and up.

September 20

Brookwood Art Fest

Shop a variety of Texas artists at the Gallery at Brookwood from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Sept. 20 and 21. 20 percent of all art vendor sales will go to support the Brookwood Community.

Falguni Pathak Dandiya 2019

Dance to the tune of Queen of Dandiya - Falguni Pathak live from 7 p.m. to 11:55 p.m. at the George Ranch Historical Park in Richmond.

Senior Series: Aging in the Right Place

Liz McNeel, a senior real-estate specialist and certified senior-housing professional, will lead a panel of experts who will introduce the concepts of "residential comfort" and "residential mastery" at the University Branch Library from 10:30 a.m. to noon in Meeting Room 1.

September 21

1st Annual Lamar Consolidated HS Band Mattress Fundraiser

At the 1st Annual Lamar Consolidated HS Band Mattress Fundraiser — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Lamar Consolidated High School — 29 quality, name brands like Simmons Beautyrest mattresses priced up to 50 percent off retail, with 15 that can deliver anywhere in the country. Adjustable bases, massage chairs, pillows, protectors, sheets and frames will also be sold. Profits go directly to the theater.

Coin Collecting 101

Numismatist T.L. Smith will provide a basic overview of the different types of coins minted in the US, the history of coin-collecting, and how to go about starting a coin collection at the George Memorial Library from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Room 2A. He will focus particularly on Franklin Half Dollars.

Heavy Inks Graphic Novel Book Club

This George Memorial Library club will meet at 11 a.m. in Room 2B. Readers will discuss *Yona of the Dawn*, Volumes 1 and 2, created by Mizuho Kusanagi.

September 23

International Coffee Hour

This event will be held at the George Memorial Library at 9 a.m. in the Meeting Room. It takes place on the fourth Monday of every month.

September 24

Cache Your Money: Banking Services

John Rebeles, Jr., will talk about how to manage one's finances more efficiently by utilizing the services offered by many banks during a class held at the George Memorial Library at 7 p.m. in Room 2A.

September 25

Craft Squad: Mason Jars

The University Branch Library is inviting the public to join the Craft Squad at 7 p.m. in Meeting Room 2. This squad will make new friends, learn new crafts, and share tips, tricks, and resources with fellow crafters. The

Craft Squad will meet quarterly at the library through December.

September 26

Veterans Resource Fair

Hosted by the Richmond VA Outpatient Clinic, the resource fair will be held from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Rosenberg Civic Center, 3825 Highway 36 S. Tickets available on Eventbrite.

September 28

Vintage Ride

Handlebar Cyclery will host a 28-mile non-competitive bike ride at 7:30 a.m. to Essence House Cafe in Fulshear. Open exclusively to participants with vintage bikes and if possible historically appropriate clothing. www.handlebarcyclery.com

2nd Annual OutRun Hunger 5K Family Walk & Run

Harvest Green is hosting the 2nd Annual OutRun Hunger 5K Family Walk and Run from 7:45 a.m. to noon at Harvest Green, 3400 Harvest Corner Drive in Richmond. There will be a Kids Run, a professionally timed family friendly 5K and a huge post-race party. Proceeds benefit East Fort Bend Human Needs Ministry.. www.signmeup.com/outrunhunger5k

Bollywood Boogie 2019

Hosted by Rhythm India Bollywood Dance, this event will take place at 7 p.m. in Sugar Land Town Square. Pet adoptions will be available on the day of the event.

Murder Mystery Party

A Murder Mystery Party will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Fulbrook Ale Works, 1125 FM 359 in Richmond. Tickets are \$30. squareup.com.

September 30

Social Security 101

Andrew Hardwick, Metropolitan Public Affairs Specialist for the Social Security Administration, will provide an overview of Social Security and the Medicare program at 6 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Bob Lutts Fulshear/Simonton Branch Library.

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