

The Facts

COVERING BRAZORIA COUNTY ★ WHERE TEXAS BEGAN

WEEKEND EDITION

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LJ throws switch on Christmas season

By **DAKOTA PERRY**
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LAKE JACKSON — The varied-colored lights bursting into brightness only marked the start of the city's holiday celebration.

The second mayoral tree-lighting ceremony by Mayor Gerald Roznovsky fired up

the audience as the Lake Jackson Festival of Lights officially commenced, returning after its pandemic-required hiatus a year ago. The energy unleashed by the lighting could be seen in the activity that filled the area around the Lake Jackson Civic Center

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JEREMY HILL/The Facts

Children play in the artificial snow as parents snap photos Friday during Santa's Pajama Jam at the Festival of Lights in Lake Jackson.

Boy hit by car outside school OK

By **DAKOTA PERRY**
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ANGLETON — An Angleton Junior High School student hit by a vehicle while leaving school Friday afternoon is recovering at home, a school district spokeswoman said.

The student, whose name and age were not released Friday, went by LifeFlight helicopter to a Houston hospital after a vehicle hit him at Dowling Street and Henderson Road as classes were being dismissed, according to information from Angleton ISD.

What type of injuries he sustained were not disclosed.

"The student who was in an accident earlier today has been released from the hospital and is home," Angleton ISD Director of Public Relations Hanna Chalmers said Friday night. "We are glad he is home."

The Angleton Police Department handled the collision with assistance provided by the school district's police, according to a statement issued by Angleton ISD.

Angleton Police Public Information Officer Ernest DeLosSantos and Police Chief Lupe Valdez did not respond to messages left with them late Friday seeking information about the collision.

One time

Brazoria County Adoption Day finalizes families

By **DAKOTA PERRY**
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ANGLETON **R**aylei Ranson connected quickly with her new foster parents.

"Today was amazing, exciting and overwhelming," the 14-year-old said. "I knew within a couple weeks that I wanted to be with them forever."

Davina and David Ranson felt the same.

"We discussed it and it took us all of five minutes to know she belonged with us," David Ranson said.

The Ransons removed "foster" from their family Friday as part of the annual Adoption Day event at the Brazoria County Courthouse. They were one of three families legally unified in Judge Jeremy Warren's courtroom.

"Being a part of Adoption Day is the happiest and best day at the courthouse," Warren said. "Definitely a special day for everyone, and I'm just so honored to be a part of this every year."

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JEREMY HILL/The Facts

Jamie Henry and Elex Altamirano adopted Skylar during the Brazoria County Adoption Day event Friday at the Brazoria County Courthouse in Angleton.



JEREMY HILL/The Facts

Judge Jeremy Warren poses with Giovanni, Sofia and Penelope after they were adopted by Billie Jo Nieto, left, and Rigoberto Saldierna during the Adoption Day proceedings Friday at the Brazoria County Courthouse.

Sweeny feast will be done as drive-thru

By **DAKOTA PERRY**
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SWEENEY — In years past, the Sweeny Community Thanksgiving Feast has invited people to gather for a communal meal. Now in its 11th year, this time will be a bit different, founder Agatha Sanchez said.

Because of COVID-19, people will pick up their meals drive-thru style from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday outside Sweeny Elementary School, 706 Sycamore St.

GRAB A PLATE

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday at Sweeny Elementary School, 709 Sycamore St., Sweeny. Meals provided at drive-thru line. Limit six plates per vehicle. Delivery available to those who qualify. Call Agatha at 979-201-2144.

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CTE students learn importance of teamwork

Top Coat provides Angleton High class real-world insights

By **JOE EDWARDS**
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JONES CREEK — Teamwork and technology are among the most important skills to a successful manufacturing operation, Top Coat Fabrication employees told students studying for trade careers.

The pipe manufacturing company put on a demonstration of both Monday for Computer Integrated Manufacturing students from

Angleton High School. The exhibition highlighted the importance of teamwork and community interaction and showcased the company's new technologies and opportunities for the juniors and sophomores in the CTE program.

"This is one instance where students, already learning construction technology, get actually to code something and see the tangible results through manufacturing," Top Coat President Jason Hayes said.

Top Coat Fabrication specializes in pipe manufacturing, pressure vessels and skid packages, but the teamwork it produces is a particular

point of pride, company officials said. One of the ways it builds that teamwork is through friendly competitions among employees that take place at 10 a.m. every Monday.

"Last week was darts; sometimes basketball," Quality Control Manager Adam Sierra said. "Today just happens to be a tug-of-war competition."

Just as the company walked students through some of the production processes, it also lined them up on opposite sides of the rope. All of them are important and

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JOE EDWARDS/The Facts

Angleton High School CTE students experienced a hands-on demonstration of a Watts programmed pipe cutting machine Monday at Top Coat Fabrication in Jones Creek.

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