

# The Facts

COVERING BRAZORIA COUNTY ★ WHERE TEXAS BEGAN

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## — UPDATES —

Updates is a weekly feature to give readers news information on stories they have seen in The Facts. To suggest an Update, call 979-237-0148 or email news@thefacts.com.

### Hiring of new college president made official

Robert Solis, who Brazosport College regents announced last month as the sole finalist to be the school's next president, had his hiring made official this week when regents approved his contract.



SOLIS

Details of his contract were not immediately available.

Solis will assume the presidency Jan. 4, the college announced. He replaces Millicent Valek, who has led the college for the past quarter-century.

Regents selected Solis from among four semifinalists, each of whom the college hosted in October for community forums. The other semifinalists were Ian Roark, vice president of Workforce Development and Strategic Partnerships for Pima Community College in Tucson, Arizona; David Hinds, a one-time Brazosport College division chair and former Victoria College president; and James Ross, president of Pamlico Community College in North Carolina.

The fifth president in the 53-year history of Brazosport College, Solis will be leaving Western Nevada College, where he served as president since 2018.

### OLQP announces fundraiser success

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School officially raised almost \$200,000 at its fall festival last month, far surpassing its goal.

"Once we calculated the total from our raffle sales and festival day of activities we raised over \$184,000," said Whitney Guthrie, director of advancement. "This is the amount we shared with our parents last week."

Major components of the fundraiser included selling barbecue plates and having live and silent auctions, which this year brought in about \$84,000 as of Oct. 25.

Proceeds from the event help the school meet its basic obligations, Principal Nirm Thomas said.

"It always goes back toward the school whether it be in the classrooms, for student use, outdoor activities or technology upgrades," Guthrie said. "The money that is raised allows us to keep the tuition cost of attending low and more affordable to families to attend OLQP."

### Lake Jackson approves replacing police vehicle

Criminal investigation officers will be driving a new vehicle soon after Lake Jackson City Council approved the police department's request for a replacement.

"We replace vehicles once they are showing wear and tear and high mileage. Some also sustained minimal damage during Hurricane Nicholas," Lake Jackson City Manager Modesto Mundo said.

The replacement vehicle will not have the big lights that patrol cars do, but smaller ones. It also will be an SUV instead of a passenger car, with a Ford Explorer being purchased and a Chevrolet Caprice being retired.

The new vehicle's cost is not to exceed \$37,000.

## 2 bodies found in Angleton home

By DAKOTA PERRY  
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ANGLETON — Two weeks after a man shot a couple to death, Angleton police responded to another report of two people killed in their home.

Police responded to a 911 call at about 3 a.m. Wednesday at a home in the 300 block of Sands Street and found the bodies of two people inside, police spokesman Sgt. Ernest DeLosSantos said.

The people involved and how they died is being kept from the

No information being released by police about victims, how they died

public for now, he said, since the investigation is still in its early stages.

"No information can be released at this time over how the individuals were found or how they died," DeLosSantos said.

The investigation is taking place just two weeks after a double homicide on Halloween night on Rice Street.

Sands Street is not far from

where Paula Ayala and her common-law husband, Ron Thomas, were killed about 5:30 p.m. in their home in the 300 block of Rice Street. That attack did not appear to be random, police said.

While the homes are near each other and in the same block on their street, investigators do not see a link between the deaths, DeLosSantos said.

"Even though the deaths were

two streets over from the double homicide, it appears to be unrelated and an isolated incident," he said.

Ayala and Thomas were killed by a man who got out of the passenger side of a black SUV with chrome accessories and walked up to the home, according to police reports. He is described as a 6-foot Black man who wore all black clothing and a yellow mask covering his face.

Dakota Perry is a reporter for The Facts. Contact her at 979-237-0149.



JEREMY HILL/The Facts

Focuss CEO Jimmie West, left, Officer Justin Brown, Mayor Justin Mills, Police Chief Richard Foreman and Master Trainer Rocky Trahan present Oyster Creek's newest K-9 officer, Marshall, at the Oyster Creek Police Department on Wednesday.

## BARK AND A BADGE

Drug-detection K-9 joins the force in Oyster Creek

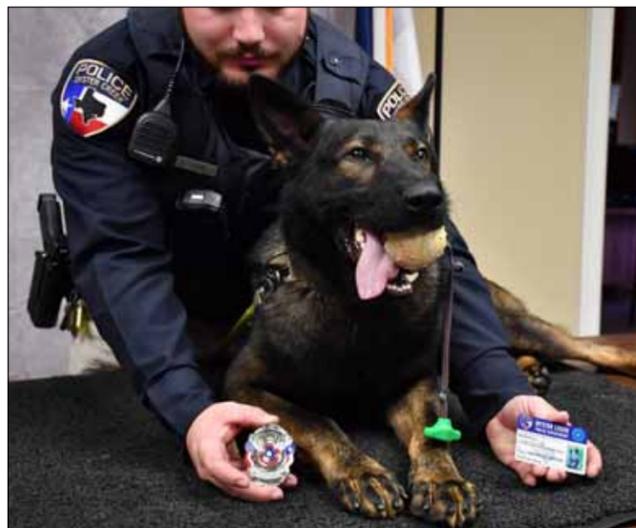
By RAVEN WUEBKER  
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OYSTER CREEK — The newest member of the Oyster Creek Police Department will help sniff out narcotics in the city.

Marshall, a 20-month old German Shepard, was sworn in as the newest and youngest member of the department Wednesday afternoon.

His partner is Officer Justin Brown, and the dynamic duo will drive the road of Oyster Creek looking for narcotics.

"This is what I wanted to do," Brown said. "This started four or five months ago with a conversation with me wanting a dog. I didn't think it would happen as fast as it did. Out of the blue, they called me and said they thought they found a dog. I am super ecstatic. This



JEREMY HILL/The Facts

Oyster Creek Police Officer Justin Brown displays K-9 Officer Marshall's badge and ID card after the K-9's swearing-in ceremony Wednesday at the Oyster Creek Police Department.

is what I wanted to do with my police career is to be a K-9 officer."

Born in Holland, Marshall came to the United States

shortly after and was living in Virginia until Focuss Service Group, which has a station in

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## Officer added at Angleton Jr. High

Number of calls justifies increased presence, chief says

By JOE EDWARDS  
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ANGLETON — Problems at Angleton Junior High School prompted district leaders to increase the number of police officers stationed there, two weeks after a rumor resulted in multiple teachers locking down their classrooms.

The unanimous decision follows a request by Angleton ISD Police Chief Jerome Griffin, who told district trustees during their meeting Tuesday that the junior high campus is the source of a large number of calls.

"There were 144 calls to service at the junior high school alone ... 25 generated reports, and nine total arrests resulting from these reports," Griffin said.

The most high profile of those calls recently came Nov. 4 when a staff member told a colleague the school was on lockdown, and within minutes, the word had spread and everyone ran for cover, officials said. A teacher overheard a student say an active shooter was in front of the school, which prompted staff to react, officials said.

The campus never was under any threat and no official lockdown ever took place, district officials said.

That same week, rumors swept across campus that



GRIFFIN

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## Bank robbery suspect caught in Brazoria County

By DAKOTA PERRY  
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IOWA COLONY — A man suspected of trying to rob a Houston bank branch Wednesday afternoon is in custody after Brazoria County law enforcement agencies joined the pursuit, authorities said.

Houston police were pursuing Deyante Adams, 30, as he

headed south down Highway 288 and alerted Brazoria County law enforcement, Sgt. Anthony Hurse with Brazoria County Sheriff's Office said.

Brazoria County Precinct 3 deputy constables joined the pursuit about 2:50 p.m. near the CR 58 exit, Hurse said.

"The vehicle was reported to be a red Chevrolet Equinox and continued the pursuit

southbound on CR 60, then the vehicle turned west, then north on CR 48," Hurse said.

A Texas Department of Public Safety trooper and deputy constable assisted Houston officers in stopping the vehicle on CR 48 at the CR 62 intersection in Iowa Colony, Hurse said.

"The suspect was said to be passing notes to the tellers during the robbery and also

had multiple warrants out for his arrest involving narcotics and assault," Hurse said.

KHOU-TV in Houston, citing police, reported the man tried to rob a Bank of America and check-cashing business on Telephone Road near the Gulf Freeway sometime after 2 p.m.

Adams was taken to the Houston jail after his arrest, Hurse said.



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