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VOLUME 31, NUMBER 1 EAGLEPOINTPRESS@YAHOO.COM EAGLEPOINTPRESS.ONLINE WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2025

State Representative Terri Leo Wilson Welcomes The New Year



As the holiday season comes to a close, I extended a New Year's greetings to all residents of our community. This time of year reminds us of the values we hold dear—faith, family, and service—which will continue to guide me as I prepare to represent you in the upcoming legislative session.

The 89th Texas Legislature is set to convene on January 14th, and I have been diligently preparing to address the critical issues that matter most to our district and the state. In response to the concerns voiced by Texas voters, I have pre-filed a comprehensive legislative package focusing on border security, education reform, government transparency, and specific needs for Galveston and Chambers Counties.

Border Security

To strengthen our state's border security, I have introduced legislation aimed at:

- **Ending In-State Tuition for Undocumented Immigrants:** House Bill 160 seeks to discontinue the practice of offering in-state tuition rates to undocumented immigrants, ensuring that our educational resources are prioritized for legal residents.
- **Mandatory DNA Testing at the Border:** House Bill 256 requires DNA testing for individuals crossing our southern border illegally, particularly to protect vulnerable children from human trafficking.

Education Reform

As a former educator, I am committed to enhancing our education system through:

- **Enhancing Curriculum Oversight:** House Bill 629 empowers the State Board of Education to review Advanced Placement courses and their instructional materials, ensuring they meet our state's educational standards.
- **Parental Rights Handbook:** House Bill 1137 creates a handbook on parental rights in education and sets training requirements on parental rights in education for members of a board of trustees of a school district.

Government Transparency

To foster transparency and accountability in government operations, I have proposed:

- **Creating the Texas Checkbook:** House Bill 348 establishes a centralized website to provide visibility into state agencies' expenditures, allowing taxpayers to see how their money is spent.
- **Prohibiting Taxpayer-Funded Lobbying:** House Bill 309 aims to end the use of taxpayer dollars for lobbying efforts, promoting fiscal responsibility and ensuring that public funds are used effectively.
- **Regulating Campaign Fund Usage:** House Bill 672 prohibits the use of campaign funds to pay for certain campaign violations, promoting ethical conduct among public officials.

Local Initiatives for Galveston and Chambers Counties

Addressing the unique needs of our district, I have filed:

- **Supporting Local Healthcare:** House Bill 721 ensures the UTMB Health Multi-Share Plan, formerly the 3-Share Plan, can continue operating, providing essential healthcare services to our community.
- **Promoting Local Agriculture:** House Bill 735 allows for the labeling of meat products as originating in Texas, supporting our local farmers and informing consumers.

This legislative agenda represents only the beginning of our work to protect and strengthen Texas. As we approach the session, I am eager to collaborate with my colleagues to advance these initiatives and address the concerns of our constituents.

As we prepare to gather at the Capitol, I invite you to stay engaged and share your concerns and priorities. Together, we can make a difference for the future of our great state.

Wishing you a prosperous and joyful New Year!



TACOS AL PASTOR

AZTECA
XITLALY
TAQUERIA

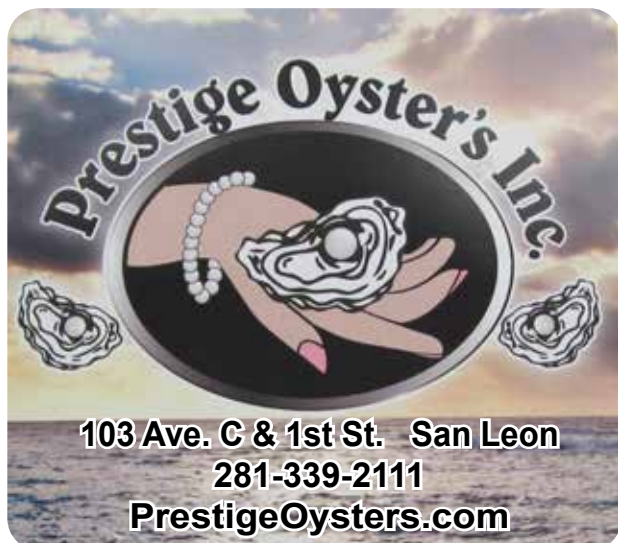
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On the morning of December 24th, Bacliff VFD responded to a request for medical assistance in Bacliff. While the firefighter was providing services to the patient and away from his vehicle, it was stolen. The young man in the photo was quickly arrested when another firefighter observed the vehicle in a Kemah parking lot after tracking it electronically. Kemah police showed up promptly and the vehicle was recovered. At the time of this writing, further details were not available, though EPP will point out that stealing a marked fire department vehicle from a scene is not the work of a criminal mastermind...



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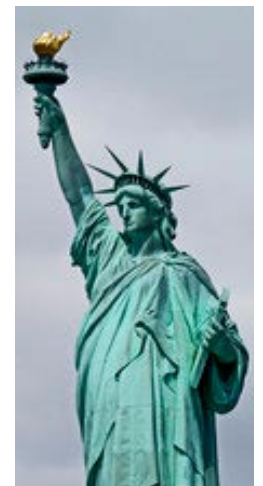
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Report Streetlight Outages

Follow this link to report a streetlight outage with Centerpoint Energy:

<https://slo.centerpointenergy.com/customerslo.aspx>

You will need the pole number and address or cross streets as well as some personal information. If you choose, they will send you email updates on the repair status. It is easy and helps keep our neighborhoods safer.



\$700 Per Vehicle?

Will Galveston County Commissioners go along with incoming Sheriff Jimmy Fullen's plan to change the markings on all the vehicles in his department at an estimated cost of \$700 per vehicle? Apparently he also wants to change all of the uniforms from dark green to dark blue. That won't be cheap either. County Judge Mark Henry is generally known for caring about value for the taxpayers. Will he step in and find a way to halt this ill-advised plan? Commissioners Court sets the budget for the Sheriff's Office. What will they do? EPP will keep its readers advised on the latest updates to this issue as we learn them.

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Recipe for a New Year

Take 365 days, trim off all the old memories of hate and discord. Soak and wash thoroughly in plenty of love and courage. Cut these days into 12 parts, cooking only one day at a time. Be sure the fire is hot with enthusiasm and your kettle is bright with hope.

Season each kettleful with some kindness for others and add patience, for small trials that come up every day.

Add a little earnestness and willingness. Serve with smiles, praise and plenty of heartwarming joy, with your chin up.

Author unknown

Free Household Electronic Waste Event
Sunday, February 22nd, 2025
10am to 4pm **Until Capacity Met**
Bayshore/Spillway Park



Electronics

Accepted Items	Not Accepted
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Computers/Laptops- Computer Accessories- Power Cords/Cables- Cellular Phones- VCR/DVD Players- Printers- Servers- TVs (up to 55")- Monitors- Scrap Metal/Wire- Cable Boxes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Vacuum Cleaners- Radios- Thermostats (any type)- Appliances- Microwaves- Rice Cookers- Space Heaters- Air Conditioners- Clocks- Freezers- Refrigerators



Galveston County Electronic Waste Day

Date:
February 22nd, 2025

Time:
10:00am to 4:00pm

Location:
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CROSSWORD

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: YEAR-IN-REVIEW

ACROSS

1. Cerberus' domain

6. Chop

9. Mama's husband

13. Unsuitable

14. Adam's partner

15. Echo sounder

16. Sunny prefix

17. Armed conflict

18. In a heated manner

19. *Highest grossing movie based on Broadway musical

21. *Time's 100 World's Most Influential People cover model in 2024 (2 words)

23. "____ and the City"

24. Not exciting

25. Accident

28. Rani's dress

30. Talking points

35. Aflame

37. Spanish sparkling wine

39. Slang for money

40. Velum, pl.

41. *November 5th 2024 winner

43. Short for "and elsewhere" (2 words)

44. Met's offering

46. River in Bohemia

47. Queen of Hearts' pastry

48. *Super Bowl winners in 2024

50. Visi____ or Ostro____

52. The Alan Parsons Project's "Eye in the ____"

53. ____ of passage

55. *Milton's center

57. *Miley Cyrus' Grammy-winning Record of the Year in 2024

61. *2024 Summer Olympic Games host

64. Cat's nine

65. Lowest or highest card

67. Accustom

69. E-wallet content

70. Backstabber

71. N in RN

72. Whipping mark

73. R&R spot

74. Support person

DOWN

1. "Say what?"

2. All over again

3. *MV ____, cause of 2024 Baltimore bridge collapse

4. Long stories

5. Tends a fire

6. Obscene

7. Spermatozoa counterpart

8. Lost, in Paris

9. *Olympic Gold winner Katie Ledecky's "court"

10. Dead against

11. Explore by touch

12. Maisie Williams' "Game of Thrones" character

15. Hello, in Haifa

20. Dead-on

22. Last month

24. Disclose

25. Wreaked state

26. Bet's predecessor

27. Pileus, pl.

29. Like steak order

31. Maya Angelou, e.g.

32. Itsy-bitsy bits

33. *Caitlin of college basketball

34. Gin and grapefruit juice cocktail, a.k.a. ____ dog

36. Scarlet O'Hara's home

38. Speaking platform

42. Dinklage or Townshend, e.g.

45. Again but differently

49. Elton John's title

51. Shenzi of "The Lion King"

54. Russian rulers, pre-1917

56. Tedium

57. "One ____ Over the Cuckoo's Nest"

58. Classroom pests

59. Elliptical

60. Sunset location

61. Sheep's milk cheese

62. Little Miss Muffet's morsel

63. Gaelic tongue

66. Upper limit

68. Poetic "always"

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409-935-0449 Non-Emergency

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281-334-2799 Main
281-334-1034 Non-Emergency

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281-337-2489 Main
281-227-4700 Non-Emergency

Friendswood

281-996-3200 Main
281-996-3300 Non-Emergency

Galveston

409-797-3500 Main
409-765-3702 Non-Emergency

Hitchcock

409-986-5591 Main
409-986-5559 Non-Emergency

Jamaica Beach

409-737-1142 Main
409-737-1800 Non-Emergency

Kemah

281-334-1611 Main
281-334-5414 Non-Emergency

La Marque

409-938-9200 Main
409-938-9269 Non-Emergency

League City

281-554-1000 Main
281-332-2566 Non-Emergency

Santa Fe

409-925-6412 Main
409-925-2000 Non-Emergency

Texas City

409-948-3111 Main
409-643-5720 Non-Emergency

Tiki Island

409-935-1427 Main
409-935-6579 Non-Emergency

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281-309-5002 Main
888-384-2000 After Hours

Galveston County Sheriff's Office

409-766-2300 Main

Galveston County Health District

409-938-7221 Main
409-948-2485 Animal Services
409-763-7202 Birth and Death Records
409-938-2456 Community Health
409-938-2234 Coastal Health & Wellness
409-938-2411 Environmental Services

Gulf Coast Center - Mental Health

409-944-4520 Main
866-729-3848 Crisis Hotline

Galveston County Parks & Senior Services

409-934-8101 Main

Galveston County Mosquito Control

800-842-5622 Main

Galveston County Nuisance Abatement

409-766-4509 Main

Galveston County - Bolivar Beach Stickers

409-934-8103 Main

Galveston County Veterans Services

409-766-2448 Main

Galveston County Constable Precinct 1

281-316-8810 Main

Galveston County Constable Precinct 2

409-770-5477 Main

Galveston County Constable Precinct 3

409-770-5172 Main

Galveston County Constable Precinct 4

281-316-8711 Main

Galveston County Clerk

409-766-2200 Galveston Office
281-316-8732 League City Office


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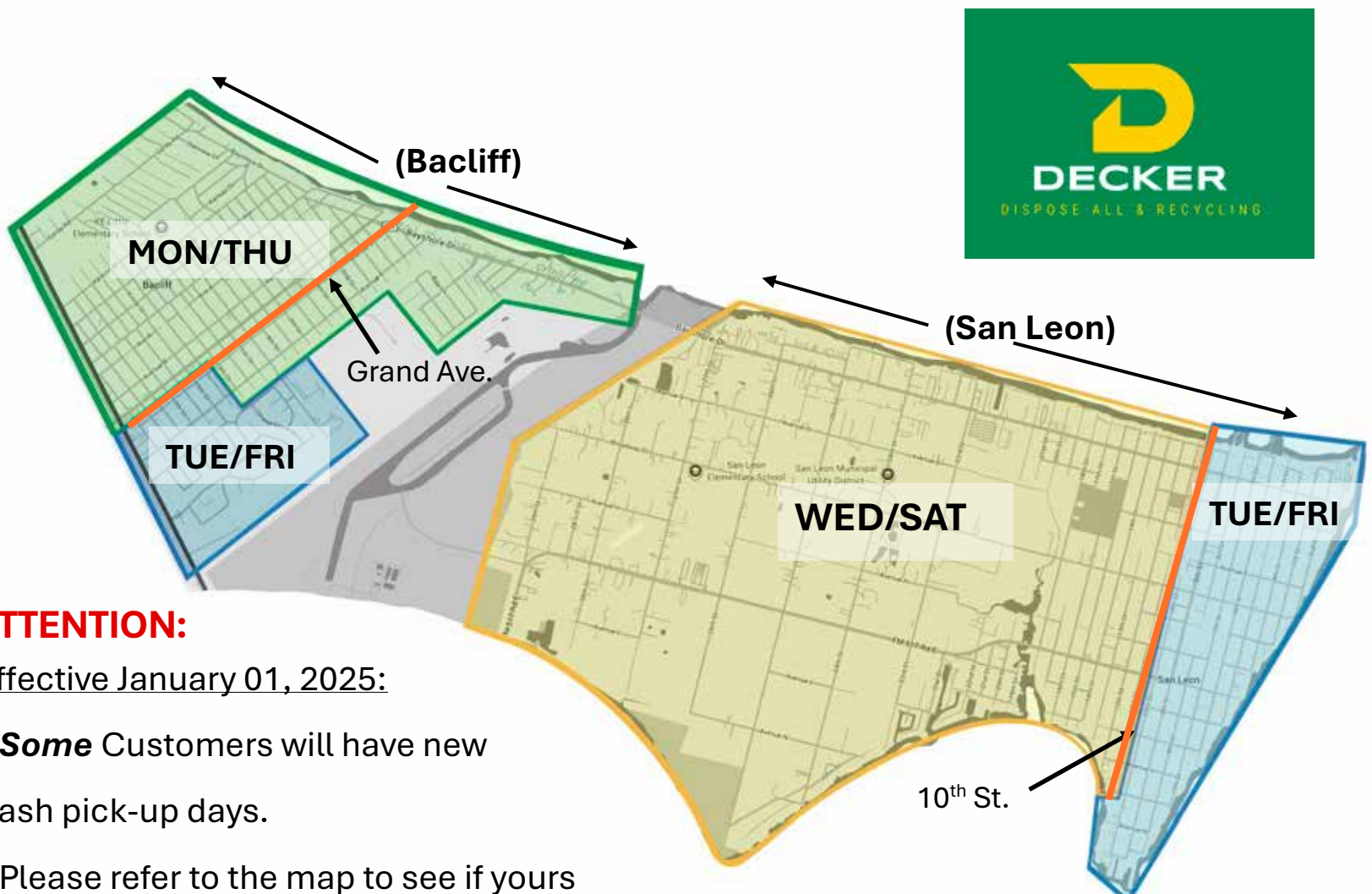
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Effective January 01, 2025:

- * **Some** Customers will have new trash pick-up days.
- * Please refer to the map to see if yours has changed.

San Leon Takes A Beating

From Alvin to San Leon, including Santa Fe and Dickinson, a tornado or other form of very high wind did some damage. The photos shown here were taken in San Leon and at Spillway Park. EPP hopes that no serious injuries resulted from this storm. And, like a broken record, participate in CERT training so that at minimum you can help your family and neighbors when the unexpected and bad happens.



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A New Year's Message From State Senator Mayes Middleton

On January 14th, the Texas Legislature will begin the 89th Regular Session. Over the next 140 days, the Texas Legislature will address many important issues facing Texans including property tax relief, school choice, border security, rising cost of insurance, and many more. As we approach the start of the 89th Regular Session, I want to highlight a few priorities I plan to lead the charge on as your senator.

This first bill I file every session is the ban on taxpayer-funded lobbying. Voters elect their local and state officials to represent them directly and not some Austin lobbyist middleman. Taxpayer-funded lobbyists corrupt this by using your own tax dollars to lobby against you and your values. Taxpayer-funded lobbying is when your tax dollars are used to hire registered lobbyists in Austin. Nearly \$70 million per year is spent on taxpayer-funded lobbying that advocate against border security, election integrity, parental choice in education, teacher pay raises, and even against property tax relief and reform. Taxpayer-funded lobbyists shockingly oppose the ban on men in girl's locker rooms and showers, and they even invited transgender advocates to train school board members on how to use pronouns. It is time for this unethical practice to end.

My first session in the Texas Senate, I authored and passed the Save Womens' Sports Act, which stops men from unfairly competing against women in college sports. Generations of women have fought hard for the opportunity to compete, and that was going to be stolen from them, until we took a strong stand in Texas to permanently kick men out of women's sports. After the results of this recent election, Texans have made their mandate clear: to stop the woke, leftist ideology that can't even answer the question: what is a woman? The extreme radical policies of the left are why we have seen such a massive shift in this country towards President Trump and a return to common sense policy. A person's God given sex is not a confusing trick question. The truth is that Texas women, daughters like mine, my wife, and my mother are not safe as long as men can enter private spaces. These are private areas that, for nearly all of our human history, have been dedicated exclusively to women in order to keep them safe. That is why I filed the Texas Women's Privacy Act, to ban men from private spaces dedicated to women.

Our schools are not God free zones. You have to ask: are our schools better or worse off since prayer was taken out in the 1960s? Litigious atheists are no longer going to get to decide for everyone else if students and educators exercise their religious liberties during school hours. Additionally, there is no such thing as "separation of church and state" in our Constitution, and recent Supreme Court decisions by President Trump's appointees reaffirmed this. President Trump has made restoring prayer in public schools a top priority as well. This bill will allow a student, with parental consent, to opt into a period of prayer, Bible reading, or other religious texts. The goal of this bill is to promote freedom of religion for teachers and students in the place where they spend most of their time—school.

While these represent just a few of the policies I am fighting for, there are many others that I will continue to work hard to pass including, property tax relief, border security, tough-on-crime reforms, school choice, insurance reform, teacher pay raises, and many more. It is an honor to serve as your state senator and to fight for our community in your Texas Capitol.

Can They Destroy Your House Or Car?

The local Bacliff and San Leon VFD's need cars, trucks or vans that they can cut into pieces for training purposes so they can practice and demonstrate their abilities to get you or your loved ones out of a vehicle they have been trapped in as a result of an accident. Transportation of the donated vehicle can be arranged and clear title is a must.

What about a house that is going to be torn down in the Bayshore? Again, the local fire departments would love to be able to use a dwelling that is going to be demolished to practice their skills and enhance their training. The house will not be burned, but it will get beat up.

For either of these scenarios, contact the departments directly or message EPP and the information will get to the right people. See the website and email on the front page of every issue.

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