

Our County

The Daily News | galnews.com | Contact Michael Smith, associate editor, 409-683-5206

INSIDE TODAY WORD ON THE STREET

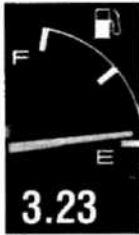
Readers sound off on guest columnists' credentials and Lone Star Motorcycle Rally **Page B9**.

INSIDE

Dear Abby



WATCH



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Neighbors want answers in abandoned boat ramp deal

By SARA McDONALD
The Daily News

LEAGUE CITY — Neighbors angry about what they call a developer's unfulfilled promise to build a boat ramp

in the Magnolia Estates subdivision can wind up getting the empty land by donation instead.

But that peace offering — which hasn't yet been formalized — might not be enough

to satisfy neighbors now that they've learned more about the abandoned plans.

Last month, neighbors gathered in protest and signed a petition after learning that an empty lot in the developing

subdivision about a mile west of Interstate 45 on FM 518 was up for sale.

That space is one of the last areas in the neighborhood without a new house on it or one under construction.

Subdivision residents Tracey Brooks, Shanna Fernandisse and Renee Voirgeois said they were all promised that land would be used for a

See **BOAT RAMP/B6**

Frontera de Salud to celebrate 10th anniversary with conference

The Daily News

GALVESTON — It was 10 years ago that medical, nursing and allied health students from the University of Texas Medical Branch started what has grown into a program that provides health care to some of the poorest people in Texas.

Frontera de Salud, as the program came to be called, now provides health care to underserved communities in Brownsville, San Antonio, Galveston, Corpus Christi and Laredo and includes hundreds of student volunteers at chapters at academic health centers in Galveston, San An-

tonio and Houston.

To celebrate, the medical branch will be the site of a conference to mark the anniversary with the Rev. Michael Seifert from South Texas as the featured speaker.

Seifert, who is pastor of

See **CONFERENCE/B6**

Farmers' Markt set for April 12

The Daily News

GALVESTON — Downtown Galveston welcomes back the Galveston Farmers' Markt, a community event highlighting local gardeners, vendors and entertainers.

The market, in Saengerfest Park at The Strand at 23rd Street, opens at 9 a.m. April 12. It is sponsored by the Historic Downtown Galveston Partnership.

At least 20 vendors will be selling their wares, including produce, freshly baked products, plants, nuts, spices and pet treats. Saengerfest Park is often remembered for its giant, outdoor chess set.

"Some vendors rotate in and out each month, giving each Market day its own unique flavor," Lesley Sommer, partnership executive director

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★ THE DAILY NEWS ★ THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2008

GALVESTON COUNTY, TEXAS

SCHOOLS IN BRIEF

Bay Elementary Family Literacy Night

SEABROOK — Students Bay Elementary School are putting some fun in their night to read more books. The school will host a fun-filled Family Literacy Night on 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Friday at 1502 Bayport. There are many activities planned to engage parents and students in reading together. Students from Clear Creek High School's Ready, Teach program will be guest readers. They will be dressed as their popular book characters. There will also be games, food, and activities of fun. Families who want to use the book fair will have the opportunity to shop until 8 p.m. For information, call 281-284-0030.

Clear Creek ISD high school art faculty exhibit

LEAR LAKE — The University of Houston-Clear Creek will exhibit the work of art teachers from Clear Creek Independent School District from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday through Thursday, April 4 a.m. to noon Friday in

Communities in Schools Day

COUNTY — The cities of Clear Lake Shores, Dickinson, El Lago, Friendswood, Kemah, League City, Nassau Bay and Webster have declared today as Communities In Schools Day honoring Communities In Schools-Bay Area (CIS-Bay Area).

CIS-Bay Area is a dropout prevention program serving 15 schools in Clear Creek and Dickinson independent school districts.

A breakfast will take place at 7:30 a.m. Thursday at Endeavour Marina, 3101 NASA Road 1, in Seabrook. The guest speaker will be Jim (Mattress Mack) McIngvale, and well-known radio deejay Dayna Steele will be mistress of ceremonies. Call 281-486-6698.

Philosophy lecture

CLEAR LAKE — The University of Houston-Clear Lake will present University of Dallas professor of philosophy Robert E. Wood speaking on "Philosophy, Aesthetics, and the Art of the World" at 7 p.m. today in the university's Bayou Building Atrium 1,

nomenological Hermeneutical and Dialogical Studies" and "Placing Aesthetics: Studies in the Philosophic Tradition." His lecture will begin with a discussion of the philosophy of art and then go on to a consideration of art from various non-western cultures.

Admission to the event is free. For more information, e-mail silvermintz@uhcl.edu, or call 281-283-3326.

Texas City High School one act play

TEXAS CITY — The Texas City High School Theatre Department presents the University Interscholastic League One-Act Play "The Runner Stumbles" by Milan Stitt at 7 p.m. today and Friday in the auditorium at Texas City High School, at 1800 Ninth Ave. N. Tickets cost \$5 at the door. All district employees and district Gold Card members have free admission with their ID badge or Gold Card. For information, call 942-2640.

Don't Mess with Texas scholarship

COUNTY — The Texas Department of Transporta-

www.dontmesswithtexas.org.

Bay Area Christian dinner, auction

LEAGUE CITY — Bay Area Christian School will have its 13th annual Go for the Goal dinner and auction Friday at 4800 W. Main St. in League City. The silent auction will begin at 2 p.m. and close at 7:30 p.m., dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. and the live auction will begin at 8 p.m. Call 281-332-4814 or visit the Web site at www.bacschool.org.

La Marque ISD Foundation Scholarships

LA MARQUE — The La Marque Independent School District Education Foundation offers scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 to graduating high school seniors at La Marque High School. Applications are available in the counselor's office at the high school or online in the News & Updates section at www.lmisd.net. Applications are due Friday. For information, contact Denise Walker or Clarissa Silva at 409-938-4251.

CONFERENCE

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San Felipe de Jesus Catholic Church in Cameron Park near Brownsville, will speak on "El Otro Lado" (The Other Side) at 6:30 p.m. April 11 in the Ashbel Smith ("Old Red") Amphitheater on the medical branch campus. Seifert also is the president of Proyecto Digna, a nonprofit group that advocates for basic services — from infrastructure to health care — for the people of Cameron Park, a colonia of 7,000 residents near Brownsville.

Many of the people in that area receive health care services from UTMB student volunteers from the Frontera de Salud program.

Dr. Kirk Smith, a founder of Frontera de Salud and currently executive director of the program, notes that the partnerships Frontera has established with local providers and service organizations throughout South Texas and the Gulf Coast provides the student volunteers "a unique, and we

expect, highly rewarding experience as they learn to serve patients at the margins of care."

He added that the program helps students "develop solutions for our broken health care system."

The conference begins with Seifert's keynote on April 11 and continues on April 12, beginning at 8 a.m. in the Ashbel Smith Building, with a continental breakfast.

Presenters will include Drs. Smith, Fausto Meza and Adam Flynn who helped start Frontera de Salud when they were students at the medical branch.

Meza is a hospitalist in Harlingen and Flynn directs a hospitalist service in Wichita, Kan.

Other speakers are Dr. John D. Stobo, former president of the medical branch, and Laura Hermer, a lawyer and health policy expert who is a professor in the Institute for the Medical Humanities at the medical branch.

All events are free and open to the public.

BOAT RAMP

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said.

Brooks said she kept hearing the boat ramp promise