

Top UHV alumni to be recognized at spring alumni banquet

The University of Houston-Victoria will honor a banking president and a chief financial planner with the university's highest alumni awards during the 2023 UHV Alumni Awards Banquet next month.

Lori Zamora, banking center president of the West Columbia Prosperity Bank, will receive the 2023 Distinguished Alumnus Award. David Faskas, a managing member of KMH Wealth Management LLC in Victoria, will receive the 2023 Young Alumnus of the Year Award. The Distinguished Alumnus Award is presented to a UHV graduate whose accomplishments, character and service are exceptional and represent the ideals and values of his or her alma mater. The Young Alumnus of the Year is presented to a UHV graduate who is younger than 40 and is distinctly accomplished professionally or in service to others.

"David and Lori are great examples of what a UHV education can provide," said Amber Countis,

UHV vice president for advancement and external relations. "Both David and Lori are not only successful in their careers, but they are also invested in their communities. They will soon join a select group of alumni who greatly exemplify what it means to be a Jaguar. We are honored that Lori and David trusted UHV with their education, and we are excited to honor them for their accomplishments."

The two alumni will be recognized during the banquet, scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on March 31 in the UHV University North Multi-Purpose Room, 3007 N. Ben Wilson St. The banquet is part of the UHV Homecoming Week festivities from March 27 to April 1. Tickets for the event are \$25 per person, which includes catered dinner, a beer and wine reception and an awards presentation for Zamora and Faskas. UHV alumni, their friends and families, and community supporters are encouraged to attend the event.

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UHV Alumni honoree Lori Zamora. *Contributed photo.*



Crestwood Drive between Navarro Street and Laurent Street is repaved with concrete after the end of Phase II of the Crestwood Drive reconstruction project. *Contributed photo.*

Crestwood Drive reopens

by the City of Victoria Communications & Public Affairs

Crestwood Drive between Navarro Street and Laurent Street is now open to traffic in both directions.

The reopening concludes Phase II of the Crestwood Drive reconstruction project.

During the coming weeks, Crestwood Drive will experience

lane closures from time to time as crews make minor adjustments. However, the road will remain open to travel in both directions.

Phase One of the project, between Ben Jordan Street and Laurent Street, finished in April 2021, and Phase II began the same month.

Phase III will begin March 6 and will last approximately 500 days. Crestwood Drive will be closed to

eastbound traffic between Navarro Street and Main Street during this time.

Here are some of the features of the newly repaved road:

- Concrete paving: The new smooth concrete road will be easier to maintain than asphalt.
- Improved utilities: Crews went beneath the surface to replace the old cast-iron water lines and con-

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Museum introduces exhibit featuring black archaeologist for Black History Month



Victoria College's Museum of the Coastal Bend introduced a new exhibit titled "George McJunkin & the Folsom Site Discovery" in celebration of Black History Month. Photo courtesy of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. *Contributed photo.*

component of the permanent exhibits at the museum.

One of American archaeology's most significant discoveries was made by a black cowboy named George McJunkin. An avocational archaeologist, his discovery of the Folsom site in 1908 broadened the archaeological record of human habitation of North America back to the late ice age. The distinctive fluted spear points found there, embedded in prehistoric bison bones, forever changed the story of Native American occupation in the New World.

Victoria College's Museum of the Coastal Bend is honoring Black History Month by introducing the inspiring story of George McJunkin into the "13,000 Years"

Admission to the Museum of the Coastal Bend is pay-what-you-want and open to the public. For more information, contact Heather Para at (361) 572-6468 or visit MuseumoftheCoastalBend.org.

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ALUMNI, from pg. 1

“We are extremely proud of the accomplishments of both Lori and David,” said Kelsey Norgard, UHV director of alumni relations and annual giving. “We are honored that they are eager to come back to their alma mater and help encourage our current and future students to strive for the best in their lives as well.”



UHV Alumni honoree David Faskas. *Contributed photo.*

Zamora received her Bachelor of Business Administration in general business in 2020 and graduated magna cum laude from UHV. She was born and raised in Victoria and has worked in banking for more than 33 years. Zamora is the banking center president for Prosperity Bank at the West Columbia and Angleton locations in Brazoria County. Previously, she worked at Investar Bank in Victoria, Plains Capital Bank as well as the Victoria branch of Prosperity Bank for 16 years. She has worked as a banking center president for both Investar Bank and Prosperity Bank, and in other various positions throughout her banking career. Additionally, Zamora has been a Rotarian for more than 17 years, where she has served on the board of directors and as the 2011-2012 Northside Rotary president. She also received the Rotarian of the Year Award twice, in both 2010 and in 2012. She is the current president of the Hospice of Victoria Endowment Board of Directors and from 2008 to 2014 served as treasurer on the Victoria Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Zamora also has been a member of Faith Family Church for nearly 30 years.

For Zamora, her UHV journey to the commencement stage was a long time coming. She had already been working full time in banking for years after she received her associate degree from

See ALUMNI, pg. 4

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ALUMNI, from pg. 3

Victoria College in 2005 and was raising a family with her husband at the same time. She knew to get to where she wanted to be in her career, she would have to continue her education and receive her BBA from UHV. Throughout

her UHV journey, she would take up to a few classes each semester, and would steadily apply the skills and knowledge she was receiving at UHV in her banking career, including strengthening other important skills such as public speaking, critical thinking and collaboration. Throughout her full-time

career, raising a family, and volunteer and extracurricular activities, Zamora was driven to receive her degree. She encourages high school students and others going through similar situations to persevere through the challenges, as the educational experience is worth it. She thanks her parents and hus-



Amber Countis, UHV vice president for advancement and external relations. *Contributed photo.*

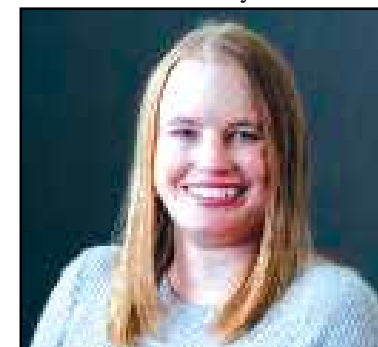
band, James, and her two children, Megan Zamora Gregurek and Brandon Zamora, for their support and encouragement. Her favorite pastime now is to spend as much time as she can with her five-month-old grandson, Atlas.

“It is humbling and such an honor to receive this award,” Zamora said. “I feel like I worked so hard for so long for my degree. I’m such a strong believer in education, and I love that UHV has a strong presence around Victoria and the surrounding communities. I received a quality education without having to leave my hometown. I highly recommend UHV to anyone locally or outside our city.”

David Faskas received his Bachelor of Business Administration in finance in 2012. He is a managing member of KMH Wealth Management LLC and is a lead advisor, chief investment officer and chief financial planning officer for the firm. His practice includes all areas of personal financial planning, including investment and retirement analysis, Medicare and insurance planning and tax planning. In addition to his degree, Faskas’ professional designations include being a Chartered Financial Analyst, Certified Financial Planner professional, and National Association of Personal Financial Advisors Registered Financial Advisor. Faskas is the vice president of the Victoria Bach Festival board of directors and president of the Victoria Fine Arts Association. He also is a member of the Kiwanis and the Welder Center Advisory Board. Additionally, Faskas also has volunteered to teach finance courses at Victoria East and Victoria West high schools, mentored high school students and taught chess. A guitarist, Faskas performs locally as a solo artist and with his jazz band, Take Three jazz combo.

Faskas, also from Victoria, received his associate degree from

Victoria College and continued his education at UHV as well. While earning his undergraduate degree, UHV was offering BBA courses online, which was beneficial because Faskas could stay and live in his hometown and work during the day and earn his degree in the evenings. He appreciated the education he received at UHV, especially from business faculty member Olga Chapa. One of the biggest learning opportunities for Faskas was during the capstone course at the end of his undergraduate studies, which applies all the skills business students learn throughout their time at UHV. He also appreciated the help of Amy Hatmaker in what was then called UHV Career Services, now the UHV Career Development Center. People like Chapa and Hatmaker went above and beyond to help students succeed at UHV, Faskas said. He has been able to stay at the same



Kelsey Norgard, UHV director of alumni relations and annual giving. *Contributed photo.*

firm since graduating from UHV, where he started on a strong educational foundation from UHV and has been able to build on that ever since.

Faskas would like to thank his mother, his late father, and his wife, Rachel, for their support and encouragement. He also would like to thank Lane and Phyllis Keller, owners of KMH Wealth Management LLC, for giving him the opportunity to be with the firm for more than 10 years and encouraging him in his financial career.

“It’s an incredible honor, and I feel very special for being recognized for my accomplishments,” Faskas said. “This is something I will be able to keep with me for the rest of my life. I am very thankful UHV has decided to give this award to me.”

To register for the UHV Alumni Banquet, go to www.uhvconnect.org/events. For more information, contact Norgard at 361-570-4869 or norgardkn@uhv.edu.

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A Fable, a moral, and a call to action



Dr. Quintin Shepherd, VISD Superintendent.
Contributed photo.

by Dr. Quintin Shepherd, VISD Superintendent

Once upon a time, in a small kingdom far away, there lived two children named Westington and Easterly. They were known throughout the land for their speed they were especially well known because they got faster with every race. They were on pace to outrun any animal, outpace any carriage, and most importantly were beloved by all who knew them.

One day, the ruler of the kingdom, who was jealous of their increasing speed, decided to change the definition of "fast." He decreed that from that day forward, anyone who could not run faster than his new definition of fast would be considered slow.

At first, no one noticed the change. But soon, it became apparent that Westington and Easterly were now considered slow. They were heartbroken, and the village who loved these children were heartbroken, but they did not know how to challenge the king's decree.

Two important sages, both incredibly wise and with special power of influence, saw what the king had done and knew they had to act. Their special power came directly from the villagers, and they knew if they could rally the people, they could challenge the king and make him see the error of his ways.

So, the ineffable sages went out into the village and began to tell the people what had happened. They explained that nothing had changed about Westington and Easterly's speed, just the way it was being measured. The people were outraged, and they rallied behind these great and powerful sages. The people began sharing the story with others and soon the

entire village was outraged, giving the sages great power.

Together, they went to the king and demanded he change his decree. The king was surprised by the show of force from the village, but he refused to budge. So, the people organized a race to time Westington and Easterly and then compare them to their previous race times to show they were getting faster, not slower. The king insisted the new race be run on more rugged terrain.

The race was a close one, but in the end, Westington and Easterly beat their previous times. The king had to admit that they were still fast, despite his attempts to redefine the word.

In the end, the people of the village learned an important lesson: power comes from their unity and willingness to speak out against injustice. They knew that if they worked together, they could accomplish anything they set their minds to, no matter how powerful the opposition may seem.

The moral of the story is that a united village is an unstoppable force. When people work together, they can overcome any obstacle

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Notice is hereby given that the Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission (GCRPC) is seeking input on the method of distribution for \$1,267,062 in Community Development Block Grant Regional Mitigation Program Funds (CDBG-MIT).

The Hurricane Harvey Re-Allocation Workshop public meeting is scheduled for the following date, time, and location:

Wednesday, March 1, 2023, at 5:00 p.m., at the GCRPC Boardroom inside the Victoria Tower located at 1908 N. Laurent, 6th Floor, Victoria, Texas, 77901, or virtually. Instructions to join the meeting virtually will be posted on our website, www.gcrpc.org, 72 hours prior to the meeting.

GCRPC will provide for reasonable accommodations for persons attending the GCRPC public hearings. Public hearings will be conducted in English. Requests from persons needing special accommodations, requests for language interpreters, or requests for other special communication needs should be made at least 72 hours prior to each hearing. For accommodation requests or additional information about this posting, please call (361) 578-1587, x206.

VC Board of Trustees calls May 6, 2023 bond election

Victoria College's Board of Trustees is asking Victoria County voters to consider a \$10 million bond issue in the May 6, 2023, election for the construction of a Student Success Center.

The project, which includes a three-story expansion and renovation of the existing Student Center, will provide students with resources – including a library, admissions, advising, financial aid, testing, veteran services and tutoring – in one, central campus location. As part of VC's 2016-2025 Facilities Master Plan, the Student Success Center will become the main building that will serve as the new front entrance for the campus and will include a welcome center for students and visitors.

The total cost of construction and renovations for the Student Success Center is \$36.5 million, with nearly 75 percent of funding already committed through grants, gifts and institutional funds. The remaining funding needed would come from the bond issue.

If approved, college officials expect to begin construction in the fall and complete the project by 2025 when Victoria College will be celebrating its 100th anniversary.

"Victoria College has had a major impact on the community for nearly 100 years, and moving forward, the college's focus is on giving more area residents the opportunity to get an affordable education and training," said Bland

Proctor, Chair of VC's Board of Trustees. "The Student Success Center will allow VC to better serve the community with facilities that make it easier to help train nurses, first responders, and plant operators, many of whom stay in our community to live and work."

VC is a major provider of education and training in the community, serving more than 7,000 students each year, including many students who graduated from local high schools.

"Victoria College provides affordable and accessible higher education opportunities at only one-third the cost of the average state university," said Dr. Jennifer Kent, VC President. "This allows many students the opportunity to obtain



Victoria College's Board of Trustees is asking Victoria County voters to consider a \$10 million bond issue in the May 6, 2023 election for the construction of a Student Success Center. *Contributed photo.*

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important college degrees, transfer to a university, or obtain career training to enter the workforce. A trained and certified workforce is also a key factor for the \$7 billion in capital investment projects being considered for the Golden

Crescent region as a finalist."

The proposed bond would result in a tax rate increase of approximately 0.21 cents per \$100 of valuation for three years – from 3.20 cents to 3.41 cents – for the debt

See BOARD, pg. 7



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BOARD, from pg. 6

service portion of property taxes used to pay bonds. For a Victoria County homeowner with residential property valued at \$100,000, the proposed bond would translate to an increase of \$0.18 per month or \$2.10 per year. The tax rate would then decrease from 3.41 cents to 2.62 cents in 2027. Senior citizens (age 65 and older) and residents with disabilities who have filed their homestead tax exemp-

tion will not see a tax rate increase.

The bond election will be held Saturday, May 6, 2023. Early voting will begin on April 24 and run through May 2. The last day to register to vote in the election is April 6. For information on how to register to vote, visit VoteTexas.gov.

For more information on the bond election, visit VictoriaCollege.edu/Bond23 or email Bond23@VictoriaCollege.edu.

CRESTWOOD, from pg. 1

crete sewer lines with PVC piping, which will last longer and save the city from having to dig up the road later.

• New sidewalks: For the first time, the reconstructed section of Crestwood has continuous side-

walks from one end of the street to the other.

• ADA-compliant features: The sidewalks include sloped curbs and tactile paving (raised bumps that alert visually impaired pedestrians to upcoming streets).

For more information, contact Engineering at 361-485-3340.



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Property will be sold "as is, where is".

Sealed bids will be accepted in person at 93 Illinois St. Bloomington, Texas. not later than 5PM, Friday, March 24, 2023. Sealed bids can also be mailed to Victoria County WCID#1, P.O. Box 667, Bloomington, Texas 77951. Mailed sealed bids must arrive at the Bloomington, Texas post office not later than 5:15PM, Friday, March 24, 2023.

SEALED BID must appear on the envelope.

Sealed bids will be opened at 8AM, Monday March 27, 2023. Winning bidder must have payment in full by cash, cashier's check or money order (in person) not later than 4PM Monday, March 27, 2023 at the Victoria County WCID#1 office located at 93 Illinois St., Bloomington, Texas 77951. Failure to abide by aforementioned payment procedure will result in forfeiture of property to the next highest bidder.

Please direct questions to Estella Medina, Victoria County WCID#1 Office Manager at 361-897-1011.

Serving the Golden Crescent for over 35 years

In 1986, the Community Food Bank was created to address hunger issues in our community. Changing the name to The Food Bank of the Golden Crescent (FBGC), to better reflect the area served, FBGC became the support system for over 100 agencies in our 11-county service area of Calhoun, Colorado, DeWitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Jackson, Lavaca, Matagorda, Refugio, Wharton and Victoria.

In our mission of "helping heal the hurt of hunger," the food bank supports the needs of children, families and seniors through food distribution, nutrition education, advocacy and strategic partnerships in our 9,963 square mile service area.

The Food Bank has grown over the past 35 years, adding member agencies and programs. Our Kids' Backpack program provides children with nourishing meals during the weekend, the mobile food pantries reach rural communities where there are no agencies to serve at-risk populations, our social service assistance helps our neighbors in need in securing the benefits they may qualify for, SNAP nutritional education for children, families and senior groups is an effort to arm them with information to make better food choices, and the Farmers' Market program is an opportunity for the food bank to establish a working relationship with local farmers and growers, while providing access to fresh produce not only to the general public but to those we serve.

In 2021, the Food Bank distributed more than 8.6 million pounds



Food Bank of the Golden Crescent needs community support all year. *Contributed photo.*

of food through our network of agencies, providing nearly 7.2 million meals. Our efforts have not and would not be possible without the continued support of time, talent and treasures from our generous donors and supporters. Their dedication to our cause has brought us through our first 30 years and we are grateful for the support.

Now in our 36th year, we still face the stark reality of hunger in our region. On average among our service area 17.3 % of our family, friends and neighbors still face food insecurity. They may not know where their next meal is coming from, or they may not have consistent access to the nutritious food they need. Vulnerable populations, such as the elderly and children, suffer the harshest effects from hunger. Seniors are often forced to choose between health care costs or utilities and food. The need is still great - so the fight goes on!

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Cuero's 150th Year Anniversary and official birthday celebration coming March 25



Cuero, Texas in the late 1800s begins 150th celebrations in March. *Contributed photo.*

The City of Cuero invites you to various city celebrations for its 150th-year anniversary, and, specifically to their official birthday celebration on March 25th. In early March, the City of Cuero has several special events planned, starting on March 2nd with the grand opening of the new exhibit "The Founding of Cuero & the Railroad Exhibit" at Cuero Heritage Museum. The City of Cuero has a website dedicated to all the 150th events at www.cuero150.com. The site is dedicated to the sesquicentennial celebratory year of events and their Facebook page also has a wealth of information on the events: www.facebook.com/Cuero150.

The next Cuero 150th event will take place on Thursday, March 2 at 2 p.m. with the Grand Opening of The Founding of Cuero & the Railroad Exhibit at the Cuero Heritage Museum. Light refreshments will be served. Then, at 5:30 p.m. at the area located between the gazebo and Cuero Municipal Library in downtown Cuero, there will be a Time Capsule Burial Ceremony & Reading of the Cuero 150th Celebration proclamation. The day wraps at 6:00 PM at the Cuero Municipal Library with Speaker Richard B. McCaslin, Ph. D., TSHA, Endowed Professor of Texas History speaking on the early days of Cuero. Light refreshments will be served.

On Sunday, March 5 at 4 P.M., Cuero Area Ministerial Alliance (CAML) hosts a Union Church Commemorative Service at the Chapel Without Walls, located on the campus of the First Presbyterian Church of Cuero. The service will include a joint blessing and prayer for Cuero said by all pastors present.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend these early March events, all part of the many salutes to Cuero's 150th Anniversary. The City of Cuero and its sponsors are anticipating the largest event to be the official 150th Birthday Celebration of the City of Cuero on Saturday, March 25.

Celebrations have been planned throughout 2023 to commemorate Cuero's 150th Anniversary and updates have been posted, along with the full schedule of events, history of Cuero, and more on www.cuero150.com and those utilizing social media are encouraged to follow The City of Cuero on Facebook and search #Cuero150 for the latest updates.

VICTORIA COUNTY TAX SALE

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

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Por la presente se notifica que la Comisión de Planificación Regional de Golden Crescent (GCRPC) está buscando aportes sobre el método de distribución por **\$1,267,062 en Fondos del Programa de Mitigación Regional de Subvenciones en Bloque para el Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG-MIT)**.

La reunión pública del Taller de reasignación del huracán Harvey está programada para la siguiente fecha, hora y lugar:

Miércoles 1 de Marzo de 2023, a las 5:00 p.m., en el GCRPC Sala de juntas dentro de la Torre Victoria ubicada en 1908 N. Laurent Floor (piso), Victoria, Texas, 77901, o virtualmente. Instrucciones para unirse la reunión virtual se publicará en nuestro sitio web, www.gcrpc.org, 72 horas antes de la reunión.

GCRPC proporcionará adaptaciones razonables para las personas que asistan a las audiencias públicas de GCRPC. Las audiencias públicas se llevarán a cabo en inglés. Las solicitudes de personas que necesitan adaptaciones especiales, solicitudes de intérpretes de idiomas o solicitudes de otras necesidades especiales de comunicación deben hacerse al menos 72 horas antes de cada audiencia. Para solicitudes de adaptación o información adicional sobre esta publicación, llame al (361) 578-1587, x206.

COMISIÓN DE CALIDAD AMBIENTAL DE TEXAS

Aviso de un Permiso Federal para Operación Preliminar

Permiso Preliminar Número: O2031

SOLICITUD Y PERMISO PRELIMINAR. Union Carbide Corporation, PO Box 186, Port Lavaca, TX 77979-0186, ha presentado una solicitud ante la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental de Texas (TCEQ, por sus siglas en inglés) para la renovación del Permiso Federal de Operación (en adelante denominado el Permiso) número O2031, Solicitud núm. 34162, para autorizar la operación de Unidad de éteres de glicol y Unidad de Derivados de Óxido, y todas las demás instalaciones de fabricación de productos químicos orgánicos básicos. La área a la cual se refiere la solicitud está ubicada en 7501 State Highway 185 N en la ciudad de Seadrift, Condado de Calhoun, Texas 77983. Este enlace a un mapa electrónico de la ubicación general del sitio o de la instalación es proporcionado como una cortesía y no es parte de la solicitud o del aviso. Para la ubicación exacta, consulte la solicitud. Puede encontrar un mapa electrónico de la instalación en: <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=28.515&lng=-96.771666&zoom=13&type=r>. Esta solicitud fue recibida por el TCEQ el día 16 de agosto del año 2022.

El propósito de un Permiso Federal de Operación es mejorar el acatamiento general con las normas que gobiernan el control de la contaminación atmosférica, claramente definiendo todos los requisitos aplicables como están definidos en el Título 30 del Código Administrativo de Texas § 122.10 (30 TAC § 122.10, por sus siglas en inglés). El permiso preliminar, si es aprobado, codificará las condiciones bajo las cuales el área debe operar. El permiso no autorizará construcción nueva. El director ejecutivo ha concluido la revisión técnica de la solicitud y ha hecho una decisión preliminar para preparar el permiso preliminar para la revisión y comentario público. El director ejecutivo de la TCEQ recomienda la expedición de este permiso preliminar. La solicitud de permiso, la declaración de base y el permiso preliminar estarán disponibles para ser revisados y copiados en la Oficina Central de la TCEQ, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Building (Edificio) E, First Floor (primer Piso), Austin, Texas 78753, y en la TCEQ Oficina Regional de Corpus Christi, 500 N. Shoreline Blvd., Suite 500, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401-0318; y la biblioteca del Condado de Calhoun, por el camino 200 W Mahan Street, en la ciudad de Port Lavaca, Texas 77979-3327, empezando el primer día de la publicación de este aviso. El permiso preliminar y la declaración de base están disponibles en el sitio de la TCEQ:

www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/tvnotice

En las oficinas centrales y regionales de TCEQ, también puede revisar y copiar documentos pertinentes para el permiso preliminar, así como los permisos para la Evaluación de Nuevas Fuentes que han sido incorporados por referencia. Cualquier persona que tengan dificultades obteniendo estos materiales debido a restricciones para viajar pueden comunicarse con la sala de archivos de la Oficina Central al teléfono (512) 239-2900.

COMENTARIOS/NOTIFICACIÓN PÚBLICA Y AUDIENCIA. Cualquier persona puede entregar comentarios públicos sobre el permiso preliminar. Comentarios relacionados a la exactitud, lo completo, y lo apropiado de las condiciones del permiso pueden resultar en cambios al permiso preliminar.

Una persona que podría ser afectada por la emisión de contaminantes atmosféricos del área del sitio del permiso puede solicitar una audiencia de aviso y comentarios. El propósito de la audiencia de notificación y comentarios es para proporcionar la oportunidad para entregar comentarios sobre el permiso preliminar. El permiso puede ser cambiado en base a si los comentarios relacionados con el permiso permiten el cumplimiento con el Título 30 del Código Administrativo de Texas, Capítulo 122 (ejemplos pueden incluir que el permiso no tiene todos los requisitos aplicables que correspondan o que no se cumplieron los procedimientos de aviso público). La TCEQ puede otorgar una audiencia de aviso y comentarios con respecto a esta solicitud si una petición por escrito es presentada dentro de los treinta días después de la publicación del anuncio en el diario. La solicitud de audiencia debe incluir la base de la solicitud, incluyendo una descripción de como la persona puede ser afectada por la emisión de contaminantes atmosféricos del área de la solicitud. La solicitud también debería especificar las condiciones del permiso borrador que son inapropiados o especificar como la decisión preliminar para expedir o denegar el permiso es inapropiado. Todos los asuntos razonablemente verificables deben ser planteados y todos los argumentos razonablemente disponibles deben ser entregados a no más tardar al final del período de comentarios públicos. Si se concede una audiencia de aviso y comentario, todos los individuos que presentaron comentarios por escrito o una solicitud de audiencia recibirán confirmación por escrito de la audiencia. Esta confirmación indicará la fecha, hora y lugar de la audiencia.

Comentarios públicos por escrito y/o peticiones para una audiencia de aviso y comentarios deberían ser presentados a la Comisión de Calidad Ambiental (TCEQ), Oficina del Secretario Oficial (Office of Chief Clerk), MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087, o por internet al www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/, dentro de treinta días después de la fecha de publicación en el periódico de este aviso. Si se comunica electrónicamente con la TCEQ, favor de notar que su correo electrónico, tal como su dirección de correo doméstico, formarán parte del archivo público de la agencia.

Un aviso de la acción final propuesta que incluye una respuesta a los comentarios y denotando cualquier cambio al permiso preliminar, será enviado a todas las personas que hayan presentado comentarios públicos, una solicitud de audiencia o que hayan solicitado ser incluidos en la lista de correo. Este envío de correo también proveerá instrucciones para hacer peticiones públicas a la Agencia de Protección Ambiental (EPA, por sus siglas en inglés), para solicitar que la EPA se oponga a la expedición del permiso preliminar. Después de recibir una solicitud, la EPA solamente podrá objetar a la expedición de un permiso que no cumple con los requisitos aplicables o los requisitos del 30 TAC Capítulo 122.

LISTA PARA ENVÍO DE CORREO. Además de enviar comentarios públicos, una persona puede solicitar ser incluida en una lista de correo para esta solicitud enviando una solicitud a la Oficina del Secretario Principal a la dirección anterior. Aquellos en la lista de correo recibirán copias de futuros avisos públicos (si los hay) enviados por correo por el Secretario Principal para esta solicitud.

INFORMACIÓN. Para más información con respecto a esta solicitud de permiso o el proceso de permisos, favor de contactar a la Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (Comisión de Calidad Ambiental de Texas), Programa de Educación del Público (Public Education Program), MC-108, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087 o al número gratuito al 1-800-687-4040.

Puede obtener más información sobre Union Carbide Corporation llamando a Señora Vanessa Peppers al teléfono (361) 553-2174.

Fecha de Expedición: el día 27 del año enero de 2023

FABLE, from pg. 5

and achieve their goals, no matter how impossible they may seem.

Here are the facts: West High School Overall 2022 TEA rating was 81. East High School Overall 2022 TEA rating was 78. TEA has changed the definition this coming year and using those exact scores above, with the exact same students and the exact same data, West could move from an 81 to a 72. East could move from a 78 to a 68. Remember, this is nothing more than a recalculation, not a reflection on learning or improvement.

This is simply tragic for our students, our families, and our staff, who work with relentless effort to improve student learning. Victoria ISD has worked hard to make improvements in the past several years and we have made great strides. TEA has changed the way it measures students which may create a narrative that our scores are dropping which is untrue. This is bigger than simple test scores. These rating changes can negatively impact property values, economic development, families, and our entire community (and every other community in Texas).

My concern with TEA's proposed changes in how Texas high schools are rated is not based on a fear of higher standards or expectations; it is the timing. The concerns are based upon two reasonable facts: a) 60 percent of the new 2023 high school accountability label under TEA's proposed changes is based on students who graduated in 2022 and are no longer in Texas high schools and, b) Texas school districts have not been given any time to adequately adjust their courses, curriculum, and programs to meet the TEA's proposed rule changes. It boils down simply to an issue of fairness to students, teachers, parents, and school systems.

I encourage every one of you to reach out to your elected officials and TEA and ask for a transition year, just one year, which would allow TEA to proceed with implementing the new rules and allow districts and schools to prepare for this change with students currently in our system. To be clear, I am not opposed to higher standards, I just want our school district, teachers, and students to have the opportunity to prepare.

La Cocina de Tia Yole



Luck 'o' the irish cheesecake. *Contributed photo.*

SHAMROCK SANDWICHES

1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
 ¼ cup mayonnaise
 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
 1 package (2 ounces) thinly sliced deli corned beef, chopped
 2 tablespoons grated red onion
 2 teaspoons snipped fresh dill or ¾ teaspoon dill weed
 ¼ teaspoon salt
 1 pound thinly sliced seedless rye bread
 Fresh dill springs, optional

1. In a large bowl, beat the cream cheese, mayonnaise and mustard until smooth. Stir in the corned beef, onion, dill and salt. Using a 2-inch shamrock cookie cutter cut out two shamrocks from each slice of bread.

2. Spread 1-2 tablespoons of filling on the bottoms of half of the shamrocks; top with remaining shamrocks. Garnish with dill if desired. Yield: about 6 sandwiches.

LUCK 'O' THE IRISH CHEESECAKE

20 cream-filled chocolate sandwich cookies, crushed
 3 tablespoons butter, melted
 3 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, softened
 1 can (14 ounces) sweetened condensed milk
 1-teaspoon peppermint extract
 6 drops green food coloring
 3 eggs, lightly beaten
 1 cup HERSHEY'S® Mini Chips Semi-Sweet Chocolate Chips, divided

1. Combine cookie crumbs and butter, press onto the bottom of a greased 9-inch spring form pan. In a bowl, beat cream cheese, milk, extract and food coloring until smooth. Add eggs; beat on low speed just until combined. Stir in ½ cup chocolate chips.

2. Pour onto crust. Place pan on a baking sheet. Bake at 300° for 1 hour or until center is almost set. Cool on a wire rack for 10 minutes; run a knife around edge of pan to loosen. Cool 1 hour longer. Refrigerate overnight.

3. Trace a small shamrock pattern onto a piece of paper; cut out set aside. In a microwave, melt remaining chocolate chips.

4. Fill plastic bag with melted chocolate; cut a small hole in a corner of the bag. Place shamrock pattern on a baking sheet; place a large piece of waxed paper over pattern. Pipe a chocolate shamrock onto waxed paper, following the pattern. Move waxed paper and repeat to make several more shamrocks.

5. Place in the freezer until hardened, about 4 minutes. Carefully remove shamrocks and arrange on and arrange on cheesecake. Yield: 8-10 servings.

LEPRECHAUN LIME DRINK

1-quart lime sherbet, softened

½ cup thawed limeade concentrate
 2 tablespoons sugar
 2 cans (12 ounces each) lemon-lime soda, chilled
 1 to 2 cups crushed iced
 Lemon slices and lime spirals, optional

1. In a large bowl, beat the sherbet, limeade and sugar until blended. Stir in soda and ice. Pour into chilled glasses.

2. Garnish with lemon slices and lime spirals if desired. Yield: 7 cups.

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