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City Manager John Baumgartner
The City Manager’s Update is a weekly newsletter that provides information about ongoing projects, events, and initiatives across League City.
Walter Hall Park to Serve as Vaccination Hub

The Galveston County Health District will begin administering COVID-19 vaccines at Walter Hall Park starting on Saturday, January 23 by appointment only. Registration opened Friday, January 22 for 700 available vaccines and quickly filled up. The next available date for vaccinations at Walter Hall Park will be released next week, once a new shipment of vaccines is received. Currently, front-line healthcare workers and residents at long-term care facilities (called Phase 1A) plus people over 65 or with a chronic medical condition that puts them at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 (called Phase 1B) are currently eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

Phase 1B recipients include:
• People 65 years of age and older
• People 16 years of age and older with at least one chronic medical condition that puts them at increased risk for severe illness from the virus that causes COVID-19.

League City will be sharing information about registration for the vaccine as soon as it is available through Facebook and Twitter. Residents are encouraged to monitor these social media pages to become notified immediately when appointment slots are open. Residents are asked to remain patient as more vaccines become available. Currently, there is a high demand for vaccines across the country and appointments to receive one fill up very quickly.

Galveston County Judge Mark Henry, Galveston County Local Health Authority Dr. Philip Keiser, and Dr. Janak Patel with the University of Texas Medical Branch took part in a press conference to discuss mass vaccination efforts in Galveston County on Wednesday. You can watch the press conference in the video below.

The League City Police Department will be assisting Galveston County Sheriff’s Office with security and traffic while the hub is open to maintain steady traffic flow, but some delays are possible.
Beads and Bark in the Park

Celebrate Mardi Gras with your family and four-legged friends this Saturday, January 23! Join us at League Park for the first "Beads and Bark in the Park." Kids can decorate their bikes in Mardi Gras colors before they arrive, and then decorate a mask at the event (supplies will be provided). Then they’ll march (or ride) in the parade, and toss beads to the crowd. There will also be a pet costume parade, Cajun food trucks, King cake, yard games, and music.

Safety precautions: Attendees will be encouraged to wear masks and social distance at the event. Masks will be provided for those who need one. Activities will be spread out for social distancing.

- 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. | Live Zydeco Music
- 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. | Mardi Gras Mask Making Activity
- 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. | Pictures with the Yachty Gras Mermaid, “Hope” of the Sea
- 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. | Pet Costume Pawrade ($5 on site registration-proceeds go directly to League City Dog Park Association)
- 11:30 a.m. | Pet Costume Contest
- 12 p.m. | Kids Bike Parade
- 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. | Pictures with the Yachty Gras Mermaid, “Hope” of the Sea
- 1 p.m. | Free King Cake Giveaway from Bonnie’s Donuts
Residents are invited to attend League City’s annual State of the City event on Friday, January 29. With social distance guidelines in place, attendees will be served breakfast by the Toasted Yolk and will have the opportunity to join the conversation with Mayor Pat Hallisey and City Manager John Baumgartner about the City’s achievements, goals and projects. The event will be held from 8:30 to 10 a.m. at Hometown Heroes Park, 1001 E. League City Parkway. Tickets can be purchased for $35 through the League City Chamber of Commerce website here. When purchasing individual tickets, click REGISTER, then select the "Prospective Member" button.
Get Healthy and Help League City Win a Competition

As the coronavirus continues to impact our community, staying healthy is now more important than ever. That’s why League City is participating in the “It’s Time Texas Community Challenge.”

From now until February 28, we need as many residents as possible to take part in the challenge so we can get healthier as a community while enjoying some bragging rights in the process. For every person who signs up at Ittcommunitychallenge.com, League City earns 500 points!

What is the “It’s Time Texas Community Challenge”? It’s a statewide competition where you gain points by participating in healthy activities and then record them on a mobile app. The more points you have, the more chances you have to win prizes. Plus, you can help League City earn points in the community challenge against other cities across our area and Texas.

How to get started
1) Register online at Ittcommunitychallenge.com
2) Download the app and start tracking your points

How to earn points
Take part in a “healthy activity” and snap a selfie while you’re doing it. It’s that easy. Selfie pics can include anything from drinking water, enjoying a healthy meal, taking the stairs instead of the elevator, or walking around the block. Just do something healthy and record it on the app.

This challenge is more than a competition, it’s about uplifting one another as a community to live healthier lifestyles. Let’s start the year off achieving goals, having fun, and getting fit!

Public Works Updates

Dental Sampling
The Pretreatment Team in the Wastewater Department completed mercury sampling for dental facilities meeting the requirements for the EPA’s Dental Effluent Guidelines, 40 CFR Part 441. The sampling follows the One-Time Compliance Inspections that were completed last year. Dental facilities can potentially discharge mercury to wastewater treatment facilities. Mercury is present in amalgam used for fillings. Amalgam separators are used for capturing mercury and other metals before they are discharged into the sanitary sewer system. Dental facilities are the main source of mercury discharges into sanitary sewer systems and mercury is a potent neurotoxin that bioaccumulates in fish and shellfish. By sampling dental facilities, staff can determine if amalgam separators are operating effectively and determine compliance for dental facilities.
Public Works Updates

Repairs at Big League Dreams
Big League Dreams fire flow testing was conducted this week. Upon performing inspections, there was an issue found with one hydrant that was inoperable due to mechanical failure. This could have led to some serious damage if there ever was a need for fire protection from this hydrant. Hydrant flow testing verifies water main capabilities and is required prior to new construction and the installation of fire suppression systems. Static, flow, and residual pressure data is used to calculate test results both numerically and graphically. Water main pressures are recorded by conducting a residual fire flow test per NFPA 291. Residual testing requires at least two hydrants. Static pressure is taken on a Residual Hydrant with other hydrants closed, then, an adjacent Flow Hydrant is opened, and flow rates are measured at the same time the residual pressure is recorded on the Residual Hydrant. Available GPM at a desired residual pressure (typically 20 PSI) can now be calculated using the Hazen-Williams formula. Fire flow results can then be used to verify a building’s water demand requirement. All residual flow tests should include static, residual, and flow pressures as well as a 50+ point inspection of each fire hydrant tested. Flow test and fire hydrant inspections are recommended to be done annually to ensure the operation of the hydrants.

Pavement Markings
The Traffic Department has begun its annual pavement marking maintenance of restriping major City arterials and collector roadways. Typically, this work is performed during the summer months while school is out. This year, crews have gotten a head start on roadways that have less impact on school-related traffic. Plans are in place to paint roughly 10 miles of roadway by the end of this fiscal year. Crews are currently working on Meadow Parkway between FM 518 and Austin Street, and expect to have this completed by the end of next week. Next, crews will move to South Shore between FM 2094 and FM 518 to update the pavement markings needed. As of today, crews have completed pavement markings for Houston Avenue, Mar Bella Parkway, Bay Ridge Drive, Louisiana Avenue, and Coryell Street. These pavement marking updates increase the overall safety of our roadways and intersections, especially when driving at night.

Force Main Repair
A resident reported air leaking from a fitting on the 24-inch force main that crosses the Genco Canal at Marina Bay Drive. Line Repair personnel responded and found a flange connection on the pipe was leaking air. The pipe is located on concrete supports next to the bridge, creating a challenge for safe access to make the repairs. In order to minimize the risk of a complete failure of the fitting, which could create a potential health and safety risk, the repair was deemed as urgent and D. Wagner Construction was hired to make the repair. The leaking fitting was removed and replaced with a repair clamp and the joint was restrained to prevent it from pulling apart. The air relief device, which allows trapped air to escape, was found to be faulty and was replaced. The right-hand lane at the bridge was closed during repairs and was reopened when the repair was completed.
Public Safety Updates

Find Your Future
Spots are still available to take the League City Police Department entrance exam. The exam will be held on Friday evening, February 12, 2021 at 7 p.m. at Hometown Heroes Park. The exam will be administered with social distancing protocols in place. For more information or to register, click here.

Golf Tournament
The League City Police Department will be hosting its annual golf tournament on April 29. The proceeds from this tournament go to fund the police department’s community programs including Blue Santa, National Night Out, Volunteers In Policing, and more. Register early here.

New EMS Stretchers
On Thursday, four new self-loading stretchers were installed into the four ambulances that needed the new "power load" system by Stryker as part of Fire Chief Gary Warren’s initiative to put self-loading stretchers in all City ambulances. The new stretchers can load up to 750 pounds effortlessly. The completion of the project costs $200,000 but will easily pay for itself in a few years with a marked reduction in injuries to paramedics. It was one of the highest request items from staff to improve working conditions, and couldn't have come at a better time as the service is setting record monthly call requests.

Fire Department Training
This week, Station 3 firefighters had a unique opportunity to do some training using some of their forcible entry and extrication tools. A retired T-38 aircraft wing was required to be demilitarized by cutting it up into pieces. Working with the owners of the wing, the firefighters were able to get some valuable hands-on training using their K-12 saws and extrication cutters to accomplish this unique task.

Shooting Investigation
The League City Police Department is investigating a shooting which occurred in the 1400 block of East FM 646, resulting in an occupied vehicle being struck multiple times. On January 19, 2021, at approximately 6:02 p.m., witnesses called League City dispatch and reported a shooting. Witnesses stated that a male got out of a black Kia car, produced a handgun, and fired shots at another vehicle stopped at the intersection. Both vehicles fled the scene. The victim’s vehicle was located nearby disabled. None of the passengers, which included children, were injured. At this time, LCPD is seeking information about the suspect, who is described as a light-skinned black male, about 25 years old, medium length hair, neck tattoos, and wears glasses. He was last seen driving a black Kia towards Dickinson. Anyone with information relating to this case is asked to contact the League City Police Department at 281-332-2566.
Helen Hall Library Updates

Helen Hall Library
Get Your Library Card Today!

Helen Hall Library has some great upcoming programs! Make sure and take part with us.

Find out the many benefits of having a library card!

STEAM: Craftivity-to-Go
Sign up for one of our kits! This month is upcycled bookmarks. Registration is required. Pick up kits from 10 am to 9 pm on January 27.

Teen In-Person Game On
Play games like Jackbox and Among Us! Teens will need a smart phone or tablet to participate. Join us January 25 from 5-6 pm.

UTMB Health Chat Series: Brain Games
On January 28 from 10:15-11:15 am in the Theater, learn how you can have fun and challenge your brain with games. For adults.

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Highlights

Beyond the Books Brochure: Library programming brochure available at every Library service desk, City Hall and Hometown Heroes Park.

Gardening in the Evenings: For children 5-8 years--next one is February 3!

English Conversation: Join us Monday nights at 6:30 and Wednesday mornings at 10:30. All levels welcome!

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Library Cards

Did you know that a Helen Hall Library card can get you a lot more than just books? Here are 5 awesome things you can get:

COMPUTERS & LAPTOPS
A library card gives you access to our public computers so that you can get started right away! You can also check out a laptop with a library card so that you can work anywhere in the library.

TV SHOWS, MOVIES & MUSIC
If you don’t want ads or to pay for streaming, then a library card lets you check out TV show/movie DVDs and music CDs.

BOOKS FROM OTHER LIBRARIES
We carry a lot of books, but sometimes there is a specific edition that is difficult to acquire. A library card gets these hard-to-find books through our Interlibrary Loan services.

DATABASES
Trying to research your ancestry? Learning a language? Preparing for a standardized test? A library card gives you access to almost 100 trusted sources with reliable information.

DIGITAL...EVERYTHING!
A library card gives you ebooks, audiobooks and video streaming through our eLibrary. OverDrive.

Helen Hall Library cards are free!
All you need is proof of your current Texas residency to get a library card.

Follow us!
@helenhalllibrary
@helen_hall_lib
Parks and Recreation Updates

Spring Break Camp
When school is out for spring break, the Parks and Recreation Department will offer engaging activities for your kids to stay active. The annual spring break camp will have games, arts, crafts, and sports. Space is limited! Register online or in person at Hometown Heroes Park.

**Spring Break Camp**
Ages: 6-12 years  
Dates: March 15-19th  
Camp Times: 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Fee: Residents: $125/ Non-residents: $187.50  
Resident Registration: Open  
Non-resident Registration: January 20th

A Walk in the Park
Looking for a fun outdoor activity? Find the hidden clues along the trail at Lynn Gripon Park at Countryside to decode a secret phrase from now until January 31. Solve the puzzle and be entered to win a PRIZE! For more information and to download the puzzle, click here.

Animal Care and Adoption Center Updates

Pet of the Week
Oreo is one of the dogs receiving behavioral training at the League City Animal Care and Adoption Center. He went from being afraid and not wanting to be touched, to being friendly and knowing commands. He is now in the canine good citizenship program. Come by the League City Animal Care and Adoption Center and meet Oreo!
Communications and CVB Updates

Robins Everywhere!
You may have noticed that there are thousands of American Robins traveling through our area this winter. They’re everywhere – flying in large flocks overhead, feeding on lawns and park grounds by the hundreds, and filling the tops of trees foraging for berries. Learn more about these amazing birds and how you can spot them in your own backyard in Kristine Rivers’ latest blog.

Polar Plunge
The Rotary Club of League City is preparing for one of it’s more FUN fundraisers, The Polar Bear Plunge for Polio Plus. It is being held at the South Shore Harbour Resort Pool on Saturday, January 23 at 9 a.m. The goal is to raise funds for Rotary International’s Polio Plus campaign. You can participate for a small donation. For more information, click here.

Yachty Gras Grand Night Boat Parade
When: Feb. 6 | 7 p.m.
Where: Clear Creek Channel (League City to Kemah)
Yachty Gras is America’s Largest Mardi Gras Boat Parade. Boat owners are encouraged to form private “Krewes” and decorate their boats with a theme of their choice. The Grand Night Boat Parade will begin in the Clear Lake Channel and pass by the Kemah Boardwalk as boat passengers throw beads to revelers along the way. Parade judges will tally their votes for the most lavishly decorated boats and most enthusiastic krewes. Yachty Gras is an event to be enjoyed by the entire family.
GO Bond Drainage Projects Update
The following projects are part of the GO Bond election that was approved on May 14, 2019 and their purpose is to
improve drainage in their respective areas. This update is not a complete list of all bond projects underway. Look for
updates on GO bond projects each week in the CMU.

Hughes Lane / W. Deats Road Culvert Modification Project (DR2103): At Hughes Lane and W. Deats Road,
the existing ditches and box culvert crossings are to be widened/deepened to reduce flow constrictions of Borden’s
Gully. At the December 8, 2020 Council meeting, an agreement with Dannenbaum Engineering was approved
for services that include a drainage study, preliminary design, bid, and construction cost. Field investigations began
on January 17, 2021. The basic engineering services should be completed in June 2021 and based on the studies
and recommendations for improvements, the City will determine the next steps regarding the project. Construction
programmed in current CIP for FY2023.

Dove Meadows & Bordon’s Gully Detention Pond (DR1903): The Bay Colony area, including Dove Meadows
Subdivision, is impacted by existing drainage culverts at Hughes Lane and W. Deats Road. This area is also impacted
by the condition of Dickinson Bayou downstream of these culverts. The proposed improvements to this area include
the construction of a 115-acre-foot detention pond between the east side of Dove Meadows and Bordon’s Gully.
Ninety percent designs were submitted to the City for review on January 19, 2021. The design phase of this project
is anticipated to be complete in summer 2021. A Nationwide US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) permit requires
a 9-12 month timeline from application in November 2020. The project schedule anticipates construction in FY2021
pending receipt of the USACE permit.

Meadowbend 16-inch Force Main
Replacement (WW1801F)
This project is part of the City’s Annual Sanitary Sewer
Rehab Program that provides replacement of aging
sanitary sewer systems throughout the city. The design
project scope will entail replacing approximately 7,300
linear feet of existing force main along FM 518, between
Louisiana Avenue and South Shore Blvd., south along
South Shore Blvd. to Meadowbend lift station site. The
new proposed 16-inch force main alignment will start at
Meadowbend lift station site and will run west along the
city’s drainage ditch towards Meadow Pkwy. to FM 518,
and then west along FM 518 to a discharge manhole
near Louisiana Avenue.

City Council awarded the design contract to ARKK
Engineers, LLC. at the January 12, 2021 meeting. Design
of the force main replacement will take approximately
270 days to complete. Construction is anticipated to start
in November 2021.

Glen Cove Force Main Replacement
(WW1801C)
The project consists of the replacement and extension of
approximately 3,500 linear feet of aging 14-inch force
main that serves the Glen Cove subdivision and was
identified as part of the Annual Sanitary Sewer Rehab
Project. This line follows the alignment of FM 2094 from
just west of the South Shore Blvd intersection to the Genco
Canal crossing to the east. Notice to Proceed was issued
on January 11, 2021 and the contract time is 160 days.
This week, the contractor began staging equipment and
materials in preparation of construction activities. Critical
locates were started to identify any additional conflicts or
final alignment changes. The majority of this project will be
performed via HDD (Horizontal Directional Drilling) which
eliminates the need for extensive excavation and impacts
to sidewalks/landscaping. Please expect some intermittent
lane closures throughout the project which is expected to
be complete in June 2021.