

The latest events,
news, announcements,
garage sales and more.
Daily updates!

WHAT'S HAPPENING
AROUND
THE COMMUNITY

Blood Drive

The La Porte Community Church is having their annual June Blood Drive Monday, June 3rd, 2019 from 3:00 – 7:30 p.m. at the Fellowship Center, 202 South First Street, La Porte, TX 77571.

For more information, contact the church at 281-471-0303 or Betty Thompson: phone: 281-470-9600 or email: bthompson58@att.net.

Food Pantry

June distribution for the Bread of Life Food Pantry at First Baptist La Porte, 310 S. Broadway, will

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City, Fairmont West HOA Agree to Lease of Park

On May 13, La Porte City Council voted 7-2 to authorize city staff to enter into an agreement with Fairmont Park West HOA for the lease of swimming pool and park space at Fairmont Park West, from June 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019, enough time to allow a master plan study for all city parks to be completed.

Currently, the Fairmont Park West park has been closed due to safety concerns.

According to city documents, on October 1, 1978, the City entered into a 40-year agreement with the Fairmont Park

PARK Continued on page 7



The Fairmont Park West park has been closed due to safety concerns. City Council voted May 13 to lease the park to the Fairmont Park West HOA.

Martins Share Their Thoughts on Fatherhood

WRITTEN BY Susan K. Williams

This month, we celebrate dads across the country. If you're a dad, a grandfather, a step-dad, raise your hand, take a bow, or just say, "Here!"

This is the month we celebrate those men who have been there for us, who have made it their mission in life to defend, protect, care for their children.

Here in the town of La Porte, dads will be celebrating by cooking steaks on the grill, barbecuing ribs, burgers, and briskets, heading to one of our many pools, or even to the beach. People often ask, what does it take to be a good father? Some say that being a father means supporting the family, being a strong leader, protecting the family all the while being encour-



aging and comforting. And, there are those who say all of the above along with being a "servant-leader," a person who becomes involved in his

community, someone who sees a need and fills that need to help make not only his family

MARTINS Continued on page 8

Jay and Jeff Martin are a father and son, and fathers who have spent their lives in La Porte giving to their families and giving back to the community.

WHERE TO FIND:



Al Anding - State Farm
Brady Insurance
City of La Porte
Clark Freight Lines
Community Health 1st ER
Fairmont Pediatric
Family Pet Boutique
Hibachi Grill
Main 101
Main Street Cafe
Utility Trailers
Whimsy Home & Decor

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AROUND THE POLITICAL

Voters Decide La Porte, Shoreacres Races

Residents in La Porte and Shoreacres went to the polls on Saturday, May 4 to decide the direction for their cities.

For the City of La Porte At-Large A position, Brandon Lunsford defeated three-term incumbent John Zemanek, receiving 548 votes (52.0 percent) to Zemanek's 506 votes (48.0 percent).

For District 4, Thomas Garza defeated Marc Clarke, receiving 193 votes (71.2 percent) to Clarke's 78 votes (28.8 percent).

For District 5, Jay Martin won re-election, receiving 263 votes (88.3 percent) to Chuck Rosa's

35 votes (11.7 percent).

Lunsford and Garza were sworn in at the May 13 La Porte City Council meeting. Jay Martin will be sworn in at the June 10 meeting.

For the City of Shoreacres, Bo Bunker (79 votes), Jerome McKown (79 votes), and Felicia Ramos (78 votes) won the three available Alderman-at-Large positions up for election, receiving the three highest vote counts.

Ron Hoskins received only 16 votes.

Bunker, McKown, and Ramos were sworn in at the May 13 City Council meeting.



Municipal Court Judge Denise Mitrano (right) administers the oath of office to Brandon Lunsford (first left) and Thomas Garza (second left).



From left to right, Council Member Mike Fowler, Council Member Richard Helmle, Council Member Craig Bland are administered the oath of office by Mayor Michel Bechtel at Morgan's Point City Council's May 14 meeting.

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Outgoing Alderwoman Karen Harris (left) is presented with a service recognition award from Alderman Ricky Bowles (right). Harris chose not to run for re-election.

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Felicia Ramos signs her oath of office.



Jerome McKown (left) and Bo Bunker (right) sign their oaths of office.

AROUND THE STREETS

Pedestrian Dies After Collision

A pedestrian died May 4 from injuries sustained after being struck by a vehicle on Spencer Highway.

At 8:38 p.m., first responders arrived to the 9100 block of Spencer Highway where a pedestrian was struck while crossing the road.

The pedestrian, an adult white male, stepped out into the roadway without observing traffic first, and failed to yield right of way.

The vehicle was eastbound and hit the victim.

The driver immediately stopped and attempted to administer aid.

A number of witnesses to the event advised officers the pedestrian was at fault and the driver could not have avoided striking him.

The victim was transported to an area hospital where he was declared deceased on arrival. Sobriety tests were administered to the driver, who was extremely cooperative with police.

HazMat Crew Collision

On May 8, 2019, at approximately 9:08 a.m., several 18-wheelers crashed into each other on the northbound side of Highway 146 just north of Wharton Weems, diverting all traffic to the service road.

HazMat crews were concerned with acrylic acid as the load in one tanker.

Fire and HazMat crews responded and roadway was reopened after mitigation.

Mayor Presents EMS Week Proclamation



On May 13th at the La Porte City Council Meeting, Mayor Louis Rigby presented to Chief Ray Nolen and his EMS staff a proclamation declaring Emergency Medical Service Week, May 19-25, 2019. The emergency medical services system consists of first responders, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, emergency medical dispatchers, firefighters, police officers, educators, administrators, pre-hospital nurses, emergency nurses, emergency physicians, trained members of the public, and other out of hospital medical care providers. Mayor Rigby exclaimed, "With the theme, EMS Strong: Beyond the Call, I encourage the community to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities." Pictured left to right are Paramedic Kelli Carpenter, Lt. Rachel Gomez, Paramedic William Miller, Lt. Ryan Gomez, Capt. Trudy Rayburn, Capt. Shawn Kominek and Asst. Chief Lisa Camp.

Drowning at Sylvan Beach Park Being Investigated

On May 4, at approximately 7:02 p.m., La Porte Police Department and other first responders were notified to respond to Sylvan Beach for a possible drowning.

A 2- year old female, identified by police as Ziyonah Zeno, had been swimming with her sisters when she went unnoticed for about 4 minutes.

The child was then located under water and brought to

shore by several male children and CPR initiated.

She was transported to Bayshore Hospital in Pasadena but declared deceased on arrival.

There are no lifeguards at Sylvan Beach; warning signs

are posted advising visitors to the park of strong currents and to swim at one's own risk.

Harris County Sheriff's Office took over as primary investigative agency.

The drowning is currently under investigation.

HAPPENINGS

continued from page 1

be held on Saturday, June 22nd from 10-1.

This distribution is for yellow dot and new clients only.

Registration forms are available on the food pantry door and must be submitted on or before June 15th.

For more information call 281-471-0338 or 210-269-8737.



Vacation Bible School

Join us for a trip to "Athens" at Vacation Bible School - Bayshore Baptist Church on 11315 Spencer Hwy, La Porte, June 10-14 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

All children ages 4 through 5th grade are invited to attend. VBS is free!

For more information contact the church office at 281-471-0332.

Register your child online at www.bayshorebc.org.



Crossword Fun! See answers on page 18

Across

- 1 --- Cantillo, US soccer player
- 6 Even if, briefly
- 9 Ron ---, who was Tarzan
- 12 Manner of speaking
- 13 Where Danny and the Juniors wanted to go
- 14 Broadway's "Five Guys Named ---"
- 15 Most acerbic
- 17 Big mouth
- 18 Indigenous Canadian
- 19 Living quarters
- 20 Panache
- 23 U C L A stadium
- 25 One-horse carriage
- 26 Plugs
- 27 Way of scoring in billiards
- 31 Dejectedly
- 33 Moderately steep
- 34 Engine driver
- 35 Bulgarian currency
- 36 Number of Canadian provinces
- 37 Fancy tie
- 39 AO film producer
- 40 Rip-off
- 43 Sinking
- 45 Kit mitt
- 46 Fired
- 50 Ripen
- 51 Length of yarn
- 52 Sultanate citizen
- 53 Aussie anti-hero Kelly
- 54 N Y minutes?
- 55 Cold War outcome

Down

- 1 Needle
- 2 Ugandan despot
- 3 It may be picked

- 4 Arrived
- 5 Writing on the wall
- 6 Not ours
- 7 Plantain lily
- 8 Plump
- 9 Austen heroine
- 10 Burden
- 11 Bow trees
- 16 Type of duck
- 19 Philadelphian seat of learning
- 20 Bombs
- 21 Cheery tune
- 22 Fit of the shivers
- 24 City on the Dnieper

- 26 "--- for the poor"
- 28 Auto cyclist?
- 29 Took off
- 30 Manage
- 32 What to call a lady
- 33 Suggest
- 35 Less likely to add weight
- 38 Bars
- 39 Web page color scheme
- 40 Time period
- 41 "Leaving Las Vegas" actor
- 42 Thunderstruck
- 44 Prove
- 46 Instruction to Spanish hens?
- 47 Two of these are better than two wars: Churchill
- 48 "Walking on Thin Ice" singer
- 49 Chest

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11
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50				51				52				
53				54				55				

Around **LA PORTE**

Around La Porte Community News
Established 2011

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Premier Sports Photos

Annual Subscription: \$30

Published the last week of each month. The contents of all letters to Editor, editorials and other comments provided for inclusion in "Around La Porte" are solely those of contributors, and not of "Around La Porte" or staff members. We will publish letters to the editor on a space-available basis.

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AROUND THE COMMUNITY

Ed DeJon Celebrates Turning 100

Ed DeJon celebrated his 100 years old Birthday Party on May 22, 2019 at the La Porte Senior Center with around one hundred friends, family and well-wishers to help him celebrate. The event began with the Navy Officers color guard, Mayor Rigby declaring May 22 Ed DeJon Day, while Ezra Charles and his son provided the background music for the event along with the Happy Birthday. The table was set with hot dogs and all the trimmings and of course the "100" Cake. The event was topped off with the League City Tap dancers. The event was sponsored by the City of La Porte recreation department. Ed is a WWII Navy Veteran who has lived in La Porte for fifty years and has raised his family here. And we all wish him Happy Birthday!



8th Street Gets Traffic Light

TexDot has finally listened to the cries from the La Porte citizens. After at least 20 years, there will be a light at Fairmont Parkway and 8th street. The current location of the traffic light, at 7th and Fairmont near the post office, will be removed.



PARKS & REC

Grand Reopening for the Little Cedar Bayou Wave Pool

Join us for the grand reopening of the Little Cedar Bayou Wave pool. The pool has been completely remodeled with new bathrooms, new water features and a brand new slide. Come out on May 31st to the Wave Pool at 600 Little Cedar Bayou Drive from 6pm to 9pm to enjoy free entry, a DJ, and Kona Ice.



Summer Family Pool Party

Join us for the grand reopening of the Northwest Pool. The pool has been completely remodeled with new bathrooms, new water features and a brand new slide. Come out on June 7th to the Northwest Pool at 10210 North P Street between the hours of 6pm and 9pm to enjoy free entry, a DJ, a bounce house and Kona Ice.



TAAF Track and Field

Come join us this season as we compete at local, regional, and state level track and field meets. This program is about having fun and competing against other track programs throughout the area. Practices take place at the La Porte High School track Mondays through Thursdays beginning June 3rd through July 25th. Register online at laportetx.gov/register or by visiting the La Porte Recreation & Fitness Center at 1322 S Broadway. Registration opens April 1st.





We're Celebrating Father's Day every day in JUNE at

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AROUND THE CITIES

OBITUARIES

Timothy Jason Miles



Timothy Jason Miles, Jason to his friends and family, was born in Houston, Texas, and grew up in La Porte, enjoying the FFA, horseback riding, fishing every summer at Lake Livingston and Clear Lake with friends and his family, and attending La Porte High School, class of 1992.

He spent many weekends hunting on the family property in the hill country in Mills County with his father, brother, uncles and cousins.

From early on Jason shared an irreverent sense of humor which he became known for, with everyone, from teachers and parents to cousins and friends, and later, with coworkers.

Jason left this life on Monday May 20th, 2019, to watch over his son John from a place a little higher than he could reach with his crane.

He is preceded in death by his beloved mother, Christine Marie Edmunds, and is survived by his beloved son, John Mitchell Miles, his father, Nick Paul Miles, his stepmother Kirsten Miles, his brothers David Allen Miles, sister-in-law Tammy Scarborough Miles, nephew Sam Marx Blum, and brother Brendan Paul Miles, and his sister, Michelle Nicole Miles, as well as many uncles and aunts, cousins, and a brotherhood of crane operator friends who were like family.

Jason worked in the crane industry in Houston Ship Channel and became part of the brotherhood of crane operators, first with Fiberspar, where he gained experience and expertise, mentoring countless coworkers into longstanding careers in crane operation.

According to his coworkers and friends, he was committed to excellence in work, no job was too challenging, and he set the stage for proper standards in the industry. Among those he mentored was his beloved brother David, and together they gave the Miles name a resounding legacy of excellence as crane operators, for which they are known up and down the Houston Ship Channel.

Jason was considered by his coworkers as the best of the best and a great lattice boom operator. Friends would proudly say, EVERYONE on EVERY JOB knows who Jason Miles is.

A lover of the outdoors, from his Miles family home in the Hill Country of Star, Texas he hunted with his father and brother, his many uncles and cousins, and his beloved son, including fishing in Galveston Bay and Clear Lake.

He was happiest out on the water with a fishing pole, and in the company of his family and especially his son.

A visitation for Jason was held at Clayton Funeral Home, 201 South 3rd St., La Porte, Texas 77581, on Friday, May 24, 2019, with the funeral service held at the funeral home on Saturday, May 25, with D.J. Dickerson officiating.

Online condolences may be left for the family at www.clayton-funeralhomes.com.



Shoreacres Community Meeting with LBC

The City of Shoreacres has scheduled a community meeting for residents of the City with representatives of LBC concerning the noise impact of their current construction project in Bayport.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 29th at 7:00 pm.

The location is tentatively set at the Shoreacres City Hall. If there is enough interest, it will be moved to the Houston Yacht Club.

If you are interested in attending this meeting, please RSVP to mayor@cityofshoreacres.us or call city hall at 281-471-2244. This will enable the City to get an approximate head count.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ricky Bowles, City Manager Troy Harrison and the Mayor met with LBC's Vice-President of the Americas to discuss the noise complaints and the project.

They are anticipating that the construction phase of the project will be finished by the end of the summer.

Morgan's Point Police Reserve Officer Sworn In



City of Morgan's Point's newly hired Police Reserve Officer, Lia Ferrell, was sworn in by Chief Sherri Ditrich at the May 14 City Council meeting.

*To place an obituary,
email Maggie
at maggieALP@aol.com*

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

Fishing on Father's Day? Catch a hook?

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AROUND THE INDUSTRY



Dow Chemical Co. Locks Out Texas Workers

On April 22, Rohm and Haas Texas Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Dow Chemical Co., made the decision to lock out more than 200 workers at its plant in Deer Park.

The members of United Steelworkers (USW) Local 13-1 have been working to bargain a new contract with Rohm and Haas for the past several weeks.

The union and the company had been operating under a 24-hour rolling extension of the current collective bargaining agreement while negotiations on a new contract continued.

Dow Chemical Co. informed the union the week before that it would lock the workers out if they could not

reach a deal by the 2 p.m. April 22 deadline.

For the USW, a sticking point in the negotiations has been the issue of over-time and possible safety and fatigue concerns as a result of understaffing.

The company's proposed contract terms have been rejected twice by the workers at the Dow plant.

In the first proposal, 96 percent of the



members rejected the company's offer.

The second proposal was rejected by 98 percent.

Dow and USW officials have met several times with a federal mediator in an attempt to restart negotiations.

When Dow bought Rohm and Haas in 2009, the company acquired the 900-acre Deer Park site.

The plant primarily makes chemicals used in the production of plastics.

AROUND THE STREETS

La Porte Police Department adds Citizen's Advisory Board

On May 19, 2019, the La Porte Police Department announced the development of a Citizen's Advisory Board (CAB) to further strengthen their resolve to involve the community and the citizens they serve, in the duty of protecting their city.

The mission of the La Porte Police Department is to "work in partnership with the community to prevent crime and improve the quality of life within the City of La Porte.

Advisory boards have been very successful in various

communities and cities across the country, including Texas.

They have the potential to allow the chief of police to hear directly from a representative group of citizens on their thoughts involving various policing issues and concerns.

It is comprised of a wide cross-section of community members representative of La Porte.

The membership of the board consists of at least fifteen (15) citizens from throughout the community (at least 13 adults and 2 high

school students) who represent a range of interests and experiences. Members are from diverse backgrounds, including businesses, education, non-profits, chamber of commerce, faith community, minorities, LGBT community, politics, and more.

Pictured left to right are Jack McAdoo, Beacon Federal Credit Union CEO; Kathleen Day, Beacon Executive Vice President; K9 Officer Christopher Cargile; K9 Edo; Assistant Chief Matt Daeumer; Adelina Abshire, Beacon VP Marketing and Business Development.



City Welcomes Fifth K9 Team, Edo and Officer Christopher Cargile

The La Porte Police Department is excited to announce the arrival of their fifth K9 Team, Edo and his handler Officer Christopher Cargile. Edo's arrival comes as the department celebrates ten years of successful K9 programs since May of 2009.

Edo is a 1 ½ year old Malinois X 8 and imported to the United States from Budapest, Hungary. The Malinois X is a hybrid cross breed between

the German Shepherd (good natured and have the general disposition) and the Belgian Malinois (extreme good health). The Malinois X breed is extremely smart in their training and respond very quickly to the training.

Edo's partner, Officer Cargile, is a two year veteran with the La Porte Police Department and is a graduate of College of the Mainland Police Academy. Officer Cargile earned a Bachelor of Science in Business with a concentration in Entrepreneurship from Sterling College, Sterling, Kansas.

The team just finished their training and graduated with high marks from the Houston K9 Academy, a four-week course. The K9 team is certified through National Narcotic Detector Dog Association (NNDA) on five narcotic odors including Marijuana, Cocaine, Methamphetamines, Heroin, and MDMA(ecstasy). Training also includes cash-related proceeds, to include many stolen or illegally possessed weapons.

This K9 Team was established so quickly due to a generous donation by Beacon Federal Credit Union of La Porte. Additional funding for this K9 team is through the department's utilization of seized drug monies and K9OFFICERS.ORG.

If you would like more information on LPPD's K9 Unit, please contact Officer Groaning or Officer Cargile at 281-842-3133.

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K9 Officer Christopher Cargile and K9 Edo after K9 graduation.

AROUND THE LPISD

Trustees Recognize District's Elementary, Secondary Teachers of the Year



LEFT: La Porte ISD Elementary Campus Teachers of the Year are recognized at the May 14 meeting of the La Porte ISD Board of Trustees. From left are Connie Land, Leo A. Rizzuto Elementary; Sheila Cowherd, Jennie Reid Elementary; Rebecca Clark, Lomax Elementary; Bethany Free, Bayshore Elementary, La Porte ISD Elementary Teacher of the Year; Kathy Parisher, La Porte Elementary; Debi Anderson, Heritage Elementary; and Jessica Gunn, College Park Elementary. The announcement of the District Teachers of the Year was made as the teachers were honored at the La Porte ISD Service Awards celebration on May 2 at La Porte High School.



RIGHT: The La Porte ISD Board of Trustees honors the Secondary Campus Teachers of the Year at the May 14 meeting of the Board. From left are Natalie Melton, James H. Baker Sixth Grade Campus; Veronica DeLeon, La Porte Junior High; Kirsti Bostick, Lomax Junior High; Chuck Jobson, La Porte High School (core areas), La Porte ISD Secondary Teacher of the Year; Anjanette Siller, Disciplinary Alternative Education Program; Ryan Wuergler, La Porte ISD Academy of Viola DeWalt High School; and David Duvall, La Porte High School (non-core areas).



PARK

continued from page 1

West Community Improvement Association (HOA) for the lease/rent of the park and swimming pool property located at Oakmont Drive, Rustic Gate Road, and Cedarport Drive in the Fairmont Park West subdivision. The HOA paid \$40 in advance (\$1 per year for the 40-year agreement) for the right to operate and maintain the park and pool property.

This agreement expired on September 30, 2018. According to the agreement, upon termination of the agreement "any permanent improvements erected on the leased premises by the HOA shall be the property of the City."

There were many discussions last year pertaining to the City assisting with costs to "get the swimming pool up and going for use" during the summer. The City Manager's Office and the Parks & Recreation Department provided assistance financially and with necessary staff to assist the HOA in

getting the swimming pool "up and running." During the city fiscal year 2018-19 budget process, City Council discussed several options moving forward concerning the Fairmont Park West park and swimming pool (demo pool, demo pool and build splash-pad, and enter into a new agreement with HOA). Ultimately, the Council gave staff direction to meet with the HOA and determine if a short-term extension to the agreement could be agreed upon.

The City Manager and HOA representative Mike Patterson met on several occasions over the past year to iron out what the short-term extension agreement would need to include. Several meetings ensued with HOA board members and Fairmont Park residents concerning the drafted agreement. After some modifications, the final agreement went before City Council on May 13.

According to the terms of the agreement, the swimming pool and park will only be open to residents of the Fairmont Park West HOA subdivision. The swimming pool will be operat-

ed as a Class C pool; therefore, no lifeguards and/or monitors are required. However, the HOA must make sure that the diving board has been removed and that the HOA meets all requirements required by the Administrative Code for Class C pools (i.e., signage, etc.). The HOA will be fully responsible for all cost associated with the maintenance and repairs of the swimming pool, park, grounds

and property. No City funding will be spent for the upkeep of this amenity; and the HOA will still be responsible for acquiring liability coverage in the amount of \$2 million dollars for each occurrence and \$4 million dollars in aggregate to cover any accidents occurring on leased property. This is the same coverage the City maintains for other City swimming pool facilities.

The HOA will be obligated to pay a rental/lease cost of \$1 during the term of the agreement.

The term of the agreement is only for seven months, from June 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019, to allow time for the completion of a proposed master plan study for all city parks. When that study is complete, the long-term fate of the park will be re-visited.

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AROUND THE PARKS & RECREATION

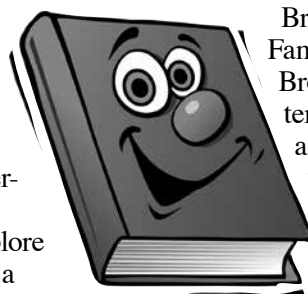
Storytime in the Park

Storytime in the Park is a terrific way to get children outside and more connected to nature.

Visit the Brookglen Community Center (3324 Somerton) where you can explore nature with a book, activities, and games!

All children must be accompanied by a parent or childcare provider.

Program takes place the second Wednesday of every month at 10:30am. This is a free program and no registration is required.



Family Play Monday

Finding quality family time can be difficult with everyone's hectic schedule.

Bring your family to a Family Play Mondays at our Brookglen Community Center (3324 Somerton). There are activities scheduled for your family to enjoy.

Activities include crafts, games, cooking and more! Program takes place the first Monday of every month from 6pm – 7pm. This is a free program and no registration is required.

Next Level Dance

Dance classes



are provided for children of all ages. There is something for everyone from Acrobatics to Ballet to Hip Hop to Jazz.

Register online at laportetx.gov/register or by visiting the La Porte Recreation & Fitness Center at 1322 S Broadway, La Porte, TX 77571.

Classes take place at the Recreation & Fitness Center.

Infant Survival Rescue Swimming Lessons

Is your baby safe for summer break?

ISR La Porte is a new Infant Survival Swimming program. Children as young

as 6 months to 6 years old will learn to self-rescue in the event they make it to the water's edge alone.

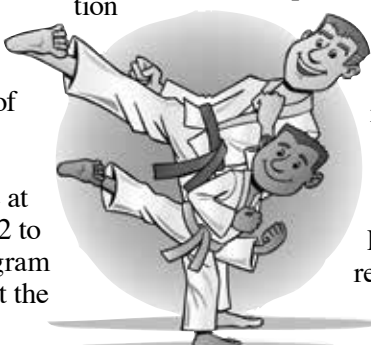
Visit ISRLaPorte.com to see videos, parent feedback, etc.

Email k.littlejohn@infantswim.com or visit our Facebook page - ISR La Porte.

Karate

Sign your kids up for karate instruction sponsored by American Society of Karate.

Contact David Lange at 281-850-4702 to register. Program takes place at the Evelyn Ken-



nedy Civic Center Monday's from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm.

V.I.P.A.R. Program (Volunteers in Parks and Recreation)

The City of La Porte is looking for the next generation of responsible candidates to assist with recreational programs, camps and events!

If you're 13-18 years old and would like to get involved or need community service hours for school, contact us today! Register at the Recreation and Fitness Center at 1322 S Broadway.

MARTINS

continued from page 1

better, but also his community.

We spoke to two such dads, a father and son, who have spent their lives in La Porte giving to their families and giving back to the community.

You may know this family – Jay Martin and his son, Jeff Martin – two fathers who have dedicated their lives in servant-leadership.

Jay Martin began his life in La Porte early in the fourth grade when his family moved here because his dad was working for Houston Light & Power.

Days then were much different than today; kids could roam the streets until the street lights came on before they were called home to dinner. Jay remembers playing

basketball in his driveway, riding his bike to school, to the barbershop and all around town. Most of his friends from childhood are still good friends today – the kind of friends where the back door is always open and friends come and go without blinking an eye.

Jay's dad was always involved in the community, which showed him how to be a dad.

He was Jay's baseball coach, a member of Rotary, and a participated in the local Methodist church where Jay and his family still attend today. Both Jay and his wife graduated from La Porte high school, where his mother was a teacher and later his wife became a secretary to several superintendents.

The best thing about living in La Porte, according to Jay,

is that at the end of his day's work in Houston, he can come home to La Porte and never know he lives near a big city. In fact, he said, "Most people in Houston, didn't even know La Porte existed, which fit me perfectly!"

Living in this community enabled Jay to raise his own children much like he was raised, with sports, attending community events, engaging in the Methodist church, and building friendships that have lasted throughout the years.

Jeff Martin, Jay's oldest son, remembers fondly his dad teaching him to play baseball.

According to Jeff, Jay had been a pretty good baseball player in his younger days. "Dad would sometimes get a little annoyed with us boys because we weren't quite on that same level, and would throw us curve balls just to throw us off guard," said Jeff. "One day, he threw a curve ball and hit my brother right in the mouth! Playing catch with my dad was a real experience!" They had to learn to catch curve balls and knuckle balls.

Every summer, Jay took his family on vacation to Port Aransas.

They had a boat they would trailer down there and every year they had a problem with that boat. One year, it would only go in reverse, one year the wheel fell off the trailer, and one year, they had to stop in Bay City to buy new tires. According to Jay, the kids dreaded going on those vacations because they knew there was going to be a problem.

One of Jeff's favorite memories was when he turned 16, he begged his dad for a car.

He wanted a car with a clutch – a stick shift.

Jay found Jeff a used Honda Accord, took him out for a spin and parked it on the boat ramp at Sylvan Beach.

He then had Jeff take over the wheel. With laughter crinkling his eyes, Jeff recalls that he had no idea what he was doing and nearly, but not quite, flooded the car!

He drove the car off the ramp and realized he did not know how to drive a stick shift.

Jeff was the son that pushed all the boundaries – he was the "learning curve" for Jay and his wife.

And after his brothers came along, Jeff became their protector and defender.

The ultimate big brother, who not only picked on his brothers, teased them and let them take the blame for his mishaps, he was their defender when anyone else would try to harm them.

Like any father and son, the guys had their differences, and after Jeff graduated from high school, he was expected to attend the University of Texas, following in his dad's and grandfather's footsteps. But being a strong-willed young man, Jeff visited the campus of Texas A&M and after one look, he became an Aggie! Jeff decided then, he would make his way in the big wide, world, and never, ever return to La Porte.

That lasted for a few short years, when an opportunity presented itself for Jeff to own his own business, and much like the prodigal son, he was welcomed home with open arms.

Neither of these men really thought about becoming community leaders. Both of them fell into their respective roles, Jay, as city council member for district 5, and Jeff, as President of the La Porte-Bayshore Chamber of Commerce.

For Jay, his involvement into city governance began after his home was flooded during Hurricane Ike.

With more than two feet of water throughout the house, he had to deal with several different agencies, contractors, builders, and city offices. With this fresh, new knowledge, and with many other people who also were experiencing the same type of problems, he was encouraged by many of his friends to run for city council.

He kept telling them no until they wore him down, when he

finally said yes and became a council member in 2010 and again in 2019.

For Jeff, being involved, being a "servant-leader" is in our DNA. My dad learned from his father who learned from his father.

All of them were involved in Rotary, the Masons, and in the church.

"My dad showed me what being a servant leader is all about, and when I came home to La Porte, I became involved as well. It was ingrained in us, that we are to give back to our community. Seeing what my dad did, and what his dad did, those are the things that keep me here. This has been a "God" thing in my life, bringing me back here."

"What I really love about La Porte," said Jeff, "is that we are a small town but we have a big heart. When things happen, this town comes together in a big way."

And, with great pride in his voice, Jay told us that what he is most proud of is being Jeff's dad.

"When I meet people, I get to tell them, I am Jeff's dad and I wear that like a badge of honor. I am so proud to be his dad."

Watching this father and son's interaction, you could see their love and respect for each other.

Jeff is now raising his children in the manner in which he was raised.

He is teaching them the values handed down from his grandfather to his father.

He hopes that his kids grow up to be the type of man who taught him how to catch that curve ball, or that knuckle ball.

Becoming a good dad is like making fine wine.

It takes time.

It takes work.

And most of all it takes love – a lifetime of love because dads are in it for the long haul. So, this Father's Day, let's celebrate all those dads who taught us how to play ball, ride a bike, drive a car, and how to become a servant-leader.

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AROUND THE GRADUATION

La Porte High School Seniors Receive Diplomas at Commencement



Thirty-five La Porte High School graduating seniors also earned their associate degrees from San Jacinto College as part of La Porte ISD's Accelerated College Education (ACE) program. Tuition and books are paid for by the district for eligible students who commit to the program, earning high school and college credit at the same time.

Members of the La Porte High School Class of 2019 stride onto the field of Bulldog Stadium for the 2019 commencement ceremony held on May 24. A total of 484 seniors walked across the stage to receive their diplomas.



Dr. Vic Peres congratulates his son, Mason Peres, La Porte High School senior class president for the Class of 2019. Mason delivered the introductory address during the commencement.



La Porte High School 2019 graduate Kendall Boutte gives a thumbs-up to her family as she walks off the stage after receiving her diploma. Kendall served as public relations officer for the senior class this year.

National Honor Society Spring Induction



La Porte High School's annual National Honor Society Spring Induction Ceremony was held on May 15 in the Sonja Angelo Theater. A total of 133 freshmen and sophomores were inducted as new members of the society, and 82 seniors were awarded honor cords for completing community service hours and other requirements in keeping with the organization's motto of "Character, Scholarship, Leadership and Service." Travis Walker, second from right, is among the graduating seniors who were recognized during the event. With him are, from left, Danette Tilley, La Porte ISD executive director of secondary education; Charlcya Wheeler, LPISD trustee; and Terri Cook, LPISD director of communications.

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AROUND THE BUSINESSES



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Clockwise, from front, are John G. Clayton, Zachary G. Clayton, Christen Clayton Beckham

Clayton Brings Generations of Experience

A family tradition continues in La Porte, as it relates to the funeral business. Paul U Lee Funeral Home, owned for years by Doug and Lou Ann Martin, was recently acquired by John G. Clayton, a third-Generation Funeral Director and Business Owner here in the Houston area.

“My family has been in the funeral business for 98 years and we were so honored to have the opportunity to acquire the funeral home from the Martins, who have operated their successful business for more than 33 years,” Clayton said.

John and his wife, Brenda, have lived in the Houston area for more than 30 years. They have two grown children who are also Funeral Directors; the fourth generation.

John graduated from North Texas State University in 1983 with his bachelor’s degree and went on to Dallas Institute of Mortuary Science, where

he graduated in 1985 with his Funeral Director and Embalmers license.

John has enjoyed being active in his local community for many years. John served as president of the Terrell Kiwanis Club, president of the Pearland Rotary Club and a new member to the La Porte Rotary Club, numerous chamber boards and new member to the La Porte Chamber of Commerce.

He is a Master Mason and member of C.F. Spencer Lodge in Pearland.

John’s been in the funeral business his entire life, even growing up in the back of the funeral home where he lived for eight years as a small boy.

“We will be celebrating 100 years in the funeral business in 2021,” he said. “We are so honored to be part of the wonderful community of La Porte and will be here to help the families in their time of need. The tradition of family serving families will continue in La Porte.”

Whimsy Home & Decor Serves La Porte

Whimsy Home & Decor is a local family owned business with local owner’s roots dating back to the mid 70’s.

Whimsy’s décor ideas steam from the Modern FarmHouse Furniture Look giving the buyer a new warm look in furniture ideas.

The La Porte downtown area was picked because of its ideal location to several of the bigger towns in the area. The quaint downtown “old feel” Main Street was definitely a plus. Whimsy wants to be a part of that feel.

From the moment you enter Whimsy’s, you know immediately, here is a store you want to walk around and check out each item.

Each piece of furniture is unique, warm, different and you can’t wait to see how wonderful it will look in your home. You’ll be impressed with the quality, the selection and the afford-



Tonya Wilson and David Schnautz

able price giving you the inspiration to redo your home.

If you have any questions on any selected item or need any decorating assistance with your personal taste, the manager of Whimsy is always available.

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The Benefits of Shopping Locally

American Independent Business Alliance

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Why buy local? By choosing local and independent businesses, you not only enjoy a more personal experience, you help:

BUILD COMMUNITY!

The casual encounters you enjoy at neighborhood-scale businesses and the public spaces around them build relationships and community cohesiveness.

They’re the ultimate social networking sites!

STRENGTHEN YOUR LOCAL ECONOMY!

Each dollar you spend at independent businesses returns three times more money to your local economy than one spent at a chain (almost 50 times more than buying from an on-line mega-retailer) — a benefit we all can bank on.

SHAPE OUR CHARACTER!

Independent businesses help give your community its distinct personality.

YOU CAN BUY IT WHERE YOU TRY IT!

Local stores enable you to try on and try out items before you buy — and get real expertise — saving your time and money.



CREATE A HEALTHIER ENVIRONMENT!

Independent, community-serving businesses are people-sized. They typically consume less land, carry more locally-made products, locate closer to residents and create less traffic and air pollution.

LOWER TAXES!

More efficient land use and more central locations mean local businesses put less demand on our roads, sewers, and safety services.

They also generate more tax revenue per sales dollar.

AROUND THE BUSINESSES

Bryan, Sheri Springer are New Owners of Coastal Exterminating

A different person might be turning the key to open Coastal Exterminating, but the friendly faces and the great service will remain the same that has kept Coastal in business in La Porte since 1963.

Bryan Springer and his wife Sheri purchased Coastal in 2018 from Pat and Clint May.

Clint continues as an advisor with Pat’s daughter, Eva, who has transferred from the Crosby office to continue with Coastal.

You can also find Rene working as office manager. She who been with the May business for the last four years.

Sheri retired after 35 years in the education field in 2018 and is now helping the busy office staff keep up with the many customers and their needs.

Bryan grew up in Texas City and graduated from Texas City High School in 1947.

He attended both Stephen F. Austin and Texas A&M.

Bryan took over the operations of Bevis Pest Control in Texas City in 1975 from his grandfather Ralph Belvis.

This teaching provided Bryan with experience as a pest control operator and a fumigator while working in a small-town atmosphere.

Expanding the pest control business has always been a dream of Bryan’s.

When he had the opportunity to purchase Coastal Exterminating, as well as Baywood Exterminating, in Crosby, and the Baytown shop, also known as Coastal, Bryan could not pass it up.

He not only would be making a dream come true, but he would get to bring in his roots with another small-



Sheri & Bryan Springer

town community.

Most of the workers of the former Coastal are still with Bryan, so don’t worry about losing your favorite guy or gal who takes care of your exterminating problems.

All good signs for continued growth and stability. Bryan is one of the few pest control businesses in the state of Texas that also does fumigation, which means, in Bryan’s words, “we put houses in plastic bags”.

You may have seen a house wrapped in green tarps.

This is Coastal and Bevis at work taking care of a problem.

The staff and work crew at Coastal Exterminating are very dedicated to their clients and preserving the structures and landscapes of the community.

They will continue to uphold the professional and hard work standards with the family values that Coastal has provided to all their customers.

Bryan and Sheri are excited to be in La Porte and look forward to meeting everyone, new and future customers.



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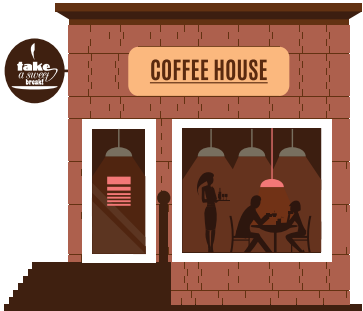
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DBA: **Bevis Pest Control**, 826 9th Ave N., Texas City, 409-945-4214

DBA: **Coastal Exterminating**, 812 S. 8th St. La Porte, 281-471-1430

RETAIL ONLY: Coastal Exterminating Baytown,
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LOCALLY

continued from page 10

The bottom line: a greater percentage of local independent businesses keeps your taxes lower.

GET REAL VALUE FOR YOURSELF!

Reader surveys by the Consumers Union repeatedly show independent businesses beating their chain competitors in overall customer satisfaction (and often save you money).

ENHANCE CHOICES!

A wide variety of independent businesses, each serving their customers’ tastes, creates greater overall choice for all

of us.

INCREASE WEALTH OF RESIDENTS!

The multiplier effect created by spending locally generates lasting impact on the prosperity of local organizations and residents.

CREATE JOBS AND OPPORTUNITIES!

Not only do independent businesses employ more people directly per dollar of revenue, they also



are the customers of local printers, accountants, wholesalers, farms, attorneys, etc., expanding opportunities for local entrepreneurs.

GIVE BACK TO YOUR COMMUNITY!

Small businesses donate more than twice as much per sales dollar to local non-profits, events, and teams compared to big businesses.

ENHANCE LOCAL DEMOCRACY!

Local ownership of business means residents with roots in the community are involved in key development decisions that shape our lives and local environment.

ENHANCE HEALTH OF RESIDENTS!

Research shows a strong correlation between the percentage of small locally-owned firms and various indicators of personal and community health and vitality.

Content Source: <https://www.amiba.net/benefits-local-business/>



AROUND THE LPISD

SCHOOL’S OUT! Students Celebrate Last Day of Classes

Lomax Elementary School students celebrate the start of summer break as La Porte ISD’s 2018-19 school year comes to a close on May 23. In front are Weston Goines, Elliana Panalez, Tony Hernandez and Jeremy Howells, and in back are Cameron Adams, Ryker Reynolds, Joseph Williams and Dalilah Lopez. The 2019-20 school year begins for La Porte ISD students on Wednesday, Aug. 21, with high school freshmen returning a day earlier on Tuesday, Aug. 20.



District Offers Free Meals for Students this Summer at Four Sites

Free meals will be offered to children in La Porte ISD this summer at four different sites in the district.

According to Yvonne Bennett, La Porte ISD director of nutrition, the summer meals program is administered

by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and LPISD is a sponsor. Any child 18 years and younger will receive meals at no cost at any of the four district sites.

Dates and times are listed below:

BAYSHORE ELEMENTARY
800 McCabe Rd.
La Porte, Texas 77571
June 3 - 27
Monday-Thursday
Breakfast 8:00-8:30 a.m.
Lunch 11:00-11:45 a.m.

LA PORTE ELEMENTARY
725 S. Broadway
La Porte, TX 77571
June 3 - 27
Monday-Thursday
Breakfast 8:00-8:30 a.m.
Lunch 11:00-11:45 a.m.

LA PORTE JUNIOR HIGH
401 South Broadway
La Porte, Texas 77571
June 3 - 27
Monday-Thursday
Breakfast 8:15-8:45 a.m.
Lunch 11:30 a.m.-Noon

LA PORTE HIGH SCHOOL
301 E. Fairmont Parkway
La Porte, Texas 77571
June 3 - 27
Monday-Thursday
Lunch 12:30-1:00 p.m.

All participating sites are listed on the website.

For additional information, visit www.summerfood.org.



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Teachers of the Year



Pat Studdert, center, of Buffalo Marine, Inc., presents La Porte ISD Secondary Teacher of the Year Chuck Jobson, left, and Elementary Teacher of the Year Bethany Free with checks for \$7,000 at the district’s annual Service Awards ceremony on May 2. Studdert is a former LPISD trustee and long-time friend of the district who presents the monetary awards to the winners of the LPISD awards each year. Jobson is a science teacher at La Porte High School, while Free is a reading interventionist at Bayshore Elementary School.



La Porte ISD is accepting applications for 2019-20

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AROUND THE BAY

June Fishing Report From Texas Parks & Wildlife

Following is the most recent weekly fishing report for the Texas Gulf Coast from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

North Sabine
Trout are fair to good in the middle of the lake over rafts of shad. Redfish are fair on jigs tipped with shrimp around marsh drains. Some birds have worked over trout.

South Sabine
Sheepshead and black drum are good at the jetty on live shrimp. Trout are fair to good around Lighthouse Cove and around the jetty rocks on topwaters. Redfish are fair to good in the marsh on topwaters.

Bolivar
Trout are fair to good on the south shoreline on soft plastics and plugs. Black drum and redfish are good at Rollover Pass. Croakers are good on dead shrimp in the channel and around the pass.

Trinity Bay
An inundation of freshwater from the Trinity River has made for tough fishing.

East Galveston Bay
Trout are fair to good on the south shoreline on topwaters and soft plastics. Whiting and sand trout are good on the edge of the Intracoastal on fresh shrimp. Trout are good on mid-bay reefs on soft plastics and croakers.

West Galveston Bay
Trout are fair to good for drifters working shell on live shrimp. Trout, sheepshead, redfish and black drum are good at the jetty on shrimp. Kingfish, ling, red snapper and sharks are good offshore. Tides are 2-3 feet above normal

Texas City
Trout are good on reefs and wells on live bait. Sand trout are fair on fresh shrimp off the piers. Redfish are good on live bait in Moses Lake.

Freeport
Sand trout and sheepshead are good on live shrimp on the reefs. Trout and sand trout are good at the jetties

on shrimp and DOA Shrimp. Kingfish and ling are good offshore. Black drum are good in Bastrop Bay on shrimp.

East Matagorda Bay
Trout are fair to good for drifters on live shrimp over humps and scattered shell. Redfish are fair to good around slicks on live shrimp.

West Matagorda Bay
Redfish are fair to good on the edge of Oyster Lake on shrimp and crabs. Trout are good on sand and grass on soft plastics and croakers.

Port O'connor
Trout and redfish are fair on topwaters over soft mud in waist-deep water in San Antonio Bay. Trout are good around Pass Cavallo on soft plastics. Redfish are good at the jetty on shrimp.

Rockport
Trout are fair on free-lined shrimp in the deep channels. Trout are fair over grass while drifting with live shrimp. Redfish are fair to good on the flats with high tides.

Port Aransas
Redfish are fair to good at East Flats on shrimp. Redfish and sheepshead are fair to good at the jetty on shrimp. Offshore is good for sharks, ling, red snapper and kingfish.



Send us your fishing photos!

Around La Porte knows how much you love to fish. And maybe the only thing better than fishing is showing off your catch.

We publish photos of readers with their prized catch.

Just email us the photo in jpeg format.

Make sure it is at least 4 inches wide with 200 dots per inch (dpi).

Include your first and last names, what kind of fish, where you caught it and what you used for bait. We'll print as many photos as we have room for.

Send photos to maggiealp@aol.com. Happy fishing!



Corpus Christi

Trout are fair to good on the edge of the spoils on Gulps and live shrimp. Redfish are good on the flats on Gulps and live shrimp.

Baffin Bay

Trout are fair in mud and grass on Corkies and topwaters. Trout are fair to good in the Land Cut on live shrimp. Trout are fair to good while drifting with topwaters at Rocky Slough.

Port Mansfield

Trout are fair on topwaters and soft plastics under corks around sand and grass. Redfish are fair to good while drifting pot holes and sand flats on live shrimp and Gulps.

South Padre

Trout are fair to good around the spoil islands, channel edges and color changes on DOA Shrimp. Tarpon, snook, trout and Spanish mackerel are fair at the jetty on live bait.

Port Isabel

Snook are fair to good in South Bay on soft plastics and DOA Shrimp. Trout and redfish are fair to good at Gas Well Flats on live shrimp and Gulps.



AROUND THE LPISD

Houston Astros Literacy Bus Visits Bayshore Elementary



LEFT: Bayshore Elementary School students line up to step aboard the Houston Astros Foundation Literacy Bus that went to the La Porte ISD campus on May 7. “Super Reader Sue” Carnes, a retired Houston ISD librarian, welcomes the students, who were later given a free book to take home. The event was made possible through the generosity of the Houston Astros Foundation and LyondellBasell in observance of the 50th anniversary of the company’s Bayport plant.

RIGHT: Prekindergarten students at La Porte ISD’s Bayshore Elementary School choose a free book provided by the Houston Astros Foundation Literacy Bus that visited the campus on May 7. The visit was made possible by LyondellBasell in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the company’s Bayport plant. From left are Nathaniel Doe, Ariana Sanchez, Madison Rocha, Easton Jones and Dolcey Tangarife, who are in Laura Hayes’ class at the campus. Volunteers from LyondellBasell participated in handing out the books, as did retired Houston ISD librarians “Super Reader Sue” Carnes, Marsha Fischer and Melinda Zeagler.



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Principal of the Year



Deanna Narcisse, second from right, principal at La Porte ISD’s Leo A. Rizzuto Elementary School, is recognized as the district’s Principal of the Year at the Region 4 Education Service Center Principal Recognition Ceremony at the Hotel ZaZa on April 3. Narcisse was also honored at the LPISD Service Awards celebration on May 2 and the LPISD Board of Trustees meeting on May 14. Congratulating her on this honor are, from left, Dr. Linda Wadleigh, LPISD deputy superintendent; Jewel Whitfield, executive director of elementary education; and Dr. Pam Wells, executive director of Region 4 Education Service Center.

AROUND THE COMMUNITY

Grandma's Corner

We're Only Doing It for Your Own Good

Seeing all the graduation photos on Facebook, watching parents celebrate little Johnny and/or Suzy graduate from junior high to high school, from high school to college, I was reminded of my own college years and raising my own two sweet, wonderful, perfect (NOT) children! Keep in mind, I had to wait until the ex and the kids grew up and left home before I could hit those ivy-covered halls.

But, as I walked those ivy-covered halls, bits and pieces of conversation struck out at me.

"I want my own apartment so I can get away from my mother!"

"Boy, I can't wait to get out of that house; my parents are driving me crazy!"

Well, of course we're driving you crazy. That was our job, or at least a hefty part of the job description. One of the major points of creative parenting ability is attention to details, minute details. For instance, the way you walk around the house, leaving a trail of bread crumbs, cookies, crackers and/or popcorn for US to clean up – to say nothing of the shirts, socks and shoes we found draped over the television set, hung on the door frames or thrown on top of the refrigerator.

Details are very meaningful in the parent-child relationship. They make communication an exciting, adventurous journey into a world of nuances, innuendoes, implications. and sometimes, albeit rarely from parents, distortions of the truth.

Distortions usually come in the form of reasons for:

1. Not coming home the same night you go out
2. Receiving a "D" in statistics class
3. Receiving a "W" in statistics class

Because parents are paying the bills, including tuition, strangely, we think we're entitled to:

1. An explanation
2. A rational justification
3. Complete enlightenment

Parents also have the uncanny ability to hear and see certain actions and/or events, a significant ability upon which we are tested over and over many times.

Think you can whisper over the phone that tonight you're going to hit the bars with that "no good bum" we told you never to see again? Think again – we heard that! The driveway will be blocked

with an Army tank so you can't get your car out. We're nailing the doors shut from the outside. We just contacted the local steel company to install bars on all the windows. And, in case he comes here, we've installed a hot wire around the entire yard.

As you head out the door to study with your best friend at the "library," your purse/backpack has suddenly become transparent. Is that a pack of cigarettes? And, after all our lectures on the dangers of smoking. Those aren't my new earrings, are they? The ones I just bought last week? What else do I spy in that backpack? ARE THOSE CONCERT TICKETS? LIBRARY??

Well, now you're going to get it. You're on the receiving end of the second most important ability parents must possess – THE LECTURE. We can and do talk on any given subject with the expertise of a professional speaker, the clarity of an English professor, the passion of a televangelist, and the resonance of a trumpet. (I personally received very high marks in resonance.)

Parents also come equipped with a high degree of curiosity, argued by some to be the most essential element of parenting. Here's the way it works: If we want to know something about our child, what they are saying, what they are doing, who they are seeing, we simply follow them. We check out their drawers at home, call up their friends, go to the school, talk to their teachers and sometimes, we have even been known to sit in on their classes.

This is not called snooping, spying or interfering, we merely are keeping up with what our children are doing. We want to know if there is anything going on that we should know about so we can cut it off at the pass, nip it in the bud or prevent the ship from sinking. Sometimes, this can be called hovering. My children called it "invading their space."

Hovering is an art. It takes skill, cunning, and a natural desire to know everything

about your child. Schools themselves provided some of the best resources for making hovering possible. I, personally, belonged to all the clubs – the booster club, PTA, room mothers' clubs, teachers' helpers, volunteer office help, and any other group I thought would help me keep spy.... er.... I mean keep an eye on my kids.

Included in the realm of curiosity is the presumption that your rooms are our rooms – at least according to the parenting manual I read, specifically giving me, the parent, the duty to inspect said living quarters of the above-mentioned children. (The house note is in who's name??)

We parents have an awesome responsibility raising our children. We feel it is our duty, our life's work, to make sure that everything we do is with their best interests in mind.

So, why on earth would they want privacy when they can take advantage of all our parenting skills? Why would they want to move in with strangers who aren't like us? After all, we're only doing it for their own good.

PS: Back when my kids were teens, cell phones with GPS trackers were not even on the horizon. Had I been able to track them with a tracking program, my life would have been so much easier (and more fun) – I could have followed them everywhere – all the time!!

Susan K. Williams has more than 20 years in organizational change management, leading change initiatives across global organizations. She is a graduate of the University of Houston with a BA in Journalism. She loves to write about her "adventures, mis-adventures, trials and tribulations, weight loss, weight gain, dating... no dating... eclectic life of being a single, baby boomer, grandma in the 21st century..." Oh, and I can still out swim my kids! Read her column in Around La Porte. If you enjoy what you're reading and would like to provide feedback, please feel free to email her at skwriter97@gmail.com.

Public Works Director Don Pennell Retires

The City of La Porte Public Works Director Don Pennell has submitted his retirement resignation to be effective June 30, 2019.

Don has dedicated 26 years of service to La Porte, helping to make the La Porte Public Works Department

one of the finest public works departments in the United States.

Around La Porte would like to wish Don a happy retirement.

We appreciate all that he has done for our residents and our community!

Events in June at La Porte Library

Crafting for Adults

Join Ms. Ashley to make lovely Moonlight Rouge Earrings. Saturday, June 8 at 10:30 am at La Porte Community Library, 600 S. Broadway. Free. All materials supplied. For Ages 18+.

Registration required.

Please call 281-471-4022 to register, or register online through our events calendar at www.hcpl.net, La Porte Branch.



Antiques Fair

Join us for our Second Annual Antiques Fair!

Have you ever wondered what your antique or collectible might be worth? Would you like to know more about the possible origin of an object? Bring the item (or a photo of the item if it is oversized) to La Porte Community Library, 600 S. Broadway, on Saturday, June 22, 10 am-noon.

An appraiser and dealer from 'Vicki's Antiques on Main' in La Porte will be at the library to evaluate antiques and collectibles. Free. No registration required. Please call 281-471-4022 with any questions.

Bring Your Own Craft (BYOC)

Join us for socializing and crafting. Bring any portable craft you are working on and possibly get tips or learn tricks from other crafters! Saturday, June 29, 10 am-12 pm at La Porte Community Library, 600 S. Broadway. Free.

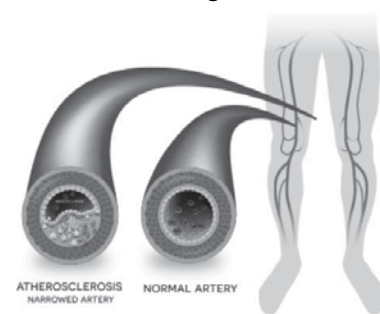
For Ages 18+. No registration required. Please call 281-471-4022 with any questions.

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AROUND THE LPISD

Inaugural Commencement for Academy of Viola DeWalt High School



In front of a capacity crowd on May 23, 45 high school seniors walked across the graduation stage at Sonja Angelo Theater. It was the inaugural commencement for the La Porte ISD Academy of Viola DeWalt High School. The ceremony featured an invocation from Briana Medina, student council president, and speech from senior Sarah Hart. Principal Candace Pohl delivered the commencement address, which garnered a standing ovation from the graduating class. Just before graduates lined up to walk, Pohl surprised students with a presentation of scholarships. Jeovany Cespedes received a \$500 scholarship from Claims Administrative Services for the Billy Hibbs Safety Award earned by the district. Zechariah Cooks-McGrew was awarded the \$900 Charles Emich Scholarship in memory of the former DeWalt mathematics teacher who passed away in 2011. The \$1,000 scholarship made possible by the Academy's participation in the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center drives was presented to Kymani George. La Porte ISD Academy of Viola DeWalt High School provides a non-traditional environment that focuses on specific academic needs for individual students. To learn more about The Academy, please visit www.lpsd.org.

AROUND OUR NEIGHBORS

The San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site & Museum Re-opens After Chemical Fire

The San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site, Museum and Battleship Texas has reopened all facilities to the public as of May 8.

The forced closure of the

Museum by the massive fire and petrochemical release at a neighboring facility and subsequent cancellation (for only the second time in 35 years) of the San Jacinto Day Festival &

Battle Reenactment occurred at the time of the year when the Museum is at its busiest.

The 103-year-old battleship is a veteran of both World Wars, including two of World

War II's most infamous battles- Iwo Jima and D-Day.

The historic battleship gives visitors a unique view into the life of sailors during the 20th century with historical repre-

sentations and displays including the canteen, soda fountain, ward room and officer quarters, just to name a few.

The Battleship Texas is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



4th Fest Celebration Set in Deer Park

You're invited to celebrate Independence Day at this year's 4th Fest celebration, July 4 from 5 p.m. to 10:15 p.m.

There will be live music, family-friendly attractions, including a sand castle contest and armadillo races, as well as fireworks!

You don't want to miss this year's event at the Jimmy Burke Activity Center, 500 W. 13th Street.

OMG, a top 40's cover band, will provide musical entertainment on the stage from 7 to 9 p.m. and then again at 9:45 p.m.



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San Jacinto Museum Offers Free Admission to Military Personnel

The San Jacinto Museum of History Association is pleased to announce its participation in the Blue Star Museums program in 2019, offering free entrance to all active duty military personnel, including National Guard and Reserve, and their families from Monday, May 18, 2019, (Armed Forces Day) through Monday, September 2, 2019, (Labor Day).

Up to five family members will also be admitted free of charge.

The museum association will give qualifying personnel free access to the *Texas Forever!! The Battle of San Jacinto* digital presentation; the nearly 500-foot elevator ride to the Observation Deck atop the San Jacinto Monument with views of the historic battleground of San Jacinto and many square miles of surrounding area; and the museum's special exhibit, "Big Energy: A Texas Tale of People Powering Progress" that explores the history of Shell and Deer Park and their impact on making the community the energy hub it is today.

The museum and its attractions are open daily year-round 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.—including Independence Day, Labor Day and nearly all holidays. All attractions are wheel-chair accessible.

The program is open to any bearer of a Geneva Convention common access card, a DD Form 1173 ID card or a DD Form 1173-1 ID card, which includes active U.S. military as well as members of the National Guard and Reserve, U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps and the NOAA Commissioned Corps.

Family members can enter for free without the serving person, based on the spouse's dependent ID.



AROUND THE POUND

Meghan, Loveable & Adoptable



Meghan, The Duchess of Bay Area Pet Adoptions, is an exquisite one-of-a-kind jewel. She is a proper young lady asking permission before hovering at dinner, calmly accepts a leash at walk time, and knows not to jump on the furniture unless invited. Meeting new people and pets delights her. This gal will stay close and docile providing lots of attention and playfulness until a rabbit, duck or perhaps a fox crosses her path. Then the chase may be on! Come visit Meghan and all the cats and dogs at Bay Area Pet Adoptions, 3000 Avenue R, San Leon or visit them on the web at www.bayareapetadoptions.org. We are open every day except Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Bay Area Pet Adoptions can be reached by phone at 281-339-2086.

AROUND THE LPISD

Rookie Teacher of the Year

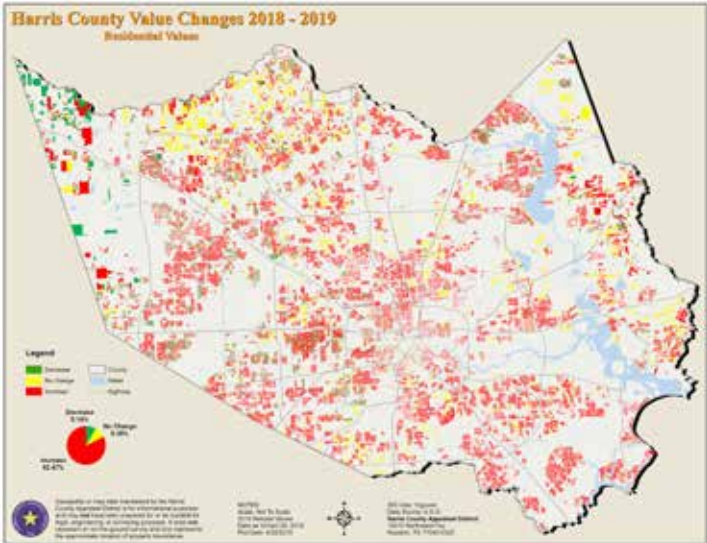
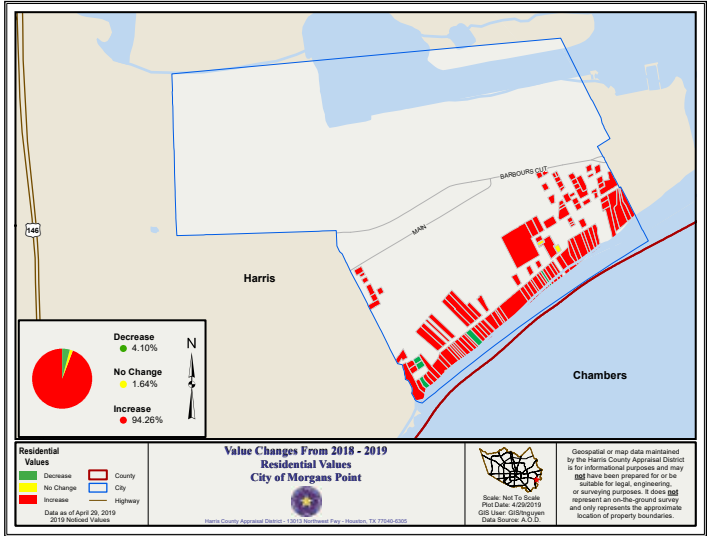


Michael Lehmann, center, assistant band director at La Porte High School, is honored as La Porte ISD's Rookie Teacher of the Year at the May 14 meeting of the Board of Trustees. Congratulating him on this honor are, from left, Kathy Green and Dennis Slate, trustees; David Janda, Board vice president; Dee Anne Thomson, Board president; Lee Wallace and Charlcya Wheeler, trustees; and Lois Rogerson, Board secretary. Lehmann was surprised with the announcement of his selection for this honor at the district's Service Awards celebration on May 2.

AROUND OUR NEIGHBORS

Changes in Values Shown in HCAD Maps

The Harris County Appraisal District (HCAD) produced the attached maps which depict the changes in residential value, for both Morgan's Point & all of Harris County.



Houston Places First in the US During Annual Global City Nature Challenge

Citizen Scientists in the Greater Houston and Galveston area competed in the Third Annual City Nature Challenge held in Houston, Texas and won first place on May 13th in the United States for most species identified during April 26-29, 2019. The Houston participants identified 3,367 species of flora and fauna from backyards to city parks to wildlife refuges and sanctuaries. The city took third place globally with Cape Town and

Hong Kong coming in first and second respectively. During the City Nature Challenge, cities around the world compete to see which urban area has the most nature and the most engaged residents by posting observations on iNaturalist, an online Citizen Science effort to document species. This year's City Nature Challenge included 159 cities around the world with almost one million observations recorded.

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AROUND THE LIBRARY

CHILD BOOK REVIEW

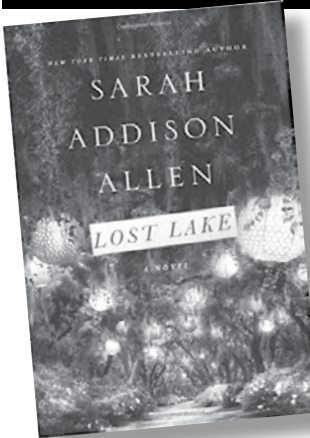
Judy Moody & the Not Bummer Summer: The Thrill Points Race

by Jamie Michalak



Judy Moody is psyched for summer - that is until she realizes that two of her three best friends aren't going to be around: Rocky will be teaching lions to jump through hoops at circus camp, and Amy is going to be searching for lost tribes in the rain forests of Borneo. How can Judy's summer ever compare? But she is determined that her summer will NOT be a bummer, that she and Frank Pearl will have the most NOT bummer summer ever - with plenty of thrill points to prove it!

ADULT BOOK REVIEW



Lost Lake

by Sarah Addison Allen

From the author of the beloved bestseller Garden Spells comes a beautiful, haunting story of old loves and new, and the power of the connections that bind us forever... The first time Eby Pim saw Lost Lake, it was on a picture postcard. Just an old photo and a few words on a small square of heavy stock, but when she saw it, she knew she was seeing her future. That was half a life ago.

Now Lost Lake is about to slip into Eby's past. Her husband George is long passed. Most of her demanding extended family are gone. All that's left is a once-charming collection of lakeside cabins succumbing to the Southern Georgia heat and damp, and an assortment of faithful misfits drawn back to Lost Lake year after year by their own unspoken dreams and desires. It's a lot, but not enough to keep Eby from relinquishing Lost Lake to a developer with cash in hand, and calling this her final summer at the lake. Until one last chance at family knocks on her door. Lost Lake is where Kate Pheris spent her last best summer at the age of twelve, before she learned of loneliness, and heartbreak, and loss. Now she's all too familiar with those things, but she knows about hope too, thanks to her resilient daughter Devin, and her own willingness to start moving forward. Perhaps at Lost Lake her little girl can cling to her own childhood for just a little longer... and maybe Kate herself can rediscover something that slipped through her fingers so long ago.

Crossword Puzzle Answers from Page 3

1	R	I	N	G	O		6	T	H	O		9	E	L	Y			
12	I	D	I	O	M		13	H	O	P		14	M	O	E			
15	B	I	T	T	E	16	R	E	S	T		17	M	A	W			
				18	I	N	U	I	T		19	P	A	D	S			
20	E	21	L	22	A	N		23	D	R	A	24	K	E				
25	G	I	G		26	A	D	S		27	I	N	28	O	29	F	30	F
31	G	L	U	32	M	L	Y		33	G	E	N	T	L	E			
34	S	T	E	A	M		35	L	E	V		36	T	E	N			
				37	A	S	38	C	O	T		39	T	O	D	D		
40	S	41	C	42	A	M		43	A	W	A	44	S	H				
45	P	A	W			46	O	F	F	T	H	E	47	J	O	48	B	
50	A	G	E			51	L	E	A		52	O	M	A	N	I		
53	N	E	D			54	E	S	T		55	W	E	W	O	N		

JUNE LIBRARY SCHEDULE

Harris County Public Library - www.hcpl.net

Story Time on Tuesday mornings at 10:15 a.m.

Baby Time on Tuesday mornings at 11 a.m.

Toddler Time on Thursday mornings at 10:15 a.m. & 11 a.m.

*Daycare Groups are encouraged to sign-up for the Summer Reading Club & visit the library, however we cannot accommodate Daycare Groups in most of our scheduled programs.

Date:	Day:	Event	Time:
June 3	Monday	Summer Reading Sign-Up Party! With DJ Jeffrey! (all ages)	3:00 pm
June 4	Tuesday	School Age Craft: Space Tops	3:00 pm
June 5	Wednesday	Teens: Galaxy Slime! (grades 6-12) (Registration Required)	3:00 pm
June 6	Thursday	Happy the Clown! (all ages)	10:30 am
June 6	Thursday	Beginner Origami for Adults: (Registration Required)	11:00 am
June 6	Thursday	Braveheart Water Balloon Battle (ages 6 & up)	3:00 pm
June 8	Saturday	Free Vaccinations for Children 18 & Under Provided by Harris Health System	9:00 am
June 8	Saturday	Marsha's Petting Zoo (all ages)	10am-Noon
June 8	Saturday	Adult Craft: Moonlight Rouge Earrings (Registration Required)	10:30 am
June 10	Monday	"Trapped in Space" Escape Room for Children (Registration Req'd) (ages 6-10)	1:00 pm
June 10	Monday	"Trapped in Space" Escape Room for Children (Registration Req'd) (ages 6-10)	2:00 pm
June 10	Monday	"Trapped in Space" Escape Room for Teens (Registration Req'd) (ages 11-18)	3:00 pm
June 10	Monday	"Trapped in Space" Escape Room for Adults (Registration Req'd) (ages 18 & up)	6:00 pm
June 11	Tuesday	Preschool Story Time Father's Day Craft	10:15 am
June 11	Tuesday	School Age Craft: Father's Day Necktie Craft	3:00 pm
June 12	Wednesday	Animal Yoga for Kids (ages 3 - 7)	10:15 am
June 12	Wednesday	Teens: Recode the Universe! Basic Coding w/ NASA Data (grades 6-12) (Reg. Req'd)	3:00 pm
June 13	Thursday	Computer Class: One on One Computer Help! By Appointment	10:30 am
June 13	Thursday	Nutty Scientists! (all ages)	3:00 pm
June 15	Saturday	Doctor Who Celebration! Trivia, Cosplay, Refreshments & More! (Reg. Req'd) (all ages)	3:00 pm
June 17	Monday	Adult Computer Class (Registration Required)	3:00 pm
June 17	Monday	Adult Book Discussion: "The Attenbury Emeralds" By Jill Paton Walsh	6:30 pm
June 18	Tuesday	School Age Craft: Space Scratch Art	3:00 pm
June 19	Wednesday	Teens: "Starlight in a Jar" Glowing Nightlight Craft (grades 6-12) (Reg. Req'd)	3:00 pm
June 20	Thursday	Salt Grass Science: Lucky Ladybugs (ages 6 & up)	3:00 pm
June 21	Friday	Friday Afternoon at the Movies (all ages)	3:00 pm
June 22	Saturday	Antiques Fair: Antiques & Collectibles Assessed By Local Dealers - 1st-Come 1st-Served	10am-Noon
June 25	Tuesday	Preschool Story Time 4th of July Craft	10:15 am
June 25	Tuesday	School Age Craft: Space Pinball Games	3:00 pm
June 26	Wednesday	Teen STEM: Solar Cars! Dress to go Outside to Build & Race (grades 6-12) (Reg. Req'd)	3:00 pm
June 27	Thursday	Penguin Pizzazz! (all ages)	10:30 am



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AROUND THE SPORTS

Bulldog Football Experience

Participants in the May 20 Bulldog Experience run through the large inflatable “Tuffy” as football players and cheerleaders cheer them on. The free event was held in La Porte High School’s Bulldog Stadium to enable children to go through fundamental football drills, meet the players and have their photo taken with a Bulldog football jersey and helmet.



La Porte Elementary School second grader Olivia Ramirez jumps for joy following her “touchdown run” during the Bulldog Experience at La Porte High School’s Bulldog Stadium on May 20. The LPHS football coaching staff hosted the free event to provide an opportunity for future Bulldogs to experience what it is like to be a football player.



Three-year-old Izekiel Ledezma runs through a football drill with the encouragement of La Porte High School football player Albert Hernandez. He was among more than 60 children who turned out for the Bulldog Experience at La Porte High School’s Bulldog Stadium on May 20.

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Young Triathlete

Ozzie Armando Toledo, a 10 year old from Alamo Elementary School in Baytown, won the Texas Typhoon Kids Triathlon at the Texas Typhoon Water Park, Katy on May 5.



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BACK-TO-SCHOOL PHYSICALS

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Ryan Schoppe Wins Gold Again

La Porte High School junior Ryan Schoppe added another gold medal to his collection of state titles on May 11 in Austin and joined an exclusive club in the process.

In winning the 3,200-meter run in 8:52.73, Schoppe joined the sub-9 minute club for the two-mile event. His time was not only 11 seconds faster than his state-qualifying — and then-state best 9:03, which he ran at the April 27 regional meet, he also eclipsed his personal best and was two seconds off the state record.

Not to mention, Schoppe’s time in the 3,200 is the 12th fastest in the nation.

“I have never seen a high school athlete run a negative split the way he did in the 3,200,” head track coach Zach Johnson said. “His first mile was 4:35 and second mile was 4:17 with a 58-second last lap. That was unreal.”

In one of the closest races of the meet, Schoppe grabbed the state runner-up position in the 1,600-meter run, finishing a mere six-tenths of a second behind the winner, at 4:07.47. His time was the fifth-fastest in the U.S. for 2019.

“The 1,600 race was just as exciting,” Johnson said. “While he may not have won the race, he definitely made it what it was. He led from start to almost finish, which is exceptionally surprising given that they had already raced earlier that day.”

In the same event at the 2018 state meet, Schoppe placed eighth with a 4:27.28.

Ryan Schoppe has been invited to participate in the Adidas Boost Dream Mile in Boston



La Porte High School senior Ryan Schoppe receives his gold medal at the state track meet. June 14th, 2019. This is an invitation only race for the top milers in the country and only about 10 from the country are invited. Congratulations to Ryan!



2019 Bay Area Championship winner Bill Shock

Shock wins 2019 Bay Area Championship

Bill Shock fired a 4-under-par 68 in the second round for a two-round total of 142 to win the A Flight of the Bay Area Championship, held May 18-19 at Bay Forest Golf Course in La Porte.

The 68 was the low round of the tournament and followed a 2-over-par 74 in the first round.

Steve Moran shot 71-75–146 to take second place, while A.B. Miller shot 75-76–151 for third. Mark Show shot 75-77–152 to finish fourth.

John Parrott shot the low round of Day 1 with a 3-under 69.

In the B Flight, Dustin Buentello shot 74-69–143 to claim first place.

Dave Leestma shot 76-71–147 to finish in second place, and Phillip Yovan shot 75-76–151 to tie for third place with Dennis Childs, who shot 74-77–151.

Scott Kruse shot 82-79–161 to win the C Flight.

Jerry Goen shot 85-80–165 to claim second place; April Staffa shot 86-82–168 to tie for third place with Susan Horelka, who shot 82-86–168.

In the D Flight, where scores are net after having handicaps applied, Tommy Lovoi fired a 8-under 64 on the second day (74-64–138) en route to a five-stroke win.

David Connaughton shot 74-69–143 to tie for second place with Danny Reyna, who shot 71-72–143.

Glynn Black, the leader after the first day, shot 69-76–145 to finish in fourth place.

The next event in the Bay Forest Handicap Association’s 2019 series is an individual stroke play event on June 22.

LPEF Hole-in-One

Representatives from DuPont Bayport present Brian Wilson with a \$10,000 check at a recent La Porte Education Foundation Board Meeting. Wilson shot a hole-in-one at the annual La Porte Education Foundation Golf Tournament on April 24. DuPont Bayport was the hole-in-one sponsor for the event. Beth Brady Insurance sold the hole-in-one insurance policy. In front from left are Rhonda Pelton, La Porte Education Foundation (LPEF) Board of Directors; Brenda Thompson, DuPont Bayport; Charlotte Pennye, LPEF executive director; Ed Flanagan, DuPont Bayport; Wilson; Debbie Wade, Brock Bihm and Susan Roberts, LPEF Board of Directors. In back are Beth Brady, Beth Brady Farmers Insurance; and Brian Kinkopf, Frank Nance, Jason Weeks, Keith Stafford and Dennis Slate, LPEF Board of Directors.



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