

Were you ‘Seen’...



Photos by Mbu Maqungo/The Enterprise

The 23rd Tasting for Some Other Place on Tuesday.

At the 23rd annual Tasting For Some Other Place?

By Mbu Maqungo
STAFF WRITER

A community resource center held its annual food sampling event Tuesday night at the Beaumont Civic Center for ticket holders to mingle and share a variety of dishes with live music. This year’s event marked the 23rd

annual Tasting For Some Other Place, a coalition of congregations founded over 50 years ago to serve those in Beaumont who are most in need. Between their Back to School, Thanksgiving Store, the Christmas Giving Tree Program or Henry Place events, Some Other Place organizes a

Tasting continues on A4



AMERICA’S FAVORITE COUPLE?



Photo courtesy of America's Favorite Couple website

Tony and Blondie Feagin.

Sour Lake natives vie for \$20K title

By Tessa Noble
STAFF WRITER

A Southeast Texas husband and wife are in the running to win \$20,000 in a competition for America’s favorite couple. Tony Feagin and his wife Shannon “Blondie” Feagin, natives of Sour Lake, have been together for 16 years. They met in kindergarten, then Blondie moved away, but they

reconnected 19 years later on a blind date. However, they didn’t actually start dating until 2009. Earlier this year, the mutual best friend who set them up advised them to apply for Colossal’s America’s Favorite Couple contest. The winner of the contest will receive \$20,000 and be featured in a Variety magazine advertisement. They’ve currently

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Beaumont budget proposal shows \$7.6M spending gap

By Tessa Noble
STAFF WRITER

The city of Beaumont’s proposed budget for fiscal year 2026 indicates that while expenditures exceed revenues by \$7,642,037, the budget is balanced according to the city’s definition. City manager Kenneth Williams presented the proposed budget to the

council Tuesday. In the budget, the city’s definition of a balanced budget states that recurring expenditures can’t exceed recurring revenues. The budget estimates \$169.6 million in revenue and \$162.5 million in recurring expenditures, resulting in a balanced budget. This means that \$14.7 million of the city’s expenditures for fiscal year 2026

are one-time expenses. A big part of these non-recurring expenditures is the city’s transfers out of the general fund, which currently is \$12.5 million. The transfers out include \$1.9 million to the transit fund, \$5.96 million to the capital reserve fund, \$5.17 million to the employee benefits fund and \$1.6 million to the general liability fund.

All new additions to the capital reserve fund are for one-time expenses and will be used to fund facility maintenance and new additions to the city’s vehicle fleet. New additions to the general fund budget included: \$25,000 for a botanical garden’s master plan, \$3,000 for a concession stand, and \$10,000 for a new playground. Budget continues on A4

Local Coca-Cola facility helps keep residents ready in hurricane season

By Mbu Maqungo
STAFF WRITER

As another week passes without anything noteworthy coming out of the Atlantic and into the Gulf, those with the means are taking forecasts and using them to build resources to help others. The Coca-Cola South-

west Beverages facility in Beaumont has routinely followed forecast coverage. Recently, the facility re-positioned over 40,000 cases of bottled water as part of its hurricane readiness plan. According to leadership, the team has made proactive storm prep a core part of operations,

both to protect employees and support local communities since seeing the level of crisis caused by storms like Tropical Storm Harvey. “There was water probably halfway up my calf when I walked into the building,” distribution supervisor James Ward said. “As soon as the storm had

passed, we were all communicating with each other and decided to come up here and check on the place. I just couldn’t believe it. I’ve never seen anything like it.” Facility associates saw firsthand the scope of needs that follow natural disasters during their volunteer work. Ready continues on A4

