

# BEAUMONT ENTERPRISE SUNDAY

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## A menu fit for Earth Month



Courtesy of Jeanette Rideau

**Chef Jeanette Rideau prepares plant-based meals for hundreds of Lamar University students.**

### Vegan chef serves up planet's bounty for Lamar University students

**By Bianca Thomas**  
STAFF WRITER

**C**hef Jeanette Rideau of Lifeline Healthy Eats recently served up organic vegan dishes for students at Lamar University to celebrate Earth Month.

Somewhere between 300 and 450 students showed up to Brooks-Shivers Dining Hall for vegan dishes such as carrot soufle, roasted cauliflower bites and sauteed garlic kale that kept them coming back for more.

"One little fella shared with me and showed me some pictures of his food," Rideau recalled. "He said 'This is how I eat this, me and my grandmother. We both

*"My instructors gave us recipes,  
but then they told us to make it our own."*

*Chef Jeanette Rideau*

make our own.' He was so happy to be able to have it. He maybe came back three or four times, and he just piled the food."

Originally, Rideau didn't know if she wanted to participate in the event but was convinced by members of her team. Lamar University provided Rideau with space to cook and purchased all the ingredients she needed for the dishes on her menu.

Rideau began her journey as a vegan chef in 2014 after she was diagnosed with breast cancer and decided to transition to a healthi-

er lifestyle.

Since then, she has been experimenting with vegan cuisine and coming up with her own recipes to challenge the perception that vegan food is bland and unseasoned.

Before she started making vegan food, she was one of the people who didn't want to try it because she thought it would be bland. All of that changed when she went to culinary school in her 60s.

"My instructors gave us reci-  
**Chef continues on A3**

## Camp's plans for reopening are halted

Hill Country retreat where girls died in flood pulls application for license under growing pressure

**By Peggy O'Hare**  
STAFF WRITER

Camp Mystic, the Texas Hill Country retreat that has faced withering criticism after 25 children and two counselors died there in a catastrophic flash flood on July 4, is withdrawing its application for a state license to hold camp sessions this summer.

The decision to abandon plans to reopen came after two days of emotional hearings before a state Senate and House legislative committee, where grieving parents of flooding victims vented their fury at Camp Mystic and where state lawmakers vowed to shut down the privately operated Christian camp for girls.

Camp Mystic officials said they are pulling their Texas Department of State Health Services application out of respect after hearing the concerns of victims' families, state lawmakers and residents across Texas.

"No administrative process or summer season should move forward while families continue to grieve, while investigations continue and while so many Texans still carry the pain of last July's tragedy."

**Camp continues on A4**

## Giveaways, events set for Chick-Fil-A restaurants

**By Mbu Maqungo**  
STAFF WRITER

The Chick-Fil-A restaurants on Dowlen Road and College Street in Beaumont have announced a series of events in May for teachers, nurses, Mother's Day and graduation.

The franchise's Facebook page shared a number of promotions it's offering starting this week. "May is made for making memories," the post read.

For the week that recognizes nurses and teachers, residents in those professions can get a free chicken biscuit from 5 to 9 a.m. On Tuesday, they can get a free medium order of fries from 4 to 7 p.m. On Wednesday, they can get free chicken minis from 5 to 9 a.m.

**Chick-fil-A continues on A3**

## Relocated Riceland psychiatric clinic to have grand opening Friday

**By Bianca Thomas**  
STAFF WRITER

Riceland Healthcare has announced its grand opening for the relocated psychiatric clinic in Beaumont.

Riceland Healthcare will host its event at 11 a.m. Friday. The new psychiatric clinic is located at 85 I-10 Frontage Road,

Suite 104.

Psychiatrist Dr. Edward Gripon, who has been practicing for more than 60 years, will lead the clinic. Gripon has been with Riceland Healthcare since 2024.

He is joined by a dedicated team of psychiatric nurse practitioners, including Benjamin Odom, Stacy Wyatt, Jessica Kvasnicka and Chioma Anyan-

wu.

Attendees will get a chance to hear from him and his team to learn more about the services offered. Those services include medication management, mental health assessments and treatment for mood and anxiety disorders.

"Mental health is just as important as any other aspect of

our health, and taking care of yourself should never carry a stigma," CEO of Riceland Healthcare Saad Javed said. "This grand opening reflects our continued investment in Southeast Texas and our commitment to providing accessible, high-quality mental health services with a strong, experienced team."

The clinic is already accepting new patients, and most major insurance plans are accepted. However, a referral is required to schedule an appointment.



## Join us as we help families build their dreams.

You are invited to join us as we help families build their dreams. We believe everyone deserves a clean, safe place to live. We want to thank Bechtel Energy/Port Arthur LNG/Project, Stellar Bank, and our sister non-profit organizations for being a part of our making these dreams come true. We also want to thank Darr Equipment for their generous donation of a forklift. If you and your organization would like to help

[beaumont Habitat.org](http://beaumont Habitat.org)

*Call Us* 409-832-5853.



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