

**SPORTS:** Last weekend before local football season begs some questions » B1

WEEKEND EDITION

GALVESTON  COUNTY

The Daily News.

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LAW ENFORCEMENT | SHORT-TERM RENTAL PROPERTIES

Short-term rental enforcement to get better, marshal says



HEATHER MORRIS

By SAGE SCOTT  
The Daily News

» GALVESTON

The City Marshal's Office this week got access to contact information for people

responsible for short-term rental properties so it can reach them to issue citations and warnings, the city said.

Before that, the office lacked access to a database of contact information for owners, managers and a 24/7 on-call designee required by city rules.

Because of that lack of information, deputy marshals often could issue warnings or citations only by mailing them to the rental home, City Marshal Heather Morris said.

Having access to the contact information will change the game in terms of the office's re-

sponse to complaints about ordinance violations at short-term rentals, Morris said.

That would be an improvement in one of the sorest of sore spots among islanders who are fed up with excessive noise, illegal parking and trash violations at short-term rentals and argue

the city's enforcement of its own rules has been lax.

The office's priority is to compel rental operators to comply with the rules, rather than issue citations, so notifying of violations is important, Morris said.

See RENTALS » A7

LAW ENFORCEMENT | NEW POLICE STATION

Council stands fast on police station financing plan



JENNIFER REYNOLDS/The Daily News

La Marque Police Chief Randall Aragon shows where floor tiles are coming up in the briefing room at the police station Friday.

By LAUREN FRICK  
The Daily News

» LA MARQUE

City officials are standing behind their decision earlier this week to forgo a November bond election for a desperately needed new police station, insisting coun-

cil-issued debt offers the quickest route to relief for the department.

After nearly nine months of discussion from both the city council and public safety building committee, city council members on Monday passed on taking the matter to voters on Nov. 4, opting instead to explore

the possibility of issuing certificates of obligation.

"The city has had different challenges in terms of the right process and right funding mechanism," Mayor Pro Tem Joe Compian said on Friday.

"It appears to me that both

See BUDGET » A7

EDUCATION | TEN COMMANDMENTS LEGISLATION

Schools wait for verdict to come down on Ten Commandments

By LAUREN FRICK  
The Daily News

Galveston County school districts, like many across the state, are awaiting a final ruling on a new law that for practical purposes requires the Ten Commandments to be displayed in public school classrooms.

U.S. District Judge Fred Biery

of San Antonio on Wednesday temporarily blocked Senate Bill 10 from taking full effect for the nearly dozen Texas school districts that joined a lawsuit arguing the law violates the freedom of religion guaranteed in the First Amendment.

No Galveston County school

See COMMANDMENTS » A8

JENNIFER REYNOLDS/  
The Daily News

A stone monument with the Ten Commandments etched on it stands in the esplanade on Broadway at 23rd Street in Galveston on Thursday.



INSIDE TODAY

With the 2025 high school football season set to start next week, the Galveston County Football Preview provides a sneak preview of each local team's outlook on the year.

GOVERNMENT | ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

City sweetens incentives to lure development



MARIE GELLES



LANCE LACOUR

By LAUREN FRICK  
The Daily News

» HITCHCOCK

The city and the Hitchcock Economic Development Corp. have

approved several economic development policies and plans over the past few months in an effort to be a top destination as the county continues to grow.

These approved and expanded

policies and plans range from incentive guidelines for Chapter 380 agreements to a new public improvement district policy for residential and commercial development — all an effort to grow and

expand the city's tax base, Executive Director Lance LaCour said.

"The city wants to be top of mind in terms of local location

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