



Non-Profit Organization

Tidbits

Volume 21—Issue 02

www.hdsclf.org

February 2020

SENIOR CITIZENS CRIME PREVENTION

Officer James Sobota came to our meeting on Wednesday, January 8th. He spoke about many new scams that are happening in our lives for 2020.

First scam was about **Wobbly Wheel Scam**. Officer Sobota explained that someone would pull the seniors over because the person tells that the senior's wheels are smoking. Then, he would then explain that he is a mechanic and tells that it would cost a lot of money to go to a mechanic shop, so he begins working on the wheels that he could try to get \$200 from the seniors. When seniors tell that they don't have the money, the mechanic will try to barter with them. They are gang members, so ignore them and drive off.

Second scam is the **Door Bell and Robberies**. Sobota tells us not to open the door if we do not know who that person is. If you accidentally open the door, just tell the person that you are not interested and close and lock the door immediately. Do not allow anyone in who needs to go to the bathroom, wants a drink of water, or to use the phone. Anytime you leave your home to check on the mail or take the trash out, please lock the door. You never know that someone will be hiding and watching for you to leave the house to go in to rob.

Third scam is about **Computers and Cell Phones**. Hackers can obtain your name and will call to get information out of you. Hang up! They will also try to send emails using the bank's logo to warn you that your account is in trouble. Transfer those emails to "SPAM" and delete them. Never give out your password or account number that is what the hackers want. If you are not sure about your account, go to your bank and verify that everything is safe and fine. Officer Sobota also informed us that these criminals will approach the bank's employees leaving the building to get a list of accounts with over \$10K with a promise to pay them. These employees are warned not to cooperate with criminals or give anyone a list of customers.

Fourth scam was about **Social Security and Medicare**. If you receive an email telling you that your social security needs to be researched with a fee of \$99, do not sign up for it. They will make a promise to put \$1,000 into your account.

Do not fall for that trap. Immediately, transfer that email to "SPAM" and delete it. Social Security only sends a letter to everyone.

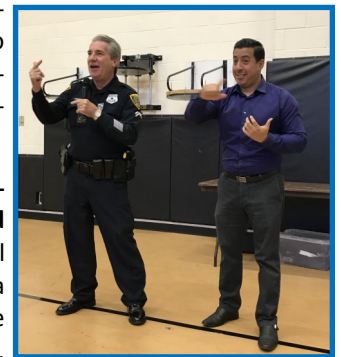
Fifth scam was about **people calling or texting that they need bond money to get out of jail**. They will make up a story about being a friend or family member. Ignore them and do not send money. Also, these people would call for money to fly back home. Hang up!

Sixth scam is a little scary! Criminals will go into **store that sells gift cards or credit cards**. They will scratch off the silver backing on the back of the card to obtain that number. So, when you get that card and tell the cashier how much money you want on the card, so the criminal will check to see if the card has been activated. Then, he will go out and buy for that amount. So, be sure to check the back of the card before you tell the cashier how much money to put on it.

Seventh scam is about **job offers**. Criminals will ask you to pay \$29.95 to start a new job with the promise that you will earn \$30 or \$40 an hour. It's a scam because the job never happens. Do not pay anything as that's how these criminals can obtain your information to rob you.

Eighth and last scam is about **gas station stops**. Many times, women get out of the car to fill up. While they are facing the gas station filling machine with their credit card to pay, a car would drive up beside your car, and someone else will get out and quietly open the passenger's door to get their purses. Be sure to lock doors while trying to pay your gas. Never go inside the gas station with babies or children in the vehicle. Always lock your doors to prevent thieves from stealing your vehicle while buying something inside.

We learned so much from Officer Sobota. He's a family member with all the seniors! We want everyone to be careful out there and at home! HAPPY NEW YEAR in 2020!!



Officer James Sobota

Submitted by Nancy Morris

Fort Bend Museum/Houston Museum of Natural Science at Sugar Land Field Trip

On **January 11, 2020**, the weather was cool and gorgeous when the ten of us drove in three separate cars to drive down to Fort Bend Museum in Richmond. We looked at the displays in the Fort Bend Museum gallery to get a good idea of the life on the Brazos bend ranging from the Native Americans to Stephen F. Austin setting up land for settlers to live and develop their own lives and their crops and livestock. We learned about how the cities such as Sugar Land, Richmond, Rosenberg, Needville and others got their names; we also enjoyed looking down a 35 feet well inside the museum! Our brief highlight of this first leg of the field trip was finding the Erastus "Deaf" Smith Historical Marker on 6th and Houston Street in Richmond.

We then left Fort Bend Museum to enjoy our worthwhile delicious lunch at a fantastic restaurant, Another Time Soda Foundation in Rosenberg. We were blessed not to feeling sleepy after our lunch when we went on our final leg of the field trip to visit Houston Museum of Natural Science at Sugar Land. Most of us had fun looking at ourselves with the 3D animated dinosaurs, learned about our chemical make up in our bodies, and read about oil being found around the Houston-Katy-Sugar Land area and the coastal areas. Most of our time was discussing our learning about a big salt dome just a mile east of the Sugar Land museum under the Avalon subdivision; we also discussed how salt affects our bodies. You can read this article about the Houston Museum of Natural Science (HMNS) setting up a big display on salt which was opened on November 8, 2019. <https://fb-independent.com/grain-of-salt-new-tech-hall-at-hmns-tells-fascinating-story-p13616-1.htm>

The ten of us really enjoyed ourselves learning about the history of Fort Bend County and about natural science. The true saying is that we do learn about new things each day.



Interesting Fact: Houston Museum of Natural Science building used to be a prison for African American inmates between 1939 and 1968.



Fort Bend Museum

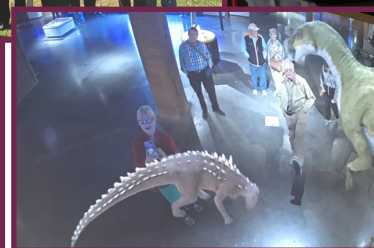
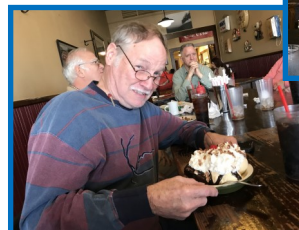
Looking down at 35 feet well

Front: Mickey McKenzie, Margie Graham, Troy Graham, Doina Langham, Jim Dermon
Back: Nancy Morris, Sidney Gilland, Tom Langham, Brent Burns
Not in Picture: Jan Dermon



"Deaf" Smith Historical Marker

Nancy, Mickey and Jim enjoyed their yummy ice cream.



Houston Museum of Natural Science at Sugar Land

Game Day

4th Wednesdays

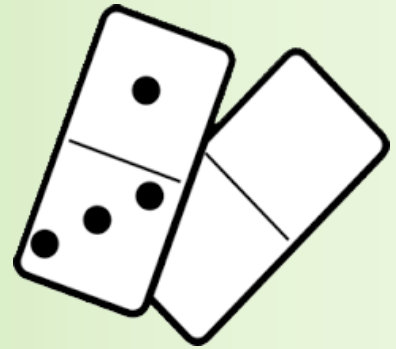


February 26th

March 25th

April 22th

May 27th



10 am—4 pm

at MMSC

Activity Room 2

Contact Person:

Deborah Daniels—VP 832-413-5010

February 12, 2020

Social 9:00 am — 3:00 pm

Join Us for Our Annual Valentine's Day Party

- . Wear Red**
- . Game Prize**
- . Bring Covered Dish**
- . Bring Your Own Drink**



Guest Speakers

CAAG

(now part of SCIS)



**Contact:
Nancy Morris
281-815-4033**

Visiting Historical Montgomery

February 15, 2020

Cost: \$5 Deadline: Feb. 12, 2020

- . N.H. Davis Pioneer Complex & Museum**
- . Luncheon on Your Own
(Old Montgomery Steakhouse)**
- . Fernland Historical Park and Museum**

Contact: Jim Dermon—936-828-4013



Meet at Woodhaven at 8:30 AM

Bus Leaves at 9:00 AM



The Brookwood Community and Café

Saturday, March 21, 2020

Luncheon at Café

Required RSVP by February 12th

Contact Jim Dermon for RSVP

And Meal Selection

936-828-4013



April HDSCLF Field Trip
Thursday Afternoon, April 23, 2020
Astros Baseball Game

Cost: \$10.00 — Deadline: March 11, 2020

Payment in advance is required.

The ticket is non-refundable.

Please meet at Woodhaven at 11:30 AM
Bus leaves at 12:00 PM.

Contact Jim Dermon — 936-828-4013

New Subscribers:

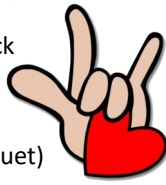
Doris Dover, Sidney Gilland, Kevin Hawkins,
Shirley Sinclair

Renewals:

Jo Ellen Hall, Brian/Jacqueline Kilpatrick
Juanita Thompson

Donation in Memory of:

Sonny/Margaret Braquet (Sidney Braquet)



On behalf of HDSCF board, we want to thank you for your kind donation. Your generosity makes a difference in the lives of Houston Deaf Citizens.

Thank you again for your kindness.

Jim Dermon, Treasurer

Interesting Fact: Allen Parkway

We often drive to Metropolitan Multi-Service Purpose Center (MMSC) from different directions including Allen Parkway for our HDSCF social meetings on the second Wednesday every month. It is possible that some of you including the current HDSCF Editor may have wondered why did the City of Houston call it Allen Parkway. As a matter of fact, it was originally called Buffalo Parkway, but it was later renamed Allen Parkway in honor of the City of Houston's founders, brothers Augustus Chapman Allen and John Kirby Allen. Another interesting fact was that they founded this city on land near the banks of Buffalo Bayou in August, 1836. In 1923, the Hogg brothers and Hugh Potter decided to build River Oaks as a country-home community which inspired the creation of Houston's first parkway. In the early days of Allen Parkway, it used to be a two-lane road, named Buffalo Drive which was built between 1925 and 1926. Now you will know how this famous parkway in Houston was named after the Allen brothers.

<http://www.offthekuff.com/wp/?p=45821>

Editor's Note: We regret the error of leaving out Cristina Rodriguez's name on a list of those who went on the Fredericksburg field trip on page 3 of the January 2020 Tidbits.

Disclaimer: Information published in the newsletter is through to be reliable at the time of publication. However, we do not guarantee the accuracy of the content in the information presented.

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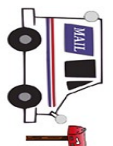
Jim Dermon

Choice one: <input type="checkbox"/> \$5.00 (Electronic) or <input type="checkbox"/> \$12.00 (Paper) X _____ year(s) = \$____.00 <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gift Subscription from (Giver) _____ [<input type="checkbox"/> \$5 or <input type="checkbox"/> \$12]	
<input type="checkbox"/> Donation to HDSCF \$_____ in memory of _____ (Tax deductible)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Donation: \$_____ to the Houston Deaf Senior Citizens Love Fund (Tax deductible)	
PLEASE PRINT: <input type="checkbox"/> CURRENT ADDRESS <input type="checkbox"/> NEW ADDRESS	
Name: _____ (DOB: ____/____/____)	Anniversary: ____/____/____
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Email: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> VP, <input type="checkbox"/> TTY or <input type="checkbox"/> Fax: _____	
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