



# The Insider

**Ice Skating  
RETURNS!**

*Merry  
& Bright*

**OPEN  
HOUSE**

**Community Need:  
CAREavan deploys**



November is a month that always makes me think about Veterans Appreciation and the sacrifices service members have made to make our country a great place.

Living in a community that recognizes military service as a positive trait and appreciates a veteran's time away from home is a privilege, as other communities may not view that service in a positive light.

When I look around our community, I see numerous members who have served our country through all branches of service, and that bond and camaraderie is always present when we visit. In interactions with residents, we talk about commonalities and similar stories of service resulting in relationships that last a lifetime.

The retired community can ensure we enable the readiness of our Armed Forces. We are a voice and a voice in our communities of over 1.2 million retired soldiers and surviving spouses throughout the entire country. We are all soldiers for life, and current and potential service members need our assistance. We must mobilize at the grassroots level to ensure our military forces are prepared to operate in a dangerous world and that the readiness of our military forces is a number one priority.

Taking an active role in communicating military service to our younger generation is critical to the readiness and quality of future soldiers who choose a military career as their profession. Fellow veterans, we are a resource to our service branches by educating, advocating and inspiring others to serve in our Armed Forces.

We can also assist veterans and retirees in our community by welcoming and mentoring them during their transition to civilian life. There are many initiatives where retired military members can volunteer their time and talents through retirement services, military treatment facilities, ROTC, Army community services, retiree appreciation days, regimental associations, and military service organizations, and stay engaged by recruiting retiree councils.

I will never take for granted the freedoms we have, as they have been earned through military service and actions throughout history.

Just imagine what the globe would look like if our participation in World War I or World War II did not occur and our country decided to wait and see how it turned out.

I belong to the 90th Division Association (Tough 'Ombres, as we are known), and have made many friendships.

In a discussion with a WWII veteran, he explained that a young soldier was lost on the field and asked his platoon leader which direction to go, in which his platoon leader told him "well, son, ride to the sound of the guns."

I would say there is not a more pivotal point in our country's future than where we are today. I would like to encourage our local veterans to be that voice for our younger generation and ensure that they understand military service is an outstanding way of life and an outstanding way to serve your country.

And the friendships you gain aren't temporary, but lifelong friendships. I would ask you to "ride to the sound of the guns" and ensure we are a presence felt in our community and we communicate and bridge that gap with the next generation.

In closing, please take a moment to tell the veterans you know or happen to see, thank you for their service and that we appreciate everything they have done for our country, ensuring our freedoms to make our community a great place to live.



*Frank McCrady  
President & CEO*



# EMCID Hosts Annual Open House Dec. 2

Come get into the holiday spirit with free food, refreshments and music at the EMCID Complex on Monday, Dec. 2 at EMCID's annual Open House from 11-7 p.m.

Every year, EMCID welcomes the community to its Open House where they can learn more about the organization, programs, events and enjoy refreshments.

The EMCID complex will feature performances throughout the day including the Porter High School Chorale, musical groups and a visit from Santa.

Held in the atrium of the building, EMCID provides sandwiches, chips and dips, desserts and finger foods through the afternoon and then brings out some heartier foods for the evening until 7 p.m.



## 'A Holiday to Remember' Returns Dec. 21

It's back and it's even better; the 'Holiday to Remember Ice Skating Event' hosted by the East Montgomery Improvement District returns a second year for an extended period and additional special events such as party room rentals and a visit with Santa.

Held at the Valley Ranch Town Center, the ice-skating rink officially kicks off on Dec. 21 and remains open until Jan. 5 from 12 to 8 p.m. each day, except for Dec. 24 (12 - 6 p.m.) and Dec. 25 (4 - 8 p.m.) Free parking is available at New Caney ISD's Randall Reed Stadium.

The rink can accommodate up to 100 people at a time, from toddlers to adults, and includes 90-minute ice skating sessions that are \$5 per person; the skates are provided.

This year, season skate passes can be purchased for \$50 per person (an \$80 value) and are good for all-day admission during each of the 16 days of operation. They can be purchased at the EMCID office before the season begins.

After several inquiries last year and a tremendously successful nine-day operation, there will be a party room at the rink where families and friends can host events like birthday parties, holiday parties, etc. and spend time on the rink. Tables and chairs are provided, so bring party supplies, cakes and anything else needed to celebrate in style.

The party room and rink can also be rented for private events



after operating hours, so guests can have the entire rink to themselves to enjoy. Rink rental hours begin at 9 p.m. and end at 12 a.m. Limit 100 guests.

Another new addition to this year's event includes a visit with Santa. He will be at the ice rink Saturday, Dec. 21 and Sunday, Dec. 22 where visitors can tell St. Nick all about those last-minute items on their wish list and take a picture with him in front of a winter wonderland scene.

For more information on 'A Holiday to Remember Ice Skating Event,' visit <https://www.emctx.com/holiday-to-remember-2019>.



# EMCID CAREavan Deploys After Imelda

As East Montgomery County residents pick up the pieces left behind by Tropical Storm Imelda, the East Montgomery County Improvement District deployed the EMCID CAREavan to provide hot meals in the worst affected neighborhoods.

EMCID partnered with Hometown Chef, a catering company, to drive into neighborhoods severely damaged by floodwaters and provide hot meals via the EMCID CAREavan.

"We've found our community in a situation where we can help," said Frank McCrady, EMCID President/CEO. "We're in this together; we'll provide meals for as long as we need to."

EMCID deployed the CAREavan for the first time during the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey in 2017, providing more than 10,000 meals over the course of two months.



## Merit-based Scholarships Applications Due

College students looking to continue their education are encouraged to apply for the East Montgomery County Scholarship Foundation's merit-based scholarship.

The \$500 merit-based scholarship is available for current college students who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership and service, and financial need and plan to continue their college education.

To be eligible for the EMCSF Merit Scholarship, the applicant:

- Must have a cumulative college-level GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale for all coursework completed, regardless of institution attended. If the student has attended more than one school, transcripts may be recalculated to determine the cumulative GPA for all college-level coursework taken. GPA is evaluated at the point of application.
- Must have a minimum of 48 college-level credits completed by December 31, 2019.
- Must be a previous recipient of EMCID/East Montgomery County Scholarship Foundation funding.

- Must demonstrate leadership and service.
- Must demonstrate financial need.

A completed application, which includes a copy of the student's most recent college transcript, must be submitted no later than March 1, 2020.

Applications are evaluated by the EMCSF in March and are awarded no later than mid-April.





# Signorelli Company donates \$2M to EMCSF

It was a pivotal moment for the East Montgomery County Scholarship Foundation when the Signorelli Company donated \$2 million toward scholarships for EMC graduates. The donation was presented to the EMCSF during its gala.

“At the Signorelli Company, we build communities in every way we can,” said Danny Signorelli. “We understand how important it is to invest in young adults, as many of our team members, including myself, are where we are today thanks to the help of others along the way.”

Additionally, Texas State Representative Cecil Bell read aloud a resolution honoring longtime educator and EMCID/EMCSF board member Dale Martin who passed away in August.

Martin worked for more than 25 years in education and was a constant champion for providing ways for students in EMC to further their education and be successful.

The gala also featured two guest speakers — Kristina Ellis, who received \$500,000 in scholarships that allowed her to graduate debt-free, and Kylee Milton, a 2012 Porter High School graduate, who benefited from the EMCSF scholarship, graduated from the University of Houston with a bachelor’s degree in biology and currently attends the University of Houston in Sugar Land pursuing nursing.

The EMCSF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit subsidiary of EMCID created to promote the economic, social and cultural development of the area through education. Every student who graduates from New Caney or Splendora ISD, a home school program or private school within the EMCID boundaries, or those who live within the boundaries but attend a private school elsewhere is eligible for a \$1,600 scholarship. GED recipients are also eligible.

The foundation also offers a \$500 merit-based scholarship to college students with at least 48 college credit hours who meet the requirements and a \$750 paid internship to high school seniors.



# EMCID Awarded Federal Grant Funds

U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross announced that the Department's Economic Development Administration (EDA) is awarding a \$1.5 million grant to EMCID to construct a 30,000 sq. ft. office building at the East Montgomery County Industrial Park in New Caney.

The grant will help to facilitate job creation and retention. EMCID is matching the grant with \$375,000 in local funds.

"We're excited about this opportunity to provide additional office and warehousing space to businesses that want to expand or relocate to our area," said Frank McCrady, EMCID President/CEO. "One of the challenges many businesses face is finding available office space. In East Montgomery County, for example, there is nothing in the 10,000 sq. ft. range where you have space for offices and a warehouse or manufacturing. So our plan is to build the shell and all of the infrastructure and then subdivide it to fit the needs of several businesses."

McCrady added there are already several companies that have expressed interest in leasing space.

"Leveraging our local funds by bringing federal dollars to



EMC has been a goal of ours, and now federal dollars will help the ongoing growth of our area," said McCrady.

EDA grants are awarded through a competitive process based upon the application's merit, the applicant's eligibility, and the availability of funds. More information on EDA's grant process and investment process can be found at [www.eda.gov](http://www.eda.gov).

## New Business Openings in EMC



A variety of different businesses have recently decided to call the EMC community home. The following businesses have either opened or will open this year:

- Bath & Body Works, September
- Checker's, September
- DaVita Dialysis, September
- Denny's, September
- Fuel Maxx, September
- Hometown Donuts, September
- Kung Fu Tea, September
- Millennium Physicans, September

*\*Dates are accurate prior to printing of publication. Dates may change.*





# Power Supplements Breaks Ground for Factory



The newest business to call the East Montgomery County Industrial Park home, Power Supplements, officially broke ground on its 55,550 square-foot facility in New Caney.

The EMCID Board of Directors, Power Supplements' representatives and the community joined in the celebration on Friday, Sept. 27 and tried some of the products.

"This is a great opportunity not only for East Montgomery County but for Power Supplements," said Guillermo Amtmann, CEO of Power Supplements. "This is a milestone for Power Supplements. We are excited to break ground on our new facility and we hope to continue growing in New Caney. With this facility, we are expanding our production line, will have a building for warehousing purposes and for the first time, we are co-packing our products."

Power Supplements' Plant Manager Jorge Ulloa echoed Amtmann's sentiments, adding, "This project has grown since we first started. When we began to put this project together, we only had one building and now, we have two and will most likely need to expand in the future."

"Working with Power Supplements has been a great experience," said Frank McCrady, EMCID President/CEO.

"The company originally approached us about building a 20,000 square-foot building for production and then came back a few months later with even bigger plans for their New Caney facility. We're excited about the new job opportunities this will create in the beverage processing industry for our residents."

Power Supplements creates a variety of products made with all-natural ingredients such as the Patria Energy Drink that also comes in a sugar-free variety; Reboot Power, a natural hangover cure; and health supplements that aid with sleep, immunity and digestive health, stress relief, extended mental stamina and motivation, and a quick energy shot.

The new Power Supplements factory will be located at 1893 Phillip Way in New Caney and will consist of two buildings, including a two-story building that allows for office space for the Power Supplements staff.

"This is a great location and a great opportunity," said Ulloa. "We would not have found this property and none of this would have been possible without EMCID and Frank's assistance. They have been with us since day one, checking on us and making sure we have everything we need to be successful."

A HOLIDAY TO REMEMBER

\$5 per SKATER

ICE SKATING FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

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East Montgomery County Improvement District 21575 U.S. Highway 59, Ste. 200, New Caney, TX 77357 281.354.4419

# Come Party with us at the Ice Rink!

**Have your birthday, holiday party  
or a get together in the Private Room  
at the Ice Rink!**

**RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!**  
Details at [www.emctx.com/holiday-to-remember-2019](http://www.emctx.com/holiday-to-remember-2019)  
or call 281-354-4419

## DEC. 21 - JAN. 5

## Important Dates

### November - December 2019

|  |                |            |                            |
|--|----------------|------------|----------------------------|
| Greater EMC Chamber Luncheon                   | November 6     | 11:30 a.m. | EMCID Complex Atrium       |
| Veteran's Day (EMCID Complex Closed)           | November 11    |            |                            |
| EMCID Regular Board Meeting                    | November 14*   | 5:30 p.m.  | EMCID Complex, Suite 103   |
| Thanksgiving Holidays (Complex Closed)         | November 28-29 |            |                            |
| EMCID Open House                               | December 2     | 11-7 p.m.  | EMCID Complex Atrium       |
| Greater EMC Chamber Luncheon                   | December 4     | 11:30 a.m. | EMCID Complex Atrium       |
| EMC Scholarship Foundation Meeting             | December 12*   | 12 p.m.    | EMCID Complex, Suite 200 A |
| EMC Economic Development Corp. Meeting         | December 12*   | 1:30 p.m.  | EMCID Complex, Suite 200 A |
| EMCID Regular Board Meeting                    | December 12*   | 5:30 p.m.  | EMCID Complex, Suite 103   |
| 'A Holiday to Remember' Ice Skating Event      | Dec. 21-Jan. 5 | 12-8 p.m.  | Valley Ranch Town Centre   |
| Christmas/New Year's Holidays (Complex Closed) | Dec. 24-Jan. 1 |            |                            |

*\*Dates subject to change*

Please visit [www.emctx.com/calendar](http://www.emctx.com/calendar) for an up-to-date listing of events.

The Insider is a bi-monthly newsletter produced by the East Montgomery County Improvement District. Please direct questions or comments to: Kelley Mattlage, Chief Communications Officer, [kmattlage@emctx.com](mailto:kmattlage@emctx.com).