



Volume 5, Issue 5 September 2019

The Insider



Back to School



With the fall season upon us and the school year already begun, those of us who are parents experience excitement, joy, and even a sense of pride and accomplishment as our children grow and broaden their horizons as they begin the next grade on their journey to gaining more knowledge.

I see so many opportunities lost throughout all the chaos and stressors that come with the new school year. The one that I feel we miss the most is just offering a simple **thank you** from time to time — acknowledging someone for their time and attention to detail. Doing so can make a difference in their life.

I wanted to share some ideas I've gathered in which we can say thank you to our teachers, families, significant others, or friends who have impacted us in some special way.

- I can't even begin to explain how much your help meant to me.
- Thank you for always stepping in to help when I need you most.
- Thank you for taking the time to help me; it really meant a lot.
- Thank you for sharing your home with me. I had such a great time catching up.
- My stomach (and I) want to thank you for that delicious meal.
- You made me feel so at home that I forgot I wasn't! Thank you for having me.
- Thank you for putting a roof over my head this weekend; it was so kind of you to invite me into your home.
- Thank you for hosting my event. My day just wouldn't have been the same without you!
- Thank you for the raving letter of recommendation. I can't wait to start my new job.

I always have valued the impact teachers have on our children. The new relationship being built between students and teachers is important.

Some ideas to show teachers you appreciate them could include:

Send In Breakfast – Have your child pack a breakfast for the teacher and customize to the teacher's likes.

A Beach Bucket of Fun – Put together a beach bucket filled with candy and teacher supplies.

A School Supplies Cake – Prepare a cake made from different school supplies and decorate in the manner of the teacher's class, such as art or other subject items which could assist the teacher in his or her room needs.

Candy in a Cup – A Smarties and Lifesavers cup or a chocolate cup. Who doesn't like chocolate?

Email an Inspirational Video – Just a short video with a message that says thank you allows for a more personalized touch.

A Class Memory Book – A book with significant activities or events throughout the year.

A Handmade Card with Some Goodies – A card prepared by the student with an attachment or basket of the teacher's favorite food or possibly a gift card for them to use after a stressful day.

An Interview from the Kids – A video of the kids in the class describing their favorite moment or their favorite thing about the teacher.

A Handwritten Note – Thank you cards from parents expressing how much their kids have grown, or hand-drawn and handwritten thank you pictures and notes from the kids.



*Frank McCrady
President & CEO*

Other thoughts include:

SAY IT OUT LOUD...AND MORE OFTEN!

Intentionally saying "thank you" to someone more often is the simplest, most obvious way to show him or her your gratitude. It doesn't take much effort, but those two simple words go a long way.

WRITE A THOUGHTFUL CARD, NOTE, OR LETTER.

Write a sweet note of thanks to your friend and hide it where they can easily find it: in their lunchbox, on the dashboard of their car, on the bathroom mirror, or someplace similar.

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Italiano's To Open Fourth Restaurant

Fresh garlic knots and homemade pasta will spice up the Centr  at Northpark shopping center as Italiano's plans to open its fourth location in East Montgomery County.

The EMCID Board of Directors approved an incentive agreement at its July 18 meeting that helped make the decision for the owners to open the new restaurant a little easier.

The shopping center Italiano's will call home is currently under development along Northpark Drive, east of Christian Brothers Automotive and Dairy Queen.

"We've been trying to get Italiano's to move north for quite a while, so this is exciting for us as well as East Montgomery County diners," said Frank McCrady, EMCID President and CEO. "Italiano's is well known for quality food and great service. We can't wait for them to open."

Co-owners Susie Kumbara and Al Sadiku opened their first Italiano's Restaurant in Humble approximately 19 years ago after moving to the area from Brooklyn.

Known for their traditional "old country" pasta dishes, pizzas and other specialties, Italiano's continues to be a family-run business with locations in Humble, Atascocita and Pearland.

The new restaurant in EMC will include a more modern concept and d cor, like the location in Pearland, but will have the same food staples such as the famous garlic knots that people have come to love with the restaurant.

They hope to open the Northpark Drive location in the first quarter of 2020.



Spec's To Open First Store in EMC



Family-owned alcohol retailer Spec's Wines, Spirits & Finer Foods will open its first location in East Montgomery County at the corner of U.S. Highway 59 and FM 1314 in Porter. A leasing agent with Spec's confirmed the new store will be at 23611 U.S. Highway 59, Suite 500.

The move is possible following an election in November 2017 that resulted in nearly 73 percent voter approval of liquor sales for off-premise consumption in Montgomery County, Precinct 4. Previously, only beer and wine could be sold in stores for off-premise consumption and mixed drinks could only be sold for consumption in restaurants and bars.

"Our local restaurants were very supportive of the effort to legalize liquor sales, and this will directly benefit them as they can now buy their inventory locally," said Frank McCrady, EMCID President and CEO.

Sub Zero Nitrogen Ice Cream Opens

Sub Zero Nitrogen Ice Cream opened a new location in the Valley Ranch Town Center in July, bringing the nitrogen-frozen ice cream and Italian Ice to EMC.

“Sub Zero is a fun and exciting concept that offers ice cream fans a new way to enjoy their favorite frozen treat,” said Keval Petal, franchise owner of the new Sub Zero location.

Just a few days after the New Caney location opened, residents were lined up, almost out of the door, to see what all of the hype is about and to see how the process works.

The new Sub Zero location is the 15th of its kind in Texas, joining the 60-plus Sub Zero locations worldwide along with several additional in development.

Offering customers a unique, science-based ice cream adventure featuring a two-minute transformation from liquid cream to frozen treat using liquid nitrogen, Sub Zero's patented process produces a sensory snack experience creating ice cream that is fresh, creamy and dense through its visually engaging process.

The first Sub Zero Nitrogen Ice Cream shop opened in 2004, after founders Jerry and Naomi Hancock discovered liquid nitrogen is a safe, unique and cost-effective method for creating delicious, customizable ice cream products.

Following an appearance on NBC's "Shark Tank" in 2013, Sub Zero Nitrogen Ice Cream was named Forbes' "10 Best Franchises to Buy in 2017."



Bath & Body Works Splashes into VRTC



Residents were abuzz over the news that Bath & Body Works will open a new location in the Valley Ranch Town Center.

Once the blue and white construction barricades were put up, passersby began to wonder what would be inside the building until the signs revealed Bath & Body Works — a store many residents have requested to open in VRTC.

The new location will also include a White Barn, the company specializing in the popular candles loved by many and traditionally sold in Bath & Body Works.

The newest tenant of VRTC will be located next to Rachael's Hallmark and Ulta Beauty.

They are expected to open sometime this fall.

Electronics Recycling Event to be held Sept. 7



EMCID will host an Electronics Recycling Event Saturday, Sept. 7 at the EMCID parking lot from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. With the help of CompuCycle, most electronics are accepted and will be recycled at no cost.

Accepted Items:

Computer displays (LCD, LED, Plasma), laptops and desktop computers, CRT monitors, servers, hubs, routers, modems and switches, hard drives, memory chips/RAM, processor chips, keyboards and mice, cables and cords, printers, circuit boards/electronic components, fax machines, cell phones, UPS/battery backup, power supplies, PDAs, telephones, toner cartridges (new and used), televisions (CRT TVs up to 36"), televisions (LCD, LED, and plasma), cable TV boxes, DVD/CD/VCR players, game devices (Xbox, Playstation, Nintendo, etc.)

Not Accepted:

Refrigerators, stoves, washer/dryer, microwaves, freezers, irons, air conditioners, rice cookers, space heaters, floor lamps, fans, radios, and stereos, vacuum cleaners, dehumidifiers, light bulbs, oil waste, hazardous materials, speakers, media DLT tapes, cassette tapes, CD Roms, VHS tapes, thumb drives, thermostats, smoke alarms, paint, medical/biohazard waste, solar panels, batteries, such as Alkaline AA, AAA, C, D, 9V, hearing aids, watches.

For questions concerning acceptable and unacceptable items, call CompuCycle at 713-869-6700.



Back to School Bash Blasts Off Sept. 10

Celebrate the new school year at the annual EMCID Back to School Bash on Tuesday, Sept. 10.

EMCID hosts the free festival every year as a way to bring the community together after the summer break and help to get the school year started on the right foot.

During the event, EMCID board members will hand out free school supplies to students attending kindergarten through eighth grade.

Guests will also have the chance to enjoy a bevy of free activities such as games, rides, the Ferris wheel and pick up swag from local businesses. Concessions will be available at a nominal cost. No pre-registration is required. Supplies will be given out on a first-come, first-serve basis.

The fun kicks off at 5 p.m. and lasts until 8 p.m. in the EMCID parking lot located at 21575 U.S. Highway 59; parking is at New Caney ISD Annex.



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COOK A SPECIAL DINNER.

Does your friend have a favorite meal they love or a recipe they've been dying to try? Set aside a little time to prepare a home-cooked meal just for him or her.

PRAISE HIM OR HER TO YOUR KIDS, THEN GET THEM IN ON THE ACT.

Being outspoken to (and in front of) your children regarding your gratitude toward a friend will rub off on them! Take the time to deliberately tell your kids about all the great things this person does for others, and encourage them to say thank you.

BEHAVE IN A GRATEFUL WAY.

Saying "thank you," giving gifts, and telling others aren't quite enough; you have to behave in a grateful way. Make an effort to notice what they do and to respect the work they're putting in for you, on whatever front — whether they're running a business, running the household, or a combination of both.

GIVE A "JUST BECAUSE" GIFT.

Sometimes, a gratitude gift is in order. Purchase something an individual would like to have but might not be willing to buy for themselves, and then attach a little note of thanks before you gift it.

These are all just ideas and they all apply to different situations. The underlying message here is acknowledging others that have made an impact and make your life and the lives of others easier. Please take time to say thank you and appreciate the pleasant surroundings these individuals have created for us.

Jack McCurdy

Scholarship Foundation Gala is Sept. 17

Invest in the education of local students at the annual East Montgomery County Scholarship Foundation Gala on Tuesday, Sept. 17.

The gala each year raises money for the EMCSF, which provides scholarships to students within the boundaries of the East Montgomery County Improvement District.

Held at the EMCID Complex, the evening kicks off with a social hour at 6 p.m. and dinner with a program at 7 p.m. There will be a live and silent auction including a pool table donated by Presidential Billiards, which retails at \$5,500.

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.

Sponsorships starting at \$500 are available as well as individual tickets for \$75 per person. The deadline to register is Sept. 3. For more information, call 281-354-4419.

Right: 2019 graduates Grace Theobald (Porter HS) and Blake Crisman received scholarships from the EMCSF for participating in the work study program.

East Montgomery County Improvement District Complex
21575 U.S. Highway 59 North
New Caney, TX 77357

Gala

EAST MONTGOMERY COUNTY
Scholarship Foundation

Tuesday, September 17, 2019
6 pm Social Hour
7 pm Dinner & Program



Fun Abounds at Fall Extravaganza Oct. 24

Whether the costume is spooky or silly, show them off and enter to win the costume contest at the annual EMCID Fall Extravaganza.

The annual festival is set to haunt the EMCID building and parking lot on Thursday, Oct. 24 from 5-8 p.m. Pre-registration is not required.

The community is invited to this free event where they have to chance to enjoy inflatables, games, a Ferris wheel and other carnival rides as well as a safe place to trick-or-treat since some of the vendors will hand out candy.

While the event is free, there are a few selling food and refreshments that require money.

EMCID board members will also hand out trinkets and other special collectibles for guests.

The costume contest features different age groups and prizes for the winners in each group.



Host An Event or Party at the Ice Rink

The holidays are a time for the family to come in from out of town for a visit and celebrate; what better way to enjoy the time than to rent a private room at the 'A Holiday to Remember' Ice Rink.

Last year was the first year for EMCID to host the 'A Holiday to Remember' Ice Rink for ice skating near the Valley Ranch Town Center.

Due to the popularity from last year's event, the ice skating rink will be open this year from Dec. 21-Jan. 5, longer than last year, and added amenities like the option to rent a private room to host birthday parties, holiday celebrations and more.

Additionally, guests can tell St. Nick about their last-minute wish lists during a visit with Santa on Dec. 21 and 22.

Season passes will be available for \$50 (an \$80 value) which allows skaters to enjoy the rink all 16 days of operation.

For more information, visit www.emctx.com/holidaytoremember2019.





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

**Tuesday,
September
10
5pm - 8pm**

Important Dates

September-October 2019

Labor Day (EMCID Complex Closed)

Greater EMC Chamber Luncheon

Electronics Recycling Event

Back to School Bash

EMC Scholarship Foundation Meeting

EMC Economic Development Corp. Meeting

EMCID Regular Board Meeting

EMC Scholarship Foundation Gala

Greater EMC Chamber Luncheon

EMCID Regular Board Meeting

**Dates subject to change.*

Please visit www.emctx.com/calendar for an up-to-date listing of events.

Sept. 2

Sept. 4

Sept. 7

Sept. 10

*Sept. 12

*Sept. 12

*Sept. 12

Sept. 17

Oct. 2

*Oct. 10

11:30 a.m.

8 a.m.-2 p.m.

5-8 p.m.

12 p.m.

1:30 p.m.

5:30 p.m.

6-8 p.m.

11:30 a.m.

5:30 p.m.

EMCID Complex Atrium

EMCID Complex Parking Lot

EMCID Complex Parking Lot

EMCID Complex, Suite 200

EMCID Complex, Suite 200

EMCID Complex, Suite 103

EMCID Complex Atrium

EMCID Complex Atrium

EMCID Complex, Suite 103

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.