

THE INSIDER

EMCTX.COM

EAST MONTGOMERY COUNTY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

**business
heats up
this
summer!**

**INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION
ELEVATION
LAND SOLUTIONS**
p. 2

**PORTER'S
UNIQUE SHOWROOM**
p.6



INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION



As more businesses flock to the East Montgomery County Industrial Park located on Gene Campbell Blvd., several of the newest companies tout location and growth potential as reasons to move to the area.

By Jennifer Green

The EMC Industrial Park consists of approximately 800 acres of land with additional acreage for expansion and is home to more than 25 businesses such as the Walmart Distribution Center, Lowe's Distribution Center, New Caney Beverage, and a few new facilities – MultiSeal, Titan Environmental USA and Elevation Land Solutions.



Elevation's Houston Region President, Jon Unterreiner, PE, is a long-time resident of the EMC area and has been involved in the community for over 20 years, and is a recent past Chairman of the Greater East Montgomery County Chamber. The firm's corporate office is in The Woodlands.

When asked about the significance of Elevation's new EMC office location Jon said, "After working across the greater Houston region for over 20 years, it's rewarding for my firm to work in the community where I live. Elevation is proud to be part of the business community here and contribute to a region that is growing and thriving."

Since its founding six-and-a-half years ago, Elevation has grown to a 120-person firm. The firm's new EMC office expansion brings new job opportunities to the area in a variety of positions – from administrative team members to surveyors to construction management professionals.



Elevation Land Solutions provides land development, engineering, surveying, and construction management services to help build master-planned communities.

The Elevation team starts with raw land and transforms those spaces into vibrant communities.

Elevation is fortunate to have several projects in the East Montgomery County area. Their new office location in the EMC Industrial Park is designed for 40 employees and allows their construction and survey departments to be in close proximity to area projects.



*To learn more about Elevation, visit
www.elevationlandsolutions.com.*



Business

BRIEFS & HAPPENINGS

What's going on in and around our community.



Raising Cane's

Raising Cane's opened a new location in Valley Ranch Town Center, across the street from Whataburger, at 109 Eagles Run Dr. Focused on fresh chicken tenders, fries, coleslaw and toast; Cane's may be most famous for the tenders and its unique dipping sauce – Cane's Sauce.

Vemex Locksmith

Vemex Locksmith continues to provide locksmith services for the Porter and surrounding communities. Located at 23846 Loop 494, Vemex Locksmith is a family-owned business. "As a family with boys, we want them to inherit a profession that is being forgotten with time. We want our community to experience a unique service that is tailored to their needs, where we can be used as a resource to keep themselves informed to make the best decision," owner Genesis Compean said. "I hope to have a long-lasting relationship with my clients, for them to trust me and believe that I will always try to take care of their needs."



The Food Zone

With the success of the first food truck park, Jesse Flores wanted to bring the same concept but different to the Hwy. 242 area in New Caney. Thus, the Food Zone-Grand Texas came to fruition and celebrated its grand opening in May. Located at 23020 Speed St., in front of Speedsportz Racing Park, the food park features 17 different businesses operating out of remodeled storage containers. The businesses that are currently at the Food Zone-Grand Texas are: Jesse's Burgers and Shakes, Blk Mkt Birria, The Salty Helmet, La Heloteria, Mariscos El Pirata, A-DIP-tive, Jerk Soul Texas, Tacos La Abuela, MMM Crab, Chucky's Brunch Box, Sakurabana Japanese Food, Infuzion Bubble Tea, Space City Wings, Raicez Beer & Wine and many more in the future, including live music.





EMCID TEAM

The Team Spotlight is a new feature of The Insider. Each issue will focus on one or two EMCID employees, written by their co-workers. We'll highlight their personality, character, work ethic and job.

By Brandon Nash



Talina Gilbert

Economic Development Assistant

Since 2017, Talina has been an integral part of the EMCID team. Starting out as a Receptionist and Administrative Assistant, Talina aimed to learn more about the backbone of economic development by taking 4 years of training courses (including an advanced course) with The Community Development Institute (CDI) program, earning her the designation of Professional Community and Economic Developer (PCED). She now works as the Economic Development Assistant here at EMCID.

Prior to joining the team, Talina racked up 25 years of experience in management in the multi-family real estate industry, attended many seminars and real estate programs, and recently completed 180 hours of study at Champions School of Real Estate and obtained her real estate sales license from the Texas Real Estate Commission (TREC).

Included in Talina's growing accomplishments, she has also completed courses with the International Economic Development Council (IEDC): Business Retention & Expansion, Economic Development Credit Analysis, Real Estate Development & Reuse, Economic Development Strategic Planning, and Entrepreneurial & Small Business Development Strategies.

in Sunday school, youth ministry, choir, band, usherette staff, and church office and library. Currently, she and her husband, John, are responsible for overseeing 20 volunteers prepare more than 3,000 meals for an annual convention at the church. Talina has genuine care and concern for the needs of others and is thrilled at the opportunity to utilize her skills and experience here at EMCID.



Talina and her twin granddaughters, Addison and Brenna.



Talina's dream car...the supercar of the 21st century, the Chevrolet Corvette C8.



Talina and her twins, Gelina and George, when they were younger.

When she takes time out of her super-busy schedule, Talina enjoys long bike rides, health and natural remedies, life-long learning, traveling and spending quality time with family and friends. With two sets of twins in the family there is never a dull moment!

She attends the Gospel Assembly Church in Humble where she has previously volunteered

INTERESTING FACTS

Professional License & Certifications: Real Estate Agent, Professional Community and Economic Developer(PCED)

Favorite Foods: Besides free...Mexican and breakfast!

Favorite Music: "The Four Seasons" (Vivaldi), "He Knows My Name" (Francesca Battistelli.)

Favorite Books: *The Bible*, autobiographies, Cookbooks with pictures (currently reading) *Winning the War in Your Mind* (Craig Groeschel.)

Instruments Played: Piano, saxophone and currently learning the violin.

Hobbies: Painting – landscapes and wildflowers, knitting, bicycling, pickleball.

Fun Facts: "I am the mother of twins, George & Gelina and the grandmother of twins, Addison & Brenna. I have been sugar-free for four years! When I was a little girl, I wanted to grow up to be a racecar driver."

SPOTLIGHT

By Jennifer Summer Green



Arianna Fake

Event Coordinator

Providing the best experience and lasting memories for those milestones in life are just a few reasons Atrium Center Event Coordinator Arianna Fake looks forward to coming to work each day.

Arianna knew returning to East Montgomery County – where she grew up – would be the perfect place for her first home and to start her professional career.

At the Atrium Center, Arianna's responsibilities include client booking, client consults, sales, and event planning, to name a few of her duties. She serves as the frontline for clients looking to book the event venue, walks them through the space, aids in the layout of their event and event timeline, and keeps track of their documents and payments. From baby showers, weddings, retirements and everything in between, Arianna loves to make each client feel special and celebrated.

"Working in events feels like a way to serve others. Our clients pour their souls into planning their events, and it is so rewarding to watch their vision come to life. I get to be a part of their most important milestones in life and it's a huge honor," said Arianna. "While events can be hard work and long hours, every time I see a bride kiss her husband for the first time, a mom-to-be loading up her car with more baby clothes than she knows what to do with, or even a quince girl dancing the night away with her friends and family, it makes everything worth it."

To further her education in wedding planning and events, Arianna completed the wedding venue professional certification through Wedding MBA and her Certified Wedding & Event Planner certification through the Wedding Planner Society.

But coming back to her home in East Montgomery County has made all the difference in her personal and professional life.

“EMC provided so much for me growing up. I spent most of my time volunteering or being a part of community events and organizations!”
~Arianna

"By coming back and working in events, I can reconnect with everyone who has supported me along the way, but I also get to be a part of many important things that make our community

great. I'm honored to give back to the community that gave me so much."

Arianna continued, "I also love being an active part of the growth in our community. EMC has so much to offer and immense untapped potential. Watching our new future unfold, piece by piece, every day is a surreal experience. It is such a joy watching new and old pieces of our area coming together to make a new EMC, and I can't wait to see what the future holds for all of us and the opportunities that will arise."

When she is not working, Arianna loves to read, travel, and spend time with her family. She also rescues and fosters lots of animals (all kinds) – their house is usually full of fur babies that need extra love and attention.

INTERESTING FACTS

Favorite Movies & TV: *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, *Halloween Town*, and *The Grinch* (obviously, I love Halloween and Christmas.) "Friends", "Gilmore Girls", "Good Witch" and "Once Upon a Time."

Favorite Foods: Pasta or steak. I also love movie theater popcorn.

Favorite Songs: I don't know if I have a favorite song, but I love country music and Elvis.

Favorite Books: *Tattooist of Auschwitz* (Heather Morris), *The Hunting Party* (Lucy Foley), *Before We Were Yours* (Lisa Wingate), *Orphan Train* (Christina Baker Kline), *The Honey Bus* (Meredith May).

Fun Facts: "I'm super proud of my husband, Aidan, for being in the Coast Guard for five years. While being a military spouse can be challenging, I couldn't be more proud of who he is and what he's accomplished."

I became a Certified Wedding Planner to better serve our clients and give myself the resources to help make each wedding at The Atrium Center the best possible.

I am working towards a Destination Management Specialist certification with TACVB (Texas Association of Convention & Visitor Bureaus) to be able to shine a bright light on our wonderful community and all we have to offer. I want to be able to share EMC with the world and this DMS certification puts me on the path to do so.

(Surprise!!) My husband and I are expecting our first baby in November! I've always wanted to be a mom and I am so blessed to be welcoming this little one into the world this year."

Porter's **UNIQUE SHOWROOM** Focuses on *Customer Experience*

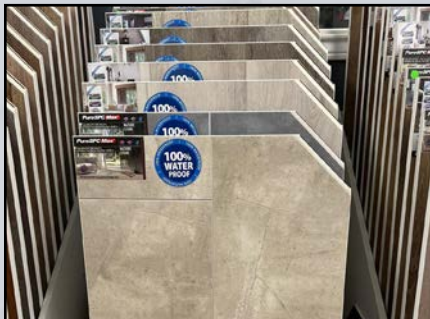
By Jennifer Green



As more homeowners decide to stay in their current homes amid the rise in interest rates and home prices, Unique Showroom in Porter has experienced an increase in their business that focuses on custom home remodels, and kitchen and bath remodeling projects.

Unique Showroom has operated in the East Montgomery County area for more than 25 years and opened a 6,000-square-foot showroom in Porter to allow customers to see the different textures in person. The showroom features the latest selections in kitchens, bathrooms, fixtures, hardware, accessories, lighting, granite, tile, porcelain, wood floors, laminates, carpet and more.

"We knew this was the perfect location for a showroom since there were no other kitchen and bathroom remodeling companies in this area," said Adriana DiSevo with Unique Showroom. "This is my husband, Sergio's dream. He has worked in construction and remodeling for many years. His vision was to build this showroom and what made our business what it is today. Another facet of our business is our customer service. We want to make sure our customers are taken care of and that we have a good relationship with them."



They also feature a bevy of flooring choices like porcelain, ceramic tile, hardwoods, laminates, and carpets. Unique Showroom has a flooring professional who can assist in finding what exactly will fit your lifestyle.



The owners of Unique Showroom continue to provide customer service with a showroom where they can physically see how it would fit into their home décor.



"Our goal is to provide our customers with quality service at affordable prices," said Adriana. "We design it your way, not our way. Our professional designer can custom design a new kitchen or bathroom to suit your lifestyle."

Unique Showroom is located at 22672 Ford Rd. in Porter.
For more information, call 281-577-9009 or visit <https://uniqueshowroom.com/>.

The East Montgomery County Improvement District features local businesses within its boundaries as a courtesy and to shine a light on small, medium, and large businesses in our community. If you would like to be featured, send an email to Jennifer Green at jgreen@emctx.com.

SIGN UP

The Insider
InSights



**BACK 2
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FROM THE COMMISSIONER'S DESK

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www.mctxpct4.org

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We know Texas weather can be unpredictable. When a disaster strikes, Precinct 4 crews are some of the first on the scene to ensure that roads are clear for first responders. During a rain event, Precinct 4 is also responsible for barricading roads with high water.

In May, a fast moving wind storm, similar to a tornado, left a path of destruction through Montgomery County. Although Precinct 4 was fortunate and did not receive the brunt of the damage, Precinct 1, specifically the Willis area, was left without power, damaged homes and vehicles, and many roads blocked with down trees and storm debris. Within a few hours, Precinct 4 crews were en route to assist with clearing the roads and continued assisting with debris cleanup for several days, loading over 80 truckloads of debris.



From tornadoes to hurricanes, Commissioner Gray and the Precinct 4 team have been refining its disaster response to prepare for any weather event. With flooding as one of East Montgomery County's top threats, your preparedness during hurricane season makes a difference in how you are able to respond and recover from a hurricane.

Throughout it all, Precinct 4 is here to help. To request service, call 936-597-4444 or email contactp4@mctx.org.



Commissioner Matt Gray



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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.