

ENVIRONMENT: West Enders want park board to clean up seaweed » A3

GALVESTON  COUNTY

The Daily News.

TEXAS' OLDEST NEWSPAPER • PUBLISHING SINCE 1842 • CELEBRATING 176 YEARS

COURT | \$1 MILLION LAWSUIT

Investigation into fatal Saturday crash continues

By **MATT DEGROOD**
The Daily News

» **GALVESTON**

A man who was injured in the Saturday car crash that killed wrecker driver Gary Dubose has filed a lawsuit against a Galveston woman implicated in the wreck. Galveston attorney Jonathan

Zendeh Del filed a lawsuit Monday against Dianna Hoyler, 52, of Galveston, on behalf of Eulogio Soto, seeking more than \$1 million in damages, court records show.

Soto was struck by a state trooper's patrol car after it was struck by a vehicle that had swerved off the Interstate 45 ser-

vice road, Zendeh Del said.

Soto, who was in the hospital Monday with seven broken ribs and two cracked vertebrae, had been standing outside his car speaking with the trooper when he was struck and severely injured, the lawsuit asserts.

Hoyler has not been charged in connection with the crash

and crash investigators had not named her as the driver of the car that left the road.

The driver of that car was still in the hospital Monday afternoon and officials with the Galveston County District Attorney's Office said they planned to file charges upon her release.

"We have not determined

which charge at this time," Assistant District Attorney Patrick Gurski said.

Dubose, 58, the state trooper and several others were near The Daily News' building just off the freeway service road because the

See CRASH » A7

COURT | CHANGE-OF-VENUE HEARING

Accused Santa Fe shooter makes first court appearance

By **JOHN WAYNE FERGUSON**
The Daily News

» **GALVESTON**

For the first time since his arrest on May 18, 2018, in connection with the most deadly school shooting in Texas history, Dimitrios Pagourtzis appeared in an open courtroom Monday.

Wearing a green Galveston County Jail jumpsuit, chained around the waist and handcuffed, Pagourtzis, 19, was led into the courtroom minutes before the start of a hearing during which attorneys argued whether his trial, still months away, should be moved out of Galveston County.

Pagourtzis is accused of killing 10 people and shooting 14 others inside Santa Fe High School on May 18, 2018.

He is charged with capital murder of multiple persons and aggravated assault of a public servant and has been held without bond since his arrest.

In a hearing punctuated at times by a passing thunderstorm, Pagourtzis' lawyer argued he should receive the same treatment as others accused of mass murder.

The trials of Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh, serial killer Ted Bundy and Washington

See COURT » A7



JENNIFER REYNOLDS/The Daily News

Dimitrios Pagourtzis, the Santa Fe High School student accused of killing 10 people in a 2018 shooting at the school, is escorted by Galveston County Sheriff's Office deputies into the jury assembly room for a change of venue hearing at the Galveston County Courthouse in Galveston on Monday.

COMING WEDNESDAY

The Port of Galveston presents a long-awaited master plan outlining its hopes for future growth.

GOVERNMENT FLOODING PROJECTS

County pulls drainage district off legislative agenda

By **JOHN WAYNE FERGUSON**
The Daily News

» **GALVESTON**

Two weeks after a split commissioners court voted to urge state legislators to help create a new drainage district in Galveston County, a slightly less split court voted to walk back that idea.

In a 4-1 vote Monday, commissioners removed the proposal from its legislative agenda. Only Commissioner Stephen Holmes voted against the removal. He did not explain why.

Commissioner Ken Clark on Feb. 12 pitched the idea to consolidate parts of Galveston County into a single large drainage district to create an entity that

See DRAINAGE » A7

GOVERNMENT | DISASTER AID

HUD releases \$652 million for flood mitigation projects

By **KATHRYN EASTBURN**
The Daily News

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has approved \$652 million in disaster aid for Hurricane Harvey re-

covery efforts in Texas, Housing Secretary Ben Carson and Texas Gov. Greg Abbott announced Monday.

The money is in addition to \$5 billion in Community Development Block Grant disaster recov-

ery aid the federal housing department already had approved for programs in Texas, officials said.

Carson and Abbott met in Washington mid-day, then made the announcement jointly during

a telephone news conference.

"I know you agree that recovery can't ever happen fast enough and these dollars take years to draw down, but HUD will do everything it can to make the process go smoothly," Carson said.

Rules related to applying for and allocating the money would be published "in coming weeks," Carson said.

The \$652 million in addition-

See HUD » A7

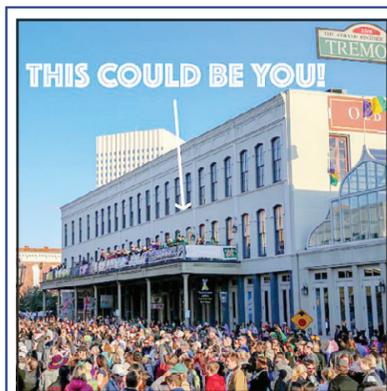
INDEX ABBY B4 **LOTTERY** A2 **MARKETS** A6 **OBITUARIES** B6 **OPINION** A4 **PUZZLES** B4 **SPORTS** B1



Vol. 176, No. 320



© 2019 The Galveston County Daily News



Join us as we LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL!
Krewe d' Throwdown Downtown
FRIDAY, MARCH 1st, 5pm to ?
OLD GALVESTON SQUARE 23rd and STRAND
For tickets and information go to www.downtowngalveston.org
Includes Tickets into Downtown Area, Balcony Space, Beads, Dwayne Milburn's World Famous Shrimp Bienville, Three Drink Tickets
Proceeds will go to a Downtown Decoration Fund to provide additional Seasonal and Holiday street and building lights.

