

LATEST NEWS

Slanted Stories from our Press Room



Santa Claus is coming.... to jail!

It was a lovely time at the December Farmers Market in Clear Lake Shores. Santa Claus was there for three days in a row, and little kids sat on his lap and told him what they wanted for Christmas while their parents happily snapped pictures. Only a police surveillance team knew that this Santa had been a very naughty boy.

Glenn Klusendorf, 45, has been living with his mother in Clear Lake Shores for the past couple of months. After he left Houston in October, a 13 year-old girl came forward and told authorities that Klusendorf had been sexually molesting her for years, starting when she was only 7 years old.

Clear Lake Shores police knew the case was being investigated, and placed the suspect under surveillance. That's when they found out he was playing Santa. As soon as warrants were prepared, they scooped him up and took him to jail, where he is still being held on \$60,000 bond. He is not expected to be out in time for Christmas.

Shoot-em-up Sanders Cleared in Attack on Local Dog

Back in October, a LaMarque Police Officer made the news when she fired off a few rounds at a dog. 30 year-old Sabrina Sanders, a LaMarque patrol officer, believed the dog was attacking a woman. It later was reported that the dog was merely playing around, and no one was ever in any danger – until the officer arrived.

Luckily for the dog, Officer Sanders' aim wasn't too good that day, and she missed the dog with all but one shot, which hit him in a hind leg. Fragments of concrete where the bullets struck the ground also hit the 23 year-old woman who was playing with the dog. She was taken to the hospital believing she had been shot – but her injuries turned out to be minor. Her family told reporters that they felt the officer had overreacted.

Sanders was placed on desk duty and the story went viral on the internet. Valid questions were asked: Why didn't she use pepper spray if she thought the dog was attacking? Why fire bullets in such close proximity to the "victim"? What kind of police officer fires 5 shots at close range and misses? Was she inept? Trigger-happy? Both?

The Galveston County Grand Jury looked into this case last month and found that Sanders did nothing criminally wrong – meaning she won't be charged with Reckless Discharge of a Firearm or some similar offense. However, the incident will also be investigated by the LaMarque Police Department before Sanders can get off the desk and back into a squad car. I cannot ever remember an internal review finding that any officer has ever done anything wrong, so it's safe to say that Sanders will soon be back on patrol in LaMarque. This incident illustrates precisely why legendary lawman Andy Taylor only gave Barney one bullet, and made him keep it in his shirt pocket.

New Owners At The Hard Luck Hotel

Cruising down NASA Road One just outside of Seabrook, you can see the only skyscraper in the vicinity – a 30 story structure called Endeavor that was completed in 2007. Within months of completion there were financial problems, and the property slipped toward foreclosure and filed for bankruptcy protection. They did manage to sell 36 of the condominiums before finally biting the granite last May.

Around the beginning of December the ill-fated venture got new owners, Richmore Properties LLC of Houston holding the main stake. Richmore bought the 44 unsold units for a total of about \$10 million. According to scyscraperpage.com, the building is worth \$117 million, so it looks on paper like Richmore got a deal.

But let's go back to March of 2008, when Endeavor's founding partner Robin Parsley told business reporter Ruth Rendon of the Houston Chronic that all of the units but ten had been sold. Apparently, Parsley was telling a big fat lie. In December of 2008, the company said the project was 50% sold and closed on, 40% sold but not yet closed, and 10% unsold. This was also a lie. According to the Harris County Appraisal District, these lies were being told at a time when only 13 of the units had actually been closed on. Two months later Endeavor was desparately offering unsold units as monthly rentals!

Rumors abounded at the time that Matthew McConaughey and/or Johnny Depp had bought condos there. These rumors most likely originated with the desperate sales staff and/or management of the project - who else would gain from such a ridiculous idea? Apparently it didn't help much, as actual buyers were few and far between.

As for the view, those who have been up high in the tower say the view is lovely. So there are about a dozen people who are pleased with the view. But people who live around the tower have called it an eyesore, and widely refer to it as "the penis on the lake".

The consensus of people I have talked to seems to be that Endeavor failed because an ugly building was built in a bad location by greedy liars in hopes that enough idiots could be found to pay ridiculously high prices for crappy apartments. Booyah!

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I tried sniffing Coke once, but the ice cubes got stuck in my nose.