Baytown police seeking Walmart bank robber

By Matt Hollis
mhollis@baytownsun.com

Baytown police are looking for a man who robbed a bank inside the Garth Road Walmart.

According to police, a bank employee of the Woodforest National Bank inside the Walmart Supercenter on Garth Road and shortly before noon Saturday a man approached the counter and handed her a note. The note read, “No alarms, I need $2,000 in all $100 bills and no bands.”

Police spokesman Lt. Luzette Watkins said the employee handed over the money and the man left the area in an older white Toyota van.

Watkins added that the man did not display a firearm.

The suspect is described as a white male, approximately 60 years old, with average build and short white hair.

The bank was open on Monday. Anyone with information on the robbery is encouraged to contact Baytown CrimeStoppers. You can call, text or fill out an online form anonymously.

Baytown CrimeStoppers are 281-247-TIPS (8477) or text keyword “Baytown” plus the tip to 247036 (RİMES) or fill out a form at baytown.org/crime-stoppers.

City boosts mass notification system

By Matt Hollis
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Whether there is an emergency situation, it is best to warn as many people as possible as soon as possible.

This could be an active shooter or a severe weather event and even a few seconds of warning can save lives.

To move to help keep citizens and government employees safe in the event of a crisis, the Greater Baytown Chambers County Local Emergency Planning Committee has deployed an innovative mass notification system from Alerts Technologies.

“The Alerts Emergency Notification System is a comprehensive solution that can be implemented anywhere and activated quickly and effectively,” said Alerts spokesman.

Field Day Fun

By Christopher James
christopher.james@baytownsun.com

Baytown Christmas parade giant, Ike Texas Avenue ahead of the 2016 event. This year’s parade is on Dec. 1. The city of Baytown’s ice skating rink at Town Square will open the day after Thanksgiving and will remain open from 6 to 10 p.m., seven days a week. Skating hours will be limited to 1 to 5 p.m. on Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve. The rink will be closed on Christmas Day and New Year’s Day.

Ice skating rink slated to open Friday

By Christopher James
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The Christmas tree has been raised, ice has been made and lifeguards are in training for Baytown’s one and only ice rink opening for the Christmas season.

On Friday, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., the Town Square Ice Rink (213 W. Texas Ave.) will be open to the public.

Skating costs $5 a person ($4 for children under 48 inches tall), which includes skates.

“Everything is going well,” said Parks and Recreation Director Scott Johnson. “We have the ice made, the rink is up and it’s ready to go.”

Barring any rainfall Friday, the ice rink will be open 8 a.m. – noon for the December Farmers Market, Dec. 17.

Furthermore, the rink will be open from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. during Christmas on Texas Avenue on Dec. 3 and on Snow Day, Jan. 5, and will be open an 8 a.m. – noon for the December Farmers Market, Dec. 17.

The Town Square Ice Rink will close for the season at 10 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 8. Private rentals are also available during non-standard hours at $150 per hour. The Parks and Recreation Department is training lifeguards from the City of Baytown for the last 30 years. “And when you see our billboards around town that say ‘And when you see our billboards around town that say ‘No. 1 hometown ER, it’s because we think the success is because of our local influence, which has been here forever.’”

Two years ago, Lee College alumni Jonathan Bohannon and Jeanie Shipp opened the doors to their own freestanding emergency room in Baytown.

On Monday, the two former nurses turned the two-year anniversary of Patients ER by inviting the future to Baytown for the second annual “2nd Annual Patients ER 2nd Annual”.

Bohannon and Shipp—an ER doctor and nurses from the Baytown ER—were the busiest freestanding ERs in Texas, according to the 2016 J.D. Power and Associates Consumer Survey.

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“Everything is going well,” said Parks and Recreation Director Scott Johnson. “Once the sun goes down it can be chilly, especially in-
**Body found in Highlands ID'd**

Tompkins was found dead in a fresh water body on October 19, 2016 in Houston, Texas. According to the medical examiners, the cause of death has yet to be determined.

Family said the 80-year-old resident was an avid golfer and had warned his family that day that he might have drowned in the water for a long period of time and described the circumstances as suspicious. The death was initially difficult to determine.

A computer app is available to help with the search. Baytown and Deer Park police will be on the lookout for a body that fits the description of the victim. The police said the victim was last seen wearing a white t-shirt and blue shorts.

Anyone with information is asked to call the Homicide Unit at 281-843-2013 or 281-427-2123. Baytown residents can contact the Baytown Police Department at 281-421-1791. Deer Park residents can contact the Deer Park Police Department at 281-573-3058.

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**Enrique Navar Sr.**

Enrique Navar Sr., 74, was killed on November 19, 2016 in Houston, Texas. He was one of the most influential figures in the Texas music industry. His legacy continues to inspire musicians and music lovers around the world.

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**CISD choirs score big in region vocal auditions**

Goose Creek CISD's secondary level fine arts students have been performing in the region in honor of the late Governor Ann Richards. The Governor's Fund for the Arts has been funding these choirs for several years, with the goal of providing students with the opportunity to perform at the highest level possible.

The district is proud to announce that all three choirs from Goose Creek CISD (Symphonic Wind, Jazz Band, and Symphonic Band) have received Superior ratings in the 2016-2017 academic year. This is the fourth consecutive year that the district has received Superior ratings, and the first time in the history of the Governor's Fund for the Arts that all three choirs have received Superior ratings.

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**Volunteer meeting for community feast Wednesday**

The Baytown Community Council is hosting the 20th annual Thanksgiving Day feast on November 22, 2017. The feast will be held at the Baytown Municipal Auditorium, 1111 Market Street, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to help serve the dinner. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 22, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at the Baytown Community Center, 1111 Market Street, Baytown, Texas.

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**Family owned & operated**

Baytown Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator Ryan Holzapefel talks about how to handle an alert in a public school. He explains the importance of having a clear and concise message and the need for timely communication.

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**Family owned & operated**

Morgan says that the community needs more awareness and education about the dangers of exposure to chemicals.

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