



City of Friendswood Business News

2nd Quarter | June 2018

City Council Approves \$100,000 Grant for New Downtown 4-Story Commercial Building



[505 S. Friendswood Drive](#)

On May 7, City Council approved a \$100,000 municipal grant for Tannos Land Holdings, III to construct a new four-story, 63,400 square foot building that recently broke ground in downtown at 505 S. Friendswood Drive. The new \$10 million downtown building will feature retail and restaurants on the ground floor and office space on upper floors as well as be the future address of national tenants employing more than 200 persons.

Since 2008, the City has awarded \$297,000 to businesses through the Municipal Grant Program, which, in turn has created \$28.33 million in taxable value, added 183,187 square feet of commercial space, and created or retained 396 jobs in the city. For more information about City incentives and commercial development opportunities, contact 281-996-3257.

Construction Updates



[Bergamos Retreat](#), located at 313 E. Edgewood Drive, will open in July after an extensive expansion and remodel that includes new spa rooms



[Lary's Florist and Designs'](#) new downtown building is nearing completion with plans to open July 2. The development, known as Magnolia Plaza, has two commercial

and other amenities including Vichy rooms, Himalayan salt cave, men's lounge with whirlpool tub, sauna and steam room, women's wet area that will add a Frigia, or snow room, private pedicure areas, wax only rooms, spray tan room and apothecary. The renovated spa will include a yoga studio, blow dry hair bar, wine bar and café'.

buildings of 6,250 square feet available for lease, with the first ready for occupancy. Lary's will offer floral, wedding and events services, as well as interior design. The new store will carry furniture, rugs, lighting and be a resource for local interior designers.



[HighPoint Insurance Group's](#) new 28,725 square foot building at 4300 FM 2351 should be finished by September. Approximately 10,000 square feet of office space will be available for lease on the second floor.



[The Beldon Apartments](#) at 601 N. Friendswood Drive are about 60 percent finished and expects to open by the end of this year. The property will have 108 single-story units with a mix of one bedroom (56 units) 2 bedrooms (44 units) and 2 bedroom with a den (8 units). Other amenities include an office and amenity center, banquet room, outdoor pavilion, great room, library, fitness room, private therapy room, and a 22-seat theatre.



[Rancho Mexican Restaurant's](#) new 5,000 square foot building at 2131 W. Parkwood Avenue may be open in 2-3 more months. Last year, the \$1.19 million restaurant was awarded a \$12,000 municipal grant from the City.



[DC Stanley Photography's](#) new 6,951 square foot building in downtown is underway. The two-story building at 316 Morningside Drive should be ready later this year with 1,700 square feet available for lease.



Live Here Work Here

Featuring Derek Maetzold, Founder, President and CEO, Castle Biosciences, Incorporated



When Derek Maetzold, a leader in the biopharmaceutical industry for 25 years, had the opportunity to live and work almost anywhere he wanted, he chose Friendswood. Fifteen years later, his wife, Sharon, and their four children (all Friendswood High School graduates) are glad they did.

Derek has not only a happy family but a highly successful business, Castle Biosciences, founded in 2007 and located at 820 S. Friendswood Drive. It has 20 Friendswood employees and 50 more working in Phoenix and scattered across the country in home offices.

Derek moved here from New Jersey in 2003 to lead the commercial organization of a public biotechnology company near the Galleria. “When the time came to establish and open our own business, there was never any doubt that we could attract the right talent if we located our business in Friendswood,” Derek said.



Since then, Castle Biosciences has successfully overseen the discovery, development, and commercialization of five diagnostic and prognostic cancer tests. More are in the pipeline. They currently offer two cancer tests commercially: for a rare melanoma of the eye and for patients diagnosed with cutaneous or skin melanoma. “DecisionDX-UM, the eye melanoma test, is the standard of care in the U.S. and is ordered in seven out of ten patients that are diagnosed each year,” Derek said. “This level of use of a prognostic test is unheard of and a testament to the clinical value that physicians who treat this disease receive from our test results,” he added.



The skin melanoma test, “DecisionDX-Melanoma” has a market adoption curve similar to the eye test, due to the important clinical value of the test, Derek said.

Although the Maetzold’s youngest child will soon graduate from Texas A&M, Derek said that he and Sharon plan to continue to Live Here, Work Here, “because of the people and location.”

That is good news for Friendswood because of the groundbreaking medical work Castle Biosciences is doing and because they are projecting a fifty-percent growth in personnel by the end of 2019.



Business News

New businesses:

- AMCO Insurance, 149 N. Friendswood Drive
- Athens Health & Massage, 1309 W. Parkwood Ave., #103
- Tannos Land Holdings, III, 505 S. Friendswood Drive

- Victoria's Nails & Spa, 2111 W. Parkwood Ave., #101
- Edward Jones, 1110 S. Friendswood Dr., #104
- Hair by Marcela, 3680 E. FM 528
- Bookkeeping and Payroll Service, 512 N. Friendswood Dr., #108
- Resilient Pathways Therapy, PLLC., 907 S. Friendswood Dr., #215
- Third Coast Bank, SSB, 907 S. Friendswood Dr., #219
- Serenity Psychotherapy, 907 S. Friendswood Dr., #217
- Titan T-Center, 347 E. Parkwood Ave., Suite A
- AveNew Funding, LLC, 306 W. Edgewood Dr., Ste. A
- Snowflake Donuts, 802 S. Friendswood Dr., #108
- Fab & Body Med Spa, LLC, 907 S. Friendswood Dr., #101
- Platinum Properties, 907 S. Friendswood Dr., #107
- Visions & Traditions Realty, 400 W. Parkwood Ave., #116
- Everything Insurance Agency, 512 N. Friendswood Dr., #108

Business relocations/expansions/remodels:

- Wells Fargo, 200 W. Parkwood Ave.



2018 Single-family home building permits

Month	#Homes	Valuation (in millions)
January	8	\$3.33
February	15	\$6.90
March	25	\$9.28
April	14	\$5.05
May	10	\$4.27
Total	72	\$28.83

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