

HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

# Star Courier

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2018

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

These stories in the **PRESS:**

- Digital Media @ Sterling Library
- Year in Review 2017
- .....And more, Page 3

**IN THE STARS**

**JANUARY 5-7**

**39TH ANNUAL "CHILI WHEN IT'S CHILLY" COOK-OFF**

Jan. 5 (5-11 pm) - Jan. 6 (10 am - 11 pm), 2018 at Baytown Fairgrounds, 7900 North Main St., Baytown, TX. 77520, invites Houston Metro Go Texan Committee Baytown/Highlands Subcommittee.

**JANUARY 17 & 24 MAY COMMUNITY CENTER EVENTS**

•Salad and Spud Luncheon!!  
Wednesday, January 17, 2018 from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Come out and join for a salad and big baked potato with all the fixins! Suggested \$5.00 donation.

•Bunco  
Wednesday, January 24, 2018 from 10:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. Suggested \$3.00 donation. Brunch will be served and you could win some prizes! Please call or come by the center to sign up for these events at May Community Center, 2100 Wolf Rd., Huffman, TX 77336, 713-274-2434.

**SAT., FEBRUARY 3 CHILI FEAST**

Highlands Rotary Club's 43rd Annual Chili Feast Raffle & Auction at St. Jude's Catholic Church, 808 S. Main Street, Highlands, 11 am - 3 pm. Live auction 12:30 p.m. Win a new 2018 Chevy Camaro or 2018 Chevrolet Equinox from Turner Chevrolet, Your Choice!. Call 713-252-8000 for tickets.

**BIRTHDAYS**

- Jan 1—Linda Strickland
- Jan 2—Eleanor Prescott Cris Taylor
- Jan 5—Bernice Leissner Marvin Baker Marie Bobalik Brandon Taylor
- Jan 6—Janci New
- Jan 10—William H. Smith Tristan Brumfield

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- Jan 2—Bruce & Theresa Abbott
- Jan 5—Dale & Natalie Smith
- Jan 6—George & Barbara Bush
- Jan 9—Vernon & Allie Skrabanak
- Jan 11—C.J. & Retha Meineke

**DEATHS**

- Ian Thomas Davis

## Plea for Lake Houston area recovery started

*Plea for 3: Remediation, Reduction, Representation*

LAKE HOUSTON – Early in December officials and some representatives launched a campaign to reduce flooding in the area around the lake.

The project began with the Lake Houston Area Chamber of Commerce when board members discovered that over half of their area businesses had been damaged by Hurricane Harvey.

According to the State of Texas Houston lost about 25,000 jobs in September of 2017.

“So far the State of Texas has issued no plans regarding funding for either short-term or long-term remediation and/or pre-

See *Lake Houston Recovery*, Page 8



Hurricane Harvey flooded the Lake Houston area at the end of August, 2017.

## Crosby ISD recognizes student achievements



Crosby FFA was recognized at the Semester's end Board of Trustees Crosby ISD on Dec. 18 at the Crosby High School Auditorium. Katie McGinnis, Cassie Morrison, Gabby Delauri, Paul Odom presented First place in district Agriculture Issues Contest and advanced to the Area Contest, Crosby took 2nd place in District Radio Broadcasting and advanced to areacontest Blake Anderson and Taylor Pharis. Brandt Wright was 5th in Class at the State Fair with a Dark Cross Pig, Austin Eilers' Reserve Champion Swine and Reserve Champion Lamb at the Harris County Fair.

See *Students Recognized*, Page 8

## 43rd Rotary Chili Feast set for February 3rd

HIGHLANDS – Anticipation is growing for the annual Chili Feast held by the Rotary Club as a fund raiser.

700 tickets are sold for the raffle, which features a new 2018 car or SUV, and 13 other expensive prizes. This year the car shown is a Camaro from Turner Chevrolet, or a Chevy Equinox SUV. The winner has a choice of color, or even model.

Tickets are available from any Rotarian, and select businesses throughout the Highlands and Crosby community.

For ticket information, or to donate a prize for the silent and live auctions, call Patricia Scott at 281-426-3558 or John Seaton at 281-460-7743.



Chili Feast chairman John Seaton, right, hands a raffle ticket to Rotary co-president Patricia Scott as the club prepares for the last few weeks of ticket sales. The \$100 ticket entitles you to two chili lunches (Chester's Secret Recipe) and one chance in 700 of winning a new 2018 car or SUV similar to the Camaro shown in the photo.

## YEAR IN REVIEW 2017

from the compiled files of the STAR COURIER

**JANUARY**

Sherman Eagleton is sworn in as new Precinct 3 Constable.

House in Highlands vandalized, with graffiti spray painted.

Rotary selling Chili Feast tickets, Diana Weaver and Steve Dobbs in SC photo.

Tractor Supply will open store in Crosby. Highlands Fire Department names Ruben Lopez, Jr. as Firefighter of the Year. Kevin Parker received a Heroism Award.

Highlands Chamber swears in new board. Houston Rodeo announces entertainers for 2017, with eleven new acts.

Postage Rates increase, now 49c for a first class letter.

Scott Stephens appointed new head of national organization to prevent Sudden Cardiac Arrest in Youth, Parent Heart Watch.

**FEBRUARY**

Huffman FFA holds 45th annual Livestock show. Crosby Fire Department honors Warren Thompson as Firefighter of the Year. Kevin Parker received a Heroism Award.

ROTARY held their 42nd Annual Chili Feast on Saturday, Feb. 4th. The new car was won by Malcolm Butler, a three time winner! Approximately \$90,000 was raised for community projects.

The Crosby Bras For a Cause organization held their annual auction, and raised \$145,000 for the fight against cancer.

Highlands ROTARY attends the city-wide All-Club meeting, with 10 members and spouses.

Precinct 3 Deputy Terry Faughtenbery found dead in his patrol car on US90, of natural causes.

Highlands Chamber awards the Terry Davis Award to Judge Mike Parrott. Outstanding Organization award went to the Highlands Volunteer Fire Department.

DA Kim Ogg announces she won't prosecute minor marijuana cases.

**MARCH**

A carjacking occurred at the Highlands Car Wash on Main Street. A father and his 2 year old child were held at gunpoint, and his pickup truck taken.

Harris County is testing water quality in additional wells in Highlands and Channelview.

Crosby Chamber awarded school superintendent Dr. Keith Moore the Citizen of the Year, and Turner Chevrolet as Business of the Year.

Baytown Kennel Club holds show in Crosby Arena. Highlands ROTARY hears details of the Houston Rodeo from Gary McHenry.

New SHOWBIZ CINEMA opens on Beltway 8 in East Harris County.

Marcelous-Williams Resource Center held a forum on Immigration policies and their affect on local schools.

San Jacinto River Coalition heard a report on pollution problems in our area from Harris County officials.

Attorney Judy Robinson retires, new attorney Luci Rendon opens her office in Highlands.

Pct. 2 starts repaving local roads. JROTC Building in Crosby named for Medal of Honor recipient David McNerney.

Crosby Chamber holds a forum on "Citizens and Law Enforcement against Crime" with Sheriffs and Constables attending.

Judge Joe Stephens holds his first Teen Court. Highlands Little League opens the season with a Parade and games.

A SWAT Task Force raids a house in the Crosby suburbs on Apache Lane, seizing drugs and guns.

**APRIL**

Pct. 3 Asst. Chief Deputy Constable Clint Greenwood is shot and killed by an unknown assailant at the courthouse in Baytown. One week later, police find the killer, Bill Kenny, dead of a suicide in Houston.

Crosby Library is named in honor of historian Edith Fae Cook Cole.

Ronnie Milsap plays at a concert for the Crosby Fair & Rodeo.

San Jacinto Day Re-enactment held April 22 at the Monument grounds.

Crosby Rodeo announces entertainers, Roger Creager, Kevin Fowler, Randy Rogers, Josh Ward.

See *YEAR IN REVIEW*, Page 6

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★ COMMUNITY NEWS ★

# Don Coffey files for re-election

Don Coffey, Justice of the Peace for Precinct 3, Place 2, has filed for re-election in the March 6th Democratic primary. Judge Coffey was first elected in 2010 after receiving seventy-nine percent of the votes in the run-off election. He was unopposed in 2014.



Judge Don Coffey

Since becoming Justice of the Peace, Judge Coffey has worked to eliminate the school to prison pipeline that existed when he was first elected. His experience in the Texas Senate created strong relationships with lawmakers that made it possible to change the truancy laws that were not working. At the time he took office, every year over four hundred thousand (400,000) tickets were being written to school children as young as 10 years old with fines of \$500 per ticket. Judge Coffey states, "When I became the Judge, I inherited over 5,000 arrest warrants for children with fines totaling over one million dollars. These children and young adults were faced with a grim future. For many, their only solution was to serve time in jail. We got the law changed, and now truancy is a civil matter so the children don't have to go through life with a criminal record; I was able to shred all 5,000 of those arrest warrants. Statewide, there were over 50,000 warrants hanging over the youth of Texas. When the law passed, all 50,000 were eliminated." State Senator John Whitmire, State Representative Senfronia Thompson, Representative Harold Dutton, Commissioner Rodney Ellis, Senator John Whitmire, Senator Borris Miles, Senator Sylvia Garcia, Constable Sherman Eagleton,

working with them to eliminate the school to prison pipeline.

Judge Coffey is a licensed attorney Justice of the Peace, which is an advantage for Precinct 3. As an attorney Justice of the Peace, he can issue search warrants for property and items of evidence showing a crime has been committed. He has worked with the constable and sheriff on warrants to draw blood for No Refusal weekends and with the Baytown Police department on drug cases. Judge Coffey states, "Because I am the first attorney JP for Precinct 3, the law enforcement agencies have a new tool for crime enforcement that they have not had before. Many times I am the only Judge the police can find late at night to sign search warrants for urgent situations. I am proud to be a part of making Precinct 3 a safer place to live."

Democrats supporting Judge Coffey include Representative Senfronia Thompson, Representative Harold Dutton, Commissioner Rodney Ellis, Senator John Whitmire, Senator Borris Miles, Senator Sylvia Garcia, Constable Sherman Eagleton,

Constable May Walker, Constable Alan Rosen, Constable Chris Diaz, Sheriff Ed Gonzalez, Congressman Gene Green, Representative Armando Walle, Representative Carol Alvarado, and Representative Ana Hernandez.

Judge Coffey has practiced law in Baytown since 1993 and is the past president of the local bar association. Prior to becoming an attorney, he worked in the Texas Senate while attending law school. Before entering law, school he worked for Exxon for ten years in the Baytown refinery where both his father and grandfather retired. Fresh out of high school, he worked for the United States Post Office as a letter carrier for four years starting at the age of seventeen.

Judge Coffey is a Magna cum Laude graduate of the University of Houston with a Bachelor of Science degree. He earned his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Houston School of Law in 1992. He is also a graduate of Lee College and was named to the Lee College Hall of Fame. He was born and raised in Baytown and has been married to his wife, Jenice, since 1978. They have one son, Stephen, who is an attorney in Washington, D.C.. He serves and has served on committees for the City of Baytown, Goose Creek Independent School District and several boards of service and charity organizations in Precinct 3. He and his wife are members of Faith Presbyterian Church in Baytown. He is a past president of the Baytown Lions Club and member of the Baytown Rotary Club.

# 2018 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo's School Art Contest

Across GCCISD, visual arts students and teachers are saddling up for the 2018 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo's School Art contest. The School Art contest has been a defining experience for the students in GCCISD and across the greater Houston area for decades and continues its tradition this year.

Students are encouraged to create original works of art with a focus on capturing landscape, nature, wildlife, unique moments, emotions and imagery that reflect the heritage and spirit of the Southwest. Goose Creek CISD visual arts students and teachers are in the final stages of preparation for the event and will soon welcome a slate of adjudicators who will serve as a selection committee to advance submissions to the Rodeo level.

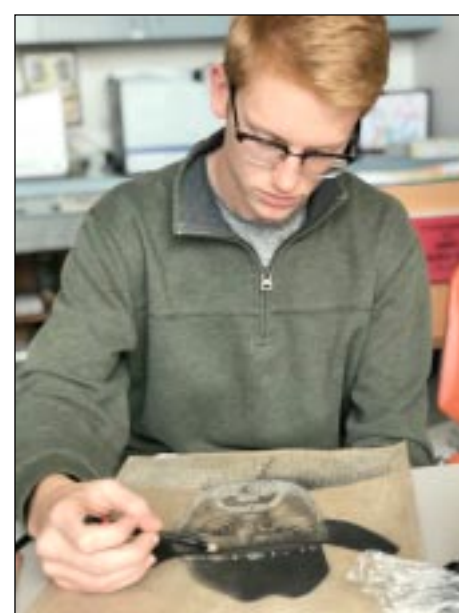
Last year's GCCISD Rodeo School Art Best of Show was created by Skylar Newton of Goose Creek Memorial High School, under the direction of instructor Johnna Morris.

Darci McDonald of Ross S. Sterling High School is excited about the artwork her students have been preparing.

"I am so excited to see our work on display and love how Rodeo School Art provides a unique and fantastic opportunity for our student artwork to be showcased not only in the community, but potentially for thousands of Houstonians at the Rodeo itself," she said.

GCCISD campuses and faculty have collaborated to garner recognition as a Super Show Awarded school district in consecutive years and continue their commitment to the School Art Contest as a member of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo School Art Super Show Hall of Fame.

The GCCISD Rodeo School Art public viewing will be held at the district Administration Building January 8-



Andrew Beck from Ross S. Sterling High School works on a piece for the 2018 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo's School Art contest.

12 and January 16-18 from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. with a public awards viewing and reception Thursday, January 18, from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. at the same location. Please stop by and help recognize and celebrate GCCISD's young artists.

## AREA'S BEST BUSINESS REVIEW

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We, the editors of this 2017 Area's Best Business Review offer this suggestion to the people in our area: So, whether or not you need a big grocery shopping trip, get your tire changed or pick-up a prescription, do what smart shoppers do...make WALMART your one-stop shopping headquarters for the best products, the largest selection and the ultimate in everyday bargains!

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CROSBY'S HOME TOWN HOME CARE



# Barbers Hill Press

Dayton

Serving Mont Belvieu, Dayton, Baytown and surrounding communities since 1995

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## ROUND-UP

### BLT: Cabaret

Performances are at 8:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Jan. 5, 6, 12 and 13 and at 2:30 pm Sunday Jan. 7 and 14. Tickets are \$25. All performances are at Baytown Little Theater, 2 E. Texas Ave. at N. Main Street.

### BLT: The Fantasticks

Auditions Jan. 7 & 8 at 7:00 pm at the theater.

### "Chili When It's Chilly" Cook-off

Jan. 5 (5-11 pm) - Jan. 6 (10 am - 11 pm), 2018 at Baytown Fairgrounds, 7900 North Main St., Baytown, TX. 77520, invites Houston Metro Go Texan Committee Baytown/Highlands Subcommittee.

### Flu Season Reminder

Stopping the FLU is up to you! Chambers County Health Department continues to see a rise in active flu cases reported. The health department urges everyone six months and older to get vaccinated against the flu. They offer the flu shot for only \$12. For more information on clinic hours and locations please call at (409) 267-273, follow on facebook @ChambersCountyHealthDepartment.

**WASH YOUR HANDS** Wash your hands often. Scrub for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand cleaner.

**COVER YOUR COUGH** Use a tissue to cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze. No tissue around? Your sleeve will do.

**STAY HOME** If you get sick, stay home until you're well so you don't spread your germs. Steer clear of others who are sick.

**GET YOUR SHOT** Protect yourself and others by getting vaccinated

### Professional Organizer at Goss Library

Lisa Giesler, professional organizer and author, will be speaking at the Sam and Carmena Goss Memorial Branch in Mont Belvieu on Wednesday, January 10th at 5:30PM as part of their month long series "New Year, New You."

Ms. Giesler is the author of Organizing 101 and Uncluttered: Discovering Strength and Purpose in the Chaos of Life and has also appeared on several local shows including Great Day Houston. Join us for a fun and enlightening evening as Lisa explains ways to reduce stress by bringing order and efficiency to all areas of your home and life. Copies of her books will be available for purchase. There is no cost to attend, but please call the library to register. For more information, call the library at 281-576-2245.

Other programs in the "New Year, New You" series include: "Zumba for beginners with Zumba instructor LaShebia Raymond" on Wednesday, January 17th at 1 pm

"E-Couponing: How to save money using your smart phone" on Wednesday, January 24th at 1 pm.

## Christmas activities at Barbers Hill schools



Students from Barbers Hill Elementary School North entertained community members at businesses throughout Mont Belvieu and Baytown in December. BHESN Choir is under the direction of Blair Eubank.



Barbers Hill ISD recently reconstructed at the current high school the original arch from the 1930 Barbers Hill High School. District officials estimate that 877 Barbers Hill graduates passed under these arches when the building served as a high school. This photo was taken December 8, during the district's late arrival Snow Day.

## Sterling Library takes the mystery out of digital media

Baytown's Sterling Municipal Library is helping to take the mystery out of digital media during their month-long Axis360 Awareness Month. Perfect for anyone who received a new phone or tablet over the holidays, or someone who just wants to learn how to make the most of their device, the program teaches how to download free eBooks and eAudio-books.

Axis360 is one of the library's eBook and eAudio-book lending platforms which allow library patrons to check out and download books from anywhere with a Wi-Fi connection.

See Digital Media, Page 6 Spin the wheel



## Lee College Announced as Bellwether Finalist

### Weekend College Recognized

Lee College received notification this week that it was one of ten national finalists selected for the prestigious Bellwether Award on the merit of its Weekend College program. The Bellwether Awards are conferred by The Bellwether College Consortium housed within The University of Florida's College of Education.

The Bellwether Awards are given annually to community colleges that have implemented innovatively outstanding programs with demonstrated success. Finalists are compet-

itively selected based on program criteria. Lee College was selected on the merit of work currently underway in its Weekend College program. The Bellwether Awards identify and promote effective post-secondary programs for replication at higher education institutions across the nation and consequently positions colleges to pursue various funding opportunities. The consortium also provides a platform for its members to collaborate on potential joint ventures while having access to educational

thought leaders. "This is the first time Lee College has been recognized for this prestigious, national distinction," says Lee College President, Dr. Dennis Brown. "It's especially fitting given the significance of the college's Weekend College and its impact on the futures of our students. This program is literally changing lives by providing access to education in a format that speaks to real-life situations. People

See Lee College Finalist, page 6

## YEAR IN REVIEW 2017

from the compiled files of the BARBERS HILL DAYTON PRESS

### JANUARY

A suspect is sought in aggravated robbery in Mont Belvieu, at Hill Boy's Convenience store on SH146.

Three area youths found drowned, after report of them missing on a duck hunt.

Over 150 dogs and cats were ordered by a judge returned to the Puppy-Dogs-R-Us animal shelter in Dayton. They were seized earlier by the Houston SPCA.

Stanley Coring Jr. was charged with the 2002 murder of his common-law wife, Debra Covalt.

LyondellBasell donates \$100,000 for the training of six area fire departments.

Chambers County Commissioners approve the construction of a new Justice Center in Anahuac.

The 85th Texas Legislature opens, with important committee assignments for Representative Wayne Faircloth and Senator Brandon Creighton.

### FEBRUARY

Mont Belvieu bans cell-phone use in the city, except with hands-free phones.

Barbers Hill ISD school board members honored during School Board Appreciation Month.

Liberty County Constable Justin Johnston was struck by a pickup truck while directing traffic on SH146. Johnston is recovering from the near fatal accident.

### MARCH

Water was the subject of a groundbreaking at the \$381 million dollar Luce Bayou Interbasin Transfer Project, which will bring water from the Trinity River to Lake Houston and the Northeast Water Purification Plant.

Bay Area Homeless Shelter holds their "Mane Event" Gala, sponsored by Houston Methodist San Jacinto Hospital.

Chambers County Commissioner Gary Nelson elected H-GAC chairman.

The 24th Annual Trash Bash was held to help clean-up the Galveston Bay Watershed.

### APRIL

Beach City Fire Department took delivery of their new fire truck.

Dayton Ole Tyme Days Festival set for April 21-23 in the downtown.

West Chambers County Pilot Club holds their "Fiesta on the Hill" Gala fundraiser on April 6th.

Barbers Hill ISD plans on a \$120 million bond referendum, which was passed in the May election.

Barbers Hill ISD petitions state Legislature for permission to form its own Community College District.

### MAY

Lee College honors first graduates of their Weekend College.

Barbers Hill STEM students try indoor skydiving, sponsored by Covestro.

Scholarships presented to graduates by the Art League, and WCC Pilot Club.

### JUNE

Work on the San Jacinto River Authority canal will interrupt traffic on Jones Road.

"You light it, we'll write it" campaign emphasizes that fireworks are illegal in Baytown.

Family Wellness Expo is set for July 22nd at Holy Family Catholic Church.

Baytown plans two days of free entertainment for July 4th Celebration at Bicentennial Park.

### JULY

U.S. Congressmen Brian Babin, and Randy Weber, tour the coastline by helicopter in preparation for developing a Coastal Barrier Protection System.

Army Veteran Javier Munoz was given a mortgage-free home in Baytown.

Private wells in the Cedar Bayou Watershed can have their water tested.

### AUGUST

A GMC Yukon was stolen from the Chevrolet dealership in Baytown.

Lee College implements the new Campus Concealed Weapon Policy.

Beach City mourns the death of Margaret Gainer, former city secretary.

Dr. Louis Hughes honored for a 68 year career, much of it at San Jacinto Hospital.

### SEPTEMBER

Hurricane Harvey causes flooding, damage in Chambers County. FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers open.

Body of missing realtor Crystal McDowell found in Chambers County, husband charged with murder.

### OCTOBER

Hurricane Harvey recovery efforts bring a disaster recovery center to Liberty County, debris collection in Baytown, and a Town Hall meeting in Chambers County.

Lee College opens new STEM Hub on campus with computers and free tutoring.

Old River-Winfree holds 10th year Founders Day celebration.

### NOVEMBER

Baytown Special Rodeo to be held on November 11th at the Fairgrounds arena.

Lee College opens new McNulty-Haddoick Nursing Complex Expansion, part of the \$40 million bond issue.

IKEA announces plans to occupy two buildings at the Cedar Port Industrial Park, totalling 1 million square feet, and requiring 200 new employees.

Wetlands Center holds Butterfly Bonanza, to restore the habitat of butterflies and bees.

Precinct 2 begins Redell Road reconstruction.

Lee College Foundation awards \$590,000 in scholarships.

### DECEMBER

Mont Belvieu holds its annual Christmas Parade led by County Sheriff Brian Hawthorne.

WCC Pilot Club presents Puppet program to focus on decreasing Brain injuries.

Lee College recognizes over 500 graduates at Fall Commencement.

Terry Sain announces he will end his campaign for District 28 State Representative and not run.

A very large Deproparizer, a refinery tube 350' long weighing over 1.8 million pounds, was moved across the Hartman bridge and on to Mont Belvieu. Traffic was affected for hours on SH146, 565, 99, and 1380.



# Five reasons to pursue a cybersecurity career In 2018

(NAPSI)—Cybersecurity, as an industry, is one of the highest-paying, fastest-growing and most in demand in the U.S., yet there are not enough skilled professionals in the pipeline to fill open positions, leading to a sizable skills gap. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) finds that the demand for information security analysts who can prevent data breaches is expected to be very high over the next decade. From 2016-2026, BLS projects employment to grow 28 percent, with 28,400 additional jobs added by 2026.

Despite the growing need, a University of Phoenix College of Information Systems and Technology survey found that only 18 percent of the 2,016 U.S. adults surveyed were interested in pursuing a cybersecurity education or profession. Cybersecurity can be a rewarding career, especially for those who want to help organizations or be part of a dynamic industry.

Maurice Gibson, assistant dean at University of Phoenix, shares five reasons to pursue a cybersecurity career in 2018.

### 1. Cybersecurity Careers Are Here to Stay

With the rise of technology comes increases in cybercrime, according to data from Cybersecurity Ventures. Gibson believes technology has converged with nearly all industries, meaning more companies will need trained professionals to combat hackers in the future. In fact, LinkedIn listed network information security as the sixth most in-demand skill for today's digitally advanced working world. Cybersecurity spending is expected to exceed \$1 trillion between 2017 and 2021, finds Cybersecurity Ventures, driving the need for more qualified professionals.

### 2. Job Opportunities Across Nearly All Industries

As technology converges with business, Gibson says nearly all companies will soon become tech companies, providing cybersecurity profession-

als with myriad job opportunities across numerous industries. Cybersecurity jobs are no longer shoehorned into only the government, finance or technology industries. From retail and health care to media and start-ups, cybersecurity professionals may have the option to choose an industry they most want to work in.

### 3. Competition for Jobs Remains Low

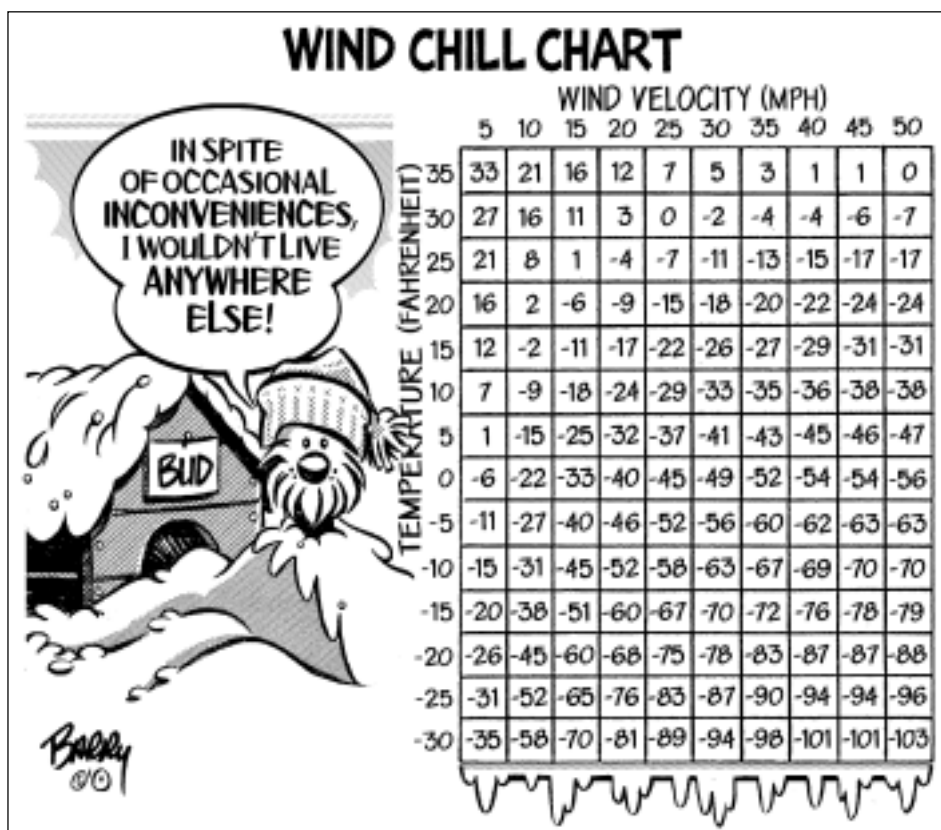
With more open jobs than people to fill them, competition continues to remain low in the cybersecurity workforce. The BLS projects employment of information security analysts to grow 28 percent from 2016 to 2026, much faster than the average for all occupations. Gibson says individuals seeking a growing career with plenty of job opportunities should look no further than cybersecurity.

### 4. Near Top in Compensation

For many Americans, a good salary is vital for job satisfaction. Glassdoor found that nearly 70 percent of people say that compensation is among their top considerations when pursuing a job. High salaries is another reason to pursue these careers, according to Gibson. BLS reports the median annual wage of an information security analyst is \$92,600. Salaries can even exceed six figures in top markets as companies compete for skilled professionals.

### 5. Skill Set Is Transferable to a Number of Industries

With a deficit of skilled cybersecurity professionals in today's workforce, IT employees may be expected to help manage system security and infrastructure. For this reason, Gibson suggests that having cybersecurity experience can help when changing careers. He says many of the IT skill sets that cybersecurity professionals possess—such as coding, systems administration and data analytics—can be useful résumé additions for just about any job in the tech industry.



# Texas waits for Senate agreement on disaster aid funding

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott on Dec. 21 released a statement applauding the U.S. House of Representatives' preliminary passage of \$81 billion in disaster aid to Texas, several other states and Puerto Rico.

Abbott called the House's 251-169 vote in favor of the aid package "a step in the right direction" but added that "more needs to be done to ensure the funds Congress provides address the critical needs Texans are enduring from the largest natural disaster in our state's history. We look forward to working with the Senate to improve the disaster funding to ensure it addresses the acute needs of Texans."

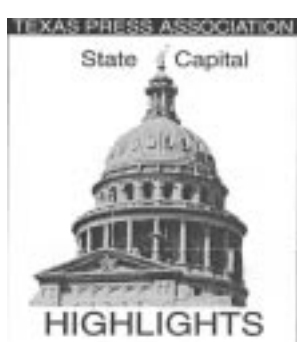
The U.S. Senate went into recess on Dec. 22 without voting on disaster funding. The recess came after senators passed a continuing resolution to avoid a federal government shutdown for lack of a budget agreement.

'1115 Waiver' extended Gov. Abbott on Dec. 21 announced that the Texas Health and Human Services Commission and the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services reached a hospital funding agreement for the next five years.

"The new 1115 (Demonstration) Waiver ensures that funding will remain available for hospitals to treat and serve people across our state who are in need of top-quality healthcare," Abbott said.

"We are a state that is committed to providing quality healthcare to our people," added Texas Health and Human Services Commissioner Charles Smith. "With this agreement, we will continue our innovative approach to providing healthcare to millions of Texas Medicaid clients. We're committed to delivering a sustainable healthcare system over the long term while being good stewards of taxpayer dollars."

## STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling



Safety-net hospital administrators cheered the extension.

Section 1115 of the Social Security Act gives the U.S. secretary of Health and Human Services the authority to approve state experimental, pilot or demonstration projects that better serve Medicaid populations.

### AG gives gun opinion

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, in an opinion released Dec. 21, said licensed handgun owners could carry loaded weapons into Texas churches that do not have posted signs banning weapons.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick requested the opinion on Dec. 1, asking Paxton to expedite his response "so that churches may know what legal options they have to improve security" in the aftermath of the Sutherland Springs tragedy, in which a lone gunman entered a church, killing 25 people and injured 20 others on Nov. 5.

"If a church decides to exclude the concealed or open carrying of handguns on the premises of church property, it may provide the requisite notice, thereby making it an offense for

a license holder to carry a handgun on those premises," wrote Paxton.

"However, churches may instead decide not to provide notice and to allow the carrying of handguns on their premises. Unless a church provides effective oral or written notice prohibiting the carrying of handguns on its property, a license holder may carry a handgun onto the premises of church property as the law allows," Paxton added.

### Unemployment rate falls

The Texas Workforce Commission on Dec. 22 announced the Lone Star State's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 3.8 percent, the lowest unemployment rate recorded in four decades.

Also, the Texas economy added 54,500 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs in November and annual statewide employment growth increased to 2.7 percent in the month of November, marking 91 consecutive months of annual growth.

"The addition of 330,600 jobs over the year demonstrates the consistency with which employers in our state create job opportunities for the highly skilled Texas workforce," said Texas Workforce Commission Chair Andres Alcantar.

### Problem: Aging technology

The Office of the Comptroller, in its December-January issue of "Fiscal Notes," examines our state government's "aging information technology infrastructure and the challenges it faces in serving a population growing by nearly half a million residents a year."

Some state agencies are running on archaic programming language dating back to the 1950s, Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar said. "Each year, the state spends hundreds of millions of dollars on maintaining these outdated systems, and updating or replacing them would cost even more," Hegar added.

The state spends more than \$300 million annually on maintaining older hardware and software that no longer are supported by their makers, according to an estimate made by the Texas Department of Information Resources.

The Fiscal Notes publication is available online at comptroller.texas.gov.

# Texas' unemployment rate falls to new record low 3.8 percent

AUSTIN — Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 3.8 percent, setting a new record for the lowest unemployment rate recorded in four decades. The Texas economy added 54,500 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs in November. Annual employment growth for Texas increased to 2.7 percent in November, marking 91 consecutive months of annual growth.

"The addition of 330,600 jobs over the year demonstrates the consistency with which employers in our state create job opportunities for the highly skilled Texas workforce," said TWC Chairman Andres Alcantar. "The Texas economy offers employers access to a competitive workforce and provides job seekers with career options in a variety of growing Texas industries."

Nine of eleven major industries showed increased growth in November, including Professional and Business Services with 14,700 jobs added and Construction which added 8,200 positions. Leisure and Hospitality employment continued to grow by adding 8,000 jobs in November.

Employment in Education and Health Services increased by 8,200 positions. Over the year, this industry has gained 40,400 jobs. Trade, Transportation, and Utilities employment grew by 8,200 jobs, and Manufacturing industry jobs increased by 2,700 positions.

"Private-sector employers added 52,000 jobs in November and have accounted for the addition of 294,600 positions in Texas over the past year," said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Ruth R. Hughs. "I am encouraged by the growth across a variety of industries and commend our employers for their investment in our Texas workforce."

The Amarillo and Midland Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) recorded the month's lowest unemployment rate among Texas MSAs with a non-seasonally adjusted rate of 2.6 percent, followed by the Austin-Round Rock, College Station-Bryan and Lubbock MSAs with a rate of 2.7 percent. The San Antonio-New Braunfels MSA registered a rate of 3.0 percent for November.

"Employment demand continues to be high in well-paying industries such as Manufacturing, Construction, and Mining and Logging," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Julian Alvarez. "I encourage career exploration in these and other industries that are growing in Texas. TWC's labor market information tools and products are designed to inform, prepare and advance our Texas workforce. Visit a Workforce Solutions Office to find out more about the latest employment opportunities available."

Audio downloads with comments from Commissioner Hughs on the latest labor market data are available on the TWC website press release page. Employment estimates released by TWC are produced in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. All estimates are subject to revision. To access this and more employment data, visit tracer2.com.

The Texas Labor Market & Career Information Data for December is scheduled to be released on Friday, January 19, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. (CDT).

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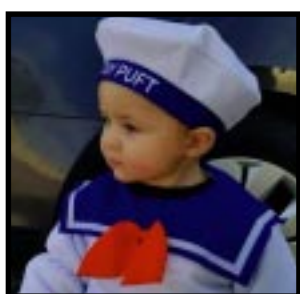
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★ LIFESTYLE PAGE ★

**OBITUARIES**

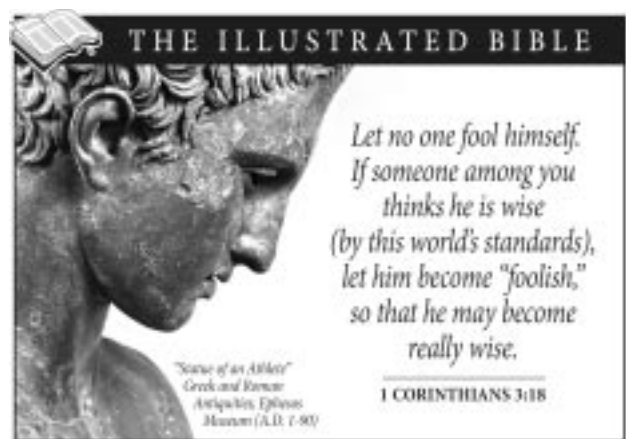
**Ian Thomas Davis**



Precious baby boy, Ian Thomas Davis, returned to Heaven on December 24, 2017. Ian was born on April 20, 2016 to parents Katherine and Rickey Davis, Jr in Houston, Texas. Baby Ian brought much joy and happiness to his family, especially through his singing and dancing. He was truly a free spirit. Ian was always happy, and made sure to make anyone else happy who was feeling sad. He didn't need toys to keep himself entertained, he loved playing with anything that he could find; grass, rocks, sticks, and balls. Ian loved animals and especially his fur brother, Bullwinkle. He is preceded in death by his grandmother, Sabrena Tank. Ian is lovingly survived by his parents, Katherine and Rickey, Jr.; grandparents, Tommy and Tina Abernathy, Linda Davis, Rickey Davis, Sr.;

great-grandmothers, Onita Abernathy, Catherine Davis; aunts and uncle, Catherine and Dayton Goodman, Loni Saenz, Teresa Oglesby as well as by numerous cousins and extended family. Friends joined Ian's family for visitation from 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 3, 2017 at Carter - Conley Funeral Home.

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**BIBLE TRIVIA**

By Wilson Casey

1. For possible new year's resolutions, Proverbs 16:3 says, "Commit thy works unto the Lord; and thy thoughts shall be ..."? Resolved, Established, Directed, Bountiful
2. Likewise, Psalm 37:5 instructs us to, "Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to ..."? Nurture, Pass, Action, Light
3. Which book proclaims the first day of the new year is for resting and a memorial sounding the trumpet? Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers
4. 2 Corinthians 5:17 and Galatians 2:20 are among the verses to focus on what in a new year? Blessings, Moving forward, Grace, Church attendance
5. In which month of the religious calendar did the new year begin in the Bible? 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th
6. From James 1:5, what may one lack and if they ask God, it shall be given? Love, Wisdom, Truth, Goals

ANSWERS: 1) Established; 2) Pass; 3) Leviticus; 4) Moving forward; 5) 7th; 6) Wisdom

**Friends of the Library Volunteer Appreciation reception**



On December Friends of the Library had a Volunteer Appreciation Reception at the library. Pictured above are Vickey and Anita.



Photos submitted by Janet, Crosby Edith Fae Cook Cole Branch

**CHURCH LISTINGS**

Crosby, Highlands, Huffman, Baytown

**ANGLICAN CHURCH**

• Church of the Resurrection, meeting at Crosby Brethren Church, 5202 1st Street, Crosby, 832-661-9693.

**APOSTOLIC CHURCH**

• First Apostolic Church of Highlands, 1211 S. Main St. Highlands, 281-426-4133

**ASSEMBLY OF GOD**

• Crosby Gospel Assembly, 633 Kenning Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2516  
• First Assembly of God, 406 N. Magnolia St., Highlands, 281-426-3170  
• Gospel Lighthouse, 8218 John Martin Rd., Baytown, 281-421-1168

**BAPTIST**

• Calvary Baptist, 2217 Huffman Eastgate Rd., Huffman, 281-324-3409  
• Highlands Baptist, 111 E. Canal Rd., Highlands, 281-426-2470

• Northeast Freeway Baptist, 1635 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2723  
• Unity Baptist, 2625 Broad Dr., Highlands, 281-426-4223  
• Iglesia Bautista Comunidad, 5323 Highway 90, Crosby, 281-421-9810. "Venid y te Haremos Bien"

**BAPTIST-Missionary**

• Antioch Missionary Baptist, 2500 Harris St., Highlands, 281-426-6565.  
• First Missionary Baptist Church, 301 Cypress Avenue, Crosby, 281-462-7634.  
• Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist, 315 Nod, Crosby, 281-328-4650  
• True Vine Missionary Baptist, 404 Oak Ave., Crosby, 281-328-7637

• Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, 12418 Crosby Rd., Crosby, 281-328-1851

**BAPTIST-Southern**

• First Baptist- Crosby, 615 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2564  
• First Baptist- Highlands, N. Magnolia at Wallisville, Highlands, 281-426-4551  
• First Baptist- Huffman, 25503 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-1888  
• Northside Baptist, 317 Barbers Hill Rd., Highlands, 281-426-5415  
• Second Baptist, 400 E. Wallisville Rd., Highlands, 281-426-5557

• Crosby New Hope Baptist Church, 18319 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-6086

**BRETHREN**

• Crosby Brethren, 5202 1st St., Crosby, 281-328-2442

**CATHOLIC**

• Holy Family, 7122 Whiting Rock, Baytown, 281-426-8448  
• Sacred Heart, 915 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-4871

• St. Martin De Porres, 12606 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-4451

• St. Jude Thaddeus, 800 S. Main St., Highlands, 281-843-2422

• St. Phillip the Apostle, 2308 3rd St., Huffman, 281-324-1478

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**

• Church of Christ at Wallisville Rd., 1500 E. Wallisville Rd., 281-426-7557.  
• Crosby Church of Christ, 3737 Hwy 90, Crosby, 281-328-3496

• Highlands Church of Christ, 214 Clear Lake Rd., Highlands, 281-426-2742

• Barrett Station Church of Christ, 281-328-7882

**CHURCH OF GOD**

• First Pentecostal Church of God, 1328 Old Atascocita, Huffman, 281-324-1518  
• Harvest Time Church of God, 495 S. Diamondhead Blvd., Crosby, 281-462-8060

**CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**

• Mt. Rose Church of God in Chr., 13000 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-1314

**EPISCOPAL**

• Church of the Resurrection, 5202 Church St., Crosby.

**INDEPENDENT**

• Crosby Church, 5725 Hwy 90, Crosby and 30673 Huffman Cleveland Rd., Huffman, 281-328-1310  
• Huffman Church, 1707 Huffman Eastgate Rd., Huffman, 281-324-3705  
• New Covenant of Faith, 12217 Holly Rd., Crosby, 281-328-1315

• Restoration House, 1609 Jones Rd., Highlands, 281-843-4000

• Son Harvest, 2027 FM 1942, Crosby, 281-543-2860.

**LUTHERAN**

• Our Shepherd, 19704 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-2422

**METHODIST**

• Crosby United Methodist, 1334 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2616  
• Highlands United Methodist, 107 W. Houston St., Highlands, 281-426-3614  
• Lake Houston United Methodist, 23606 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-1541

**NON DENOMINATION**

• Lifepoint Church, 9235 North Highway 146, Baytown, TX, 77523. 281-576-5452.

**UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**

• Pentecostals of Crosby502 Pine at Hwy 90 Crosby, TX 77532(281) 328-5054. Sunday 10 AM. Wednesday 7 PM. Pastor Kerry D. Lee

**Channelview, Jacinto City, Galena Park, Houston**

• Second Street Church of Christ, 15821 2nd. Street,

Channelview, TX. 77530.

www.2ndstreetchurchofchrist.com

**ASSEMBLY OF GOD**

•Galena Park Assembly of God, 1211 2nd. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-455-0836.

**BAPTIST**

•New Life Baptist Church of East Houston, 18570 Van Road, Houston, 77049. 281-456-0082  
•Second Baptist Church, 1913 18th. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-672-9232.

•Second Baptist Church, 10501 Muscatine, Jacinto City, TX. 713-674-8463.

•St. Matthew Baptist Church, 119 Fidelity, Houston, TX. 713-674-0062.

•First Baptist Church, 1505 1st. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-455-1261.

•Macedonia Baptist Church, 1230 Maxnie Street, Houston, TX. 77049. 713-674-6607.

**BAPTIST-Southern**

•Dell Dale Avenue Baptist Church, 402 Dell Dale Avenue, Channelview, TX. 281-452-3704.

•South Drive Baptist Church, 15229 South Drive, Channelview, TX. 77530. 281-452-4500.

•First Baptist Church of Jacinto City, 10701 Wiggins, Jacinto City, TX 77029. 713-672-2802.

•Beaumont Place Baptist Church, 13101 Ivydale Street, Houtson, TX. 77049.

•First Baptist Church of Galena Park, 206 Woofle St., 77547. 713-455-1261.

**CATHOLIC**

•St. Andrew Roman Catholic Church, 827 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, TX. 281-452-9865.

•Our Lady of Fatima, 1705 8th St., Galena Park, TX. 713-675-0981.

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**

•2nd. St. Church of Christ, 15821 2nd St., Channelview, TX. -281-452-4049.

•Channelview Church of Christ, 1301 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, TX. 281-452-7129.

•Galena Park Church of Christ, 301 Holland Ave, Galena Park, TX. 713-455-0826.

**EPISCOPAL**

•St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 13125 Indianapolis St., Houston, 713-451-2909.

**HOLINESS**

•Bible Missionary Church, 10246 Fairfax St., Jacinto City, 713-671-3500.

**METHODIST**

•Old River Terrace United Methodist Church, 16102 East Freeway, Channelview, TX. 281-452-2861.

•Galena Park United Methodist, 1705 1st. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-672-0245.

•Holy Trinity United Methodist, 13207 Orleans St., Houston, TX. 713-453-7203.

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**1 Corinthians 16:13**

Rise in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God.  
**Leviticus 19:32**

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Pride only breeds quarrels, but wisdom is found in those who take advice.

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble  
**Psalm: 46:1**



★ ASK THE EXPERTS ★

# Digital Media,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“Download books in your pajamas, when the library is closed, and even from out of state -- all you need is your library card and your device. It’s very simple,” says Librarian Katie Beverly. “All you have to do is connect to Wi-Fi, download the app on your device, and you can start downloading ebooks on the spot. Axis360 Awareness Month is just one way for us to remind Baytown that books are accessible from anywhere, at any time. We are here to help you start downloading.”

Every day during January participants will have a new chance to spin the prize wheel and earn an entry into weekly prize drawings, including an iPad Mini or one of three Kindle Fires, and other great prizes. Guests can begin earning entries by showing staff that they have downloaded Axis360

on their phone or tablet, and downloaded a book or audiobook. Then stay tuned to Baytown Library’s Facebook page to find out how to earn entries each day.

Sterling Library is also hosting special Tech Help Sessions on Wednesday, January 3, 5-7pm and again on Wednesday, January 10, 2-4pm. These sessions are a great way to learn more about what a tablet or eReader can do, and how to start downloading digital content. Participants can just bring their tablet and get ready to start downloading.

Prizes are made possible by Baker & Taylor Axis360. Participants can earn multiple entry forms during the month. Entry forms will remain in the prize drawing each week. Only one prize per person. For questions about Axis360 Awareness Month email Catherine.Beverly@Baytown.org.

# Lee College Finalist,

Continued from page 1

have families – they have to go to work. The Weekend College format at Lee College makes it possible. It truly is transformative for our students. I couldn’t be more proud of everyone involved in the Weekend College – especially our students.”

Lee College’s Weekend College is targeted to adult learners and working students. Funded through a \$2.7 million First in the World Grant from the U.S. Department of Education, the Weekend College gives students the opportunity to earn associate degrees in less than 2 years by attending classes only on Friday evenings and Saturdays. The Weekend College recently graduated its first class in May of this year less than 24 months of the program’s first start. Lee is the only community

college district in Texas — and one of only four community colleges in the entire country — selected to receive First in the World grant funds.

College representatives will be traveling to Florida this month to attend The Bellwether Finalist Awards presentation. The awards ceremony is part of a national policy summit sponsored jointly by the National Council for State Directors of Community Colleges and the Institute of Higher Education (IHE) at the University of Florida. The summit provides an interactive forum for higher education leaders on the topics of recruiting, retention, and success of adult learners and latest trends in adult learner policies and programs on a national, state, and institutional level.

# YEAR IN REVIEW,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

**MAY**  
Highlands Chamber announces “Dickie Woods” memorial golf tournament in May.  
Highlands ROTARY awards \$33,500 in scholarships to 19 local students.  
Memorial Day services were held at Sterling-White.  
In boys baseball, Crosby Cougars were defeated in regional playoffs, and Deer Park Deers advanced to state playoffs.  
A 23 year old man drowned at Banana Bend Beach, slipping into deep water.

**JUNE**  
A beating death at Denny’s restaurant on US90 in Channelview drew protests against the two assailants, one of whom was a Sheriff’s deputy, off-duty.  
The SJRC accepted a check from a Channelview organization that has fought pollution in the air and river since 1992.  
Crosby Rodeo opens, with a Parade and Cook-off.  
Highlands Chamber awards six scholarships, including the Dickie Woods memorial scholarship to Hector Trevino.  
Highlands Fire Department has two dramatic rescues, saving lives in two separate incidents along the river.  
The Crosby Tough-Enough-To-Wear-Pink committee awarded a total of \$140,000 to two cancer fighting organizations.

**JULY**  
Fireworks displays were presented at Crosby Church, and Kemah Boardwalk.  
Sheriff’s deputy Greg Nason rescued a woman from the water near the Waste Pits.  
Massive fire at Crosby Square Apartments kills three, leaves 58 homeless.  
Highlands ROTARY installs new officers and board. The president’s office will rotate with Diana Weaver, Patricia Scott, Charlie Ward and Weston Cotten taking 3 month terms.  
Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez meets the public at a forum in the storefront sheriff’s office in Woodforest Bank Building. He discussed innovations in his office to increase security and safety for the public.  
New EPA policies, and budget, are questioned by THEA president Jackie Young, who says they may threaten the clean-up of the waste pits.

**AUGUST**  
Shooting in Crosby and different locations concern citizens, and take the lives of two in Crosby Park. Carlton Griffin, 45, and his stepson Leonard Taylor, 17 were killed by unknown assailants after a fight at a nearby apartment carried into the park.  
Pct. 2 Commissioner Jack Morman announces that he has asked the EPA administrator, Scott Pruitt, to put the elimination of the San Jacinto River Waste Pits on the “Top Ten” priority list for quick agency action.  
Tejas Motorsports in Highlands is gutted by fire in a blaze that took five fire departments to extinguish. The cause was thought to be a short in a battery in one of the vehicles.  
A Solar Eclipse Viewing Party was held at Stratford Library in Highlands, in this once-in-a-lifetime event.

**SEPTEMBER**  
A Hurricane on August 28th, and subsequent flood wreaked havoc on the Houston, Crosby and Highlands areas. Hurricane Harvey forced thousands from their homes, caused a major fire and explosion at Arkema chemical in Crosby, and threatened to expose toxins at the waste pits in the San Jacinto River.  
The STAR-COURIER skipped publishing the last week of August, due to the Hurricane. Two issues were combined and published in September.  
Arkema sued by First Responders for emissions into the air from fire.  
Rescues by authorities and the public continue after the flooding from Hurricane Harvey.  
ROTARY holds their annual Washer Tournament Sept. 26, in spite of the Hurricane, and it is successful. Proceeds are donated to Flood Relief.  
EPA administrator Scott Pruitt makes an unusual on-site inspection of the Superfund Site waste pits in the San Jacinto River.  
The Texas Renaissance Festival opens the last week of September, through November.

**OCTOBER**  
EPA announces that their inspection after the Hurricane indicates that toxic material was exposed at the waste pits.  
Arkema faces two lawsuits, by the county attorney and first responders, and a probe by the Harris County District Attorney.  
Highlands Horizons holds Miss Highlands Parade on Oct. 7, and Pageant on Oct. 14. Miss Highlands for 2017 is Victoria Gonzalez, and Jr. Miss Highlands is Kennah Holloway.  
EPA makes major announcement that Final Decision is to completely remove the toxic materials from the San Jacinto River Waste Pits site. This is a major victory for the environmental activists.

**NOVEMBER**  
East Houston Regional Hospital announces it will close permanently, due to damage from the Hurricane flooding.  
Veterans honored in ceremonies by the Eastside Veterans with a major parade in Crosby, and in Highlands at Railroad Park.  
Crosby holds a major meeting of the public and the Flood Control District, to discuss solutions to the flooding along Cedar Bayou on the east side of the county.  
Sheriff Ed Gonzalez speaks at the Highlands Chamber, discussing the benefits of community policing, noting “public safety is a shared responsibility.”  
Candidates announce interest in newly vacated Congressional seats of Gene Green and Ted Poe, and a contested seat for Brian Babin. ROTARY hears from one candidate, Jon Powell for Texas District 36.

**DECEMBER**  
Santa Claus arrives in Highlands on a Fire Truck, greets children at the Gazebo in Railroad Park. ROTARY serves hot chocolate and cookies on a cold evening.  
Highlands Chamber holds its Jamboree, with a children’s pageant and crafts booths, but no parade this year.  
EPA holds a public meeting in Highlands to brief the community on the current status of the Waste Pits Superfund site.  
The Christmas Holiday continues with a Parade and Santa in Crosby, and a Tree Lighting and Santa in Huffman.  
ROTARY begins the sale of Raffle tickets for the Chili Feast. The winner of the raffle will receive a new Chevrolet sports car or SUV.



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**LEGAL NOTICE**

**INVITATION TO BIDDERS**  
**ADDITION TO FIRE STATION, JACINTO CITY, TEXAS**  
Sealed bids, in duplicate, on Bid Forms provided, addressed to The Mayor and City Council, City of Jacinto City, Jacinto City, Texas, Harris County will be received at the City Hall, 1301 Mercury Drive, Jacinto City, Texas 77029 until 4:00 p.m. Thursday, January 25, 2018 and then publicly opened and read during the Thursday, January 25, 2018 Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m. for furnishing all labor, material, and equipment and performing all work required for the construction of "Fire Station Addition".  
Accompany Bids with acceptable Cashier's or Certified Check in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total amount bid in the Base Bid, payable without recourse to the City of Jacinto City, or a Bid Bond of like amount from an approved surety company, as a guarantee that bidder will enter into a contract. Successful contractor will provide insurance and performance bonds as detailed in Instruction to Bidders, and a list of experience with similar projects, and references. The City of Jacinto City reserves the right to reject all bids, or choose a contractor in their best interests, regardless of cost.  
Plans and Specifications will be available from a DropBox link, <https://goo.gl/UZW3Pe> or purchase them from B and E Reprographics, 3664 Walnut Bend Lane, Houston 77042 at non-refundable cost. Two sets of drawings are required, a Base Bid set and an Alternate Bid set, plus hardware schedule and project manual. Examine documents at the office of the architect, Hoffman-Liu Design Associates, 5906 Star Lane, Houston TX 77057 or at Dodge Data & Analytics, AGC Plan Room, other plans rooms, and City Hall in Jacinto City.  
A Non-Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference for prospective bidders, suppliers, etc. will be held on Friday, January 12, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the construction site, the existing Jacinto City Fire Station, 1126 Mercury Drive, Jacinto City, Texas 77029.  
Contractor will provide the necessary materials, equipment, supervision, labor and appurtenances to construct approximately a 3800 square foot two story addition to the existing fire station. There is a base bid, and three add alternates. A separate set of drawings is required for the Alternates.  
City of Jacinto City  
Ana Diaz  
Mayor

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE – RFP #18-100**  
The Barbers Hill Independent School District is accepting proposals for:  
**2018 DISTRICT PROPERTY INSURANCE PROGRAM BUILDINGS AND CONTENTS/BOILER AND MACHINERY**  
Proposal forms may be picked up weekdays between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the BHISD Administration Building at 9600 Eagle Drive on or after January 22, 2018. Interested parties also may contact the BHISD Assistant Superintendent of Finance at 281-576-2221 to obtain a copy of the RFP.  
Sealed proposals are to be returned to the BHISD Administration Building no later than 1:30 p.m., CST, on Monday, March 5, 2018.  
The school district reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, waive any formalities and/or technicalities in the proposal and award the contract to the best proposal that serves the interests of the district. The district may negotiate with proposers as deemed advisable or necessary.

1-2

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS, THE CITY OF JACINTO CITY HAS RECEIVED 3 VARIANCE HEARING APPLICATIONS. THEY ARE AS FOLLOWS:  
1. FRANCISCO PEREZ AT 10245 NORVIC – REQUESTING TO BUILD CLOSER THAN 5 FOOT SETBACK  
2. ISAAC MENENDEZ – VACANT LOT ON CHESTON – REQUESTING VARIANCES ON SEVERAL MUNICIPAL BUILDING CODES.  
3. BESTWAY WELDING SUPPLY 10715 MARKET STREET – REQUESTING TO CHANGE SETBACK LINES ON EAST PROPERTY LINE FROM 10 FEET TO 5 FEET AND NORTH PROPERTY LINE FROM 20 FEET TO 10 FEET.  
THE BOARD WILL HEAR THE PETITIONS ON JANUARY 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2018 STARTING AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE CITY HALL ANNEX, 10301 MARKET STREET. ANY INTERESTED PERSON MAY ATTEND.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**NOTICE OF APPOINTED AGENT**  
TO THE DULY QUALIFIED RESIDENT VOTERS OF EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 14  
Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 31.123, Texas Election Code, as amended, the Board of Commissioners of Emergency Services District No. 14 has appointed the following person as its agent to perform election duties for the Commissioners Election to be held within and for Emergency Services District No. 14 on May 5, 2018:  
Agent's Name: Weston Cotten  
Office Location: Law Office of Weston Cotten, P.C.  
Mailing Address: 5223 Garth Road Baytown, TX 77521  
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.- 12:00 noon, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. until noon and 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. Friday  
Duration of appointment: Beginning December 21, 2014 and continuing until a successor agent is appointed in connection with the calling of a subsequent election by the District.  
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.  
May, 2018

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# Lake Houston Recovery,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

vention of future catastrophic flooding for the Lake Houston Area.” they say in a letter for as many individuals as they can convince to send to a number of legislators to lobby for remediation, reduction and representation after devastating flooding during Hurricane Harvey.

Their efforts have now become the “Plea for 3” campaign.

Way back in 2011 when Dan Huberty, R-127, was representing Kingwood, Huffman, Crosby and Highlands, he helped pass House Bill 571 to point out the impact of unregulated sand mining along the San Jacinto River. The bill required dirt, and sand operations across the state to register with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Huberty now believes there needed to be better enforcement of regulations on illegal sand mining operations as silt and sand ended up altering, “the entire condition of the San Jacinto River.”

Owing to Huberty, “Plea for 3” also calls for dredging of Lake Houston especially where silt deposits directly north of the City of Houston’s Intake as Remediation.

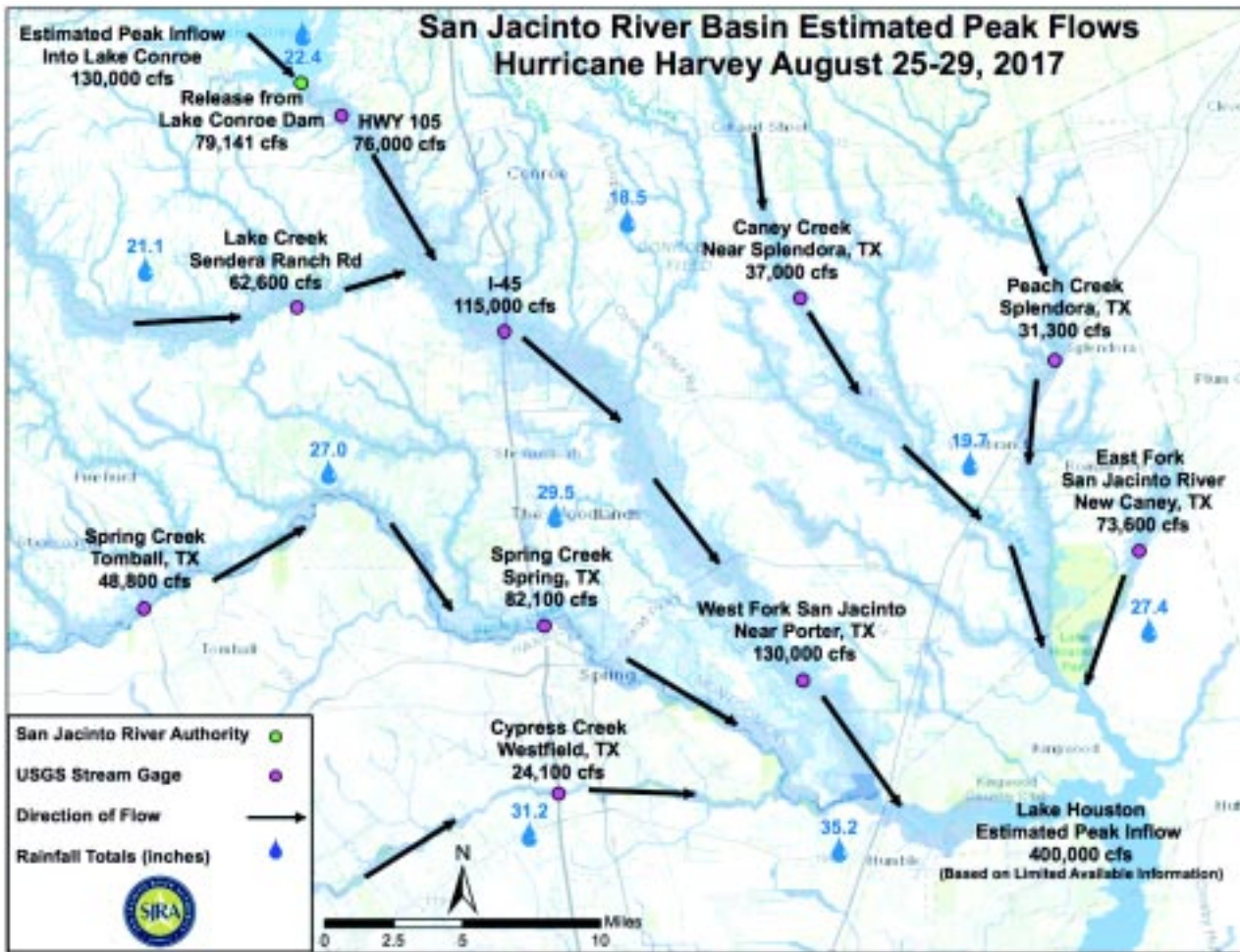
Dredging and not compounding the silt and sand deposits also makes sense in light of the \$1.4 billion Northeast Water Purifica-

tion Plant to begin clearing and preparing land this month and finish construction in 2024 to supply the City of Houston an additional 320 million gallons of water a day from the Trinity River through water lines and canals to the Luce Bayou Interbasin Transfer Project in Huffman.

“Plea for Three” next calls for reduction. The San Jacinto River Authority released 79,100 cubic feet per second of water during the middle of the night without warning or coordination with Harris County Office of Emergency Management. “Immediately take down the pooling level of Lake Conroe from 201 feet above sea level to 198 feet by pre-releasing water from Lake Conroe in a slow, systematic flow to ensure the dam at Lake Houston can then release this added water to the Gulf of Mexico.” the letter says.

But, the San Jacinto River Authority indicates lowering pooling levels will start problems over the long run as the population continues to grow and more people use Lake Conroe for water. Additionally, lowering pooling levels could lower property values near Lake Conroe making the waterway to shallow for navigation.

Finally, the lobby effort asks for better representa-



tion on the San Jacinto Water Authority. “The San Jacinto River Authority is governed by an appointed board of five people – none of whom live or represent the citizens or businesses within the Lake Houston Area.”

The letter asks; “Immediately add three interim

board members to the San Jacinto River Authority representing communities downstream impacted by the release of water from Lake Conroe. These appointed board members would serve until legislation can be crafted to best address the issue of downstream representation on

their board.”

However, the San Jacinto River Authority says it has board members in Baytown and Seabrook that care about the areas effected.

On the list of 36 representatives to contact concerning the Plea for Three Lake Houston Recovery Ef-

fort are local Senator, Brandon Creighton @senate.texas.gov, dan.huberty@house.texas.gov and john.whitmire@senate.state.tx.us. But, Crosby, Highlands and Huffman District 128, Briscoe Cain, R., was not included.

# Students Recognized,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Varsity Tennis was recognized by Stephen Olmsted and Athletic Director Jeff Riordan, Mackenzie Dornak was First Team All District, Academic All District and 75% winning. Riya Tyagi was First Team All District, Academic District, Academic All District and with an 86% Win Percentage. Academic All District was Victoria Martinez, Craig Stasney III, Blake Anderson, Mickey Clark and Sean Clark.



Art was presented by Meighan Gladden to Aliyah Cantu for Second Place Sophomore Veteran’s Day Contest. Samantha Carden took first place Renaissance Festival Painting, 2nd Place Junior Veteran’s Day Contest, and President of the National Art Honors Society.



Crosby High School Military Marching Band under the direction of Kevin Knight and Michael Lehw & All Academic, Erica Anderson – Honorable Mention & All-Academic, Brooke Oney – All-Academic, Hannah Dors – All-Academic Briana Gregory – All -Academic.

## AREA'S BEST BUSINESS REVIEW

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