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Oil on Canvas 24" x 30" by mei hoffman
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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2018

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

These stories in the PRESS:

- A Little Christmas Spirit at BLT
- Weight - Loss Seminar
- Old River Winfree Christmas Party
-And more, Page 3

EVENTS

SAT., DEC. 8
CROSBY CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL (3 pm) & PARADE 6:00
starts at Crosby Middle School and ends at the Crosby Fairgrounds. Toy Drive on-going at Turner Chevrolet.

FRIDAY, DEC. 7
CROSBY LIBRARY BOOK SALE
December Book Sale on Friday, December 7th - 1pm - 6pm. Saturday, December 8th - 10am - 5pm. Books for all ages, cds, audio tapes and DVDs for Christmas gifts. For more information, call the Library at 281-328-3535.

TUES, DEC. 11
SAN JACINTO RIVER COALITION
Regular monthly meeting of the coalition will meet at the Community Center, at 6:30 pm. This will be a wrap-up session for Nov. and Dec. Next meeting will be Jan. 8.

DEC. 18-20
CROSBY VOL. FIRE DEPARTMENT will again host Santa in their vehicles in Operation Santa, the Jolly Ole' Elf starts at 6:00 p.m. each night Tuesday in Newport, Wednesday Foley Rd. and Indian Shores and Thursday in Barrett and Crosby Village.

BIRTHDAYS
Dec 6-Deborah Brown
Dec 7-Leslie Coward
Becky Hill
Led Manke
Becky Smith
Dec 8-Barbara Glaze
Jerry W. Henderson
Margaret K. Boyd
Dec 9-Bruce Abbott
Ray Denson
Alston Elkins
Dec 10-Alecia Simmons
Karl Tewold
Maegan West
Kacy Browning
Dec 11-Caydie Farmer
Wesley Sheffield
Dec 12-Sheila Young
Cameron Townsend

ANNIVERSARIES
Dec 8-Ray & Melissa Denson
Dec 11-Kevin & Sandra Muldrow
Dec 12-Jim & Patsy Dammon

DEATHS
Stephen Lynn Smith

Rotary Club celebrates 70th anniversary

The Highlands Rotary Club marked a milestone this year, by reaching its 70th anniversary of its founding. The club held a combined Christmas party and 70th Anniversary celebration last Sunday, at the Monument Inn. Almost a hundred past and present members and their families attended the gala event. Led by club president Denise Smith, the program included an oral history of the club from its beginning, and vintage and recent photographs depicting the activities and history of the club and many of its members. The photos were presented by Gilbert Hoffman, who acknowledged that Alton Neatherlin, publish-



Judge Joe Stephens presents Rotary Club president Denise Smith with a proclamation congratulating the club on its 70th Anniversary. MORE ON PAGE 2.

er of the Highlands Star and a past president of the club, had published most of the vintage photos in the newspaper. Weston Cotten introduced guests, and acknowledged several clubs whose members were present, and a large number of past presidents of the Highlands club. There were also a number of District 5890 officers present. A special award was presented by Johnny Gaeke to club member Chester Stasney, for his 51 years of membership, which included club president in 1972-73. Gaeke thanked Stasney for mentoring him when he joined the club. The highest honor in Rotary is to become a Paul

Harris Fellow, and Past District Governor Bill Palko presented this award to three members, Johnny Gaeke, Chuck Radney, and Carol Radney. In addition, past member and past president Richard Robinson presented his wife Pat with the same Paul Harris Award. In her history presentation, Denise Smith noted that the club had been sponsored by the Dayton Rotary club, and chartered on November 24, 1948. The club started raising funds for community projects with the Chili Feast in 1976, and started a raffle for a new car in 1983. Due to the success of this idea, the club has raised over \$760,000 for community projects.

Santa's arrival in Highlands delights kids



The Pavilion in the Railroad Park on San Jacinto Street was the scene for Santa and the two Highlands queens to greet children, have a picture taken, and learn what is on their list. MORE PHOTOS INSIDE

HIGHLANDS – Santa arrived on a Fire Truck last Tuesday night, to mark the start of the Christmas season. Hundreds of Children and their parents lined up in the park, to get a chance to talk with Santa, and have their picture taken. The Santa event is sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, with the help of the Highlands Horizons, the Rotary Club, and many other volunteers. Present with Santa were Miss Highlands, Kaitlyn Rolin, and Jr. Miss Highlands, Payton Radle. Also present were the Boy Scouts, holding an open pit fire ceremony. Children and parents approached Santa through a tunnel of arched lights, with decorated Christmas trees on each side. The trees had been adorned by various organizations throughout the town. They



Santa waves from atop the Highlands Fire Truck, a tradition of many years. With the jolly old elf are Miss Highlands and Jr. Miss Highlands.

were judged by Santa Claus himself, and he chose a tree decorated by the art class of Highlands Junior School as the winner. In the spirit of the season, the Rotary Club served hot chocolate, and the Chamber provided lots of cookies. Chamber director Jessica Woods thanked everyone who worked hard to make this event a great success for the community and the hundreds of happy children.

Community Center hosts Santa and kids



Carolers from Newport Elementary sang at the Crosby Community Center for Winter Wonderland Open House on Friday and Saturday of last week. Holiday crafting, visits with Santa's helpers, a forests of decorated trees, music, entertainment and refreshments. All funds raised at Breakfast with Santa and Wnter Wonderland benefitted Crosby Advisory Council at nonprofit 501 (c) 3 supporting the Center. Santa also posed for photos of he and youthful fans on Friday and Saturday night. Several locals schools had students sing in Choirs.



Santa encounters some Christmas enthusiasm from a fan at Breakfast with Santa on Sat.

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★ COMMUNITY NEWS ★

Precinct 2 begins road improvements in Lynchburg area



Road improvements in Lynchburg area.

LYNCHBURG, Texas – Commissioner Jack Moran announced the start of construction on a new BetterStreets2Neighborhoods (BS2N) project for late November along various roadways in the Lynchburg area. BS2N is a Precinct 2 program dedicated to preserving asphalt roadways by restoring the base and overlaying it with new asphalt to create a brand new, smooth riding surface. This \$1.4 million project will utilize the full-depth reclamation technique, a multi-phased process that recycles the asphalt pavement and integrates a cement slurry to produce a stabilized base for the roadway. This in-depth method is most commonly used on asphalt roadways that have reached the end

of their useful life. The roadways to be improved are: Center Street, Lakeview Drive, Kilgore Avenue, Oakland Street, Burnett Street, Ilfrey Street, and Maple Street. Residents will have access to their homes at all times, and mailing services are not to be impacted during construction. Traffic patterns may shift during construction, so drivers are urged to be mindful of signage and flaggers when travelling through work zones. Construction is expected to be complete in the second quarter of 2019. Be sure to visit www.hcp2.com or like the "Harris County Precinct 2" Facebook page for more information on the Precinct.

Highlands Rotary Club 70th Anniversary

The Highlands Rotary Club has reached milestone in its history.

Although the club had a small beginning, and has never been a large club, it persevered to become the most influential and popular organizations in Highlands. Thousands of dollars have been collected and returned to the community and around the world with projects that benefit others. Our club has received recognition from the district on many occasions including:

- 2005-06 Steve Miller awarded District 5890 Club President of the Year
- 2007-08 We were #1 in Per Capita Giving to the Rotary Foundation and were 100% Paul Harris Fellow Club
- 2009-10 Robert Woodall was selected as Small Club President of the Year
- 2015-16 With Dr. Larry White leading the way our club was selected as the "Medium Size Club of the Year"

Because of their efforts, Highlands Rotary Club is recognized as a successful club in Rotary District 5890 even earning the nickname as "The Biggest Little Club in the District."



Past President Weston Cotten, right, introduces guests and club members at president Denise Smith, center, looks on.



A Paul Harris Award is made to Johnny Gaeke, left, by Past District Governor Bill Palko, right, and Highlands club president Denise Smith.



Club member Chester Stasney was honored for 51 years of membership. With him is his wife Marie Stasney.



Club members Chuck Radney, and wife Carol Radney, receive Paul Harris Awards.



Pat Robinson, center, receives a Paul Harris Award presented by her husband, Richard Robinson, a past president of the club.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2018

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ROUND-UP

Programs at Sam & Carmena Goss Library

These are the events taking place at the Sam and Carmena Goss Memorial Branch Library the week of December 3, 2018.

- Friday, December 7 - 10:30, Story Time (ages 0-5 yrs)
- Saturday, December 8 - 12:00 PM-5:00 PM, Nerd Con.
- Tuesday, December 11 - 10:00 am, Baby and Me (ages 0-24 mos)
- Tuesday, December 11 - 4:00 pm, Movie Day "Christopher Robin" (all ages)
- Wednesday, December 12 - 4:00 pm, Tween Treats (ages 7-11 yrs)
- Thursday, December 13 - 5:00 pm, Adult Book Club
- Friday, December 14 - 10:30 pm, Story Time (ages 0-5 yrs) Family Friendly

Visit our Facebook page, Chambers County Library System, for more information and to register. Registration not required.

Call Sam and Carmena Goss Memorial Library, Mont Belvieu at 281-576-2245 with any questions.

Save the Date – Holiday Social

Mark the date and tell your friends and colleagues you are all invited to the West County Chambers Chamber of Commerce's 2018 Holiday Social, hosted by our friends at Lone Star NGL. They will all gather between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Tuesday, December 11, to share some holiday cheer.

Winter Gator Tales

The Eddie V. Gray Wetlands Education and Recreation Center in Baytown is hosting a series of Pre-school programs for ages 3-5 every Wednesday from 10 am to 11 am as follows:

- December 12, Preparing for Winter
 - December 19, Ice Melts
 - December 26, Nature Holiday Traditions
 - January 2, "Rock" in' New Year.
- The center is located at 1724 Market Street.

Work on Cedar Bayou flooding continues

CROSBY - The Harris County Flood control district had engineers and workers busy last week removing dirt and debris from ditches, bayous and streams of the area most hard hit by Hurricane Harvey.

Most human rescues from the Crosby region were taken from the area near Cedar Bayou the bayou that runs from Huffman to Crosby and forms a Harris and Chambers County Bayou.

Better that three feet of dirt and debris were cleaned out to allow water to more readily flow.

Special engineering accomplishments were placed at the Krenk Road and Bohemian Hall intersection to keep that area from plugging in very rapidly in the event of the next flood.

Crews with heavy equipment could be seen digging out the waterways even on Saturdays indicating it was contractors doing the work.

Backhoes and earth moving equipment was seen throughout the vicinity last Saturday and varied contractors were seen digging. Harris County citizens passed a \$2.5 Billion dollar bond last August with funds to go to the Harris County Flood Control District to fix flood issues before they become life threatening issues again like Hurricane Harvey type of one in a 1000 year flood condition.

Work continues.

The City of Old River Winfree hosting Christmas Open House

The City of Old River Winfree is proud to presents its annual Open House.

Santa and Olaf will be bringing snow to Old River-Winfree for residents to play in. The event will take place at the Old River - Winfree Community Building located at 4818 FM 565 North, Old River-Winfree, TX 77523 this Saturday, December 8, 2018 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Each child will receive a present from Santa and Olaf. There will be pizza donated by simple Simon's Pizza, hotdogs, and lots of Christmas cookies.



The event, gift and food is a Christmas gift from the City of Old River-Winfree. Please come and enjoy the spirit of Christmas.

A Little Christmas Spirit



A LITTLE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT - Baytown Little Theater's fun filled holiday play is off to a great start! If you haven't made it to the theater yet to see A Little Christmas Spirit, you still have two weekends left to stop by; Dec 7 - 9 and Dec 14 - 16. Friday and Saturday shows begin at 8 pm and Sunday shows are at 2:30 pm.

For more information and to purchase tickets go to baytownlittletheater.org and keep a lookout on our Facebook and Instagram pages as we roll out more information about our latest productions.

Bañuelos Elementary sponsors blanket project



Students at Dr. Antonio Bañuelos Elementary display some of the small lap blankets they are collecting for their Blanket Project. Pictured are (front, from left) Krystal Murillo, Valeria Reyna, Daniela Chapa, (back, from left) Sydni Godfrey, Autymn Alfred, Savannah Prickett, Cooper Moore, Myles Reimonenq and Nayela Trejo.

Imagine being away from home during this special time of year. Fifth-grade GATE students at Dr. Antonio Bañuelos Elementary want to BLANKET the community with hope and kindness by collecting small lap blankets. The blankets will be given to the residents of Bay-

town Nursing and Rehab Center in Baytown. The holiday season is a good time to be reminded to be thankful for the things we have. Some people are not as fortunate as others.

The school will collect blankets until December 15, 2018. If you would like to donate a blanket, please

drop it off in the front office at the school at 7770 East Point, Baytown, TX.

"It makes our hearts feel good to know that a sick patient will have a warm blanket for comfort," said fifth-grade teacher Linda LeDay. "I hope the students get a sense of the value of community service."

Seminar Addresses Weight Loss Options

BAYTOWN — (November 30, 2018) — Obesity is far more serious than trying to drop some weight following a holiday season filled with numerous opportunities to pack on the pounds. For people dealing with obesity—defined as a body mass index (BMI) of 35 or above—excessive weight can lead to serious health conditions.

"Excess weight increases your risk for type 2 diabetes, heart disease, problems breathing and developing breast, colon and other cancers," said bariatric surgeon Dr. Laura Choi, director of the Houston Methodist Weight Management Center at Baytown. "It also plays a role in increased stroke risk."

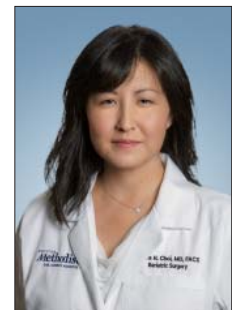
Choi hosts a free weight loss seminar on Tuesday, December 4 at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital to discuss the full range of treatment options available for Baytown area residents wanting to lose weight and improve their health.

The weight management center offers a full spectrum of options to help patients attempting to better manage their diabetes and improve their overall health by losing weight. The center uses a multidisciplinary team of dietitians, diabetes specialists, physicians, bariatric surgeons and counselors to help patients manage their weight through non-surgical and surgical methods.

Bariatric surgery procedures restrict the amount of food you can eat and/or changes the route food takes through your body so that less food is absorbed. According to the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery, approximately 100,000 such surgeries are performed each year in the U.S.

"For patients who qualify, surgery has excellent outcomes and can even greatly improve type 2 diabetes. Some patients have experienced complete remission after surgery," Choi said.

The center also offers its diabetes education program—recognized by the American Diabetes Associ-



Dr. Laura Choi

ation—that focuses on personalized treatment plans to help diabetes patients self-manage the disease.

Choi adds that the center offers comprehensive after-care programs that focus on nutrition, counseling and exercise to help patients adjust to the physical and emotional changes following surgery.

"Patients must be willing to make major lifestyle and diet changes if they want to achieve the best results following any bariatric procedure," Choi said.

The seminar is scheduled for 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the CRCU Community Room at the hospital's Garth campus. For more information and to register, visit houstonmethodist.org/events, or call 281-428-2273.

About Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital

Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital has provided Baytown and East Houston with quality medical care since opening its doors in 1948. The hospital has grown throughout the years with the community, providing comprehensive care at all stages of life. As a health care leader, the hospital is proud to have a fully integrated residency program focused on educating and inspiring future practitioners. Today, Houston Methodist Baytown provides some of the most advanced and innovative procedures while never losing focus on compassionate and patient-centered care. Houstonmethodist.org/baytown.

★ OPINION PAGE ★



Social Security Matters

by AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor Russell Gloor
Association of Mature American Citizens

Ask Rusty – Financial Advisor Spoke of Extra Spouse Benefit

Dear Rusty: I have applied for and been approved to start collecting my Social Security this month (at age 66). My wife will turn 62 in March 2019 and is planning to apply for benefits then. In a group meeting with a financial advisor he mentioned a spousal benefit of \$500/month in addition to her own monthly benefit. Can you enlighten me on the proper name for this benefit and how do I apply for it? Signed: Wanting to Know

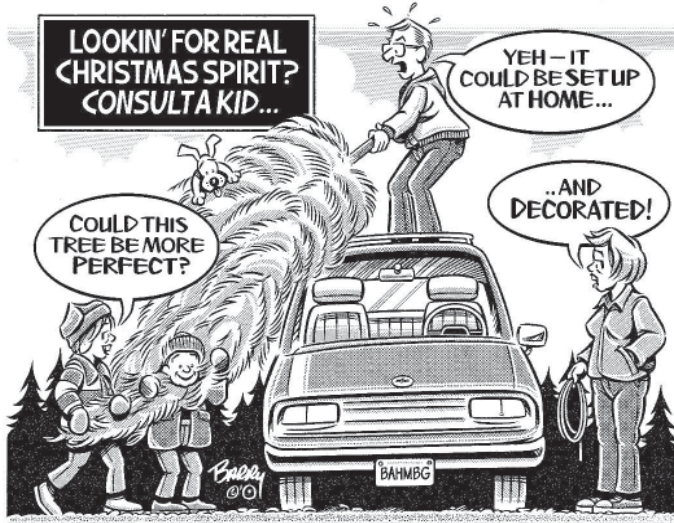
Dear Wanting: I can only speculate on what the financial advisor in that group meeting was referring to, but it may have been one of the following:

When she is 62 your wife can claim her own Social Security and, if her benefit on her own work record is considerably less than yours, she may also be entitled to a "spousal benefit." If she were to claim Social Security at her full retirement age her spousal benefit would be 50% of your benefit amount. But if she takes it at age 62, it will be something less – about 34% of yours. If she is entitled to the spousal benefit, she gets that larger amount as her full Social Security benefit. The spousal benefit is an amount which is added to your wife's own benefit to bring her up to what she's due as your spouse. In this sense, it is extra benefit on top of your wife's benefit, but only up to the total amount she's entitled to as your spouse. Your wife doesn't need to apply separately to receive the spousal benefit because, if you are already collecting benefits when she files at age 62, she will be automatically deemed to be filing for

any spousal benefit she is due from your record.

If at the time of your group meeting with the financial advisor you had not yet claimed your Social Security, he may have been referring to something called a "restricted application for spousal benefits only." You qualify for the restricted application (RA) because you were born before the January 1, 1954 cut-off date after which it was eliminated. If your wife claims her own Social Security first, you can file the "restricted application for spousal benefits only" and collect 50% of your wife's full retirement age (FRA) benefit amount while allowing your own Social Security benefit to grow. That growth would be 8% per year of delay (0.667% per month), and at age 70 your benefit would be 32% more than it is at age 66. But there's a catch – you can only do this if you have not yet claimed your own benefits. Thus, the only way the RA could work for you now would be for you to withdraw your current benefit application, wait until your wife files at age 62, and then file the "restricted application for spousal benefits only" to get 50% of her FRA amount. If you withdraw your application now you will need to pay back any benefits, which have already been paid, essentially wiping the slate clean with Social Security, and this can only be done within one year of when you first applied. But doing that will give you an extra spouse benefit while your own benefit grows. Again, I can only speculate on what the financial advisor in that group meeting was referring to, but the above seem most probable.

This article is intended for information purposes only.



Former U.S. President George H.W. Bush dies Nov. 30

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott on Dec. 1 issued the following statement on the Nov. 30 death of George Herbert Walker Bush, the 41st president of the United States:

"The state of Texas mourns with the nation at the passing of one of our greatest presidents. George H.W. Bush was an American hero and icon, he was a friend to all he met, he embodied class and dignity. Texans are genuinely honored that he called the Lone Star State home and we collectively grieve this monumental loss. On behalf of Texas, Cecilia and I offer our thoughts and prayers to the Bush family in their time of need."

Bush, 94, a Republican, served as the president from 1989 to 1993. He served as vice president from 1981 to 1989 alongside President Ronald Reagan. He served as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, Texas Congressional District 7, from 1967 to 1971, and went on to serve the nation in many other high-level appointed positions.

Fund transfer is completed

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on Nov. 29 announced the transfer of \$2.77 billion into the State Highway Fund and the Economic Stabilization ("Rainy Day") Fund. Each

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

fund received more than \$1.38 billion or 50 percent of the total transfer, Hegar said.

The transfer amounts are based on crude oil and natural gas production tax revenues in excess of 1987 collections. If either tax generates more revenue than the 1987 threshold, an amount equal to 75 percent of the excess is transferred.

In November 2014, voters approved a constitutional amendment allocating at least half of these severance taxes to the Rainy Day Fund, with the remainder going to the SHF for use on non-toll highway construction, maintenance and right-of-way acquisition.

When fiscal 2018 ended on Aug. 31, the Rainy Day Fund balance was \$11.04 billion. The new balance of \$12.48 billion, not accounting for currently outstanding spending authority, will decline as agencies spend down the remaining appropriation authority, Hegar said.

Also, the high balance helps Texas maintain its AAA credit rating. "That's why I have asked the Legislature to authorize me to invest a portion of the fund in a more prudent and responsible manner and use the returns to address the types of long-term liabilities that have crippled the finances of states such as Illinois and New Jersey. Significant portions of this money have not been keeping up with inflation, and we must not allow the power of this asset to erode over time," Hegar added.

Returns reach landmark

Comptroller Hegar on Nov. 29 announced his office had returned \$1 billion in unclaimed property to rightful owners since he took office in January 2015.

"This landmark achievement represents the commitment this office has made to reuniting unclaimed property with its rightful owners," Hegar said. "I'm proud of the folks in our Unclaimed Property program, and I encourage everyone to go to our website and see if there is money waiting for them."

About 830,000 claims have been approved while Hegar has been comptroller, he said, and since 2015, the comptroller's office has redesigned its unclaimed property website and internal systems to make the claims process faster, easier and more efficient.

ClaimItTexas.org allows users to upload claim documentation and is mobile-optimized to make it easier to search for unclaimed property on smartphones and tablets. The state has returned more than \$3 billion in unclaimed property to its rightful owners since the program's inception in 1962, Hegar added.

Tax scammers target many

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on Nov. 26 warned Texans that entities impersonating the Internal Revenue Service are sending fraudulent email messages.

Fraudsters may use the subject line "tax transcripts" in email messages that attempt to bait Texans into opening links and documents that contain malware designed to steal sensitive financial data.

Paxton said the IRS never calls or emails citizens to demand repayment for penalties, and if any citizen receives a fraudulent call or email message they should call the IRS directly at 800-829-1040.

"My office stands ready to assist hard-working Texas consumers. The consumer protection section of our website contains several resources on how to recognize, prevent and report scams like this. Being informed is the best way to prevent fraud and loss," added Paxton.

Many may purchase units

Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush on Nov. 28 announced the Federal Emergency Management Agency granted a program under which Hurricane Harvey survivors still residing in temporary housing units may purchase the federally funded manufactured housing units and travel trailers.

FEMA's temporary housing assistance is set to expire on Feb. 25, 2019, 18 months after the date of the disaster. Currently, there are 1,582 households in temporary housing units — manufactured housing and travel trailers — administered by the Texas General Land Office.

How to stretch your Holiday budget by saving on mobile devices

(StatePoint) With this year's holiday spending expected to rise over last year, according to the National Retail Federation estimates, you may be planning to spend more on décor, gift-giving and travel. If your seasonal plans also include upgrading mobile devices for yourself or for loved ones, keep in mind that you can make room in your budget for those other holiday expenditures by not paying the price for a brand-new model.

The alternative? A refurbished device. Experts say the idea that all refurbished devices were broken or had problems in a past life is a misconception.

"Whether you're bargain hunting or you're looking to go green and reduce electronic waste, you're in luck," says David Conti, senior director of eCommerce at MyWit. "In today's market it is very easy to find affordable, high-quality refurbished devices."

Indeed, many mobile phones, tablets and accessories that come from trade-in and upgrade programs were perfectly good devices that owners traded in for newer models. With so many consumers out there reliably seeking the latest, such trade-ins and sales are becoming more popular, making it easier to navigate the market for a previously owned device.

If you do go this route this holiday season, be sure to stick with reputable sources where you can trust the device to be in fully functional condition and opt for the longest guarantee available, at least 90 days. For example, those from MyWit undergo an extensive 65+ point inspection of cosmetics, functionality and connectivity to ensure optimal performance. Tests verify every function that a customer can use (camera, audio, SIM, WiFi, Bluetooth, etc.) is in 100 percent working order and connectivity tests ensure wireless devices deliver a consistent quality of connection and do not drop available signals.

When it comes to mobile upgrades, replacements and tech gifts, you can make this holiday season merrier and more affordable with refurbished devices.

Counties agreeing to participate in the sales program include Austin, Calhoun, Galveston, Harris, Jasper, Jefferson, Newton, Orange, Polk, San Jacinto, Tyler and Victoria. However, some cities within those counties have opted out of the program.

FEMA approval of the sales program for the housing units "provides Texas communities with one more tool in our recovery toolbox," Bush said.



Letter to Santa

Dear Santa, _____

Name: _____

Age: _____

School: _____

Letters can be mailed to Santa,
5906 Star Lane, Houston, TX,
77057 or e-mailed to
grafikstar@aol.com.
Letters must be received by
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★ LIFESTYLE PAGE ★

OBITUARIES

Stephen Lynn Smith



Stephen Lynn Smith, 56, passed away peacefully after a long battle with cancer on November 30, 2018 in Austin, Texas. Stephen was born on March 17, 1962 to parents Jimmy and Ann Smith in Houston, Texas. He was a true outdoorsman who enjoyed fishing, hunting and playing golf.

Stephen loved spending time with his family and playing with his grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his brother, Jeffrey Scott Smith. Stephen is lovingly survived by his wife, Deanna Smith; parents, Jimmy and Ann Smith; brother, Michael Todd Smith; children, Jeremy Mayo and wife Kelly, Ashley Knowles and husband Andrew; grandchildren, Emily Mayo, Mackenzie Mayo, Chandler Woodruff, Adam Knowles; his beloved dog, Jax; as well as numerous extended family members and friends.

Friends are welcome to join the family for visitation Tuesday, December

4th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Carter-Conley Funeral Home. Funeral services officiated by Pastor Danny Kilcoyne will be held at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, December 5, 2018 in the chapel of Carter-Conley Funeral Home.

Graveside services will immediately follow at San Jacinto Memorial Park under the direction of Carter-Conley Funeral Home.

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Santa arrives in Highlands



SANTA picks the Best Decorated Tree, made by Highlands Junior School art students.

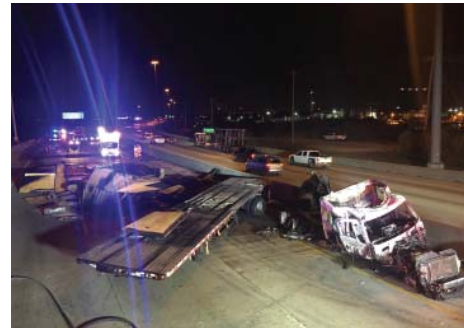


HOT CHOCOLATE and cookies served by the Rotary Club members, help fight off the cold weather, for all the kids and their parents attending the Christmas event in the park.

Truck crashes on I-10 bridge, closes the highway for hours



Firefighters from Highlands, Channelview, and Baytown were busy last Sunday, fighting a fire that consumed this semi-truck after it crashed into a guardrail, jackknifed across all 3 lanes of the I-10 highway over the San Jacinto River, and



caused traffic to stop from 3pm Sunday for at least 5 hours in the westbound lanes, and for a shorter time in the eastbound lanes. Authorities believe the driver, who was uninjured, may have fallen asleep and missed the curve. Photos courtesy of Highlands Fire Department.

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

LUKE 2: 6,7

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can move
MOUNTAINS
Matthew 17:20

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LOVE NEVER FAILS
I Corinthians 13:8

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I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.
PHILIPPIANS 4:13

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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

Northside Baptist Christmas Program

Northside Baptist Church of Highlands will have its Christmas Program on Sunday, December 9 at 6pm. It will be led by Music Minister Gene Littlejohn and pianist Karen Bascom. The Program will feature Christmas singing, special music, and tell of the miraculous

birth of our Savior. A Fellowship with food and drinks will follow. Northside will also be featuring Christmas music and preaching throughout the month of December on Sundays at 11am and 6pm. Dress is casual. Everyone invited.

Northside Baptist Church of Highlands is located at 317 Barbers Hill Road, Highlands, TX 77562. For more information visit nsbchighlands.org. "There is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." -Luke 2:11.

Crosby Chamber welcomes new member

The Crosby Huffman Chamber of Commerce Welcomed New Member Huddle House to the Huffman community. They have great service with great comfort food and are ready for you and your family for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Please stop in and see them at 24110 FM 2100 in Huffman.



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What we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory He will reveal to us later
ROMANS 8:18

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Acts 2:4

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Be alert. Continue strong in the faith. Have courage and be strong.
1 Corinthians 16:13

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

★ ASK THE EXPERTS ★

Crosby Branch announces December festivities

CROSBY Monday, Friends of the Crosby Library announced their numerous contributions including adding to staff a book stacker and receiving a map from the 19th Century of Harris County from back in 1896, donated by former Representative to the Texas House Joe Crabb from his office in Kingwood.

The map is missing

most details one would associate with the area including Lake Houston. But, their are railroad tracks and Jackson Bayou to tell everyone where one would later find the older portion of Crosby midpoint in the Humphreys Jackson plantation. The map was framed by the Friends and will grace a wall in the Public Meeting Room for everyone to see.

On Dec. 3 a book sale was announced for Dec. 7 from 1:00p.m. until 6:00p.m. and Dec. 8 from 10a.m. until 5:00 p.m. in the Public Meeting Room. The Friends of the Crosby Library uses profits from the book sale to promote and achieve making programs for the library and providing extra services not allotted by the County. This is a favorite for gift

givers lacking scads of funds but with friends that have active minds. DVD, tapes and other materials are available, too.

Faithful Paws of Houston brings big ole' loving dogs to be read to by children. Kids are encouraged to bring their favorite books to read to big furry

friends, that are trained therapy dogs. This exciting event is to be held every third Saturday from 10:30 a.m. until Noon at the Edith Faye Cook Cole Branch Library Children's Area. It is a chance for the kids to read to someone with an appreciation for their abilities without no-

ting stumbling over hard words.

It's Movie Time at the Library and they are Holiday Classics. This year the library will host *The Nightmare Before Christmas*, with snacks on Thursday, Dec. 20 at 2:00 p.m. within the Public Meeting Room.



At left Head Librarian Diane Barker serves desserts to the group Friends of the Crosby Library that annually contributes to the improvement of the library she manages. A new map from before the 1914 waterway improvements including the ship channel and Lake Houston will grace these walls.

FFA students compete in Leadership Development



Goose Creek CISD FFA participant students.

Goose Creek CISD FFA students competed in the Gulf Coast District Area III FFA Leadership Development Event (LDE) Contest held on November 7 in Pearland. Advancing teams also competed at the Area III LDE Contest November 15 in Tomball. The events focus on creating situations for members to demonstrate their abilities in public speaking, decision making and communication as well as their knowledge of agriculture and the FFA organization. Team and individual events are used to reinforce what is taught in agricultural science classrooms.

From Goose Creek Memorial, under the direction of advisors Kami Johnston, Josie Case, Christopher McLaren and Robert Lewis, students Lawrence Bernard, Macy Farmer, Presley Norton and Bryce Estrada place fifth in Ag Advocacy at the Gulf Coast District Area III FFA LDA. Jennifer Staley placed

fourth in Greenhand Creed Speaking. In Greenhand Skills, Isaac Mireles, Brianna Perez and Olivia Adolph placed fifth. In Job Interview, Zoe Johnson placed fifth. In the Public Relations category, Isabella Garzoria, Hannah Humphrey and Cheyanne Mohler placed second, advancing to the Area III contest and placing 13th in Area III. Cody Cornelius, Jaylon Follie and Tabitha Spry placed third in Radio Broadcasting, advancing to the Area III Contest and placing sixth at Area III.

Under the direction of advisors Kenneth Rogers, Lawrence Richard and Rebekah Banks, Ross S. Sterling High School FFA students won third place overall for the Gulf Coast District Sweepstakes Award. Ryleigh Richards placed second in Greenhand Creed speaking at the Gulf Coast District Area III FFA LDE Contest, advancing to the Area III Contest and placing third. Kaylee Dahlquist, Zakary

Medina and Ericka Smith placed ninth in the Senior Quiz category, and Ashley Lindsey placed ninth in Job Interview. In Greenhand Quiz, Graecyn Beiter, Madison Rhodes, Madalyn Valle and Kelly Whipple placed sixth. The team of Katie Johnson, Alondra Nunez, Ryleigh Richards and Paige Rome placed first, advancing to Area III and placing fifth.

In Public Relations, Madalyn Gonzalez, Zakary Medina, Ericka Smith and Grace Thomas placed third, advancing to Area III and placing 11th. In the Radio Broadcasting category, Kaylee Dahlquist, Reagan Richard and Grace Thomas took first place, advancing to Area III to place 10th. Reagan Richard took home third, placing 14th in the Area III Contest. In Senior Skills, Abigail Lazo, Ashley Lindsey, Alexandria Prichett and Carson Purswell placed third at the Gulf Coast District Contest and 11st at Area III.

Mayor, County Judge announce final round of Relief Fund grants

HOUSTON - The Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund is disbursing its final round of grants for aid and services to local flood victims, bringing the total of distributed charitable donations to \$113.6 million to assist about 190,000 households through 124 experienced and carefully selected non-profit organizations.

The fifth and final round of \$3 million is going to 17 non-profits groups that will provide furniture, cash assistance and other basic needs and case management to qualified victims.

The Fund was established by Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner and Harris County Judge Ed Emmett in 2017 to provide immediate, medium and long-term disaster relief. It is administered by the Greater Houston Community Foundation.

"The effects of Harvey will be felt for years to come," added County Judge Ed Emmett. "These local nonprofit grantees

have strong track records of supporting our communities. We're confident that they can make a real difference in the longer term."

"It's been over a year since Harvey, but there is still work that needs to be done to help people get back on their feet," Mayor Turner said. "This last round of funding strengthens our communities and supports recovery across the city."

In preparation for this round of grant making, the Fund surveyed organizations based in the hardest hit communities to determine remaining needs. The Fund also reviewed published studies, and distributions by other charity funds, to ensure the final round has maximum effect.

"It was also important to review the progress of Round 3 and Round 4 grantees to identify challenges in service delivery and determine the support needed for Round 5 grant recommendations," said

Renee Wizig-Barrios, senior vice president and chief philanthropy officer at Greater Houston Community Foundation. "Using what we've learned, we were able to target our remaining resources to bring relief assistance to those who need it the most."

Among the 17 nonprofits that received Round 5 funding, an advisory board approved grants to two that had not previously received HHRF grants: Angel By Nature and West Street Recovery. Grants were also distributed to the Home Preservation Fund to be administered by Avenue CDC, which helps homeowners whose home repairs are stalled because they were unable to make timely mortgage payments.

The Fund will continue to publish updates and report on grant activities over the coming months.

More information can be found on Greater Houston Community Foundation's website at www.ghecf.org.

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GARAGE SALE

Church Garage Sale
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LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

BARBERS HILL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that, on December 17, 2018, the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the Barbers Hill Independent School District (the "District") will conduct a public hearing at 6:30 p.m. (the "Public Hearing"), in the District's Board Room located in the C.T. Joseph Conference Center, 9600 Eagle Drive, Mont Belvieu, Texas 77523. The Public Hearing will be to consider designating a certain area as a reinvestment zone under Texas Tax Code § 312.0025, in portions of Chambers County, Texas, to be known as the "Oneok MB5 Reinvestment Zone" (the "Reinvestment Zone"); establishing the boundaries thereof; and providing for an effective date.

In determining whether to designate the Reinvestment Zone, the Board will consider whether the Reinvestment Zone (i) meets the criteria for the creation of a reinvestment zone as set forth in the Property Redevelopment and Tax Abatement Act, as amended, and (ii) is reasonably likely to contribute to the expansion of primary employment in the Reinvestment Zone, or attract major investment in the Reinvestment Zone that will be a benefit to property in the Reinvestment Zone and to the District and contribute to the economic development of the region of this state in which the District is located.

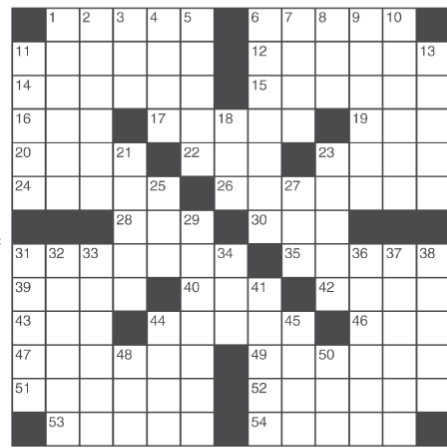
All interested persons may appear and present testimony and evidence for or against the foregoing.

Posting Date December 3, 2018

King Crossword

ACROSS

- Yard activities
- Measuring device
- Wig
- Show up
- Hang around
- Vocalist
- Big bother
- Formal pronouncements
- Yoko of music
- Spill the beans
- Bear hair
- Coaster
- Black-and-white movie, e.g.
- 90210, for one
- Always, in verse
- Mongrel
- Sways from side to side
- "Gone With the Wind" star
- Look lasciviously
- Three-man vessel?
- Intend
- Grazing area
- Filleted
- Suitable
- Identify
- Sarcastic remark
- Stag's lack



- With malice
- Butcher's wares
- Keglers' venue
- Large beer glass
- Golfer Palmer
- Schlep
- out (supplemented)
- Helvetica lack
- Stomach-related
- Met melody
- Grecian con-
- tainer
- 51-Across of a sort
- Tied
- "The Republic" man
- 13 Wear away
- 18 Since, slangily
- 21 Belgian city
- 23 "Get lost!"
- 25 Conger or moray
- 27 Boxer
- 29 Cutting responses
- 31 "Look Homeward,
- Angel" author
- 32 Anti-elderly bias
- 33 Quick look
- 34 Baltimore newspaper
- 36 Snoopy, e.g.
- 37 Boutonnieres' sites
- 38 Access
- 41 Watch-crystal holder
- 44 Ernie's pal
- 45 Prima donna
- 48 — long way (last)
- 50 Diarist Anais

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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

3		7		1		8		
	7			6		2		
		9	2	4				
2			8	1				
4	6	7	3					
		8	5				7	
	1		3	5				
	8	4		6				
5		9	1					4

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Helmet is missing; 2. Brain is missing; 3. Tail is shorter; 4. Flower pot is missing; 5. License tag is missing; 6. Tongue is smaller.

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- HISTORY:** In which war was the Battle of Midway fought?
- GEOGRAPHY:** Which country has the most natural lakes?
- ART:** What famous sculpture in Washington, D.C., was created by Daniel Chester French?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** What plant is also known as the windflower?
- LITERATURE:** In which of Stephen King's novels does the Overlook Hotel appear?
- INVENTIONS:** What item was invented in 1845 to hold papers together?
- HISTORY:** What did the Lateran Treaty of 1929 establish?
- BIBLE:** What was the first of the plagues of Egypt mentioned in the Book of Exodus?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS:** Who was the first U.S. president to be impeached?
- MOVIES:** Which movie carries the tagline "The most beautiful love story ever told"?

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1. World War II; 2. Canada; 3. Abraham Lincoln statue at the Lincoln Memorial; 4. Armoire; 5. "The Shining"; 6. The rubber band; 7. Vatican City as an independent state; 8. Water turns to blood; 9. Andrew Johnson; 10. "Beauty and the Beast"

King Crossword - Answers



Citizen' Police Academy hosts party for deputies



The Harris County Sheriff's Office Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Annual Christmas Party was held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Crosby Texas. Music was provided by Eddie Foster and the lively group feasted on fine Italian Lasagnia, chicken pasto, from Marcala's Italian and was beyond exceptional. All of that and Mrs. Karen Foster prepared her own version of spaghetti to exacting standards. A couple of deputies showed including Sergeant Don Williams of the Public Relations Dept. With deputies solidly booked to work that day, meals were prepared to take to the Jim Fonteano Wallisville Substation for the deputies to enjoy as deputies made out reports.

Crosby Tree



Annually, the Community Center in Crosby has decorated a forest of Christmas Trees and this Western Theme is seemingly a favorite for locals harking back to days when Crosby was mostly a cattle growing and logging area.

Toy drive hosted



Turner Chevrolet's Toy Drive to Benefit Clothe A Child remains on-going until the Dec. 8 Parade. Toys collected will be given to needy children.

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