

HIGHLANDS CROSBY  
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These stories in the **PRESS:**

- Call to Arms meeting set for April 6
- ITC fire is not over
- Water monitoring
- Air monitoring
- Deer Park fire Health Concerns
- .....And more, Page 3

**IN THE STARS**

**EVENTS**

**SAT., MARCH 30 CRAFT SHOW**

Craft Show benefitting Crosby Middle School Spanish Club. From 9 am to 4 pm, 14705 FM 2100.

**MONDAY, APRIL 1 WILLS & PROBATE - CROSBY LIBRARY**

Crosby Edith Fae Cook Cole Branch Library, 135 Hare Road, Crosby, Texas 77532, invites individuals and families to a free event: "Wills and Probate", on Monday, April 1 at 4:30 pm, in the meeting room. Guest speaker is Assistant County Attorney Susan Fillion. Ms. Fillion has lots of information to share including estate planning basics, do-it-yourself wills, mistakes to avoid, and more. Call 832-927-7790 for more information.

**SAT., APRIL 6 SPRING FLING VENDOR & CRAFT FAIR**

April 6th, 2019 at Hargrave High School from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Contact Tiffany at tiffany@crossbychurch.com or call the office at 281-328-1310 for more information.

**BIRTHDAYS**

- Mar 28-Zachery Abbott  
Rebecca Erikson  
Edgar Wotipka
- Mar 30- Derek Geffs  
Rachel Schultz  
Cheryl Sue Zarsky  
B.J. Amberger  
John C. Zaprada
- Mar 31-Amy Brewer  
Lottie Velma Dunaway
- Apr 2-Mickey Mann  
Tim Engle  
Pauline Cutbirth  
Levi James Boyd
- Apr 3-Randall Henning  
Dylan James Lay  
Liam Greenwood  
Bryan Muldrow  
Dot Sheffield  
Zac Bowman
- Apr 4-Cory Hildebrand  
Clydeen Valentine  
Denise Hernandez  
Robert H. Sparks

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- March 31-William & Susan O'Neal
- Apr 1-Doug & Jackie Adams

**DEATHS**

- David Brian Perkins

## Ball season begins with crack of the bat



Last Saturday, a parade down Main St. and thronged ball parks signaled the beginning of baseball and softball season in Crosby and Highlands.

## Crosby ISD exits Exigency



Texas Education Agency personnel on hand to inform of a monitor and what the implications are for overseeing the reimbursement of funds gathered from parents for computers. At right is MaryAnn Whittaker, monitor of Crosby.

CROSBY - At the Board of Trustee's meeting on Monday night few could have been more glad to see consideration to terminate the Declaration of Financial Exigency than Superintendent Scott Davis.

The burden of having to layoff educators and others fell on him following the determination of necessity.

He had reported to the board of the District's expectation of ethical behavior. *See Crosby ISD, page 6.*

## Cody Bill passes House with 145 - 0 vote

AUSTIN - The Final vote in the House of Representatives got unanimous approval of those attending the session on Tuesday for HB 76, the Cody Stephens Bill.

According to Scott Stephens that has made it

his mission to get Texas to use E.C.G. machines in addition to the exam a doctor does with a stethoscope, "The Texas House of Representatives voted to pass HB 76 today with no opposition! This was a huge step for us and for

Cody's Law, bringing us so much closer to getting heart screening into every school across Texas.

This is a wonderful cause for celebration. We definitely want to take a moment to acknowledge all the hard work from Rep.

Dan Huberty, lobbyist Kathy Grant, everyone who testified at the Public Education Committee hearing and all of you who called and wrote letters to your representatives to vote in favor of HB76."

This is the fifth year the

Cody Bill has been presented and some but minimal changes have been made. It is now an "opt in" rather than an "opt out" proposition.

The bill moves to the Senate, now.

## ZXP is key industry in Highlands

HIGHLANDS - One of the oldest and largest businesses in Highlands is operating under new ownership and management, according to James Taylor, the new CEO. The company is now known as ZXP Technologies, and has a history of over 80 years in Highlands, when it was originally a canning factory for figs and fruit.

Taylor spoke at a recent Rotary Club meeting, talking about the business success, and the work culture at the company.

Taylor said that since his group took ownership in February 2018, they have seen business revenues increase by 50%. One key to this is focusing on their best customers. At one time they had 290 customers, and now they concentrate on only the top 10.

Taylor spoke about the size of the business, which

has 206 employees, and now has no "temporary" workers, a major change from previous policy. He said this has improved attitudes and work efficiency. The company also has



JAMES TAYLOR, CEO ZXP

instituted continuing education opportunities for all employees, and raised pay for everyone. Taylor has instilled the workers with a sense of responsibility for their work product.

The company's products include lubricants, trans

*See ZXP, page 6*

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★ COMMUNITY NEWS ★

## Crosby-Huffman markets to members at Crawfish Shack



Southern Lace Estates surprises their host with a display photo of their host from a wedding of Dan Meaux's daughter at their wedding event center. It was marketing your business to other members event at the Crawfish Shack last Thursday. In attendance were governmental agencies as well as a variety of private enterprises. Members accepted the challenge to display their wears and speak of their products and services.

There is a lot of business developing in Crosby. New folks are coming in and new fresh business ideas are being represented locally. Attendees got a chance to experience the latest electronic circulation aiding devices, get coupons for Huddle House in Huffman and a myriad of the latest products and services. We learned that Confections has been voted

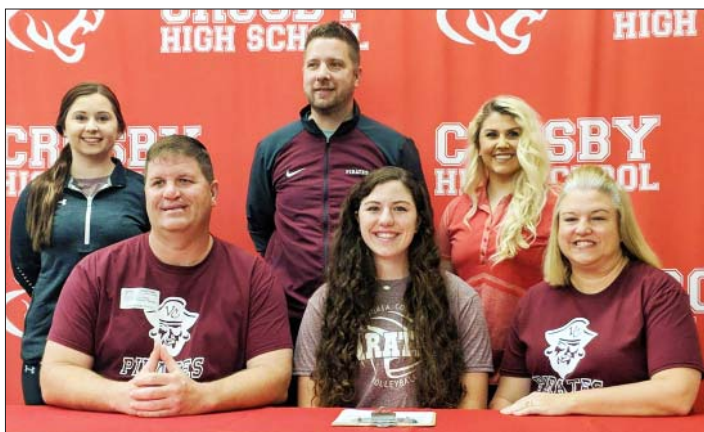
best coffee house in Crosby.

We learned that Eddie Foster is on the Crosby Municipal Utility District Board and that an election is to be held in May. Velma Ellison is also running for that board.



Debbie Holmelin explains the benefits of her in-home wine experience and food matching service to Eddie Foster of the Chamber board at her marketing station inside the Crawfish Shack last Thursday.

## Victoria College signs Crosby volleyball standout



Crosby senior Brooke Oney signed a letter-of-intent Wednesday to play volleyball at Victoria College. Seated with Oney are her parents, Eric and Traci Oney. Standing are, from left, VC Assistant Volleyball Coach Skylar Chreene, VC Head Volleyball Coach Josh Moore and Crosby Assistant Volleyball Coach Marissa Simmons.

CROSBY – The Victoria College Pirates added the fourth player to their inaugural National Junior College Athletic Association volleyball team on Wednesday by signing Crosby middle blocker Brooke Oney to a letter-of-intent.

“What excites most about Victoria College volleyball is the ability to play the sport that I love at the next level at a college that has everything I was looking for - a remarkable nursing program, beautiful

campus, and smaller class sizes,” Oney said. “I am so incredibly excited to be on the first NJCAA Division I team from Victoria College. I know that there will be lots of challenges ahead, but I’m so grateful that I get to face them as a Victoria Pirate.”

The 6-foot Oney was an honorable mention selection on the All-District 21-5A team her senior season. She was also named to the academic all-district team the last three seasons.

“What influenced me most to play volleyball was the simple fact that I wasn’t ready to be ‘done,’” Oney said. “I didn’t want my career to end when I knew I still had so much potential. I also feel like playing collegiate sports is a huge privilege, so I am glad that I was good enough to make it.”

The Pirates will begin the 2019 season at home on Aug. 22 against Wharton County Junior College.

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### Tees-N-Tails


Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce will host its 27th Annual Tees-N-Tails Golf Tournament on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at Red Wolf Golf Resort, 27350 Afton Way, Huffman, TX 77336. Registration at 10:30 am. Please contact Chamber Office at 281-328-6984 or chamber@crosbyhuffmancc.org with any questions.

### Huffman Education Foundation Casino night

It's all in for Casino Night on April 26, 7 pm - 11 pm at the Walden Country Club to benefit the Huffman Education Foundation. The event will feature Texas Hold 'Em, roulette, craps, blackjack, a live auction, with door prizes per drawings.

Regular tickets are \$100 per person and with that the hors d'oeuvres, open bar, \$3,000 in casino Chips, and possibilities for 6 prizes drawn by the hostess. Space is limited so first come first served. To obtain tickets call (281) 328-7601 or visit www.huffmanef.com to buy tickets on-line.

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THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2019

P.O. BOX 2351, MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

## ROUND-UP

### Call to Arms

This event is being held at the VFW HALL POST 912 located at 8204 N. Main, Baytown, TX. 77521 on Saturday, April 6, 2019 from 11 am to 5pm. Food will be served and also if you bring more than one guest it is \$10 a plate and if you wish to contribute to the event you may also bring a plate. This event is to help build membership and help bring back interest in the meetings to the chapters in the Harris County Area. Interest in these meetings is low and membership is dropping off so they ask you members and new members to please come to this event. Any questions, please contact Tom Harper at 936-994-6564 during between 11 am to 6 pm daily until the event.

### Genealogy Club cancelled

Jones Public Library had to cancel the Genealogy Club for the spring. Their facilitator had an injury that will have her out for 10 weeks. They will begin again in the fall and will send out an article when they are able to begin again. 801S Cleveland St Ste A, Dayton, Tx 77535. 936-258-7060

### Programs at Sam & Carmena Goss Library

These are the events taking place at the Sam and Carmena Goss Memorial Branch Library the week of March 24, 2019.

• Tuesday, April 2 - 10:00 am, Baby & Me (ages 0-24 mos.)

• Wednesday, April 3 - 10:00 am, Adult Easter Craft (Registration Required (281)576-2245, ages 18 & up)

• Thursday, April 4 - 8:30 pm, Author Visit - Ann Weisgarber will be discussing her new book, The Glove-maker.

• Friday, April 5 - 10:30 am, Storytime (ages 0-5 yrs) Call 281-576-2245 to register.

### April Events at the Jones Public Library

Monday - April 1st - 2:00 PM - Homeschool at the Library

They will be hosting our HS@L group for a fun day of varied activities. We will be celebrating National Poetry Month with a "Spine Label Poetry" contest. The winners will have their poem displayed for the rest of the month. There will be a table for blackout poetry, haikus, simple poetry templates, and magnetic poetry. They will have a poetry slam for the Grand Finale. They will also be celebrating Easter with a fun shaving cream and paint easter egg craft outside on the patio.

Jones Public Library is located at 801 S. Cleveland St., Dayton, TX 77535. Call 936-258-7060 with any questions.

## ITC Fire event is not over, says OEM director Lina Hidalgo

DEER PARK - Well into the second week after the huge chemical storage tank fire at the ITC site in Deer Park, authorities and emergency crews are still busy trying to deal with the aftermath of the blaze.

ITC, or Intercontinental Terminals Company, has issued dozens of press releases and conferences, but many of the public feel that the facts of the fire have still not been revealed.

Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo, who is also the head of the OEM, or Office of Emergency Management, held a press conference on Monday. She thanked all those first responders and other government agencies that had worked quickly and in a coordinated way to deal with the disaster.

However, she had a clear message for all, saying "This Incident is not Over." She emphasized that the immediate problem was containing the chemicals and to minimize contamination of the air and water around the site.

Multiple agencies are dealing with the problems, including the EPA, TCEQ, Harris County Pollution Control, Harris County Health Department, Fire Marshal's office, and various



JUDGE LINA HIDALGO, head of Office of Emergency Management, holds a news conference on Monday to update the public on status of the ITC fire and clean-up. (photo Gilbert Hoffman)



CLEAN-UP continues at the ITC site in Deer Park. In this photo, taken over a week after the fire, foam is being sprayed to seal tanks, and a pump truck at center is removing chemicals that still pose a hazard. (Photo courtesy KPRC)

first responders around the area.

Judge Hidalgo revealed that the county had issued a subpoena and a preservation order to ITC, asking for information to be preserved for an investigation. In addition, several agencies including the state of Texas and Harris County have announced they will sue ITC for air quality violations, and costs involved in responding to the fire. In addition, hundreds of private suits are expected. So far the company has received over 300 claims.

Francisco Sanchez, of the OEM, stated that the incident was still at a Level 3 alert. Hidalgo noted that this was the second longest activation in the last ten years by the OEM, only exceeded by Hurricane Harvey.

Chemicals and foam that leaked into the Ship Channel have caused the Coast Guard to close it, and restrict ships on the San Jacinto River. They have deployed 2700 feet of containment booms.

The Harris County Health Department advised the public to contact their doctor if they feel effects of the fire. If you do not have a healthcare provider, you can contact "Ask-My-Nurse" at 713-634-1110 from 8am to 8:30pm.

## Chambers County is monitoring Air Quality

In response to the ITC incident in Deer Park, Chambers County conducted air monitoring last Friday and over the past weekend along the entire length of West Chambers County, from Beach City through Mont Belvieu. "We want our citizens to feel safe and to know that we are monitoring the situation," says County Judge Jimmy Sylvia. Chambers County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) has been in communication with Harris County

OEM and Baytown OEM, and has been receiving period updates regarding plume direction. According to Chambers County Emergency Management Coordinator, Roy K. Turner, "We have also been in contact directly with the National Weather Service regarding significant forecast and wind direction changes." In addition, Chambers County has been in direct communication with the Center for Toxicology & Environmental Health (CTEH), the in-

dependent company that has been providing air monitoring during the incident. Should there be wind shifts or anticipated plume direction changes, CTEH has informed the county that they will shift monitoring sites where needed.

In addition, air monitoring was completed along West Chambers last Friday and no positive readings were noted. Monitoring took place throughout the weekend as well.

## Galveston Bay Foundation collects water samples in response to Deer Park Fire

(HOUSTON, TX - March 25, 2019) Galveston Bay Foundation collected 14 samples over four days starting on Friday, March 22, from areas both upstream and downstream from the ITC fire. All the samples showed less than one part per billion of benzene in the water, other than one sample from Saturday, March 23, which showed a spike of 46.8 parts per billion of benzene.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality surface water quality standard for fish and shellfish is 581 parts per billion. However, the EPA recommends a National Water Quality standard of 16 parts per billion for fish and shellfish exposure. Therefore, this sample comes in below TCEQ's standards, but above the recommended EPA level. Benzene volatilizes in the water column, which

means it evaporates to the air. By Monday, all sample levels were back down to less than one part per billion.

Galveston Bay Foundation was still collecting water samples from a few key locations as of last Tuesday to followup on findings from the weekend. Galveston Bay Foundation will continue to monitor sampling efforts by TCEQ and ITC to ensure that effective water quality testing is occurring.

Galveston Bay Foundation has received initial results from their water samples for Volatile Organic Compounds such as benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes. They are working to compile these initial findings to share with the public. They will also work with Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) to disseminate their data reports as well, which will include information on

air and water sampling. As these compounds are highly volatile, they do not often persist in the water but do pose short term health concerns.

Galveston Bay Foundation is also concerned about potential contamination from the fire fighting foams that were used to fight the fire. Many of these foams contain PFOAs which can persist in the environment and accumulate in fish and shellfish tissue. This could pose more chronic health concerns for the region. Galveston is working with Texas A&M University to analyze water samples from PFOAs and hope to have results to share in the coming weeks.

"We began taking these samples to ensure there was good data available to

## Comm. Garcia closes parks for safety

HARRIS COUNTY, TX - Friday, March 22nd 2019--As a precaution, Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia is closing eight Precinct 2 parks with waterfronts in the Intercontinental Terminals Company (ITC) incident area. A number of school districts have also closed, as a precaution.

"After the news of the ITC dike breach earlier today, I decided to close some of our parks out of precaution because my main priority is keeping our residents safe," Garcia

said. "We want to ensure our parks are safe and able to function in the way our community expects and deserves. I want to give the EPA, TCEQ and others the time they need to continue their testing."

The following Precinct 2 parks will be closed with all scheduled events cancelled until further notice:

1. Bay Area Park in Houston
2. Clear Lake Park in Seabrook
3. Sylvan Beach in La Porte
4. Juan Seguin in La Porte
5. Rio Villa Nature Trail
6. Meadow Brook
7. River Terrace
8. Moncrief Park

## Garcia updates health concerns

During the Deer Park fire, the high readings of benzene in the air were a result of chemicals escaping the foam blanket covering the tanks at ITC. Crews applied foam to the site to eliminate the source of the chemical and monitor the air quality.

Air quality is being monitored in coordination with the Environmental Protection Agency, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Harris County, and other federal, state, and local agencies.

"My number one priority is ensuring the safety of our residents," Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia said.

Residents are still encouraged to monitor their symptoms. Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia has partnered with Harris County Public Health System to station mobile health units open to the public and available to everyone for

provide health screenings and assessment. Those units were stationed at 500 W. 13th Street at the Jimmy Burke Activity Center in Deer Park for about 3 days beginning last Wednesday.

"We know not everyone has insurance or can afford to go to the doctor," Commissioner Garcia said. "We are taking action to make sure residents are getting checked out and are getting their health questions answered."

Harris County Public Health has also established a hotline to assist residents with health-related questions. Residents can call the Harris Health System's Ask My Nurse hotline (713-634-1110) from 8 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. seven days a week. Calling 9-1-1 should be reserved for life-threatening situations.

To stay up to date please check [www.readyharris.org/](http://www.readyharris.org/) Deer-Park-Fire, or [www.deerparktx.gov/itcfire](http://www.deerparktx.gov/itcfire)



★ OPINION PAGE ★

★  
**TEXAS  
SENATE NEWS**  
By Richard Lee

*Senate gives unanimous approval to teacher pension fix*

(Austin) The state's teacher pension plan would meet statutory requirements for fiscal soundness under a bill approved by the Senate without objection Monday. The Teacher Retirement System provides monthly annuity payments for more than 420,000 retired Texas teachers and other public school employees, but doesn't meet the legal standard of "actuarial soundness", that is, the ability to meet all of its outstanding obligations within 31 years. That period currently stands at 87 years representing almost \$47 billion in unfunded liabilities. SB 12 author and Houston Senator Joan Huffman warned that if the Legislature takes no action, the program's unfunded obligations would reach \$124 billion by 2050. "This is long-term planning showing fiscal responsibility," she said. "This plan is far more cost efficient than simply attempting to contribute one-time infusions of cash every so often." Under the plan approved by the Senate, the fund would be actuarially sound by the next fiscal year.

The bill would achieve soundness by gradually increasing rates from the three major contributors:

the state, local school districts and active public school employees. Districts would see their contribution rate rise from 1.5 percent today to 2 percent by fiscal year 2025. Both the member and state contribution rates would go up to 8.25 percent by fiscal 2024, up from 7.7 percent for employees and 6.8 percent for the state. Also in the bill are provisions for a bonus check, up to \$500, to be paid to beneficiaries during the next biennium. It's the first such "13th check" that retired teachers have received since 2013.

The money covering the state portion of the bill, more than \$500 million from the Economic Stabilization Fund, was approved by the Senate as part the supplemental budget bill on March 13th. That measure's author and the chamber's lead budget writer Senate Finance Committee Chair Senator Jane Nelson of Flower Mound, said that Huffman's proposal demonstrates the state's intention to protect the future income of the state's retired educators. "What we put in last session was just to keep [TRS] afloat," she said in reference to a one-time infusion to the fund in the 2017 session. "This is a

more permanent fix and a commitment on the part of this Legislature that we care about our retired teachers."

The bill now heads to the House for consideration. That body's version of the bill, as filed, would raise only the state's contribution rate, up to 8.8 percent.

In committee Monday, the Senate State Affairs Committee considered a bill intended to pre-empt what its author called a "growing attack on freedom of speech and expression of religious beliefs." Lubbock Senator Charles Perry worries when licensing boards adopt standards or rules that violate religious expression, it could cause people who work under an occupational license to choose between their job and religion. His bill, SB 17, would prevent licensing boards from adopting rules that unreasonably restrict a person's free exercise of religion. It also creates a new defense for people facing disciplinary action from regulators. "If a person comes in front of the occupational licensing board based on their speech or conduct, this bill provides a defense to losing their license as long as their conduct or speech is based on sincerely held religious beliefs," said Perry. The bill would not protect a person from being fired, sued or losing their license for violations of the law or standards of care. It would also not apply in situations involving the administration of life-saving medical care or law enforcement.

The Senate will reconvene Tuesday, March 26 at 11 a.m.

*Air pollution from tank fire sparks lawsuits*

★  
**STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS**  
By Ed Sterling

AUSTIN — Images of a stream of billowing dark smoke drew the nation's attention last week to a fire that engulfed 11 petrochemical storage tanks at the Intercontinental Terminals Company about 15 miles southeast of Houston in Deer Park.

On March 17, Gov. Greg Abbott ordered that all state resources be made available to local and industry officials and urged residents to heed the warnings of local officials. Governmental bodies in nearby affected areas ordered residents to shelter in place because of concerns about unhealthy air quality. Deer Park Independent School District and other districts canceled classes for several days.

The fire was extinguished on March 20. Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on March 22 announced that his office, acting on behalf of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, had filed a lawsuit naming the tank storage company as the defendant. The lawsuit alleges that the fire caused air pollution from benzene, xylene, toluene and other contaminants, in violation of the Texas Clean Air Act.

In a statement accompanying the lawsuit, Paxton said, "No company can be allowed to disrupt lives and put public health and safety at risk."

The Chemical Safety Board, an independent federal agency charged with investigating industrial chemical accidents, announced March 21 that an investigation into the fire would be opened.

**Jobless rate stays low**

Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held at 3.8 percent in February, according a March 22 news release by the Texas Workforce Commission.

The Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area recorded February's lowest unemployment rate with a non-seasonally adjusted rate of 2.2 percent, followed by the Odessa at 2.7 percent and Amarillo at 2.9 percent.

Growth in the Texas economy continued in February, with 17,700 seasonally adjusted non-farm positions added over the month.

TWC Chair and Commissioner Representing Employers Ruth R. Hughs said her agency "is committed to engaging with all employers across Texas to strengthen our economy and to create and expand opportunities for all."

TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Julian Alvarez added, "To ensure positive growth, we must continue to invest in necessary training and education for subsequent generations."

**Ticketing system targeted**

Photographic traffic signal enforcement systems would be banned under Senate Bill 653 by Sen. Bob Hall, R-Edgewood.

Hall seeks to prohibit municipalities and other local jurisdictions from us-

ing red-light cameras as a means of issuing traffic tickets.

In laying out his bill before the Senate Transportation Committee, Hall said that under the red light camera enforcement, "the innocent owner has then the burden of proof and often great expense of proving that they did not commit the alleged violation. This turns our judicial system completely and utterly upside down by requiring the accused to prove their innocence."

More than two dozen people testified for or against the bill in a March 20 Senate Transportation Committee hearing.

**Regents to examine policies**

Gov. Abbott on March 18 sent a letter to all Texas public university boards of regents following the U.S. Department of Justice's investigation into an alleged college admissions bribery scheme.

In his letter, Abbott called for governing boards of Texas' institutions of higher education "to examine and investigate admissions policies and procedures to ensure that no university employee engages in fraudulent schemes, quid pro quo arrangements or improprieties of any sort." He added that Texas parents and students "must have confidence that the system is not rigged."

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# 2nd Annual Rock'N C Steak Cook-Off held March 23

CROSBY – Anytime there is a national competition originating in Texas there is considerable local interest but that is doubled when it is about cooking out.

Crosby Fair & Rodeo held their second Steak Cook-Off to Steak Cook-Off Association's (SCA) guidelines here last weekend where one could buy a steak done right after the contest and listen to Coby Carter play some Western Swing, grab a partner and dance, afterwards.

The fund-raiser like most of the Crosby Fair & Rodeo activities is dedicated to enriching life in Crosby, primarily by enabling local youth to continue their education beyond high school. The standing joke is, "Ignorance had a long run, we work to try something different."

According to trusted insurance man and announcer, Rick Loggins, "We did in the neighborhood of \$2500 at the auction. Sold over 120 steak dinners. Had 29 cook-teams, down from last year due to an overlap with the Crosby Sports Association Opening Day. Calcutta paid out over \$2,400 and Crosby Fair & Rodeo paid out \$2,800. We had great volunteers including Erin Fuchs in charge. We always want to have more local people. We had more folks from out of town this year, some came from the other side of Waco, Lake Whitney, Dallas, and Louisiana. We are planning for bigger and better next year. We were pleased with the music Cody Carter of New Mexico. Had a lot of people dancing and we love to see that."

There were four contests in all. The Steak Cook-off, the Kids' Division, Michelada, and Appetizer all awarded points to the World Championship coming this winter. Applicants are encouraged to compete in several contests to earn the right to go on to the World Championship awarded automatically to the Steak Cook-Off winner.



Winner of Steak Cook-Off John Butler holding his payout and a ticket to the Oct. 5 World Championship in Fort Worth.



Robert Erwin holds his second place steak payout and plaque as he stands with S.C.A. judge Rob Bailey.



Joe Castillo at right, stands with the man that purchased his Calcutta, holding his steak plaque and third place payout.



S.C.A. Judge Rob Bailey congratulates Joe Castillo on winning Michelada.



Bailey with the Tyler Whitehead Team as they earned second place in Michelada.



Sheree French was third in in Michelada, here representing French Hlcks Team a.k.a. Hula Hut Girls!



SCA Judge Rob Bailey presents plaque and payout to Renee Rodriguez winner of Appetizers.



Second Place Appetizers went to Micha Butle, wife of the Steak winner. Bet that family can cook!



Kerrie Larkin earned third place Appetizers. Her husband accepted 9th in Steaks for Backseat Cookers.



Rob Bailey presents Robby Erwin the winning plaque for the Kids Cook Division.



Alexa McGinnis accepts her second place in the Kids Cook.



Braydon Heath placed third in the Kids Cook Division.

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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

## OBITUARIES

**David Brian Perkins**

David Brian Perkins, 60, passed away March 25, 2019 in Houston, Texas. David was born on January 20, 1959 to parents Robert and Gloria Perkins in Kingsville, Texas. He married the love of his life, Chrystal, on August 21, 2003 and they enjoyed many years together. David was a superintendent at Glex, Inc where he worked for 35 years. During that time, he developed some of his most treasured friendships. He was an avid golfer, often found on the golf course before the sun rose. While his golf partners rode in golf carts, David insisted on carrying his clubs all 18 holes. He also enjoyed barbequing, especially ribs, spending time on the beach, and gambling, where he was always a winner. David was a dedicated husband, son, brother and friend. He is preceded in death by his parents and is lovingly survived by his wife of 16 years, Chrystal Perkins; step-son, Matthew Dent; granddaughter, Alyssa Dent; brother and sisters, Jesse Perkins and wife Carla, Terri O'Brien and husband Mike, Donna Rother and husband Reggie, Laura Carrion and husband Roland; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, extended family members and many friends. Friends are welcome to join the family for visitation from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 27, 2019. Funeral services officiated by his cousin, Ken Jamison, will be held at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, March 28th 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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**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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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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## Rep. Babin meets with Local Law Enforcement Leaders

Discussed the Bipartisan TAPS Act to Curb School and Community Violence

WOODVILLE, TX – March 22, 2019 – U.S. Rep. Brian Babin (TX-36) participated in four working meetings with law enforcement leaders from across his nine-county district this week. The meetings were attended by dozens of seasoned lawmen and women with decades of expertise including the U.S. Marshal Service, Texas Rangers, County Sheriffs and Constables, Police Chiefs, and other representatives from local police departments and schools.

Discussed in the meetings was Babin's bipartisan Threat Assessment, Prevention, and Safety Act (TAPS) Act which was recently reintroduced. The TAPS Act promotes utilizing the process of Behavioral Threat Assessment



Representative Brian Babin

and Management (BTAM) for determining the credibility and seriousness of potential threats and interrupting and managing those on a pathway to violence. For decades this process has been in place to identify, investigate, assess, and mitigate threats in order to counter targeted violence. Pioneered by the U.S. Secret Service, BTAM has proven successful in protecting our presi-

dents and foreign dignitaries. The TAPS Act would spread this process to

"As we approach the 20th anniversary of the Columbine High School tragedy, it is unfathomable to think we still are not doing enough to prevent the indiscriminate shootings, stabbings, bombings and other mass casualty events occurring all too often in our schools and communities," said Babin. Thankfully, we've found a bipartisan solution. Our local leaders and law enforcement are the professionals with the boots on the ground who have dedicated their lives to protecting our communities from violence, and I am thrilled to have received their overwhelmingly positive support for the TAPS Act."

To learn more about the TAPS Act, please visit [www.babin.house.gov/taps](http://www.babin.house.gov/taps).

## Pre-k and Kindergarten Registration for 2019-2020 School Year

Goose Creek CISD's pre-kindergarten and kindergarten registration will be held April 3 - April 5, 2019, at elementary campuses. It is highly recommended that parents complete the online student registration prior to going to register at the school their child is zoned to attend. Siblings who will attend GCCISD schools may also be registered at this time. Campuses will have help stations for individuals who need support with the online registration. Online

registration begins April 1, 2019, and online registration instructions and forms may be found on the Goose Creek CISD website at [www.gccisd.net](http://www.gccisd.net).

- Parents must bring the following items when registering:
- Registration confirmation (if online registration has been completed)
  - Parent identification (TDL, ID or Passport)
  - Birth certificate of child
  - Social Security Card

(child) if applicable

- Immunization record (This must be up to date. If child is already 4 years old, he or she must have 4-year-old shots.)

- Proof of residency (current water, gas or electric bill, or lease agreement)
- Proof of Income (must have four consecutive paychecks with the last one being March.)

If you receive TANF or SNAP, you must have your current Notice of Eligibility Letter.

## Crosby ISD Exits Exigency,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ior and fraud awareness and reporting training and the TCEQ Supplemental Environmental Project immediately before.

The Texas Education Agency had representatives speak during the

meeting to inform the board of needing to install a monitor to see that the charges for computer maintenance taken from student's parents is reimbursed.

According to T.E.A. Dr. Jason Hewitt the monitor is needed to see that the Corrective Action Plan, approved by the board at the last meeting, goes into effect to "refund the fees collected inappropriately. The monitor assures that plan is done effectively. What I also want to inform you is that, I am the L.E.A., there is four areas that we look at we look at statutory compliance, academic accountability, (Crosby doesn't have much to worry about that,) financial accountability and we look at governance."

He indicated that if

there is any kind of complaint filed she is here on the grounds to look at that. "I believe we are going to look at your A.F.R. We have a great monitor here, a former Superintendent, we searched high and low to find that kind of person to come in here and work with Dr. Davis and his cabinet. She is going to make monthly monitoring reports to you and it is going to lag a little bit."

Mary Ann Whittaker was introduced to the board.

The board approved the purchase of nine new buses to cost about \$789,000. The funds for the buses are to come from the last bond passed. They approved the purchase of instructional materials in the amount of \$891,839.10 to Pearson Education Inc.

## Water Samples,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

help in the overall response and cleanup effort from the ITC fire," said Bob Stokes, Galveston Bay Foundation President. "In addition to our data, we know the State of Texas and contractors from ITC are now taking water quality samples in the area. We

are hopeful these collective efforts will provide a good road map for continued response and cleanup of the discharge of product and firewater into the Houston Ship Channel."

To stay up to date on water results, please visit [galvbay.org](http://galvbay.org).

## ZXP Technologies,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

mission fluids, and anti-freeze. 60% of their products are exported in bulk, he noted.

Since Taylor and his investment partners took over in 2018, they have invested \$6.5 million in capital expenditures, and plan on spending that much more in 2019.

The plant now occupies 41.7 acres, and has buildings that encompass 450,000 square feet. The property has 210 storage tanks. They have 28 rail sidings, room for 72 rail cars and they expect to expand on this. The volume is 20,000 trucks per year, and 12,000 rail cars. Taylor said that one tank car

equals 4 trucks in volume, and they are trying to use more rail cars for this reason.

They are aware of traffic problems on Wallisville with their volume of trucks, and are working with they county for a better solution. They have added a second weight scale to keep traffic moving, he said.

Taylor mentions that he is learning the oil business, since his training was in technology, having spent 10 years in Chicago with Sear's IT department. Taylor originally was from Missouri, then went to Chicago, and came to Texas in 1981.



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**NOTICE OF INTENT**

**TO SELECT COUNTY DEPOSITORIES**

In accordance with Article 116.022 of the Texas Local Government Code,

NOTICE, is hereby given to any Chambers County banking corporation, association, or individual banker, that the Chambers County Commissioners Court will at **10:00 a.m.** on the **23rd** day of **April, 2019**, select one or more depository banks for the following Chambers County Funds:

- Chambers County Operating Funds
- Interest and Sinking Funds
- District and County Clerk Trust Funds
- County Permanent School Funds
- County Internal Funds
- Other Related Funds

The county reserves the right to withdraw any or all Chambers County Permanent School Funds from this depository agreement. It is understood that the Chambers County Treasurer would give a 30-day written notice prior to any withdrawal of these funds.

The term of the depository contract shall be **four, (4) years** with an option to review at the end of **two, (2) years**.

Any banking corporation, association or individual banker desiring to be designated as a County Depository shall make and deliver to the Chambers County Judge an application applying for such contract on or before **2:00 p.m.** on the **3rd** day of **April, 2019**. The application must be in a sealed envelope marked on the outside **"Depository Application."**

The application must state the amount of the bank's paid-up capital stock and permanent surplus; the application must be accompanied by:

- (1) A statement showing the financial condition of the bank on the date of the application;
- and
- (2) A certified check or cashier's check for at least one-half (1/2) percent of the county's revenue for the preceding year.

The certified check or cashier's check that accompanies the application is a good-faith guarantee on the part of the applicant that if accepted as a County Depository it will execute the bond required under Ch. 116, Subchapter D, Texas Local Government Code. If the bank is selected as a depository and does not provide the bond, the county shall retain the amount of the check as liquidated damages.

The Commissioners Court may determine and designate the character and amount of county funds that will be demand deposits and that will be time deposits. The Commissioners Court may contract with a depository for interest on time deposits at any legal rate under a federal law or under a rule adopted by the board of governors of the Federal Reserve System or by the board of directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

The Commissioners Court will select one of more of the qualified applicants that offer the most favorable terms and conditions for the handling of the county funds; the Commissioners Court reserves the right to reject those applicants whose management or condition, in the opinion of the Commissioners Court, does not warrant placing county funds in their possession.

Jimmy Sylvia, County Judge  
Chambers County Commissioners Court  
March 1, 2019

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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Administration for Docket No. 472769; Estate of ROSE MELIA DELACERDA Deceased; In Probate Court No. 4, of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on March 8, 2019.

PAULA SHULTZ NORRIS

The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is:

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77521

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this March 20, 2019

*Weston Cotten*  
by WESTON COTTEN  
Attorney for the Estate

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**Notice of Intention To Introduce A Bill In The Legislature of Texas**

Notice is hereby given of the intention to introduce in the Regular Session of the 86th Legislature of Texas a bill allowing the district to designate all or any part of the district as a tax increment reinvestment zone and use tax increment financing under Chapter 311 of the Texas Tax Code, pursuant to the provisions of Article 16, Section 59, of the Constitution of Texas and Chapter 313 of the Texas Government Code. This bill will provide for the district's administration, powers, duties, operation and financing under Chapter 311, Tax Code.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

"Proposals for RFP 19-005 Beverage Vending Services will be received by the Galena Park Independent School District until Wednesday, April 24, 2019 @ 2:30 PM CST. At that time proposals will be opened at the GPISD Admin Bldg located at 14705 Woodforest Blvd., Houston, TX 77015. Additional information may be obtained by contacting Brooke Lakner, Director of Purchasing at 832-386-1008 or on our website: <http://galenaparkisd.com>. The Galena Park ISD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals."

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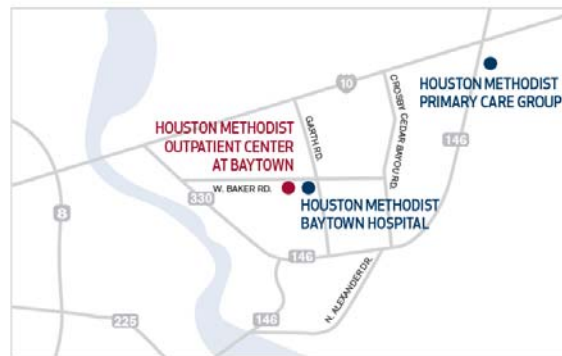


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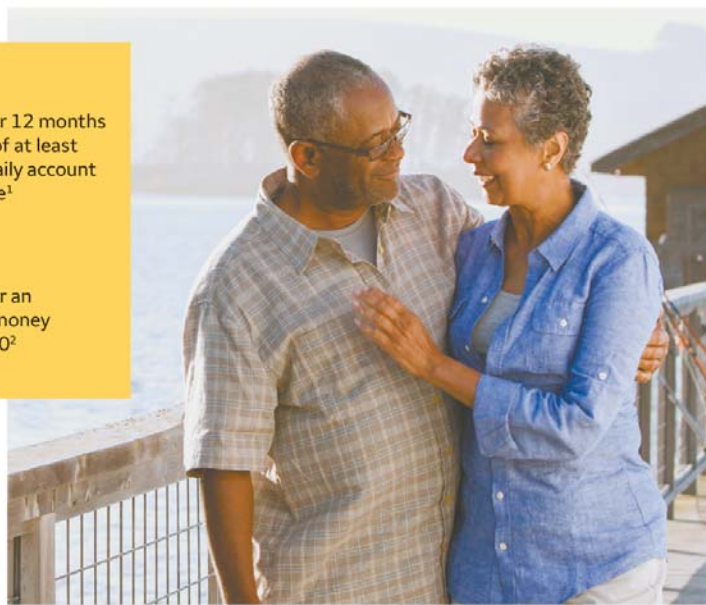
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