

HIGHLANDS CROSBY
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THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2019

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

These stories in the **PRESS:**

- Dayton Ole Tyme Days
- Baytown Rotary Shrimp Fry
- Rep. Babin congratulates Baytown Christian Academy
-And more, Page 3

★
IN THE STARS

EVENTS

**SUN., APRIL 28
 CZECH FEST**

Sunday, April 28, 2019, 11 am to 6:30 pm at the SPJST Lodge #88, 1435 Beall St. Houston, in the Heights Area. Czech Market selling decorative accessories, books and other Czech items and small silent auction of boutique items. See ad, page 5 for more information.

**TUE., APRIL 30
 PELVIC HEALTH SEMINAR**

Pelvic pain and endometriosis seminar at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital, 6-7 pm, 4401 Garth Rd. in Baytown. Main classroom. Call 281-428-2273 to register. See details on, page 8.

**TUE., MAY 7
 EPA COMMUNITY MEETING**

San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Meeting, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm at Highlands Community Center, 604 Highlands Woods Drive, Highlands, TX 77562.

**SAT. MAY 11
 2019 COWPOKE PAGEANT**

Crosby Fair & Rodeo will hold its childrens Pageant on Saturday, May 11 from 10 am. Three categories and three age groups 0-2, 3-5, 6-8. Judging in All American Cowgirl/ Cowboy, Rodeo Dress Cowgirl, Rodeo Clown. Entry Fee \$20. Call Fair office, 281-328-2113.

BIRTHDAYS

- Apr 25-Colton Cutbirth
- Apr 26-Lyndsey West
- Apr 27-Kitty Elkins
- April 28-Ms. Christlee Stephens
- Apr 29-Becky Gomez Jason Maness
- Apr 30-Jeramy Bimage Jennifer Ward
- May 1-Pat McIntosh

ANNIVERSARIES

- Apr 26-Danny & Cindy Leath
- Apr 28-Dan & Margie Nicholson
- Mike & Tanya Williams

Performers set for Crosby Rodeo

Rodeo set for May 31 to June 8

CROSBY - The Crosby Fair & Rodeo has announced their line-up for performers this year. The Rodeo will start with a Cook-Off on May 31 and June 1, and the Rodeo events and Performers will follow the next weekend, June 6,7,8. The Acts announced are:

MAY 31 - BAG OF DONUTS

With a flair for kabuki make-up and extravagant costumes, the four New Orleans natives cover songs in a style they have branded as Superpop: Any song popular from any era. In the great tradition of stunning acts, BOD has to



May 31 - Bag of Donuts



June 6 - Flatland Cavalry



June 7 - Parker McCollum



June 8 - Koe Wetzel

be experienced live to fully feel the impact. The universality of their show stems from the idea that everyone likes to have an escape, a release

JUNE 6 - FLATLAND CAVALRY

With their highly anticipated sophomore album, Homeland Insecurity, Texas Flatland Cavalry

wants to stop and smell the roses. Bandleader and chief lyricist Cleto Cordero is fine with examining and the present. There is an appreciation for all the sharp detail and high-spirited emotions of today.

See Crosby Rodeo, Page 6

Crosby names new AD

CROSBY - The new head coach and athletic director of the Crosby Cougars is Jerry Prieto as of April 16 following a unanimous vote by the Board of Trustees of Crosby ISD at a special called meeting.

Like the previous, he comes with a background as Assistant Head Football Coach, and Offensive Coordinator also he adds Recruiting Coordinator. For diversity of coaching experience, he has coached basketball, track, powerlifting and wrestling.

Originally from the Greater Houston Area, Prieto oversaw development of one of the most explosive offenses in South Texas. Prieto helped build Corpus Christi Veterans Memorial High School's football program and helped lead the team to Regional Semifinals in 2017 with an 11-2 overall record. In 2018, Veterans Memorial made



Jerry Prieto and wife, Julie come to Crosby tasked with rebuilding athletic program and coaches.

another Regional Semifinals appearance with a 12-1 overall record and an average over 44 points per game that same season. He has compiled a 23-3 record over the past two years.

He is a 2001 graduate of Cypress Springs High

School in Cy-Fair ISD and received his undergraduate degree from Sam Houston State University in 2004 and his Master's Degree in Educational Administration from Lamar

See: Crosby's new coach Continued on Page 8

Woman's body found near San Jacinto River

Deputies reported that a woman's body was found in the San Jacinto River on April 16, 2019.

Authorities uncovered the body with multiple injuries. The investigation continues and the cause of death is unknown. Deputies do not know if the injuries were sustained before or after the death, reports stated.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office found the body around 5 p.m. in the

17400 block of River Road.

Authorities said the woman was wearing a striped shirt and had multiple tattoos. She appeared to be in the water for several hours and her body and face sustained visible injuries.

The investigation continues and the Harris County Sheriff's Office Homicide Unit is asking anyone with information on this case to call homicide unit at 713-274-9100.

TxDOT updates I-10 bridge repair



TxDOT workers examine the broken support.

The following is an update from David Lazare, an engineer with TxDOT in regards to the San Jacinto bridge repairs.

This is an update on the Emergency Contract to repair the IH-10/San Jacinto Bridge that was struck by a barge on February 11, 2019.

The permanent repair work officially began on Monday, April 8th, 2019. Over the last week, the contractor has setup the cofferdam and is demolishing the damaged/broken column. They have also begun setting up temporary supportsto begin the permanent repairs.

Over the next week, we expect to install the per-

manent replacement column, permanent structural support and welding.

Early next week, we also expect to open 1 lane on SPUR 330 heading north to allow commuters to access the Crosby-Lynchburg intersection, which is temporarily signalized. This should ease the congestion on Thompson Rd and the intersection of I-10.

There have been a couple of interruptions in the work due to the effects of surrounding weather and unforeseeable conditions underwater around the structure. Weather and conditions cooperating though, the contractor believes we are on targetfor mid-May completion.

EPA sets public meeting May 7

SJRC reviews Superfund status

HIGHLANDS - At its regular monthly meeting, the San Jacinto River Coalition learned that the federal EPA had scheduled a community meeting in Highlands on Tuesday, May 7 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. This is one of the quarterly public meetings that the EPA promised to have on a regular schedule. They will update information on activities at the Superfund site, according to the EPA spokesperson Janetta Coats.

At the same meeting, THEA president Jackie Young discussed the environmental impact that the ITC fire has had on the water quality of the river and ship channel. She displayed a bottle of water from the channel with heavy oil deposits.

Young also discussed the air pollution caused by the KMCO fire on April 2, and noted that both the county and the state were suing the company for violations of the clean air act. Similar suits have been filed against ITC, she said. The audience told the group



Water samples from the Ship Channel contain at least 9 toxins in an oily slick.

that the Coast Guard is using River Terrace park to deploy booms in the ship channel. EPA will also meet with the Harris County Pollution control on May 8 to discuss some of these violations.

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★ COMMUNITY WATCH ★

Comm. Garcia reopens parks after water and soil results

HARRIS COUNTY, TX – Tuesday April 16, 2019-- Commissioner Adrian Garcia has reopened five of the eight Precinct 2 parks with waterfronts in the Intercontinental Terminals Company (ITC) incident area. The decision to reopen the parks was made after testing results were received and verified by both Harris

County Pollution Control and Harris Public Health indicated safe levels of recreation near or within the water parks listed below. The following Parks are now open to the public:

- Sylvan Beach
- Meadowbrook
- Rio Villa Nature Trail
- Clear Lake Park
- Bay Area Park

The following three parks remain closed until further notice:

- Juan Seguin
- River Terrace
- Moncrief

The parks were closed March 22nd to allow for soil and water testing after materials from the ITC incident entered the Houston Ship Channel.

Pct. 3 Constable's RU-OK program presented to seniors



PCT. 3 CONSTABLES COMMUNITY RELATIONS DIVISION, seen above, spoke to the senior citizens at the San Jacinto Community Center about the program "Are You OK." The goal is to share this program with as many people as possible. Many Seniors live alone and find comfort in knowing that we care and we're checking on them, said director Charlotte Jackson. Presentations can be scheduled by contacting Constable Sherman Eagleton's office of Community Relations, at 713-274-2500, or <https://constable3.harriscountytx.gov/pages/AreYouOk.aspx>. You can also send an email to RUOK@cn3.hctx.net.
 24 HOUR DISPATCH - 281-427-4791 PATROL - 713-637-0014
 ADMINISTRATION - 713-274-2530 ANONYMOUS TIP LINE - 832-927-8477

Babin recognizes participants of the 2019 Congressional Art Competition

DEER PARK, TX – On Saturday, April 13, 2019, U.S. Congressman Brian Babin (TX-36) hosted an awards ceremony at the University of Houston-Clear Lake to announce the winners and honor the students who participated in the 36th Congressional District's 2019 Congressional Art Competition. This year's competition, which included more than 50 entries from high school students across the district, followed the theme of "Southeast Texas Wildlife." First place was awarded to Julian Lopez of Crosby High School for his incredible artwork titled "Ocean Lurker," which will now be displayed in the United States Capitol Building for an entire year. "I would like to congratulate Julian Lopez and thank each of the talented students who participated in this year's Congressional Art Competition as well as the art teachers and families that supported them throughout this process," said Babin. "We have so many great artists in TX-36, and I am extremely proud to show their work to visitors from both our district and differ-



Rep. Babin with the 36th Congressional District's 2019 Congressional Art Competition Winner. (L to R: Tyra Baxter, Teacher; Rep. Babin; Julian Lopez, winner; and family).

ent parts of the country when we pass by the national display in the U.S. Capitol."
2019 Congressional Art Competition Awards:
 •First Place: Julian Lopez (Crosby High School)
 •Second Place: Ciara Pratt (Clear Falls High School)
 •Third Place: Grace Hawley (Clear Falls High School)
Honorable Mentions:
 Lydia Covey (Home School); Gavin Burns (Crosby); Carre Cox (Hardin-Jefferson); Jordan


Boettger (The Academy of Viola DeWalt -La Porte); Jesse Hargrave (Warren); Brandon Scogin (Orangefield); Alexis Swafford (Woodville); Troy Conner (Warren); Avery Gore (Kirbyville); Le'Ana Martinez (Orangefield); and Fredy Rubio (Crosby)
Participating Schools:
 Clear Falls, Covey Home School, Crosby, Hardin-Jefferson, Jasper, Kirbyville, Orangefield, Soli Deo Gloria Academy, Valentine Home School, Warren, and Woodville.

Chamber plays Red Wolf



The Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce held their 27th Annual Tees & Tails Golf Classic and Fundraiser at Red Wolf Country Club in Huffman last Wednesday. Above the team of Wycough, Baker, Barron and McDougald, above, won first place with a 53, beside them stands Justin League Golf Committee Chairman. Second place went to Brashear, Calenbey, Sheridan and Bam and third place went to Lee, Holmes, Miles and Steffenauer. Crawfish Shack's Dan Meaux prepared and donated crawfish and shrimp plates. A live auction by Colonial Rick Loggins peaked interest and funding, a silent auction had multiple items.

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CROSBY'S HOME TOWN HOME CARE

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ROUND-UP

A Good Ole Tyme had by all in Dayton, inspite of the inclement weather

Events at the Jones Library

Saturday - April 27th - 10:00 AM - Nimble Thimbles

The next meeting of the Nimble Thimbles Quilting/Sewing Club will be Saturday April 27th from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Please bring your sewing machine and your sewing materials with you.

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

Beach City News

PERMIT REMINDER

Before you add a room, pour a driveway, dig a pond, install a pool, install a storage building or any other construction on your property you are required to have an issued permit on site before you begin work. Some things do not require a permit such as adding a fence, painting, roof repairs, etc. If you have any questions, call the City Secretary and she will be glad to help.

DRONE ACTIVITY

There have been some concerns of drone activity in our area. There are a number of laws that govern the use of drones but can sometimes be a bit murky. Flying a drone at night is most definitely against the law (for most pilots). there are exceptions such as law enforcement officers. Privacy laws do include drones. If you feel someone is spying on you or invading your privacy then contact the Sheriffs office. The drone pilot can't be far away and is required to maintain a visual line of sight of his drone. **DO NOT TAKE THE LAW INTO YOUR OWN HANDS,** please.

Jackey Lasater,
Mayor, Beach City**

DAYTON – Organizers of the Ole Tyme Days festival in Dayton had their eyes on the weather, as the weekend approached.

The Festival ran Friday, Saturday, and Sunday April 12th through 14th, and crowds were sparse as the weather closed in Friday night and Saturday morning.

Friday night the entertainment consisted of the Carnival, with plenty of rides for kids and adults.

Saturday things were supposed to include vendor booths, and lots of displays, but rain and wind that morning held the open booths to about half of the 60 that were scheduled. However, the weather lightened up and by late afternoon the crowds began to show up, and the booths all opened. However, a cold front followed the showers, and the festival started slowly to recover.

Saturday night was a street dance starting at 7pm, featuring the J-Band for music.

Sunday the crowds enjoyed the Carnival and the vendor booths, as if nothing had happened with the weather the day before.



Event organizer Wendy Bode said that they had considered moving the pageant into the fire department building Saturday morning, but it cleared up enough to continue on the streets.

The Festival is held each year to raise money for scholarships, and Bode said



that despite the bad weather, the proceeds were close to expectations. A good turnout on Sunday helped a lot, she said.

This is the 26th year that Dayton has had an Ole Tyme Day Festival, previously at the community center, and now on the streets of Downtown. Bode said the

downtown location has helped the festival to attract more participants.

In addition to gate receipts, the festival is funded by sponsors and the City of Dayton's hotel/motel sales tax.

The ambitious festival program included a BBQ Cook-off, a Junior Chili Competition, Lil Ms. & Mr. Dayton Ole Tyme Pageant, a photogenic contest, an Antique Tractor Show, food vendors, crafts vendors, art vendors, a Car Show, and Live Local Entertainment. Bode said that next year they would like to have more rides, but the available space has become a limiting factor. This year the city made more space available on Bryant Street, she said.

Helping with the logistics were the Dayton police department, the ROTC cadets who helped with the gates and parking, and the Boy Scouts who helped clean up trash. Bode thanked all who helped, including the adults who helped keep some of the equipment out of the rain on Saturday.

More information on the Festival is on their website, www.oletymedays.com.

10th Annual Rotary Shrimp & Catfish Festival May 11

The Baytown Rotary club will hold its annual Shrimp & Catfish Festival on Saturday, May 11, 2019 at Houston Raceway Park powered by Pennzoil. Serving 11 am - 3 pm. Auction starts at 12:30 p.m.

The public can purchase a \$100 ticket from any Rotarian, for a chance to win a new auto or truck from Community Toyota, and eat a delicious Shrimp or Catfish luncheon.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS: From I-10, exit



TX-99 South to FM 565, turn right, enter at Gate 1.

From SH 146, exit Kilgore Pkwy. Turn right at Needlepoint Rd. Turn right at FM 565, enter Gate 1

WCC Pilot Club attends Texas District Pilot Convention



West Chambers County Pilots recently attended the 82nd Texas District Pilot Convention in Nacogdoches, TX. (Standing) Linda Gilmore, Jan Jones, Pam Sapp, and WCCPC President Maria Van Pelt. (Sitting) Linda Polk, Chelsea George, and Angela Harris. Not pictured Connie Hernandez.

Babin Congratulates the Baytown Christian Academy Bulldogs for their State Championship Victories



U.S. Rep. Babin with the Baytown Christian Academy Football and Boys Basketball Teams, Trainers, Cheerleaders, and Coaches.

DEER PARK, TX – On Monday, April 15, U.S. Congressman Brian Babin (TX-36) attended Baytown Christian Academy's State Championship Banquet honoring the Bulldogs for winning both the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools' (TAPPS) football and boys basketball state championships for the 2018-2019 school year. Rep. Babin presented a copy of the statement he entered into the

Congressional Record, honoring both teams, to each of the athletes, trainers, and coaches in attendance.

"The hard-work and dedication shown by Baytown Christian led to the great feat of being the only team in the entire State of Texas to win both the football and boys basketball championships this school year," said Babin. "I thoroughly enjoyed meeting each of the athletes,

coaches, trainers, and cheerleaders as well as their proud families and friends. This is a talented group of young people, and I wish each of them continued success in the classroom and in sports."

With this Congressional Record entry, there will always be a record of the Bulldog's state championship victories in the Library of Congress as long as the United States stands.

Relief for Irritable Bowel Syndrome Symptoms

BAYTOWN — (April 5, 2019) — Frequent bloating, cramps and unpredictable bowel movements force millions of Americans suffering from irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) to stay close to a restroom at all times.

Often called "spastic colon," IBS is a common intestinal disorder that causes abdominal cramps, diarrhea, gas, bloating and constipation. Although help is available, embarrassment causes many people with IBS to suffer in silence rather than seek treatment.

"The condition occurs when the delicate interplay among the nerves, hormones and electrical activity that link the bowel and the brain is disrupted," said Dr. Yassir Ashraf, a gastroenterology/hepatology specialist at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital.

If you never thought about the connection between the brain and the stomach before, just imagine the butterflies you feel before making a speech or the bellyache that might come on during a heat-



Dr. Yassir Ashraf

ed argument.

"In IBS, pain sensors in the colon are more sensitive than normal, causing them to respond strongly to stimuli that don't affect most people," Ashraf said.

In short, a breakfast of scrambled eggs and milk can spell disaster for those with the disorder.

With April designated National Irritable Bowel Syndrome Awareness Month,

See Relief, Page 6

TEXAS SENATE NEWS

By Richard Lee

Property Tax growth limit passes Senate

(Austin) The Senate approved a measure Monday aimed at reining in property tax rate growth, one that Lt. Governor Dan Patrick called "the biggest tax relief and reform bill we've ever passed". Under current law, jurisdictions can increase property tax rates as much as eight percent before taxpayers can petition for an election to approve or deny the rate hike. This "rollback" rate, implemented in the face of significant inflation in the late 1970s, is much too high and prices people out of their homes due to skyrocketing tax bills, according to Houston Senator Paul Bettencourt. "Taxpayers can't take it any more," he said. "It's a growth curve that's by any measure two or three times faster than their ability to pay." His bill would move that rollback rate to 3.5 percent for most taxing entities and 2.5 percent for property taxes levied by local school districts. Additionally, rollback elections would be triggered automatically when rate increases exceed these limits and would be placed on the November ballot.

The bill also includes a number of reforms intended to increase transparency and give property owners more information about who is taxing them and for how much, and how those rates have changed over time. It also makes changes to the appraisal protest process, intended to level the playing field between appraisal review boards and property owners. Additionally, small taxing entities with less than \$15 million in annual collections would remain at the eight percent rollback rate initially, but taxpayers in those jurisdictions would get a chance to vote to opt in to the lower rollback rates on the uniform election date in May of 2020. "With the attention on many, many appraisal reforms as well, I believe that this is a balanced package," said Bettencourt. "It looks at the needs of rural Texas, as

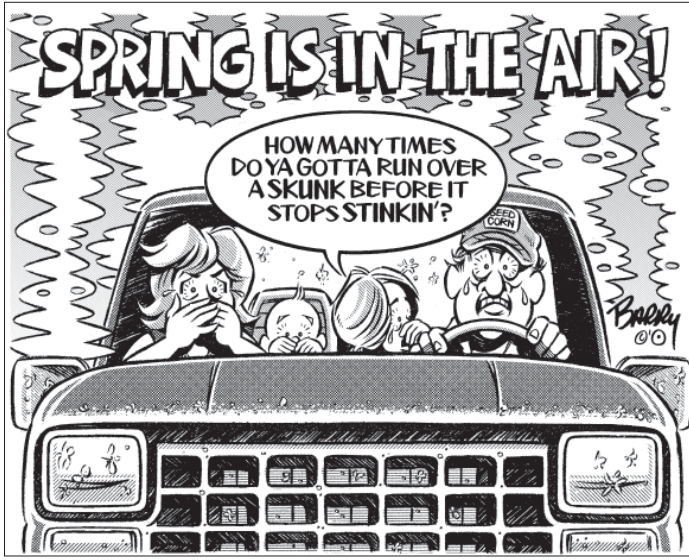
well as urban. More importantly, it looks at the needs of taxpayers all across the state."

This bill was a major priority for state leadership. "We made a promise, the Governor, the Speaker and I, when the session started that we're going to focus on property tax reform [and] relief to you," Patrick said in a video statement released upon passage of the measure. "[Monday], was the first bill to pass as part of that package." It now heads to the House for consideration, and Patrick said that with new leadership in that chamber, he believes the bill has a good chance of reaching the governor's desk this session.

Also this week, the Senate approved the remaining two bills in a four-bill package from Conroe Senator Brandon Creighton that would prohibit certain municipal regulations on private businesses. "These bills protect the pro-business climate, something often referred to as the 'Texas miracle'," he said when offering the first of these bills before the Senate last week. "Other states struggle; Texas remains number one in job creation and unemployment is at a record low." Creighton went on to say that local ordinances mandating employee benefits and other practices undermine the predictability and free-market principles that have created this economic prosperity.

The bills passed last week would prohibit local ordinances mandating paid sick leave for employees of private businesses and those that set requirements for paid time-off. The bills passed Wednesday would disallow cities from regulating scheduling practices and overtime pay policies, as well as from passing ordinances that prohibit employers from inquiring about past criminal history on applications. These measures will now head to the House for further consideration.

The Senate reconvened Tuesday, April 23 at 11 a.m.



Conference committee to work out differences in state budget

AUSTIN — After Easter weekend, conferees for the Texas House and Senate must work out differences in the two chambers' versions of a fiscal 2020-2021 state budget to send to Gov. Greg Abbott.

Concurrence is required on how to spend an estimated \$250 billion in revenue available to fund the state's fiscal years 2020-2021. Once an agreement has been reached, the budget bill will be subject to an up or down vote in each chamber before it is forwarded to the governor's office for final approval.

Speaker Dennis Bonnen on April 15 named five House members to a conference committee tasked with negotiating an agreement. He chose House Appropriations Committee Chair John Zerwas, R-Richmond; and Reps. Greg Bonnen, R-Friendswood; Sarah Davis, R-West University Place; Oscar Longoria, D-Mission; and Armando Walle, D-Houston.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who presides over the Senate, on April 17 named five conferees — all Republicans: Senate Finance Committee Chair Jane Nelson of Flower Mound, and Sens. Larry Taylor of Friendswood, Joan Huffman of Houston, Lois Kolkhorst of Brenham and Robert Nichols of Jacksonville.

Nelson, in a report posted by the Senate News Service, looked forward to the work, saying: "Both chambers prioritized property tax relief and public education and I am confident we can finalize a budget that helps homeowners who are struggling with rising property taxes and make sure our schools have the resources needed to give teachers a raise and prepare our students for success."

While the House and Senate versions of the budget both set aside an additional \$9 billion for property tax relief, teacher pay and education, the House version appropriates \$251 billion in all funds, including \$116.5 billion in general revenue and \$2.3 billion from the Economic Stabilization ("Rainy Day") Fund. In contrast, the Senate version appropriates \$247.7 billion in all funds, including

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

\$116.8 billion in general Revenue and no dollars from the Rainy Day Fund.

Property tax bill moves

The Senate's property tax reform bill, SB 2, passed the Senate on April 15, was referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means for consideration.

The vote on final passage in the Senate was 18-12, with Sen. Kel Seliger, R-Amarillo, joining Democrats in voting against the measure. One Democrat, Sen. Eddie Lucio of Brownsville, was listed as "present not voting."

SB 2 would change what is now known as the effective tax rate, that rate at which the entity would earn the exact same amount of revenue as in the previous year, would be renamed to the "no-new-revenue" tax rate. It would also change the term "rollback rate" to "voter-approved rate." Also, rollback elections would be triggered automatically when rate increases exceed the new limits and would be placed on the November ballot, the Texas Senate News Service reported.

Dubbed "The Property Tax Reform and Relief Act of 2019," the bill's main goals are to:

- (1) Lower the rollback rate from 8 percent to 3.5 percent for most taxing jurisdictions and 2.5 percent for school districts;
- (2) Require an automatic tax ratification election if the rollback rate is exceeded, eliminating the petition requirement in current statute;
- (3) Make information about the tax rates proposed by local taxing units more accessible to property owners and more timely; and
- (4) Make it easier for property owners to express their opinions about proposed tax rates to local elected officials before tax rates are adopted.

Gov. Abbott, in lauding the movement of SB 2, said he is looking forward to working with Lt. Gov. Patrick, Senate Property Tax Committee Chair Paul Bettencourt, R-Houston, Speaker Bonnen and House Ways and Means Chair Dustin Burrows, R-Lubbock, and the entire Legislature "to provide lasting property tax relief for all Texans."

Disaster declaration issued

Gov. Greg Abbott on April 17 issued a State Disaster Declaration for nine Texas counties impacted by recent severe weather, including thunderstorms and tornadoes that caused widespread property damage and the loss of life.

In the declaration, Abbott authorized the use of all available resources of state government and of political subdivisions to aid in response efforts.

"As a result of severe weather over the weekend, Texas is taking action to ensure those impacted have the resources they need to recover as quickly as possible," said Abbott said.

Counties included in the disaster declaration are: Cherokee, Freestone, Houston, Leon, Madison, Nacogdoches, San Augustine, Shelby and Robertson.

Early voting to be conducted

Texas Secretary of State David Whitley, the state's chief elections officer, on April 19 encouraged eligible voters to take advantage of the early voting period ahead of the May 4 election.

Early voting begins on Monday, April 22, and ends on Tuesday, April 30. Voters across the state will be casting ballots in local political subdivision elections, including those for mayor, city council, school board, municipal utility districts and other local entities.

GREEN LIVING: 5 Ways to Celebrate Earth Month

(StatePoint) Are you looking for ways to celebrate Earth Month? From enjoying nature to making simple changes to your routine that will have a positive impact on the environment, here are five cool ideas for marking the occasion.


1. Reduce and reuse. You may not realize how much waste you create each day when you use disposable containers, bags and plastic bottles. While recycling is a great thing to do, that process itself takes a lot of energy to support and, unfortunately, not everything makes it to the recycling center. A better way to reduce your waste is by ditching single-use items and opting for more eco-friendly, reusable alternatives.

2. Make smart swaps. Disposing of hazardous items such as batteries and bulbs can be tricky. Take a walk through your home and swap out items containing hazardous materials, such as bulbs with mercury, to rechargeable or hybrid alternatives. For example, Casio's Lamp-Free projectors have a hybrid Laser and LED light source which removes the need for hazardous bulbs.


3. Skip "fast fashion." Many of your favorite stores likely sell what is known as "fast fashion." The fast fashion concept is what brings brand new apparel to consumers on a consistent basis, but unfortunately, the mass production of these cheaply made garments takes a toll on the environment. You can secure fashionable finds in an eco-friendly way by taking a look at apps and websites that sell second-hand clothing or even by visiting a consignment or thrift shop for unique finds. Declutter your own closet and give your clothing a second life by making donations to those in need.

4. Get outdoors. Celebrate the beauty of the planet by getting outdoors. Whether you're going on a hike, kayaking, or just taking a walk, high-tech wearables can help you make the most of the adventure. For example, Casio's WSD-F30 Pro Trek Smart Outdoor Watch is durable and water-resistant, and includes apps that support outdoor activities. Such technology can help you track your activity, navigate your surroundings, and even remind you when it's time to take a water break.

5. Get your veggies. Pick one day each week to eat a plant-based meal and skip the meat. You'll be doing the planet a whole lot of good, as the production of meat and animal-based products requires far more water and land use than the production of plant-based foods do. Consider also being more mindful about food waste in your own household, buying only what you need.



U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site
Community Meeting
Highlands, Texas
Tuesday, May 7, 2019



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, in cooperation with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Federal, State, and Harris County agencies, local officials, and industry, invite you to attend a Community Meeting for the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund site. The meeting will be held:

Date: Tuesday, May 7, 2019
Time: 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Location: The Highlands Community Center
 604 Highland Woods Drive
 Highlands, Texas 77562

During the meeting, information will be provided on current site activities and the updated Community Involvement Plan. A question and answer session

will be open to the public following the updates. The meeting is being held in a fully accessible facility. Should you have any specific needs or questions about the facility, please contact EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, Janetta Coats, at 214-665-7308 or 1-800-533-3508 (toll-free).

Additional information about the site is available on the following EPA website:
<https://www.epa.gov/tx/sjrw>

Para información en español, comuníquese con la Agencia de Protección Ambiental de los Estados Unidos (la EPA) a 1-800-533-3508 (llamada gratis).

★ LIFESTYLE PAGE ★

Historic Crosby



Photo taken by Frank J. Schlueter and restored by Ron Shanks.

Crosby School building in 1921. It was located on the southeast corner of Runneburg Rd. and Pecan St.,

By Joel Fuchs

Pictured above is the Crosby School building, in 1921. It was located on the southeast corner of Runneburg Rd. and Pecan St., where the current tax office building (former high school building) is situated. It was built in 1910, for grades 1 through 10. It served as the only school for upper level grades for the Crosby and Highlands area as well as some Huffman students.

This is the first in a series, of historic photos of Crosby in honor of its upcoming bicentennial. Over the next few weeks, we will hopefully present some more historic photos. Crosby was settled in 1823, making it one of the oldest settlements in Texas. Lifetime resident Jody Fuchs, is preparing a photographic history of the community in preparation for the up-

coming event, and is looking for other old or interesting photos of the community. He is working with members of the Crosby Historical Society, Donna Davenport and Klaus Duda.

The above photo was taken by the renowned photographer, Frank J. Schlueter who took a number of photos of buildings in the state, and also chronicled the early oil boom. This photo was restored by local photoshop expert Ron Shanks.

Behind the school was Jackson Bayou and the Lars Nelson family farm. Today this is the Nelson Addition. In that era Lars grew cotton, corn and rice on the property, and it was also home to the local airstrip. In the photo you can see a bi-winged airplane that has just taken off from the airfield.

While researching the book, Jody has uncovered a number of other

interesting facts and fallacies regarding the town. Crosby received its current name in 1877, when the Vice President of the railroad named the train stop after himself. He was Josiah F. Crosby, and contradictory to local legend he was not a railroad construction engineer, but was a former judge, state representative, and lawyer. Prior to that, the town was known as Gentry, among other early names.

The book will cover the entire 200-year pictorial history of the town, as well as briefly covering the surrounding communities of Highlands, Huffman, Barrett, etc. If you have any interesting photos or artifacts of the town or its residents from 1823 until the present, please contact the Crosby Historical Society at 281-731-7010.

Crosby HS Alumni Committee meeting dates

The Crosby High School Alumni Association has announced the dates of the meetings to plan the 2019 Annual All Classes Reunion. The meetings are held at the Crosby Community Center on Hare Road beginning at 6 pm. The dates are: Wednesday, April 24, Wednesday, May 22, Wednesday, June 26 and Wednesday, July 24.

The 37th Annual All Classes Reunion is scheduled for Saturday, August 3, 2019 at the Crosby American Legion Hall.

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey—

1. Is the book of Galatians in the Old or New Testament or neither?
 2. From Joshua 6, on the seventh day, how many times did the men of war march around Jericho? 1, 3, 5, 7
 3. In His first recorded miracle, what did Jesus turn into wine? Goat's milk, Grape juice, Fig cider, Water
 4. From 1 Chronicles, what king was buried with his sons under an oak tree? Neco, Jehoash, Saul, Rezin
 5. What "vow" that appears in Numbers 6:1-21 has five features? Roman, Nazirite, Corban, Anathema
 6. In the story of creation, what did God call the darkness? Blackness, Night, Fourscore, Trinity
- ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) 7; 3) Water; 4) Saul; 5) Nazirite; 6) Night"

24th Annual Czech SpringFest

Sunday, April 28, 2019 11am – 6pm
SPJST Lodge 88 Hall, 1435 Beal St., Houston, Tx
Admission: Adults \$8
Children under 11 – FREE

GUEST ARTIST:
Vladimir Klimes
from the Czech Republic will demonstrate his woodcarving skills. He will have many items for sale.

Kovanda's Czech Band
(11am – 2 pm)
Texas Legacy Czech Band
(3pm – 6pm)

Kolache Eating Contest

Traditional Czech Sunday Dinner
(11am – 2pm)
Adults - \$10
Children under 11 - \$7
Sausage with Sauerkraut served after 1pm.

Several Vendors selling their Artwork, Handcrafts and Jewelry.
Czech Market with over 100 items to purchase.
Country Store: will sell Kolaches & Czech Pastries.

Sponsored by the Czech Heritage Society of Texas, Harris County Chapter, A 501c3 non-profit organization. For more info, call 713-349-0500 or email CHSh heritage20@att.net WEB-www.tcxshcc.com



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can move
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Matthew 17:20

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I Corinthians 13:8

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but wisdom is found in
those who take advice.

God is our refuge
and strength, a
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in trouble
Psalm: 46:1

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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 Rodeo,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Flatland Cavalryóthe aforementioned Cordero, guitarist Reid Dillon, bassist Jonathan Saenz, drummer Jason Albers, and newest member, fiddle player Wesley Hallóhas been stretching their legs across the country this past year after honing their craft and voice in the music boomtown of Lubbock, Texas. Homeland Insecurity finds Flatland further evolving as musicians and storytellers. They continue to expand their sonic palettes while remaining true to those defining characteristics that made them rising standouts years ago.

JUNE 7-PARKER MCCOLLUM

Parker McCollum comes from a no-nonsense, hard-working family. His was the sort of upbringing where "if you're going to do something and you're not going to do it one-hundred percent; you shouldn't do it at all." It's why this 25-year-old treats each song he writes with a painstaking level of dedication, reverence, and - as he readily admits - even a bit of obsession. Parker says when a particular melody, lyric or emotion tugs at him he might stay in his room for days working on it. He can't help himself. That's because, for the Austin-



June 7 - Adam Hood

based singer, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist, the result is worth the painstaking process. Parker - who broke out with the revealing and critically adored 2013 debut The Limestone Kid and returned with the acclaimed, Probably Wrong - says, "its like the songwriting muse when it hits me, but when it does, I pay attention and it's always worth the focus it asks of me."

JUNE 7-ADAM HOOD

Adam Hood is a singer-songwriter from Opelika, Alabama. His music is in the style of Texas country, Americana, and roots rock.

JUNE 8-KOE WETZEL

Koe Wetzel. East Texan native based out of Stephenville, TX. Texas Rock N' Roll.

Koe Wetzel- Main Vocals / Acoustic Guitar Andres Rocha- Drums Mason Mor-



June 8 - Caden Gillard

ris- Bass / Harmony Vocal Michael Odis Parrish- Lead Guitar Jerrod Flusche - Lead Guitar

JUNE 8-CADEN GILLARD

The Caden Gillard Band fuses Texas Country and Southern Rock in a flavorful sound of traditional southern hospitality with a Texas-sized heart. We're eternally grateful to be living our dreams and so thankful to be doing what we love! Caden and his band of extremely talented musicians come from the small refinery towns of southwest Louisiana. Each coming together and bringing their experience from their well established pasts to deliver a unique, heartfelt and passionate sound. Working hard and long hours at their jobs and putting in longer and harder hours to do what they love to do.

ATTORNEY'S CORNER

Thoughts on Legal Issues

By WESTON COTTEN

Rather than leading off with any single legal issue, I thought I might introduce myself to those of you who do not know me, or who know me in another capacity.

My name is Weston Cotten and I am a local attorney, meaning I live in Highlands, and have for 60 of my 65 years. I have worked as a telephone company marketing executive, an electrician and a school teacher, to name only a few of the career paths down which I have wandered. I learned a little something from each of them and reached the conclusion that I did not play well with others, hence my position as a solo practice attorney with my office at 5223 Garth Road, in Baytown..

During my wanderings, I have been a member of the Jaycees, both in Arkansas and Baytown, coach and treasurer in the Highlands Little League, Member, past secretary and past president (x2) of the Highlands Rotary Club with 26 years perfect attendance, a long time member of the Goose Creek School Board, a board member of the De Ellis Foundation, a lifetime member of the NRA, a Mason and a Shriner.

My family consists of my wife Delene, three children, Chet (Carl Chester) and wife Amber, their two children, Avery & Blayne who are isolated in Longmont Colorado. If I am not in my office, I am probably either there or leaving soon to visit them. My middle child Chrissa and her husband Brian, and grand-sons Hunter and Trip who live down the street in Highlands. My youngest son, Nathan is living in Lufkin and will complete his degree in bible studies this May, 2011 at Texas Bible College. My mother, Maudie (Cotten) Starling lives next door in Highlands. My Mother-in-law, Myrt Rogers lives in Baytown. My brother, Weldon (Bo) and his wife Norma live next door with their children Eryn and Alyssa. Eryn is working and Alyssa is attending college at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, LA. Then there are a number of aunts, uncles and cousins of varying degrees that are part of a close, but widely extended family. I am happy to call most of them kin.. Family is important to me as I hope is evident.

Family being what it is to me

leads me to my legal point(s). There are many simple and relatively inexpensive documents which can make life with you and without you simpler and easier to maneuver the pitfalls of impairment or death.

Everyone should have at a minimum a will (Last Will and Testament or a trust). If you die without a Will or "Living Trust", you will have no choice as to how your property will be distributed. Upon your death the Texas Will (rules of intestate distribution) will be substituted for your wishes. Furthermore, your estate may be frozen or encumbered with legal expenses and delays during the probate process if you do not have a Will, or trust. You will have no choice in who cares for your minor, or incapacitated children, or handles their affairs. You also will have no opportunity to legally avoid estate taxes.

Next on your list for consideration should be powers of attorney, both financial and medical. A financial Power of Attorney enables you to appoint someone to act on your behalf during your lifetime regarding financial matters. Many people appoint their spouse or another trusted family member to serve as their "agent" or "attorney in fact." Frequently, one or more alternate agents are named to serve in case one is unable..

These documents prove particularly useful if you become incapacitated. The Texas Legislature has created a form known as a Statutory Durable Power of Attorney. That instrument, under the heading of "Special Instructions," allows you to empower your agent to make gifts on your behalf. Without this specific authorization, the IRS takes the position that no gifts can be made on your behalf for tax, estate planning, or benevolent purposes if you are incapacitated. The form also allows you to choose an effective date for the Power of Attorney. By marking out the Provision labeled "A" the Power of Attorney is effective only upon your disability, or a "Springing Power of Attorney." Most married couples make their Powers of Attorney effective immediately, therefore, not limiting use of the Power of Attorney to time periods when you are incapacitated.

A Medical Power of Attorney, as the name indicates, allows

someone to act on your behalf during your lifetime during periods of incapacity to make medical treatment decisions on your behalf. Most will appoint a family member, or trusted friend to make the decisions, or serve as their "agent". Naming more than one alternate agent is usually good practice. The Medical Power of Attorney is activated only in case you are incapacitated and incapable of making medical treatment decisions on your behalf. Even if you sign the Medical Power of Attorney, you can make health care decisions for yourself so long as you are capable of making such decisions. Treatment may not be started or stopped over your objection.

Lastly, if you do not want to be artificially kept alive you will need a Directive to Physicians and Family or Surrogates (sometimes called a "Directive" or "Living Will") informs others of your desires to withhold or continue life sustaining treatment in the event you have an "irreversible condition" or a "terminal condition." Usually referred to as "pulling the plug" on life sustaining measures when death is imminent, but can be prolonged. Most simply direct that life sustaining measures be withheld or withdrawn if they do not preserve, maintain, or increase one's quality of life.

There are other things that you can do to make your death easier to bear such as pre-need funeral arrangements and making sure you have adequate life insurance and savings to resolve any unpaid debts and to provide for your family when you are no longer able to provide a paycheck.

I am available to assist you in planning for your future, whether you live without impairments, survive with impairments, or die. Your family deserves no less.

THIS ARTICLE IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE RELIED UPON AS LEGAL ADVICE. This does not constitute the establishment of an attorney-client relationship between you and this lawyer. Most information is of a very general nature and cannot attempt to cover all fact situations. Nothing contained in this web site should be construed to constitute a recommendation of any product, service, or web site. Weston Cotten is admitted to practice in all Texas Courts, the Southern District, Eastern District, Northern District, Western District Federal Courts, and the U. S. Tax Court, though not certified as to any legal specialization. I have been licensed to practice for over 30+ years. My areas of practice include Probate and Estate preservation, business formation and operations, real estate, Social Security Disability and Bankruptcy law. I am a local, solo practice attorney with my office located at 1500 E. Wallisville Rd., Highlands, TX 77562. New phone Number is 281-421-4050. If I am unable to assist you, I will try to give you a referral to an attorney with experience in your area of legal need. (Federally Required Notice) The Law Office of Weston Cotten, P.C. is a "debt relief agency" as defined by federal bankruptcy law because we assist our clients in filing for debt relief under the Bankruptcy Code. Please visit my website at www.westoncotten.com, or call at 218-421-4050.

Relief,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Ashraf suggests taking these steps if IBS symptoms are beginning to disrupt your life:

- See your physician as soon as symptoms appear. Your physician will know what treatment course is best for you. And since the signs of IBS may mimic those of a serious disease, it's important to rule out any underlying disorder.
- Write down the foods that seem to bring on symptoms and discuss your findings with your doctor. Once you identify the foods that trigger symptoms, scale back your intake. Common culprits

are dairy products, caffeine, beans, cabbage, fat and alcohol. Remember that many of the nutrients you need may be in the foods you are avoiding, so be sure to make healthy substitutions.

- Limit spicy foods.
- Since large meals often cause cramping and diarrhea, try eating a few small meals throughout the day instead of three large courses.
- Control tension levels. Because of the brain-bowel connection, high stress levels can trigger IBS symptoms. To unwind, go for a daily walk, talk with a friend, dust off an old hobby or listen to music.

Although antidiarrheals and laxatives may ease symptoms, they are not a long-term solution. Instead, your doctor may prescribe antispasmodics for relief. In severe cases, antidepressant medication may help soothe distress.

If you are experiencing symptoms of IBS, visit houstonmethodist.org/baytown, or call 281-422-7970 to schedule an appointment with a gastroenterology specialist with Houston Methodist Gastroenterology Associates.



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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice for implementing new Harris County Transit procedures to determine eligibility for complementary ADA Paratransit service.
Harris County Community Service Department
Office of Transit Services

As required by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 37.37 for Paratransit Plan Development, Harris County Transit (HCT) will hold three Public Meetings within the service area of Harris County Transit's Fixed Routes Bus to provide the opportunity for public comments and review of updates for the application process of Paratransit Services.

Public Meetings information:

- (1) Meeting**
Date: May 7, 2019
Time: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm
Location: La Porte City Hall – 604 Fairmont Pkwy, La Porte TX 77571
- (2) Meeting**
Date: May 8, 2019
Time: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm
Location: Baytown Community Center – 2407 Market St, Baytown TX 77520
- (3) Meeting**
Date: May 10, 2019
Time: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm
Location: JD Walker Center – 7613A Wade Rd, Baytown TX 77521

The application process for the ADA Paratransit service will include an application, a one-on-one interview and a Physical Assessment. All three locations for the Public Hearing are conveniently located along a HCT Fixed-Bus Route. If you require special accommodations to attend a hearing, or if information is needed in another language, please contact HCT at 713-578-2216. For your convenience, an online survey will be available at www.harriscountytexas.com under ADA Paratransit Service.

Written comments should be directed to:
Harris County Transit – ADA Paratransit Program
ATT: Stephanie Nunez
8410 Lantern Point Drive
Houston TX 77054

THE CITY OF GALENA PARK WILL RECEIVE SEALED BIDS FOR THE CITY OF GALENA PARK SWIMMING POOL MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION. SEALED BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED BY MAYRA GONZALES, CITY SECRETARY, AT THE CITY OF GALENA PARK, CITY HALL, 2000 CLINTON DRIVE, GALENA PARK, TEXAS 77547 UNTIL 12:00 P.M. ON MAY 3, 2019. NO BID WILL BE CONSIDERED IF RECEIVED AFTER THIS TIME. ALL BIDS MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED: "SEAL BID- CITY OF GALENA PARK SWIMMING POOL MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION". THE BIDS WILL BE OPENED AND READ ALOUD AT A SPECIAL OPEN MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL AT 2:00 P.M. AT CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 2000 CLINTON DRIVE, GALENA PARK, TEXAS, 77547 ON MAY 3, 2019.

BID SPECIFICATIONS ARE ON FILE AND MAY BE VIEWED AND OBTAINED WITHOUT CHARGE IN THE OFFICES OF THE CITY OF GALENA PARK 2000 CLINTON DR. GALENA PARK, TX 77547.

THE CITY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND/OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY AND ALL TECHNICALITIES AND TO ACCEPT ANY BID OR PART THEREOF WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE CITY COUNCIL IS MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE CITY.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Administration for Docket No. 473764; Estate of JUANELL TAYLOR WALTERS Deceased; In Probate Court No. 4, of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on March 15, 2019.

MELVIN ERNEST WALTERS

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

c/o Weston Cotten
5223 Garth Rd.
Baytown, TX
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 28, 2019

Weston Cotten

by WESTON COTTEN
Attorney for the Estate

Notification is given that SouthTrust Bank, N.A., 601 Guadalupe Street, George West, Texas 78022, has filed an application with the Comptroller of the Currency on April 24, 2019, as specified in 12 CFR 5 for permission to establish a staffed branch office at 15201 East Freeway, Channelview, Texas 77530. Any person wishing to comment on this application may file comments in writing with the Director for District Licensing, 500 North Akard Street, Suite 1600, Dallas, TX 75201 within 30 days of the date of this publication.

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Drive-by shooting in Barrett

BARRETT STATION – A man that had been shot in his jaw, shoulder and neck indicated he had been targeted by unknown assailants on Ruben White near St. Charles on Monday night at about 10:30 p.m. Deputies were dispatched to Barrett Station at about 10:40 p.m. according to a Harris County Sheriff's Public Information Officer to find a man in ambulance custody in critical condition

on April 22. A witness account says that the 29 year old victim was running and yelling as a white sedan 4 door pulled up, began shooting and made a U-turn to continue firing in the man's direction. The man indicated the car was full of people and the witness indicated there were at least two inside the car. The man indicated he did not know his assailants or

why they decided to shoot at him. An ambulance came and took the victim to a nearby church so he might be Life-flight transported. On Tuesday, the man was listed in stable condition. This case remains under investigation anyone with information is asked to call (713) 222-TIPS or 8477 a reward is being offered in the case.

Crosby's new coach,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

University in 2011. "My family and I are excited to join this proud community," said Prieto. "We look forward to contributing to the continued success of Crosby ISD athletics." Coach Prieto and his wife, Julie, of 13 years have two sons ages ten, Jerry Jr.

and Maso, eight. Coach Jeff Riordan with a 67-17 record in 7 years in Crosby, took two coaches with him to Chapel Hill High School from Crosby after his program funds were cut by over 50%. Superintendent Scott Davis said during his in-

roduction of Prieto's coaching history, "successful beyond where Corpus is ordinarily successful and that says a lot. There's good football in Corpus, but they went out further than any team has since 2003, and that is a big part of it."

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