

HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

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THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2019

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

These stories in the **PRESS:**

• Goose Creek CISD Bond
• Chambers County Library news
• United Way of Greater Baytown & Chambers County campaign
.....And more, Page 5

IN THE STARS

EVENTS

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.

TUE., MAY 14 WEIGHT LOSS SEMINAR

Considering weight loss surgery? Join Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital from 6-7 pm at the CRCU Community Room, 4401 Garth Rd., Baytown, TX. 77521. Registration is required. Visit houstonmethodist.org/events or call 281-428-2273 for more information or to register. See ad, p. 6

THUR., MAY 23 DICKIE WOODS GOLF TOURNAMENT

May 23, 2019 at Eagle Pointe Golf Course. 11:30 a.m. registration begins. For details, please call Highlands Chamber at 281-426-7227.

BIRTHDAYS

May 2—Justin Holton
May 3—David Stone
May 5—Micheal Barnes
May 6—Sidney & Ellen Platt
May 7—Germaine Broussard

ANNIVERSARIES

May 3—Edward & Mareta Richard
May 6—Sidney & Ellen Platt
May 8—Tim & Lisa Dammon

4 -H blooms in Crosby



New officers for the 2019-2020 school year named last Monday at the Annual 4 -H Banquette at Crawfish Shack with over 200 in attendance. The newly Elected Officers were installed by the County Extension Agent for 2019-2020 they are; Brynna CoVan, President; Baylee CoVan Vice President; Austin Eilers, Secretary; Hannah Roder, Treasurer; Jaiden Grimes, Reporter; Tripp Young, Parliamentarian. The banquette included a steak dinner.

CROSBY – Victor and Debbie Holmelin started the newest version of Crosby 4-H long ago with a vigor for being inclusive and encouraging area youth to explore their world. Today, Crosby 4-H Club is the largest 4-H club in Harris County as well as the largest in Texas with 174 mem-

bers.

An Annual Banquet celebrates accomplishments of each member and their project/projects and recognize members for their years in 4-H. Seven Clover kids were given pins first, a Clover kid is between 5 and 8 years old and just getting started in 4-H, then

a host of others were given pins for each year they had been in 4-H concluding with Dylan Harthorn, Maggie Hearn and Hunter Eilers receiving 10 year pins.

Following Officer installation, all the high

See Crosby 4 H, Page 3

Sudden lawsuits by State show a major policy change

By Lewis Spearman

CROSBY – The strangest political times in centuries is centering around local concerns: the State, headed by conservatives, sued more suddenly than anyone expected the local plants that had fires. If they shutter local plants who will fund the local schools and provide the jobs that the local plants provide?

Many with friends throughout the nation now hear that they know about Crosby. They know that lo-

cal officials indicated there was no air quality issue after an explosion and after it was too late issued “shelter in place;” they heard a man was killed and two others put into critical condition at one plant; that law enforcement officers are suing another plant where the managers are facing criminal charges and that President Trump came through to sign initiatives to “remove all preventative measures.”

When isobutylene ignited there was an explosion at the KMCO plant on

April 2. The plant is waiting to pass an inspection by the Harris County Fire Marshal's office before it can reopen. It has been cited for lacking an emergency action plan, lack of monitoring and benzene leaks after the plant had undergone a self-imposed reform program to make everything safer. But Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton filed suit right away after the explosion. But Ken Paxton did not file suit after a similar

See Sudden Lawsuit Continued on Page 3

Crosby FFA cleans up



The past weekend Crosby FFA went out on a community service project at the Sheldon Reservoir. They gathered trash from the parking lot and trails surrounding the water and boat ramp.

Pictured left to right, Ariel Vass, Elena Juarez, Alice Mullens, Brent Starky, Blake Larkin, Sebastian Zapata, Joseph Ivey, Jaiden Ruter, Lilli Loggins, Caitlyn Criddle, Lexi Loggins, Caitlynn McCammon, Buddy Davidson, (bottom) Jancie Ivey, and (back) Blake Anderson)

I-10 BRIDGE LANES SET TO REOPEN

TxDOT has announced that all three westbound lanes will be open in the next few days, and closed ramps and signalization at Crosby-Lynchburg will be returned to normal, according to TxDOT Engineer David Lazaro.

The IH-10/San Jacinto Bridge was originally struck by a barge on February 11, 2019. A contractor started repair and rebuilding of the damaged column in early April.

Much of the permanent repairs have been completed. This week the contractor is focusing on finishing the smaller details.

Weather permitting, the intent is to re-stripe IH-10 back to its original configuration this weekend. In order to do so we will have to close IH-10 down to 1 lane going west-

bound. At some point over the weekend we will shift commuters over to the left hand side to re-stripe the side they are currently driving on. By Monday Morning Rush Hour the expectation is to have open:

1. All lanes on IH-10 West at the San Jacinto Bridge
2. SPUR 330 North to IH-10 West
3. All lanes on IH-10 West at Thompson
4. Crosby-Lynchburg Entrance Ramp to IH-10 West
5. IH-10 East Exit Ramp to Thompson Rd.

In the event that the weather conditions do not allow us to perform the work needed, some of the work will take place during the week of May 6th at night and possibly into the next weekend, (May 10th – 12th).

Gambling for Huffman class




The Huffman Education Foundation hosted the 4th gala dinner and casino night last Friday to raise funds to offer Huffman ISD students special classes that are not ordinarily available based on school taxes alone. These include more exotic classes with creative approaches to teaching. The special fund was established in honor of Ms. Paige McEachern's father and longtime educator, Conny Martin. The event was held in Humble.

Sheriff nods to local support



Sheriff Ed Gonzales recognizes the efforts of Crosby locals Eddie and Karen Foster of the Sheriff's Academy for their unwavering support of the Harris County Sheriff's Department.

See Recognitions, Page 6

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Historic Crosby (Phase 2)

By Joel Fuchs

This week's historical photos of Crosby include some photos that we would like to locate the original photograph of, so that we could hopefully get a better quality copy.

The first photo is of the Crosby Courthouse and Jail. It was built in 1913, and it was destroyed by a fire on October 21, 1919 when a prisoner named John White from Alexandria, Louisiana tried to escape the wooden jailhouse by setting his mattress on fire with an oil burning lamp. He ended up dying in the fire he started, despite efforts to save him. The courthouse was located on the second floor, and the Judge was Charles A. Tomlinson. The building was located on W. Reidland Avenue behind or near the back of what is today the Connections Coffee Shop. The original image was received from Martin and Mary Wolcik, who lived at 205 Wahl Street in 1976. They had two daughters, Glorine Bessie Harris, who died in 2011 and Lillie Mae Leatherwood who died in 2015. The photo may be still be a part of their family photos. Anyone with knowledge of how to get in touch with members of the family, please contact the Crosby Historical Society.

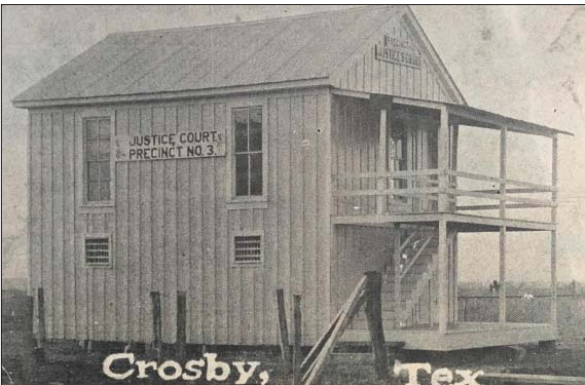


Photo 1

The second photo was taken in 1910, of the old Crosby downtown area looking south. It is a little harder to describe its location, so I've included a present-day photo taken from the same location and looking in the same direction. In the center of the old photo is the FM 2100 bridge over Jackson Bayou. Directly above that is the Gustafson Cotton Gin and Sawmill. That site is currently occupied by the Fuel Maxx convenience store located on FM 2100 between Wahl Street and W. Reidland Avenue. This photo was loaned to an Adlong family member in the 1990's, who made a copy. The owner of the original is not known. If any-

one has any information regarding this photo, would you also please contact the Crosby Historical Society.

This is the second set of photos 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 upcoming 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. In June, the Historical Society will hold a meeting, where Jody will present some of the 1000's of old photos that he has collected thus far in preparation of this project. The meeting is free and open to any interested persons, so please feel free



Photo 2



Present-day photo OF PICTURE 2

to join us at 2:00 PM on Saturday, June 1st at the Crosby Brethren Church.

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

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BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey---

1. Is the book of Judges in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From 2 Corinthians 3:17, "Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is ..."? Independence, Freedom, Patriotism, Liberty
3. Which scripture contains, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death"? Ruth 4:10, Job 7:2, Psalm 23:4, Amos 1:1

4. Though lame on both feet, what descendant of Saul continually ate at King David's table? Maresah, Methusael, Micah, Mephibosheth
 5. Under what type of tree would the children of Israel come to Deborah for judging? Palm, Sycamore, Fig, Cypress
 6. From Matthew 8, who was the first woman that Jesus healed? Paul's sister, Naomi, Peter's mother-in-law, Deborah
- ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Liberty; 3) Psalm 23:4; 4) Mephibosheth; 5) Palm; 6) Peter's mother-in-law.

Americanisms

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— Eleanor Roosevelt

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but wisdom is found in those who take advice.

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

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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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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

Crosby Community Center posts ongoing calendar

Sit and Sew: Mondays at 9 a.m. Take this opportunity to quilt, sew, share ideas, and enjoy the fellowship of others. Create donation quilts for local needs.

Hand & Foot Card Game: Tuesdays at 1 p.m. Volunteer Donna Jausz facilitates this fun card game.

Decorative Painting with Cindy: Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Master decorative artist Cindy Forsythe

teaches the art of decorative painting.

Beginning Line Dancing: Wednesdays at 11a.m. These volunteer-led classes teach the basic steps of country-and-western line dancing.

Crosby Ladies and Lords Chorus: Wednesdays at 11 a.m. Enjoy singing your heart out at the Center and performing at area community events.

Quilting Classes: Thursdays at 1 p.m. and 5

p.m. Take this opportunity to quilt, share ideas, and enjoy the fellowship of other quilters. Quilters of all experience levels can attend these sessions.

Community Center is a Precinct 2 Community Center located at 409 Hare Road, Crosby 77532. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information regarding classes or other Center programs please call (281) 462-0543.



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Sudden Suit,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and deadlier explosion in 2013 in West at a fertilizer plant when 15 people died. Looks as if someone in government is trying to make up for a regulatory shortfall.

The ITC fire was the first major emergency for Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo, who said the incident showed shortfalls in the county's capabilities. She indicated county government in the past was too laissez faire. She or-

dered the county health department to hire private contractors to help with air monitoring at a cost of \$375,000.

"We're not just going to hope that this doesn't happen again," she said. "We're going to do a thorough analysis and share the results, and do that quickly."

Harris County has a Pollution Control department, it was once part of Health Department, since the time in which it was

separated it has obtained only 2% more funding even though the county population has doubled in the last three decades. Pollution Control has cited 625 violations in 2018 but has not finish their probe of the KMCO fire.

Commissioners Court has been asked by Harris County District Attorney Kim Ogg to appoint four more prosecutors for environmental crimes.

Crosby 4-H Blooms,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

school Seniors were called forward and presented a gift by the club, the girls received a James Avery Charm and the boys a Case pocket knife, both were inscribed with Crosby 4-H and 2019. The seniors were recognized for their Club and Community Service hours totaling over 360 hours. Crosby 4-H Club is Honored that the 2019 Crosby ISD Valedictorian and Salutatorian both are members of 4-H, Valedictorian, Mary Hope Greer,

and Salutatorian, Maggie Hearn, Congratulation to both of them for this great accomplishment.

Each Year all eligible Seniors are awarded a Scholarship in memory of Victor Holmelin, members must be active and complete service hours all 4 years of high school for both the club and the community. The Scholarship is self-funded by the members completing fund raising activities throughout the year. This year's recip-

ients will receive \$1000 each to use this fall at a college or trade school of their choosing. This year's recipients are, Maggie Hearn, Dylan Hathorn, Reiden Hicks, Darion Klise, Luke Galvan, and Mary Hope Greer. After the seniors were recognized the Clover kids came forward and closed the meeting with reciting the 4-H prayer. Members and guest invited to cake while watching a slide show of the seniors over their years of being in 4-H.

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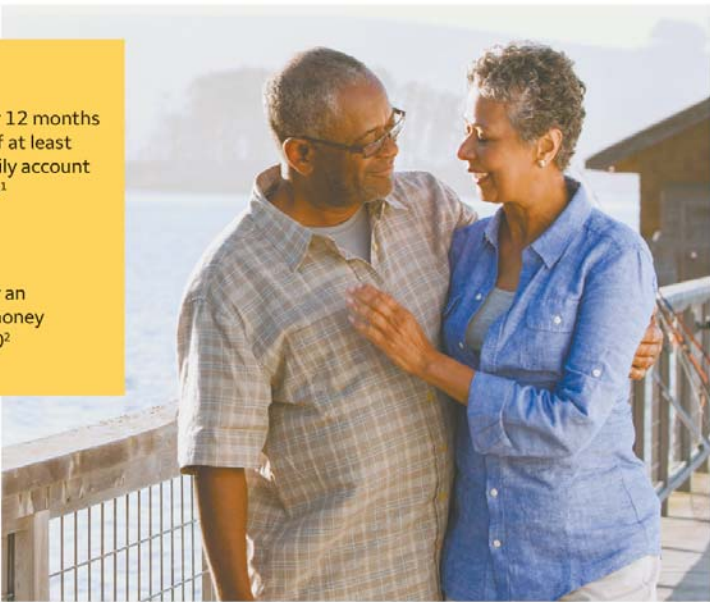
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TEXAS SENATE NEWS

By Richard Lee

Senate adopts comprehensive school safety bill

(Austin) The Senate gave approval on Monday to a bill intended to increase security and prevent on-campus incidents of violence at public schools. In May 2018, eight students and two teachers were killed, and 13 more injured, when a student opened fire on classmates at Santa Fe High School. Following the first major school shooting in Texas in decades, Lt. Governor Dan Patrick and Governor Greg Abbott each appointed an interim committee to study this issue. The bill presented Monday takes ideas from these two studies to improve safety and security at Texas schools. It would rely on facility hardening, mental health services, threat assessment and a myriad of other tools to prevent future tragedies. "We've got to do something to make our kids feel safe on their campuses, and not just feel safe, but to be safe" said bill author and Friendswood Senator Larry Taylor, who also represents the city of Santa Fe.

Senate Bill 11 would direct the Texas Education Agency to develop rules for hardening existing campuses and ensuring future facilities are built with safety and security in mind. It would require that each district develop a multi-hazard disaster response plan, one that addresses prevention, preparedness, and recovery. Districts would co-ordinate and file plans with the Texas School Safety Center, a school security think tank located in San Marcos. To

oversee these plans, each district would create a dedicated school safety committee that would review and amend these plans at least once per semester. School officials would be required to coordinate with local law enforcement agencies to develop plans to increase police presence on campuses. Districts would also form risk assessment teams at each campus, to monitor school climate and student activity to head off any problems before they reach a crisis point. Taylor says school shootings and other violent tragedies rarely come out nowhere. "Generally the people who have done these acts...[other] people had some hint, some idea that they were going to do it before," he said. "This bill is designed to help us recognize those people early on before they get to that point." Teams would be trained at the School Safety Center not just to recognize potential violent threats, but also students who may be at risk for suicide or self-harm or substance abuse problems.

The bill includes a number of provisions relating to mental health, in order to identify students approaching crisis and intervene before the breaking point. "The best thing you can do in this situation is prevent," Taylor said. "Because once it starts happening, nothing good happens after that. So this bill is designed to try and reach out and grab these students before they get to this point." Regional

school resource centers would be directed to partner with local mental health authorities to provide optional counseling and substance abuse assistance to the campuses they serve. It would require districts to train staff in trauma-informed care, a method to help people experiencing grief and trauma without exacerbating it, as well as guiding students affected by grief or trauma to available counseling services. Taylor said the trauma-informed model is helpful even in non-violent situations, like natural disasters. "It's just being able to recognize that kids have had different experiences," he said. "Recently we had Hurricane Harvey. We have a lot of kids now who react to strong thunderstorms differently than they would have before, and it's affected some of them." He says it's important that teachers, counselors and administrators can recognize signs of trauma in order to find ways to help students cope positively.

Taylor said that dealing with the aftermath of this tragedy is one of the hardest things he's ever had to do as a lawmaker. "When you go to multiple young peoples' funerals, back-to-back, within a few short days it's very difficult and you don't want to do that again," he said. "That's why we have to get this done." The bill now heads to the House for consideration.

The Senate will reconvene Tuesday, April 30 at 11 a.m.



Top issues remain in play as Legislature enters final month

AUSTIN — Only a month is left for lawmakers to get the state's business done in the 86th regular session of the Texas Legislature.

Still unfinished are the issues at the top of a list shared by Gov. Greg Abbott, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and House Speaker Dennis Bonnen: the passage of a state budget for fiscal years 2020-2021, property tax reform and school finance reform.

Last week, a conference committee of 10 House and Senate budget writers began negotiations over the two chambers' budget bills. While the negotiators have agreed on \$9 billion to spend on property tax relief and education finance reform, the two versions are about \$400 million apart on state revenue spending and \$3.2 billion apart, out of a total of about \$250 billion in all funds, according to the Senate News Service. "This process is made easier by the fact that both chambers are prioritizing three key issues: that's certainly property tax relief, education reform and teacher salary," said Senate Finance Committee Chair Jane Nelson, R-Flower Mound. "The good news," she added, "is that both chambers have demonstrated their commitment to our top priorities."

Any differences in the House and Senate budgets must be resolved before a final version can be presented for an up or down vote in each chamber before the session ends on its 140th day — Monday, May 27.

Web sales tax bills move
Legislation that would allow Texas to collect sales tax from remote sellers in accordance with the 2018 South Dakota v. U.S. Supreme Court advanced last week.

The Senate Finance Committee on April 24 approved SB 70 and SB 890, both authored by Sen. Nelson, and two companion bills, HB 2153 and HB 1525, authored by House Ways and

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

Means Committee Chair Dustin Burrows, R-Lubbock.

"This legislation paves the way for Texas to fairly collect online sales tax within the parameters outlined by the Supreme Court," Nelson said. "These bills ensure that no undue burdens are placed on remote sellers."

SB 70/HB 2153 would allow for the establishment of a single local use tax to avoid placing an undue burden on remote sellers. The comptroller's office projects that the change would generate \$300 million over the next fiscal biennium.

SB 890/HB 1525 would allow marketplace vendors to collect sales tax from third-party remote sellers. The comptroller's office projects that the change would generate \$550 million in the next two-year budget period.

Time change bill moves

Should Texas do away with "falling back" in November and "springing forward" in March and instead keep clocks on Standard Time or Daylight Saving Time year-round?

On April 23 the Texas House approved, on a vote of 133-9, a measure that would put the question to Texans in the form of a constitutional amendment on the November 5 ballot.

The measure, House Joint Resolution 117 by Rep. Lyle Larson, R-San Antonio, now moves to the Senate for consideration. If the Senate also approves and a statewide ballot measure passes, Congress still would have to amend the Uniform Time Act of 1966 before Texas could stop springing forward and falling back.

"The process of changing our clocks twice each year is primitive and

illogical," said Larson. "Time is a human construct. With the passage of this resolution, Texans can decide which time to stick with. We could maintain our sleep schedules, feeling healthier and happier as a result. We could end a senseless practice that has many drawbacks and very few, if any, positive aspects."

Opponents of HJR 117 cited concerns such as safety issues, confusion in scheduling and breaking with tradition.

Jobless rate remains low

The Texas Workforce Commission on April 19 reported the Lone Star State added 22,600 seasonally adjusted non-farm positions in March. The state's unemployment rate stayed at 3.8 percent.

Commission figures also show March marked the 107th consecutive month of annual growth for total non-farm employment. The month proved to be historically significant for the Texas economy, as the civilian labor force reached a record high of more than 14 million workers.

"Texas' economic miracle is a testament to the unmatched innovation of our Texas employers and their dedication to creating jobs and investing in communities across the state," said TWC Chair Ruth Ruggiero Hughs.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor Statistics, the Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area had the lowest unemployment rate among Texas MSAs in March with a non-seasonally adjusted rate of 2.1 percent, followed by the Odessa MSA with 2.5 percent. Tying for third were the Amarillo, Austin-Round Rock and College Station-Bryan MSAs with 2.7 percent unemployment.



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ROUND-UP

United Way of Greater Baytown Area and Chambers County closes in on campaign goal

Baytown, Texas: (April 12, 2019) – United Way of Greater Baytown Area and Chambers County (GBACC) is closing in on its Campaign goal of \$3.1 million. With about eight more weeks until the campaign is officially closed, United Way is asking for your help to reach that goal.

United Way is a 501(c)(3) non-profit established to develop, promote and support solutions designed to meet targeted community needs in Baytown and the surrounding areas for over 70 years now. To accomplish this mission grants are awarded to local non-profit programs whose mission aligns with United Way's focus on Education, Health and Financial Stability and can demonstrate measurable achievements in overcoming community-wide issues.

In defining the ongoing need for United Way in our community, CEO Melissa Reabold said, "We continue to focus on community impact recognizing the need to find community-wide solutions to issues negatively affecting residents. This work is accomplished with generous donations and dedicated volunteers." Grant requests are topping \$2.7 million this year, so the need is greater than ever. The programs address community issues including food insecurity, housing, emergency assistance and trauma counseling, health and education initiatives, elder care, literacy, legal assistance, mentoring and more.

With another record year of funding requests, United Way is asking everyone to consider the power of a single donation – the impact even a dollar a day can make. Never underestimate the difference you can make in the life of another today. Individual, organizational and corporate donations can be made either online at

www.unitedwaygbacc.org or by sending a financial donation to United Way of Greater Baytown Area & Chambers County, 5309 Decker Drive, Baytown, 77520.

For more than 70 years, United Way of the Greater Baytown Area & Chambers County has tackled our community's most difficult issues in the areas of education, financial stability and health. For more information about your United Way, visit: www.unitedwaygbacc.org

Voting in both Chambers and Harris Counties Goose Creek CISD election Saturday

Voters in the Goose Creek school district service area are being asked to vote this week on a bond referendum, and several positions on the school board.

The bond issue, known as GCCISD 2019 to distinguish it from a failed bond initiative last year, is for \$335,725,000. It includes projects proposed for Aging Schools and Repairs, New Construction for Growth and Equity, Athletics Improvements, Safety and Security Improvements, and Technology expenditures.

The details of the bond referendum were planned by a Citizens Committee

consisting of 42 community leaders, parents and teachers representing a cross section of the district. Presentations have been made throughout the communities of Baytown, Chambers County, and Highlands, all of whom have students in Goose Creek schools. These talks were made by Superintendent Randall O'Brien, chairman of the committee Mike Wilson, and several others.

Voters will also be asked to elect or re-elect new board of trustees. Open seats include District 3, where the incumbent Jessica Woods is running, versus challenger Peter



JESSICA WOODS



PETER ADAMS

Adams. In District 6, candidates are Jimmy Smith, Jeff Hawkins, and Tiffany Guy. In District 7, candidates are Amparo Martinez and Shae Cottar.

Early voting started on

April 22, and ran through April 30th. Election Day is this Saturday, May 4. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Due to the new Harris County County-wide Polling Place Pro-

gram, all eligible voters may vote at any location, instead of the traditional location in your precinct.

Voting locations are:

CHAMBERS COUNTY:

Goose Creek Admin Building, I-10 Baytown;
Chamber County Annex, Hwy. 146 Baytown.

HARRIS COUNTY:

Goose Creek Admin Building, I-10 Baytown;
Baytown Community Center, Market St. Baytown;

OTHERS:

Cedar Bayou JS, Church on the Rock, Coady Baptist Church, George Gentry JS, Highlands Elementary, Lee College Admin Building, Decker Drive, Lee College McNair Center, DeZavala Elementary, Saint James House.

Chambers County Library System recaps March events

By Valerie Jensen

March was buzzing at the libraries with activities! We started the month with new hours at the Chambers County Library in Anahuac. Closing times stay the same, but opening hours are 8am daily. Saturday hours are still 9-1. We had quite a few positive comments about the extra 4 hours per week, and hopefully this extra time is an added convenience for the public.

The branches provided a few extra programs during the Spring Break holiday. Schools were out, but the library was open to offer a few activities for the younger crowd. Activities included a chalk the walk fest, board games, movie days, and craft programs.

The adults at Mont Belvieu were treated to a special presentation from guest speaker Heather Gonzalez with Mickey Mom Travel. She shared her tips and tricks for a successful Disney vacation. Author Saralyn Richard spoke about her 2 books in Mont Belvieu on the 7th. She is the author of Murder in the One Percent, and children's book, Naughty Nana. Saralyn brought her dog Nana who signed books with her "Pawtograph" for the kids. Nana also spends her time as a Goodwill Ambassador for Galveston, Texas. Anahuac held a Bust your Brain program where a variety of board games, puzzles, and word searches were offered, and Winnie hosted a canvas painting class on the 19th. Book club meetings and craft clubs rounded out the month of events for the adults.



Valerie Jensen

Teens at Winnie enjoyed making Mardi Gras masks, and making St. Patrick's Day slime. The return of the Escape the Library program in Mont Belvieu was held on the 22nd for pre-registered teens. This popular program always draws a crowd. Several groups successfully "escaped" the library in time.

The library continues to digitize local school yearbooks and newspapers. We recently shipped the past 5 years of yearbooks, and soon they will appear in the library's Local History section of our website. Yearbooks from Anahuac, Winnie, Mont Belvieu, Double Bayou, and the Carver school are available for viewing. The Anahuac Progress, Hometown Press, Seabreeze Beacon, and Barbers Hill Press are also accessible under the Newspaper Archives section of Local History. Other items such as local family history files, images from the Chambers County Historical Commission collection, Chambers County Museum at Wallisville, Chambers County Library System archives, and Barbers Hill Museum are available for viewing as well. Ongoing digitizing of these items takes place by staff.

A new online service was



Escape program at the Mont Belvieu library.

added in March. Miss Humblebee's Academy is a free resource through the library requiring only your library card. This program focuses on getting your child Kindergarten ready with interactive lessons and games. For those familiar with ABC Mouse, Miss Humblebee's provides a nice alternative allowing use at home.

Finally, the little ones enjoyed regular weekly storytimes, Baby & Me, afternoon movies, homeschool book club, and several outreach visits. Newest Children's Librarian Clarice Martel visited with Miss Tabi at Anahuac to get some tips and pointers as she continues to grow her storytime programs at Winnie.

Until next month!



Yolie Belt with Nana in Mont Belvieu.

Seminar Focused on Pelvic Health

BAYTOWN — (April 26, 2019) — While issues related to pelvic pain are more common in women, it is a prevalent condition that may also affect men.

Dr. Paul Redman, an obstetrics and gynecology physician at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital, says pelvic pain often strikes women following pelvic surgery, such as a hysterectomy or a cesarean section. But for people suffering with -pelvic pain, urinary incontinence (leakage), increased urinary frequency, difficulty emptying the bladder and pelvic pain during sexual activity, the condition may lead them to avoid engaging in activities they previously enjoyed due to pain

or a fear of not being able to find a bathroom quickly.

"Urinary incontinence affects 10 to 30 percent of all women 15 to 64 years old and 44 to 55 percent of women age 65 and older," Redman said. "Men are also affected by pain and incontinence, but at a much lower rate. Studies show that pelvic floor muscle training may be an effective first step in treatment."

Redman hosts a free pelvic health seminar on Tuesday, April 30 from 6 to 7 p.m. in the conference center at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital. During the seminar, he will discuss a wide range of conditions, including pel-

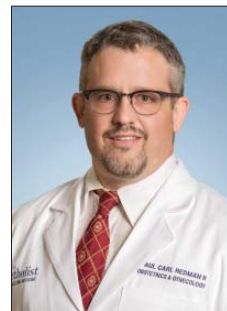
vic floor dysfunction and prolapse, pelvic masses and tumor removal, endometriosis and treatment options, such as pelvic floor muscle training (PFMT), intended to restore muscle and postural function. Michelle Jernsletten, pelvic health therapist at Houston Methodist Baytown Physical and Occupational Therapy, will discuss specifics of PFMT therapy during the seminar.

PFMT therapy sessions are frequently the first line of treatment for urinary incontinence and relief from pelvic pain. The therapy targets the pelvic floor muscles, the only transverse, load-bearing muscles in the human body, and are responsible for

continence, support of organs, respiration, lumbo-pelvic control and sexual function. The sessions are conducted by specially trained pelvic physical therapists focusing on relieving tightness in the pelvic floor muscles, which may make movement less efficient and/or cause pain.

PFMT therapy may also benefit men suffering with pelvic pain or incontinence, especially for those undergoing prostatectomy (surgical removal of all or part of the prostate).

"I understand how private and embarrassing these problems can be," Redman said. "There is hope and there is help, and these problems are often very treatable through



Dr. Paul Redman

physical therapy."

For more information and to register for the free seminar, visit houstonmethodist.org/events or call 281-428-2273.

CONSIDERING WEIGHT LOSS SURGERY?

JOIN US FOR AN INFORMATION SESSION
Tuesday, May 14, 2019 | 6-7 p.m.

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Laura Choi, MD, FACS
Bariatric Surgeon



Kendell Sowards, MD
Bariatric Surgeon

Weight loss (bariatric) surgery may not be right for everyone, but learning more about it and talking to your doctor can help determine if it's the right option for you.

Ask an Expert

Join Drs. Laura Choi and Kendell Sowards who will address commonly asked questions, such as:

- Am I a candidate for weight loss surgery?
- What are the common types of surgery?
- How do I know if I'm ready?

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

Visit houstonmethodist.org/events or call 281.428.2273 for more information or to register.

Complimentary parking is available at the hospital.



Crosby Chamber hosted at local mixer



Doc Resources and Edward Jones hosted the Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce at their 15010 FM 2100 Suites last Thursday with hors d'oeuvres and beverages featuring door prizes and give aways. The party attracted businesses from Beaumont and Katy to interact and intermingle as well as learn of what the hosts do for a living. Eric Jennings explained that Doc Resources handles business machines, marketing materials, and graphic design of logos among other things. Edward Jones is concerned with financial planning and investing and this includes retirement planning, according to Lara Umberger. Lara told of growing up in a military family throughout the world including India.

Sheriff's Recognitions,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Sheriff Ed Gonzales recognizes the support of Mark Sanders as well as Bucky and David Moon (not depicted) at the Wallisville Courthouse on Monday night.

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★ ASK THE EXPERTS ★

Allergies can trigger asthma attacks

BAYTOWN — (April 12, 2019) — For people living with asthma, the sneezing and wheezing that affects millions during the spring allergy season can trigger potentially serious asthma attacks.

“Whether it’s pollen, mold, hay fever, dust mites or any of the countless allergens drifting through the air this season, the itchy eyes, sneezing, runny nose and nasal congestion that many allergy sufferers endure, can also lead to an asthma attack, or flare-up, in individuals with preexisting asthma or those with undiagnosed asthma,” said Houssam Oueini, MD, a pulmonologist at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital.

Oueini says asthma patients should develop a comprehensive approach to managing the condition, including being prepared for allergy season.

“Asthma can’t be cured, but it can be managed so you can live a normal, healthy life. A comprehensive approach to managing asthma is required because it’s a complex, chronic disease and it’s different for every person,” Oueini said. “For people affected by seasonal allergies, great care should be taken to prevent potentially dangerous attacks from occurring or reducing their severity.”

The chemicals released by the immune system lead to allergy symptoms, such as nasal congestion, runny nose, itchy eyes or skin reactions.

“For some, this same reaction also affects the lungs and airways, leading to asthma symptoms,” Oueini said.

Identifying and focusing on ways to reduce exposure to asthma triggers can help minimize flare-ups, but avoidance can be especially difficult during allergy season. In addition to using asthma medications, including quick-relief medicines to stop asthma symptoms and long-term



Dr. Houssam Oueini

control medicines to prevent symptoms, some asthma patients may be helped by a regimen that includes using daily pills called leukotriene modifiers to control immune system chemicals.

Allergy shots (immunotherapy), administered over time through regular injections, help the immune system build a tolerance to the allergens. Anti-immunoglobulin E (IgE) therapy works to reduce the immune system’s release of IgE—an antibody used to fight against allergens.

In addition to allergens, other common asthma triggers include air pollution; certain medications, including aspirin and beta-blockers; medical conditions, such as colds, flu and sinus infections; smoke from cigarettes or campfires, and weather conditions, such as cold, dry air or high humidity.

Oueini said maintaining a healthy lifestyle, including getting proper rest, eating a balanced diet and getting regular exercise, are not only good for your overall health, but also can help you manage asthma.

The Houston Methodist Lung Center at Baytown offers comprehensive asthma services to evaluate and manage the condition using the most advanced treatment options. For more information and to schedule an appointment with a pulmonology specialist, visit houstonmethodist.org/baytown, or call 281.428.4510.

I Ran Away to the (Shrine) Circus...

I’M BACK from the circus—I We had 11 shows in 5 days and I am beat. Had a TON of fun with the Shriners, the clowns, the crowd. I got to work/play every show, walking around with a microphone. Laugh, play, every day. Now, rest up back at work. Amen to the Houston Shrine Center and the Shrine Circus.

From Ringmaster Jerry Fallin
“My bucket list just got another thing removed from it.”

Jerry Fallin is a member of the Baytown Shrine Club, and the Highlands Rotary.



I RAN AWAY TO THE CIRCUS.
Shrine Circus

Baytown Fair & Rodeo...

The Baytown Fair & Rodeo is currently running, from April 29th to May 4th.

Schedule of Events include:

May 2 - Steer Show

May 2 - Unified Showmanship show

May 3, Friday - 5 pm Junior Auction

8 pm Bareback Riding, Saddle Bronc Riding, Mutton Bustin’

May 4, Saturday - 7:30 pm Tuff Hedeman

Bull Riding Tour, Mutton Bustin, Calf Scramble

9:30 pm Concert with Zane Williams

Day of Show tickets are \$20.

Baytown Youth Fair

7900 N. Main Street, Baytown



ZANE WILLIAMS

Lifesaving Rescue in Baytown...

A nurse, Lori Vaughn, visiting in Houston from Baton Rouge, was witness to a horrendous accident, where a car flipped off the interstate I-10 eastbound in front of Buc-ee’s. Lori and her husband ran to the overturned car, and comforted the middle aged woman that was pinned inside the car, upside down.

Lori climbed into the car and made sure the woman was alive, but even with the help of about a dozen others, they were unable to free her and remove her from the car. Lori worked to keep her calm, and alive.

EMS and Baytown Fire arrived and cut her from the car and transported her to the hospital. Lori said that with the help of social media, she was able to locate her the next day and learn that she had survived.



Volunteers attempt to free woman in overturned car on I-10 in Baytown. Photo by Lori’s son, on Facebook.

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