

HIGHLANDS CROSBY

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These stories
in the **PRESS:**

- Woman attacked, killed by feral hogs
- Barbers Hill at Playoffs
- Lung Health Screening
-And more, Page 3

★
**IN THE
STARS**

EVENTS

THUR. NOV. 28
Thanksgiving
Dinner

David H. Mc Nerney Crosby American Legion Post 658 5th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner, 12:00 p.m. Open to the public. Volunteers are welcome.

SAT. NOV. 30
A Charles Dickens
Christmas

10 am - 4 pm kick-off the Christmas Season, 5613 & 5619 North Main in Crosby. Info: 281-799-2080

SAT. NOV. 30
Pct. 2 Christmas
in the Park

10 am - 6:30 p.m. at Riley Chambers Park, 11901 Mulberry St., Barrett Station, TX 77532.
- Presentation/Tree-lighting/Golf Cart Parade 5:30 pm.
- Info 281-328-4713.

TUE. DEC 3
Santa arrives
in Highlands

6:00 pm Santa at Heritage Park. Rotary serves hot chocolate. Photos with Santa in the Gazebo.

WED. DEC. 4
Free photos
with Santa

Presented by Community Resource Credit Union. -Crosby Branch, 2-6 p.m.

FRI. DEC 6
Winter
Wonderland

At Crosby Community Center, 409 Hare Road., 6-8 pm. Info: 281-462-0543.

SAT. DEC. 7
Breakfast
with Santa

9:00 a.m. at Crosby Community Center, 409 Hare Road., 77532. Call 281-462-0543 to register.

SAT. DEC. 7
Children's
Christmas
Festival & Parade

FESTIVAL 1-5 pm at Crosby Church. LIGHT PARADE & Toy Drive (donation of new unwrapped toy for parade participation) 6 pm. Line up at Crosby Middle School at 5 pm. Info: 281-328-6984.

Garcia battles for fair play for Precinct 2

CROSBY – Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia indicated that he intends to make sure that as long as he represents the Precinct, county services will not go lacking, anymore.

Last Thursday, the Commissioner and former Sheriff addressed a capacity crowd in the office and serving chapel of Crosby Church hosting the Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce Luncheon concerning flood control, roads, and working together with businesses.

Initially, Garcia told the crowd TxDOT will begin work on widening FM 2100 in two phases one to begin early next year and the other later in the year as acquisitions are completed. "The County is ready to contribute its portion," regarding other sections of that roadway.

"The lack of the flood control area in Harris County and particularly in this area I am always one to jump on one that is not particularly doing their job but in all fairness, the Harris County Flood Control District has always had an incredible job to achieve. Their job has been to maintain our tributaries, keep our systems working well, do the filthy, all for an average of \$60,000,000 for the entire scope of the county. That is impossible "



Commissioner Adrian Garcia talks at Crosby Chamber

Garcia recalled that in 2004, he went to the Public Works Department of the City of Houston and said he wanted to stop flooding in Harris County and the engineer pointed to a book and said "There are about \$2 Billion in projects there, give me the two billion and I can stop flooding." Garcia indicated that the \$2.5 billion dollar Hurricane Harvey recovery bond was a good start but they needed about that much for the last several years. In the Hurricane Harvey Project, it is going to take about six to ten years to do all of the projects.

"Imelda came to visit us within two years of Hurricane Harvey. I hope Mother Nature will give us a reprieve but I have made this a principle focus of my time because I know it is what we need."

At the end of August, Commissioners Court was the scene of a 3-to-2 vote of allocate more revenues to Precinct 1 and 2 to spend on roads and other transportation infrastructure this year at the expense of rapidly growing Precincts 3 and 4. The vote was unanimous to step up projects approved by voters during last year's bond election, starting on 86 of 105 neighborhood projects in 15 months, starting work before the 2024 hurricane season. The county adopted a "Worst First" formula using eight criteria related to the resilience of communities to external

stresses, this move was dubbed, "Harris Thrives."

"Certain areas had been favored and that was where work was going. Folks, let me just tell you, you are all part of Precinct 2 and my commitment is to make sure you feel that and that you see that. We are working to make sure that your county tax dollars are coming back to your neighborhood. We are working to make sure that the entire precinct is part of a broad plan focusing on fundamental things."

"Street stripping contributes to public safety, too many roadways especially after a night rain you can't even tell what lane you are in."

"Working with CenterPoint to bring the halogen lighting to bring brighter

See Commr. Garcia, Page 8

Water, water everywhere getting more expensive for residents

CROSBY – As the San Jacinto River Authority is coming under criticism for setting prices higher for raw water both Newport Municipality Utility District (MUD) and Crosby Municipality Utility District (MUD) are facing issues related to supplying clean, inexpensive water.

According to Bloomberg Law a pair of Texas Utility companies have alleged that San Jacinto River Authority violated the Sherman 1890 Antitrust Act after the Authority increased the

price of wholesale raw water. San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA) was established in the 1930s to manage the water resources of the San Jacinto Basin. The suit accuses SJRA of fixing prices and monopolizing. This all came after the announcement that the River Authority would raise rates related to changes in the under groundwater rates (aquifer) conservation rules established by the Lone Star Ground Water Conservation District in 2006.

Districts must move much more to surface water according to subsidence laws.

At a meeting last Friday, the Board of Newport MUD voted to increase the water bill by \$35 following the residents voting down a \$70,000,000 bond last election day.

Crosby MUD board has passed a \$3.25 Million dollar bond to be done December 1 and due August 2039.

As previously reported, Newport asked residents to approve a \$70 Million dol-

lar bond based on the need for new water and sewer treatment facilities, 100% reimbursement of developers' installation of water and sewer lines, and numerous other projects including replacement of pipes. The board never understandably answered how much more residents would pay if the bond was passed. An on paper estimate of the to-be-built water and sewer system was about \$18 Million but a verbal answer was nearly \$40 Million. Projecting estimates for

2025, the board has approved builders such that the water production facility must be expanded to accommodate the new residence, move to surface water, fix worn out stuff and pay back developers putting in new taps.

Critics of the bond such as Don Cox indicate that the board should call for bonds in smaller bites clearly outlining what

See Water Cost Increase, Page 8

Highlands

Scout project enhances park



Logan Lopez completed the requirements for his Quartermaster and Eagle Scout badges by refurbishing the pavilion in Highlands Heritage Park, and building a wooden fence to improve safe use of the park and screen the railroad from the grass area.

With the help of volunteers, Logan built the fence, which is 120' long and 4' high, cleaned up the pavilion by sandblasting and restaining, and placed a crushed granite base around the building. Another scout also helped by repairing the flagpole so it could fly a flag again.

Harris County Clerk's office opens new annex



Harris County Clerk's Office opens new Jim Fonteno Annex location at 14350 Wallisville Road.

(Houston, TX) - Elected officials came together today for the grand opening of the new Jim Fonteno Harris County Clerk's Office Annex located at 14350 Wallisville Road. Dozens attended the ribbon cutting made possible by Harris County partners and the North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce.

"We are very pleased that we can offer our services to area residents that otherwise had to travel far

to obtain personal records," said Harris County Clerk Dr. Diane Trautman. "It also made sense to open an annex here since this building already houses other county offices."

With this new addition, the Harris County Clerk's Office now has 11 locations throughout county. Residents can obtain deed information, marriage licenses, birth certificates and other personal records at the office most convenient to them.

The Harris County Clerk's Office worked closely with Harris County Com-

See Clerk's Office, Page 8

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Crosby lost against Hornets



Crosby scrambles against the alert Huntsville Hornet defense last Saturday.

The Crosby Cougars ended their season last Saturday by a 54-44 loss to the Huntsville Hornets inside New Caney's impressive Randall Reed Stadium.

The Huffman Falcons fell to the Palestine Wildcats by a score of 19 to 14 Friday in Bryan, Texas.

Huffman scored first on a run and two passes. They put up 262 yards rushing against 300 but the difference was four turnovers charged to the Falcons.

The Cougars scored first and looked most impressive passing from Branch to Herman. The Hornets answered in kind in the first quarter.

Crosby went nip 20 and tuck with the Hornets 14 but were behind by five points at the half. The Hornets had four touchdowns to three and a field goal.

The Hornets must have had a great half-time rally speech as they came out ripping three touchdowns

that were unanswered in the third quarter.

Down by four touchdowns Crosby rallied in the fourth quarter with an early touchdown pass. They then got the two point conversion.

Crosby made an interception after kicking to Huntsville. With the same resolve the Cougars scored again on a pass within lots of coverage but this time minus the two point conversion.

Crosby Huffman Chamber welcomes new member



Coldwell Banker Southern Homes celebrated their new location with an Open House and Ribbon Cutting. Stop by and visit their new location at 5321 First Street in Crosby and say Hello!

Child injured in car crash in Highlands



Emergency personnel from Highlands and Baytown responded last Sunday night to an accident in the 7600 block of John Martin Road. In an apparent single-vehicle crash, a car landed in the ditch along the road. A child riding along with an adult woman was seriously hurt with head injuries, and LifeFlight was called to transport the child to the hospital.

The woman driving the car was transported by ambulance to the hospital. The Harris County Sheriff's Office is investigating the accident. If you have any information, please contact them at 713-221-6000.

May Community Center's Special Events Calendar

• Christmas Bunco: Wednesday, December 11, 2019 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Come to the May Community Center for our Christmas Bunco and play a gift wrapped exchange! Suggested \$3.00 donation. Brunch will be served! Please call or come by the center to sign up at May Community Center, 2100 Wolf Rd., Huffman, TX 77336, 713-274-2434

• Celebration of Trees Open House: Friday, December 13, 2019, 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Entertainment by Calvin and Trish Gainey from the Liberty Opry, refreshments, children create holiday crafts, play in the snow, bring you camera for pictures with Santa, tour the decorated trees. We will have you vote on your favorite tree decorated by our May Center

Classes!

• Breakfast with Santa: Saturday, December 14, 2019, 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Come eat pancakes and sausage with Santa, play in the snow and make a Christmas craft. A \$3 per person suggested donation is requested. Please call the May Community Center for reservations, 713-274-2434.



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Barbers Hill ★ Dayton Press

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

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ROUND-UP

Country Christmas 2019

The Liberty-Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the City of Liberty presents Country Christmas, Tuesday, December 3, 6:00 p.m. at Downtown Liberty.

City Offices Closed for Thanksgiving

City of Dayton offices, including the Community Center and the Jones Public Library, will close at noon on Wednesday, November 27. All offices will re-open for business at their regular time, Monday, December 2.

The will be no trash collection on Thursday, service will resume on the next scheduled collection day.

Goss Memorial Library events

These are the events taking place at the Sam and Carmena Goss Memorial Library the week of Monday, December 2, 2019.

- Tuesday, December 3 - 10:00 am, Baby & Me (ages 0-24 mos)

- Tuesday, December 3 - 6:30 pm, Cork Dork Book Club @ Yepez Vineyard, discussing Where'd You Go Bernadette by Maria Semple

- Friday, December 6 - 10:30 am & 2:00 pm, Storytime (ages 0-5 yrs)

- Saturday, December 7 - 10:00 am - 6:00 pm, Nerd Con 2!! Nerd Con is back and better than before! Vendors, Authors, Artists, Panels, Cosplayers and more! Saturday, December 7, 2019, at Eagle Point Recreation Complex. For more information visit <http://www.nerdconmb.com/index.html>

- Library Fundraiser: Let us wrap your gifts for you while you help a good cause! Bring your unwrapped gifts 16"x12"x11" or smaller to the library and we will wrap them for you for just \$2.00 per gift. Wrapping paper will be provided or you can bring your own if you wish. Every Tuesday & Thursday 10 am - Noon
Call Sam and Carmena Goss Memorial Library, Mont Belvieu at 281-576-2245.

Baytown Christmas Parade

The 2019 Baytown Christmas Parade, December 5, 2019, 6:30 p.m. (line-up at 5:30 p.m.) Parade registration until November 25 at the Baytown Community Center, 2407 Market St., 77520. Info: 281-420-6597.

Dayton Spirit of Christmas Celebration

Saturday, December 7, 2019, all day at Community Center, 801 S. Cleveland, Dayton, TX 77535.

Christmas on the Hill Parade

Mont Belvieu's most beloved holiday tradition, the Christmas on the Hill Parade, enters its 11th year. Sunday, December 8, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. along Eagle Drive. This year's parade will feature a new route.

Barbers Hill Eagles defeat Whitehorse 47-24



Barbers Hill Eagles running back Cohn Betz, 27, eludes a Whitehorse tackler as he runs for a large gain. The Eagles played last Friday at NRG Stadium in Houston, where they defeated the Whitehorse Wildcats 47-24. They scored 23 unanswered points in the second half. The Eagles advance to the next round where they play the Manvel Mavericks Friday at 12:00 noon in NRG Stadium.

CHAMBERS COUNTY Woman attacked, killed by feral hogs

ANAHUAC – Authorities were called to a home in the 4000 block of Highway 61 last Saturday morning, where a badly mutilated body of Christine Rollins, 59, was found in the front yard.

Preliminary reports from Chambers County Sheriff Brian Hawthorne indicate that she may have been killed by feral hogs that roam nearby.

Hawthorne said "In my 35 years, ...it is one of the worst things I've seen."

Rollins was a caretaker for an elderly couple that lives in the home where the body was found.

Hawthorne said that the body had head injuries consistent with a fall, as well as injuries consistent with animal bites. It is possible that she suffered a



CHRISTINE ROLLINS

medical problem prior to the animal attack.

Hawthorne warned that feral hogs are dangerous and should be avoided. His department has been attempting to trap some of them.

AVID students in Goose Creek Independent School District outperform students nationally in FAFSA, College Application Completion and College Acceptance

Data from 2018-2019 school year shows district leading on preparing students for college

Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District recently released new 2018-2019 data on the success of last year's graduating class of students participating in the district's AVID program -- a nationally-recognized program that helps students navigate the college application process, and build the academic and soft skills needed to succeed in college and the workforce of the future.

Last year, 93% of Goose Creek CISD seniors participating in AVID completed a FAFSA application,



Robert E. Lee High School AVID students work at Fish Camp last summer. Pictured are (front, from left) Jerry Rodriguez, Effren Vasquez, Josue Valladares, (back, from left) Carlos Rangel, Denise Avila, Julissa Trejo, Brianna Burrell, Joyce Castillo and Diana Pedraza.

compared to the national rate of 61%. Likewise, 91% of AVID students applied to a four-year college, and 85% were accepted. Nationally, 81% of high school students aspire to earn a bachelor's degree yet less than 50% actually enroll at a four-year university.

"The results are a testament to the dedication of our AVID teachers and the hard work that our AVID students put in every day," said Dr. Randal O'Brien, Goose Creek CISD superintendent. "AVID truly prepares students for college, and the fact that 91

See AVID students, page 6

Lung Health Screening helps prevent serious conditions

BAYTOWN — (November 8, 2019) — November's designation as Lung Cancer Awareness Month provides an opportunity to educate the public regarding the importance of early screening, but it also creates a platform to discuss improving patients' overall lung health.

The goal of the comprehensive Lung Cancer Screening Program at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital is to help high risk cancer patients receive a diagnosis and treatment plan at an early stage, and provide fast, accurate and efficient diagnosis and management of suspicious lung nodules through expert analysis by a radiologist, interventional pulmonologist or thoracic surgeon.

Suspicious lung nodules—small masses of tissue in the lung—are quite common and detected through chest imaging such as X-ray and CT scans. Nodules can be cancerous, though most are benign. Noncancerous nod-

ules usually require no treatment, with your doctor possibly recommending periodic imaging tests to monitor their growth or changes. Patients diagnosed with malignant nodules may begin a treatment plan developed through collaboration between oncologists, pulmonologists and thoracic surgeons.

The Lung Cancer Screening Program also seeks to dispel some of the many myths related to lung cancer and other conditions of the pulmonary system.

"Because smoking rates have fallen in recent decades, many people assume that lung cancer is no longer a major health concern," said Shawn Tittle, MD, a thoracic surgeon at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital. "But lung cancer remains the deadliest of all cancers. More Americans die each year from lung cancer than from colon, breast and prostate cancer combined, even though most lung



Shawn Tittle, MD

cancers are easily preventable. Lung Cancer Awareness Month gives us an opportunity to educate and inform people, as well as increase the number of people who are screened early."

One of the most persistent misconceptions about lung cancer, especially among long-term smokers, is that it is "too late" to stop. But Tittle says that

quitting smoking at any time not only can reduce the risk of cancer, but also provides other health benefits, including improved circulation and heart and lung function.

"A smoker can cut his or her risk of lung cancer by as much as 50 percent by quitting," Tittle said. "It's never too late to gain some benefit, and of course, the earlier you quit, the better."

Another common myth is that only smokers get lung cancer. While smoking is by far the number one cause, approximately 20 percent of lung cancers occur in patients who have never smoked. Some of those cases are the result of genetic mutations; others are caused by environmental factors, such as exposure to asbestos or radon gas.

Regardless of the underlying cause, early detection is critical to survival rates. Lung cancer patients can now benefit from a range of new, targeted therapies, such as low-dose radiation

CT scanning for high-risk patients.

"In the past, most patients didn't realize they had lung cancer until it was in an advanced stage," said Tittle. "Screening with CT gives us the opportunity to detect lung cancer long before it becomes symptomatic or spreads outside the lungs. And early detection is one of the keys to successful treatment."

People 55 to 77 years of age who currently smoke or have quit smoking in the past 15 years, have a tobacco smoking history of at least 30 "pack years" (an average of one pack a day for 30 years, two packs a day for 15 years, etc.), and receive a written order from a physician are eligible for low-dose CT lung screening.

For more information on the Lung Cancer Screening Program at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital, visit houstonmethodist.org/baytown or call 832-556-6300.

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

State's chief election officer works to head off election misinformation

AUSTIN — Texas

Secretary of State Ruth Hughs announced ahead of the 2020 primary and general elections that her office will join fellow members of the National Association of Secretaries of State in #TrustedInfo2020, a social media-based education effort to prevent misinformation.

Hughs encouraged Texans to look to their state and local elections officials as the trusted sources of election information. "The upcoming 2020 elections will be historic and unlike any before," said Hughs.

"It is imperative that voters in the Lone Star State are able to count on trusted sources of election information as they prepare to make their voices heard in next year's elections. I encourage Texans to visit VoteTexas.gov and to follow our verified accounts, as well as those of their local elections officials, to receive the most accurate and up-to-date information regarding our elections," Hughs added.

Texas — a Super Tuesday state — will conduct its party primaries on Tuesday, March 3. The other states holding elections on that date are Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont and Virginia.

Trump visits Apple site

While the U.S. House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence heard testimony at the U.S. Capitol in the impeachment inquiry into President Donald J. Trump on Nov. 20, the nation's chief executive flew to Austin.

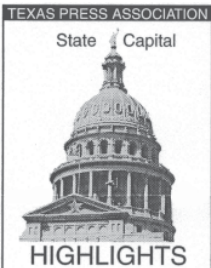
According to a White House news release, Trump met with Apple Inc. CEO Tim Cook and held a brief news conference at Apple's Flex compound. Trump praised Cook and the success of Apple and responded to reporters' questions relating to the impeachment hearings and to trade policy with China. Trump's remarks are posted at whitehouse.gov.

Jobless rate stays low

Texas Workforce Commission on Nov. 15 reported the Lone Star State's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady at 3.4 percent for the month of October.

This marks the fifth consecutive month of record low unemployment and 3.4 percent is the lowest unemployment rate since series tracking began in 1976.

"October Labor market data is great news for Texas workers," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Julian Alvarez.



"Their skills continue to be in high demand and more and more individuals are finding employment. These numbers are a

wonderful reminder of why I am proud to be a Texan."

Leading job growth in October was the Trade, Transportation, and Utilities industry, which added 9,700 jobs, followed by Professional and Business Services adding 6,300 jobs, and Education and Health Services which added 5,300 jobs.

The Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area recorded October's lowest unemployment rate among Texas MSAs with a non-seasonally adjusted rate of 2.1 percent, followed by the Amarillo MSA at 2.4. The Austin-Round Rock, College Station-Bryan and Lubbock MSAs each recorded the third-lowest rate at 2.6 percent.

Update: Vaping issues

As of Nov. 19, the Department of State Health Services had identified 189 Texas cases of severe lung disease in people who report vaping before developing symptoms, including one death.

Patients range in age from 13 to 75 years old, with a median age of 22 years. About one-quarter of the people affected in Texas are minors. Three-quarters are male, and nine in 10 report vaping THC or marijuana, possibly in conjunction with other substances. Almost all were hospitalized, with many requiring intensive care.

Nationally, 2,172 cases have been reported in 49 states. DSHS is working with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration and other states to gather evidence about what the cases have in common and determine a cause.

Lives honored at event

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller and the Texas Department of Agriculture on Nov. 21 hosted the fourth Annual Texas Agriculture Memorial Day at the state Capitol.

At the event, a crowd recognized men and women who have lost their lives or have been severely injured while engaged in agricultural-related pursuits, and those who passed away due to other causes but had a significant role in the agricultural community, according to the department.

State 4-H and FFA youth leaders placed a memorial wreath on the steps of the Capitol and the Texas Department of Public Safety provided an honor guard with musical accompaniment by a lone bagpiper.

Happy Thanksgiving (VEGETARIAN-STYLE)



Channelview Community meeting recap -- PART II

— 2014 Harris County Attorney's Office lawsuit. Ms. Hwang displayed a layout of TIBM's facility and residents were surprised to learn TIBM has five offsite receptor locations, 2 on the west side of Dell Dale, 2 on Grand St. and 1 on the east side of Dell Dale directly behind the TIBM facility. Research regarding present permitting reflected TIBM presently holds an Air Permit issued in 2016 which allows certain emissions of VOCs, a Storm Water Permit: National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System issued Nov. 2016, expiring Aug. 13, 2021 and a Hazardous Waste Registration which is currently active. A discussion of what the permits and registration meant and allowed was held and a request made for updates on concerns observed at the TIBM facility or its offsite receptors to be shared.

Discussion followed as to the best methods for documenting concerns at the TIBM facility and other Channelview facilities and how to best share them with a decision made to create a dropbox account the information could be downloaded into for sharing. Information regarding the dropbox is to be provided when the account has been set up. LSLA's EJ Team Managing Attorney Amy Dinn gave the final presentation. It was highly evident at the Sept. meeting of great concern to the community was environmental and health concerns due to air quality and the lack of any real time monitoring or documentation available to the residents to enable them to make informed decisions as to their environment, to protect themselves, or to take actions against violators. Ms. Dinn responded to those concerns by announcing to the attendees LSLA's acquisition of 2-4 Particulate Matter (PM) Monitors from a LSLA sponsor and L SLA was in the process of acquiring some hand held real time Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) monitors for the community's use. The PM monitors would be available for installation in the very near future, but the VOC monitors would take a little longer due to expense and research as to variety of compounds to be monitored for and detected. This news was greeted with much enthusiasm and after the excitement subsided a little Ms. Dinn further discussed the PM monitors. The PM monitors can be mounted

on residents' homes requiring an outside power source and available wifi service, once installed the PM monitors can be viewed by residents and others from the PurpleAir internet site <https://www2.purpleair.com/> by accessing the monitor map and zooming in on Channelview or any other area of interest. Once zoomed in you can then see all the monitors installed in the area and view the particulates counts being reported by any particular monitor. Currently there is only one PM monitor linked to PurpleAir in the east side of Harris County past 610 east, it is on Hayden Rd. behind Walmart on I-10 several miles from Channelview. The PurpleAir site will also allow the user to pull a history on the monitor which can be useful when reporting violations to various agencies. Particulate Matter monitors are important to have in areas with high dust concentrations, excessive equipment/vehicular idling or traffic, flaring, or smoke and burning because particulate matter causes respiratory irritation and chronic diseases such as asthma, COPD and cancers. The PM monitors the Channelview Community will be receiving use lasers to count PM particle concentrations every 80 seconds and will report levels for PM1.0, PM2.5 (combustion particles, organic compounds, metals, etc.) and PM10 (dust, pollen, mold, etc). Following Ms. Dinn's announcement and presentation, maps of Channelview were circulated for attendees to mark potential locations to be considered for best use for the community.

Since the updates were so well received and discussed by the attendees very little time was left for new business, but briefly discussed was the Texas 86th legislature session's newly enacted but not yet confirmed Senate Bill 1835 creating the Channelview Improvement District #1415. Attendees were provided with a copy of the enacted S.B. 1835 and an compilation of information Channelview residents had, as of the meeting, with great difficulty been able to garner regarding who initiated the creation of this Channelview Improvement District, what is allowed and what is not allowed within the enacted bill and other information to be considered in regards to possible impacts to the Channelview Community as a result of this newly

enacted district. Attendees were encouraged to read the information and conduct their own research so that they may make an informed decision regarding the district and act based on what they have learned should they be approached to sign a petition to confirm/finalize the district or requested to endorse or vote for any perspective permanent Channelview Improvement District board member. Additionally, if they find they are unhappy with their findings or the creation and passage of the S.B. 1835 community residents should contact Representative Ana Hernandez and Senator Carol Alvarado.

Attendees were also provided information on the Texas Constitutional Amendments, Harris County Public Health's Mobile Health Village, and Harris County's Mowing Schedules and Watershed Map.

The meeting was attended by several community members from the first meeting in September along with new attendees. In attendance to hear the resident's concerns were Channelview Fire Dept. - Jimmy Sumner Administrator, Channelview ISD - Steve Dennis Board Member and as resident, Lone Star Legal Aid Environmental Justice Team - Amy Dinn EJ Managing Attorney, Rodrigo Cantu EJ Attorney, Heejin Hwang EJ Fellow and Samantha Salas EJ Paralegal and as resident, and the Coalition for Environment, Equity, and Resilience (C.E.E.R.) - Rebecca Smith Community Engagement Coordinator.

The organizers were very pleased with the continued support by residents announcing the meetings and encouraging participation, North Channel Star's Gil Hoffman for providing meeting announcements and meeting details, the Channelview Fire Dept. for support of its' community and the use of the Station 3 facility for the meeting, Lone Star Legal Aid's Environmental Justice Team for support by addressing the community's voiced concerns with provision of real time air PM monitors, research of TIBM and for the group structuring guidance presentations and C.E.E.R. for their continued interest and support and for recognizing and including the Channelview community in their Oct. 30th Town Hall and in TSU's data research project.

PART I WAS PUBLISHED LAST WEEK'S ISSUE, NOV. 21

THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

"The Lost Feather"

I lost a feather the other day and I understand this does not qualify as news.

But I want to say—for the record—that this was a really nice feather. I paid good money for it and pinned it to my favorite blue hat. I wore that hat out for a walk, one evening, when it was chilly.

This was the last night that my husband, Peter, and I were in Frigiliana, a little town in the south of Spain. I walked to the top of the very steep hill where, four hundred years ago, a Moorish castle stood, guarding the town from invaders. The invaders eventually made it there anyway and the castle was knocked to the ground. Only the amazing view over the Mediterranean remains. And that's where I went walking when I lost my feather.

There was no hope of finding it that night. The sun was already down. So, the next morning I headed out, looking for my feather.

When I got to the foot of the hill (a small mountain, really) I realized what a foolish idea this was.

The ground was covered with autumn leaves that, surprisingly, all looked a lot like feathers. There was a stiff wind blowing and I had no idea when the feather had parted ways with my hat.

Just then, I met a young pair of Germans heading up the hill. "Do you speak English?" I asked.

"Yes!" they told me (because all Germans do, it seems). "I've lost a feather. You haven't seen it, have you?"

"A feather?" the young man repeated.

It struck me that this was the stupidest question I'd ever asked anyone, and I was filled with relief that I would never see these two people again.

"Actually, yes," he said. "I saw one near the donkeys."

I knew exactly where the donkeys were.

"Right by the donkeys?" I asked, rather incredulous.

"Yes, I saw it when I stopped to take a photo."

"Thank you so much!" And I raced back down the hill, back to the donkeys.

"It pays to ask for help!" I told myself. "It's worth asking stupid questions!" I added in my little sermon to myself.

Except there was no feather.

I searched and searched and could not find it anywhere. Even the donkeys lost interest in the project. I was there so long the Germans came down the hill again and found me.

"Did you find the feather?" the young man asked.

"No, no I didn't," I confessed. He took me to where he had seen it. There was no feather.

"Ah well. Don't waste any more time on this!" I told the considerate German couple.

"Well, good luck!" they said as they headed down the hill.

Since I still hadn't made it to the top of the mountain, I kept climbing. I went all the way to the top, to the place I had looked at the Mediterranean the night before. And there was my feather, lying no more than a foot from where I had sat. I held that feather in my hand, amazed.

Because, you see, I didn't really think I was going to find that feather. I thought the whole idea was crazy from the start. But once I shared the idea with that nice German couple, the possibility of finding it seemed more real, more attainable. Sometimes we just need someone else believing in our ideas to make those ideas—even the crazy ones—seem possible.

It was only because they believed I could find the feather that I did.

*Till next time,
Carrie*

Carrie Classon's memoir, "Blue Yarn," was released earlier this year. Learn more at CarrieClasson.com.

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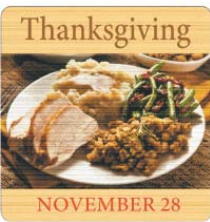
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IN THE STARS

THURSDAY



BIRTHDAYS

Nov 28–Louise Duncan
Jim Strouhal, Jr.
Nov 29–Vernon Searcy
Louis Williams
Nov 30–Kayce Culbreath
Dec 1–Andrew Guerrero
Dec 3–Evelyn Deck
Carolyn Ingram Adams
Larry Lindstrom
Dec 4–Larry Kelley

ANNIVERSARIES

Dec 2–Robert & Nelda Bailey
Dec 3–Bobby & Claudia Birdsong

Additions or Corrections are welcome,
713-266-3444

May Community Center Christmas luncheon

•December Christmas Luncheon
Wednesday, December 18, 2019 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Come join us for pot roast, mashed potatoes, green beans and dessert. Our entertainment will be our very own Belles and Beaus Choir! Suggested \$5 donation. Call or come by to sign up for our luncheon.

May Community Center is a Precinct 2 Community Center located at 2100 Wolf Road, Huffman 77336. 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 (713) 274-2434.

★

OBITUARIES

Diana Nash

Diana Nash was born on August 30, 1945, in Houston, Texas to John B. Hynes and Virginia Hill Hynes. She is preceded in death by her parents, John and Virginia Hynes; brother, Johnny Hynes; and husband of forty-nine years, William “Bill” Floyd Nash Sr.

Diana is survived by her son, Billy Nash Jr. and wife Shannon; son, Mark Nash Sr. and wife Wendy; grandchildren, Meagan Nash, Madison Nash, Trey Nash, Mark Nash Jr., Blake Nash, Michael Nash and Ashlynn Nash; great-grandchild, Emery; brother Joe Hynes and wife Marie, sister-in-law Judy Hynes, and numerous nephews and nieces.

During her time here, Diana was found mostly behind the scenes, supporting her boys, her grandchildren, and the youth of Crosby through her work as an advisor in Boy Scouts, Harris County Ambassadors, and the 4-H Club. Diana served as a Cub Scout Den Leader for Pack #264 of Crosby. She was nurturing and caring, and could be often found helping her boys and others with show animals and leadership through the 4H program. She was also a lifetime member of Crosby Fair and Rodeo, and continued to contribute to the youth of Crosby through her work on the fair book in recent years.

Diana loved to bake and cook, and she enjoyed having her family gathered around the dinner table for meals that she had pre-



pared. Some of the best memories made were when her house was full of her children and grandchildren for holiday meals. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

A visitation for family and friends will be held at Sterling-White Funeral Home on Saturday, November 30, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. A funeral service will follow at 11:00 a.m., also at Sterling-White Funeral Home. Interment will be at Ryan Cemetery on Hwy 321 between Dayton and Cleveland, Texas. Arrangements entrusted to Sterling-White Funeral Home 11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd. Highlands, Texas, 77562.

Serving as Pallbearers are Allen Hynes, Ted Hynes, Johnny Hynes, Steven Hynes, Shane Borom, and Jason Douglas.

To offer condolences to the family, please visit www.sterlingwhite.com.

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HIGHLANDS ROTARY CLUB NEWS

Rotary hosts Youth Exchange Student



Eduardo Sanchez from Aracatuba, Brazil is residing in Highlands this year, as a Rotary Exchange Student. On Tuesday, Nov. 19 he gave a presentation to the club about his country, home, and family.

He said that Brazil is the 5th largest country in the world, with a population of 210 million. His home city

is 200,000 population, but his family lives on a farm “with cows” he said. He is an FFA member in Brazil. His favorite topics are soccer, and the world famous “Carnival.”

Eduardo arrived in the U.S. in August, and will stay until the end of the school year. He is attending GC Memorial high school.

Oh no, not another birthday!

Star-Courier publisher Gilbert Hoffman is seen at his Rotary club, with a Birthday cake that the club presented to him. Gilbert was celebrating his 80th year, and the club had a special birthday song and celebration for him.

As part of the celebration, his family secretly put together a page in the Star-Courier with his life's story, but kept it from him until after it was printed.

Gilbert said it was a day of joy and warmth, knowing how many friends he had to share his birthday. He thanked them all.



BIBLE TRIVIA

--By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of 1 Thessalonians in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Genesis 38, who was the first individual killed by God for being wicked? No one has, Er, Onan, Gomorrah
3. How long had the woman been sick that

- touched the hem of Jesus' garment? 1 hour, 5 days, 6 months, 12 years
4. From 1 Kings 6, who constructed the first altar covered with gold? Gideon, Josiah, Noah, Solomon
5. The year of jubilee (jubilee) comes around every ... year? Fifth, 25th, 50th, 100th
6. Which king ordered Daniel into the lions' den? Darius, Eglon, Herod, Caesar

ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Er; 3) 12 years; 4) Solomon; 5) 50th; 6) Darius

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

Detail from "Prayer before the Meal" by Adriaen Jansz. van Ostade (1653)

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

Superintendent drives the bus for attendance improvement

Dr. Randal O'Brien, Goose Creek CISD superintendent, watches Char'ee Arceneaux, first-grader at Harlem Elementary, enjoy her ice cream. Two students from each elementary school in GCCISD received an Attendance Improvement Award, entitling them to be picked up from school on a school bus driven by Dr. O'Brien and treated to ice cream.

Bonnie P. Hopper Primary students (from left) Sofie Cardiel, first-grade, and Keaton Simon, second grade, with their chaperone Laura Andrade, are pleased with their ice cream choices. They won an Attendance Improvement Award, presented to two students from each Goose Creek CISD elementary, earning the opportunity to have Dr. O'Brien as their bus driver take them to get ice cream.

With Dr. Randal O'Brien, Goose Creek CISD superintendent, at the wheel, (from left) Cora Tucker, third-grader, and Josiah Guice, second-grader, both from Travis Elementary, with Travis counselor Jennifer Simotas, board the school bus taking them for ice cream. The students earned an Attendance Improvement Award, given to two students from each GCCISD elementary school.



Photos by Carrie Pryor-Newman

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ASK THE EXPERTS

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Mind your ABCs to manage both Diabetes and Heart Disease

(NAPSI)—Chances are you know someone with diabetes. About one of every 10 people in the United States has the disease—more than 30 million people.

In fact, you could have diabetes and not know it. About one-quarter of all people with the disease have not been diagnosed.

Here's something else that people might not know: Having diabetes makes you more likely to develop heart disease. The risk is because, with diabetes, too much blood glucose (also called blood sugar) circulates in the bloodstream. The circulating glucose can damage the heart's blood vessels and the nerves that control them.

Adults with diabetes are nearly twice as likely to die from heart disease or stroke as people without diabetes. And people with diabetes tend to develop heart disease at a younger age than people without diabetes.

Fortunately, diabetes can be managed with exercise, a healthy eating plan, and medicine. "With early diagnosis and treatment, heart disease and the other problems of diabetes can be prevented or delayed," says Griffin P. Rodgers, MD, director of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK). "We're working hard to get the word out—managing your

diabetes can lower your chances of having heart disease or a stroke."

So ask your health care professional if you should be tested for diabetes. And if you are diagnosed with the disease, work with your health care team to follow the diabetes ABCs:

A—Take the A1C test. This test shows your average blood glucose level over the past 3 months. (A1C is different from the blood glucose checks that a person with diabetes does every day.) The higher your A1C number, the higher your blood glucose levels are averaging. High levels of blood glucose can harm your heart and blood vessels. The A1C goal for many people with diabetes is below 7 percent. Some people may do better with a slightly higher A1C goal. Ask your health care professional what your goal should be.

B—Monitor your blood pressure. Blood pressure is the force of your blood against the wall of your blood vessels. If blood pressure gets too high, it makes your heart work too hard. High blood pressure can cause a heart attack or stroke. The blood pressure goal for most people with diabetes is below 140/90 mm Hg. Ask your health care professional what your goal should be, and about medication and lifestyle changes to help you reach and maintain your goal.

C—Check your cholesterol. LDL ("bad") cholesterol can build up and clog blood vessels and too much bad cholesterol can cause a heart attack or stroke. For adults, LDL should be less than 100 mg/dL. HDL ("good") cholesterol helps remove the "bad" cholesterol from blood vessels. Target HDL levels are 40 mg/dL or higher for men and 50 mg/dL or higher for women. Ask your health care professional what your cholesterol numbers should be.

S—Stop smoking. Diabetes narrows blood vessels and so does smoking. Both together force your heart to work much harder. If you are a smoker and quit, you will lower your risk for heart attack, stroke, and other diabetes complications. For help quitting, call 1-800-QUIT-NOW or go to Smokefree.gov.

"You can manage diabetes and its complications through healthy lifestyle habits, which include exercising, following a healthy eating plan, and taking diabetes and heart medications as prescribed by your doctor," says Gary H. Gibbons, MD, director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI). "Managing diabetes to prevent heart disease can save lives. Please help us spread the word about the Diabetes ABCs."

Harris County Fire Marshal encourages fire safety this Thanksgiving holiday

Harris County, Texas -- Thanksgiving day is the peak day for home cooking fires. The Harris County Fire Marshal's Office encourages everyone to practice fire safety this Thanksgiving holiday.

"Unattended cooking is the leading contributing factor in cooking fires and fire deaths in the United States," said Harris County Fire Marshal Laurie L. Christensen. "In order to have a fire-safe and fun Thanksgiving, HCFMO encourages everyone to stay in the kitchen while cooking and keep an eye on what you fry. These fire safety tips will help everyone have a fire-safe Thanksgiving holiday."

The Harris County Fire Marshal's Office encourages everyone to follow these safety tips this holiday season:

- Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.
- Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and children should stay 3 feet away.
- Make sure children stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.
- Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over children, toys, pocketbooks or bags.
- Keep knives out of the reach of children.

- Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children — up high in a locked cabinet.
- Never leave children alone in a room with a lit candle.
- Make sure your smoke alarms work. Test them by pushing the test button.

For additional information about cooking safety or fire safety, contact the Harris County Fire Marshal's Office at (713) 274-1700 or visit www.hcfmo.net.


Statement from Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo on Chief United States District Judge Lee Rosenthal's Decision on Bail Reform

"For too long, residents in Harris County have been taken advantage of by a broken, unfair, and unconstitutional bail system. Today's decision by Judge Rosenthal puts to rest the arguments used to instill fear regarding prepay of bail reform. We do not have to choose between protecting the constitutional rights of defendants and protecting public safety. In fact, by reforming our broken bail system, we are taking a step toward rebuilding trust between our system of justice and the residents it serves.

Under bail reform, the guilty will still be held ac-

countable for their actions, but the accused won't have their lives, livelihoods, and families torn apart because they are too poor to buy their freedom. As County Judge, I am proud to preside over a County that is leading the nation to make our criminal justice system smarter, fairer, and more cost effective. I want to thank Judge Rosenthal, the Judges of the Criminal Courts at Law, Sheriff Ed Gonzalez, Commissioner Rodney Ellis, and the many others who have worked so hard to improve our criminal justice system and for doing what is right."

Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo is the head of Harris County's governing body and Director of the Harris County's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Judge Hidalgo, alongside four County Precinct Commissioners, oversees a budget of approximately \$5 billion that funds services and institutions for the third-largest county in the nation, home to nearly 5 million people. For more information about Harris County and the Office of the County Judge, please visit: cjo.harriscountytexas.gov.



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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

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better insight into the financial resources available to them.

"We congratulate Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District for its demonstrated commitment to ensuring that all students have the opportunity to pursue a postsecondary education. The milestones announced today reflect the Goose Creek CISD District's holistic approach to college readiness -- starting with building a culture of high expectations among teachers and students, and including the delivery of rigorous, student-centric

instruction that prepares them for college-level work," said Dr. Sandy Husk, former school superintendent and CEO of AVID. "We are proud to be part of Goose Creek Independent School District's work to ensure all students can reach their full potential."

Goose Creek CISD joins over 7,000 K-12 schools and districts across 47 states that partner with AVID to build a safe and open culture, high expectations for teachers and students, and collaboration in all classrooms. To learn more: www.AVID.org.

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CISD Special Education department provides screenings for children with suspected disabilities in an effort to identify every student with a disability who lives within the district's boundaries. Crosby ISD is committed to providing excellence in education to all students, and the screenings are designed to help identify children who may qualify for the district's special education programs. Eligible students with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 can be provided with services to ensure their successful participation in school. These services and supports may be provided through Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act. Special education services are also available starting at birth for eligible children who have a visual and/or auditory impairment.

If you know a child who may be challenged with a disability, please contact the Crosby ISD Special Education office at 281 328-9200, Extension 1108. If the child is already a student in Crosby ISD, please contact the counselor at the child's school. The counselor will be happy to assist you.

The special education personnel will coordinate efforts to evaluate the student and, if eligible, ensure that the student is provided with supports and services needed to benefit from instruction.

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