

HIGHLANDS CROSBY
Star ★ Courier

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These stories
in the **PRESS:**

- Group works to move Battleship to Baytown
- Dayton: Citizen Police Academy Registration
- BHI ISD teen told to cut dreadlocks receives scholarship
-And more, Page 3

IN THE STARS

MONDAY

PRESIDENTS' DAY



February 17

EVENTS

**THUR. FEB. 13
Highlands Chamber Awards**

Annual Community Awards & Installation Banquet at Monument Inn, 4406 Independence Pkwy., doors open at 6 pm, dinner at 7 pm.

**THUR. FEB. 27
Crosby Awards Banquet & Board Installation**

Under the Big Top Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Banquet & Board Installation Banquet, 6:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. at Hilton Garden Inn Baytown, 4910 Chase Street, Baytown, TX 77521.

**FRID. MAR. 27
Crosby EF Annual Golf Tournament**

11:30 a.m. registration & lunch. 1:00 shotgun start. At Stonebridge at Newport. 281-328-9200

BIRTHDAYS

- Feb 13-Lisa Brown, Hannah Riser, Tami Roe, Christopher Salters
- Feb 14-Susy Cavazos
- Feb 15-Micheal Hance, Lisa Henning, Debbie Herman, Terry Smith
- Feb 16-Sandra Gross
- Feb 17-Donnie Cravatt
- Feb 18-Fay Blackmon-Slot, Ray Blackmon, Rebecca Nibbe, Mandy Carwile, Nakomi Stone, Billy Nash
- Feb 19-Stephanie Lane, Joseph Bowen

ANNIVERSARIES

- Feb 12-Donnie & Elonda Cravatt
- Feb 14-Larry & Jeannie Kelly

Lynchburg Ferry closing for repairs

HARRIS COUNTY - Motorists should prepare for the Lynchburg Ferry to be closed starting Tuesday, February 25th until late 2020 for necessary improvements to preserve the longevity of its operations. During this closure, crews will be reconstructing the approaches and transfer ramps that Lynchburg Ferry Boats use to dock. The \$6 million project is a joint venture between Harris County Precinct 2 and the Texas Department of Transportation, who is overseeing construction of the project.

Starting March 1, 2020, the Harris County Toll Road Authority (HCTRA) will manage operations of the Lynchburg Ferry and Washburn Tunnel. This



includes overseeing daily operations, maintenance, capital expenditures, and public inquiries for both facilities. Per the Commissioners Court meeting held on June 25, 2019, these facilities will be transferred to the Toll Road Authority without the imposition of tolls. Drivers should expect no changes to operations when utilizing the Ferry or Tunnel, and no current employees will lose their jobs.

Commissioners Court recommended the transfer to HCTRA to preserve the historical features, and ensure they are safe and enjoyable for long-term use by the public. With HCTRA's dedicated engineering staff, they are able to provide around-the-clock staffing and are able to fund the assets. HCTRA's Incident Management Services will also be extended to the facilities, which includes free roadside assistance to motorists on their system.

For future updates on the Washburn Tunnel and Lynchburg Ferry, be sure to follow "Lynchburg Ferry" and "Washburn Tunnel" on Facebook.

Arkema trial begins Barge strike due to engine failure

CROSBY - Three men and the company they work for begin trial next Monday on criminal charges for explosions, fumes and fires related to the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey.

After the deluge of over 40 inches, the flood killed power to the plant 175 tons of chemicals that become volatile if they are not congealed within their chilly temperature range were taken to a location away from other chemicals and allowed to blaze and explode.

A grand jury concluded Arkema was responsible for the release of a toxic cloud over the Crosby community, prosecutors announced last year.

Arkema North America, its CEO Richard Rowe, and plant manager Leslie Co-



The flames that evacuated over 200 neighbors after they had flooded.

mardelle, are named in the indictment. Mike Keough was charged with felony assault for "causing bodily injury to two sheriff's deputies because the company withheld information from first responders that was vital to their safety and the safety of others. Keough is now retired.

The company lawyers, Arkema North America's, are arguing that the series of

See Arkema Continued on Page 6

HIGHLANDS - The genius of allowing the placement a busy shipping yard about 100 feet upstream from a bridge that handles much of the incoming traffic to the fourth largest city in the United States and the petrochemical center of the world was not mentioned in the report of the National Transportation Safety Board as to why the I-10 Bridge was struck on Feb. 11.

Instead on that day, according to the report, the Captain of the Linberg Crosby towing vessel was trying to park an empty tank barge at Southwest Shipyard but the towing craft kept going and slammed the barge into a column of the bridge.

The report however does make mention of the San Jacinto River being extremely congested and concedes that there was little room for error between the shipyard and the bridge.

The report concludes that a starboard engine failure caused the barge to hit the

bridge column. The report seems to indicate that the failure caused a loss of control and a genuine inability to maintain direction.

The Captain had his craft shifted from ahead to neutral at less than 4 miles per hour. Suddenly, he realized he was approaching too fast and threw the engines into reverse. But instead of slowing the vessels turned sideways. He then reports trying to steer the vessels into the craggy shores to stop them. The vessels slipped under the eastbound bridge and smacked the westbound side. The barge kept up it's forward progress before coming to a rest.

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Crosby ISD renews security contract with Pct. 3 Constable

CROSBY – According to Patricia Kay of Crosby ISD, the Security Contract for Crosby schools again this year was made with Precinct 3 Constable Sherman Eagleton's office.

The contract that was approved at the January meeting of the Board of Trustees is a roll over previous years.

The district has agreed to pay 70 percent of the costs of placing 6 officers on the campuses. Two at the high school, one at the middle

school, one at Drew Elementary, another at the high school is a roll over to kindergarten, one is shared by Barrett Elementary and Newport Elementary. These funds were already designated to security in the school budget.

These charges are just for the security men to be in place to interdict violence or serious crime. They are not there to aid discipline.

Of the funding leadership has its cost \$81,966 is

for a sergeant to be on hand of the \$444,731 total. Of the \$444,731 some \$23,000 represents an increase due to the Constable's office not requiring an increase during times of financial difficulties that was previously experienced by the school. At that time the Constable's office absorbed the difference.

The constable's office works well with all of us," Kay said.

Ridership growing for new Harris County bus service

Harris County Transit is using federal disaster funds to operate five new bus routes in areas that are still recovering from Harvey. Service started earlier this month in Channelview, Sheldon and Cloverleaf, and there's already a lot of interest.

Harris County Transit Deputy Assistant Director David Jones said they had 313 boardings in their first week of operation. In the second week, boardings rose to 565. Jones said that increase is significant.

"And as more people realize the service, more people are going to use the service," he said. "They're finding it meets a lot of needs for shopping, school, medical and even just social trips."

Even though the service is designed for people who



suffered losses in Harvey's floods, Jones said they'd like to make the routes permanent.

Right now they have three years' worth of disaster funds to operate the buses. Jones said after that, they want to use other funding to keep the service going.

"I look for these things to expand over time," said Jones. "We have aging demographics and the popu-

lation is going to need more public transportation. And as we get more dense in population, for air quality, public transportation is going to be the way to go."

To allow people to try out the new routes, Harris County Transit is offering free rides through the end of January. You can check out schedules and routes on the Harris County Transit website.

You are invited to the
Crosby Historical Society's
book signing and
presentation ceremony!

February 29, 2020
1:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Crosby Brethren Church

The Historical Society will be distributing several hundred of their recently released book, entitled *200 Years; Crosby's Bicentennial Story*. All book sale proceeds will benefit the Crosby Historical Society.

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020

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ROUND-UP

Baytown trying to regulate dollar stores

DOLLAR STORES – yea or nay? There seem to be more dollar stores in the United States than Walgreens and McDonald's combined, and a new dollar store will open up every six hours this year in this country. In response to this rise, more cities are often using restrictions to limit the spread of the chains.

A proposed ordinance for Baytown is working its way through City Hall that would increase regulations governing "small box discount retail" stores (that's code for dollar stores). The proposal seems to suggest it is acceptable for a city government to pick winners and losers in the economy. The idea that dollar stores are somehow an invasive species ignores the fact that these retailers are expanding in neighborhoods that want them. We urge city leaders to tread carefully and openly here. Bans or limits on dollar stores will do nothing to increase the availability of fresh food or entice more retailers. Such an ordinance will merely ban and/or limit popular shopping options. OPINION. The City of Baytown needs to stop over-regulating business and allow competition to drive the market place. Dollar Stores, and many others, generally use a "business model," that relies on actual sales of "their product" to define the market. Location of a business is a serious issue and is not taken lightly nor is a "spot" just randomly chosen.

There are many companies that will research a market to determine profitability of a new business location to determine viability. It is all about the numbers and the estimated sales at the prospective location and it is always about profitability. No one wants to open a business that will have limited revenue, for without income the business will not remain open for long. For once, the City of Baytown needs to allow competition to drive the market place and stop over-regulating businesses in our city. Super strict rules for development are not always good for a community and that is perhaps why Baytown has 5 times the state average for "low rent/section 8" apartments. Feel free to email your council and voice your concerns.

J Fallin has been contributing writer for various local news outlets over the years. He can be reached at Jerry711@aol.com

Boeing Boeing at BLT

Boeing Boeing, a comedy by Marc Camoletti. February 15 & 16. For reservations call 281-424-7617 or go to www.baytownlittletheater.org.

Goss Library events

These are the events taking place at the Sam and Carmena Goss Memorial Branch Library the week of Monday, February 17, 2020.

- Monday, February 17 - Closed in observance of Presidents Day
- Tuesday, February 18 - 10:00, Baby & Me (ages 0-24 mos.)
- Friday, February 21 - 10:30 am & 2:00 pm, Storytime (ages 0-5 yrs.)

Sam and Carmena Goss Memorial Library, Mont Belvieu, (281) 576-2245.

Baytown's Bayland Marina Group battles to bring Battleship

A group of citizens from Baytown are still hoping to win the competition to locate the Battleship Texas in a new port, at Bayland Marina. The spokesman for the group, Russell Hamman, gave a talk to the Highlands Rotary Club on Tuesday, reviewing the history of the ship and its current need of repairs.

The State of Texas has turned the ownership and control of the ship to the Battleship Texas Foundation, a private organization headed by Bruce Bramlett. They have issued an RFP, or Request For Proposals, for interested locales or groups that would be able to maintain and exhibit the ship in the proper manner to benefit the public and the foundation.

The RFP is due to be returned by March 13, and at that time proposals will be evaluated and a decision made as to a home port for the ship. At the current time, it is thought that Baytown, Kemah, and Corpus Christi are the interested parties. At one time Galveston was interested, but recent statements indicate they are involved in other projects



CONCEPTUAL SKETCH shows Battleship Texas and a new hotel/convention center located next to the existing Bayland Marina and O'Neal's restaurant.

and do not want to compete for the Battleship, Hamman said.

The State of Texas has allocated \$35 million dollars to move the ship to a repair facility, probably along the Gulf Coast east of New Orleans, and to also help establish a new setting for display and visits from the public.

On its return, dredging a channel and site preparation might cost as much as \$30 million. The city of Baytown is considering whether they want to contribute money

to this endeavor, he said.

In addition, the Baytown group is raising funds and campaigning to have the ship berthed permanently in Bayland Marina in Baytown. The group is headed by businessman Jay Eshbach, and includes Hamman and several Baytown mayors. They are asking the public to pledge a sum of 27¢ a day for five years, to show their support for the project. This would amount to \$492.75 in five years, but is only a pledge and no money is being collected. So far,

Hamman said, about \$30,000 has been raised.

Hamman, a well-known local historian, has two Facebook sites to aid in the effort. They are "Bring the Battleship to Baytown" and "Hamman's History of Baytown... with a twist." Together they have about 20,000 followers.

Hamman says that a show of public support would help the Foundation decide in Baytown's favor. He also pointed out that the planned location has a large number of people passing by daily on the



Russell Hamman explains plan to save the Battleship to Highlands Rotary.

Fred Harman bridge, 80,000 per day with 120,000 projected when the Grand Parkway is completed. He estimates that the ship will require 100,000 paying visitors every year to be financially sound.

Hamman asks that if you favor the project, write a letter of support and email it to david.bloom@baytownsun.com. You can also volunteer to help maintain the ship and run the museum and gift shop that will be part of the development.

BHISD student gets \$20,000 scholarship on Ellen Show, noted at Oscar ceremony



Photo Michael Rozman / Warner Bros.

After a Barbers Hill High School senior, DeAndre Arnold, was sent to in-school suspension for not cutting his dreadlocks, Grammy Award-winning artist Alicia Keys showed her support by surprising DeAndre, and together with Ellen DeGeneres give him a check for \$20,000 to put towards college, courtesy of Shutterfly. DeAndre appeared in an episode of "The Ellen Show" that aired Wednesday, January 29, 2020. During the interview with DeAndre, Ellen asked if there were girls in his school with long hair, to which he responded in the affirmative and said: "There's plenty of girls with long hair at my school. Like, if girls can have long hair, why can't I have long hair?" Ellen said that was the point she was trying to make. He was also mentioned on the Oscar Awards show, where the Best Picture was about hair styles.

Registration open for Dayton Citizen Police Academy

Registration is now open for the spring session of the Dayton Police Department's Citizen Police Academy. The 8-week program will introduce participants to the inner workings of the police department and demonstrate some of the processes involved in the criminal justice system with a primary focus on the functions of the department. Classes are held at the Police Department (2004 N. Cleveland St.), beginning March 24, and continue each Tuesday evening from 6 - 9 pm, through May 5.

"One of the most important things we as a department can do is have a solid relationship with our citizens based upon open communication and trust," said Police Chief Robert Vine. "This second session of the program will build on the wonderful sense of partnership that came out of our inaugural class held last fall."

Citizens Police Academy is open to residents who live and/or work inside Dayton city limits and is intended to promote more efficient and effective communication between citizens and local law enforcement, establish transparency and build trust.

Individuals who attend the

academy will obtain a better understanding of what the department does and why. The Academy will be a total of 8 weeks long and will meet Tuesday evenings each week from 6 pm - 9 pm, from March 24 - May 5. In addition to classroom instruction, each participant will get to ride with an on-duty officer and spend time as an observer in our dispatch communications center.

Participants will be presented with material and information in a classroom setting which will cover such topics as the Penal Code, Criminal Investigations, Narcotics, Juvenile Law and the Criminal Justice System. Participants will also conduct mock traffic stops and will have the opportunity to try their hand at processing a mock crime scene.

Participants must be at least 21 years of age with no felony convictions, be a resident or own a business inside the city limits of Dayton. Applications are available online at www.daytontx.org or at the Dayton Police Department, 2002 N. Cleveland St. Enrollment is limited to 20 individuals. Applications must be received no later than 4 pm on March 3.

New library to be built in Winnie, Texas

The Juanita Hargraves Memorial Branch will soon have a new home. The existing library outgrew its space several years ago, and in late 2020 the library will have a new location and double in size.

Along with the library, the Chambers County WIC office will be adjoined to offer their services as well.

The library will be 6,000 sq. ft. and include a meeting room, children's story-time room, offer more public computers, and include additional parking and outside seating. New programs and services will also be in the works including HSE (formerly GED)



Rendering of building.

classes, ESL classes, more programs for kids and teens, and a public meeting room with after-hours availability for the public.

The location will be off of Hwy 124 at East Fear Rd. (by the Crayola box). "We are very excited to see this much needed growth happening with the library system and in Winnie. In 2019, the library in Winnie had over 20,000 visitors and we anticipate that number to grow with the new space," said Librarian Valerie Jensen.

A groundbreaking is planned for Thursday, February 20th at 10am at the new location.

★ OPINION PAGE ★

★
LETTERS
To The Editor

Tx-DOT & deplorable roads

Dear Editor,
Thanks for your comments in the Feb. 6 paper. I could not agree more. Our highways, roadways are deplorable. I was sorely affected this weekend trying to get to Wirt Road and I-10. Waco St. was closed. On Saturday had to take Clinton Drive to get to Jensen Drive, again Waco was closed. I heard years ago that the engineer's that set up Dallas streets were drunk three days running before they started on that project, because the street system is so discombobulated.

I cannot begin to fathom what these engineers were into or doing before this insanity with our highways began. Many times makes no sense whatsoever. You can't use one major roadway, and the alternate route is also closed or severely impacted as well. MapQuest is of little if any value, because it is not always aware of road closures.

Tx-DOT is absolutely laughable, except it is not really funny. Shame on the powers that be.

Aliene Wingate Adams

★
POINT OF VIEW
By **JERRY FALLIN**



Secret History - Masons and the Boston Tea Party?

SECRET HISTORY? Do you ever wonder about the real history of America, the stuff that often does not make it into the text books? There is lots of historical information that never made it into the history books, and this is just one of many. There has been a long standing rumor that the Masons were actually responsible for the "Boston Tea Party."

In the 1700s, the Green Dragon Tavern was a community center in Boston. Downstairs was the Tavern. Upstairs was the St. Andrews Masonic Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. It was the largest place for meetings in the north east end of Boston. Historians often called it the headquarters of the American Revolution. According to documents from the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon, the statement was made, "Where we met to Plan the Consignment of a few Shiploads of Tea, Dec 16, 1773." It seems the King of England had given a tea monopoly to his preferred friends, and the colonists were unhappy with the quality of such. The tea was reported to have been rotting in warehouses in England and the owners needed to be rid of it. They were also unhappy with the fact that the King had placed a tax on it, just to prove he had the power to tax. The colonists stated "taxation without representation, along with a tea monopoly, is tyranny!" On December 16th, the evening of the famous Tea Party, records of the St. Andrew Lodge show that only five members were present. A note says "Lodge closed on account of too few members present." It seems the members might have been pre-occupied that night by the Boston Tea Party. The whole Tea Party was in range of a 60-gun warship, and the British Admiral watched from the upstairs window

of a nearby house. Afterwards, the "perpetrators" marched by under his window. The Admiral opened the window and shouted, "Tomorrow you'll have to pay the piper!" But that was never to be. Although 2,000 people stood on Griffin's wharf in Boston and watched the Boston Tea Party in silence as sixty men dumped 90,000 pounds of tea into shallow water and run aground. It was then attacked, looted and burned. The British claimed that Brother Abraham Whipple (St. John's Masonic Lodge, No. 1, Providence, RI) was the leader. They promised to hang him. Brother Whipple said they would have to catch him first. No one was ever prosecuted for it either.

To this day no one knows for sure who actually planned the Boston Tea Party. Many years later Sir Winston Churchill - Prime Minister of England, Historian and Freemason - commented on the act of Parliament that had given the East India Company a monopoly on tea. Brother Churchill called it "a stupid blunder." Americans have been drinking coffee ever since. You decide: were the Masons deeply involved in the Boston Tea Party? Were they also involved in American Independence?

Jerry Fallin has been a contributing writer for several news outlets over the years, born and raised in the North Channel Area. He now lives in Baytown and can be reached at Jerry7111@aol.com

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THE POSTSCRIPT
By **Carrie Classon**

"Romantic Impulses"

I was looking at my hair in the mirror.
"I think I might need a touch-up," I noted to my husband, Peter.
"Hmmm," Peter replied, without looking up. (Which means, "If you think so honey, I honestly believe you might be able to hold off a week!" I can always count on Peter for a thoughtful response.)
"Maybe I should get it done in time for Valentine's Day." This time Peter did look up, with just a trace of alarm.
"You know, so I'll be ready for our Big Night Out!" I smiled and Peter relaxed and went back to his reading. I was just kidding and he knew it.
Peter and I will be celebrating Valentine's Day in the way we traditionally have—by ignoring it completely.

I don't want to give the wrong impression; Peter is a very romantic person. But he is bothered when someone tells him how and when to be romantic and tries to make money off his romantic impulses and so he opts out of the entire red and pink frenzy: no roses, no dinner reservations, not even any heart-shaped candies.

I am not as hardcore as Peter. I don't think there is anything inherently wrong with celebrating love. It's only when it stops feeling like a celebration and starts feeling like an obligation that the problems start. I am also a little suspicious of big romantic gestures delivered on cue because of my first marriage.

On our eleventh anniversary, my former husband wrote in an anniversary card his only wish was to have "another eleven years" with me. I am not big on keeping sentimental items, but for some reason I hung onto that card. It felt like an insurance policy, good for: "another eleven years." What I did not count on was his leaving me almost exactly eleven years later.

You have to check the expiration date on insurance policies.
I have never felt for a moment that Peter would slip away. I have also learned that romance comes in many shapes and forms.

Peter is not a giver of gifts wrapped up in paper and delivered on any kind of schedule. He does not buy the idea that celebrations need to occur in compliance with a calendar date (except our anniversary, which he always observes). He asks me what I want for my birthday, doesn't do surprises, and has never, to my recollection, given me a greeting card.

But Peter keeps me supplied in raisins.
If this doesn't sound significant, that's because you have no idea how many raisins I go through. I've been doing a lot of writing lately and I can't be bothered getting up and fixing myself a proper meal. So, I've been eating "overnight oats" which is just oatmeal you soak in milk instead of cooking. I fill it with raisins, some cinnamon and chopped up apples, and I'm good to go till dinnertime.

I've been going through pounds of raisins and Peter notices and makes sure there are always more. He also makes the coffee in our house, which is pretty much a fulltime job. He notices when my brand of toothpaste is on sale and buys ten tubes. (We do not share toothpaste. His is blue!) He replaces things that break, refills things that are empty, and improves things that have bothered me for ages but I never thought to do anything about.
Every day, in dozens of ways, Peter shows me that he loves me and makes my life happier. And he doesn't do greeting cards.
I'm okay with that.
Till next time,
Carrie

Carrie Classon's memoir is called, "Blue Yam." Learn more at CarrieClasson.com.

State defends system of choosing presidential electors

AUSTIN — Texas Deputy Solicitor General Matthew Frederick on Feb. 6 defended the Electoral College system in a case before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

Frederick, arguing on behalf of Gov. Greg Abbott and Attorney General Ken Paxton, maintained that Texas' method of appointing presidential electors is consistent with the U.S. Constitution's requirement that "each state shall appoint, in such manner as the legislature thereof may direct, a number of electors, equal to the number of senators and representatives to which the state may be entitled in Congress."

As most other states do, Texas appoints presidential electors on a winner-takes-all basis to the presidential candidate who receives the most votes in a statewide election.

The case, brought by the League of United Latin American Citizens and several individual plaintiffs, challenges the constitutionality of Texas' system, asserting that the voting power of minorities is diluted under winner-takes-all in violation of the Voting Rights Act and the 1st and 14th Amendments.

Study: Teens, seat belts
In 2018, 111 of the 264 teens killed in vehicle crashes in Texas were not wearing a seat belt, the Texas Department of Transportation reported on Feb. 4.

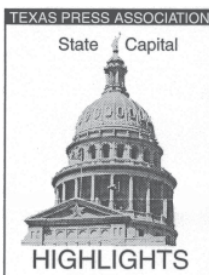
Vehicle crashes are the leading cause of deaths among teenagers. One simple click could help change that, TxDOT says in its current "Teen Click It or Ticket" campaign.

"For teens, getting a driver's license is a rite of passage, but when they start driving, they aren't thinking about how their lack of experience places them at greater risk of getting in a crash," said TxDOT Executive Director James Bass. "Tragedy can strike in an instant, which is why we hope all parents, teachers and other influencers are urging teens to buckle up each and every time, no matter how short the trip may be."

Hegar reports revenue
Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on Feb. 4 said state sales tax revenue totaled \$3.08 billion in January, 8.9% more than reported in January 2019.

Growth in state sales tax revenue was led by receipts from the retail trade and in-

★
STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By **Ed Sterling**



Sales tax is the largest source of state funding for the state budget, accounting for 57% of all tax collections.

USDA OKs hemp plan
Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller on Jan. 27 welcomed news that the U.S. Department of Agriculture had approved the Lone Star State's plan for the production and regulation of hemp.

Miller referred to hemp growing as "an exciting new crop opportunity." However, he cautioned would-be growers, saying, "It is still not legal to grow hemp—so don't put those seeds in the ground just yet. We've got to get our rules approved and get our licensing program up and running, but the dominoes are dropping pretty quick. We're almost there."

House Bill 1325, passed by the Texas Legislature last May, created a legal path for Texas to open itself to commercial hemp farming. The state submitted its hemp plan to the USDA for approval on Dec. 2. Now, with USDA approval, Texas must follow its administrative rule-making process, which includes public notice and public hearings, before farmers can plant hemp.

formation services sectors, while receipts from oil and gas mining were down from a year ago, Hegar said. In addition, January retail trade sector collections were higher than a year ago in part because more Christmas shopping days fell in December. Collections also were slightly boosted by marketplace providers and remote sellers who first began collecting Texas sales taxes in October, Hegar added.
The majority of January sales tax revenue is based on sales made in December and remitted to the agency in January. Notably, total sales tax revenue for the three months ending in January 2020 was up 6.6% compared to the same period a year ago.

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Eagleton 's Valentine Gala complete success



Constable Sherman Eagleton with his wife, hosted his annual campaign fund-raiser at the 2500 South Shore Blvd. with massive Democrat support and the Crosby Fair & Rodeo of which Mr. Eagleton was the first black board member. Ricky Loggins was auctioneer of the live auction. The Constable recognized special services and initiatives of his deputies.

THOUGHTS FROM HILLSIDE CHURCH

By Dr. Mark Trice



Let it Spur You On

Do you watch westerns? I do, and have since I was a kid. One thing you see a lot in westerns is a cowboy walking around in boots and spurs. Generally, this means he's just finished working cattle, and may even be heading back out. I will occasionally, if there's something I need to take care of quickly, go out in public wearing my boots and spurs. When I do, even if they don't see me, people generally know I'm there, and if they know cattle they have a pretty good idea what I've been doing recently. That spur jingle is distinctive.

Have you ever thought about how much spurs are like God's Word? Its jingle is distinctive too. Think about it; you can pretty much recognize someone who has been spending quality time with the Word because they sound and act differently. They've been led and guided by God's Word just as carefully as a cowboy's horse has been led by the touch of his spurs.

A cowboy who knows what he's doing can use just the right spur on just the right horse to lead and train it to respond perfect-

ly. That horse can get in the arena or out in the pasture and seem to almost know what its rider is thinking, because the cowboy has so skillfully used those bits of metal for some serious communication. It is the spurs, used properly, that enable the two to move as one.

God does the same with us. His desire is for us to move as one with Him, to always walk as He would walk, talk as He would talk, and He knows how to get us there. Just as the green horse gets touched with only the gentlest spur, the newborn Christian is molded by the milk of the Word. (Hebrews 5:12-14) God is gentle and merciful, giving the newborn Christian time to grow and mature.

And then, just as the cowboy pulls out a more serious set of spurs for the better-trained, more experienced horse, God pulls out the meat of the Word for the more mature Christian and serves up a banquet. He knows this one is ready for more intense instruction, has potential for more, and the results of God's training are telling.

When we submit to the Word as it spurs us on to become more, we grow more into the image of Christ.

Of course, we all know a poorly trained rider can ruin a horse by misusing his spurs. The same holds true in the church. God would never ruin a Christian, but man certainly has been known to. Unfortunately, there are many Christians out there who use the Word like the careless cowboy digs a ten-point star into the side of the wrong horse - in both cases it is galling and can do permanent damage.

God's Word isn't meant to be a weapon. It is a precious gift from Love Himself and He gives it so we can share it with love. So I encourage you to always follow God's example and use His holy Word to encourage and lift one another up, to offer Good News to those around you who are lost, in pain, or longing for something more. I encourage you to let the Word spur you on to greater acts of love and kindness, to be a living testimony of the goodness of God.

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BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey--

1. Is the book of Lamentations in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Which book could be summarized, "By human standards you're looking OK, but by God's, you're failing"? Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah
3. From Genesis 41, who had the vision of seven fat cows coming out of a river? Adam, Moses, Pharaoh, Abraham
4. Who was suspended by a lock of hair between heaven and earth in a vision? Samson, Esau, Elijah, Ezekiel
5. What church did John describe as one with an "open door"? Sardis, Philadelphia, Antioch, Smyrna
6. From Acts 10, where did Cornelius encounter an angel? Temple, Well, House, Field

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Amos; 3) Pharaoh; 4) Ezekiel; 5) Philadelphia; 6) House

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Superintendent's Choice Awards of Rodeo Art



The Rodeo Art Superintendent's Choice Awards went to Vianey Trejo (front left), 11th grade, Goose Creek Memorial High School, and Patrick Ibarra (front right), 4th grade, Victoria Walker Elementary. Not pictured is Karen Reyes, 8th grade, Highlands Junior. The students are pictured with Dr. Randal O'Brien (back left), Goose Creek CISD superintendent, and Susan Chiboroski, director of fine arts.

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ROMANS 8:18

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GCCISD to Offer Kinder Dual Language Two-Way Program

After a successful first year of the Kinder Dual Language Two-Way Program for kindergarten students, piloted at Carver Elementary and Harlem Elementary, Goose Creek CISD will offer the program for qualifying students who will be in kindergarten during the 2020-2021 school year. While the program will be held at Carver and Harlem next year, any current Goose Creek CISD pre-kindergarten student may apply.

If your child is a current GCCISD pre-k student who demonstrates fluency in one language, either English or Spanish or both, and you are interested in your child learning a second language, either English or Spanish, starting in kindergarten, please attend one of two informational sessions. You will

receive more information on the program and have the opportunity to ask questions.

The first meeting will take place February 25 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Cafeteria at Harlem Elementary, 3333 Interstate 10, Baytown, TX. We will also host a meeting February 27 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Cafeteria at Carver Elementary, 610 S. Pruett, Baytown, TX. You may attend either meeting. You do not need to attend both meetings. Childcare is offered during the sessions.

Please RSVP by February 21, 2020, to the Bilingual/ESL Department at 281-707-3372 or by email to pilar.morenorecio@gccisd.net or Teresita.torres@gccisd.net.

Benefits of the Dual Language Two-Way Program include high levels of

academic achievement and literacy in both languages, increased cultural sensitivity and empathy, increased confidence and self-esteem and increased future marketability. The goal of the program is to prepare students to graduate college and career ready as well as bilingual, biliterate and bicultural.

"The Dual Language Two-Way Program is the gift of a second language you can give your child starting in kindergarten," said Dr. Pilar Moreno-Reco, director of bilingual/ESL. "Our kinder students in the program last year made amazing progress in reading and writing in both English and Spanish. Please attend one of the meetings to find out if your child can benefit from the program."

Arkema trial,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

incidents were an "act of God" but local authorities say it is time that chemical companies were held accountable for decisions that endanger the public and public servants.

"Companies don't make decisions, people do," said Harris County District Attorney Kim Ogg after the hearing. "Responsibility for pursuing profit over the health of innocent people rests with the leadership of Arkema."

"Indictments against corporations are rare," Ogg said. "Those who poison our environment will be prosecuted when the evidence justifies it."

The potential penalties of the charges are up to five years in prison for the men and up to a \$1 million fine for the corporation.

Prosecutors allege the disaster could and should have been prevented with forethought and proper

engineering.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office, the Houston Police Department's Environmental Investigations Unit, and the Harris County District Attorney's Office Environmental Crimes Division contributed to the investigation.

"As the hurricane approached, Arkema was more concerned about production and profit than

people," said Alexander Forrest, chief of the Environmental Crimes Division at the Harris County District Attorney's Office.

Arkema North America is a French-owned company, with yearly sales of about \$10 billion and nearly 20,000 employees around the world. Arkema's plant is located at 18,000 Crosby Eastgate Road.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Initiation of the Section 106 Process-Public Participation in accordance with the Federal Communications Commission regulations (47 CFR § 1.1307) for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Program Comment for Positive Train Control and Infrastructure. Union Pacific proposes to construct an approximately 65' monopole communications pole with associated equipment at the following approximate locations in Harris County, TX within the existing railroad right-of-way:
•Coordinates: 29.940373, -95.028324; Mile Post #337.95, NE of Crosby;
•Coordinates: 29.911402, -95.066093; Mile Post #341.01, W of Crosby.
We respectfully request that parties interested in providing comment on the proposed undertaking relative to potential effects on cultural or historic properties should contact GSS, Inc., 3311 109th Street, Urbandale, IA 50322; Ph. (515) 331-2103, within 30 days of the date of this publication (GSS W20028-TX-2.3).

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Administration for Docket No. 481257; Estate of MARVIN LEE GUY Deceased; In Probate Court No. 1, of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on January 24, 2020.
CAROL ANN GUY
The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is:
c/o Weston Cotten
1500 Wallisville Rd
Highlands, TX 77562

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Administration for Docket No. 481331; Estate of CLYDE DOPUGLAS YANDELL Deceased; In Probate Court No. 2 of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on January 21, 2020.
LINDA JEAN YANDELL
The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is:
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1500 Wallisville Rd
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LEGAL NOTICE

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this January 31, 2020.
Weston Cotten
by WESTON COTTEN
Attorney for the Estate

LEGAL NOTICE

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this February 4, 2020.
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We've taken out all of our colored pencils, markers and crayons to design our Valentine's Day cards. We are using art supplies we have around the house to make cards and adding little items like buttons, lace or stickers to make them interesting. You can, too!

Valentine's Day!

Read the clues to fill in the puzzle using the words inside the dot-to-dot:

What Did Cupid Do?

glitter, poems, glue, envelopes, lace, pencils, scissors, paper, friendship, February, love, poetry, cards, party, lace, heart, Valentine, cupid, candy, red

- paper trim with fancy designs
- sweets
- feeling
- red + white
- month
- Roman god of love
- rhyming words
- Saint
- pair of small parrots
- when people care about each other
- roses, daisies
- symbol of love; pumps blood
- paper messages
- a gathering of friends
- ruby-colored

E-Mail or Snail Mail, get that Valentine note off to grandparents or other family and friends!

To see what Cupid did with his bow and arrow, start at #1 where the heart is and follow the other numbered hearts.

Secret Valentine Message Use the code to fill in the blanks with the letters to see the secret Valentine message:

! P T V X

! X X O V X ? A A

? T ? O X ? V . X A O T A ?

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