

HIGHLANDS CROSBY  
**Star** ★ **Courier**

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THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2020

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

These stories  
in the **PRESS:**

- Daniel Park closed for renovations
- Jones Library Curbside Pick Up
- .....And more, Page 3

**COVID-19**  
Cases as of  
May 12, 2020

**HOUSTON AREA**

13,214 POSITIVE  
343 DEATHS  
4,850 RECOVERED

**TEXAS**

40,909 POSITIVE  
1,125 DEATHS  
21,713 RECOVERED

**UNITED STATES**

1,366,350 POSITIVE  
82,105 DEATHS  
232,733 RECOVERED

**WORLDWIDE**

4,247,709 POSITIVE  
290,838 DEATHS  
1,485,134 RECOVERED

**COVID-19**  
RESOURCES

**CITY OF HOUSTON**

832-393-4220

**HARRIS COUNTY**

713-634-1110  
ASK A NURSE  
MOBILE TESTS  
713-439-6000

**PRE-SCREENING**

**HARRIS COUNTY**  
832-927-7575  
[readyharris.org](http://readyharris.org)  
**METHODIST HOSPITAL BAYTOWN**  
Download [mymethodist.app](http://mymethodist.app)  
**MD MEDICAL**  
1-888-776-5252

**BIRTHDAYS**

May 14--DeDe Williams  
May 15--Lana Gaeke  
Lina Hsuan  
Dace Murphy  
Maria Williamson  
May 16--Felder Bryan  
Brakeman  
May 18--Danielle  
Greenwood  
May 20--Sandra Davis

## Mixed county laws shut, then allow tanning salon to open

CROSBY - It gives pause to wonder how one of the more squeaky clean businesses came to be shut down for a paperwork technicality by the Fire Marshal's Office, especially when the owner was once a recognized Crosby Volunteer Fire Department fireman. Were the illegal gamerooms all cooperating?

"My business got caught between a power struggle on the one hand the County Judge was asking for residents to report businesses that are not safe and the Governor's office trying to allow businesses to open," said Island Tanz proprietor David Givans.



Harris County Fire Marshal's inspectors operating on a complaint that Island Tanz should not be open are to be disciplined for violating a County Judge order and policy for not wearing masks. The family-owned tanning salon caught this scene on store surveillance camera May 1. Proprietor David Givans said inspectors threatened him with arrest if he did not immediately close the 6500 FM 2100 location. Inspectors did not cite Givans for County orders, rather closed the business on an ownership filing technicality that County Engineers reversed in 36 hours.

"I have kept up payroll with no government aid all during this time."

Givans had bought out his partner without a permit for change of ownership completed; in the end when two inspectors from the Harris County Fire Marshal's Office entered his business on May 1, threatening to arrest him for being open in violation of Harris County Judge's orders, they settled for shuttering his business on the slightest of charges. Givans noted his competitors has been open with little or no hassle. Givans indicated the inspectors said he could report on his competitors being open.

The Fire Marshal's Office replied: "HCFMO has been working with Island Tanz to help walk the business owner through the appropriate procedure in obtaining the required permits." and "The two inspectors should have had mask on, and they are being disciplined for violating this directive."

## Churches United In Caring feed local needs

CROSBY - Churches United in Caring continues to care and feed local families during the Covid-19 pandemic.

For about 37 years now, since the pastors of the Brethren, Methodist, Catholic and First Baptist Churches decided that their community outreaches would be much more effective if they united into a single outreach ministry, Churches United in Caring has enabled locals to find "hidden treasures and good gestures" in Crosby.

Last Friday, at the 944 Church Street location locals rounded the Crosby Fair & Rodeo parking circle to wait for their chance to get some groceries. Vol



Churches United in Caring gets groceries to those in need on May 8 at about 9:00 a.m. Eddie Foster directs traffic in and out of the facility on Church Street Skip Greenwade directs operations as some 60 families receive grocery bags with produce, pet food, bleach and general food for local residents. Churches United in Caring helps families and individuals with food, clothing, financial and medical assistance, housing, and even utilities except electrical. Enabling and part of this outreach is a thrift store and donating intake. Call (281) 328-3178 to make a donation. "The next food distribution at CUIC will be at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, May 29," said Skip Greenwade. Precinct 3 Constable Deputies are on hand to assure that operations go smoothly.

See **CUIC**  
Continued on Page 8

## Knights host Jeep blood drive against Covid 19



On Friday, May 8, beginning at 10:00 a.m. the Knights of Columbus Hall on Crosby-Dayton Rd. was hosted the Crosby Jeep Club to sponsor a much needed blood drive during the pandemic. Here Bonnie Reynolds and Tanny Johnson prepare for Larry Stasney and some 40 others to show up and donate blood for the cause of fighting Covid-19. The Houston Area Blood Center workers are seen in the background waiting to draw the precious fluid. The Knights of Columbus Hall is available for lease, call Larry Stasney at (713) 201-6247. Crosby Jeep Club has been very active in local charities and was a big contributor to the Crosby-Huffman Chamber Christmas Festival.

## HC Clerk Trautman resigns her office

HARRIS COUNTY - Citing fear of the Covid-19 pandemic, and other health concerns, first term Harris County Clerk Diane Trautman announced her resignation last week.

In a letter addressed to Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo, Trautman said the resignation would be effective May 31. The Commissioner's Court will appoint an interim Clerk, Judge Hidalgo said.

Trautman said that her decision was "due to personal health concerns... the Covid-19 pandemic, my age, and underlying health issues. I do not feel I can safely continue to carry out my duties as Harris County Clerk."

Trautman took office in January 2019, after holding



previous positions as a teacher, local school board member, and county school board member.

The County Clerk is in charge of all elections, and in that capacity she brought a number of innovative advances to the election pro-

See **TRAUTMAN**, page 8

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★ COMMUNITY NEWS ★

## Commissioner Garcia proposes property tax relief for seniors and individuals with disabilities

Plan will provide much needed relief to homeowners from Harris County Property Taxes

Harris County, TX — Last Tuesday, Harris County Commissioner Adrian Garcia announces will be putting an item on the next Commissioners Court Agenda (May 19, 2020) to extend the Harris County Homeowners Property Tax Exemption for seniors and disabled homeowners. The plan would eliminate county property tax liability for seniors 65 years of age and older as well as disabled homeowners and disabled military veterans, with homes valued at \$260,000 or less. Qualifying homeowners with homes valued at \$260,000 or more would

save at least \$350 next year (and annually going forward) on their property tax bills.

This is the first update to the Homeowners Exemption since 2008, and according to a Budget Management Department analysis commissioned by Commissioner Garcia's office in 2019, the plan would be revenue neutral. The exemption also eliminates tax liability for Harris Health and Harris County Flood Control for homeowners qualifying for the exemption. If the plan is approved, it would take effect for this year's tax bills.

"I hope my fellow members of Commissioners Court will approve this plan to increase these exemptions without delay.

This would be the first time in twelve years that we will have brought meaningful tax reform to Harris County homeowners, and given that seniors and homeowners are particularly vulnerable during the COVID-19 pandemic, we need to step up and help right away. In addition, the added exemption is long overdue to negate the adverse impact of rising appraisal values is having on families across Harris County," said Commissioner Adrian Garcia, "I'm proud to be the first Commissioner to submit this in 12 years and put money back into the pockets of hardworking families, many who have been directly impacted due to COVID-19."

## Pct. 3 Constable continues mask and glove giveaways

May 6 was a banner day for the Precinct 3 Constable to keep on giving away masks and gloves for free to residents.

According to Constable Sherman Eagleton, "When we work together everyone wins."

St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church, St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church combined forces with Precinct 3 to "Feed those in need."

With special notation from the Constable to the "staff at the Wendell D. Ley Family YMCA and National Guard that distribute food two times a week and make it look easy."

Special recognition goes for masks for distribution courtesy Commissioner Rodney Ellis, US Representative Sylvia Garcia, State Senator Carol Avarado, State Rep. Harold Dutton, Ana Hernandez and J.P. Joe Stephens



## Free Brown Bag lunch & Grab & Go meals

**FREE BROWN BAG**  
Every Monday & Wednesday for all ages from 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm. Drive-thru style & on a first come, first serve basis. Must be present to receive lunches. At the following locations:  
-Grayson Community Center, 13828 Corpus Christi St., Houston, TX 77015.

-J.D. Walker Community Center, 7613 Wade Rd., Baytown 77521.  
-EHACAC, 7340 Spencer Highway, Pasadena, TX 77505.  
-Barret Station Community Center, 11901 Mulberry St., Barrett, TX 77532.  
**FREE GRAB & GO MEALS**  
At San Jacinto Community Center, 604 Highland

Woods Dr., Highlands, TX 77562. Starting Tuesday May 12 from 10 am - 12 pm or while meals last.  
Serving every Tuesday. Sample menu Turkey & cheese hoagie, apple sauce, cheese stick, pizza crackes and juice.  
For more information please call 281-833-3129 or info@bachamp.org, www.bachamp.org

## Crash on Main Street reminds residents of driving dangers



A truck towing a trailer loaded with an ATV crashed on Main Street in Crosby, in front of the Jack In The Box restaurant last Wednesday, May 5. It appears the driver first lost a Yeti Cooler followed by the trailer sweeping to the right. The ambulance service is seen treating the driver.

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## Maximum Tax Savings



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CROSBY'S HOME TOWN HOME CARE

# Barbers Hill Dayton Press

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

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THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2020

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

## ROUND-UP

### CORVID-19 CASES CHAMBERS COUNTY

As of May 10, 2020

-----  
Tested-984  
Recovered-40  
Hospitalized-1  
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East Chambers-5  
Med Chambers-9  
West Chambers-36  
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### The Dayton Chamber of Commerce Updates:

The Dayton Chamber will be hosting a Virtual Social Media Webinar with Guest Speaker, Lin Bonner. Wednesday, May 27th at 10:00 am. Be on the lookout with more details!

Don't forget about our teachers!

Whether we are able to have a New Teacher's Lunch or not, we want you to start gathering your promotional items for our new teachers coming soon! We still want to work hand in hand and show our appreciation. Hand sanitizers would go great in new teachers bags!

Contact us at 936-257-2393 or at [info@daytonchamber.com](mailto:info@daytonchamber.com) for more information or ideas.

## Voters approve BHISD bond; re-elect Mont Belvieu mayor

MONT BELVIEU – Results of the May 2 election have been canvassed by the Barbers Hill ISD board, and voters approved the \$277.5 million bond issue by a vote of 1,580 to 247 in favor of the bond.

The BHISD had emphasized in the publicity that there would not be a tax increase, in spite of the fact that the state required language on the ballot suggesting that possibility.

The funds will be used for two intermediate schools, a ninth-grade school, additions to the existing elementary schools, and a district-wide safety and security measures.

Superintendent Greg Poole said that he was



MB Mayor Nick Dixon

pleased with the results, and noted that the turnout of voters was 2 1/2 times more than the last bond vote, and that the approval represented 87% yes votes. In addition, voters had to either mail in

their ballots, or use a drive-up method because of the virus lockdown order.

Poole said "Our community believes in what we are doing, and we believe in our community."

For school board, Clint Pipes defeated Brandie Ybarra 1,497 to 304. Mont Belvieu offices were also on the ballot, and Mayor Nick Dixon was re-elected by a vote of 537 to 499 over Kevin Yeager.

Incumbent Mike Pomykal ran unopposed, and Laurie Guidry defeated Mickey Bertrand for Position 2 on city council.

All the positions up for election were for three year terms.

## Dayton Park to close for renovation

Daniel Park, located on Arnold Drive, off of FM 1008, will be closed for extensive renovations beginning Monday, May 11. The park is expected to reopen at the end of August. The city pool, which is located inside of the park will remain closed throughout the summer as the work continues.

Renovation of the park will include:

- The total renovation of the concession stands
- Replacement of the electrical system
- Replacement of field lighting and poles
- Replacement of scoreboards
- Reconditioning of all ball fields
- Resurfacing and asphaltting the main drive, parking areas, and the drive leading to the softball fields
- Drainage improve-

ments

"This work will complement the new playscape equipment that was built in November as a partnership between the City, Ka-Boom! and the Rebuild Texas Fund," said City Manager Theo Melancon. "Our Master Park Plan identifies Daniel Park as an important part of the quality of life in Dayton, now and as the city grows. We're already seeing exponential growth in our youth sports, and this renovation will help accommodate all of our young ballplayers."

Although the park's nickname is Daniel Park, the park's official name is "Gov. Bill & Vara Daniel Park." The park includes the Dayton city pool, baseball/softball fields, playground equipment, covered pavilion, picnic tables, walking/jogging trail, and restrooms.

## Feeding kids from a dream



### Simple Simons feeds the classes

School children in Dayton, Old River-Winfrey, and other parts of Barbers Hill ISD that need food are benefitting from a charity food effort by a local Pizza parlor in Old River-Winfrey. The family owned business started with an inspiration and has benefitted by a few local contributions.

OLD RIVER-WIN-FREY- Simple Simon's still dishes the finest in pizza, calzones and stromboli but the have branched out into feeding school children, too.

Of course they still charge the customer for a drive by sandwich or pizza at the 12726 FM 1409 location but they also are set up to give drive by meals to parents of school children that from throughout the area.

All this began as a dream Mary Demura had one night and when she told husband, Dennis that

she believed she was called to do this - he said, "Okay, we'll give it a try."

Before long, their savings were exhausted and apparent need increased as more locals began to lose their income.

Mary's first words to the reporter were, "I just have to say thanks to everyone that volunteered and those that helped us, otherwise we could not have continued."

Inevitably, as the Demuras were facing the reality that they would have to cease their good will effort, a donation from a regular customer pulled up to

the parlor for the exact amount it would take to continue for a week.

"Oh, you haven't seen anything yet," said one donor, "When this community sees a need we come together," and lay down a check for \$4,000.

"I believe I am supposed to do this at this time," said Mary, "But it wouldn't be possible without all the help we have been getting."

"I have every confidence that this is going to keep going," said Dennis.

Place your order or make your donation by calling (281) 576-2022.

## Dayton Public Library Offering Curbside Service

The City of Dayton's Jones Public Library is now offering curbside services to its patrons. Due to continuing concerns about the spread of COVID 19, the library remains closed to the public, however, you can still get your favorite books and videos.

Curbside service will be available Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9 am - 11 am and 2 pm - 4 pm. Patrons can check out 10 materials per library card.

To request library materials for checkout, visit [jonespubliclibrary.org](http://jonespubliclibrary.org) and place a hold on the materials you would like, or fill out the online form available on both the website and the library's FaceBook page. Books can also be requested by calling the library at 936.258.7060.

Books can be returned to the library's dropbox, which is located in the front of the building.

A reopening date for the library has not yet been determined.

## Hendricks Named Special Ed Teacher of the Year

By Susan Passmore

Antoinette "Toni" Hendricks, Life Skills teacher at Alamo Elementary, is the James Becker Thomson Special Education Teacher of the Year for the 2019-2020 school year. As the 45th recipient of this award, established by Dr. Richard Thomson, a retired



ophthalmologist, in honor of his late brother James, who benefited from special education services, she joins many other excellent Goose Creek CISD teachers selected through the years for the honor.

Hendricks has spent her 11-year career at Alamo Elementary. She is working on her ESL certification and plans to start her master's degree. While many find it difficult to teach elementary students who are all at different levels, Hendricks says she loves her job.

"I enjoy talking to my

students and finding out about their interests," Hendricks said. "I love to see them learn a concept and apply it later. It's a beautiful world to be in! Every day I learn something from my students about overcoming obstacles."

Christina Ritter, director of Special Education for Goose Creek CISD, praises Hendricks as positive, organized and creative.

"She never says no to any task," Ritter said.

Hendricks lives in La Porte with her husband Ricky and their three children.

## Houston Methodist resumes all medical services

BAYTOWN — (May 7, 2020) — At Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital, preparing for the pandemic and treating COVID-19 patients has been our highest priority the last two months.

Doing so, unfortunately, meant postponing most of our other elective services, although we still safely cared for thousands of patients who needed urgent and emergent care, surgeries and hospitalization. We know that there are many in the community suffering from other debilitating diseases who need our help. We must re-start all of our services to help them.

Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital is caring for patients both in person and virtually, with all of our health care services available. Your health and well-being are our top priority—now more than ever as we work to meet the challenges of the pandemic. We are dedicated to providing you with exceptional care, and you can be confident that we are taking every necessary precaution to keep you safe during your visit.

Doctor Offices and Clinics Have Enhanced Safety Measures

Houston Methodist Baytown physicians are available for virtual visits and in-person appointments. If an in-person appointment is needed, we are:

- Screening all patients when scheduling appointments for symptoms and exposure risk
- Minimizing the number of patients we are seeing per day in our clinics by expanding virtual services and staggering in-person appointments
- Using Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)-recommended testing for our employees
- Screening all patients

upon arrival with temperature checks and an exposure questionnaire

- Wearing personal protective equipment while providing patient care
- Redesigning waiting rooms and check-in lines to ensure social distancing
- Implementing additional sanitation processes to disinfect all equipment and surfaces

Emergency Care Centers and Emergency Departments are Safe

See Medical Services, Page 6



# Social Security Matters

by AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor Russell Gloor  
Association of Mature American Citizens

**Dear Rusty:** I am 65 and still working and plan to work for some time to come. My birthdate is February 1955. My wife is 64 and not working. Her birthdate is January 1956. Half of my benefit is more than half of hers. I am confused on the spousal benefit rules. If she were to take her Social Security early before she reaches her full retirement age, what are the rules that affect her? Signed: Confused Husband

**Dear Confused:** First I must clarify that spousal benefits do not work as you have suggested, that "half of my benefit is more than half of hers." Spousal benefits are always based upon the amount the individuals are due at their full retirement age, regardless of the age at which they claim. If half of your benefit at your full retirement age (FRA) is more than your wife's full benefit at her full retirement age, then the difference between those two numbers is a "spousal boost" which is added to your wife's own payment amount when her spouse benefit starts. If she has reached her FRA when you claim and her spouse benefit starts, your wife will get the entire spousal boost; if she has not, the spousal boost will be reduced. Your wife cannot collect a spousal benefit until you start collecting your Social Security, so if she claims benefits before you claim she will initially get only what she is entitled to on her own work record. Then when you claim, the "spousal boost" will be added to her benefit. If you claim at your FRA, your wife will not yet have reached her full retirement age, so her spousal boost amount will be reduced and added to her own reduced benefit amount, making her total benefit as your spouse less than 50% of your FRA benefit amount.

Your full retirement age is 66 years and 2 months, and you won't be entitled to full benefits until you reach that age. For your awareness, you can wait beyond your FRA and earn delayed retirement credits, up to

age 70 when your benefit would be about 31% more than it would be at your FRA, but your wife cannot get her spousal boost until you claim. And also for your awareness, if you claim benefits before you reach your FRA and continue to work, you'll be subject to Social Security's earnings limit (\$18,240 for 2020) which, if exceeded, will cause SS to take back some of your benefits. The earnings limit goes up by about 2.5 times in the year you reach your FRA and goes away when you reach your full retirement age.

Your wife's full retirement age is 66 years and 4 months and any benefits she claims on her own record prior to reaching that age will be reduced. At 64 she could claim her own benefit from her own work record (assuming she has at least 40 SS credits), but that benefit would be reduced to about 85% of what she would get at her FRA. And claiming at age 64 would also affect the amount of her spousal benefit when that starts. The only way your wife can get 100% of the amount she is due as your spouse is to wait until her FRA to claim any benefit. If she claims her own benefit at age 64 or any time before her FRA, not only will her own benefit be reduced, but her eventual benefit as your spouse will be less than 50% of your FRA benefit amount, even if you wait to claim until your wife reaches her FRA. That's because her spousal boost, when it occurs, will be added to the reduced SS retirement amount she is getting because she claimed before her full retirement age.

You are certainly not alone to be confused about spousal benefits as this is one of the most confusing areas of Social Security's rules. But I hope the above provides what you and your wife need to make an informed claiming decision.

*This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.*



## ★ THE POSTSCRIPT By Carrie Classon

### "My Signature Look"

We're at the stage where everyone is complaining about their hair. I am not complaining. As I have frequently bragged, my husband, Peter, cuts my hair and this has continued while the beauty parlors are closed and everyone is growing increasingly cranky. We were talking to our friends, Mary and Wolfgang, about this and Mary was expressing a bit of envy that I had gotten a haircut the previous day. I let her think that getting a haircut from Peter was like getting a haircut in a salon although, other than the use of scissors, there is very little similarity.

Professional stylists will ask you, "What do you have in mind?" and stand there and pretend to listen before they start cutting hair off. Peter dispenses with this formality. "Snip! Snip! Snip!" Peter is done in no time flat and my hair looks as good as it's going to get.

I also used to go to a hair salon to get my hair "highlighted." This was code for "bleached blond," but I always said, "highlighted" because that's what the stylist would say. Eventually, I realized I was spending a lot of money on a pitiful crop of hair. So, I took a deep breath and tried lightening it myself. The results were exactly the same so I kept doing it. Then, one day about a year ago, the package design changed and I bought the wrong color.

I realized immediately that I had made a dreadful error and had bleached my hair an alarming platinum blond. "OH NO! What have I done?!" I went to bed wondering if I would try to cover up this disaster or just hide in my house long enough for it to grow out.

But a funny thing happened the next morning. I got out of bed, forgetting my fiasco of the previous evening, and saw myself in the morning sunshine. My hair was, as always, standing straight on end. But now it was wackadoodle platinum blond. I liked it.

"Wow. Your hair is very blond," my mother said when she saw it.

"I know," I told her. "It was a mistake."

"I like it," she told me. That settled it. Wackadoodle blond was my new signature look.

So now my hair is newly cut and blond and I am feeling better than Mary and Wolfgang.

"I used to cut Wolfgang's hair," Mary confessed, "but it's too hard now that he's going bald!"

"He just needs to pay you more," I told Mary.

"Why is that?" Wolfgang demanded. "Why do I have to pay more for less hair?"

"It's just like camping gear and lingerie," I told Wolfgang. "The less there is, the more you pay."

Wolfgang and Mary thought that was funny and probably also thought I knew something about lingerie—I didn't set them straight.

But the truth is, my underwear are an embarrassment and my nightgown has holes in it. My mother gave the nightgown to me years ago for Christmas and it is my favorite. It has reindeer on it and it is quite literally falling to pieces.

I decided, with my fancy new haircut, I should bite the bullet and get a new nightgown and went looking online. The only one I found that was anything like it was exactly like it—it had reindeer prancing across the front. I bought it. So, this summer, I'll be the wackadoodle blonde wearing a festive reindeer nightgown.

One of the many nice things about getting older is that I've had time to learn what really suits me.

Till next time,  
Carrie

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

## ★ STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling

# Governor, president spotlight actions in pandemic, economic downturn

AUSTIN — Texas, along with the rest of the nation and the world, continued to battle the COVID-19 pandemic last week as cases and deaths attributed to the novel coronavirus increased.

Gov. Greg Abbott on May 7 met with President Trump in the White House. The president praised Abbott's leadership in handling the months-long medical emergency and in managing the resulting slowdown of the economy in the Lone Star State.

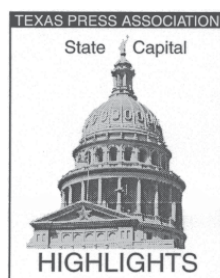
Abbott said Texas has one of the lowest COVID-19 death rates in the country, noting that half of the state's 254 counties have no cases or five or fewer cases of the virus. He said we have the knowledge and resources to contain COVID-19, adding that "It's the people of Texas who have done a great job of slowing the spread" by washing their hands, wearing masks and practicing social distancing.

"Because of that, we are now seeing more and more businesses that are opening up gradually to make sure we don't expand the spread, but we're doing so in a way that we'll make sure Texas will once again reclaim its position as being the number one economy in the United States," the governor said.

Trump asked about the Dallas-area beauty salon owner who was arrested and jailed for violating one of Abbott's executive orders by prematurely opening for business. "She's free today," the governor said during the Oval Office meeting, adding that authorities should exercise common sense in carrying out his executive orders. In the wake of the beauty salon case, Abbott modified his executive orders related to COVID-19 to eliminate confinement as a punishment for violating the orders.

On May 10, cumulative figures posted by the Texas Department of State Health Services showed that some 37,860 people in Texas had been diagnosed with COVID-19, and 1,049 deaths resulting from the influenza-like virus had been confirmed.

**TEA: Graduation guidance**  
The Texas Education Agency on May 5 announced graduation guidance for the class of 2020. Under the guidelines, ceremonies may take place as early as May 15 as the state continues the reopening of services in response



to the COVID-19 pandemic.

While school buildings remain closed to normal in-classroom instruction for the remainder of the 2019-20 academic year, the TEA, in coordination with the governor's Strike Force to Open Texas, is providing four different pathways for schools to celebrate their graduating seniors:

— Virtual ceremonies that take place entirely online with the use of videoconferencing or other technologies;

— Hybrid ceremonies consisting of a compilation of videos of students being recognized in person as they celebrate graduation in small groups;

— Vehicle ceremonies, in which students and their families wait in their cars while other graduates are recognized one at a time with their families alongside them; and

— Outdoor in-person ceremonies, which are currently permitted for certain counties.

Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath said that "by taking the necessary precautions developed by medical experts, we can ensure we appropriately honor our class of 2020 graduates while keeping everyone safe."

**AG joins in crackdown**  
Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on May 4 joined a coalition of 52 attorneys general in a letter to the Washington, D.C.-based broadband industry association USTelecom, urging the association's members to continue developing robocall trace-back and other capabilities suited to law enforcement needs.

Paxton and his colleagues said they anticipate an increase in enforcement and a need for increased investigative support from leading voice service providers.

"Texans' private phones are bombarded by constant calls that invade their privacy and often attempt to defraud them of their hard-earned money," Paxton said.

### Preparedness week proclaimed

Gov. Abbott on May 3 through May 9 as Hurricane Preparedness Week in Texas.

In his proclamation, the governor asks all Texans to take steps to protect themselves and their loved ones from the danger and destruction that hurricanes can bring.

"There are no substitutes for having emergency supplies and a well-prepared emergency plan to protect yourself, your family," Abbott said. He encouraged Texans to visit the Texas Ready webpage, texasready.gov, to learn more about the steps they can take now to prepare for hurricane season. Hurricane season starts on June 1 and ends on Nov. 30.

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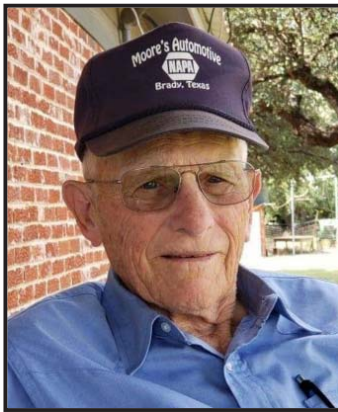
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**OBITUARY**



**Knute Blomstrom**

Knute Alvin Blomstrom, Jr., age 84, of Rochelle, Texas passed away Wednesday evening, May 6, 2020 at his residence in Rochelle. Knute was born July 6, 1935 in Houston to Knute Alvin Blomstrom, Sr. and Gertrude Mae (Wilson) Blomstrom. He graduated from Robert E. Lee High School in Baytown in 1953. He married Helen Louise Spiers on March 20, 1954 in Houston. He was an engineering technician for Exxon Oil for 33 years, retiring in 1986. He lived in Crosby, Texas for 29 years before moving to Rochelle in 1993. Knute led a full life. He was known for his kindness, generosity and his servant heart. He was very active in sports, church and community organizations over the years. He was a member of the Rochelle Baptist Church where he served as deacon for many years and served on the Board of Directors of the Heart of Texas Memorial Hospital for several years.

Graveside services at 1:00pm Wednesday, May 13, 2020 at Sterling-White Cemetery, 11011 Crosby Lynchburg Road in Highlands, TX. Knute Blomstrom will lie in state at the pavilion at Sterling-White Cemetery Wednesday, from 12 Noon to 1:00pm prior to the service. Friends may view Knute Blomstrom's Memorial Video Tribute and/or sign the online memorial guest book at [www.leatherwoodmemorialchapels.com](http://www.leatherwoodmemorialchapels.com).

Knute Blomstrom is survived by his wife Helen Louise Blomstrom of Rochelle; son Chuck Blomstrom and wife Paula of Crosby; daughters Karen Blomstrom and husband Tommy Lowden of Crosby and Susan Blomstrom Hurst of Weaverville, CA; daughter-in-law Robin Morris of Crosby; grandchildren David Vogelpohl and wife Catherine, Stephen Vogelpohl, Jeffrey Vogelpohl and wife Stacey, Jacob Gunner Blomstrom, Ashlynn Blomstrom, Ronnie Blomstrom, Cody Evans and Lacey Painter; great-grandchildren Luke, Jake, Ava, Jackson and Emily Vogelpohl and Alice Fancher. Also survived by sisters-in-law Frances Brown and Helen Spiers; nephews Bill Spiers and wife Chris, Rod Brown and wife Christy and Rusty Brown and his wife Bonnie; special cousins David Blomstrom, Thomas Blomstrom, Martha Anderson, John Blomstrom, Patty Jaeger and Bill Jaeger; and his extended family, Joyce Wilson and her children Clint Wilson and his wife Kisse and Dr. Mary J. Flannery and her husband Mike. He was preceded in death by his parents, son Arthur "Tiger" Blomstrom and sister Geraldine Blomstrom. Memorial contributions in memory of Knute Alvin Blomstrom, Jr. may be made to the Women's Missionary Union, %Rochelle Baptist Church, P.O. Box 126, Rochelle, Texas 76872.

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**Goose Creek CISD Nutrition Services helps community with meals**

Making sure students are fed is a way of life for Natalie Edwards, Goose Creek CISD Nutrition Services director. When Goose Creek CISD superintendent Dr. Randal O'Brien realized Friday, March 13, that students were not going back to school after spring break due to the COVID-19 situation, he asked Edwards when they could set up to provide grab & go meals, and she got the wheels rolling.

"We started with lunch Monday, March 16, and added breakfast the next day at 11 sites. Since then, we have had from 11-19 sites serving children 18 and under," Edwards said.

From March 16-April 30, Edwards and her team, comprised of nearly 100 of the more than 300 Nutrition Services employees, have served 132,839 breakfasts and 135,467 lunches, providing a boost for many families who have experienced layoffs, furloughs or reduced hours. With 71 percent of the district's students on the free or reduced lunch program, Goose Creek CISD knows there is a need for nutritious meals when school is not in session and works to make sure children do not go hungry.

Working during a pandemic means that employees fix the meals, package them and give them to fam-



Nutrition Services employees (from left) Alma Chaverria and Blanca Maldonado prepare to hand out meals at Lamar Elementary.

ilies outside of the schools, while wearing gloves and masks. Employees are encouraged to put the bags containing the food on a table and let the parents pick them up. They also are required to stay apart in the kitchen while preparing the meals.

"People have been grateful to get the food," Edwards said. "I watch some of little kids get excited about things that are in their bags. We try to give them a treat every day, such as chips, cookies or ice cream. Sometimes there are some small toys. We do whatever we can to make it fun."

During the school year, Edwards manages all food programs, including child nutrition, catering and concessions at Stallworth Stadium. Registered dietician Kirsten Kruzenga helps create menus for the 28 schools and nearly 24,000 Goose Creek CISD students, making sure students with special dietary needs, such as food allergies, are accommodated. Each kitchen operates as an individual restaurant, with a manager and assistant manager placing food orders, counting inventory, working with monthly promotions and participating in campus activities.

Roshelle Stevenson handles marketing for Aramark/GCCISD Nutrition Services, and Chef Francheska Bland works with catering, creating food demonstrations, and encouraging students to enter the culinary profession by offering internships, field trips and competitions. Dina McCartney, Suellen Lambert and Michelle Ojeda supervise the school kitchens.



Aramark/Goose Creek CISD Nutrition Services staff (from left) Teofila Reyes(Chica), Raina Cardona, Chef Francheska Bland, Veronica Magana, Alma Rodriguez and Natalie Edwards accept the Best of Booth Award, getting out into the community at the recent Epicurean Evening event.

The grab and go meal distribution will continue through June 30 and will start back up again sometime in July.

"Natalie Edwards and her food service team are some of the most dedicated and caring staff members within the district," said Dr. Anthony Price, deputy superintendent for administrative services. "Their focus is to ensure our students are fed each day, while providing a safe transference for all involved within the grab and go process. They truly are meeting the needs of the community."


**The More Things Change**

A very old quote says that "the more things change, the more they stay the same." Generally, this expression is used in a negative sense, but the child of God can find a lot of truth here.

Think about the church. What has changed through the years? One obvious change is in our music. Most generations grew up with hymnals in hand. Many still use them, but large numbers of churches now choose more contemporary forms. Other changes involve the appearance of the sanctuary, the arrangement of the seating, the minister's presentation style... The list goes on.

In recent months, the biggest changes have come as a direct response to a worldwide pandemic. Ministers all over have had crash courses in live streaming as their congregations became accustomed to attending service in their living rooms while wearing their pajamas, and where it's been permitted drive-in churches became an option that allowed us to not only see each other (while remaining socially distant), but

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**THOUGHTS FROM HILLSIDE CHURCH**  
By Dr. Mark Trice



also have breakfast and enjoy coffee in our parking lot "sanctuaries."

Much has changed in recent decades, years, and weeks, but this is not what's important. Where the Christian is concerned, what is truly important is what has stayed the same, the truths that will never change, such as...

God loves everyone in the world. (John 3:16)

There is only one way to God. (John 14:6)

We all need a one-on-one, intimate relationship with God. (John 17:3)

We must worship Him with a pure heart. (John 4:23)

We are called to come together as a church body. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Jesus still expects us to

do what He tells us. (Luke 6:46)

We must take personal responsibility to share the Gospel. (Matthew 28:19-20)

As we come back together in our sanctuaries after this break from the norm, let us return with fresh hearts, hearts focused on the eternal truths found in the Word of God, hearts on fire with a passion to live every moment in a way that is pleasing to Him and brings Him glory. Let us determine not to return to church as usual, but rather to focus even more intently on living the lives God has called us to live, on actively basing our lives on those things that never change.

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# Testing intimidating but relatively simple

Getting tested for COVID-19 is in the best interest of the area and nation overall but actually doing it requires registration and a willingness to follow instructions but nothing to be intimidated by.

Harris County Public Health encourages people who have a fever\* above 100.4°F (38°C) and with respiratory symptoms, had close contact\*\* with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, have health conditions like (diabetes, lung disease, heart disease, pregnancy), are age 60 and older, are residents of nursing homes (or other senior living facility) are part of an investigation of a cluster or an outbreak, are as-

ymptomatic who believe they have been exposed to COVID-19 to get tested.

One must register by either going to readyharris.org or http://covcheck.hctx.net or telephone (832) 927-7575 to set up your test by registration. At this time, once successfully registered, one will be issued a code to take with them to wherever the test is being administered. In Highlands or Crosby one will probably be sent to Stalworth Stadium in Baytown off of Sjolander Road onto Archer Road and follow the signs.

One will be directed to a tent where officers give directions and a health-

care worker checks your code and places a package on your windshield and you will be directed to the next station.

The final station before exit a rolling bench will put a package with three pieces inside, one is a briefing about everything COVID related, a stick inside a plastic bag and a capped little bottle. You will be instructed to stick the cotton ended swab up your right nostril and swirl and hold for 15 seconds, then insert the swab into your left and repeat that action. One then inserts the swab into the little bottle and closes the bottle tightly. Then you are instructed to leave.

# Making Life Better Stories and songs matter more than ever right now

(NAPSI)—Here's a thought that may make you feel like singing: In times like these, when so many people feel like little islands, connecting with other people to share stories and songs takes on a special significance.

It's long been popular. For much of human history, the center of people's light and life was the humble campfire. It was a place to teach, share, connect, and give thanks. It was the hub of culture, where our ancestors gathered nightly to fight back the dark with their myths, stories, and the joy of their voices raised in song.

Stories and songs are basic units of shared culture that remain, even as the source of flickering light changed from fire to screens. These days, many social networks and streaming services are reporting global spikes in member activity.

For example, on the "stories" side, nearly 16 million new people joined Netflix during the first part of the year, which was twice as many as expected. Other streaming services have seen rises as well, including Disney+. And underscoring the many benefits of engaging in these libraries of "once upon a time," watching streaming video has quickly become the #1 leisure activity for people at home.

On the "songs" side, social singing network Smule has also seen a significant rise in new users joining in from all over the world. Smule is a global online community of music lovers where millions of people from all over come together each day to sing along with millions of popular songs, often with other people—and sometimes with the stars who first sang the songs—plus make new friends, cheer each other on, and simply have fun. Your singing ability doesn't matter; the thing all the members have in common is a love for singing, and a



love for connecting with other people through the shared experience of performing songs together.

It's somewhat like Snapchat and YouTube, mashed up with an automated sound and video recording and effects studio. You can sing or record songs on video with new friends, karaoke by yourself, or sing a cappella. Members include people from all walks of life, including real-life superstars, such as Lewis Capaldi, who upload recorded versions of their top hits for other members to sing along with and repost to the network and other social media platforms. Fans can even sing along with Disney characters such as Moana to the hits from popular Disney films.

Thousands of independent singing communities and teams

have sprung up around the world, using Smule as the platform to showcase their singalongs.

One such community, Apex Team, is a group of 46 young, talented and dynamic voices from all parts of the world who came together as a virtual choir that inspires online audiences with their enjoyable musical performances. Apex produces more than a hundred group collaborations a year, including a phenomenal performance of "Fight Song," by Rachel Platten and Dave Bassett—edited into a "Thank You" to frontline professionals in the fight against COVID-19.

Meanwhile, some things haven't changed. Shared light is better, stories and songs still matter.

To learn more, go to www.smule.com or get the app at Google Play.

## Medical Services,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Houston Methodist Baytown Emergency Department is taking extra precautions to ensure your safety, including:

- Screening all employees and patients for high temperatures and other symptoms before they enter the building
- Asking all patients to wear a mask before arriving, per Texas Medical Board mandate, and providing a mask if patients need one as soon as they arrive
- Isolating suspected COVID-19 patients in a separate area.
- Thoroughly disinfecting patient rooms and all surfaces in common areas and employee workspaces
- Ensuring social distancing in waiting rooms

### Overall Hospital Safety Measures

The Houston Methodist Baytown campus is focused on making your visit as safe as possible, and

we are taking extra precautions, such as:

- Screening all patients and essential visitors when entering our facilities
- Requiring all patients, visitors and employees to wear a mask
- Adhering to a strict essential visitor policy
- Implementing social distancing in our waiting rooms and elevators
- Minimizing waiting in public spaces
- Elevating our cleaning and housekeeping practices
- Offering remote check-in

To schedule an appointment with a Houston Methodist Baytown physician, visit [houstonmethodist.org/baytown](http://houstonmethodist.org/baytown), or call 281-428-2273. If you don't have a doctor, you can speak to a Houston Methodist virtual urgent care provider 24/7 through the MyMethodist app, or you can find a pri-

mary care physician by visiting Find-a-Doctor at [houstonmethodist.org/baytown](http://houstonmethodist.org/baytown).

### About Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital

Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital has provided Baytown and east Harris, Liberty and Chambers counties with quality medical care since opening its doors in 1948. The hospital has grown throughout the years with the community, providing comprehensive care at all stages of life. As a health care leader, the hospital is proud to have a fully integrated residency program focused on educating and inspiring future practitioners. Today, Houston Methodist Baytown provides some of the most advanced and innovative procedures while never wavering from its focus on compassionate and patient-centered care. [Houstonmethodist.org/baytown](http://Houstonmethodist.org/baytown).

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Attention Private Non-Profit Schools, Home Schoolers, Parents, and Community Members in the Sheldon Independent School District

Private, non-profit schools, who legally qualify as a non-profit (currently hold a 501-C3 certificate), home schoolers, parents, and community members are invited to participate in a virtual meeting with representatives from the Sheldon Independent School District to learn more about federally funded programs and services available for the 2020-2021 school year. The meeting will be held virtually using zoom, on Wednesday, May 27, 2020, from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. If you are interested in participating or have questions, please contact Sheldon ISD at (281) 727-2096. Details on how to access the zoom meeting are posted at www.sheldonisd.com.

Atención escuelas privadas, escuelas sin fines de lucro y estudiantes educados en casa en el Distrito Escolar Independiente Sheldon

Las escuelas privadas, escuelas sin fines de lucro y estudiantes educados en casa que califiquen legalmente como sin fines de lucro (que actualmente tengan un certificado 501-C3) están invitadas a reunirse con representantes del Distrito Escolar Independiente Sheldon para saber más acerca de los programas y servicios financiados con fondos federales disponibles para el año escolar 2020-2021. La reunión se realizará en el Edificio de Administración NEY de Sheldon ISD localizado en el 11411 C. E. King Parkway, Houston, Texas 77044, el miércoles 27 de mayo, 2020, de 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Si usted está interesado en participar, por favor contacte a Sheldon ISD al (281) 727-2096 para solicitar información acerca de elegibilidad.

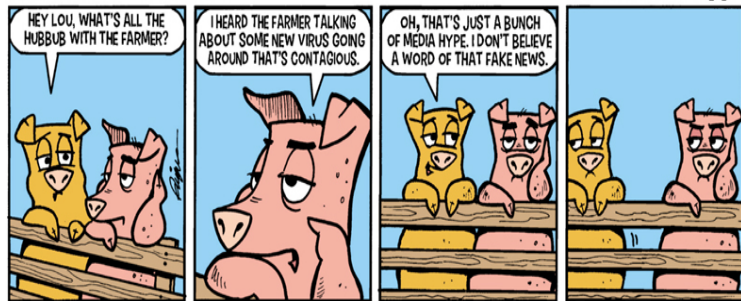
Where can I pick up a Star-Courier?

**HIGHLANDS:**  
 Library  
 Food Town  
 Community Center  
 Backdraft Rest.  
 Woodforest Bank  
 Conoco Station  
 Post Office (outside)  
**CROSBY:**  
 Library  
 Community Center  
 Race Track  
 Arlan's Market  
 Kroger's  
 Community Bank (2)  
**HUFFMAN**  
 Exxon Station  
 Community Bank

**LEGAL NOTICES APPEAR IN THE HIGHLANDS STAR CROSBY COURIER, AND THE NORTH CHANNEL STAR. CALL 713-266-3444 FOR MORE INFO.**

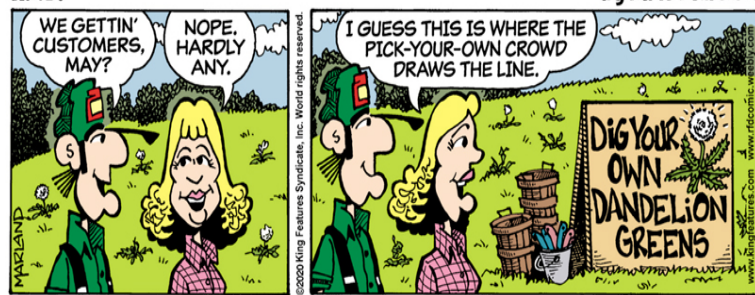
**Amber Waves**

by Dave T. Phipps



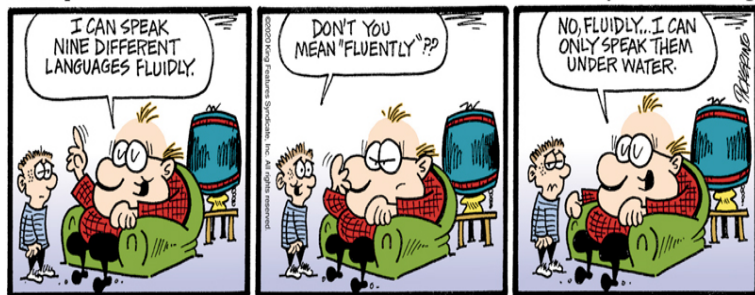
**R.F.D.**

by Mike Marland



**The Spats**

by Jeff Pickering



**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

5			1		8			
	9		2		3			
3	8		4					9
	4		7					3
2		1		6				4
1				8		5	2	
	6				3		4	
		7	2					1
8				6		2		

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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**HOCUS-FOCUS**

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Plant is missing; 2. Frame is added; 3. Woman's blouse is different; 4. Lamp is added; 5. Girl's skirt is different; 6. Woman's earring is added.

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Posting Date May 11, 2020

**King Crossword**

**ACROSS**

- Work units
- Urban carrier
- Wanders
- Hoodlum
- Bobby of hockey
- Leave out
- Atmosphere
- With skill
- Godlike
- Indefinite interval
- To and —
- Regimen
- Sheepish comment
- Mess up
- Manicurist's concerns
- Mater preceder
- Insult (Sl.)
- Nike slogan, "Just —"
- Unpaid bills
- 1960s Pontiac
- Homer's neighbor
- Faraway fleet?
- Actress Thurman
- Help
- Least adorned
- Physicist Niels
- Food of the gods
- Tourney situations
- Wire measure
- Soda fountain treat
- Right on the map?
- Snoop
- Arctic diving birds
- Victory
- Evil
- Brewery product
- Surprise attacks
- Tractor-trailer
- Falsehood
- Massachusetts city
- Joan of —
- The staff of life
- Proceed
- Drive
- Pickling herb
- Eyelid woe
- Ireland
- Norm: Abbr.
- Originally
- Unshaven, in a way
- "Mayday!"
- Mr. Sharif
- Postage buy
- Scent
- Singer Lane
- Protein-rich bean
- Birthright bratter
- Symbol of smoothness
- Body pics
- Russian space station

**DOWN**

- "Zounds!"
- Jim of sports radio
- Asian desert
- Express disdain nasally

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**Trivia Test Answers**

- Haiti and the Dominican Republic; 2. Wisconsin; 3. Pancreas; 4. Greyhound bus lines; 5. About 5,000 years ago; 6. Tina Turner; 7. A beagle; 8. Six; 9. English, Spanish, French, Russian, Arabic and Chinese; 9. 76; 10. 360

**Trivia test** by Fifi Rodriguez

- GEOGRAPHY: The island of Hispaniola is divided into which two countries?
- U.S. STATES: Which state is known as the Badger State?
- MEDICAL: Which human organ is involved in the development of diabetes?
- AD SLOGANS: Which company advises clients to "leave the driving to us"?
- MONUMENTS: How long ago was Stonehenge built?
- ENTERTAINERS: Which singer/actress was born with the name Anna Mae Bullock?
- COMICS: What kind of dog is Snoopy in the "Peanuts" comic strip?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: How many official languages does the United Nations have?
- MEASUREMENTS: How many drops are in a teaspoon?
- MUSIC: How many members sing in the Mormon Tabernacle Choir?

**Answers**

1. Haiti and the Dominican Republic; 2. Wisconsin; 3. Pancreas; 4. Greyhound bus lines; 5. About 5,000 years ago; 6. Tina Turner; 7. A beagle; 8. Six; 9. English, Spanish, French, Russian, Arabic and Chinese; 9. 76; 10. 360

**King Crossword**

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

★ COMMUNITY NEWS ★

# Goose Creek CISD Face-to-Face Ceremony Dates

By Susan Passmore

Moving forward with virtual graduation ceremonies on their originally scheduled graduation dates in May, Goose Creek CISD announced that face-to-face ceremonies will be held in July.

Ross S. Sterling High School's ceremony is planned for July 16 at 7:30 p.m. Goose Creek Memorial High School will host a ceremony July 17 at 7:30 p.m., and Robert E. Lee High School's ceremony is scheduled for July 18 at 9 a.m. The events will be held at Stallworth Stadium, weather permitting. In partnership with Lee College, IMPACT Early College High School will hold its ceremony at the Lee College Sports Arena at noon July 18, depending upon state and local orders at the time, and the same date and time will be reserved for Stallworth Sta-

dium as a contingency plan.

The ceremonies will give students the opportunity to walk across the stage in front of their family members and friends as their names are called. Students will wear their caps and gowns but are permitted to wear more casual clothing underneath their gowns. After receiving congratulations from school administrators and staff, they will stop for a quick graduation photograph.

Planned to be less formal than traditional graduation ceremonies, the summer events will not include the speeches from the virtual ceremonies. Guests are reminded not to bring noisemakers and to respect the rights of other families to hear the names of their graduates called. At the conclusion of the ceremony, students may join their families to take photos and celebrate their

accomplishments on the field at the appropriate time.

Seniors will receive more detailed information as it becomes available. All ceremonies are contingent upon the safety protocols in effect at the time, which may include social distancing and the potential for limiting the number of guests allowed in the stadium, as well as any other CDC guidelines as may be required.

"Our district is pleased to be able to offer students both ceremony opportunities. We hope those who are available will choose to take advantage of the face-to-face ceremony in July when we anticipate safety protocols will provide a more enjoyable opportunity to honor our graduates," Dr. Randal O'Brien, Goose Creek CISD superintendent, said. "Graduation is a major accomplishment for our students as well as for our families and staff



Jennifer Le and Trung Nguyen, Tramy Nguyen's parents, show their pride for their daughter, who is Ross S. Sterling High School's valedictorian, during the recent Top 10 Parade.

members, and we want to ensure that we properly celebrate the results of their hard work and effort."

## CUIC feeds locals, Trautman resigns office,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

unteers checked the names of recipients and asked them to open the boots to have the groceries loaded by hard working volunteers into the rear of the vehicle.

According to volunteer manager, Skip Greenwade, "As you know this facility has been helping people and we were trying to figure out how to accomplish this when a local guy donated a sizable check stipulating that it go to helping folks locally. We used the funds to buy food from the Houston Food Bank and local produce became available; so, at the last minute, thanks to volunteers we were able to assemble this effort."

"The next food distribution at CUIC will be at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, May 29," said Skip Greenwade.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cess in Harris County. She is credited with convincing the county and the state to allow voters to cast their ballots at any polling location, instead of the one closest to their home.

Due to the Coronavirus, she has also been working on a plan to allow the majority of voters to vote by mail instead of risking their health at polling locations. She has received preliminary county funding of \$12 million for this effort, but has been told by the state that it would not be legal to allow all to vote this way, and she is awaiting resolution of this ruling.

Trautman credits her staff for much of the accomplishments, and praises their commitment and hard work.

In accepting her resignation, Judge Hidalgo said "Dr. Trautman embodies the spirit of the community she has served... she led the charge to allow citizens to vote at any poll-

ing place on Election Day... she expanded voting locations... and expanded hours and early voting opportunities for all... During the Coronavirus crisis, she has led the push for mail ballot voting... I thank her for serving our community with pride, dedication, and an ambitious agenda."

The Harris County Republican party issued the following statement:

"We appreciate Dr. Trautman's stated willingness to work together during the one and half years she has been in office. While we have had our differences, Dr. Trautman showed the importance of having an independent county clerk dedicated to meeting important election challenges. Her tenure has also shown why the County Clerk is elected by the people and not beholden to other county officials. While serving as County Clerk is no easy job, it plays a critical role in Harris County, overseeing the largest elections in Texas and, in November 2020, one of the largest countywide voting operations in the nation."

### GOOSE CREEK ISD BROADCAST CEREMONIES

May 23, 2020  
 •Ross S. Sterling - 10:00 am  
 •Goose Creek Memorial - 2:15 pm  
 Broadcast at [www.gccisd.net](http://www.gccisd.net)  
 Ceremonies at Stallworth Stadium.

### CROSBY GRADUATION CEREMONY

Crosby High School - May 29, 12:00 p.m. at the Cougar Stadium. Each student will be limited to five guests, and the five guests are not transferable.

No more than two cars per family can park in the parking lot. Family groups have to sit at least two rows and 6 feet apart from each other.

Before entering, each person will be asked about COVID-19 symptoms and testifying they don't have them. Guests will have assigned entry. Guests will be strongly encouraged to wear facemasks.

Throwing caps into the air will not be allowed. All music will be pre-recorded.

There is no procession because of no rehearsals under Abbott and TEA's orders.

### HUFFMAN ISD GRADUATION CEREMONY

Hargrave High School Graduation Sat. June 27, 4 pm - 7 pm (Ford Park Arena-Beaumont)