CRI Financial, Pages 2

Turner Chevrolet, Page 8

Joint Pain, Page 8

HIGHLANDS CROSBY

Star ☆ Courier

Serving Highlands, Crosby, Huffman and Surrounding Communities since 1955 ▪ www.starcouriernews.com

VOL. 67, NO. 26 – 50¢ © Copyright 2020 THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2020 P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

These stories in the **PRESS:**

- Chambers Library Curbside service only
- Two COVID-19 deaths in Chambers
- Dayton new waste collection service

.....And more, Page 3

COVID-19
Cases as of June 23, 2020

HOUSTON AREA
19 COUNTIES
35,777 POSITIVE
565 DEATHS
13,403 RECOVERED

TEXAS
118,093 POSITIVE
2,211 DEATHS
69,190 RECOVERED

UNITED STATES
2,329,637 POSITIVE
120,927 DEATHS
640,198 RECOVERED

WORLDWIDE
9,158,912 POSITIVE
473,930 DEATHS
4,585,946 RECOVERED

COVID-19 RESOURCES

City of Houston Pre-Screening
832-393-4220
Harris County Ask a Nurse
713-634-1110
Harris County Pre-Screening
832-927-7575 or
readyharris.org
Harris County Mobile Tests
713-439-6000
MD Medical 1-888-776-5252
Methodist Hospital
Download mymethodist app.

BIRTHDAYS
Jun 25–Pam White
Larry Marlin
Andrew Waldrip
Jun 26–C.L. Morgan
Jim White
Jun 27–Josh Lisenbe
George Welshimer
George Thurmond
Jun 28–Jeanne Webb
Ethan Hill
Jun 29–Sarah Muldrow
Peggy Smith
Jun 30–Hannah Barron
Alan Boudreaux
Lisa Boudreaux
Rosetta Farrar
Jul 1–Susan Butler
Deanna Hildebrand
Otis McGaffet
Lewis Spearman
Jul 2–Mark Whittaker

ANNIVERSARIES
Jun 29–John & Jean Lee
K.D. & Linda Strickland
Don & Anna Mattingly

County mandates masks; Governor refuses statewide order

As hospital admissions for COVID-19 continue to climb across the county, Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo signed an order requiring businesses to generate, post, and implement health and safety policies which include, at a minimum, a requirement that workers, customers or visitors wear face coverings. The order took effect on Monday, June 22, 2020 and runs until Tuesday, June 30, 2020.

The order directs all commercial entities providing goods or services to require that all employees or visitors to a business premise wear face coverings in areas that involve any proximity to co-workers or the public. Face coverings may include homemade masks, scarfs, bandanas, or a handkerchief. Commercial entities must post the health and safety policy in a conspicuous location sufficient to provide notice to employees and visitors of all health and safety requirements.

"There's no magic wand government can wave to make this virus go away, but we can take steps to ensure that we provide our community with the guidance and tools it needs to fight back," said Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo. "This isn't just the right thing to do for our health and safety, it's also good for business. We owe it to our community to ensure that those who do have to go out can have the confidence in knowing that the businesses they are patronizing are looking out for their customers, workers, and community as a whole."

Judge Hidalgo wearing a mask. Harris County and Houston have issued orders requiring masks for businesses, employees and customers.Violating Businesses are subject to $1000 fines.

Governor Abbott wears a face mask on Tuesday at a press conference, where he urged voluntary wearing of masks and social distancing, but refused to issue an order making them mandatory.

To support the development of health and safety policies, Harris County is making available a sample health and safety policy and additional guidelines for businesses. Business-

See Mask Mandate, P. 6

Crosby ISD needs crystal ball for 2021

The Crosby ISD Board of Trustees met partially virtually and partially live last Monday night. They heard from a citizen concerning preparations for COVID -19 in the next school year, and conducted a hearing on the proposed budget. The Superintendent outlined the many dimensions of problems preparing for the next year.

CROSBY–No matter what opinion concerning COVID-19 one harbors, making rules and predicting how things will be six months from now is impossible under current conditions.

Crosby ISD held their annual public hearing on the budget last Monday. Under normal conditions it is a tight budget reflecting dramatic growth, new specifications from the state, new taxing legislation from House Bill 3, and the slight over tax (taxed more money than budgeted for due to growth) from last year. In this case, the meeting was held under partially virtual, partially live circumstance concerning projections from last year before the COVID-19 outbreak and as if next

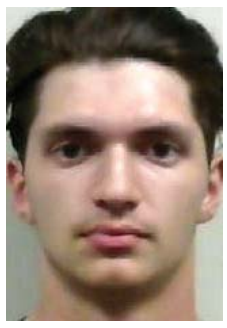
See Crosby Board, Page 8

Crosby Volunteer Fire Dept. to host Zavala benefit

CROSBY – A BBQ Fundraising Benefit for the family of Recruit Firefighter Kent Zavala who passed last week in a tragic vehicle incident while off-duty. Help support Crosby Volunteer Fire Dept. brother's family by stopping by the Newport Station at 123 S. Diamondhead Blvd. on Saturday, 4th of July from 11:30am until food is gone.

Plates are $15 for BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich w/ fixings, Homemade Macn-Cheese, Bake Beans, cookies, and water/tea to drink. Also, whole smoked pork butts are $50.

Drive-Thru pick up and delivery are available. Pre-order through June 30th by emailing Kentsbenefit@yahoo.com PayPal payments accepted at: (contact email first before paying on PayPal) \t "_blank" PayPal.me/kentsbenefit



Kent Zavala

San Jacinto River Coalition

Virtual Meetings keeping public informed

By Gilbert Hoffman
Star-Courier

The San Jacinto River Coalition normally meets every month on the first Tuesday, at a local community center. But since the Covid-19 lockdown mandated by Harris County, the community centers have been closed. To keep the community informed, SJRC/THEA director Jackie Young has been hold virtual reports that are available on the TxHEA.com website.

In her May Report, she discussed the importance of the I-10 bridge and roadway to commerce locally and throughout the nation.

Jackie Young Medcalf

She said that TxDOT is planning on replacing the bumper structures that protect the columns supporting the bridge. These columns were severely damaged twice last year by barge strikes. She said that TxDOT is planning a public meeting in the fall to inform the public and receive comments on the project.

In regard to the waste pits, EPA is testing the crushed concrete and blocks that are part of the Cap cover. The idea is that they might be re-used as landfill after the toxic waste is removed, but only if they have no toxicity. As part of the study, they are also checking the quality of the groundwater, to know how to treat it during remediation.

The next step in remediation is for the engineers to present the 30% Design Package to the EPA for review and approval. At some point this will be made public, and THEA can review it to check what direction the process will be headed.

Jackie raised the question of the Sand Separation area, which has in general has not been part of the remediation study. She said it has lower concentrations of dioxins, but need to be addressed as to how it will be remediated, too. She said that only 9 samples were taken in the area, and that more might be needed for a proper assessment.

Jackie emphasized that full remediation and removal of toxic wastes is essential, so that the river is "safe, for recreational or residential use, not just industrial use."

In the June Report, Jackie noted that weather authorities are expecting an active hurricane season, therefore threatening the waste pits with flooding and realignment of the riverbed.

The toxic waste was originally thought to be 12-14 feet deep, but recent studies and probes indicate it might be as deep as 24-25 feet. The could seriously affect the cost and time for remediation, extending it from 2 years to 4 years, according to the

See SJRC Meeting, p. 6

TURNER CHEVROLET Crosby, Texas
CHEVROLET COMPLETE CARE
FIND NEW ROADS
TurnerChevroletCrosby.com
281-328-4377

AUTO & HOME INSURANCE
Jeremy Rosenkranz, State Farm Agent
440 S. Main Street, Highlands, TX 77562
281-426-3512
www.jeremyrosenkranz.com

Now in our New Offices
1500 E. Wallisville Road
Highlands, TX 77562
WESTON G. COTTEN
Attorney at Law
O. 281/421-4050
F. 281/533-6032
weston@westoncotten.com

STAR-COURIER PHONES: 713-266-3444 • E-MAIL: GRAFIKSTAR @ AOL.COM • FAX: 713-977-1188

☆ COMMUNITY NEWS ☆

COVID-19 is quickly spreading in our community - get tested now

New HCPH Mobile Locations Offer Free Testing June 22-27

Houston – Harris County COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths are continuing to increase. You can have the virus without having symptoms, but still infect others. This disease is very contagious so don't take any chances with your health or your family's. Get tested now. It's free and only takes a few minutes at any of Harris County Public Health's 6 drive through testing sites. Four sites change locations weekly to provide easy access to a variety of Harris County neighborhoods.

Sign up online at www.hcphtx.org, take the self-assessment and drive to the test site. Or call 832-927-7575. To get tested the next day, call or register online after 2:00 p.m. Results are available in 3-5 business days. You must take the self-assessment to get an authorization code for a testing site.

Two stationary sites are in CyFair at the Ken Pridgeon Stadium, 11355 Falcon Rd, Houston, TX 77065 and Pasadena, on the San Jacinto College Central Campus, 8060 Spencer Hwy, Pasadena, TX 77505. Stationary sites are open 6 days, Monday-Saturday. Mobile sites are open Monday-Saturday but closed one weekday.

Mobile locations for the week of June 22-27, Monday-Saturday are:

• Lone Star College – North Harris Campus 2700 Thorne Dr, Houston, TX 77073

Closed Tuesday, June 23

• Bay Area Community Center 5002 E NASA Pkwy, Seabrook, TX 77586

Closed Wednesday, June 24

• Hayes Elementary School 21203 Park Timbers Ln, Katy, TX 77450

Closed Thursday, June 25

• Lone Star College Tomball 700 Graham Dr, Tomball, TX 77375

Houston sets free COVID-19 testing schedule for week of June 22

HOUSTON - The Houston Health Department and its agency partners are announcing the schedule for sites offering free COVID-19 tests the week of June 22, 2020.

Texas Division of Emergency Management

The Texas Division of Emergency Management and the department will open five drive-thru test sites June 22-27:

- Willow Ridge High School, 16301 Chimney Rock Rd.,
- NRG Green Lot, 1 Reliant Park,
- HCC-Northeast Campus, 555 Community College Dr.
- HCC – South Campus, 1990 Airport Blvd., and
- Kingwood Park Community Center, 4102 Rustic Woods Dr.

TDEM sites require appointments, available by calling 512-883-2400 or visiting txcovidtest.org. The sites will open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

United Memorial Medical Center

United Memorial Medical Center (UMMC) will continue its weekday testing at a drive-thru and walk-up test site at the Southwest Multi-Service Center, 6400 High Star, and a drive-thru site at Houston Community College-Southeast, 6815 Rustic.

The sites don't require appointments and offer testing from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. or until reaching its daily capacity of 250 tests.

Other UMMC sites opening weekdays are:

- UMMC Tidwell, 510 W Tidwell Rd., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Forest Brook Middle School, 7525 Tidwell Rd, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Cullen Middle School, 6900 Scott St., 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., and
- Griggs School, 801 Regional Park Dr., 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

People needing information about UMMC test sites can call 1-866-333-COVID or visit ummcscreening.com.

Kroger

Kroger will offer testing at the Fifth Ward Multi-Service Center, 4014 Market Street, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 25-27. Appointments are available online at krogerhealth.com/covidtesting.

Houston Health Department & Community-Based Sites

The department operates two free drive-thru COVID-19 community-based testing sites open to anyone, regardless of symptoms. Each site has capacity for 500 tests per day.

Days of operation for the sites are Monday through Saturday.

People can call the department's COVID-19 Call Center at 832-393-4220 between 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. to receive an access code and directions to the nearest community-based site.

Federally Qualified Health Centers

The health department is providing test kits, lab access and equipment to four local Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) so they can expand their COVID-19 testing capacity. The centers and phone numbers people can call to set up testing appointments are:

- Spring Branch Community Health Center, 713-462-6565
- El Centro de Corazon, 713-660-1880
- Avenue 360 Health and Wellness, 713-426-0027
- Lone Star Circle of Care at the University of Houston, 346-348-1200, and
- Community Health Network, 281-816-3317.

FQHC patients pay what they can afford, based on income and family size, and are not denied services due to inability to pay or lack of insurance.

The department and its agency partners may shift locations and schedules of test sites to better meet community needs. Houstonians can visit HoustonEmergency.org/covid19 for current Houston test sites and information about stopping the spread of the virus.

Information obtained through testing, treatment or services will not be used against immigrants in their public charge evaluation.

PPE in Stock in Crosby!

Face Masks • Hand Sanitizer Bottles
Nitrile Gloves • Disinfectant Spray Bottle Refills
Curbside - Contact Free Pick Ups & Ground Shipping Available
Call 281-462-1200
Graphics Unlimited, Inc.
CORPORATE GRAPHICS AT ITS BEST
213 Kernohan St. • Crosby, TX 77532 www.graphicsunlimitedinc.net

Maximum Tax Savings
Open for appointments

Jack Noonan B.B.A., T.R.E.B., E.A.
CRI FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY
A DIVISION OF CORPORATE RECOVERY, INC.
TAX PREPARATION & CONSULTATION
All Federal, State, Foreign & Individual, Partnerships, Trusts, Estates, Corporations (C,Sub S & Limited Liability) & Payroll Tax Returns,Intuit Pro-Advisors, Service All Businesses & Individual Taxes
Specialists in getting late filers into I.R.S. Compliance
Business Solutions for New Tax Rules, Regulations and Tax Audits
Debt Consultation and Bankruptcy Protection as a Solution to your Debts
Other Services Rendered
Bookkeeping, Computer Systems, Financial Management, Investments, Payroll, Property Rendition, Real Estate & Business Brokerage
Normal Business Hours
Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to Noon – 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Saturday By Appointment
ASK FOR YOUR FREE COPY OF OUR INCOME TAX ORGANIZER
JACK NOONAN, B.B.A., TREB, E.A. & STAFF
IRS Enrolled License # 2018 – 65282
6400 FM 2100 North Main, P.O. Box 1428, Crosby, TX 77532-1428
Telephone (281) 328-1755 Fax (281) 328-5280
E-mail: cri.tax.jhinson@gmail.com

OMNIX HEALTH CARE SERVICES, INC.
281-328-5869

Home Health Care
Skilled Nursing, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Medical Social Worker, Home Health Aide, Hospice Services
*Physical Therapy Position Available
CALL TODAY TO SEE IF YOU QUALIFY FOR MEDICARE FUNDED HOME HEALTH CARE
Physical Therapy Position Available
Locally owned and Operated by Tabatha and Jonathan Brady
Non-Discrimination Policy
No client shall be, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, age, sex, disability or handicap, sexual orientation, marital status, religion or status with regard to public assistance or veteran status, excluded from admission to services through Omnix Health Care Services, Inc.
CROSBY'S HOME TOWN HOME CARE

BHB Barbers Hill Bank
Where other banks have established their branches, we have planted our roots.
Independently Owned and Operated with Locations across Chambers and Liberty County!
11402 Eagle Dr.
Mont Belvieu, TX 77523
& INSIDE HEB - Mont Belvieu, TX
281-385-6455 || www.bhbank.net
Member FDIC

Barbers Hill ★ Dayton Press

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

VOL. 25, NO. 26– 40¢ © Copyright 2020 THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2020 MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

ROUND-UP

Beach City News Updates

COVID-19 IS SPIKING IN OUR AREA

We must not let our guard down now as businesses are opening back up and the State is relaxing restrictions. We are currently seeing a surge in numbers of daily confirmations of the virus that are alarming. Minimize your chance of exposure by avoiding groups and practicing diligent hand sanitizing and wear a mask when in public. If you are feeling even a slight bit ill or running a fever, please stay home or go to a doctor to protect others from exposure in case you have the virus.

OPERATING GOLF CARTS ON CITY STREETS

I am getting a number of reports and a couple of contacts that could be construed as complaints of children operating golf carts and other motorized vehicles on city streets and sometimes in a dangerous manner. As mayor, I cannot ignore this information. Beach City did pass a Golf Cart Ordinance a couple of years ago to make Beach City "Golf Cart Friendly". I would like to note that it is still against the law to operate any motorized vehicle on a public street without a valid drivers license, even golf carts, and for the parents of a minor breaking this law, you can be cited. What is wonderful about living in a small town is often we can self-police and not have to involve law enforcement to solve every issue. I will expect this problem to rectify itself quickly, before some child is involved in a tragic accident. Thanks in advance for your help.

HURRICANE SEASON REMINDER

I want to emphasize again how important it is to be prepared for a possible tropical storm/ Hurricane to impact our area. Now is the best time to get ready and get supplies. go to the following web sites for great information and supply list recommendations. www.Ready.gov and www.Hurricanes.gov.

Jackey Lasater,
*Mayor, Beach City***

Dayton CC Luncheon

Guest Speaker: Austin L. Tennette, Certified Business Coach

Lunch will be catered by: Pappy's BBQ Catering

BBQ Beef Potatoes, Dessert, with Tea & Water

Tuesday, July 7th at the Dayton Community Center Ballroom, 801 S. Cleveland St., Dayton, TX 77535.

Register via email info@daytontxchamber.com

DAYTON:

New waste collection service to begin July 1

Diagram explains how the new trash collection works.

Dayton residents will soon see a change in their trash pick-up as the City begins its new contract with Frontier Waste Solutions. Under the new contract with Frontier, residents will begin receiving new 95-gallon wheeled carts next week.

The new service will begin on July 1 and will consist of a once-weekly automated pickup, as well as bulky item and brush removal. Under the City's current contract, twice a week manual collection was provided, however, the contract expires June 30, and bids for the same service came in significantly higher.

Most cities in Texas have now moved to once a week service. There are many reasons Dayton, Liberty, Beaumont, and other

See Waste Collection, Page 6

Two COVID-19 deaths in Chambers County

Chambers County reports its first two COVID-19 related deaths.

The first decedent was a male, aged 70 to 80-years-old. The second decedent was a female, aged 40 to 50-years-old. Both had underlying health conditions.

In order to protect patient privacy, Chambers County Public Health is unable to release any additional information.

"We are deeply saddened to report this news and we offer our deepest heartfelt condolences to the families of these patients during this difficult time," said Chambers County Judge Jimmy Sylvia.

These deaths come after climbing numbers of confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in Chambers County.

"We continue to see an exponential increase in case counts in Chambers County and throughout the Region," said Local Health Authority W. Clay Brown, MD.

"We continue case investigations on all of the positive cases in Chambers County and perform contact tracing to determine the level of possible exposure to others. This is an important step in containing the spread of COVID-19 in our county," added Mary Beth Bess, Director of Chambers County Health Services. "Those who have been given home isolation or quarantine instructions by Public Health due to a positive test or direct exposure to a positive case should abide by them. This protects your family, neighbors and coworkers by not potentially spreading disease in the community."

See Covid deaths, p. 5

Judge recognizes Demuras' efforts

Simple Simon's Pizza Parlor in Old River-Winfrey was recognized by Chambers County Judge Blake Sylvia for efforts to feed school children during COVID-19 emergency. Mary, Chandler and Dennis Demura received their Love Thy Neighbor Coins on June 19. The judge said, "I am very proud to present my friends Mary, Dennis and their daughter with their "Love Thy Neighbor Coins! From day one when the schools were shutdown they started feeding both Barbers Hill and Dayton students. At the peak they were feeding up to 220 children at day. Thank you for your service to the community.

Chambers County Libraries return to curbside service only starting June 29

Beginning Monday, June 29, 2020 all Chambers County Library System Branches will return to curbside service only.

"Due to the dramatic increase in positive cases of COVID-19 in Chambers County, we feel that closing all library branches and returning to curbside service only is the best option for protecting both our employees and clients," said Chambers County Judge Jimmy Sylvia.

Curbside service will be available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Items can be reserved online at https://chambers.lib.tx.us/ or by telephone. Clients should call the library when they arrive to pick up their items, open the trunk or back seat and then get back into the vehicle. Library staff will place items directly into the trunk or seat and close the door.

Printing and fax services will also be offered via curbside.

After use, library items must be returned to the outdoor drop box at the closest Chambers County Library System Branch. Returned items will be quarantined for 14 days before they are available again for check out.

All Chambers County residents are encouraged to remember that we must all work together to slow the spread of COVID-19. Staying home when possible, wearing a mask when in public and frequently washing your hands are all essential to protecting your family, community and yourself.

As always, Chambers County is here to serve you. Please reach out to Chambers County Public Health at 409-267-2731 with health-related questions and the Chambers County Judge's Office at 409-267-2440 with general questions.

Stay on scheduled with your mammogram

BAYTOWN — (June 18, 2020) — Normal life has been turned upside down by the pandemic, requiring all of us to adjust routines and reschedule events. But there's one self-care activity that should not be rescheduled — getting an annual mammogram.

It's important to continue the focus on combatting COVID-19 without losing sight of the ongoing war against other major health threats. The statistics on COVID-19 are shifting every day, and it's unclear how we may be affected in the future. At the same time, the statistics on breast cancer haven't changed: 1 in every 8 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer at some point in her lifetime. Staying on track with breast cancer screenings as recommended by your doctor can help you improve your odds against breast cancer.

Dr. Esther Dubrovsky

Early Detection Makes a Difference

"When it comes to your breast health, getting a mammogram is something you should prioritize and keep on the schedule," said Dr. Esther Dubrovsky, breast surgeon at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital. "Early detection is the key to identifying breast cancer when it's most treatable, so it's important to get your mammograms on time."

Starting at age 40 (or younger if you have a family history of breast cancer), you should talk to your doctor about getting

See Mammogram, Page 6

3D mammography screening offered at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital is capable of detecting the smallest abnormalities

☆ OPINION PAGE ☆

Social Security Matters

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

Ask Rusty – SSDI Denied; Will Claiming Early Hurt Spouse or Survivor Benefits?

Dear Rusty: I applied for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits and was denied. So, because I turn 62 this month, I plan to file for my early SS retirement benefits. Since I've not worked a lot due to health issues I won't get much and I realize my benefit will be reduced by about 30% from my full retirement age amount, but we need the extra income to help with my medical bills. My husband is 57 and still works. Social Security will be our only retirement so he will be working for as long as he can. My question is, how will my early retirement affect any spousal benefits I might qualify for in the future? Or my widow's benefits if he should die before I do? Signed: Worried Spouse

Dear Worried: Claiming your own SS benefit at age 62 will cause your spousal benefit to be less when your spouse benefit starts (when your husband claims). That's because your spousal benefit will be in the form of a "spousal boost" which will be added to the reduced SS benefit you will get by filing at age 62. The amount of your spousal boost will depend upon how old you are when your husband claims (which is when your spousal benefit kicks in). If you've reached your full retirement age (FRA) of 66 years and 8 months, your spousal boost will be the difference between 1) your SS retirement benefit amount at your FRA (regardless of when you claimed) and 2) half (50%) of the benefit your husband is entitled to at his FRA (regardless of when he claims). At your FRA you get the full amount of the spousal boost; but taken before your FRA the spousal boost will be actuarially reduced according to the number of months prior to FRA it is taken. Since the spousal boost is added to the benefit you are already receiving, you claiming your reduced benefits at age 62 means your spousal benefit will also be reduced. But your spousal benefit (while your husband is living) is entirely different from your survivor benefit if your husband dies before you.

As your husband's widow, provided you have reached your FRA you will get 100% of the amount he was receiving (or entitled to receive) at his death, instead of your smaller benefit from claiming at age 62. In other words, that you claimed your own benefit at 62 doesn't affect your survivor benefit. But if the survivor benefit is claimed before you reach your full retirement age it will be reduced due to claiming it early (the reduction is about 4.75% for each year early). Note that you do not have to claim the survivor benefit immediately; you may wait to claim until it reaches maximum at your FRA.

One final point: Statistically, about 2/3rds of all initial SSDI disability applications are denied. If you believe strongly that you've been unfairly denied, you can appeal that denial, even if you go ahead and claim your own SS benefit at age 62. To appeal the SSDI denial you should submit form SSA-561 – Request for Reconsideration, which you can find at this link: www.ssa.gov/forms/ssa-561.html.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

Governor, education commissioner say schools will open in fall

AUSTIN — While COVID-19 testing, contact tracing, case counts, hospitalizations and deaths increased last week, more and more Texans ventured out of their homes with the deadly coronavirus showing no sign of abatement.

Gov. Greg Abbott recently renewed his COVID pandemic disaster declaration for all counties affected by the disease. Even so, Abbott and Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath on June 18 sounded a hopeful note, saying schools would resume normal operations in the fall. "It will be safe for Texas public school students, teachers and staff to return to school campuses for in-person instruction this fall, but there will also be flexibility for families with health concerns so that their children can be educated remotely, if the parent so chooses," said Morath, adding that detailed guidance would be issued soon.

Texas State Teachers Association President Noel Candelaria reacted, saying teachers and other school employees "need to be directly involved in planning for the safe reopening of school facilities" and a rush to reopen schools puts at risk the health and safety of millions of Texas school children, educators, families and communities.

Cumulative figures posted June 21 by the Texas Department of State Health Services showed some 111,601 people in Texas diagnosed with COVID-19 and 2,182 confirmed deaths resulting from the disease.

Meanwhile, Gov. Abbott and Dr. John Zerwas, University of Texas System executive vice chancellor for health affairs, on June 16 said the Lone Star State's hospital capacity can accommodate an uptick in COVID-19 cases. Texas Department of State Health Services Commissioner John Hellerstedt and Texas Division of Emergency Management Chief Nim Kidd joined Abbott and Zerwas in making the announcement.

In related news, the governor's office on June 15 released a new public service announcement titled "Wear A Mask On And Off

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION
State Capital
HIGHLIGHTS

The Field." In the PSA, Dallas Cowboys linebacker Jaylon Smith says: "I wear a face mask every single day on the football field to protect myself. Now I'm switching it up to a different mask to protect myself and others around me. As we open up Texas, it's crucial that we all do our part in this fight against COVID-19. So when you leave the house, make sure you wash your hands, make sure you practice social distancing, and last but not least, wear a mask. You be safe. Go Cowboys."

Juneteenth gains momentum

Protest marches in Texas and other states continued last week, following the May 25 killing of Texan George Floyd by Minneapolis police.

Marches in the Lone Star State and elsewhere incorporated the Black Lives Matter movement. The marchers also called attention to Juneteenth, the annual celebration that memorializes the June 19, 1865, announcement by Union Army Gen. Gordon Granger in Galveston that slavery was banned and all slaves were set free.

Until then, news of President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, signed Jan. 1, 1863, and the fact that the war ended on April 9, 1965, had been withheld from the estimated 250,000 slaves then in Texas.

Gov. Abbott, in a June 19 Twitter posting wrote, "Today marks the 155th anniversary of the date that news of the Emancipation Proclamation arrived in Texas. We celebrate and recognize the freedom Juneteenth represents. Texas continues to stand for liberty for all."

U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, D-Houston, authored a resolution that was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Reform on June 19. The legislation, cosponsored by 207 representatives, would make "Juneteenth Independence Day" a national observance. U.S. Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, offered a similar resolution cosponsored by 57 senators.

Paxton reacts to DACA ruling

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton expressed his disappointment with the U.S. Supreme Court's June 18 ruling to uphold the Obama administration's 2012 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

The case, Department of Homeland Security et al. v. Regents of the University of California et al., was brought to the high court via the San Francisco-based 9th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Paxton said he looks forward to litigating the same issue, the constitutionality of the Obama administration's action creating the program, in a case now pending in a South Texas U.S. district court.

As of Dec. 31, 2019, some 107,000 Texans were counted by the federal government as DACA recipients, meaning they have applied and been cleared to reside in the U.S.

Jobless rate decreases

The Texas Workforce Commission on June 19 announced that in the month of May, the Lone Star State's unemployment rate dropped slightly to 13.0%, the first decrease recorded since March, when COVID-19 sent a robust economy on a downward trajectory.

During May, Texas added 291,000 private-sector positions led by the leisure and hospitality sector, followed by the education and health services sector and the trade-transportation-utilities sector.

Among Texas' Metropolitan Statistical Areas, the Amarillo MSA recorded May's lowest unemployment rate with a non-seasonally adjusted rate of 8.5%, followed by the College Station-Bryan MSA with a rate of 8.6% and Abilene MSA with a rate of 8.9%.

"Texas businesses are opening their doors, taking precautions and working around the clock to serve all Texans," said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Aaron Demerson.

THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

"My Neighbors the Superheroes"

I think my next-door-neighbors might be superheroes.

They both work with computers (at least that's what they say) and then, every spare moment, they are off doing superhero type things.

My neighbor, Jason, runs 100-mile marathons. He's even done a few 200-plus-mile marathons. These are held in the mountains. He starts running before the sun is up, runs up a mountain all day, then runs down a mountain all night, then runs up another mountain the next day. He wears a headlamp so he can see the trail in the dark. Last weekend, Jason and a friend (who is probably also a superhero) left the house and ran 70 miles—for fun.

"He's crazy," Jason's wife, Allison, says.

I'm not sure Allison is in any position to judge.

Allison is tiny and she trains in their climbing shed. (Before I met these folks, I'd never heard of a climbing shed.) There is a window in the shed so I am not technically spying on her when I see Allison climbing up the wall. The wall starts out vertical and then it gets steeper until Allison is hanging upside down from her fingers like a spider. I don't think this is something ordinary human beings are supposed to be able to do.

Our superhero neighbors never seem to get grouchy or tired. They are always cheerful and helpful. I sometimes bring them desserts because I figure superheroes are too busy saving the world to have time for baking. Unlike normal people, they never seem to worry about calories—hanging upside down by your fingers burns up quite a few, I imagine.

Sometimes, I think it would be fun to be a superhero. I'm a writer and I started writing late in life so I figure I need to keep busy if I'm ever going to be any good. But the truth is, writing is easy—not because I am super disciplined or have any super talent. It's easy because I enjoy it.

Some days I do stare at the proverbial blank sheet of paper for a few minutes but that's okay. I look at the pine trees outside my window. I drink a little coffee. I remember how lucky I am to be able to spend time doing something that makes me happy. I think I'm probably as happy as Allison when she's hanging upside down or Jason when he's running up a mountain in the middle of the night.

The word "should" kills a lot of joy.

I know a lot of writers who found out they could write and so they decided they "should"—and that was the end of the writing. At that moment, writing became a chore. I know even more people who say they "should" exercise (or save the world) and they never get a moment of the joy Jason and Allison experience every day.

I admire what Jason and Allison can do but, more than that, I respect how much they enjoy it. When they said they were going to build a climbing shed I admit I thought, "How often will you use that?" Every day is the answer. Allison climbs in that shed every single day. Jason doesn't go running to win any prizes—although I'm sure he's happy when he does. He spends his free time running for superhuman distances because he loves it.

I'm sure, like me, they sometimes hesitate before they start. Maybe they even get discouraged. But then they do their superhero things—not because they should, but because being a superhero makes them really happy.

Till next time,

Carrie

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

HIGHLANDS CROSBY
Star☆Courier
USPS 244-500
and the
Barbers Hill☆Dayton PRESS

Editor & Publisher.....Gilbert Hoffman
Associate Publisher.....Mei-Ing Liu Hoffman
Assoc. Editor/Advertising Manager.....Lewis Spearman
Assistant Editor.....Julieta Paita
Production Manager.....Luis Hernandez
Asst. Production Manager.....Gerardo Hernandez

Entered as Periodicals Class at Highlands Post Office, Highlands, TX 77562. Under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. Published 50 weeks per year, on Thursday, by Grafikpress Corp., 5906 Star Lane, Houston, TX 77057. Opinions in this paper are those of the authors, and not necessarily this newspaper's. Any erroneous statement which may appear will be corrected when brought to the attention of the publisher. Liability for errors is limited to the reprinting of the corrected version. Submissions are encouraged, in person, by mail, by Fax, or by email, to grafikstar@aol.com.

GRAFIKPRESS is publisher of community newspapers, including Highlands STAR-Crosby COURIER; Barbers Hill Dayton PRESS; Northeast NEWS; North Forest NEWS, North Channel STAR. Combined circulation of these newspapers exceeds 50,000, Readership exceeds 110,000 according to industry standards. We also print dozens of school, ethnic, and government publications on contract. Call for information to 713-977-2555.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: In-county, $28.00 per year. Out of county, $35.00 per Year. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Star-Courier, P. O. Box 405, Highlands, TX 77562

News and Ad Phones....713-266-3444
FAX Line....713-977-1188
email: grafikstar@aol.com
Member Texas Press Association

☆ LIFESTYLE PAGE ☆

THOUGHTS FROM HILLSIDE CHURCH

By Dr. Mark Trice

God's Calendar

SIX MONTHS. We have already hit the halfway mark of 2020. How unbelievable is that?

Someone said the most worthless thing they bought this year was a planner, because the year 2020 got hijacked and they'd not been able to use it. I kind of understand that. Most of us keep going about our daily responsibilities, but many of the events we use to mark the passing of the year have been canceled on us, or at least greatly modified. As a result, you may have had a point at which you glanced at the calendar on the wall and realized you'd forgotten to change monthsÅcfor a while.

But God's timetable is still progressing. His calendar pages are flipping, and it seems to be happening at an accelerated pace. He is still concentrating on building up His kingdom, and He's taking advantage of our current situation to do it. From what I'm seeing, God is using the pandemic to help Christians grow in areas we'd perhaps been overlooking. He's also using people's situations to open doors for ministry and discipleship. He is using the affairs of men to lead the whole world in one direction – the ultimate return of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Jesus Christ.

Because, you realize, that IS the ultimate goal. He is working towards the new Heaven and new Earth, and an eternity spent in close fellowship with His creation. There will come a day when believers will no longer dream of going to visit Israel; they will have ready access to the New Jerusalem. We won't have to long for the day when we will see loved ones who have gone on before us, because everyone who has accepted salvation through the shed blood of Jesus Christ will be in the same place. No more worry. No more sorrow. No more pain.

Anyone who has read Bible prophecy, even in passing, should realize that the closer we get to the return of Jesus the more likelihood there is that things will go downhill fast. Ultimately, there will be a one-world government complete with the Antichrist and the mark of the beast. Before the end, there will be a tribulation that will make this pandemic look like child's play. Those of us who know this need to be out there sounding the alarm, doing our best to reach every possible person before it's too late, before the Church is caught away, leaving the lost behind to endure the unimaginable.

Christians, let us not lose focus, not get distracted or drawn into fear by all that is going on around us. Instead, let us stand more firmly on the Rock of Salvation, and let us take heed to the words uttered over and over in the Old Testament. Let us be that watchman on the wall, keeping our eyes peeled, always ready to instantly respond at need.

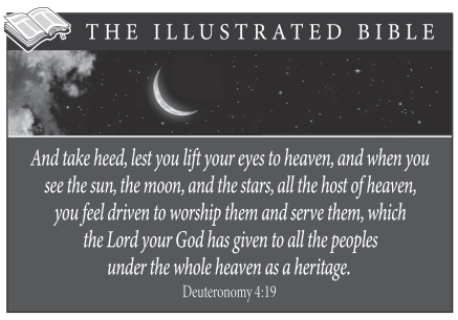
MyHillsideFamily.com
@MyHillsideFamily

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey—

1. Is the book of Matthew in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. During a famine, who set out with another man to find grass to feed his horses and mules? Abishag, Ahab, Abner, Agrippa
3. From Exodus 34, who was frightened of a man who came down a mountain with a shining face? Laban, Stephen, Aaron, Cornelius
4. At what city's public bonfire were books worth thousands of dollars burned? Ephesus, Derbe, Perga, Lystra
5. From Acts 5, who fell dead after lying about a property deal? Nehemiah, Shimei, Levi, Ananias
6. Where did Lot meet angels? City gate, Field, Temple, Oak tree

ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Ahab; 3) Aaron; 4) Ephesus; 5) Ananias; 6) City gate



© 2020 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

Book Club of Highlands celebrates 80th anniversary

Members of the Highlands Book Club pose for a photo, after receiving a Resolution commemorating the 80th Anniversary event from State Representative Briscoe Cain. The resolution is seen at the right.

Child injured at Crosby off-road park

CROSBY – A five-year old nearly drowned June 17 at Xtreme Off-Road Park on Gulf Pump Road.

Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzales posted a Tweet on the social media Twitter stating, "Deputies are at Xtreme Off-Road Park located at 1999 Gulf Pump Road. A 5-year-old male went under water in a swimming pool area. The child was being transported to the hospital in serious condition."

The incident was said to have happened about 8:30 p.m. and was called a near drowning.

Witnesses indicated that the incident was related to the slide located within the swimming area at Xtreme Off-Road Park.

According to the witness, the child slipped under the water after going down the slide that was very populated by other children at that time.

The child was transported to the hospital in serious but stable condition by Harris County Emergency Service District #5, the ambulance service for Crosby.

Harris County Sheriff's Deputy Kimberly Thomas described a family outing to the ATV park.

Harris County Sheriff's Deputies indicate that the incident remains under investigation.

Two COVID-19 deaths,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Chambers County residents who have symptoms such as fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, congestion or runny nose, new loss of taste or smell or feel that they may have been exposed should call their primary care provider to discuss their options and only leave home to receive medical care. Health-related questions can also be directed to Chambers County Public Health at 409-267- 2731.

"We ask that everyone continue to do their part to reduce community spread by decreasing nonessential trips outside of the home, wearing face coverings or masks outside of the home and practicing social distancing, good handwashing and frequent cleaning of surfaces," said Dr. Brown.

The Journey of a thousand miles begins with one step
-LaoTzu

STERLING ~ WHITE
FUNERAL HOME & CEMETERY
11011 CROSBY-LYNCHBURG RD.
HIGHLANDS, TX 77562
(281) 426-3555
WWW.STERLINGWHITE.COM
"A Tradition of Excellence Since 1824"

Siding &
Roof Repairs
Mobile Home Skirting
Call Mr. Roofer
281-452-0000

What we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory He will reveal to us later
ROMANS 8:18

ENVELOPES
Printed with your Address
1 or 2 colors
Special Rates 250 to 25,000
Please call for a Quote
Grafikshop at Star-Courier
713-977-2555

Our promise to you is to always provide excellent service at the most affordable price
Where there is a definite difference!
CRESPO & JIRRELS
Funeral and Cremation Services
281.839.0700
6123 Garth Road | www.crespoandjirrels.com

www.starcouriernews.com

www.facebook.com/StarCourier

WESTON COTTEN, ATTORNEY
HIGHLANDS
281-421-4050 1500 E. Wallisville Rd.
NOT CERTIFIED BY THE TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

SIGNATURE Select SERVICES
www.SigSelect.com
Select Services:
Personal Care
Social Outlings
Respite Care
24 hr. Care
In-Hospital Sitting
Post-Surgical Assistance
Pet & Plant Care
Light Housework
Meal Preparation
Transportation
MONICA NELSON
COMMUNITY LIASON
346-216-8872
mnelson@sigselect.com
606 Rollingbrook Dr. #2G
Baytown, TX 77521
832-695-2328

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.
PHILIPPIANS 4:13

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.
-- 1 JOHN 4:18

For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.
--2 Timothy 1:7

Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia exposed to deadly virus, self-quarantined

By Allan Jamail

Houston, TX. – June 16, 2020 – Today Congresswoman Garcia told NC Star writer Allan Jamail that she's in self-quarantine because of being exposed to a family member who had recently tested positive for the COVID-19 virus.

After consulting with her physician and the Attending Physician of the United States Congress, the Congresswoman went into self-isolating for the period of time recommended by the CDC.

Today Garcia said, "I'm thankful my #COVID19 test came back negative, but I still need to self-isolate and watch for symptoms out of an abundance of caution."

"Working on behalf of the people of the Texas 29th Congressional District in the midst of this pandemic is my highest priority and I will be taking the necessary precautions to make sure I can continue fighting for our community. I want this to serve as a reminder for everyone in the Houston region and across the country that we are still combating COVID-19 and that everyone should be following public health guidelines that will help keep you and your loved ones safe and healthy," she said.

Photo by Allan Jamail
Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia

Let this be a reminder that we're still in the middle of a pandemic, and we must keep social distancing, washing our hands, and wearing a face mask," Garcia conclude.

Studies reveal an infected person even without virus symptoms can spread the germs as easy as talking to one another by "voice-droplets" transmitted in the air. County health officials are asking residents to stay 6 feet apart and to wear a mask when out in public.

Waste Collection,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cities are making this change. Cost is the primary factor. Twice a week service is expensive, and the City is no longer able to offer twice a week service without a significant increase to customers. There is also a reduction in emissions from fewer trucks on the road each day.

"The City's current contract was negotiated 15 years ago when waste management was significantly different," said City Manager Theo Melancon. "Once a week pickup and automated service is now the standard in most places. When the bids were received and scored, it was determined that Frontier Waste Services offered the best service at the best value for both our residential and commercial customers."

Residents who find that they have more trash to dispose of have two options. For the occasional situation, they can purchase a pick up of additional bags through a pink tag system. These can be ordered by calling Frontier Waste Solutions, visiting their website, or through an available mobile app and selecting the option for Dayton pink tags. The cost is 75 cents per bag. For residents who consistently have more trash than fits in their bin, additional carts are available for $5.95 a month per cart.

The new poly-carts are durable and easy to wheel out to the curb for pickup, but for those who might need a little help, a simple call to Frontier will provide assistance, bring the cart to and from the house to the curb for elderly or disabled customers. The cart's increased capacity reduces the number of cans on the street and discourages unwanted pests from making a mess.

Automated service is safer too. Frontier Waste Solutions Vice President Bill Killian says " We have had great success in converting our laborer force to drivers force. This is better for our employees and us, and much safer, too. The opportunity to become a driver gives our employees more of a career because they now have a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) and that can stay with them for years. You can only labor on the back of a garbage truck for so long, and wages as a driver are about 75% higher in most instances."

Frontier Waste Solutions was founded in 2017 with the acquisition of several waste companies operating across north, central, and south Texas. Frontier's founder, John Gustafson, is a respected executive in the waste management industry with more than 25 years of experience serving Texas cities. Gustafson and his leadership team, Bill Killian and Tim Henderson have more than 100 years of combined operating experience in the waste and recycling industry servicing cities throughout the State of Texas. For more information, visit frontierwaste.com or call 936-258-9035.

Two hangings in two days in Houston area raise community concerns

HOUSTON – Authorities were investigating the unusual discovery of two persons hanging from trees, in the greater Houston area.

One was a young teen in the Klein school district, and the other was a man found in the Shady Acres area of the city.

Both have been ruled suicides, and the following statements have been issued by the Sheriff and U.S. Representative Lee.

SHERIFF GONZALEZ:

HCSO North District patrol deputies responded to Ehrhardt Elementary located at 6603 Rosebrook Lane in the Klein Independent School District in reference to an in progress call for service.

Klein Independent School Police were called to the elementary school grounds at around 8:10 p.m., after they were informed by a witness of a 17-year-old male found hanging from a tree in the playground area.

Klein ISD officers cut down the male and performed CPR on him, and EMS were also dispatched to the scene.

The male was pronounced deceased by medical personnel a few minutes later.

Klein ISD Police asked for HCSO Homicide investigators and Crime Scene to take over the investigation.

Homicide investigators were able to review school surveillance cameras and found no signs of foul play in this tragic incident.

The male had a history of suicide attempts, with one attempt as recently as a few weeks ago.

The name of the complainant and cause of death will be released through the Harris County Institute of Forensic Science.

SHEILA JACKSON LEE:

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, a Senior Member of the House Committee on Judiciary, Homeland Security, and Budget released the following statement on the recent hangings in her Congressional district:

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee is outraged at the recent hangings in her Congressional district. Two young black teenagers have been found hung in the last two days back to back. These deaths are part of a string of deaths of black and Hispanic men found hanging in the United States. The Congresswoman is calling for a federal investigation and requesting the Federal Bureau of Investigation to investigate these cases immediately. "These cases must be thoroughly investigated and proven beyond a reasonable doubt," stated Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee.

Mammogram,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

an annual mammogram. If you have questions about your breast cancer risk, talk to your primary care doctor or obstetrician/gynecologist.

Walk-in Mammograms Available

The Houston Methodist Breast Care Center at Baytown offers same-day walk-in screening mammograms Monday through Friday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. A doctor's order for your mammogram is not required. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the safety of our patients and staff is our first priority, and we are taking every precaution to keep everyone safe. We are:

- Screening all patients when scheduling appointments and upon arrival, including in-car check-in at most locations.
- Wearing masks and other personal protective equipment while providing care.
- Implementing additional sanitation processes to disinfect all equipment and surfaces.
- Reorganizing waiting rooms to ensure social distancing.

When you come in for your mammogram at Houston Methodist Breast Care Center, you'll be taken care of from start to finish. Plus, you'll benefit from our high-tech approach to breast cancer screening with 3D mammography.

Advanced 3D mammography is one of the most effective tools available in detecting the smallest lumps and abnormalities with accuracy. And if your mammogram does show something abnormal, you have a trusted team at Houston Methodist Baytown ready to guide you through your options for treatment and care.

To schedule your mammogram at the Houston Methodist Breast Care Center, visit houstonmethodist.org/breast-care or call 346-292-PINK (7465).

SJRC Meeting,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

EPA. This deeper removal will also require a design for the cofferdams that will take into account the hydrostatic pressure differences, wave action, and increased risk to the remediation workers. The goal is to remove all waste material until what is left is contaminated to less than 30 parts per trillion.

The Coast Guard originally was restricting barge traffic to daylight hours, due to the threat to the I-10 bridge, but that has now been modified to allow night traffic of one vessel under the bridge at a time.

Harris County mandates masks,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

es that fail to develop, post, and implement a Health and Safety Policy are subject to a $1,000 for each violation.

EXCEPTIONS TO FACE COVERING ORDER

- You must wear a face covering at all times while in businesses or on commercial property, except:
- When eating or drinking;
- Face coverings should be worn to restaurants, but can be removed while eating/drinking.
- When you are exercising or doing physical activities; or,
- When wearing a face covering poses a mental, physical, safety or security risk (i.e. someone who has trouble breathing).

This week, Harris County ICU bed usage reached its highest level ever during the pandemic, and admissions continue to rise with an increasing rate. To help inform the public regarding the threat and action residents should take, Judge Hidalgo unveiled a public threat level system designed to help residents understand the threat level from COVID-19. The system, informed by the latest data from local health authorities, research institutions, and public health experts, informs a color-coded level indicator for residents displaying the level of COVID-19 threat. Consistent with the latest threat data, the current level of the advisory system is set to Level 2 (orange): minimize all contacts.

Mayor Turner expresses concern

Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner said that he thought we moved too quickly, too fast, in opening the city, county and state to normal operations.

The number of confirmed COVID-19 positive hospital patients in Harris County and Houston has tripled since May 31, only a month ago.

Turner at a press conference reported that the city had 1700 new Covid-19 cases to report since the previous day.

Health professionals are concerned about having enough bed space and equipment to treat the increased numbers of cases, and have begun assigning adults to childrens' hospitals to free up space.

Texas had 5000 new cases for the first time in one day last week, and expect this to increase again.

Abbott sees problem, but won't issue restrictive order

In an interview on Bryan television, Abbott stated that "The coronavirus is serious. It's speading."

He acknowledged that action should be taken, but that it needed to be voluntary, not mandatory.

"To state the obvious, COVID-19 is now spreading at an unacceptable rate in Texas, and must be corralled."

"There remain a lot of people in the state of Texas who think that the spread of COVID-19 is not a challenge," he said.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, nationally know infectious disease expert and an advisor to the president, told lawmakers in Washington last week that "the next couple of weeks are going to be critical" in Texas and other states that are trying to curtail an alarming spike in new cases.

Both Abbott and Fauci have emphasized that the simple wearing of face masks, washing hands often, and keeping a social distance away from others are effective means to curtail the virus.

In spite of this, Abbott has not wanted to issue a mandatory order for these measures, but did allow local governments to implement them within businesses, as done by Harris County.

Abbott said "Closing down Texas again will always be the last option."

SHOP LOCALLY -- Save Time & Money

Business Directory

SHOP LOCALLY -- Save pTime & Money

HENDERSON GARAGE DOORS
281-428-1187
1-800-345-8471
Sales & Repair Service
Baytown, Texas
John Henderson
628 Cedar Bayou Rd.

CENTRAL AUTO INSPECTIONS
FULL SERVICE VEHICLE INSPECTIONS
713-702-3200
JOHNNY GAEKE
OWNER-INSPECTOR
911 S. MAIN
HIGHLANDS, TX 77562

Graphics Unlimited, Inc.
CORPORATE GRAPHICS AT ITS BEST
Signs & Banners
281-462-1200
www.graphicsunlimitedinc.net
213 Kernohan • Crosby, TX 77532

HILL MATERIALS
FILL DIRT
BANK SAND
ROADBASE
LIMESTONE
119 Listi Ln, Highlands
hillmaterials.com
WE DELIVER TO YOU
(281) 843-5000
residential · commercial · industrial

Free Estimates
Financing Available
MR. ROOFER
Siding & Contracting LLC
281-452-0000
CERTIFIED CONTRACTOR
New Roofs • Repairs • Painting • Hardi Plank Siding • Mobile Home Skirting
P.O. Box 914, Channelview, TX 77530
Mrroofer@mail.com
= Major credit cards accepted =

Donate A Boat or Car Today!
Boat Angel
"2-Night Free Vacation!"
800-700-BOAT (2628)
www.boatangel.com

WE BUY OIL, GAS, & MINERAL RIGHTS
Both non-producing and producing including Non-Participating Royalty Interest (NPRI)
Provide us your desired price for an offer evaluation.
CALL TODAY: 806.620.1422
LOBO MINERALS, LLC
PO Box 1800 • Lubbock, TX 79408-1800
LoboMineralsLLC@gmail.com

To advertise in the Business Directory, please call 713-266-3444 for details

CLASSIFIED ADS

Call 713-266-3444

Your AD will reach up to 120,000 readers in our FIVE newspapers, with a combined circulation of 40,000 copies. Get ACTION on your AD. Rates start at only $16 for 20 words. A bargain!

CEMETERY PLOTS

9 PLOTS
available @ Sterling White Cemetery Prime Location. $1,000 each + transfer. Call 281-380-6735.
26-2

Where can I pick up a Star-Courier?

HIGHLANDS:
Library
Food Town
Community Center
Backdraft Restaurant
Woodforest Bank
Exxon Station
Shell station
Chevron Station
Post Office

CROSBY:
Library
Post Office
Community Center
Race Track
Arlan's Market
Community Bank (2)
Woodforest Bank
Hungry Jack's
Dr. Roach
Chevron Station
Confections Coffee Shop
Mobil Station
Newport package store
CRCU

HUFFMAN
Exxon Station
Community Bank
Texaco Station
Donut Shop
Valero Station

Classified ADS
713-266-3444

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 483970; Estate of BARBARA JEAN JOHNSON Deceased; In Probate Court No. 1, of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on May 20, 2020.

WILEY L. JOHNSON, III

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

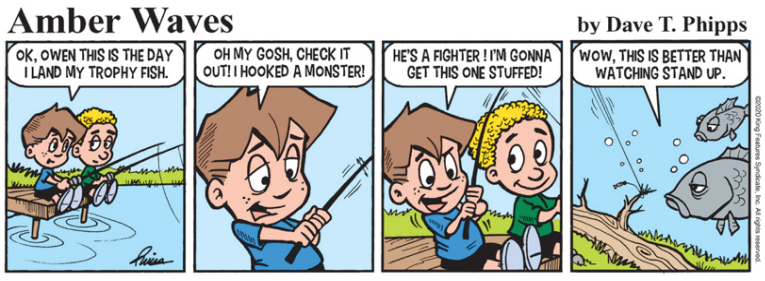
c/o Weston Cotten
1500 Wallisville Rd
Highlands, TX
77562

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 June 3, 2020

by WESTON COTTEN
Attorney for the Estate

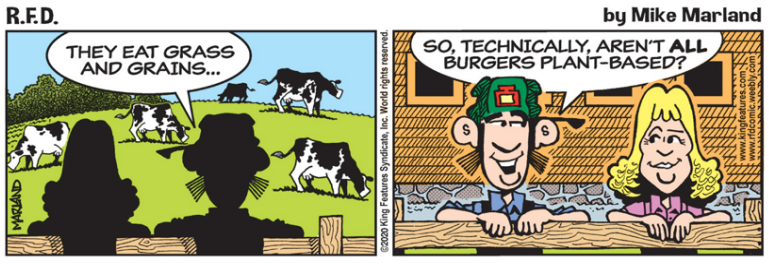
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



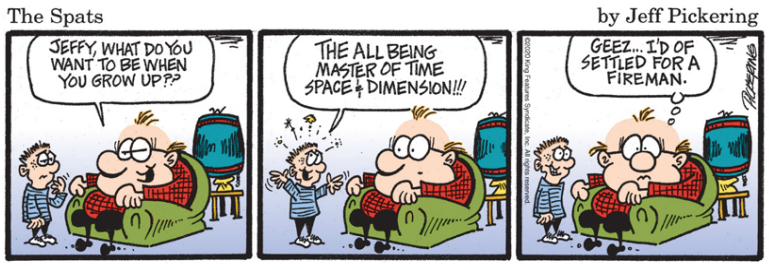
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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.

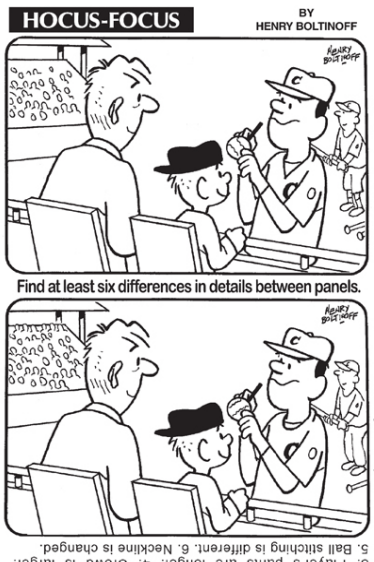
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

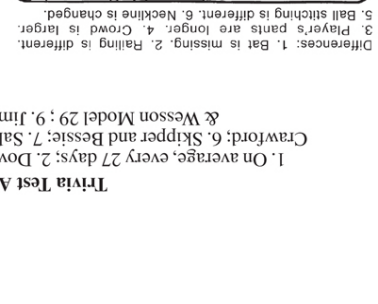
© 2020 King Features Synd., Inc.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



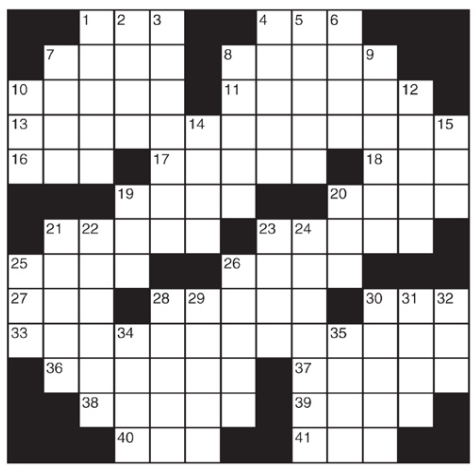
Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Bat is missing. 2. Railing is different. 3. Player's pants are longer. 4. Crowd is larger. 5. Ball stitching is different. 6. Neckline is changed.

Posting Date June 22, 2020

King Crossword



ACROSS
1 — Na Na
4 Swindle
7 Summery desserts
8 Fusses
10 Sixth president
11 Many
13 Proof of a crime
16 Sprite
17 Unclear
18 Still, in verse
19 Say it isn't so
20 Rhyming tributes
21 Groups of musicians
23 Slanted edge
25 Volcanic outflow
26 One of the Three Bears
27 Sailor's assent
28 Unwilling
30 Fine, to NASA
33 Texas city
36 Bill-payment period
37 Alan of "Little Miss Sunshine"
38 Mystery writer's award
39 Don of radio
40 Sun. speech
41 Rand McNally item

DOWN
1 Muffler
2 Rope fiber
3 Took for granted
4 Made pigeon sounds
5 "Strange to say ..."
6 — me tangere
7 "American —"
8 Hot rum drink
9 Withdraw
10 Joseph
12 Man of — (Superman comparison)
14 Catches some rays
15 — and outs
19 "CSI" evidence
20 Eggs
21 Louisiana marsh
22 Unwilling
23 Dog owner's ordeal
24 Son of
25 Fond du —, Wis.
26 Harness horse
28 Thrust
29 "Argo" award
30 Invite to the penthouse
31 Elevator name
32 Family
34 Cushions
35 "Joy of Cooking" writer Rombauer

© 2020 King Features Synd., Inc.

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. ASTRONOMY: How often does the Sun rotate on its axis?
2. GEOGRAPHY: What is the state capital of Delaware?
3. GOVERNMENT: Which amendment to the U.S. Constitution limits presidents to two terms in office?
4. HISTORY: What was the highest social class in the early Roman empire?
5. ENTERTAINERS: Which 20th-century actress was born with the name Lucille LeSueur?
6. TELEVISION: What were the names of Elly May's two pet chimpanzees in "The Beverly Hillbillies"?
7. ART: Which artist painted "The Persistence of Memory"?
8. MOVIES: What kind of gun did Clint Eastwood carry in the "Dirty Harry" series?
9. MUSIC: Which singer-songwriter's nickname was "The Lizard King"?
10. FOOD & DRINK: What is the most expensive spice on earth?

© 2020 King Features Synd., Inc.

Weekly SUDOKU — Answer

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

King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

Trivia Test Answers

1. On average, every 27 days; 2. Dover; 3. 22nd; 4. Patricians; 5. Joan Crawford; 6. Skipper and Bessie; 7. Salvador Dali; 8. .44 Magnum Smith & Wesson Model 29 ; 9. Jim Morrison; 10. Saffron

Crosby Board,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

year values and projections will remain constant.

Will values change? Will mortgages remain constant and residents not default? Will building continue? These are uncertain times.

Superintendent Scott Davis reported on the amount of guess work necessary to prepare for the next school year.

"Someone said that getting the school ready for next year is like walking through a mine field, it isn't; it's like a lava field, where the mine field is mild." he said.

The Superintendent did predict that requiring wearing masks would almost certainly be required. Davis indicated that his top priority is the health of students.

"Opinions are divided between those that believe COVID-19 is a total hoax and those that believe we are in a battle for our lives. We are going to have to find a middle ground."

One issue is: should school continue on-line or "let's go" meaning return to attending school.

Awaiting T.E.A. guidelines isn't likely to give the school time to react before enactment of any decision must be done. The state can be in no hurry to make decisions for every district when the situation is so different in every school.

Davis' report was partially based upon a survey by the school reflecting that about just over half of teachers and about half of parents are of "let's go" opinion.

Transportation alone presents unprecedented problems. Projections of allowing only 12 students per bus would however more than double the amount of bus routes required and there are 57 routes currently inside Crosby ISD.

Some 74% of parents indicated they could take their kids to school but 26% indicated they could not.

All of this is without considering extracurricular activities such as athletics, what to do about football and baseball has stumped the professionals.

Extra meetings concerning what to do in Crosby is a certainty.

Submitted, as published in this paper on June 11, the tax rate is to be $1.05470 per $100 valuation plus $0.35116 per $100 valuation. Later this year, probably September, the board will vote on whether or not to adopt the new budget that for now is a 4.17% increase in the maintenance and operations and the debt service 0.05 increase for a total expenditure increase of 3.6%.

Huffman cheerleader suffers snakebite

Copperhead season is active

HUFFMAN – Junior Cheerleader Paris Montgomery was practicing cheerleading in her back yard, as she dismounted her trampoline at little annoyance she attributed to getting poked by a stick was a copperhead bite instead. Emergency room treatment was 4 doses of anti-venom serum.

Locally, the snake Agkistrodon contorix is generally ground color to pinkish beige and most active during Spring and early Summer, and again in Fall. They live close to humans and are the best camouflaged pit viper. Fatal bites are rare (0.01%) but swelling and illness will occur. They hide in grassy and leafy areas.