

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

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VOL. 67, NO. 31 - 50¢

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2020

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

These stories  
in the **PRESS:**

- Explosion, fire at Mont Belvieu facility
- GC CISD considers Robert E. Lee HS change of name
- Letter to the Editor: Lee name change not necessary

.....And more, Page 3

**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](http://readyharris.org)  
Harris County Mobile Tests 713-439-6000  
MD Medical 1-888-776-5252  
Methodist Hospital Download [mymethodist.app](http://mymethodist.app)

# Rotary awards 20 scholarships

Total of \$34,000 distributed by club

HIGHLANDS - One of the major projects that the Highlands Rotary club holds every year is the awarding of scholarships to graduating seniors and in-college students.

Usually the awards are made at a festive banquet held at the Community Center. However, this year was different, due to the COVID virus pandemic. The ceremony was delayed



Scholarship recipients Dayton Berezoski, Joshua Protain, Morgan Forsyth, Carol Nunez, and Shaily Yadav. All are presently in college.

six weeks, and then it was held in small groups at the club's regular luncheon.

Scholarship chairman Dr. Larry White acted as emcee in each of four presentations. The students reported on their accomplishments, and plans for the future.

Dr. White explained that there had been 59 applicants for the awards, which are received by the club



Dr. Larry White, Scholarship chairman

See **SCHOLARS**, page 8

## More COVID test sites open in county

Houston Health Department, partners announce free COVID-19 testing schedule for week of August 3

HOUSTON - The Houston Health Department and its agency partners are announcing the [schedule for sites](#) offering free COVID-19 tests the week of Aug. 3, 2020. **Houston Health Department** The department offers free drive-thru testing at two mega sites in Houston, located at

Delmar Stadium and Butler Stadium. Each site is open Monday-Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. or until reaching daily capacity of 650 tests. People wanting to get tested at

See **TEST SITES**, p. 6

## Tax Holiday Aug. 7-9

(AUSTIN) — With the Texas economy slowly awakening from effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, Comptroller Glenn Hegar reminds shoppers they can save money on clothes and school supplies during the state's sales tax holiday on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 7-9.

The law exempts sales tax on qualified items — such as clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks — priced below \$100, saving shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend. The date of the sales tax holiday and list of tax-exempt items are

set by the Texas Legislature.

"Even though significant uncertainty remains for our public and private schools as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the sales tax holiday is a perfect opportunity to save money on school supplies and other tax-free items at

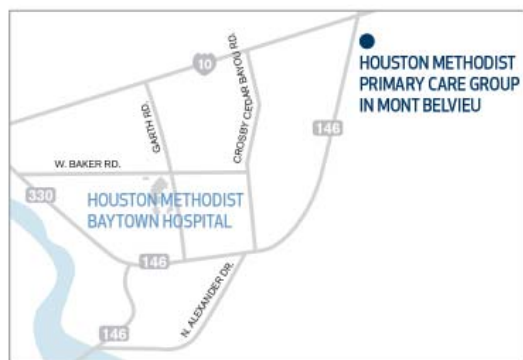
See **TAX HOLIDAY**, p. 6

# Expert primary care CLOSE TO HOME

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**Dinara Abdueva, MD**  
Internal Medicine



**Eleazar Flores, MD**  
Family Medicine



**Sanjeeda Jabeen, MD**  
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# Pct. 3 deputies capture alligator in Summerwood

HOUSTON – A few Harris County Precinct 3 deputies and some local authorities in northeast Harris County had an exciting Tuesday.

According to a YouTube video shared by Landon McDonald, with Precinct 3, Earl the 9-foot gator was found in the Summerwood neighborhood.

Earl put up a good fight and it took the “gator patrol” a while to get him out of the water. In the end, the video shows they were able to secure Earl and put him safely into a truck.

Harris County Precinct 3 Constable Sherman Eagleton said Earl was released to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for rehousing.



# Congressman Brady: Federal Ruling on Texas High Speed Rail Wrong; Fight not over



CONROE, TX – July 16, 2020 - Congressman Kevin Brady (TX-08) released the following statement after the Surface Transportation Board released a new ruling on Texas Central Railroad’s (TCR) petition for exemption:

“While I strongly disagree with this decision, the good news is this doesn’t give TCR eminent domain authority to seize property without landowners consent – and finally forces TCR to publicly disclose their shaky financial projections to the Surface Transportation Board in

any future bid to gain authority to construct the project.

“This will reveal why private investors have abandoned the project and why taxpayers should not be on the hook when it ultimately fails.”

**BACKGROUND:**  
Today, the Surface Transportation Board ruled that the proposed Houston to Dallas High-speed rail line is subject to Board jurisdiction. This is a change from previous ruling, in which the STB found TCR’s project was not subject to the Board’s

jurisdiction and therefore did not require Board approval.

However, the Board denies Texas Central’s petition for exemption and finds that, should Texas Central wish to request Board authority for its project, an application process under 49 U.S.C. § 10901 would be required. The Board also notes that issues pertaining to eminent domain authority are matters of state law, and that the finding does not confer any federal power to take privately owned property.

**Job opportunity for people 16 years and over. Work the polls during the November 2020 election season.**

**If you are interested in becoming an election worker, call 713.755.6965. (Houston, TX)** — The Harris County Clerk’s Office is looking for election workers to staff more than 800 voting centers that will be open for the November 3, 2020 General Election. Election workers are also needed three weeks prior to the election to work at approximately 100 voting centers during the Early Voting period, October 13-30.

“We expect a high turnout for the upcoming general election. Early predictions indicate that more than 65 percent of the 2.4 million registered voters in Harris County will cast a ballot in November,” said **Harris County Clerk Chris Hollins**. “We need more than 1,000 election workers for the Early Voting period – which has been extended to three weeks – and more than 8,000 election workers for Election Day. I highly encourage all civic-minded residents of Harris County to consider serving our communities as election workers.”

To serve as an election worker, you must be a registered voter in Harris County, have transportation to and from the polling location, and be able to attend training. Bilingual election workers are needed and encouraged to apply. Students 16 years of age and older can apply to work as student clerks. **All of these positions are paid.**

“We will take every possible measure to keep voters and election workers safe, from keeping voting centers sanitized, to enforcing social distancing, to providing personal protective equipment to all election workers and voters,” said **Clerk Hollins**.

# COVID MASKS new policy for Houston

HOUSTON - Mayor Sylvester Turner announced today that he has directed the Houston Police Department to issue warnings and citations to anyone not wearing a face mask or face covering required by the state’s mandatory mask order. Police will not ticket those who are not wearing a mask if they meet the exemption criteria. The citation carries a \$250 fine.

“We know that wearing a mask or face-covering in

public is one of the most effective methods to slow the spread of COVID-19,” said Mayor Sylvester Turner. “Lives are at stake, so I am taking this step to save lives and slow the virus from spreading in August.”

Houston police will not respond to 9-1-1 calls about people not wearing masks.

The mayor’s announcement happened on the same day the Houston Health Department re-

ported 1,104 new cases of COVID-19, bringing Houston’s total to 50,896. There are six newly-reported deaths, bringing the city’s total to 478.

“For months, we have focused on education and not citations. But now, I am instructing the Houston Police Department to issue necessary warnings and citations to anyone not wearing a mask in public if they do not meet the criteria for an exemption,” Mayor Turner said.

## Maximum Tax Savings Open for appointments



Jack Noonan B.B.A., T.R.E.B., E.A.

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CROSBY’S HOME TOWN HOME CARE

# Barbers Hill Press

## Dayton

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

VOL. 25, NO. 31 - 40¢

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2020

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

### ON THE HILL

#### CORVID-19 CASES CHAMBERS COUNTY

As of August 6, 2020

Tested-5,888  
Recovered-696  
Hospitalized-14  
Confirmed Cases-912  
Deaths-6

#### Baytown EXPO is postponed

BAYTOWN EXPO POSTPONED, 38th Annual Community Collision Baytown Business Expo will be held on Jan. 14, 2021. Contact Rikki Wheeler for details (281) 422-8359.

August 11  
**DAYTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the parking lot beside Sterling Funeral Home, 602 N. Main dayton. Stay and network outside or drive-by KONA Ice will attend and grab a scone on the way out. Register Friday, August 7 at 3:00 p.m. or call (936) 257-2393 Members \$15, non-members \$20.

August 18  
**WEST CHAMBERS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON Topic: State of the School District at the Eagle Point Golf Pavilion 21,450 Eagle Point Drive, Mont Belvieu. Presentation by Barbers Hill ISD Superintendent Dr. Greg Poole (281) 576-5440, limited seating.

## Explosion, Fire at Mont Belvieu facility

MONT BELVIEU – An explosion Wednesday, July 29, at an industry facility is blamed on a contractor hitting a line.

The Mont Belvieu Fire Department was working with other first responders to control the fire that broke out after the blast. According to Chambers County Sheriff Brian Hawthorne the fire was quelled about 7 p.m.

A wellhead burned itself out; the entire plant was not involved in the fire. Roads in the area around the Lone Star NGL Facility in remain closed after an explosion and fire on Wednesday afternoon. Highway 146 was closed from FM 1942 to FM 565 to accommodate fire crews. Mont Belvieu Police say the call came in around 4:45 p.m. on West Winfree at State Highway 146 at the Lone Star NGL (natural gas liquids) facility, a subsidiary of Dallas-based Energy Transfer LP. The Lone Star facility stores and separates natural gas liquids, like propane, butane and ethane. Trans-



First on the scene, Mont Belvieu Fire Dept. arrived shortly after 4:50 p.m. to stop the spread of flames from a wellhead said to have begun when a contractor hit a pipeline.



Flames were visible from Interstate-10 shortly after the explosion Wednesday afternoon. Traffic was halted on nearby roads to aid firefighters from Mont Belvieu and surrounding areas battle to flames.



Mont Belvieu Fire Department battles blaze with extended high pressure hose to cool the area and prevent the spread of flames to surrounding property. The flames of a well extinguished themselves shortly after 7:00 p.m.

mission pipelines from the Permian Basin, Barnett Shale and East Texas make up the company's Lone Star Express network, 535 miles of pipeline that ships natural gas liquids from shale plays to the Mont Belvieu storage and fractionation facility. Lone Star NGL officials

said a contractor struck an underground pipeline. There were no injuries. Due to the ongoing firefighting operations, water pressure throughout the city was affected. The public works department diverted as much water as possible to support the response to the blaze.

## GC CISD hears Lee H.S. name change

BAYTOWN – Goose Creek Consolidated ISD held a virtual meeting on Monday night, during that meeting the subject of a possible name change of Robert E. Lee High School became a hot button issue.

Hours of meeting was held on-line taking on hearing from two differently opinioned groups considering the current name being from Confederate General Robert E. Lee. Some 450 people tuned in to hear 29 speakers give opinions; 20 being for changing the name and 9 opposed. This comes at a time when a wave of Confederate monument removals across the country have taken place.

The board will meet with the Baytown United Coalition for Change, Baytown Gander Black Alumni Group, Save Robert E. Lee High School Baytown Texas, RAZA Alumni Group and the Baytown Robert E. Lee High School Improvement Allies.

According to Trustee President Jessica Woods the school board is dealing with a restrictive process by state law amid technical problems with the WebX platform and having received literally hundreds of emails concerning the issue. A lot of the emails did not get read into the public record since they did not ask to be but the trustees did receive them in a binder to review. "This is such a potentially divisive issue in which the whole community needs to be involved. I think that it is the burden of the taxpayers to fund so why shouldn't it be their



Robert E. Lee High School in Baytown, Texas

decision? This comes at a time when the district was not able to give a raise to our teachers, it is so hard to reach 100% of our students electronically, make sure that teachers are enabled to teach electronically and the daily issues that arise concerning the first three to four weeks of school. What reaches the most number of students for the betterment of education and safety and health of the district needs to be the priority. How to get teachers and students back to the job of educating students is what we need to concentrate upon," she said "I am very frustrated by the process that we went through last night. I want to move this conversation down the road into the public forum so that the community has a better opportunity to comment and understanding. I think if both sides can civilly debate this issue then we can come to a better understanding of what way to move forward is."

Dr. James Seth acknowledged the change would set the district back financially but expressed hope that the board would make the sacrifice for the future.

The Baytown United Coalition for Change issued a statement. "The Coalition seeks reform of systemic rac-

ism perpetuated by coveting the name of Confederate General Robert E. Lee."

Trustee Agustin Loreda asked for suggestions of what name would be substituted. A board workshop is scheduled for next week at which the public can virtually attend.

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Wow... how did so many graduates of Carver High School get their letters read at tonight's school board meeting? Everyone seems to forget that we are taught the main issue of the Civil War was economics. Slavery was a secondary issue. I'm not saying slavery was right, in any way, shape or form, but it has been in our world's culture since the dawn of time, and is still practiced in parts of our world today. Remember—Joseph (of the coat of many colors) was sold into slavery by his brothers.

No, it's not right, but renaming all these things is not going to change a thing. Not a single person alive today was a slave, or even had a parent or grandparent who was a slave. I never heard a single person complain about the name of our school while I attended, or while my mother attended, or while my daughter is currently attending. What happens if whoever this school gets named after is found to do "something" that offends "someone". Are we going to change the name again? Should we just do like New York and say it is Public School #3? I sincerely feel this is a waste of time, money and energies.

~Julie Fallin, Proud graduate of Robert E. Lee High School.

## Mont Belvieu man praises care team

BAYTOWN — When the doctor at the free-standing emergency facility asked Benny May where he wanted to be transported to receive treatment for double pneumonia, the Mont Belvieu resident's answer came quickly: Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital.

After being confined to bed for over a week, May, 55, knew he was pretty sick, but after being transported to Houston Methodist Baytown on that early June night with fever, body aches and difficulty breathing, he tested positive to join the ranks of COVID-19 patients in the Greater Houston area.

"I just kept getting worse," May recalls. "It was the closest I got to thinking I would not see tomorrow. My body felt like it was in a vice, but the doctors and nurses I had were fantastic. They continued to breathe

life into me the whole time I was there."

May, a Baytown native and 32-year employee at the Mont Belvieu ExxonMobil plastics facility, wound up spending six days hospitalized with severe COVID symptoms. Under the care of Houston Methodist Baytown pulmonologist Housam Oueini, MD and family medicine physician Tanssem Abouelseoud, MD, as well as a team of nurses, May's condition improved after he received steroid treatment and underwent blood plasma therapy. In March, Houston Methodist received FDA approval to become the first academic medical system in the nation to transfuse donated plasma from a recovered COVID-19 patient into a critically ill patient.

"After three days, I wasn't getting any better, so my doctors decided they he Medical Center to put all



their brains together to figure out a path forward," May said.

May said while Houston Methodist's no visitor policy is necessary to protect the safety of patients and caregivers, it was difficult not being able to see his wife, Lori, their two adult children—both born at Houston Methodist Baytown—and granddaughter in-person during his stay, but his nurs-

touching them."

May, a 25-year member of the Barbers Hill ISD board, said he was reassured by the attention to safety demonstrated by everyone at Houston Methodist Baytown.

"It began with the EMS guys being checked as soon as they brought me in the ambulance to the hospital and continued with everyone that took care of me. The nurses would be dressed like they were going to the moon every time they came in my room and they had to take off their PPE and put it back on to go into the next room. They did this all day and still maintained a positive attitude," May said. "At Exxon, we preach about safety and not taking shortcuts, so it meant a lot to see that no one was taking any shortcuts."

While May has recovered from the illness, he stresses to others the possible sever-

ity of the virus and the importance of wearing masks, regular hand washing and practicing social distancing to help prevent its spread. He's very grateful for the excellent care he received while being able to stay close to home.

"Look, I know we've got all those great hospitals in the Texas Medical Center 30 minutes away," May said, "but the care I received right here in Baytown was second to none. There are some special people there."

Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital is open and caring for all of our community and has implemented an extensive list of enhanced safety measures throughout the hospital in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure the health and well-being of our patients. To schedule a physician appointment, visit [houston.methodist.org/baytown](http://houston.methodist.org/baytown), or call 281-428-2273.

★ OPINION PAGE ★

**NEWSPAPERS**  
By Texas Press Association

**NEWSPAPER OWNERSHIP**  
*In a buyer's market for weeklies, where are the buyers?*

By Al Cross

Director and professor, University of Kentucky Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues

Most days this summer, I have written a story about goings-on in Midway, a small Kentucky town where my students and I publish the Midway Messenger. When students aren't around, I pick up the slack, but it's a labor of love to provide coverage for a proud community that once had a paper of its own and has adopted ours, even though after 11 years I'm still something of a parachute publisher.

I've been in the newspaper business most of my life, but never as an owner, and our mainly online, non-commercial enterprise is as close as I am likely to get. But there are plenty of opportunities out there.

"It's a buyer's market right now for weekly newspapers," former weekly publisher Gary Sosniecki writes, in a package of stories that we're publishing to attract potential owners to community newspapers. This article introduces that package.

You might have chuckled at the "buyer's market" line, since all the bad news about metropolitan newspapers may lead you to think that a newspaper is no longer a good investment. That's not true of most community newspapers, because they are the sole, reliable source of news about their communities, and most of them "are doing fine financially," says Kevin Slimp, the leading consultant to community papers.

"In areas where decreased population, diminished area businesses and other forces beyond our control are at work, it might not be viable to sustain a local newspaper," Slimp acknowledges. "Having said that, I've worked with many newspapers in the past year in towns with fewer than 600 residents who are finding ways to be successful."

Helen and Gary Sosniecki

Gary and Helen Sosniecki found success with weeklies in three Midwest towns, the first with only 900 people. "If the population is stable, if most storefronts on Main Street are filled, if the town has its own school and the all-important sense of community, the prospects for a weekly newspaper succeeding long-term are good," he writes.

But this is a buyer's market with not enough buyers. When the West Virginia Press Association voiced concern that some newspapers in the state might close because their owners couldn't find buyers, Maryanne Reed, then dean of the West Virginia University College of Media and now the university provost, got some foundation money and started a program called NewStart to develop the next generation of community newspaper owners.

The program's director, Jim Iovino, writes in this package about the success that Michael E. Sprengelmeyer found in a New Mexico weekly, the Guadalupe County Communicator, after the closing of the Rocky Mountain News in Denver, where he was a political correspondent and had the byline M.E. Sprengelmeyer.

Jim Iovino says his first group of fellows in the program are expected to start in June 2020.

That will be none too soon for the Texas Press Association, which has seen a rash of closures and mergers, and hears talk of more. As in West Virginia, buyers are hard to find. We suspect it's much the same in most of the country. "Many owners of our generation waited too long to sell and — unable to find buyers — are shutting down their papers," Gary Sosniecki writes.

Those of us in this informal group see at least two potential groups of buyers who need to be recruited: local business people who never thought about becoming publishers, but know their communities and the value of a newspaper, and know how to make a profit; and the thousands of journalists who have been laid off by metro newspapers.

"It's a conundrum that independently owned weekly newspapers are closing for lack of buyers at the same time that journalists who would make good weekly-newspaper owners are being laid off in record numbers by metro newspapers and national newspaper groups," Gary writes. "The challenge for our industry is to convince these unemployed journalists to explore the joys and rewards of owning a small-town newspaper."

Helen Sosniecki gets down to the nitty-gritty of that in another article, giving advice on how to go about buying a newspaper and testifying about the experience.

"It won't be all fun and games," she writes. "The hours are long. The financial payback may be less than your corporate salary. But the rewards in your accomplishments as a community newspaper owner overshadow those drawbacks. . . . You live there. You chronicle the town's history. But you're also one of them. It's your town, too. It will fill you with pride when the school basketball team wins that first state championship. It will bring you to tears when you and your neighbors bury that young volunteer fireman with the pregnant wife who died along with another volunteer on the way to a brush fire. It will be your job, your business and your life — and you'll likely love it more than anything you've ever done."

Kevin Slimp and I agree that the keys to success as a community newspaper publisher are the right market, the right management and the right content. "Job number one is to put out a good product," he told The Washington Post recently. He told me in an email, "It's time we began to focus on publishing the best newspapers we can."

There are thousands of Americans who could put out a good newspaper. They need to give themselves the chance. We're here to give advice if you need it.

Al Cross edited and managed weekly newspapers before working 26 years for the Louisville Courier Journal and serving as president of the Society of Professional Journalists. For 15 years, he has directed the Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues at the University of Kentucky, where he is professor of journalism.

This article is one of a series distributed by the Texas Press Association for its members. If you wish more information, call 713-252-8000 or email grafikstar@aol.com



**THE POSTSCRIPT**  
By Carrie Classon

**"The Blue Tarp"**

I noticed my wrists were sticking to my desk.

This was a gradual awareness. I spend almost all day at my desk and I don't know precisely when it started, but I finally looked down because my wrists were undeniably sticky. I had used the wrist rest in front of my keyboard for... well, forever, and I'd noticed there were a few rips in the fabric. This had apparently progressed, completely unnoticed, until the wrist rest had started to ooze some awful sticky substance, which was now stuck to my arm.

"How did this happen?" I asked myself.

I have a friend whose father was a hoarder. She described the process whereby the house slowly filled with his stuff. He would conquer one room and then, almost imperceptibly, move into the next room until one day, the family found they could no longer use the kitchen range because it was piled high with stuff.

"How does this happen?" I asked her.

I remembered a trip across the country when my husband, Peter, and I came upon a mobile home, sitting by itself, completely covered in a faded blue tarp. I assumed the home was abandoned until I saw there was a light on. The light was kind of hard to see because all the windows were covered with the blue tarp.

"How do you get to the point where you are living under a blue tarp?" I asked Peter.

"Gradually," he said. I think this is probably true.

I'm guessing there might have been a way to fix that roof that would have allowed the occupants to see out the windows. But they probably thought this would work for a little while. Then one day turned into two, two days turned into months and, after a while, they got used to it. Who needs curtains when all your windows are covered with a blue tarp?

I am spending more time in my house than ever before and it has caused me to notice things.

One morning I was waiting for my coffee to warm up and I got to looking at the poster we have hanging in the kitchen. The poster predates our marriage. I remember how I liked it when I first saw it — a cheerful print of peppers in shades of red and green with the names of the peppers underneath. I took a good look at that poster for the first time in ages and realized there were no longer red and green peppers on it. All the peppers had faded to various shades of pale pink and baby blue.

Furthermore, the frame had come unglued and there was a giant gap where there shouldn't be. The whole thing looked dreadful, and it had been hanging there in plain sight for who knows how long without me noticing.

"Peter! The pepper poster looks awful!" Peter took a look at it.

"You're right," he agreed. "How did this happen?"

I am replacing the pepper poster with a new poster of peppers. They are brightly colored and hopefully will stay that way for a few years.

In the meantime, I am looking around the house as if seeing a newly discovered land, trying to see what I no longer notice. (Why is there a box of cookies tucked behind my printer? Why are there neat pots stacked on the washing machine?) It is a revelation, looking at my house anew.

And it's probably a good exercise. I'd like to do whatever I can to keep from waking up one morning and looking out on a blue tarp.

Till next time, Carrie  
Carrie Classon's memoir is called, "Blue Yarn." Learn more at [CarrieClasson.com](http://CarrieClasson.com).

**STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS**  
By Chris Cobler

*COVID-19 surge in nursing homes worries editor*

Thank you for all the well wishes after my first "Capital Highlights" column last week. I also appreciate the emails suggesting topics of high interest. Agriculture, oil, education and health care top the list so far, but please keep the conversation going about what's happening in your corner of our big state and what is of highest interest to you. One editor emailed to say he was highly concerned about the spread of COVID-19 in nursing homes in his community. The data at the Texas Department of State Health Services for his county is about two weeks old, he said, even though the state website promises daily updates. Last week, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission released its first list of COVID-19 cases and deaths with details about individual Texas nursing homes. The initial release showed nursing homes accounted for about one-third of Texas' COVID-19 deaths and the number of cases in the health care facilities had more than doubled during July. In July, Texas reported 3,315 COVID-19 deaths and 252,884 cases. Both totals were more than all other months of the pandemic combined.

**Don't plant those mystery seeds**

Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller urged Texans to take extreme precaution if the mail brings mysterious seeds from China. The packets, mailed to multiple states, including Texas, are falsely labeled as jewelry. The seeds could contain harmful invasive species or be otherwise unsafe. The mailings could be part of an online scam to bolster product ratings, Miller said. "People shouldn't throw away the packets because the seeds could grow in the landfill. Instead, email [SFICMail@phis.usda.gov](mailto:SFICMail@phis.usda.gov) for more information. In an interview with the Texas Tribune, Miller planted more seeds of doubt about China. "I'm getting sick and tired of these surprises coming out of China," Miller told the Tribune. "First, it was a China virus, then it was murder hornets. Then we had closed down their embassy because of espionage and spying. And now we, you know, we've got all these mysterious seeds." **Doctors not on the front lines**

The Texas Medical Association tweeted a MedPage Today story reporting there is no evidence the doctor group in a viral video had any expertise about COVID-19. The video went viral last week after about 10 physicians, dressed in



white coats with an embroidered America's Frontline Doctors logo, spoke for 45 minutes in front of the Supreme Court building. The MedPage Today article detailed the doctors' reported lack of credentials regarding the pandemic and the allegedly false information they spread. The Texas Medical Association represents more than 53,000 physicians and medical students.

**Texas A&M climbs aboard Operation Warp Speed**

A Texas A&M University System subcontractor will mass produce COVID-19 vaccines as part of the federal government's Operation Warp Speed. A new federal task order, valued at \$265 million, reserved production capacity in College Station through the end of 2021. "The Texas A&M System is ready to save lives and help protect the country," said John Sharp, chancellor of The Texas A&M University System. Operation Warp Speed aims to deliver millions of doses of COVID-19 vaccines by the end of the year if the U.S. Food and Drug Administration determines they are safe and effective. **The best in the country**

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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. 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](mailto:grafikstar@aol.com).

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**News and Ad Phones...713-266-3444**  
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LIFESTYLE PAGE

IN THE STARS

**BIRTHDAYS**  
 Aug 6—Sara Henning Ethel Peters Dolores Griffen  
 Aug 7—Cynthia Finnell  
 Aug 8—Bryan Allen Daniel Finnell Judge Tony Polumbo Stephen Turner  
 Aug 9—Johnny Delue Jim Hildebrand Annie Mae Smith O.C. Smith Rayford Smith Sonora K. Boyd  
 Aug 10—Lisa Simmons Thomas Harper  
 Aug 11—Christi Bobalik Bobby Glenn Smith Kristin Moseley Raymond Oliver Tiffany Cutbirth  
 Aug 12—Ashley Adams Richard Fennels Kenneth Neatherlin, Jr. Amy Rucka Dianne Thompkins Roy Cutbirth  
**ANNIVERSARIES**  
 Aug 6—Sue & Steve Norris  
 Jan & Mike Gucker  
 Aug 8—Martha & Alvin Keyes Ronald & Beth Phillips  
 Aug 9—Cathy & Marvin Harm  
 Aug 10—Victor & Glorine Harris  
 Aug 12—Rick & Deborah Nibbe  
 Aug 12—Frank Drebert

OBITUARIES

William K. "Bill" Jordan



Graveside services with military honors for William K. "Bill" Jordan, 79, of Crosby will be held Saturday, August 15, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in the Newman Cemetery with Brother Robin Butler officiating. Mr. Jordan was born April 28, 1941 in Lufkin, Texas to the late Opal (Fridelle) and William Albert Jordan, and died Saturday, August 1, 2020 at his residence. Mr. Jordan owned and operated multiple trucking companies. Heavy equipment and trucking were a very big part of his life. He loved fast cars and collected guns and knives. He was a die-hard Dallas Cowboys Fan, even naming his son after them. Mr. Jordan proudly served his country in the United States Army and was a member of First Baptist Church of Crosby. Survivors include his

wife of 47 years, Betty Jordan of Crosby; daughters, Diede Ballard and husband Johnny, Tessa Brisher, all of Crosby; Missy Dever and husband William of Katy; sons, Dallas Jordan of Dallas, Joshua Jordan of Franklin; grandchildren, Taylor Campbell, Kyle Brown, Brandon Ballard, Bryan Ballard, Dana Ballard, all of Crosby; Jackson Dever, Lincoln Dever, both of Katy; Emma Jordan, of Franklin; great-grandchildren, Kinlee Ballard, Kase Ballard, Beaux Ballard, Harley Ballard, all of Crosby; his faithful companions, Sweetie and Spike; and numerous other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents. Pallbearers will be William Dever, Johnny Ballard, Kyle Brown, Dallas Jordan, Joshua Jordan, and Taylor Campbell. Memorial contributions may be made to First Baptist Church of Crosby, 615 Runneburg Road, Crosby, Texas 77532. The family will welcome friends and loved ones from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. Saturday morning prior to the service. Memories and condolences may be added at [www.carrowayfuneralhome.com](http://www.carrowayfuneralhome.com). Carroway Funeral Home, Lufkin, directors.



CHURCH LISTINGS

Crosby, Highlands, Huffman, Baytown

**ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
 • Church of the Resurrection, meeting at Crosby Brethren Church, 5202 1st Street, Crosby, 832-661-9693.

**APOSTOLIC CHURCH**  
 • First Apostolic Church of Highlands, 1211 S. Main St. Highlands, 281-426-4133

**ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
 • Crosby Gospel Assembly, 633 Kenning Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2516  
 • First Assembly of God, 406 N. Magnolia St., Highlands, 281-426-3170  
 • Gospel Lighthouse, 8218 John Martin Rd., Baytown, 281-421-1168

**BAPTIST**  
 • Calvary Baptist, 2217 Huffman Eastgate Rd., Huffman, 281-324-3409  
 • Highlands Baptist, 111 E. Canal Rd., Highlands, 281-426-2470  
 • Northeast Freeway Baptist, 1635 Runneburg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2723  
 • Unity Baptist, 2625 Broad Dr., Highlands, 281-426-4223  
 • Iglesia Bautista Comunidad, 5323 Highway 90, Crosby, 281-421-9810. "Venid y te Haremos Bien"

**BAPTIST-Missionary**  
 • Antioch Missionary Baptist, 2500 Harris St., Highlands, 281-426-6565  
 • First Missionary Baptist Church, 301 Cypress Avenue, Crosby, 281-462-7634  
 • Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist, 315 Nod, Crosby, 281-328-4650  
 • True Vine Missionary Baptist, 404 Oak Ave., Crosby, 281-328-7637  
 • Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, 12418 Crosby Rd., Crosby, 281-328-1851

**BAPTIST-Southern**  
 • First Baptist - Crosby, 615 Runneburg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2564  
 • First Baptist - Highlands, N. Magnolia at Wallisville, Highlands, 281-426-4551  
 • First Baptist - Huffman, 25503 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-1888  
 • Northside Baptist, 317 Barbers Hill Rd., Highlands, nsbhighlands.org  
 • Second Baptist, 400 E. Wallisville Rd., Highlands, 281-426-5557  
 • Crosby New Hope Baptist Church, 18319 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-6086

**BRETHREN**  
 • Crosby Brethren, 5202 1st St., Crosby, 281-328-2442

**CATHOLIC**  
 • Holy Family, 7122 Whiting Rock, Baytown, 281-426-8448  
 • Sacred Heart, 915 Runneburg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-4871

• St. Martin De Porres, 12606 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-4451  
 • St. Jude Thaddeus, 800 S. Main St., Highlands, 281-843-2422  
 • St. Phillip the Apostle, 2308 3rd St., Huffman, 281-324-1478

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 • Crosby Church of Christ, 3737 Hwy 90, Crosby, 281-328-3496  
 • Highlands Church of Christ, 214 Clear Lake Rd., Highlands, 281-426-2742  
 • Barrett Station Church of Christ, 281-328-7882

**CHURCH OF GOD**  
 • First Pentecostal Church of God, 1328 Old Atascocita, Huffman, 281-324-1518  
 • Harvest Time Church of God, 495 S. Diamondhead Blvd., Crosby, 281-462-8060

**CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**  
 • Mt. Rose Church of God in Christ, 13000 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-1314

**EPISCOPAL**  
 • Church of the Resurrection, 5202 Church St., Crosby.

**INDEPENDENT**  
 • Crosby Church, 5725 Hwy 90, Crosby and 30673 Huffman Cleveland Rd., Huffman, 281-328-1310  
 • Huffman Church, 1707 Huffman Eastgate Rd., Huffman, 281-324-3705  
 • New Covenant of Faith, 12217 Holly Rd., Crosby, 281-328-1315  
 • Restoration House, 1609 Jones Rd., Highlands, 281-843-4000  
 • Son Harvest, 2027 FM 1942, Crosby, 281-543-2860.

**LUTHERAN**  
 • Our Shepherd, 19704 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-2422

**METHODIST**  
 • Crosby United Methodist, 1334 Runneburg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2616  
 • Highlands United Methodist, 107 W. Houston St., Highlands, 281-426-3614  
 • Lake Houston United Methodist, 23606 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-1541

**NON DENOMINATION**  
 • Lifepoint Church, 9235 North Highway 146, Baytown, Tx. 77523. 281-576-5452.

**UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**  
 • Pentecostals of Crosby 502 Pine at Hwy 90 Crosby, TX 77532(281) 328-5054. Sunday 10 AM. Wednesday 7 PM. Pastor Kerry D. Lee

**Channelview, Jacinto City, Galena Park, Houston**

**ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
 • Galena Park Assembly of God, 1211 2nd St., Galena Park, TX. 713-455-0836.

**BAPTIST**  
 • Uvalde Baptist Church, 901 Uvalde, Houston, TX 77015. 713-453-2235  
 • New Life Baptist Church of East Houston, 18570 Van Road, Houston, 77049. 281-456-0082  
 • Second Baptist Church, 1913 18th St., Galena Park, TX. 713-672-9232.  
 • Second Baptist Church, 10501 Muscatine, Jacinto City, TX. 713-674-8463.  
 • St. Matthew Baptist Church, 119 Fidelity, Houston, TX. 713-674-0062.  
 • First Baptist Church, 1505 1st St., Galena Park, TX. 713-455-1261.  
 • Macedonia Baptist Church, 1230 Maxnie Street, Houston, TX. 77049. 713-674-6607.

**BAPTIST-Southern**  
 • Dell Dale Avenue Baptist Church, 402 Dell Dale Avenue, Channelview, TX. 281-452-3704.  
 • South Drive Baptist Church, 15229 South Drive, Channelview, TX. 77530. 281-452-4500.  
 • First Baptist Church of Jacinto City, 10701 Wiggins, Jacinto City, TX 77029. 713-672-2802.  
 • Beaumont Place Baptist Church, 13101 Ivydale Street, Houston, TX. 77049.  
 • First Baptist Church of Galena Park, 206 Woolfe St., 77547. 713-455-1261.

**CATHOLIC**  
 • St. Andrew Roman Catholic Church, 827 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, TX. 281-452-9865.  
 • Our Lady of Fatima, 1705 8th St., Galena Park, TX. 713-675-0981.

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 • Church of Christ, 15821 2nd St., Channelview, TX. 713-826-2884.  
 • Channelview Church of Christ, 1301 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, Tx. 281-452-7129.  
 • Galena Park Church of Christ, 301 Holland Ave, Galena Park, TX. 713-455-0826.

**EPISCOPAL**  
 • St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 13125 Indianapolis St., Houston, 713-451-2909.

**HOLINESS**  
 • Bible Missionary Church, 10246 Fairfax St., Jacinto City. 713-671-3500.

**METHODIST**  
 • Old River Terrace United Methodist Church, 16102 East Freeway, Channelview, TX. 281-452-2861.  
 • Jacinto City United Methodist, 10730 Wiggins, Houston, TX. 713-673-7132.  
 • Holy Trinity United Methodist, 13207 Orleans St., Houston, TX. 713-453-7203.

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**ROMANS 8:18**

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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**

★ ASK THE EXPERT ★

# Crosby resident has successful film career

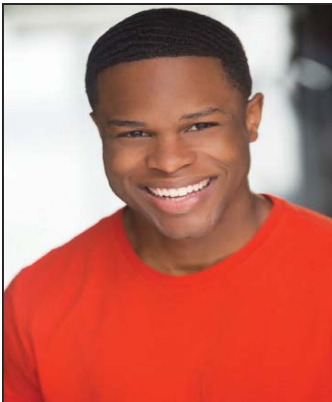
Malcolm Farrell who is a resident of Crosby, a graduate from San Jacinto College, and The University of Houston, is in the new movie "Tijuana Jackson: Purpose over Prison" that won Best Editing in the Brooklyn Film Fest! It came out on July 31st on streaming services such as Amazon Prime, Apple +, Google Plus and in select theaters. It stars Romany Malco, and Regina Hall!

Malcolm Farrell has been steadily building his resume with an assortment of projects, paving the way for a successful career in the industry. Farrell's natural good looks and charm are only outshined by his innate talent and utter professionalism.

Farrell's credits include "Tijuana Jackson: Purpose Over Prison" (starring Romany Malco), "ATW," "All Screwed Up" and "The Freshman Year." You can also spot Farrell in a handful of national commercials including spots for Apple, Ford, Target, Adidas, Chase Bank, and Crate and Barrel. Many of these films or commercials were made locally, and in Austin, where a thriving movie industry has been established. He also has worked in Hollywood on film projects. He said he prefers Texas productions, where the size of the film community helps him obtain parts.

Born in Brooklyn, NY, Farrell lived there for a few years and then was raised in Piscataway, New Jersey. He has Trinidadian roots because of his mother being born there and his father growing up there. Since 2011 he has lived in Crosby, with his family. Malcolm is related to well known Pct. 3 Constable Sherman Eagleton, and admires his accomplishments and career path.

Being a top athlete growing up, Farrell played soccer and baseball, but always felt a passion for acting. Farrell went on to study Broadcast Journalism at the University of Houston. His professors were so



MALCOLM FARRELL

impressed with his journalism skills that they asked Farrell on multiple occasions to host and moderate many of the college's student forums, ranging from subjects on sports and college athletics to race and gender in the industry.

In the years following, Farrell started auditioning, while working many parttime jobs. He was determined to become skilled at the craft, so he studied and worked with many acting coaches to help him. With his positive attitude and perseverance, it didn't take long before his acting career took off. When he isn't acting, Farrell likes to spend time doing charity with Best Buddies, reading, writing, and enjoying music. Malcolm is an example for young people of what happens when talent, humility and an incredible work ethic are brilliantly aligned.

## Goose Creek CISD Pre-K and K Registration Information

Registration is now taking place for pre-kindergarten and kindergarten in Goose Creek CISD. Parents should apply on the Goose Creek CISD website at [www.gccisd.net](http://www.gccisd.net) under Back to School Registration. Campus staff will notify parents when forms are processed.

The following documents will be needed to

complete the enrollment process:

- Parent identification (TDL, ID, or Passport)
- Birth certificate (Child)
- Social Security Card (Child) if available
- Immunization record (Must be current for Pre-K)
- Proof of residency

(current water, gas, electric bill, or lease agreement)

-- Pre-K Only - Proof of income (must have four consecutive paychecks with the last one being April.

If you receive TANF or SNAP you must have your current Notice of Eligibility Letter).

## Test Sites,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Delmar Stadium, 2020 Mangum Rd, 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. Butler Stadium, 13755 S Main St, no longer requires an access code, commonly referred to as an appointment. The department will also open its mobile unit for drive-thru testing August 7-8 at the Consulado General de El Salvador, 8300 Bissonnet St. The site doesn't require appointments and is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. or until reaching daily capacity of 250. **Texas Division of Emergency Management** The Texas Division of Emergency Management and the department will operate drive-thru testing sites at:

Crump Stadium, 12321 High Star Dr., HCC-Northeast Campus, 555 Community College Dr., and HCC - South Campus, 1990 Airport Blvd.

TDEM sites are open Monday - Saturday and require appointments, available by calling 844-778-2455 or visiting [txcovidtest.org](http://txcovidtest.org). TDEM will also operate a walk-up site that doesn't require appointments at the Merfish Teen Center, 9000 S. Rice Ave, weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. **United Memorial Medical Center** United Memorial Medical Center (UMMC) will offer weekday testing at drive-thru test sites at Mt. Hebron Baptist Church, 7817 Calhoun Rd.,

Plaza Americas Mall, 7500 Bellaire Blvd., Houston Community College-Southeast, 6815 Rustic, and Houston Community College-Felix Fraga, 301 N. Drennan St. The sites don't require appointments and offer testing from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. or until reaching daily capacity of 250 tests. Other UMMC drive-thru sites opening weekdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. are:

UMMC Tidwell, 510 W. Tidwell Rd., Forest Brook Middle School, 7525 Tidwell Rd., Cullen Middle School, 6900 Scott St., and Griggs School, 801 Regional Park Dr.

People needing information about UMMC test sites can call 1-866-333-COVID or visit [ummcscreeing.com](http://ummcscreeing.com). **Ibn Sina Foundation** The Ibn Sina Foundation offers free tests with rapid results at two of its clinics, 5012 N. Shepherd Dr. and 11226 S. Wilcrest Dr. Appointments for the Shepherd location are available by calling 832-426-3760 and appointments for the Wilcrest location are available at 281-495-7462. **Federally Qualified Health Centers** The health department is providing test kits, lab access and equipment to 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:

HOPE Clinic: 713-773-0803

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 Scarsdale Family Health Center: 281-824-1480.

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](http://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 evaluation. **Flyer: Houston Free Testing Sites: Week of Aug. 3, 2020**

**Media Contact:**  
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Scott Packard  
Office: 832-393-5045  
Mobile: 281-254-6403  
[Scott.Packard@houstontx.gov](mailto:Scott.Packard@houstontx.gov)

# Texas Renaissance Festival plans to open on Oct. 3

Todd Mission, TX (July 24, 2020) - Preparations are in full swing at the Texas Renaissance Festival with just over two months before the gates open for the start of the festival's 46th season on October 3, 2020. As the largest Renaissance festival in the nation, the Texas Renaissance Festival management team has been working closely with Grimes County and local government and emergency and health agencies to ensure COVID-19 response and communications plans are in place that will be followed prior to and during the months of October and November when the festival is open.

TRF's plan includes decontamination prior to festival and camping days and nightly when the festival is open, nightly cleaning of the shoppes, and spot cleaning and sanitizing throughout the day as required by state protocols. 80 sanitizing stations will be installed at the festival, while 50 will be located throughout the Fields of New Market Campground.

All TRF staff, perform-



ers and vendors will be required to wear a face mask during the season. If there is a state face mask mandate, patrons will be required to wear face masks. If there is no state mandate in place, patrons will not be required to wear masks, but will be strongly encouraged to do so. Patrons who attend the festival will have the opportunity to participate in a daily face mask contest that will be judged on creativity and coordination with the costume or themed weekend. Temperature checks will be required of all TRF staff, performers, and vendors before each shift, and any employee with a fever will be sent home.

Anticipating capacity limitations, the Texas Renaissance Festival moved

to date specific tickets with no ticket sales at the gate. Patrons will be able to purchase festival admission tickets in advance online at [www.texrenfest.com/tickets-season-passes](http://www.texrenfest.com/tickets-season-passes), Groupon and at H-E-B stores. TRF will continue the tradition of Kids 12 and under get in free on Sundays. Additionally, electronic people counters will be installed at the entrance and exit gates to keep a real-time count of people on the festival grounds.

Social distancing measures will include signage reminding patrons about distancing, hand sanitizing and face masks, limiting patrons in shoppes, maintaining 6' in line and reducing seating at the entertainment stages.

The Texas Renaissance Festival plan will continue to be revised as new information and input from government and health authorities is available. TRF will communicate expectations for the 2020 season via the [www.texrenfest.com](http://www.texrenfest.com) website, e-newsletters, press releases and all TRF social media channels.

# Texas Sales Tax Holiday,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a time when many Texans are carefully monitoring their family finances," Hegar said. "Online shopping is covered, so I encourage all Texans to shop online or practice social distancing when making in-store purchases. We want folks to stay safe while saving money."

Apparel and school supplies that may be purchased tax-free are listed on the Comptroller's website at [TexasTaxHoliday.org](http://TexasTaxHoliday.org).

To promote social distancing, the Comptroller's office wants all taxpayers to know that during the

annual sales tax holiday, qualifying items can be purchased online or by telephone, mail, custom order or any other means (including in-store purchases) tax free, when either:

- the item is both delivered to, and paid for by, the customer during the exemption period; or
- the customer orders and pays for the item, and the seller accepts the order during the exemption period for immediate shipment, even if delivery is made after the exemption period ends.

Texas' sales tax holiday

weekend has been an annual event since 1999, allowing Texans to save millions of dollars in state and local sales taxes each year. Uncertainty surrounding consumer activity in the retail sector coupled with a lack of clarity regarding the timing and nature of schools reopening prevents the agency from producing an estimate for dollars saved by taxpayers during this year's holiday. Last year's holiday generated an estimated \$102.2 million in savings for Texas taxpayers.

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### LEGAL NOTICE

Harris County Emergency Service District is soliciting resumes/applications to fill a vacant-unexpired position on the Board of Commissioners. Applications/resumes will be accepted until 5 p.m. August 15, 2020 at P.O. Box 96, Highlands, TX 77562, 1500 E. Wallsville Road, Highlands, TX 77562 or at either fire station in Highlands at 2301 E Wallsville Road, or at 123 San Jacinto, Highlands. Applications are not required, but can be picked up at 123 San Jacinto, or at 1500 E. Wallsville Road. A simple resume will be sufficient.

A person is disqualified from serving as an emergency services commissioner if that person:

(1) is related within the third degree of affinity(blood) or consanguinity(marriage) to:

(A) a person providing professional services to the district;

(B) a commissioner of the same district;

or

(C) a person who is an employee or volunteer of an emergency services organization providing emergency services to the district;

(2) is an employee of a commissioner of the same district, attorney, or other person providing professional services to the district;

(3) is serving as an attorney, consultant, or architect or in some other professional capacity for the district or an emergency services organization providing emergency services to the district;

or

(4) fails to maintain the qualifications required by law to serve as a commissioner.

### HELP WANTED

**NEWSPAPER MANAGING EDITOR/PUBLISHER** Position available for journalist or manager with local newspaper. Experienced in writing, interviewing, sourcing, computer layout, ad sales, record keeping, promotions. Salary plus benefits. Send letter of interest to GRAFIKSTAR@aol.com

### HELP WANTED

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### LEGAL NOTICE

### LEGAL NOTICE

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**PARTS SERVICES** R.F. Hull Water Well - Pump Service. 281-442-5630.

### SERVICES

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### LEGAL NOTICE

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### LEGAL NOTICE


### LEGAL NOTICE

### LEGAL NOTICE

### LEGAL NOTICE

### LEGAL NOTICE

**TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**



**NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION FOR AN AIR QUALITY PERMIT**

**PROPOSED PERMIT NUMBER: 160717**

**APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION.** FP Hydrotreating LLC, 58 Commerce Road, Stamford, Connecticut 06902-4506, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for issuance of Proposed Air Quality Permit Number 160717, which would authorize construction of a desulfurization plant located near Jacintoport Boulevard, approximately 0.25 mile east of the intersection with Sheldon Road, Houston, Harris County, Texas 77015. This application was processed in an expedited manner, as allowed by the commission's rules in 30 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 101, Subchapter J. This application was submitted to the TCEQ on March 30, 2020. The proposed facility will emit the following contaminants: ammonia, carbon monoxide, hazardous air pollutants, hydrogen sulfide, nitrogen oxides, organic compounds, particulate matter including particulate matter with diameters of 10 microns or less and 2.5 microns or less and sulfur dioxide.

The executive director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit which, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The executive director has made a preliminary decision to issue the permit because it meets all rules and regulations. The permit application, executive director's preliminary decision, and draft permit will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ central office, the TCEQ Houston regional office, and at <https://www.brandextract.com/permitting>, beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review at the TCEQ Houston Regional Office, 5425 Polk Street Suite H, Houston, Texas.

**PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC MEETING.** You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comment or to ask questions about the application. The TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing. **You may submit additional written public comments within 30 days of the date of newspaper publication of this notice in the manner set forth in the AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION paragraph below.**

**RESPONSE TO COMMENTS AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION.** After the deadline for public comments, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material or significant public comments. Because no timely hearing requests have been received, after preparing the response to comments, the executive director may then issue final approval of the application. **The response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or is on a mailing list for this application, and will be posted electronically to the Commissioners' Integrated Database (CID).**

**INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE.** When they become available, the executive director's response to comments and the final decision on this application will be accessible through the Commission's Web site at [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid). Once you have access to the CID using the above link, enter the permit number for this application which is provided at the top of this notice. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to application. <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=29.749444&lng=-95.119444&zoom=13&type=r>.

**MAILING LIST.** You may ask to be placed on a mailing list to obtain additional information on this application by sending a request to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

**AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION.** Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at [www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/](http://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/), or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address and physical address will become part of the agency's public record. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the Public Education Program toll free at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from FP Hydrotreating LLC at the address stated above or by calling Ms. Sharon Jones, Principal Consultant at (281) 416-4198.

Notice Issuance Date: July 29, 2020

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS**

The City of Jacinto City plans to apply for the upcoming Community Development Block Grant - Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) funding from the Texas General Land Office (GLO). Accordingly, the City of Jacinto City is seeking to contract with a qualified Engineering/Architectural/Surveying Firm (individual/firm) to prepare all preliminary and final design plans and specifications, and to conduct all necessary interim and final inspections. These services are being solicited to assist the City of Jacinto City in its application preparation and project implementation of a CDBG contract(s), if awarded, to support eligible activities in the City of Jacinto City. Please submit 4 copies of your proposal of services and a statement of qualifications for the proposed services to the address below: 1301 Mercury Dr., Houston, TX 77029, Attn: Lon D. Squyres, City Manager. Proposals shall be received by the City of Jacinto no later than August 20, 2020 by 3:00 PM to be considered. The City of Jacinto City reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals. Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Vendors are encouraged to submit proposals. The City of Jacinto City is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Los servicios de traducción están disponibles por petición.

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## Rotary Scholarships,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

with the help of school counselors. Usually the awards go to someone living in the Highlands or Crosby zip codes. A committee of ten Rotarians reads and grades the applications, which include academic records, activities and an essay.

Of the 20 awards, 11 attend Goose Creek Memorial HS, 2 attend Crosby HS, 1 attends Chinquapin Prep school, and 6 are college students who received awards previously too.

Scholarship amounts were \$1500 and four named in honor of past Rotarians in the amount of \$2500 each. These include the R. L. Creel scholarship to Abraham Montoya; the W. L. Herndon DDS Scholarship to Morgan Forsyth; Pat McPhee Scholarship to Olivia Davis; and J. E. Bird Scholarship to Keiddrick Fizer.

The Rotary Club raises money from several events, including the Chili Feast every February, and the Washer Tournament every September. The latter had to be cancelled this year.

In turn, they use the funds to help community projects through the year. In the last few years, the money was used to support Hurricane Harvey victims, Homeless Services, Cody Stephens heart screenings, a gazebo in the park, the Food Pantry, Highlands Horizons, Highlands Fire Department programs, the Methodist Church, public school support, Polio Plus, Stratford Library, and Student Exchange.

The Highlands Rotary Club welcomes new members that might be interested in the club's activities. Call 281-426-3558.



Scholarship recipients Olivia Davis, Gloria Medina, Chrissa Jacobson, and Keiddrick Fizer.



Scholarship recipients Angelque Vazquez, Grace Garcia, Abraham Montoya, and Maycie Gonzalez.



Scholarship recipients Nicolle Trujillo, Haley Jimenez, Andrea Barajas, and Oswald Aguirre.

Additional scholarship recipients:  
L to R, Kellye Martinez, Shalyn Nguyen



## Big 50 for David Mendez



Congratulations to David Mendez, general manager at Turner Chevrolet and a North Shore Rotarian, on his 50th Birthday on July 25. On top of that, he celebrated a 22 Wedding Anniversary with wife Deonicia on August 2. Best wishes to both.

# Schools cope with strain of changes

By LEWIS SPEARMAN

BAYTOWN – Goose Creek Consolidated ISD is a microcosm of schools throughout Texas in the wake of COVID-19 because every activity of schools is seemingly having to spend more to deal with challenges of the pandemic and social change.

The U.S. Dept. of Education says that public school spending has been heavily skewed toward salaries and benefits for employees, making about 80% of the per pupil spending. Indicating that about 11% went to services and 7% to supplies. Now supplies will

have to cut into the budgets for about 11%, cleaning services will increase and that bus services will need to expand beyond double.

Issues have been brought to light of digital learning, food insecurity, homelessness, disability services, health care and virtual internet connectivity.

According to Jessica Woods President of the Board of Trustees of Goose Creek Consolidated ISD this year in addition to concerns of when to start back classes the board is dealing with a year in which they were unable to give annual raises to teachers,

they are trying to reach 100% of students virtually, and enable teachers to teach electronically.

The WebX platform it seems has failed in the task of reaching most of the public wishing to virtually attend the board members. Some would-be attendees of last Monday's meeting were unable to log in, have comments heard, or hear what was spoken.

Schools have no idea what will happen in the coming year and what the ultimate impact of the pandemic will bring and how the property tax will impact incoming revenues.

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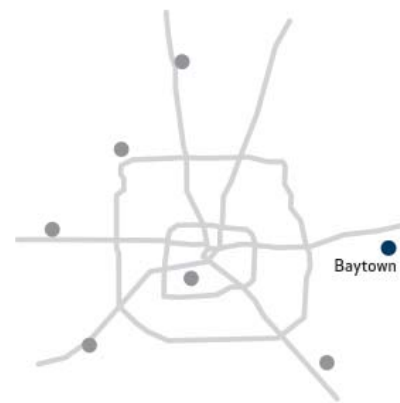
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