

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

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**IN THE STARS**

**EVENTS**

**SAT. DEC. 5**  
**Highlands SANTA arrives**  
At 5:00 pm on Saturday, Dec. 5th Santa will arrive at Heritage Park. Photos will be taken, and children are asked to bring a letter with their wish list. Safe distances and face masks will be used due to the virus. Hot chocolate will be served by the Rotary club at the Fire Station.

**SUN. DEC. 6**  
**Breakfast with SANTA**  
DRIVE-THRU Breakfast with Santa. Sacred Heart Catholic School, 907 Runneburg. 9am to 1pm, Adults \$5 Child/Senior \$3. Includes Plate with Sausage & Pancakes, and a breakfast drink (Coffee, Orange Juice, & Hot Chocolate). Located behind the Church.

**COVID-19**  
Cases as of December 1, 2020

**HOUSTON AREA**  
19 COUNTIES

288,554 POSITIVE  
3,779 DEATHS  
248,145 RECOVERED

**TEXAS**

1,239,598 POSITIVE  
21,902 DEATHS  
962,639 RECOVERED

**UNITED STATES**

13,566,283 POSITIVE  
268,662 DEATHS  
5,146,319 RECOVERED

**WORLDWIDE**

63,478,019 POSITIVE  
1,472,917 DEATHS  
40,760,630 RECOVERED

**BIRTHDAYS**

Dec 4-Larry Kelley  
Dec 5-Armand Chargois  
Dec 6-Deborah Brown  
Dec 7-Leslie Coward  
Becky Hill  
Led Manke  
Becky Smith  
Dec 8-Barbara Glaze  
Jerry W. Henderson  
Margaret K. Boyd  
Dec 9-Bruce Abbott  
Ray Denson  
Alison Elkins  
Dec 10-Alecia Simmons  
Karl Tewold  
Maegan West  
Kacy Browning

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Dec 8-Ray & Melissa Denson  
Dec 11-Kevin & Sandra Muldrow

# One dead in car-train collision

## Manslaughter charged on driver who drove around gates

CHANNELVIEW - The Harris County Sheriff's Office reports a crash involving an SUV and a train on Sheldon Road. A woman has been charged after a deadly crash involving an SUV and an Amtrak train in northeast Harris County on Wednesday afternoon. Brittinie Green is charged with manslaughter, according to the Harris County Sheriff's Office. The crash occurred around 5 p.m. Wednesday in the 10500 block of Sheldon Road near Beaumont Highway. Deputies say Green was

driving a BMW X3 with a passenger, Rhonda Clay, in the front seat. The sheriff's office says Green drove northbound in the southbound lane of Sheldon Road, went around two vehicles that were stopped for the railroad crossing arms and then drove around the railroad arm. Deputies say the BMW then crossed over the railroad tracks and was struck by a westbound Amtrak train. Clay was ejected from the vehicle and died at the scene, authorities said. Green was taken to the



ABOVE authorities view the wreckage of the car that drove around the crossing gates and was struck by an Amtrak passenger train. A passenger in the car was ejected and died. The driver, Brittinie Green, was charged by the D.A.'s office with Manslaughter. RIGHT the remains of the BMW.



hospital by LifeFlight. No injuries were reported among those on the Amtrak train. The sheriff's office say the Harris County District Attorney's Office accepted the charge of manslaughter on Green. This case remains under investigation by the Harris County Sheriff's Office Vehicular Crimes Division.

# New museum building announced for Crosby Historical Society

CROSBY - The Historical Society has made the announcement that they have secured a building to house a permanent museum for the Crosby area. On their website, they said that they had signed a long-term lease with Crosby ISD to use the old tax office and administration building situated at the corner of Runneburg and Pecan streets. The Society said that this fulfilled an almost 40-year goal for the group, beginning in 1983.



This building will become the new home of the Crosby Historical Society. Previously it was an administration and tax office for the Crosby school district.

Crosby ISD has not used this building for about 4 years, when it was the site of their Information Technology Center. However, the department had outgrown the size of the building, which is now vacant. The society said that their lease may have saved the building from planned demolition. Built in 1958, it combined the Administration and Tax Office. The land it

## Rotary holds annual "Share Your Christmas"



The Highlands Rotary Club held their annual "Share Your Christmas" event last Tuesday, packing and distributing gift bags of clothing and an age-appropriate gift for children who might otherwise not get anything at the holiday. Families were chosen with the help of counselors at the Highlands schools. Pictured above are Rotarians Tricia Scott, Sheila McDonald, and Denise Smith seated, and behind them Robert Woodall and wife Ann, Weston Cotten, Dr. Larry White, Betty Brewer, Diana Weaver, Johnny Gaeke, Rotary District Governor Gary Gillen, and club president Andy Scott.

## Christmas Events begin Saturday

CROSBY/HIGHLANDS - Saturday, Santa comes to town locally in big, different ways and heralds the approach of many other thrilling seasonal events. Light up the Night is a Christmas Lights Parade and Toy Drive by the Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce to leave from the Middle School south on Main Street Saturday at 6:00 p.m. Participants are encouraged to bring a new unwrapped toy for parade participation to be donated to Churches United in Caring for their Christmas outreach. Santa Claus will ride in on a fire truck and bring in seasonal cheer as the parade exits Main Street for Miller-Wilson, pass before the Chamber Office left at Wahl Street. Businesses, groups and individuals should take advantage of this low buy in display opportunity to market directly to their public in an attractive venue. Call Eddie Foster at (281) 794-5122 or the Chamber office at (281) 328-6984 for more information. Toys will be collected at the Safe Rescue truck kept at the Crosby Middle School for donations. Highlands is welcoming Santa Saturday at 5:00 p.m. also to come in on a fire truck to chat with local kids about what they want for Christmas sponsored by the Highlands-Chamber of Commerce and the

Highlands Fire Dept. Hot Chocolate and cookies are offered by Rotary. This tradition goes back over 30 years. Sunday, Dec. 6, 9 am to 1 pm. Sacred Heart Catholic Church is offering Breakfast with Santa between the school and the parish hall featuring pancakes, the jolly ole' elf, himself for \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children and seniors. Harris County Precinct 2 is to host a family bike ride between the Crosby Community Center and the Barrett Station Community Center. It is to be open to the community but participants must be registered. The ride begins at Riley Chambers Park and peddles to Crosby Park and back to the Riley Park on Sunday, Dec. 13 with the starting gun to go off at 8:00 a.m. So, be on the mark!

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## Varsity football: Local teams go to play-offs

NORTHEAST HARRIS COUNTY – As the final week of regular season approaches this weekend local teams are fairing very well indeed.

Crosby (7-2 6-0) and not less than 42 points in a game will welcome the Nederland Bull Dogs (6-2 5-1) next Friday. This following their convincing thrashing of Santa Fe 50-0 last week. Crosby leads 15-5A with a perfect in district record. Crosby has proved the more physical team against opponents with Quarterback Reggie Branch leading the air attack and rushing well.

According to Head Coach Jerry Prieto, "We got off to a fast start on offense. We scored 4 touchdowns in our first 10 plays of offense. Jaylen Herman had a big first half with two touchdown receptions and threw a touchdown as well on a double pass. Johnathon Fuselier and Braden Womack had interceptions on defense and our defense in total didn't give up very much."



Goose Creek Memorial (5-3 4-2) defeated the LaPorte Bull Dogs (4-4 2-4) 28 to 16 and it looks like for the fifth time in school history the Patriots will go to the play-offs. The last time was the 2013 season.

Dylan Pitre was the leader and quarterback for the Patriots. Although he had an interception and there was a fumble they held relatively well against the Bulldogs that threw three interceptions including two to cap the contest and two fumbles. The Patriots are enjoying a three game streak since the squeaker 15-14 against Sterling.

The Bulldog drew first blood with an interception and were up 7-0 early in the first quarter but Dylan Pitre matched the score and under seven minutes

to play in the First Quarter.

Patriot defender Bryce Johnson stole the Bull Dog's quarterback's ball and dashed in for a 14-7 lead. With seconds before the half Goose Creek Memorial went up on a pass and run 21 to 7.

A bad snap accounted for the second turnover for the Patriots, but alertly they hit the ball out of the endzone before it was a Bull Dog touchdown and only a two point touchback. At 21 to 9 the game again was in earnest. The Bulldog manufactured a drilling down field and scored another touchdown. A Patriot touchdown came in that had absorbed most of the third quarter for a 28-16 final. Credit the two interceptions that completely shut down the Bull Dog offense to Josiah Rice and Luis Acosta.

This will make the second time that Goose Creek Memorial and Robert E. Lee High School will be in the play-offs together since 2009.

## Champions Outdoors joins Jmac's Yak Shack

NOT your traditional kayak rental and showroom...

CROSBY – The dream has been many years in the making and it is finally here. Champions Outdoors, a unique kayak rental and launch site on Highlands Bayou in Hitchcock, Texas is expanding here as Jmac's Yak Shack.

Partnering with Josh MacNaughton, now offering a full-service kayak sales facility. This hands-on retail store will also provide educational and training facilities, as well as showcase the newest in paddle and pedal kayaks breaking into the industry with a beautiful show room floor.

Carrying a wide variety of pedal and paddle kayaks, sets them apart not only with the top branded kayaks on the market, but having the ability to launch right at their facility into a protected water way, free from high boat traffic, jet skiers, and bank fisherman to chase those inshore beasts. Experiencing the marsh from this side of the tracks is so incredibly peaceful and serene.

When booking for trips, we provide all our customers need to enjoy their day out. At a flat rate of \$100 per day, clients will have their choice of mirage drive, propel drive or paddle kayaks. Our top rentals are hot, so we promote advance reservation for a day out on the Hobie's, Viking's, Hoodoo's or Blue Sky's. They book out QUICK. Life jackets and paddles included. This year adding guided trips and adventure travel trips. Adventure is out there, we are going to yak you to it!

Established in 2016, our base message of promoting safety and conservation with a strong emphasis on mental health just took off. Last fall, we added the rental portion and are eager to help get our clients on the water. We offer free demos for those ready to purchase but need to find the right fit. These are always free, however a reservation is required. This is a great way to compare multiple kayaks to ensure the right choice for your adventures.

For those looking for another way to connect with us in the outdoors, we have a variety of ways to get involved. We have well established programs for women, kids, families, veterans, first responders and active duty military that are ALWAYS FREE. We are here to help our community become CHAMPIONS Outdoors and to build strong family bonds, open communication and establish overall better mental health and well-grounded families, while making sure they're in the safe and proper kayak for their personal adventure.

We currently host the following:

- Reel Girlz
- Heroes on the Water
- Kidzfish2
- Private club meet and greets

In-house hosted tournaments and fundraisers

See Champions Outdoors on facebook or visit <https://championsoutdoorsconstantcontact.com/>

We can't wait to help elevate each of you to the next level of your game or in your life.

## Precinct 3 gave away Thanksgiving turkeys



Precinct 3 Constable Sherman Eagleton, volunteer deputies, and Precinct 3, Position 1 Justice of the Peace Joe Stephens teamed up to give away Thanksgiving Turkeys to the needy last week before Thursday in Barrett Station, North Shore and Baytown. It was a kickoff to the giving season for the areas.

## MS-13 members charged with murder by U.S. Attorney

HOUSTON – Five local members of the violent Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13) international street gang are set to appear in court following charges of conspiracy and murder in aid of racketeering, announced U.S. Attorney Ryan K. Patrick.

Wilson Jose Ventura-Mejia, 24, Jimmy Villalobos-Gomez, 23, Angel Miguel Aguilar-Ochoa, 35, Walter Antonio Chicas-Garcia, 23, and Mar-

lon Miranda-Moran, 21, will appear for their arraignments and detention hearings via video before U.S. Magistrate Judge Sam S. Sheldon at 10 a.m. All are El Salvadorian nationals who illegally resided in Houston. Also charged is Franklin Trejo-Chavarria, 23, who is currently in custody in El Salvador.

A federal grand jury returned the indictment Nov. 12. All are charged

with conspiracy and murder in aid of racketeering.

The indictment alleges they committed a 2018 murder in furtherance of the MS-13 enterprise. The victim was allegedly beaten to death with machetes in order for the defendants to further their positions in the enterprise.

If convicted, they face a potential death sentence.

### Letter to Santa

Dear Santa, \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Letters can be mailed to Santa,  
5906 Star Lane, Houston, TX. 77057  
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### Sacred Heart Catholic School 907 Runneburg Crosby

## Drive Thru



# BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

**Sunday, December 6, 2020**  
**9:00 am - 1:00 pm**

**Tickets: Adult \$5 & Child/Senior \$3**  
**per Plate with Sausage & Pancakes**  
**Coffee, Orange Juice & Hot Chocolate**

*Located behind the Church, between the School and Parish Hall*



# Champions Outdoors

## Jmac's Yak Shack



**Come and meet some of the team and enjoy a private tour of our coming Texas Parks and Wildlife educational, aquatic and archery facilities as we host an open house December 11th from 3-8. Ribbon cutting, following a mixer, tour. Dinner and presentations for our 2020 students, families and clients will begin at 6 pm.**

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# STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Chris Cobler



## State is planning for first COVID19 vaccinations

### Plans for first vaccinations

Texas is preparing to distribute the COVID-19 vaccination to medical staff and other first responders later this month. "Texas is ready to distribute these vaccines in the coming days," Gov. Greg Abbott tweeted Sunday, sharing a Wall Street Journal news story about United Airlines operating charter flights to position doses of Pfizer Inc.'s COVID-19 vaccine for quick distribution if the shots are approved by regulators. Earlier, Abbott and the State Department of Health Services announced their guiding principles of vaccine distribution. Texas will initially allocate vaccines based on the following criteria:

- Protecting health care workers.
- Protecting frontline workers.
- Protecting vulnerable populations who are at greater risk.
- Mitigating health inequities.
- Data-driven allocations using the best available scientific evidence and epidemiology.
- Geographic diversity that considers access in urban and rural communities.
- Transparency with the public.

### Researcher spotlights 'invisible incentives'

The Texas Enterprise Fund took a hit for lack of transparency in a new research paper from the National Freedom of Information Coalition. The paper by journalist Steve Miller is titled "Invisible Incentives: How Secrecy Impedes Evalu-

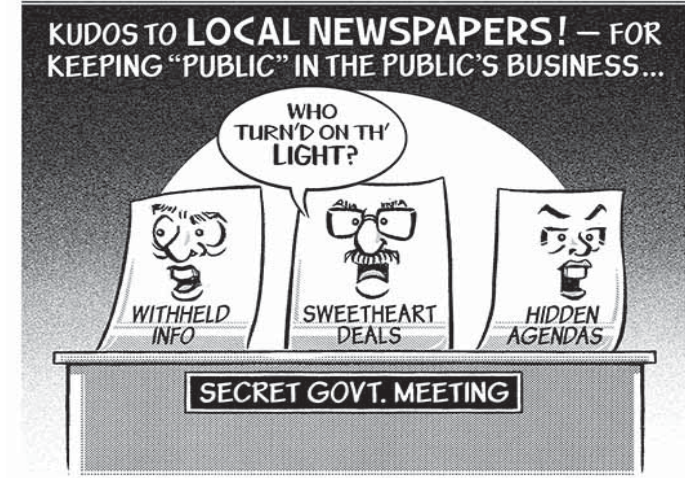


ation and Accountability of Economic Development Subsidies." Part of the paper spotlights the Texas Enterprise Fund, which the Legislature created in 2003 to provide taxpayer money to companies in exchange for the promise of jobs. "But in numerous cases, the money has been paid and the companies left shortly after the deal was completed, taking the jobs with them," the paper's author writes. "The public rarely hears of it, and the money spent is rarely recouped, although because of the opacity surrounding the TEF, it's difficult to discern if any financial recovery by the state is achieved." The problem is the same across most states, according to the paper, which concludes with this recommendation: "Opening the records, fully, is the best start to handing the decision to the public." Renae Eze, Gov. Greg Abbott's spokesperson, responded in a statement to the researcher's assertions. "When he first entered of-

fice in 2015, Gov. Abbott established procedures to ensure the protection of taxpayer money and transparency in the spending process, including changing the Texas Enterprise Fund requirements to be performance-based, meaning these companies must first meet their contracted job requirements before any state money is paid out," she stated. "Companies must also remain and maintain those jobs for an extra year on the contract period. If a company falls short, it will be held accountable to the hardworking people of Texas through provisions that enable us to clawback our grant."

### \$1 billion less

Two key Texas funds received about \$1 billion less this year because of the economic downturn, state Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced. The State Highway Fund and the Rainy Day Fund each received more than \$1.1 billion in the annual transfer of severance tax money, Hegar said. That's about \$500 million less for each fund than a year ago. The transfer amounts are based on crude oil and natural gas production tax revenues in excess of 1987 collections. If either tax generates more revenue than the 1987 threshold, an amount equal to 75 percent of the excess is transferred. In November 2014, voters approved a constitutional amendment allocating at least half of the severance taxes to the Rainy Day Fund, with the remainder going to the State Highway Fund for use on non-toll highway construction, main-



tenance and right-of-way acquisition. The economic contraction associated with the COVID-19 pandemic and recent volatility in oil prices contributed to the transfer amounts being lower than the \$1.66 billion each fund received in fiscal 2020, Hegar said. "The Rainy Day Fund and the State Highway Fund are critical pieces to ensure Texas' continued economic strength," Hegar said. "The State Highway Fund is a key funding source for the transportation infrastructure that is fundamental to our economy, and the importance of maintaining a healthy Rainy Day Fund to help weather unforeseen economic downturns has never been more clear than it has been in recent months." With this most recent transfer, the new balance of severance taxes will be about \$10.7 billion.

### Billion-dollar breakthrough?

Texas A&M researchers announced a breakthrough in fighting agricultural plant diseases. Kranthi Mandadi, a Texas A&M AgriLife Research scientist and associate professor in Texas A&M's Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology, has been working on developing new biological technologies. Mandadi and his team are based at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Exten-

sion Center in Weslaco. The diseases cause billions of dollars of damage each year. The U.S. citrus industry alone would save \$3 billion a year through control of just one of these diseases — citrus greening. Additionally, the pathogen that causes Pierce's disease in grapes is the No.1 threat to the \$1 billion wine

industry in Texas. The new technologies allow scientists to better study the pathogens and combat them.

Chris Cobler is a board member and past president of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas. He welcomes email at [ccobler@texaspress.com](mailto:ccobler@texaspress.com).

HIGHLANDS CROSBY

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## THOUGHTS FROM HILLSIDE CHURCH

By Dr. Mark Trice



### Looking Back

December is one of the busiest months of the year. It is also one of the best times to stop for just a little while and look back. "Why?" you may ask, "would I want to look back?" Well...

There's a quote I heard somewhere long ago: "If you keep doing what you've always done, you'll only have what you've always had." Football players know this, as do basketball players, baseball players, track and field competitors... To improve at anything, you must take time to assess what you've been doing, determine what you've done well and where you've made mistakes, and adjust your future actions accordingly. So now, Runner in Life, is a good time for you to pause and take a look at the way you've run your 2020 race.

Ok, so we both know that sometimes it's felt more like slogging through mud than actually running. This year has offered us all spectacular tests in the areas of endurance, faith, patience, love...pretty much everything. Most are ready for that ball to drop on December 31 with more anticipation than they ever have in their lives. Still, the very fact that it's been an exceptionally challenging year means it's the ideal time to look back and see how we've responded to its trials.

If we turn to Galatians 5:22-23, we see the perfect test to apply to our 2020 walk with God: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law."

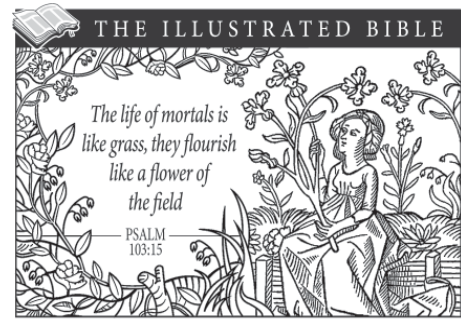
So how did we do? Did we actively choose to love others, even those who disagreed vehemently with us when it came to masks and politics? Did we seek out sources of joy in the midst of the chaos and pain? What about peace? Did we let fear win when our livelihoods were threatened? And longsuffering? There's a fun one. Did we lose patience with our families while we were locked in the house with them for days and even weeks on end?

Were we proactive about walking in goodness, about demonstrating kindness - even when others didn't necessarily deserve it? And faithfulness... Did we hold fast to

our faith in God even as we lost loved ones to the pandemic? Were we gentle with those who disagreed with us on social media? And speaking of social media, how did we do in the self-control department?

Recent months have pushed pretty much everyone to their limits; at least most seem to feel that way. What I'm encouraging us all to do is take a look at how we've responded to the pressure, to honestly judge our actions and reactions against the Word and heart of God, and to make some clearcut decisions about what we will and will not do going forward into 2021. Letting the Spirit lead us so completely that the fruit of the Spirit is always evident in our lives takes effort; it doesn't just happen. But we present the world with a much more honest picture of Him when we do.

www.myhillsidefamily.com, @myhillsidefamily



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## Crosby Historical Society,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sits on was originally the site of the 1910 Crosby school building, which now is pictured on the cover of the new Crosby History book, just published. The book was a major effort by the society, with 544 pages and over 2500 historical photos in an oversized format. The book was put on sale recently for \$325 hardcover, and \$160 softcover. If you are interested, contact Donna Davenport at 281-731-7010.

The book printing was underwritten by sponsors, including: Murff Turf Farm, Oilwell Tubular, Duda Landscape Systems, Alliance Properties, Crawfish Shack, Scott Stephens & Associates, Sterling-White, Donna and Ronnie Davenport, Joe and Shirley Ulrich, Skipper and Gabby Greenwade, Bob and Joyce Boyles, Alvin Stasney, Mark and Janet Stasney, and an anonymous donor.



Some of the members of the Crosby Historical Society pose in front of their new Museum building, after a work session to prepare it for use.



Aerial view shows the entrance to the Museum on Pecan Street, with the old Administration building in the background.

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# Aggies look for big road win at Auburn: Texans look to slow down Colts in AFC South

This strange and crazy college football season is winding down, while the NFL heads for the stretch drive as 2020 gets closer and closer to going away (thank goodness).

Jimbo Fisher's Texas A&M Aggies were supposed to play LSU last Saturday and if the game was held, it was A&M's first game since they dominated South Carolina on Nov. 7. Games against Tennessee and Mississippi had to be postponed due to players and football staffers testing positive for COVID-19. The Tennessee game has been rescheduled for Dec. 12. No word yet on if the Ags will host Mississippi on Dec. 19, the day of the SEC title game.

This Saturday, the Aggies have a tough road test at Auburn with hopes of closing fast and impressing members of the College Football Playoff (CFP) panel. If A&M can win out and finish with just one loss to No. 1-ranked Alabama, the CFP Selection Committee should consider the Aggies for one of the four CFP berths, that's why this game is so important to Fisher's team.

Tom Herman's Texas Longhorns would also like to finish strong and perhaps land a Jan. 1 bowl game. UT will visit a Kansas State team that was blown out by Iowa State, 45-0, two weeks ago.

In the NFL, the Texans will be out to throw a monkey wrench in the Colts' AFC South title hopes. Two weeks ago, Houston played perhaps its most complete game of the season when the Texans beat New England 27-20 in NRG Stadium. The loss could have brought an end to Bill Belichick's 2020 playoff hopes and has a lot of Patriots fans wondering, "is it time to rebuild?"

The Cowboys travel to Baltimore for a second straight Thursday games (they hosted Washington on Thanksgiving Day) and showed signs of life two weeks ago with a 31-28 win at Minnesota. While the Cowboys were winning on



the road, the Ravens dropped a 30-24 overtime decision at home to the Titans to fall to 6-4 on the season.

Before we take a look at the above mentioned games and a handful of others, let's review last week's record. A 7-3 week (two AISD varsity games were postponed) upped the season record to 75-36 (68%).

Now, onto this weekend's games.

### CAA

**Indiana at Wisconsin:** This one is a battle for survival in the Big 10 as both teams enter this game with one loss. Two weeks ago, Indiana lost a hard-fought, 42-35 decision at Ohio State. The Hoosiers were down by double digits in the second half and could have given up, but quarterback Michael Penix, Jr. (1,561 yards, 14 TDs) and wide receiver Ty Fryfogole (31 receptions, 642 yards, 7 TDs) made big-play after big-play to bring IU back. Wisconsin had a tough time moving the ball in its 17-7 road loss at Northwestern and the Badgers will need a better outing from quarterback Graham Mertz (375 yards, 8 TDs) if they hope to beat the high-scoring Hoosiers. My pick, Indiana 33, Wisconsin 27

**Texas A&M at Auburn:** No. 5-ranked Texas A&M heads to the plains of Alabama to take on an Auburn team that struggles on offense, but has playmakers on defense. A&M QB Kellen Mond (1,468 yards, 16 TDs) needs to continue to be his consistent self and let running back Isaiah Spiller (643 yards, 5 TDs) do his thing on the ground and fellow run-

ning back Ainius Smith (26 receptions, 312 yards, 5 TDs) help out in the passing game. I think the A&M defense will get to Auburn quarterback Bo Nix (1,407 yards, 4 TDs) early and force a turnover or two. The Aggies need to start fast and take the start out of the War Eagles. My pick, Texas A&M 26, Auburn 16

**Texas at Kansas State:** Texas is another team that has had its schedule upended due to COVID-19 and they face a KSU team that was humiliated two weeks ago when they were wiped out 45-0 at Iowa State. Texas will go as far as quarterback Sam Ehlinger (1,874 yards, 22 TDs/323 rushing yards, 7 TDs) will take them and he should have a big day against a weak Wildcat defense. Ehlinger will use speedy wide receiver Joshua Moore (22 receptions, 343 yards, 7 TDs) to make plays in the passing game and his stable of capable running backs to get things done on the ground. My pick, Texas 34, Kansas State 18

**Oklahoma State at TCU:** Mike Gundy's Cowboys had it all in front of them until they visited Norman, OK two weeks ago to take on arch rival Oklahoma. The Cowboys got behind big early, rallied to make it close but watched as OU pulled away in the fourth quarter en route to a 41-13 win and might have put a huge dent in OSU's Big 12 title chances. Quarterback Spencer Sanders (766 yards, 5 TDs), and running back Chubba Hubbard (581 yards, 5 TDs) were both slowed with injuries in the game, but should be back to full strength on Saturday when they visit Fort Worth to take on Gary Patterson's Horned

Frogs. TCU is led by dual threat quarterback Max Duggan (1,274 passing yards, 5 TDs/348 rushing yards, 6 TDs). OSU must contain Duggan if they hope to pull off the road win. It says here they will. My pick, Oklahoma State 33, TCU 26

### NFL

**Dallas at Baltimore:** The Cowboys visit Baltimore for Thursday Night Football as the Ravens look to right the ship and make a run down the stretch. Two weeks ago, Dallas played as well as it has on offense since starting quarterback Dak Prescott went down with an ankle injury. Backup QB Andy Dalton (655 yards, 4 TDs) passed for two touchdowns and running back Ezekiel Elliott (675 yards, 5 TDs) had his first 100-yard game of the season (103 yards). Rookie wide receiver CeeDee Lamb had an amazing over-the-shoulder touchdown catch as was making plays all over the field in the Minnesota win. Dallas will need that sort of effort again this week if they hope to beat the Ravens on the road. Two weeks ago, Baltimore blew a second-half lead at home and fell in OT to the Titans. Quarterback Lamar Jackson (1,945 passing yards, 13 TDs/575 rushing yards, 3 TDs) is not the same QB that won the MVP in 2019, but he's got enough talent to turn things around in a hurry. Look for a better effort from the Ravens on both sides of the ball on Thursday as they take care of business against Dallas. My pick, Baltimore 30, Dallas 23

**Indianapolis at Houston:** The Colts come calling on Sunday afternoon at NRG Stadium to take on a Texans team that appears to have found new life after its 27-20 win over New England two weeks ago. In that game, quarterback Deshaun Watson (2,893 yards, 20 TDs) played perhaps his best game of the season passing for 344 yards, tossing two TD passes and running for another score. The defense also made plays at defensive

end J.J. Watt tipped four of Cam Newton's passes. The Texans will need another such effort against an Indy team that overcame a 14-point deficit at home to defeat Green Bay, 34-31 in overtime. Indy QB Phillip Rivers (2,683 yards, 14 TDs) got off to a slow start but has been on fire lately. This one could turn into a shoot out between Watson and Rivers, but the Colts get the nod because they have the better running game. My pick, Indianapolis 31, Houston 29

**Cleveland at Tennessee:** If you like smash-mouth football, then this is just the game for you. This game pits two teams that focus on the run first, and play tough defense. Two weeks ago, the Browns used the legs of running back Kareem Hunt (644 yards, 4 TDs) and Nick Chubb (575 yards, 5 TDs) and an opportunistic defense to defeat Philadelphia 22-17 in rainy Cleveland. While the Browns were winning at home, the Titans overcame a second-half deficit at Baltimore and rode Derrick Henry's (1,079 yards, 9 TDs) 29-yard touchdown run in OT to pull off the upset against the Ravens. Look for both teams to be run heavy in this one, which means the quarterback who makes the least mistakes, Baker Mayfield (1,850 yards, 15 TDs) or Ryan Tannehill (2,389 yards, 22 TDs) will come out the winner. My pick, Tennessee 23, Cleveland 20

**New Orleans at Atlanta:** Who needs Drew Brees when you have Taysom Hill? Just joking. Hill (233 passing yards, two rushing touchdowns) filled in admirably for Brees who is on injured reverse with a number of fractured ribs. Hill stepped in and led the Saints to a 24-9 win in NO over Atlanta two weeks ago. This week, they meet in Atlanta. Saints head coach Sean Payton wants Hill to manage the game and let his stars, running back Alvin Kamara (531 rushing yards, 8 TDs/67 receptions, 648 yards, 4 TDs) and wide receiver Michael Thomas (9

catches for 104 yards against the Falcons) take over the offense. The Saints defense also played well in the win over Atlanta two weeks ago, as that until recorded eight sacks and picked off Matt Ryan. Look for another overall solid team effort as the Saints look to remain in first place in the NFC South. My pick, New Orleans 33, Atlanta 20

**Philadelphia at Green Bay:** The Eagles have issues all over the place, but especially at quarterback. Carson Wentz has turned into a turnover machine, as evidenced by the 14 interceptions he has thrown thus far this season. Two weeks ago, Wentz threw two more picks as the Eagles lost at Cleveland, 22-17. While the Eagles were losing on the road, so too were the Packers, who blew a 14-point lead at Indy and lost 34-31 in overtime. Look for GB QB Aaron Rodgers (2,887 yards, 29 TDs), running back Aaron Jones (534 yards, 8 total TDs) and wide receiver Davante Adams (68 receptions, 847 yards, 10 TDs) to step up their games as they hand the Eagles another road loss. My pick, Green Bay 34, Philadelphia 20

**Denver at Kansas City:** Patrick Mahomes (3,035 yards, 27 TDs, just 2 interceptions) is sure fun to watch, isn't he? Two weeks ago he rallied the Chiefs from a 31-28 deficit with less than two minutes to go as he marched his team down the field and provided the winning touchdown strike to tight end Travis Kelce (66 receptions, 896 yards, 7 TDs). Mahomes should have another big night on Sunday Night Football against a game Denver team that ended Miami's five-game winning streak two weeks ago. The Chiefs have too much firepower for the Broncos. Look for them to continue their roll and look for Mahomes to stake his case for a second MVP award in the last three years. My pick, Kansas City 36, Denver 20



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## Armed robbery at Burpy Market on Wallisville

The Harris County Sheriff's Office is searching for two men seen on surveillance video robbing a Burpy market convenience store in northeast Harris County.

The men were caught on camera robbing the store at gunpoint late Friday night. The store is located on the 1500 block of East Wallisville Road.

Adrian Rebello was one of the cashiers the night of the robbery and said the suspects were in and out within minutes and took off on foot.

"He's like, 'Hey, on your knees.' With the gun right on my head," said Rebello.

The store's owner Jason Makojiya said the thieves made off with about \$1,700 but said he is thankful no one was hurt.

"Their safety, their lives are most important they did everything right. They gave the money up and did what the robbers asked



Surveillance video shows armed robber inside store.



Robbery was at the Burpy market inside the Exxon.

them to," said Makojiya. Makojiya is asking anyone with information on the suspects to come for-

ward and call the Harris County Sheriff's Office at 713-221-6000.

## Loggins family exhibits hunting skills at Wetz Ranch in Harper Texas



This is 8 year old Harper Wayne Loggins (son of Rick and Jennifer Loggins) with sister Hope pictured with his first buck taken.



Carson Loggins of Crosby scores again on the Wetz Ranch in Harper Texas

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### ON THE HILL

#### Beach City Mayor Lasater says "Hello, goodbye"

Hello, Neighbors!  
MY LAST NEWSLETTER

I want to take this opportunity to say that it has been an honor to serve on the Beach City City Council as an Alderman, Mayor-Pro-Tem and then Mayor for the last eleven and a half years.

I will be handing the reigns over to Mayor Elect Ryan Dagley tomorrow night (Tuesday, Nov. 24) at the City Council meeting, as he will be sworn in as Beach City's newest Mayor. I have no doubt that Mr. Dagley will do a great job as our Mayor.

I want to thank all of you for your support the last two years as I served as Mayor. You have made my job so rewarding and interesting. I also was overwhelmed with the love, support and prayers from so many of the citizens of this wonderful little town as I dealt with serious health issues this past year.

I will forever be grateful. I have been so fortunate to work with so many dedicated and skilled Mayors, Councilmen and staff these last eleven and a half years. I will always hold dear the relationships that we developed as we conducted the City Business.

I plan to stay engaged with city issues and help when I can but I and my wife Marilyn hope to do some traveling around the country seeing the sights and doing a little metal detecting, fishing and camping. Acting retired for a change.

Again, thank you all and God Bless.

Jackey Lasater,  
Mayor, Beach City\*\*

#### Baytown Nature Ctr. Events

#### WINTER HIKES:

- Saturday, December 26, 5:30—7:00 pm
- Saturday, January 30, 7:30—9:00 pm
- Saturday, February 27, 6:00—7:30 pm

## New mayor takes office in Beach City

Hello, BEACH CITY and Fellow NEIGHBORS! MY FIRST NEWSLETTER AND ANNOUNCEMENT

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I am your new Mayor Ryan Dagley. I am extremely humbled by the opportunity to serve our great city. I have been married to my wife Isis for nearly 19 years and we have two beautiful children RJ (sophomore at BHISD) and Kayla (7th grader at BHISD). As a Rotarian, I believe in Service Above Self. I have been a Rotarian for 14 years, most recently serving as President of my Rotary Club. I currently serve on the board for the Cody Stephens Go Big or Go Home Foundation, active on other charitable boards in the community, was Co-Chairman of the recent



New Beach City Mayor Ryan Dagley and family: Isis, Kayla, and R.J. Dagley

BHISD Bond committee, and currently serve on the DEIC committee at BHISD. My parents raised all four of their children as living examples of service to the community you live in. I felt from a young age that serving others was a way for me to leave things better than when I found them.

I joined City Council in January 2019 and have enjoyed my time serving alongside the other Alderman, our wonderful recent past Mayor, and our office staff. After learning our current Mayor was not going to seek re-election, I decided I would step up and use my talents, will to serve, and eagerness to stay involved in my community and run for Mayor. Communities that have strong leaders and members who love to serve are communities that are vi-

brant and strongly united. Beach City has a strong legacy of great leaders, it is a vibrant community that is a great place to live and raise a family, and my hope is that I can continue this legacy and showcase our Beach City Spirit.

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:** With my recent resignation as Alderman and becoming Mayor, there is now an open Alderman position. Anyone interested in being considered for the Alderman position should submit a letter of interest or resume to myself at mayor@beachcitytx.us

We will accept letters of interest and resumes until December 10th, 2020 and subsequently interview potential candidates on December 15th.

Ryan J. Dagley, MAI,  
Mayor, Beach City\*\*

## Liberty County murder suspect captured in Mexico

HOUSTON — The U.S. Border Patrol arrested a man charged with capital murder after being tied to the fatal shooting of one woman and sexual assault of another in September, according to the Liberty County Sheriff's Office.

The U.S. Marshal's Office and Mexican authorities joined the search for Jose Marin Soriano, 59, after he reportedly crossed the border into Mexico shortly after the incident.

Soriano was arrested Sunday at noon while attempting to cross back into the United States by the U.S.-Mexico border crossing at the San Ysidro Port of Entry, according to the Sheriff's Office. He is being

held at the San Diego, California Sheriff's Office and waiting to be extradited back to Texas as soon as all legal documentation can be completed, officials said.

These incidents occurred on County Road 3415 at County Road 3425 around 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 19.

Deputies said they received a frantic 911 call by a woman who said she was chained to a bed while her friend was killed in a car outside the residence. When deputies arrived at the scene, they found a woman dead inside a burned vehicle across the road from the residence. Deputies said they also found another woman chained at the ankle and a rope tied



JOSE MARIN SORIANO

around her neck inside the house located in the Rancho San Vicente subdivision in north Liberty County.

After investigating, deputies said it appears that both women cleaned houses for

Soriano, who lives at the residence.

Deputies said Soriano had some revealing photos of the now-deceased woman and he had told the victim that he would delete the photos if she would meet him at his home. It is unknown if Soriano took the photos or if the woman, who is now dead, sent the photos to him at some point.

When the two women arrived at Soriano's home, deputies said he pulled a gun and sexually assaulted the woman chained to the bed. In an attempt to escape the house, the now-deceased woman got into her vehicle and attempted to back out of the yard, but the car crashed into the woods across the street from Soriano's home.

For unknown reasons, investigators said the vehicle caught fire and the woman was badly burned. However, investigators said a gunshot wound was found when the woman was later examined. It appears that in Soriano's haste to stop the woman from leaving in her car, he left his cellphone in the house and it was his cellphone the other victim used to call the sheriff's department, deputies said.

Deputies said Soriano fled the scene in a gray Ford pickup truck, which was later found. Investigators believe Soriano swapped cars to a 2009 black Honda Accord.

## Lung Cancer: Be Vigilant to Prevent Respiratory Illness

Be Vigilant to Prevent Respiratory Illness

BAYTOWN — (November 25, 2020) — The COVID-19 pandemic, in addition to the seasonal flu and other respiratory illnesses that affect the lungs, has brought renewed attention to the importance of improving respiratory health.

There are steps you can take today to prevent disease and boost your respiratory health in case you do get sick. With November designated as National Lung Cancer Awareness Month, Dr. Houssam Oueini, a pulmonologist with Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital, emphasizes that taking good care of your lungs can improve your quality of life and protect against respiratory illnesses.

#### Recognize Serious Symptoms

It's important to know that anyone can have mild to severe symptoms with either COVID-19 or flu.

"More serious complications from respiratory illness are a bigger issue for older adults and anyone who may have underlying health conditions. Yet, it's possible to experience severe symptoms at any age," Oueini said.



DR. HOUSSAM OUEINI

Monitor your symptoms if you're not feeling well:

- **Mild symptoms** include having a low-grade fever, nasal congestion, runny nose, sore throat, mild cough and mild body aches. *What to do:* Get tested for COVID-19. Stay home and isolate yourself from others to avoid spreading illness, even if you test negative for COVID-19.

- **Moderate symptoms** include fever over 100.4 F, persistent cough, temporary shortness of breath and feeling like you need to stay in bed. *What to do:* Get tested for COVID-19 and contact your doctor about worsening symptoms.

- **Severe symptoms** include difficulty breathing, shortness of breath,

wheezing, pain or pressure in the chest, confusion, trouble staying awake and bluish lips or face. *What to do:* Seek emergency medical care for severe respiratory symptoms.

Mild cases of respiratory illness can often be managed with rest, fluids and fever-reducing medicines at home. However, don't wait to see a doctor if you're in a high-risk group and experiencing worsening symptoms. Mild or moderate symptoms can quickly become severe for older adults and those who have heart disease, diabetes, cancer or chronic respiratory problems.

#### Manage Your Health Conditions

If you have chronic respiratory conditions, such as asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), it's important to manage the condition closely with your doctor.

"There are things we are doing to reduce exposure risk for patients, including telehealth appointments and video visits," said Oueini.

Oueini recommends taking steps like getting regular exercise, quitting smoking and vaping and minimizing exposure to allergens to keep your lungs

healthy.

#### Stay Healthy

"The best thing everyone can do to help protect each other is to follow recommended respiratory practices," said Oueini.

Staying vigilant with tips, like staying home from work or school if you feel sick, practicing social distancing, getting a flu shot, wearing a mask in public and washing hands often, helps prevent the spread of illness.

#### Lung Cancer Screening

A written order is required for all lung cancer screening procedures. Testing may be recommended if you meet the following criteria:

- Age 55-74 years
- No current signs or symptoms of lung cancer
- Tobacco smoking history of at least 30 pack-years (calculated by multiplying the number of packs smoked per day by the number of years smoked)
- Current smoker or former smoker who has quit within the last 15 years
- Have NOT had a chest CT scan in the last year

For more information on the Lung Cancer Screening Program, call 713-441-

LUNG (5864) or visit [houstonmethodist.org/lung-screening](http://houstonmethodist.org/lung-screening).

Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital is taking every necessary precaution during the coronavirus pandemic to keep you and our staff members safe. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we are:

Screening all patients, ensuring only those without COVID-19 symptoms are seen in the office

Wearing masks and personal protective equipment (PPE) while providing patient care

Reorganizing waiting rooms and check-in lines to ensure social distancing

Implementing additional sanitation processes to disinfect all equipment and surfaces

The experts with Houston Methodist Lung Associates at Baytown—Dr. Oueini, Skantha Manjunath, MD and Dr. Shawn Tittle—provide care for a wide range of respiratory conditions, such as asthma, COPD, pulmonary fibrosis and emphysema. For more information and to schedule an appointment, visit [houstonmethodist.org/baytown](http://houstonmethodist.org/baytown), or call 281-428-4510.