

INSIDE: Letters to Santa, Season's Greetings



HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

Star Courier

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2020

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

MONDAY



COVID-19 RESOURCES

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

COVID-19

Cases as of December 15, 2020

HOUSTON AREA 19 COUNTIES

324,651 POSITIVE
4,031 DEATHS
275,467 RECOVERED

TEXAS

1,492,701 POSITIVE
24,445 DEATHS
1,185,628 RECOVERED

UNITED STATES

16,598,094 POSITIVE
302,046 DEATHS
5,714,557 RECOVERED

WORLDWIDE

73,211,434 POSITIVE
1,629,792 DEATHS
41,469,858 RECOVERED

BIRTHDAYS

Dec 6–Rob Turner
Dec 9–Briscoe Cain
Dec 18–Mikey Martin
Pauline Shields
Dec 20–Kerney Thomas
Dec 22–Rusty William-son
Dec 23–Barbara Whitby
Dec 24–Janice Loftin
Russell Rach

ANNIVERSARIES

Dec. 19–Kitty & Bob Elkins
Dec 20–David & Kathryn Dunlop
Dec 21–Roger & Lisa Simmons
Dec 25–Bill & JoAnn Turner

Clothe-A-Child & food gifting take extra effort in 2020



Pastor Keenan Smith and fellow ministers of Crosby Church huddle as the second wave of volunteers prepares to start helping folks that need a little extra help this year preparing for Christmas. In total 2020 has been a challenging year.

CROSBY – The year 2020 has been a tough one on those that host charities and to those that benefit from them, this includes one of the local favorites, Cloth-A-Child, developed to help school aged kids enjoy some of the blessings that many take for granted.

For the last 16 weeks Crosby Church, A Fellowship of Believers, has taken in what food they could get donated and handed it out to awaiting families from their central campus on US 90. That program now occurs on Mondays and begins at about 3:00 p.m. but the lineup is now beginning at noon. Pastor Keenan Smith has seen the program go from prepackaged relief boxes to volunteer assembly of food stuffs. It has become more difficult to say if the products are

better or worse than in the past for example entire tenderloins and lamb parts from the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo have been arriving.

Monday and Tuesday of this week, Cloth-A-Child, brings those in need of help presenting Christmas close to those that want to help others as the helpers are to shepherd the needy into an effective use of \$100 and get the kids a toy. The Monday in Atascocita, Tuesday in Crosby.

According to Pastor Keenan Smith's observation, "Some people ask, 'Is

See Cloth-A-Child, page 6

Rotary Chili Feast set for Feb. 6th

HIGHLANDS – The Rotary Club is preparing to hold their 46th Annual Chili Feast, on Saturday, February 6. A chili lunch will be served from 11 am to 3 pm or until the chili runs out, according to Chili Feast chairman Jerry Falin. A live auction will take place at 12:30 pm.

The event is being held at the St. Jude's Catholic Church social hall, unless strict COVID19 rules are in effect causing the event to be moved. The club president, Andy Scott, said that the raffle will be held regardless of any restric-

See ROTARY CHILI, p. 6



Winner of the Chili Feast Raffle will have their choice of a 2021 Chevy Colorado Pickup or a 2021 Chevy Camaro, from Turner Chevrolet.



At the Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce building on First Street Holly the Elf awaits kids for photos and visits. She takes in letters to give to Santa and also to be published in the Star-Courier, this and the next issue. But her last day in Crosby is the day this paper comes out and she will only be there today from 11:30 until 2:00 p.m. Letters to Santa may still be dropped in the special mailbox at the Chamber office for special delivery to the North Pole.

Highlands' Annual "Share Your Christmas"

By Theresa Cashion

HIGHLANDS – The Share your Christmas project provides new clothing for students in need in the three schools in Highlands. The idea was conceived 18 years ago by the Catholic Daughters organization at Saint Jude Church. For a project to serve over 150 students each year, it must have a lot of support of local churches, clubs, businesses and individuals.

The school counselors take time from their busy schedules to work up the list of eligible students and handle the parent contact. Sponsors purchase the clothing and oftentimes toys, gift wrap the items and deliver them to the school. The sponsors give to the students with a joyful and loving attitude. They are a group of which we are very proud and thankful.

This year sponsors are Catholic Daughters of Saint Jukes, First Baptist



The staff at BP Hopper primary is very thankful for the donations received for our students in need. Our sponsors went above and beyond to help. Left to right Ms. Herrera, Ms. Harding, Mrs. Batiste and Mrs. Cotten

Church of Highlands, ZXP Technologies, Tri-County Construction, Hill Construction, Highlands Rotary Club, LJ Engineering,

Setco pipe, Horizons, Woodforest Bank, Dr. White's office, St. Jude KC, Patsy Gersteman, Weston

See Share Your Christmas, p. 6



Mandi King, counselor at Highlands Junior School. Year after year, regardless of what is going on in the world around us (Hurricanes, Virtual Learning, global Pandemics) the citizens of Highlands always find their way to provide for our students! This year's uncertainty didn't prove to be match for our sponsors as again, we were blown away by their generosity and genuine love of giving! On behalf of the HJS administrative team, staff, parents and students, we extend our sincerest gratitude and appreciate for your kindness year after year!




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Letters to Santa

Dear Santa,
My name is Damian, I am 10 years old, I behave myself. I help feed our dogs and cats for Grandma.

We work in the yard and take care of nana's flowers, she likes hot tea and I make it for her. My Christmas list is short:

A radio CD player, Puzzles, Uno cards, White and Red vans, Clothes.

Thank you, Santa Claus

Dear Santa,
How are you doing today? I have been a good girl because I wash my plate and cup, take out the trash. What I want for Christmas, I would like a cat plush please. Thank you, Carla.

Dear Santa,
How are you? I have been a good girl because I have been doing my chores. I help my mom and, Am nice to my sisters. And I feed my dog every single day. And I lesin to my mother and. And I wash the cloth and the dishes. For Christmas I want a computer and a car.. Thank you.

Dear Santa,
My wish is o get my mom and my dad to be toy getter again. Dayana.

Dear Santa,
I want led lights and been leaving this year I want an amount us phone case by Damian. Damian.

Dear Santa,
I want a OMG doll for Christmas and Fine-Lel and one special give to my mom Danilah.

Dear Santa,I love you Santa and Mrs. Clane. Klaire, 6 years.

Dear Santa,I put a Bone four kris to ride my bike. Aaron, 6 years old.

Dear Santa,
Please can I have a girl elf for Christmas? Can I also hav ..., Elizabeth.

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a hot toys and please bring me a cat. Azan, 7 years old

Dear Santa,I would like batman Imaginex sets, a Nintendo switch, a skateboard, and to see my cousins more. I have been good all year! Thank you, Bent, 7 years old.

Letters to Santa

Dear Santa,
Love you Santa. You live in the North Pole. Want for Christmas is a spigot spinner. Roel.

Dear Santa,
Julie and Amy have been good girls this year. Julie would like a life size Elsa doll, Amy like cars she can ride on.

Thank you, merry Christmas

Dear Santa,
My name is Abigail, I am a mother of 3. Two of them did their letter, but my 3 yr old don't know how to write. But I would like for him some shoes size 8c or any toys, I am pretty sure that will be enough for me. As a mother I am struggling a lot, no job, no money in this situation. I am doing my best to let them know Santa is real.

Merry Christmas, Santa. Thank you.

Dear Santa,
I want a neat gun. I been good and I want a 200\$ gift card, I am going to help my sister and be good. I help my sister for raping paper and my family and I want a Pokemon back pack and a Robot dog and a big Ryan egg 2 of them, and I want a Xbox1. Isaac.

Dear Santa,
Hello, how are u? I have been a good girl because I do my chores and I help my mom wash the dishes, I help my dad make the pool. For Christmas I would like a charm that say's little sister and I want a laptop and Pad and I want my dad to come back from Mexico before Christmas Pretty Please. Love, P. Adosa.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

Season's Greetings
from
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Texas Board of Legal Specialization

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JOHNNY GAENE
OWNER-INSPECTOR

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Season's Greetings
From

TURNER
CHEVROLET

CROSBY, TEXAS

From Our Family to Yours,
Best Wishes for the New Year



Joe Stephens and family

Best Wishes
for the
Holidays



Jeremy Rosenkranz,
Agent
440 S. Main,
Highlands, TX 77562
281-426-3512
jeremy.rosenkranz.ngje@statefarm.com



Merry Christmas

from our family to yours



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Holidays

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Barbers Hill Dayton Press

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2020

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

ON THE HILL

Beach City helping Christmas families

Hello, Neighbors! MESSAGE FROM OUR MAYOR PRO-TEM, DANA COLQUITT

Hello,

It is last call on donations to help our Christmas families this year. I have been so overwhelmed and pleased with the response from everyone, but we have five Beach City families with ten children, ages 5 month to 16, between them. If it is possible, I hope that you will find it in your heart to help out this year. Please send your contribution to Dana Colquitt, 8416 Ocean Dr., Beach City, Tx 77523 or call me at 832-262-0620 and I will be happy to come pick up your donation. Thank you.

God bless you and your families.

Dana Colquitt
Mayor Pro Tem
City of Beach City
832-262-0620

Anti-Lobbying Bill filed

Mayes Middleton has filed a bill banning taxpayer-funded lobbying. House Bill 749, prohibits political subdivisions from using public funds to hire lobbyists.

Despite the hardships facing hardworking Texans, our tax money is still being diverted into the pockets of Austin lobbyists, away from police, firefighters, roads, and teachers. Taxpayers are being forced to pay for lobbyists that advocate against the taxpayer and basic good governance.

For example, taxpayer-funded lobbyists have opposed property tax relief, election integrity, disclosures of what bonds truly cost taxpayers, the constitutional ban on a state income tax, and they even opposed the bill to fund and protect our teacher's retirement pensions.

Up to \$41 million per year has been spent on taxpayer-funded lobbying, even though 91% of all Texans oppose the practice. We must end this inexcusable waste and abuse of taxpayers' hard-earned money.

House Bill 749 will be considered in the 87th Legislative Session, beginning January 12, 2021.

Barbers Hill Eagles advance in play-offs

By Lewis Spearman

MONT BELVIEU – The 51 to 14 trouncing of Galena Park here last week moves the Eagles (6-4) this Friday to Woodforest Stadium in Conroe to take on Huntsville (10-0).

The first quarter against Galena Park was all local fans could ask for in a victory: three perfect touchdowns and a blank on the other side.

It was Andrew Galvan that dashed in the first touchdown after the first five minutes. Brent Holdren hit Camden Grogan for 24 yards to the end zone. Then Reese Wilson re-

turned a fumble.

The second quarter burned up the clock to get the ball to the four yard line from there, Brent Holdren blitzed into glory.

In a sudden turn around, however, Galena Park showed their capacity for running and came in for a touchdown however the kick failed. The Maddox Malone kicked three through the goal posts. It was 31 to 6 at the half.

Holdren passed to Trevaun Dixon soon after the third quarter opened for a twenty three yard shocker. This time Malone's kick went south. He would get more chances however Galvan and Holdren manufactured a monster 49 yard pass and dash with less than seven minutes left in the quarter.

As the secondary came in for the fourth quarter, Arturo Garcia for Galena Park finally made the endzone after two yards. Then a two point conversion was blitzed in by River Medi-



Galena Park #3 Arturo Garcia plunges across goal for one of his two Yellowjacket TD's. (Allan Jamail photo)

na early in the fourth quarter.

The Eagles' Aaron Ramos dashed in a 2 yard run with two minutes left. Barbers Hill dominated the air attack passing 20 times, connecting for a dozen and leaving none for the rest. By comparison Galen Park threw 10 times connected with three and turned over one.

Galena Park had three turnover fumbles. Recovery by Deonicia Mendez jarred the Yellow Jacket offensive effort for come back. Most of the Yellow Jacket's efforts on the ground were held to about 5 yards but the Eagles wee up to better than seven yards.

BHISD student killed in auto crash on I-10 feeder

MONT BELVIEU – Barbers Hill students and friends are mourning the death last Thursday morning, December 10, of a student on his way to school.

Chambers County Sheriff Brian Hawthorne reports that two students, one 16-year-old male driver, and an

11-year-old passenger, were in a car that was travelling westbound on the I-10 feeder, near the Highway 565 intersection. The sheriff's preliminary investigation indicated that the car ran off the road, and the driver attempted to correct and came back onto the highway. At that

point the driver apparently overcorrected, lost control and then the car rolled over. In the process, it hit some construction barriers along the road.

Hawthorne said that it was not uncommon for inexperienced drivers, and sometimes even experienced drivers, to

lose control and run off the highway. "He overcorrected, which is a pretty common thing."

As a result of the crash, the 11-year old died at the scene, and the 16-year old driver was injured and required hospital treatment. Hawthorne noted that both boys were

wearing seatbelts at the time.

The Department of Public Safety is conducting an investigation into the accident. Sheriff Hawthorne said that "this is one of the most horrible events, when it comes to traffic accidents... the area has had in a number of years.

Two "Daisy" award winners at HMB Hospital

BAYTOWN — (November 25, 2020) — Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital recognized two nurses as winners of the November 2020 DAISY Awards.

Maricela Valdez and **John Luna**, both members of the hospital's 2 West unit staff, were recognized as the November DAISY Award recipients. The DAISY Award is part of the DAISY Foundation's program to recognize the "super-human" tasks nurses perform every day. Community Resource Credit Union serves as the sponsor of the DAISY Award program at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital.

In her nominating letter, **Valdez** was praised for always being pleasant, and "even though she is always wearing her mask, her smile can be seen and felt." She was also recognized for frequently lending a helping hand to patients and her co-workers. **Luna** was hon-

ored for "making each patient feel important" and "taking the time to make sure I understood things related to my health and medications."

The not-for-profit DAISY Foundation is based in Glen Ellen, Calif, and was established by family members in memory of J. Patrick Barnes, who died in 1999 at the age of 33 from complications of Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP), a little known but not uncommon auto-immune disease. The care Barnes and his family received from nurses while he was ill inspired this unique means of thanking nurses for making a profound difference in the lives of their patients and patient families. Each month, a nurse is selected by a nursing committee to receive the DAISY Award.

At a presentation in front of the nurse's colleagues, physicians, pa-



HMB DAISY MARICELA VALDEZ



HMB DAISY JOHN LUNA

tients and visitors, the honorees receive a certificate commending them for being an "Extraordinary Nurse." The certificate reads: "In deep appreciation of all you do, who you are, and the incredibly meaningful difference you make in the lives of so many people." The honorees are also given a beautiful sculpture called *A Healer's Touch*; hand-carved by artists of the

Shona Tribe of Zimbabwe, Africa.

One day while Barnes was in the hospital, he asked his family to bring him a Cinnabon cinnamon roll, plus enough for all the nurses in his unit. With the help of Cinnabon's parent company, FOCUS Brands, the DAISY Foundation carries on this tradition by serving Cinnabons to all the nurses in the award recipient's

unit in thanks for everything they do for their patients and families.

Bonnie Barnes, president and co-founder of the DAISY Foundation, stated, "When Patrick was critically ill, our family experienced first-hand the remarkable skill and care nurses provide acutely ill patients every day and night. Yet these unsung heroes are seldom recognized for the super-human work they do. The kind of work the nurses at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital are called on to do every day epitomizes the purpose of the DAISY Award."

Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital is proud to be among the hospitals participating in the DAISY Award program. Nurses are heroes every day, and given the current national nursing shortage, the Daisy Award plays an important role in letting our nurses know their work is highly valued.

Driver's Licenses must be renewed by April 2021

AUSTIN – The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) today announced that the waiver on expiration dates for driver licenses (DLs) and identification cards (IDs) ends on April 14, 2021. Customers who need to renew are urged to make an appointment today.

The waiver, granted by Governor Greg Abbott in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic, applied to DLs, commercial DLs, commercial learner permits, ID cards and election identification certificates that expired on or after March 13, 2020.

Expanded office hours
To assist customers needing DL services, designated offices will be offering expanded hours from 7 a.m. to

7 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Friday, starting on Jan. 4. Appointments are already being accepted for the additional hours. The participating offices were selected based on the volume of customer transactions.

In addition, this Saturday, Dec. 19, is the last day for Saturday appointments, which are still available at many locations across the state.

Online renewals still a convenient option

Many Texans are eligible to skip the trip to the office entirely by renewing their DL/ID card or changing their address online at Texas.gov. Customers can also renew by phone at 1-866-357-3639 (1-

866-DL-RENEW). The requirements and cost for online and phone renewal are the same as in-person transactions.

Scheduling an appointment

DPS launched a new appointment solution when DL offices reopened in May, and all services are now conducted by appointment only. (DL offices have implemented several COVID-19 protocols to ensure a safe environment.) To schedule an appointment or check availability, visit the online appointment scheduler. If you are unable to find an appointment at the office of your choice, check back for availability at that office or other locations nearby. Please check often as availability

does change.

The appointment system is designed to provide additional convenience, reducing the time Texans wait in line. Customers can book appointments for a specific day and time, up to six months in advance, and show up 30 minutes or less before their scheduled time. Customers can check-in using the kiosk inside the office or from their mobile device.

A reminder, if you are unable to make your scheduled appointment, please change it ahead of time. Customers not showing up has become a major issue statewide. From May 26 through Nov. 30, approximately 27% of people were no-shows for their appointments.

To help combat that issue, many offices are offering customers without an appointment a spot on a "standby" list. These customers are required to wait in the office and are assisted in the event of a cancellation or no-show. The number of standby appointments available is limited to ensure all customers who are placed on the list will be served by the end of the day.

Additionally, a limited number of same-day appointments will be available at each DL office. These appointments are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Customers who book these appointments can leave the DL office until their designated time.

Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus

By FRANCIS P. CHURCH,
First published in The New York Sun in 1897

We take pleasure in answering thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

Dear Editor—
I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in The Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?

Virginia
O'Hanlon

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Francis P. Church's editorial, "Yes Virginia, There is a Santa Claus" was an immediate sensation, and went on to become one of the most famous editorials ever written. It first appeared in the The New York Sun in 1897, almost a hundred years ago, and was reprinted annually until 1949 when the paper went out of business.

Virginia O'Hanlon went on to graduate from Hunter College with a Bachelor of Arts degree at age 21. The following year she received her Master's from Columbia, and in 1912 she began teaching in the New York City school system, later becoming a principal. After 47 years, she retired as an educator. Throughout her life she received a steady stream of mail about her Santa Claus letter, and to each reply she attached an attractive printed copy of the Church editorial. Virginia O'Hanlon Douglas died on May 13, 1971, at the age of 81, in a nursing home in Valatie, N.Y.



A ROCKEFELLER CENTER CHRISTMAS TREE

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Chris Cobler



U.S. Supreme Court rejects Texas AG's lawsuit

Supreme Court rejects Texas AG's lawsuit

The U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear a lawsuit filed by Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton challenging the results of the presidential election. President Donald Trump and 17 Republican attorneys generals had joined the lawsuit, which asked the Supreme Court to toss out the elections in Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. The lawsuit claimed the states "exploited the COVID-19 pandemic to justify ignoring federal and state election laws and unlawfully enacting last-minute changes, thus skewing the results of the 2020 General Election."

Texas Democrats accused Paxton of filing the lawsuit to distract voters from his own legal problems. More than 100 Republican members of Congress signed an amicus brief supporting the Texas lawsuit.

Sen. John Cornyn, the senior Texas Republican, did not. He told CNN that "I frankly struggle to understand the legal theory of it. No. 1, why would a state, even such a great state as Texas, have a say-so on how other states administer their elections? We have a diffused and dispersed system and even though we might not like it, they may think it's unfair, those are decided at the state and local level and not at the national level."

Shining less bright

The Texas Education Agency partially extinguished STAAR for this school year because of the pandemic. The agency said the A-F ratings would be paused for 2020-21 school year because of the disruptions to learning. Students still will take the



STAAR test to provide information about individual learning. "The last nine months have been some of the most disruptive of our lives.

The challenges have been especially pronounced for our parents, teachers and students," Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath said in a statement. "We continue to prioritize the health and safety of students, teachers and staff in our schools this year while working to ensure students grow academically."

The Texas State Teachers Association, which has opposed the standardized testing, said the TEA's decision didn't go far enough. "Teachers already can tell parents how their children have been performing during this school year," the teachers union said in a statement. "All the STAAR test will do is what it always has done: Measure a student's ability to take a test. And it will force teachers, who already are working long hours adapting lesson plans for virtual and in-person instruction, to waste invaluable time on STAAR preparation and administration."

COVID black market
Federal agents seized more than 100,000 coun-

terfeit N95 surgical masks being stored in an El Paso warehouse. The fake masks, likely made in China, were headed to a hospital on the East Coast, officials said.

The raid was conducted by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations and U.S. Customs and Border Protection. ICE launched Operation Stolen Promise in April to protect U.S. consumers from fraud and other crime stemming from the pandemic.

The federal agency warns "that high public demand for access to vaccines and treatments will lead to illegal attempts to introduce counterfeit versions of these items into U.S. and global marketplaces."

In response, Homeland Security has started Operation Stolen Promise 2.0, which focuses on this emerging public health threat. Officials urged the public to report suspected fraud involving counterfeit vaccines and treatments to covid19fraud@dhs.gov.

Fewer surprises

Texans' complaints about surprise medical bills are down 96% through the first 10 months of the year, according to a new report from the Texas Department of Insurance.

In 2019, the Texas Legislature enacted a law to address the problem of surprise medical billing. The law removed consumers who have state-regulated plans, making up about 20 percent of residents, from billing disputes between health care providers and insurance plans.

The protections took effect in January. An agency spokesman provided highlights of the report: In the 10 months, the state agency received 37 consumer complaints about such medical bills. That compares to 854 such complaints received from January through October 2019.

Most of the 2020 complaints involved confusion about coinsurance amounts or concerned health plans not regulated by the agency. The new law enables providers and plans to resolve billing disputes through arbitration and mediation. The state agency, which helps carry out the law, established an online portal to enter the system and built a list of certified arbitrators and mediators.

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

THE POSTSCRIPT

By
Carrie Classon

"Midcentury Modern Christmas"

"I've forgotten the funny name of the tree you helped us pick out," my mother said. "Our tree this year is named Melinda."

The greenhouse where my parents get their Christmas tree every year has festive tags hanging from the trees with their names and prices. These are not inexpensive trees, so it's fitting they are all individually christened. My mother likes to support this local business — and they do have nice trees.

"Caleb. The tree I picked out with you was named Caleb."

We both agreed Caleb was a silly name for a Christmas tree, although I wasn't sure Melinda was a whole lot better.

Christmas trees are a matter of strict personal taste. I know people who had one-too-many years of needles in the carpeting and became artificial tree owners forever after. Then there are people who insist you need a live tree — but it doesn't count unless you cut it yourself.

My husband, Peter, bought the house we live in before we met. It was built in 1955 and Peter was born in the '50s, so when I moved in, both the house and its owner had a midcentury modern vibe, and I was fine with that. We have midcentury modern dishes and lamps and furniture. But I draw the line at a midcentury modern Christmas tree.

Peter has a Christmas tree from the '50s that is made entirely of aluminum. It is pokey and shiny and Peter thinks it is wonderful. "It matches the house perfectly!" Peter says.

That may be, but it doesn't look like Christmas to me.

So, last year, I went downtown looking for a tree. There was a lot filled with perfectly coiffed trees that would have put Melinda or Caleb to shame, but they were exorbitantly priced — and they didn't even have names. The fellow selling them seemed to have come from a background in car sales.

"So, what kind of tree did you have in mind?" he asked me.

"One that doesn't cost more than two weeks' worth of groceries!" I wanted to say.

Instead, I went looking for the second, less-fancy lot in town, but it was hard to find. I got directions twice and drove around in circles until I finally saw a half-dozen straggly trees poking up over an embankment. I drove down into the deserted parking lot and there was a spindly bunch of trees, all of them over 10 feet tall. A sign was posted nearby. "Family Emergency — Pay at Hair Salon."

I went across the street and, sure enough, the proprietor of the tree business had been called away and the trees were all being sold for a fixed price — any size. I gave my money to the hairstylist, picked out a gangly tree, and strapped it to my car.

When I got home, I cut four feet off the bottom, put it in the tree stand and saw ... it was perfect.

This year, once again, we will be home for the holidays and, unlike last year, I don't expect anyone will see our tree except Peter and me. And I don't care.

I'm headed downtown today, to the lot with the disreputable-looking trees. Peter will cluck his tongue and say something about the perfectly good aluminum tree he has stashed away in a box somewhere. But he'll be a good sport (as he always is) while I decorate my midcentury modern home for Christmas and smell the fresh spruce.

This year, I might even give my tree a name. I'm thinking of naming it Peter.

Till next time,

Carrie

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

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Cougars blank Willowridge 66-0, advance in play-offs

By Lewis Spearman

CROSBY Scoring the most points of any game this season, allowing the least yardage, some might say last Friday's local football game inside "the Jungle" was a mismatch. It nonetheless decided that the Cougars (8-3) will go on to Area Playoffs next week against Texarkana High (11-0) in Nacogdoches' Bryce Stadium.

The Willowridge Eagles have first year Coach Ramon Chinyoung Sr. as head coach



Eagles chased after the Cougars throughout the game. This catch and runback made 32 yards and brought the score to 42 to 0 shortly before the half.

and have netted a 7-3 season. Undoubtedly this isn't their last season in the play-offs.

It was obvious that the local coaches had fine tuned whatever went wrong the week before and netted a team with timing and coordination. Half time saw the core as 56 to 0. That zero was a show that not only had the Cougars put tar to the ball, they were forcing turnover plays.

Reggie Branch

dashed in three touchdown runs. The passing game was exceptional for both Reggie Branch and Deniquez Dunn

The Special Teams Unit for the Cougars scored following a blocked punt and recovery within the endzone for a touchdown.

According to Coach Prieto, the strategy was hit first. "We wanted to come out and start fast because we thought if we jumped out early on them that they might turn it in. We scored a touchdown on our first seven possessions offensively and our defense only gave up 37 total yards on 38 plays. We dominated all three phases of the game."

★

OBITUARIES

ALEJANDRA G. STREET

Alejandra G. Street, 50, of Highlands, Texas passed away on Friday, December 11, 2020. She was born on Sunday, April 5, 1970 in Mission, Texas to Andres and Ramona Melgoza.

Alejandra found enjoyment in many things such as gardening, reading, traveling, and going out with family and friends. She loved her many pet parrots and roosters; they were her pride and joy. Christmas was her favorite time of the year to spend with family.

She leaves behind to cherish her memories, her beloved husband Richard Street, her parents Andres and Ramona Melgoza; her brothers Andres, and Eduardo; her sister Jackeline. She also



leaves behind 3 nieces and 1 nephew. On the Street family, she leaves behind her mother-in-law and father-in-law, 2 stepdaughters, two brother-in-laws and 1 sister-in-law. Two nephews and 1 niece.

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Championship Saturday should go long way in determining who's in, who's out of CFP

This is a BIG weekend in college football.

Conference title games will be played and the two most important ones will take place in Charlotte, N.C. where No. 2-ranked Notre Dame will face No. 3-ranked Clemson in the ACC title game, while in Atlanta, No. 1-ranked Alabama will face No. 6-ranked Florida in the SEC title game.

The Big 12 will also hold its league championship game as two of the hottest teams in the game go after it for a second time this season. No. 9-ranked Iowa State will take on No. 11-ranked Oklahoma at AT&T Stadium in Arlington.

The winners of the ACC and SEC conference title games will earn two of the four berths in the College Football Playoffs (CFP) and I could see a scenario where the SEC would earn two berths if Alabama loses a close game to a pretty solid Florida team.

Texas A&M fans are hoping for a Notre Dame win over Clemson. If that happens and Jimbo Fisher's team wins out, the Aggies should get the fourth and final CFP spot. Since their second loss of the season at No. 1 Alabama, the Aggies have ripped off six straight wins (including a home win over No. 6 Florida) heading into their final home game last Saturday against Mississippi. A&M will close out the regular season this Saturday at Tennessee.

Should Ohio State play a minimum of six games and win the Big 10 title, that should be enough to earn the Buckeyes and head coach Ryan Day another trip to the CFP.

Much will be determined on Saturday, so sit back and enjoy.

In the NFL, the Texans will take another shot at the Colts after losing a heart-breaker to Indy two weeks ago when quarterback Deshaun Watson fumbled a bad snap from center Nick Martin deep in Indy territory as the Texans appeared to be driving for the winning score with less than two minutes to go in the game.



KEENEY'S KORNER

By MIKE KEENEY

If the Texans didn't have bad luck, they wouldn't have any luck at all! It's been kind of season for the local 11.

Other games of interest have the surging Browns visiting the surging Giants, New England visiting Miami hoping to remain in the AFC playoff hunt and the big one comes late Sunday afternoon when Kansas City takes on New Orleans in the Big Easy in what could be a preview of Super Bowl 55.

Before we take a look at those games and a handful of others, let's review last week's record. A 7-3 week brought the season record to 88-43 (67%).

Now, onto this weekend's games.

NCAA

Notre Dame at Clemson: Brian Kelly's Fighting Irish take on Dabo Swiney's Tigers for the second time this season in the ACC title game and if the this one is as good as the first one, football fans should be in for quite a treat. On Nov. 7, Notre Dame upset then No. 1-ranked Clemson 47-40 in double overtime in South Bend, IN. Clemson played without starting quarterback Trevor Lawrence (2,431 yards, 20 TDs) but he will be under center for this one and that could make a big difference for Clemson. Lawrence and running back Travis Etienne (758 yards, 12 TDs) are electrifying, but ND has some offensive weapons itself in quarterback Ian Book (2,382 passing yards, 15 TDs/465 rushing yards, 8 TDs), running back Kyren Williams (1,011 yards, 12 TDs) and wide receiver Javon McKinley (37 receptions, 660 yards, 3 TDS). Book also has quality tight ends to throw to as well in true freshman Michael

Mayer (30 receptions, 337 yards, 2 TDs). This should be a high-scoring game, but I think this game turns due to the ND defense. Yes, the Irish have given up points and yards this year, but that until seems to come up with the play when its most needed. This could very well be a magical year for Kelly's team and the magic continues for one more week. My pick, Notre Dame 34, Clemson 30

Iowa State vs. Oklahoma: Two of the hottest teams in the NCAA meet on Saturday in Arlington for the Big 12 title as Iowa State brings a five game winning streak into this one and OU rides a six-game winning streak (ironically, OU's last loss came on Oct. 3 at home to ISU) into the Big 12 title game. The Cyclones have been riding the hot right arm of quarterback Brock Purdy (2,272 yards, 12 TDs) and the sturdy legs of running back Breece Hall (1,357 yards, 13 TDs) to their Big 12 title game berth. After some growing pains, OU quarterback Spencer Rattler (2,512 yards, 234 TDs) has settled down and is playing well in Lincoln Riley's offense. The Sooners have also improved on defense since their loss to ISU, but something tells me the Cyclones are the better overall team and this could very well be Matt Campbell's swan song in Ames as some bigger programs (Michigan?) might come calling for the talented young head coach. My pick, Iowa State 36, Oklahoma 33

Alabama vs. Florida: This should be a fun one to watch as two of the most explosive offenses in college football meet on Saturday for the SEC title in Atlanta. Florida and head coach Dan Mullen enter the game with a lone loss to Texas

A&M, while Nick Saban's Crimson Tide should enter undefeated (they played at Arkansas last Saturday) and ranked No. 1 in the country. Both teams have excellent quarterbacks as Florida is led by Kyle Trask (3,45 yards, 38 TDs), while 'Bama is led by Mac Jones (3,113 yards, 27 TDs). Both have big-play wide receivers as the Gators have Kadarius Toney (53 receptions, 649 yards, 8 TDs) and Kyle Pitts (36 receptions, 641 yards, 11 TDs), while Alabama is led by the speedy and big-play man Devonta Smith (80 receptions, 1,305 yards, 15 TDs). Two weeks in 'Bama's 55-17 route of LSU, Smith had 200 yards receiving and two long scores before halftime. Needless to say, he's a big-game player. The Tide also have a strong running game led by Najee Harris (1,038 yards, 20 TDs). Florida and Trask will make plays, but can they make enough to keep up with Jones and Co.? I don't think so. After a slow start, the Alabama defense has been getting better week-by-week and Saban is on a mission to get his team back in the national title hunt. Alabama takes step one on Saturday in Atlanta. My pick, Alabama 38, Florida 28

NFL

New England at Miami: Don't look now, but Bill Belichick's team is still alive and ready to make a late-season move, but his team faces a very solid Miami team in South Beach. Two weeks ago, the Patriots ran roughshod over the Chargers as the Pats returned a punt for a touchdown and blocked a punt for another score. Quarterback Cam Newton (2,053 passing yards, 5 TDs/435 rushing yards, 11 TDs) is playing a bit better but he will need to be at his best against an aggressive and swarming Dolphins defense. Miami isn't a great offensive football team, but Tua Tagovailoa (898 yards, 7 TDs) is doing just enough to keep Miami in the AFC East and Wild Card race. This could be a seminal moment for former Belichick assistant Bran Flores as he takes on his men-

tor. Look for the apprentice to beat the mentor on Sunday in South Beach. My pick, Miami 23, New England 20

Tampa Bay at Atlanta: This is a game the Bucs and Tom Brady (3,300 yards, 28 TDs) need to win if they are indeed a playoff team. The Bucs had their bye week last week and it could not have come at a better time. TB was coming off a home loss to KC and having an off week to clear their heads and focus on the stretch run came at a perfect time. The Falcons are playing for respect and can be tough at home, but look for Brady to feed running back Ronald Jones (820 yards, 5 TDs) and wide receiver Mike Evans (48 receptions, 613 yards, 11 TDs) as Tampa Bay looks to roll in Atlanta. My pick, Tampa Bay 31, Atlanta 23

Houston at Indianapolis: The Texans play the Colts for the second time in three weeks hoping for better results than the first time around. Don't count on it. While the Texans are playing out the string and Watson (3,542 yards, 24 TDs) is padding his stats down the stretch, Phillip Rivers (3,263 yards, 18 TDs) and the Colts have their eyes set on winning the AFC South. Their win two weeks ago in Houston, coupled with Tennessee's loss at home to the Browns left the two teams tied for the division lead. Look for Rivers to come out in attack mode as he goes for the kill shot early. The Texans have been decimated by injuries on defense and you can bet Rivers will show little pity for that unit come Sunday. My pick, Indianapolis 34, Houston 16

Philadelphia at Arizona: The Eagles travel to Arizona on Sunday hoping to save their season. Good luck with that. Carson Wentz appears to be an overrated quarterback and appears on his way to being benched in favor of Channel-view product Jalen Hurts. Two weeks ago in their 30-16 loss at Green Bay, Wentz once again held onto the ball too long and the offense again struggled until head coach Doug Pederson replaced Wentz

with Hurts and Hurts rallied the Eagles to within seven points late in the fourth quarter until GB running back Aaron Jones ripped off a 77-yard touchdown run to seal the deal for the Packers. The Cardinals need this one if they are to remain in the NFC playoff race. Look for quarterback Kyler Murray (2,987 yards, 22 TDs/10 rushing 10 TDs) and wide receiver DeAndre Hopkins (85 receptions, 1,019 yards, 5 TDs) to have a big day against a beat up and suspect Philly secondary. The misery continues in the City of Brotherly Love and I love it. My pick, Arizona 31, Philadelphia 23

Kansas City at New Orleans: The scoreboard operator at the Mercedes Benz Superdome could be one of the busiest people in the stadium on Sunday when the Chiefs and Saints meet in New Orleans. This game will feature two of the top QBs in the league in KC's Patrick Mahomes (3,815 yards, 31 TDs) and Drew Brees (2,196 yards, 18 TDs). Brees should return for this game after missing three games with fractured ribs. His backup, Taysom Hill (629 yards, 2 TDs) did a nice job filling in while Brees mended his beat up ribs. Mahomes has a pair of 1,000-yard receivers to throw to in tight end Travis Kelce (83 receptions, 1,114 yards, 8 TDs) and speedy wide out Tyreek Hill (74 receptions, 1,079 yards, 13 TDs), while Brees has a solid run/pass catching weapon in running back Alvin Kamara (673 rushing yards, 9 TDs/70 receptions, 655 yards, 4 TDs). Kamara is better in the passing game when Brees is under center, so don't be surprised if head coach Sean Payton brings Brees back for this game. Two weeks ago, Mahomes and the KC offense struggled a bit against Denver but still pulled out a 22-16 victory. KC will be facing a much better defense this week and I think the New Orleans defense will be the difference maker as the Saints earn a huge late-season victory and keep a hold on the top seed in the NFC. My pick, New Orleans 33, Kansas City 29

Share Your Christmas,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and Delene Cotton, Anne and Dwayne Cauthen, Jim and Paula Cashion, and Brett and Jessica Marshall. If you are interest-

ed in being part of this project, please contact any of the schools or Theresa Cashion, chairman.



Renee Stripling, counselor at Highlands Elementary, said "We are so appreciative of the Share Your Christmas program, and all that they do to support our students at Highlands Elementary, each and every year. They help so many of our students have a brighter holiday."

Rotary Chili Feast, Clothe A Child,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

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tions present on indoor meetings. Of course, all current health rules will be strictly observed. Therefore the club members are continuing to sell raffle tickets. There are 700 tickets available for a \$100 donation. A ticket entitles you to two bowls of "Ches-ter's Famous Recipe" chili, and a chance to win one of 17 raffle prizes, all worth more than the \$100 ticket price.

Club members are also selling Chili lunches only, for \$10. Great for extra hungry folks, or to take home for later.

This annual event is a high point for many in the community, who see their friends at least this one time each year, and catch up with stories. It also has

great good, and quality auction items.

Raffle prizes this year include gift cards, a 32" television, portable ice maker, battery charger, Beats wireless head-phones, an Amazon Fire 8" tablet, a 65 qt. Artic cooler, a shotgun, an Amazon Fire HD 10" tablet, an outdoor Propane Fire Pit, a GoPro Hero waterproof camera, a 50" Roku Smart TV, and of course the grand prize, a new Chevrolet vehicle, the winner's choice of a 2021 Chevy Colorado pickup or a 2021 Chevy Camaro sports car.

The Highlands Rotary Club uses the proceeds from the Chili Feast for community projects, such as scholarships, library, and fire departments, as well as scouts and other organizations. This year they will be purchasing a van to facilitate a mobile library for the community with the help of the Stratford branch library.

The Highlands Rotary Club is now 72 years old, having been chartered in 1948. Fundraising for community projects over all those years has amounted to almost \$1,000,000. Much of this was returned in scholarships, as the club annually awards about \$30,000 to graduating seniors and college students. The club actively supports our local schools, including Interact clubs at Chinquapin and Goose Creek Memorial.

The club members are selling raffle tickets and welcome your support. Contact Tricia Scott at 281-426-3558 for information on how to acquire a ticket.

The club is always looking for new members, also, if you would like to join others in community projects and fellowship.

that all I'm gonna get from you.' while others have tears of gratitude in their eyes."

"It has been a real learning experience for me, not that I didn't know people were like that but how close to the surface it has always been amazes me."

"It is smaller this year, you know, we didn't get as much, so we tried to cut

back on the number of volunteers by having them register, that kind of worked too well. I have less volunteers than I need tonight so we are running two sections, tonight."

Participants of both sides excitedly awaited their turn to begin and were off to the children's departments in a dash.

Pastor Smith directs traffic,



All of the legendary holiday hustle and bustle begins with the word go as volunteers and family merge to find bargains and fun on the march to celebrate Christmas in Atascocita and Crosby.

Letters to Santa

Dear Santa,
For Crisis, can you please get me a horse and piety please get me a cow. Thank you.
Harper. 6 years old.
...

Dear Santa,I want a bale , elf name Pixie. Paisley, 6 years old.
...

Dear Santa,
I am go to Emma home. Love Santa and Mrs. fun Santa is my friends. Bagex, 6 years old.
...

Dear Santa,
Hello, how are you? I have been a good boy, because I eat all of good food. I also do stuff quickly when my mom orders me. For Christmas I would like a new phone. Good bye, Sanda. Thank you. Matteo.
...

Dear Santa,Hellow how are you? I have been a good boy because I do my chores. I also help my mom wash clothes. For Christmas, I would like a Star Wars lego, please. Thank you. Jacob.

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Letters to Santa

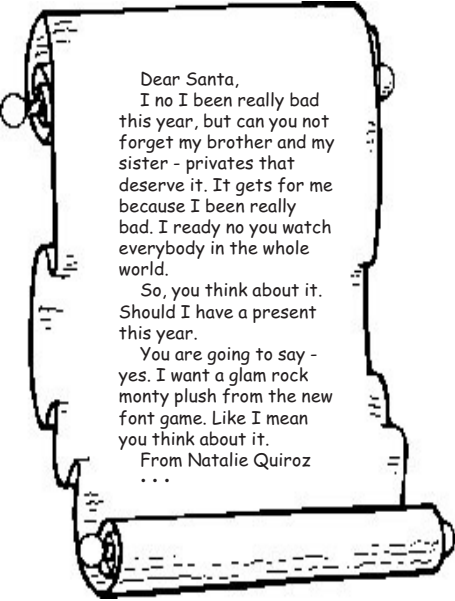


Dear Santa,
My name is Ariana, I am in 4th grade and I want a Hover board and an aA set PSS, but I want my hover board with color. I have been a good student in school and what I wish for you to help my family, because my mom is always cleaning and my dad is always working under the sun. And I also want OMG and LOL dolls,
From ArianaThank you.

Dear Santa,
I want legos and a small ballpit.
Love Zoer
...

Dear Santa,
Christmas lists from Elijah
1: toy drone, 2: toy air plane, 3: toy car, 4: inspector gadget toy, 5: loat cave, 6: loat car, 7: among us game, 8: robot dog.
...
Dear Santa,
Please can I have a mad Hutr ... Lunden, 6 years old.
...
Dear Santa,Please can I have LOL things and a dog. Rove, 6 years old.
...


Dear Santa,
This is what I want for Christmas: 1: Porida crime (Pupel light case) (file). 2: AirPods (light purple case). 3: New phone (iPhone) (phone case). 4: Ring light (tall one). 5: Real laptop (apple). 6: Sam and Cloby mreah.7: Clothes. 8: Shoes. 9: Paid island. 10: a Buch of paint stuff.
Zoey
...
Dear Santa,
How is your day Santa? I wort for Crismis is a bike and a fit ball.
Sebastian, 7 years old.
...



Dear Santa,
I no I been really bad this year, but can you not forget my brother and my sister - privates that deserve it. It gets for me because I been really bad. I ready no you watch everybody in the whole world.
So, you think about it. Should I have a present this year.
You are going to say - yes. I want a glam rock monty plush from the new font game. Like I mean you think about it.
From Natalie Quiroz
...

Dear Santa,
My name is Harper and I am almost 4 years old! I have been very good this year and hope I am on the nice list. I really hope you bring me presents. I would like: • Paw Patrol tower. • Doc McStuffins baby checkup set. •Real pet fish named "bingo". • Peppa Pig shopping mall. • Peppa pig tea set. • Jewelry box. • Earrings. • Barbies. • New biketards for dance. • Peppa pig kitchen. • Trolls worls tour toys. • Lego toys.
...
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...

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300th Ticket \$200 Gift Card

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✎

Letters to Santa

✎

Dear Santa,
Santa I am Yuvia and I am 11 years old. Christmas is around the corner and I know its rough year that's why I would like a game master mask or a ring light. And also I have little brother name Dario, and he is 5 years old. For Christmas he would like a bike. I want the game master mask, because I would like to get tie Tok famous and I want a ring light, because I want to make pictures or videos better lighting.
Sencirly, Yuvia

...

Dear Santa,
I know that its been a rough year, and for Christmas, I really want a hover board or a jungkook shirt, because I live Bts. I am Brissa Gaytan and I am 9 years old. I want a hover board, because my basic broke. I also wanted a Jungkook shirt, because I am a fan of Its and I like more Jungkook. I am glad what I got last Christmas and I know that I am gonna be glad what I'm getting, but the most thing, I want is the Jungkook shirt.
Sensirly: Brissa

...

Dear Santa,
I want the new American Girl doll, her name is Courtney 1986. And a new bick, and some more Games for my Nintendo switch. And a Xbox, and a head set, and can you get mom & dad a message chair. A dog bed and some dog toys. A barn bed for me with a desk under it. Some more up for Gracen and the game snow runes for Nick. But I really want is to see you.
From: Zoey

Dear Santa,
How are your reindeer an roundoff? May I have some roller skates? Santa. I love you and Ms. Claus and the elfs. Love, Madison, 7 years old

...

Dear Santa,
How is your rain deer? Wan't I want for crimes is stick bots, and some more legos. Mary Crinmas Santa! Love, Jase, 6 years old.

...

Dear Santa,
Haw are you going. Haw are your raderde. Can I have a LoL col. And I have a raderde. Love, Ariana, 6

...

Dear Santa,
I want a phon for chississ two Chet to my Huber. My Huber is fun to ride. Love, Makenna, 7 years old.

...

Dear Santa,
I put a LecfBirt with Acloru and with speck. Love, Luna, 6 years old.

...

Dear Santa,
How are your rede. I was a good boy. I wot a Jacket, I wot a srt. Waylon, 7 years old.

...

Dear Santa,
Bike One Doll, Lol Doll, Baby alive, PolPol Doll. Love, Skyliie, 6 years old.

...

Dear Santa,
I bin a good girl. Can you brag me a gold reg? Kristina, 7 years old.

...

Dear Santa,
How ar you? Today for Christmas I want a biplane, hedorah. Owen.

Dear Santa,
I have been good most of the year. Can I have a some hot wheels pleas and a among plashy, please.
Love Credenec. Love Santa.

...

Dear Santa,
This is what I want for Christmas: Barbie dream house, Princess accessories (dress), (jewelry), play make-up toy, play laptop, play phone.

...


Dear Santa,
How are your randare doing and how are you doing? Can you bring me sum mojo Pelose. If you wot to now haw alfratoe is doing? He is doing good.
Aiyssa, 6 years old.

...

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I have been a good boy because I help my mother cook in the kitchen. I also clean with my mom. For Christmas I would like a PS5 please. Thank you, Chrsian.

...

Season's Greetings from the Highlands Volunteer Fire Department



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Letters to Santa



Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like a Panda computer, Panda state board. I have been good all year. Thank you. Bailee.
...

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like a go car. I have been good all year. Thank you, Torge.

For Christmas I would like a bike, baby dog, my mom to, hav fun and a dog. I have been good all year. Thank you, Michael.
...

Dear Santa,
I want a PS5. How are you doing? I have been good boy, because I help take out the trash. I also helping my dad on work. For Christmas, I would like a PS5 and the Nintedoe and a game for the Nintendo . Thanks, Edwin.
...

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I have been a good girl, because I For Christmas I would like a toy please. Thank you, Melisa.

Dear Santa,
I want a toy car and a race charm and a tran. Zion.
...

Dear Santa,
I want a L.O.L., I want a omg dolls, I want a makeup, I want a phone. Zaylee.
...

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want is paint canvases, paint and brushes, and shoes. Thank you. Santa. Jasmine.

Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy this year and I would like the cr7 rare gold superbly boats and Poke Mun cards, and a big bag of hot chetosse in my stocking and a lot of twirlers in my stocking and a playstation and a gold controller and the cables for the play station and fifa20 and a neck lace for my mom and a new hover board.
...

Dear Santa,
My name is John and I'm in 5th grade, and I've been a good boy, and I wish for a Nintendo switch.
...

Dear Santa,
How are you doing today? I have been a good girl, because I help my family and I help my sister and I also help my mom to cook in the kitchen. So can I get a unicorn toy for Christmas Day please. Honey.
...

Dear Santa,
How are you doing today? And I have been a nice boy because I have help my parents doing chores like cleaning my house, washing the dishes. So I do all my chores what my parents told me to do. So you are the best person, so I will do chores what my parents told me to do. So I want dark souls, dragon ball fithorz, ...minion toy gun and blue cars, so thank you.

Dear Santa,
Hellow how are you? I have been a good boy because I do my chores. I also help my mom. I take care of my baby cousin. I wash the clothes and take them out. I wash cars with my dad.I want something for Christmas.
...

Dear Santa,
Hil Santa this is what I want. A new tablet, and a Walmart gift card. Exzavye.

ear Santa,
Hi! Santa, How are you. I binag big. I owt rorstas.. Logan, 6 years old.
...

Dear Santa,
How are you today? I have been a good girl this year, I want a make up pallet for Christmas. Ps have a great Christmas Santa. Winter.

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like a baby puppy, a bike, a stuffed unicorn and a baby alive. I have been good all year. Thank you, Kennedy.
...

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like a head set and a PC and a PS5 and a lego set. I have been good. Thank you, Atticus.
...

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like a Nike 5, PS5, TV and a Christmas tree. I have been good all year. Thank you, Wyatt.
...

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like a Xbox and dirt bike, a game boy. I have been good all year. Thank you, Nathan.
...

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like a LoL., a pet dog, a tie boar, a neklis. I have beed good all year. Thank you, Josie.
...

Dear Santa,For Christmas I would like a phone, computer, 100 dollars and a makeup set. I have been good all year. Thank you, Karsen.
...

Dear Santa,
I want a flying toothless and a 3Ds, and bike
Love, Dane
...

New Harris County test sites

As Vaccine Arrives, COVID-19 Precautions and Testing Are Still Critical

Cases and Hospitalizations Increasing Rapidly

Houston – Some local hospitals will be receiving COVID-19 vaccine this week for their staffs. The supply is limited until more vaccine is produced, so groups of people will be vaccinated in phases. There should be enough for everyone sometime in 2021. The current increase in COVID-19 cases is concerning because we won't see the full impact of the Thanksgiving holiday for another week or two, close to Christmas time. Our best tools for stopping the increase are the simple precautions – handwashing, masks, social distancing - and testing. If hospitalizations continue to increase and there is a big spike in cases from Christmas, our hospitals could become overwhelmed. Staying home is safest, but if you are going to celebrate, have a small gathering outdoors and get tested before it. Testing at Harris County Public Health sites is

free for everyone and results are available in 3-5 days. Mobile locations are listed below. Children can also be tested at these sites. Register at hcphtx.org or call 832-927-7575. Most of the test sites below are open Monday-Saturday, 8a.m.-3p.m., exceptions are noted.

M.O. Campbell Education Center Open Mon-Fri 12:00p.m.-7:00p.m. Sat (12/19) 8.am-3p.m. 1865 Aldine Bender, Houston, TX 77032	Greater Pure Light Missionary Church Open Wed, Dec 16 12330 Vickery St, Houston, TX 77039
Wat Buddhavas of Houston Closed Mon, Dec 14 6007 Spindle Dr, Houston, TX, 77086	New Hope Presbyterian Church Open Sat, Dec 19 1350 N Mason Rd, Katy, TX 77449
Crosby Community Center Closed Tues, Dec 15 409 Hare, Rd, Crosby, TX 77532	For the Pasadena and Katy test sites, register at www.doineedacovid19test.com or call 832-927-7575. People must be 13 or older to be tested at these locations..
Fellowship of Purpose Church Closed Wed, Dec 16 14203 Wallisville Rd, Houston, TX 77049	San Jacinto College Central Campus Open Mon-Fri (12/7-12/11) 7a.m.-2 p.m. Open Sat, Dec 19, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 8060 Spencer Hwy, Pasadena, TX 77505
Sonrise Community Church Closed Wed & Sat, Dec 16 & 19 5609 E Mt Houston Rd, Houston, TX 77093	
All Saints Anglican Church	




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- Two new patient care units with 46 spacious private patient rooms
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- A new outpatient center featuring ambulatory surgery, orthopedics and sports medicine, physical and occupational therapy, imaging, laboratory services, breast care center, primary care services and an occupational health clinic



Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital
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Visit houstonmethodist.org/baytown to make an appointment with our primary or specialty care physicians or call **281.428.2273** for a physician referral.

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