

HIGHLANDS CROSBY
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THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2021

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

MONDAY



IN THE STARS

EVENTS

THURS. JUNE 10 EPA holds Virtual Meeting for Waste Pits

The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) will hold a Microsoft TEAMS Video and Call Conference on Thursday, June 10 from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm.

Topics for discussion include: Changes to Remedial Design Schedule, Upcoming Design Investigation Sampling, and Overall Remedial Design Update. The public is invited to join, at the Web Address <https://www.epa.gov/tx/sjwvp>. Or you may join by calling in by telephone. SEE MORE DETAILS on Page 2.

PUBLIC may use the group VIEWING SITES: San Jacinto Community Center, and Channelview Fire Department.

JUNE 4 THRU 12 Crosby Fair & Rodeo

Crosby Fairgrounds Cook-Off June 4 - 6. Rodeo June 11 & 12. Livestock Auction June 10th

SAT. JUNE 12 Goose Creek Memorial Graduation

2:30 pm, Graduation at Ford Park Arena, Beaumont, Texas

BIRTHDAYS

Jun 11-Trent Coots
Mike Woods
Ralph Roper
Jun 12-Bobby Horn, Jr.
Zoie Woosley
Jun 13-Earlene Michalsky
Jun 14-Shelby Russell
Jun 15-Tina Hill
Jun 16- Steffany de la Cruz
Tim Grisham
Evelyn Del Angel
Jun 17-Garret Oviedo
Brandi Rutledge
Jun 18-Erica Castro
David Mata

ANNIVERSARIES

Jun 10-Christ & Pam Mosley
Jun 18-Cliff & Janise McKee
Jun 19-David & Susie Coffman
Jun 22-Larkin & Margaret McKay
Gene & Elizabeth Bulanek

Crosby Rodeo music, cook-off and more

Two weekends of fun, food, riding, music acts

CROSBY - As this paper rolls out to the stands, preparation will have begun to host the 75th Crosby Fair & Rodeo Livestock Auction in the Rodeo pavilion inside the Fairgrounds this evening.

This event generates the most funds for the ultimate goal of the Crosby Fair & Rodeo to provide money to send kids to college. Judging has been ongoing all week, and kids are open for pointers to perfect their livestock display for more awards and opportunities.

The beginning of the local rodeo is the Cook-Off that generally features the Rodeo Parade but the deluge precluded that from taking place. Instead, much like a red-neck Woodstock locals trooped

through mud and braved slick parking lots (leaving an impression there) to attend two lively nights.

Bag Of Donuts played for hours to a near capacity crowd, everywhere was dancing and celebration.

Last Saturday evening the results of the cooking was held inside the Rock N C Arena, results are published herein.

That night Philip Griffin opened with Good Texas Red Dirt Country and Muscadine Bloodline followed up with more of that genre at a lively tempo. Throughout the Fairgrounds an atmosphere of joy to be beyond the pandemic abounded in spite of mud and a sprinkle of more rain.

The Crosby Fair & Rodeo

proper is on June 11 and 12. HI-LO PRO RODEO will bring some of the greatest cowboys in the nation inside the Rockin' C Arena. Both nights will feature mutton bustin' with local kids riding hard for eight seconds when they pull the gate.

The Read Southall Band is in concert June 11. "Six String Sorrow" an acoustic album made them the talk of Oklahoma "Borrowed Time" made several Top 10 streaming charts.

Phineas Reb, featuring Kody Kouba opens Saturday, June 12 and LANCO will play finally for the 75th Crosby Fair & Rodeo this year. "Hallelujah Nights" brought them up to Hot Country fame.



Going all out for Showmanship Bob-N-Jeans & Bar 7 (sponsored by Turner Chevrolet) won showmanship with an air conditioned tent, live band and big party atmosphere. Page 2 features all the Cook-off awards.



Hula Hut won the most Cook-Off Categories taking 4th & 5th in Fajitas, 2nd in Chicken, 1st, 2nd & 5th in Brisket. Beer Kat Cookers were 2nd & 3rd in Ribs, 2nd place in Open Dish Savory, 2nd & 3rd in Fajitas. Complete Cook-Off results with photographs of teams on page 2.



On National Donut Day, Bag Of Donuts played a near capacity crowd in what was often described as the best concert in Crosby, yet. The band energetically played for hours a variety from The Eagles, Queen, even Run DMC, sounding much like the originals or sometimes better.

Pct. 2 programs win 4 national awards

WASHINGTON, DC - Harris County Precinct 2 has been recognized with FOUR Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties (NACo). The awards honor innovative, effective county government programs that strengthen services for residents. According to a NACo database, no Harris County entity has ever won multiple NACo awards in the same calendar year.

NACo recognized Precinct 2 for the following programs:

- Health Services for the innovative SmartPods Access2Health, a partnership with Baylor
- Veterans Services for the work with Operation Yellowbird alternative PTSD treatment
- Partnership with the American Chemistry Council for a grant to fund air monitors
- Parks Dept. for the innovation and design of James Driver All-Inclusive Park

"I am incredibly honored and proud of my team for their work on these projects that have been



HARRIS COUNTY PCT. 2 COMMISSIONER GARCIA

identified by NACo as being worthy of national distinction," Harris County

Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia said, "NACo Achievement Awards are very prestigious, and we are so grateful for the recognition. While each of these programs deserves acknowledgment on their own, our work is not done for awards; our only goal is to serve the Precinct 2 Community the way they should have been treated in years' past but unfortunately had been looked over. These awards confirm that these communities are not being forgotten. I want to thank

our partners in these efforts for their support - we share these awards with them. Finally, I would also like to thank my staff for all they are doing to make Precinct 2 the best place to live, work, play and raise a family."

NACo President Gary Moore said, "Over the past year, county officials and frontline employees have demonstrated bold, inspirational leadership. This year's Achievement Award winning programs illus-

Continued. See page 5

87th Legislature ends, as Democrats walk out to kill Voter Restrictions bill

AUSTIN - A bill to overhaul voting rules in the state failed to pass in the Texas House on Sunday night in a victory for Democrats and voting rights advocates. Sunday was the last day of the legislative session that the bill, Senate Bill 7, could have been passed, but it may be brought up again in the future.

SB7 failed to pass in the Texas House because a group of House Democrats



walked out of the legislature, causing the House to lose quorum - in order for certain procedures to take place, such as passing legislation, a certain number of House members must be present - blocking Republicans from passing the bill despite their majority. Birnel said that was all made possible by the work of organizers.

The bill would place limits on early voting hours, drive-thru voting, and

tighten restrictions on who can vote by mail. It would also expand the role that poll watchers can play, including allowing them to be closer to the polls and to record certain voters.

Republicans have called it a measure to ensure election integrity, despite the lack of evidence for widespread election fraud - the outgoing Texas Secre

Continued on Page 8

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Barbers Hill Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:00 pm, June 28, 2021 in C.J. Joseph Room, 9600 Eagle Drive, Mont Belvieu, TX. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Maintenance Tax | \$0.8847/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations) |
| School Debt Service Tax | \$0.2698/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness) |
| Approved by Local Voters | |

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories.

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Maintenance and operations | 2.73 % decrease |
| Debt Service | .96 % increase |
| Total expenditures | 1.73 % decrease |

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

| | Preceding Tax Year | Current Tax Year |
|---|--------------------|------------------|
| Total appraised value* of all property | \$14,956,556,778 | \$14,527,165,770 |
| Total appraised value** of new property** | \$ 1,227,849,234 | \$ 864,764,478 |
| Total taxable value*** of all property | \$ 7,016,617,611 | \$ 6,330,099,265 |
| Total taxable value*** of new property** | \$ 1,324,962,134 | \$ 156,547,310 |

*Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
 ** "New property" is defined by Section 26.01(2)(17), Tax Code.
 *** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$369,015,000

*Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

| | Maintenance & Operations | Interest & Sinking Fund** | Total | Local Revenue Per Student | State Revenue Per Student |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Last Year's Rate | \$0.88470 | \$0.26980* | \$1.15450 | 13,556 | 416 |
| Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service | \$1.02986 | \$0.26022 | \$1.29008 | 15,306 | 864 |
| Proposed Rate | \$0.88470 | \$0.26980 | \$1.15450 | 13,700 | 315 |

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

| | Last Year | This Year |
|---|------------|------------|
| Average Market Value of Residences | \$246,078 | \$251,051 |
| Average Taxable Value of Residences | \$164,010 | \$173,905 |
| Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value | \$1.15450 | \$1.15450 |
| Taxes Due on Average Residence | \$1,893.50 | \$2,007.73 |
| Increase (Decrease) in Taxes | | +\$114.23 |

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.1558. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$1.1558.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment.

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s) | \$50,000,000 |
| Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s) | \$16,040,000 |

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Crosby ISD will hold a public meeting at 7:00 PM, June 21, 2021 in Crosby ISD Operations Building, 14670 FM2100, Crosby, Texas 77532. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Maintenance Tax | \$0.99830/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations) |
| School Debt Service Tax | \$0.48000/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness) |
| Approved by Local Voters | |

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories.

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Maintenance and operations | -0.47 % decrease |
| Debt Service | -16.93 % decrease |
| Total expenditures | -3.60 % decrease |

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

| | Preceding Tax Year | Current Tax Year |
|---|--------------------|------------------|
| Total appraised value* of all property | \$2,817,475,808 | \$3,025,683,933 |
| Total appraised value** of new property** | \$63,542,068 | \$72,992,530 |
| Total taxable value*** of all property | \$2,316,910,955 | \$2,488,136,154 |
| Total taxable value*** of new property** | \$52,252,911 | \$60,024,364 |

*Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
 ** "New property" is defined by Section 26.01(2)(17), Tax Code.
 *** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$124,550,000

*Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

| | Maintenance & Operations | Interest & Sinking Fund** | Total | Local Revenue Per Student | State Revenue Per Student |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Last Year's Rate | \$0.99830 | \$0.48000* | \$1.47830 | \$5,400 | \$6,158 |
| Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service | \$0.95672 | \$0.35448* | \$1.31120 | \$5,440 | \$5,777 |
| Proposed Rate | \$0.99830 | \$0.48000* | \$1.47830 | \$5,536 | \$5,902 |

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

| | Last Year | This Year |
|---|------------|------------|
| Average Market Value of Residences | \$172,912 | \$188,056 |
| Average Taxable Value of Residences | \$140,897 | \$152,986 |
| Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value | \$1.47830 | \$1.47830 |
| Taxes Due on Average Residence | \$2,082.88 | \$2,261.59 |
| Increase (Decrease) in Taxes | | \$178.71 |

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.47830. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$1.47830.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment.

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s) | \$11,963,590 |
| Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s) | \$6,487,639 |

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

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MOHAMMAD AHMED, MD
FAMILY MEDICINE

1. Men between the ages of 30 and 50 are most likely to have:

- A. Hip bursitis
- B. A herniated disk in the lower back
- C. A midlife crisis

Answer: B. According to Dr. Mohammad Ahmed, a board-certified family medicine physician with Houston Methodist Primary Care Group in Baytown, risk factors for a herniated disk include improper lifting, being overweight, repetitive activities that strain the spine, a sedentary lifestyle and smoking.

What you can do: Develop a relationship with a primary care physician to live your healthiest life.

“As a family medicine physician, I am passionate about patient education. I look forward to partnering with my patients and working together to achieve their health goals,” said Ahmed, who sees patients for routine immunizations, thyroid concerns and diabetes management.

2. After skin cancer, _____ cancer is the most common cancer in men.

- A. Prostate
- B. Bone
- C. Lung

Answer: A. Prostate cancer strikes one in six men and is the second most prevalent cancer in men. But only about one in 36 men diagnosed with prostate cancer will die from it.

What you can do: Talk with your doctor about the risks as well as the potential benefits and limitations of PSA (prostate-specific antigen) screening.

3. Nothing is less manly than an enemy that won't show its face — and that's exactly what type 2 diabetes is. How many men in the United States have this “silent killer?”

- A. 7 million
- B. 13 million
- C. 79 million

Answer: B. Additionally, an estimated 79 million Americans have prediabetes, a condition in which blood glucose levels are higher than normal.

What you can do: Know your numbers. Ahmed recommends having your blood glucose tested to see whether you have type 2 diabetes or prediabetes — and get active.

“Annual examinations are a great way to ensure that you stay in good health and maintain your well-being,” Ahmed said.

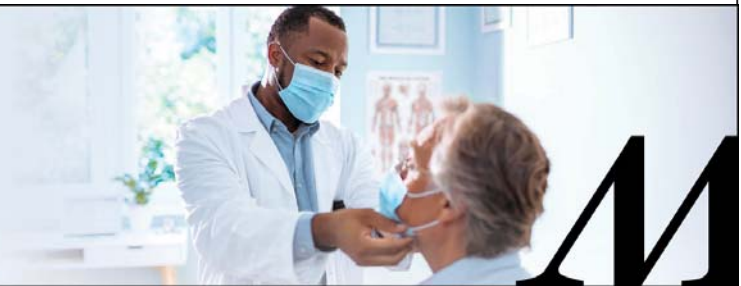
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Get Vaccinated; let's move the Threat Level to Green

Since the COVID-19 virus was first detected in Harris County, we have been working non-stop to beat it. We stayed home, wore our masks, maintained social distance, and sacrificed many, many moments with friends and family. When safe, effective vaccines became available, Harris County Public Health rushed to acquire and distribute them equitably, establishing over 100 vaccination sites, including a mega distribution site at NRG stadium that has become a model for the nation. Many of our residents are getting vaccinated, moving us closer to a place where COVID-19 is no longer a major threat to vulnerable populations and our hospital capacity. Thanks to all of this hard work, we have made substantial progress in turning a corner against this virus.

Last week, based on this progress and the meeting of the relevant thresholds, I moved the county's COVID-19 Threat Level from Level 2: Orange to Level 3: Yellow, the system's second-lowest threat level. We should all be proud of reaching this significant milestone. Under the Yellow threat level, unvaccinated individuals should continue to mask and social distance. Fully vaccinated individuals, however, may resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing, except where otherwise required.

We are making considerable strides, but our success is fragile. From the beginning of this crisis, data and public health expertise have driven our policies and the guidance we provide the community on how to stay safe. And the data tells us our numbers are still high, that people are still getting sick and dying. While we have come a long way, this is not a mission accomplished moment. But we should feel encouraged that vaccinations are safe, effective, and are preventing deaths, hospitalizations, and the spread of the virus.

So don't wait. Go get vaccinated. And if you've already gotten your shots, help us by getting anyone you know who hasn't to NRG Park. Come by Tuesday thru Sunday between noon and 7 p.m. — there's no need for an appointment. You can find more information at ReadyHarris.org or contact us at 832-927-8787. Let's continue to pull together to persuade friends, family members, and others to do their part and get vaccinated. Let's make it to Green and beat COVID-19 once and for all.



Papaya? Ha! There's glory in that.

Like a doctor removing something important, Herb Collins gently peeled the wrapper back from the root ball and tenderly placed the baby tree in the hole. Then he stood and walked around it to see which way he should align it. Actually, looks pretty good just the way it is. So he took his bucket of mixed sand and compost and began sprinkling it down onto the roots and then packing it in gently with his fist. Every few minutes he'd stop and read the directions again. When he ordered the tree, the nurseryman had written back "Are you sure?" Well, that made ol' Herb laugh. Yes, he was sure. He's always sure this time of year.

He was still chuckling to himself when Janice Thomas walked along the sidewalk. "Hi Herb," said the high school art teacher. "What is it this year?"

"Papaya, Janice. Nice healthy one, don't you think?" Janice took a close look at the little dark green tree. Papaya.

"Isn't that a tropical tree?" "Sure is," he said, tucking more dirt around the roots. "I have to read the instructions carefully to get this right."

Janice thought carefully before speaking. "Papayas sure taste good, Herb."

"Sure do. Wouldn't it be nice if this lives long enough to produce fruit?"

"But you're not expecting ..."

"Of course not. The first nippy day in autumn will turn this little guy belly up."

He looked up and smiled at Janice's consternation. "You know that banana tree almost made it to Christmas last year. That was my best so far. We'll see how this little guy makes out."

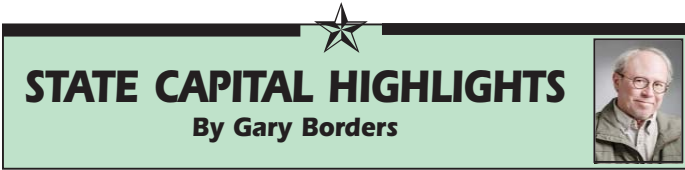
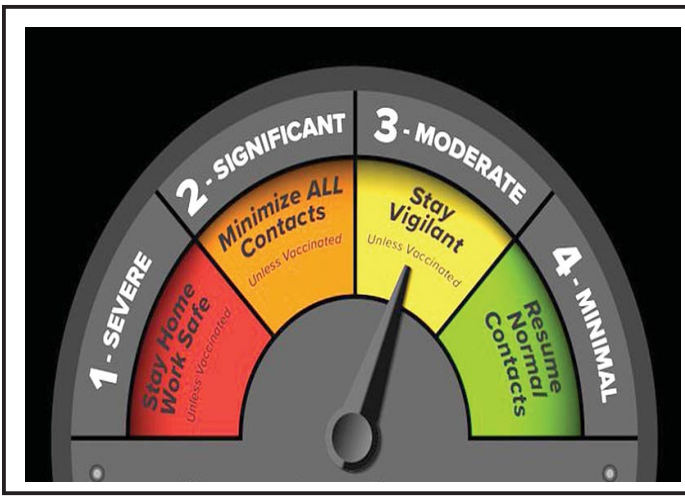
Each year Herb plants something in the front yard that has no chance at all of being there the following spring. He's done it for years. It gives the neighborhood something to look at and talk about, and it's fun.

"You know, Herb, if you're looking for fruit, a cherry tree will produce ..."

"I'm not looking for fruit, Janice," he said, gently. "I'm looking for glory. Glory!"

He laughed. "Where's the glory in planting something that will grow here? Anyone can do that. But a papaya? Ha! There's glory in that."

Brought to you by yourself ... and me, as we take off our hats to the brave men and women of our medical and emergency services. Thank you.



Population gains and losses in Texas announced

The U.S. Census Bureau has released its sub-county population estimates from April 2010 to July 2020. That includes population estimates for the 1,200 incorporated places in Texas. Nine additional Texas towns were incorporated in the past decade, while 13 additional cities surpassed a population of 50,000.

The Texas Demographic Center reported that of the 71 Texas cities with populations of more than 50,000, only two lost population — continuing the trend of smaller towns and areas in the state losing population to larger cities. More than 55% of the state's population growth has been in cities with more than 50,000 residents.

Small and mid-sized cities surrounding major metropolitan areas, such as Dallas-Fort Worth, Austin and Houston, saw the fastest growth rates, while many of the cities in West Texas and the Panhandle were among the 372 Texas cities that lost population, according to TDC.

EMERGENCY FOOD BENEFITS EXTENDED

Benefits for families under a federal nutrition plan have been increased through September, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission announced last week.

Under the American Rescue Plan signed by President Biden in March, states can provide eligible families up to \$35 per month to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables. Clients of the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program are eligible.

"Texas WIC provides foods that have great nutritional value — providing key nutrients at key stages of development," Texas WIC Director Edgar Curtis said. "This nutritional support early in life builds stronger, smarter, healthier and happier children and Texans. Fresh fruits and vegetables, which are loaded with vitamins and



other plant-based nutrients, are at the forefront of that strategy."

The HHSC also announced it is providing roughly \$208 million in emergency food benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, extending the maximum SNAP benefits allowable through June. All SNAP recipients will get a minimum of \$95 in emergency allotment, in addition to the 15% increase that continues through September.

The program is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and administered by HHSC.

STATE TO RELEASE \$5 BILLION IN SCHOOL FEDERAL AID

Months after congressional action on a coronavirus relief package, the Texas Education Agency announced Friday that school districts may begin applying for their portion of \$5 billion in aid.

According to the Austin American-Statesman, how much each district will receive varies. Districts that saw large enrollment declines because of the pandemic will likely not receive as much money, because TEA will divert some of the funds to make up for funding provided at pre-pandemic levels.

Much of public-school funding in Texas is based on average daily attendance. However, during the 2020-2021 school year, dis-

tricts were not penalized when students stayed home.

EXPERTS: WEATHERIZATION BILL FALLS SHORT

The Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 3 in response to February's deadly storm and widespread failure of power plants. The package addresses the problems that threaten electric reliability, but public radio's Texas Standard reports that many electric grid experts and policy analysts say not enough has been done to prevent another blackout disaster.

One section of SB3 allows regulators to determine what portions of the natural gas supply must be weatherized. Since it only applies to equipment that directly connects to power plants, experts say it might not be enough.

Dan Cohan, civil engineering professor at Rice University, told the Standard that "whoever has those direct lines into the power plants and winterizes those is going to point upstream and say 'well those upstream people couldn't get us enough gas.' So yeah, it's hard to see how this is going to provide us full coverage."

In addition, critics say the penalties of \$5,000 a day for not doing the required weatherization amount to little more than a rounding error for non-complying oil and gas companies.

GOP CHAIRMAN RESIGNATION SPARKS SPECULATION

Texas Republican Party chairman Allen West resigned Friday, sparking speculation he is considering a statewide race.

The Republican party issued a statement that West "will take this opportunity to prayerfully reflect on a new chapter in his already distinguished career." West has not ruled out challenging Gov. Greg Abbott, who last week touted a re-election endorsement from former President Trump.

COVID-19 CASES DROPPING; 36% FULLY VACCINATED

The number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas continues to drop, with 9,534 reported as of Sunday for the previous week — a small fraction of mid-January's record high of nearly 159,000.

In the past week, 210 deaths from COVID-19 in Texas were reported, according to the Johns Hopkins University Coronavirus Resource Center. That is also a decrease.

The number of Texans fully vaccinated stands at 10.5 million, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services, or about 36% of the state's population. The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients who are hospitalized dropped nearly a fifth from the previous week, to 1,504, according to DSHS.



The Homes of Dead People

A cousin of mine reportedly said, "I can't imagine living in a house where other people have lived!"

I don't know if she really said this, as I heard the story secondhand. But it stuck in my mind because every home I've owned has been lived in by other people, and a few people have died in them as well. So far, this has not bothered me in the least.

I'm used to living in the homes of dead people.

The first house I bought was owned by a woman named Ruby. She was still living when I bought it, but she wasn't doing very well. She had outlived two husbands in the house, so I suppose there's a better-than-even chance at least one of them died there.

Ruby finally had to move to a nursing home after she showed up at the neighbor's door a few times without clothes. As she had no children, the responsibility for finding her more suitable accommodations fell to her niece. I have no children, so I expect my niece, Isabelle, might be performing this duty for me sometime in the future. (She recently turned 18 and has that to look forward to.)

My only other real home is the one I've been living in with my husband, Peter. The neighbors say "three witches" lived in the house before the man we bought it from. I don't know if this is true, and no one seems to know much about them. But now we are moving into a new condo, and I know much more about it because it had only had one other resident. Her name was Elizabeth and, like Ruby, she lived there alone, although unlike Ruby, there is no record of any husbands, dead or alive.

Elizabeth bought the condo when it was built, more than 40 years ago, and she died in it. I know this because I looked up her obituary, and it said she "died at home," so I have to suppose she died in the home we now own.

Elizabeth seems like a lovely person, judging from her obituary. Of course, most people sound nice in their obituaries. I'm going to have to ask Isabelle to say something nice about me when she gets around to writing mine. (A person doesn't turn 18 without acquiring some responsibilities.)

I've been thinking about Ruby and Elizabeth as Peter and I work to renovate this new condo. The walls had been painted and some new flooring put in, but pretty much everything else was as Elizabeth left it. The appliances are old. We've already replaced the countertop and had the cabinets repainted and put in shiny new sinks. I don't think Elizabeth would recognize the place. But I hope she'd be pleased.

Because, unlike my cousin, I very much like the idea of Elizabeth living in my home before me. I like that she was so happy here that she never chose to leave. I'm glad she didn't show up at the neighbor's naked and have to find another home. (Although I don't know for sure. It's possible she just didn't have a dutiful niece like Ruby did and I do.)

And even without the yellowing 1980s bath fixtures and the chipped countertop, I would like to think there is a little of Elizabeth around. It makes me feel as if I have an invisible friend, looking at the same sun shining in the same windows, seeing the same view, living our overlapping lives without ever getting the chance to meet.

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

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Crosby Fair & Rodeo Cook-Off Winners



Fajitas: 1st Swinging Ice House, 2^d Beer Kat Cookers, 3^d Beer Kat Cookers, 4th Hula Hut, 5th Hula Hut



Margaritas: 1st Rust Bucket, 2^d Bohica, 3^d Bohica, 4th Lone Star Legends, 5th OTK5



Open Dish Dessert: 1st DANA, 2^d Doskocil, 3^d SS Cookers, 4th Unclaimed, 5th Grandpa & Grunts



Open Dish Savory: 1st Rust Bucket, 2^d Beer Kat Cookers, 3^d Sarge's Mesh Hall, 4th DANA INDUSTRIAL, 5th Whiskey River



Chicken: 1st DANA, 2^d Hula Hut, 3^d Backwoods Cookers, 4th Rock N Ribs, 5th Double D's & Sons



Ribs: 1st DILLIGAF 2^d Beer Kat Cookers, 3^d Beer Kats Cookers, 4th War Pig, 5th Unclaimed

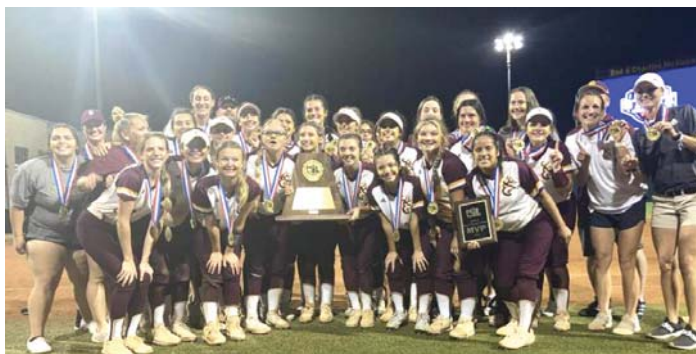


Brisket: 1st Hula Hut, 2^d Hula Hut, 3^d Boss Hog 4th Rock-N-Ribs, 5th Hula Hut



Showmanship: Bar 7 and Bob-N-Jeans, sponsored by Turner Chevrolet

Deer Park takes third state 6-A championship



Deer Park finished the season 40-8 under the first season of Coach Amy Vidal-Bush. She toughened up her team before she let them touch a softball. By June 5, the Varsity girls were winning their neutral play-off game against Judson of Converse with her team manufacturing a single run to a shut-out pitched by Hannah Benavides. Deer Park scored in the sixth inning as Reanna Nieman came in after a fielder's choice, and two singles (by Hardcastle and Perez) sent her home. In their final bats Judson would drop their tying runs to a couple of fly-outs.

Benavides it seems is dynamite on a pitcher's mound proven by her accomplishing two shut outs in a row, the state semi-final and final. She had 19 innings without a single run score on her pitching. She was named MVP of the Class 6-A tournament. Her pitching had deprived Judson of a single tying run although they had had six in scoring position including a bases loaded one out tense moment. Her coach says she is about 5 foot 10 inches tall but is champion because of work ethic. She threw 109 pitches, put the K on six, walked two and allowed six hits. She has now signed with Abilene Christian University.

This is the third championship for Deer Park in a decade but 2014 was the last one.

Democrats walk out, kill bill,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tary of State Ruth Hughs told lawmakers earlier in the year that Texas' election in 2020 was "smooth and secure." Democrats and voting rights organizations have derided the bill as an attempt at voter suppression that would disproportionately harm racial and ethnic minorities.

Gov. Greg Abbott has already said he will convene a special session of the Texas legislature in the coming months to reconsider SB7, among other pieces of legislation, so the bill could still be passed.

"Ensuring the integrity of our elections and reforming a broken bail system remain emergencies in Texas," Abbott's statement said. "They will be added

to the special session agenda. Legislators will be expected to have worked out the details when they arrive at the Capitol for the special session."

Abbott went further on Monday, saying he intends to withhold paychecks to state lawmakers after House Democrats staged the walkout to block voting restrictions proposed by their Republican counterparts.

"This is a reckoning over two strategies," Alex Birnel said. "One strategy is to suppress the vote to sustain power, and the other strategy is for millions of people to participate in our democracy and for that participation to transform the entire country for the better."

Pct. 2 wins 4 national awards,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

trate the innovative ways counties build healthy, safe and vibrant communities across America."

Nationally, awards are given in 18 different categories that reflect the vast, comprehensive services counties provide. The categories include children and youth, criminal justice and public safety, county administration, information technology, health, civic engagement and many more. Started in 1970, NACo's annual Achievement Awards program is designed to recognize county government innovations. Each nominee is judged on its own merits and not against other applications received.

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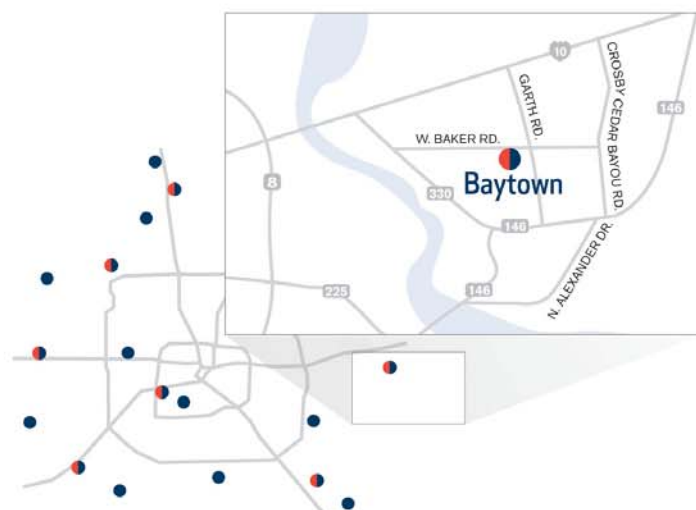


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16-12t

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NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code that CROSBY BOAT, RV & MINI STORAGE, located at 15118A FM 2100, Crosby Texas 77532, will hold an online sale from June 21 to June 28 until 10:00 o'clock a.m., at the following link

<http://wbauctioncrosby.hibid.com/auction/current> to sell for cash only the contents of Unit I-14, Jeri Hall in order to satisfy a Landlord's Lien. The property to be sold is household items and etc.....

23-2t

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Students residing within the Crosby Independent School District attendance boundaries, but attend private non-profits schools, may be eligible to receive supplemental educational equitable services from the following programs:

- Title I, Part A Improving Basic Programs
- Title II, Part A Preparing, Training, Recruiting High Quality Teachers, Leaders, Principals and other School Leaders
- Title III, Part A English Learners
- Title IV, Part A Student Support & Academic Enrichment Grant.

A private school must have nonprofit status to be eligible to participate in federally funded services. Private, nonprofit schools interested in learning more about the federal program services are invited to attend an informational and planning meeting on June 22nd or June 24th, 2021 at 10 am at the Crosby ISD Operations Center, located at 14670 FM 2100, Crosby, TX 77532.

All parents of students served on participating Title I campuses are also invited to attend this informational and planning meeting. Schools that receive federal program services must comply with all required federal policies and procedures.

Your input will provide the district with valuable information. Please make plans to attend this important meeting. Should you have any questions or would like to submit questions in advance please do so to Indra Hebert at ihbert@crosbysd.org or call 281-328-9200 ext. 1214.

23-2t


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NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Guardianship for Docket No. 471696; In the Guardianship of MARY LOUISE CLEMONS MUNSON, Incapacitated; In Probate Court No. 2 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on May 12, 2021.

LINDA CLEMONS JONES
The residence address of the Guardian is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is:

c/o Weston Cotten
1500 E. Wallisville Road
Highlands, TX 77562

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Dated this June 7, 2021.



by WESTON COTTEN
Attorney for the Estate

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Attention Non-Profit Private Schools, Home Schoolers
Non-profit private schools and homeschoolers who legally qualify as non-profit (currently hold a 501-C3 certificate) are invited to meet with a representative from Channelview Independent School District to learn more about federally funded services available for eligible residents of Channelview ISD. Please contact the district, Patricia Glaeser (patricia.glaeser@cvisd.org), Director of Federal Programs, no later than Friday, June 18, 2021.

Atención Escuelas Privadas y Educados En Casa
Escuelas privadas sin fines lucrativos y estudiantes educados en casa, que legalmente califican como una entidad no lucrativa y que tengan un certificado 501-C3, son invitados a una junta con representante de Channelview para aprender más sobre servicios financiados por el gobierno federal que están disponibles para los residentes elegibles en dichos distritos. Por Favor de contactarse con Patricia Glaeser la coordinadora del Programa Federal de Distrito de Channelview (patricia.glaeser@cvisd.org), a no más tardar el día Viernes, 18 de Junio del 2021.

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Notice
Virtual Public Meeting
I-10 East Planning & Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study, from I-69 to SH 99 (Grand Parkway)
CSJ 0912-00-535
Harris and Chambers Counties, Texas



The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Houston District will hold a virtual public meeting regarding the I-10 East Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study. The study encompasses I-10 East from I-69 in Harris County to SH 99 (Grand Parkway) in Chambers County. The I-10 East PEL Study is a high-level, early-planning process. The goal of a PEL study is to gather feedback during planning to inform the environmental review process, including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The virtual meeting will be held on Thursday, June 24, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. To log onto the virtual public meeting, go to www.txdot.gov, keyword search "I-10 East PEL Study", at the date and time indicated above. The meeting will consist of a narrated presentation (in both English and Spanish), exhibits, and an opportunity to comment. If you do not have internet access, you may call (713) 802-5328 to ask questions about the study and access materials at any time during the study development process. Formal comments may be provided by mail, online, or email, as explained below.

The purpose of the virtual public meeting is to provide information about the I-10 East PEL Study developed since the first round of public meetings and receive feedback. Additional information about the I-10 East PEL Study may be found online at <https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/houston-i-10-east.html>.


TxDOT makes every reasonable effort to accommodate the needs of the public. The pre-recorded presentation will be available in both English and Spanish. If you need an interpreter or document translator because English or Spanish is not your primary language, or you have difficulty communicating effectively in English or Spanish, one will be provided to you. If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. If you need interpretation or translation services, or you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation to participate in the virtual public meeting, please contact the TxDOT Houston District Public Information Office, at (713) 802-5076 or hou-piowebmail@txdot.gov, no later than 4 p.m. CT, Monday, June 21, 2021. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for TxDOT to arrange.

Written comments from the public regarding the I-10 East PEL Study are requested and may be submitted by mail to the TxDOT Houston District, Director of Advanced Project Development, P.O. Box 1386, Houston, Texas 77251. Written comments may also be submitted by email to hou-piowebmail@txdot.gov or online at <https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/houston-i-10-east.html>. We also encourage the public to complete the online survey. All comments must be received by Saturday, July 10, 2021. Responses to comments received will be available online at <https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/houston-i-10-east.html> in summer 2021.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the I-10 East PEL Study or the virtual public meeting, please contact the study project manager at nzingajones@txdot.gov or (713) 802-5328.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

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 **LEGAL NOTICE**

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage permit, Catering permit, and Local Cartage Permit by Bling & Buckles Events LLC dba BLING & BUCKLES EVENTS, to be located at 5613 S. Main Street, Unit #2, Crosby, Harris County, Texas 77532. Officers of said LLC is Bonnie Wentworth, member/manager.

23-2t

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THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2021

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

ON THE HILL

MB Goss Library Closed

For the health and safety of our employees and public, the Sam and Carmena Goss Memorial Branch Library will be closed through June 7. We will reopen Tuesday, June 8 for curbside only through June 15. We will reopen to the public on June 16 at 8am. Summer Reading will still continue. Pick up your take & make crafts via curbside. We are very sorry for the inconvenience. Feel free to message us on Facebook, or if you would like to speak to someone, contact us at 409-267-2650.

TASTE OF DAYTON!

Join the Dayton Chamber of Commerce for our Annual Business Expo with a twist! Thursday, June 10, 4:00-7:00pm. Dayton Community Center.

This year you will be decorating your booth like your favorite movie and bringing a treat to go along with it! For example, if your favorite movie is Breakfast at Tiffany's, then you could bring breakfast-related food. We encourage everyone to be creative as possible for a chance to win the "Best Decorated Booth" or "Best Food" award! Register Here! Dayton Chamber of Commerce | 801 S. Cleveland Street, Suite B, Dayton, TX 77535

Rotary Shrimp & Catfish Festival July 10

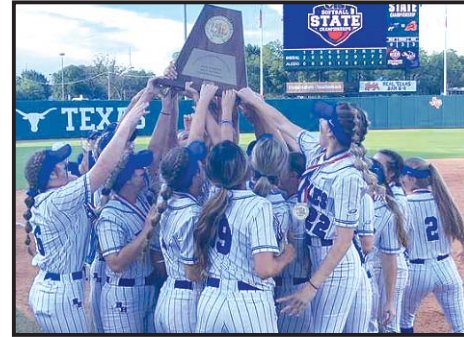
Houston Raceway Park is the place to be on July 10, 2021 for the 11th annual Shrimp & Catfish Festival hosted by the Rotary Club of Baytown. The festival will be held from 11 am - 3 pm and includes live music as well as outdoor games and activities for children, a silent and live auction and raffle for many prizes including the grand prize, which is a vehicle. This year, the grand prize winner will select either a 2021 Kia Telluride SUV or a 2021 Toyota Tacoma truck. Raffle tickets are \$100 each and include two shrimp and catfish meals on festival day. Meal tickets are sold separately for \$10 each. You can take your meal to go or eat at the event and enjoy music and participate in the auctions. Visit www.baytownrotary.org to purchase tickets or sponsor, or purchase tickets.

EAGLES FLY HIGH!

Barbers Hill wins state 5A Softball Championship



LADY EAGLES and coaches prepare to leave for Austin and the State Playoffs.



Lady Eagles hold their Trophy high, after winning the final game last Saturday against Aledo, 4-1.

The Lady Eagles won the UIL 5A state championship in Austin last week, defeating Hallsville on Friday 6-0, and then clinching the title Saturday with a 4-1 victory over Aledo.

The Lady Eagles prevailed in spite of COVID-10 taking away their chances last season. They came back with a strong performance by their MVP pitcher, Sophia Simpson.

Simpson tossed a complete game, striking out 14 - including the last batter - and holding Aledo to one run en route to a 4-1 victory for Barbers Hill winning the Class 5A State Championship.

Simpson is set to attend UT Austin next year.

Barbers Hill finishes the season 43-2 and was ranked the No. 1 softball team in the country by MaxPreps earlier this

week. The state championship is the first team title for a Barbers Hill High School program since girls basketball won one in 1997. It is the sixth team title in high school history.

Coach Aaron Fuller thanked the community and the school for their support. "I think the community and the school could sense it, they could taste it all year long. They

knew that this group was a very talented group and had been playing well all year. "The support we've gotten from the community and the school has been unreal."

Besides outstanding pitching by Simpson, RBI hits were made by Estela Garza in the first inning, and Faith Guidry and Kaitlyn Dutton in the sixth inning, which brought the

score to 4-1, the final.

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Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital Celebrates Cancer Survivors

BAYTOWN — (June 4, 2021) — With nearly 17 million people living with and beyond cancer in the U.S. today—and more than 43 million cancer survivors worldwide—virtually everyone knows someone whose life has been touched by cancer.

Sunday, June 6 marks the 34th annual observance of National Cancer Survivors Day. It's a day in which we join in solidarity with cancer survivors around the world to raise awareness to the ongoing challenges cancer survivors face because of their disease and, most importantly, a day to celebrate life. The Houston Methodist Cancer Center at Baytown hosts a week-long Cancer Survivors Day celebration June 7-11.

A "survivor" is defined as anyone living with a history of cancer—from the moment of diagnosis through the remainder of their life.

"Over the last few decades, great progress has been made in terms of cancer survival," said Nancy



Houston Methodist Cancer Center at Baytown Radiation Oncologist Dr. Mary Goswitz (fifth from right), Director Nancy Thompson (fourth from right) and staff will host a week-long Cancer Survivors Day celebration.

Thompson, director of oncology services and breast care center with the Houston Methodist Cancer Center at Baytown. "That is absolutely something we should celebrate!"

Higher survival rates have been linked to the major improvements, innovations, and advances in cancer prevention, early screening, community education and novel treatments in cancer care. In addition, through research evidence, existing treatments are being used in

better ways with less side effects, and newer treatments such as targeted therapy and immunotherapy have also contributed to improving cancer survival rates.

"We are adopting the hummingbird as the theme for our week-long celebration in recognition of the shared resiliency and grace that survivors demonstrate in their journey. We will give recognition gifts to our survivors and they will also have the opportunity to have a com-

memorative photo taken," Thompson said. "Letters are also being sent out to over 1,000 survivors in our local community."

The Houston Methodist Cancer Center at Baytown provides comprehensive cancer care in its recently renovated, state-of-the-art facility, including radiation and medical oncology, surgical procedures, breast cancer treatments, 3D mammograms, breast imaging radiologists and cancer-specific nurse navigators.

Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital screens all patients, ensuring only those without COVID-19 symptoms are seen in the office. Masks and personal protective equipment (PPE) are required while providing patient care, and we have reorganized waiting rooms and check-in lines to ensure social distancing. We have also implemented additional sanitation processes to disinfect all equipment and surfaces.

Houston Methodist Baytown is designated as a COVID-19 vaccine hub. Vaccines are open to everyone age 16 and older. Walk-ins are welcome, but you may also schedule an appointment by visiting houstonmethodist.org/vaccine.

For more information on Cancer Survivors Day activities and to schedule an appointment with a cancer specialist at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital, call 346.292.2060 or visit houstonmethodist.org/cancer-baytown.

Congressman Babin speaks at Chambers Hurricane workshop



Congressman Brian Babin with Commissioners at the Annual Hurricane Workshop last week.

Babin thanked "my friend, Judge Sylvia," for giving me the opportunity to provide a legislative update to the many emergency management professionals, law enforcement officials, first responders, and city and county leaders in attendance as they prepare for the 2021 hurricane season, which runs June 1 to November 30. He continued, "Since I was elected in 2014, my office has proudly assisted with the recovery efforts of every major weather event that's impacted TX-36, and it will continue to do so!"

Barbers Hill ISD Class of 2021

Top Ten Seniors



1. Evelyn Longorio
Summa Cum Laude
2. Katherine Strickland
Summa Cum Laude
3. Kaylee Myers
Summa Cum Laude
4. Jesse Thomson
Summa Cum Laude
5. Rebecca Wells
Summa Cum Laude
6. Taylor Tomlinson
Summa Cum Laude
7. Kaylon Gilbert
Summa Cum Laude
8. David Mendez
Magna Cum Laude
9. Trevor Bates
Magna Cum Laude
10. Savannah Brunley
Magna Cum Laude