

HIGHLANDS CROSBY  
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★  
**IN THE STARS**

**EVENTS**  
**SUN. AUG. 29**  
**50+ Senior's Dance**  
The Crosby American Legion Post 658 will host a Senior's Dance from 2-5pm. Music by Rob Austin, playing Old Country and Old Rock 'n Roll. \$5 at the door. Refreshments available. 148990 FM 2100, Crosby.  
**TUE. SEP. 14**  
**Wisdom of Preplanning Seminar**  
Sterling-White Funeral Home will hold a Free Dinner and Educational Seminar at 7:00pm at Teapot Depot in Highlands. See details on Page 3, or call 281-426-3555 for information and reservations.

**BIRTHDAYS**  
Aug 21—Gary Jackson  
Alice Seaburg  
Jimmy Ray Slot  
Patrick Williams  
Rick Ross  
Sheri Ross  
Jessica Cain  
Aug 22—Lacie Paige Burton  
G.A. Kearney  
James R. Townsend  
Tonia Watkins  
Aug 23—Tarshira Harper  
Daniel Stone  
John Wilson  
Aug 24—Donche Webb  
Alex Catie Maxey  
Aug 25—Cameron Adams  
Carley Hurta  
Curtis Hunter  
Catie Rynn Maxey  
Alex Russell Maxey  
Joshua Stuart  
Madie L. White  
Aug 26—Derek Elkins  
Rebecca Moye  
Aug 27—Craig Nelson  
Aug 28—Jimmy Fincher  
Steve Norris  
Aug 29—Alex Creel  
Myra Hedger  
Pamela Lewis  
Aug 30—Tara Hildebrand  
Aug 31—Ben Coward  
Kelli Rossow  
Santrice Shepherd  
Gary Lee Slot  
Lynn Ray Svec  
Sep 1—Hunter Enlow  
Sep 2—Craig Zadropa  
**ANNIVERSARIES**  
Aug 23—Greg & Angie Basquez  
Kaylin & Caleb Morgan  
Aug 26—Lee Ward & Jo Ann Hammac  
Aug 28—Gilbert & Meiling Hoffman  
Aug 29—Kent & Barbara Nelson  
Aug 30—Gene & Vi Fleming  
Aug 31—Glenn & Linda Conard  
Sep 2—Skip & Thelma Bauman  
**DEATHS**  
Jack Roberts Henderson, 74, Highlands  
Steven Wade Kilgore, 46, Crosby  
Barry Wayne McWilliams, 79, Whitehall, Montana

**Railfans view UP Big Boy in Huffman**

**HUFFMAN** - The world's largest steam engine made an appearance in Huffman and Houston last week, on its 10 state, 32 day tour through the midwest of the United States.  
Union Pacific No. 4014 is also known as "Big Boy" for its huge and unique size.  
It was restored in 2019, and since has been housed in the UP engine facilities in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Almost every year the UP takes one of their restored steam locomotives on a tour of the United States for publicity purposes. Last year they skipped the tour due to the Pandemic, so Railfans were very enthusiastic to get a chance to see 4014 this year.  
After spending a day in downtown Houston, where the public got to board the train and the Museum car



that it was pulling, it steamed away toward New Orleans, passing through Huffman and stopping for photo opportunities. Several hundred people were on hand to witness the huge locomotive and enjoy the unique experience.  
No. 4014 left the Steam Shop in Cheyenne, Wyoming, August 5, making brief whistle-stops in communities across Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas and Wyoming. The locomotive will be on display in the following cities:  
Fort Worth, Texas  
Houston, Texas  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
St. Louis, Missouri  
Denver, Colorado

See more information about UP Big Boy and the Railfan Tour, on Page 5.

**Crosby Superintendent's Message to the community**

*Hello East Harris County and Crosby ISD families,*  
We're getting into the routine of the new school year. Crosby ISD has been back for two weeks today. It was so amazing to see children back inside schools. On the first day, I toured all seven campuses in Crosby ISD. It was great to see just how quickly students adjusted to their new routine and started learning, even on the very first day. I could see in their eyes the excitement to be back in the classroom. We thank the Crosby and Barrett communities for showing patience and grace over the last couple of weeks. Crosby has a lot of construction near schools, and it's taken adjustment for all of us,



**SUPERINTENDENT PAULA PATTERSON**  
from families to drivers, to get back to the new before-school traffic flow. We appreciate our transportation department and deputy constables helping control traffic and get everyone where they need to be safely.  
We appreciate our school nurses as they help us keep students

healthy and families informed during the pandemic. We have posted our 2021-2022 school year health guidelines on our website. We'll update as conditions warrant. Each day, we update our daily online dashboard so parents can see at a glance where cases stand on each campus. We'll be announcing more vaccine clinics soon so we can make the shots as convenient as possible for anyone who would like to be vaccinated.  
Even as Crosby ISD begins a new year, proud alumni are giving back. I want to personally thank Armando Reyes from Reyes Pressure Washing for donating his time and equipment to spruce up Crosby ISD campuses and facilities. He is volunteer-

ing to remove decades-old grime off the driveways, stairs, and sidewalks. Just last week, he transformed the walkways outside the Crosby Middle School gym. You can look at the remarkable before and after photos on the Crosby ISD Facebook page. I look forward to sharing more stories in the future of inspiring alumni and community members who are contributing to our district.  
Finally, fall sports are here! Tonight, Crosby's outstanding football team, your 2020 state finalist Cougars, kick off the season against Carthage in New Caney. The Cougars' first home game will be September 10th at Cougar Stadium. Our varsity volleyball team is headed to the

Dayton Tournament this coming weekend. And our cross country team just finished big in the competition over the weekend at the Barbers Hill Invitational. Tomorrow, our proud Cougar tennis team takes on Goose Creek Memorial. We are cheering on all our sports teams and all extracurricular activities as we see the seasons transform from a busy summer to a busy fall. I can't wait to see your smiling faces in the stands.  
This is NOW! Go Coogs!  
Crosby ISD launches Free COVID-19 Drive-Thru Testing. See information on Page 4.

**County offers \$100 for new vaccine shots**

**HARRIS COUNTY** - Harris County Public Health Announced New Vaccine Incentive Initiative for All First Dose Recipients on Tuesday of this week.  
Residents who receive their First dose of the COVID-19 vaccine through HCPH will receive a \$100 cash card.  
In an effort to improve vaccination rates and better protect the residents of Harris County from COVID-19, Harris County Public Health (HCPH) will provide \$100 cash cards to residents receiving their

first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at an HCPH vaccination site.  
In order to receive the \$100 cash card, residents will have to sign a waiver prior to the vaccination and remain in the post-vaccination waiting area at an HCPH vaccination site for the 15-to-30 minutes recommended.  
Vaccinations at HCPH sites are free and no appointment is required. To find one near you go to vacstrac.hctx.net or call 832-927-8787. Face coverings will be required for individuals seeking a vac-

ination and we urge residents to take additional COVID-19 prevention measures such as maintain social distancing, staying at home as much as possible and continue regularly washing their hands.  
Parents must accompany their children, ages 12-17, to be vaccinated or children must bring a consent form signed by their parent or guardian. Consent forms can be found via vacstrac.hctx.net and 12 to 17-year-olds are eligible for the Pfizer vaccine. Adults over the age of 17

can choose from 3 vaccines: the one-dose Johnson & Johnson and the multi-dose Pfizer or Moderna vaccines.  
Fully vaccinated people have the greatest protection against the Delta Variant. So far, 63% percent of Harris County residents have had one vaccine dose, however the current positivity rate for HCPH is more than 20% and hospitals across Harris County are overwhelmed with COVID-19 cases. The vaccine is the best tool we have in mitigating both the spread and

impact of COVID-19 and we urge residents to do their part by getting vaccinated and encouraging others to do the same.  
Residents in need of their second dose of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine can also receive one at an HCPH vaccination site. Proof of their 1st dose to verify the type of vaccine will be required. For residents who feel they need to be tested for COVID-19, we encourage residents to sign up for a COVID-19 test by calling 832-927-7575.

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# Walle's return from DC allows Quorum in Legislature

ALDINE – State Representative Armando Walle and two other Democratic legislators, Ana Hernandez and Garnet Coleman, returned from their hiatus in Washington to the state Capitol in Austin last week. Their absence, along with about 50 others, had kept the Texas House from having a quorum and unable to pass controversial Voter Restriction legislation that the Democrats said would disenfranchise many minority voters.

However, with all Republicans plus these three Democrats and a few others who never left, the Speaker of the House Dade Phelan declared they had a Quorum, and would proceed to act on legislation.

The three returning Democrats received a great deal of criticism for allowing this to happen, from labor unions, minority voter groups, and their colleagues that were still in Washington.

Walle's office issued the following statement in defense of the return:

"We are proud of the heroic work and commitment we and our fellow Democratic caucus members have shown in breaking quorum in May and again over this summer. We took the fight for voting rights to Washington, D.C. and brought national atten-



Texas Democratic Representatives Armando Walle, and Ana Hernandez, seen above, and Garnet Coleman broke ranks with the group of missing Legislators, and returned to Austin from DC. This allowed the Republican controlled House to declare a Quorum for the first time in over a month.

tion to the partisan push in our state to weaken ballot access. Our efforts were successful and served as the primary catalyst to push Congress to take action on federal voter protection legislation. Now, we continue the fight on the House Floor.

COVID-19 is ravaging our state and overwhelming our health care system worse than at any other point during this pandemic. State and local officials are sprinting to protect the health and well-being of students, staff, and families returning to school, while also contending with mixed and contradictory messages from

state leadership. As students are returning to school, parents are fearful for the safety of their children.

It is time to move past these partisan legislative calls, and to come together to help our state mitigate the effects of the current COVID-19 surge by allowing public health officials to do their jobs, provide critical resources for school districts to conduct virtual learning when necessary, while also ensuring schools are a safe place for in-person instruction, and will not become a series of daily super-spreader events."

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08/31-09/04

Desserts of Week- Strawberry 4 Layer & Bread Pudding \$3.95 each

Tuesday: Chicken Spaghetti, Garden Salad, Garlic Bread & Chocolate Chip Cookies \$48.00 Family Meal & \$10.95 Individual

Wednesday: Boudin Stuffed Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Pinto Beans, Rolls & Strawberry 4 Layer Trifle \$53.00 Family Meal!! \$12.50 Individual

Thursday: Italian Seasoned Boneless Pork Chops served with Zucchini, Squash, Green Beans, Onions & Sausage Medley, Cream Style Corn, Rolls & Fresh Fruit \$49.00 Family Meal & \$11.95 Individual

Friday: Taco Salad with seasoned hamburger meat, garnished with Chips, Sour Cream, Tomatoes, Black Olives and Avocado served with Black Beans, Salsa and Fresh Fruit

Family Meal \$45.00 & \$10.95 Individual

Saturday: Dining Room Closed for a Private Party! You can still Shop the Boutique!

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## North Shore Rotary supports the Cody Stephens GBOGH Foundation



At their August 5th luncheon this month the North Shore Rotary Club donated \$7,600 to the Cody Stephens Go Big or Go Home Foundation. They acknowledged that the program does wonderful "LIFE SAVING" heart screenings for young athletes and students as they participate in High School activities. Pictured are club president Shawn Silman, with Scott Stephens of the foundation on the right.

### MASK REQUIREMENTS IN LOCAL SCHOOLS

Are masks required at my kid's school? Here's what Houston-area school districts say:

Kids are heading back to school and we know there is a lot of confusion on which school districts are requiring masks now that some Houston-area counties are enforcing mask mandates for certain businesses and buildings.

Harris County announced a mask mandate Thursday for all schools and childcare facilities but, so far, only a few districts are complying.

Most are following Gov. Greg Abbott's order that bans mandates but there are a few exceptions. Here's the list.

#### MASKS REQUIRED

##### ALDINE ISD

Aldine ISD is mandating that all staff, students, and visitors wear a mask on all of the district's buses and when visiting campuses and administrative buildings. This is effective, Monday, August 16. Read more .

##### CHANNELVIEW ISD

Channelview ISD has revised its mask policy in response to the mask mandate issued by Harris County Judge Lina

Hidalgo. Everyone is now required to wear a mask while at all Channelview ISD campuses and district facilities. Effective immediately. Read more.

##### GALENA PARK ISD

Galena Park ISD says masks must be worn by all students, staff and visitors while indoors on school property and school buses, effective immediately.

##### HOUSTON ISD

HISD plans to release its updated COVID plan on Friday that will outline all of its new protocols.

##### SPRING ISD

Spring ISD is requiring masks starting August 16 because of the spike in COVID-19 cases.

Spring ISD will also provide contact tracing itself instead of referring the cases to Harris County Public Health . The district will also send out a survey to see how parents feel about a potential remote learning option for students. Read More.

##### BARBERS HILL ISD

Masks are optional in Barbers Hill ISD .

##### CROSBY ISD

As of June 5, no student, teacher, staff member, parent or visitor is required to wear a mask while on Crosby ISD property.

##### DAYTON ISD

Face coverings will not be required for Dayton ISD staff, students or visitors, although they are highly encouraged. An individual may choose to wear a mask if desired.

##### DEER PARK ISD

Deer Park ISD is strongly encouraging masks for unvaccinated individuals but masks are not required.

##### GOOSE CREEK CISD

Masks are optional at Goose Creek ISD , although the district encourages everyone who wishes to wear a face-covering to do so, especially anyone who is not vaccinated.

##### HUFFMAN ISD

Face masks remain optional in Huffman ISD . Hull-Daisetta

##### LIBERTY ISD

Face masks are completely optional for all students and staff of Liberty ISD . Anyone who wishes to wear a mask will be allowed to do so, but no student or staff member will be required.

##### SHELDON ISD

Masks are now optional in Sheldon ISD schools. The district initially said they would be required but changed the policy after consulting with their attorneys.

Listings courtesy of KHOU



## Houston Symphony opens 2021-22 Season

*Principal Pops Conductor Steven Reineke will conduct Opening Night Concerts with Renee Fleming and Alan Menken's Broadway*

HOUSTON, TX (Aug. 17, 2021) — Next month, the Houston Symphony and Principal POPS Conductor Steven Reineke open the 2021-22 Season with two sensational programs at Jones Hall: the Bank of America POPS program, *Once Upon a Time: Alan Menken's Broadway*, Sept. 3-5, and the one-night only Opening Night Gala and Concert with Renée Fleming, sponsored by ConocoPhillips, on Sept. 11.

*Once Upon a Time: Alan Menken's Broadway*, Sept. 3-5, celebrates the music of eight-time Academy Award-winning and eleven-time Grammy Award-winning composer Alan Menken, best known for his scores and songs that ushered in the Disney Renaissance era. Reineke and the orchestra are joined by Broadway vocalists Matt Doyle and Montego Glover, Houston native Katie Rose Clarke, and Jordan Donica, who currently is seen on the CW's *Charmed* series. The program features hits from musicals like *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Aladdin*, *Newsies*, and more. The Saturday, Sept. 4, 8 p.m. CT performance is also available for livestream. Audiences attending this family-friendly performance in person are encouraged to dress as their favorite Disney Renaissance character.

The following week, Reineke once again takes the podium for the glamorous Opening Night Concert and Gala on Sept. 11, 2021. The much-anticipated event features superstar soprano Renée Fleming with Steven Reineke leading the orchestra in a program of opera arias and songs from composers such as Handel, Corigliano, Leoncavallo and Cilea, as well as musical theater songs and classic Broadway overtures from Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Carousel* and *The King and I*, and Kander and Ebb's *The Visit*. Following the concert, the celebration continues at The Corinthian Houston with an elegant, seated dinner by City Kitchen, featuring wine pairings by Lindy & John Rydman and Lisa Rydman of Spec's Wines, Spirits & Finer Foods, and musical entertainment by Houston's own Richard Brown Orchestra. The Opening Night Concert and Gala, chaired by longtime Symphony supporters and family members Robin Angly and Miles Smith, is generously supported by ConocoPhillips, the lead concert sponsor and corporate gala underwriter for the 35th consecutive year.

**ONCE UPON A TIME: ALAN MENKEN'S BROADWAY**  
Friday, Sept. 3, at 8 p.m.  
Saturday, Sept. 4, at 8 p.m. \*  
Sunday, Sept. 5, at 2:30 p.m.  
Steven Reineke, conductor  
Katie Rose Clarke, vocalists  
Matt Doyle, vocalist  
Jordan Donica, vocalist  
Montego Glover, vocalist

**OPENING NIGHT WITH RENÉE FLEMING**  
Saturday, Sept. 11, 7:30 p.m. (not livestreamed)  
Steven Reineke, conductor  
Renée Fleming, soprano

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## KELSEY-SEYBOLD ANNOUNCES 27th CLINIC LOCATION

The new North Channel Area Clinic will expand access to coordinated, evidence-based care

HOUSTON (March 9, 2021) – Kelsey-Seybold Clinic announced plans today to build a 7,500-square-foot clinic in The Shops at Stone Park in the North Channel area. The new North Channel Clinic represents another significant investment in Kelsey-Seybold's plan to bring comprehensive care closer to area residents and their families.

Kelsey-Seybold Clinic – North Channel will be located at the northeast corner of Beltway 8 and Wallisville Road, at 5820 E. Sam Houston Parkway North, Houston TX 77049. This new location is expected to open for patient care in the summer 2021.

"We have many patients who live in and around the North Channel area who have

to drive to our clinics in Baytown, Humble, and Pasadena. We believe our patients, and other residents in the area, would benefit from having a convenient Kelsey-Seybold Clinic near their home, school, and place of employment," said Victor Simms, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.C.P., Chair, Clinic Planning Committee, and Chief of Internal Medicine,

Kelsey-Seybold Clinic. "We are all looking forward to greeting new and current patients at our new location in North Channel a few months from now."

The new North Channel clinic will continue Kelsey-Seybold's expansion of coordinated, evidence-based care in the ship channel area, in an area that is currently

underserved with limited options for primary care. Patients will have access to an on-site laboratory, X-ray, and up to four primary care providers, with an extensive referral network for Kelsey-Seybold specialists in Summer Creek and Pasadena.

"Kelsey-Seybold's growth into the North Channel area demonstrates our commit-

ment to patients living in and around the area," said John Lyle, Vice President, Operations, Kelsey-Seybold Clinic.

The new Kelsey-Seybold Clinic – North Channel location was designed by architects at Powers Brown Architecture. United Constructors has been named the general contractor.

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**Kelsey-Seybold Clinic – North Channel**

Comprehensive, connected Kelsey-Seybold care is right in your neighborhood. With a focus on Family and Internal Medicine, our new state-of-the-art clinic also features an on-site lab and diagnostics. Best of all, we offer same-day or next-day primary care appointments.

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Wallisville Road

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[kelsey-seybold.com/northchannel](http://kelsey-seybold.com/northchannel)

★ OPINION PAGE ★

**LETTERS  
To The Editor**

*Our cartoonist of 27 years, Barry McWilliams, passes away at 79*

Hello everyone,

It is with the heaviest of hearts that today we must share with you the loss of our beloved father, and your beloved small town cartoonist, Barry McWilliams.

Barry passed away a few days ago from a sudden heart attack at his home in Pipestone, Montana. One might say his decades of relentless deadlines may finally have caught up to him. But as many of you know and appreciate, he wouldn't have had it any other way. To have lived to be "almost 80," and still be so passionate about his work, at the very top of his game after 43 years in the cartoon biz ... it was exactly how he dreamed of going out.

Dad labored so hard through the years because he believed deeply in the greatest virtues of small town folks — our resilience, our neighborly generosity, our plain spoken truths, and (of course) our humor. In a long, rich life filled with travels and adventure, Barry was authentically at home in your local cafe, post office, gas station, or newspaper office. He was intimate with the ebbs and flows, cycles and seasons of small town living. And of late, as small town papers struggle like never before in the face of relentless social media and industry consolidation, he was a tireless champion of the printed page — of the critical importance of local journalism and opinion pages to a free democracy.

We hope to send out an obituary sometime this weekend, and are still in the process of planning a celebration of his life, but we sincerely welcome your well wishes and any memories you would like to share — you can send 'em to [barrytoons@montana.com](mailto:barrytoons@montana.com).

Our deepest love and appreciation to you all — thank you for helping him become the legend he was.

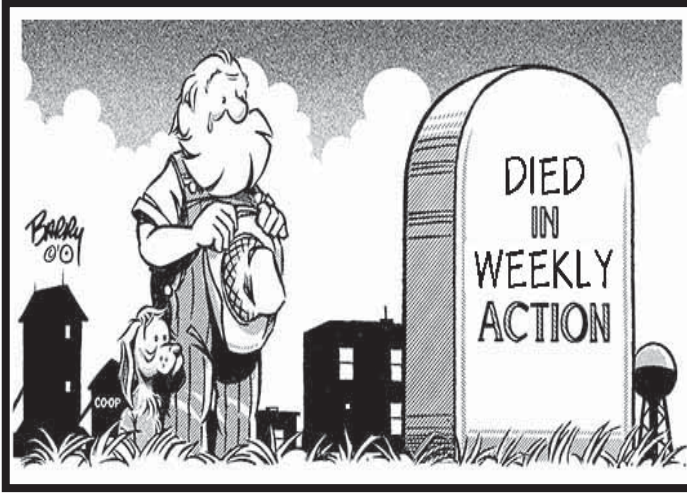
Collie, Summer, Ethan, and Noah McWilliams

FULL OBITUARY ON PAGE 5

**Free COVID-19  
Testing Site for Crosby  
Communities**

Crosby ISD is launching a free drive-thru COVID-19 testing site starting Friday, August 27th. The testing site is in partnership with Arch Staffing and Consulting. The site will be located behind Crosby High School near the baseball fields at 333 Red Summit Drive. The testing site will be open seven days a week 9am-7pm. The hours of 2-3pm will be by appointment only. Appointments are not required but recommended.

You can schedule by going to this link: <https://crosbyisdccovidtesting.as.me/schedule.php>. The medical technician will perform two nasal swabs (one Rapid and one PCR). The tech will notate the Rapid test result on your form and return it to you. PCR results will be sent to you via phone, text or email within 24 to 36 hours. Insurance is not required to receive a COVID-19 test. However, if you have insurance, please make a copy of your ID and insurance card to bring with you. Any other questions can be emailed to: [crosbyisdccovidtesting@outlook.com](mailto:crosbyisdccovidtesting@outlook.com)



**STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS**

By Gary Borders



*Abbott tests Negative four days after testing Positive*

Gov. Greg Abbott announced via Twitter Saturday that he is now testing negative for COVID-19, four days after testing positive though asymptomatic.

"I am told that my infection was brief and mild because of the vaccination I received. I will continue to quarantine as recommended by doctors," Abbott said. "And I will keep working on issues affecting Texas."

Meanwhile, the battle over masks continues, with growing numbers of school districts from Longview to San Antonio ignoring the governor's ban on mask mandates. The Texas Supreme Court last week temporarily cleared the way for districts to require masks, but only on a technicality. The court left in place a Travis County judge's temporary restraining order against the mandate ban, saying typically such cases have to go before an appellate court before ending up in the state's highest civil court. A number of other cases are before various district and appellate courts in Texas.

The Paris school district, in Northeast Texas, took a novel approach to the issue. Its board voted to alter the district's dress code to include masks for all employees and students.

**DELTA VARIANT CONTINUES TO SPUR COVID-19 CASE RISE**

The number of new cases of COVID-19 in the state continues to rise steeply, with 125,033 reported in the past week, along with 937 deaths. New cases in Texas were up 27% compared to the previous week and up five-fold in the past month, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. In Texas, hospitals are nearing capacity, though in a number of cases a shortage of nurses and other healthcare workers is forcing facilities to leave



beds empty. Abbott has asked hospitals to delay elective surgeries during the recent surge of cases.

The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients in Texas hospitals reached 12,951 on Sunday with 373 intensive care unit beds available across the state, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services. The number of COVID-19 hospitalizations is up more than four-fold from a month ago and is approaching the all-time high set in mid-January.

The number of Texans fully vaccinated stands at 13.293 million, according to DSHS. That's 45.7% of the state's total population. As news of the delta variant spreads, the vaccination rate is increasing, up more than 20,000 doses daily, according to DSHS.

**HOUSE ESTABLISHES QUORUM; ELECTION BILL ADVANCES**

Enough House Democrats entered the floor Thursday evening for Speaker Dade Phelan to announce a quorum was present for the first time in six weeks. Nearly 50 House Democrats decamped to Washington, D.C. in May to stop work in the House. As the Austin American-Statesman reported, bitterness remains after the walkout and Phelan's attempt to have Democrats arrested and forcibly brought to the House floor.

None were arrested.

In addition to the elections bill, which would ban drive-through voting and other provisions aimed at increasing turnout, Abbott placed bail reform, distribution of federal pandemic relief funds, border security and several other items on the agenda. This second special session ends Sept. 6.

**TXDOT LAUNCHES DUI PREVENTION CAMPAIGN**

The Texas Department of Transportation has rolled out a campaign to share stories of Texans who must deal with the consequences of a drunk driving crash. The "Faces of Drunk Driving" will feature events around the state and includes testimonials on video from families dealing with those consequences.

In 2020, there were 963 alcohol related vehicle fatalities — one every nine hours.

"Drinking and driving can lead to tragic consequences that are 100% preventable," Marc William, TxDOT executive director said. "These consequences involve individuals who made the unfortunate decision to drink and drive along with many innocent victims of those decisions."

One of the "faces" of the campaign is Walter Tidwell, now 25. He hopped in his car after a long night of drinking and was pulled over driving the wrong way down a one-way street. Fortunately, he was stopped before causing a wreck. He recently concluded three years of court visits and still must take alcohol and drug offender courses, do community service and serve a stretch on probation. Tidwell is telling his story in hopes of convincing others of the dangers of driving drunk.

**COURT ISSUES INJUNCTION IN FIGHT OVER MEDICAID WAIVER**

A federal district judge last week temporarily reinstated a 10-year extension of a Medicaid program worth billions of dollars to the state for health care for the uninsured. As the Texas Tribune and other media outlets reported, the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services wanted the state to collect public input before negotiating a new extension to the agreement, in place since 2011.

The waiver provides nearly \$4 billion in annual funding for uninsured treated in Texas hospitals, as well as mental health services.

*Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. Email: [gborders@texapress.com](mailto:gborders@texapress.com).*

**THE  
POSTSCRIPT**

By  
Carrie Classon

*Matching  
Chairs*

My husband, Peter, and I have matching folding chairs. Every Thursday evening this summer, we have attended the outdoor concert held in a local park. The music is usually good, but the food trucks are undeniably the center of the experience. Our favorite is the "Tot Boss" that sells tasty, hot tater tots out the window of the truck.

Peter and I bring our own chairs. We get comfortable in our folding chairs, eat our tater tots, listen to the music, and watch the people and dogs go by. It's hard to beat a night of outdoor music, tater tots, and people-watching.

The variety of folding chairs is remarkable.

There are low beach-type chairs that only lift the behind of the concertgoer a couple of inches off the ground, and there are exceptionally high chairs that look as if they are intended for use while casting a fishing line. There are the old-school webbed folding chairs, and there are tiny camping chairs, some of which snap together like umbrellas, and others that require at least an undergraduate degree in engineering to assemble. But, almost always, the chairs come in sets of two.

Each couple has somehow decided what sort of couple they are—whether they are the "fancy floral print chairs" type, or the "20-year-old lawn chairs stashed in the garage" type. They all have somehow agreed that, yes, this is the kind of couple we are, and they show up every Thursday night, toting their matching chairs.

Of course, there are exceptions.

Couples who are not really couples yet do not have matching chairs. Even if you had two chairs on hand, it would be presumptuous to bring a matching chair on a first date. It would imply a level of commitment that might frighten off your prospective partner. This means that dating couples have to find park benches (which are not nearly as comfortable and are always in short supply) or sit on the ground, sometimes without even a blanket.

But among established couples, I occasionally see one that has not agreed upon their chair policy, and I do worry about them.

Last night there was a man who had decided on a comfortable-looking camping chair emblazoned with the logo of a popular sporting goods store. His partner had only a folding three-legged stool and, at first, she opted against even using that. She sat on the ground before reluctantly unfolding her chic little stool, looking thoroughly miserable. I felt pessimistic about their relationship. I hate to read too much into these things (but I will anyway) and say that this couple may have issues that extend beyond their ability to find matching chairs. Naturally, I hope I'm wrong.

Looking around, I wonder how all these couples found their way to their matching chairs. I'm betting there are as many stories as there are sets of chairs. I imagine most of these couples have one member with stronger opinions about folding chairs. In our marriage, Peter is that person. Peter will assure you that (unlike all the chairs of our neighboring concertgoers) our rather heavy folding chairs provide adequate back support, and Peter is all about a supported back. I'm happy with his selection. I'm just glad he didn't choose an uncomfortable little stool like that poor woman in front of me.

It delights me being surrounded by all these different sets of chairs filled with people eating tater tots. Peter suggested that, next week, we should bring matching cloth napkins. I think that might be a very nice touch.

Till next time,  
Carrie

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

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# ★ OBITUARIES

## STEVEN WADE KILGORE, 46

Steven Wade Kilgore, 46, of Crosby, Texas passed away on Saturday, August 14, 2021 in Houston, Texas. Steven was born October 28, 1974 in Channelview, Texas to parents Lincoln Eugene Kilgore and Linda Diane Grabow Kilgore. He is preceded in death by his father; his mother-in-law Selida Lorren; paternal grandparents, Robert Lee Kilgore and Lillian Faye Walker Kilgore; and maternal grandparents, Billie Eugen Powell and Melba C. Powell.

Steven was a lifelong resident of Crosby, Texas and member of First Baptist Church of Crosby. He was an exceptional, proud father of 10 year old triplets who he loved and adored dearly. Steven was a hard-working man and spent the last 25 years working for Covestro in



Baytown where he had many friends and was very close to his "work family". Outside of work Steven enjoyed being outdoors, doing yard work, mowing the grass, fishing, and grilling. Some of his other passions in life included playing the guitar, singing, and baseball. Steven will truly be missed by all who knew and loved him.

Steven is survived by his beloved wife, Jill Kilgore; his children, Noah John, Wyatt Wade, and Lillian Jane Kilgore; mother, Linda

Diane Kilgore; sister, Carol Kilgore Hearn and husband Blane; father-in-law, John Lorren and wife Margaret; brother-in-law, Daniel Lorren and wife Kaylee and their son Walt Lorren; nephew, Hunter Wade Hearn and wife Amanda; niece, Carlan Jade Hearn; along with numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and many close friends.

Funeral Services for Steven will take place 2PM, Saturday, August 21, 2021 at First Baptist Church of Crosby with Brother Kyle Chapman officiating. Interment will follow at Sterling-White Cemetery, Highlands, Texas.

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## JACK ROBERTS HENDERSON, 74

Jack Roberts Henderson, 74, of Highlands, Texas, passed away on Tuesday, August 17, 2021. He was born on January 25, 1947 in Corsicana, Texas to his parents, William Clinton Henderson and Susie Faye Russell Henderson. Jack retired from the Houston Fire Department and went onto starting a construction and concrete business with his brothers, William and Frank. He was a member of Sampson Masonic Lodge #231 and the Baytown Boat Club in Highlands. Jack was a daily grocery shopper and bought enough canned goods for everyone. He was known for his great cooking skills and often cooked for benefits and around the holidays. In his spare time liked fishing, carpentry, and working on projects at home that were never finished. Jack was a social man visiting with his friends and enjoying a good cold Miller Light. He will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Clinton and Susie Henderson; wife, Peggy Henderson; son, Keith



Reed; brothers, William Henderson II, and John Henderson; brother-in-law, Bobby Welborn; and nephews, Travis Henderson and Ron Daniels.

Jack is survived by his children, Jack Randal Henderson and wife Brandy, Justin Henderson and wife Liz, and Tracie Reed Barron and partner Mike Larpenner; brother, Frank Henderson and wife Marilyn; sisters, Buna Faye Welborn, and Dovie Sorenson and husband Jack; grandchildren, Kaiden Barron and partner Lexi Gore, Jackson Henderson and wife Sonora, Jacie Cervantes and husband Anthony, Bailey Guice and husband Dylan, Izabella Lamore, Reighan Hender-

son, Linleigh Henderson, and Caleb McKay; great-grandchildren, Riley Guice and Jocie Barron; and a host of extended family and friends.

Serving the family as pallbearers will be Bo Parrish, Charlie Ward, Pee Wee Farmer, Kaiden Barron, Anthony Cervantes, Josean Rowan, and Cody Brown; honorary pallbearers will be Butch Henderson, Ronnie Galloway, Ricky Welborn, Skimo Timmons, Jerry Taylor, and Jackson Henderson.

Visitation will be held Monday, August 23, 2021 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at Sterling White Funeral Home, 11011 Crosby Lynchburg Rd, Highlands, TX 77562. Funeral services will be held in the same location the following day, Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at 1:00pm. Burial to follow in Earthman Memory Gardens Cemetery.

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## Union Pacific No. 4014 Big Boy



Big Boy No. 4014

Twenty-five Big Boys were built exclusively for Union Pacific Railroad, the first of which was delivered in 1941. The locomotives were 132 feet long and weighed 1.2 million pounds. Because of their great length, the frames of the Big Boys were "hinged," or articulated, to allow them to negotiate curves. They had a 4-8-8-4 wheel arrangement, which meant they had four wheels on the leading set of "pilot" wheels which guided the

engine, eight drivers, another set of eight drivers, and four wheels following which supported the rear of the locomotive. The massive engines normally operated between Ogden, Utah, and Cheyenne, Wyo.

There are seven Big Boys on public display in various cities around the country. They can be found in St. Louis, Missouri; Dallas, Texas; Omaha, Nebraska; Denver, Colorado; Scranton, Pennsylvania; Green Bay, Wisconsin; and Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Big Boy No. 4014 was delivered to Union Pacific in December 1941. The locomotive was retired in December 1961, having traveled 1,031,205 miles in its 20 years in service. Union Pacific reacquired No. 4014 from the Rail-Giants Museum in Pomona, California, in 2013, and relocated it back to Cheyenne to begin a multi-year restoration process. It returned to service in May 2019 to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Transcontinental Railroad's Completion.



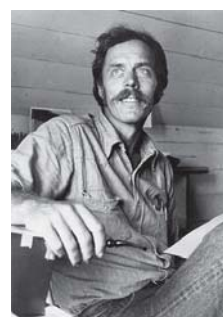
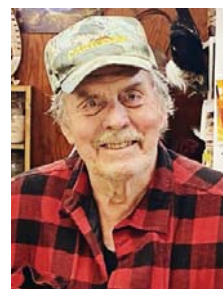
Photos by Jody Fuchs and Chris Wisdom

## BARRY WAYNE MCWILLIAMS, 79

Barry Wayne McWilliams passed away on August 14, 2021, at his home outside Whitehall, Montana. He was 79 years old.

Barry was born on February 17, 1942, in North Hollywood, California, to Leigh and Irene (Hewitt) McWilliams in a hospital with blackout curtains due to the fear of Japanese invasion of the west coast following Pearl Harbor. He spent his younger years in what he referred to as an "immigrant home," where three distinct families shared a small three-bedroom house with wall-to-wall mattresses. Throughout his life, he reminisced about that simpler time growing up on Carpenter Avenue with his beloved sister and cousins.

His love of literature led him to his first true profession, teaching English, but it was not to be his last. He trained horses in the mountains of Northern New Mexico, drove a Pepsi truck and later a talc truck, and ultimately found himself selling ads and shooting pictures for the Madisonian, a small weekly newspaper in Virginia City, Montana, where he realized his lifelong dream of being a cartoonist might actually happen. At first, began drawing his weekly editorial cartoon, J.P. Doodles, for the Madisonian, Ai for free. A few months later, he split a week's worth of firewood for his family, bought a week's worth of food, spent his last \$20 on gas, and headed out across Montana on a late-November night with packets of cartoons. The first paper to sign on was the Sanders County Ledger in Thompson Falls, Montana. Eventually, he cartooned from four continents for more than 1,500 newspapers and visited hundreds of elementary schools teaching kids to draw. He continued "tooning right up to the end, sending out his last Back-to-School cartoon on



the Thursday before he passed.

Barry was a character. Unique. Unlike anyone you've ever met. He was a born salesman and an incredible idealist. He was an adventurer who hitchhiked around Saudi Arabia during the first Gulf War to interview soldiers, joined a government trade mission to Asia, declared himself "shipwrecked" on Flinders Island off the southern coast of Australia, and helped mastermind America's biggest cattle drive in over a hundred years. He was a poet, an enigma, and a dreamer. He could walk into a restaurant and sit there for hours talking to complete strangers who quickly became friends. He had a tremendous love for animals, something his mother instilled in him at a young age that gave him purpose until the day he passed. His hearty laugh could fill a room, often followed by a subdued "oh, sh\*t." Sometimes, he was exasperating, but never intentionally; at his core,

he had the biggest heart and the best intentions. He was a brother, a cousin, an uncle, and a husband (a number of times). He was a father and Papa Bear who loved his kids and grandkids above all else, even when he struggled to show it. He didn't believe in boundaries or limits, only that they were a perception and something to overcome. He never seemed to be in a hurry except when he needed to get his cartoons out to the papers.

Barry was preceded in death by his parents Leigh and Irene McWilliams; his sister Maureen (Charles) Byrne and baby sister Cheryl McWilliams who died during infancy; his half-brother Leigh (Milly) McWilliams Jr. and half-sister Eleanor (Bob) Sowers; as well as numerous other relatives he kept in contact with on and off throughout the years. He is survived by his children, Colin (Cynthia) McWilliams, Summer (Michael) Marston, Ethan (Megan) McWilliams, and Noah (Jessica) McWilliams; his eight grandchildren, Kirby, Catherine, Amelia, River, Grant, Matilda, Garrett, and Charlotte; as well as the incredible ladies he married (not all at the same time) and mothers to his kids, Catharine (Courter) Dombrowske, Nancy (Smith) Tarnai, and Mary Ellen Doty.

A celebration of life will be held on Thursday, August 26, 2021, from 6:30-8:30 pm at the Whitehall Community Center, 11 N. Division Street, Whitehall MT 59759. The public is welcome.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to 4 Paws Rescue, PO Box 13, Cardwell MT 59721. Memories, anecdotes, etc. are encouraged and can be shared with his kids by emailing Barry@BarrysCartoons.com.

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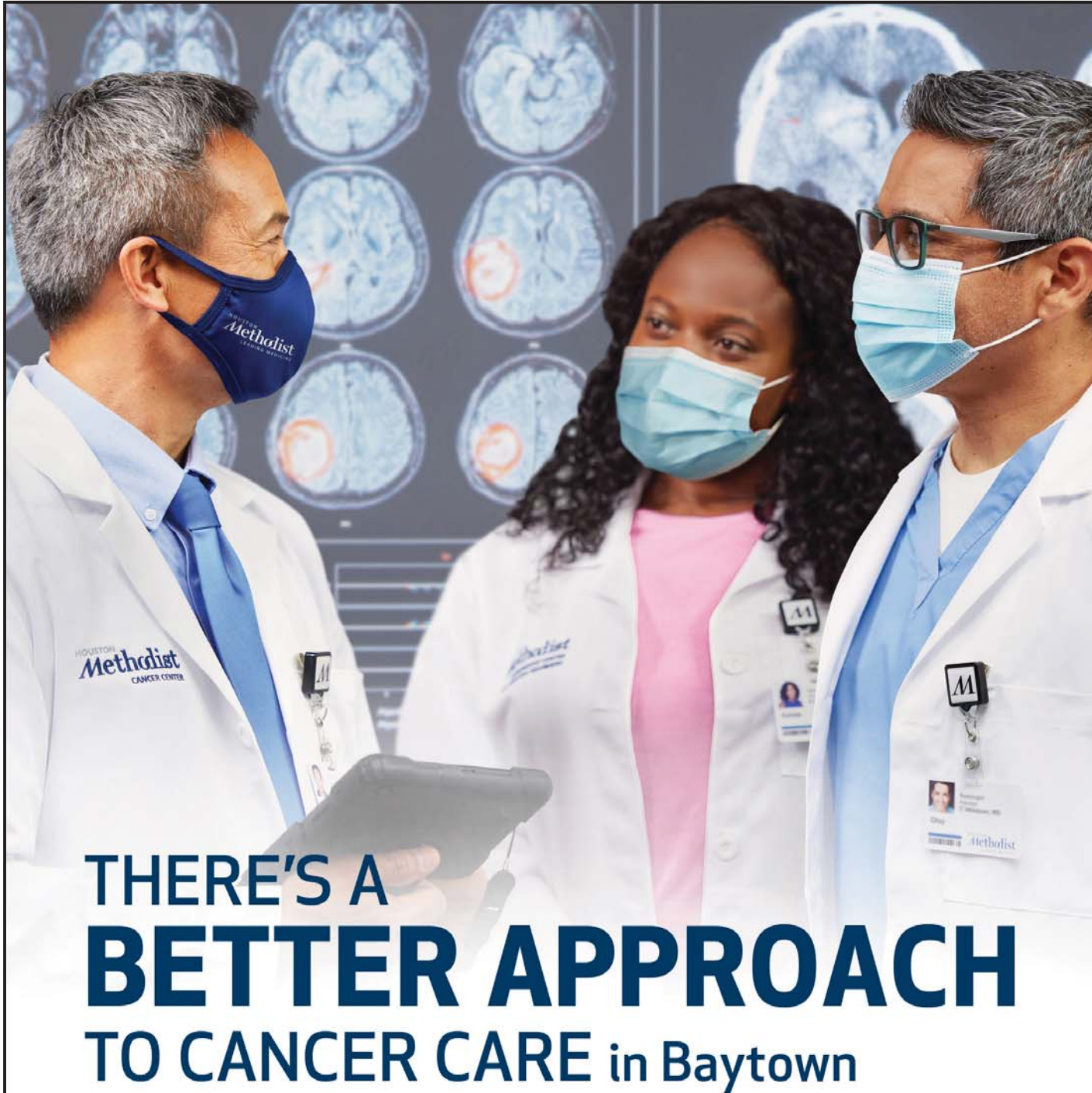
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### ON THE HILL

#### Chambers Libraries Return to Curbside Service Only

Beginning Monday, August 23, 2021 all Chambers County Library System Branches will return to curbside service only.

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

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

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

Printing and fax services will also be offered via curbside. Documents can be emailed to the library for printing and pickup. Email documents to: [analib@chamberstx.gov](mailto:analib@chamberstx.gov) (Anahuac), [wilib@chamberstx.gov](mailto:wilib@chamberstx.gov) (Winnie) and [mblib@chamberstx.gov](mailto:mblib@chamberstx.gov) (Mont Belvieu).

#### Chambers County Health info sources:

One of the biggest opponents in the battle against COVID-19 is the rampant misinformation that is being shared. Please make sure to double check the credibility of sources before reading or propagating information. Remember: in a situation like this, false information can literally be deadly. If you're unsure of the validity of data, feel free to reach out to Chambers County Public Health at 409-267-2731 or [healthdept@chamberstx.gov](mailto:healthdept@chamberstx.gov). Again, residents are implored to do their part to slow the spread of COVID-19 in Chambers County.

For reference, below are a few sources of reliable information:  
Chambers County Public Health 409-267-2731 [healthdept@chamberstx.gov](mailto:healthdept@chamberstx.gov) <https://www.co.chambers.tx.us/page/health.department> <https://www.facebook.com/cctxhealthdept/>  
The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention <https://www.cdc.gov/Texas/DepartmentofStateHealthServices> <https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/coronavirus/>

## COVID AFFECTS CHAMBERS COUNTY

### Commissioners Court Moves to Virtual Only Meetings

Beginning Tuesday, August 24, 2021, Chambers County Commissioners Court will return to virtual only meetings.

As the number of positive COVID-19 cases in Chambers County continues to rise, members of the Court believe that this move is an important step.

"We have asked all of you to use your best judgment and so we are doing the same," said Chambers County Judge Jimmy Sylvia. "With the high rate of COVID-19 transmission, returning to virtual meetings will ensure the health and safety of both



Chambers County employees and members of the public."

To retain transparency and enable public participation, meetings of the Court will continue to be

live streamed on the County's YouTube Channel. Visit the Chambers County website ([co.chambers.tx.us](http://co.chambers.tx.us)) to find the live stream link for each meeting.

Persons who wish to submit a public comment can do so by completing a Public Participation form on the Chambers County website. This form can be found at <https://www.co.chambers.tx.us/upload/page/0045/docs/ParticipationForm.pdf>.

"We know that this is inconvenient and we have enjoyed spending time with all of you face-to-face in Court," continued the Judge. "We will return to in-person meetings as soon as it is safe to do so."

Chambers County residents are encouraged to make good decisions re-

garding their health and safety pertaining to COVID-19. Wearing a face covering, frequent hand washing and practicing social distancing are all proven ways to slow the spread of COVID-19 in communities.

Chambers County Public Health continues to offer no-cost vaccines to the public and data shows that those who are vaccinated have a much higher rate of survival and much lower risk of severe complications or hospitalization due to COVID-19. To schedule your COVID-19 vaccine appointment, visit [bit.ly/chamberscovaccines](http://bit.ly/chamberscovaccines)

### Personal Responsibility urged as Positive COVID-19 Cases Increase in County

As the number of COVID-19 cases increases, Chambers County Judge Jimmy Sylvia, Chambers County Local Health Authority Dr. William Clay Brown, Chambers County Public Health Director Mary Beth Bess and Chambers County Emergency Services Director Ron Nichols urgently appeal to Chambers County residents to take personal responsibility for their own health and actions and take steps to slow the spread of COVID-19 in their communities.

The COVID-19 Pandemic is wreaking havoc on the local, regional and state healthcare system, restricting the level of and speed at which emergent care can be delivered. As of the issuance of this statement, the Chambers County EMS call volume has increased 73 percent over

this time last year and 67 percent of calls are to either COVID-19 positive or suspected positive patients.

Many regional hospitals have declared Internal Disasters or are unable to take patients due to lack of available beds or staff. Patients are spending an average of 96 hours in the Emergency Room before they are moved to a bed. Many are being treated in hallways and medics are being left with patients who are waiting to be admitted so that ambulances are able to return to service.

Several times over the past week Chambers County EMS, Winnie-Stowell Volunteer EMS and Mont Belvieu EMS have found themselves at either Level 1 or Level 0. This means that there was one or zero ambulances in

the County available to respond to emergency calls.

Because of this, hard decisions are having to be made regarding how emergency care is delivered. EMTs and other medically trained professionals are being stationed in the dispatch center to triage emergency calls and determine the appropriate level of response. Some patients are being encouraged to stay home if that is medically appropriate. If medics are unavailable, calls are being placed in a queue and responded to in order of severity.

Additionally, there has been an increase in the number of COVID-19-related deaths in Chambers County.

Since this surge in cases began on July 7, 2021, 15 Chambers County residents have lost their lives because of COVID-19.

None of this information is meant to scare you. This is all fact. Chambers County and regional healthcare providers are in a medical crisis, and this crisis will not just affect those who have COVID-19. As long as this persists, EMS response and hospital wait times will be extended. This means that if you have a heart attack, if you're in a major motor vehicle accident or if you have any other emergent healthcare need, the time it will take for help to reach you is going to be much greater than normal.

You have a choice. You have the opportunity to decide what is right for you and your family. But understand that every decision that you make impacts the people around you. If you were to contract COVID-19, your case may be minor. But what about

your family members? Your friends? Your coworkers?

Do they have an underlying health condition that you are unaware of?

Please take the appropriate health measures to keep yourself safe. Wash your hands, wear a face covering and practice social distancing. If you are sick, stay home.

COVID-19 vaccines are available in Chambers County at no cost and data shows that those who are vaccinated have a much higher rate of survival and much lower risk of severe complications and hospitalization due to COVID-19. Interested in getting your first, second or booster dose of the COVID-19 vaccine? Email [vaccine@chamberstx.gov](mailto:vaccine@chamberstx.gov) or call 409-267-2731.

#### Houston Methodist Baytown

## Avoiding Complications of High Risk Pregnancies

BAYTOWN — (August 5, 2021) — Having a healthy pregnancy is the top priority for expectant moms. Women who've learned they have a high-risk pregnancy, however, have many concerns and questions regarding their health and that of their baby.

A high-risk pregnancy means your doctor has identified a situation that puts you, your baby—or both of you—at a higher risk for complications during pregnancy or delivery.

Dr. Faith Ighoyivwi, an obstetrician-gynecologist with Houston Methodist Obstetrics and Gynecology Associates, explains some of the reasons why women may have a high-risk pregnancy.

Maternal age. Pregnant women ages 35 and older are at greater risk for problems during pregnancy.

Preexisting health conditions. "Conditions that can result in a high-risk pregnancy include diabetes, epilepsy, heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney disease, sexually transmitted infections or tuberculosis," Ighoyivwi said.



DR. FAITH IGHOYIVWI

Carrying twins or multiples. Risks increase for women who are expecting multiples.

Lifestyle-related risks. Women who smoke cigarettes or misuse drugs or alcohol are at greater risk for pregnancy complications.

Pregnancy-related health issues. "Gestational diabetes, high blood pressure or a history of miscarriage put you in the high-risk category," Ighoyivwi explained. Hyperemesis gravidarum, or extreme nausea and vomiting that continues beyond the first trimester, is another pregnancy-related condition. It can lead to dehydration and weight loss.

#### Prenatal Care Basics

Having a healthy pregnancy is a team effort with your health care providers, and you and your baby are the VIPs of the

team. Ighoyivwi suggests ways to help improve your chances of having a healthy pregnancy:

Go to regularly scheduled prenatal care visits. This helps your doctor watch for any problems that could affect you or your baby. If you have trouble going in for frequent visits, ask your doctor about virtual prenatal visits.

Make healthy choices to keep you and your baby safe. Get help to quit smoking or misusing alcohol or drugs.

See a maternal-fetal specialist. Your doctor may refer you to a maternal-fetal specialist. They are trained to care for women with high-risk pregnancies. They work with your doctors to provide the best possible outcomes for you and your unborn baby.

"You will be monitored with imaging and other tests. A fetal ultrasound can find problems with the baby's developing brain, heart or other organs," Ighoyivwi explained.

Routine urine tests watch for high levels of protein, which can indicate preeclampsia—a condition that causes high blood pressure during pregnancy. Blood tests can alert providers about gestational diabetes.

#### Warning Signs

Contact your health care provider right away if you experience any unusual signs or symptoms during your pregnancy, such as:

- Vaginal bleeding or fluid discharge
- Sudden, severe headaches
- Cramping or pains in the lower belly
- Blurred vision or feeling dizzy

- Burning or pain when you urinate
- Sudden swelling of the face, hands and feet
- Fever or chills
- Feeling sad or like life isn't worth living

The physicians with Houston Methodist Obstetrics and Gynecology Associates—Dr. Ighoyivwi and Dr. Paul Redman—provide comprehensive OB/GYN services, including routine prenatal care, and compassionate care for conditions such as pelvic pain, hormone replacement therapy, contraceptive care, robot-assisted surgical procedures and ovarian cysts.

The Houston Methodist Childbirth Center at Baytown offers state-of-the-art birthing suites and monitoring technology to help ensure you and your baby receive the best care possible during pregnancy, labor and delivery. Virtual tours are available by visiting [houstonmethodist.org/baytown](http://houstonmethodist.org/baytown) or calling 281.420.8626.

Houston Methodist Baytown takes every precaution to safeguard your safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. The hospital is designated as a vaccine hub, where vaccines are free and available to everyone age 16 and older. Walk-ins are welcome, but you may also schedule an appointment by visiting [houstonmethodist.org/vaccine](http://houstonmethodist.org/vaccine).