

HIGHLANDS CROSBY
Star ★ Courier

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VOL. 68, NO. 38 - 50¢ © Copyright 2021 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

★
IN THE STARS

EVENTS

THUR. SEP. 30
Last Day to get \$100 with your COVID shot

Thursday, September 30th is the last day Harris County is offering a \$100 cash card to residents receiving their first vaccine dose. If you've been procrastinating...don't put it off any longer and lose out on a \$100 cash card. Testing is free at HCPH sites. Appointments are not required, but are recommended because the number of people getting tested has been increasing, click here to find a site near you or call 832-927-7575.

POSTPONED
Crosby Chamber "Nite at the Races"

We will be combining our Annual Awards Banquet with our "Nite at the Races" The event will take place sometime in February, so please watch for dates We will also take Basket Donations for the Auction. Please call Chamber at 281-328-6984 or email us at chamber@crosbyhuffmancc.org for more information!

BIRTHDAYS

- Sep 30-Tammy Veach
- Oct 1-Krista Essen
Brian Fikes
Lauren Slovak
Venita Smith
- Oct 2-Reecie Bobalik
Jana Creel
Debbie Zadrapping
Taylor Woodall
- Oct 3-Besta Bouillion
Mellisa Owens
- Oct 4-Missy Kwapick
Shelia Townsend
- Oct 5-Willie Drew
- Oct 6-Ann Dunks
Marie Estrada
Kristina Curtis
Marley McKethan
- Oct 7-Alicia Engle
Anna Lois Mattingly
- Oct 8-Benjamin Abbott
Patricia Meiss
Jim Van Schuyver
Thomas R. Stanley

ANNIVERSARIES

- Oct 4-Wilky & Ann Carlisle
- Oct 5-J.C. & Olga Aylor
- Oct 6-Fred & Helen Dunks
Randy & Tammy Veach
- Oct 8-Robert H. & Patricia E. Sparks

Goose Creek opens new Junior School

Goose Creek CISD to Hold Dedication Ceremony Sept. 29 for new E.F. Green Junior High

Goose Creek CISD will host an invitation-only ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony for Edward Franklin "E.F." Green Junior School on Wednesday, September 29th at 6 p.m. The 192,000 square foot, two-story building, located at 5737 E. Wallisville Road, is home to 1,100 students.

The campus, which opened August 18, 2021, was built to alleviate overcrowding in the district's junior schools.

Green was the first Black educator to become a district-level administrator. Former principal at Carver High School, he served as deputy su-



EDWARD FRANKLIN "E.F." GREEN JUNIOR SCHOOL

perintendent for curriculum and guidance, retiring after 48 years in education.

This campus is one of several new facilities built by funds from the \$335 million bond, which was approved by GCCISD taxpayers in 2019. Pfluger Architects designed the facility and Pogue Construction was the general contractor.

Attendees will take part in a ribbon cutting followed by the dedication, which will include a cornerstone ceremony by the Goose Creek Masonic Lodge, Number 1192 and a student-led campus tour.

BATTLE OF HIGHWAY 90

Crosby Cougars defeat Dayton Broncos 52-21

FULL STORY ON PAGE 3



#14 K. Kirkwood receives a pass from Cougar QB Cyrin Miles to score 1 of his 3 touchdowns.



#5 T. Cooper carries an interception back to the goal line for another Touchdown.

Abbott announces 3rd Special Session, agenda



AUSTIN – Governor Abbott today issued a proclamation announcing that he will convene a third special legislative session at 10 a.m. on Monday, September 20, 2021. The proclamation identifies 5 agenda items for the third Special Session.

"The Texas Legislature now has the opportunity to redraw legislative and congressional districts in ac-

cordance with the new census numbers," said Governor Abbott. "In addition to redistricting, there are still issues remaining that are critical to building a stronger and brighter future for all Texans."

Agenda items for the third Special Session will include:

- Legislation relating to the apportionment of the State of Texas into districts used to elect members of the Texas House of Representatives, the Texas Senate, the State Board of Education, and the Unit-

Continued. See ABBOTT CALLS, p. 4

Crosby Superintendent selected for new leadership program

Crosby ISD will partner with The Holdsworth Center, an Austin-based nonprofit, to support our superintendent's leadership through a new 18-month program – the Holdsworth Superintendent Leadership Program.

Superintendent Paula Patterson will be part of the 18-month Superintendent Leadership Program, which is designed to support superintendents as they navigate unprecedented challenges at a critical point in their career – either in the first five years of their superintendency or new to a large district.

Superintendents in the cohort will attend learning sessions at the Campus on Lake Austin to dig into not only essential leadership skills, but content that addresses the unique challenges and opportunities of the superintendent role. They will also receive executive coaching from Holdsworth Superintendents-in-Residence, Dr. Art Cavazos and Dr. Thomas Randle, both recently retired superinten-



SUPERINTENDENT PAULA PATTERSON

ents who have earned the respect of their peers.

For this inaugural program, The Holdsworth Center will cover the costs of programming, thanks to the generosity of its founder and other philanthropic supporters. Founded by H-E-B Chairman Charles Butt in 2017, the center's mission is to improve the quality of public education by supporting and developing educational leaders.



TURNER CHEVROLET
Crosby, Texas
COMPLETE CARE
281-328-4377

AUTO & HOME INSURANCE
Jeremy Rosenkranz
State Farm Agent
440 S. Main Street, Highlands, TX 77562
281-426-3512
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FIRST-TIME Home Buyer MORTGAGE

- Free 45 day Rate Lock*
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- Flexible terms available

Community Resource CREDIT UNION
CRUCU.ORG/FIRSTHOME

*All loans subject to credit approval. **Under certain circumstances, private mortgage insurance (PMI) and an escrow account for taxes and insurance may be required. Other eligibility includes a credit score of 680 or greater, no bankruptcy in the previous 36 months, debt-to-income ratio not to exceed 43%, and loan-to-value ratio not to exceed 95%. Other credit and income qualifications will apply. Minimum loan amount of \$75,000. Investment properties and Jumbo Loans are not eligible for this offer. Verifiable employment required and time on job required of 1 year plus. Real estate professionals cannot be combined with any other offer. Certain other credit and income qualifications may apply. CRUCU reserves the right to cancel or change these promotions at any time. Please contact a representative for more details. CRUCU membership required.

 OPINIONHarris County Judge
Lina Hidalgo*This Trump-backed "audit" is a political ploy to undermine democracy*

Yesterday, former president Donald Trump asked Governor Abbott to investigate the 2020 election in Texas, and within hours, an investigation was announced.

It's clear that this is nothing more than a political ploy, and we cannot play politics with the integrity of our elections.

First, let me say we're incredibly proud of the 2020 Election in Harris County.

Between expanded hours of operations, 3 times the number of early voting locations, drive thru voting and more, Harris County ran one of the most accessible, secure elections in modern history. We saw record turnout from both parties, and I was proud of that.

This sensational announcement of an audit by the state is nothing more than a political ploy. This is part of a broader trend, where state leaders are trying to curry favor with the former president to control the extreme flank of their party.

Playing politics with the integrity of elections threatens our democracy. Every time you cry wolf, every time you yell fraud, every time you run a phony audit, you are tearing down our democracy brick by brick.

This irresponsible political trick doesn't deserve to be treated as a serious audit, so I will not be doing so. I'll be working to do everything in my power to stop this, secure trust in our system, and protect our elections. To help me keep defending our votes, chip in to our re-election campaign.

The 2020 election is over. The votes have been correctly and transparently counted. It's time to stop pandering, and to stop using taxpayer resources to undermine trust in our democracy.

And we'll keep working to make Harris County Elections the most accessible in the country.

 *Harris County Nurses need your Help*

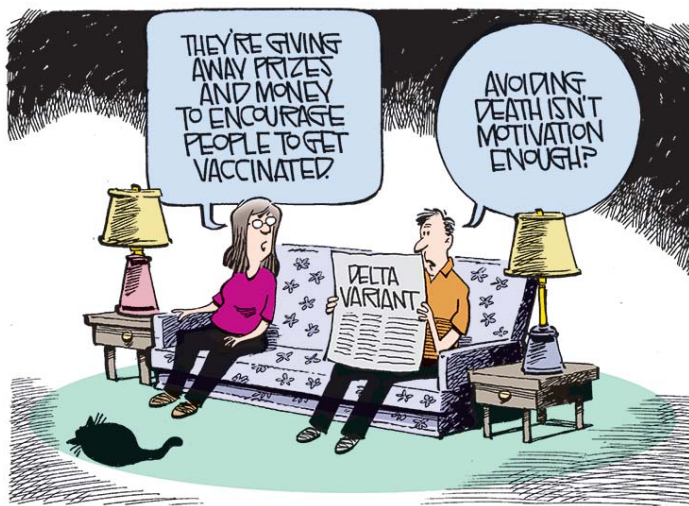
We are seeing some signs that we may be reaching a peak to this latest COVID-19 spike, but the raw number of cases and hospitalizations here in Harris County are still catastrophically high. And although our medical professionals are working nonstop to bring those numbers down, there is still a limited number of beds and staff to treat the surge of unvaccinated residents flooding our hospitals. Emergency rooms have had to close. Vital surgeries have had to be delayed. And people are dying when they shouldn't be. Harris County is home to the world's biggest and best medical center. This shouldn't happen anywhere in America, but especially not here.

While we are doing everything possible to support our nurses, they are physically and mentally drained. Since August 11th, Harris County hospitals have received 4 deployments of nurses. Around 1,300 nurses have been sent to Harris County to support the local effort and over 2,000 nurses have arrived in our region, including 622 nurses that Harris County recruited thanks to \$30 million Commissioner's Court approved last month to secure more help. But additional nurses alone won't stop the numbers we are seeing — we need the support of our entire community to make it through this and give our medical workers the level of relief they need and deserve.

So please, if you haven't already, get vaccinated. Until September 30, Harris County residents receive \$100 when they receive their first dose anywhere in Harris County. If you visit a Harris County Public Health site, you will receive a cash card there immediately following your vaccination. If you prefer to use another provider in Harris County, and you are a Harris County resident, you can also fill out our online form to receive \$100 once we verify your vaccination status — no insurance required. Visit ReadyHarris.org or call 832-927-8787 to sign up for an appointment with Harris County Public Health or to claim your \$100 if you got your vaccine at a non-Harris County Public Health provider.

But even if you don't want to do it for your health, or the cash, do it for our exhausted nurses and medical personnel. And if you have gotten vaccinated already, persuade those in your life who will listen to you to do the same.

The decision to get vaccinated impacts all of us — the next car accident or sudden, treatable illness that requires an ICU bed could happen to someone you know and love, and we need those beds open and ready.

 STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders

*Secretary of State announces election audits in 4 counties*

In a two-sentence press release, the secretary of state's office announced an audit of four Texas counties — Dallas, Harris, Tarrant and Collin — for the 2020 election.

The announcement came hours after former President Donald Trump called on Gov. Greg Abbott to add an election audit bill to the current special session of the Texas Legislature. Abbott has not responded thus far. A similar audit in Arizona's Maricopa County recently ended and concluded Biden won that state's most populous county, which provided him the winning margin there.

Trump won Texas by 5.6 percentage points in the 2020 election, although three of the four counties to be audited — Dallas, Tarrant and Harris — went for Biden. Officials from those counties told the Texas Tribune that "the development is an unnecessary partisan move aimed at sowing doubt in the results."

The position of secretary of state has been vacant since the end of May, when Ruth Hughs resigned after the Texas Senate declined to take up her nomination.

ABBOTT ADDS ITEMS TO THIRD SPECIAL SESSION

Abbott last week added two agenda items to the special legislative session which began Sept. 20. Legislators will consider additional property tax relief, as well as a constitutional amendment that would allow courts to deny bail to people accused of violent or sexual crimes.

The bail bill has failed in previous sessions. Because it would call for a constitutional amendment election, the bill requires two-thirds approval from both chambers to go forward.

In the current special session, legislators already are considering redrawing the state's political maps as required every decade. Also under consideration is legislation restricting participation by transgender students in school athletics, plus legislation outlining how to spend \$16 billion in federal COVID-19 pandemic funding.

Additionally, legislators are considering a bill that protects dogs from being chained without adequate shelter or space. Abbott vetoed a similar bill during the regular session.

SEARCH FIRM NAMED FOR ERCOT BOARD**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

The Public Utility Commission has hired Heidrick & Struggles to conduct a statewide search for eight new directors of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, whose board was decimated after the mid-February winter storm knocked out power across the state and nearly took down the electric grid, which ERCOT oversees. More than half of ERCOT's board, as well as its CEO, resigned after the storm.

The PUC oversees ERCOT. During the regular legislative session, Senate Bill 2 was passed. It established a selection committee to fill the vacant spots on ERCOT's board. The Legislature directed the committee to retain an outside consulting firm to select eight new directors "who are Texas residents with executive-level experience in any of the following professions: finance, business, engineering (including electrical engineering), trading, risk management, law, or electric market design," according to the press release.

MCCONAUGHEY MULLS BID FOR GOVERNOR

Actor Matthew McConaughey said in a podcast recently that he is "measuring" a bid to unseat Abbott in next year's governor's race, though he has not indicated if he would run as a Republican, Democrat or independent.

The Houston Chronicle reported the Oscar-winning actor made the comments on the "Set it Straight: Myths and Legends" podcast, which is hosted by a band called Midland.

A recent poll by The Dallas Morning News and the University of Texas at Tyler showed McConaughey leading Abbott by 9 percentage points. Former congressman and U.S. Senate candidate Beto O'Rourke is also considering a run.

TPWD LAUNCHES NEW HUNTING, FISHING**INITIATIVE**

A new campaign by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department aims to attract more Texans into the outdoors.

Hunters and anglers fund the bulk of the state's wildlife management programs through buying hunting and fishing licenses and through sales taxes paid on hunting and fishing equipment, boat fuel, firearms and ammunition.

The Texas Recruitment, Retention and Re-activation (R3) Plan hopes to connect more Texans to outdoor recreation in order to continue funding of conservation programs and "create a better-informed public with more interest in conserving wild things and wild places in Texas and beyond."


COVID-19 CASES DROP IN STATE, BUT DEATHS INCREASE

The number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas dropped again last week to 83,098, down 34% from the previous week. New deaths reported in the same time frame rose to 2,073, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University, up 15% from the previous week. At 280 deaths a day, the state has one of the nation's worst COVID-19 death rates, the Houston Chronicle reported. In the past month, more than 5,000 Texans have died of the virus.

Hospitalizations of lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients continue to drop, with 10,349 reported statewide by the Texas Department of State Health Services on Sunday. That's a decrease of 15.4% from the previous week. The number of staffed pediatric intensive-care unit beds continues to drop, however, with just 77 available statewide, according to DSHS.

The number of Texans who are fully vaccinated hit 14.72 million on Sunday, which is 50.5% of the state's population. The Chronicle reported last week that the reported rate of the country's four most populous states — New York, California, Florida and Texas.

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@texaspress.com.

 THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

Ginger Cookies

We were supposed to get the tile backsplash installed in our kitchen yesterday, but my husband, Peter, said he needed to use the kitchen so he could bake ginger cookies.

"Can you work in the bathroom today instead?" I asked Meshach, the talented tiler from Kenya, who has been here so long by now that he feels like part of the family. "Peter wants to bake ginger cookies."

Meshach has now been joined by a second Kenyan, who is assisting him, named Yusefu. Yusefu and Meshach looked at me seriously for a long moment.

"Yes," Meshach finally said. "We can work in the bathroom today as long as we each get a cookie."

This seemed like a reasonable accommodation.

Peter is using his mother's ginger cookie recipe that he has perfected through trial and error. He wears a chef's hat when he bakes, and he is very efficient. He made the cookies at Christmas in 2019 (which seems like such a long time ago now) when his sister, Lori, was so ill we weren't sure she would make it through the Christmas holidays. She lived through Christmas—and well beyond—and I like to think, in a small way, the ginger cookies helped.

Ginger cookies are good for your stomach when it is upset. They are not too sweet. They are easy to eat. They are wonderful with a glass of milk or a cup of tea. I don't think there is much in life that isn't made better by a ginger cookie, especially one fresh from the oven, small and dark and crisp, the way Peter's mother made them.

Ginger cookies were about all Lori could eat when the chemo made her nauseous, so Peter kept baking ginger cookies after the holidays were over. When the pandemic hit, he kept baking. I don't know how many cookies Peter brought to Lori. She couldn't eat many. There were days when she didn't eat much at all. But she kept eating ginger cookies when she was able to eat anything.

Peter kept baking them until shortly before she died, earlier this year.

This Sunday, we will have a memorial for Lori. Her cousins and remaining siblings and nieces and nephews and coworkers from past jobs and old friends from school will all be there. It will be outdoors in a park near where Peter's family settled when they came over from Norway. The weather is supposed to be fine. There will be a few stories told and a few tears shed. There will be a picnic and an interment of ashes in the graveyard where generations of Peter's family have been laid to rest. And there will be ginger cookies because Peter made a giant batch.

These cookies were comfort food for Lori, and perhaps they will help comfort us now that she is gone. They remind us of childhood and happy times and holidays spent with friends and family. They remind us that our lives are sweet and small, but that they can make a difference. This Sunday, we will all remember the ways in which Lori's life made a difference.

"Do you think there's enough?" Peter asked me, still in his chef's hat, looking at the enormous pile of tiny cookies.

"Yes," I told him. "I think there are enough." But I might not have been telling the truth.

The truth is that I'm not sure there can ever be enough ginger cookies. The truth is, we could all stand to have a few ginger cookies stashed away for when they are needed.

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

Barbers Hill Press

Dayton

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

VOL. 26, NO. 38 - 50¢

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

ON THE HILL

COVID-19 shots available in Chambers County

Chambers County Public Health will be offering several COVID-19 vaccine clinics in the coming weeks at no cost to the public. Please visit bit.ly/chamberscovaccines to register for an appointment. Appointments are required.

First, second, third and booster doses of vaccine will be available at each clinic.

For reference, please see the below distinction between booster and third doses:

- Third doses are available in the Moderna and Pfizer vaccine only for persons who are immunocompromised

- Booster doses are available only in the Pfizer vaccine and are recommended for:
 - o People aged 65 years and older
 - o Residents aged 18 years and older in long-term care settings
 - o People aged 50 to 64 years with underlying medical conditions

- Booster doses of the Pfizer vaccine are also available for:
 - o People aged 18 to 49 years with underlying medical conditions
 - o People aged 18 to 64 years with an increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission

If you have questions regarding vaccines or your eligibility, please call Chambers County Public Health at 409-267-2931 or email vaccines@chamberstx.gov.

Flu shots available in Chambers

Get your flu vaccine through Chambers County Public Health FOR \$15.

Vaccines are available throughout the County on the following schedule.

WINNIE
108 E Fear Rd/Winnie, TX
77665 409-267-2651

October 6, 2021: 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. | 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

October 20, 2021: 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

November 3, 2021: 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. | 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

November 17, 2021: 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

December 1, 2021: 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. | 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

December 15, 2021: 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

MONT BELVIEU
10616 Eagle Dr Mont Belvieu, TX 77580 409-267-2619

October 7, 2021: 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. | 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

October 21, 2021: 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

November 4, 2021: 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. | 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

November 18, 2021: 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

December 2, 2021: 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. | 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

December 16, 2021: 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

ANAHUAC
102 Airport Rd/Anahuac, TX 77514 409-267-2731

Vaccines available at the Anahuac location of Chambers County Public Health every week: Mondays 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. | 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Chambers County Public Health 102 Airport Rd | Anahuac, TX 77514 409-267-2731

Due to the high rate of COVID-19 transmission in Chambers County, patients and family members are strongly encouraged to social distance, wear face coverings and follow other safety measures.

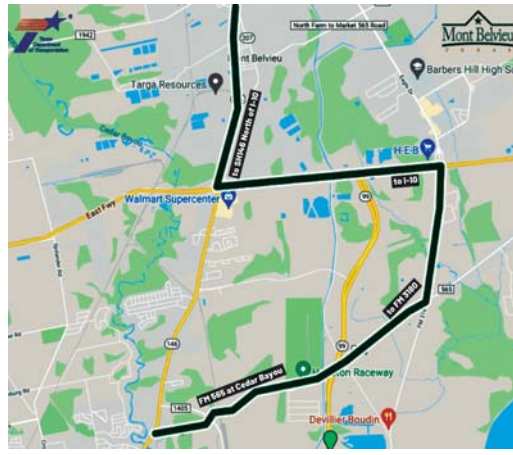
Oversized loads to traverse local roads

Possible traffic problems for 6 nights

CHAMBERS COUNTY — Two (2) oversized heavy transports will be making their way from SH 146 at Cedar Bayou (via FM 565, FM 3180, and I-10) to SH 146 north of I-10 late Tuesday and Wednesday evenings on September 28 and 29, and into early Thursday, September 30.

These will be followed by another load taking the same route late Friday and Saturday evenings October 1 and 2, and into early Sunday, October 3.

The haul will begin at 8:00 p.m. the first night (September 28 and October 1) and is expected to last into the morning hours. The haul will park in the construction zone behind the barrels of FM 3180 between IH 10 and Hackberry Bayou until continuing the haul beginning at 8:00 p.m. the second night (September 29 and October 2). The haul will proceed to the FM 3180 interchange at I-10 by 10:00 p.m. At that time I-10 will be closed in the vicinity as the haul proceeds onto and across I-10 main lanes to SH 146. The haul will continue on SH 146 to its final destination on FM 1942.



ROUTE MAP: From Cedar Bayou to FM1942 in Mont Belvieu

EXPECTED ROAD CLOSURES

—The SH 146 and FM 565 intersection will be temporarily closed for one hour on the first night (September 28 and October 1) as the transport passes.

—On the second night (September 29 and October 2), the FM 3180 interchange will be temporarily closed for one hour.

—During the I-10 segment of the move, traffic will continue on I-10 frontage roads and may experience delays.

—Other roadways and intersections will be closed as the transport is passing, but will reopen after it passes.



Crosby Cougars overpower Dayton 52-21

CROSBY — In the annual Battle of Highway 90, the Crosby Cougars overpowered the Dayton Broncos team by a final score of 52-21 last Friday night, Sept. 24 at Cougar Stadium. An indication of the intensity of play by the Cougars was the fact that at half-time they led 49-0.

For the Broncos, QB Blayne Denton completed 22 of 36 passes, for a gain of 230 yards. In the running game, H. Campbell

carried 5 times, for a total yardage of 103, or average 20 yards per carry. Touchdowns by receivers included D. Washington, A. Garner, and I. Ramirez. Dayton Broncos had a total gain of 332 yards, in-

cluding 192 passing and 140 rushing.

For the Cougars, QB Cyrin Myles was awarded Offensive player of the game, and Braden Womack special teams player of

the game. Myles has 7 for 7 passes, for a total gain of 252 yards. The Cougars had 394 total yards gained, with 314 passing yards and 80 rushing yards.



#18 H. Campbell carries the ball for a 44 yard run. This is 1 of 5 carries for Campbell, who had a total of 103 yards.



#16 I. Ramirez scores on a pass reception from QB Blayne Denton.

Houston Methodist Baytown

Advanced Treatment of Varicose Veins

BAYTOWN — (September 13, 2021) — Varicose veins aren't just unsightly; they can cause persistent, aching pain and discomfort that can make performing daily tasks, such as standing or walking upstairs, very difficult.

Left untreated, varicose veins may worsen over time and cause extreme pain, fatigue and skin changes, such as rashes, redness and sores. Severe varicose veins can lead to an increased risk of developing deep vein thrombosis (DVT), a serious condition requiring immediate medical attention.

"There is help available for patients seeking relief from throbbing or cramping in the legs, disrupted sleep due to pain or discolored skin," said Dr. Jacobo Nurko, vascular surgeon at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital.

Dark blue and located near or above the surface of the skin, varicose veins often appear on the back of the calf or inside the leg, but can form anywhere

from the groin to the ankle. The American Society of Vascular Surgery estimates that as many as 40 million Americans, including 25 percent of women and 15 percent of men, suffer from varicose veins.

Numerous treatments are available for small varicose veins and spider veins—smaller and more common than varicose veins—that can bring relief from the pain and stigma associated with visible vein problems.

Mild to moderate varicose veins may simply require elevating the legs above the level of the heart three to four times a day for about 15 minutes at a time, which helps reduce swelling and relieve other symptoms.

For smaller, less severe varicose veins, wearing compression stockings, elastic stockings that squeeze the veins and stop excess blood from flowing backward through the vein, may be prescribed. Some patients are required to wear the stockings dai-



DR. JACOBO NURKO

ly for the rest of their lives but, in many cases, they may be all that's needed to relieve the pain and swelling and prevent future problems.

Some patients may be required to undergo a sclerotherapy procedure, in which the veins are injected with a solution that closes them and allows them to fade.

For larger veins, venous ablation may be needed. This minimally invasive treatment calls for the vein to be collapsed by light or radiofrequency application rather than the traditional approach of vein strip-

ping. Microphlebectomy, a procedure in which small incisions are used to remove bulging veins, is also used to treat larger veins.

Nurko said researchers have uncovered several primary risk factors that may lead to the development of varicose veins, including having a family history of them, being overweight, smoking, leading a sedentary lifestyle and occupations that require extensive periods of standing or sitting.

Women are more likely than men to develop varicose veins, especially those between the ages of 30 and 70. Pregnant women have an increased risk of developing them as well, but in many women, the veins return to normal about one year after childbirth.

Even if the development of varicose veins is not accompanied by significant pain or swelling, Nurko recommends having them evaluated by a physician.

"Varicose veins may also indicate that an individual is at higher risk of

other disorders of the circulatory system," Nurko said.

In addition to varicose vein treatments, Nurko provides a full range of vascular care, including wound care, peripheral vascular disease surgery and procedures to treat aortic aneurysms. To schedule an appointment, visit houstonmethodist.org/baytown or call 832-556-6625.

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 12 and older. Houston Methodist is currently offering third doses of the fully FDA-approved Pfizer vaccine to patients 12 and older who are immunocompromised and received their second Pfizer dose at least 28 days ago. To register and for information, visit houstonmethodist.org/vaccine.



Brady returns to NE on Sunday Night Football: Texans face tough road game at Buffalo

The prodigal son returns to New England in prime time on Sunday Night Football. The son is former Patriots quarterback Tom Brady, who left New England two years ago and moved to Tampa, where he led the Buccaneers to a Super Bowl victory in his first year and has the Bucs rolling to start the 2021 season.

It will be interesting to see how welcoming Patriot fans will be when Tom Terrific returns wearing a new uniform. You'd think NE fans would welcome him and former tight end Rob Gronkowski with open arms, after all, Brady did win them six Lombardi Trophies while serving as Bill Belichick's quarterback.

But this is the Boston area and those fans can be brutal. I have a feeling Belichick will set the tone. If he speaks kindly of Brady, and why wouldn't he, I imagine his attitude will filter down to the fan base. Don't be surprised if owner Robert Kraft honors Brady with a video tribute prior to the game.

While a lot of focus will be on the TB-NE game, there are a number of other interesting matchups in Week 4 as well.

The Texans face a tough road test when they travel to Buffalo and could be without starting quarterback Tyrod Taylor, who suffered a hamstring injury two weeks ago in the Texans' 31-21 loss at Cleveland. Rookie Davis Mills will be the man under center and he will face a hostile Buffalo crowd, as well as a pretty good Bills defense.

The Cowboys, who picked up a big road win two weeks ago against the Chargers, host Carolina, which won its first two games of the year behind a solid defense.

Arizona visits the Los Angeles Rams in an early-season NFC West showdown, while Seattle and San Francisco also meet in another NFC West contest.

The Steelers visit Green Bay as two of the league's older QB, Ben Roethlisberger and GB's Aaron Rodgers go up against one another.

In college action, Texas travels to Fort Worth to face TCU in a key Big 12 contest, while the high-scoring Mississippi Rebels visit Alabama in SEC play. In another key SEC contest, No. 16 Arkansas visits No. 2-ranked Georgia.

Before we take a look at those games, let's review last week's record. An 8-4 week brought the season record to 22-14 (61%).

Now, onto this weekend's game.

NCAA

Arkansas at Georgia: The Razorbacks have been one of the surprise teams this year winning their first three games, including a 40-21 pasting of Texas. Sam Pittman's team takes a huge step up this week when they visit Athens, GA to take on the No. 2-ranked Bulldogs. The Hogs strong rushing game will get tested by a Georgia defense that allowed 23 points in their first three games. The Hogs will need a big game from quarterback KJ Jefferson (632 passing yards, 4 TDs/180 rushing yards, 2 TDs) and

running back Treylon Smith (216 yards, 3 TDs) if they hope to spring the upset. The Bulldogs are balanced on offense led by quarterback J.T. Daniels (438 yards, 2 TDs) and running back Zamir White (159 yards, 1 TD) and Kendall Milton (119 yards).

Look for Arkansas to give the 'Dawgs a game, but the Georgia defense will be the difference maker late in this one. My pick, Georgia 32, Arkansas 17

Texas at TCU: The Longhorns visit TCU on Saturday hoping new head coach Steve Sarkisian has better luck against Gary Patterson's Horned Frogs than his predecessors have. In their last nine meetings, TCU has won seven of the nine meetings. That can't make UT fans happy. Two weeks ago, Texas routed Rice 58-0 as running back Bijan Robinson (299 yards, 5 TDs) rushed for 123 yards and three TDs. Quarterback Casey Thompson (263 passing yards, 3 TDs) got his first start and was efficient with 164 yards and two scores. TCU is led by quarterback Max Duggan (441 passing yards, 4 TDs) and running back Zach Evens (217 yards, 2 TDs). If Texas gets caught looking ahead to next week's opponent, Oklahoma, it could turn into a long day in Fort Worth for Sarkisian's team. Something tells me after the Arkansas debacle, the 'Horns will be much more focused from here on out. My pick, Texas 33, TCU 28

NFL

Carolina at Dallas: The Panthers make their second straight trip to the Lone Star State when they take on the Cowboys on Sunday at AT&T Stadium. Two weeks ago, Carolina played at Houston and this week they face a Dallas team that picked up a big road win two weeks ago against the Chargers in Los Angeles. The defense made plays all day, but it was the running game that won it for the Cowboys. Dallas unleashed its two-headed running attack of Tony Pollard (123 yards, 1 TD) and Ezekiel Elliott (104 yards, 1 TD), which opened things up for quarterback Dak Prescott (640 yards, 3 TDs) and wide receivers CeeDee Lamb (15 receptions, 185 yards, 1 TD) and Amari Cooper (16 receptions, 163 yards, 2 TDs). The Dallas defense will need to contain Panther running back Christian McCaffrey (170 yards, 1 TD), who looks fully recovered after missing a majority of last year with a number of injuries. New QB Sam Darnold (584 yards, 3 TDs) and wide receiver D.J. Moore (14 receptions, 159 yards, 1 TD) can also cause problems. My pick, Dallas 31, Carolina 28

Houston at Buffalo: The Texans hit the road for Buffalo and will turn the offense over to rookie quarterback Davis Mills (102 yards, 1 TD against Cleveland) to face a Buffalo team that embarrassed Miami 35-0 two weeks ago on the road. The Texans have played hard in their first two games, but injuries are starting to mount up. Bills QB Josh Allen (449 yards, 3 TDs) should have a big day throwing to wide receiver Stefon Diggs (13 receptions, 129 yards, 1 TD)

and other Buffalo wide receivers, and the Bills might have found a running game led by Devin Singletary (154 yards, 1 TD). This could turn into a long day in Western New York for the Texans. My pick, Buffalo 33, Houston 17

Arizona at Los Angeles Rams: The Cardinals and Rams meet in an early season NFC West showdown in what should be a fun game to watch. Two of the hottest QBs in the league will do battle as Arizona's Kyler Murray (689 yards, 7 TDs/2 rushing TDs) and Matthew Stafford (599 yards, 5 TDs) look to light up the SoFi Stadium scoreboard. Both teams have a plethora of weapons on offense. Arizona is led by its receivers, DeAndre Hopkins (10 receptions, 137 yards, 3 TDs) and rookie sensation Rondale Moore (11 receptions, 182 yards, 1 TD), while Rams WR Cooper Kupp (16 receptions, 271 yards, 3 TDs) has gotten off to an explosive start. The key to this game will be who plays the better defense, and the Rams have one of the top defensive units in the game. Look for Aaron Donald and Co. to harass Murray all afternoon and be the difference maker in this one. My pick, Los Angeles Rams 26, Arizona 20

Pittsburgh at Green Bay: Old timers Ben Roethlisberger (483 yards, 2 TDs) and Aaron Rodgers (255 yards, 4 TDs in last Monday's 35-17 win over Detroit) go at it on Sunday at Lambeau Field. The Steelers opened the season with a nice road win at Buffalo, while the Saints trounced the Packers. The two teams flipped the script in Week 2 as the Steelers lost at home to the Raiders, while the Packers got back on track with a Monday Night Football route of the Lions. GB running back Aaron Jones had a big night with four touchdowns. Look for the Packers to get on a roll as Rodgers begins to play as he did last year when he won his third MVP award. My pick, Green Bay 30, Pittsburgh 26

Tampa Bay at New England: Brady returns to New England on Sunday Night Football with a loaded offense and one of the league's top defenses, while the Patriots will rely on rookie QB Mac Jones (467 yards, 1 TD), running back Damien Harris (162 yards, 1 TD) and a very solid defense (NE had four interceptions in their 25-6 win over the Jets two weeks ago). We will see just how good the NE defense is when it faces Brady (655 yards, 9 TDs), wide receivers Chris Godwin (13 receptions, 167 yards, 1 TD), Mike Evans (8 receptions, 99 yards, 2 TD) and Gronk (12 receptions, 129 yards, 4 TDs). If any coach can slow down a good offense, it's Belichick and it helps that Belichick knows what makes Brady tick. I mean, the two only worked together for 20 years in New England. I think the Patriots give Brady fits on Sunday night, but the TB defense will do the same to the rookie Jones. Brady gets the last laugh, as he's the difference maker in this one. My pick, Tampa Bay 32, New England 23



View of the Exterior of the Clinic, with Staff

Kelsey-Seybold opens 26th Clinic in East Harris County area

New clinic expands access to coordinated, evidence-based care for residents living near the ship channel

HOUSTON (Aug. 23, 2021) – Today, Kelsey-Seybold Clinic opens its 26th location in The Shops at Stone Park in the North Channel area. Kelsey-Seybold Clinic – North Channel, a 7,500-square-foot clinic, brings comprehensive care closer to area residents and their families and is one of six new clinics opening in 2021. The Kelsey-Seybold Clinic – North Channel opening follows two openings earlier this year at Memorial City and Lake Jackson.

Kelsey-Seybold Clinic – North Channel is located on the east side of Beltway 8 and Wallisville Road at 5820 E. Sam Houston Parkway N., Houston TX 77049.

"At Kelsey-Seybold, one of our goals is to find ways to make access to care more convenient for our patients. The new North Channel clinic helps bridge a gap for patients who live in this area but have had to travel to other clinic locations to receive care," said Adam Mitchell, M.D., managing physician, North Channel clinic. "We are so excited to welcome new and current patients



Two of the main doctors onsite: left: John Ruelas, MD, Family Medicine- right- Adam Mitchell, MD, Internal Medicine, Managing Physician

to this convenient location and look forward to taking care of them for years to come."

The new North Channel clinic will continue Kelsey-Seybold's expansion of coordinated, evidence-based care in the ship channel area, which is currently underserved and has limited options for primary care. Patients age five and older will have immediate access to two primary care providers. The clinic has room for up to four providers and has an on-site laboratory and X-ray, plus access to an extensive network of specialists throughout the Kelsey Seybold Clinic system including nearby Summer Creek and Pasadena clinics.

"When we build a Kelsey-Seybold Clinic location in a new community, it takes very little time for patients to decide that our model of coordinated care is what they want for themselves and their family members," said Jacqueline Baker, clinic administrator at North Channel clinic. "We're so excited to establish our practice in this community and look forward to greeting new and current patients to our beautiful, new clinic."

The new North Channel location was designed by architects at Powers Brown Architecture. United Constructors was the general contractor.

Abbott calls 3rd Special Session,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ed States House of Representatives.

- Legislation providing appropriations from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), Pub. L. No. 117-2.

- Legislation identical to Senate Bill 29 as passed by the Texas Senate in the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, disallowing a student from competing in University Interscholastic League athletic competitions designated for the sex opposite to the student's sex at birth.

- Legislation regarding whether any state or local governmental entities in Texas can mandate that an individual receive a COVID-19 vaccine and, if so, what exemptions should apply to such mandate.
- Legislation similar to

Senate Bill 474 as passed by the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, but that addresses the concerns expressed in the governor's veto statement.

Governor Abbott Announces Additional Items For 3rd Special Session

AUSTIN – Governor Greg Abbott today submitted a message to the Secretary of the Senate identifying two additional agenda items for the Third Special Session that began Monday, September 20.

"These two additional agenda items are crucial to improving the quality of life for all Texans," said

Governor Abbott. "I look forward to working with my partners in the Legislature to pass these additional items that will lower property taxes and keep Texans safe."

Additional agenda items for the Third Special Session include:

- Legislation providing additional property-tax relief for Texans.

- Legislation proposing a constitutional amendment to further protect the safety of the community, law enforcement, and victims, from accused criminals who may be released on bail, including by giving magistrates the discretion to deny bail under some circumstances to people accused of certain violent, sexual, or trafficking offenses.

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WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE

The HARRIS COUNTY W.C.I.D. #84 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on October 12, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. at 15900 Bear Bayou Drive, Channelview, TX, a location open to the public, and via teleconference at 1-346-248-7789. Meeting ID: 936 8707 3864. Passcode: 530881.

Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal: Tomas Fernandez, Hugo Arriaga, Allen Hall, and Bud Mills
AGAINST the proposal: None
PRESENT and not voting: None
ABSENT: Curtis Seale

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$.58000/\$100	\$.50000/\$100
	<small>Adopted</small>	<small>Proposed</small>
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$.08000/\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-13.79%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 178,038	\$ 192,004
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 178,038	\$ 192,004
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 1,032.62	\$ 960.02
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	\$ -72.60	-7.03%

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Bob Leared Interests 713-932-9011

BARBERS HILL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 9600 Eagle Drive, Mont Belvieu, TX 77523

www.BHISD.net

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE – RFP #22-003

The Barbers Hill Independent School District is accepting proposals for:

Network Copier Sales and Service

RFP# 22-003 Network Copier Sales and Service

Barbers Hill ISD intends to award a contract to a vendor for **Network Copier Sales and Service**. Based on previous expenditures, Barbers Hill ISD anticipates purchases to be in excess of \$50,000 in a one-year aggregate.

Barbers Hill ISD is requesting a single award proposal for Network Copier Sales and Service. **PRICING IN RESPONSE TO THIS REQUEST MUST BE FROM EXISTING COOPERATIVE OR STATE CONTRACTS.** Texas Education Agency, Financial Accountability System Resource Guide section 3 Purchasing, 3.2.3.2 Competitive Sealed Proposals / Request for Proposals states that school districts may open the proposal upon receipt and begin the negotiation for the offered goods/services. Proposal responses will be accepted on a continual basis until 2:00 pm, October 22, 2021.

Specifications can be obtained at the District website. Please direct all proposal questions to Amy Presley, Purchasing Coordinator, (281) 576-2221 ext. 1268.

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**WATER DISTRICT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE**

The HARRIS COUNTY W.C.I.D. #36 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on **October 12, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.** at 903 Hollywood Street, Houston, TX 77015. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal: Ronald S. Holder, Gerardo Parra, Maria E. Koukoulakis, Eddie Cantu

AGAINST the proposal: None

PRESENT and not voting: None

ABSENT: Felix "Sonny" Eddy, Jr.

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
	Adopted	Proposed
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$.29800/\$100	\$.28590/\$100
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$.01210/\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-4.06%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 77,925	\$ 84,053
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 15,585	\$ 16,811
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 62,340	\$ 67,242
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 185.77	\$ 192.24
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$ 6.47 3.48%

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Bob Leared Interests 713-932-9011

**News of
GOOSE CREEK ISD**

New Early Learning Academy groundbreaking



The rain couldn't stop the groundbreaking celebration for the district's Early Learning Academy, which was held on August 13th. The new facility, set to open within the next few years, will house the district's tiniest learners. Each room in the state-of-the-art building is designed to inspire and engage the minds of the district's 3-4 year old students. Adrienne Tesar, principal of the Academy, is working diligently with her staff as they prepare for the exciting future that lies ahead. The students that enter the program will not only be prepared for kindergarten, but they will also be exposed to technology, the arts, science and more. "The staff of ELA is following the lead of our Superintendent by preparing ourselves to teach our students using experiential learning," Tesar said. "I am truly honored to lead and work alongside this amazing group of teachers for what I know will be a groundbreaking program for our students and our community."

Photos by Carrie Pryor-Newman

District Breaks Ground on New Robotics Center



The district held the groundbreaking ceremony on August 13th for the new Robotics Center to a crowd of eager district administrators and excited community leaders. The building, which is set to open within the next two years, is nestled directly across the street from the Stuart Career Technical High School. Goose Creek has had a successful Robotics program spread out amongst several campuses for many years. The creation of the Robotics Center will ensure that students who are interested in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) field will have a place to call home. These students will be the world's next inventors, scientists, doctors, and educators. Renea Dillon, Director of CTE, stated, "Our students are changing the world and this new facility will ensure that they, the district, and the community will continue to be successful for many years to come."