

HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

Star Courier

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2022

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

IN THE STARS

EVENTS

SAT. JAN. 22 Crosby Library celebrates 100th Birthday

The Harris County Library system is celebrating its 100th Birthday, and joining in is the Crosby Branch Library.

Molly McGinty, Manager of the Crosby Edith Fae Cook Cole Branch Library is inviting the public to the Celebration, from 11:00am to 1:00pm, with lots of Family Fun. 135 Hare Road, Crosby.

SAT. FEB. 5 47th Annual Highlands Rotary CHILI FEAST

The Highlands Rotary Club is holding their 47th Annual CHILI FEAST, at St. Jude's Catholic Church social hall, 808 S. Main Street, Highlands. 11am to 3pm, with a Live Auction at Noon to 3pm. Raffle Tickets are \$100, Meal Tickets \$10 and the winner will receive a new 2022 SUV Chevy Trailblazer or Chevy Equinox. There are also other valuable prizes. Tickets from any Rotarian, or call 281-426-33558. Tickets also available from Turner Chevrolet, Central Auto Inspections.

THU. FEB. 24 C/H Chamber Nite at the Races

5:00pm-9:30pm
The Hundred Oaks
Event Center
1110 Indian Shores Rd
Crosby, Texas 77532

BIRTHDAYS

Jan 21--Ted Bloom
James Mills, Sr.
Debra Shields
Jan 22--Linda Craig
Vernon Hassell
Richard McKinney
Reynaldo Perez
Kristi Simmons
Kathy Zadrava Stuart
James Walker
Beth Wotipka
Sara Rupp
Jan 23--Tiffany Kirkwood
Brad Loggins
Jan 25--Jeffrey Langham
Jan 26--Ida Mueller
Charles Johnson
Jan 27--Ashley Almanza
JoAnn Blaskey
William R. Patterson
Tyler Wingate
Jarret Cutbirth
John Martin

ANNIVERSARIES

Jan 15--Lee Roy &
Lydia Moore
Jan 25--Jim & Ronda
Laut
Feb 11--Keith & Becky
Adams
Howard & Patricia
Brockinton

HIGHLANDS VFD ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

HOTCHKISS IS HIGHLANDS FIREFIGHTER OF YEAR

HIGHLANDS— The fire department held their annual Recognition and Awards Banquet last Saturday evening, at the Monument Inn. A crowd of about 85 attended, with safe practices observed due to the COVID pandemic. Fire Chief Harvey Little served as the emcee for the evening's events.

ESD#14 president Jim Strouhal presented the Firefighter of the Year award to Ryan Hotchkiss.

This award is given in memory of Cecil Kelly, who volunteered with the Highlands VFD for over 42 years before retiring in 1996. The recipient chosen by vote of the membership is a firefighter



Ryan Hotchkiss receives the Firefighter of the Year award from Jim Strouhal of ESD#14.

who performed above and beyond the call of duty.

A large crowd of firemen and families, friends, com-

munity supporters, and board members attended the dinner. Fire Chief Harvey Little introduced

awards, guests, and honorees.

Chief Little reviewed the history of the department for 2021. In almost every category, the department answered more calls than in the previous year 2020.

Chief Little noted that there were a total of 3154 calls for service, compared with last year's 2670. Of these 2388 were EMS calls compared with 1976 the previous year. Life Flight was called 38 times, compared with 24 last year. There were 857 calls for fire responses, compared with 694 in 2020, a significant increase. The department responded to 181 Motor Vehicle Accidents in 2021,

compared to 161 the previous year.

Chief Little reported on accomplishments in the last year. The department started a daytime Paid Fire Crew seven days a week, in August 2021. The department also purchased a 16 ft. Inflatable Rescue One boat with a 40hp Mercury motor, for use in high water rescues in neighborhoods.

In fiscal matters, the department paid off Tanker 27 one year early, and Station 27 five years early thanks to ESD#14.

Using HVFD equipment, the department

Continued. See Highlands VFD, Page 5

Crosby Superintendent's message to the community

Hello East Harris County and Crosby ISD families,

The Spring semester has started with some incredible achievements by our art students and staff. As your Superintendent, let me say what an honor it is to share these accomplishments with our Crosby and Barrett Station communities.

First, let me congratulate our art students, from elementary to high school, for being among the best artists as judged by the Houston Livestock Show

and Rodeo School Art Contest. In all, Crosby ISD had 35 students place as finalists in the contest. Seven students won a Best of Show or Gold Medal, and they will have their artwork displayed at the Hayloft Gallery at the Rodeo from February 28th – March 20th. What an honor for these students to have potentially millions of people see their artwork.

• Elementary school winners: fourth grader

Continued. See Crosby Superintendent, Page 5



SUPERINTENDENT
PAULA PATTERSON

RODEO ART WINNERS

ART WILL BE DISPLAYED AT THE HAYLOFT GALLERY AT THE HOUSTON RODEO FROM FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 20

Road worker killed on US90 Rotary Chili Feast Feb 5



CROSBY, Texas (KTRK) — A man died when he was hit by an 18-wheel truck on the Crosby Freeway in northeast Harris County on Thursday, January 13. According to Sheriff Ed Gonzalez, the crash happened in the area of U.S. 90 and FM-2100 just east of Crosby. "An adult male pedestrian, struck by an 18-wheeler, has been pronounced deceased at the scene," a tweet by Gonzalez read.

Authorities later confirmed the victim was part of a debris cleanup work crew in the area. U.S. 90 was closed just east of FM-2100. The highway remained closed for several hours during the investigation. In the photo above, the big rig is stopped on the side of the road.



MISS HIGHLANDS HALEY MAXEY, AND JR. MISS AUBREY BIRD WILL PULL THE WINNING TICKETS. YOU COULD WIN A CAR.

The Highlands Rotary Club is holding their 47th Annual CHILI FEAST, at St. Jude's Catholic Church social hall, 808 S. Main Street, Highlands. 11am to 3pm, with a Live Auction at Noon to 3pm.

Raffle Tickets are \$100, Meal Tickets \$10 and the winner will receive a new 2022 SUV Chevy Trailblazer or Chevy Equinox. There are also other valuable prizes. Tickets from any Rotarian, or call 281-426-33558. Tickets also available from Turner Chevrolet, Central Auto Inspections, Weston Cotten, Dr. Larry White.



ROTARY CHILI FEAST

Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022 11am-3pm
St. Jude's Catholic Church
Raffle Tickets \$100 Lunch \$10
Call 281-426-3558

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2022

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

ON THE HILL

JONES LIBRARY Memorials, Honorariums and Donations

Memorials:

In Memory of:
Hubbard, Lolita: Big Wonderful Thing, Bread on the Table, The Cactus given by Christy Hubbard and Kelli Dettor

Jones, Martha: Smithsonian Oceanography given by Williamson and Till Families
Pruitt, Mae Beth: How We Got to the Moon, Ancient Egypt given by Williamson and Till Families
Pipes, Melton: V2, The Only Plane in the Sky, The Secret Game given by Williamson and Till Families
Swindell, Russell: Little Leonardo's Fascinating World of Paleontology, given by John and Julia Ripkowski

Hare, Bill: Wolf Stockburn, Railroad Detective given by Jones Library Staff
Hare, Bill: The Dark Sunrise given by Friends of Jones Library
Hare, Karen: Isaac's Storm given by Friends of Jones Library
Hare, Karen: The Code Breaker given by Jones Library Staff
Sisk, Windell: The Dream Giver given by Lambda Alpha Sigma
Ondrusek, Laverne: Stronger given by Kenefick Activity Club
Cooper, Billie: Walk the Wire given by Kenefick Activity Club
Keck, Camellia: No Pain, No Gains given by

JONES LIBRARY Memorials, Honorariums and Donations

Memorials:

In Memory of:
Hall, Bret: Come'n Get It: Cookie and his Chuck Wagon given by John and Julia Ripkowski
Martin, Kenneth Carl: Propagating Plants given by Liberty County Master Gardeners
Flora Sr., James: The Kew Gardener's Guide to Growing Herbs given by Liberty County Master Gardeners
Flora, Martha Etta: The Kew Gardener's Guide to Growing Orchids given by Liberty County Master Gardeners

BHD PRESS Pick-up Locations

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HEB Center
Goss Memorial Library
BHSD Admin Building
Exxon Station
Stop n Go
Tacos and Tamales Factory

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Nerd Con event attracts 1200 fans and families around Mont Belvieu area

By Valerie Jensen, MLIS
Chambers County Librarian

MONT BELVIEU - Our Nerd Con event that was held on Dec. 4 at Eagle Pointe in Mont Belvieu. It was a huge success with over 1,200 people in attendance.

Nerd Con was an all-day family friendly convention with over 75 vendors, educational panels, authors, writers, cosplay panel, and more.

We partnered with Chambers County, City of Mont Belvieu, Eagle Pointe Recreation Complex, Eastern Rim Funny Book & Vintage Con, Friends of the Chambers County Library System, H-E-B in Mont Belvieu, and Nerd Fest.

An after party was held at the library for our special guests and some local dignitaries catered by Iguana Joe's. It was attended by library staff, our partners, and Chambers County Commissioner Tommy Hammond, and City Councilman Danny Campbell and family.

Our "celebrity" guests at the con were:

Dragon Ball Z voice actors:

Linda Young
Cynthia Cranz
Tiffany Vollmer

Stephanie Nadolny
One Piece voice actor:

Tom McKee
Power Ranger:
Steve Andreano



Cosplay group



Leslie Luna
Professional Hula



Cosplay



Maleficent cosplay



Spiderman



Star Wars vs Star Trek panel



Author D.C. Gomez

WCC Pilot Club swing project supports the Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center



Pictured: Pilots Connie Hernandez, Linda Gilmore Diana Jackson, Deana Fojt, Shirley Harmon and Judy Duncan. Sitting Brent Walsh Mont Belvieu Rehabilitation & Healthcare Cantor Administrator and resident Lanay Davis

West Chambers County Pilot Club, Inc. recently presented the Mont Belvieu Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center with several outdoor games for the residents.

Also, a wheelchair accessible swing has been donated by the Club. The swing was purchased and donated with



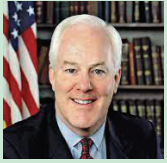
Pictured: Pilots Connie Hernandez, Linda Gilmore Diana Jackson, Deana Fojt, Shirley Harmon and Judy Duncan. Sitting Candace Pitkin Director of Business Development for Mont Belvieu Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center and resident Lanay Davis.

funds raised from Our Club's annual 2019 GALA and our 2020 online fundraiser event. A plaque was placed on the swing. A donation from Daniel Fanning and William Bartz with the Grainger Foundation also contributed to the purchase of the swing.

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OPINION

By U.S. Senator
JOHN CORNYN



What We Got Done in 2021

‘Despite the partisanship that has gripped Washington, I’ve found countless opportunities to get things done for Texas, but a great deal of work remains.’

WASHINGTON — With the start of a new year, U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) authored the following op-ed in the Austin American-Statesman about what he has accomplished in Congress for Texas in 2021 and shares his outlook on what work remains for 2022:

The first year of a government completely controlled by Democrats is quickly drawing to a close. I began 2021 with this promise to Texans: to push back against Democrats’ dangerous proposals when needed and to work together wherever possible. The year brought a heavy dose of both.

Despite President Joe Biden’s pledge to be the dealmaker-in-chief, Democrats have unleashed a parade of partisan bills. At the start of last year, they went around Republicans to spend nearly \$2 trillion billed as “pandemic relief,” even though less than ten percent of the funding was directly related to COVID-19 and only one percent supported vaccinations. They’ve made repeated attempts to seize states’ constitutional power to manage their own elections and skew all future elections in Democrats’ favor. And despite the fact that families are footing the bill for the highest inflation in nearly four decades, Democrats are trying to go on a nearly \$5 trillion reckless tax-and-spending spree. Fortunately, they don’t have the votes to write a check that big, thanks to members of President Biden’s own party joining the unified Republican opposition.

I’ve been clear in my fierce opposition to each of these bills, but I know that Texans did not send me to the Senate to simply vote “no.” While I will continue to fight legislation that harms families, the economy, or our national security, there are plenty of issues where Republicans and Democrats can work together, and I was proud to act on those opportunities in 2021 and get critical legislation signed into law.

After years of fighting alongside advocates in Texas, including my friend Ms. Opal Lee of Fort Worth, I was proud that, we succeeded in making Juneteenth a federal holiday. For generations to come, folks across the country will celebrate the significance of the day Major General Gordon Granger’s troops arrived in Galveston and declared that all slaves are “forever free.”

Another new law strengthens the policies and procedures for reporting missing service members. The need for this legislation became clear after the tragic murders of Spc. Vanessa Guillén, Sgt. Elder Fernandes and other service members across the country. Military installations are now required to increase security and protection protocols for reporting service members missing or AWOL, and improve information sharing with local, state and federal law enforcement if a service member goes missing. This isn’t a silver bullet, but it’s a big step toward preventing similar tragedies in the future.

Bills to modernize and increase staffing at our ports of entry without spending taxpayer dollars. To ensure anyone who attacks federal officers and employees serving abroad will be brought to justice. To close a loophole abused by companies fueling the opioid epidemic. To help victims of human trafficking regain their financial independence. All of these bipartisan bills I introduced were signed into law last year.

Despite the partisanship that has gripped Washington, I’ve found countless opportunities to get things done for Texas, but a great deal of work remains.

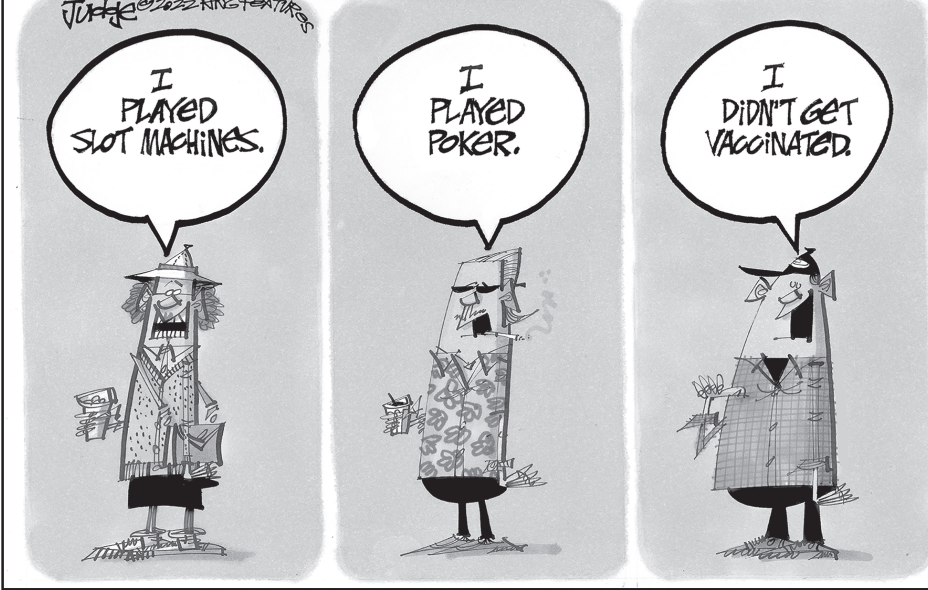
This past year, annual border crossings hit an all-time high, and law enforcement, nongovernmental organizations, and border communities are being overwhelmed by the scale of the humanitarian crisis. The pandemic exposed vulnerabilities in our supply chains that need to be addressed. Families are struggling to cover high costs at the pharmacy – even for medications that have been available for decades. I’ve introduced bipartisan bills aimed at these and countless other challenges facing our country. I hope we can make progress on those bills this year and notch even more bipartisan wins for Texas.

In 2022, I’ll keep searching for opportunities to reach across the aisle on legislation. I hope my colleagues will make an effort to do the same no matter if there’s an “R” or a “D” after their names.

Senator John Cornyn, a Republican from Texas, is a member of the Senate Finance, Intelligence, and Judiciary Committees.

EDITOR’S NOTE: *Opinions expressed here are not necessarily that of this newspaper or its staff. YOUR OPINION is welcome. Send a letter for possible publication to Grafikpress Newspapers, 5906 Star Lane, Houston TX 77057 or an email to GRAFIKSTAR@aol.com. Please limit your words to about 200. Letters will be subject to editing. Thank you.*


NEWS ITEM: IN 2021 AMERICANS SET A NEW RECORD FOR GAMBLING ...



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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Emergency SNAP benefits again extended

EMERGENCY SNAP BENEFITS AGAIN EXTENDED

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission is again extending emergency food benefits this month, with more than \$307 million in emergency allocations expected to help more than 1.5 million Texas households.

“As Texans ring in the new year, this additional support will help families start 2022 with food on the table for themselves and their children,” said Wayne Salter, HHSC deputy executive commissioner.

The agency received approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to extend the maximum allowable amount of benefits provided through the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. That means recipients will receive at least \$95 in emergency SNAP allotments by Jan. 31, in addition to their regular allotment.

Texans in need can apply for benefits at YourTexasBenefits.com.

FORMER HOUSTON NFL PLAYER PLEADS GUILTY TO FRAUD

A former linebacker for the Houston Texans has pleaded guilty to taking part in a scheme to defraud a player health care reimbursement fund by submitting false claims totaling more than \$129,000.

Shantee Orr is one of eight former NFL players accused in a case led by Texas Department of Insurance investigators working with prosecutors from the Harris County District Attorney’s office.

“Those claims were for rehab therapies and medical treatments that were never actually provided,” TDI prosecutor Rick Watson said. “The players and the trainer would each get a cut of the money that was reimbursed by the fund.”

Orr pleaded guilty to a third-degree felony, paid restitution and will serve five years’ probation.



INSURANCE COMPANIES LINE UP TO SUE ERCOT

As the one-year anniversary of the winter storm that left millions without power approaches, more than 100 insurance companies are suing the state’s main power grid operator and a number of electricity providers, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

Defendants are the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, as well as companies that supply power through ERCOT. The power failure caused more than \$10 billion in property damage, primarily to residences.

The suit claims ERCOT “failed to adequately prepare for the 2020-2021 winter season, and in fact, planned to fail,” noting that the agency had projected the state would end up in the highest state of emergency in the event of an extreme weather event, the Statesman reported.

ERCOT controls nearly all the state’s power grid.

ABBOTT SUES FEDS OVER VACCINE MANDATE FOR GUARD

Gov. Greg Abbott last week announced he will sue the federal government to fight a COVID-19 vaccine requirement for members of the Texas National Guard.

In a letter released last week, Abbott prohibited the Texas National Guard from punishing any service member who does not receive the vaccine.

“Unless President Biden federalizes the Texas National Guard in accordance with Title 10 of the U.S. Code, he is not your commander-in-chief under our federal or state Constitutions,” Abbott wrote. “And as long as I am your commander-in-chief, I will not tolerate efforts to compel receipt of a COVID19 vaccine.”

The Biden administration maintains the secretary of defense has the legal power to require vaccines. In a mid-November press conference, Pentagon press secretary John F. Kirby said, in part, “When (guardsmen are) called up for their monthly training, they’re still federally funded. So (the secretary) has those authorities. And he believes, and this is a larger point, that vaccinated forces are a more ready force.”

COVID-19 CASES MORE THAN TRIPLE IN PAST WEEK

The omicron variant of COVID-19 has sent cases skyrocketing throughout the state, with a record-high 413,994 new cases reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University in the past week — nearly four times the number reported the previous week.

A total of 717 new deaths were reported, up 70% from the previous week. The Texas Department of State Health Services reported 9,803 lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations as of Sunday, an increase of 77% from the previous week. Just a month ago, hospitalizations had dropped below 3,000, according to DSHS. The number of new cases this past week is more than ten times the total reported a month ago.

SECOND ROUND OF VACCINE FUNDING BEGINS

A second round of funding for the state’s COVID-19 vaccine outreach program has begun. Organizations can apply for grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$1 million “to engage in vaccine education and outreach with the goal of increasing the number of fully vaccinated Texans against COVID-19.”

Money will be awarded for projects that increase access to COVID-19 vaccines or provide outreach to populations disproportionately affected by the virus.

“As with the first round of funding, DSHS is confident that community-based organizations are perfectly positioned to offer local support for those who seek access for and information about COVID-19 vaccine services,” said Imelda Garcia, DSHS associate commissioner for laboratory and infectious disease services.

To learn more about the program, go to: [https://health.tamu.edu/vaccinegrant/round-2.html](https://health.tamu.edu/vaccinegrant/round-2.htmlhttps://health.tamu.edu/vaccinegrant/round-2.html)

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THE POSTSCRIPT

By
Carrie Classon

Fancy Dress

I was excited to wear my new dress.

It was slimming, I thought: all black and covered with flounces from the neckline to the hemline. I wore it with high heels—which I rarely wear—and red drop earrings. I was feeling much more sophisticated than I usually do when I went over to my sister’s house for dinner.

“Nice dress!” my mother said.

I gave my new dress a little twirl and set the ruffles flying in all directions.

“You look like a car wash,” my sister said.

This is why it’s good to stay close to family.

My husband, Peter, and I moved across the country to the Midwest in large part so we could be closer to family. It’s good to see my parents on a regular basis. Peter’s oldest sister is battling cancer, and we can now be near her. We have dozens of cousins, nieces and nephews, aunts and uncles, and now most of them live nearby.

My family members (and my sister in particular) absolutely do not care what I say about myself. They do not care about my New Year’s resolutions or recent accomplishments or nice things other people might have said about me.

They remember when I was 13 and wore a green felt hat all the time out of some sort of weird superstition. They remember when Dad had to drive back two hours to fetch the green hat after I left it someplace. And they will never believe that the green felt hat-wearing person has entirely changed.

I look at pictures of myself as a young teen, very shy, trying to become invisible beneath my peculiar green hat and only drawing more attention to myself in the process.

There was a lot I didn’t understand as an awkward teen. I didn’t realize that lots of people were shy. I didn’t know that, by starting a conversation with someone, I would be doing them a huge favor. I didn’t know I’d see the relief in their eyes when they realized they could talk to me and forget about feeling awkward themselves. I didn’t need a green hat to become invisible. To take the pressure off me, I just needed to direct the attention to someone else. If someone had told me that sooner, I wouldn’t have had to wear that silly hat for so long.

I like to think I’ve changed quite a bit since then, but my family knows better.

I firmly believe in the power we all have to change ourselves and follow our dreams wherever they take us. I hope to continue trying new things for quite a while. But, while chasing my highfalutin dreams, it’s good to have family around to keep me grounded. It’s good to remember that, no matter what grand schemes I take on, there are people who have known me before and know me best.

They will always cheer me on, but they will also know that I am still the same person, in a fancy dress, trying new things, sometimes succeeding and sometimes failing miserably. And they still love me.

“It doesn’t really look like a car wash,” my mother said.

My mother has been saying reassuring things to me all my life. But I suspect, now that the image is in her mind, my fancy-schmancy dress will never look quite the same. And that’s OK.

My self-esteem has come a long way since my green hat-wearing days. Nowadays, I can put on my fancy car wash dress with a pair of heels and not care who sees me.

Till next time, Carrie
Carrie Classon’s memoir is called “Blue Yarn.” Learn more at CarrieClasson.com.

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Harris County Unveils Latest State-Of-The-Art Tool to Monitor Pollution Levels

HARRIS COUNTY – Last month Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo unveiled the RAAM – the latest addition to Harris County’s environmental tools to monitor, detect, and report threats to air quality in Harris County. The RAAM can detect a wide array of pollutants, monitor weather, and even launch drones to find leaks using thermal imaging.

Judge Hidalgo said “In Harris County, it’s our job to do everything we can to keep residents safe when disaster strikes. While we may not be able to stop a hurricane from hitting our coast, we CAN take steps to help prevent petrochemical incidents that lead to explosions and fires and threaten the health of so many people.”

The RAAM is just the latest addition to a broader network of monitoring equipment already deployed across Harris County. Since 2019, Commissioners Court has allocated over \$11 million on environmental protection,



HARRIS COUNTY’S NEW POLLUTION MONITORING VAN

the most significant enhancement of County environmental protections in at least 30 years. Efforts include the launch of a community monitoring network that brings together data from a number of sources and monitor types to provide a more complete picture of air quality in Harris County. As part of this network 11 additional monitors have been added to the previously installed 12 ozone monitors throughout the county, and 10 more will be added soon.

The county has also procured specialized thermal cameras that help detect unauthorized emissions from a distance. This is in addition to the County’s work inspecting Concrete batch plants and pursuing litigation against illegal polluters, as well as developing a risk mapping tool for residents to use to locate potential sources of air pollution. Harris County will continue working hard to ensure our air is clean and safe for all residents.

Highlands VFD Awards,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

held training sessions at the Baytown, Sheldon and Deer Park facilities.

The EMS department replaced their oldest ambulance with a new Chevy C4500 Chassis with a new Frazer box.

Membership in the HVFD stands at 67, and increase from previous years. Of these 28 are regular, 3 apprentices, 1 junior firefighter, 17 retirees (not in the total), 6 EMS full time paid, and 15 EMS part-time paid, and 14 Fire part time paid members.

Station #27 now is staffed with a night duty fire crew, and ESD#14 monthly meetings are held at the new building.

Top Ten Responders for 2021 were:

Christofer Contreras 360
Tanner Scarbrought 339
Pablo Camargo 243
Thomas Coward 213
Ruben Lopez 182
Patrick Brown 178

Matthew Bennett 131
Chad Lowery 131
Ryan Hotchkiss 130
Wayne Speaks 121

Service Awards:

1 YR-Thomas Herrera
Crystal Guerra
Austin Forkin
5 YR-Josh Losier
Jose Chen
Matthew Bennett
Jennifer Meekins
Scott Dickens
Theresa Young
10 YR-Wayne Speaks
Nathaniel Scott
Tim Covington
30 YR-Tommy McMorow
35 YR-Jeanette Thompson

Mascot:

2021 Addisyn Speaks
2022 Bella Comeaux

Board of Directors:

Ben Coward, chair
Tim Covington, v.chair
Ryan Lopez, sec

Members: Chris Contreras, Wayne Speaks, Glenn Chisholm, Chad Lowery

Special Awards by the Chief:



CHRISTOFER CONTRERAS Top Ten Responder

Appreciation Award, Christy Graves, ESD#5 Treasurer, Debbie Nibbe
Chaplain, Wesley Freeman
Chief’s Award, Jeanette, Thompson
Citizen of the Year, Terri Hotchkiss
Business of the Year, Blue Beacon Truck Wash
Junior Firefighter, Landon Lewis
Rookie of the Year, Pablo Camargo
Firefighter of the Year, Ryan Hotchkiss.

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At left, Ryan Hotchkiss, Firefighter of the Year; ESD #14 BOARD MEMBERS: Elaine Marshall, Jerry Ickes, Johnny Gaeke, Jim Strouhal. Not Shown, Mark Taylor.



ELECTED OFFICERS: Ryan Hotchkiss, Assistant Fire Chief; Ruben Lopez, Station 27 Chief; Nate Scott, Station 17 Captain; Harvey Little, Fire Chief. Not Shown, Kyle Little, Station 17 Chief; Patrick Brown, Station 27 Captain.

Crosby Superintendent’s Message,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Maryzu Escobedo from Crosby Elementary won Best of Show, and first grader Megan Whitworth from Drew Elementary won the Gold Medal.

- Middle school winners: eighth grader Josephine McAnespy won Best of Show, and seventh grader Kassandra Mares won the Gold Medal
- High school winners: junior Kaylie Lewis won Best of Show, and juniors Katherine Law and Nolan Blackwell won Gold Medals.

Congratulations not only to the students, but also to their art teachers. Thank you to Ms. Gladden, Ms. Willows, Ms. Scullane, and Ms. Sortore for making the visual arts program in Crosby ISD second to none.

Next up, congratulations go out to all the staff and students who com-

peted in the Houston Marathon weekend. Some of us think of running as a fitness goal, but many of our Cougars truly run from the heart. Coach Cindy Whigham from Crosby Elementary coached a team of students and staff in the 5K race. Then Coach Whigham ran the full marathon to raise money for the Sunshine Kids, an organization for children with cancer. This was Ms. Whigham’s 11th year to fundraise in honor of her son who bravely battled cancer and was part of the Sunshine Kids before he passed. Drew Elementary Life Skills teacher, Ms. Pamela Eddleman, also ran the full marathon. It was Ms. Eddleman’s third marathon in four years! Crosby High School Social Studies teacher, Ms. Holly Lamb,

ran the half-marathon. It was her 12th year running. Last year, Ms. Lamb ran the virtual race by running 26.2 miles around Crosby! Completing a 5K, half-marathon, or full marathon is an achievement of a lifetime. It’s a memory you will never forget.

Finally, Crosby High School band member Spencer Mendez will perform in the 5A All-State Band next month in San Antonio. Spencer competed against the best bassoon players in the area and made it to All-State Band. This is the highest individual honor a band student can achieve in Texas!

I am so very proud of our Cougars. I’ll keep sharing the good news, and I hope you will too.

This is Now! Go Coogs!

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 497885; Estate of MANUEL A. VERLASCO, Deceased; In Probate Court No. 4 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on JANUARY 7, 2022.

MONA LISA VELASCO

The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is:

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

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Dated this JANUARY 13, 2022.

by WESTON COTTEN
Attorney for the Estate

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NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code that CROSBY BOAT, RV & MINI STORAGE, located at 15118A FM 2100, Crosby Texas 77532, will hold an online sale from January 24th to January 31st until 10:00 o'clock a.m., at the following link <http://wbauktioncrosby.hibid.com/auction/current> to sell for cash only the contents of Stall F-20, Austin Bernelle; Unit B-11, Lyza Camp; Unit I-31, Jacquelyn Brown and Unit J-6, Malik Duparl in order to satisfy a Landlord's Lien. The property to be sold is Medical Supplies, Furniture, Folding Tables, Household items and etc.....

02-2T

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GALENA PARK ISD STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2021					
Data Control Codes	General Fund	Debt Service Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues					
5700 Local, intermediate, and out-of-state	\$ 114,129,640	\$ 32,743,830	\$ 192,088	\$ 941,416	\$ 148,006,974
5800 State program revenues	135,793,332	193,989	-	3,039,479	139,026,800
5900 Federal program revenues	7,660,320	-	-	33,078,137	40,738,457
5020 Total Revenues	257,583,292	32,937,819	192,088	37,059,032	327,772,231
Expenditures					
Current:					
0011 Instruction	137,331,341	-	-	15,427,069	152,758,410
0012 Instructional resources and media services	2,776,099	-	-	27,441	2,803,540
0013 Curriculum and instructional staff development	5,339,655	-	-	3,325,083	8,664,738
0021 Instructional leadership	5,860,151	-	-	617,979	6,478,130
0023 School leadership	17,037,626	-	-	93,911	17,131,537
0031 Guidance, counseling and evaluation services	8,924,798	-	-	772,917	9,697,715
0032 Social work services	634,197	-	-	460,148	1,094,345
0033 Health services	2,447,556	-	-	345,476	2,793,032
0034 Student transportation	8,394,754	-	-	315,539	8,710,293
0035 Food services	336,723	-	-	13,217,189	13,553,912
0036 Extracurricular activities	4,124,782	-	-	485,763	4,610,545
0041 General administration	9,228,106	-	-	1,500	9,229,606
0051 Facilities maintenance and operations	27,622,946	-	-	235,358	27,858,304
0052 Security and monitoring services	3,698,027	-	-	348,453	4,046,480
0053 Data processing services	4,543,837	-	-	55,546	4,599,383
0061 Community services	1,359,139	-	-	1,115,357	2,474,496
Debt service:					
0071 Principal on long-term debt	-	19,461,758	-	-	19,461,758
0072 Interest on long-term debt	-	17,335,504	-	-	17,335,504
0073 Bond issuance costs and fees	-	7,300	-	-	7,300
Capital outlay:					
0081 Facilities acquisition and construction expenditures	720,744	-	19,685,707	-	20,406,451
Intergovernmental:					
0093 Payments related to shared services arrangements	-	-	-	343,072	343,072
0099 Payments to appraisal district	1,051,148	-	-	-	1,051,148
6030 Total Expenditures	241,431,629	36,804,562	19,685,707	37,187,801	335,109,699
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	16,151,663	(3,866,743)	(19,493,619)	(128,769)	(7,337,468)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)					
7912 Sale of real and personal property	158,465	-	-	7,686	166,151
8911 Transfers out	(20,000)	-	-	-	(20,000)
7080 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	138,465	-	-	7,686	146,151
1200 Net change in fund balance	16,290,128	(3,866,743)	(19,493,619)	(121,083)	(7,191,317)
0100 Fund Balance - Beginning	177,578,294	9,888,037	105,969,781	5,998,263	299,434,375
3000 Fund Balance - Ending	\$ 193,868,422	\$ 6,021,294	\$ 86,476,162	\$ 5,877,180	\$ 292,243,058

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French Limited Superfund Site

Public Notice

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6

January 2022

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 (EPA) is conducting the sixth five-year review of remedy implementation and performance at the French Limited Superfund site (Site) in Crosby, Texas. Between 1950 and 1973, site uses included sand mining and industrial waste storage and disposal. Site facilities were permitted to accept industrial wastes from 1966 to 1971.

Site activities contaminated groundwater, surface water, soil and sludge with hazardous chemicals and heavy metals. The site-wide remedy included in-situ biodegradation of sludges and soils in a lagoon, stabilization of residues and on-site disposal, surface water discharge to the San Jacinto River after treatment, backfilling of lagoon and contouring, groundwater pump and treat, to prevent human exposure.

The five-year review will determine if the remedies are still protective of human health and the environment. The five-year review is scheduled for completion in September 2022. The report will be made available to the public at the following local information repository:

Harris County Public Library, Crosby Branch
135 Hare Road
Crosby, Texas 77532
(281) 328-3535

Site status updates are available on the Internet at www.epa.gov/superfund/french-ltd

All media inquiries should be directed to the EPA Press Office at (214) 665-2200

For more information about the Site, contact:

Raji Josiam/Remedial Project Manager
(214) 665-8529
or 1-800-533-3508 (toll-free)
or by email at josiam.raji@epa.gov

Janetta Coats/Community Involvement Coordinator
(214) 665-7308
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or by email at coats.janetta@epa.gov

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Huffman ISD Students Prepare for 2022 HLS&R Art Show

Huffman ISD students of all ages are busy finishing up Rodeo Art entries. For many years, the school has participated in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo School Art Program and this year is no exception. Participants range from Pre-K through 12th grade. The program is designed to encourage the education and appreciation of our Western heritage. Students create Western-themed art entries that include paintings, drawings and sculpture. This year's district Rodeo Art Show & Open House theme is “Boots & Bling.” The event is scheduled for Thursday, January 20, 2021 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at Huffman Elementary School, room 319. All



Huffman Middle School students work on drawings to be entered into the 2022 HLS&R art contest

family members and friends can celebrate these winning works along with the student artists. Winning entries

will be on display at Reliant Center. There will also be an online gallery on the Huffman Visual Arts Facebook page.

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