Goose Creek & Crosby School News, Pages 1,2

Sen. Cornyn on Ukraine, Page 4

HMB Keep You Moving, Page 8

HIGHLANDS CROSBY

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Crosby Rodeo
June 3 - June 11

JUNE 3,FRIDAY
5pm Cook-Off
CARNIVAL KICK-OFF
7:30pm BAG OF DONUTS
JUNE 4,SATURDAY
8am BBQ-Cookoff
10am Parade
7:30pm DREW PARKER
JUNE 7,TUESDAY
10am Cowpoke Pageant
JUNE 9,THURSDAY
4pm Buyers Dinner
5:45pm Awards
6:00pm Livestock Auction
JUNE 10,FRIDAY
10am-12pm FFA & 4-H Day
7:30pm CPRA
Championship Rodeo
JOSH WARD &
JON WOLFE
JUNE 11, SATURDAY
10am Little Wrangler Rodeo
7:30pm CPRA
Championship Rodeo
DOS BORRACHOS
KEVIN FOWLER
ROGER CREAGER

GREAT FINAL WEEKEND FOR CROSBY RODEO

Livestock Auction, Concerts, Rodeo events this week

By Gilbert Hoffman

CROSBY – June is Crosby Rodeo month, from the BBQ cookoff to the Livestock Auction to the CPRA Rodeo events, and now the final two music acts Friday and Saturday night. Good weather and great entertainment has brought out crowds this year.

The public and all potential buyers are invited to a Dinner Thursday night at 4:00pm at the Rodeo Pavilion, as a warm-up to the bidding later at 6:00pm for the livestock that the FFA students raised all year. A big crowd and big bids should be the atmosphere of the evening, considering that the COVID pandemic held back the event results the last two years.

DOS BORRACHOS, or Kevin Fowler and Roger Creager, will close out the Crosby Rodeo Saturday night.

On Friday, FFA and 4-H events will take place at the pavilion, and then in the evening the CPRA rodeo events kick-off (literally) at 7:30pm, followed by the entertainment for the evening, Josh Ward and Jon Wolfe.

On Saturday starting at 10am the Little Wrangler Rodeo will entertain the kids and their parents, with events that everyone looks forward to. In the evening, the Rodeo will come to a high point with the CPRA final events and the DOS BORRACHOS music entertainment, the popular Kevin Fowler and Roger Creager returning for one of their many appearances in Crosby.

Continued. See Crosby Rodeo Entertainers, Page 5

Abbott orders School Safety Study instead of Special Session on guns

AUSTIN – In lieu of calling a special session of the legislature to deal with new regulations to curb mass shootings, as requested by several state legislators, Governor Greg Abbott today sent a joint letter to Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick and Speaker Dade Phelan requesting the Texas legislative leaders convene special legislative committees following last week's tragic shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde. The special legislative committees will be charged with examining and developing legislative recommendations on school safety, mental health, social media, police training, firearm safety, and more.

Governor Greg Abbott, center, in Uvalde after the mass murder of 21 persons, announcing action that Texas will take to address the problem of mass shootings. Others at the press conference, L to R, Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick, Senator Ted Cruz, and House Speaker Dade Phelan. Abbott charged the leadership of the Senate and House with studying solutions that could be enacted by the State to curb future massacres.

"As Texans mourn the tragedy that occurred at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde last week, we as a State must reassess the twin issues of school safety and mass violence," reads the letter. "As leaders, we must come together at this time to provide solutions to protect all Texans. Accordingly, I hereby request that each of you convene a special legislative committee. I look forward to working with you both on this important mission to make Texas safer, and I stand ready to provide any and all support."

Gubernatorial Candidate Beto O'Rourke interrupted the Press Conference, pointing to Abbott and saying "This is on You" referring to lack of action on meaningful gun regulations by the state after previous mass shootings in Texas.

Crosby Superintendent's message to the community

Hello East Harris County and Crosby ISD families,

I hope the summer break is off to a great start for you and your families. Graduation was a fantastic night as 450 Crosby High School seniors walked across the stage, turned their tassels, and became proud Crosby ISD alumni. I've been watching some of those seniors since they were tiny students in my elementary classes so many years ago. Dozens of our students are launching their careers with certifications in welding, associate's degrees from Lee and San Jacinto Colleges, and even those hired for full-time jobs while they were still in high school. Our Cougars do great things, and I know the Class of 2022 will be no exception.

SUPERINTENDENT PAULA PATTERSON

Over the course of the summer, the District is actively preparing, recruiting, training, and making updates for the next school year. Remaining competitive in the marketplace is critical for Crosby ISD and our dedicated staff. We have top-notch teachers here, and this month, the Board of Trustees approved a 3% raise for all staff members effective July 1. Our staff spend each day working to better our students, each other, and our facilities. We want to show our appreciation and ensure Crosby ISD retains our valued team members.

Our Child Nutrition Services team is offering free meals for students during the month of June. Free breakfast and lunch are served Mondays through Thursdays, June 7 through June 30. Crosby Elementary serves breakfast at 7:30-8:30am and lunch from 10:30am-11:30am. Crosby High

Continued. See Crosby Superintendent, Page 2

GCCISD Superintendent's message on school safety

In light of the events in Uvalde ISD, we would like to share Dr. O'Brien's message to the community:

The tragedy that occurred in Uvalde ISD is truly devastating. Our hearts go out to the families and educators that have experienced this horrific crisis.

School safety is on the forefront of our minds at this moment, as it is for every school district. Goose Creek CISD has implemented measures that have strengthened the safety and security of our schools over the past few years. We have established a district standard for perimeter fencing, which has been installed at all of our schools. We have also constructed safety vestibules at all campuses, which help protect the front entry point at every campus.

SUPERINTENDENT RANDAL O'BRIEN

Our primary focus continues to be the safety of our students and staff while they are in our care. We have grown our police department staff to 20 police officers and have doubled the size of our security officers as well. We have taken these measures because we know they will help keep students and staff safe.

Our Social Emotional Learning department, which has grown from two staff members to almost 15 social emotional workers over the last two years, provides resources and assistance for students and faculty who need support in the areas of mental health and wellbeing.

While these measures help increase the safety of our schools, we are being vigilant in our discussions and actions about school safety and how we can continually strengthen our efforts. In light of the Uvalde shooting, we are currently in the process of reviewing our safety procedures and practices to ensure Goose Creek provides the safest learning environment for our students and staff.

Place Your Message on the Front Page, at a reasonable Rate. Call the STAR-COURIER 713-266-3444

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GOOSE CREEK NEWS

District Celebrates Opening of Two Newest Facilities with Ribbon Cuttings

Goose Creek CISD is on the fast track to growth. With 30 campuses and counting, the district is looking forward to servicing the needs of its 24,000 students for many years to come.

The district celebrated the ribbon cuttings of their two newest elementary campuses, Jessie Lee Pumphrey and San Jacinto Elementary Schools, on May 25th. Former and current student and staff members, members of the community, GCCISD Board members, Baytown City Council members, and district representatives were eager to tour the new facilities, including the Early Learning Academy wings.

The campuses have been staples in the Goose Creek community for many years. Pumphrey, which opened in June 1970, was the first campus named after a local individual. Ms. Pumphrey was the district's first woman principal who began her career at De Zavala Elementary in 1928.

The campus was closed on March 30, 2009. Members of the Baytown community spoke in favor of naming Elementary School #17 after Pumphrey, and May 17, 2021, the Board unanimously approved that decision. The campus is located in the middle of the newly-developed Ashbel Cove community. "I am so thankful that the Superintendent and Board saw fit to allow me to lead this campus," Renee Meyer, Principal of Pumphrey, said. "Ms. Pumphrey's legacy will live on in the students the campus will educate for years to come."

San Jacinto Elementary School was built in 1930. The school was destroyed by fire in December of 1979 and rebuilt in 1982. Principal Luis Munoz was overwhelmed with emotion. "I am so grateful that I am able to lead the school where I once walked the halls as a student," he said. "So many of us share the same sentiment and I know this campus will be a beacon of light for many years to come."

Members of the Goose Creek Masonic Lodge #1192 performed dedication ceremonies for each campus and provided them with cornerstones that will be prominently fixed on the facility's exterior.

San Jacinto and Pumphrey Elementary Schools will officially open their doors to students for the 2022-2023 school year.

Photos taken by Carrie Pryor-Newman, GCCISD Multi-Media Design Specialist

Crosby Superintendent,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

School and Crosby Middle School serve breakfast from 8:30-9am and lunch from 12-12:30pm. Just keep in mind, the meals have to be eaten on campus. We hope this helps with meal planning during the first month of the summer break.

Summer is no time to stop learning. In fact, we encourage every student to read at least 20 minutes a day to avoid learning loss. Crosby High School and Crosby Middle School have required reading lists for those students entering an Honors or AP English class this fall. Students enrolled in 6th grade Honors English are encouraged to read a wide variety of books over the summer. Students in grades 7 through 12 are required to read books that serve as foundational texts to start the new year. You can find the book list by each grade level on www.crosbyisd.org/summerreading.

This month, we also kicked off a summer reading program for our elementary readers. Crosby ISD is partnering with the Harris County Public Library for the "Oceans of Possibilities" program that runs June 6 through August 6. For every book students read or time spent reading, they earn points to earn prizes when school resumes. The Crosby library branch is a great resource for summer reading. They have events throughout the month of June and beyond.

Summer School runs through June 30. The classes are designed to assist students in need of extra enrichment at each grade level. Crosby High School is offering 3 elective courses for students who want to advance in Spanish I, Spanish II, or Communication Application. Our Athletics Department is hosting several summer camps in June at Crosby High School, from boys' and girls' basketball to softball and volleyball. Football camp for incoming 3rd through 8th graders will be August 2nd and 3rd at Cougar Stadium. We have the camp registration forms posted on the District's Athletics website. I also want to thank the "Barrett Economic and Community Development Organization" for supporting the Barrett Youth Enrichment Summer Camp through August. It's a vital program to ensure our students are engaged physically and academically while school is out for the summer.

Crosby ISD's spring testing season was a success, both in terms of the scores and in terms of processing 10,000 exams, mostly electronically. Our curriculum and technology teams did an outstanding job. I know parents are interested in seeing their students' results. The scores will be available later this month in Skyward Family and Student Access. Parents will be able to access results, including seeing each question and your child's answers. I encourage you to discuss the results with your child's teacher when the new year begins so you can work together to support learning at home and in the classroom.

We know many of you are already thinking about the return of classes on Thursday, August 11. We released the 2022-2023 Elementary School Supply List in May so you can get ahead of the back-to-school rush. You can find the full list on our website and in our weekly newsletter. Also for parents of children entering Pre-Kindergarten or Kindergarten this fall, please take 5 to 10 minutes to register your child now. Check that item off your 'to do' list and have one less thing to worry about this summer.

Finally, I pray you have some wonderful times with your loved ones this summer, make memories, laugh together, enjoy your favorite foods as a family, attend the Crosby Fair and Rodeo together, and celebrate the special communities where we live, work, and learn.

We are Better Together! Go Coogs!

SJE chosen photo: SJE principal and staff, GCCISD Superintendent, Board members and former students and employees of the campus gather together to celebrate the ribbon cutting of the new San Jacinto Elementary School.

JLP chosen photo: JLP principal and staff, GCCISD Superintendent, Board members, Pumphrey family members and former students and employees of the campus gather together to celebrate the ribbon cutting of the new Jessie Lee Pumphrey Elementary School.

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Tuesday: Creamy Homemade Hamburger & Pasta! It's our spin on hamburger helper and you'll love it1 Served with Garden Salad, Garlic Bread & Homemade Chocolate Chip Cookies!

Wednesday: Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Honey Butter Skillet Corn and Pecan Pie Bars! Nothing better than when the sauce from the meatloaf mixes with the mashed potatoes!

Thursday: Queso Chicken served over Spanish Rice, Borracho Beans, Tortillas & Soppapilla Cheesecake! When the queso melts into the rice, omg!

Friday: Party Tray! Chicken Salad on Croissant, Cheddar Bacon Celery Bites, Fresh Fruit & Chocolate Chip Cookies!

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ON THE HILL

Manhunt underway for felon who stole Dayton police cruiser

DAYTON, Texas – A manhunt is underway in the Dayton area after officers said a wanted felon stole a police cruiser during an arrest attempt.

TDCJ is assisting the Dayton Police Department with looking for 54-year-old Clifford O'Clair who was last seen around N. Winfree Street.

O'Clair is described as a white man with a thin build and gray hair.

According to authorities, O'Clair also escaped from a Liberty County constable a week ago.

Dayton Metro Library partners with Levitt for World Music Series

Dayton Metro Library has partnered with Levitt Pavilion to bring concertgoers the 2022 World Music Series. This free concert series provides the opportunity to experience and enjoy music genres from all over the world. The World Music Series begins Thursday, June 2 with concerts scheduled through September:

Thursday, June 2: Son del Caribe - Latinx (Season Opener)

Thursday, June 9: Kaleta & Super Yamba Band - African

Friday, June 17: We Banjo 3 - Celtic

Thursday, July 28: Davy Holt - Celtic

Thursday, August 25: Jenny and the Mexicats - Latinx

Friday, September 2: Zak Baalbaki & Band - Middle Eastern/Arabic

Friday, September 16: Music of India Featuring Tastefull Band – Indian

Additionally, DML cardholders can check out and listen to music from all over the world through the free hoopla music app available via the Library's website. Below is suggested music from DML's collection related to the genres in the World Music Series:

The Rough Guide to World Music Unplugged (World Music, 2019)

Pa'lla Voy by Marc Anthony (Latinx, 2022)

Marry Me Soundtrack (Latinx, 2022)

Native Sons by Los Lobos (Latinx, 2021)

En Español by The Mavericks (Latinx, 2020)

Egoli by Africa Express (African, 2019)

History by Youssou N'Dour (African, 2019)

Ladilikan by Trio Da Kali and Kronos Quartet (African, 2019)

Postcards from Ireland by Celtic Woman (Celtic, 2021)

Homeland by Celtic Thunder (Celtic, 2021)

Oumniya by Souad Massi (Middle Eastern/Arabic, 2019)

Live at WOMAD 1985 by Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan (Indian, 2019)

Wolastoqiyik Lintuwakonawa by Jeremy Dutcher (First Nations, 2018)

Levitt Pavilion is located at the corner of South Main and West Fifth Streets in Dayton. Concerts begin at 7 pm. Visit the DML table or the Bookmobile at the concerts. For information about the musicians playing in DML's World Music Series, please visit Levittdayton.org.

City of Mont Belvieu Hosts Hurricane Workshop

To help prepare the residents of Mont Belvieu and West Chambers County for the 2022 tropical storm season, the City of Mont Belvieu, Mont Belvieu Office of Emergency Management, the Mont Belvieu Fire Department, and the National Weather Service, Houston-Galveston Area (NWS) hosted a Hurricane Workshop at the Eagle Pointe Golf Club Pavilion on last Tuesday evening, which was free to the public and featured a hurricane season outlook presentation from Jeff Evans from the National Weather Service, a hot dog dinner, giveaways provided to help the public become storm ready, and preparation check-ups with local vendors. Attendees had an opportunity to see the Mont Belvieu Fire Department's high-water vehicle that was highly utilized in Winnie during Tropical Storm Laura and the department's new rescue boat.

"Right now, the forecast shows this year could be a very active tropical weather season," said Mont Belvieu Fire Chief Lee Atchison. "That's what makes this event so important. We really want our area residents to come and have a good time while also getting the information they need to be prepared and not scared."

Congressman Brian Babin attends Chamber County Hurricane Worshop

Preparing for Hurricane Season

Thank you to Chambers County for having me at their 13th Annual Hurricane Workshop last week.

I heard from our hard-working first responders, emergency management professionals, and local officials. We know it's not IF we'll get hit again, but WHEN.

I'll keep working to cut red tape and ensure we have the tools necessary to prepare for and recover from the next storm.

Congressman Brian Babin at CC Hurricane Worshop

Family of 11 Loses Everything in House Fire Near Dayton

DAYTON – A mother, father and their nine children who live near Dayton lost everything in a house fire Wednesday.

"I'm going to be okay. I just wish my kids didn't have to go through this," mom Jerene Buckles said.

Some of their children have special needs and take medication.

The walls are the only thing left standing at Jerene Buckle's home.

"I think I'm still in shock. I think I'm still numb," she said.

Jerene and her husband have nine children. Their youngest is six and the oldest is 20 years old. On Wednesday, their lives were forever changed.

"This was our dream home," Jerene said. "We had finally found a home that was going to work for not only just what we wanted but also for our three non-ambulatory children. It was big and had the land."

Jerene shared pictures of the intense flames that destroyed the two-story home. The fire torched trees and melted the family's van. Another car was also totaled.

House catches fire near Dayton

Fire crews came back to the home on Thursday to put out various hot spots.

Denny Loonam with Liberty County Emergency District No. 3 says the call came in as a kitchen fire. He lives down the road from the home and the fire station.

"By the time we pulled back in here, this house was totally involved. It was the hottest fire that we've had out here in a long time," Loonam said.

The Liberty County Fire Marshal says the cause of the blaze is under investigation.

Thankfully everyone made it out safely.

"There were a lot of tears, especially from our 20-year-old," Jerene said. "She was adopted from Ukraine several years ago."

Jerene is still trying to process what happened and hates her family has to start over. She says her children lost their musical instruments and books.

Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center in Liberty to Host Free COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic

Austin, TX – The Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC), in partnership with the Texas Health and Human Services Commission Department of State Health Services (DSHS), has announced a free public COVID-19 vaccination clinic taking place from 12 – 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 11, 2022,this free, fast event is open to the public, and no insurance is required. Texas DSHS will provide Moderna/Pfizer 5-11/Pfizer 12+ COVID-19 vaccines. Interested community members are invited to register online at getthevaccine.dshs.texas.gov or at the event; walk-ins are welcome. The Sam Houston Center is located at 650 FM 1011, Liberty, TX 77575. For more information, visit the website covidvaccine.texas.gov or call DSHS at (833) 832-7067.

The Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center is a component of TSLAC's Archives and Information Services Division and serves as the official regional historical resource depository for the 10 southeast Texas counties of Chambers, Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Newton, Orange, Polk, San Jacinto and Tyler. The Center is open for visitors and researchers Tuesday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Houston Methodist Hospital Baytown

Fighting Cancer with your Fork

Does what you eat really make a difference in your risk for cancer? Many experts agree that making better choices about what you put on your plate is one way to protect against the cell changes or mutations, that can lead to cancer. Although some risks for cancer are out of your control, choosing a healthy diet is one way to take action. "A diet rich in fruits and vegetables may help protect against some types of cancer," said Dr. Ugochukwu A. Odo, an oncologist at Houston Methodist Neal Cancer Center at Baytown. "Plant-based foods contain vitamins, minerals and antioxidants that can provide some cancer protection as part of an overall healthy diet."

Your Diet and Cancer Risk

Antioxidants are important nutrients, such as beta-carotene, lycopene, lutein, and vitamins A, C and E. These healthy nutrients are abundant in fruits, vegetables, nuts and grains. Antioxidants help protect body cells from damage caused by unstable molecules, called free radicals. "Free radicals can damage DNA and may play a role in the development of cancer, so we're looking at how antioxidants may help work against free radicals," Odo explained. More research is needed to understand the links between diet and cancer, but there's some evidence to suggest that antioxidants and other nutrients in foods may fight cancer by:

*Destroying free radicals that damage DNA, which can lead to cancer

*Helping to eliminate carcinogens (cancer-causing substances)

*Blocking the activation of carcinogens

Sources of Antioxidants

Here's where you can find antioxidants in foods:

*Vitamin A: liver, dairy products, eggs and fish liver oil. It's also converted from carotenoids, found in dark-red, green and yellow vegetables

*Vitamin C: citrus fruits, tomatoes, peppers, broccoli, leafy vegetables, strawberries and potatoes

*Vitamin D: milk, cold-water fish, egg yolks and liver

*Vitamin E: avocado,

DR. Ugochukwu A. Odo

coconut or olive oils; sweet potatoes; avocados; nuts; sunflower seeds; and soybeans

*Allyl sulfides: garlic, onions, shallots, leeks, chives and scallions

*Carotenoids: apricots, papaya, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, mangoes, carrots, pumpkin, red peppers, spinach, corn and cantaloupe

*Catechins: green tea and berries

*Flavonoids: parsley, carrots, citrus fruits, broccoli, cabbage, cucumbers, squash, tomatoes, eggplant, peppers, soybeans and berries

*Folate: avocados, bananas, orange juice, cold cereal, asparagus, green leafy vegetables, dried beans, peas and yeast

*Lycopene: cooked tomato products, watermelon and pink grapefruit

FOODS TO KNOW

Odo recommends eating at least five servings of fruit and vegetables each day. "Try to fill two-thirds of your plate with plant-based foods, and choose a variety of colorful fruits and vegetables," Odo added. Here are some cancer-fighting foods you may want to add to your shopping cart:

*Berries — Fruits like strawberries and blueberries are loaded with antioxidants, which have cancer-fighting properties.

*Tomatoes — Tomatoes are rich in lycopene, a powerful plant compound that may protect against prostate cancer.

*Whole grains — Whole grains can help reduce your risk of colon cancer. Be sure to check ingredient labels on breads and other grains and look for the words "100% whole grain."

*Red-orange fruits and vegetables — Foods, such as butternut squash and sweet potatoes, are rich in beta-carotene which acts as an antioxidant to help protect cells from damage.

*Coffee — Your morning cup of java contains a variety of plant compounds that may be protective for some cancers.

*Dark-green leafy vegetables — Kale, spinach, romaine lettuce and other green, leafy vegetables are excellent sources of fiber, lutein and flavonoids. These substances may help protect against mouth, pharynx and larynx cancers.

*Green tea — Laboratory studies have suggested that green tea may help slow the development of colon, liver, breast and prostate cancers.

FOODS TO LIMIT

Grilled and red meats — Red meat has been linked to colorectal and other cancers. Grilling meat over high heat can additionally form cancer-causing agents. Instead, opt for grilled vegetables, which do not create carcinogens when exposed to high heat.

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Odo call 281-420-7211 or visit houstonmethodist.org/spg/hematology

✭ OPINION PAGE ✭

OPINION

By U.S. Senator JOHN CORNYN

Cornyn Discusses Ukraine Visit and Support for Aid

'The Ukrainians' spirit and will to defend their country remains unbroken and undaunted, and Putin's plans have failed, and failed miserably. We saw this firsthand when we had a chance to visit Kyiv this weekend.'

'This funding, this support, this military and humanitarian support, is not strictly an act of altruism on our part. We are doing this also because allowing Ukraine to defend itself is in our best interest.'

'The cost of the United States doing nothing, of simply turning over this democracy, and our security, and our economy to Putin, well, that's greater than any cost that could come by a supplemental appropriation.'

WASHINGTON – On the floor, U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) discussed last week's congressional delegation trip to Ukraine, Sweden, and Finland, and how the U.S. benefits from helping Ukraine. Excerpts of Sen. Cornyn's remarks are below.

"We visited not only President Zelensky in the presidential palace but also visited two of what we hope will be the next members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, namely, Sweden and Finland."

"The Ukrainians' spirit and will to defend their country remains unbroken and undaunted, and Putin's plans have failed, and failed miserably. We saw this firsthand when we had a chance to visit Kyiv this weekend."

"He and his advisors warned us about the possibility of global food shortages caused by Russian blockade[s] of Ukrainian ports. This will lead to widespread famine not just in Europe, but throughout Africa, and spread the pain far afield from Europe."

"This week, as we know, the Senate will consider a supplemental funding bill to provide Ukraine with even more security and humanitarian assistance. I know there are some who disagree with more funding for Ukraine. To them, I would say this funding, this support, this military and humanitarian support, is not strictly an act of altruism on our part. We are doing this also because allowing Ukraine to defend itself is in our best interest."

"We can't kid ourselves by thinking Putin would simply end with his brutal conquest of Ukraine."

"Of course, in this situation, the cost of the United States doing nothing, of simply turning over this democracy, and our security, and our economy to Putin, well, that's greater than any cost that could come by a supplemental appropriation."

"I'm grateful to Leader McConnell for putting together this past weekend's trip. I found it enormously educational."

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

Cowboy 260 air conditioner

"Now Mamie," said Windy Wilson, "the reason I expurgated myself over here to your place was to see how you was a-doin' in this year heat."

Mamie Dilworth refilled his iced tea glass, smiled at the old cowboy and camp cook. "Well, that's awfully nice of you, Windy. I'm fine. Tired of this heat, just the same as everyone else around here."

"I hear ya, and thanks for the tea. It helps a guy cool down, refrigerationally speeakin' a-course."

"You're welcome. What are you and Ramses up to these hot days?"

Ramses was Windy's dog, so named because of his tendency to leave pyramids in the backyard. Windy claims he's an Egyptian shepherd, but hasn't been able to provide any registration papers yet.

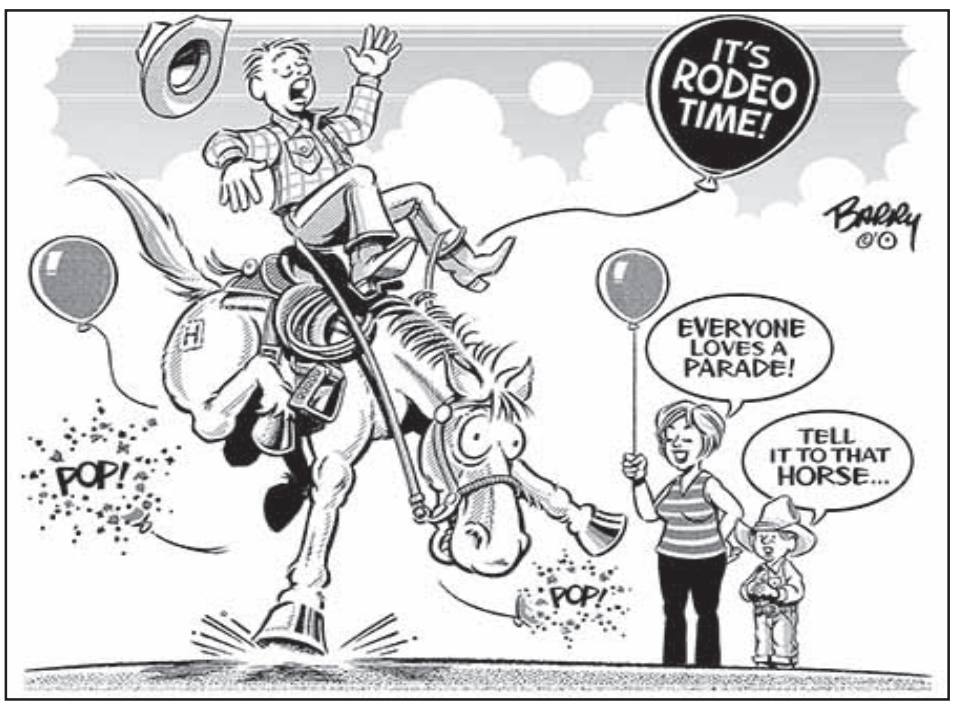
"Pickup truck therapy, you know. Works putnear ever time it's tried. Long's a guy don't run outa gas, he's okay. Cool right down on a hot ol' day like this one."

"I didn't know your pickup had air conditioning, Windy."

"Mostly it's a cowboy 260 air conditioner," Windy explained. "You get your shirt and your dog wet, roll down two windows and go sixty miles an hour."

———————-

Pick up "Home Country: Drama, dreams and laughter from the American heartland" www.lpdpress.com.



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders

Gunman Walked into School Building Unopposed

The gunman who killed 21 people inside a Uvalde elementary school walked into the unlocked building unopposed, the Department of Public Safety said in a revised statement, as reported by the Austin American-Statesman and other media sources.

After the gunman crashed his grandmother's truck in a ditch, he walked into the building while firing a semiautomatic weapon purchased just days after his 18th birthday. The shooter was inside a classroom for about an hour. Nineteen children and two teachers were killed before a tactical team got inside the building and killed him.

The massacre is the second-deadliest school shooting in modern U.S. history.

FIVE TEXAS REFINERIES EXCEED BENZENE LIMIT

Five Texas refineries and one in Louisiana operated by a San Antonio company last year exceeded federal pollution limits for benzene emissions, which is listed as a carcinogenic chemical by the Environmental Protection Agency. Long-term exposure to benzene has caused blood disorders, according to a story in the San Antonio Express-News.

"In Texas, Marathon Petroleum's Galveston Bay refinery, TotalEnergies' Port Arthur refinery, Chevron's Pasadena refinery, Flint Hills Resources' Corpus Christi East refinery and LyondellBasell's Houston refinery reported average benzene emissions in 2021 that were above the federal threshold of 9 micrograms per cubic meter," the Express-News reported.

More than 6 million people in the United States live within 3 miles of an oil refinery, according to the EPA.

BOATERS URGED TO 'CLEAN, DRAIN, AND DRY'

As summer approaches and Texans head to the state's lakes and rivers, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department urges boaters and paddlers to do their part to prevent the spread of invasive aquatic species that are threatening Texas lakes.

"The best way to prevent the spread of many destructive aquatic invasive species is to clean, drain and dry your boats and equipment – every time," Brian Van Zee, TPWD inland fisheries regional director, said.

Zebra mussels and giant salvinia continue to spread to new waterbodies in the state. Other highly invasive species that can be spread by boaters include water hyacinth, crested floating heart and quagga mussels.

"Boaters need to remove all plants, mud and debris from boats, trailers, vehicles and gear and drain the water from the boat, all equipment and on-board receptacles before leaving the lake. In addition, boats should be dried completely before visiting another lake, preferably for at least a week," the news release said.

TEXAS HOME TO MOST FORTUNE 500 COMPANIES

Texas now leads the nation as home to the most Fortune 500 companies, surpassing New York and California in the 2022 Fortune 500 list.

Texas is home to 53 top companies, with New York home to 51 and California with 50. In addition, Houston and Dallas are in the top five cities in the nation for Fortune 500 companies with 21 and 11 respectively.

Fortune 500 companies represent two-thirds of the nation's GDP with revenues of $16.1 trillion. They employ 29.7 million people worldwide.

"Thanks to our unmatched business environment, with no corporate or personal income taxes, a highly skilled and diverse workforce, easy access to global markets, and reasonable regulatory climate, Texas has more businesses relocating and expanding here in our state than ever before," Gov. Greg Abbott said.

NEARLY $5 MILLION IN TRAIL GRANTS ANNOUNCED

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission last week awarded $4.8 million in grants to fund 17 recreational trail-related projects across the state.

One million dollars of the amount allocated came directly from state Sporting Good Sales Tax funds dedicated to the Recreational Trails Program through a measure passed in the last legislative session.

The rest of the funding comes from a portion of the federal gas tax generated by gasoline purchases for off-road vehicles. Under the National Recreational Trails Fund, 30% of total grants it awards goes for motorized trails, with an equal amount going for non-motorized trails, while the rest is discretionary.

WILDFIRE RISK ABATES SLIGHTLY

Recent rainfall has reduced the potential for widespread wildfires for much, but not all, of the state, according to the Texas A&M Forest Service. However, hot and windy conditions are expected to return this week, bringing with them the increased risk of more wildfires, particularly in the Rolling Plains, Hill Country and South Texas areas of the state.

As of Friday, there was one active wildfire, in Taylor County. The Mesquite Heat Fire consumed nearly 11,000 acres and was 82% contained. There are currently 132 counties with burn bans.

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THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

"Verne Knows"

Verne knows me too well.

For the first time in our lives, my husband, Peter, and I live in a building with a front desk. It's nice to have someone there when packages are delivered, or contractors show up, and this person is usually Verne.

Verne is a natural for the job. He knows everything going on in town. He knows when music is playing in the park and where the food trucks are parked and what time deliveries are made. But what interests Verne most is what goes on inside the building. Verne knows what we are all up, to and he is never short on advice.

"I wouldn't go there," Verne told me when I was contemplating a Mexican restaurant. "It's cute on the outside, but the food is ordinary." He suggested a different restaurant.

"Oh! I like your hair," a complete stranger said to me in the lobby one day.

"She's overdue to get it colored," Verne said. "Her roots are showing."

"Verne!" the stranger said. "That's a terrible thing to say!"

"Oh, no," I told the stranger. "It's all part of the full suite of services Verne provides." (I colored my hair that week.)

One day I had to go to Home Depot twice for the same thing. "Two trips to Home Depot in one day is not a good day!" I told Verne. (Although to be fair, the folks at Home Depot were terrific.)

"Are you sure this is a problem?" Verne asked., "Or is this just your OCD talking?"

Verne had me.

"It's my OCD talking and it's a problem!" I said as I got on the elevator with another resident.

"Verne knows me too well," I complained to the pink-haired young woman in the elevator.

"Verne knows us all too well!" she said.

"I know everything!" Verne agreed, as the elevator doors shut.

But there is something very comforting about having Verne at the desk in the late afternoons.

"Where are you going tonight?" Verne will ask. He'll suggest things I should look for in the neighborhood, and I'll come back and report to him. It's nice, knowing there is someone at the door to greet me, someone who is interested in where I've been and where I'm going.

Then, one day, we got some awful news. Verne was retiring.

"I'm turning 70!" Verne said. "I can't keep working five days a week."

"But what will we do without you, Verne?" I asked.

"Oh! You won't be without me." Verne said. "I'm just going to work the weekend shift instead. John is retiring."

John is also very nice, but he is nearly blind and requires a cane to get around. It was probably a good time for John to retire. So, there was a big retirement party for John, and Verne took over the weekends.

One Sunday afternoon, John came back to visit. Now, instead of a cane, he needed a walker to get around. But he had a big smile on his face. He had come to visit Verne.

"Pull up a chair!" Verne said. "Would you like a cup of coffee?"

"I would!" John said.

"Would you like dessert to go with that?" I asked Verne.

"What kind of dessert?" he asked me.

"None of your business. Do you want some or not?"

"Of course!" Verne said.

I had some leftover pumpkin cake, and I brought down two pieces.

"Thank you for the cake," Verne said later on, after John had left. "That was very nice."

"Oh, it was nothing," I told Verne. "What would we do without you?"

Till next time,

Carrie

Follow me on Facebook at: CarrieClassonAuthor.

Crosby Rodeo finale,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

FRIDAY, JUNE 10
Josh Ward & Jon Wolfe

Josh Ward is country music blood to bone. Ward was born in Houston on May 15, 1980. An anchored mindset that has led this Texas country music rising star from a drifter's adolescence to the jeopardous game of the rodeo circuit to the punishing toil of the Texas oil fields, and on into the fickle arms of the music business.

A modern-day traditionalist who is keeping the Lone Star honky tonk sound alive, Josh Ward is a songwriter and singer who has won a large and growing following in his native Texas, playing country music with rock and blues accents.

FRIDAY, JUNE 10
Josh Ward & Jon Wolfe

Jon Wolfe was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma and raised in Miami, Oklahoma.[1] He grew up singing in church and was first interested in classic pop music.[2] His stepfather, a bass player in a house band with Joe Don Rooney, introduced him to country music.

He was inspired to become a working musician after attending an Alabama concert in Texas where he was invited on the tour bus and sang with Teddy Gentry and John Rich.[3] He settled in Austin, Texas and became a regular performer on the Lone Star honky tonk circuit.[2] He was nominated for Best Country Act in both Houston and Tulsa, Oklahoma.

SATURDAY, JUNE 11
Dos Borrachos, Kevin Fowler & Roger Creager

Dos Borrachos means "two drunks," a designation Kevin Fowler and Roger Creager proudly celebrate with their 2019 duet album of the same name. The veteran Texas country singers were longtime friends and associates prior to making their relationship professional.

Hiring producer Trent Willmon, the pair recorded Dos Borrachos, an album of drinking songs split between new tunes and classic covers, including versions of Merle Haggard's "Bar Room Buddies" and Tom T. Hall's "I Like Beer." The album appeared in November 2019.

GCM student apprehended with gun

BAYTOWN, Texas – Goose Creek Memorial High School was temporarily placed on lockdown last Wednesday morning after a student was found in possession of a firearm, according to Kathryn Holland, the school's principal.

Holland said the student was apprehended upon his arrival to campus, and the gun was unloaded. A member of the Goose Creek CISD Police Department assisted with the situation and additional units were dispatched.

The student was removed from campus and the instructional day continued without interruption.

Holland sent a letter to parents which read, in part:

"As a reminder, students are bound to the rules and responsibilities outlined in the Goose Creek CISD Student Code of Conduct. If students are found to be in violation of the Student Expectations and/or Standards of Conduct, disciplinary actions will be taken.

"It is our duty to ensure our students and staff are safe on school premises at all times. We are grateful for the assistance of the Goose Creek CISD Police department and campus employees during this incident. We urge our students to make sound choices as it pertains to their education and their behavior in the district and always, if you see something, say something."

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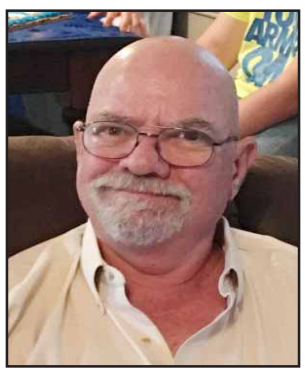
JAMES "JIM" MICHAEL PAAR



James "Jim" Michael Paar, 75, of Dayton, Texas, passed away on Friday, June 3, 2022, in Baytown, Texas, with his loving family by his side. He was born on May 28, 1947, in Waterloo, Iowa, to the late Bertram Anthony and Dorothy Marie Condon Paar. Jim graduated from Corpus Christi Academy, class of 1965. He attended college at Del Mar College, in Corpus Christi, where he was the president of the business club. Jim formally worked as a police officer in Kingsville, Texas. Before his retirement, Jim settled into a career working in the chemical industry as a boilermaker for Shell Refinery.

Jim was a faithful member of Crosby Church of Christ, the Liberty VFW Post 5621, and the American Legion Post 512, in Dayton. He was the founder and president of Eastgate Yacht Club. Jim proudly served his country in the United States Army. While in the Army, he served two tours in Vietnam and was a member of the Army's fire department. During his time in the military, he served 4 years of active duty. Upon his separation from the army, he bravely made the decision to reenlist. After his discharge for the second time, he remained in the reserves until 1972. For his heroism, Jim was awarded the Air Medal Award and a Bronze Star Medal, both being received while in combat.

Jim pursued many interests, some of which were traveling, leather tooling, duck hunting, and collecting guns. One of his greatest treasures in life was his family and his grandchildren, with grandson Blake being his pride and joy. Jim was a jokester and would go to any measure to make everyone laugh. If something were said, he was always quick to have a comeback. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents. He leaves behind to cherish his loving memory his twins Lori Hall and husband Chad of Mont Belvieu, and Michael Paar and wife Jennifer of Dayton; his grandchildren Blake Paar and wife Hope of Frisco, Aimee Baumgartner and husband John of Sarasota, Florida, Erinn Stevens and husband Craig of Saint Louis, Missouri, William Hall and fiancé Vicky of Baytown; his great-grandchildren Michael, Madeline and Emma Stevens all of Saint Louis; his siblings Larry Paar and wife Betty Jo of League City, and Patricia Drieling and husband Kenneth of Deer Park; his rescue donkeys Boudreaux and Thibodaux; his grand puppies; his numerous nieces, nephews; and a host of other loving relatives and friends.

Friends are invited to visit with the family from 5pm until 7pm, on Wednesday, June 8, 2022, in the chapel of Sterling Funeral Home, in Dayton. A funeral service will be held at 10am, on Thursday, June 9, 2022, in the sanctuary of Crosby Church of Christ, 3737 US-Highway 90, Crosby, Texas 77532. Burial will follow at 1:15pm, in Houston National Cemetery, 10410 Veterans Memorial Drive, Houston, Texas 77038

Condolences can be shared online with the family by visiting www.SterlingFuneralHome.com

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Dayton, TX &&%#%
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DR. MELANIE RENE (STARRETT) TUMINO-HALLISEY

Dr. Melanie Rene (Starrett) Tumino-Hallisey, 61, passed on from this life on May 31, 2022 after a long and courageous battle with cancer and lymphedema.

She was born on November 5, 1960 to her parents Elizabeth "Betty" May (Tweet) and Chester Starrett in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Dr. Melanie married Dr. Thomas Hallisey in the fall of 1982.

She, and her husband, were the founders and owners of East Loop Chiropractic in Houston, Texas, in addition to the previous practice she had opened in the 80's. Dr. Melanie was the secretary of District 11 Chiropractic Association, and was the first woman to perform manipulation under anesthesia.

While she took care of others, she did not forget to take care of herself; she took pride in her healthy lifestyle and was a bodybuilder.

Dr. Melanie was a fantastic cook, and she loved to share a home-cooked meal with anyone at her table. She was also a member of the San Jacinto Pilot Club, and a life member of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Dr. Melanie touched many lives throughout her life, and she will forever live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

She is preceded in death by her parents. Left to cherish her memory is her husband of 40 years, Dr. Thomas Hallisey; sisters, Michelle Savage and husband Scott, and Melody Gibson; in addition to numerous employees that are family, and many friends.

The family would like you to join them for a visitation at Carter-Conley Funeral Home on Saturday, June 11, 2022 from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. with celebration of life services for Dr. Melanie to begin at 1:00 P.M. A graveside service is to immediately follow at San Jacinto Memorial Park Cemetery at 2:30 under the direction of Carter-Conley Funeral Home. Memorial donations can be made in Dr. Melanie's memory to the ASPCA.

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RFP# 2122-006 – Annual Financial Audit Services

Bids will be received until 4:00 p.m., Thursday, June 30, 2022, at the Channelview ISD's E-bidding website. Please visit the electronic bidding website at https://cvisd.ionwave.net All necessary information may be obtained by calling the Business Office at (281) 452-8003, or the district website www.cvisd.org, under Departments Business Office Purchasing. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 504790; Estate of MARJORIE LYNN ELLIOTT Deceased; In Probate Court No. 1 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on MAY 24, 2022.

ROY MILTON ELLIOTT, JR.

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

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

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Dated this JUNE 6, 2022.

by WESTON COTTEN
Attorney for the Estate

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 503926; Estate of VAN WALLACE JOHNSON Deceased; In Probate Court No. 1 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on MAY 3, 2022.

KATHERINE LOPEZ JOHNSON

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

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

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Dated this MAY 9, 2022.

by WESTON COTTEN
Attorney for the Estate

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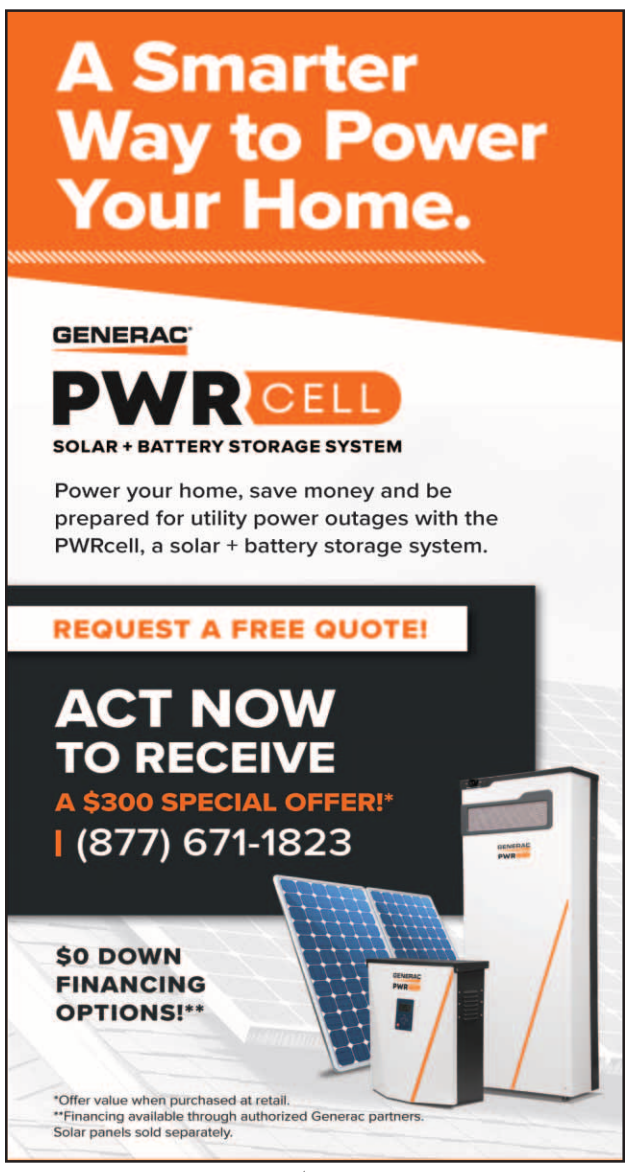

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Crosby ISD will hold a public meeting at 7:00 PM, June 20, 2022 in Crosby ISD Operations Building, 14670 FM 2100, Crosby, Texas 77532. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

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

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

Maintenance Tax	$0.96030/$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax Approved by Local Voters	$0.48000/$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

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

Maintenance and operations	6.16 % increase
Debt Service	11.82 % increase
Total Expenditures	7.08 % increase

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

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	$3,034,844,029	$3,546,022,645
Total appraised value* of new property**	$85,595,882	$129,546,372
Total taxable value*** of all property	$2,499,530,203	$2,823,589,861
Total taxable value*** of new property**	$70,497,690	$106,695,786

*Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.
*** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* $119,710,000

*Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	$0.96030	$0.48000	$1.44030	$5,532	$5,978
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	$0.86716	$0.31424	$1.18140	$5,616	$5,516
Proposed Rate	$0.96030	$0.48000	$1.44030	$6,810	$5,762

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

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

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	$185,935	$225,449
Average Taxable Value of Residences	$151,755	$168,275
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per $100 Value	$1.44030	$1.44030
Taxes Due on Average Residence	$2,185.73	$2,423.66
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		$237.93

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

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is $1.44030. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of $1.44030.

Fund Balances

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

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	$15,187,110
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	$6,918,396

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

Chappell Hill Gallery has new paintings by Mei Hoffman

Texas Artisans Art Gallery in Chappell Hill is now featuring oil and acrylic paintings by Mei Hoffman. The Gallery is on the main street, and open weekends and some weekdays by appointment. Call 713-703-3841. See more at paintingsbymei.com.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Barbers Hill Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:00 pm, June 27, 2022 in J. Justin Jenson Conference Center, 9600 Eagle Drive, Mont Belvieu, TX. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

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

Maintenance Tax	$0.8646/$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax Approved by Local Voters	$0.2899/$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

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

Maintenance and operations	15.3	% increase
Debt Service	10.5	% increase
Total expenditures	13.8	% increase

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

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	$15,387,340,820	$16,201,144,010
Total appraised value* of new property**	$ 306,674,990	$ 735,235,173
Total taxable value*** of all property	$ 6,633,257,994	$ 7,815,636,450
Total taxable value*** of new property**	$ 301,960,800	$ 710,811,323

*Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.
*** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* $348,015,000

*Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	0.88470	0.26980	1.15450	13,887	461
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	0.83567	0.27592	1.11158	12,537	543
Proposed Rate	0.86460	0.28990	1.15450	13,001	403

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

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

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	$250,180	$293,212
Average Taxable Value of Residences	$173,097	$151,057
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per $100 Value	$1.15450	$1.15450
Taxes Due on Average Residence	$1,998.40	$1,743.95
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		-$254.45

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

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is $1.1545. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of $1.1545.

Fund Balances

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

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	$43,013,000
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	$19,062,000

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

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*Based on customer experience reviews shared online at www.thehartford.com/aarp as of October 2021.

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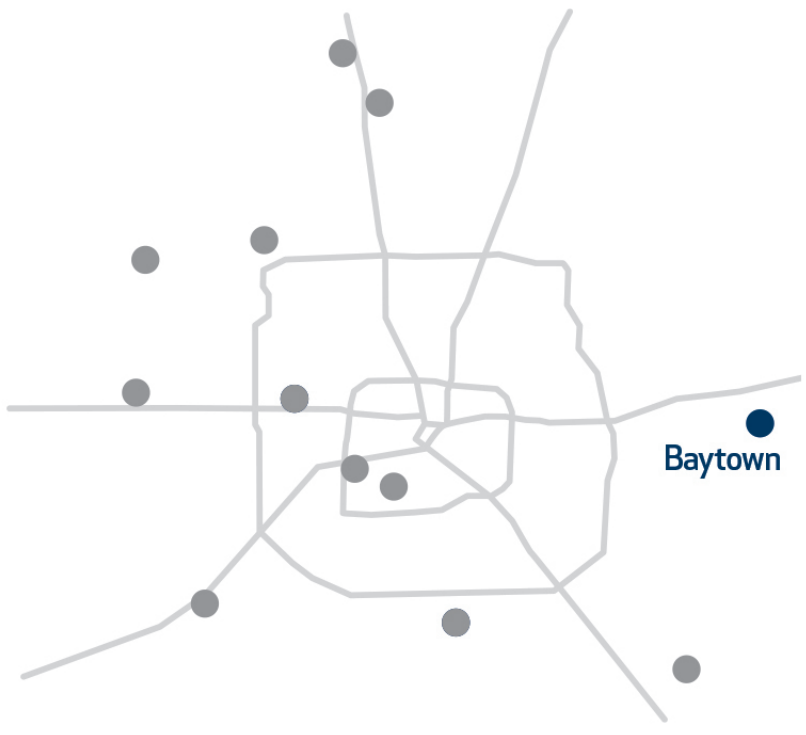

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