

HIGHLANDS

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THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2022

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

IN THE STARS

EVENTS

THU. JUN 16 Crosby Chamber Luncheon

Join us for our June Monthly Member Luncheon! The luncheon will take place on Thursday, June 16th at Peso's Mexican Restaurant, located at 6512 FM 2100 in Crosby. Lunch will begin at 11:30am and the price of the luncheon is \$20.00.

Our Speaker will be Erica Gillette with Boy Scouts of America! She will speak on how the Boy Scouts are performing Community Service in our local area.

SAT. JUN 25 Crosby Historical Society History of Huffman

Crosby Historical Society Invites you to a public meeting on Saturday, June 25, at 2 - 3:30 pm, Crosby Brethren Church Recreation Building, 5202 Church Street, Crosby, TX

Guest speaker: Jody Fuchs presenting. Jody has written two books on the local history of Crosby, and he is currently working on the HISTORY OF HUFFMAN.

THU. JUNE 23 Spearman Memorial Issue

On the 1 year Anniversary of the loss of our colleague Lewis Spearman, we will publish tributes in his memory. You are invited to submit your thoughts and remembrances for inclusion in this special Memorial. Email grafikstar@aol.com.

BIRTHDAYS

Jun 11–Trent Coots
Mike Woods
Ralph Roper
Jun 12–Bobby Horn, Jr.
Zoie Woosley
Jun 13–Earlene Michalsky
Jun 14–Shelby Russell
Jun 15– Tina Hill
Jun 16– Steffany de la Cruz
Tim Grisham
Evelyn Del Angel
Jun 17–Garret Oviedo
Brandi Rutledge
Jun 18–Erica Castro
David Mata
Jun 19–Lara Sue Hill
Jun 21–Louise Cann
Eddie Marshall
Jun 22–Dixie Roffe
Randall Sloan
Robert Guillory

ANNIVERSARIES

Jun 18–Cliff & Janise McKee
Jun 19–David & Susie Coffman
Jun 22–Larkin & Margaret McKay
Gene & Elizabeth Bulanek

DEATHS

Bobby Gene Birdsong
Vincent Alexander
"Jimmy" Petrick
Virginia Lee Edwards
Woods
Emma Dale Zadraba

Crosby Rodeo sets attendance, sales records



CROSBY LIVESTOCK SALE & AUCTION proceeds topped \$480,000 in preliminary figures, more than previous years. ABOVE, the Grand Champion Steer sold for \$17,500 and was shown by Shelby Kouba. Buyers were Ranger Roofing and Construction, and R. L. Daskocil Inc.



Reserve Champion Steer was sold for \$9,750, shown by Peyton Givans and purchased by Scott Stephens and Associates. Photos courtesy CFR. MORE photos and details next week.

EPA meeting June 23 will report on Waste Pits

CHANNELVIEW – CHIC members and guests heard of recent activity regarding the remediation of the San Jacinto River Waste Pits, at a meeting held last month at the Channelview FD Station 3. Public interest remains high regarding the waste pits, and the EPA plans a public meeting for everyone on Thursday June 23rd at 6:30pm at the Flukinger Community Center in Channelview.

At the CHIC meeting, presented by Rachel Jordan of THEA, attendees learned that work will



Rachel Jordan, at left, of THEA updated CHIC members last Thursday, May 26. Above, Ginnie Ramsey and Carolyn Stone of CHIC at the meeting in Channelview.

start in the fall of 2022 to excavate the toxic material in the South impoundment. Jordan shared

information from a CAC
Continued. See Waste Pits meeting, Page 2

Highlands native new Hospital CEO

Houston, Texas — HCA Healthcare Gulf Coast Division President Troy Villarreal announced Jeanna Bamburg has been named chief executive officer of The Woman's Hospital of Texas. Bamburg will assume her new role Tuesday, July 5, 2022.

A native Houstonian originally from Highlands, Bamburg has been the chief executive officer at HCA Houston Healthcare Southeast since 2012. Prior to serving as CEO, Jeanna served as chief operating officer at HCA Houston Healthcare Southeast when it was



JEANNA BAMBURG

Bayshore Medical Center. Additionally, she has held positions of increasing responsibility in her 25 years with HCA Healthcare.

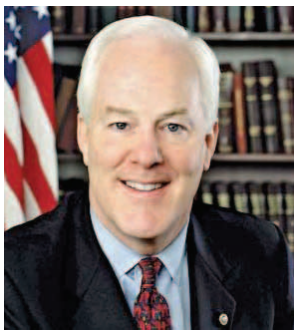
Bamburg has been
Continued. See New Hospital CEO, Page 5

Cornyn's Senate Panel drafts new limited Gun Safety laws

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senators John Cornyn (R-Texas), Chris Murphy (D-Conn.), Thom Tillis (R-N.C.), Kyrsten Sinema (D-Ariz.), along with Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.), Roy Blunt (R-Mo.), Cory Booker (D-N.J.), Richard Burr (R-N.C.), Bill Cassidy (R-La.), Susan Collins (R-Maine), Chris Coons (D-Del.), Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.), Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.), Mark Kelly (D-Ariz.), Angus King (I-Maine), Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.), Rob Portman (R-Ohio), Mitt Romney (R-Utah), Debbie Stabenow (D-Mich.), and Pat Toomey (R-Pa.) issued the following statement:

"Today, we are an-

nouncing a commonsense, bipartisan proposal to protect America's children, keep our schools safe, and reduce the threat of violence across our country. Families are scared, and it is our duty to come together and get something done that will help restore their sense of safety and security in their communities. Our plan increases needed mental health resources, improves school safety and support for students, and helps ensure dangerous criminals and those who are adjudicated as mentally ill can't purchase weapons. Most importantly, our plan saves lives while also protecting the constitutional rights of law-abiding



SENATOR JOHN CORNYN

Americans. We look forward to earning broad, bipartisan support and passing our commonsense proposal into law."

The proposal includes:
SUPPORT FOR STATE CRISIS INTERVENTION ORDERS

--Provides resources to

states and tribes to create and administer laws that help ensure deadly weapons are kept out of the hands of individuals whom a court has determined to be a significant danger to themselves or others, consistent with state and federal due process and constitutional protections.
INVESTMENT IN CHILDREN AND FAMILY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

--National expansion of community behavioral health center model; major investments to increase access to mental health and suicide prevention programs; and other support services available in the community, including crisis and trauma inter-

vention and recovery.
PROTECTIONS FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

--Convicted domestic violence abusers and individuals subject to domestic violence restraining orders are included in NICS, including those who have or have had a continuing relationship of a romantic or intimate nature.
FUNDING FOR SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

--Invests in programs to expand mental health and supportive services in schools, including: early

Continued. See GUN SAFETY, Page 5



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GOOSE CREEK NEWS

GCCISD and HCDE Hosted Standard Reunification Method-Reunification Exercise (SRM-REX)

By: Kristyn Hunt Cathey, GCCISD Director of Communications

Nearly every day, organizations worldwide experience some kind of incident requiring evacuation from their facilities. When these events occur at a school, staff must ensure efficient and accurate parent/guardian reunification with their students.

The Standard Reunification Method (SRM) provides schools with proven methods to conduct a successful reunification. In order to help schools plan and practice, The "I Love U Guys" Foundation has developed the Standard Reunification Method - Reunification Exercise (SRM-REX).

The Harris County Department of Education partnered with Goose Creek CISD to host the two-day training, held June 6-7th. Dr. Anthony Price, GCCISD Chief Operations Officer and Robert Marquez, Director of Safe and Secure Schools, took lead roles during the training.

Over 100 guests from districts within regions four and five as well as local law enforcement who have a role in reunification, ensuring a common understanding of the process, establishing the use of common language, and strengthening the relationships with our community partners, attended the event.

The process included focused classroom training, tabletop exercises, and functional demonstrations and exercises to prepare attendees to conduct an actual reunification of students with their parents or guardians.

The "I Love U Guys" Foundation was started in 2006 by Ellen and John-Michael Keyes following a school shooting that took the life of their daughter, Emily. On that day, Emily sent two text messages... One to her mother, Ellen, "I love u guys. K" and to her father, John-Michael, "I love you guys."

Today, the Foundation is led and supported by survivors, family members, first responders and community members with a vested interest in safety, preparedness and reunification in schools.

The "I Love U Guys" Foundation's programs for crisis response, the Standard Response Protocol (SRP), and post-crisis reunification, the Standard Reunification Method (SRM) are used in more than 30,000 schools, districts, departments, agencies, organizations and communities around the world. They are created through the research-based best practices of school administrators, psychologists, public space safety experts, families, and first responders.

Davis Smith, Chief of Police for GC-CISD, attended the two-day event and walked away with a wealth of knowledge. "This is information that we all need to know," he said. "It's not just for law enforcement. As district leaders, we have to be as prepared as possible and this training has provided us with those tools."

Photos taken by Carrie Pryor-Newman:



Attendees participated in a reunification exercise at Stallworth Stadium during the second day of the training.



GCCISD employees prepare for the second day of the reunification training.



"I Love U Guys" Foundation John-Michael Keyes, presents to audience during the first day of reunification training.

Bamburg Hospital CEO,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

named one of Houston's Most Admired CEOs, Houston's Women Who Mean Business and Houston's Breakthrough Women.

"Jeanna has demonstrated expertise in improving patient safety and quality, expanding clinical service lines and HCA's footprint in the community and transforming the hospital's culture. She has dedicated herself to ensuring the hospital is a great place for patients, their families, staff and providers," said Villarreal. "Her work ethic, talent and natural leadership ability make her a great fit to take the helm at The Woman's Hospital of Texas."

Along with her work in healthcare, Bamburg serves on the Board of Directors of Houston's Alley Theatre, a Tony Award-winning theatre and one of America's leading non-profit theatres. She has significant experience leading local fundraising campaigns, committees, and mentoring initiatives for several organizations. Her focus is to mentor the next generation of female leaders and improve healthcare for all women. She recently served as the 2022 March of Dimes March for Babies Houston Chairperson and proudly continued the tradition of Houston's event landing in the nation's top spot for both walkers and funds raised.

Bamburg earned a master's degree in business administration and a bachelor's in business administration with a concentration in marketing from the University of Houston Clear Lake. She is board certified in healthcare management as a fellow with the American College of Healthcare Executives, with which she currently serves as the regent for the Southeast Texas chapter.

About The Woman's Hospital of Texas

Since 1976, The Woman's Hospital of Texas has been the state's premier facility dedicated to the health and well-being of women, newborns and children. As a Level IV Maternal Designated facility, with an Advanced Level IV NICU, the hospital offers expertise and outstanding care in breast health, imaging, gynecology, obstetrics, high-risk pregnancy, neonatology, minimally-invasive surgery and pediatric care. For more information, visit womanshospital.com. The Woman's Hospital of Texas is an HCA Houston Healthcare facility, part of HCA Healthcare Gulf Coast Division.

About HCA Houston Healthcare

HCA Houston Healthcare is the leading provider of healthcare in the Houston area, where excellent trained physicians, nurses and allied health professionals treat almost a million patients annually. With an employee base of 15,000, HCA Houston Healthcare's comprehensive network includes 13 hospitals, 10 outpatient surgery centers, 12 freestanding emergency centers and numerous freestanding diagnostic imaging facilities in the greater Houston area. It also includes a regional transfer center that provides one-phone-call access and support for patient transfers into and out of HCA Houston Healthcare facilities as well as access to ground and air transportation within a 150-mile radius. As one of the region's largest healthcare systems, HCA Houston Healthcare recognizes the importance of giving back to the communities we serve. A strong advocate for the next generation of healthcare professionals, HCA Houston Healthcare also is a major supporter of the University of Houston College of Nursing and the new University of Houston College of Medicine. For more information, visit HCAhoustonhealthcare.com.

Waste Pits,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

(Community Awareness Committee) meeting that was held in Houston on May 16th with EPA representatives.

The report from the CAC meeting was divided into the South and North impoundments, because the schedule and type of remedial work are different.

For the Southern impoundment, the updated RD (Remedial Design) package is due in June 2022, and contractor selection, procurement, and excavation work are scheduled to start in Fall 2022. This section of the work had a new EPA Remedial Project Manager, Lauren Poulos.

For the Northern impoundment, the PRP (Potential Responsible Party) has requested an extension of time to finish the 90% Remedial Design, which is due June 26, 2022. The PRP said in their request that the scope of the project has changed (i.e. greater depth and volume of waste) and the engineer-

ing complexities have increased. In addition, the PRP consultant raised the issue of interference with a new I-10 bridge, both the alignment and the work areas possibly overlapping.

The EPA Region 6, headquartered in Dallas, has a new regional administrator, Dr. Earthea Nance. On April 15 of this year, she responded by saying that EPA believes information in the 90 percent design is sufficient, and that proceeding will benefit other stakeholders and aid EPA in evaluating the final design. Therefore, the request for an extension was denied, and the schedule remains the same.

The Community Meeting on June 23 with EPA, TCEQ, and other interested parties, is to provide an update on current site activities and next steps. Following the updates, a question-and-answer period will open, allowing the public to gain further information on these subjects.

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6/21-6/25

Desserts of The Week Strawberry Cream Cake, Chocolate Spoon Loving Cake, Reese's Peanut Butter Pie \$5.95

Cherry 4 Layer & Bread Pudding \$4.95 each

Large Family Meal Feeds 6+ \$55* Small Family Meal Feeds 4+ \$45* Single Meal \$11.95

Tuesday: King Ranch Chicken, Fresh Garden Salad with Homemade Croutons, Garlic Bread & Cake Balls! This one is an oldie but a goodie! I didn't even know I liked King Ranch Chicken until I tried it from Teapot!

Wednesday: Pork Chop Potato Casserole, Green Beans, Rolls & Carmel Pretzel Crack Bars. This is a new one and it's goood! Boneless Pork Chops, Cream Soups, Hashbrowns & ALL THE SEASONINGS!

Thursday: Cajun Chicken & Sausage Pasta, Garlic Bread, Bread Pudding & 1 Gallon of Sweet or Unsweet Tea

Friday: Party Tray! Cucumber Sandwiches, Strawberry & Feta Salad with Red Onion & Poppy Seed dressing, mini Ham & Cheese Quiche & assorted sweet breads!

Saturday: Come have lunch & Shop with us!

We Deliver Lunch & Dinner!

\$40.00 Minimum or as close as possible!

Pre-Order or Order the Day of... Whatever works for YOU!

Follow us on FB!

Don't forget we have specialty items available for pickup at our Crosby location daily!

Add a Gallon of Sweet or Unsweet Tea for \$5.00

Add a Gallon of Peach or Raspberry Tea for \$6.00

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND
San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site
Community Meeting
Thursday, June 23, 2022
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in cooperation with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), Federal, State and Harris County agencies, local officials and industry, invites you to attend a Community Meeting for the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund site. Meeting details are listed below:

Thursday, June 23, 2022
6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.
The Flukinger Community Center
16003 Lorenzo Street
Channelview, Texas 77530

During the meeting, an update will be provided on current site activities and next steps. Following the updates, a question-and-answer session will be open to the public.

To participate remotely, a listening-only audio option is available by calling +1 202-991-0477 and entering the code 453688444#. You may also find a copy of this presentation online at <https://www.epa.gov/tx/sjrwsp>.

This meeting is being held in a fully accessible facility. Should you have specific needs or questions about the facility, please contact Janetta Coats, EPA Sr. Community Involvement Coordinator, at (214) 665-7308, (800) 533-3508 (toll-free), or coats.janetta@epa.gov.

EPA will continue to monitor COVID-19 community levels in Harris County, TX. Updates on the status of this meeting, if needed, will be available online at: <https://www.epa.gov/tx/sjrwsp>. Copies of fact sheets, informational bulletins, the administrative record, and additional information are also available on this site.

Para información en español, comuníquese con la Agencia de Protección Ambiental de los Estados Unidos (la EPA) a 1-800-533-3508 (llamada gratis).

Barbers Hill Dayton Press

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

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THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2022

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

ON THE HILL

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)

Wolastogiyik 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.

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.

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Chambers County Children's Museum to Break Ground on New Building

(Mont Belvieu, TX) – The Chambers County Children's Museum is excited to celebrate our Ground Breaking ceremony Monday, June 20th at 10:30a.m. at 10955 Eagle Drive in Mont Belvieu TX. The Museum will be created in the old Thrif-Tee grocery store building which has been donated to the Museum by the facility owner with a 15 year free lease. The Museum has raised \$3.4 million towards a campaign goal of \$4 million to fund the renovations that will begin later this month.

As of June 1st, the Museum has welcomed the following corporate sponsors: Barbers Hill Bank, Barbers Hill Lions Club, CenterPointe Energy, Chevron Phillips Chemical, City of Mont Belvieu, Coastal Hose & Supply, Combs Commercial Realty, Community Auto Group, DuGood Credit Union, Energy Transfer LP, Enterprise Products Partner LP, Floyds Mont Belvieu, HEB, Knecht Orthodontics, Lee College, Little Learning Academy



LLC, McDonalds of Mont Belvieu, Mercy Gate Church, Mobile Oil Federal Credit Union, Monument Chemical Houston LLC, Patients ER, Speed Field Services LLC, Targa Resources, Thomas J Friedt Dentistry, TPC Industrial, Transglobal Solutions, Vortech Contracting, WowCo. Executive Director Melody Kraus stated, "We are deeply thankful to our community Sponsors for their generous financial support in building the

Chambers County Children's Museum. Our community's generosity enables us to effectively serve the children in our community, creating a space that fuels inspiration, innovation and exploration." Sponsorship opportunities are still available at <http://chamberscountychildrensmuseum.org/sponsorship-menu/About> the Chambers County Children's Museum:

Founded in August 2019, the Chambers County Children's Museum "seeks to inspire discovery through innovation, hands-on experiences and exploratory play". The Chambers County Children's Museum is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization in the state of Texas with a Board of Directors comprised of 12 community leaders who are passionate about bringing play-centered learning to Chambers

County. The explosive growth of the area, primarily made of young families, is driving the need for more family and kidcentered activities and programs. The Chambers County Children's Museum strives to fill that need by bringing unparalleled exhibits and experiences to our Chambers County Community.

In November of 2019, the CCCM Board of Directors partnered with Mayes Middleton, the new owner of the now empty Thrif-Tee Food Center building located at 10955 Eagle Drive in the heart of Mont Belvieu, TX for a free 15-year lease on the facility and grounds. By the Spring of 2021, the museum completed an extensive analysis of the current state of the building and began work with Mark W. Todd Architects to determine the specifics of the building's renovations and the museum's design. Once completed, the Chambers County Children's Museum will be the only organization within a 45-mile radius that provides a unique learning experience specifically designed for children and their families. Currently, Chambers County families have limited leisure enrichment destinations in the area, especially when weather prohibits outdoor activities. The Chambers County Children's Museum is working hard to be open to the public by Winter of 2022. please check out our Website: www.chamberscountychildrensmuseum.org.

Houston Methodist Hospital Baytown

DAISY Nursing Excellence Award Winners



LaQwell Cheers



Ann Dorre



Jocelyn Herrera

BAYTOWN — (May 31, 2022) — Three Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital nurses were recognized as recipients of the May DAISY Award.

LaQwell Cheers was recognized for her work in the observation unit. Ann Dorre and Jocelyn Herrera both for their work in the

2 South unit. The DAISY Award is given by the DAISY Foundation and Community Resource Credit Union sponsors the award program at Houston Methodist Baytown.

In her nominating letter, Cheers was praised for her attentiveness throughout a patient's recent stay

during COVID, when family visits were limited. "She took every single call, she called me when there was a status change. Any patient is lucky to have her, and families are blessed if she is caring for their loved one."

A patient who nominated Dorre wrote, "I was so

scared of being in a new hospital with new doctors, but she made sure to explain everything to me, and kept me informed about what was going on."

The patient who nominated Herrera, credits her for saving her life, "Without this nurse's comfort, I would have left, and possibly lost my life. She stuck by me and convinced me to stay when I was adamant about leaving."

The not-for-profit DAISY Foundation is based in Glen Ellen, Calif., and was established by family members in memory of J. Patrick Barnes, who died in 1999 at the age of 33 from complications of idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP), a little known but not uncommon auto-immune disease. The

care Barnes and his family received from nurses while he was ill inspired this unique means of thanking nurses for making a profound difference in the lives of their patients and patient families. Each month, a nurse is selected by a nursing committee to receive the DAISY Award.

Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital is proud to be among the hospitals participating in the DAISY Award program. Nurses are heroes every day, and given the current national nursing shortage, the Daisy Award plays an important role in letting our nurses know their work is highly valued.

United Way of Greater Baytown & Chambers Cty Annual Meeting

Baytown, Texas: As the campaign begins to close, United Way of Greater Baytown Area & Chambers County prepares for the annual meeting and official report to the community. Although community impact is the mission, it is important to remember that the campaign is critical to United Way's efforts to positively impact the community. There are many donors, both corporate and individual, as well as volunteers, who come together to do amazing things for our community.

Companies like Exxon-Mobil, Covestro and Chevron Phillips, Zachry Group, H.E.B., United Parcel Service, and ONE-OK, plus small businesses and school districts that participate to make a difference in the community

where we work, play and raise families. All give so much to our community through United Way of Greater Baytown Area & Chambers County and other impactful organizations. "Thanks to strong community support from our local businesses, their employees and individual community donors," said campaign chair, Patti O'Neill-Burn, "more than \$2 million is flowing into important programs. This financial support, along with many hours of service by volunteers who roll up their sleeves, creates the change that makes our community strong."

The community is reminded that the campaign is still active. Anyone who still wants to make a gift can do so either by making a gift online through the

secure donation site at www.unitedwaygbacc.org/give or mailing a gift to 5309 Decker Drive, Baytown, TX 77520. Your donation to United Way will make a difference in the weeks to come as new funding for programming is determined.

United Way works directly with community volunteers who lead, coordinate and build partnerships on behalf of creating impact and lifting the quality of life for everyone in our community. Volunteers oversee the process of investing donations into programs that provide immediate support to those in need as well as provide solutions to community-wide issues. Agencies go through a rigorous review before receiving any funding. As a donor, you can be sure that the

research is thorough and continues to enhance local agencies capacity to be efficient and effective. Each gift is wisely invested into the community. Corporate sponsors support operations, allowing the full investment of individual's gifts made through the campaign. This is the 100% guarantee.

ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCED

United Way of Greater Baytown Area & Chambers County will hold its annual meeting on Thursday, June 16, 2022 from 11:30 AM – 1 PM. The meeting will be hosted at Eagle Point Pavilion, Mont Belvieu, TX. The Board of Directors, volunteers and staff will provide a report to the community, including campaign awards for high achievement work-

place campaigns and volunteers who coordinate the campaigns, as well as special recognition of volunteer leadership representing the Board of Directors.

This is the official business meeting for the organization. Donors are encouraged to attend to learn more about the community investments that were made possible by their gifts, as well as to elect the Class of 2025 Board of Directors. Nominees for the Class of 2025 (July 2022 – June 2025)

The meeting is open to the public, however registration is required. RSVP online at <https://www.unitedwaygbacc.org/annual-mtg2022> by June 10, 2022 to attend this lunch meeting.

Dayton Metro Library Celebrates Pride Month

June is Pride Month, when the LGBTQ community along with their friends, families and allies commemorate their history and celebrate their achievements. Dayton Metro Library provides materials, book clubs, and reading recommendations that highlight the journeys of LGBTQIA individuals 365 days a year. Below you will find books and tools we love that celebrate PRIDE year round.



STARLITE
By Gil Hoffman, Publisher

A Sailor’s Surprise

The Coast Guard Cutter USS EAGLE is now in Galveston Harbor, paying a public relations visit to the historic town for the first time in 50 years. It is one of only two American square-rigged sailing vessels in the U.S. Public tours were available last weekend, but long lines meant many folks simply looked on from a distance, and I might add, with awe. The 295 foot cutter, with its 3 masts and sleek lines, is a sight to see. And that brings me to my personal story about the first time I saw the ship.



USCGC USS EAGLE under full sail. The Ship is now paying a visit to Galveston Harbor.

I have been a sailor of small personal boats since my days in Connecticut, starting in the 1960’s. A good friend of mine, David Kilgore, and I worked in the architectural office of Eero Saarinen, and for a break we bought a sailboat, and learned to sail it by reading a book. We kept the boat at a small village on the coast of Long Island, where we sailed among what are known as the Thousand Islands (count them, only 360 in reality).

We usually sailed on the weekends, among the islands and out into the Sound. It was on a summer morning in 1964 that we were sailing like this, and the fog had not totally cleared. The water was rough, and we were busy with the sheets and tiller. Occasionally we would look out and through the fog see another boat, or more often a tug pushing a load of barges.

But as we got farther out into the Sound, the fog lifted slightly and much to my amazement, it revealed a 3-masted, square-rigged cutter right out of the history books. Through the fog, I couldn’t believe my eyes. I did not know that



A 19-FOOT LIGHTNING DAYSAILER similar to the Purlisher’s first sailboat.

anything like it existed in modern times, and to see it so close, and so large was a thrill and a threat at the same time.

It was not until the next day, in Sunday’s New York Times, that we learned that dozens of these “Tall Ships” had gathered in New York harbor for a celebration called “Operation Sail” to commemorate the New York World’s Fair of 1964.

We learned also that there are two square-rigged ships in the US military. The other is the USS Constitution, a wooden cutter built in 1794 and usually kept in Boston harbor when not sailing. The USS Eagle is actually a modern cutter, built by the Germans in 1936 and confiscated by America after World War II. It is made of steel, not wood, and is 295 foot long, with a crew of 12 officers, 68 crew, and 150 trainees when used for training recruits. There is also a smaller Frigate, USS Constellation, built in 1854 are kept in Baltimore harbor but not sailed.


Sailing has brought me many joys, from the fun of the sport to an appreciation for the weather conditions from storm to eery calm.

When I moved to Texas, it was not long before I acquired another sailboat, a 23 foot Pearson. Not only was it larger than the Lightning, but it had a cabin with sleeping and eating facilities. For almost twenty-five years we sailed on Clear Lake and Galveston Bay. Although age finally dictated that we give up the sport, a visit from the USS EAGLE brought back lots of pleasant memories and a latent desire to be back on the water.





STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By Gary Borders



TEA directed by Abbott to make schools safer

Gov. Greg Abbott has directed the Texas Education Agency to ensure school facilities are made safer in the wake of the killing of 19 children and two teachers at Robb Elementary in Uvalde.

In a letter to TEA Commissioner Mike Morath, the governor requested the agency:

- Instruct school districts to identify actions to make campuses more secure prior to the start of the new school year.
- Instruct all school districts to conduct weekly inspections of exterior doors to verify they are secure during school hours.
- Develop strategies to encourage school districts to increase the presence of trained law enforcement officers and school marshals on campuses.

The state has made an initial \$5 million investment to establish a Family Resiliency Center in Uvalde County. The center will provide psychological services, crisis counseling and other health services for those affected by the massacre.

To date, the governor has rejected calls for a special session to consider additional gun control measures. Instead, he has asked legislative leaders to convene special committees to develop recommendations on school safety, mental health, social media, police training, firearm safety and other issues.

GOP DONORS URGE CONGRESS TO ACT ON GUN CONTROL

More than 250 major Republican donors in Texas signed an open letter published in *The Dallas Morning News* urging congressional action to increase gun restrictions. The letter was published as a full-page ad on Sunday. It endorses the creation of red-flag laws, raising the age to purchase a gun to 21, and expansion of background checks.

“Most law enforcement experts believe these measures would make a differ-



ence,” the letter reads. “And recent polls of fellow conservatives suggest that there is strong support for such gun-safety measures.”

Texas Sen. John Cornyn is leading bipartisan negotiations on nearly gun reform measures.

“We are grateful that our Senator John Cornyn is leading efforts to address the recent tragedies in Uvalde and elsewhere across our great Country,” the letter says. “He’s the right man to lead this bipartisan effort, as he has demonstrated throughout his career.”

Among those signing the letter are major financial supporters of Abbott.

INFLATION INCREASE IS HIGHEST IN 40 YEARS

A report by the state comptroller’s office notes that inflation increased to 8.5% nationally in March — “the highest year-over-year percent change in consumer prices since January 1982.”

Food and energy prices were the leading contributors, with gas prices reaching record levels. The largest source of inflation in food products were in meat, poultry, fish and eggs, up 14.3% in the past year.

The comptroller’s report said the increase in prices is likely a “confluence of economic pressures related to the coronavirus pandemic stemming from both the supply side and the demand side.”

The pandemic disrupted production and transporta-

tion lines in the global supply chains, which are not expected to fully recover until next year. In addition, demand now exceeds production capacity, often leading to empty grocery shelves and nearly empty lots at car dealerships.

Finally, Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and the subsequent sanctions on that country have contributed to driving up the cost of oil.

Inflation decreased slightly in April.

EMERGENCY SNAP BENEFITS AGAIN EXTENDED

Once again, the *Texas Health and Human Services Commission* has received approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to provide nearly \$318 million in emergency food benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for June.

All SNAP households will get a minimum of \$95 in additional food allotments on top the regular allotment. More than \$6.9 billion in emergency benefits have been provided to Texans since April 2020.

“We’re here to support families when they need us most,” said Texas HHSC Access and Eligibility Services Deputy Executive Commissioner Wayne Salter. “Providing access to fresh, nutritious foods is essential for healthy families.”

VEHICLE DEATHS REACH 41-YEAR HIGH IN 2021

The number of people killed in vehicle crashes totaled 1,532 last year, with 6,493 major injuries — the highest level since 1981. More than a third of those deaths involved excessive speed, according to the *Texas Department of Transportation*. With a 16% increase last year in speed-related wrecks, TxDOT is urging drivers to slow down and drive to weather and traffic conditions.

“Speed is the number one factor in roadway crashes in our state, causing 1 out of every 3 traffic deaths,” said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. “When you speed, you increase the risk of death and serious injury in a collision. By observing the speed limit and driving to specific weather and road conditions, Texans can make our roads safer for everyone.”

COVID-19 CASES CONTINUE TO RISE

The number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas during the past week rose to 46,946, with 42 new deaths reported by the *Coronavirus Resource Center* at Johns Hopkins University. That is more than double the number of new cases reported a month ago. The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations across the state also rose to 1,168, according to the *Texas Department of State Health Services*.



THE POSTSCRIPT
By Carrie Classon

Hot Sandwiches

I have been trying, for as long as I can remember and with limited success, to learn Spanish.

My husband, Peter, says I am good, but that is because he does not speak Spanish, so if I say anything that is understood by anyone, he regards it as a minor miracle. I feel that I have been stuck at about the same level of Spanish for at least 20 years. I can ask where things are and communicate in emergencies and exchange the usual greetings, then I dry up. I’d like to change that.

Since we are now planning to spend more time in Mexico, I’ve been taking this whole learning Spanish thing more seriously. I’ve been using Duolingo, which is a free program online, and I seem to be making progress, albeit slowly.

Duolingo relies on repetition—a lot of it. It tries to replicate the way a child would learn a language, so instead of lessons to memorize, there is simply exercise after exercise that builds on one another. Just as a toddler repeats the same thing over and over again, Duolingo does its best to turn me into that toddler, repeating nonsensical phrases until they finally stick in my brain and become second nature. At least that’s the theory.

“I really like hot sandwiches,” I say in Spanish over and over again.

As I say this, it occurs to me that I have not actually eaten a hot sandwich in years. I’m trying to remember if I have ever had a hot sandwich. I try to imagine where in Mexico I might find a hot sandwich and have an opportunity to tell someone how much I like it. Then I realize that I’m not even sure that I do especially like hot sandwiches. And even if I did, who would care?

The next phrase is waiting for me. I move on.

“My dog never takes a shower.”

Well, I no longer have a dog, so this phrase appears to be of even less use. It is true, when I had a dog, he never took a shower. Was he supposed to, I wonder? Would someone ever ask me this, in Mexico or anywhere else? Under what circumstances would someone ask, “Say, how often does your dog shower?”

“Oh,” I’d confidently reply, “My dog never takes a shower!”

Again, I’m coming up with very few instances when this phrase would have much practical value.

When I get an answer correct in Duolingo, a little animated animal jumps for joy. While I would like to say that I find this ridiculous and unnecessary, I would be lying. Making that little owl do a somersault is deeply satisfying.

I don’t honestly know if this is the best way to learn Spanish or not. There are a lot of programs out there. But most of them do not involve animated animals celebrating every time I get an answer correct and I might need that kind of encouragement if I’m ever going to get any better. These little animals seem to know I’m not the brightest Spanish student they’ve ever had, but they are patient. If I can correctly tell them about my dirty dog or my love of hot sandwiches, they are over the moon.

When I finish a lesson, a horn sounds, as if this is a grand accomplishment. I know it’s not. The overexcited owl knows it’s not.

But learning just a little bit of Spanish every day feels as if I am accomplishing something, so, what the heck. Let’s celebrate with a hot sandwich.

Till next time,
Carrie
Follow me on Facebook at: CarrieClassonAuthor.

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OBITUARIES

VIRGINIA LEE EDWARDS WOODS

On June 9, 2022, Virginia Lee Edwards Woods, 82 of Highlands, Texas, passed peacefully at home surrounded by her loving children. Virginia “Jennye” was born May 17, 1940, in Sweetwater, Tx, to James and Evelyn Edwards.

After graduating Baylor University in 1962, Virginia married her high school sweetheart, Carl R “Dickie” Woods, and moved to Houston. She spent the next six decades raising family, building businesses, teaching, being an active member in multiple gardening organizations, creating floral designs and traveling the world. Virginia worked as a law clerk, then a journalist, before becoming a mother. As a mother she was room-mom and chaperone on many school trips and number one fan for her children and grandchildren alike. She was an avid collector of curiosities and had various shops around Kingwood and Baytown, specializing in antiques, jewelry and collectibles.



Virginia was a master design judge for the National Garden Clubs and was invited to present in seminars and judge shows all over the state and the world, from Tokyo to Sao Paolo and Panama, Johannesburg, and Cusco. She also travelled for pleasure, reaching most continents and many exotic destinations. Her latest world travels took her to the jungles of Costa Rica and the pyramids of Egypt.

She is survived by her three children, Jennifer Woods-McCann, Jessica Woods, Dickson and his wife JoEllen Woods. Her grandchildren are Kenneth Michael McCann III, EmmaLee Lopez, Logan Lopez, Sarah Woods and Hunter Woods. She is also survived by her

brother-in-law Floyd Woods, sisters-in-law Estelle Councilman and Ann Edwards, nieces; Lisa Taylor, Shelle Bullard, Lynette Palafox, Angela Smittle, Amy Edwards and Andrea Edwards, and nephews; Kelle Councilman, Randy Councilman, and Ryan Councilman.

Virginia is preceded in death by her husband and love of her life C. R. “Dickie” Woods, her parents Jimmy and Evelyn Edwards, her brother David Edwards, and her aunt Sue Perry.

The family will receive guests for a time of visitation at Sterling-White Funeral Home, 11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd. Highlands, TX 77562. Tel: 281-426-8431 on Saturday, June 25, 2022, from 10 to 11 a.m. A memorial service will be immediately following the visitation at 11 a.m. in the chapel of Sterling-White funeral home

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VINCENT ALEXANDER “JIMMY” PETRICK

On Thursday, May 19, 2022, Vincent Alexander “Jimmy” Petrick, loving husband and father, passed away at the age of 93. He was born on February 18, 1929, in Detroit, Michigan. Soon after, his family moved to the Texas Hill Country, where Jimmy lived with his siblings until enrolling at the University of Texas at Austin in 1947.

While studying in Austin, he pursued his passion for music. An accomplished trumpeter, Jimmy formed numerous dance orchestras and performed at many venues in the area. It was at one such performance that he met the woman who would become the love of his life, Esther “Mitzie” Oberpriller, another undergrad. The two married shortly thereafter and moved to Crosby, Texas to begin their life together. In Crosby, Jimmy began a career in the grocery business while continuing his musical endeavors with the local group known as the Baytonians. Always one to have a smile on his face, he loved people and



immediately was welcomed by the community. He was active in the local Lion’s Club, Rotary Club and was supportive of local sports and rodeo events. As a member of the Naval Reserve, Jimmy balanced his military obligations with work and family for his ten years of service. In addition to being a musician, he also possessed a gifted voice. As a member of Crosby United Methodist Church, he sang with the choir for years as a soloist and choral member. He also served a stint on the Crosby School Board and was active in support of school youth organizations. Jimmy loved playing tennis and golf, traveling with his wife and

family, and cooking on the grill.

Jimmy was preceded in death by his father, Anthony and his mother, Dolly. is survived by his wife, Mitzie, his two children, Randall and Patricia, his three grandchildren, Anson, Brandon, and Kristan, and a great-grandson, William. He is also survived by his sisters Francis and Gloria and brothers Joe and Anthony along with numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

Jimmy’s Celebration of Life will be held on June 23rd at Crosby United Methodist Church located at 1334 Runneberg Rd. in Crosby, Texas 77532. Visitation will begin at 1:00 pm with the celebration to follow at 2:00. In remembrance of Jimmy, the family requests any charitable donations be made to Crosby United Methodist Church.

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BOBBY GENE BIRDSONG

Bobby Gene Birdsong went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, May 31, 2022. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to First Baptist Church Highlands Mission Trip Fund at 210 N. Magnolia, Highlands, TX 77562 or the Highlands Volunteer Fire Department at 123 San Jacinto Street, Highlands, TX 77562.

Bobby Gene Birdsong, 75 of Highlands, Texas went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, May 31, 2022 at St. Luke’s Hospital after battling cancer. Bobby was born on August 16, 1946 in Crowell, Texas to Dock and Wanda Birdsong.

He is survived by the love of his life, Claudia Birdsong, daughter and son-in-law Cindy and Eric Willingham and son and daughter-in-law Billy and Melody Birdsong. Grandchildren, Courtney Stockwell, Tyler Willingham and Logan and Morgan Birdsong. Three great grandsons, Ethan, Kalix and Preston Komornicki. Also surviving Bobby are his sister and brother-in-law, Brenda and Mike Nirider and niece Brandi Gilmore,



brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Beri and Linda Smith and their family, Laurie and Scott Dishman, Cooper, Raegan and Miller, Calvin Smith (deceased), Jordan Smith, Leslie & Chad Glen, Chase and Cheyanne and Colby and brother-in-law and sister-in-law Terry and Laura Cornman, Michael and Matthew.

Bobby is preceded in death by his father, Dock Birdsong, mother and step father, Wanda and Jesse Wehrman and mother-in-law Audrey Cornman, as well as step father, Leon Hammond.

Bobby served three years in the US Army, obtaining the Rank of SP5. He has been a member of First Baptist Church Highlands for

39 years and ordained as a Deacon in April 1986. He spent the past 28 years serving as a member of the Highlands Volunteer Fire Department, 10 of which as Assistant Chief. He was also on the Board of Directors for the Harris County Water Control & Improvement District #1 for 12 years and served on the Highlands Sports Association and Highlands Little League for a number of years.

In February 2003, Bobby and Claudia were presented with the Community Builders Award by the Sampson Masonic Lodge #231, which was great honor.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to First Baptist Church Highlands Mission Trip Fund at 210 N. Magnolia, Highlands, TX 77562 or the Highlands Volunteer Fire Department at 123 San Jacinto Street, Highlands, TX 77562.

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EMMA DALE ZADRAPA

A Beautiful Woman of Faith & Grace
February 24, 1931 - May 28, 2022

She wondered out loud why people would still tell her she was beautiful. At ninety-one years of age, Emma’s face was kissed with years of sunlight, of long days spent working in her vegetable garden and growing the beautiful flowers scattered throughout her park-like yard. She wondered, but we knew, because we could see what others saw. We all were drawn to the light from within that glowed upon her face, to her mischievous smile that invited you to join in a moment of fun even during this last battle with her health. And we continually marveled at her amazing grace, strength, and courage.

Emma Dale Zadrapa was born in San Antonio, Texas on February 24, 1931, to Edna Earle Jordan and lovingly called daughter by Mack Irvin Jeter. She went home to be with her Jesus on Saturday, May 28, 2022. Her absolute faith in Jesus as her Lord and Savior brought the greatest comfort to her life on this earth and hope of the one to come, and she joyfully shared her belief with loved ones and strangers alike at every



opportunity.

Emma is preceded in death by her loving parents, dear younger siblings, step-son, John Cecil, her husband, John, of almost 55 years of marriage and friendship, who so gladly shared their home in Crosby, Texas with family and friends dropping by to sit on their porch and visit for a spell, and just recently, this past July, her lovely niece, Terry, and perhaps, her greatest fan of all, her beautiful daughter, Sherry Lynne Morton. Emma often said Sherry, her first born child, taught her all about a mother’s love.

Emma will be forever treasured by her daughter

and son-in-law, Christy and Steve Roeder of Dayton, son-in-law, Robert Morton of Crosby, step-daughter, Vicki Adcock of Longview. Grandchildren: Jonathan Roeder and wife Vanessa, Christopher Roeder, Abbey Moore and husband Dave, Casey Morton and wife Brandy, seven beautiful great-grandchildren: Audrie, Finn, Gavin, Ava Grace, August, Hunter and Vivienne. Siblings: Lyndon Ray and Sharon Kary, and many nieces and nephews. We, who are privileged to know and call her by name, Emma, Dale, Nana/Nanna, Mom, or Momma, have been blessed with the genuine gift of the sweetest love.

Emma skipped everywhere as a little girl. She’s skipping now, flying free. She’s home.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made for glioblastoma research at Baylor College of Medicine online. (bcm.edu/give)

Services were held at Earthman’s Funeral Home in Baytown, Texas June 7, 2022

Gun Safety,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

identification and intervention programs and school based mental health and wrap-around services. **FUNDING FOR SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCES**

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

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