

HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

IN THE STARS

EVENTS

Back-2-School First Day of Classes:

DISTRICT: DATE:
HISD AUG 22 MON
ALDINE AUG 17 WED

GALENA PARK AUG 11 THU
CHANNELVIEW AUG 15 MON
SHELDON AUG 17 WED

HUFFMAN AUG 10 WED
CROSBY AUG 11 THU
GOOSE CREEK AUG 10 WED

BARBERS HILL AUG 17 WED
DAYTON AUG 11 THU

AUG. 20, SAT. Highlands Little League Sign-up

Fall Ball Registration on Saturday, August 20 from 10am to 2pm, at Kaminski Park 925 E. Canal Road in Highlands. Ages 4 to 12, where you live is not a factor. All players welcome, from any league. \$50 per player, \$600 per team.

AUG. 17, WED. Chick-fil-A Ribbon Cutting

Welcome a new business in Crosby, on Wednesday August 17th at 10:00am. 14041 FM 2100 Road, Crosby TX 77532. Members of the Crosby Huffman Chamber and the public are welcome to this Grand Opening.

AUG. 18, THU. Eagleton Pork Chop Dinner Fundraiser

You are invited to Constable Sherman Eagleton's Pork Chop Dinner & Auction Fundraiser, at the Baytown Fairgrounds, 7900 N. Main St. Thursday, Aug. 18 from 4pm to 8pm, with Live Entertainment. \$10 Donation.

BIRTHDAYS

Aug 19–Lisa Cutbirth
Sherwood Jett
Natalie Elizabeth King
Aug 20–Patti Farmer
Ruby King
Ronald Phillips
Gertrude Rutledge
Natasha Webb
Pastor Phillip Morris
Aug 21–Gary Jackson
Alice Seaburg
Jimmy Ray Slot
Patrick Williams
Rick Ross
Sheri Ross
Jessica Cain
Aug 22–Lacie Paige Burton
G.A. Kearney
James R. Townsend
Tonia Watkins
Aug 23–Tarshira Harper
Daniel Stone
John Wilson
Aug 24–Donche Webb
Alex Catie Maxey

ANNIVERSARIES

Aug 19–Tony & Margaret
Boyd
Aug 20–Carl & Myrtis
Richard
Aug 23–Greg & Angie
Basquez
Kaylin & Caleb Morgan
Aug 26–Lee Ward & Jo Ann
Hammac
Aug 28–Gil & Mei-Ing
Hoffman

GC Superintendent O'Brien extolls District accomplishments at Highlands Chamber

HIGHLANDS – “Here We Grow Giants” was the message that Goose Creek superintendent Randal O'Brien delivered to the Highlands-Lynchburg Chamber last Thursday at their monthly luncheon.

O'Brien showed slides and gave an extensive talk about all of the innovative programs offered by his district, and the accomplishments of the students and graduates.

However, he said he thought the story needed to be heard by more of the public, and he has been making rounds of service clubs and chambers to help explain what good things happen at his district.

Since his appointment as Superintendent in 2014, he has seen the district grow from 25 to 32 schools,



Dr. Randal O'Brien, Superintendent of Goose Creek School District

now with 24,000 students, 4000 employees, and \$18 million in scholarships every year for seniors.

His slides demonstrated many of the innovative programs, including career academies, 21 athletic pro-



This information slide explains some of the accomplishments of the 2022 class.

grams, two Apple recognized schools, a robotic center, and two Early Learning Academies for Pre-K. O'Brien was questioned whether Highlands would get an Early Learning Academy, and he

said they are looking at the numbers, but need 400 interested kids to justify the program here. In Baytown, over 1200 have signed up, he said.

Goose Creek District has attracted attention

from the state and nationally, with some of these programs, including the AVID program for advanced students.

The GC School Board was voted Region IV Board of the Year in the state.

O'Brien also spoke about school safety, an issue on everyone's mind currently. He said that the last two bond issues had included money to “harden” the schools, providing \$15 million for fencing, vestibules, cameras, and a Raptor ID system. In addition, 6 new police officers have been authorized, in addition to the 20 on the force, and 10 new security persons in addition to the 30 presently on-staff. Officers have annual active

Continued. See Goose Creek talk, Page 6

Crosby Superintendent's Back 2 School message

Hello East Harris County and Crosby ISD families,

Welcome to the new year. We are off to an amazingly great start! Thank you to everyone who approached the new year with patience and grace and contributed to making the first two days of the school year a success. The new routines went fairly well. There are always things upon which to improve. We will work to get better each year.

The start to the new year was met with some challenges the night before the first day of school, but Crosby ISD responded to the challenge. You might remember we had a storm that blew through the night before the first day of school. The storm caused some serious problems. Our technology, maintenance, and transportation teams leaped into action Wednesday night



SUPERINTENDENT PAULA PATTERSON

into Thursday morning. The storm knocked out power, internet, and phones at our Operations Center. Our transportation team relocated to Crosby High School to finish entering routes late into the night. Our staff members were making phone calls to parents past 10pm to ensure families had the infor-



Superintendent Patterson and staff members at Crosby Elementary School. On the first day, all staff members wore red and white matching shirts featuring this year's theme: Better Together. SEE MORE BACK 2 SCHOOL PHOTOS ON PAGE 8

mation they needed for Thursday morning. Our Crosby Middle School team arrived at work extra early

Thursday morning to print schedules since the storm disrupted that process Wednesday evening.

I traveled to each Crosby ISD campus on the first day

Continued. See Crosby Back2School, Page 8

UPDATE ON SAN JACINTO RIVER WASTE PITS

From THEA/San Jacinto River Coalition:

On June 23rd the EPA hosted its first in-person community meeting for the San Jacinto River Waste Pits since 2019. The agency provided an overview of the work that's been done in the last few years and details of the process moving forward. The community also had the opportunity to meet new EPA team members who have joined the remedial effort as it has become one of the most technically complex clean-ups the agency is tasked with.

During Hurricane Harvey severe scour on the eastern side of the North-

ern Pit left it at risk of destabilizing. Yet the material to repair it was delayed by weeks due to fog congested waterways on the Mississippi River. When the EPA Administrator informed THEA about this, our Executive Director responded, “It is absolutely absurd that our river and Galveston Bay are at risk for catastrophic dioxin exposure because the EPA hasn't required local storage of emergency materials.” Since then, the San Jacinto River Coalition has continued pressing the EPA to require material be kept nearby for emergen-

cy repairs. And they now have local sources for emergency repair materials in the event that the cap is damaged again.

As you probably know, these wars are won one battle at a time, and just as we win one, another fuse ignites. At the meeting, we were informed that the Southern Waste Pit, which is set to begin construction this fall, is only going to be cleaned up to a depth of 10 feet below the ground surface. This will inevitably leave dioxin

Continued. See THEA Waste Pits, Page 6

From PRP/SanJacintoFacts:

The 90% Remedial Design (RD) document for the Northern Impoundment for the San Jacinto River Waste Pits was submitted as required to EPA Region 6 on June 27.

The document outlines and details the wide range of investigation, engineering studies and analyses underlying design approaches rigorously reviewed for remediation of the waste pits within the Northern Impoundment.

The report reflects broad input from a Technical Working Group consisting of representatives from the EPA, Texas Commis-

sion on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the Responsible Parties' consulting engineering firm and other technical subject-matter experts. A total of 25 meetings of this group took place – dating back to April 2018 and continuing through April 2022 – to provide expertise in the development and evaluation of the document.

The objective of the 90% RD is to present a summary of the design plans for

Continued. San Jacinto Facts, Page 6

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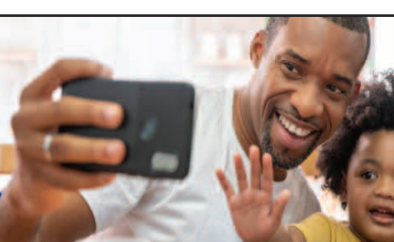
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THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

ON THE HILL

Burn Ban Lifted in Chambers County

After receiving significant rainfall, the drought index for Chambers County has dropped below drought levels, alleviating the need for a ban on outdoor burning. In addition, Chambers county is expected to receive more rainfall this week. However, please exercise caution during any legal burning activities, and always monitor burning at all times. For more information: <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/downloads/publications/rg/outdoor-burning-in-texas-rg-49.pdf>

A Woman Body found in canal believed to be missing 72-year-old with dementia, authorities say

ANAHUAC, Texas — The Chambers County Sheriff's Office said the body of a missing 72-year-old woman was found Sunday. The body was discovered less than a day after she went missing, Texas cops say.

Bettye Robinson went missing after she left her son's Anahuac residence on foot around 9 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 13, according to the Chambers County Sheriff's Office. Anahuac is in southeast Texas about 50 miles east of Houston. She suffered from dementia and believed she was still in upstate New York, her son told the sheriff's office.

Crews searched for Robinson using K9 crews and helicopters, and a Silver Alert was issued when authorities were unable to find her. On Sunday, Aug. 14, deputies found a body in a canal they believe to be Robinson's. The Anahuac Channel is a few blocks from where Robinson went missing, and the canal is about a mile downstream.

Deputies did not say how Robinson may have ended up in the water.

Lee College Overhauls Nursing Program

State-of-the-Art Expansion Offers Integrated Curriculum, Doubles Student Capacity

BAYTOWN, Aug. 11, 2022 – For 60 years, Lee College has trained students to become Registered Nurses (RN) and Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVN), and starting this fall, the nursing programs will offer a new, state-of-the-art learning experience that aligns with the demands and rigor of the most modern patient care.

"Nursing is much more complex than it was 20 years ago," said Dr. Janea Norris, dean of nursing & allied health. "Nurses have a lot more responsibility at the bedside. Patients are living longer and have multiple underlying conditions, which requires more critical thinking and clinical judgment."

It's that thought process that prompted the college to modernize the program by renovating and expanding the space inside the McNulty-Haddick Nursing Center, as well as overhauling the existing curriculum to make the



coursework more integrated. The improvements will also accommodate doubling the capacity of nursing students.

"Renewing and updating our nursing program is critical to better serving the needs of our area hospitals, their patients and our communities," said Dr. Lynda Villanueva, Lee College president. "And as a school located near the largest medical center in the world, it's imperative we create a steady flow of well-educated, highly skilled students ready to succeed in these facilities and in their careers."

Integrating Teaching

with Technology

The enhanced space features three new skills labs with a total of 30 patient beds and a high-fidelity simulation center that houses five rooms: one pediatric room, two adult Medical-Surgical rooms, one critical care room and a maternity (Mother-Baby) suite. These spaces allow for both nursing skills practice as well as scenario-based hands-on learning.

The renovation also allowed for the creation of three larger-capacity classrooms with advanced technology and computer-based testing

capability.

"It is our hope that all our spaces collectively will allow for a well-rounded educational experience so our students can master important nursing skills and concepts in order to be successful on the licensure exam and in practice," Norris added.

Caroline Lucke, a second-year RN student, joined the program during the height of COVID-19 and due to the pandemic, could not get access to the labs. She looks forward to utilizing the new spaces, running through different scenarios with her classmates and receiving guidance from her instructors.

Filling a Gap for Qualified Nurses

According to The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the demand for RNs will jump to 3.3 million by 2029. That's an increase of 221,900 or 7 percent. The job outlook for LVNs is expected to grow 9 percent through 2030, which trans-

lates to an increase of just more than 64,000.

Industry partner Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital is one hospital dealing with challenges in filling nursing positions, especially since the pandemic. Many nurses left to take travel nursing positions to make more money, some retired, and there are those who left the profession after reassessing their lives.

"At Lee College, students will feel more prepared and know what to expect once they are working. They will have at least been exposed to different scenarios. They will be better equipped for the analytical thinking that will be required of them in practice," said Becky Chalupa, vice president & chief nursing officer & business practices officer, Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital.

Learn more about the Nursing and Allied Health programs at Lee College.

Ambassadors from the Baytown Chamber of Commerce Surprise Member Businesses

Ambassadors and staff from the Baytown Chamber of Commerce visited Chamber members on Friday, Aug. 12 to show appreciation for their continued support of the Chamber Mission. The "Surprise Patrol" pops in on Chamber Members about once a month with a small gift and shares the photos on the Chamber's social media to help give their members exposure.

In August, the Chamber Ambassadors visited;

The Villas at Rollingbrook – Villas residents enjoy some of the best community amenities available. Residents could spend the day relaxing by a resort-style swimming pool or work out in the state-of-the-art fitness center. Ping Pong and Shuffle Board are also available. Personal tours are scheduled by calling (281) 204-8468.



Navarre Funeral Home, Inc. – Navarre Funeral Home & Cremation Services has cared for families in the Baytown area since 1923. Honesty, integrity and fairness are their core values. They offer many services including obituaries, event planning, pre-arrangement counseling and cremation. With a professional staff and relaxed atmosphere, they can help people from all backgrounds celebrate life.

Baytown Gentle

Dental – At Baytown Gentle Dental, Ashraf Seif, DDS, and the team provide comprehensive oral health care to people of all ages living in and around Baytown, Texas. The team at Baytown Gentle Dental offers a full suite of dental services, including emergency dentistry, preventive dentistry, and sedation dentistry.

About the Chamber
The Baytown Chamber of Commerce is a 501 (c) 6 premier business organi-



zation representing the local business community. The Baytown Chamber exists to promote and protect the free enterprise system

and provide experienced leadership for economic growth, enhancement and quality of life for the Baytown region.

Houston Methodist Hospital Baytown

Relief for Irritable Bowl Syndrome Symptoms

BAYTOWN — (August 12, 2022) — Frequent bloating, cramps and unpredictable bowel movements force millions of Americans suffering from irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) to stay close to a restroom at all times.

Often called "spastic colon," IBS is a common intestinal disorder that causes abdominal cramps, diarrhea, gas, bloating and constipation. Although help is available, embarrassment causes many people with IBS to suffer in silence rather than seek treatment.

"The condition occurs when the delicate interplay among the nerves, hormones and electrical activity that link the bowel and the brain is disrupted," said

Dr. Yassir Ashraf, a gastroenterology/hepatology specialist at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital.

If you never thought about the connection between the brain and the stomach before, just imagine the butterflies you feel before making a speech or the bellyache that might come on during a heated argument.

"In IBS, pain sensors in the colon are more sensitive than normal, causing them to respond strongly to stimuli that don't affect most people," Ashraf said.

In short, a breakfast of scrambled eggs and milk can spell disaster for those with the disorder.

Dr. Ashraf suggests tak-



Dr. Yassir Ashraf

ing these steps if IBS symptoms are beginning to disrupt your life:

- See your physician as soon as symptoms appear. Your physician will know what treatment course is best for you. And since the signs of IBS may mimic those of a serious disease,

it's important to rule out any underlying disorder.

- Write down the foods that seem to bring on symptoms and discuss your findings with your doctor. Once you identify the foods that trigger symptoms, scale back your intake. Common culprits are dairy products, caffeine, beans, cabbage, fat and alcohol. Remember that many of the nutrients you need may be in the foods you are avoiding, so be sure to make healthy substitutions.

- Limit spicy foods.
- Since large meals often cause cramping and diarrhea, try eating a few small meals throughout the day instead of three large courses.
- Control tension levels.

Because of the brain-bowel connection, high stress levels can trigger IBS symptoms. To unwind, go for a daily walk, talk with a friend, dust off an old hobby or listen to music.

Although antidiarrheals and laxatives may ease symptoms, they are not a long-term solution. Instead, your doctor may prescribe antispasmodics for relief. In severe cases, antidepressant medication may help soothe distress.

If you are experiencing symptoms of IBS, visit houstonmethodist.org/baytown, or call 281-422-7970 to schedule an appointment with a gastroenterology specialist with Houston Methodist Gastroenterology Associates.

☆

OPINION

By U.S. Representative
SYLVIA GARCIA



Assault Weapons Ban passes House

10 days ago, my House colleagues and I voted to reinstate the Assault Weapons Ban. Now it goes to the Senate. We know an assault weapons ban will work to reduce mass shootings, because it worked in the past.

A 2021 study by Northwestern Medicine found: “[The] Federal Assault Weapons Ban (FAWB) — that included a ban on large capacity magazines (limiting the number and caliber of bullets) — from 1994 to 2004 — resulted in a significant decrease in public mass shootings, number of gun deaths and number of gun injuries.”

Even Republicans know this. That’s why many of them voted for the original ban.

I strongly urge my colleagues in the Senate to act NOW to save lives.

It’s been less than three months since we lost 19 children and 2 teachers in the Uvalde massacre. All of them might be alive and with us today if we had passed this bill already. Every day the Senate delays this vote is a day we might wake up to another Uvalde, another El Paso, another Buffalo — the list of preventable tragedies is truly endless.

I am fighting every day for the people of our district — and people across Texas — to have safe schools and public spaces. Inaction in the face of this epidemic of violence is inexcusable.

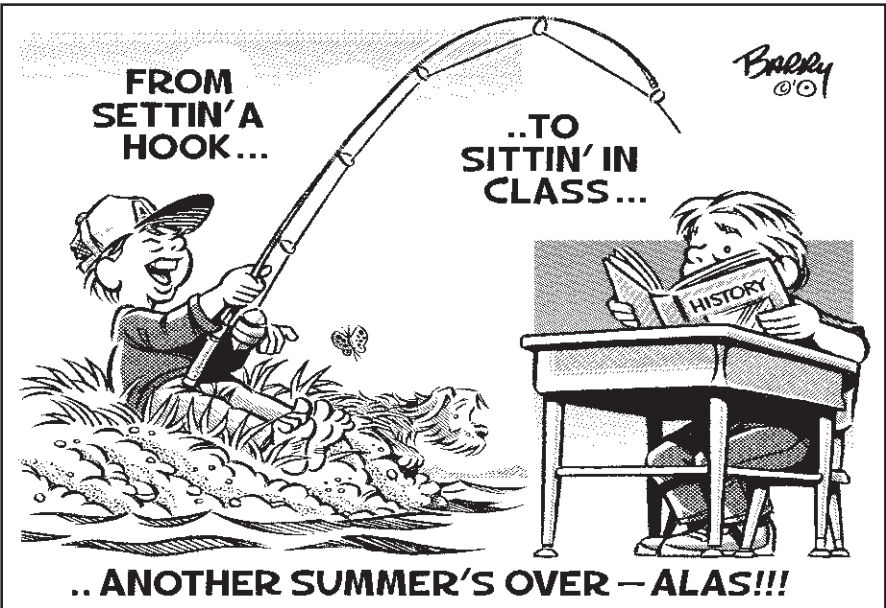
We must also defend every Democratic seat so Republicans can’t reverse any of the gains we have made.

In addition to running for reelection myself, I’m also working to keep strong Democrats in office, and flip seats to elect bold new candidates to join our ranks.

I hope the Senate gathers the courage to pass this bill, so we can begin to address the gun violence that has become rampant in our country.

In the meantime, I will keep fighting for you, and we need you with us!

Si, se puede!
Sylvia Garcia



☆

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Drivers Urged to be Alert as School Begins

DRIVERS URGED TO BE ALERT AS SCHOOL BEGINS

Millions of Texas children are heading back to school this month, as early as this week in some districts. The Texas Department of Transportation urges drivers to be especially alert and focused when driving in school zones and near bus stops.

Drivers are further reminded that a new Texas law requires drivers to stop and yield to pedestrians in crosswalks, according to TxDOT. The Lisa Torrey Smith Act is named after a young mother killed in Missouri City in a crosswalk as she walked her son to school. The driver received a \$50 fine for failing to yield, according to numerous media reports.

Now it’s a crime punishable with up to two years in prison.

EX-TRUCKING OWNER CHARGED WITH INSURANCE FRAUD

The former co-owner of Bill Hall Jr. Trucking in Bexar County has been indicted in Travis County for fraud in an alleged scheme to get lower workers compensation insurance premiums by concealing payroll reports. A Texas Department of Insurance news release said the plot allowed the company to avoid more than \$9 million in premium payments.

Francis Hall, the former co-owner along with her husband, was previously convicted of murder in 2016 for knocking her husband’s motorcycle off the road in 2013 with her Cadillac Escalade as she chased his lover, who was in another vehicle, on the same stretch of Loop 1604 in San Antonio. She claimed it was an accident, and the jury gave her the shortest possible sentence in that case. She was released two years later in 2018, ac-



cording to the San Antonio Express-News.

Fraud investigators with TDI claim that between 2009 and 2016, “Hall allegedly provided false payroll information to Texas Mutual Insurance Company and concealed payroll reports to get lower insurance premiums on their extensive gravel hauling business.”

If convicted, Hall could face life in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine. She is currently free on bond.

WILDFIRE DANGERS CONTINUE IN THE DOG DAYS

As the summer heat and dry conditions persist, so does the danger of wildfire. The Texas A&M Forest Service reported 10 active wildfires across the state as of Sunday. The largest fire at 3,323 acres in Throckmorton County was 90% contained. The Big Sky Fire in Gillespie County had consumed 1,459 acres and was also 90% contained.

Burn bans are now in force in 225 Texas counties, according to the forest service. Only El Paso County and a portion of neighboring Hudspeth County are not under some level of drought throughout the entire state.

HEALTH CENTER GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

The Texas Department

of State Health Services is seeking grant applications for \$20 million dedicated to health centers in areas where resources are scarce and access to adequate health care can be challenging. The funding came from the federal American Rescue Plan Act, and the Texas Legislature approved funneling it to federally qualified health centers (FQHC).

“Federally Qualified Health Centers are a valuable support for people who need essential medical care but live in areas where resources are scarce and access can be challenging,” said State Sen. Robert Nichols, R-Jacksonville. “Once they are up and running, they operate without local or state financial support. These grants are intended to bridge the gap between start-up cost and full certification to enable the program to expand in Texas.”

Open enrollment is available until Dec. 31 or until program funding is exhausted. More information is available on the DSHS website: dshs.texas.gov.

TRAVEL INDUSTRY ELIGIBLE FOR COVID-19 GRANTS

More funding from the federal American Rescue Plan Act will soon be headed toward entities tied to travel and tourism which were adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. That includes arts entities, according to the Texas Commission on the Arts.

The program, operated by the Governor’s Office of Economic Development & Tourism, provides one-time grants of up to \$20,000 to eligible Texas businesses and non-profits that experienced an economic loss due to COVID-19. The \$180 million dedicated to the grant program to aid in the recovery of Texas tourism, travel and the hospitality industry was authorized in the last regular legislative session.

More information can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/3244psej>.

NEW COVID-19 CASES UP SLIGHTLY

The number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas during the past week rose slightly to 78,845, with 244 deaths reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. DSHS reports 3,490 lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations, a slight drop from the previous week.

DSHS also reports 17.9 million Texans are fully vaccinated, or 60.6% of the state’s population, while 7.3 million have received at least one booster shot.

☆

THE
POSTSCRIPT

By
Carrie Classon

“Two Degrees”

They call the impossibly complicated screen I am looking at a “dashboard,” which I do not find reassuring at all. It would be nice not to associate my ignorance of technology with crashing some out-of-control machine into a ravine, although, as I think about it, that is very much how it feels.

Learning new technology is a bear. I don’t care what they say.

I understand the need to play with it, get familiar with the functions and learn in a less-than-linear fashion. But less-than-straightforward learning often leads me to travel in circles—I do the same thing again and again, and discover that I have learned nothing at all.

This is what I have been doing of late.

The goal is simple: I’m going back to some of “The Postscripts” from early on and making videos of them to post on my website and YouTube channel. I thought it would be a fun way for new readers to enjoy old columns. But I had to wade through a forest of fear and insecurities first—and I’m not home yet.

First, there are the required hours of staring at my face on the screen.

I was a stage actor before I started writing, where we take lots of photos but do not film the work. The result is that I know more or less how to position my face when a camera is in the vicinity to keep from looking completely ridiculous.

Video is different. My face is in constant motion on video. I stop the video midframe and see that I have an expression on my face that I did not know I was capable of making. It is never flattering. It is always grotesque.

“Do other people move their faces that much?” I wonder. I don’t think so. This is fear No. 1: having an abnormally mobile face.

Fear No. 2 is what to do with all this captured footage of my grotesque face contortions. Now we’re back at the “dashboard,” aptly named as I prepare for a crash landing.

The tutorials drone on and on about how to achieve an effect I would never dream of trying and merrily speed over the section where they explain, “This is how you can actually see what you are working on!” That would be nice to know.

There are dials and buttons and functions and reams of information about this video, less than five minutes long. There are special effects and filters I will never use, editing tricks I will never need and multilayering track capabilities that are totally superfluous to what I am doing. And, on every control, there is a long list of measurements I am supposed to understand to achieve the desired result. I suddenly feel that I am about two years old.

There is a story told about me when I was two. I got up on the bathroom scale and declared, “I’m going to see how tall I am. Oh!” I announced confidently, “Two degrees!”

I’m not sure I ever got over the feeling that measurements are not intuitive in the least.

But I am back at it today. The dashboard is all in shades of black and gray. I’m sure this is to make it look more intimidating and serious. We couldn’t have a candy-colored dashboard with little animated mascots helping me along the way.

By the end of yesterday, I had done what a typical video editor would accomplish in approximately 15 seconds. It felt like a tremendous accomplishment.

I think I progressed by at least two degrees.

Till next time,
Carrie
Photos from the column and other info can be found at CarrieClasson.com.

UPWARD SOCCER

PRE-K (4 YRS OLD) TO 8TH GRADE

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FBC HIGHLANDS

210 N. MAGNOLIA
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fbch_upward@aol.com



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SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 2022 9AM-12PM

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of \$0.0500 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.0500 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.0462 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.0478 per \$100
DE MINIMIS RATE	\$0.0595 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2022 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12 from the same properties in both the 2021 tax year and the 2022 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12 may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate, unless the de minimis rate for Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12 exceeds the voter-approval rate for Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12.

The de minimis rate is the rate equal to the sum of the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate for Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12, the rate that will raise \$500,000, and the current debt rate for Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12 is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2022 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 6, 2022 AT 6:00 PM AT HARRIS COUNTY ESD 12 FIRE DEPARTMENT STATION 14, 911 HOLLYWOOD STREET, HOUSTON, HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the voter-approval tax rate but not greater than the de minimis rate. However, the proposed tax rate exceeds the rate that allows voters to petition for an election under Section 26.075, Tax Code. If Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12 adopts the proposed tax rate, the qualified voters of the Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12 may petition the Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12 to require an election to be held to determine whether to reduce the proposed tax rate. If a majority of the voters reject the proposed tax rate, the tax rate of the Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12 will be the voter-approval tax rate of the Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

Property tax amount= (tax rate) x (taxable value of your property)/100

FOR the proposal:

- W. B. Anders
- B. Clements
- L. Helgesen
- D. Proctor

AGAINST the proposal: None

PRESENT and not voting: None

ABSENT: K. Wimbley

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.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.

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

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12 last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12 this year.

	2021	2022	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.0500	\$0.0500	increase of 0.0000, or 0.00%
Average homestead taxable value	\$158,970	\$175,863	increase of 16,893, or 10.63%
Tax on average homestead	\$79.49	\$87.93	increase of 8.44, or 10.62%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$1,714,779	\$1,867,765	increase of 152,986, or 8.92%

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12 at 713-274-8000 or TAX.OFFICE@HCTX.NET, or visit WWW.HCTX.NET. for more information.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of \$0.0500 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.0500 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.0456 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.0471 per \$100
DE MINIMIS RATE	\$0.0515 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2022 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 from the same properties in both the 2021 tax year and the 2022 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate, unless the de minimis rate for Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 exceeds the voter-approval rate for Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50.

The de minimis rate is the rate equal to the sum of the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate for Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50, the rate that will raise \$500,000, and the current debt rate for Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2022 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 6, 2022 AT 5:00 PM AT 1210 DELL DALE AVENUE, CHANNELVIEW, HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the voter-approval tax rate but not greater than the de minimis rate. However, the proposed tax rate exceeds the rate that allows voters to petition for an election under Section 26.075, Tax Code. If Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 adopts the proposed tax rate, the qualified voters of the Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 may petition the Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 to require an election to be held to determine whether to reduce the proposed tax rate. If a majority of the voters reject the proposed tax rate, the tax rate of the Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 will be the voter-approval tax rate of the Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

Property tax amount= (tax rate) x (taxable value of your property)/100

FOR the proposal:

- J. Owens
- B. Ballew
- B. Biggers
- M. Burr
- A. Cedillo

AGAINST the proposal: None

PRESENT and not voting: None

ABSENT: None

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.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.

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

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 this year.

	2021	2022	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.0500	\$0.0500	increase of 0.0000, or 0.00%
Average homestead taxable value	\$137,116	\$153,213	increase of 16,097, or 11.74%
Tax on average homestead	\$68.56	\$76.61	increase of 8.05, or 11.74%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$3,367,726	\$4,203,770	increase of 836,044, or 24.83%

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 at 713-274-8000 or TAX.OFFICE@HCTX.NET, or visit WWW.HCTX.NET. for more information.

THEA update,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

waste underground.

Community members pressed the EPA for answers as this new concept was presented. We have all observed storm surges and flood waters attempt to cut new channels in this area and although the waste at the Southern Pit is buried in a peninsula, can we really accurately predict what the land will look like in 750 years? No, not within reason. Therefore we must ensure this is truly the best course for cleanup.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Southern Waste Pit: Our team will begin a thorough technical review on how this change of course took place and what information was relied on to support such a decision.

Northern Waste Pit: The 90% Remedial Design (RD) was received by the EPA on June 27th. The agency and its technical support (which consist of a variety of government agencies from the local to federal level along with private contractors) will take at least 60 days to review the report. They are releasing the report publicly and THEA's technical team will dive into all of the details while the EPA does its review.

San Jacinto Facts update,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the Northern Impoundment. The exception is the portion of the site commonly referred to as the Northwest Corner. The companies and the EPA will need additional discussion to develop a framework and deliverable schedule for the Northwest Corner component. The companies believe this can be done without adversely impacting the overall RD schedule.

When the Agency's original Record of Decision (ROD) was issued, only eight subsurface borings had been installed in the Northern Impoundment. As part of investigative activities since that decision, an additional 71 subsurface borings were installed. The vertical impact of material extends much deeper than initially determined; therefore, the corresponding volume of waste has increased.

Based on evaluations made, it was determined that there are several areas across the Northern Impoundment in which there would be significant risk of what's known as "hydraulic heave" if material were to be removed to the currently estimated elevations of impact.

In addition, the document identifies and explains a number of technical issues, uncertainties and additional information related to the RD and the selected remedy.

The complete document can be found at: <https://semspub.epa.gov/work/06/100027142.pdf>

An array of associated geotechnical information, testing results, modeling, design drawings, specifications and supplemental plans are included with the report.

Goose Creek talk,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

shooter training, he said, in conjunction with Baytown PD and others. Questioned by an audience member about arming the teachers or staff, in a so-called Marshal program, O'Brien said they feel their

own officers provide a better and safer protection.

O'Brien said that the district is in strong financial condition, having recently refinanced the 2013 and 2019 bond issues, at a saving of \$1.5 million.

In other business, Chamber director Jessica Woods confirmed that there would be the 65th Annual Highlands Jamboree this year, on Saturday, October 1 with a parade, kids pageant, and crafts and food vendors. The theme of the Jamboree will be "Fall In Love with Highlands." A Miss Highlands Pageant is also planned this year.

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COVID-19 Novavax Vaccine Now Available at HCPH Sites

Houston – Harris County Public Health (HCPH) is pleased to announce that there is a new option for people to get their COVID-19 vaccine. On July 13, 2022, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized the Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine for emergency use. Following approvals of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), HCPH is now offering the COVID-19 Novavax vaccine to residents. Novavax is a two-dose primary series for individuals 18 years of age and older given 3 weeks apart.

Novavax uses a different technique than other COVID-19 vaccines such as those from Pfizer and Moderna. Instead of using mRNA, which provides the instructions for your body to create the COVID-19 spike protein that in turn induces your body’s immune response, Novavax’s vaccine injects the small protein itself, that your body detects and that triggers your body’s immune response. The Novavax vaccine is based on a well-established method of vaccine development that has been used for years for other vaccines such as the Human-papillomavirus, Hepatitis B, flu, and Shingles vaccines.

Approved COVID-19 Vaccines in the United States include:

- Pfizer-BioNTech (mRNA vaccine)
- Moderna (mRNA vaccine)
- Johnson & Johnson (viral vector vaccine)
- *New* Novavax (protein subunit vaccine)

Moderna, Novavax, and Pfizer are recommended for primary vaccination and Moderna and Pfizer are recommended for booster doses and must be used for the second booster dose. A person’s eligibility for a booster dose(s) depends on age, primary series product, and immunocompetence. Fully vaccinated is considered 2 weeks after the final dose in a primary series. People are considered up to date with COVID-19 vaccines when they receive all doses in the primary series and all boosters recommended, when eligible. HCPH urges residents to get vaccinated against COVID-19 if they have not done so already or get a booster shot for those who qualify.

All COVID-19 vaccines and boosters are safe, effective, and provide strong protection against severe illness, hospitalizations, and death. Vaccines provided by HCPH are free and appointments are not required though encouraged. If you would like to schedule an appointment, go to a ReadyHarris.org, vacstrac.hctx.net, or call 832-927-8787. To find a location near you, click here.

Lawsuit filed after concrete truck falls from overpass, injures 3 and kills boy

HOUSTON — A family whose SUV was crushed when a concrete-mixer truck toppled off the East Beltway and landed on their vehicle is now seeking compensation in the wake of an apparent freak accident that killed a 22-month-old boy. Nicolas Resendiz was identified as the 22-month-old child who died in the Aug. 5, 2022, crash on the East Beltway.

His aunt, Esmerelda Resendiz, described little Nicolas Resendiz saying, “He was just a happy little boy. He wasn’t shy like his sister. He would go to anybody. He would smile with you and laugh.”

The family is having a hard time accepting what happened was real.

“It’s still hard for us to process everything. Doing every day, daily things, with him not being here, or seeing one and not the other,” Esmerelda Resendiz said.

The lawsuit was filed by Jennifer and Maria Resendiz, two of the SUV’s occupants, against National Ready Mix LLC of Kingwood, which is the company that owns the



Concrete Mixer Truck fell from Beltway 8 onto car driving below on frontage road. A 22 month old boy was killed, 3 others injured.

truck involved in the Aug. 5 crash.

The two women, who are mother and daughter, are not only seeking damages for current and future medical expenses, but they are seeking compensation for the wrongful death of Nicolas, the child who lost his life.

“Plaintiff Jennifer Resendiz has forever lost her son. She is, therefore, entitled to be compensated for the past and future loss of the companionship, society, love, and affection resulting from the death of Nicolas, and for the mental anguish, grief and sorrow, which she has suffered since his death, and which she will in the future for the rest of her life,” the filing reads.

The women, whom the lawsuit states as “seriously injured” from the crash, are seeking over \$1 million for Nicolas’ death. A monetary amount was not disclosed for the women’s injuries.

Houston attorney Terry Bryant is listed as the family’s representation.

Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

A tax rate of \$0.03 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5**.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.030000 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.015435 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.016138 per \$100
DE MINIMIS RATE	\$0.035773 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2022 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5** from the same properties in both the 2021 tax year and the 2022 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5** may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate, unless the de minimis rate for **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5** exceeds the voter-approval rate for **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5**.

The de minimis rate is the rate equal to the sum of the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate for **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5**, the rate that will raise \$500,000, and the current debt rate for **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5**.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5** is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2022 tax year.

A **PUBLIC HEARING** ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON August 25, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. at EMS Station, 5915 FM 2100, Crosby, TX 77532.

Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5 shall take action on the proposed tax rate on August 25, 2022 at 1:30 p.m., following the hearing to be held.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the voter-approval tax rate but not greater than the de minimis rate. However, the proposed tax rate exceeds the rate that allows voters to petition for an election under Section 26.075, Tax Code. If **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5** adopts the proposed tax rate, the qualified voters of the **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5** may petition the **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5** to require an election to be held to determine whether to reduce the proposed tax rate. If a majority of the voters reject the proposed tax rate, the tax rate of the **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5** will be the voter-approval tax rate of the **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5**.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE TAX RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

Property tax amount = (tax rate) x (taxable value of your property)/100

The members of the governing body voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase as follows:

FOR: Sharon Cotton, Larry Hall, Luther Brady, and James Blaha
AGAINST: None
PRESENT AND NOT VOTING: None
ABSENT: None

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.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.

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

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5** last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5** this year.

	2021	2022	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.017660	\$0.030000	increase of 0.012340, or 69.88%
Average homestead taxable value	\$146,108	\$164,588	increase of \$18,480, or 12.65%
Tax on average homestead	\$25.80	\$49.38	increase of \$23.58, or 91.40%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$371,046	\$743,306	increase of \$372,260, or 100.33%

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the District Counsel for **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5** at (713) 984-8222 or pierce@coveler.com or visit www.hcesd5.org for more information.

Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

A tax rate of \$0.05 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80**.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.050000 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.043781 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.045770 per \$100
DE MINIMIS RATE	\$0.063276 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2022 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80** from the same properties in both the 2021 tax year and the 2022 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80** may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate, unless the de minimis rate for **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80** exceeds the voter-approval rate for **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80**.

The de minimis rate is the rate equal to the sum of the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate for **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80**, the rate that will raise \$500,000, and the current debt rate for **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80**.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80** is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2022 tax year.

A **PUBLIC HEARING** ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON August 23, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at Crosby Fire Station No. 2, 123 Diamondhead Blvd., Crosby, TX 77532.

Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80 shall take action on the proposed tax rate on August 23, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., following the hearing to be held.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the voter-approval tax rate but not greater than the de minimis rate. However, the proposed tax rate exceeds the rate that allows voters to petition for an election under Section 26.075, Tax Code. If **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80** adopts the proposed tax rate, the qualified voters of the **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80** may petition the **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80** to require an election to be held to determine whether to reduce the proposed tax rate. If a majority of the voters reject the proposed tax rate, the tax rate of the **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80** will be the voter-approval tax rate of the **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80**.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE TAX RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

Property tax amount = (tax rate) x (taxable value of your property)/100

The members of the governing body voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase as follows:

FOR: Raymond St. Julian, Sr., Randy Foster, Derek Elkins, Chuck Murray and Buddy Brewer
AGAINST: None
PRESENT AND NOT VOTING: None
ABSENT: None

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.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.

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

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80** last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80** this year.

	2021	2022	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.050000	\$0.050000	increase of 0.000000, or 0.00%
Average homestead taxable value	\$143,573	\$161,814	increase of \$18,241, or 12.71%
Tax on average homestead	\$71.79	\$80.91	increase of \$9.12, or 12.70%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$1,115,308	\$1,312,120	increase of \$196,812, or 17.65%

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the District Counsel for **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80** at (713) 984-8222 or pierce@coveler.com or visit www.hcesd80.org for more information.

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Crosby Back 2 School,

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of school, and what I saw inspired me. We picked up right where we left off! At Crosby High School and Crosby Middle School, the new security screening processes went relatively smoothly considering these were entirely new routines for everyone. At all of our elementary campuses, learning was happening on Day One as if we had been doing this all summer. In fact, I saw a teacher instructing his students about parallel lines in the hallway less than 2 hours after the arrival bell at Drew Elementary. At Crosby Kindergarten Center, the staff dealt more with tears from the parents than from the little ones. It is refreshing to see a return to a sense of normalcy.

A tip of the hat to our custodians and grounds crews for making our campuses ready to welcome our students. Thank you to our bus drivers who start the day and end the day with a smile for our students. They are the bookends to a total team effort across Crosby ISD.

I also want to thank the community for the outpouring that improved traffic flow along FM 2100 near Newport. The construction zone at S. Diamondhead Blvd. opened just in time for the start of school. Your calls, texts, and emails made a big difference for our school buses and commuters. The District reached out to transportation officials at the Precinct 3 Commissioner's Office and at TxDOT. It's clear we were heard, and we appreciate the opening of new lanes.

The school year's success cannot happen without our families. We appreciate your support at home, and we are looking forward to a great year.

We are Better Together!
Go Coogs!

Scenes from First Day of School



Photos of First Day courtesy of Crosby ISD.



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Book Signing Event

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As we welcome **Lisa M. Estremadoyro** to a book signing and reading of *Bedbaths and More... Notebook of a Journey*. Appetizers and refreshments will be served, and a chance to register and win a **\$100 VISA gift card!**

Saturday, August 27th | 2:00 PM

