

HIGHLANDS

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

IN THE STARS

EVENTS

SEPT. 9-10

Crosby Library Book Sale

Friends of the Crosby Library will hold their 2022 Fall Back to School Book Sale on: Friday, Sept. 9th - 1pm - 6pm. Saturday, Sept 10th - 10am - 5pm.
*****Special*****
Buy 2 Books, get 1 Free!! Paperback or Hardback books.
Children's books not included.

Books at bargain prices and many in new condition.
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All proceeds from the Book Sale benefit the Crosby Library.
For more information, call the Library at 281-328-3535 or 832-927-7790.

SEPT. 13, TUE.

Highlands Little League meeting

Highlands Little League Election of 2022-2023 Board of Directors will be held on Tuesday, September 13 at 7:00pm at the Baytown Boat Club, 1600 Clear Lake Road, Highlands TX 77562.

The board election meeting is open to the public and anyone who lives within the HLL boundaries and wants to help make a difference in the lives of our youth can be elected to serve.

See Notice on Page 5 for proposed HLL Constitution changes that will be voted on at the meeting.

BIRTHDAYS

Sep 1–Hunter Enlow
Sep 2–Craig Zadropa
Sep 3–Jenelle Cooper
Mildred Johnson
Sep 4–L. Virge Blackmon
Clara Fulmer
Robert McCown
Sep 5–Matthew Abott
Ralph Brewer
Jim Elmer
Sep 7–Phillip Cumbie
Sep 8–Janice Havard
Annastacia Nichols
Lorie Taylor
Sep 9–Lori Howard
Nicholas King
Maegan Lindsey
Allison Little
Edwin Sheffield
Michael S. Sullivan
Cynthia Wotipka
Sep 10–Connie Cook
Patty Mueller
Kelly Whatley
Patrick Wood
John D. Cutbirth Jr.

ANNIVERSARIES

Aug 31–Glenn & Linda Conard
Sep 2–Skip & Thelma Bauman
Sep 3–Carol & Louise Johnson
Sep 7–James R. & Kathy Townsend
Sep 12–Randall & Lisa Henning

HS FOOTBALL SEASON OPENER:

GP Yellowjackets defeat GCM Patriots in OT 37-36

By Allan Jamail

GPISD Stadium – Houston, TX. ~ In their first game of the season the home team Galena Park Yellowjackets (GP) (5A-D2) and Goose Creek Memorial Patriots (GCMP) (5A-D1) battled back and forth with lead changes. Both teams are in 5A. The 4th quarter ended in a 29-29 tie putting the non-district contest into overtime.

Head Coach Spiro Amaranatos' Yellowjackets got the opening kickoff and scored early on their first drive. GCM followed with a TD, ending the 1st quarter tied, 7 – 7.

In the 2nd quarter the Jackets senior running back Jonathan Gutierrez



#24 Jonathan Gutierrez, Jacket's senior running back scoring 1 of his 4 touchdowns accounting for 24 points. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

scored again for his 2nd touchdown (TD). GP's kicker Oswaldo Flores had his extra point kick blocked. Before the 1st half ended with 5 seconds on the clock Flores



#12 Daniel Gomez, Jacket's sophomore quarterback drives over three Patriot defenders for the overtime winning score. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

kicked a 20 plus yard 3 point field goal. Ending the 1st half with a 16 – 7 Jackets lead.

In the 3rd quarter it was all GCMP's

quarterback Cameron Davis who scored both a rushing and passing TD. He threw lots of passes and was never sacked in the backfield due to his elusiveness. The Jacket's defense forced him to scramble, but because he was so hard to grasp and pin down he made good yardage. The 3rd quarter ended with the GCMP gaining the lead 21 – 16.

In the final 4th quarter GP's Gutierrez ran for another TD. Coach Amaranatos and his coaches called for a 2 point conversion play which failed. The Jacket's regained the lead 22 - 21.

Continued. See GP/ GCM Football, Page 2

Message from the Crosby Superintendent

Hello East Harris County and Crosby ISD families,

Welcome to September!

I am proud to say that Crosby ISD is making steady gains in student achievement post-pandemic. On August 15th, the Texas Education Agency publicly released accountability ratings for the first time in two years. For the 2021-2022 School Year, Crosby ISD earned a letter grade of "B" overall. Barrett Elementary earned a letter grade of an "A," up from a "C" pre-pandemic, as well as three distinctions. Crosby Elementary earned a letter grade of "B" overall, up from a "C" pre-pandemic. Drew and Newport Elementary Schools both experienced



**SUPERINTENDENT
PAULA PATTERSON**

5-point gains from the 2018-2019 school year. Drew earned one distinction, and Newport earned a total of four distinctions. Crosby High School retained a letter grade of "B" overall and also earned two distinctions. Crosby Middle School was rated a letter grade of "C". There was a regres-



Some of the more than 330 Crosby High School students who started the new year enrolled in Dual Credit programs. These students take college-level courses through Lee College or San Jacinto College.

sion from the letter grade of a "B" two years ago. We believe the regression was a result of this campus being more adversely

affected by the pandemic than other campuses. Our middle school students experienced a more significant transition pe-

riod; most CMS students were on elementary cam-

Continued. See Crosby Back2School, Page 8

Annual Rotary Washer Tournament Sept. 10

HIGHLANDS – The Rotary Club is all set to hold their 15th annual 3-Hole Washer Board Charity Tournament, on Saturday, September 10th.

The event is open to the public, as well as all Rotarians. It will be held at Charlie's Ice House, 906 N. Main Street. 2 person teams must register by 12:30pm that day, and the cost to play is \$50. Tournament play will start shortly thereafter, at 1:00pm. Awards include trophies and cash prizes, and competition is fierce.

Rotary is also looking for sponsors, individuals or companies. Sponsorships



Rotarians competing for honors and prizes last year in the Annual Washer Tournament.

vary from \$100 to \$500.

Monies raised by the tournament go to the Rotary International Foundation, to be used for fighting polio, and half of

the money is returned for a community project.

For more information, or to become a sponsor, contact Rotary president Andy Scott 713-201-8620.

Rotary hosting Exchange Student



Highlands Rotary Club is sponsoring an Exchange Student from Belgium, Edouard Vanhove. He arrived in August and will be attending GC Memorial High for a year. He is living with the Host Family, Weston and Delene Cotten. Please make him welcome.

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GOOSE CREEK CISD NEWS

State Rep. Hernandez invites 3 Local Districts to Safety Townhall



Dr. Tory Hill, Channelview ISD superintendent; Dr. Randal O'Brien, GCCISD superintendent and Dr. John Moore, Galena Park ISD superintendent, pose with Texas Representative Ana Hernandez during her townhall event.

By: Kristyn Hunt Cathey, APR – Director of Communications

Texas Representative Ana Hernandez hosted a Safe Schools Townhall on August 3rd to kick off the new school year. Representative Hernandez served as the master of ceremonies, designed to provide the opportunity for local area school districts to share the measures taken to ensure parents and community members that their children are being provided safe learning environments before returning to school. Galena Park ISD served as the host school with superintendent Dr. John Moore leading the conversation for his safe and secure team members, while Channelview ISD superintendent Dr. Tory Hill lead his district's discussion and Goose Creek CISD superintendent Dr. Randal O'Brien provided the recap for his district.

Representative Hernandez asked each district leader to provide opening remarks to highlight existing efforts, as well as new security measures taken for the 22-23 school year. Once the introductory comments were provided, Rep. Hernandez invited each school district to allow the experts in their respective fields of school security to present and answer questions from the audience of parents, employees and concerned citizens.

GCCISD Technology department leaders, Gary Lackey, Director of Cybersecurity and Matt Flood, Chief Technology Officer, gave insight into the district's efforts in keeping students and staff safe. "School safety goes beyond the immediate physical threats," Lackey said. "They can also be emotional (like cyber bullying) or a data breach that could ruin

a child's credit score for many years to come." Flood chimed in. "Many tools, services and resources are utilized to keep our children safe and secure in the many facets of their lives." Robert Marquez, Director of Safe and Secure Schools for Goose Creek CISD, spoke on the intersection of student behavior and safety. "We all agree there must be a focus on improving the behavior and culture of safety and security," he said. "If we see something; we say something and do something." Davis Smith, Goose Creek CISD Chief of Police, echoed the sentiments of the group. "It is important that district police officers are visible in our schools and our communities," he said. "We want our families to know that we are here to protect and serve and keep our students and staff safe at all times."

Superintendent O'Brien spoke highly of his experience at the event. "I think it was a proactive step to have Representative Ana Hernandez invite her education partners to a public forum to provide reasonable assurances to our students, their respective families, and the community at large, in order that they may have confidence in sending their students back to a new school year with confidence," he said. "We certainly cannot predict evil, but we can prepare for it as a reality in the world in which we live. Our team is doing a great job in collaboration with all neighboring agencies to maximize our effectiveness with student and staff safety."

Representative Hernandez will represent the downtown and old Baytown area in 2023 after the redistricting cycle.



1. Townhall meeting GCCISD representatives: Dr. Randal O'Brien, Superintendent; Gary Lackey, Director of Cybersecurity; Davis Smith, GCCISD Chief of Police; Matt Flood, Chief Technology Officer, and Robert Marquez, Director of Safe and Secure Schools.

HS FOOTBALL SEASON OPENER: GP Yellowjackets defeat GCM Patriots in OT 37-36

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

With a 1 point lead GP kicked to GCMP with 6 minutes left in the game. Their offense sputtered with a fumble giving GP back the ball on the GCMP 40 yard line.

Jacket's junior running back Jonathan Balderas made 2 long runs moving the ball to the 5 yard line. GP's junior running back Francisco Martinez ran the ball for a TD, GP's Flores kicked the extra point, widening GP's lead to 29 – 21.

After the ensuing kick-off with 2 minutes left in the game GCMP fought back. They scored off of Cameron Davis' passes and rushes from Isaiah Castillo. After the 6 point TD trailing by 2 with the score 29 to 27 they made a 2 point conversion tying the game at 29.

With under 2 minutes to play GP got the ball on the next kickoff, GCMP defense held forcing GP to punt with under a minute to play. GP's defense held as the clock ran out sending the game into overtime.

In overtime both team's offense will get the ball on the 35 yard line. In high school play there's no "sudden death". If the first team's offense which gets the ball first scores, then the other team's offense has an opportunity to score. If both teams score the same amount of points in their first offense possession then the game goes into a 2nd overtime period to break the tie.

The Patriots won the coin toss to start on offense in the first overtime period. Their offense scored on the 1st play when quarterback Cameron Davis threw a 35 yard TD pass in the end zone. Their coaches decided to kick for a 1 point conversion which they made. This put them ahead 36 to 29 in overtime.

The Jackets struck back with a 22 yard TD run by Jonathan Gutierrez bringing the Jackets to within 1 point to tie. But this is when things got nerve racking for the coaches, players and thousands of fans. GP coaches made a gutsy decision to go for 2 points which would either give them a 1 point victory or a 1 point loss.

With fans on their feet screaming for their team as the ball was snapped to GP's sophomore quarterback Daniel Gomez, he rolled to his left grinding ahead with Patriots strongly resisting his forward progress. Gomez dug in and pushed three defense players backwards until he went down with the ball breaking the plane of the goal for the winning points. "The Gold Blooded Eastside Jackets" won 37 – 36. Both teams were completely exhausted hav-



#21 Francisco Martinez, Jacket's junior running back drives for a TD. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



#3 Jordan Balderas, Jacket's junior running back makes one of his many big yardage gains as he leaps toward the end zone. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



#14 Cameron Davis, Patriots quarterback without pressure passes for a touchdown. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

ing played their hearts out. I asked Jacket's Daniel Gomez did he know for certain he had crossed the goal line for the winning points as he was stopped and went down. He said, "Yes I knew I crossed the goal and we won the game, there was no doubt in my mind about it."

Both teams have room to improve, the GCMP fumbled numerous times giving up the ball. They were pretty much a one man offense using the quarterback excessively rushing and passing.

The GP needs better discipline in committing fouls; they gave up 70 yards in penalties. They

were flagged for holding 4 times, false start 2 times, a block in the back which cost them a big yardage gain and a push-off interference in the end zone. If they can lessen the missed tackles and put pressure on passing plays they'll have a good season.

Scoring by quarter:

	1	2	3	4	OT	Final
GC	7	0	14	8	7	36
GP	7	9	0	13	8	37

The Yellowjackets will host the Caney Creek Panthers of Conroe in a non-district game on Friday, Sept. 2, 2022, 7:00 pm at GPISD Stadium – 15025 Wallisville Rd., Houston – 77049.

#StopHateNow

Hate crimes increased by 44% from 2020 to 2021 in the U.S.
If you see or experience a hate crime, report it.

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OPINION

By Columnist Rich Lowry



THE RICH LOWRY COLUMN

No, Liz Cheney isn't Abraham Lincoln

No, Liz Cheney isn't Abraham Lincoln "It's a slip, not a fall," Abraham Lincoln said after his loss in his legendary 1858 Illinois Senate contest against Stephen Douglas.

Liz Cheney apparently has the same attitude after her nearly 40-point wipeout in her primary last week. In lieu of a traditional concession speech, the Wyoming congresswoman and daughter of the former vice president delivered a picturesque, made-for-TV call to arms invoking Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses S. Grant. Cheney had a choice after Jan. 6 between political viability, which would have involved modulating her outrage over Trump's "Stop the Steal" campaign, or political self-immolation. She chose a spectacular act of immolation — illuminating the night sky like the nuclear reactor at the outset of the HBO miniseries "Chernobyl."

Hers was an admirable loss. It is rare that any elected official is willing to sacrifice his or her office over a matter of deeply felt principle. That said, she has undoubtedly cut herself off from the possibility of having a positive influence on the direction of the Republican Party via electoral politics, no matter how much she might want to think of her defeat as 1858 redux. Lincoln's run against Douglas for the Senate wasn't a suicide mission. He came very close to winning and represented a rising political movement. His subsequent bid for the Republican presidential nomination in 1860 was a long shot, but he was a serious figure who had gained a national reputation and was comfortably in the middle of his party's consensus.

Cheney, a pariah within her own party, is differently situated. Plus, strategically and temperamentally, she is not Lincolnian. Although he had firm principles, Lincoln was always a political pragmatist and fundamentally a party man willing to maneuver as necessary. Cheney's post-Jan. 6 approach bears less resemblance to Lincoln's than to that of William Lloyd Garrison, the uncompromising abolitionist publisher who took unabashedly radical and unpopular positions and expected the world to move toward him. As it happens, the world did move toward Garrison, but in the meantime, he wasn't running for office.

There is zero case for Cheney attempting to go from the role of prophet without honor within her party to Republican vote-getter again. It's difficult to overstate the magnitude of Cheney's collapse. She went from winning her primary with 73% of the vote in 2020, to garnering a mere 29% that was heavily dependent on Democratic crossover votes.

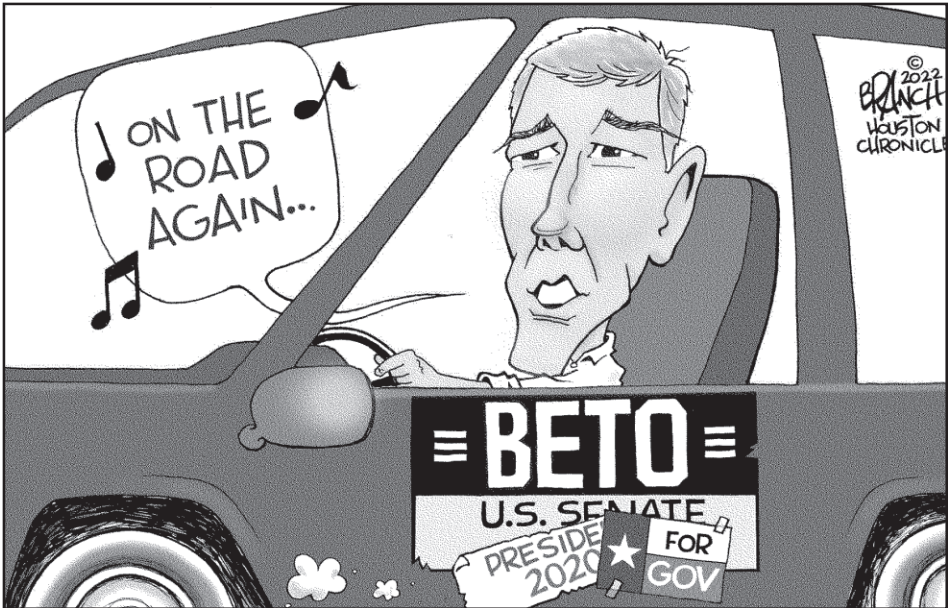
Cheney's alienation from her party is likely to build on itself. Already, she has said that she'd "find it very difficult" to support Gov. Ron DeSantis, the leading Republican alternative to Trump. In so doing, she is identifying herself with a fraction of a fraction of the party that is so small it is all but nonexistent. Even if Cheney ran in the 2024 primary and got some traction, she'd only be taking voters from some other more viable alternative to Trump. An independent run wouldn't make any more sense.

Again, if Cheney became a factor, the chances are that she'd be a place for Republicans repulsed by Trump to park their votes rather than go all the way to Biden. Just as with a prospective primary run, she'd be helping Trump at the margins. Captain Ahab may have made a few mistakes in judgment in his stewardship of the Pequod, but at least he never allowed himself to affirmatively assist his great adversary, the White Whale.

One thing that's been remarkable about Cheney's performance the last couple of years is how apparently clear-eyed she's been about what it means for her future in the House of Representatives, namely that she wouldn't have one. In contrast, a presidential run of any sort would be giving in to delusion. If Lincoln was dogged, he was never fanciful. Cheney should realize that she's taken a path that, whatever it's other advantages, doesn't end in electoral vindication.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Farmer's Almanac Predicting a White Winter

As Texas gets at least a temporary reprieve this week from the heat, with a nice round of rain blanketing much of the state, the Old Farmer's Almanac is predicting January will bring significant snowfall to the state.

The periodical, founded in 1818, develops its extended forecast "using a 204-year-old mathematical formula focused on sunspot activity, planet positions and tidal actions of the moon." The almanac's website claims its forecasts are 80% to 85% accurate.

Since the secret formula was first developed by David Young, an astronomer and mathematician who was the almanac's first editor, only seven people have been hired to develop the weather predictions.

A meteorologist for the National Weather Service interviewed by the Austin American-Statesman casts a skeptical eye on the almanac's methods and predictions.

"There is little to no scientific evidence that sunspot activity and the position of planets have any impact on our weather and our climate," Keith White said.

Neither the Almanac nor the weather service are predicting another Winter Storm Uri, which resulted in the deaths of at least 246 people in Texas in February 2021.

NEW CEO HIRED FOR ERCOT

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas, which drew scathing criticism for the massive power blackouts during Uri, has a new chief executive officer. The hiring of Pablo Vegas was approved by the Public Utility Commission, which oversees ERCOT.

Vegas currently serves as executive vice president of NiSource and group president, NiSource Utilities. He succeeds interim CEO Brad Jones on Oct. 1.

After Uri, most of ERCOT's board resigned and its CEO was terminated. A number of reforms and pro-



tection measures have been implemented since Uri, though critics question whether the grid can withstand another storm of Uri's magnitude.

TEA RELEASES 2022 ACCOUNTABILITY RATINGS

The Texas Education Agency last week released the first A-F school accountability ratings for the first time since 2019, due to two years of the COVID-19 pandemic. The results show some improvement in grades, with 396 districts, or 33.1%, receiving an A rating. That was up from 301 getting the top grade in 2019.

Conversely, 16 districts got a failing grade, up from 14 in 2019. Among individual campuses, 2,356, or 27.9%, received the top grade, up from 1,750 in 2019. The number of campuses that received an F totaled 188, less than half the 402 schools that failed the accountability ratings in 2019. The ratings are based on three domains: student achievement, school progress, and closing the gaps.

Visit [TXschools.gov](https://www.txschools.gov) to find grades for all campuses and districts. Users can search for schools using an address and compare schools as well.

NORRIS FILMS PSAS FOR IWATCHTEXAS PROGRAM

Chuck Norris, the actor best known for "Walker, Texas Ranger," has filmed a public service announcement to publicize the IWatchTexas community

reporting system. The partnership between communities and law enforcement is designed to make it easier for the public to report suspicious activity, from school safety-related threats to criminal acts or terrorism.

IWatchTexas is not designed to report emergencies, which should still be reported by calling 911. It is one of several initiatives taken after the Uvalde school shooting in May, which killed 19 students and two teachers.

In the PSA, Norris concludes by saying, "Whether it's criminal acts, terror threats, or someone wanting to harm children, if you see something, say something, and help keep communities in the great state of Texas safe."

JOB SURGE CONTINUES IN TEXAS

For the ninth consecutive month, Texas set new non-farm employment records, with 13.513 million Texans at work.

The state has added 736,700 jobs since July 2021, according to the Texas Workforce Commission. The jobless rate is now at 4.0%, its lowest reading since February 2020 — just before the pandemic shuttered businesses across the state.

"The decrease in the unemployment rate and growth in jobs is a testament to our innovative and resilient Texas employers," said TWC Commissioner Aaron Demerson.

The most growth was in education and health services, which gained 14,300 jobs over the month. The lowest jobless rates in metropolitan statistical areas were recorded in Amarillo and Austin-Round Rock, both at 3.1%. The highest rate among MSAs at 8% was in McAllen-Edinburg-Mission.

ANTI-DRUNK DRIVING CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY

With school underway and the Labor Day holiday approaching, the Texas Department of Transportation has launched its Drive Sober No Regrets campaign, with stepped-up law enforcement efforts to arrest drunk drivers.

The state saw more than 25,000 DUI-alcohol related traffic crashes last year, resulting in 1,100 fatalities and 2,560 serious injuries, according to TxDOT.

COVID-19 CASES, HOSPITALIZATIONS DROP

The number of COVID-19 cases during the past week in Texas dropped to 59,059, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University, a drop of 18.7%. The number of deaths reported stood at 223, up slightly from the previous week. The Texas Department of State Health Services reported 3,018 lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations as of Sunday, nearly even with last week's count.

★

THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

"Coming Home"

I sometimes envy people who have a family home to return to, a place where they grew up, where their parents or even their grandparents lived.

The closest thing I have is the farmhouse where my mother grew up. My grandparents lived there until they died, and my mother's older brother, Andy, and his wife, Bea, live there still, despite everyone's insistence that, at 90, Andy might want to think about moving to a place with fewer stairs, a little bit closer to town.

"I've lived here almost all my life!" Andy says. "Why should I move now?"

People could say, "Well, because you're 90 years old, and you broke your leg a year ago and it's a big old house for a couple of people who are no longer young."

But most people don't bother to say that because it wouldn't change Andy's mind. He likes sitting in the kitchen. He can watch the birds on the feeders that Bea keeps stocked with seeds and look out on the fields that used to be filled with peas or soybeans but are now horse pasture. He can see where the barn used to be before he tore it down rather than have it collapse on itself. He's got things the way he likes them, and he doesn't see the point in upsetting the applecart—that's my guess.

Mother moved to the farmhouse when she was young. She had 10 siblings, and that was a lot of kids to keep track of. This is why I cannot really blame my grandparents for failing to update the youngest three on the exact date of the move.

The school bus dropped them off at their house, but everyone was gone. They didn't know what to do. My mother was the oldest of the three, and they sat together on a roll of linoleum until someone came and brought them to the new farmhouse. That was a very long time ago, and my uncle Andy has been there ever since.

The home I grew up in was sold long ago. When I married Peter, I sold my house, and we lived together in his home. We sold Peter's place when we moved to the city. Then we started coming to Mexico. Last night, I realized my idea of home was, once again, changing.

This little apartment that we do not own—where we have no more than two matching plates and bowls—this place feels more and more like coming home.


Jorge, who owns the hotel we stay in, was raised here with even more siblings than my mother had. There were 13 of them, and they all grew up in the home that occupied this space that Jorge has converted into eight apartments. Jorge lives here still, in a small apartment in the front, always available if a guest arrives late or loses a key or has any of the problems hotel guests are prone to.

There is a lot about this hotel that does not seem like a proper business establishment. There is a lot of unnecessary kindness and art and laughter. I think it is because this is—and will remain—Jorge's home. Sitting at the front desk in the afternoons, Jorge is always delighted to see everyone, delighted to share his home.

I don't think it has to make sense any more than Andy's choice to remain in the farmhouse kitchen. Home is where you find it. Home is what you know. Home is where you feel at ease. That makes sense to me.

Till next time,
Carrie
Photos from the column and a link to YouTube videos can be found at [CarrieClasson.com](https://carrieclasson.com).

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Harris County Fire Marshal lifts Burn Ban

Today, the Harris County Commissioner’s Court accepted HCFMO’s request to lift the burn ban that has been in effect in unincorporated Harris County since June 28, 2022.

Though the burn ban has been lifted, outdoor burning throughout the

state of Texas remains prohibited due to its contribution to air pollution.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Outdoor Burning Rule allows for some exceptions designed to protect the environ-

ment and promote public health and safety.

To learn more about these exceptions, visit: http://www.hcfmo.net/.../outdoor_burning_information.pdf

#hounews

Year 2 of Sarkisian Era begins at UT: No. 2 Ohio State hosts No. 5 ND in game of week

If it’s Labor Day Weekend, it means high school and college football are back!

The spotlight this holiday weekend will be on the kickoff to the college season, which will feature a big one right out of the gate.

No. 2-ranked Ohio State will host No. 4-ranked Notre Dame as the Irish will welcome in new head coach Marcus Freeman. Nothing like a trip to Columbus to take on the second ranked team in the nation to begin your head coaching career!

Freeman, the former defensive coordinator in South Bend, got the head coaching gig after former head coach Brian Kelley bolted for the big bucks at LSU. Kelley will make his debut as the Tigers head man on Sunday night when the Bayou Bengals host Florida State.

While the spotlight will definitely be on the game between the Buckeyes and the Fighting Irish, there are a handful of other interesting games on tap this weekend.

Texas fans are hoping year No. 2 of the Steve Sarkisian Era is a lot better than year 1 when the Longhorns finished a disappointing 5-7. Sark brings in a solid recruiting class, along with quarterback Quinn Ewers, who transferred in from Ohio State. Ewers was the top rated recruit in the Class of 2020 out of Southlake Carroll, but played all of two snaps for OSU. He transferred to UT last January and earned the starting QB job heading into the 2022 season. Ewers, 6-2, 206 pounds, has all the tools to be an outstanding signal caller. He should do well in the tuneup game against Louisiana-Monroe before he faces his first big test a week later when No. 1-ranked Alabama visits Austin.

Texas’ other major program, Texas A&M, enters the season ranked No. 6 in the country and will host Sam Houston State on Saturday at Kyle Field. Sam Houston State may be a Div. II school, but they are no slouch. The Bearcats finished 11-1 a year ago and won the FCS national title the year before. This will be a good test for Jimbo Fisher’s team. Fisher had the No. 1-ranked recruiting class in the nation this past spring and a lot of those first-year players will be called on to produce in their first year in College Station. As of this writing, Fisher has yet to name a starting QB. He has three to choose from, former starter Haynes King, former LSU starter Max Johnson, who transferred from LSU, and true freshman Conner Wegman. All three are talented and I would not be surprised if Fisher gave the first look to Johnson, due to being more experienced than the other two.

Other key games this weekend have No. 11 Oregon taking on No. 3 Georgia (the defending national champions) on Saturday in Atlanta at the Mercedes-Benz Stadium. No. 24-ranked Houston will face UTSA, an up and coming program, while No. 7-ranked Utah visits Florida as the Billy Napier Era begins.

And all five of Aldine ISD’s varsity teams will also be in action this weekend.

Without further ado, let’s take a closer look at this weekend’s game.



Texans Wide Receiver #15 Chris Moore breaks up a pass. Texans won against SF 49rs last Thursday night by a score of 17-0, their third win in the preseason.

ence and he will look for running back Devon Achane (910 yards, 9 TDs) and wide receiver Anias Smith (55 receptions, 535 yards, 6 TDs). Look for the A&M defense to force Schmidt into some game-changing turnovers in the second half. My pick, Texas A&M 36, Sam Houston State 20

Oregon vs. Georgia: Kirby Smart’s defending champs take on No. 11 Oregon at a neutral site in Atlanta on Saturday afternoon on ABC. The Bulldogs lost players to the NFL draft, with five defensive starters being in the first round alone. But don’t worry Dawg fans, there’s still plenty of talent left in the cupboard in Athens. Most notably, veteran QB Stetson Bennett IV (2,862 yards, 29 TDs). Both running backs are now in the NFL, which means it’s Kenny McIntosh’s (328 yards, 3 TDs) turn to show what he has as the starting running back. Even though the defense lost a lot of talent, there’s still a bevy of capable players who are itching to show off their talents. Oregon will present a good test for the defending national champs. The Ducks return a talented running back in Travis Dye (1,271 yards, 2 TDs). I expect this to be a competitive game, but look for the rebuilt Georgia defense to be the difference maker in this one. My pick, Georgia 26, Oregon 20

Notre Dame at Ohio State: The marquee matchup of Week 1 pits No. 2 Ohio State and their high-powered offense against No. 5-ranked Notre Dame and a star-studded defense. Something has to give, and with this being the first game, I say the Buckeyes loaded offense is the difference maker in this game. Ohio State returns a ton of talent on offense, led by quarterback C.J. Stroud (4,435 yards, 44 TDs), running back TreVeyon Henderson (1,248 yards and 19 TDs as a freshman) and wide receiver Jaxon Smith-Njiga (95 receptions, 1,606 yards, 9 TDs). Marvin Harrison Jr., whose dad is Hall of Fame wide receiver Marvin Harrison Sr. is another target for Stroud, who had a nice Rose Bowl with three touchdown passes. The Irish will go with Tyler Buchner at quarterback (298 passing yards, 2 TDs/336 rushing yards, 3 TDs) who served as Jack Coan’s backup a year ago. Look for Freeman to give the Buckeyes a steady dose of running back Chris Tyree (222 yards, 3 TDs) to take some pressure off of Buchner, but that might not be enough to hold off the high-scoring Buckeyes. Notre Dame also has one of the nation’s best tight ends in Michael Mayer (71 receptions, 840 yards, 7 TDs), who should be Buchner’s go-to guy early on. The Irish don’t have the firepower on offense to keep up with OSU, so look for them to try and control the clock with the running game and hope their defense forces a turnover or two from Stroud. I expect the Buckeyes to send a message to the rest of the country with a convincing win in Week 1. My pick, Ohio State 38, Notre Dame 17

Houston at UTSA: Dana Holgerson’s Cougars head to San Antonio to take on the Roadrunners of UTSA. UTSA finished 10-4 a year ago and have one of the up-and-coming head coaches in Jeff Traylor. Holgerson led the Cougars to a 12-2 finish a year ago, including a bowl win over Auburn. The Coogs are poised for another big year and should be the favorites to win the American Athletic Conference. Back is veteran QB Clayton Tune (3,544 yards, 30 TDs) and play-making wide receiver Nathaniel Delk (90 receptions, 1,329 yards, 12 TDs). The running game will be in the hands of veteran Ta’Zhaun Henry (524 yards, 7 TDs). This will be a competitive game and a good test for the Cougars. Look for Tune to be the difference maker in this one. My pick, Houston 31, UTSA 26

Utah at Florida: No. 7-ranked Utah makes a long trip to the heat and humidity of Gainesville, FL to take on the Gators and new head coach Bill Napier. The Utes could be a contender for one of the four College Football Playoff (CFP) slots this year. Utah finished 10-4 a year ago and returns QB Cameron Rising (2,493 yards, 20 TDs) and running back Tavion Thomas (1,118 yards, 21 TDs). Florida finished 6-7 a year ago and will hang their hopes on versatile quarterback Emory Jones (2,734 passing yards, 19 TDs/759 rushing yards, 1 TD). If Utah is going to be a serious CFP contender, they need to win a tough road game. This will be a huge test for the Utes in Week 1. My pick, Utah 26, Florida 20

Louisiana-Monroe at Texas: UT fans are anticipating a big year out of Sarkisian as he enters year No. 2 in Austin, so, a big win over an inferior opponent would be just what the doctor ordered. Look for Sarkisian to bring Ewers along slowly and let running backs

Florida State vs. LSU: Two programs that are looking for turnaround seasons meet Sunday night in New Orleans at the Caesar’s Superdome. LSU has a new head coach in Brian Kelley, who has won at every stop during his long career, while Florida State head coach Mike Norvell is on the hot seat after the Seminoles finished 5-7 a year ago. LSU has issues on both sides of the ball, but Kelley is an excellent recruiter and coach and the Tigers won’t be down very long. LSU will be led by running back Tyrion Davis-Price (1,003 yards, 6 TDs), while FSU will be led by quarterback Jordan Travis (1,539 passing yards, 15 TDs/530 rushing yards, 7 TDs). Kelley will want to get his LSU tenure off to a good start, and he does so with a win in his Tiger debut on Sunday night. My pick, LSU 24, Florida State 20

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Highlands Little League

Will be holding elections for their **2022-2023 Board of Directors** at **7:00pm on Tuesday, September 13, 2022** at the **Baytown Boat Club**
1600 Clear Lake Rd, Highlands, TX 77562

The board election meeting is open to the public and anyone who lives within the HLL boundaries and wants to help make a difference in the lives of our youth can be elected to serve.

The following proposed HLL Constitution changes will also be voted on at this meeting:

Article V – General Membership Meetings: Section 5
Annual Meeting: Subsection 7:q – Changing name of ‘Auxiliary Coordinator’ to ‘Event Coordinator’ (Replacing in this section)

Article VI – Board of Directors: Section 3
Election Qualifications/Criteria: Changing name of ‘Auxiliary Coordinator’ to ‘Event Coordinator’ (Replacing in this section)

Article VI – Board of Directors: Section 7
Roles & Responsibilities: Changing name of ‘Auxiliary Coordinator’ to ‘Event Coordinator’ (Replacing in this section)

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Screenings to Identify Disabilities

CISD Special Education department provides screenings for children with suspected disabilities in an effort to identify every student with a disability who lives within the district's boundaries. Crosby ISD is committed to providing excellence in education to all students, and the screenings are designed to help identify children who may qualify for the district's special education programs. Eligible students with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 can be provided with services to ensure their successful participation in school. These services and supports may be provided through Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act. Special education services are also available starting at birth for eligible children who have a visual and/or auditory impairment.

If you know a child who may be challenged with a disability, please contact the Crosby ISD Special Education office at 281 328-9200, Extension 1108. If the child is already a student in Crosby ISD, please contact the counselor at the child's school. The counselor will be happy to assist you.

The special education personnel will coordinate efforts to evaluate the student and, if eligible, ensure that the student is provided with supports and services needed to benefit from instruction.

33-3t

LEGAL NOTICE FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELING SERVICES

RFP #2223-0001

Crosby Independent School District is requesting proposals for Substance Abuse Counseling Services.

Responses must be received by 2:00 PM Central Time, 09/07/2022. Proposals will be unsealed and opened shortly after the specified time of closing.

Crosby ISD reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals and to waive any formalities or technical inconsistencies, or delete any item/requirements from this Request for Proposal when deemed to be in Crosby ISD's best interest.

The Request for Proposal and further information may be obtained by emailing rheniff@crosbyisd.org or contacting Robert Heniff at 281-328-9200 x 1218.

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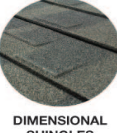


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Crosby Superintendent's Message,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

puses before the pandemic hit. We began addressing these concerns last year and will continue supporting the transition this school year. We are looking forward to a much-improved year in climate and culture and instruction. As I told families in a letter last month, this is just the beginning.

Another important area for us this year is that of safety and security. Among new security measures this year, I wanted to highlight one new tool we have. Crosby ISD has joined the P3 Campus Alerts app available for anyone to report concerning behavior. Reports are addressed by a trained team of District and campus leaders and school resource officers. P3 stands for "Protect, Prevent, Participate." The reporting is anonymous, student-focused, and designed to bolster campus and student safety. The P3 Campus app is available now in all download stores. We also have links on our website www.crosbyisd.org.

Now for celebrations. Congratulations to the more than 330 Crosby High School students who started the new year enrolled in Dual Credit programs. These students take college-level courses through Lee College or San Jacinto College. Dozens and dozens will graduate with an Associate's Degree before they receive their high school diploma. Some students are taking three or four Dual Credit courses along with Honors and AP classes. We are laser fo-



On the first day of classes, some of the more than 330 Crosby High School students who started the new year enrolled in Dual Credit programs. These students take college-level courses through Lee College or San Jacinto College.

cused on academic achievement, and these students are just one example of the good work happening across the District. The Next Level Center at Crosby High School is a great resource for students and families interested in pursuing Dual Credit options.

A few weeks ago, we surprised students at each campus who had perfect attendance for the 2021-2022 School Year. They were rewarded with a year's worth of free Chick-fil-A meals from the new restaurant in Crosby. Thank you to owner/operator Josh Pogue and his wife for joining District leaders for our Prize Patrol. We celebrated the 35 students who never missed a day of class last year. I challenged them and all of their classmates to be in class each day this year. Attendance is the key to unlocking student potential and academic achievement.

This year, we're bringing back two traditions beloved by so many community members and families. First, we're establishing a "Friday Night Lights Food Truck Court" on the north side of Cougar Stadium, directly behind the scoreboard. We will have food trucks and picnic tables set up just a few feet away from the field. We'll add more food options throughout the season to give as many choices as possible. Second, set a reminder: Homecoming is Friday, September 23rd. Get ready to celebrate as we throw a massive tailgating party. We'll share more information on that soon. Before the football game, there will be a community Spirit Walk and then skydivers will entertain the crowd by soaring into Cougar Stadium and landing at the 50-yard line. We are proud to bring back traditions many families have enjoyed throughout the years. The night will cap off with the crowning of

our Homecoming King and Queen, as well as Cougar volleyball and football wins!

If you haven't had a chance, now is the time to enjoy one of our fall sports. The students would love to see you in the stands. Whether it's a volleyball or tennis match, a cross country race, or a football game, our student-athletes are pouring their passion into their chosen sports while also fulfilling or exceeding the demands of the classroom.

As we enter September, the changing of the seasons is on the horizon. Fall is also known as autumn and was once called "Harvest." Harvest is apt for what we do here in Crosby ISD. Our students are the crops we nurture, gather, and grow to become the future citizen-leaders of Crosby and Barrett Station.

We are Better Together! Go Coogs!

Pct. 3 Deputy Constable Omar Ursin killed in Atascocita while off-duty

ATASCOCITA – An investigation is underway after an off-duty deputy constable with Precinct 3 was fatally shot in Atascocita while returning home from picking up food for his family Sunday, authorities said.



DEPUTY OMAR URSIN

Deputies with the Harris County Precinct 4 Constable's Office responded to reports of a shooting in the 11900 block of Madera Run Parkway around 6:30 p.m. Deputies said the caller reportedly heard gunshots and said that someone was shot inside of a vehicle.

When deputies arrived at the scene, they found a small car crashed into a tree in the median of the roadway. The driver and lone occupant of the vehicle, who was identified as Pct. 3 Deputy Omar Ursin, 37, suffered at least one gunshot wound, investigators said. He was transported to the hospital, where deputies said he was pronounced dead.

According to investigators with HCSO Homicide and Crime Scene units, witnesses observed a dark-colored, newer model four-door sedan with tinted windows driving next to Ursin as they drove east-

bound on Madera Run Parkway. The suspect shot into Ursin's car and struck the victim, deputies said. The suspect's vehicle then reportedly fled northbound on Olympic National Drive.

Investigators said Ursin was returning to his home after picking up food for his family immediately prior to the incident.

"We ask that you pray for Deputy Omar Ursin's family, friends and all of us who are devastated by the loss of our brother," Constable Sherman Eagleton said. "Rest In Peace Deputy Ursin, we've got it from here."

Anyone with information on this shooting is urged to contact the HCSO Homicide Unit at (713) 274-9100 or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS.



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As part of Houston Methodist Baytown’s \$250 million hospital expansion project, we are building a new state-of-the-art, five-story patient tower. Currently under construction, this facility will expand capacity and services to our community so we can continue delivering exceptional care, advanced treatments and an outstanding patient experience — all close to home.

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