

Lodge at Pine Creek
Now Open, Page 7

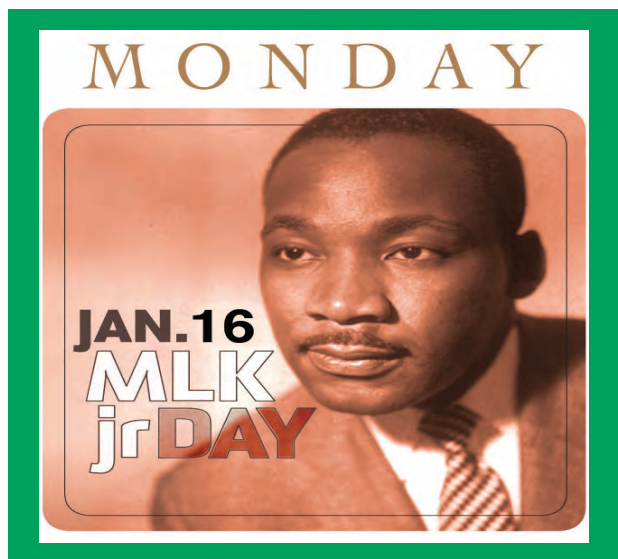
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Page 7

HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

Star Courier

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2023

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

IN THE STARS

EVENTS

JAN. 12, THUR. Senior Health Care Luncheon

Thursday, January 12th
12 Noon - 1 pm

Crosby Brethren Church
Activity Center
5202 First Street, Crosby
TX

Hosted by Traditions Hospice

Lunch is Provided!!

Speaker: ARD Law
Topic: Essentials of Estate
Planning.

No Sales pitch, but rather
information shared for
present and future use.
Door Prizes
Great Fellowship

For more information,
contact Kay Sosa
Visiting Angels
ksosa@visitingangels.com
or 713-962-1223

JAN. 19, THUR. Crosby Chamber New Year Luncheon

January
Monthly Luncheon

Come Network, Socialize
and Help Us Welcome in the
New Year!

Join us for our January
Monthly Member Luncheon!
The luncheon will take place
on Thursday, January 19th
at Stonebridge in Newport,
located at 16401 Country
Club Dr in Newport, Crosby
77532. Lunch will begin at
11:30am and the price of
the luncheon is \$20.00.

Please RSVP by January
17th. You can call
281-328-6984, email
chamber@crosbyhuffmancc.org
to register also.

Chili Feast tickets on sale by Rotary

HIGHLANDS – In a year when new car inventories are very scarce, the raffle of a new car at the annual Highlands Rotary Chili Feast has become especially attractive to many people.

In its 48th Annual Chili Feast, the Rotary club is offering a chance to win a new 2023 Chevy Trailblazer or a 2023 Equinox SUV for only the price of a \$100 raffle ticket. In addition, only 700 of these tickets are sold, increasing the odds of winning if you hold one or more tickets.

In addition, there are a total of 16 prizes to be awarded, all more than the cost of the raffle ticket, making this a really good deal.



Last year's winner of the Chevrolet TrailBlazer from Turner Chevrolet was Jeremy Rosenkranz, above right, with an exuberant Rotarian Jerry Fallin at left. Highlands Rotarians are again offering a choice of Chevrolet vehicles as the top prize in the Annual Chili Feast raffle, to be held on Saturday, February 4th. Raffle tickets are \$100 each, and include two chili dinners. Chili dinner tickets available at the door are \$10 each. The event includes a silent and live auction. Proceeds from the event benefit community projects.

In charge of the Chili Feast this year is Rotarian Denise Smith, with the help of Rotary president Andy Scott and the whole club membership. Chester's famous chili will be cooked by a team headed by Johnny Gaeke.

Community members know from previous years that this event is a good time, meeting old friends and watching the ticket draw with the hope of being the final winning ticket.

The event will be held on Saturday, February 4th at the social hall behind St. Jude's Catholic Church, 808 S. Main Street in Highlands, starting at 11:00 am until about 3:00 pm. The live auction starts at noon, and includes many unique and valuable prizes.

Tickets are available from all Highlands Rotarians, and at many businesses including Woodforest and Community Bank, Foodtown, Dr. White's dentist office, Central Auto, Capital Bank Baytown, Attorney Weston Cotten's office, or by calling 832-483-3505.

New Year Message from the Crosby Superintendent

Hello East Harris County and Crosby ISD families,

Happy New Year! What a great year it will be! After all, 2023 marks the town of Crosby's 200th birthday. The District is working with the Crosby Historical Society for a big bicentennial celebration later in the fall. The District will celebrate our 104th birthday in June. We look forward to sharing and celebrating the history of the Crosby community since 1823!

January is School Board Recognition Month. I am so proud of our Team of 8 for their contributions to making big decisions, setting goals, and envisioning the future for our students and staff members. The Board of Trustees is led by



SUPERINTENDENT
PAULA PATTERSON

President JR Humphries, along with Vice President Jennifer Roach, Secretary Heather Barrett, Assistant Secretary Kea Lynn Lewis, Trustee Karen St. Julian-Thomas, Trustee Lisa Kallies, and Trustee Phillip Chapman. Our meeting this month will feature performances by several student groups celebrating

our volunteer Board members who give their time and talents to Crosby ISD.

We are well into the Spring Semester for 2023. Some of the new faces on our campuses are returning to Crosby ISD! We're talking about alumni who decided to come home to teach the next generations. This is exactly what I love to see! We want to welcome CHS alumna Madison Kennedy as a new teacher at Crosby High School. She is a proud CHS graduate and a member of the Class of 2018! We are in the process of hiring more alumni, and we'll share their stories soon. If you know of any alumni who want to return to educate in their hometown, let us know!

Congratulations to the Crosby Middle School 7th



Crosby Middle School 7th Grade Boys B Team after they won second place at the Deer Park Basketball Tournament.

grade Boys' Basketball team for finishing in second place at the Deer Park Basketball Tournament this month. CMS student-athletes are the next generation we are growing to be leaders, readers, and achievers at Crosby High School.

Our elementary schools are rocking this month as we hosted a Read-A-Thon for our third-grade students. They are hoping to earn a spot in the 68-team bracket-style challenge

Continued. See Crosby Superintendent, Page 5

Nude body found in river needs identified

HIGHLANDS – Authorities at the Harris County Coroner's office are trying to identify a body without clothing that was found floating in the San Jacinto River on December 10th. It was found near 2410 Shorewick Drive in Highlands.

The body was a male about 6' 1" tall, 114 pounds, adult of unknown age and race, according to the coroner. Two tattoos are visible on the decedent, which include a large cross with hands in prayer, and the word "We" on the center of the back, and another tattoo with a rose and other plants/flowers on the lower



Large tattoo on decedent's central back

left arm. The body was found without any identification or personal effects, and without clothing.

If you recognize or believe you may be able to help



A portion of the flower/plant tattoos on the decedent's lower left arm.

identify the deceased, contact the Coroner at 832-927-5000, or Forensic Investigations at 832-927-5001. Case number is ML22-5161.

Newly elected County officials sworn into office Mealer challenges vote count

HARRIS COUNTY – Newly elected and re-elected Harris County officials were sworn into office at a ceremony held last Monday, January 2nd at the NRG Center. Federal judge Alfred Bennett conducted the oaths of office.

Included in the swear-in were Judge Lina Hidalgo, Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Pct. 4 Commissioner Lesley Briones, District Clerk Marilyn Burgess, Treasurer Carla Wyatt, and Clerk Teneshia Hudspeth.

The ceremony opened
Continued. See County Officials, Page 5



Harris County newly elected or re-elected officials were sworn into office at a ceremony held Monday, Jan. 2nd at NRG Center. Included were Judge Lina Hidalgo, Commissioners Adrian Garcia and new Pct. 4 Commissioner Lesley Briones, and many county judges and constables.

RACHEL'S DINER

Southern Cooking Buffet -- Coming Soon

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GOOSE CREEK CISD NEWS

GCM Phlebotomy Student Sets the Bar High

By: Kristyn Hunt Cathey, APR – Director of Communications

The district's new phlebotomy program launched in fall 2022 and already has its first success story. Samantha Juarez, a senior at Goose Creek Memorial High School, was the first student to complete 40 successful venipunctures and successfully complete the National Healthcare Association's certification test. A straight-A student, Samantha completed this feat while taking Honors courses and college classes simultaneously. This certification will allow her the opportunity to work in blood centers, labs and doctor's offices.

Samantha officially holds the honor as the first certified phlebotomy technician in the district and in GCM history. Her future plans are to earn the CCMA (Certified



GCM student, Samantha Juarez, is the first student in district history to complete the National Healthcare Association's certification test.

Clinical Medical Assistant) as well as major in the medical field in college.

The phlebotomy program is new today and is currently only at Goose Creek Memorial. The program is taught in con-

junction with CCMA curriculum and adds extra workload for those participating students. Samantha handled this with remarkable ease while maintaining a straight A report card taking honors and college classes.



Students and teachers in the district's phlebotomy program gather together to celebrate Samantha Juarez successfully completing the NHA certification test.

LeAna Dixon Named Director of Finance

Congratulations to LeAna Dixon, our new Director of Finance. LeAna is a 1999 graduate of Ross S. Sterling High School. She attended Bradford School of Business, where she obtained a certification in Computerized Accounting in October 1999 and a Bachelor of Science and Master of Business Administration from Capella University. She has spent her entire 22-year career in Goose Creek CISD, where she

has served as an accounting assistant, accounting analyst, and associate director of finance for the past nine years. LeAna and her family reside in Baytown and her two daughters, like their mother, are products of Goose Creek CISD.



LeAna Dixon New Director of Finance

GCCISD Selected to Participate in National Research Study on Dual Enrollment



Goose Creek CISD administrators and CCRC team members enjoy a tasty lunch provided by the culinary arts students at Stuart Career Technical High School.

By: Kristyn Hunt Cathey, Director of Communications

Goose Creek CISD was selected to participate in a national research study conducted by the Community College Research Center (CCRC) at Teachers College, Columbia University. The study examined effective dual enrollment partnerships between high schools and community colleges and also seeks to better understand the policies and practices of highly effective institutional partnerships in supporting dual enrollment success. The goal of this study is to document effective practices for other high school and community college leaders, as well as state policymakers. CCRC visited the district last week.

According to the Community College Research Center, nationally, 82% of public schools offer dual enrollment (DE) coursework, enrolling nearly two million high school students each year. The Community College Research Center (CCRC) partnered with state agencies in Florida and Texas to study efforts by community college and K-12 schools to increase college-going and success for Black, Latinx, low-income and other underserved students. Those two states, in particular, have large DE programs; together enrolling more than 250,000 high school students each year.

During the site visits at Goose Creek Memorial High School and Stuart Career Technical High

School, CCRC team members met with and interviewed district and school leadership to learn how they have structured and funded dual enrollment opportunities that have resulted in more equitable student outcomes. Aside from interviewing high school dual enrollment teachers, counselors and dual enrollment coordinators, CCRC conducted student focus groups and collected documents used in communicating about, and organizing, dual enrollment programs.

CCRC is currently working with six sites in Texas that are effectively serving underrepresented students and also interested in serving as research partners.

Matthew Bolinger Named Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources

Congratulations to Dr. Matthew Bolinger, our new Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources. Dr. Bolinger has served as the Executive Director of Strategic Planning and Innovation since 2019. He is a Baytown native and graduated from Lee High School before attending Dallas Baptist University and the University of Texas at Dallas, where he earned his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science. In 2021, Matt earned his Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership from the University of Houston Clear Lake. He has served as an Assistant Principal at GCM, Academic Dean at Lee, and Principal at Baytown Junior. Matt has three beautiful children, Levi, Brooks, and Ella, and a loving wife of 27 years, Shannon.



Dr. Matthew Bolinger

SIGNS OF POSSIBLE SEX TRAFFICKING



- Not free to come and go
- Isolation from family or friends
- Changing residences frequently
- Hiding bruises, scars, marks or injuries
- Working excessively long or unusual hours
- Lacking access to basic needs or medical care
- Not in possession of money, ID or documentation

If you suspect human trafficking, call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at **1-888-373-7888**

OFFICE OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY
HARRIS COUNTY, TX



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Barbers Hill Dayton **Press**

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2023

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

ON THE HILL

Jones Library Dayton Donations

Honorariums:

In Honor of:

Sikes, Sherry: P is for Pterodactyl, given by Lambda Alpha Sigma Fagala, Paul: Bee Dance, given by Lambda Alpha Sigma

Owens, Cynthia: The Ninth Night of Hanukkah, given by Lambda Alpha Sigma

Arnold, Patsie: The Woman Who Built a Bridge, given by Sandy and Ed Pickett Reed, Thelma: Reef Life, given by Sandy and Ed Pickett

Memorials:

In Memory of:

Gill, Elizabeth: Trees, Leaves, Flowers, and Seeds, Nature's Treasures given by Lambda Alpha Sigma

Palmer, Donald H: Indoor Kitchen Gardening Handbook, Texas Fruit and

Vegetable Gardening, given by Lambda Alpha Sigma

Daily, Wanda: I Hope, given by Cathy Harbour

Williamson, Brad: Our America, given by The Williamson & Till Families

Neuman, Shirley: The Way of Integrity, Killing the Legends, Guinness

World Records 2023, given by Williamson & Till Families

Barton, Rita: Back to the Prairie, The Hidden Life of Trees, Escape into Cottage Core, given by Williamson & Till Families

Palmer, Donald H: The Things our Fathers Saw: The War in the Air, given by Jones Public Library Staff

Palmer, Donald H: The Things our Fathers Saw: The War in the Air 2, given by Friends of the Jones Library

Myers, Mrs. Freddie: For Whom the Bell Tolls, given by Catherine Harbour

Ibarra, Benito: Training Horses, given by The Ibarra Family

Ibarra, Castulo: Raising Beef Cattle, given by The Ibarra Family

Valkner, Penny: All Are Neighbors, given by Cathy Harbour Barton, Rita: First Sight, given by Angie Doskocil Valkner, Penny Bollinger: I'm So Glad You Were Born, given by Steve and Pam Thompson

JONES PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Chambers County Library System Receives Grant for Little Free Libraries

The Chambers County Library System received an early Christmas gift as part of a grant from the Ladd & Katherine Hancher Library Foundation for three Little Free Libraries to be placed at local parks in Chambers County. The grant, which includes three, two story composite libraries, a starter book collection, and a dog hook, will be located at convenient spots at the Mont Belvieu City Park, Fort Anahuac Park, and Safari Run at the Winnie Stowell Park. These locations are ideal due to the amount of



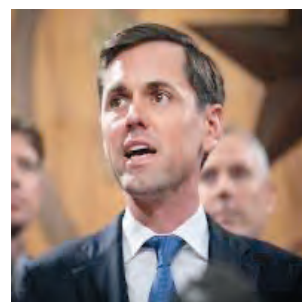
Assistant County Librarian Anne Vass with one of the Little Free Libraries.

people who frequent the parks for baseball, festivals, recreation, or just a leisurely stroll. The libraries will be stocked and maintained by Chambers County Library System staff, and it's encouraged for people to take a book/leave a book to ensure the library is always full for visitors. The fun part is seeing what other people leave behind, while enjoying a book you might not have picked up in the first place! Not everyone can get to the physical library, and this alternative allows access to books

in non-traditional locations all while encouraging reading in the community. Each Little Free Library has an official charter sign and number, which is registered and mapped through the "Little Free Library" app. Download the app and search for a little library near you today!



Middleton Files a Bill To Restrict Lobbyists



I filed a bill, [Senate Bill 345](#), to stop politicians from profiting from their positions.

My bill would prohibit a legislator from becoming a lobbyist for two legislative cycles following their last session as an elected legislator. We must end the legislator-to-lobbyist pipeline. Holding office should be about public service not self service.

When legislators are

able to become a lobbyist after they leave office, they can take votes that are not in the interests of their constituents to fulfill their own self interests. When there is the possibility of a high-paying lobby job after their term, legislators can become beholden to the special interests of their future lobby clients. They file bills, kill bills, and take votes to lock in their future job as a lobbyist.

There are many examples of this happening in Texas. One example, a House legislator used to serve as the chair of the Ways & Means Committee (the local property tax committee). While serving as the chair of that committee, he was known as the greatest obstacle to property tax relief in the Texas House. He repeatedly killed major property tax reform bills at the request of taxpayer-funded lobbying groups. After he finished his term, he became a taxpayer-funded lobbyist for the very same associations he killed the tax relief bill for.

This session, we have to end the legislator-to-lobbyist pipeline.

Massage Envy-Baytown Celebrates with Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



Pictured left to right: Neva White, Tovah Johnson, Mario Fady, Shananda Poulos, Jacque Redou, Amale Fady, Jennifer Tindol, Emily Teodoro, Wissam El Fady, Dalton Sjolander, Bechara El Fady, Ethan Dupont, Kaylan Thompson, Mark Fady, Nina Fady, Wael Fady, Marcel Fady, Lara Fady, Nancy El Fady, Paul Khoury, Father Edward, Father Miled Yaghi, Michael Nebgen, Wahib Fady, Randy Casey.

BAYTOWN – Massage Envy, located at 8824 N Highway 146, celebrated its 1st location opening in the community with the Baytown Chamber of Commerce Rib-

bon Cutting. Massage Envy filled with Chamber Ambassadors, staff, and family members for the celebration.

Massage Envy is a franchise located in multiple locations within the Houston area. Today, December 16th, Massage Envy becomes a member of the Baytown Chamber of Commerce and brings the business to Baytown. Massage Envy provides professional massage or skin care services performed by highly qualified therapists and estheticians who care about helping you look and feel your best.

To find out more information call (281) 317-2818 or visit their website here (massageenvy.com)

Houston Methodist Hospital Baytown Hidden Factors that May Sabotage Your New Year's Weight Loss Resolution

We've made it through the holiday season. Now many of us will resolve to eat better and lose a few of those holiday pounds. Before you start, beware of things that can sabotage your efforts to lose or maintain weight. Let's uncover some factors that could be holding you back. Although you have the power to change a few of these factors, some are beyond your control. Either way, finding out why weight loss is challenging can be helpful, especially when coming up with a plan or deciding when to seek help for weight loss.

LACK OF SLEEP Your health suffers when you're sleep deprived, and lack of sleep can affect your chances of losing weight, too. Research has shown that sleep deprivation can lead to increased cravings for high-carb foods and junk food. When you're overtired, you may be more likely to reach for high-calorie beverages or a sugar fix for quick energy. You may also lack the energy and initiative to make healthy food choices. "When you're tired at the end of your day, you may not feel like going for a walk or exercising. You may also not have the energy to make a healthy meal — choosing

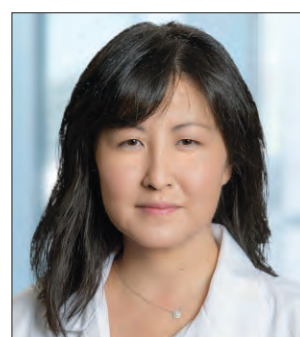
fast, convenient food instead, which disrupts efforts to lose weight," said Dr. Laura Choi, a bariatric surgeon at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital.

Take control: Aim for seven to eight hours of sleep at night so you can function at your best during the day.

YO-YO DIETING Yo-yo dieting (a cycle of losing weight and gaining it back) can take a toll on your health and make it harder to lose weight. You may lose weight rapidly on a fad diet, but you're not just losing body fat. You lose lean muscle as well, which in turn decreases your metabolism. The problem with yo-yo dieting is that it's not sustainable. "Once a diet is discontinued and regular eating resumes, the body's metabolism is lower than before, and any pounds regained consist mostly of fat," Choi explained.

Take control: Modify your diet in a way that's sustainable for the long term. You want to find solutions for managing your weight that will work for the rest of your life, not just dropping pounds for a special event or a few months.

BALANCING GYM TIME WITH MEAL PLANNING



Dr. Laura Choi

TIME Have you been toiling away at the gym without losing any weight? If this sounds all too familiar, it may make sense to spend more time and energy on meal planning. "How much and the types of food consumed has more to do with weight loss than anything else," explained Choi. Exercise is good for your overall health and longevity, but it's only a small component of weight loss. The majority of weight loss comes from making dietary changes and consuming fewer calories than you can burn in a day.

Take control: By spending 30 minutes preparing a healthy meal, you can avoid consuming an extra 700-800 calories compared to eating fast food or takeout. When you combine a healthy diet with exercise, it's a win-win!

AGING Controlling your weight can be an uphill battle as you age. Even if you're exercising and eating right, the pounds can still creep up. "With each passing year, metabolism decreases, and the body doesn't use as many calories," Choi said. In addition, you may lose muscle mass with age, and the problem is compounded if you're less active. It all adds up to a recipe for weight gain.

Take control: Cut back on portion sizes of higher calorie foods and increase portion sizes of lower calorie foods like non-starchy vegetables, such as broccoli, cauliflower, green beans and okra, etc. Try to exercise for 30 minutes every day — going for a walk is a great way to start.

MEDICATIONS Did you know that weight gain is a side effect of certain medications? Some medications taken for depression, inflammation, thyroid disorder or other conditions can make it difficult to maintain or lose weight. These medications may cause you to feel hungrier, burn calories slower, or retain extra fluids. It's important to continue taking your medications as directed by your doctor, but don't hesitate to ask about alterna-

tives. **Take control:** Talk to your doctor if you have questions about how your medications may be affecting your weight.

GENETIC INFLUENCES Genes can influence appetite, metabolism, body-fat distribution and more, but genetic influences don't tell the whole story. Environmental factors including eating habits formed in childhood, family and social connections, ways you cope with stress and other psychological factors can have an even greater impact on your weight.

Take control: Even if you've been overweight for most of your life and struggle to lose weight, you can fight back. It starts with making the decision to get help for losing weight.

Houston Methodist Weight Management Center at Baytown develops a personalized weight loss plan that helps you lose weight and improve your health. Dr. Choi will host a virtual information session about bariatric procedures on January 17th. To learn more about your weight loss options, register at houstonmethodist.org/weight-loss-surgery or call 832.667.LOSE (5673).

OPINION PAGE

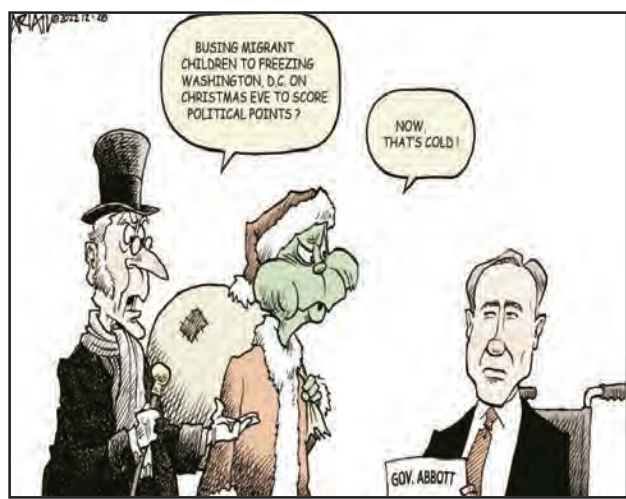
OPINION
By Stephanie Swanson
League of Women Voters of Texas

Statement about the Busing of People Seeking Asylum

Austin, TX – The League of Women Voters of Texas condemns Governor Abbott’s busing documented immigrant asylum seekers to Washington DC, New York, Chicago, and other cities without warning or coordination with local and state officials, or aid organizations in those cities.

LWV Texas calls on the governor to stop this dangerous and inhumane political ploy. We call upon him and his administration to instead work with local, state, and federal officials, and immigration organizations to humanly aid these distraught people and to develop a fair and humane immigration policy.

About the League of Women Voters of Texas: The League of Women Voters is one of America’s oldest and most trusted civic nonprofit organizations. Formed in 1919, the Texas League represents more than 13,500 grassroots advocates and 34 local Leagues across the state.



THE POSTSCRIPT
By Carrie Classon

A Letter to Krissy

A couple of days ago, a friend of mine posted something written by a friend of his on Facebook. This is what she had to say:

“I’ve been contemplating what I really miss in life. Why do I feel this empty space? I have not felt completely full in a very long time. I miss the outdoors... a good hike, fishing or camping. No radio, cellphone, TV, movies or internet. Just the birds, the river running...just the sound of crickets.

“I miss a good, deep, solid conversation about life, God and love. All the things that truly matter! The world has changed so much with technology that we don’t even know each other anymore. We don’t have time for each other anymore. You turn on the evening news and all you hear is bad news. Shootings and crime have skyrocketed, and it’s become the norm.

“We can no longer trust emails or use our debit cards without worry of scams or fraud. We can no longer leave a door unlocked or a window open.

“I miss the world I grew up in. Where people had time for each other. Where conversations mattered. Where there was respect for each other. When people knew what was right and wrong. Sometimes I honestly want to throw my cellphone out the window, but realize I have to use it to contact the ones I love.

“This new world has swallowed us up and there is not a damn thing we can do about it. Am I the only one who ever feels this way?”

“Signed, “Krissy”

I don’t know Krissy, but I wrote a letter to her anyway. This is what I said:

“Dear Krissy, “I think you should pull your tent out of storage and go camping this week. Unless you live up north. Then you might go snowshoeing in the woods. That’s fun, too.

“Shootings and crime have not skyrocketed—although reporting of them has. If you look at the statistics, you are actually far less likely to come to a violent end or die of disease than at any time in human history.

“But it does not sound like you are enjoying your smartphone. Maybe you should get a simple phone instead. They cost less, and you can still make phone calls. And use a credit card for online purchases instead of a debit card. Then you don’t need to worry so much.

“Meaningful conversations are there to be had. Sometimes you have to start them. I think you made an excellent start with this post. Maybe try again, but this time at your kitchen table with a friend and a cup of coffee.

“Krissy, you sound anxious, and I’m sorry. The world has not swallowed you. Meditation helps. Exercise helps. Being clear on your purpose in the world and helping others helps a lot. Life has never been perfect for anyone. But we have never had anywhere near as many years as we now get to enjoy life—or not. It’s your choice. And, yes, you can do something about it.

“All the best, “Carrie”

As I said, I don’t know Krissy. I don’t suppose she read what I wrote, and, if she did, I’m not sure she would care. We get invested in our beliefs, even if they aren’t making us happy.

But I wanted to tell her that every one of us gets frustrated and discouraged and sometimes feels things are going down the tubes. I wanted to tell her she was not alone.

And I wanted to wish her a happier New Year.

Till next time, Carrie

Photos from this week’s column and podcasts can be found at CarrieClasson.com.

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By Gary Borders



Feds Investigating Meltdown at Southwest Airlines

Massive flight cancellations by Southwest Airlines during the Christmas holiday week are prompting the federal government to look into why thousands of travelers were left stranded across the country, along with huge piles of luggage in airports served by the beleaguered airline.

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg said his agency would examine what caused Southwest’s widespread cancellations, which began as a massive polar storm gripped much of the country a few days before Christmas. The airline was able to resume normal operations on Friday as another holiday weekend approached. The airline canceled more than 15,700 flights since Dec. 22, according to The Dallas Morning News. Cancellations by other airlines were a fraction of that amount, according to published reports.

“Because what we’re seeing right now, from the system and the flights themselves to the inability to reach anybody on a customer service phone line, it is just completely unacceptable,” Buttigieg told CBS early Wednesday. The Senate Commerce Committee also plans to investigate.

Southwest does not use the hub-and-spoke system relied upon by other major carriers, instead relying on a point-to-point system. That means even where planes were available, often crews and pilots were stranded in other cities.



investigate Atmos Energy’s failure to prepare for the winter weather event last week.”

Leading up to and during the winter event, State of Texas agencies worked around the clock to mobilize resources and assist utilities in any way possible. At no time did Atmos Energy request assistance... It is apparent that Atmos Energy acted irresponsibly and was unprepared for the event,” the letter said in part.

ABBOTT PUSHES BACK ON MIGRANT BUS CRITICISM

Abbott has drawn criticism after a bus from Texas dropped off more than 100 migrants in freezing weather near Vice President Kamala Harris’ official residence in Washington, D.C. An Austin American-Statesman report noted the state has bused nearly 16,000 migrants to so-called sanctuary cities. Abbott tweeted a breakdown of how many migrants have been bused to cities outside of Texas.

Thus far, 8,900 have been sent to Washington; 4,900 to New York City; more than 1,500 to Chicago; and more than 630 to Philadelphia. The governor has maintained in the past that the migrants have given permission to be bused North. The White House has called the move “a cruel, dangerous, and shameful stunt.”

“We’re providing relief to local communities overwhelmed by President Biden’s open border policies,” Abbott said.

The U.S. Supreme Court has so far stopped the Biden administration from eliminating Title 42, a federal rule enacted during by the Trump administration during the COVID-19 pandemic to allow

the U.S. to return asylum-seeking migrants to Mexico or their country of origin.

TPWD OPPOSES LISTING PRAIRIE CHICKEN AS ENDANGERED

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has reiterated its opposition to a decision by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to list the lesser prairie chicken as endangered in some areas and threatened in others, citing “tremendous” voluntary collaboration with private landowners and industry to conserve the chicken’s habitat.

The federal designation will take place in January. It primarily affects Panhandle counties where the lesser prairie chicken is found.

“This decision jeopardizes decades of voluntary conservation efforts, increases regulatory burden and does not assure recovery of the species,” David, Yoskowitz, TPWD executive director, said.

\$54 MILLION IN CAREER, TECHNICAL EDUCATION GRANTS

The Texas Workforce Commission has announced 152 grants totaling more than \$54 million to various public community, state and technical colleges, as well as school district and charter schools across the state. The grants will be used to buy equipment to establish or expand programs that offer Texas students the opportunity to earn licenses, certificates, or post-secondary degrees in fields such as nursing, welding, automotive repair and dentistry.

“It’s important to identify high-demand jobs, but it’s critical to proactively commit resources to ensure Texans are ready to meet those workforce needs,” said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel.

TPWD OPPOSES LISTING PRAIRIE CHICKEN AS ENDANGERED

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top ten New Year's Resolutions
1. Living healthier
2. Personal improvement or happiness
3. Losing weight
4. Career or job goals
5. Financial goals
6. Improve relationship
7. Travel or moving
8. Exercising
9. Stop smoking
10. Reduce drinking
Source: Statista

RRG LAUNCHES PROBE INTO ATMOS SERVICE ISSUES

The Texas Railroad Commission has launched an investigation of Atmos Energy’s gas distribution system, which left some Texans without heat during freezing weather just before Christmas. The company reported low gas pressure in cities across North and Central Texas, leaving some customers without heat. On Dec. 23, the Texas Tribune reported, Atmos asked its 2 million Texas customers to conserve gas use by lowering thermostats, not using gas fireplaces and any gas-powered appliances.

Gov. Greg Abbott signed a letter ordering the railroad commission and the Texas attorney general’s office to inves-

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- Jan 11—Tracey Browder
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Veronica Henry
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Lacy Robinson
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- Jan 21—Ted Bloom
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Debra Shields

ANNIVERSARIES

- Jan 2—Bruce & Theresa
Abbott
- Jan 5—Dale & Natalie Smith
- Jan 9—Vernon & Allie
Skrabanak
- Jan 11—C.J. & Retha
Meineke
- Jan 12—Troy & MaryAnn
McCarty
- Jan 14—Mr. & Mrs. Connie
Clark
John & Verna Lee
Shipp
- Jan 15—Lee Roy & Lydia
Moore
- Jan 25—Jim & Ronda Laut

County officials sworn into office,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

with the HCSO Honor Guard presenting colors, and ended with the Pride Chorus Houston singing "We Are Family." Bishop James Dixon gave the Invocation.

Later in the week, candidate for county judge Alexandra del Mor Mealer issued a statement saying that the vote count for offices was not correct, and that many votes had been "suppressed." She said she would file a challenge to the count, with the intent to overturn the results.

Mealer's statement is as follows: "After reviewing all publicly available data, I have decided to file an election contest in light of the post-election assessment submitted by Harris County Election Administrator Clifford Tatum.

It is inexcusable that after two months, the public is no further along in knowing if, and to what extent, votes were suppressed. Far from being a "success," as the report characterizes, there were serious operational issues that occurred throughout

Election Day that call into question whether the county's failures denied voters their right to vote. The report culminates with the ultimate "dog ate my homework" excuse of the World Series parade being responsible for delayed openings and fails to solidify the number of polling stations that suffered from ballot paper shortages.

Unlike those holding office, I do not have the weight of government behind me to investigate the matters with the gravity and effort that reports of voter suppression justify but I do have the ability to exercise my legal rights as a candidate. My decision to file an election contest is fundamentally about protecting the right to vote in free and fair elections. There aren't a lot of things that Lina Hidalgo and I agree on but surely, we can both agree that it is un-American to suppress votes.

Sincerely,
Alexandra del Moral Mealer."

Crosby Superintendent's New Year Message,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



"Capturing Kids Hearts" attendees from Drew Elementary School.

known as "Read to the Final Four." Just before Winter Break, our third graders had logged more than 1.7 million minutes. Our Cougars are hungry to show the world how much they love to read and learn!

I wanted to share a few examples of what we call COMMUNITY in Crosby ISD. Friendly Ford celebrated the holidays by donating gifts to Crosby ISD families in need. Thank you to Matt and Madison Coleman who delivered the gifts to each home in December. The smiles on the children's faces were all you needed to see to know we are making a difference. Each year, Friendly Ford generously donates money and time to make sure no Crosby ISD student goes without. Also, thank you to Smoothie King Crosby for delivering a big "Welcome Back" gift to Newport Elementary School. Our teachers and staff received 75 surprise smoothies. In December, Starbucks surprised teachers at Drew Elementary with free coffee. Coffee warms the heart and soul,



Crosby ISD Child Nutrition Services staff undergoing Professional Development on January 5, 2023.

and it was a great way to wrap up the first semester.

This month, staff members returned a few days ahead of students for career enrichment experiences with students. They really opened themselves up to creating social contracts and making connections with our kids. I can't wait to see how this training bears fruit among our new educators and the students in their care.

known as "Capturing Kids Hearts." They spent two days learning how to create meaningful and authentic classroom experiences with students. They really opened themselves up to creating social contracts and making connections with our kids. I can't wait to see how this training bears fruit among our new educators and the students in their care.

We are Better Together!
Go Cougs!

Americanisms

"Life isn't perfect, any failures you have are actually learning moments. They teach us how to grow and evolve."
— Phillipa Soo

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ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

HEY BOB, CHECK OUT MY NEW WINTER COAT!
NO MORE FREEZING. IT'S INSULATED AND MADE FROM GENUINE LEATHER.
COME ON, YOU'D WEAR ONE IF YOU COULD! SO WOULD THE CHICKENS AND COWS!
OK, SO MAYBE NOT THE COWS.

R.F.D. by Mike Marland

THE BEST WAY TO DEAL WITH CLIMATE CHANGE IS TO BE FLEXIBLE.
ALL I CAN DO IS PREPARE FOR WHATEVER COMES MY WAY THIS WINTER.
LET THE CHIPS FALL WHERE THEY MAY.

The Spats by Jeff Pickering

THIS BRAND NEW BELT IS WAY TOO SMALL FOR ME...
...AND I PAID OVER \$200 FOR IT!!
WOW, WHAT A HUGE WAIST.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		1		7			8	5
7			8			9		
	2			6		3		
		2			3		7	
		3		1	7	4		
4			5					1
		8		3				5
	1		2					4
6					9	2		

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Entrap is smaller; 2. Hoop is missing; 3. Hoop is shorter; 4. Hoop is shorter; 5. Hoop is shorter; 6. Hoop is shorter; 7. Hoop is shorter; 8. Hoop is shorter; 9. Hoop is shorter; 10. Hoop is shorter; 11. Hoop is shorter; 12. Hoop is shorter; 13. Hoop is shorter; 14. Hoop is shorter; 15. Hoop is shorter; 16. Hoop is shorter; 17. Hoop is shorter; 18. Hoop is shorter; 19. Hoop is shorter; 20. Hoop is shorter; 21. Hoop is shorter; 22. Hoop is shorter; 23. Hoop is shorter; 24. Hoop is shorter; 25. Hoop is shorter; 26. Hoop is shorter; 27. Hoop is shorter; 28. Hoop is shorter; 29. Hoop is shorter; 30. Hoop is shorter; 31. Hoop is shorter; 32. Hoop is shorter; 33. Hoop is shorter; 34. Hoop is shorter; 35. Hoop is shorter; 36. Hoop is shorter; 37. Hoop is shorter; 38. Hoop is shorter; 39. Hoop is shorter; 40. Hoop is shorter; 41. Hoop is shorter; 42. Hoop is shorter; 43. Hoop is shorter; 44. Hoop is shorter; 45. Hoop is shorter; 46. Hoop is shorter; 47. Hoop is shorter; 48. Hoop is shorter; 49. Hoop is shorter; 50. Hoop is shorter; 51. Hoop is shorter; 52. Hoop is shorter; 53. Hoop is shorter; 54. Hoop is shorter; 55. Hoop is shorter; 56. Hoop is shorter; 57. Hoop is shorter; 58. Hoop is shorter; 59. Hoop is shorter; 60. Hoop is shorter; 61. Hoop is shorter; 62. Hoop is shorter; 63. Hoop is shorter; 64. Hoop is shorter; 65. Hoop is shorter; 66. Hoop is shorter; 67. Hoop is shorter; 68. Hoop is shorter; 69. Hoop is shorter; 70. Hoop is shorter; 71. Hoop is shorter; 72. Hoop is shorter; 73. Hoop is shorter; 74. Hoop is shorter; 75. Hoop is shorter; 76. Hoop is shorter; 77. Hoop is shorter; 78. Hoop is shorter; 79. Hoop is shorter; 80. Hoop is shorter; 81. Hoop is shorter; 82. Hoop is shorter; 83. Hoop is shorter; 84. Hoop is shorter; 85. Hoop is shorter; 86. Hoop is shorter; 87. Hoop is shorter; 88. Hoop is shorter; 89. Hoop is shorter; 90. Hoop is shorter; 91. Hoop is shorter; 92. Hoop is shorter; 93. Hoop is shorter; 94. Hoop is shorter; 95. Hoop is shorter; 96. Hoop is shorter; 97. Hoop is shorter; 98. Hoop is shorter; 99. Hoop is shorter; 100. Hoop is shorter.

January 9, 2023 Posting Date King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Discoverer's call
- 4 Island near Java
- 8 "Cheers" order
- 12 Brooch
- 13 Oodles
- 14 Plotting
- 15 Swelled head
- 16 Reed and Rawls
- 17 "Hud" actress Patricia
- 18 Star of "NCIS: Los Angeles"
- 21 Klutz
- 22 Singer Starr
- 23 Photo book
- 26 Witty one
- 27 Crater part
- 30 Corp. kingpins
- 31 24 hours
- 32 Cab cost
- 33 Sauce source
- 34 Novelist Rand
- 35 Avid
- 36 Anderson Cooper's channel
- 37 Calendar abbr.
- 38 Official flower of Chicago
- 45 Cash advance
- 46 Manhattan area
- 47 Lennon's love
- 7 "Not a problem!"
- 8 Energizer mascot
- 9 Fencing sword
- 10 List-ending abbr.
- 11 Bakery buy
- 19 Debtors' notes
- 20 Lofty
- 3 — about (roughly)
- 4 Fragrant wood
- 5 Unfriendly
- 6 Noisy
- 28 Anger
- 29 Debussy's "La —"
- 31 Ming, for one
- 32 Kismet
- 34 Reply (Abbr.)
- 35 Seconded
- 36 "True Colors" singer Lauper
- 37 Different
- 38 Not naked
- 39 Abode
- 40 Banister
- 41 Asta's feeder
- 42 Relocate
- 43 Squad
- 44 NYC gallery

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Trivia Test Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

1. Jeopardy!
2. Apple
3. Cap'n Crunch
4. Theodore Roosevelt
5. Chewbacca
6. The natrix
7. Ten
8. Five
9. Windpipe
10. Six

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Administration for Docket No. 508565; Estate of FRANCIS CEAL NORRIS Deceased; In Probate Court No. 2 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on DECEMBER 14, 2022.

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

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

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 Dated this DECEMBER 19, 2022.

Weston Cotten
 by WESTON COTTEN
 Attorney for the Estate

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 511183; Estate of JOHN RUDOLPH STROMSKY Deceased; In Probate Court No. 3 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on DECEMBER 21, 2022.

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

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

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 Dated this DECEMBER 29, 2022.

Weston Cotten
 by WESTON COTTEN
 Attorney for the Estate

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 Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 509580; Estate of JOLENE KAY WILSON Deceased; In Probate Court No. 2 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on DECEMBER 20, 2022.

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

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

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 Dated this DECEMBER 27, 2022.

Weston Cotten
 by WESTON COTTEN
 Attorney for the Estate

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 511240; Estate of KENNETH L. (LEE) BAKER Deceased; In Probate Court No. 3 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on DECEMBER 28, 2022.

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

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

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 Dated this JANUARY 4, 2023.

Weston Cotten
 by WESTON COTTEN
 Attorney for the Estate

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF LOCATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
 Notice is hereby given that the street address of the administrative office of Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5 is 5915 FM 2100, Crosby, Texas 77532.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF LOCATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
 Notice is hereby given that the street address of the administrative office of Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80 is Crosby Fire Station No. 2, 123 S. Diamondhead Blvd., Crosby, Texas 77532.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO INTRODUCE A BILL IN THE LEGISLATURE OF TEXAS
 Notice is hereby given of the intention to introduce in the Regular Session of the 88th Legislature of Texas a bill relating to the powers and duties of Crosby Municipal Utility District. The general substance of the law is as follows: AN ACT relating to the eminent domain authority of the Crosby Municipal Utility District; containing other provisions related to the subject; and finding that notice of the introduction of the bill has been given. Publication costs paid by Crosby Municipal Utility District.

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| 250th Ticket..... | Beats Solo 3 Wireless Headphones | 699th Ticket..... | 55" Smart TV |
| 300th Ticket..... | \$200 Gift Card | 700th Ticket..... | 2023 Chevy Trailblazer or 2023 Chevy Equinox SUV |
| 350th Ticket..... | Air Fryer | | <small>(Color & Model may vary from Pictures)</small> |

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