

HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

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Rotarians hard at work, drawing 700 raffle tickets from the containers. Diana Weaver, Weston Cotten, Sheila McDonald, Larry White. See WINNERS LIST OF ALL PRIZES, PAGE 5

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

## IN THE STARS

### Stephens takes heart screening message to Super Bowl

SCA (Sudden Cardiac Arrest) came to national attention last December, when Cincinnati Bengals safety Damar Hamlin collapsed on the field, and almost died. Medical personnel saved him with CPR and defibrillation.

Heart defects have been an important part of Crosby's Scott Stephens life, ever since his son Cody died at home of CSA in May 2012.

Scott has made it his life's mission to save others by promoting and offering heart screening for youth athletes, promoting legislation by



Scott Stephens with an AED device.

states to provide these screenings, and in many cases paying for AED machines through his Cody Foundation.

Now he plans to attend the Super Bowl in Arizona, and in conjunction with author and NFL player Randy Grimes at "Radio Row" to tell Stephen's story, and spread the word about potential threats to athletes' health.

Stephens and Grimes have scheduled about 50 fifteen minute interviews with media.

For more information about the Cody Stephens Foundation, visit [www.codystephensfoundation.org](http://www.codystephensfoundation.org).

# Kris Dahlquist wins Chili Feast Car

HIGHLANDS – Rotary held their 48th annual Chili Feast last Saturday, and awarded a new 2023 Chevrolet Trailblazer in their raffle, to Highlands resident Kris Dahlquist.

Hundreds attended this annual community get-together, and enjoyed delicious chili dinners and socializing with many folks they hadn't seen since last

**AT RIGHT, Rotarian Andy Scott, Tony Dahlquist, Kris Dahlquist, and Rotarian Denise Smith with Kris' new car, won in the Highlands Rotary Chili Feast Raffle.**



year's event.

This is the main fundraising event for the Rotary club, and the proceeds of about \$100,000 are used throughout the year for community and Rotary projects and scholarships. Last year the club awarded 18 scholarships, totaling over \$32,000, mainly from proceeds of this event. Over the 48 years of the event, Highlands Rotary has returned almost \$1 million to the community in improvements and

**CONTINUED. See Chili Feast Winner, Page 5**

## Message from the Crosby Superintendent

Hello East Harris County and Crosby ISD families,

We're off to a busy start to February, celebrating achievements and community service by our students.

First, our Cougars are proving they are avid readers! We are so proud of third graders across the District for making it to the Sweet 16 in the Read to the Final Four literacy bracket challenge. Students at Drew, Barrett, Crosby, and Newport Elementary Schools have collectively read more than 5 million minutes since the



**SUPERINTENDENT PAULA PATTERSON**

competition began November 7th. Each Monday, the next round of schools moving forward in the competition is announced on KHOU Channel 11. We are expecting to see great things for our schools when the next round of the Elite Eight is announced. We want to thank Crosby ISD Elementary librarian, Ms. Carrie Henderson, for her hard work coordinating this monumental reading effort.

It was thrilling to see the surprise for Crosby High School senior Shelby Kouba. She was awarded a \$2500 scholarship from KPRC Channel 2 and American Furniture Warehouse. Crosby ISD nominat-



**Scholarship surprise by Channel 2 for Crosby High School senior Shelby Kouba**

ed Shelby for her dedication and love of FFA. In fact, Shelby's classmates and teachers joined together to surprise her in the FFA wing at CHS. We know Shelby feels at home in the world of FFA. She even

had a chance to recite the FFA creed at the January Board of Trustees meeting. She did an

**Continued. See Crosby Superintendent, Page 6**

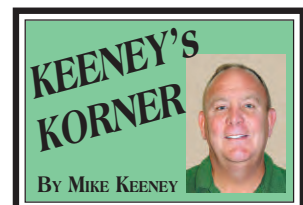
# Mahomes goes for second title, Hurts first, As Chiefs, Eagles meet in Super Bowl LVII

By Mike Keeney

After all the dust has cleared after the NFL's second 18-week and 117-game season, the two teams with the best records during the 2022 season will meet in Super Bowl 57 in Glendale, AZ this Sunday.

The Kansas City Chiefs and Philadelphia Eagles both finished 14-3 on the season, were the top seeds in their respective conferences and will each carry 16 wins into Sunday's big game to determine who takes home the coveted Lombardi Trophy.

This should be a classic contest featuring two of the game's best young quarterbacks in KC's Patrick Mahomes and Philly's Jalen Hurts. Both are products of Texas high school football, with Hurts coming out of Channelview High School. In addition, this will be the first time in Super Bowl history that two African-American



quarterbacks will start in a Super Bowl.

Before we take a deeper look into the Big Game, I want to personally thank all of you who have shown me support and compassion after the passing away of my wife Sharon on Jan. 19 in our home in Humble. I do not know what I would have done without your care, calls, texts and sympathetic ears.

Sharon and I were together for 27 years and married for 21 years. She was my best friend and made me a better person. I am going to miss her more than you can know, but I will be sustained by the wonderful memories we shared for almost 30 years. I'm fortunate that I have my stepdaughter

Kim, her husband Sean, my stepson Shane, his partner Jill and our grandchildren Cooper, Vivian and Cole here for each other.

Rest well, Babe. I will always love you.

Now, back to this year's SB column.

This will be the Chiefs fifth SB appearance, they have won two (the last being following the 2019 season when they defeated San Francisco, 31-20. The Eagles will be making their fourth SB appearance and seeking their second title after winning it all following the 2018 season with a 41-33 victory over Bill Belichick, Tom Brady and the New England Patriots.

KC head coach Andy Reid will be looking for his second Lombardi Title and has forged a 247-138-1 record in his 24 years as a head coach. This is his

**Continued. See Super Bowl, Page 7**

# Channelview exQB will lead Philly in Super Bowl

Win over North Shore in 2014 was start of legacy

As the Philadelphia Eagles and the Kansas City Chiefs gather in Phoenix for next Sunday's Super Bowl LVII, Houston fans from Channelview and throughout the city will have their eyes on a favorite son, Eagles Quarterback Jalen Hurts.

Jalen has become well-known nationally, leading the Philadelphia Eagles this year to the Super Bowl, with a 14-3 record in the regular season, and subsequent play-off wins.

However, his rise to fame began in October 2014, when as a junior quarterback for his high school team, the Channelview Falcons, he led his underdog team to a 49-48 victory over the dominant North Shore Mustangs with a 38-yard Hail Mary pass with no time left. Thus began his claim to fame and his legacy.

Jalen was playing under the tutelage of Averion Hurts, the head coach for Channelview and his father. After that win in 2014, recruiters began to follow his performance. He continued to show promise with a technique that included record set in passing and rushing.

Jalen excelled through hard work and determination to succeed. He was recruited by top football schools such as Texas A&M but chose Alabama under coach Nick Saban. At Alabama he was the SEC Offensive Player of the Year, and Freshman of the Year, but lost 35-31 to Clemson in the National Championship Game.



**Jalen Hurts, native of Channelview, is the QB for the Philadelphia Eagles**

Thus would start a tale of doubts and setbacks along with his successes. Although he led the Crimson Tide to the 2018 Title Game against Georgia, he was pulled for Tua Tagovailoa in the game that Alabama won. He spent much of the next year as a back-up, and decided to transfer to Oklahoma.

**Continued. See QB Jalen Hurts, Page 2**


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# GOOSE CREEK CISD NEWS

## GCCISD Celebrates the 100<sup>th</sup> Day of Instruction Across Elementary Schools



Ashbel Smith Elementary School student, Antonio Carmona, poses with his teacher, Maria Therrell, on the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school.

By: Kristyn Hunt Cathey, APR – Director of Communications  
Goose Creek CISD elementary schools celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> day of instruction on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is the day when many elementary (and some middle) schools encourage students to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school by creating projects, wearing shirts, costumes or even participating in parades. The district uses the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school as part of the fine arts, mathematics, and science curriculum. It makes learning fun and exciting for the students.

All photos taken by Carrie Pryor-Newman:



Clark Elementary School first graders, Te'Ana Jones, and Cambree Raif, celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school with their teacher, Sara Post oak.



De Zavala Elementary School kindergarten students, Zuri Brown, and Brandon Daigle, dress up as 100-year-olds on the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school.

## Reading is Fundamental In Goose Creek CISD

By: Kristyn Hunt Cathey, APR – Director of Communications

Goose Creek CISD schools participated in Read Aloud Day on February 1<sup>st</sup>. According to educationblog.microsoft.com, "Founded in 2010 by LitWorld, World Read Aloud Day celebrates the power of reading aloud to create community, amplify stories, and advocate for literacy as a foundational human right. Since its beginning, World Read Aloud Day has grown into a global movement of millions of readers, writers, and listeners from over 170 countries."

District administrators were paired with elementary school teachers across the district to read age-appropriate books to students. The students enjoyed the experience with a new "teacher" in charge and administrators were given an up close and personal view of what it's like to be a teacher in the district.

Students were encour-



Brigitte Clark, CFO, read to students at Alamo Elementary School on Read Aloud Day.



Ginger McKay, Director of Federal Programs, dressed up as her favorite book character and "read" to CAB employees.

aged to read their favorite book with their parents to increase their

literacy skills. All photos taken by Carrie Pryor-Newman:

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# Barbers Hill Press

## Dayton

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

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

### ON THE HILL

#### Senator Middleton Files Bill To Save Women's Sports

AUSTIN— Senator Mayes Middleton filed Senate Bill 649, the "Save Women's Sports Act," to protect the integrity of Texas women's athletic competitions.

The legislation would expand the protections passed in the 87th Legislative Session for girls competing in 7th-12th grade level competitions to women competing in collegiate level athletic programs. SB 649 provides a private cause of action to allow women to sue if they are deprived of opportunities or suffer harm due to a violation of the law.

"I filed the Save Women's Sports Act to protect the integrity of women's sports. The bill makes sure women are not forced to compete against biological men, who steal victories and athletic records from females, and put women's athletic scholarships unfairly at risk," said Senator Middleton. "Allowing biological males to compete in women's sports erodes Title IX, a federal law that protects opportunities previously denied to women."

"Students should compete in athletic competitions based on their God-given biological gender," said Senator Middleton. "You can't have fair competition when women are forced to compete against biological men."

Senator Middleton serves as the Vice Chair of the subcommittee on Higher Education, as well as serves on the Senate committees on Administration, Business & Commerce, Education, Jurisprudence, and State Affairs.

#### Chambers County Nonprofit Summit

The annual Chambers County Nonprofit Summit will be held on Thursday, March 30 from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. **WHITE MEMORIAL PARK COMMUNITY BUILDING** at 225 WHITE MEMORIAL PARK RD. WALLISVILLE, TX 77597 This event is free to the public but there are a limited number of seats available so RSVP is required.

This is an opportunity for local nonprofit agencies to receive formal training in important management topics at no cost. This year's sessions will cover:

Grant Writing by Samantha Humphrey

Board Management by Kayla White of the Southeast Texas Nonprofit Development Center

Donor Relations by Macie Schubert of the West Chambers County Chamber of Commerce

Entergy Texas Programs and Updates

Team Building by Dennis Wagner, Anahuac Independent School District Superintendent

Leadership Training  
Q&A Discussion Panel with Local Nonprofit Board Members, facilitated by Robbie King

Please RSVP at <https://forms.office.com/g/vTmTp7cape>

## Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital Recognizes 4 Nurses as DAISY Award Winners

Houston Methodist Baytown recognized four nurses for their abundant compassion and ability to bond with their patients in their time of need. The nurses were nominated by patients and honored by hospital executives. Each recipient received three or more nominations.

One of Rhona Cabigquez's nomination letters read: "This nurse is patient and compassionate. She made me feel like I was part of her family and even provided valuable information to my family when I had difficulty understanding my medications. She has a great personality, and her laughter is contagious."

A patient left this nomination for Chasity King: "My mother has had multiple visits to the hospital, but during the last one this nurse was able to recognize that my mother was having a stroke. She knew my mother had dementia but was able to see the signs of what was happening. Thank you to this special nurse for helping the physicians in diagnosing



Chasity King

the patient. She is a blessing to our family."

Guadalupe Velazquez is the first winner from the new Unity Tower. One of her nominations read: "Never have I met a more passionate advocate for her patients. She spent a great deal of her time and energy helping me to get the care I needed. She helped with the communication with physicians ensuring that my pain was controlled."

Kelsey Roque is also in Unity Tower. One of her letters read: "This is a very compas-



Guadalupe Velazquez

sionate nurse who is very dedicated to the care and comfort of her patients. Her dedication and genuine concern for me was very touching. I could not be any happier with the care I received from her."

The DAISY (diseases attacking the immune system) Award is part of the DAISY Foundation's program to recognize the "super-human" tasks nurses perform every day. Community Resource Credit Union is the corporate sponsor of the award at Houston Methodist Baytown.



Kelsey Roque

The not-for-profit DAISY Foundation is based in Glen Ellen, Calif., and was established by family members in memory of J. Patrick Barnes, who died at the age of 33 in late 1999 from complications of Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP), a little known but not

uncommon auto-immune disease. The care Barnes and his family received from nurses while he was ill inspired this unique means of thanking nurses for making a profound difference in the lives of their



Rhona Cabigquez

patients and patient families. The honorees are also given a beautiful and meaningful sculpture called "A Healer's Touch," hand-carved by artists of the Shona Tribe of Zimbabwe, Africa.

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

## Lee College Hosts Black History Month Events

Feb. 1, marks Black History Month, and Lee College is hosting events throughout February to commemorate and celebrate the role of Black Americans have played in U.S. history.

Events of media interest at the college's Baytown campus are as follows:

**12:30 - 2:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 7** at McNulty-Haddick Nursing Center, "Hope, Healing and Breaking the Silence," a panel discussion and presentation addressing the stigma surrounding mental

and physical health in Black America. For more information, please contact Renauldo McFadden at [rmcfadden@lee.edu](mailto:rmcfadden@lee.edu) or 832-556-4560.

**7 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 15**, Lee College Navigators vs. Jacksonville College at the Lee College Arena. The halftime show will be dedicated to honoring Det. Lance Watkins with the Baytown Police Department and adjunct professor at Lee College. The Lee College Black Educational Access & Completion Committee (BEACC) has chosen to recognize

Det. Watkins for his dedication to making education accessible to the African American and Hispanic communities and to other under-represented groups. Please contact Kelli Emerson at [kemerson@lee.edu](mailto:kemerson@lee.edu) or 281-425-6245 for more information about the event. To set up an interview with Det. Watkins, please contact Victoria Marron, at [vmarron@lee.edu](mailto:vmarron@lee.edu) or 832-248-2361.

**7:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 17** at Performing Arts Center, Ryan & Ryan, a father-son dueling piano show. There

will be an artist discussion at 6:30 p.m., before the performance which will be moderated by Lee College Board of Regent member Susan Moore-Fontenot. Ryan & Ryan draw upon classic and contemporary music from Rachmaninoff to Gershwin to Billy Joel and combine their talents to create a dazzling blend of old and new school music. If you are interested in setting up an interview via phone or virtually ahead of the Feb. 17 event, please contact Noah Dobbs, at [ndobbs@lee.edu](mailto:ndobbs@lee.edu)

or 832-556-4010.

**5 - 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 23** at Rundell Hall Conference Center, Black Owned Business Alliance Showcase. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet owners of area Black-owned businesses and sample their products. For more information, please contact Victoria Marron at [vmarron@lee.edu](mailto:vmarron@lee.edu) or 832-248-2361.

Check the calendar of events or reach out to S. Sara Tubbs at [stubby@lee.edu](mailto:stubby@lee.edu) or 786-877-0421 if you have any questions.

### Houston Methodist Hospital Baytown

## Migraine Triggers to Avoid

If you're prone to develop migraine headaches, you know how debilitating they can be. Even mild migraine symptoms can disrupt your entire day.

"About 52% of visits to primary-care doctors are for headaches, the majority of which are likely migraine headaches," says Dr. Olga Brusil, a neurologist at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital.

Migraine symptoms and severity can vary from person to person, but Dr. Brusil has some universal migraine-prevention advice for anyone who experiences this type of headache: Know the common triggers and identify which most affects you.

Though genetics are thought to play a significant role, the underlying cause of migraines isn't fully understood. Nor is the reason some people are more prone to developing them than others.

But Dr. Brusil notes that we do know some brains are hardwired to tip into a headache.

"People prone to migraines have stronger functional connections between the autonomic nervous system and pain centers in the brain," explains Brusil. "A migraine headache likely happens as the result of a threshold effect, depending on the activity or excitability of a person's brain."

Dr. Brusil adds that it doesn't take a lot to send "a migraine brain" over the edge.

#### 6 migraine triggers

Knowing the common triggers of a migraine doesn't guarantee you'll never get one again. But for many people, it can help reduce the frequency of these headaches.

Here are six triggers of migraine headaches you may want to take steps to avoid:

#### Stress

Whether it's due to issues in a relationship, work, your finances or something else, stress is a huge trigger for migraine headaches.

"They can also be triggered by stress letdown, meaning when you're finally relieved of a specific stressor in your life," says Brusil. "For instance, some people get a migraine headache every Saturday once the stress of the work week is over or on the first day of vacation."

#### Hormone fluctuations

"For women, the estrogen withdrawal that occurs after your monthly period and after ovulation can trigger a migraine," says Brusil.

In some cases, oral contraceptives can, too.

#### Changes to your routine

Even slight deviations in your day-to-day schedule, insignificant as they may seem, can have a big impact on a migraine brain.

"Mundane changes like being late for a meal or skipping one altogether can tip a person over the edge," says Brusil. "A variable sleep pattern can, too, which



Dr. Olga Brusil

is most problematic for shift workers, such as nurses, bus drivers, police officers and more."

Of note, Dr. Brusil adds that more significant changes to your routine, like traveling to a different time zone, also can trigger a migraine.

#### Foods and drinks

"About a quarter of migraine patients will have a food or drink trigger," says Brusil. "We know that nitrates and tyramine-containing foods, specifically, can lead to these headaches."

Foods and drinks known to trigger migraines include:

- Red wine
- Chocolate
- Cheeses
- Nuts
- Processed meats
- Smoked meats
- Dried fruits
- Artificial seasonings and sweeteners (and any marinades they may be used in)

Migraine sufferers who think they may have a food trigger should consider keeping a food-symptom journal or using a migraine tracking app.

"These foods don't always cause a migraine right away," says Brusil. "It can take up to three days for a food-triggered migraine to really take hold and present with that debilitating pain."

For instance, Dr. Brusil often tells patients that the Friday glass of wine could be the cause of a Monday migraine headache.

Odors and bright lights  
Some migraine brains are more sensitive to strong sensory stimuli, including:

- Scented candles
- Incense
- Perfume
- Smoke
- Bright lights
- Flashing lights
- Fluorescent lighting

"Remember, there is a threshold effect that we think is responsible for tipping a migraine brain over into a headache," adds Dr. Brusil. "Maybe you're on your period, your routine is off, and you didn't sleep well. So, now all of the sudden a candle or scent that's never bothered you before is leading to a migraine."

In other words, keep in mind that these triggers can be cumulative.

Weather changes  
Maybe you've heard that

weather changes can lead to arthritis flare-ups, but they also seem to correlate with migraine frequency.

"Many of my patients will say that they know a cold front is coming before the weatherman," adds Brusil.

**What to do when knowing your triggers isn't enough**

Certain migraine triggers are avoidable. Others aren't.

Regardless, Dr. Brusil says some migraine sufferers need medications to effectively manage their headaches.

"Some people are able to keep a routine ideal for preventing migraines and that's enough to significantly decrease the frequency of them," says Brusil.

"But this doesn't work for everyone. About one-third of my patients are getting six to eight migraine headaches in a month no matter how perfect their day-to-day routine is," explains Dr. Brusil. "These are the people who need to be on preventive medications."

If your migraines still occur often or continue to be severe, your primary-care doctor may refer you to a neurologist for a more thorough evaluation. A neurologist may also recommend additional migraine treatment options, like Botox and monoclonal antibodies.

To schedule an appointment with a neurologist at Houston Methodist Baytown, call 832.556.6535.

OPINION PAGE

OPINION

By U.S. Senator JOHN CORNYN



Time to Get America's Fiscal House in Order: Here are the First Steps

The national debt is \$31.5 trillion and counting. If it were divided among all income taxpayers, each person would be on the hook for nearly \$250,000.

Will we ever be in a situation where the average taxpayer receives a quarter-million-dollar bill from the U.S. government? Not a chance. But it's startling to see how much debt the United States has taken on, and even more jarring to realize there's no plan to address it.

Making matters worse, we're quickly approaching an alarming deadline. Unless action is taken soon, the U.S. will default on its debts in the coming months, sending our wobbly economy into a full-blown spiral.

This looming crisis didn't pop up out of nowhere. The U.S. narrowly avoided a debt crisis in 2021, but we've been moving toward this unavoidable reality for years. Out-of-control spending habits have driven the national debt from \$3.2 trillion in 1980, to \$9.7 trillion in 2000, to \$31.5 trillion today.

Washington can't continue to borrow and spend like there's no tomorrow. It's time to address the root causes that brought us here.

First, Congress needs to return to regular order in funding the government each fiscal year. It must abandon the habit of stopgap funding bills and last-minute omnibus and pass regular, on-time appropriations bills.

The Senate and House Appropriations Committees are charged with writing 12 separate bills to fund different components of the federal government prior to Sept. 30, the end of the government's fiscal year. That didn't happen in 2022 or 2021. The Democrat-led Senate did not pass a single regular appropriations bill and instead used stopgap funding measures to keep the wheels of government turning while they compiled a massive spending bill. All of this happened in a rushed fashion, completely out of the public's view.

This is a maddening way to fund the government, and it's time for change. Public hearings, debates, and votes on individual appropriations bills are the only path forward. Temporary funding legislation and 4,000-page appropriation bills are not the picture of responsible governing.

Next, we need to reform spending. There's bipartisan agreement that entitlements, which account for nearly two-thirds of the federal budget, are unsustainable in their current form. Projections show Social Security recipients will see a reduction of almost 25% in their benefits if we do nothing - an unacceptable outcome. It's time for tough conversations and significant reforms to protect the longevity of these programs for the people who need them most. Sen. Mitt Romney's, R-Utah, TRUST Act, which seeks to rescue the Social Security Trust Fund, is a great starting point for these conversations.

Finally, Congress should pass a balanced budget amendment - similar to ones I've authored and voted for previously - to make clear that the government can't spend more than it takes in. There's real-world evidence that balanced budget requirements work. Virtually every state in the nation has one, including Texas, which just started its legislative session with a \$33 billion surplus. States, families, and businesses across the country have no choice but to operate on a balanced budget. The federal government should do the same.

There are a range of other measures Congress can take to address the financial fire that's raging.

Congress should ban earmarks to ensure critical funding bills are not a playground for quid pro quo. I've opposed the use of earmarks and voted to strip them out of the most recent omnibus bill.

Senate Republicans have offered a laundry list of bills to restore order and accountability in federal spending.

Sen. Mike Braun's, R-Ind., No Budget, No Pay Act would suspend pay for members of the House and Senate if Congress fails to pass a budget or spending bills on time.

Sen. Mike Lee's, R-Utah, CBO Show Your Work Act would require the Congressional Budget Office to publish the data and models it uses analyze the cost of legislation.

If government funding is not enacted on time, Sen. James Lankford's, R-Okla., Prevent Government Shutdowns Act would force Congress to stay in session until funding agreements are reached, and ensure the government stays open until that happens.

These are just a few of the countless proposals Senate Republicans have put forward that deserve serious consideration.

President Biden needs to ditch his head-in-the-sand approach to this crisis and work with Republicans to get our financial house in order. He was in the room when Congress negotiated the 2011 Budget Control Act, which was the last meaningful attempt to restrain Washington spending. If the president wants to lead, this is his chance.

The national debt will haunt every generation until enough leaders show the courage to make tough choices and fix this mess. There's never been a more important time for action. I encourage my colleagues to join me in this process.



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Ice Storm Wreaks havoc in Much of State

Residents in Central and Northeast Texas are still cleaning up after a winter storm last week snapped power lines and tree limbs, causing widespread power outages, canceled flights and damage to homes and vehicles.

At its peak, nearly 400,000 Texas households were without power, according to poweroutage.us. As of Sunday, that number had dropped to 62,456.

The outages were due to downed power lines, not by problems with the state's power grid. The Texas Railroad Commission said the state's natural gas supply also held steady, with natural gas utilities reporting no service issues during the storm.

Airports in the state's metropolitan areas reported several hundred flight cancellations because of icy conditions. Many schools in the Dallas area and around Austin were closed for the entire week.

The Texas Department of Insurance offered some advice to homeowners dealing with damage caused by fallen tree branches landing on vehicles and homes. That includes taking photos of the damage before moving the tree; making temporary repairs and contact your insurance agent as soon as possible; and saving all receipts for labor and repair materials to be reimbursed.

While the danger from last week's storm has largely passed, the Texas Department of State Health Services provided advice for future winter events, urging people to use extreme caution with electric generators and heaters that produce carbon monoxide.

Generators should only be used outdoors, at least 10 feet away from buildings. Outdoor grills, camp stoves and other heaters that produced carbon monoxide should only be used outside. Carbon monoxide is an odorless and colorless gas that can cause death.

FENTANYL TEST STRIPS BACKED BY LAWMAKERS

Test strips that would determine whether pills, powders, or other forms of drugs are laced with deadly fentanyl might be legalized, if a bipartisan group of lawmakers have their way.

The percentage of overdose deaths tied to fentanyl has risen to 97%, according to a report in the Austin American-Statesman.



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

Gov. Gregg Abbott has ended his opposition to legalizing the strips, and several nearly identical bills have been filed in both the House and Senate as a result.

"They deserve action, action that will save other innocent families from the devastation they have suffered," Abbott said in January. "And they will get that action this session."

Legislators are also considering measures to increase the penalty for manufacturing or delivering fentanyl even in small amounts to a third-degree felony. Right now, it is a state jail felony.

Meanwhile, the state comptroller's office is being pushed to speed up distribution of more than \$1 billion in funds from the Opioid Abatement Settlement Fund, intended to mitigate the fentanyl crisis. The money comes from settlements with opioid manufacturers and distributors.

"We've somewhat sacrificed expediency in getting dollars out the door," Hegar said. "We have to create a system that treats everybody fairly and everybody understands the process."

DSHS data indicates 1,569 Texans died of a fentanyl-related overdose last year, according to the Statesman report.

STATE PARKS CONTINUE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Texas state parks turn 100 years old in 2023 and are celebrating with a host of events. This month includes several celebrations in North Texas, East Texas, Huntsville and San Antonio, including a variety of events marking Black History Month.

Texas Parks and Wildlife

Foundation is partnering with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and H-E-B for the celebrations, with the grocery chain donating \$1 million to help the parks system engage Texans to discover and enjoy their state parks.

For more information on the celebration, including community events, the history of Texas State Parks and how to make a day visit or overnight reservation, visit the Texas State Parks 100 Years website at [TexasStateParks.org/100years](https://TexasStateParks.org/100years).

HOUSING COST BURDEN EXAMINED

The Texas Demographic Center has used census data to examine housing cost burdens in the state. That is when a household spends more than 30% of its monthly income on housing costs, including rent or mortgage payments, utilities and other costs.

The center concludes that counties with the highest percent of households dealing with housing cost burdens are in the so-called Texas Triangle along the Austin-San Antonio corridor, as well as some border counties.

The study found that nearly half of Texas renters - 1.7 million - spent more than 30% of their income on housing costs from 2017-2021, with a median monthly housing cost of \$1,146. Among homeowners, 21% experienced housing costs burden during the same period, with median monthly housing costs of \$1,747.

Texas ranked 10th in median gross rent from 2017-2021. Hawaii was the most expensive state, followed by California.

TEXAS COMPANY HOPES TO BRING BACK DODO BIRD

A Texas company is hoping to bring back the long-extinct dodo bird, along with the woolly mammoth and the Tasmanian tiger, according to a Statesman story.

Colossal Biosciences, with offices in Austin, Dallas and Boston, is using gene-editing technologies to restore extinct animals.

The dodo bird, closely related to the pigeon, went extinct in 1662 in its native Mauritius, an island nation located in the Indian Ocean. It was wiped out due to human settlement and ecosystem competition.

The company was founded in 2021 to work in the field of de-extinction and combatting climate change. It recently announced an additional \$150 million in new funding.

"Being able to recreate something that is functionally similar to an extinct species that's as prevalent in people's minds as the dodo is hopefully going to create a little bit of enthusiasm for thinking about consequences of human cost extinctions," Beth Shapiro, a paleogeneticist with the company, said.

NEW COVID-19 CASES, DEATHS RISE

The number of new cases of COVID-19 in Texas during the past week rose to 38,947, more than 15,000 from the previous week, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University.

THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

"Barely Remembered"

"The worst thing," I told my mother, "was when you made us eat venison sausages for lunch. That sausage lasted forever!"

I am visiting my parents, and we somehow got to discussing our less-than-favorite foods. My mother always made wonderful school lunches with fresh fruit and a homemade cookie. But memory is fickle. What I remember most clearly was when my father brought home from work what seemed to me, as an elementary-school-age kid, a venison sausage the size of a baseball bat, and I had to eat sandwiches made from it—forever, as I recall.

"That was not the worst thing," my father said.

"No, you're right," I agreed. "The worst thing was when you made tongue sandwiches. I didn't eat those."

"When did I make you a tongue sandwich?" my mother asked.

"You made it for my lunch!" "How did you know it was tongue?" she asked.

"It had bumps!" I told her, suddenly reliving the experience.

"It couldn't have had many bumps," my mother said.

"How many bumps do you think it needs for an 8-year-old to refuse to eat it?" I asked.

My mother laughed. She's not a fan of tongue, either.

We were talking after dinner. My husband, Peter, and I were visiting my parents in their home "up north." We were having my mother's pumpkin bars for dessert and talking about old times and relatives I barely remembered—if at all.

I knew my mother's father had a brother named Evald, and I knew they used to go fishing. I remember my grandmother saying that grandpa was not going up north to fish but to drink beer with Evald. I figured with 11 kids to raise and 50 cows to milk, drinking a little beer with Evald once a year wasn't the worst thing a guy could do.

"I've never seen the house you lived in when you were little!" I told my mom.

"It's in kind of sad shape, last I saw," she told me. "But it's still there. You need a tour!" "I do," I agreed.

Memory is a funny thing. It seems to disappear completely, then slaps us with a vivid clarity—like an image of the bumps on a tongue sandwich eaten (or not eaten) 50 years ago.

I'm going to take a tour of the house my mother and her siblings grew up in the next chance I get. Even if the old farmhouse isn't looking as fine as it used to, even if it's been empty for a long time. I'd like to hear what memories my mom has when she sees it again and try to imagine some of the things that are now barely remembered.

"That was not the worst thing," my father said again. "We didn't make you eat the worst thing."

"What was the worst thing?" I asked him, trying to think what could be worse than a tongue sandwich in elementary school.

"You remember what your Uncle Evald gave us?" my dad asked my mom.

"No!" my mother said.

Uncle Evald lived off the land, up in the north woods, occasionally driving a school bus, from what my mother said.

"It was canned bear meat. In a jar. The fat had separated from the rest of it."

"I don't think I ever saw that," my mother said.

"That wasn't the worst of it," my dad continued. "There was hair in the jar!"

"No!" my mother said.

"There was," my dad said. "So, it could have been worse than venison sausage for lunch."

I had to admit, my dad was right.

Till next time, Carrie

Photos and other news can be found at [CarrieClasson.com](https://CarrieClasson.com).

Advertisement for Star Courier newspaper, including contact information and subscription rates.

# Rotary Chili Feast winner,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



**ABOVE:** Auctioneer Rick Loggins, with Rotarians Tricia Scott and Denise Smith.

**RIGHT:** Rotary's Chili Cooking team (not pictured, Robert Woodall and Johnny Gaeke).

project support.

The Chili Feast was chaired this year by Denise Smith, who said:

"Highlands Rotary Club Fundraiser is a big success!!!!

Many thanks to all Rotarians for your commitment & hard work. Special shout out to the Chinquapin Interact Club and North Shore Anchor Club..we absolutely could not hold this event without you. Thanks to all who bought sponsorships, raffle tickets, donated & bought auction items and volunteered on Saturday. We had a successful event thanks to all of you."

Major sponsors included Daniel's Meat Market, Right Way Sand, and Hill Materials. Rotary president Andy Scott thanked all the Rotarians, Chinquapin Interact and North Shore Anchor club and the community for the support and assistance given to this event.



TICKET DRAWING ORDER	PRIZE DESCRIPTION	WINNING TICKET NUMBER	NAME ON TICKET
Early Bird	\$300 Visa Gift Card	28	Jennifer Bell
1 <sup>st</sup>	\$200 Gift Card	368	Don Hill
50 <sup>th</sup>	32" Smart TV	189	Brett & Jessica Marshall
100 <sup>th</sup>	Portable Ice Maker	584	Don Hill
150 <sup>th</sup>	\$200 Gift Card	591	Victor Chavez
200 <sup>th</sup>	Air Comp/Batt Charger	363	Roars Simmons
250 <sup>th</sup>	Beats headphones	003	Hunter Harris
300 <sup>th</sup>	\$200 Gift Card	35	Ricky Hingosa
350 <sup>th</sup>	Air Fryer	301	David Kostha
400 <sup>th</sup>	65qt Arctic Cooler	0081	Linda Mills
450 <sup>th</sup>	Shotgun	108	Jeff Dyson
500 <sup>th</sup>	\$200 Gift Card	289	Wesley Cotten
550 <sup>th</sup>	28" Black Stone Cooker	0065	Lana Gaeke
600 <sup>th</sup>	Propane Fire Pit	0258	J & J Rellin
650 <sup>th</sup>	22-250 Rifle	0610	Diana Weaver
699 <sup>th</sup>	55" Smart TV	0190	Heavey Little
700 <sup>th</sup>	2023 Chevy Trailblazer or Chevy Equinox SUV	0120	Chris Dalquist

Highlands Rotary thanks everyone who helped make this 2023 Chili Feast a Success.



Draft Environmental Assessment Notice of Availability  
and  
Virtual Public Hearing with In-Person Option  
Farm-to-Market Road (FM) 2100  
From Huffman-Cleveland Road North to State Highway (SH) 99  
CSJ: 1062-02-011  
Harris County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Houston District, is proposing improvements along FM 2100 from Huffman-Cleveland Road North to SH 99 in Harris County, Texas. This notice advises the public that a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) is available for public review and that TxDOT will be conducting a Virtual Public Hearing with an in-person option on the proposed project. The Virtual Public Hearing will be available starting on Tuesday, February 28, 2023, at 5 p.m. through Thursday, March 16, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. To view the presentation and materials, go to the following web address beginning at the date and time indicated above: <https://www.txdot.gov/projects/hearings-meetings.html>.

The Virtual Public Hearing will consist of a pre-recorded video presentation and will include both audio and visual components. Please note that the presentation will not be available on the website until the date and time listed above. If you do not have internet access, you may call (713) 802-5269 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, to ask questions and access project materials during the project development process.

Additionally, TxDOT is providing an in-person option for individuals who would like to participate in person, instead of online. In-person attendees will be able to view the same presentation as posted online, which will be playing on a screen; review hard copies of project materials; ask questions of the project team; and leave written comments. The in-person option will be held on Wednesday, March 1, 2023, from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at May Community Center, 2100 Wolf Road, Huffman, Texas 77336.

For both the Virtual Public Hearing and in-person option, members of the public may call (281) 215-3841 to provide verbal testimony during the comment period. Written comments may also be provided by mail or email as explained below. All comments received before the end of the comment period will be considered equally and will be included as part of the official record. Responses to comments will be prepared by TxDOT, included as part of the hearing and project record, and made available online at <https://www.txdot.gov/projects/hearings-meetings.html>

The proposed project would accommodate future anticipated traffic demand and growth in the region, while improving safety by providing a divided highway with raised medians and dedicated left turn lanes at select intersections. The total length of the proposed project is approximately 5.6 miles.

The proposed improvements use portions of the existing Plum Grove Road and FM 2100 roadways and a section on new location. At approximately 0.4-miles north of Magnolia Lane, FM 2100 would be realigned onto a new location to the northeast for approximately 1.7 miles and then would follow Plum Grove Road to the project corridor's northern terminus at SH 99.

The existing FM 2100 roadway consists of two 10-foot-wide travel lanes (one in each direction), 1-foot-wide outside shoulders, open drainage ditches, and no sidewalks or bicycle accommodations. The existing FM 2100 right-of-way (ROW) varies from approximately 100 to 150 feet in width. The existing Plum Grove Road roadway consists of two 10-foot-wide travel lanes (one in each direction), 1-foot-wide outside shoulders, open drainage ditches, and no sidewalks or bicycle accommodations. The existing Plum Grove Road ROW is approximately 50 feet in width.

The proposed improvements include widening the existing two-lane facilities to four lanes by adding one 12-foot-wide travel lane in each direction, a 30-foot-wide raised median, a 5-foot-wide sidewalk on the east side of FM 2100, and a 10-foot-wide sidepath on the west side of FM 2100. The sidepath would accommodate bicycle travel. The roadway would have curb and gutter drainage and two proposed drainage channels would be constructed east of FM 2100 and south of Meyer Road. The FM 2100 proposed ROW is 150 feet in width.

A transition section is proposed from north of Wolf Road to Commons Vista Drive. The proposed ROW would be approximately 150 feet in width with two 11- to 12-foot-wide travel lanes in each direction, a 30- to 42-foot-wide raised median, a 5-foot-wide sidewalk on the east side, a 10-foot-wide sidepath on the west side, and curb and gutter drainage. At the FM 2100 and SH 99 intersection, additional 12-foot-wide turning lanes would also be provided.

The proposed project would, subject to final design considerations, require acquisition of approximately 66.06 acres of ROW and an additional 38.31 acres for proposed drainage channels, bringing the total proposed ROW to 104.37 acres. Five potential displacements are anticipated to result from the Build Alternative. The five potential displacements include one commercial business, two churches, and two shed structures all located on the west side of the proposed alignment. No additional displacements are anticipated to result from the Build Alternative. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses. Information about TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program and services and benefits for those displaced and other affected property owners, as well as information about the tentative schedule for ROW acquisition and construction, may be obtained from TxDOT Houston District Office by calling (713) 802-5269.

The proposed project would involve an action in a floodplain.

Any environmental documentation or studies, maps and drawings showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the proposed project are on file and available for review by appointment Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the North Harris County Area Office, located at 16803 Eastex Freeway (I-69/US 59), Humble, Texas 77396. To schedule an appointment to view materials at the North Harris County Area Office, please call (281) 319-6400. Project materials are also available online at <https://www.txdot.gov/projects/hearings-meetings.html>

The Public Hearing will be conducted in English and Spanish. If you need an interpreter or document translator because English or Spanish is not your primary language or you have difficulty communicating effectively in English or Spanish, one will be provided to you. If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. If you need interpretation or translation services or you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation to attend and participate in the Public Hearing, please contact Reina Gonzalez, TxDOT Houston District Environmental Coordinator at (713) 802-5269 or Chance Norman, P.E., TxDOT Schematic Project Manager at (713) 802-5251 no later than 4 p.m., Thursday, February 23, 2023. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for the project team to arrange.

Comments from the public regarding the proposed project are encouraged. Written comments may be submitted by mail to the TxDOT Houston District Office, Advanced Project Development Director, P.O. Box 1386, Houston, Texas 77251-1386. Written comments may also be submitted by email to [HOU-PIOWebmail@txdot.gov](mailto:HOU-PIOWebmail@txdot.gov). Additionally, as stated above, members of the public may call (281) 215-3841 and verbally provide testimony from 5 p.m. on Tuesday, February 28, 2023, until 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, March 16, 2023. All comments must be received or postmarked by Thursday, March 16, 2023. Responses to comments received will be available online at <https://www.txdot.gov/projects/hearings-meetings.html> once they have been prepared.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the Virtual Public Hearing, please contact Reina Gonzalez, TxDOT Houston District Environmental Coordinator at (713) 802-5269, or via email at [Reina.Gonzalez@txdot.gov](mailto:Reina.Gonzalez@txdot.gov) or Chance Norman, P.E., TxDOT Schematic Project Manager at (713) 802-5251, or via email at [Chance.Norman@txdot.gov](mailto:Chance.Norman@txdot.gov).

*The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.*

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# Crosby Superintendent's Message,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

amazing job. I enjoy the time I've personally spent getting to know Shelby better. She is a member of the Superintendent's Cougar Council, a student advisory committee that puts student ideas into action.

The month began with four Crosby High School student-athletes taking their next step during National Signing Day on February 1st. Congratulations to the following football seniors: Ayden Jones, who signed with the University of Northern Iowa; Braden Womack is headed to Navarro College; Casen McMullen will pursue his dreams at Harden Simmons University; and Luke Smith signed with the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. Athletic Director Jerry Prieto and coaches reminded the students to enjoy the ride, but they should always remember that someday football will come to an end. Their academic pursuits at the collegiate level are what will be key to their post-football careers.

Crosby High School CTE Veterinary Tech students helped more than 500 pet owners during a massive free spay and neutering event in partnership with The Empty Shelter Project. Our students assisted in greeting, medicating, and nursing the 500 dogs and kittens who underwent the free surgery. The students volunteer to

obtain clinical hours needed to achieve their veterinary assistance licenses. Crosby High School will be hosting a massive spay/neuter event later this spring. We'll share details soon.

Our CHS CTE Health Sciences students had smiles on their faces this month as they received a terrific donation to improve their program. We are grateful for the gift of the CPR-training manikin named "Little Alice." The lifelike model will allow our students to be better trained in proper CPR techniques. Thank you to Raúl Williamson & the Dashiell company out of Deer Park for the generous donation.

February is Black History Month, and Crosby ISD has so much living history around us. For in-

stance, few may know this, but one of the coaches in the Super Bowl is from Barrett Station. Brian Johnson is the Quarterbacks Coach for the Philadelphia Eagles. He spent his childhood in Barrett Station, and we are so proud he is living his dream. Good luck in the big game! We also have been celebrating important members of our communities. Wilbert Lee Eagleton was the first Black member of the Crosby ISD Board of Trustees. He served from 1967-1976. Another beloved teacher, Mr. Billy Roberts, passed in 2001, and this month, we are celebrating his 37 years of teaching in CISD by sharing a verse from one of his favorite poems. The verse is from a 1911 poem by James W. Foley.

"Drop a pebble in the water: just a splash, and it



Crosby High School CTE Veterinary Science student assists a puppy getting ready for surgery.

is gone;  
-But there are hundreds of tiny ripples  
-circling on and on and on,  
-Spreading, spreading from the center,  
-Flowing on out to sea,  
-And there is no way of telling  
-where the end is going to be."

Those words really speak to how much impact educators can have in the world around them. Mr. Roberts certainly did. May we all spread ripples of kindness throughout our communities.

We are Better Together!  
Go Coogs!



Donation of CPR manikin for Crosby High School CTE Health Sciences students.




Crosby High School CTE Veterinary Science students assisting with free event where more than 500 pets were spayed or neutered.

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# Mahomes goes for second title, Hurts first, As Chiefs, Eagles meet in Super Bowl LVII

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

10th year as the Chiefs head coach after spending 14 years as the Eagles head man. During his time in Philly, Reid had a 130-93-1 record, led the Eagles to four appearances in the NFC Championship Game, one NFC title and one SB appearance, where Philly lost to New England and the Belichick and Brady duo following the 2004 season, 24-21.

The Eagles were the class of the NFC led by brash second-year head coach Nick Sirianni. Sirianni has gone 25-11 in his two years leading the Eagles and has made the playoffs in each of his first two seasons as a head coach.

Reid is only the sixth head coach in NFL history to lead two different teams to the Super Bowl. The other four are: Don Shula (Baltimore and Miami), Dick Vermeil (Philadelphia and St. Louis Rams), Bill Parcells (New York Giants and New England Patriots), Mike Holmgren (Green Bay and Seattle) and Dan Reeves (Denver and Atlanta).

Both men will have their teams ready come Sunday, but will Reid's experience in playing and preparing a team three times for a Super Bowl be that big a difference? It very well could be.

While Reid and Sirianni prepare their teams, it's the players who will make the biggest difference in this game.

This game has the potential to be a high-scoring affair thanks to the fact that weather will not be a factor come Sunday. The game will be played indoors on a fast track at State Farm Stadium, which should be a benefit to Mahomes and Hurts.

The health of a number



of key Chiefs players will be a big concern this week as they prepare for the Big One. Starting cornerback L'Jarius Sneed is in concussion protocol, two of Mahomes targets at wide receiver are hurting as JuJu-Smith Schuster (78 receptions, 933 yards, 3 TDs during regular season) has a knee injury and speedy wideout Mecole Hardman has a pelvis injury. Starting linebacker Will Gay Jr., suffered a shoulder injury in KC's 23-20 win over Cincinnati in the AFC title game.

Mahomes (5,250 passing yards, 41 TDs during regular season) is also dinged up as he sustained a high ankle sprain in the Divisional round win against Jacksonville. The former Texas Tech star did return to the game and played all of the AFC title game. In two playoff games, Mahomes has thrown for 521 yards and has tossed 4 TDs. Having an extra week to rehab the ankle should have Mahomes at just about full speed come Sunday.

If Schuster and Hardman are out on Sunday, Mahomes will once again look to Mr. Reliable, tight end Travis Kelce (110 receptions, 1,338 yards, 11 TDs). In two playoff games, Kelce has grabbed 21 catches for 176 yards and 3 TDs. He tweaked his back two days before the Cinci game, but should be good to go for the SB. If Schuster and Hardman are out, or limit-

ed come Sunday, KC will need fellow wide receiver Marquez Valdes-Scantling to step up. He played well in the AFC title game grabbing eight passes for 116 yards and a touchdown.

Rookie running back Isaiah Pacheco (930 rushing yards, 3 TDs in regular season) could be a key factor in this game, especially in the passing game. Pacheco has blazing speed and has started for a good portion of the season. Mahomes could look for him out of the backfield on screens and circle routes to let him do his thing in the open field.

Mahomes is the best QB in the NFL at the moment, but he will face a stern test Sunday when he faces an Eagles defense whose front seven has wreaked havoc all season long against opposing QBs.

The Philly defense has recorded 70 sacks this year and forced 27 turnovers (17 interceptions and 10 fumble recoveries). Philly became the first team in NFL history to have four defensive linemen record double-digit sacks. Javon Hargrove had 11, Haddon Riddick had 16 (3.5 in the playoffs and a fumble recovery), while Josh Sweat and Brandon Graham each recorded 11 sacks this season. The Eagles added 8 sacks in their first two playoff games.

The Chiefs offensive line will need to play its best game of the year and can't struggle like it did early against the Jags and Ben-

gals. If Philly's front seven tees off on Mahomes early, it could be a long day for the Chiefs.

Offensively, Hurts (3,701 passing yards, 22 TDs/760 yards rushing, 13 TDs in regular season) has struggled in the passing game throwing for only 275 yards and 2 TDs in his first two playoff games. Big-play wide receivers A.J. Brown (88 receptions, 1,496 yards, 11 TDs in regular season) and Devonta Smith (95 receptions, 1,196 yards, 7 TDs) have been limited in the postseason. Brown has been limited to 7 catches for just 50 yards and no TDs in the playoffs, while Smith has been limited to 8 catches for 97 yards and 1 TD in the second season.

I expect that duo to get back on track against a suspect and beat up KC secondary. Should they struggle again, look for Hurts to turn to tight end Dallas Goedert (55 receptions, 702 yards, 3 TDs in regular season; 10 receptions, 81 yards, 1 TDs in playoffs).

Hurts could still be feeling the effects of a shoulder injury he sustained in Week 15 at Chicago. He hasn't been good throwing deep in the playoffs, and like Mahomes, perhaps the extra week of rest will help with his shoulder.

While the Eagles have struggled in the passing game, they have been rolling on the ground. In two playoff games, Philly has rushed for 416 yards (208 yards a game) and 7 touchdowns. Reserve running back Kenneth Gainwell has been the team's leading rusher in the postseason with 160 yards and 1 TD, while starter Miles Sanders (1,269 yards, 11 TDs in regular season) has added 132 yards and 2 TDs.

The KC defense will need a big game from de-

fensive tackles Chris Jones (2 sacks in AFC title game) and Frank Clark to slow down the Philly running game and apply pressure to Hurts, who is an excellent scrambler.

The Eagles appear to be the better and healthier team on paper, but I think Mahomes' experience (this will be his third Super Bowl game in the last four years) will be a huge factor in the game, plus his big-play ability.

Hurts will make plays with his arm and legs and the Eagles defense will look to get to Mahomes early. Look for the KC offensive line to play its best game of the season. They, and Reid, know their only chance for a second Lombardi Trophy in the last four years rides on keeping Mahomes upright so he can make plays downfield to Kelce and his wideouts.

This has the potential to be a classic Super Bowl, and at the end of the day, Chief fans will be smiling once again thanks to No. 15. My pick, Kansas City 34, Philadelphia 30

**BIRTHDAYS**

Feb 9—Gerald D. Harris  
Feb 11—Carol Kelley  
Mary Mills  
Michael Parson  
Lanette Salters  
Feb 12—Shelby Hodges  
Lori Osterman  
Jed Riser  
Alania Kay Jones  
Ida Turley  
Joseph Bowen  
Feb 13—Lisa Brown  
Hannah Riser  
Tami Roe  
Christopher Salters  
Feb 14—Susy Cavazos  
Feb 15—Micheal Hance  
Lisa Henning  
Debbie Herman  
Terry Smith  
Feb 16—Sandra Gross  
Feb 17—Donnie Cravatt  
Feb 18—Fay Blackmon-Slot  
Ray Blackmon  
Rebecca Nibbe  
Mandy Carwile  
Nakomi Stone  
Billy Nash  
Feb 19—Stephanie Lane  
Lina Hidalgo  
Feb 20—Stormy Fulmer  
Herman Bradford  
Beau McCrary

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Feb 11—Keith & Becky Adams  
Howard & Patricia Brockinton  
Feb 12—Donnie & Elonda Cravatt  
Feb 14—Larry & Jeannie Kelly  
Feb 24—Jim & Linda Hildebrand  
Feb 26—Thomas & Geene Parrish

## QB Jalen Hurts in Super Bowl,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

At OU he led the Sooners to a winning record in 2019, losing only to LSU in the semi-finals. He finished second in the voting for the Heisman Trophy, after LSU's Joe Burrow.

In the 2019 NFL draft, Jalen was the second round pick by Philadelphia, and named starter late in the season. He led the Eagles to the play-offs last season, and this season was one of five finalists for the NFL MVP Award.

Jalen continues to get

support and advice from his coach father, his brother Averion Jr., and support from his whole family who usually attend his games. This year they will again be in the stands, for the Super Bowl in Glendale, Arizona.

His father summed it up, saying "I am proud of the man he has become." And this feeling is shared by all of his fans, friends and former teammates, as he continues to represent the best of Houston's #Eastside.



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