

Battleship Texas won't berth in Baytown, page 3

Crosby FD Stair Climb 9/11 Memorial, Page 7

RodeoHouston 2/28-3/19



See Schedule of Entertainers Below

HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

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THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

IN THE STARS

Spring Break March 13-17

Goose Creek CISD, Crosby ISD, and Huffman ISD will observe a Spring Break Holiday.

MAR. 25, SATURDAY Texas Historic Cemetery Workshop

Crosby Historical Society Meeting and Cemetery Application Workshop. Saturday, March 25 at Crosby Brethren Church. 10am-11:20am Historical Society Meeting. 12pm-2pm Historic Cemetery Designation Application Workshop. Pre-Registration required. \$20 Fee. Contact Susan Armstrong, ose203@aol.com. Details, see AD page 5.

MAR. 25, SATURDAY THEA fundraiser "Clean Mud for Bugs" Crawfish Boil

This is THEA's Annual fundraiser and your chance to support our work on Houston/Harris County toxic chemical contamination. Crawfish Boil fundraiser, Saturday March 25 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm, Karbach Brewing, 2032 Karbach Street, Houston. New this year, a KID'S Zone and a special kid's price. AND T-shirts to purchase with THEA/Mud Bug theme. Tickets: txhea.org.

Crosby Superintendent says 4-day schedule already bringing results

Hello East Harris County and Crosby ISD families,

I want to start this column by thanking everyone who shared input during the process to approve the 2023-2024 Academic Calendar. At the last regular Board meeting, the Crosby ISD Board of Trustees approved the proposal to implement a 4-Day Instructional Week with Fridays off for next school year. It is now time for us to move forward together. What I've discovered over the course of a dozen staff and community meetings is that we all want what is best for the students of Crosby ISD. We all share that passion.

I would like to thank the Board of Trustees for approving the plan. Thanks also to the staff members, families, and community members who spent the last few weeks and months answering survey questions, attending meetings, asking thoughtful questions, discussing the merits and challenges, and engaging with us during the process of considering



PAULA PATTERSON Crosby Superintendent

a 4-Day Instructional Week. Your input was invaluable.

The recruitment is already working. We have had more than 100 applications sent to us from experienced teachers around the area. We will be throwing a party to welcome applicants to Crosby ISD. Set a reminder in your calendar for our District Job Fair on Saturday, April 1 if you are interested in working for Crosby ISD. We'll conduct interviews on site from 9am-Noon at Crosby High School. We will be interviewing for positions in all departments,

including openings for instructional staff, bus drivers, and custodians. Please share with anyone you think may be a good fit in Crosby ISD.

March includes "Read Across America" week in honor of the birthday of Dr. Seuss. I had the privilege of reading to first graders in Ms. Amy McPhail's classroom at Crosby Elementary School. The students answered wonderful questions about how to have a mindset of gratitude and approach each day determined to make the most of it. As Superintendent of Schools, I still consider "my happy place" to be in the classroom. It's where we see our students come alive.

Crosby ISD has been championing reading in a special way this year with the Read to the Final Four literacy challenge. We're happy to announce that third graders at Newport Elementary School are

Continued. See Crosby Super, Page 5



Community Member of the Month, Mrs. Deloise Richardson. She taught in Crosby ISD for 50 years, from 1965 to 2015. Photo of her with the Board of Trustees and Superintendent Patterson.



Community Member of the Month, Mrs. Deloise Richardson. She taught in Crosby ISD for 50 years, from 1965 to 2015. Photo of her at mural at Drew Elementary School.

Crosby Bicentennial Committee planning huge 200th celebration



CROSBY 200 CBC COMMITTEE MEETING 2-28-23

Bottom row L-R: Kim Harris, Co-Chair for CBC representing the Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce; Molly McGinty, representative from Crosby Edith Fae Cook Cole Branch Library; Donna Davenport Co-Chair for CBC representing the Crosby Historical Society; Jody Fuchs, CBC member and representing the Crosby Historical Society; Amanda Brown, Co-Chair for Firetrucks, Ambulance, Big Trucks, etc. Committee; Alicia Spear, Chair for Social Media and Chair for Advertising and Promotions, Co-Chair for Vendors.

Top row L-R: Emily Armstrong, Co-Chair for CBC Cookbook Fundraiser; Jayne Anne Clifton, Chair for Raffle and Auction and CBC Quilts; Gene Hicks, Chair for Dance and representative for Crosby Fair and Rodeo; Rachel Hicks, Chair for Pin Buttons; Karen Foster, Chair for

CROSBY - The Bicentennial committee is meeting monthly, according to co-chair Donna Davenport, and plans are proceeding for a spectacular 200th Birthday Party for Crosby involving the whole community.

photo, various chairpersons are planning a parade, cannon salute, dance, vendor booths, Mayor for a Day, car show, quilt show, auction, art show, cookbook, business involvement, birthday cake -- community size, CISD students, drill team, and more.

You're invited to get involved. Next committee meeting is March 28, contact Donna Davenport at 281-731-7010.

As can be seen in the



Jutta Mayfield receives her Community Builder Award from Worshipful Master Mark Jansen

Jutta Mayfield receives Sampson Lodge CB Award

HIGHLANDS - On February 14, 2023, Sampson Masonic Lodge No. 231 awarded Jutta Mayfield, owner, of Pig Supply Gun Shop in Highlands, Texas the Community Builder Award. The prestigious award was established by the Grand Lodge of Texas so that Lodges can formally recognize outstanding non-Masons who have distinguished themselves through their service to the community, and humanity at large. Community are everywhere you look but often go unseen.

It is extremely difficult to be chosen as a potential recipient because you must distinguish yourself above and beyond other businesses, be voted on and approved by the Lodge, and ap-

proved by the Grand Lodge of Texas. Sampson Lodge has not awarded the Community Builder Award for at least 10 years.

Jutta Mayfield of Pig Supply Gun Shop has donated over \$20,000 in the last 20 years to be used by Sampson Lodge, which has been used to generate funds through raffles and other activities resulting in many thousands more in funds for the Lodge to give away to the community through charity. Sampson Lodge has been able to donate funds to the food bank, provide tens of thousands of dollars in scholarships, and perform other acts of charity as a result of the enormous contributions of Jutta Mayfield through her donations. Without her support and the support of her business Pig Supply Gun Shop many acts of charity in the comm



At the Rodeo:

WEDNESDAY MAR 8
Jon Pardi

THURSDAY MAR 9
Ashley McBryde

FRIDAY MAR 10
The Chainsmokers

SATURDAY MAR 11
Turnpike Troubadours

SUNDAY MAR 12
La Fiera de Ojinaga

MONDAY MAR 13
Cody Jinks

TUESDAY MAR 14
Machine Gun Kelly

WEDNESDAY MAR 15
Kenny Chesney

RACHEL'S DINER

Southern Cooking Buffet -- Coming Soon
14280 FM 2100 (Across from Walmart)
281-462-7349

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Jeremy Rosenkranz
State Farm Agent
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281-426-3512
jtr@jeremyrosenkranz.com



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GOOSE CREEK CISD NEWS

GCCISD Community Engagement Departments Wins Top Honor at Conference



Gemina Trujillo, Angela Sanders, Kristyn Hunt Cathey, Kendall David, Veronica Dyson, Carrie Pryor-Newman and Brittney Culpepper pose proudly with their Star Awards certificates and the top honor, the Platinum award, during the 2023 TSPRA Conference. (Not pictured: Erika Foster and Dr. Matthew Bolinger)

By: Kristyn Hunt Cathey, APR- Director of Communications

The Goose Creek CISD Community Engagement department earned the top award, Platinum, for their *Here, We Grow Giants* campaign during the 2023 Texas School Public Relations Association (TSPRA) STAR Awards banquet held in Fort Worth on February 22nd. The team beat out four other contenders to bring home the first win for the district.

The department received several other honors at the event. They include:

Crystal Commendation/Certificate of Merit: District/Association Special Event

Gold Star: Print materials in a language other than English; Annual Report, Miscellaneous Digital Media, Sports Subjects Photo, Other Subjects Photo, and Video General Event.

Gold Star/Best of Cat-

egory: Academic/Classroom Photo

Silver Star: Annual Report, Flyer, Website Redesign, Published News or Feature (, Writing, Communication Plan, Other Subjects Photo, Technology Wall Wrap, Video Feature Story,

Bronze Star: Writing x 2, Published News Feature x 2, Published News Release, and Video Training/Instructional.

Kristyn Hunt Cathey, Director of Communications, was one of three TSPRA members pinned in recognition of earning the Accreditation of Public Relations in 2022 during the conference. According to the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) website, "The APR asserts professional competence, communicates professional expertise, plus personal and professional dedication and values and reflects progressive public

relations industry practice and high standards."

The Community Engagement department is led by Kendall David, Executive Director of Community Engagement. Members of the TSPRA award-winning team include Kristyn Hunt Cathey, Director of Communications; Brittney Culpepper, Multi-Media Design Specialist; Veronica Dyson, Translator; Erika Foster, Education Foundation Director; Carrie Pryor-Newman, Multi-Media Production Specialist; Angela Sanders, Administrative Assistant and Gemina Trujillo, Multi-Media Design Specialist. Dr. Matthew Bolinger, former Executive Director of Strategic Planning and Innovation (currently Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources) was also a contributor to the winning team.

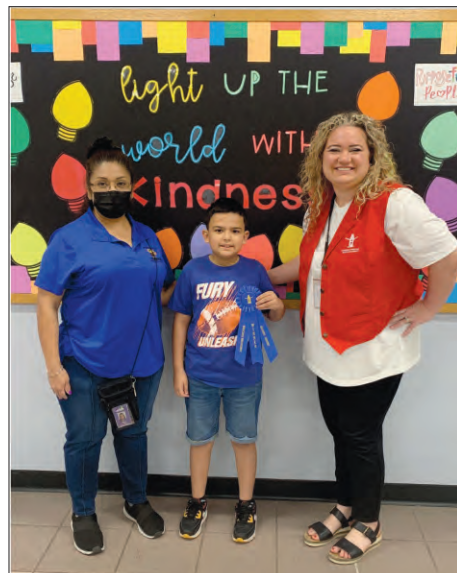
Four GCCISD Students Win HLSR Creativity Contest

By: Kristyn Hunt Cathey, APR- Director of Communications

Two hundred third graders from Houston and surrounding areas were selected as winners

for the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo (HLSR) Creativity contest. Goose Creek CISD had four winners that comprised of students from Carver, Crockett, High-

lands, and Walker Elementary Schools. The students' Creativity page will be on display the first week of Rodeo Houston (Feb. 28th - March 9th), near the AgVenture area.



Highlands Elementary School's HLSR Creativity contest winner poses with a staff member and HLSR representative.



Carver Elementary School HLSR Creativity contest winner proudly poses with her ribbon with campus and HLSR representatives.



Crockett Elementary art teacher, Taiilis Oniwon, principal and HLSR representative pose with their campus Rodeo creativity contest winner.



Monica Juarez, Walker Elementary School principal, campus art teacher and HLSR representatives pose with the campus winner of the Rodeo's creativity contest.

Candidates Draw For GCCISD School Board ballot position

By: Kristyn Hunt Cathey, APR- Director of Communications

Candidates for the GCCISD Board of Trustees drew for positions for the Board of Trustees ballot on February 27th in the GCCISD Central Administration Building. James "Jim" Campisi, GCCISD Single-Member District 3, drew number two on the ballot and Jacel Amador, GCCISD Single-Member District 6, drew number one on the ballot. Not in attendance were Darrell Banks, GCCISD Single-Member District 3 and number 1 on the ballot and Tiffany Guy, GCCISD Single-Member District 6, number two on



James "Jim" Campisi, GCCISD Single-Member District three; Dr. Randal O'Brien, Superintendent of Schools and Jacel Amador, GCCISD Single-Member District six, smile proudly as the two citizens draw positions for the GCCISD Board of Trustees ballot.

the ballot. The Board of Trustees general election for Trustee Single-Member

Positions, 3, 6 and 7 will take place May 6th. Photo taken by Carrie Pryor-Newman:

GCCISD Employee Appointed to National Organization Board

Anna Espinoza, Coordinator of Counseling and College & Career Readiness, was recently named as the Secondary Member of the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) Engagement Commissioner team.

According to their website, "The Engagement Commission's main function is to recruit new members in support of the organization's goals, provide professional development and support to all members and serve as a conduit in collecting and sharing the successes and issues of members and other other commissions.

Other appointees include Adam Whalen, Chair and Board member from Wilamette ESD and Brandon Baskett, Vice Chair from Lexington County School District.



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Barbers Hill Press

Dayton

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THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

ON THE HILL

FREE Income Tax Preparation and Electronic Filing

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program

offered by South Texas College of Law Houston

Where: Jones Public Library, 801 S. Cleveland Street, Suite A, Dayton, Texas

When: Friday, March 24, 2023

1pm - 5pm

The VITA Program offers free tax return preparation and electronic filing to low and moderate-income individuals and families (generally, \$60,000 and below).

Returns are prepared by IRS certified tax preparers from South Texas College of Law Houston.

- No appointment necessary

- Walk-ins welcome

What to bring:

- Proof of identity (such as valid driver's license or other government issued picture ID)

- W2 and any 1099 forms

- Social Security or ITIN number cards for all family members

- Copy of last year's tax return (if available)

- Total paid for daycare provider last year and provider's tax identifying number

- Any other tax documents

- Bring a personal check to allow for direct deposit of your return.

This free service is an initiative of the Tax Law Society at South Texas College of Law Houston

For general information, call 936.258.7060 | For tax questions, call 713.646.1761

West Chambers County Pilot Club Annual Gala set for April 1



(l-r) West Chambers County Pilot Club Director Linda Polk, and "Flamingo on the Hill" Gala Silver Sponsor Lisa Dagle Bean

West Chambers County Pilot Club, Inc. will hold its annual fundraising Gala on Saturday, April 1, 2023 from 6:00 P.M.-10:00 P.M. at Barbers Hill High School, Mont Belvieu TX. The theme of this year's Gala is "Flamingo on the Hill". There will be dinner, a live and silent auction.

A drawing with the 1st prize - \$1000.00, and 2nd prize - \$500.00 will be held at the Gala. Tickets are \$5.00 each. Dinner tickets are \$10.00 each.

Foundation rules out berth for Battleship Texas in Baytown, Beaumont

BAYTOWN – The City of Beaumont and the City of Baytown are no longer under consideration to become the new home of Battleship Texas, according to an official statement issued by the Battleship Texas Foundation.

In August 2022, the ship was moved from the San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site in La Porte to Galveston so it could undergo an extensive \$35 million repair.

The city first announced it was looking into the possibility of moving Battleship Texas to Beaumont in July 2021.

On Wednesday, the



Towing the Battleship Texas from LaPorte to a drydock in Galveston in August of last year, for \$35 million in repairs prior to finding a permanent home.

city of Baytown released a statement on social media saying it was just alerted that it had not been selected as the fu-

ture home of the Battleship Texas and that it was "disappointed in the Battleship Texas Foundation's decision."

"The City of Baytown is disappointed with Battleship Texas Foundation's decision that Baytown was not selected as the ship's final resting place. Together with many Baytownians, we believed this great city and Bayland Island would have been an ideal location for showcasing its rich history. In the end, the financial implications and resources required for bringing such a monument to Baytown were simply too extraordinary to overcome," the statement read.

The Battleship of Texas Foundation also released a statement shortly after and said al-

though Baytown and Beaumont are no longer in the running, the foundation is still searching for the best location for the Battleship. The final determination is set to be announced in the coming months.

"The Battleship Texas Foundation has announced that the city of Baytown, Texas, and the city of Beaumont, Texas, are no longer under consideration for the permanent home of Battleship Texas. Meanwhile, the selection process will continue to determine the best location for the Battleship. The final determination will occur in the coming months," the statement read.

THOUGHTS FROM HILLSIDE CHURCH

By Dr. Mark Trice



Lessons from Job

Job is a unique book in the Bible, one that makes many people uncomfortable. Assuming you've read it, how many times have you felt true sympathy for Job because you were going through one thing after another, seeming to hit a brand new low every time you thought things were as bad as they could possibly get? We all go through such seasons, and times like that are good times to revisit our old friend, because Job can teach us a lot.

First, we must always remember who our enemy is. It's not the government, or an ex, or anyone else; it's Satan. We also need to bear in mind what he's trying to accomplish. Satan hated that God was protecting and blessing this righteous man, despised Job's integrity, and wanted to end Job's worship of God. (Job 1:11 - "...he will surely curse You to Your face!") That's the bottom line: The devil doesn't necessarily want us to worship him, but he definitely

wants us to stop worshipping God!

Second, remember that God had faith in Job. How do we know this? It appears that He didn't hesitate to let the devil put Job to the test, which certainly seems to confirm that God was convinced Job wouldn't fail Him. God also knew that He had even greater plans and blessings in store for Job once the test was over. If we strive to serve God with all our hearts, He has faith in us too. We can pass the tests in our lives, and God will restore!

Third, we must set our hearts firmly on God and keep them there, because there will be times in our lives when it's literally just us and Him. When Job's losses began, his kids weren't there with him; they were gathered in their oldest brother's home having a feast. After they were killed and things got even worse, his wife advised him to, "Curse God and die!" which is exactly what the dev-

il wanted him to do and I'm sure that evil one was delighted to hear her. And then, we all know about Job's friends; they only seemed to make things worse. So, again, keep your focus on God at all times.

Fourth, maintain your spiritual integrity no matter what happens. Continue to do all those things you know to do (pray, praise, be in church, read your Bible...) as you trust God to lead you through your battles. Listen to James as he says, "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing." (James 1:2-4 NKJV) In the end, if we stay focused on God, the battles won't destroy us; they will make us stronger!

Job 42:12 - "Now the Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning..."

Houston Methodist Hospital Baytown

Get a Grip on Hand Conditions

When a condition or disorder prevents you from using your hands, your quality of life can be significantly hindered. You stop writing. You can't dress, bathe or feed yourself.

Dr. Chia Wu, an orthopedic surgeon specializing in hand and upper extremity at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital, describes the most common hand conditions and their treatments.

Arthritis

About one in four people older than age 18 has been diagnosed with arthritis.

"Arthritis in the hand is really common, both in males and females," Dr. Wu says.

The condition can occur throughout the hand and wrist and may have more than one cause. The most

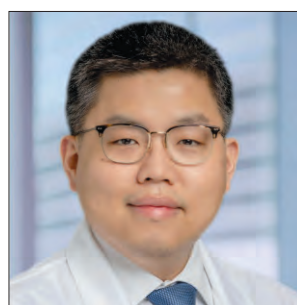
common arthritic joint in the hand is at the base of the thumb.

"In the case of early-stage arthritis in the base of the thumb, we typically try treatments like braces or injections first before considering surgery," Dr. Wu says.

In the right patient, hand therapy and medications may also play a role. Surgery is typically reserved for those that fail conservative treatments.

Carpal tunnel syndrome

Carpal tunnel is a common condition that affects up to 10% of the general population. Common symptoms include tingling, numbness, burning and weakness primarily involving the hand. Chronically untreated cases can lead to irreversible loss of



Dr. Chia Wu; 2nd photo: Dr. Chia Wu speaks at an international meeting of the American Association for Hand Surgery

sensation and strength. Carpal tunnel syndrome risk factors are many, some of which include pregnancy, diabetes, and thyroid disease.

"It's one of the most common conditions we treat," Dr. Wu says. "Patients typically describe altered sensation in the

fingers with occasional cramping that can wake them up from sleep. I typically start with conservative management such as wrist splinting, occupational therapy and corticosteroid injections, but I may consider surgery for more severe or advanced cases."

In some patients, a nerve test known as EMG may be useful for ruling out other forms of nerve compression.

Trigger finger

Trigger finger, or stenosing tenosynovitis, is a condition that causes pain and limits motion in the finger.

"It can get pretty disabling," Dr. Wu says. "Patients can have trouble performing simple tasks like making a fist."

Risk factors for this condition include past medical history of diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis and those who regularly perform repeated and prolonged gripping. Treatment for less severe cases includes avoiding repetitive hand motions or using a splint.

"My approach to managing trigger finger typically starts with steroid injections," Dr. Wu says. "It's a common treatment that can be effective for many. Patients looking for a permanent fix to the condition can opt for surgery."

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Wu, visit houstonmethodist.org/osm-injury-baytown or call 281.427.7400.

Spring Break at the Library

Free Programming All Week long

- ✔ Life-sized Board Game
- ✔ Special Hide and Find
- ✔ Teen Room Open
- ✔ Puzzles and Board Games Available

March 13 - 18
Jones Public Library

The Jones Public Library will be hosting a special Spring Break at the Library event from March 13th-18th. The library will be hosting free programming throughout the week for the patrons of Liberty County. This event is held in order to provide equitable and entertaining programming for everyone. See the schedule below for a detailed list of events:

- Monday - Cookie Decorating - 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
- Tuesday - Snakes in the Library with the Eddie V Gray Wetlands Center - 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
- Wednesday - Storytime - 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
- Wednesday - Crafternoon - 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
- Thursday - Shamrock Slime Day - 9:00-11:00 AM and 2:00-4:00 PM
- Friday - Double Feature Movie Day - 9:00 AM and 2:00 PM
- Saturday - Scavenger Hunt at the Library - 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

OPINION PAGE

OPINION

By Stephanie Swanson
League of Women Voters of Texas

The League of Women Voters: Fighting for Voting Rights and Democracy for 103 Years

Austin, TX – For over 100 years, the League of Women Voters (LWV) has been working to protect and expand voting rights and ensure everyone is represented in the American democratic system.

The League was officially founded in Chicago in 1920, just six months before the 19th amendment was ratified and women won the right to vote.

Over the last century, the League has fought for election protection, democracy reforms, and equal access to the ballot—all while maintaining a commitment to nonpartisanship and fostering an informed electorate.

One of the League's many notable successes was the national grassroots campaign to reform voter registration that resulted in passage of the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA), also known as the "motor-voter" bill.

When the 2000 election exposed the many problems facing the election system, the League began to work on election reform. Working closely with a civil rights coalition, LWV helped draft and pass the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), which established provisional balloting, requirements for updating voting systems, and the Election Assistance Commission.

The League, well known for their nonpartisan Voters Guide, launched VOTE411.org in 2006, an online version of the Guide and a "one-stop-shop" for election-related information.

In June 2019, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that partisan gerrymandering cannot be solved by the federal courts. In response, the League initiated People Powered Fair Maps™, a coordinated effort across all 50 states and D.C. to create fair and transparent, people-powered redistricting processes to eliminate partisan and racial gerrymandering nationwide.

February 14th, 2023, marks 103 years that the League of Women Voters has empowered voters and defended democracy. The League of Women Voters has evolved from a political experiment designed to help women vote in 1920, to a nonpartisan organization that is a recognized force in shaping public policy and promoting informed civic participation.

To celebrate their 103rd birthday, the League of Women Voters of Texas is hosting "Women Power Texas ~ A Making Democracy Work Dinner" on Monday, February 27th, 2023 from 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. in Austin, Texas.

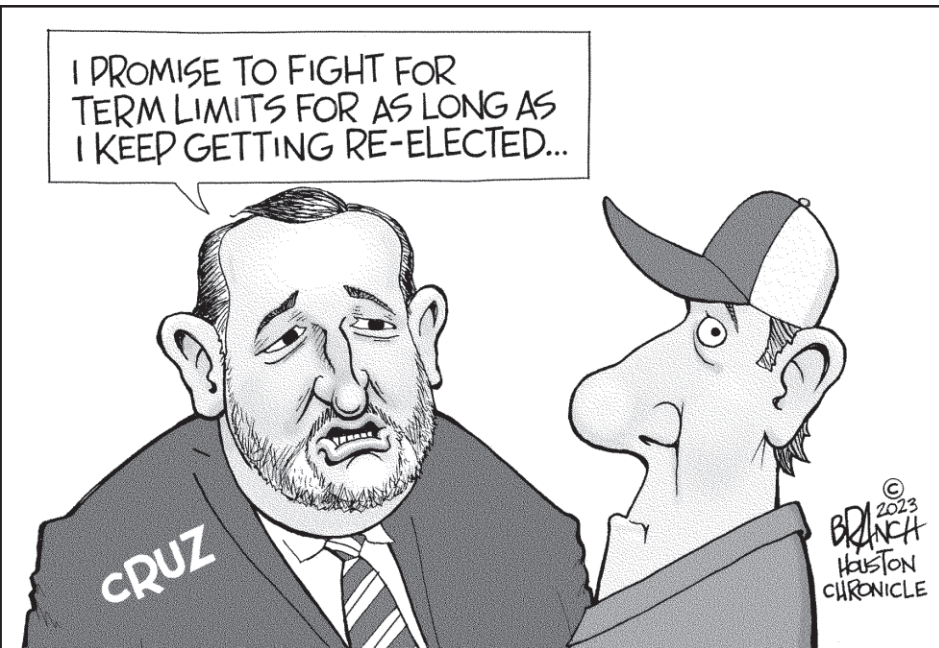
To join the League of Women Voters of Texas, visit www.lwvtexas.org.

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.

Americanisms



"Mankind must put an end to war, or war will put an end to mankind." — John F. Kennedy



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Texas again leads Country in New Corporate Projects

Texas once again has topped the list for new and expanded corporate facilities added in a year, according to Site Selection Magazine.

"Texas truly is America's economic engine, and we stand apart as a model for the nation," Texas Gov. Greg Abbott said, according to The Dallas Morning News.

"The Lone Star State's economy is larger than that of Canada, South Korea and Australia," Site Selection said in its March issue.

NEW COURT SYSTEM FOR BUSINESSES PROPOSED

A new court system devoted solely to settling business disputes is being proposed by the state's top three elected officials, though it has its share of critics as well.

Abbott said the court would provide consistency in applying state law when businesses end up court disputes. A high-powered lobby group, Texans for Lawsuit Reform, is backing the plan.

"Businesses today know the same case with the same



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

facts can produce wildly varying outcomes simply based on which part of the state it's filed in and which judge is hearing it, and we know attorneys are telling their clients not to litigate in Texas because of this unpredictability," TLR spokeswoman Lucy Nashed Cafrelli said in the Statesman story.

The judges for the business court would be appointed by the governor, according to House bill 19, filed last week. The president of the Texas Trial Lawyers Association called that problematic.

"The bottom line is that Texans value electing their judges," San Antonio attorney Laura Tamez said.

CHILD FATALITIES DROP IN LAST FISCAL YEAR

The number of children in Texas who died due to accidents, maltreatment and unsafe sleep declined by 27% in the last fiscal year. The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services reported 182 children died due to abuse and neglect in the state during fiscal year 2022.

Children 3 years of age and younger comprised almost 80% of all confirmed child abuse and neglect fatalities over the past 10 fiscal years. However, in the past three years, there has been a marked increase in fatalities involving older children. In

all confirmed cases of abuse and neglect, parents were the most common perpetrators.

COLLEGE STUDENTS JOIN FIGHT TO END DUI DEATHS

With spring break approaching, the Texas Department of Transportation is joining with students at Texas A&M in a peer-to-peer program focused on highlighting the dangers of driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

One person in the state dies every 7 hours and 41 minutes in a DUI-related crash, according to TxDOT. During spring break of 2021, Texas had 874 alcohol-related traffic crashes with 31 deaths and 107 serious injuries.

"Our message to students is this: Help keep yourself and others safe by finding a sober ride, taking a cab, using a rideshare, or simply staying put," said Marc Williams, TxDOT executive director.

TPWD CELEBRATES PARK CENTENNIAL WITH GRANTS

As Texas state parks mark their 100th anniversary, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is awarding the largest sum of grants in the program's history. The agency is distributing more than \$2.8 million to create 55 new grant-funded partnerships across the state to promote conservation and recreation.

The Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) was established in 1996 to introduce under-represented audiences to outdoor recreation, conservation and environmental education. Among the projects approved are students monitoring water quality along the Rio Grande, communities of color learning about the cultural history of the Buffalo Soldiers while hiking at Fort Davis State Park, and breast cancer survivors learning to fly fish in the state's rivers.

The grants are funded through a portion of Texas' sporting goods sales tax.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME STARTS SUNDAY

Spring is approaching, and so is daylight saving time, which starts at 2 a.m. Sunday, March 12. Clocks jump ahead an hour, so if you forget to adjust the time you are liable to show up for church an hour late and miss the service.

The first two countries to use daylight saving time were Germany and Austria in 1916. They did so to save fuel used for artificial lights during World War I. The United States followed suit in 1918.

THE POSTSCRIPT By Carrie Classon

"Mr. Muscle"

My husband, Peter, is learning Spanish his own way.

I do Duolingo online. It is free. It is easy to do. The whole thing is designed like a game, and dancing animated creatures hop up and down and celebrate every time I get five answers in a row correct.

Peter learns Spanish by talking with the sandwich shop staff.

Since we started staying in our little apartment in Mexico, Jorge, the resourceful owner, has converted what used to be a storage room into a sandwich shop. The sandwich shop is not large. There is a grill and a counter with a few stools, and that is it. But they make everything from scratch, and it is very good.

Ten minutes later, either Eduardo or Miriam, the employees of the sandwich shop, knock on the door. Sometimes Miriam is accompanied by her small son, Santiago. Peter's lunch arrives on a plate, and he pays for it, along with a generous tip.

I recently pointed out the obvious to Peter. "You are getting very spoiled."

He does not argue. But in addition to getting a delicious lunch, Peter is working to improve his Spanish, and Miriam and Eduardo are eager to assist. The problem is that Peter has decided to forgo the usual "How are you? I am fine" first steps in language acquisition and jump right into real conversations.

"They were laughing like crazy at me!" Peter announced, not for the first time.

"What did you say?" I asked, a little afraid.

"I was trying to ask if Miriam and Eduardo were siblings. I asked them if they were hermosos."

"They were laughing because you asked them if they were beautiful."

"Oh! I meant hermanos!" "Yes, that would be different."

Miriam and Eduardo (and the rest of the staff) were still laughing about this when I left later in the day. I assured them that we thought they were all beautiful. A couple of days later, Peter came up from ordering lunch and reported that he'd done it again.

"Oh, boy! They are really laughing at me today."

"What did you say this time?" I asked.

"I tried to say 'Mr. Muscles' and they just stared at me. I said Eduardo was Mr. Muscles because he was squeezing fresh orange juice by hand. But I said it again, and they started laughing. So I wrote it out on a paper—and they started laughing even harder!"

Peter showed me the paper as evidence.

"So, why are they laughing?" I asked.

"They said it was slang—that I said, 'Show me your butt!'"

"Oh, dear."

"They are still laughing!"

Miriam and Eduardo are laughing almost every day at Peter, and I think Santiago, who is only four, may have joined in.

But, amazingly, while providing daily entertainment, Peter is picking up quite a lot of Spanish. The first rule in learning a second language is to let go of the fear of making mistakes. Mistakes are a necessary part of the process.

Peter is very fortunate. He has found teachers who will not only forgive his mistakes—they are eagerly looking forward to the next time he makes one.

Till next time, Carrie

Carrie's memoir is "Blue Yarn." Learn more about her writing at CarrieClasson.com.

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

LETTERS To The Editor

Precinct Chairs needed in Crosby

There are 1150 precincts throughout Harris County. Because we are so large, it is important to have one designated patriot to serve as a precinct chair. Sadly, many of the precincts in our part of Harris County do not have precinct chairs.

Precinct chairs should encourage citizens to get out the vote. Important elections ahead and you can remind residents that it is important that their voice is heard through the voting system, either in-person voting or voting my

mail. Whatever you do-VOTE!

Precinct chairs may serve as a community organizer and an encourager.

Precinct chair candidates must complete the application form, submit to the party, and have a personal interview with the Vacancy Committee

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s/Jodie Dornak

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Crosby Superintendent's Message,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Superintendent Patterson reading to Mrs. McPhail's first-grade class at Crosby Elementary School for Read Across America Week.

among the Top 4 schools to read the most minutes. They'll attend the Read to the Final Four championship celebration in Houston on March 31st where the winning school will be crowned. Good luck, Newport Elementary!

You'll find no bigger champion of reading than our Community Member of the Month. During our last Board meeting, we had a chance to recognize a woman whose impact is legendary in the Crosby and Barrett Station communities. Mrs. Deloise Richardson taught in Crosby ISD from 1965 until 2015. The Board of Trustees recognized her contributions as a mentor to thousands and thousands of students. Mrs. Richardson had high standards in her classroom, and she could seize on every child's potential, no matter their background. Some of her former students are leaders in Crosby ISD now, including Board of Trustees President, Mr. JR Humphries, and several of our campus and district administrators.

We are winding down the soccer season, just as baseball and softball season begin. The Crosby High School boys' and girls' soccer teams are working to secure playoff spots with just a handful of games left in the regular season. We are also competing at State after

doing well in Powerlifting Regionals. The following female powerlifters are competing at State: freshman Kayleigh Bowling (1st place Regionals) 198lb class and senior Xandra Hernandez (2nd place Regionals) 105lb class.

Finally, let's share a few important events that are coming up this spring semester. Crosby ISD's Spring Break will be March 13 through March 17. We'll host the Coleen Walker Relays at Cougar Stadium on Thursday,

April 13 from 10am until Noon. This is always a great day for our special needs students, and it will be the first time Crosby ISD has hosted the event since before the pandemic. Also, add the Class of 2023 Graduation to your calendar. We'll celebrate our graduating seniors with a commencement ceremony at Cougar Stadium on Friday, May 26, at 7:30pm.

We are Better Together! Go Coogs!



Crosby High School Powerlifters headed to state: Kayleigh Bowling and Xandra Hernandez.

Crosby Historical Society Meeting and Texas Historic Cemetery Designation Application Workshop

Saturday, March 25, 2023 Crosby Brethren Church 5216 First St. Crosby, TX Crosby Historical Society Meeting 10:00 am-11:20 am

Texas Historic Cemetery Designation Application Workshop 12:00 am - 2:00 pm
PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED for Workshop FEE \$20.00
To pre-register contact Susan Armstrong ose203@aol.com

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IN THE STARS

BIRTHDAYS

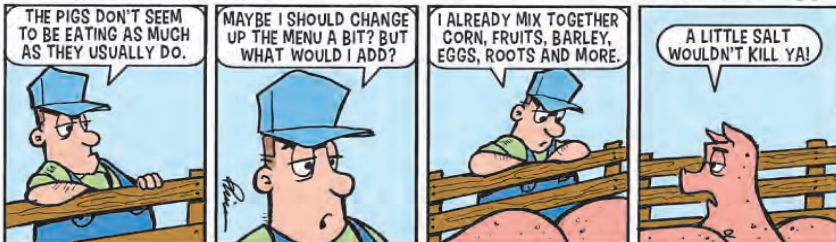
- Mar 9-John Boehm Terri Martin
Mar 10-Eric Groce
Mar 11-Marcille Robinson
Mar 12-Hope Dammon Alexis Bowen
Mar 13-Dale Browder
Mar 14-Brice Abbott Alvin Keyes Kaci New Vivian Sanders Christopher Zadraba
Mar 15-Jessica Luco Sky Mespadden Sandy Mullins Mrs. L.P. Stevens Rosa Ella Young Angie Zadraba
Mar 16-M. Edith Miller Zachary Dunlap
Mar 17-Lyndsay Dammon
Mar 18-Kent Nelson
Mar 19-Yvonne Browder Isabell Daniels Annie Mari-e Herron Chris Scott Jett Sherwood
Mar 20-Josh Kimberlin
Mar 21-Crystal Burton Kathy Townsend
Mar 22-Craig Gross Lisa Strouhal Laura White
Mar 23-Jackie Thompson Charlotte Wotipka

ANNIVERSARIES

- Mar 5-Raymond & Mary Helen James
Mar 16-Yvonne & Dale Browder
March 31-William & Susan O'Neal

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TIGER



The Spats



Weekly SUDOKU

9x9 grid for Weekly Sudoku puzzle by Linda Thistle.

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!

HOCUS-FOCUS



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

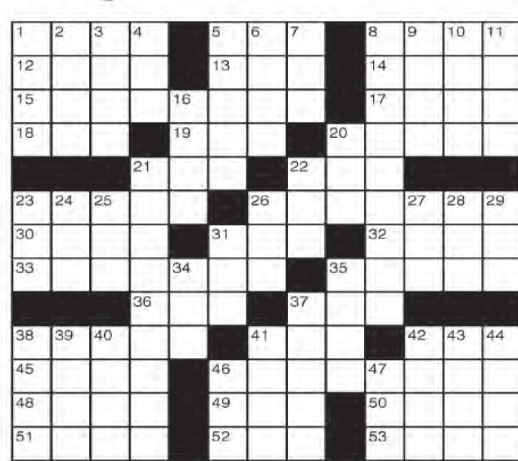


Differences: 1. Jacket is different; 2. Pocketbook is missing; 3. Sign is missing; 4. Leg is moved; 5. Post is different; 6. Hat is moved; 7. Unstressed vowel represented by an upside-down 'e'; 8. Czech Republic; 9. Ampit; 10. A nest or fornicatory.

ACROSS

- 1 Two-wheeler
5 Bumped into
8 Pack (down)
12 Ireland
13 Peyton's brother
14 "The Time Machine" people
15 Octopus arm
17 Lunch hour
18 Request
19 IV measures
20 Must-haves
21 Chai, e.g.
22 Vagrant
23 More recent
26 Goddess of wisdom
30 Tehran's country
31 Sly one
32 Tidy
33 Workshop cutter
35 Rock
36 Very long time
37 Possesses
38 Brainy
41 Small barrel
42 "The Wedding Planner" actress, to fans
45 New York's - Field
46 Bicycle type
48 N. Mex. neighbor
49 - Lingus

March 6, 2023 Posting Date King Crossword



- DOWN
1 Test version
2 Enrages
3 Neck problem of jazz
4 Tolkien creature
5 Pilgrimage site
6 Building wings
7 Dead heat
8 Some urban homes
9 Medicinal
10 Disposition
11 Bowling targets
16 Computer brand
20 Convent manager
21 Prepare meat for cooking
22 Beiderbecke of jazz
23 Pen tip
24 Mound stat
25 Pallid
26 Trim the grass
27 Old
28 Oldsmobile
28 Moving day rental
29 Packed away
31 Summer cooler
34 Drunkard
35 Droops
37 Ford or Hudson
38 Ella's style
39 Surrealist Joan
40 Bickering
41 Fall (over)
42 Flyan of "Boston Public"
43 Tragic king
44 Probability
46 Light touch
47 "Frontline" airtel

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- 1. FOOD & DRINK: Which U.S. city is known for its square pizzas with crunchy corners?
2. TELEVISION: Which character became a fugitive in the final season of "The Office"?
3. GEOGRAPHY: Which of the Great Lakes lies entirely within the United States?
4. LITERATURE: Which famous novelist wrote his last book in crayon due to poor eyesight?
5. GAMES: What are the two most valuable letters in Scrabble?
6. MOVIES: Which movie series features a character named Ellen Ripley?
7. LANGUAGE: What is a "schwa"?
8. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which nation is credited for being the top beer-drinking country in the world?
9. ANATOMY: What is a common name for the axilla?
10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What do you call an ant's home?

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GCCISD District Programs Receive Recognition from City & Local Industry

By: Kristyn Hunt Cathey, APR
- Director of Communications

The Goose Creek CISD Future Farmers of America (FFA) received a proclamation during the February 20th Board meeting, with a second reading with Baytown Mayor Brandon Capetillo on February 23rd. According to ffa.org, "FFA is an extracurricular student organization for those interested in agriculture and leadership." The organization was established in 1928 in Kansas City, Missouri. Today, there are over 850,000 members, aged 12-21, in close to 9,000 chapters in all states, Puerto Rico and the U.S.

Virgin Islands. ExxonMobil of Baytown made a generous donation of \$50,000 to the Goose Creek CISD Robotics program during a special presentation at the February 20th Board meeting. The donation will be used to provide resources and outreach for the program, which is currently being housed in the district's Robotics Center, which opened in October 2022. The district will be hosting a formal recognition presentation on Wednesday, March 8th at 4:30 p.m. at the Robotics Center.

Photo taken by Carrie Pryor-Newman:



Jason Reynolds, City Manager; Helen Berrott-Tims, Assistant Secretary; Baytown Mayor Brandon Capetillo and Superintendent Dr. Randal O'Brien, pose with the proclamation from the City of Baytown in honor of the district's FFA program.

Crosby FD 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb & Walk March 25

SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2023 AT 8 AM the public is invited to participate in a 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb fundraiser at Crosby Stadium.

The Event is sponsored by the Crosby Volunteer Fire Department and the public is encouraged to join the fun and fund.

Join us, as we remember the 343 firefighters who ran into peril and ultimately sacrificed their lives to save others on September 11, 2001. Participants will climb 110 stories worth of steps to memorialize the last climb those firefighters made to the top of the World Trade Center. This



event is open to firefighters, first responders and the community to participate. We assure you, this an event you don't want to miss. Bring the family, bring the squad! If you love cross-fit, this is an excellent challenge.

All registration money will go to the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation to provide support services for firefighter families who have lost a loved one in the line of duty.

Click the link to register, donate, or sponsor a climber.

<https://nff.akaraisin.com/ui/crosbyvfd>



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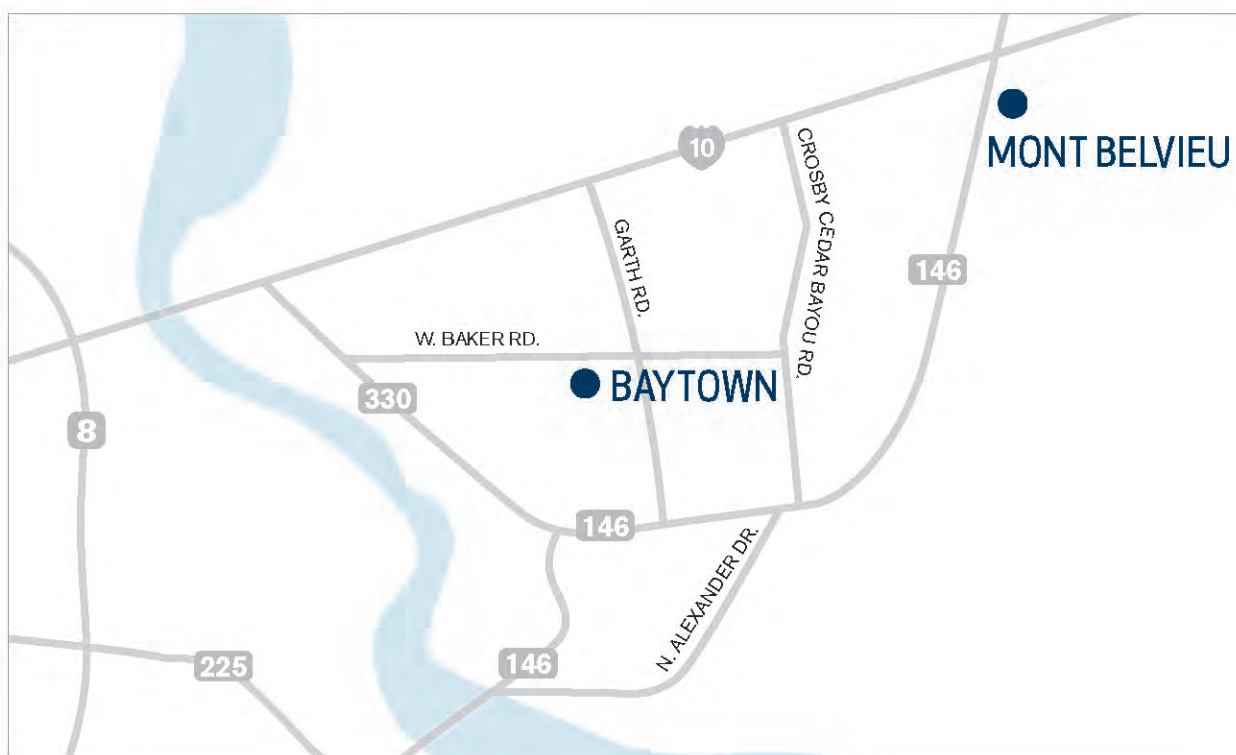
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