



Several Hundred participated in the Chamber's Purse Bingo last month, and had fun in the Photo Booth. MORE PHOTOS on Page 2.

HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

# Star Courier

Serving Highlands, Crosby, Huffman and Surrounding Communities since 1955 ■ [www.starcouriernews.com](http://www.starcouriernews.com)

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THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2023

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

## IN THE STARS

### BIRTHDAYS

Jul 13-Anita Davis  
Lisa Sanders  
Troy Woodall  
Jul 15-PeeWee Farmer  
Stephen Lambert  
Jul 16-Patricia Hoffman  
Polly Lowden  
Dianna Parker  
Jul 17-Cindy Broadbent  
Joan Brumfield  
Brenda Carroll  
Tara McKinney  
Maggie Williamson  
Jul 18-Geenee Parrish  
Jul 19-Jeanett Jett  
Pat Yates  
Jul 20-Joshua Hildebrand  
Johnny Gaeke

### ANNIVERSARIES

Jul 13-Harvey & Sherry Little  
Jerry & Debbie Moore  
Jul 15-Bobby & Melinda Horn  
Jul 20-Harry & Laura New  
Jul 24-James & Brenda Dennis  
Jul 26-Kenneth & Lisa Boudreaux  
Jul 29-Marcelino & Marie Estrada  
Jul 30-Johnnie & Barbara Stotts

### NOW OPEN

#### New Laundromat opens in Highlands

Well known local businessman Bill Bagi has opened a new Laundromat in Highlands, known as 501 Laundromat.

Bagi said that the new store has the latest Wascomat professional washers and dryers, and because of their extra large size can clean 60 lbs of laundry in an hour.

The new store is now open, and operates 7 days a week, from 8am to 9pm.

More details and photos on page 2 of this paper, or stop by with some laundry. Located at 501 S. Main Street, Highlands.

# Barrett Homecoming Week underway

BARRETT STATION – This community is celebrating its 37th Annual Homecoming, with a series of week-long community events that will culminate Saturday in a huge parade down Main Street and all-day activities at Riley Chambers Park and the adjacent community center. The theme for the homecoming this year is “We Are Better Together”.

A large crowd is expected on Saturday. Events during the week included town hall, movies, games, a cookoff, a flag football game, and the parade.



Floats, decorated cars, trucks, and ATVs line the street for last year's BST Homecoming Parade, on the way to the day-long events at Riley Chambers Park.

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

SUNDAY 7/9-BSMA Praise & Worship 7pm

TUESDAY 7/11-MUD #50 Town Hall 6-8pm

WEDNESDAY 7/12-Spades & Dominoes Tournament 6-9pm

THURSDAY 7/13-Corn Hole Tournament 6pm

FRIDAY 7/14-BST Casanova Cook-off & Campout; BST Alumni Dance 5pm until-

SATURDAY 7/15-BST Homecoming Parade 10am; BST Casanova Cook-off 12pm; Community Flag Football 5pm

## Message from the Crosby Superintendent

Hello East Harris County and Crosby ISD families,

It's hard to believe, but we are less than a month away from the start of the 2023-2024 School Year! We hope our families continue to enjoy the summer break and vacations in July. We do want to start by making you aware of the preparations needed to begin the new year off on the right foot. Crosby ISD students return to class on Monday, August 7. The deadline to

verify returning students or register new students is July 22. This will give our Transportation Department, registrars, and campus teams enough time to

ensure students are assigned the correct bus route, correct core classes, and assigned to the teacher for their class or grade level.

One of the biggest events before the first day of school is for our smallest students and their families. “Meet the Teacher” Nights are always fun as our elementa-



SUPERINTENDENT PAULA PATTERSON



New Crosby High School Principal, Mr. Brad Hadnot



New Crosby Middle School Principal, Mr. Jose Lozano



Trustees Vice President, Mrs. Jennifer Roach

ry students and their parents get to say hello to their teacher for the first time. Meet the Teacher nights will happen on Wednesday, August 2 and Thursday, August 3 at our

elementary campuses. Please check out our Back-to-School page at [www.crosbyisd.org/backtoschool](http://www.crosbyisd.org/backtoschool) for specific times per campus. We'll be updating this web page

throughout the next month with information you need to know.

We also want to let the community know that Freshman Fish Camp at See CROSBY SUPER, page 5

## Texas Legislature votes Tax Relief compromise

### Breakthrough Deal on Property Tax Legislation

Austin, Texas — Texas Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick and Speaker Dade Phelan today issued a joint statement to announce an agreement on proposed legislation that will deliver the biggest property tax cut in Texas history. Both leaders met last week in Austin and, along with members of the House and Senate, have continued working day and night to reach a consensus. The deal represents a significant win for providing relief to Texas property owners and reflects the commitment of Texas leaders to address the concerns of taxpayers and provide significant relief from the burden of escalating property taxes.



Texas 88th Legislature is in its Second Special Session.

Highlights of the \$18 billion tax cut legislation include:

- Over \$12 billion will be spent on reducing the school property tax rate for all homeowners and business properties.
- Every homeowner who homesteads their home (approximately 5.7 million homeowners) will get a \$100,000 homestead exemption.
- Non-homesteaded properties, valued at \$5 million and under, includ-

ing residential and commercial properties, will receive a 20% circuit breaker on appraised values as a 3-year pilot project.

Legislation will also include savings on the franchise tax for small businesses and create newly elected positions on local appraisal boards.

“Reducing property taxes, providing relief to small business owners,

See TAX RELIEF, Page 5

## Woman dies after crashing on purpose into another car



Woman driver was ejected from this overturned car, after ramming another car with a man driver she knew.

HIGHLANDS – A woman died after she was thrown from her car during a crash near the Highlands area late Wednesday night, according to the Harris County Sheriff's Office.

This happened around 11:20 p.m. on Thompson

Road near Ellis Road just north of the East Freeway.

Deputies said the 21-year-old woman was attempting to run her car into another vehicle driven by a 31-year-old man. The woman's car crashed into a ditch.

The woman was not

wearing her seatbelt and was thrown from the car, deputies said. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

Deputies said the man and woman may have been in a relationship with each other.

No one else was injured.

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# CHAMBER NEWS

## Crosby Chamber holds successful Purse Bingo

The Crosby/Huffman Chamber held their annual Purse Bingo night on Friday, June 30 at Stonebridge at Newport in Crosby. Almost 350 folks, mostly women attended, and enjoyed a long fun filled evening of games,

food, goody bags, and door prizes. Every one left with a smile on their face, a full tummy, and memories of a good time, wishing they could do it again soon.

The most popular event of the night may have been the Photo Booth, where

people dressed in costume and the result on Facebook was a carousel of whirling women. Be sure to check it out.

The top prize of a Christian Louboutin purse worth \$1600 was won by Tonya Kostka. A real steal!



The Crosby/Huffman Chamber's Purse Bingo night was an evening of great fun and great friendships, with games, good, goody bags, and door prizes.



Over 350 persons attended the Purse Bingo event at Stonebridge at Newport.



A few of the Lucky Ladies, with their gift bags and purses.

## Barrett Station 37th Annual Homecoming,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



The Barrett Station Dragons were part of last year's Homecoming Parade.



The Barrett Station Homecoming Parade last year included dozens of 4-wheeler ATVs and decorated pickup trucks, floats, and official cars from the Precinct 2 and 3 and Constable Eagleton's Pct.3 office.



**BSCL BARRETT STATION ANNUAL HOMECOMING WEEK**  
**July 9th-15th, 2023**

**"We Are BETTER Together"**

**Event Schedule**

- Sunday-BSMA Praise & Worship @ 7PM
- Tuesday- HC MUD #50 Town Hall Meeting @ 6-8PM; Movie In The Park @ 7-9PM
- Wednesday- Spades & Dominoes Tournament @6-9PM
- Thursday- Community Corn Hole Tournament @ 6PM
- Friday- BST Casanova Cook-off & Campout Kickoff; BST Alumni Dance @ 5PM-Until
- Saturday- BST Homecoming Parade @ 10AM; BST Casanova Cook-off @ 12PM; Community Flag Football Game @ 5PM

Please Register for events on our website [www.BarrettCivicLeague.org](http://www.BarrettCivicLeague.org)

Mrs. Sheryl Barrett

Chick-fil-e

Mrs. Pamela Norman

John G. Jones Learning Center

What goes **UP,** must come **DOWN.**

**Stray bullets CAN KILL.**

**If you hear celebratory gunfire:**

- Call 911
- Notify Crime Stoppers Anonymously at **713-222-TIPS**

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HARRIS COUNTY, TX

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# Barbers Hill Dayton **Press**

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

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THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2023

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

## ON THE HILL

### Mont Belvieu Fire Dept. seeks volunteers



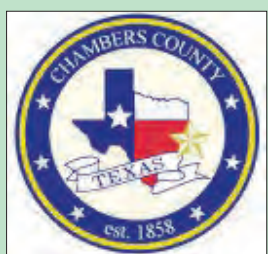
Do you have what it takes?

The Mont Belvieu Fire Department is hosting an informational meeting for those who want to learn about becoming a volunteer firefighter.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 23, at the Mont Belvieu Fire Department located at 11607 Eagle Dr. Attendees will get a chance to meet the firefighters and staff, tour the station, learn about the volunteer fire academy, and ask questions.

The meeting is geared to help residents understand what it takes to be an "everyday hero" and the commitment they will be facing as a member

### Chambers County readies Mosquito Treatment



Chambers County Mosquito Control is aware of the inundation of mosquitos throughout the County. Mosquito Control is monitoring traps which record activity 24 hours per day.

Chemical labels prohibit the treating of mosquitos in periods of fog, rain and winds above 10 mph. Treating for mosquitos is prohibited during the day due to possible negative effects on honey bees.

The County's contract pilot is on stand-by to perform aerial treatment. Mosquito Control staff are ready to start ground treatment when weather permits.

For further information, please contact Chambers County Mosquito Control  
409-267 - 2715  
409-267 - 2720  
llewis@chamberstx.gov

## Chambers County Children's Museum opens with Ribbon Cutting June 24th

MONT BELVIEU – Doors opened to the public at 10 am on Saturday, June 24 at the new Children's Museum. Tickets can be purchased through the Museum's website. A private ribbon cutting ceremony for sponsors and donors followed on Monday, June 26, at 10:30 am.

The Museum is open Tuesday – Sunday, starting June 24. Annual memberships are available for purchase online at <http://chamberscountychildrensmuseum.org>.

### About the Chambers County Children's Museum:

Founded in August 2019, the Chambers County Children's Museum "seeks to inspire discovery through



RIBBON CUTTING on June 24 was attended by the WCC Chamber, donors, officials, and invited guests.



The new Children's Museum was once a Thrift-Tee Food Center store on Eagle Drive.

innovation, hands-on experiences and exploratory play." The Museum is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization with a Board of Directors comprised of 11 community leaders who are passionate about bringing play-centered learning to Chambers County.

The new owners of the building that was once the Thrift-Tee Food Center gifted the organization a 15-year free lease at the end of 2019. The organization successfully raised \$4.2m from over 60 foundations, donors, and corporate sponsors over the next few years to fund the renovation. Mark W. Todd Architects designed the new space, and construction began in June 2022 by E & S Construction.

## Bilingual Storytime Collaboration at the Jones Public Library



The Jones Public Library partners with the DISD Bilingual program each summer for a month of Bilingual Storytimes for their Pre-K class. This year we had 16 students in attendance and focused on a nature theme. This program is one of our longest lasting collaborations, and a highlight of our year. We are grateful for the coordinators, teachers, and students that make this partnership possible.

## Mont Belvieu citizens Celebrate 4th of July



From the watermelon eating contests to the amazing concerts, it was an incredible 4th of July at Mont Belvieu City Park. Crowds enjoyed performances by Wild Fire, Rick Trevino, and Bag of Donuts before being dazzled by the professional firework display. Thank you to Mont Belvieu Parks & Recreation, our vendors, performers, and everyone in our community that came to celebrate with us. See ya next year, MBTX! MORE on Page 5

## Activities of the West Chamber County Pilot Club

On Tuesday June 20, 2023, 2017-2018 Past Texas District Governor Connie Hernandez installed the 2023-2024 West Chambers County Pilot Club Officers, President Jan Jones, President-Elect Deana Fojt, Recording Secretary Linda Gilmore, Treasurer Diana Jackson, Directors, Linda Polk, Karrell Hargrave, Past President Angela Fackler, Angela Heffner, and Anchor Coordinator Judy Duncan.

West Chambers County Pilots attended the Chambers County Children's Museum's Donor Recognition with Children's Museum Executive Director Melody Kraus. The Pilot Club sponsored the Growing Station for the Museum. Pilots attending were President-Elect Deana Fojt, Recording Secretary Linda Gilmore, Treasurer Diana Jackson, Past-President Angela Fackler, Pilot Pam Wishum, and Anchor Coordinator Judy Duncan. Pam's granddaughter Korbin Alderson and grandson Carter Alderson also attended.



(Pictured L-R) Past Texas District Governor Connie Hernandez, Director Karrell Hargrave, Director Linda Polk, Recording Secretary Linda Gilmore, President-Elect Deana Fojt, President Jan Jones, Treasurer Diana Jackson, Anchor Coordinator Judy Duncan, and Director Angela Heffner.



West Chambers County Pilots, in front of our donated Growing Station (Back row standing l-r) Recording Secretary Linda Gilmore, President-Elect Deana Fojt, Treasurer Diana Jackson, Pilot Pam Wishum, (Front row l-r) Past-President Angela Fackler, and Anchor Coordinator Judy Duncan.



(Pictured l-r) Korbin Alderson (Pam's granddaughter), Pam Wishum, Children's Museum Executive Director Melody Kraus, Recording Secretary Linda Gilmore, Treasurer Diana Jackson, and President-Elect Deana Fojt.



OPINION PAGE

**Sylvia R. Garcia**  
CONGRESSWOMAN | TX-29



### Extreme Heat Resources and Tips

These past few days, we've seen record-breaking heat across TX-29 and the Houston area. I want to ensure you're well-prepared with the best resources and information to navigate these temperatures safely.

I've compiled reliable local resources – including community cooling centers – in this e-newsletter to help you during this heat wave. If you plan on traveling to a local community center, I highly recommend checking the center to ensure they are still open and ready to receive you. Please remember to stay properly hydrated!

If you or someone you know is in immediate danger due to heat, please call 9-1-1. Please continue reading below and share this with a friend who may find it helpful.

#### Local Resources

- Ready Harris – Sign up for disaster updates and resources.
- CenterPoint Energy – Check on power outages and estimated time of repair.
- Texas Emergency Helpline – Dial 211 to request disaster assistance.
- NOAA's National Weather Service heat danger chart.

#### Cooling Centers

- (Operating Hours for Centers):  
Monday - Wednesday 8 A.M. – 5 P.M. | Tuesday – Thursday 8 A.M. – 9 P.M. | Friday 8 A.M. – 12 P.M.
- Felix Baldree Community Center, located at 13828 Corpus Christi Street, Houston, TX 77015
  - Hardy Community Center, located at 11901 West Hardy Road, Houston, TX 77076
  - North East Harris County Community Center, located at 10918 1/2 Bentley Street, Houston, TX 77093
  - Pep Mueller Community Center, located at 14750 Henry Road, Houston, TX 77060
  - East Harris County Activity Center, located at 7340 Spencer Highway, Pasadena, TX 77505
  - Magnum-Howell Community Center, located at Doss Park Rd, Houston, TX 77038
  - Martin Flukinger Community Center, located at 16003 Lorenzo Street Channelview, TX 77530
  - Leonel Castillo Community Center, located at 2101 South Street Houston, TX 77009

**PREPARE AND BE SAFE DURING Extreme Heat**

- Do not rely on a fan as your primary cooling device.
- Stay hydrated.
- Take cool showers or baths.
- Identify places in your community where you can go to get cool.
- Watch for heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke symptoms.
- Never leave people or pets in a closed car on a hot day.

SYLVIA GARCIA  
CONGRESSWOMAN | TX-29

**OPINION**  
By Senator Boris Miles  
State of Texas Legislature

## The End of Affirmative Action in College Admissions

Today, the US Supreme Court ended affirmative action in colleges and universities. The ruling is egregious and a slap in the face to minorities all over this country. The reasoning cited by Chief Justice Roberts in the majority opinion is disingenuous, disrespectful and shows a complete ignorance of the horrific history of systematic racism perpetrated by this nation's institutions.

Affirmative action was created to address the racial inequities in college admissions. This program opened the door of opportunity to students of color with greater access to higher education and a path to pursue their dreams. This decision turns back the clock on efforts to create student bodies that reflect our diverse state and nation.

The ending of this historic program is part of a broader trend at the state and national level to suppress and oppress diverse perspectives. In our home state, the governor signed into law SB 17, prohibiting Texas colleges and universities from establishing and maintaining Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) offices. If our institutions of higher education are unable to consider race in admissions and no longer have a DEI office to encourage a diverse workforce, what will happen to the diversity on our college campuses, from the student body to the faculty and staff? THERE WILL BE NONE!

The actions by extremists from all levels of government are targeting people of color and seeking to dismantle the progress that we have made since the Civil Rights era. They are AFRAID. Enough is enough! Diversity has been our greatest strength and education is the greatest equalizer. We should be striving to ensure that education and diversity go hand in hand so that future generations have an opportunity to succeed. I remain committed to ensuring that student bodies at the universities in Texas reflect the diversity of our great state.

**EDITOR'S NOTE: Opinions expressed here are not necessarily that of this newspaper or its staff. YOUR OPINION is welcome. Send a letter for possible publication to Grafikpress Newspapers, 5906 Star Lane, Houston TX 77057 or an email to GRAFIKSTAR@aol.com. Please limit your words to about 200. Letters will be subject to editing. Thank you.**



**STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS**  
By Gary Borders



## Senate Passes Tax Bill as Second Special Session Begins; not final

The Texas Senate on the first day of the Legislature's second special session unanimously passed a tax bill last Wednesday that increases the homestead exemption and includes a pay hike for teachers, the Austin American-Statesman reported. The first special session ended with the Senate and House unable to agree on how to provide property tax relief.

The Senate bill provides a \$2,000 pay increase for teachers in urban districts over the next two years, and a \$6,000 hike for teachers in rural areas. It increases the homestead exemption from \$40,000 to \$100,000.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and House Speaker Dade Phelan are set to meet in an attempt to come to agreement on the property tax issue, after Patrick texted the best way to resolve debt differences between House and Senate versions would be to meet face-to-face.

"They have responded; we're looking forward to a meeting. ... Whenever that is, I believe we can get this resolved quickly," Patrick told the Statesman.

During the first special session, the House passed its version of a property tax package on the first day and immediately adjourned for the remainder of the 30-day session.

#### THREE DIE DAILY IN STATE DUE TO DRUNK DRIVING

Officials with the Texas Department of Transportation are again urging Texans to drive sober, as drunk driving deaths increased again last year to 1,162 — an average of more than three people a day. The agency is spearheading a Faces of Drunk Driving campaign, highlighting families whose lives have been adversely affected by a drunk driver, such as Monse Montoya, who lost her mother and father when a drunk driver ran a stop sign and T-boned her parents' car.

Last year, 26% of all traffic deaths in Texas involved a drunk driver.

"Numbers can sometimes feel abstract," said

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS  
By Gary Borders

TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "But these are real people whose lives were either lost or forever altered by someone's decision to drink and drive."

#### WEEVILS MAKING POSITIVE IMPACT ON GIANT SALVINIA

Giant salvinia presents a major threat to Texas lakes, forming dense carpets of foliage on water surfaces that can expand very rapidly and make boating, fishing and swimming nearly impossible. Now, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department biologists say there are encouraging signs that giant salvinia weevils are effective in controlling the invasive species.

Giant salvinia invaded Texas waters in 1998 in the Houston area. It was found in Toledo Bend Reservoir later that year.

It is now found on 36 Texas lakes and numerous rivers, creeks and marshes. With the spread to more lakes in recent years, TPWD has worked to attempt to establish weevil populations in colder portions of the state while continuing stockings to augment or rebuild existing populations in areas more hospitable to weevils.

The weevils are more tolerant of low temperatures than previously believed, according to TPWD, and continue to be effective at reducing the spread of giant salvinia.

Boaters are urged to clean, drain and dry boats and gear before traveling from lake to lake in order to prevent the spread of all invasive plant species.

#### SNAP BENEFITS FOR STORM VICTIMS

Victims of the mid-June storms that caused numerous power outages and subsequent food losses can apply for replacement benefits through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program in a dozen Texas counties.

Those counties include Camp, Cass, Franklin, Gregg, Harrison, Marion, Morris, Ochiltree, Panola, Titus, Upshur, and Wood.

"For families that have been impacted by the recent storms, these replacement food benefits will help provide some peace of mind," said Michelle Alletto, with the Texas Health and Human Services Commission.

SNAP recipients with food lost or destroyed during the storms can apply by July 14 by dialing 2-1-1 and selecting option 8.

#### NEW LAW COULD BOOST STUDENT MATH SKILLS

A new Texas law recently signed by Gov. Greg Abbott requires school districts and charter schools to automatically enroll fifth graders who score in the top 40% on state math tests to be placed in advanced math classes, KUT reported. The result could be more equitable access to advance math classes, advocates say.

"This will have a huge impact," Kristen Hengtgen, a senior policy analyst with The Education Trust, said. "The sheer numbers of students who will be identified for advanced math in Texas and in the country is so exciting."

The Education Trust is a nonprofit that promotes education equity.

Parents will be able to opt their children out from advanced math classes if they wish.

#### DURING HEAT WAVE, SOLAR POWER CRUCIAL TO GRID

The "heat dome" that settled over much of the state during June has pushed electrical demand to new highs. One key component in keeping the grid from overloading is the increase in solar panels, which have grown more than sixfold since 2019, according to the Texas Tribune.

Solar power recently provided nearly 20% of the state's power grid needs. The Electric Reliability Council of Texas reported 16,800 megawatts of solar power could be produced on the state's grid as of the end of May. That compares to 2,600 megawatts in 2019.

"The solar we've added in the last year has been tremendously beneficial, and the solar we will continue to add will also be beneficial," said Michael Webber, an energy resources professor at the University of Texas at Austin. "Solar is such a boon for us for grid reliability."

**THE POSTSCRIPT**  
By Carrie Classon

### "The Last Song"

I've never known much about music.

I am the oldest child, so I had no older siblings playing what was popular when I was young. My mother listened to public radio in the morning. My dad played Bach on the piano every Sunday after we got home from church. My parents sang at both services in the church choir, so Mom would make something quick when we got home, often a Swanson pot pie. I somehow got "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" mixed up in my head with pot pies, and I think of Bach's masterpiece as "The Pot Pie Song" to this day.

By the time I was a teenager, I was already behind the curve. I wasn't popular enough to be invited places where I'd hear new music. I still have not caught up.

But, in my defense, I enjoy listening to new musicians and new music. My husband, Peter, and I go to concerts in the park all summer and hear all sorts of music. Some of it we love. Some of it we're not so sure about. Sometimes Peter says, "You're looking tired. You want to go home?" And I'll say, "Yeah, maybe so."

We pack up our folding chairs and head home, still listening to the music in the distance. But most of it I like. Last winter, I went to a concert performed by an old high school friend. I attended with two other old friends and found myself surrounded by people I'd known in high school and hadn't seen since. They were all a lot older than I remembered them—or imagined them—to be. But it was fun to be with people who knew all the words to all the songs. I thought about what a powerful thing that was, to have such a strong shared memory with a room full of people.

"Isn't it weird," my friend Andy said, "how you can remember exactly where you were when you first heard a song?"

"And exactly how you felt and who you were thinking about?" my friend Clay added. His girlfriend, Lou, nodded knowingly and rolled her eyes. I wondered what she was remembering.

"And then you stop hearing the song completely!" Andy said.

"There is some music I don't need to listen to anymore," Clay agreed. "It's burned into my brain."

I'm not sure if I remember the first time I heard most of the songs I know. But I remember songs that helped me when I was struggling with emotions that seemed too big to handle on my own. Songs tided me over. They gave voice to feelings that were either too powerful or too painful to experience in silence. Songs grounded me when I felt I might fly away or explode. Songs made sense of things, even if I couldn't explain in words what I learned from them.

They say that music resides in a different part of our brains than other memories do. Alzheimer patients who no longer remember their families can still play the piano. Musicians performing for the elderly see their faces come to life when they hear songs from their youth. Music buries itself deep within us. When we hear a familiar refrain, we feel the emotion associated with it before we even remember the tune.

The concert finished. The crowd demanded an encore. The musicians complied. The audience erupted in cheers and sang along with the last song.

I thought about what Clay said about the music being burned into his brain. In a literal sense, it was likely true.

Till next time,  
Carrie

HIGHLANDS CROSBY

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# Mont Belvieu Watermelon Eating Contest photos

See Also Story and Photo on Page 3



Crowds enjoyed the spectacle of the Watermelon Contest, and later the Parade.



Participants in the Watermelon Eating Contest don't go hungry.

# Message from the Crosby Superintendent,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Crosby High School is set for Thursday, August 3, at 1pm at the CHS Gym. This is a chance for incoming 9th graders to tour CHS and learn the ropes for the next four years. We can't wait to see the Class of 2027 as they start their high school careers. We also want to officially welcome the new principal of Crosby High School, Mr. Brad Hadnot. Principal Hadnot comes to Crosby ISD with more than 20 years of experience in education, most recently in Dayton ISD. Please join us in giving Mr. Hadnot a warm welcome.

Sixth grade orientation is set for students and their families who are making the big leap from elementary to Crosby Middle School. Orientation is set for Tuesday, August 1, at 5:30-6:30pm at CMS. Families will have a chance to meet the new principal of Crosby Middle School, Mr. Jose Lozano. Principal Lozano comes to Crosby ISD with more than 15 years of experience in education, most recent-

ly at La Porte ISD. Join us in welcoming Mr. Lozano to the Cougar Family!

Congratulations to Crosby ISD Board of Trustees Vice President, Mrs. Jennifer Roach. She has been designated a Master Trustee after graduating from the year-long Leadership TASB development program. Master Trustee is the highest designation recognized by the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB). Vice President Roach was part of a cohort of 24 school board members who spent more than 75 hours learning how to be better leaders across the state of Texas. We appreciate Vice President Roach representing Crosby ISD. She

shared some words of reflection: "The big take away: no school district is perfect. Regardless of our circumstances, we all have room to grow and learn. It is that idea of growth and continuous learning that will push Crosby ISD forward." Thank you, Mrs. Roach, for your steadfast leadership for students and staff.

We'll share more specifics regarding the 2023-2024 Academic Year as we get closer to our first day. For now, please enjoy the rest of the summer enjoying quality family time, making memories, and keeping cool.

We are Better Together! Go Coogs!

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# East Aldine District dedicates JFK on JFK Statue with official ribbon cutting ceremony



SCULPTOR DAVID ADICKES SPEAKS, AT THE DEDICATION OF HIS JFK ON JFK STATUE. The East Aldine Management District on Thursday, June 29th dedicated an 18-foot-tall bust of the late President John F. Kennedy on JFK Boulevard. Millions of visitors every year will potentially see the public installation — it's called "JFK on JFK" — at the intersection of Aldine Bender Road and JFK Boulevard. "I am honored to be here at this setting. It's by far the best one I've ever seen for any of my sculptures," said legendary sculptor David Adickes, 96, at the dedication ceremony today for the JFK On JFK project of the EAMD. His larger-than-life busts and statues are iconic features through the region, including the statue of Sam Houston on I-45 in Huntsville, and busts of the U.S. Presidents visible on I-10 in downtown Houston.



At center, Sculptor David Adickes is ready to cut the official ribbon, along with East Aldine Art Council chairman Carlos Silva, and Executive Director Richard Cantu. Others helping with the ceremony are East Aldine board members, arts council members, and residents and special guests of the district. The JFK sculpture is on display day and night at the intersection of John F. Kennedy Boulevard and Aldine Bender Road.

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# Tax Relief bill,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and reforming our appraisal system will ensure economic growth and prosperity, and this agreement is a significant victory for all Texans," said Speaker Dade Phelan. "I appreciate Rep. Morgan Meyer, Rep. Will Metcalf and all the dedicated members of the House who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to help us reach a consensus, and the Texas House will soon do its part to deliver historic property tax relief. Negotiations with the Lieutenant Governor have been extremely productive, and by coming together and finding common ground, the House and Senate are

one step closer to providing much-needed, much-deserved relief. I look forward to the passage of this package in the coming days and delivering on our commitment to the people of Texas."

"I started working to reduce property taxes at a Capitol hearing in 2003, 4 years before I was elected to the Texas Senate. It has been a long road, but this is a great day for all property owners. Speaker Phelan and I worked diligently together over the last week on the final bill. It made the difference. It may have taken overtime, but the process has produced a great bill for home-

owners and businesses," said Lt. Gov. Patrick. "I thank all 31 Senators for working together and being patient through this process. I especially thank Sen. Paul Bettencourt, who was with me on that first bus trip to Austin 20 years ago, for his tireless work on this issue."

Both the omnibus property tax relief bill and the franchise tax relief bill will originate in the Texas Senate and the constitutional amendment will be introduced as a House Joint Resolution (HJR). The Senate and House will file legislation today with the goal of passing the bills later this week.

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**LEGAL NOTICE**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

Students residing within the Crosby Independent School District attendance boundaries, but attend private non-profits schools, may be eligible to receive supplemental educational equitable services from the following programs:

- Title I, Part A Improving Basic Programs
- Title II, Part A Preparing, Training, Recruiting High Quality Teachers, Leaders, Principals and other School Leaders
- Title III, Part A English Learners
- Title IV, Part A Student Support & Academic Enrichment Grant

A private school must have nonprofit status to be eligible to participate in federally funded services. Private, nonprofit schools interested in learning more about the federal program services are invited to attend an informational and planning meeting on **July 25, 2023, at 10:00 am** or **July 26, 2023, at 10:00 am**. Individuals can attend this meeting in the Board Room located at 14670 FM 2100, Crosby Texas 77532. Please email a request to attend including a valid email address to [inebert@crobyisd.org](mailto:inebert@crobyisd.org) by **July 21, 2023** indicating which meeting you plan to attend in-person.

All parents of students served on participating Title I campuses are also invited to attend this informational and planning meeting. Schools that receive federal program services must comply with all required federal policies and procedures.

Your input will provide the district with valuable information. Please make plans to attend this important meeting.

26-2T

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25-2T

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**


Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 515324; Estate of REGINA CARPIO HERNANDEZ Deceased; In Probate Court No. 2 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on JUNE 21, 2023.

**JUANA HERNANDEZ CHARLES**

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

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

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this JUNE 28, 2023



by WESTON COTTEN  
Attorney for the Estate

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**


Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 516585; Estate of JAMES RICHARD MILLER Deceased; In Probate Court No. 3 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on JUNE 22, 2023.

**WESTON COTTEN**

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

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

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this JULY 29, 2023



by WESTON COTTEN  
Attorney for the Estate

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**


Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 515215; Estate of JOHN P. (PAT) STAPLES Deceased; In Probate Court No. 2 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on JUNE 22, 2023.

**JULIANNE RICHARDSON**

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

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

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this JULY 5, 2023



by WESTON COTTEN  
Attorney for the Estate

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**


Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 515904; Estate of MICHAEL WAYNE DUPUY Deceased; In Probate Court No. 1 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on JUNE 29, 2023.

**KENNETH CONERLY**

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

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

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this JULY 6, 2023



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From left, Rita Moreno, Jane Fonda, Sally Field and Lily Tomlin star in "80 for Brady."

**"80 for Brady"**

**"WHITNEY HOUSTON: I WANNA DANCE WITH SOMEBODY"**

(PG-13) — The biographic film based on the life of music legend Whitney Houston is now out on streaming. Naomi Ackie ("Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker") portrays Houston as she gets her big break when a producer hears her singing at a nightclub. The film then walks viewers through Houston's greatest moments during the 1980s and 1990s, including her performance of the National Anthem at Super Bowl XXV as well as her roles in films such as "The Bodyguard." Even though the film digs deeper into her more personal relationships with notorious bad boy Bobby Brown and close friend/lover Robyn Crawford, the screenplay itself comes across a bit generic and surface-level. Ackie, and other cast members like Ashton Sanders and

Stanley Tucci, do their best to make the script come to life. (Netflix)

**"HOUSE OF HAMMER"**

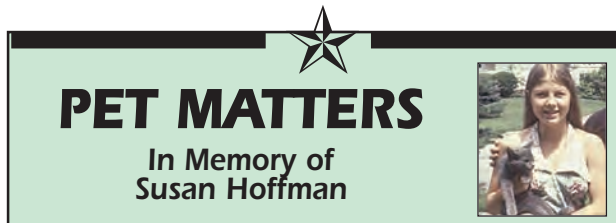
(TV-MA) — The past few years have been tumultuous for actor Armie Hammer ("The Social Network," "Call Me By Your Name"), after allegations of physical, sexual and emotional abuse came out against him from several women in January 2021. Even though the charges were recently dropped against Hammer due to insufficient evidence, a three-part documentary series breaks down the horrific allegations, tying Hammer's manipulative behavior back to the sociopathic patterns of his father, grandfather and great-grandfather before him. Casey Hammer, Armie's aunt, also appears in the documentary to give insight into the secrets of her family, spanning back to oil tycoon Armand Ham-

mer (1898-1990), and how it all eventually trickled down to her nephew. Out now. (MAX)

**"80 FOR BRADY"** (PG-13) — Four elderly best friends — Lou, Trish, Maura and Betty — are die-hard fans of the New England Patriots football team, specifically Tom Brady, the team's quarterback. While making plans to watch Super Bowl LI, Lou throws around the idea of watching the game in-person. When Lou announces that they won tickets from a radio show giveaway, the foursome make plans to travel to Houston to watch their dream team play, but they soon lose the tickets, forcing them to find another way inside. Lily Tomlin, Jane Fonda, Rita Moreno and Sally Field star in this playful comedy, with Brady, of course, making a few appearances. Premieres July 4. (Amazon Prime Video)

**"REALITY CHECK"**

(NR) — Three years after his last comedy special that took place in the living room of his Los Angeles home, Kevin Hart is back with a new special — this time with material from his "Reality Check" tour, which he embarked on late last year. In this special, Hart focuses on topics similarly covered in his past specials, like his family life and fame, but he claims to be even more unfiltered than he's been before. With no short supply of curse words or crude jokes, Hart takes the stage with a bat in hand, just in case he needs to "knock someone's head off." (Somewhere in the distance, you can hear Chris Rock quietly taking notes.) "Reality Check" premieres July 6, on the comedian's 44th birthday. (Peacock) (c) 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.



*BARC will waive Adoption fees for "Empty the Shelters" drive*

HOUSTON — BARC, the City of Houston's Animal Shelter and Adoption Center, and BISSELL Pet Foundation, a national animal welfare organization dedicated to ending pet homelessness, are excited to announce that they will be teaming up with MetLife Pet Insurance for the foundation's upcoming "Empty the Shelters" adoption event. From July 6 to July 31, BISSELL Pet Foundation's Summer National "Empty the Shelters" will occur at more than 335 shelters in 44 states with pets available for adoption, including BARC Houston. With the shared goal of helping pets find and stay in loving homes, this collaboration will save lives by expanding the foundation's reach to include more shelters across the country and allow BARC to completely waive adoption fees during this summer's campaign.

For this upcoming campaign, BARC Houston will once again waive adoption fees for all cats and dogs. To help ensure another successful campaign, BARC will also be extending its adoption hours by opening its adoption center Mondays throughout the campaign, when we have traditionally been closed. Interested adopters can visit BARC's Adoption Center at 3300 Carr St. any day from June 6 - 31 from noon to 5 p.m. to take advantage of the Empty the Shelters campaign and our waived adoption fees. All interested adopters can find more details online at [www.houstonbarc.com](http://www.houstonbarc.com).

Since the 2016 inception of BISSELL Pet Foundation's "Empty the Shelters," nearly 158,000 pets at 669 animal welfare organizations in 49 states and Canada have received second chances. An average of 1,200 shelter pets are adopted each day during each quarterly national event. Through this partnership and continued support, the foundation is looking forward to reaching more pets in more shelters and communities during this upcoming event.

"We are excited to team up with MetLife Pet Insurance to offer 30 days of pet insurance at no cost to the adopter,

as well as the opportunity to purchase an annual pet insurance policy, which could make a difference in helping adopters deal with their pet's unexpected illness or injury," said Cathy Bissell, Founder of BISSELL Pet Foundation. "Veterinary costs add up quickly, and too often, pet owners forgo care or surrender their beloved pets when they can't afford treatment. This collaboration could help to enable more pets in more communities to be adopted through 'Empty the Shelters' and can help facilitate adopters seeking treatment to keep their pets healthy and in their new homes."

BARC is excited to once again partner with the BISSELL Pet Foundation to offer completely waived adoption fees through another Empty the Shelter Campaign. More than 1,000 BARC animals found their forever homes in our Fiscal Year 23 campaigns, and BARC hopes to help continue this success by opening its adoption center on Mondays throughout the campaign.

BISSELL Pet Foundation and BARC Houston urge families to do their research about the pet they are interested in adopting, as well as adoption requirements. For more information on adopting or donating to "Empty the Shelters," visit [www.bissellpetfoundation.org/empty-the-shelters](http://www.bissellpetfoundation.org/empty-the-shelters) as well as [www.houstonbarc.com](http://www.houstonbarc.com).

**About BARC**

BARC, the City of Houston's Animal Shelter and Adoption Center, takes in more than 25,000 animals annually regardless of behavior, breed, or medical condition. BARC works each day to improve Houstonians and their pets' health and safety by pioneering programs such as low-cost and no-cost spay/neuter services, mobile adoptions, transfer/rescue partnerships, and community outreach.

Visit [www.houstonbarc.com](http://www.houstonbarc.com) or [www.facebook.com/BARCHouston](https://www.facebook.com/BARCHouston) for more information.

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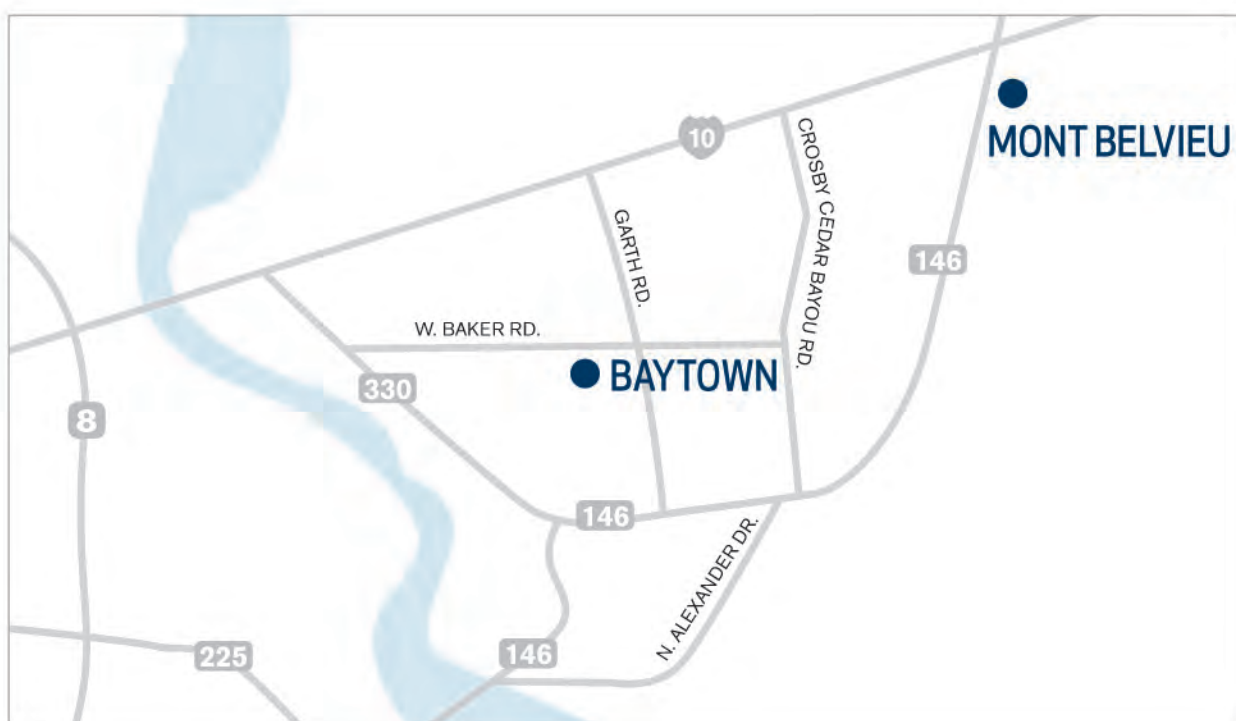
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