

HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

Star Courier

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Crosby Bond Issue



Superintendent Paula Patterson explains the need for a \$85 million Bond Issue, and how the money will meet the needs of growth in the Crosby ISD. See Superintendent's Message below.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 2023

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

IN THE STARS

EVENTS

Rotary Washer Tourney set for Sept. 9

Highlands Rotary Club will hold their annual 3-Hole Washer Board Charity Tournament on Saturday, September 9, 2023 from 1:00pm to 5:00pm. THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE.

The Tournament starts at 1:00pm Sharp, at Charlie's Ice House, 906 N. Main Street in Highlands.

All teams must register and sign in no later than 12:30pm the day of the tournament.

TEAMS: 2 person teams, \$50 per team entry, Double Elimination rules. Awards and Prize Money for the top 3 teams, \$150, \$100, and \$50.

SPONSORSHIPS: Board Sponsors at \$100 and \$200; T-Shirt Sponsors at \$150 and \$250; Major Sponsor available at \$500 with benefits.

Event includes a Raffle for a Liquor Wagon.

Contact Denise Smith niecy1616@gmail.com, or Patricia Scott plscott1957@gmail.com to enter or for info.

Proceeds benefit the Rotary Foundation and Polio Plus.

Back-2-School First Day of Classes:

DISTRICT:	DATE:
ALDINE HISD	AUG 10 THU AUG 28 MON

CROSBY HUFFMAN	AUG 7 MON AUG 9 WED
GOOSE CREEK	AUG 14 MON

GALENA PARK SHELTON	AUG 9 WED AUG 9 WED
CHANNELVIEW	AUG 16 WED

DAYTON BARBERS HILL	AUG 9 WED AUG 16 WED
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Chamber hears of Generational Challenges

By David Taylor
Star-Courier

With more than three decades of experience in the funeral and cemetery industry, Bella Dion leads the staff at Sterling-White Funeral Home in Highlands and discussed her joys working with multiple generations of employees—and challenges.

Dion is the managing partner of Sterling-White having arrived just over a year ago. She graduated from the mortuary service program from College de Rosemont in Montreal and continued her education at College de Granby earning a degree in business administration and accounting. She has also completed her MBA at Texas Western University and serves as an ambassador for the Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce.

"When I talk about my team, which I'm super proud of, we are made up of



BELLA DION, Manager, Sterling-White

five generations," she said. "Our staff members ages range from 19 to 86 years old."

Dion said at times it creates challenges with different communications, but she has found ways to learn together and make it a family.

Dion gets plenty of communication practice at home.

"My husband is a boomer, I'm a Gen X, my oldest is a Millennial, and my youngest is a Gen Z," she laughed.

Dion broke down the different categories of generations she deals with daily into the traditionalist (68 and up), baby boomers (57

to 77), Gen X (42 to 56), millennials (26 to 41), and Gen Z (25 years and younger).

"Every generation has amazing things to bring to the table," she said.

Technology is also a divider with traditionalists having lived through the radio, television, 45's and LP's, to 8-tracks, cassette tapes, to CDs to the internet and social media.

Through all of that, each generation has their own requirements from the employer. "Gen Z employees will want you to give an instruction and be prepared to explain why it's important or how it fits into the bigger picture. Interestingly, they will also research your company to make sure you're ethical and provide justice, inclusion, and equity," she said.

Millennials, she said, are result oriented, having grown up with report cards with stickers and stars, always seeking clarity and craving feedback.

"Gen Xers are interesting. They like to work independently. Give them the task and let them run with it," she said.

Boomers were raised in an atmosphere of you work hard, you get compensated for it, she described it.

"The silent generation respects authority and has a need to know clearly who's in charge and makes sure their roles are clearly defined for them," Dion said.

Bringing the team together that's diverse

means talking about the different generation and other variables such as cultural background, communication style, and personality, she said.

"The best advice I can share is to know your people. What motivates them? How do they prefer their communication?" she suggested.

Her employees meet every morning for a short, 10-minute huddle so each person can share what they have going on and communicate what's important for them that day.

"Sometimes on Friday I cook breakfast or pickup something for them," she said. "On Mondays during our standup, I ask them to share at least one fun thing they did over the weekend."

Dion said it doesn't have to be something grand but encourages them to communicate and build a team atmosphere with one another.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE:

Crosby ISD plans \$85 million Bond Issue

Hello East Harris County and Crosby ISD families,

This fall, Crosby ISD will be asking voters to approve an \$85 million dollar bond to build two new schools. On Monday, August 21st, the Board of Trustees ordered the bond election for November 7th, 2023. There will be one measure to consider toward the end of the ballot: "Proposition A."

"Proposition A" allows the District to issue \$85 million in bonds to complete our plans for two future schools: a new elementary school and Phase 1 of a new middle school. The district would also replace roofs,



SUPERINTENDENT PAULA PATTERSON

Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) equipment and renovate restrooms. Some of our air conditioners are more than 21 years old on some campuses.

From the voter-ap-

proved bond in 2017, the District had approximately \$89.5 million remaining. Earlier this year, the Board of Trustees allocated approximately \$43.9 million for the new addition to Crosby High School, which is currently in the construction phase. The remainder of the 2017 funds would be paired with the \$85 million raised from the 2023 Bond to build the new elementary and new middle school phase 1 and maintenance projects. Allow me to explain what "Phase 1" of a new middle school means. The campus would be home to only 6th graders initially. The building will be constructed in a way that it

can be expanded later to accommodate 7th and 8th graders, and become the district's second middle school.

The funds approved in 2017 do not have the buying power in 2023 that they did six years ago. That is why we are going to voters to ask for additional borrowing power. "Proposition A" will not ask for a tax rate increase. Our bond capacity as a District is \$85 million with no tax rate increase. Why? The answer is two-fold. There are more homes and thus more taxpayers in Crosby ISD, and the appraised value of each home is also increasing.

Crosby ISD's bond will

be focused on new buildings, classroom spaces, and maintenance projects. No money will be or can be used for athletics nor will the money be used for extracurricular activities that do not directly impact the education of our children.

Growth is happening all over Crosby ISD. Fifteen new subdivisions are under construction or soon to be under construction on all sides of the District. Demographers predict an additional 10,000 homes will be built in our communities in the next 10 years. Those

Continued. See Crosby Superintendent, Page 8

THEA/SJRC meeting set for August 29 in Highlands

HIGHLANDS – THEA (Texas Health and Environment Alliance) has announced an Important Upcoming Meeting On the Superfund Cleanup at the San Jacinto River.

The San Jacinto River Coalition will meet August 29th at 6pm to discuss remediation at the Waste Pits Superfund Site.

We will discuss three very important topics:

- When we talk to residents one-on-one, we hear about loved ones lost, illnesses and cancer, especially cases striking the very young. We need to



come together and push the state to update its study of cancer rates in the community.

- The cleanup at the Southern Pit is proceeding on schedule. We'll talk about the next steps.

- Unfortunately, the EPA is not moving quickly enough to finalize the remediation at the Northern

Pit and it looks like we will experience another hurricane season with no action. We need your feedback on keeping the process on track.

Join us: August 29th, 6pm, San Jacinto Community Center, 604 Highland Woods Drive, Highlands, TX 77562.

Heart Screening for Athletes is subject of Rotary talk

HIGHLANDS – Scott Stephens was the guest speaker at the Rotary weekly luncheon last week. He spoke about screening high school youth, especially athletes, for undetected heart defects that lead to SCA, or Sudden Cardiac Arrest and death.

Stephen's son Cody died of SCA 11 years ago, in 2012 at their home in Crosby. A healthy looking high school senior, Cody died in his sleep while reclining in a chair. As a result, his fa-

Continued. See HEART SCREENING, Page 7



Scott Stephens of the Cody Foundation receives a check from Highlands Rotary President Denise Scott to support Heart Screening.

RACHEL'S DINER

Southern Cooking Buffet -- Coming Soon

14280 FM 2100 (Across from Walmart)
281-462-7349

AUTO & HOME INSURANCE



Jeremy Rosenkranz
State Farm Agent
440 S. Main Street, Highlands, TX 77562
281-426-3512
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GOOSE CREEK CISD NEWS

ATAT Inducts John George Sr. to the 2023 Texas Hall of Fame

August 17, 2023 - The Agriculture Teachers Association of Texas (ATAT) recently hosted its annual Professional Development Conference for teachers of agriculture, food and natural resources in-person in Dallas. The week-long conference was designed specifically for the educational enrichment of agriculture teachers and stakeholders and allows attendees to enhance teaching methods, discuss developments in curriculum, learn more about industry-based student certifications as well as network with leaders within the agriculture education profession.

John George, Sr. was posthumously inducted, along with 57 other teachers from across the state, to ATAT's 2023 Texas Hall of Fame. George taught at Hargrave, Crosby and Ross S. Sterling high schools, where he chartered the Ross S. Sterling High School chapter of the Future Farmers of America in 1974 and continued to lead the program until his death in 1996.

"Educators across Texas have a heavy weight on their shoulders – developing the future generations of our state. The Hall of Fame awards shine a light on Texas FFA agriculture education teachers, including John George, Sr., that have gone the extra mile during their careers to ensure every student has an opportunity to thrive," said Ray Pieniazek, executive director of ATAT. "We are honored to recognize committed educators for their dedication and passion to growing students into leaders. Thank you, John, for the difference you've made in your students' lives and Texas overall."

In December 2019 in a lively ceremony attended by former students, faculty members, family and other friends, the Goose Creek CISD Agriscience Center was dedicated to John D. George. A plaque that is now displayed in the facility was unveiled by his wife, Shirley George.

The ATAT is a professional organization for agriculture science teachers and supporters that informs members about the latest agriculture education practices, encourages higher standards of teaching and provides a unified voice in the state legislature. For more information on ATAT and Texas FFA, visit www.texasagteachers.org or www.mytexasffa.org.



John D. George, Jr. (left) accepts the ATAT's Hall of Fame award for the George family, presented by Donald Guillory (right), Ross S. Sterling High School Ag Science on behalf of ATAT Board of Directors and former RSS FFA students.



Ag Science Teachers (back row L to R) Josh Wade, Robert E. Lee High School REL; Donald Guillory, Ross S. Sterling High School (RSS); Ashley Lott, RSS; Kelly Mills, Stuart Career Tech High School (SCTHS); and (front row, L to R) Alvaliz Jimenez, SCTHS; Rebekah Banks, RSS; Jennifer Guillory, CTE; Shirley George and Rex Miller, SCTHS.



Alternate view of presentation (see above)



John D. George's family (from left) Justin and Jill George; Donald and Jennifer Guillory; Shirley George; and John & Stephanie George, attends the ATAT Professional Development Conference and receive an award in John D. George's memory.



Ken Rogers (left), GCCISD lead Ag Science teacher; Shirley George (middle), wife of John George and retired GCCISD teacher; and Jennifer Guillory, GCCISD CTE, display the award presented posthumously to John D. George, Sr.

KIDS KICKING
CANCER

FUNDRAISING EVENT

CROSBY FAIR & RODEO

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Crosby, TX 77532

HOSTED BY

WARRIORS
for WEST

AddisFaith
FOUNDATION
Childhood Cancer Research & Relief

AUG 26 10AM-10PM

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NEW TOY DONATION

LIVE MUSIC 8PM

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with special guests

GRADY SPENCER & THE WORK

- PHILIP GRIFFIN

- CODY KOUBA

- BRANDON LEE GARDNER

- JUSTIN HUTCHINSON

- MICAH CHEATHAM

- BLAKE BROWN

- HILL COUNTRY JANE

ALL DAY EVENTS

► KIDS ZONE/SPLASH PAD

► VENDOR MARKETPLACE

► FOOD TRUCKS

► CONCERTS

► SILENT AUCTION

TIMED EVENTS

► 10AM CORNHOLE TOURNY
BAYOU CITY BAGGERZ

► 10AM SHOW N SHINE
TRUCKS, CARS & OFFROAD VEHICLES

► 12PM MUTTON BUSTING

► 4:30PM AWARDS

► 5PM LIVE AUCTION

BBQ COOK-OFF \$15,000 PAYOUTS

Warriors4West@gmail.com
AddisFaithFoundation.org/Warriors-For-West

AddisFaith Foundation is a 501C(3) non-profit organization. All proceeds go to pediatric cancer families for support and pediatric cancer research.

QR CODE

EST. 1970
FOUR SIXES
GRIT & GLORY

BRIGGS
EQUIPMENT

First Day of School at
E.F. Green Jr. School

Dr. Randal O'Brien, superintendent of schools for Goose Creek CISD, and Dr. G welcome the Dr. Alicia Babin, the new E.F. Green Junior School principal.

Dr. Randal O'Brien, superintendent of schools for Goose creek CISD, greets students from E.F. Green Junior School on the first day of school.

Taylor Green, a sixth grader at E. F. Green Junior School, hangs out with Dr. G, the GCCISD mascot.

Barbers Hill Dayton Press

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

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 2023

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

ON THE HILL

Jones Public Library

Memorials, Honorariums and Donations

Memorials:
In Memory of:

Baldwin, Sam and Doris: The Adventures of Buddy and Sissy: My First Day of School given by Jimmie King Brown, Betty: Perfectly Imperfect Mira, The Very Hungry Caterpillars Very First Encyclopedia, Love and Lemons, Lessons Learned and Cherished, given by Seaboard Energy

Brown, Betty: Library Girl given by Lee Ann and David Douglas

Brown, Betty: Baking Yesteryear given by Jones Library Staff

Brown, Betty: Only in Texas given by Marjorie Mead

Brown, Betty: Escargot, Music is in Everything, Behind the Scenes at the Space Stations given by Lambda Alpha Sigma

Damek, Theresa: Solitary Animals, A Seed Grows, I Love You More than You'll Ever Know given by Cathy and Gene McGahey

Horn, Bobby: We are Branches given by Friends of Jones Library

Welder III, Duncan: In Every Life given by Rickie Welder

Welder, John Amos: The Greatest Polar Expedition of All Time, Train Travel in Europe given by Rickie Welder

Small Business Non-Profit Grant

GRANT INFO
The Chambers County Commissioners Court has approved a small business grant program to assist businesses impacted by Covid-19 in Chambers County and help business grow.

Do not miss the opportunity to apply for this Small Business and Nonprofit grant. If your organization was in existence before December 2019 and experienced a reduction in income due to COVID-19 you may be eligible to receive up to \$25,000 depending on gross annual income.

Request the application by filling out this form: <https://bit.ly/SmallBizNonprofitGrant>

To apply, you will need:
*Government ID
*Assorted Tax Documents
*Lease or Mortgage Information (if Applicable)
*Payroll or Owner Draw Information (if Applicable)
*Profit and Loss Statement

HVAC Program Returns to Lee College for Fall 2023

Huntsville Center Alumnus Teaches Degree, Certificate Courses at McNair Center

BAYTOWN, TX, Aug. 15, 2023 – Chris Avirett recalls the very moment he decided it was time to get an education. He was in the middle of serving a 15-year sentence in a Texas prison.

“I was at the T.L. Roach Unit in Childress, and my job was to pick cotton,” he shared. “That’s what motivated me to sign up for school. I knew it had to be better than dragging a six-foot bag behind me – filling it with cotton every day.”

For the next several years until his release in 2001, Avirett immersed himself in as many academic and vocational courses the Lee College Huntsville Center offered. One course Avirett really connected with was Air Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration or HVAC, which at the time, was taught at the Hightower Unit by the late instructor Al Davis.

“Al taught me as a young man many things I should have learned from a dad. He said, ‘Look you are going to have competition out there. Don’t lie to homeowners. Just do the right thing.’ He lived what he taught” said



Chris Avirett, Lee College Huntsville Center alumnus, has returned to his alma mater to teach the HVAC degree and certificate course at the college’s McNair Center.

Avirett, who has carried on what Davis instilled in him throughout his HVAC career and his personal life.

In the years after his release from prison, Avirett worked for various AC companies as a technician, salesman and accountant and learned how to be a leader without the title, until one day he decided it was time to venture off on his own.

“It was late spring 2005. I gave notice to my employer that I was going to leave. So, I bought a van, a company phone and an ad. It was literally one man, one van and one ad,” he said with a

chuckle.

Avirett went on to run several successful businesses across the Houston area for 17 years, but in the back of his mind, he knew he would eventually return to Lee College to teach, and for the past couple of years, he’s been working behind the scenes with college administrators to re-launch the HVAC program at the McNair Center.

“Chris contacted us because he had been in the program in Huntsville and had his own company, but he always had the desire to come back and help the institution

that helped him,” said Fran Parent, executive director, Industrial and Construction Technologies at Lee College.

Parent has been instrumental in working with Avirett to build a state-of-the-art HVAC lab. Students will learn the theory of refrigeration, principles of electricity, various gas and electrical laws and how to safely use common tools of the trade to evaluate, maintain and repair HVAC equipment. Graduates who receive an associate of applied science (AAS) degree or certificate of completion can enter the work-force as an entry-level service technician, installer and maintenance technician in various industry sectors including residential, commercial, industrial, distribution and manufacturing.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the national job outlook for HVAC mechanics and installers has a 10-year projected growth of 5% by 2031, which translates to more than 40,000 openings on average each year. Texas is one of five states with the high-

est employment level for HVAC technicians. Commercial and residential building construction is driving that employment growth. In addition, the growing number of high-tech climate control systems is also expected to increase the demand for qualified technicians. Avirett and Parent are providing students with the tools and skills to meet industry needs, but they also want students to have a passion for their chosen field.

“As a technician and business owner, I was committed to serving people, and I don’t think I really knew that at the time, but I did it naturally,” Avirett shared. “I want people to understand the technical aspects of HVAC, but I also want them to understand that they are doing something that’s bigger than fixing an air conditioner. They could be saving someone’s grandmother when it’s 95-degrees outside.”

To learn more about the HVAC program at the Lee College McNair Center, visit the Lee College website.

News and Updates From Chamber County, Texas



LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Last week the Southeast Texas Judges Association hosted their First Annual Regional Leadership Training at Ford Park. Many Chambers County department heads and managers attended the training where they learned about emergent issues in human resources and becoming a person of influence.

Chambers County is proud to invest in our employees and provide them with top quality managers which ensures that the County is a great place to work.



Cancer Benefit for Kids at Crosby Fairgrounds Aug. 26

CROSBY – Kids Kickin’ Cancer will host a fundraiser benefitting families with kids who have cancer on August 26th at the Crosby Fairgrounds.

Steven and Brooke McCauley know firsthand the toll that’s taken on a family whose child has pediatric cancer. In 2020 the McCauleys were given the devastating news that their son West had Bilateral Retinoblastoma, a potentially fatal cancer that develops in the eyes and brain. Both of

West’s eyes had to be removed to prevent the disease from spreading. The Addi’s Faith Foundation played a huge part in getting prosthetic eyes for baby West.

In an effort to give back, the McCauleys have organized a great day of fun activities to raise money in support of Addi’s and families of kids with cancer.

The full day of events is open to the public and includes all-day live music from some of the area’s favorite bands, a BBQ Cook Off, Cornhole

Tournament, Live Auction, Silent Auction, Car Show, Kids’ Zone, Mutton Bustin’, Food Trucks, Vendor Booths and more!

Entry is \$15 for adults and \$5 for kids. One free kid’s entry for each unopened toy donated. Scan the QR code on the flyer or visit the website for more information or to register for any events, make a donation, become a vendor, or to volunteer.

Come help us make this a great event!!

--By Juli Hain

Beach City’s Community Building Park Has Been Selected for the 2023 Niagara Perk Your Park Campaign



Adaptive & Accessible Playground

Chambers County, Texas – Beach City Community Building Park has been selected as one of nine projects in the 2023 Niagara Perk Your Park Campaign from Niagara Bottling, through its charitable program, Niagara Cares, and in partnership with the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA).

The Perk Your Park Campaign is part of the Niagara Perk Your Park Project, an initiative that focuses on park and community space revitalization across the country. The Perk Your Park Campaign encourages public engagement with these new spaces, asking the public to support a park project that should be selected to receive


a grant. If Beach City’s Community Building Park is selected, improvements will include a new playground, creating the first adaptive play space for the Chambers County community! The updated playground would include adaptive and accessible equipment for kids of all abilities to play. Let’s come together as a community to make this happen for our residents.

Campaign starts Aug. 7 at NiagaraPerkYourPark.com. Select your favorite project once per day through Sept. 18, 2023. Three park projects will be granted \$75,000 each toward park renovations.

Location Beach City Community Building Park- 12723 Farm to Market Rd 2354, Beach City, TX

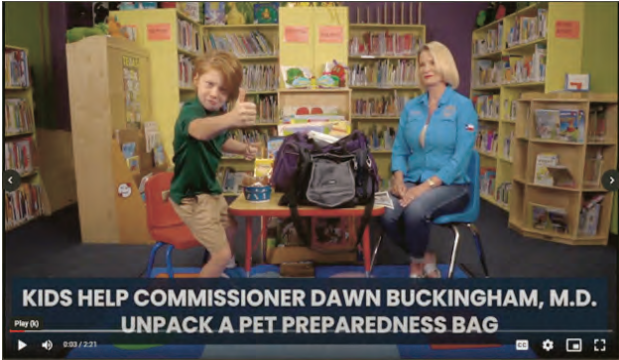
★

PET MATTERS
In Memory of
Susan Hoffman



Building Your Pet Disaster Evacuation Kit: Kids Edition

Land Commissioner Dawn Buckingham Joins Comical Kids to Unbox Disaster Evacuation Bag for Pets



AUSTIN – Texas Land Commissioner Dawn Buckingham, M.D., is again joined by some of Texas’ silliest kids to unbox items pets will need in case of an evacuation during a disaster. In this **second video** of a comical and educational series aimed at encouraging Texans to prepare for natural disasters, children remind Texans not to forget their furry, finned, and feathered friends.

“As you prepare your family’s emergency plan, evacuation routes, and go-bag, remember to pack a separate bag with everything your pets need if you have to leave home in a hurry,” Commissioner Buckingham said. “For many of us, our pets are an extension of our family so they should have a bag, too. This task is a great way to include children in your disaster preparedness planning, even if that means using dog bowls as drums!”

Watch these comically clever kiddos help Commissioner Buckingham unbox a pet evacuation go bag: **WATCH UNBOXING VIDEO!**

The GLO encourages all Texans to prepare for hurricane season by preparing an evacuation “go bag” for their pets, including the following:

1. Each pet should have enough food and water to last them at least 3-7 days. Don’t forget to change out their food every 2 days
 2. If daily medication is required for your animal, be sure to have enough for at least two weeks and store them in an airtight container. In case of any injury to your pet, be sure to include a first-aid kit. Include the animal’s health and vaccinations record book with other documents.
 3. Bring copies of your animals’ registration papers, adoption information, or other records for each pet. Include pictures of your pets individually with you. This will help reunite you if your pet gets lost during an evacuation.
 4. Make sure your pet is microchipped, which provides the best chance for efficient reunification if you get separated during a disaster.
 5. You can begin preparing your livestock and horses for a natural disaster by maintaining an inventory, making sure animals have some type of identification, and planning evacuation arrangements.
- WATCH VIDEO FOR MORE TIPS!**

Whether excessive heat waves, powerful tornadoes or damaging hurricanes, it is important to be prepared to evacuate. Texas has had 372 declared disasters since 1953. Of Texas’ total declarations, more than 30% happened in August or later. Evacuations are more common than most may think, and few disasters come with a lot of warning time.

Download the **GLO’s Disaster Evacuation Checklist** for more information. Texans can follow along on social media, watch the GLO’s preparedness tips on YouTube, and find resources for family and pet preparedness at **recovery.texas.gov/petprepared**.



CROSBY BICENTENNIAL SOUVENIR EDITION

HIGHLANDS CROSBY

Star ★ Courier

This special edition will run the week leading up to the celebration on Sept. 23 and includes a history of Crosby’s last 200 years with vintage photos, a map of the parade route, a map with the location of all booths and activities, and a timeline of all activities planned for the week-end plus much more.

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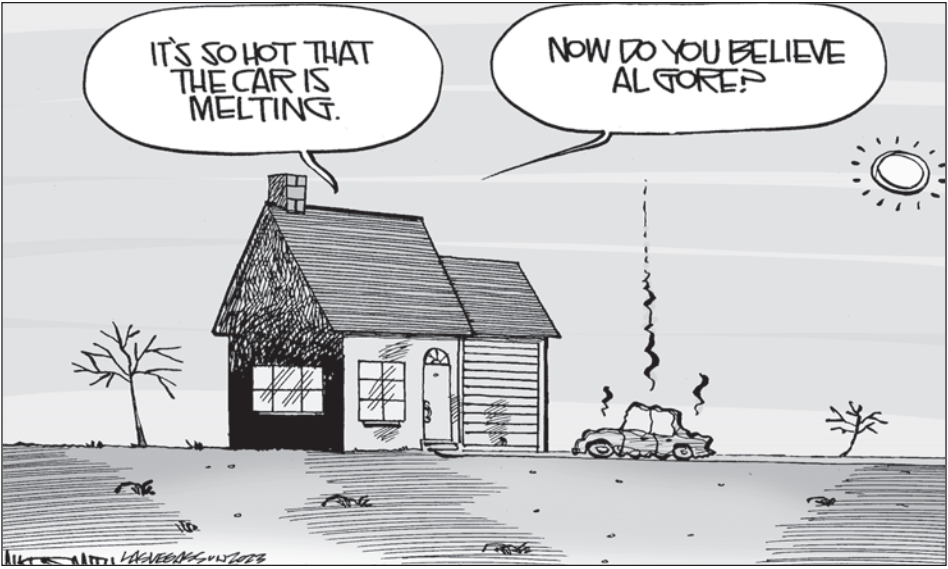
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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By Gary Borders



Record Sea Temps Could Spur more Hurricanes

Forecasters for the National Weather Service are anticipating a more active hurricane season this year because of record-warm ocean surface temperatures, the Texas Tribune reported.

Hurricane season runs through the end of November. The Climate Prediction Center now predicts six to 11 hurricanes this season in the Atlantic Ocean, with as many as five of those being major hurricanes. The new projection is considerably higher than the one released in May just before hurricane season commenced.

Bradley Brokamp, an NWS meteorologist in Galveston, said the higher prediction is the result of the higher sea surface temperatures.

“The name of the game this season seems to be the heat because it’s been quite exceptional,” Brokamp told the Tribune.

Another NWS meteorologist, Jeff Lutze, based in Corpus Christi, said the higher probability of Atlantic hurricanes increases the likelihood of a storm striking Southeast Texas.

“The big question mark is whether or not we’ll get the upper air pattern to allow the storms to get this far into the Gulf of Mexico,” Lutz said. Some of the most damaging hurricanes to hit Texas in recent years came in August or September.

FEDERAL GRAND JURY INVESTIGATING PAXTON

The Austin American-Statesman reported last week that federal prosecutors have seated a grand jury in San Antonio and called witnesses close to suspended Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton to testify. Paxton’s attorney has already confirmed that there is an active federal investigation of his client.

While the Justice Department has declined to comment, the secret proceedings come a few weeks before Paxton is set to stand trial for impeachment in the Texas Senate on bribery allegations involving Austin real estate developer Nate Paul, who was indicted on unrelated federal charges in May for mortgage fraud.



Paxton has been under indictment for securities fraud since 2015, with a trial set in Houston for February 2024. He was suspended without pay after the Texas House overwhelmingly passed 20 articles of impeachment in late May.

WILDFIRE DANGER CONTINUES TO INCREASE

Continued hot, dry weather has increased the number of wildfires, prompting the Texas A&M Forest Service to raise the State Wildfire Preparedness to Level 4, the second-highest level, in order to ensure resources are available to fight first breaking out across the state.

“Areas with high potential for wildfires include the Cross Timbers, Rolling Plains, Eastern/Western Hill Country where oak/juniper fuel is present and for the Western Pineywoods, as well as Central and Southeast Texas where pine fuel is present,” the service said.

As of Sunday, there were seven active fires, the largest being the Hawkeye Fire in Wichita County, consisting of 2,150 acres, which was 50% contained, and the Burnet 109 Fire, also in Wichita County, consisting of 2,126 acres, which was 75% contained.

Gov. Greg Abbott last Friday declared a wildfire disaster declaration in nearly 200 Texas counties, while burn bans are now in place in 181 counties.

July was hotter and drier than norm for most of the state, according to Mark Wentzel, a hydrologist with the Texas Water Development Board, with 49% of the state now in drought, up 25 percentage points since the

end of June.

ABBOTT SIGNS LARGEST PROPERTY TAX CUT IN STATE HISTORY

Abbott last week ceremonially signed legislation that — if voters approve it in November as expected — will provide what he is calling the largest property tax cut in Texas history. The \$18 billion reduction raises the homestead exemption to \$100,000 and provides other tax-reduction measures.

Voters will decide its fate as one of 14 proposed constitutional amendments in November. The measure is widely expected to pass, as do most measures to reduce taxes when placed on the ballot.

“As the saying goes, everything is bigger in Texas—and now that includes property tax relief,” House Speaker Phelan said at the ceremony.

ERCOT GRID HOLDS UP DESPITE RECORD TEMPERATURES

The state’s electric grid, which supplies electricity to 90% of the state and is run by the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, has thus far withstood record demand brought on by the summer heat. An analysis by the Dallas Morning News points to two factors for the grid’s ability to meet that demand: planning and renewable energy.

“The secret to ERCOT’s success has been astonishingly high levels of performance to date by the wind and solar ... and by the thermal fleet,” Alison Silverstein, an electric system reliability consultant and researcher, told the News. The latter refers to the state’s gas, coal and nuclear power plants.

In preparing for demand, ERCOT made conservative estimates of how much energy each power plant could generate and accounted for worst-case scenarios in preparing for summer.

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE PROMPTS NEW TPWD RULES

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department issued new rules limiting movement and testing restrictions for white-tailed deer in deer breeding facilities after receiving confirmation of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in nine deer breeding facilities in seven counties this year.

As the Texas Standard reported, CWD threatens both the deer and the state’s hunting economy. White-tailed deer hunting generates more than \$4 billion of economic activity in the state each year. The new rules aim to manage the spread of the disease.

MCWD is a fatal neurological disease found in deer, elk, moose and other members of the deer family. It progresses slowly and may not produce visible signs for several years

“Since 2021, we have seen an increase in CWD detections from breeder deer at an unprecedented rate,” said John Silovsky, Wildlife Division Director for TPWD. “It’s our hope that these emergency rules will strengthen our surveillance and reduce the number of CWD positive detections across the state.”

★

THE POSTSCRIPT
By
Carrie Classon

Hola Hour

Every day, whether here in Mexico or in the US, I take a walk. Walking in the morning would be nice, but that’s when I write, so, in the afternoon, I head out to see what the world looks like.

I always greet a lot of people on my walk, no matter which country I am in. I talk to dogs if there are dogs involved, or I comment on the weather, or I compliment what someone is wearing, or I simply say, “Hello.”

I do pretty much the same thing in either country, and my ability to converse with dogs in Spanish has improved dramatically, but there is one complication in Mexico that I do not encounter in the US, and I have taken to calling it the “Hola Hour.”

Because what one typically says in the afternoon to a stranger (unless I am complimenting their hat or their dog or noting the imminence of rain) is simply, “Buenas tardes,” (“Good afternoon!”)

In English, this sounds a little formal, but teenagers and old women and shopkeepers and street workers all say it. It is the universal greeting—until it isn’t.

As it turns to night, everyone naturally starts saying, “Buenas noches,” (“Good evening.”) This seems pretty straightforward, but determining when to stop saying “Good afternoon” and start saying “Good evening” is far more complicated than it seems.

I used to think there was some magic time that changed incrementally as the season changed, and everyone knew they should start saying “Good evening.” But I could never determine when this was. Was it completely dark? No. Perhaps it was just as the sun set? Not necessarily. Maybe it was the quality of light or when the streetlights turned on?

I would sometimes ask for a clarification: “Is it evening? Or is it still afternoon?” Whoever I asked would scan the sky and give me an answer that sounded very certain. I assumed this knowledge of when afternoon changed definitively to night was something one must be born in the culture to learn, and I would never be able to make this determination on my own.

But I don’t think I was correct.

Because in this twilight time—with the sun either up or down, depending on your altitude, or the buildings in the way, or the number of trees, or the density of clouds, or any number of other complications in this brief time of less than an hour—I don’t think anyone knows.

And the reason I believe this is because people start saying “Hola.” They simply say “Hello.”

It’s a simple solution. No one wants to get it wrong. No one wants to get into an argument about it. So, when it’s too close to call, people start saying “Hola” to me instead of “Good afternoon,” before they’ve begun to say, “Good evening.”

I shared my theory with Jorge, the owner of our hotel. It was a slightly complicated thing to explain in Spanish, but Jorge is very patient. In the past, I had asked Jorge, “Is it afternoon? Or is it evening?” and Jorge, like everyone else I asked before, claimed to know exactly which it was.

But when I shared my theory about the “Hola Hour,” he laughed. And he said, “It is true.”

Jorge looked just a little embarrassed, as though I’d discovered a secret. And I was pleased.

It takes a very long time to understand another culture, and there are many things I will never know. But I feel much better prepared for the Hola Hour tomorrow.

Till next time,
Carrie

HIGHLANDS CROSBY

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SETTING TAX RATE

A tax rate of \$.045173 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of Harris County Emergency Services District No. 14.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$.045173
NO-NEW REVENUE TAX RATE	\$.042780
VOTER APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$.045173
DE MINIMUS TAX RATE	\$.083318

The no new revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2023 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for Harris County Emergency Services District No. 14 from the same properties in both the 2022 tax year and the 2023 tax year.

The voter approved rate is the highest rated that Harris County Emergency services District No. 14 may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate unless the de minimus rate for Harris County Emergency Services District No. 14 exceeds the voter approved rate for Harris County Emergency Services District No. 14 .

The de-minimus rate is the rate equal to the sum of the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate for Harris County Emergency Services District No. 14 , the rate that will raise \$500,000.00 and the current debt rate for Harris County Emergency Services District No. 14 .

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means Harris County Emergency Services District No. 14 is proposing to maintain your taxes at their current level for the tax year 2023.

A public hearing on the proposed tax rate will be held on August 28, 2023 at 12: p.m., Noon at Highlands Fire Station #27, 2301 E. Wallisville Road, Highlands, TX 77562.

Harris County Emergency Services District No. 14 shall take action on the proposed tax rate on August 28, 2023, following the hearing to be held .

The proposed tax rate is equal to the voter-approved tax rate, but not greater than the de minimus tax rate.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE TAX RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

Property Tax amount + (tax rate) x (taxable value of your property) /100

The members of the governing body voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase as follows:
FOR: Jim Strouhal, Johnny Gaeke, Jerry Ickes, Elaine Marshall and Mark Taylor
AGAINST: NONE
PRESENT AND NOT VOTING: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

Visit [Texas.gov/propertytaxes](https://www.texas.gov/propertytaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about propety tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approved tax rated is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average homestead this year.

	2022	2023	Change
Total Tax Rate(per \$100 of value)	.05	.045173	Decrease of \$.004827
Average homestead taxable value	\$173,596.	187,789	Increase of 7.19%
Tax on average homestead	\$86.79	\$84.82	Decrease of \$1.97
Total Tax levy on all homesteads	496,660,596	596,937,109	Increase of \$30,276,447.00 (16.4%)

Please visit www.hcesd.net for more information


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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR AN AIR QUALITY STANDARD PERMIT FOR PERMANENT ROCK AND CONCRETE CRUSHERS

PROPOSED AIR QUALITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 173296

APPLICATION. Texas Coastal Materials, LLC, 9026 Lambright Rd, Houston, TX 77075-3208 has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an Air Quality Standard Permit, Registration Number 173296, which would authorize construction of a permanent rock and concrete crusher. The facility is proposed to be located at 5875 Kelley St, Houston, Harris County, Texas 77026. This application is being processed in an expedited manner, as allowed by the commission's rules in 30 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 101, Subchapter J. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to application. <https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-95.30694,29.811062&level=13>. This application was submitted to the TCEQ on July 7, 2023. The executive director has determined the application was technically complete on July 31, 2023.

PUBLIC COMMENT. Written public comments about this application may be submitted at any time during the public comment period. You may submit public comments either in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087, or electronically at www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/. Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address and physical address will become part of the agency's public record. The deadline to submit public comments is 30 days after newspaper notice is published.

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS. A written response to all relevant comments will be prepared by the executive director after the comment period closes. The response, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and requested to be added to the mailing list. The response to comments will be posted in the permit file for viewing.

The executive director shall approve or deny the application not later than 30 days after the end of the public comment period, considering all comments received within the comment period, and base this decision on whether the application meets the requirements of the standard permit.

CENTRAL/REGIONAL OFFICE. The application will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ Central Office and the TCEQ Houston Regional Office, located at 5425 Polk St Ste H, Houston, Texas 77023-1452, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, beginning the first day of publication of this notice.

INFORMATION. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the Public Education Program toll free at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from Texas Coastal Materials, LLC, 9026 Lambright Rd, Houston, TX 77075-3208, or by calling Mr. Jay Lindholm, Project Manager at (512) 567-8280.

Notice Issuance Date: August 14, 2023

Authorities capture fugitive that shot Sheriff’s Deputy on Homestead Road traffic stop

By Sheriff Ed Gonzalez

On Wednesday, August 16, 2023, Harris County Sheriff's Office Deputy Joseph Anderson was shot during a traffic stop at the 13600 block of Homestead Road in north Harris County. He was transported via life flight to a hospital, where he underwent surgery and remains in critical but stable condition.

Deputy Anderson is 29 years old and started his law enforcement career with Brookshire Police Department in 2017 and joined the Harris County Sheriff's Office in June 2022. He is currently assigned to patrol District 2 in north Harris County. His twin brother, Jacob Anderson, also works in patrol with HCSO.

“Deputy Anderson builds good relationships through open and friendly communication. He’s easy to work with and is well-liked by his peers,” said his supervisor.

The suspect, Terran Green, was taken into custody Thursday evening after a SWAT standoff in the 15100 block of Silhouette Ridge in northeast Harris County. During the stand-off, Green injured two U.S. Marshal deputies and a Harris County Sheriff's Office deputy. The injured officers are in good condition and have been released from a local hospital. Green has been charged with three counts of Attempted Capital Murder.

Incredible work by HCSO SWAT and our negotiators. We appreciate the assistance from the Houston Police SWAT, FBI Houston, and all our public safety partners.



Fugitive Terran Green clings to the art of a "Rook" as he is brought out of the house where he was hiding.



Authorities tore this house in Humble apart with a "Rook" truck mounted vehicle in the attempt to get fugitive Green to surrender.



Late night News Conference Wednesday night by Sheriff Ed Gonzalez brings the public up-to-date on the manhunt. Also present were Commissioner Rodney Ellis, Houston Police Chief Troy Finner, FBI, US Marshals, and other law enforcement authorities.



Sheriff's Deputy Joseph Anderson

DA files charges against Green; may get 25 yrs to life

The Harris County District Attorney's Office has filed four charges of attempted capital murder of a peace officer against 34-year-old Terran Doral Green for shooting at law enforcement officers on two separate occasions this week, District Attorney Kim Ogg announced.

"Anyone who would shoot at uniformed police officers presents the greatest level of threat to our community," Ogg said. "That kind of person will stop at nothing, and our prosecutors are already working on the case."

Green is accused of shooting a Harris County Sheriff's deputy during a traffic stop on Wednesday. The deputy is expected to survive. During a stand-off in an Humble neighborhood on Thursday night, Green also shot at three other officers, two with the U.S. Marshal Service and one with the Harris County Sheriff's Office.

Assistant District Attorneys Katie Warren, a Division Chief in the DA's Office, and Rebecca Marshall, a Chief in the trial division, assisted with both crime scenes in Humble to aid law enforcement.

"We are very grateful right now that we are not planning four funerals for law enforcement officers," said Warren. "Attempted capital murder of a peace officer means that there was an intent to commit the murder of a peace officer in the line of duty, so those are the most appropriate charges."

Green is expected to be arraigned in a Harris County District Court early next week. Prosecutors for the Harris County District Attorney's Office will ask that Green be held without bail because he is charged with these shootings while he was free on bond for two earlier felonies, aggravated assault of a family member and felon in possession of a firearm.

"The defendant is a habitual offender so we will be filing motions requesting no bond and seeking to deny his bail until we can bring him to trial," said Rebecca Marshall.

Because he is a habitual offender, Green faces a minimum of 25 years in prison and a maximum of life.

Green had history of assaults; was out on bond

Green has five prior felony convictions and has been to prison three times.

He was sentenced to two years for Aggravated Assault with Deadly Weapon but did not serve the full two years.

Green bonded out on April 1 on two other charges. One charge of Aggravated Assault of a Family Member on a \$50,000 bond and a second charge of felony Possession of a Weapon on a \$5,000 bond. His total bond was \$55,000.

In the Aggravated Assault of a Family Member charge, he pulled a gun on his girlfriend and said "I'm going to end you."

D A asked for no bond b u t J u d g e DaSean Jones let him out on the \$55,000 bond. He was supposed to appear in Judge Jones's court but didn't show up.

He forfeited the bond in May, so he was wanted by authorities.



Fugitive Terran Green

☆

SPORTS PAGE

☆

SEASON FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Texans fortunes looking up with new head coach:
All roads lead to Houston for CFP title game in Jan.

It's been a very busy offseason in the NFL and college football.

The Texans appear to have finally found the right head coach when they hired former star linebacker DeMeco Ryans to take over a franchise that has been the laughing stock of the NFL for the last few years.

Ryans was one of the best defensive players in the history of the Texans and when his playing days were finished due to an injury, the former Alabama standout linebacker joined the San Francisco 49ers coaching staff where he moved up the ranks and served as the team's defensive coordinator the last two years. Last year, Ryans' defense was the best in the NFL and featured Defensive Player of the Year Nick Bosa (18.5 sacks).

Texans owner Cal McNair might have gotten this hire right. This team is nowhere near a playoff contender, but General Manager Nick Caserio has been stockpiling talent the last couple of drafts and via free agency. The Texans drafted Ohio State QB C.J. Stroud with the second overall pick in last spring's NFL Draft, then traded for Arizona's the third pick where they snatched Alabama All-American defensive end Will Anderson Jr. Anderson should be an impact player the moment he steps on the field. He's that good, while it might take Stroud some time to adjust to the pro game. Houston fans need to be patient and give Stroud time to adapt to the pro game. While the Texans might not be a playoff team this year, their future is definitely lo™king up and that has to please their fans who have suffered through the Deshaun Watson debacle, and just seven wins over the last two seasons.

Ryans is one of five new head coaches this year. The four others are Frank Reich at Carolina, former Saints head coach Sean Payton at Denver, Shane Steichen at Indianapolis and Jonathan Gannon at Arizona. Steichen was the offensive coordinator of the Eagles, while Gannon was the Eagles' defensive coordinator. Philly will be



KEENEY'S
KORNER
By
MIKE KEENEY

breaking in two new coordinators this year.

Speaking of new beginnings, former Packers QB Aaron Rodgers have moved onto the New York Jets. Jets fans hope Rodgers is the missing link to ending the Jets long playoff drought.

While a lot of attention will be focused on the Texans locally, the national spotlight will be on "H" town come January when NRG Stadium hosts the College Football Playoff (CFP) National Title Game on Monday, Jan. 8.

The Rose Bowl and Sugar Bowl will host the CFP semi-final games, with the winners advancing to Houston for a shot at the title. The Georgia Bulldogs will be looking for a third straight national title and have a very good shot at hitting the trifecta. Head coach Kirby Smart's team returns six offensive and seven defensive starters and their schedule is an easy one.

But the big news in college football during the offseason has been realignment, and boy, have there been some eye-opening moves.

This will be the final season that Texas and Oklahoma will be members of the Big 12. In 2024, they will join the SEC (good luck with that Longhorn and Sooner fans!), while the 2023 season will see the University of Houston, BYU, Central Florida and Cincinnati join the Big 12. UH's entry into the Big 12 has been long overdue and let's hope they are prepared to make the move up from the AAC. In 2024, the Big 12 will expand to 16 teams as Arizona, Arizona State, Colorado

and Utah join the conference. Four other Pac 12 schools, UCLA, USC, Oregon and Washington will join the Big 10. That leaves only four teams left in the Pac 12, which means that league, which has been in existence since 1915, is pretty much dead.

While the expansion might be good for college football, it's going to be a logistical nightmare for other sports, such as baseball, softball, swimming, volleyball and other lesser sports. Travel is going to be brutal. Think about it. The UCLA volleyball team could very well have to play to Columbus, OH on a Tuesday for a conference game against Ohio State. That's not fair to the student-athletes who will have to deal with the travel and lost time in the classroom.

But that's a matter for athletic directors and school presidents to handle. This space is dedicated to looking ahead to the 2023 college and pro football seasons, so let's get started.

We will start with the college game and the Big 12.

Third-year Texas head coach Steve Sarkisian is coming off an 8-5 season and has assembled a ton of talent in Austin. UT returns 10 offensive starters and six defensive starters. The only starter not returning is a big one as running back Bijan Robinson (1,580 rushing yards, 20 total TDs) as he has taken his talents to the Atlanta Falcons. If second-year starting QB Quinn Ewers has progressed and matured as the reports out of Austin say he has, the UT offense should be in good hands. Ewers had his ups and downs as a redshirt sophomore last

year, passing for 2,177 yards with 15 TDs and six interceptions. If the 'Horns get the Ewers who tossed four TDs in a 49-0 win over OU they should be the team to beat in the Big 12. If they get the Ewers who threw three picks in a 41-34 loss at Oklahoma State, then the race will be on for the conference title. Ewers has a lot of weapons returning in the passing game in wide receivers Xavier Worthy (60 receptions, 760 yards, 9 TDs) and Jordan Whittington (50 receptions, 652 yards, 1 TD) and tight end Ja'Tavion Sanders (54 receptions, 613 yards, 5 TDs). The UT defense will be led by linebacker Jaylon Ford (119 tackles in 2022).

Look for Texas Tech to be a dark horse in the Big 12 this year. Second-year head coach Joey McGuire led the Red Raiders to an 8-5 season in his first year in Lubbock and culminated it with a dominating 42-25 win over Ole Miss in the Texas Bowl. Tech returns veteran QB Tyler Shough (1,304 passing yards and 7 TDs in 7 games), a solid runner in Tahj Brooks (691 yards, 7 TDs) and a big-play receiver in Jerand Bradley (51 receptions, 744 yards, 6 TDs). The Red Raiders return eight offensive and six defensive starters and McGuire has been a recruiting machine his first two years in the Hub City. Shough is 8-0 as a starter.

You have to figure Oklahoma will rebound from its 6-7 disaster of a season, if not, head coach Brent Venables seat could get hot. Other teams that should contend for the Big 12 title include last year's champ Kansas State, and TCU, which finished 13-2 and reached the CFP Title Game where they were walloped 65-7 by Georgia.

The SEC looks like it should be a three-team race between defending national champion Georgia (15-0 in 2022), Alabama (11-2) and LSU (10-4).

As stated earlier, Georgia returns a load of experience on both sides of the ball, except at QB where Carson Beck (310 yards, 4 TDs in 7 games of mop up duty) will be given the first shot to replace two-year starter Stetson Bennett IV. Beck has a strong arm and Georgia fans have been waiting for him to take over the offense. He will have plenty of help as running backs Kenny McIntosh (328 yards, 3 TDs/22 receptions,

242 yards, 2 TDs) and Daijun Edwards (769 yards, 7 TDs) and All-American tight end Brock Bowers (63 receptions, 942 yards, 7 TDs) should make his transition to the starting an easy one. Bowers has the talent to be the next big tight end at the next level. In his first seven seasons in Athens, Smart has forged an 80-15 record (84% winning percentage), two national titles and three trips to the CFP title game.

Alabama and head coach Nick Saban don't like playing second fiddle to anyone in the SEC, especially Smart, who was Saban's defensive coordinator for a number of years. The Crimson Tide lost its two best players to the NFL, in QB Bryce Young (3,328 yards, 32 TDs) and linebacker Will Anderson Jr. (51 tackles, 17 for loss, 10 sacks), but the cupboard isn't bare in Tuscaloosa. The big question mark is who will replace Young. Saban has three candidates in Jalen Milroe (297 yards, 5 TDs), Ty Simpson and former Notre Dame QB Tyler Buchner (651 yards, 3 TDs). Milroe served as Young's backup a year ago and had a big day in 'Bama's win over Arkansas when Young left with a shoulder injury, but he struggled against A&M, so the verdict is still out on whether or not he can handle the starting job. The Tide returns The Woodlands product Jace McClellan (655 yards, 7 TDs) at running back and solid receivers Ja'Cory Brooks (39 receptions, 674 yards, 8 TDs) and Jermaine Burton (40 receptions, 677 yards, 7 TDs). Linebacker Dallas Turner (37 tackles, 8 for loss, 4 sacks) and cornerback Kool-Aid McKinstry (35 tackles, 1 interception, 15 passes defended) will lead the way on defense.

LSU surprised everyone by winning the SEC West in head coach Brian Kelly's first year as the Tigers head coach. The Tigers return a strong nucleus led by dual-threat QB Jayden Daniels (2,913 passing yards, 17 TDs/885 rushing yards, 6 TDs) and stud linebacker Harold Perkins (72 tackles, 7.5 sacks as a true freshman).

While LSU was the surprise team of the SEC, Texas A&M was the league's biggest disappointment. After starting the year ranked No. 6 in the nation, Jimbo Fisher's team limped to a 5-7 finish. Fisher's seat is getting hot and the Ags need a

turnaround season to keep it from imploding. A&M returns eight offensive and eight defensive starters with hopes the young guys who saw a lot of playing time a year ago have matured. Conner Wiegman (896 yards, 8 TDs) should start under center, but if he struggles, veteran QB Max Johnson (517 yards, 3 TDs) is a capable replacement. Look for Fisher to get speedy wide receiver Aines Smith (15 receptions, 291 yards, 2 TDs in just four games) plenty of looks in the passing and running game. A&M does return two big-play WRs in Evan Stewart (53 receptions, 649 yards, 4 TDs) and Moose Muhammad II (38 receptions, 610 yards, 4 TDs). Muhammad is the son of former Carolina Panthers wide receiver Mushin Muhammad. Both were freshman a year ago.

In the Big 10, it should be another battle between Michigan and Ohio State in the East, while Wisconsin looks like the team to beat in the West. Jim Harbaugh's Wolverines own a two-game winning streak over Ryan Day's Buckeyes and return QB J.J. McCarthy (2,719 yards, 22 TDs) and one of the nation's top backs in Blake Corum (1,463 yards, 18 TDs). OSU has to replace Stroud and his 85 TDs passes over the last two years. Whoever lands the job will have a strong running game to rely on as back Miyan Williams (825 yards, 14 TDs) and Daallan Hayden (553 yards, 5 TDs) return. The Buckeyes have one of the best wide receivers in the country in Marvin Harrison Jr. (77 receptions, 1,263 yards, 14 TDs). Harrison is the son of Hall of Fame wide receiver Marvin Harrison.

Look for USC (11-3), led by Heisman Trophy winning QB Caleb Williams (4,537 passing yards, 42 TDs/382 rushing yards, 10 TDs) to battle Oregon (10-3) and QB Bo Nix (3,593 passing yards, 29 TDs/510 rushing yards, 14 TDs) for the Pac 12 title.

Notre Dame (9-4) and second-year head coach Marcus Freeman could also make some noise this year. The Irish will have Wake Forest transfer Sam Hartman (3,701 yards, 38 TDs) at QB and a strong running game led by Logan Diggs (822 yards, 4 TDs) and Audric Estime (920 yards, 11 TDs).

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NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code that CROSBY BOAT, RV & MINI STORAGE, located at 15118A FM 2100, Crosby Texas 77532, will hold an online sale from August 28th to September 11th until 10:00 o'clock a.m., at the following link <http://wbauctioncrosby.hibid.com/auction/> current to sell for cash only the contents of Unit B-16, Juanita Avalos and K-8, Hope Star in order to satisfy a Landlord's Lien. The property to be sold is Household items and etc.....

31-2T

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 517072; Estate of RICHARD E. (ESPINOZA) LOPEZ Deceased; In Probate Court No. 1 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on AUGUST 14, 2023.

GEORGIA Y. JOHNSON

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 AUGUST 16, 2023

by WESTON COTTEN
Attorney for the Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 517059; Estate of SHERRY L. (LYNN) (CROPPER) CARTER Deceased; In Probate Court No. 3 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on AUGUST 16, 2023.

JUSTIN FAIR

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 AUGUST 21, 2023

by WESTON COTTEN

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 516960; Estate of HELEN LEATRICE (ROE) ROBINSON Deceased; In Probate Court No. 1 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on AUGUST 16, 2023.

DEBRA KNAPPICK

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 AUGUST 21, 2023

by WESTON COTTEN



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IN THE STARS

MILESTONES

BIRTHDAYS

Aug 24–Donche Webb
Alex Catie Maxey
Aug 25–Cameron Adams
Carley Hurta
Curtis Hunter
Catie Rynn Maxey
Alex Russell Maxey
Joshua Stuart
Madie L.White
Aug 26–Derek Elkins
Rebecca Moye
Aug 27–Craig Nelson
Aug 28–Jimmy Fincher
Steve Norris
Aug 29–Alex Creel
Myra Hedger
Pamela Lewis
Aug 30–Tara Hildebrand
Aug 31–Ben Coward
Kelli Rossow
Santrice Shepherd
Gary Lee Slot
Lynn Ray Svec

ANNIVERSARIES

Aug 26– Lee Ward & Jo Ann Hammac
Aug 28–Gilbert & Mei-ing Hoffman
Aug 29–Kent & Barbara Nelson
Aug 30–Gene & Vi Fleming
Aug 31–Glenn & Linda Conard

Crosby bond issue,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

10,000 homes will produce an estimated 4,500 new students to Crosby ISD.

You may wonder what is different in 2023 compared to 2017. The fact is that our bond rating has been upgraded, with Moody’s Investor Services stating the district has a “continued trend of strong operating performance leading to ample and growing reserves.” <https://www.moody.com/research/Moodys-upgrades-Crosby-USD-TXs-Issuer-and-Collateral-Priority-Rating>

I look forward to meeting with many of you as we take our bond proposal on tour and share our vision for the next chapter of Crosby ISD. You can read more now at www.crosbyisd.org/Bond2023.

We are Moving Forward! Go Coogs!

FOOTBALL SCHEDULES

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25

Magnolia West at Barbers Hill, 7 p.m., Eagle Stadium in Mont Belvieu

Crosby at C. E. King, 7 p.m., Panther Stadium in Houston

Humble at Channelview, 7 p.m., Ray Maddry Memorial Stadium in Channelview

Porter at Dayton, 7 p.m., Bronco Stadium in Dayton

Galena Park at Goose Creek Memorial, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium in Baytown

Legacy School of Sport Sciences at Huffman Hargrave, 7 p.m., Falcon Stadium in Huffman

North Shore at The Woodlands, 7 p.m., Woodforest Bank Stadium in Shenandoah

Heart Screening talk,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ther and mother started a foundation, the Cody Stephens Foundation, to provide ECG heart screening to other youth, to detect and avoid the problem that took Cody’s life.

Although still active in his business as a commercial real estate appraiser, nevertheless Scott has devoted his life to raise awareness of this silent killer and help prevent other families from experiencing the loss and heartache of losing a child to SCA.

Since Cody’s death in 2012, the foundation has raised over \$1,000,000 to provide screenings and education in SCA. Over 172,000 young men and

women have been screened, Scott says, and 196 lives saved.

In addition, the foundation has placed over 91 ECG machines in school districts, to help provide screening. This test checks for structural or electrical problems in the heart, and if found a referral to a physician for further help is made.

In 2019 Scott was able to get the Texas Legislature to adopt House Bill 76 (Cody’s football number) with the help of State Representative Dan Huberty and State Senator Carol Alvarado. As a result, every student now has the option of having an ECG heart screening as part of

their athletic physical exam.

SCA or Sudden Cardiac Arrest is a condition in which the heart suddenly and unexpectedly stops beating. If this happens, blood stops flowing to the brain and other vital organs. SCA usually causes death it it’s not treated within minutes. A simple electrocardiogram (ECG or EKG) can detect major causes of SCA.

The Highlands Rotary Club has been a supporter of the Cody Foundation for a number of years, and club President Denise Smith presented Scott Stephens with a check as further indication of this support.

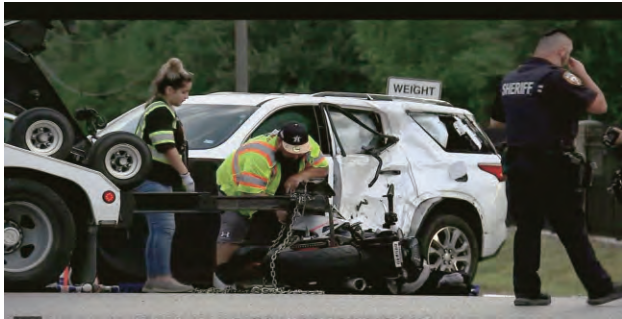
Fatal cycle/SUV crash on 1942 in Crosby

HARRIS COUNTY, — A deadly crash involving a motorcycle and an SUV caused major traffic problems for a Crosby ISD school near FM 1942.

The crash happened at about 5:15 a.m. Monday eastbound at 1599 FM 1942, according to Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez.

A Chevrolet Traverse was traveling northbound on Sralla while the motorcycle was traveling eastbound on FM 1942, according to Major Susan Cotter.

Another vehicle, driving in front of the motorcycle, turned right onto Sralla, but according to Cotter, the motorcycle went around that vehicle while the Traverse



Wrecker drivers attach a chain to the cycle which is lying on the ground. The SUV beyond was involved in the fatal accident.

continued across the intersection. That’s when the two collided.

The motorcyclist was confirmed dead at the scene.

Cotter said the driver of the Traverse had not been drinking. The crash will be presented to the district attorney’s office to determine

if charges will be filed.

Traffic around Barrett Elementary School was moving slow and being diverted to Bohemian Hall Road and Kennings, but according to Gonzalez, eastbound FM 1942 reopened by about 7:40 a.m.

Sheriff conducts successful Runaway Rescue operation

Harris County, TX — August 16, 2023 — Sheriff Ed Gonzalez and the Harris County Sheriff’s Office (HCSO) completed a three-day operation aimed at locating and recovering at-risk runaway youth. From August 10-12, 2023, the collaborative efforts of the Missing Persons Unit, Human Trafficking Unit, Child Abuse Unit, and Crime Reduction Units (CRU) culminated in a comprehensive rescue operation resulting in the successful location of 31 youths.

The goal of this initial operation was to locate and rescue runaway youths ages 12-17 who were susceptible to human trafficking

ing and to ensure the safe return of runaway youth to their parents or guardians in time for the upcoming school year.

Highly trained search teams comprised of uniformed deputies, Human Trafficking and Child Abuse Investigators, were strategically deployed throughout Harris County.

On Friday, Aug. 11, Erika Salazar, 42, was arrested for Harboring a Runaway Child. In another case, through follow-up investigations, deputies were led to a young female located in the state of Louisiana who may be a potential victim of

human trafficking. The HCSO will continue to collaborate with law enforcement agencies locally and in Louisiana to ensure the safety and welfare of this young individual.

Sheriff Ed Gonzalez expressed his gratitude to all the units involved, as well as the dedication and tireless efforts of the deputies and investigators. “Our mission to protect our youth and ensure their safety remains a top priority. This operation demonstrates our commitment to serve and protect our community’s most vulnerable especially as they face potential risks and challenges.”

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