HIGHLANDS Star & Counter

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Rotary Washer Tournament Rotarians and the Public will compete for Prizes this SATURDAY, Sept. 9 starting at 12 noon at Charlie's Ice House. Public Welcome to Play.

VOL. 70, NO. 34 - \$1.00

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HIGHLANDS - An informational meeting was

held at the Highlands Community Center last

Tuesday evening, August

29 with members of the

San Jacinto River Coali-

tion and THEA (Texas

Health and Environment

Jackie Medcalf and Rach-

el Jordan presented infor-

mation on the status of

remediation efforts at the

Northern and Southern

Rachel Jordan was able

to report positive news

about work accomplished

at the Southern site. To

date, since construction

started in November 2022,

approximately 50% of the

toxic waste material has

been removed, amounting

Impoundment sites.

THEA representatives

Alliance.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2023

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

IN THE **STARS**

Waste Pits: Work stalled on Northern site

EPA and Responsible Party disagree on Remediation Criteria

EVENTS Rotary Washer

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

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

and sign in no later than 12:30pm the day of the

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

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

for a Liquor Wagon.

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

Meeting Sep. 12

Election of Board of Constitutional changes. See Ad in this issue.

Tourney set for Sept. 9 Highlands Rotary Club

INVITED TO PARTICIPATE. The Tournament starts

All teams must register

tournament. entry, Double Elimination

Event includes a Raffle

enter or for info. Proceeds benefit the

Rotary Foundation and Polio Plus.

Highlands LL

Directors. Also, proposed

At Baytown Boat Club, 1600 Clear Lake Rd. Highlands, Tuesday, Sept. 12 at 7:00pm. Open to

Annual meeting for

the public.

Star-Courier SOUVENIR EDITION for Crosby 200



This special Souvenir Edition of the STAR-COURIER 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 weekend plus much more.

You are invited to be included with a Congratulations ad! See rates and sizes available on Page 2 of this issue.

Your message will be included in the Time Capsule.



Rachel Jordan of THEA presents information on the measures that the Remediation Contractor will take if the Southern site is threatened by a Hurricane.

to over 2000 truckloads or 58,000 cubic yards, and taken offsite to a licensed disposal facility.

There have been two minor releases of waste water during excavation, Jordan said, in March and

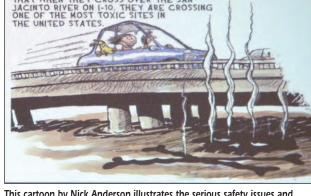
May of this year. In each case, the water was contained and stored properly. Jordan noted that an EPA inspector is present every day to check on proper procedures. This was a major issue with THEA

that was properly resolved. Jordan said that the work was on schedule, to be completed by July 31, 2024. It was also noted that

work is continuing through the hurricane season, which was not the original

plan. However, Jordan explained that EPA had agreed to additional safeguards to stop work and cover open excavations, in

Continued. See WASTE PITS UPDATE, Page 5



This cartoon by Nick Anderson illustrates the serious safety issues and threats to the public's health presented by the existence of the Waste Pits.

CROSBY SUPERINTENDENT:

Town Halls set, to discuss \$85 mn Bond Issue

Hello East Harris County and Crosby ISD families,

We are welcoming you into the month of September and hopefully we can welcome cooler temperatures as well. Last month, we successfully started our new school year, opening our doors to approximately 6,800 students across the district. Thanks to everyone involved with the smooth start.

A couple of weeks ago, the Crosby ISD Board of Trustees approved to call for a bond election in November of this year. Crosby ISD will ask voters to approve an \$85 million dollar bond to build two new schools and perform district-wide maintenance and renovations like HVAC system replace-



SUPERINTENDENT PAULA PATTERSON

ments, roof replacements, and restroom renovations. Soon after the decision was made to go out for a bond, my team and I began working on dates to meet with you concerning the bond package.

We wanted to share the dates and times for those community town halls

plan and have an opportunity to ask questions. Please keep in mind these dates/times are subject to change, but we will communicate with you about any changes that may oc-

Monday, September 11 Indian Shores Homeowners Association Community Clubhouse 20731 Appaloosa Tr., Crosby, TX, 77032

Thursday, September 14 Community Town Hall (Newport) Stonebridge at Newport 16401 Country Club Dr, Crosby, TX 77532

Monday, September 25 Community Town Hall Crosby High School

where you can hear the 333 Red Summit Dr., Crosby, TX, 77532

> Thursday, October 5 Community Town Hall (Crosby) Crosby Community Center 409 Hare Rd, Crosby, TX 77532

> We look forward to seeing many of you and taking your questions as we take our bond proposal on tour. You can find videos, information, and a meetcalendar www.crosbyisd.org/ Bond2023.

Other happenings in the district, our hybrid academic calendar will transition from a five-day instructional week to a four-day instructional week. September 8 is the first student Friday holiday for the fall semester. Students will have Fridays off between September 8, 2023 and April 12, 2024. In mid-April, we transition back to a five-day instructional week through the end of the school year. Teachers will be working one Friday a month, which is designated as a Staff Development Friday. Our goal to create a four-day calendar was to recruit and retain exceptional teachers for our students We have seen the results already. We started the 2022-2023 School Year with 23 teacher vacancies. This year, we had three vacancies. We have also hired many veteran, certified teachers. In the 2022-2023 School Year, we started with 37 first-year teachers who had no experience. This year, we start-

Continued. See CROSBY SUPERINTENDENT, Page 7

Huffman Father charged with murder in son's death

One vehicle truck accident on FM2100; Bond set at \$1 million

HUFFMAN — A father was charged with felony murder after his son died in a one-vehicle crash in northeast Harris County on Saturday, the Harris County Sheriff's Office said.

Deputies were called just before 9 p.m. Saturday to the 23000 block of FM 2100due to the crash. Authorities said Emmanuel Camacho-Patino, 34, was driving while intoxicated and heading north on FM 2100. His rear tire blew out, which caused his GMC Sierra pickup truck to rollover and go into a ditch.

The child was in the passenger seat and not wearing a seatbelt. He was partially thrown from the truck and died at the scene. The driver had minor injuries and was not taken to the hospital.

Camacho-Patino appeared in court Sunday evening. The state attorney asked for a \$1 million bond citing concerns for community safety.

Camacho-Patino's attorney requested a \$20,000 bond, citing the fact that he lives with his wife, has several children and said a blowout caused the accident.



Emmanuel Camacho-Patino

The judge accepted the state attorney's request and issued a \$1 million bond. This crash is still under



Manuel Camacho-Patino

investigation.

"Granted he was 10 years old, so he didn't need a child seat or a booster seat, but

he did need to be restrained with a shoulder and a lap belt and right now from the evidence inside the vehicle it doesn't appear he was wearing that," HCSO Lt. Simon Cheng said.

Investigators later learned that it wasn't a blowout that caused the crash, but the tread cap separated from one of the truck's tires.

A roadside memorial started to grow for Manuel and a GoFundMe account was set up to help the family with expenses.

RACHEL'S DINER

Southern Cooking Buffet -- NOW OPEN 14280 FM 2100 (Across from Walmart) 281-462-7349





WESTON G. COTTEN Attorney at Law O. 281/421-4050 F. 281/533-6032 weston@westoncotten.com

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For ad specs and additional information, please call 713-266-3444 and speak to Gil Hoffman.

Once in a lifetime opportunity to advertise

your business in a keepsake edition!

Attention!

Highlands Little League
will be holding an annual general membership meeting and elections for the

2023-2024 Board of Directors
at 7:00 pm on Tuesday September 12, 2023
at the Baytown Boat Club.
1600 Clear Lake Rd, Highlands, TX 77562

This meeting is open to the public and anyone who lives within the HLL boundaries. Anyone that wants to help make a difference in the lives of our youth can be elected to serve on the board of directors.

Scan the QR code to see the following proposed HLL Constitution changes that will be voted on at this meeting.

HC CONSTABLE PCT. 3 HOLDS CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

For the last 6 weeks Precinct 3 has hosted our first Citizens Police Academy and we must say it's been a blast! Each Wednesday evening community members have dedicated their time to learning about what happens "behind the badge". Our instructors have outlined subject matter to be discussed and experienced weekly including air boat rides, firearms simulations, dog bite and search demonstrations, taser taser taser (yes...a deputy volunteered to ride the lightning), trying out and trying on the Crime Interdiction Units gear and equipment, not

to mention a fish fry on the river. We've made new friends who are now family and hope they've enjoyed our classes as much as we've enjoyed teaching them. We're excited to continue this and hope to see you in our next Citizens Police Academy, Behind The Badge!

We want to especially thank Tom S Ramsey, PE, Harris County Precinct 3 Commissioner's Office and Precinct 3, Place 2 Judge Lucia Bates for their continued support of our community and our department. It's takes teamwork to make the dream work!



Pct. 3 Commissioner Ramsey presents a Certificate to Constable Sherman Eagleton



Constable Eagleton and Judge Lucia Bates



 $\label{lem:constable} \textbf{Judge Bates and Constable Eagleton with the Citizens Police Academy class.}$



Judge Bates presenting instructional information, as Commissioner Ramsey and Constable Eagleton listen.



Citizens Police Academy class on a field trip with Officers that are part of the Instruction team.



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THE MONTROSE CENTER (713) 529-0037



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VOL. 28, NO. 34

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2023

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

ON THE HILL

Mont Belvieu Chamber Sept. 19 Meeting

MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON: SMALL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19,

2023
NEW LOCATION THIS
MONTH ONLY
WEST SIDE COMPLEX
COMMUNITY BUILDING
8138 FM 3246, COVE, TX

10:30AM - 12:00PM SMALL BUSINESS EXPO Visit local small business vendors and learn ways to partner with and support them. 12:00PM CHAMBER

LUNCHEON BEGINS
Special guest speaker B.J.
Simon, President/CEO,
Baytown/West Chambers
County Economic Development

Foundation. 1:00PM SMALL BUSINESS EXPO WRAP-UP Individual Tickets \$45 Table of 8 \$300

Small Business Vendor Booth \$150 Includes 2 meals & special recognition REGISTER: HERE

mbac.net/smallbiz or: Ashley@mbac.net or 281-576-



Galena Park Defeats Baytown Goose Creek Memorial -Yellowjackets 14, Patriots 13

By Allan Jamail
August 25, 2023 the
Galena Park Yellowjackets
opened the season with a
close game by nudging by
the home team GC
Memorial Patriots 14-13 in
a defensive battle.

Spiro Amarantos, Yellowjackets Head Coach/ Athletic Director a former player for the Yellowjackets is in a tough district. He's brought improvements to the program and is looking to make more positive changes in the future. He's always had a tough defense and this season is no different.

The Jackets ran against a strong Patriots defense for 247 yards and passed for 41 with a decent game total of 288 yards.

Galena Park's offense: Jordan Balderas, Galena Park, senior running back led the rushing game with 10 carries for 95 yards, averaging 9.5 yds per carry. Joshua Williams, a GP senior had a good running game with 12 carries for 104 yards, averaging 8.6 yds per carry, Daniel Gomez, 7 carries for 17 yds., Edgar Cortes, 2 carries for 1 yd. & Christian Giron, 7 carries for 30 yds.

Defense solo tackles were made by Isael Barboza – 15, Isai Merian –

Ian Barboza - 11,
Sebastian Bernal – 10,
Vincent Lopez – 9, Aubrey
Joseph – 8, Matthias
Valenzuela – 6, Diego
Quintanilla – 5, Adrian
Eguia - 4, & Kendall
Combs- 4. These same
players each made
numerous assisted tackles.

Joint Operation Results in Multiple Arrests

CHAMBERS COUNTY - Sheriff Brian Hawthorne reports that on Au-31, 2023 gust Chambers County Sheriff's Deputies with the Covert Investigations Unit worked a directed enforcement operation in the area on SH 146 and Interstate 10 after receiving multiple complaints in the area.

In conjunction with the Mont Belvieu Police Department, the operation ran for just 4 hours and resulted in multiple arrests. Krystal Shelton of

In Matthew 15:22-28,

we encounter a mother

who, as a Canaanite, has

no right to ask Jesus for

anything. Jesus reminds

her of this in verse 24 when

He says, "I was not sent

except to the lost sheep of

the house of Israel." None-

theless, she humbles her-

self, worships Him, and

begs again that He deliver

her daughter from demon

possession. Once more He

responds, "It is not good to

take the children's bread

and throw it to the little

dogs." (The "dogs" refer-

ence was not critical of her;

it's simply a reference to

up. Her answer? "Yes,

Lord, yet even the little

dogs eat the crumbs which

fall from their masters' ta-

ble." With these words,

She still refuses to give

her not being a Jew.)









Baytown was arrested on active warrants and possession of a controlled substance in the 9000 block of SH 146, Sandra Wyman of Houston was arrested for prostitution in the 9000 block of SH 146, and Tiffany Kinney of Baytown was arrested for prostitution in the 10000 block of SH 146.

We anticipate many more joint operations in the future and want to thank the Mont Belvieu Police Department for their assistance in making this a success.

THOUGHTS FROM HILLSIDE CHURCH

By Dr. Mark Trice



Great Faith

this mother suddenly has Jesus' focused attention. Verse 28: "Then Jesus answered and said to her, 'O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire.' And her daughter was healed from that very hour."

"Great is your faith!"
Have you ever noticed how
few times Jesus said those
words? Twice. Exactly two
times, here and in Matthew 8:5-13, He referred to
someone as having great

faith, and in both cases the person in question was not a Jew. That alone is worthy of note. He never even told one of His own disciples, "You have great faith!" What made the difference? What do we see illustrated in this mother's story?

1. Great faith seeks God. The very act of seeking God builds our faith, and when we have great faith we automatically go to the Source because we

know He has the answer.
2. Great faith is persis

2. Great faith is persistent when others don't know what you're going through. This woman was nothing but an irritant to the disciples, but she was a loving mother who was desperate to see her daughter healed and convinced that Jesus could heal her - and she wasn't prepared to give up.

3. Great faith is always tied to worship. Worship requires humility. It demands that we admit our own natural unworthiness and exalt the One we're worshipping.

4. Great faith lays aside pride, jealousy, hurt, hard feelings...and simply focuses on getting to God. Anything that weighs us down or distracts our attention is kicked to the curb so that it cannot stand between us and Him.

5. Great faith understands that the crumb cannot be separated from the main source. This mother understood that, though it was only a small piece, the crumb was still bread. She knew that Jesus' power was an almighty power even if it were expressed in eight simple words: "Let it be to you as you desire." And it was.

www.myhillsidefamily.com @myhillsidefamily

Happily Ever Aften Boutique Grand Opening



Pictured left to right: Karla Opryshek, Carmen Parris, Jacob Butler, Destiny Whitener, Aften Whitener, Hannah Hernandez, Mike Nebgen, Miranda Dippel, Tammy Moyers, Jackie McDowell

BAYTOWN - Happily Ever Aften, located at 4665 Garth Road, Suite 300A, celebrated their Grand Opening with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony with the Baytown Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors and staff.

Baytown Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors and Member Services Director, Tammy Moyers, joined Happily Ever Aften Owner, Aften Whitener, her daughter Destiny, future son-in-law, Jacob Butler, Manager, Hannah Hernandez and Sales Associate, Miranda Dippel for the ribbon cutting ceremony of their new store-front in the Baytown Village Shopping Center. After the ribbon cutting, Aften was presented with a certificate signed by Senator Ted Cruz congratulating her on her small business success.

Located at 4665 Garth Road, Suite 300A, Happily Ever Aften offers fashion-forward styles and accessories at affordable prices for the woman who follows trends, and for the one who sets her own. With new merchandise arriving often, their selec-

tion is constantly changing and evolving. Happily Ever Aften's stylish clientele can wear their clothing with the confidence that their wardrobe is as unique as they are. Happily Ever Aften is beyond excited to introduce their amazing styles in sizes XS – 2X, as well as the entire shopping experience that comes with shopping at the boutique to their customers.

For more information, visit their website at www.happilyeveraften.com or follow them on Facebook.

TEXAS BOOK FESTIVAL



Pictured from Left to Right are staff member Kellee Traylor and ESL teacher Patti Long

The Chambers County Library System has been awarded a \$2,500 grant for its ESL (English as a Second Language) classes from the Texas Book Festival. The Sam and Carmena Goss Memorial Branch currently holds ESL classes weekly, and items purchased with the grant will provide educational support for students in the class. Special thanks to staff member Kellee Traylor who wrote the grant. For more information on classes, contact the library at 281-576-2245.

Free Tickets to the TEXAS RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL See Details on Page 7

OPINION PAGE \bigstar \bigstar



Judge Hidalgo visits the White House about ARPA



When Harris County received nearly \$1.2 billion in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding in 2021, the county decided that the best way to serve residents with these funds was to invest in transformational programs, instead of using the money to plug budget holes. As Harris County approaches its third year of ARPA funding, the county has so far invested nearly \$643 million ARPA dollars. The programs that the county has chosen to invest in have turned the region into a national leader on issues from reducing homelessness to maternal health to early childhood education. Some of the things Harris County has been able to accomplish with ARPA funding include:

- -- Reducing homelessness by 20%
- -- Investing in apprenticeship programs that will help create hundreds of jobs in high-growing, fastpaced industries like construction and IT
- -- Increasing the number of slots available for high-quality child care by 10%
- -- Tackling Harris County's high maternal mortality rates by helping hundreds of mothers receive prenatal care and support through home visitation
- -- Making county buildings and schools safer by establishing a comprehensive lead abatement program

Earlier this summer, Judge Hidalgo visited the White House to share success stories from ARPA programs in Harris County. Investing ARPA funds in big picture programs gives the county the potential to serve constituents for years to come. Thank you to the Biden Administration, the county's federal partners and all the departments here in Harris County that have helped put these programs

\$2.5 Bn Bond Issue Election for Harris Health approved for November ballot

At one time or another, you or someone in your community has received care at Harris Health System. Yet, Lyndon B. Johnson (LBJ) Hospital and Ben Taub Hospital have not undergone significant upgrades or renovations since their initial construction over 30 years ago. Harris County's population has nearly doubled during that time, and both hospitals are currently operating at or over capaci-

In August, Harris County Commissioners Court approved an order for a November 2023 bond election to finance upgrades to the Harris Health System. The \$2.5 billion bond would help fund a Level 1-capable trauma center at LBJ Hospital, which provides the highest level of trauma care to critically ill or injured patients; increase capacity at Ben Taub Hospital by adding approximately 120 patient rooms; and create three new community clinics in high-need areas.

Over the next ten years, the bond is projected to have a minimal impact on the average homeowner with a cost of approximately \$6/month. Learn more about the upcoming bond election by visiting www.harrishealth.org, and visit www.harrisvotes.com before October 10th to register to vote.

County to Invest \$7.2 Million in Homelessness Project

Harris County is leading the way on ending homelessness. Even in the middle of the pandemic, the county and the city, along with the Coalition for the Homeless and other nonprofit partners, have been able to reduce homelessness by almost 20%.

The county is working to reduce it even more. In June, Commissioners Court approved \$7.2 million in American Rescue Plan funding for the Knowles-Rowland House Project, which will create 31 new permanent supportive housing units for people experiencing homelessness. The project will transform the existing gymnasium on the Bread of Life Campus into housing units and provide all residents with supportive services such as transportation so residents can go to job interviews, doctor appointments, and mental health counseling.

The more space provided, especially places that have the support and community that people experiencing homelessness need, the more people the county can help. While this is a proud step forward, there's still more to do. As of last count, over 1,800 people in Harris County live in shelters. The county is making progress, but the fight to end homelessness is not done.



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS **By Gary Borders**

Texans Asked to Conserve Energy in Heat Wave

The agency that operates the power grid for much of the state asked Texans to conserve energy use several times last week as the grid was beset with high demand and low wind-power generation, according to the Austin American-Statesman.

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas has asked electric users to reduce energy use as the state continues to face a tenacious heat wave.

Demand on the grid operated by ERCOT has record levels 10 times this summer. The system has held up to the strain to this point. Any outages across the state have been local and caused by other reasons other than demand on the grid, such as downed power lines or blown transformers.

ERCOT is calling on large electric customers to voluntarily cut consumption during peak periods and is working with out-of-state power operators to secure additional power generation capacity.

In addition, two "virtual power plants" are now able to provide power to the grid, according to the Public Utility Commission of Texas. According to the PUC, "The pilot project tests how consumerowned, small energy devices, such as battery energy storage systems, backup generators, and controllable Electric Vehicle (EV) chargers, can be virtually aggregated and participate as a resource in the wholesale electricity market, strengthening grid reliabili-

The two pilot projects underway involve Tesla customers who have electric storage systems in their homes and have agreed to sell their surplus power in the ERCOT

WILDFIRE DANGER REMAINS **HIGH IN TEXAS**

The Texas A&M Forest Service continues to respond to requests for assistance on wildfires across the state as dry weather continues. Currently there are four active fires, the largest being the Shearwood Creek Fire in Jasper County. As of Sunday it had burned 3,000 acres and was 70% contained.



had burn bans in place. Meanwhile, a helicopter delivering water to the 150-acre Barth Fire in Caldwell County almost collided with a drone being flown by someone not with the agency. It came within feet of the helicopter.

"Pilots have no way to detect a drone or know there is one present in the airspace until they see it," said Jared Karns with the forest service. "Suppression aircraft can respond to wildfires quickly, increasing the likelihood that a new ignition remains a small, manageable wildfire. Utilizing aircraft greatly enhances the state's firefighting efforts, but they have to be able to fly in a safe environment."

Under Federal Aviation Administration rules, all aircraft, including drones, are prohibited from flying over wildfire areas. More than 1,350 wildfires have occurred in the state in July and August to date.

TPWD TRYING TO BUY PROPERTY CONTAINING **STATE PARK**

The commissioners overseeing Texas Parks and Wildlife Department voted unanimously last week to negotiate acquiring the roughly 500 acres that contains Lake Colorado City State Park in Mitchell County. The state has been leasing it from Vistra Corp. for more than 50

Earlier this year, the energy company sold a piece of property that contained Fairfield State Park to a developer, forcing the park's closure.

"This makes all the sense in the world," outgoing commission chairman Arch "Beaver" Alpin III said about the

purchase, according to The Dallas Morning News. "I believe we've had a meeting of the minds on being able to do it. This will allow us to secure one of our parks for the long term and be able to own

The park is located off Interstate 20 about halfway between Sweetwater and Big Spring and offers opportunities for water recreation and outdoor activities for nearly 30,000 visitors annually

JUDGE REJECTS 'INVASION' **DEFENSE IN BUOY SUIT**

A federal judge in Austin rejected the state's assertion that it has the right to install buoys in the Rio Grande because of a "migrant invasion," The News reported.

"We are here for purposes of determining whether this is a barrier to navigation, whether this is a navigable waterway," U.S. District Judge Ezra said.

The U.S. Justice Department has sued the state over the buoys, saying their placement ignored the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, which established that the federal government controls navigable waterways. The state's defense claims the Rio Grande is not navigable in the section where the buoys were installed, near Eagle

COUNTIES CAN'T BAN SOLAR FARMS, AG RULES

An attempt by Franklin County officials to ban solar farms has failed after provisional Attorney General Angela Colmenero ruled that counties don't have specific authority to do so, the Texas Standard reported.

Commissioners in that county voted last year to impose a 180-day moratorium on commercial solar development. They later rescinded it, but the Franklin County attorney asked for an attorney general's ruling.

As elsewhere, some Franklin County residents opposed the solar farms on grounds that trees would be cut down, grasslands destroyed, and wildlife blocked by fences.

WWI NAVAL SHIPWRECK **FOUND IN NECHES RIVER**

The Texas Historical Commission has confirmed a shipwreck found in the Neches River dates to World War I. The wooden-hulled vessel was one of nearly 40 built in Beaumont by the U.S. Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation and abandoned when the war ended.

Many of the 40 vessels were unfinished and often converted to barges or sold for scrap. Designed as steamships, they were nearly 282 feet long.

Many were eventually abandoned in the Neches and Sabine rivers near Orange in the 1920s.

THC said the shipwreck sites are protected under state and federal laws. The latest one became visible as a result of low water levels in the Neches due to drought and the summer heat.



Apple Empanadas

Usually, just as I am getting close to leaving Mexico, I find some absolutely irresistible treat and have to eat it every single day until I leave.

I arrive back in the U.S. a few pounds heavier, wondering how I ever got so carried away. I return to my more or less normal eating habits and more or less normal weight, only to return and discover some new treat across the bor-

This week, it was apple empanadas.

I didn't know what an empanada was. I thought it was a sort of meat sandwich and not something I'd get excited about. That was until Jorge, our benevolent landlord (possibly too benevolent), showed up at our doorstep with a small plate. On the plate were two large, crispy, perfectly browned triangles covered in cinnamon sugar and filled with apples.

"For you!" He explained, unnecessarily. "Empanadas!"

It was midafternoon and not exactly our coffee and pastry hour. (Full disclosure: My husband, Peter, and I didn't have a coffee and pastry hour, although this soon changed.) We cut one of those apple empanadas in half and tried it. And that was pretty much it.

We ate the second empanada. Then, I went downstairs to find Jorge.

Where do we get more of

Jorge laughed and gave me directions, but no address. The next day, I went hunting.

"But only after 2 p.m.!" he warned me.

Jorge said it was near the flower shop. There was a bakery across the street, but I'd been in there, and there were no empanadas.

San Miguel is a historic town, so they don't put up much permanent signage. They will hang a shingle out when they are open and take it down at night. Many times. I have walked right by a business with no way to recognize it after it was closed.

On my first day, I found no sign of empanadas. On the second day, I asked a couple of gringos nearby, and they knew nothing about them. On the third day, I went into the flower shop and asked in Spanish. The owner pointed to the bak-

"No, not the bakery." I told him it was empanadas, specifically, I was looking for.

The people in San Miguel are used to being asked stupid questions. They answer the same stupid questions over and over, and then gringos come up with new ones.

The owner of the flower shop stopped working on the roses at his table. He took me gently by the arm and guided me out the door. I wondered where we were going. He walked directly to the bakery that I had, by now, passed at least half a dozen times.

"Here are empanadas," he told me. Still, I doubted.

I stepped inside. There they

Miraculously, a whole new selection of baked goods had appeared. Because a crispy apple pastry was something I would eat in the morning, I expected them to be there in the morning. But that would be foolish if you wanted to eat them warm and fresh from the oven in the afternoon, as they do in San Miguel.

I got the last two on the tray and brought them home to Pe-

"Now we're in trouble!" I announced as we ate an empanada each.

But, before I went home, I stopped at the flower shop to thank the store owner. The vocabulary I have in Spanish to explain that I am stubborn and pigheaded is limited. And now I think I should do something about that-both the vocabulary and the stubbornness.

Till next time,

Carrie



Entered as Periodicals Class at Highlands Post Office, Highlands, TX 77562. Under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. Published 50 weeks per year, on Thursday, by Grafikpress Corp., 5906 Star Lane, Houston, TX 77057. Opinions in this paper are those of the authors, and not necessarily this newspaper's. Any erroneous statement which may appear

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Henning Sep 17–Johnny & Lana Gaeke Sep 20–Gene & Angie

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Sep 21–Troy & Debbie King

Sep 22–Tim & Ellen Holton Sep 27–Rev. Sam & Jewell Purkhiser



FOOTBALL SCORES & SCHEDULES

LAST WEEK'S SCORES

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31
Baytown Sterling 28,
Brazoswood 23
Conroe 28, Eisenhower 0
Nimitz 54, Cy Ridge 0
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1
Aldine 17, Northbrook 0
Barbers Hill 56, Montgomery 6
C. E. King 45, Allen 28
Clear Brook 35, Baytown Lee 32
Fort Bend Marshall 56, Crosby 7
Davis 59, Cypress Lakes 28
Caney Creek 27, Galena Park 7
Channelview 33, MacArthur 13
Silsbee 41, Huffman Hargrave

North Shore 53, Spring 0 <u>SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2</u> Dayton 49, Waltrip 7 Goose Creek Memorial 26, Bellaire 9

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7
Cy Lakes at MacArthur, 7 p.m.,
Leonard George Stadium in
Spring
LaPorte at Goose Creek
Memorial, 7 p.m., Stallworth
Stadium in Baytown
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
Aldine at Houston Math,
Science, and Tech, 7 p.m., Dyer
Stadium in Houston
Baytown Sterling at Barbers Hill,
7 p.m., Eagle Stadium in Mont
Belvieu
C. E. King at Pearland, 7 p.m.,
Oiler Stadium in Pearland

Channelview at Clear Creek, 7 p.m., Veterans Memorial Stadium
Crosby at Baytown Lee, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium
Eisenhower at Tomball
Memorial, 7 p.m., Tomball ISD
Stadium in Tomball

Eisenhower at Tomball
Memorial, 7 p.m., Tomball ISD
Stadium in Tomball
Montgomery at Dayton, 7 p.m.,
Bronco Stadium in Dayton
Needville at Huffman Hargrave,
7 p.m., Falcon Stadium in
Huffman

North Shore at Westfield, 7 p.m., Planet Ford Stadium in Spring

Splendora at Galena Park, 7 p.m., Galena Park ISD Stadium in Houston Westside at Davis, 7 p.m., Leonard George Stadium in

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 Nimitz at Cy Park, 6 p.m., Berry Center in Cypress

COMMUNITY WATCH

Life Fllight called to Highlands Area

Deputies save brothers from dog attack; shoot and kill animal



Highlands Fire Department prepares one of the victims for transport by Life Flight to hospital.

HIGHLANDS – Authorities said two brothers suffered from injuries last Wednesday morning, August 30 after they were attacked by the family's pit bull in east Harris County. Deputies rescued the boys, but due to its behavior they had to shoot and kill the dog.

According to Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez, the situation took place in the 1100 block of North Battlebell Road in the Highlands area.

It is believed that the two brothers were playing with the dog when it attacked them, according to HCSO.

Medics arrived at the home to tend to the brothers and later called deputies as the dog continued its aggressive behavior at the scene.



Dog Attack occured at this house on North Battlebelll Road in Highlands.

One of the men suffered such horrendous injuries that he had to be transported to the hospital by LifeFlight to Memorial Hermann Hospital. He is said to be stable at last check.

When authorities arrived on the scene, Gonzalez said an HCSO Sergeant had to shoot the dog due to its aggressive behavior.

Knifepoint Robbery on FM2100 in Crosby

CROSBY – Crime Stoppers and the Harris County Sheriff's Office need the public's assistance identifying the suspect responsible for an Aggravated Robbery Deadly Weapon.

On Sunday, June 4, 2023, at approximately 5:08 p.m., an unknown suspect robbed a business in the 14000 block of FM 2100 Rd. in Crosby, Texas.

During the incident, the suspect followed the victim back into the business, produced a



Get-Away Truck leaving the scene

knife, and held it to the victim's child abdomen and demanded money and phones. The suspect fled the location in an unknown direction of travel. The suspect was observed on surveillance

prior to the incident exiting the passenger side of a mid-90's white Chevrolet pick-up truck.

Crime Stoppers may pay up to \$5,000 for information leading to the identification, charging and/or arrest of the suspect in this case. Information may be reported by calling 713-222-TIPS (8477), submitted online at www.crimestoppers.org or through the Crime

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app. Only tips and calls DIRECTLY TO Crime Stoppers are anonymous and eligible for a cash reward.



Shift Towards Adoption Of Shelter Dogs Over Purebred Purchases in Texas

In the past, the sight of purebred dogs like Dachshunds, Boston Terriers, and French Bulldogs was common in American neighborhoods. However, recently a notable shift in consumers' preferences has steered away from these purebreds despite their previous popularity.

For some, the exorbitant cost of purebred dogs, which can reach up to \$10,000 for breeds such as Rottweilers and Chow Chows, is a considerable deterrent. For others, the concern is over health issues commonly associated with purebreds. English Bulldogs and Pugs, for instance, are often plagued with respiratory problems. Also, many individuals also feel a moral obligation to provide homes to shelter dogs.

Bone Voyage Dog Rescue recently conducted a study revealing a significant shift towards adopting shelter dogs over purchasing purebreds from breeders. A survey of 3,000 potential dog owners in Texas revealed that an impressive 46% of them expressed an intent to adopt from shelters, marking a 6% swing towards possible shelter dog ownership when contrasted with older data from the Humane Society of the United States, which indicated that 40% of pet dogs in households were previously shelter dogs.

"This increasing trend towards shelter dog adoption promises substantial improvements in the welfare of homeless animals. The shift could lead to a decrease in the number of dogs in shelters, as more are adopted," says Annette Thompson, Executive

Director of Bone Voyage Dog Rescue, when commenting on the study.

A state-by-state analysis of the survey data revealed the strongest preference for shelter dog adoption is in Nebraska, with a remarkable 81% expressing a preference for shelter dogs over purebred breeds.

Interactive map showing survey results in each state (click on 'embed' to host)

In a complementary study, Bone Voyage Dog Rescue used Google Search trends to understand the public's interest in shelter dogs over the past year. The insights from Google mirrored the survey data, reinforcing the shift towards shelter dog ownership.

Among the top 25 states most interested in 'shelter dog adoption', 22 demonstrated a marked shift towards this preference, as per the survey data. Wyoming, for instance, had the highest proportion of shelter dog searches, reflecting its second-place ranking in the survey. Similarly, Texas ranked 25th in Google searches for shelter dogs, aligning with its position in the survey for those most likely to adopt a shelter dog.

The rising trend of shelter dog adoption holds considerable potential for improving animal welfare in the US. This shift could have multi-faceted benefits, creating a ripple effect that extends beyond the lives of the individual dogs adopted.

Decreasing the number of dogs residing in shelters is a primary benefit. With more dogs finding homes, the overall population in shelters would shrink. Consequently, shelters would have more resources available per animal, including space, staff attention, and medical care. This shift would result in better living conditions for the remaining animals while reducing the strain on shelter resources.

Secondly, an increase in the adoption of shelter dogs could influence the supply-demand dynamics of the pet industry. If consumers choose adoption over purchasing from breeders, it might discourage unethical breeding practices, including those prevalent in puppy mills. This change would further contribute to enhancing animal welfare on a larger scale.

Finally, each adopted dog's individual quality of life would likely see significant improvements. Home environments typically offer more space, personal attention, and stability than shelters. Adopted dogs receive consistent care, training, and socialization opportunities, leading to better physical health and behavioral outcomes. This transformation enriches the adopted dog's life and can bring immeasurable joy and companionship to the family adopting. "This rising trend of adop-

Ints rising trena of adoption not only promises a brighter future for shelter dogs but also signifies a broader cultural shift towards responsible pet ownership and empathy towards animal welfare," adds Thompson. "The data certainly supports the trend, and it's a trend that would have immense impact across the animal welfare field."

Waste Pits Update,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the event a hurricane is likely to reach the work

TROUBLE AT NORTHERN SITE

site.

Jackie Medcalf had to report that the situation at the Northern Impoundment site was quite different that the Southern site. EPA and the RP (Responsible Party) are in disagreement on the details of the Remedial Design. Although the parties signed off on a Record Of Decision (ROD) 6 years ago, subsequent tests and design and safety issues have delayed the RP from agreeing to

proceed.

Issues that have not been resolved include the criteria level for toxic material to remain, dewatering systems, depth of sheeti piling, and the dangers of uplift if the river water level and pressure are too high.

EPA has told the RP that there proposal is "not what we agreed on" in the ROD, and asked for an independent technical review by a third party engineer to make recommendations.



Sometimes presenters need a little help. In this case, Jackie Medcalf gets help from her daughter Elizabeth.

It was also learned in the THEA presentation that with the work proposal for the Northern Impoundment seemingly stalled, that EPA has referred the matter to its legal department for possible assumption of responsibility for executing the work. EPA rules allow them to take over remediation if the RP is found to not be responsive.

Frustrated by the long delay, Jackie Medcalf suggested that it was time for residents to mount an "issue based campaign" to pressure the parties to resolve the problems and move forward.

I-10 REPLACEMENT BRIDGE

In other matters, it was announced that TXDOT has scheduled public meetings on September 19 and 21 to display details on the proposed bridge over the San Jacinto River to replace the existing bridge and highway lanes. It was noted that this design may have a major impact on the Waste Pits, both during construction and afterward depending upon its right-of-way design. More information will be available after the meetings. Medcalf said.

It was noted that the Cancer Study by the Texas State Health Services Department had not been updated in many years, and Medcalf said that THEA will ask for a new study. She said that previous data showed at least 17 types of cancer that are unusually high in the study area around the waste pits.

THEA has scheduled the next public meeting for Tuesday, November 14 where information on all these issues will be updated.

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PAGE SPORTS

SEASON FOOTBALL WEEK 2

Texas looks to future when it visits Alabama on Saturday: DeMeco Ryans makes head coaching debut at Baltimore

It's going to be quite a weekend for football fans.

The NFL begins its 103rd season when the defending Super Bowl champion Kansas City Chiefs host the Detroit Lions on Thursday

On Sunday, Houston Texans first-year head coach DeMeco Ryans makes his debut as an NFL head coach when he takes his Texans to Baltimore to take on the Ravens and dual-threat quarterback Lamar Jackson.

Week 1 has a number of interesting matchups as Miami will visit the Los Angeles Chargers in what could be an offensive showcase. Both teams are loaded with weapons on that side of the football so that game should be a must see for pro football fans.

The Dallas Cowboys will visit The Meadowlands to take on their NFC East rivals the New York Giants on Sunday Night Football. This game will feature two teams that qualified for the playoffs a year ago as the Cowboys finished 12-5, dominated Tampa Bay in the Wild Card round, before following to their playoff nemesis San Francisco in the Division Playoffs. The Giants won at Minnesota in the Wild Card, before being blown out by Philadelphia the following

Week 1 concludes with Monday Night Football on the 22nd anniversary of 9-11 as the Buffalo Bills will take on Aaron Rodgers and the New York Jets in an AFC

In the college game, No. 23ranked Texas A&M travels to South Beach to take on the Miami Hurricanes in an important game for both teams. The Aggies and 'Canes both finished 5-7 a year ago and want and it's important that both teams get off to solid starts in 2023 or their head coaches could start feeling the



The Game of the Week will take place in Tuscaloosa when No. 11-ranked Texas takes on No. 4ranked Alabama. A year ago, the Longhorns gave the Tide all it could handle before 'Bama escaped with a 20-19 win in Austin. Texas will get a taste of what life will be like in the SEC as they move into the nation's best football conference (along with Oklahoma) next season.

So, without further ado, let's take a look at what this weekend has to offer.

NCAA

Texas A&M at Miami: As stated earlier, this is a key earlyseason game for both teams. The Aggies had a disappointing 5-7 season in 2022, while the Hurricanes finished with a similar record. A year ago, the Aggies earned a hard-fought 17-9 win at Kyle Field. There should be more offense this time around now that the Aggies have given the QB job to sophomore Conner Weigman (896 yards, 8 TDs). Weigman has two quality wide receivers in fellow sophomores Evan Stewart and Moose Muhammad II, but the key to the Aggie offense this year will be the health of speedy wideout/ running back Ainias Smith. Smith played in just four games a year ago and he is back to full speed. That's good news for Jimbo Fisher's team and could be bad news for the 'Canes defense. The A&M defense will get tested by returning QB Tyler Van Dyke (1,835 yards, 10 TDs) and running back Henry Parrish Jr. (616 yards, 4 TDs). Look for the A&M defense to be the difference maker in this one as Fisher's team picks up a big early-season road win. My pick, Texas A&M 27, Miami 20

Texas at Alabama: This should be a good one as Steve Sarkisian returns to his old stomping grounds (he served as Nick Saban's offensive coordinator before departing for the 40 Acres three years ago) with a team many think can not only win the Big 12 this year, but also contend for a spot in the College Football Playoffs. UT's offense will go as far as QB Quinn Ewers (2,177 yards, 15 TDs) takes it. He has a stud at wide receiver in Xavier Worthy (60 receptions, 760 yards, 8 TDs) and a host of other talented pass catchers. Texas must find a replacement for running back Bijan Robinson, and Sark has a stable of backs to choose from. The Texas offense will get a big test against a solid "Bama defense. Saban has three choices at QB in returning backup Jalen Milroe (397 yards, 5 TDs, Ty Simpson and Notre Dame transfer Tyler Buchner (651 yards, 3 TDs in just 3 starts). Look for Saban to call on veteran running back Jase McClelan (655 yards, 7 TDs) to get a lot of work as the QBs settle into their roles. Look for UT to give the Tide a game, but the home crowd and 'Bama' defense will be the difference maker come Saturday. My pick, Alabama 23, Texas 20

Lions would like nothing more than to spoil the Chiefs Super Bowl celebration in front of a national TV audience on Thursday night. Good luck with that, Detroit fans. But seriously, the Lions finished as one of the hottest teams in the NFL last year, winning seven of their last nine games and closed the season with a win at Green Bay that knocked the Packers out of the playoffs. The Detroit offense will give the KC defense problems as QB Jared Goff (4,438 yards, 29 TDs) and wide receiver Aman-Ra St. Brown (106 receptions, 1,161 yards, 6 TDs) will give the KC secondary fits. The Lions have a new backfield as Jamaal Williams (New Orleans) and D'Andre Swift (Philly) have departed and have been replaced by former Bear David Montgomery (801 yards, 5 TDs) and rookie Jahmr Gibbs (926 rushing yards, 7 TDs/44 receptions, 444 yards, 3 TDs at Alabama). The Chiefs have a pretty good offense as well led by league and Super Bowl MVP Patrick Mahomes (5,250 yards, 41 TDs) and tight end Travis Kelce (110 receptions, 1,338 yards, 12 TDs). You know head coach Andy Reid will have a few tricks up his sleeve to get others involved in his offense. This should be a good season opener, with the Chiefs' offense leading the way. My pick, Kansas City 33, Detroit 24

Detroit at Kansas City: The

Houston at Baltimore: The Texans begin the DeMeco Ryans era with a tough season opener when they face a solid Baltimore team on the road. No. 2 overall pick C.J. Stroud will make his first NFL start in a very hostile environment. Stroud, who threw 85 TD passes in two years as the starter at Ohio State, progressed nicely in the pre-season, but he will face a stern test in his pro debut against a very good Ravens defense. He will need a big day from running back Dameon Pierce (939 yards, 4 TDs) and a coming out party for third-year WR Nico Collins (37 receptions, 481 vards, 2 TDs in 10 games). The Houston defense, which should be much improved under Ryans tutelage,

will face a healthy Lamar Jackson (2,242 yards, 17 TDs/764 rushing yards, 3 TDs in just 8 games) who can be a handful. He still has dependable tight end Mark Andrews (73 receptions, 847 yards, 5 TDs) to throw too, as well as newly-acquired Odell Beckham, Jr. Look for the Texans to give Baltimore a game, but Jackson will be the deciding factor late. My pick, Baltimore 26, Houston 20

Miami at Los Angeles Chargers: If you are a fan of highscoring games, this should be right up your alley. This game will feature two of the top offenses in the league with a boatload of offensive talent on both teams. The Dolphins are hoping that QB Tua Tagovaila (3,545 yards, 25 TDs in 13 games) is fully recovered from the concussions that derailed his 2022 season. He has two explosive wide receivers in Tyreek Hill (119 receptions. 1,710 yards, 7 TDs) and Jaylen Waddle (75 receptions, 1,356 yards, 8 TDs) to throw to and two solid running backs in Raheem Mostert and Jeff Wilson Jr. The Chargers have perhaps the best overall running back in the NFL in Austin Ekeler (915 rushing yards, 13 TDs/107 receptions, 722 yards, 5 TDs) and a top-flight QB in Justin Herbert (4,739 yards, 25 TDs). Herbert still has veteran WR Keenan Allen (66 receptions, 752 vards 4 TDs) to throw to as well. This should be a fun game to watch. Look for Herbert to make one or two more plays than Tua to lead the Chargers to the win. My pick, Los Angeles Charger 34,

Dallas at New York Giants: Nothing like starting your season with a key division game right off the bat, but that's the scenario facing the Cowboys and Giants as they meet on Sunday Night Football in an NFC East battle. Dallas begins the season with a new running back as Tony Pollard (1,007 rushing yards, 9 TDs/39 receptions, 371 yards, 3 TDs) is now the starter as former starter Ezekiel Elliott was released in the offseason and signed with New England. Dak Prescott (2,860 yards, 23 TDs/15 interceptions) is

still the starting QB and if the Cowboys are to move past the Division round, Prescott must cut down on the turnovers. He has plenty of weapons at wide receiver led by CeeDee Lamb (107 receptions, 1,359 yards, 9 TDs), Michael Gallup and former Texans WR Brandin Cooks (57 receptions, 699 yards, 3 TDs). Dallas has a solid defense led by Micah Parsons. That unit will get tested by Giants QB Daniel Jones (3,205 passing yards, 15 TDs/708 rushing yards, 7 TDs) and speedy running back Saquon Barkley (1,312 yards, 10 TDs). The Giants offense should also get a boost with the acquisition of former Raiders tight end Darren Waller. Look for the Dallas defense to be the difference maker in this one as the Cowbovs get a big road win to start the season. My pick, Dallas 23, New

Buffalo at New York Jets: The Aaron Rodgers era for the Jets begins on Monday Night Football with a key AFC East contest against the Buffalo Bills. Rodgers (3,695 yards, 26 TDs in Green Bay last year) give the Jets a bonafide quarterback, something they have badly missed over the last few seasons. He won't be a one-man team. He has a solid running game in former Vikings Dalvin Cook (1,173 yards, 8 TDs) and secondyear man Breece Hall (463 rushing yards, 4 TDs/19 receptions, 218 yards, 1 TD in 7 games). He also has the reigning NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year in speedy wideout Garrett Wilson (83 receptions, 1,103 yards, 4 TDs). The Jets also have a top 10 defense. That unit will get a stern test from Buffalo QB Josh Allen (4,283 passing yards, 35 TDs/762 rushing yards, 7 TDs) and a bigplay wide receiver in Stefon Diggs (108 receptions, 1,429 yards, 11 TDs). The Bills need to do better running the football and they will put their running game in the hands of James Cook (Dalvin's younger brother) and former Patriot Damien Harris. Look for Rodgers to give the Jets fans something to crow about as his Jets debut is a successful one. My pick, New York Jets 26, Buffalo 24

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Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 517186; Estate of PEGGY MARIE (TUBB) GOBLE Deceased; In Probate Court No. 2 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on AUGUST 24, 2023

JENNIFER LEIGH GASKEY

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 28, 2023

by WESTON COTTEN Attorney for the Estate

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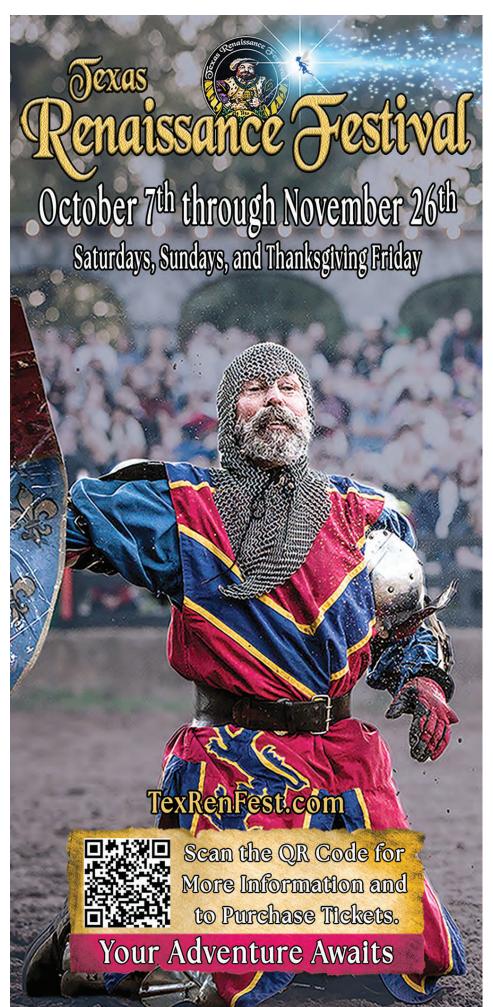
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Crosby Superintendent,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ed with eight first-year teachers, and those teachers, who are starting their careers with Crosby ISD, are being teamed with a mentor educator who will guide them during their first year.

I want to brag a little about our Curriculum and Instruction team here in Crosby ISD. They organized a District-wide professional development day for our staff just before the School Year started in August. The inaugural "CougarCon" wasconference-style day during which staff members chose their own schedule of classes. The learning sessions ranged from drug awareness to customer service training. Deputies were also here to train educators on "Stop the Bleed"

techniques. We also learned how to train students as helpers for the Houston Food Bank programs that are expanding in Crosby ISD. I sat in on several sessions and was blown away by our staff's ability to be lead learners.

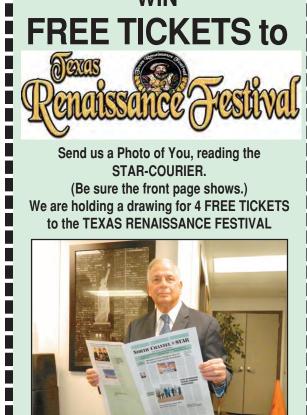
We are looking forward to the Crosby Bicentennial Celebration coming up Saturday, September 23. Crosby is celebrating its 200th birthday, making it one of the top 13 oldest towns in Texas. Crosby ISD students will be participating in the parade and festival that day at the Crosby Fairgrounds. The parade starts at 10am and the festival runs from noon-6pm. The District will have a booth, so come on by and say hi.

Mark your calendars! Crosby ISD's Homecoming Week will be October 9-13. We'll battle Baytown Sterling at Cougar Stadium on Friday, October 13. I look forward to seeing fellow alumni who may be out celebrating their class reunions that night. We Crosby High School graduates are Cougars Forev-

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