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HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

# Star Courier

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

## IN THE STARS

### Sacred Heart CZECHFEST set for Oct. 1

Sacred Heart Catholic Church will hold its 82nd Annual Czech Festival at the Crosby Fairgrounds, 14920 FM2100, Crosby TX on Sunday, October 1.

The public is invited for Games, Food, and Auction items. There will also be a Raffle for cash prizes. Tickets are \$10 per ticket, and First Prize is a \$2,900 Gift Card, with 9 other prize gift cards, from \$2,000 to \$100. Winner need not be present.

It's that time again! Vitame Vas! That's Czech for "We Welcome You!" - Crosby's Sacred Heart Catholic Church continues its tradition of celebrating Crosby's Czech heritage with the 82nd Annual Czech Festival to be held on Sunday, October 1, 2023 at the Crosby Fairgrounds. Come thirsty and hungry. Barbecue and sausage dinners will be sold and served beginning at 11:00 a.m. Kolaches and other homemade pastries will be available too.

Entertainment includes live Czech music and dance. A giant auction - featuring handmade quilts and much more - begins at 1:00 p.m., ending the event with the Raffle winners! There is also bingo, booths and games for all ages throughout the day. Free admission, free parking at the fairgrounds parking lot on Church Street and handicap parking is also available. For information please call 281-328-4871 or visit www.shcrosby.org

In Highlands and Crosby Everyone reads the STAR-COURIER. Your Hometown Newspaper.

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# Crosby 200 scores a 10; Great Birthday

## Thousands enjoy a Day of History, Friends, Memories, Music, Food, Fun

By Gilbert Hoffman  
Star-Courier Editor

It was a great time last Saturday, as thousands in the community turned out at the Fairgrounds to celebrate Crosby's 200th Birthday. Centennial organizer Donna Davenport thanked all that participated, on the committee, as vendors and performers, and as visitors to the event.

Major sponsors included Budweiser/Wisner, Harris County Pct. 3, Bob N Jeans, Crosby Fair & Rodeo, Hill Materials, and Josh & Kate Gilliam, as well as about 75 others. There were also almost 100 vendor booths under the Pavilion Roof.

The Star-Courier published a special 16 page Bicentennial Souvenir edition, and sponsored actor Don Jeans in their booth. Jody Fuchs was the Parade Marshal, and also wrote a "Concise History of Crosby" that was published in the Souvenir edition of the newspaper.

MORE Bicentennial Photos and Stories in next week's paper.



Crosby Volunteer Fire Department displayed the American Flag at the Entrance, as well as their equipment. Also on display, ESD5, Constable Pct. 3, and other law enforcement agencies.



Food was available at Vendor booths, such as this Chick-fil-A station. Or you could buy a BBQ grill and cook you own later!



In the Photo Booth are representatives of the Bicentennial Celebration: Crosby Fair & Rodeo Gene Hicks, CBC Chairwoman Donna Davenport, and Crosby/Huffman Chamber of Commerce board member Velma Ellison.



Have some Bicentennial Birthday Cake, courtesy of the Crosby High School Culinary Arts Program. Cougars Bistro & Catering.



The Kiddie Train entertained lots of children and adult parents, as well as other Carnival rides on the Fairgrounds.



Music rang out during the day, with the 22s above, and later Bob Suttie and then Cody Kouba. In the evening, Leroy Thomas and the Zydeco Roadrunners played as the folks danced until 9pm.

## Crosby Wildfire burns 79 Acres on Foley Road



Crosby Volunteer Fire Department reports that a total of 29 acres was involved in last week's wildfire; making it possibly the largest wildfire in CVFD history. Crosby Volunteer Fire Department continues to check the fire lines on the Foley Rd. Wildfire. All containment lines have held with several hot spots continuing to burn in the "black" or the burned containment area. Multiple FD agencies aided.



## Highlands Rotarians attend District meet



Highlands Rotarians attended the 2023 District 5890 Conference at the Hilton Fort Worth in the spring. With them was Edouard Vanhove, the Rotary Youth Exchange student from Belgium.

ABOVE: Vanhove, Weston and Delence Cotten, Patricia and Andy Scott, and Denise and Jerry Smith.

It was reported that they had lots of fun seeing old friends and meeting new ones at Rotary. You are invited to join the Highlands Rotary Club. Call 832-483-3505 for information.

### RACHEL'S DINER

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

### AUTO & HOME INSURANCE



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## FREE COMMUNITY SHRED DAY AND FOOD DRIVE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 | 9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.  
HWY 146, 8010 N. HIGHWAY 146 | BAYTOWN, TX 77523



CRU.ORG

# GOOSE CREEK CISD NEWS

## Robert E. Lee High School Hosts Fine Arts Building Ribbon Cutting

Robert E. Lee High School recently hosted the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Fine Arts Building in front of the school next to the new building. The building, thanks to voter approval of the 2019 bond, houses the band, choir, drill/dance teams and orchestra and replaces the previous building, which had outlasted its useful life cycle.

Dr. Randal O'Brien, GCCISD superintendent, welcomed guests to the ribbon cutting for the long-awaited Fine Arts Building.

"Giving them a larger, stand-alone building where every student interested in fine arts can call

home was a dream that, with the support of the Board, Citizens Bond Oversight Committee, community, business sponsors and Lee High School alumni, we were able to fulfill," O'Brien said.

LaDarius Ingram from the Lee Orchestra gave the invocation, while Drew Collins and Wyhiem Barnes from the Lee Theatre led the pledges.

Ray LaVan, director of fine arts for Goose Creek CISD, recognized guests, including Sarah Graham, Baytown City Council; Richard Clem and Jim Campisi, GCCISD board members; City of Baytown Partners-Planning/Engineering;

Citizens Bond Oversight Committee; Lee High School staff and Fine Arts Department; Lee High School alumni; GCCISD Facilities Planning and Construction Department; L.A.N program managers; Marshall Construction Company; Pfluger Architects and the GCCISD Community Engagement Department.

Tiffany Guy, president of the Goose Creek CISD Board of Trustees, delivered remarks from the board.

"The students and staff associated with these fine arts programs put long hours into learning,

rehearsing and polishing, often in inclement weather," Guy said. "They are learning skills they will use throughout their lives, such as time management and teamwork as they reap the rewards of taking pride in a job well done! On behalf of the board of trustees, I want to thank

the voters for approving the 2019 bond, which made this beautiful building possible. Thank you, students and staff, for your dedication to fine arts, and I hope you enjoy your new building."

Earnest Brooks, REL principal and alumnus, thanked the community and Goose Creek CISD for making the Fine Arts Building possible.

Antony McLaughlin from the Lee Theatre, An-



Dr. Randal O'Brien, Goose Creek CISD superintendent, and Tiffany Guy, president of the Goose Creek CISD board of trustees, surrounded by other guests, cut the ribbon on the new Robert E. Lee High School Fine Arts Building (at left).

drea Barragan from the Lee Band, Jon Villegas-

Ortiz from the Lee Choir and Abigail Martinez from the Lee Celebrities each shared their heartfelt feelings about being among the first group of students to have the opportunity to enjoy the Fine Arts Building.

Following a photo of the ribbon cutting, guests took a tour of the building, guided by the

students. The building opened its doors to students and staff at the beginning of the school year and will be a source of pride for Robert E. Lee High School fine arts students for years to come.



Ray LaVan, director of fine arts for Goose Creek CISD, signs a hard hat used during construction of the Fine Arts Building at Robert E. Lee High School.

## More Than Just a "Partner In Education"

By: Susan Passmore

Susana Muñoz, global management of change coordinator at ExxonMobil Baytown Olefins Plant, is proud that the ExxonMobil Baytown Technology and Engineering Complex (ExxonMobil BTEC) is in its 33<sup>rd</sup> year of serving as a Partner In Education (PIE) through the Baytown Chamber of Commerce for San Jacinto Elementary School (SJE). She is the liaison between the partners, and her brother Luis Muñoz is the principal at SJE, so they enjoy working together to support students and staff on the campus.

The bond between brother and sister as PIE representatives extends far beyond the partnership or just a brother-sister relationship. In 2006, shortly before starting his career in Goose Creek CISD and after two years of dialysis, Luis received the ultimate gift from his sister – a healthy kidney.

"She gave me my life back," Luis said. "I can work now and have a career. She gave me not only the gift of life, but also the gift of having a future to be able to do what I want to do."

Luis had noticed his feet swelling after activities such as playing soccer with his friends when he was in high school. The family had no medical insurance, so he never had it checked out. After graduating from Ross S. Sterling High School and attending Lee College, he went to the University of Texas at Austin to major in economics and government. Since he was having some health problems in Austin, he went to the clinic on campus.

"They told me my kidneys were shutting down, and they put me in the hospital for dialysis. The next two years were rough. I went to school as much as I could, but I had dialysis every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. I graduated from UT, but I wasn't on schedule," he said.



Luis Muñoz (left), principal of San Jacinto Elementary School in Goose Creek CISD, works with his sister Susana Muñoz from ExxonMobil Baytown Olefins Plant. Susana Muñoz serves as the liaison between ExxonMobil BTEC and SJE in the Partners In Education program through the Baytown Chamber of Commerce. (Photos by Yulia Trujillo)

transplant waiting list in 2005, his mother and his sister tested to see if they were a match. His sister was a closer match, and she was willing and able to donate a kidney to her brother.

"I knew that it was the right thing to do, and I wanted to do it," she said. "It was a little risky, but I knew in my heart that God would take care of me."

The surgery in January 2006 was successful.

"I immediately felt life and energy coming back into my body," he said.

While the recovery was a little tougher on Susana, she did bounce back. She has been with ExxonMobil for 10 years now, returning to the place she first worked as a VOE student while in high school at Sterling. She also has had a son, now 12-years-old, since the surgery.

A few months after his kidney transplant, Luis began substitute teaching at Crockett Elementary. He taught eight years at Carver Elementary and became the family involvement coordinator at Ashbel Smith Elementary for 1 + years, moving into the assistant principal's role for the next 5 + years. After a year at Horace Mann Junior School as the seventh-grade assistant principal, he returned to SJE, where he once attended school, but this time as the principal. Luis opened the new SJE campus in 2022-2023. He's come full circle from a bilingual stu-

dent to the leader of the school with a little help from his sister.

This school year, Luis and Susana started their third year of working together to benefit the students and staff in this state-of-the-art school. Support from ExxonMobil BTEC has included providing Formative, an assessment and data-tracking program; volunteering during STEM Day, bringing breakfast for staff on the first day back at school, "adopting" SJE families every year for Christmas and funding the new Planting Seeds to Grow Giants Garden. Making a difference as Partners In Education is important to the siblings, since after the Muñoz family moved to Baytown from Mexico in 1990, all four children attended SJE as bilingual students, and ExxonMobil BTEC "adopted" their family for Christmas several years.

"Being able to work with San Jacinto Elementary is important for us because we came to the school from Mexico not even knowing English, and we had teachers who helped us learn. I know that many of the children who attend the school are like we were, and they don't always have opportunities outside of school, so ExxonMobil BTEC wants to give them more opportunities to learn and thrive," Susana said. "We can at least plant a seed that might inspire the students."

## National History Day Presentation



Pictured are (from left) Dr. Randal O'Brien, Goose Creek CISD; Faith Longorio, associate director for social studies and world languages; Koester; Jonathan Lewis; Jessica Lewis and Tiffany Guy, board president. Jessica Lewis was part of Koester's first classroom of NHD students, and Jonathan, her son, and his group, which competed and placed sixth at NHD, received support this year from Koester.

Steve Koester, director of educational technology, receives a plaque at the regular meeting of the Goose Creek CISD board of trustees in honor of 30 years of working with the National History Day (NHD) program.

Koester began his career teaching social studies but continued mentoring students, judging at campus history fairs, helping with technology, and driving projects to Washington D.C. for students competing at National History Day as an assistant principal, principal and now director of educational technology.

## Hispanic Heritage Month at Ashbel Smith Elementary



Students at Ashbel Smith Elementary dress up for Hispanic Heritage Month. Pictured are (from left) Leo Brown, Vania Solorio, Kamila Alvarez and Sarah Alvarez. (Photo by Carrie Pryor-Newman)

# Barbers Hill Press

## Dayton

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

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

### ON THE HILL

#### Eagle Pointe Announces Fun Fall Programming

Tumbling with Stacey Svegliato

Next session is Sept. 5th - Nov. 30



Experience the magic of gymnastics with the expertise of local tumbling expert, Stacey Svegliato, who brings over 30 years of coaching mastery to Eagle Pointe. From beginners taking their first steps to elite students aiming for the stars, Stacey's classes cater to a wide range of skill levels. Through her carefully crafted programs, your child will not only develop agility, motor skills, and flexibility but also discover the joy of movement in a supportive and encouraging environment. Join us for an unforgettable summer of growth and achievement!

Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.  
Ages 3-6 years old  
\$85 per tumbler per month



#### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY --OPENING DOORS 2023

OCTOBER 10 | HILTON GARDEN INN 4910 E. CHASE STREET, BAYTOWN TX 77521

Join us for an evening that helps support Habitat for Humanity Baytown. 5:30 - SILENT AUCTION AND DINNER 6:00 - PROGRAM AND AWARD 7:00 - LIVE AUCTION GCM SHOW CHOIR WILL BE ENTERTAINING US THROUGHOUT THE EVENING.

Tickets are \$50 per person/\$90 per couple. Please call the office and purchase in advance. 281-427-0866

#### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

THERE'S STILL TIME!! We still have tickets and sponsorship space available for our event that is only 1 MONTH AWAY!!! Please consider buying tickets, advertising or sponsoring our event. All proceeds are going toward our next 2 builds. You can call the office or purchase tickets/sponsorships at the link below.

<https://form.jotform.com/232355873587065>

THANK YOU and we look forward to seeing you October 10th!

## Lee College President Selected as Aspen Institute Presidents Fellow

BAYTOWN, TX, Sept. 19, 2023 – The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program has selected Lee College President, Dr. Lynda Villanueva, to join the inaugural 2023-24 class of its Aspen Presidents Fellowship.

Chosen through a competitive process, Villanueva is one of 25 community college leaders from across the country appointed to this prestigious program. The Aspen Presidents Fellowship focuses on developing a sustainable and comprehensive reform agenda that advances excellence and equity in student out-

comes at scale.

"I was in the first class of Aspen's Rising President Fellowship designed for aspiring presidents, and I attribute much of my development to their program," Villanueva said. "As a fellow in this new program, I will collaborate with leading community college experts and senior staff from the Aspen Institute on strategies to improve our students' graduation rates and post-college success, which will no doubt have a positive impact on Lee College."

Over 12 months, Dr. Villanueva and col-



Photo: Dr. Lynda Villanueva, Lee College president

leagues will learn about and compare their practices to those of field-leading colleges, analyze their students'

graduation and post-graduation outcomes and advance their priority reforms aimed at delivering excellent and equitable student outcomes.

"Scaled improvements in student outcomes at our nation's community colleges requires excellent leadership," said Josh Wyner, executive director of the College Excellence Program. "I am continually inspired and motivated by the dedication and expertise that our fellows bring to the work of advancing excellence and equity on their campuses, and I look forward to supporting

them as they improve outcomes for their students."

The incoming class of Presidents Fellows represents the diversity of our nation's community colleges. They are 56% women and 44% people of color. They lead institutions across 14 states that collectively educate over 280,000 students in incredibly varied settings, from a rural college of 700 students to an urban one with an enrollment of over 24,000.

Learn more about [The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program](#) and the new Aspen Institute's Presidents Fellows.

## Girl Scout Troop 132051 Donates Awareness Signs to MB City Park

If you notice some cool new signs around City Park, you can thank Girl Scout Troop 132051!

A big shoutout and heartfelt thanks to our amazing local Girl Scout Troop 132051 for their thoughtful donation & installation of awareness signs at City Park.

Yesterday, they installed signs that educates us on what's best to feed our feathery friends, promoting a healthier habitat for our beloved ducks. The others raise awareness about sharing our waters with alligators and snakes, ensuring everyone's safety while enjoying the park's natural beauty.

"Ladies, your initiative and dedication to enhancing our community's knowledge and safety is truly appreciated.

Keep shining bright, Girl Scouts."



## Houston Methodist Hospital Baytown

### The Importance of Cancer Clinical Trials

The term "clinical trial" can bring to mind risky treatments being tested on seriously ill patients as a last resort. However, that image can't be further from the truth. Instead, a clinical trial is a way for people who are ill to access potentially groundbreaking approaches or therapies currently being developed.

#### WHAT IS A CANCER CLINICAL TRIAL?

Cancer clinical trials are voluntary research studies where doctors find new ways to understand cancer and how to improve treatments. The trials often test new kinds of surgery or combinations of chemotherapy, radiation therapy and immunotherapy. Clinical trials aren't just for late-stage cancers. Houston Methodist Baytown offers clinical trials

for various stages of cancer that address the full spectrum of cancer care close to home.

#### WHY CONSIDER PARTICIPATING IN A CLINICAL TRIAL?

"When participating in a clinical trial, not only are you taking an active role in your treatment plan, but you're also contributing to furthering cancer research," said Dr. Nirav Naik, hematologist-oncologist at Houston Methodist Baytown, "ultimately helping the future of others who have been diagnosed with the same illness."

#### Some of the benefits of participating in a clinical trial include:

- Access to the newest treatments
- Closer monitoring
- Reduced cost of treatment
- Contribute to research



Dr. Nirav Naik

that will help future generations

The research staff meets with you regularly during a trial to monitor your health and safety. You will continue to work with your primary care provider or oncologist, who will make sure any research medication doesn't interfere with your other medicines. You can stop participating at any time.

#### DOES CLINICAL TRIAL PARTICIPATION

#### COME WITH RISKS?

Participating in clinical trials does pose some risks, and the treatment you receive doesn't guarantee effectiveness. Government regulations and review processes are in place to protect participants by making sure risks are as low as possible and are worth potential benefits.

"Clinical trials are essential to making progress against cancer," Naik said. "However, there is a risk that you could suffer side effects or a bad reaction to the treatment you are receiving."

Talk at length with your doctor to determine whether a trial is right for you.

Plan to ask your doctor: What is the trial's purpose?

Why do doctors and researchers believe experimental treatment will be effective?

How do the possible benefits, risks and side effects compare with those of my current medication?

How long is the trial?

Who pays for the treatment, and will I be reimbursed for other expenses?

How will I know the treatment is working and will I receive the trial results?

The more you know, the better prepared and more at ease you'll be about participating in a clinical trial.

Active trials at Houston Methodist Baytown include seven lung cancer, one melanoma, three prostate, and 11 breast cancer trials.

For more information about active clinical trials at Houston Methodist, visit [houstonmethodist.org/cancer/clinical-trials](http://houstonmethodist.org/cancer/clinical-trials) or call 346.292.2073.

★ OPINION PAGE ★



# How to send \$1 Billion to Texas State Parks

Now that summer's worst heat is waning, Texans' thoughts turn to the outdoors — to escaping the pressures of everyday life and sharing an adventure together as a family. But that can be expensive.

For a family of four, the cost of a vacation out of state or far from home is often too high to justify. As I was growing up in Houston, my family couldn't possibly afford plane tickets for all of us to travel for leisure.

We were, however, able to load up our car and drive the 300 miles to Garner State Park, near my *abuela's* hometown of Sabinal. There, my *abuela* waded into the river, my uncles fished until the sun went down, and we kids ran around until the summer heat wore us out and we fell asleep under the stars.



State Representative Armando Walle with his family enjoying an outing at Garner State Park.

Now, I have a family of my own and am fortunate enough to have the means to take my kids on vacation about once a year.

But we still treasure the weekends where we pack the car with sleeping bags and coolers and head to Lake Livingston State Park or Stephen F. Austin State Park — places where my family and I can disconnect from the everyday and reconnect to each other.

We aren't the only ones. Between our state's booming population and the increasing use of public parks in the last few years, Texans desperately need more places to get outside.

During the 88th Legislative Session, I authored bipartisan legislation with Sen. Tan Parker to invest \$1 billion in the newly created Centennial Parks Conservation Fund, which would support the expansion and development of state parks across Texas. We worked hard to pass the bill with a broad coalition of bipartisan support.

Now, the Legislature has earmarked the money for it already. We just need Texans to give us the final stamp of approval.

This November, during the Nov. 6 general election, voters will make decisions on 14 proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution. **Proposition 14, the last one on the ballot, supports the creation of the Centennial Parks Conservation Fund.**

State parks aren't only about recreation. The 89 sites in Texas' state parks system have been an economic boon for surrounding communities. Recent studies estimate that for every \$1 in public money spent on parks, the state sees between \$4 and \$12 in economic return. These impacts are particularly felt in rural areas, where counties with state parks see higher GDP and population growth than those without.

With \$1 billion, the possibilities for state parks are nearly limitless. The fund grants the Parks and Wildlife Department the ability to acquire and preserve acres and acres of new land, but it is also designed to reinvest interest earned on the initial capital.

A transformational investment like this in our parks system is a promise to preserve our state's natural heritage for generations to come. But it is also a promise to all Texans that everyone — no matter who they are or where they live — deserves a place to explore and to play.

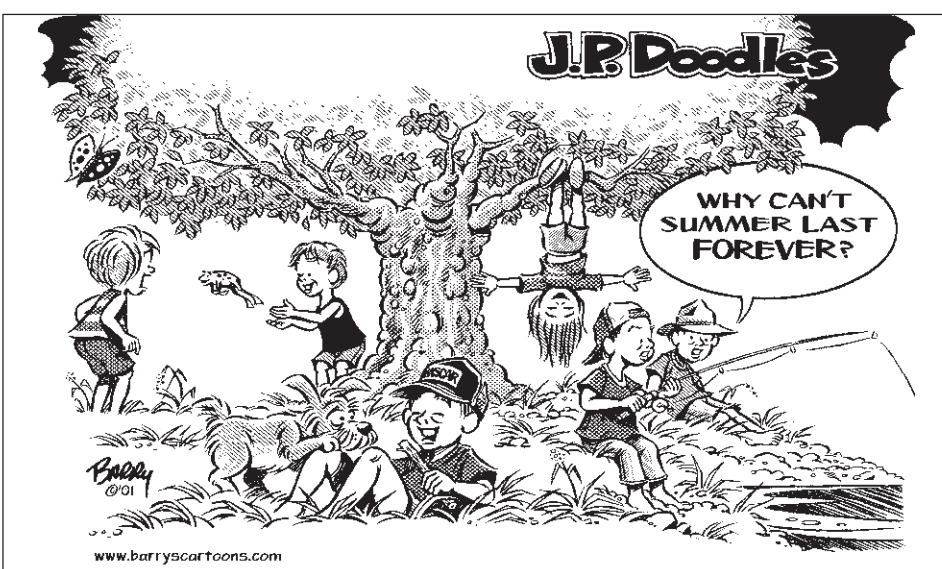
*Rep. Armando Walle is serving his eighth term in the Texas House representing District 140, which includes northern portions of the city of Houston and unincorporated Harris County.*

## Americanisms



"We often take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude."  
— Cynthia Ozick

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### ★ THE POSTSCRIPT By Carrie Classon

## Talking to Strangers

I got anxious again today. I think I am getting better at leaving anxiety behind, and then anxiety says, "Not so fast! We have more work to do."

Usually, this has to do with my writing: "Is it good enough? Does she hate it?" But not always. Sometimes I will post something on Facebook, and someone will take offense. Since I make an effort to never post anything controversial or unkind, this always shocks me and makes me wonder if I have any idea how I sound when I write. Since writing is pretty much all I do, this concern starts to bang around in my brain like a kitten knocking things off the shelf.

"What was I thinking?" I wonder. But I don't actually remember thinking anything at all. I will make comments I imagine are helpful or clarifying, and end up offending someone and wondering why I did not just remain silent.

The best thing to do at this point is to take a walk.

On my walk, I usually encounter a few homeless people. The Catholic Church nearby feeds them and provides other services, so there are usually a handful of folks, who have some kind of problem that I have never had to deal with, waiting in the summer heat or the winter cold for the doors to open so they can get the help they need. I talk to these folks as I walk by. Some of them ignore me. Most of them smile and return the greeting.

But occasionally, I meet someone who just stares at me, like, "What is her story?"

And the funny thing about this is that they assume I have one.

"It's going to be cooler tomorrow!" I announced yesterday to a gentleman sitting on the steps. Only as I got closer did I notice he had his head under his T-shirt. He pulled it out when he heard me.

"It's going to be really cool," I repeated to the confused-looking fellow. "Much cooler than normal!"

He stared at me as if I was speaking in code. I could tell that—whatever he thought of me—he assumed I knew what I was talking about. He thought I had it together. He had no way of knowing how many days I wondered if hiding under my own T-shirt might not be the best strategy.

I realized by then that he had some cognitive problem, but I felt I needed to wrap up the conversation anyway—just for the sake of politeness.

"So, you take care, OK?"

I waved and headed off, realizing I had just embarrassed myself in front of a man who was hiding under his own T-shirt.

We are all making up stories for one another without knowing what the real story is.

The story I make up for myself when I am anxious is that I am failing—somehow, somewhere—and no one has told me how or why. But I have no idea why that man was hiding under his T-shirt, and I'm betting his reasons were a lot better than mine.

By now I know that my anxiety is a mood, that it will pass. As uncomfortable and demanding as it is in the moment, it is almost impossible to remember after the fact. Walking helps. And talking to people—even folks who seem a little confused—helps as well.

It is cooler today—just as I promised the fellow on the steps it would be. I am going to put on my shoes right now and talk to some strangers.

Till next time,  
Carrie

## ★ STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders



# Another Special Legislative Session Slated for October

Gov. Greg Abbott has called a third special session, this time about school choice, for next month. He is promising retribution for lawmakers who oppose his move to enact school vouchers in Texas, the Texas Tribune reported.

"There's an easy way to get it done, and there's a hard way," Abbott said on a tele-town hall about the issue. "We will take it either way — in a special session or after an election." Abbott essentially threatened to find primary opponents for legislators who oppose his initiative, which failed to gain traction during the regular session as a coalition of Democrats and Republicans representing rural districts opposed it.

His proposal would give parents taxpayer dollars to send their children to private schools. Opponents say this would harm public school systems, particularly in rural areas where choices for private schools are limited.

### PAXTON HINTS AT RUN AGAINST CORNYN IN 2026

Just days after being acquitted on impeachment charges by the Texas Senate, reinstated Attorney General Ken Paxton hit the airwaves of several conservative media outlets and hinted of a possible run against incumbent U.S. Sen. John Cornyn in 2026.

The Houston Chronicle reported on a Paxton interview with Tucker Carlson on X, formerly known as Twitter. Paxton said that "somebody needs to step up and run against this guy that will do the job."

"To me, he's been in Washington too long. He's been there, what, for 14 years or so? And I can't think of a single thing he's accomplished for our state or even for the country," Paxton said.

In a separate interview, Paxton said he will be "on the campaign trail" to back GOP primary opponents of three House members who were key to his impeachment: House Speaker Dade Phelan and Reps. Andrew Murr of Junction and Jeff



Leach of Plano.

"I'm highly motivated," the Austin American-Statesman quoted Paxton as saying.

Paxton still faces state security fraud charges filed in 2015. He is due to go to trial next March and is also under federal investigation.

### DEADLINE NEARS FOR REGISTERING TO VOTE ON NOV. 7

Texans will decide the fate of 14 proposed constitutional amendments on Nov. 7. The deadline to register to vote in that election is Oct. 10 for those who are not already registered. The proposed amendments include measures to increase the homestead exemption from \$40,000 to \$100,000, with homeowners 65 and older getting an additional \$40,000 exemption. Other proposals would cap increased in appraised value and expand exemptions for small businesses from the franchise tax.

Abbott and other backers of the bills passed in a summer special session called these measures the largest property tax cut in Texas history.

Early voting begins on Oct. 23 and ends Nov. 3, according to the Texas Secretary of State's office.

### TEXAS CALLED 'HOTBED OF HATE' IN RECENT REPORT

A report issued last week by the Anti-Defamation League labels Texas a hotbed for extremism and antisemitism, with a heavy presence of white supremacist and anti-LGBTQ+

groups, according to the Texas Tribune. The report examines three years of "alarming levels of extremist ideology and activity" in the state. Antisemitic incidents in the state rose by 89% and six "terrorist plots" were discovered, along with 28 "extremist events" such as training and rallies, according to the report.

The ADL suggested some nonpartisan policies to stem growing extremism, such as creating a commission to study domestic violent extremism and providing clear statistics on hate crimes.

"Elected officials in Texas have an opportunity to confront this issue to significantly curtail the negative impact that extremism has on the people they represent," Oren Segal, vice president of the ADL's Center on Extremism, said in a statement.

### FINANCIAL LOSSES FROM OPIOID CRISIS ARE STAGGERING

In a monthlong series of stories about the fentanyl crisis, The Dallas Morning News determined through an analysis by The Perryman Group that the economic toll of the opioid crisis in Texas includes \$50.1 billion in economic output each year and more than a half-million jobs.

"As large as these numbers are, they likely understate the true impact," economist Ray Perryman said. "It's widely acknowledged that drug addiction is underreported."

His group pulled data from the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and prevention and other health agencies for its analysis.

A new law requires all emergency medical responders to report drug overdoses to health authorities in an effort to map overdoses and hopefully identify overdose hotspots. All Texas law enforcement officers are being given NARCAN, which quickly reverses opioid overdoses, according to Abbott's office.

### COWTOWN NAMED CITY WITH THE WORST WEATHER

A newsroom meteorologist with the San Antonio Express-News is not likely to win the keys to the city of Fort Worth after completing a study to determine which major city in Texas has the worst weather. The "winner" was Fort Worth, according to Anthony Franze.

Franze looked at hail, tornado, flash flood and wind data since 2000 for the five most populous counties.

"Based on all the different categories we looked at, the major city with the most consistent destructive severe weather is Fort Worth," Franze wrote. "Since 2000, Tarrant County has had the most hail reports and it's in an area most prone to destructive tornadoes. Tarrant County has also had 121 destructive wind reports during that time, the most of any major Texas city."

HIGHLANDS CROSBY

## Star Courier

USPS 244-500

**Barbers Hill  Dayton PRESS**  
**NORTH CHANNEL  STAR**

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## Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Harris County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on October 10, 2023 at 6:00 PM at 125 San Jacinto, Highlands, Texas 77562. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners. 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 proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

**For the proposal:** Leon R. Mullins                      John H. Wright III  
Harvey Little                                      Kenneth Boudreaux  
Michael A. Angelle Sr.

**Against the proposal:**

**Present and not voting:**

**Absent:**

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year \$0.366940/\$100 <small>Adopted</small>	This Year \$0.330000/\$100 <small>Proposed</small>
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.366940	\$0.330000
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$-0.036940
Percentage increase/decrease in rates(+/-)		-10.07%
Average residence homestead appraised value	\$153,108	\$169,375
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$0	\$0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$153,108	\$169,375
Tax on average residence homestead	\$561.81	\$558.94
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted(+/-)		\$-2.87
and percentage of increase (+/-)		-0.51%

### NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

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

If you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact the tax office at 281-426-8156.

# Julio Cesar Palmaz, Hispanic Heritage Month Honoree

2nd. of a series...  
By Allan Jamail

September 26, 2023 ~ it's not every day I can contribute an article to someone who's responsible for saving millions of lives and has over 60 patents.

Born Julio Cesar Palmaz December 13, 1945 in the Hispanic Country of La Plata, Argentina, he became a doctor at the National University of La Plata in Argentina, earning his medical degree in 1971. He then practiced vascular radiology at the San Martin University. He joined the University Of Texas Health Sciences Department Of Radiology in 1983 as chief of angiography and special procedures of vascular radiology at University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

Palmaz invented the first FDA-approved balloon-expandable vascular stent (1990), at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio and scientific advisor of Vactronix Scientific. The Palmaz stent is on display at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History in Washington. He has 60 patents

He succeeded in creating a his first prototype model that he was able to test in animals, including pigs and rabbits, with promising results; he also began shopping the device around to medical companies, but the response was lukewarm.

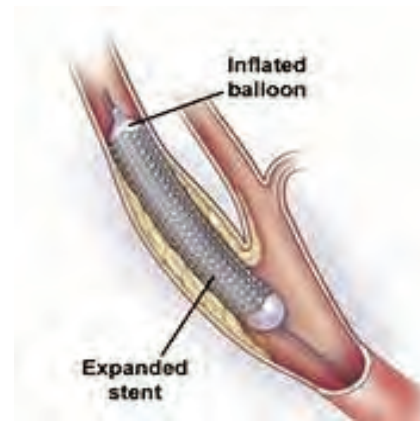
In 1983, Dr. Stewart Reuter, Chair of Radiology at UTHSCSA and a mentor to Palmaz, encouraged him to accept a position at the center. Palmaz did so, in part because there he would have access to resources he needed to further his stent development. He eventually succeeded in creating a sec-



**Dr. Julio Cesar Palmaz**  
Stint Inventor

ond prototype of a stainless steel, insertable mesh stent that could be expanded once inside the body to hold a blood vessel or artery open and allow blood to flow more freely.

He also secured funding from a somewhat unlikely partner: Phil Romano, an entrepreneur who founded restaurant chains such



as Fuddrucker's and The Macaroni Grill, offered to put up \$250,000 in exchange for a stake in the product, which Palmaz began co-developing with Dr. Richard Schatz, a cardiologist at Brooke Army Medical Center.

The trio, calling themselves the Expandable Graft Partnership, patented the stent technology in 1985 and presented it to a variety of large companies. Those firms included Boston Scientific, which passed on the technology; and Johnson & Johnson,

which eventually licensed the stent technology for some \$10 million plus royalties. With Johnson & Johnson behind it, and with an additional \$100 million invested in its development, the Palmaz stent was approved for use in peripheral arteries in 1991, followed by approval for use in coronary arteries in 1994; Johnson & Johnson quickly captured 90 percent of the market for stents and bought the patent outright from Palmaz, Schatz and Romano in 1998.

Within four years of its FDA approval in 1990, the balloon-expandable stent was used in over 80% of percutaneous coronary interventions, a virtually unparalleled success. Currently approximately one million stents are implanted annually worldwide. The balloon angioplasty augmented with the use of the stent has become the preferred treatment for atherosclerosis.

Dr. Palmaz was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame (2006)

and National Academy of Inventors (2013) and selected for the Gold medal (2007) of the Society of Interventional Radiology. He is a Distinguished Scientist and fellow of the American Heart Association and fellow of the American Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering and Society of Interventional Radiology.

Palmaz is married to fellow Argentine Amalia Palmaz and has two children, Florencia and Christian. He lives in San Antonio and Napa.

## Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Crosby Municipal Utility District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on October 17, 2023 at 4:00 PM at 103 West Wahl St., Crosby Texas. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners. 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 proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

**For the proposal:** Steven Schreiber                      Diane Feland  
Wesley Zarskey                                      Eddie Foster  
Donna Davenport

**Against the proposal:**

**Present and not voting:**

**Absent:**

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year \$0.422000/\$100 <small>Adopted</small>	This Year \$0.370000/\$100 <small>Proposed</small>
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.422000	\$0.370000
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$-0.052000
Percentage increase/decrease in rates(+/-)		-12.32%
Average residence homestead appraised value	\$181,107	\$200,622
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$0	\$0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$181,107	\$200,622
Tax on average residence homestead	\$764.27	\$742.30
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted(+/-)		\$-21.97
and percentage of increase (+/-)		-2.87%

### NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

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

If you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact the tax office at 281-426-8156.

## Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Crosby Municipal Utility District Defined Area 1 (DA1) will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on October 17, 2023 at 4:00 PM at 103 West Wahl St., Crosby Texas. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners. 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 proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

**For the proposal:** Steven Schreiber                      Diane Feland  
Wesley Zarskey                                      Eddie Foster  
Donna Davenport

**Against the proposal:**

**Present and not voting:**

**Absent:**

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year \$0.860000/\$100 <small>Adopted</small>	This Year \$0.860000/\$100 <small>Proposed</small>
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.860000	\$0.860000
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$0.000000
Percentage increase/decrease in rates(+/-)		0.00%
Average residence homestead appraised value	\$285,448	\$303,006
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$0	\$0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$285,448	\$303,006
Tax on average residence homestead	\$2,454.85	\$2,605.85
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted(+/-)		\$151.00
and percentage of increase (+/-)		6.15%

### NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

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★ SPORTS PAGE ★

SEASON FOOTBALL WEEK 5

Aggies, Razorbacks meet in SEC tilt at Jerry World: Steelers come calling against Texans at NRG Stadium

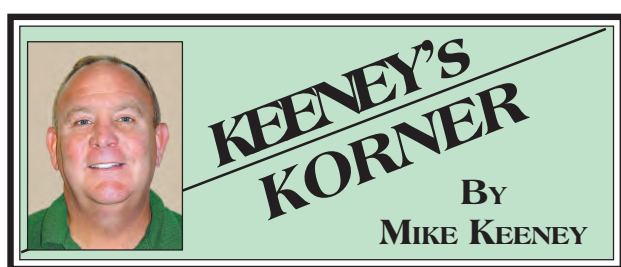
The preliminaries are over for college football teams across the country as the major conferences enter league play as they begin playing games that really matter.

Texas A&M and Arkansas meet in a key SEC contest at AT&T Stadium in Arlington on Saturday with Jimbo Fisher's team hoping to get on a roll in league play. The Aggies finished 2-1 in non-conference play and appear to have found a big-play quarterback in sophomore Conner Weigman. In his first three games of the season, Weigman has passed for 909 yards and eight touchdowns. Weigman should have another good day against a suspect Razorback defense, but it's the A&M defense that will get tested against an Arkansas offense that can throw it and run it very well.

While the Aggies and Razorbacks go at it in Jerry World, No. 9-ranked Notre Dame hits the road to take on No. 19-ranked Duke in what should be an entertaining game. This game will feature two solid QBs in ND's Sam Hartman and Duke's dual threat QB Riley Leonard.

No. 3-ranked Texas hosts the offensive-minded Kansas Jayhawks and you had better believe that head coach Steve Sarkisian will not take the Jayhawks lightly. Two years ago, KU won in Austin, 57-56. The Longhorns know they cannot afford a slip up if they hope to get into the College Football Playoff picture.

The Colorado Buffalos and head coach Deion Sanders have been the surprise team of college football this year. After winning just one game in 2022, Coach Prime Time has led the Buffs to three straight wins to start the season, but things get decidedly more difficult from here on out. Last week CU played at No. 10-ranked Oregon and this Saturday they host No. 5-ranked USC and the reigning Heisman Trophy winner, Caleb Williams. Coach Prime's team still has to face ranked teams in Oregon State, Washington State and Utah. Let's see how things go for him and his high-scoring Buffs from here on out. No matter what happens down the road, Colorado has been one of the best stories in college football this year. The Buffs may stumble



here and there, but they've got enough firepower on offense to make things interesting for the remainder of the season.

In the NFL, the Texans host Pittsburgh on Sunday at noon at NRG Stadium. The last time these two teams met on Christmas Day in 2017, Steeler fans flooded NRG. I know, because I was there. It had to be 70 percent Pittsburgh fans, but then again, the Texans finished 4-12 that season and lost rookie QB Deshaun Watson to a knee injury in November. Let's hope there's better representation from the local fans come Sunday.

It could be another long day for the Texans if they don't shore up the offensive line. Injuries have decimated the line and the Steelers pass rush should be licking its chops heading into this one.

In other interesting games in Week 4, Detroit visits Green Bay on Thursday Night Football in a key NFC North contest, while the Cowboys host a struggling New England team (Bill Belichick's team lost its first two games), Kansas City visits the Jets on Sunday Night Football and Seattle visits the Giants on Monday Night Football.

Before we take a look at this weekend's games, let's review last week's record. A 7-5 week brought the season record to 14-12 (54%).

Now, onto this weekend's games.

NCAA

**Notre Dame at Duke:** Notre Dame travels to Durham, N.C. to take on a feisty Duke team that already owns an upset win over Clemson. The Blue Devils are going hunting for another big win when

they take on the No. 9-ranked Fighting Irish on Saturday. The Duke defense will get a real test against an explosive ND offense, led by quarterback Sam Hartman (1,061 yards, 13 TDS/0 interceptions), running back Audric Estime (521 yards, 5 TDs) and wide receivers Chris Tyree (8 receptions, 216 yards, 5 TDs) and Jayden Thomas (12 receptions, 188 yards, 1 TD). Duke has one of the better dual threat QBs in the country in Riley Leonard (530 passing yards, 1 TD/208 rushing yards, 3 TDs). Riley has some weapons of his own in running back Jordan Waters (240 yards, 5 TDs) and wide receiver Jalon Calhoun (14 receptions, 142 yards, 1 TD). This should be a fun game to watch, but look for ND's overall speed on both sides of the ball to wear down Duke as ND pulls it out late. My pick, Notre Dame 38, Duke 24

**Kansas at Texas:** No. 3-ranked Texas hosts the explosive Kansas Jayhawks in a key Big 12 game for both teams. Two years ago, Kansas shocked the Longhorns and first-year head coach Steve Sarkisian, 57-56 in Austin. Two years later, Sark has built a CFP contender and he knows his Longhorns cannot afford to look past any team from here on out. Two weeks ago, UT scored 21 fourth-quarter points to pull away from a game Wyoming team on the way to a 31-10 win in Austin. UT has gotten solid play out of QB Quinn Ewers (740 yards, 8 TDs) and running back Jonathon Banks (273 yards, 1 TD). But it's the receiving corps that has made the Texas offense a beast, led by wide receivers Xavier Worthy (16 receptions, 221 yards, 2 TDs) and Adonai Mitchell (9 receptions, 134 yards, 3 TDs) and tight end

Ja'Tavion Sanders (7 receptions, 158 yards, 1 TD). Kansas has some weapons of its own in veteran QB Jalon Daniels (575 yards, 2 TDs), running back Devin Neal (303 yards, 5 TDs) and wide receiver Lawrence Arnold (14 receptions, 212 yards). Look for the Jayhawks to give Texas a game, but the UT defense will be the difference maker in this one as Texas continues to roll. My pick, Texas 36, Kansas 23

**Texas A&M vs. Arkansas:** The Aggies and Razorbacks meeting at AT&T Stadium in Arlington in a key SEC West game for both teams. Two weeks ago, the Aggies took care of business at Kyle Field with a 44-3 thumping of Louisiana-Monroe, while the Hogs lost at home to BYU. A&M has a strong passing game led by QB Conner Weigman (909 yards, 8 TDS) and big-play wide receivers Evan Stewart (19 receptions, 257 yards, 2 TDs) and Anias Smith (13 receptions, 194 yards). Arkansas is led by QB KJ Jefferson (629 yards, 6 TDs), running back AJ Green (190 yards, 2 TDs) and wide receiver Andrew Armstrong (18 receptions, 197 yards, 3 TDs). A&M head coach Jimbo Fisher knows he needs to be competitive in the SEC West this year or his seat could get warm. Look for the Aggies to pull this one out as they pick up a big league win. My pick, Texas A&M 33, Arkansas 20

**USC at Colorado:** No. 5-ranked USC travels to Boulder to take on No. 19-ranked Colorado in a key Pac 12 contest for both teams. The Buffs have been the darlings of college football this year led by first-year head coach Deion Sanders. Two weeks ago, Colorado pulled out a 43-35 double overtime win over state rival Colorado State, while USC breezed to their third straight blowout win with a 56-10 thrashing of Stanford. The Trojans are led by 2022 Heisman Trophy winner Caleb Williams (878 passing yards, 12 TDs), running back Marshawn Lloyd (195 yards, 2 TDs) and wide receiver Tahj Washington (9 receptions, 233 yards, 3 TDs). USC is averaging an eye-popping 59 points per game, which means the CU defense will have its hands full come Saturday. The Buffs have a powerful offense led by Deion's son, Shedeur Sanders (1,251 passing yards, 10 TDs), running back Dylan Edwards (136 rushing yards, 1 TD/14 receptions, 160 yards, 3 TDs) and wide receiver Xavier Weaver (25 receptions, 386 yards, 2 TDs). This

will be USC's first real test and I think CU hangs with them for a while, but look for Williams to be the difference maker in this one as the Trojans pick up a big road win. My pick, USC 42, Colorado 31

NFL

**Detroit at Green Bay:** Week 4 kicks off on Thursday Night Football with a key NFC North contest pitting the Lions against the Packers at Lambeau Field in Green Bay. Two weeks ago, both teams lost their first games of the year as the Lions fell at home in overtime to Seattle, 37-31, while the Packers fell at Atlanta, 25-24. Packer fans were wondering how Jordan Love would handle stepping into for Packer QB great Aaron Rodgers' shoes and taking over at QB. So far, so good. In his first two games, Love has passed for 394 yards and six TDs. The Lions opened the season by upsetting the Chiefs in KC, but then had their home opener spoiled by the Seahawks. Detroit has a potent offense led by QB Jared Goff (576 yards, 4 TDs) and wide receiver Amon-Ra St. Brown (13 receptions, 173 yards, 1 TD). Detroit eliminated the Packers from the playoffs by winning at Lambeau in the final game of the season and Rodgers' final game as a Packer. Green Bay will get pay back come Thursday night. My pick, Green Bay 31, Detroit 24

**Pittsburgh at Houston:** The Steelers and their loyal fans come calling at NRG Stadium on Sunday and the Texans had better hope their offensive line plays better or it could be a long day for rookie QB C.J. Stroud. In their first two games, the Steeler defense has nine sacks, with six coming in their 26-22 win over Cleveland two weeks ago. The Steeler "D" also forced four turnovers in the win over the Browns. Their offense is so-so, led by second-year QB Kenny Pickett (454 yards, 2 TDs) and wide receiver George Pickens (9 receptions, 163 yards, 1 TD). Stroud (626 yards, 2 TDs) did pass for 384 yards and two TDs in the 31-20 loss at home against the Colts, and while the passing game did well, the running game was once again stymied. Houston must get running back Dameon Pierce untracked to take pressure off of Stroud. It could be another long day for the young QB on Sunday. My pick, Pittsburgh 26, Houston 17

**New England at Dallas:** Bill

Belichick's Patriots visit AT&T Stadium on Sunday to take on a Dallas defense that has gotten off to an amazing start. In their first two games, the Cowboys defense has allowed just 10 points, recorded 10 sacks and has forced nine turnovers. The Patriots dropped their first two games, but QB Mac Jones (547 yards, 4 TDs) appears to be playing better after a sophomore slump. The Dallas offense is led by QB Dak Prescott (398 yards, 2 TDs), running back Tony Pollard (142 yards, 1 TD) and wide receiver CeeDee Lamb (15 receptions, 220 yards). Look for the Dallas defense to have another big day as the Patriots suffer another early-season loss. My pick, Dallas 33, New England 13

**Kansas City at New York Jets:** The Chiefs take on the Jets on Sunday Night Football in what many had hoped would be a meeting between two of the best QBs in the league in Patrick Mahomes (531 yards, 4 Yds) and Aaron Rodgers. But Rodgers suffered a season-ending Achilles injury on the fourth play as a Jet in Week 1, to spoil what could have been a very special night. Instead, Mahomes and the Chiefs will now face Zac Wilson, who threw three interceptions two weeks ago in a 30-10 loss at Dallas. While the Jets were losing, the Chiefs picked up their first win with a hard-fought 17-9 win over Jacksonville. Look for Mahomes to roll on national TV as the Chiefs make it a long night for Wilson and the Jets. My pick, Kansas City 34, New York Jets 16

**Seattle at New York Giants:** Week 4 concludes on Monday Night Football with the Seahawks making the cross country trip to New Jersey to face a Giants team that might have saved its season in Week 2 by overcoming a 21-point deficit at Arizona to win 31-28. That victory was a costly one as star running back Saquon Barkley (114 yards, 1 TD) sustained a sprained ankle and will be out at least three weeks. That means QB Daniel Jones (321 yards, 2 TDs) will need to step up and take over the offense. Seattle put up 37 points at Detroit behind QB Geno Smith (440 yards, 3 TDs), running back Kenneth Walker III (107 yards, 2 TDs) and wide receivers D.K. Metcalf (9 receptions, 92 yards) and Tyler Lockett (10 receptions, 69 yards, 2 TDs). Look for the Seattle offense to be too much for a porous New York defense as the 'Hawks pick up a big road win. My pick, Seattle 31, New York Jets 24

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### IN THE STARS

#### MILESTONES

##### BIRTHDAYS

- Sep 27—Julia Becker  
Lee Filer
- Sep 29—Monica Barnett  
Elizabeth Epperson  
Sammy Yarbrough
- Sep 30—Tammy Veach
- Oct 1—Krista Essen  
Brian Fikes  
Lauren Slovak  
Venita Smith
- Oct 2—Reecie Bobalik  
Jana Creel  
Debbie Zadraba-King  
Taylin Woodall
- Oct 3—Besta Bouillion  
Mellisa Owens
- Oct 4—Missy Kwapick  
Shelia Townsend
- Oct 5—Willie Drew
- Oct 6—Ann Dunks  
Marie Estrada  
Kristina Curtis  
Marley McKethan
- Oct 7—Alicia Engle  
Anna Lois Mattingly
- Oct 8—Benjamin Abbott  
Patricia Meiss  
Jim Van Schuyver  
Thomas R. Stanley
- Oct 9—Terrie Bauer  
Ashley Clamon
- Oct 10—Stachia Thurmond

##### ANNIVERSARIES

- Sep 27—Rev. Sam & Jewell Purkiser
- Sep 28—Deacon & Sarah Tittel  
Mr. & Mrs. G.C. Slaughter  
Leon & Barbara Bowen
- Oct 4—Wilky & Ann Carlisle
- Oct 5—J.C. & Olga Aylor
- Oct 6—Fred & Helen Dunks  
Randy & Tammy Veach
- Oct 8—Robert H. & Patricia E. Sparks
- Oct 16—Edgar & Evelyn Wotipka
- Oct 18—Karen & Derek Elkins
- Oct 19—Alton Bubba & Sandra Williams
- Oct 20—Vernon & Lois Searcy
- Oct 20—David and Leon Lee
- Oct 23—Johnnie & Melissa Miley

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Submit by email with photo to grafikstar@aol.com

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## ENTERTAINMENT

### Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

1. Filly's brother  
2. Group of seals  
3. Old U.S. gas brand  
4. Sandwich cookie  
5. Sailor's "yes"  
6. "Pygmalion" writer  
7. Nevada city  
8. Tropical fruit  
9. Nebraska river  
10. Demons  
11. Towel word  
12. Bol. neighbor  
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14. Tibia's place  
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18. Brusque  
19. Tormenting  
20. Spanish gold  
21. IRS agent  
22. Rustic homes  
23. TV type  
24. Table protector  
25. Inky stain  
26. Italian wine region  
27. Notable time  
28. Booty  
29. Slugger Sammy  
30. Letter sealer

by BUD BLAKE

by Jeff Pickering

**Weekly SUDOKU**  
by Linda Thistle

	8	6	1					2
		4		3		1		
9					7		3	8
	5				2	3		
8				9				4
		7	5					9
7	3		2					5
		6			5	9	1	
			8		6			4

Place a number in each empty box in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

**HOCUS-FOCUS**  
BY HENRY BOLTIKOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

**Trivia Test Answers**

- Pennsylvania; 2. On average, every 76 years; 3. California (54); 4. A canister that looks like a Barbasol Shaving Cream can.; 5. Surrealism.; 6. Ford Motor Company.; 7. "All in the Family"; 8. Chickpeas.; 9. Roe River, Montana.; 10. Chelae.

### September 25, 2023 Posting Date King Crossword

**ACROSS**

1 Filly's brother  
5 Group of seals  
8 Old U.S. gas brand  
12 Sandwich cookie  
13 Sailor's "yes"  
14 "Pygmalion" writer  
15 Nevada city  
16 Tropical fruit  
18 Nebraska river  
20 Demons  
21 Towel word  
23 Bol. neighbor  
24 Engages in make-believe  
28 Tibia's place  
31 PC key  
32 Hotel offering  
34 Bond rating  
35 Brusque  
37 Tormenting  
39 Spanish gold  
41 IRS agent  
42 Rustic homes  
45 TV type  
49 Table protector  
51 Inky stain  
52 Italian wine region  
53 Notable time  
54 Booty  
55 Slugger Sammy  
56 Letter sealer

**DOWN**

1 Business abbr.  
2 Hurler Hersher  
3 Sultry Horne  
4 Like some grins  
5 Drink-to-go holder  
6 Popeye's Olive  
7 Hearing-impaired  
8 Aromatic compounds  
9 Chinese city  
10 Uttered  
11 Has  
17 Actress Long  
19 Afternoon affairs  
22 Long-legged shorebird  
24 Chest muscle  
25 Baton Rouge sch.  
26 Circus gymnasts  
27 Short-lived levy of 1765  
29 Author  
30 Pester  
33 Alike (Fr.)  
36 One of the Nixons  
38 Powerless  
40 Low digit  
42 Bookkeepers (Abbr.)  
43 To boot  
44 Diving duck  
46 Trudge  
47 Synthesizer pioneer  
48 ABA member  
50 Notre Dame's Parseghian

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**Weekly SUDOKU**

7	4	2	1	9	3	8	6	5
1	3	6	5	7	2	8	9	4
9	5	8	6	4	2	1	3	7
6	9	3	8	5	7	4	1	2
1	4	4	1	5	9	6	7	3
8	7	3	2	7	4	1	6	9
7	8	2	7	4	6	5	9	1
2	8	7	9	6	1	5	4	3

Solution time: 22 mins.

**Trivia test** by Fifi Rodriguez

- LITERATURE: What is the name of the clown in Stephen King's horror novel "It"?
- ASTRONOMY: How often does Halley's Comet appear in the Earth's sky?
- U.S. STATES: Which state has the most electoral votes in 2024?
- MOVIES: In "Jurassic Park," what kind of container is used to store stolen dinosaur embryos?
- ART: Which art movement is Salvador Dali associated with?
- AD SLOGANS: Which car manufacturer used the ad slogan "Quality is Job 1"?
- TELEVISION: Which TV show spawned the spinoff comedy/drama "Maude"?
- FOOD & DRINK: What is the main ingredient in falafel?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is the world's shortest river?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What are a crab's pincers called?

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