



VOTERS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY NOVEMBER 7 TO DECIDE ON A NUMBER OF SCHOOL BOND ISSUES. EARLY VOTING STARTS OCTOBER 23. See STORY Below

HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

Star Courier

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

IN THE STARS

EVENTS

Highlands/Lynchburg Chamber Luncheon Nov. 9

You're invited to the Highlands/Lynchburg Chamber of Commerce November Luncheon. This is an important meeting to further the efforts to revitalize the Chamber.

Jim Wadzinski will be the guest speaker. RSVP for \$15 luncheon, or \$20 at the door.

The Chamber will be conducting its annual food drive in November, and asks for non-perishable foods to be donated at the Community Center.

Also, membership payment are now due for 2023. Mail payments to the office, 127 San Jacinto Street, Highlands, TX 77562. Questions, email to highlandlynchburgchamber@outlook.com.

C/H Chamber installs Board; Director retires

By David Taylor
Editor

After eight years of leading the Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce and the community through a hurricane, the COVID-19 pandemic, a record freeze, and summer drought, Chamber president and CEO Kim Harris has announced she has taken another opportunity and has left the chamber.

"I loved my years at the chamber," Harris said, "and I will miss everyone."



Kim Harris has resigned from the Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce after nearly nine years of service. She has taken the position as Community Center Director at the Vera May Community Center in Huffman.

Harris began her service on the chamber staff as an admin working under then President Glenda Logsdon. When Logsdon left, Harris became the new president in January of 2014.

Harris worked in the financial industry in Crosby or Huffman which afforded her the opportunity to be a member of the chamber through the banks, credit union, and KMCO for two years.

"I got involved with the chamber and served on the board for three terms or six years," she said.

Harris began her service on the chamber staff as an admin working under then President Glenda Logsdon. When Logsdon left, Harris became the new president in January of 2014.



The Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce held their annual board election at the luncheon last Thursday. Board members from left, front row Crystal Erogoshkin, Tim Patterson, Tracy Gaylean, Chelsey Long, and Bella Dion. Second row, Keenan Smith, Larry Koslovsky, Kay Sosa, and Tiffany Muller. Top row, Paula Patterson, Sue Fitzgerald, and Eric Jennings.

"It was a natural fit for me after I was laid off from KMCO since I already knew most everybody at the chamber," Harris said.

Once on the job, she had found her niche.

"I loved working at the chamber. It was a very rewarding position. I'm a people person and so it was like something new every day," she said.

Not everything was hunky-dory, however.

Harris assisted businesses through Hurricane Harvey recovery and then helped secure funds for many of them who later strug-

gled to survive in the pandemic.

"It's really been tough for the chamber since the pandemic," she said. "A lot of our restaurants didn't make it and the ones who did haven't been able to afford to continue their membership."

Chamber Chairman Larry Koslovsky was appreciative of the years Harris gave to the chamber.

"We wouldn't have survived as a chamber without her leadership and keeping us together through the pandemic. It was a challenging time," Koslovsky said.

He also credited Harris for the growth in the chamber membership, particularly before the pandemic.

"She's been instrumental in keeping things going," he said.

With a void, Koslovsky said the chamber is going through a time of transition.

Continued. See CHAMBER LEADERSHIP, Page 7

Crosby EMS breaks ground for new Station



CROSBY – Crosby EMS has officially broken ground on the newest ambulance station construction. Located North in the district at 111 W. Stroker Rd they are preparing to reduce the response times for our Northern community citizens. They anticipate this station to tentatively be completed in July of 2024 providing supply chain issues are met.

Crosby EMS issued the

following statement: "We would like to thank our elected Harris County ESD No.5 board of Commissioners Sharon Cotton-President, Luther Brady Jr- Vice President, James Blaha-Treasurer, Larry Lee Hall-Secretary, and Brent Burley- Assistant Secretary for their focused efforts to making the community's health the top priority. Additionally, we would

like to thank Slattery Tackett Archetector and Maco Construction for the strategic team effort as we build the citizens of Crosby newest station. Thank you to Pct 3 Commissioner Tom Ramsay's office for the dedication and support.

Congratulations to Harris County ESD No.5 medics for their new home, how exciting for the new Crosby Response Vision!!"

Highlands "First Lady" Betty Brewer passes at 88

By Gilbert Hoffman

The Highlands community is mourning the passing of its "First Lady" Betty Brewer, who died last Thursday, October 19 at the age of 88.

Betty was a remarkable woman, active in most all organizations in Highlands over the years, and friends with everyone. Betty was active in service to others, often through organizations such as the Rotary Club, Highlands Booster Club, Pilot Club of Highlands, Highlands Horizons, and a charter member of the Highlands/Lynchburg Chamber of Commerce.

She was also for many years an ambassador for Sterling White Funeral



BETTY BREWER

Home, where she met and befriended many families and individuals in the greater Highlands community. She also was known for the flower shop and floral design work in her business, Florette Florist of Highlands.

Betty was honored over

the years with many local awards and recognitions. Most recently she was the Rotarian of the Year, and a Paul Harris Fellow with the Highlands Rotary Club. Her fellow Rotarians quipped "She Knew everyone and everything that happened around Highlands. She was Mrs. Highlands! Or, the Mayor!" And they remembered she was the top ticket seller for the annual Chili Feast.

Other awards included Who's Who of Houston 1983, Terry Davis Award for Community Service, Masons Community Builders Award, and Pilot Club Sweetheart.

A complete Obituary and Tribute to Betty Brewer is on Page 7 of this issue of the Star-Courier.

Early Voting starts Oct. 23 thru Nov. 3

Joint General & Special Elections and Bond Issues

HARRIS COUNTY – Early voting for the November 7 Joint General & Special Elections begins Monday, October 23, and ends Friday, November 3. A total of 68 voting centers will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day, except for Sunday, October 29, noon to 7 p.m.

Local East Harris County voters will have bond issues to approve. Depending on where you live, these include HuffmanISD \$92 million, CrosbyISD \$85 million, Crosby MUD \$20 million, or Goose Creek CISD \$386 million in 3 bonds. There is also a \$2.5 billion bond issue for the Harris County Hospital District.

"There are 14 state constitutional amendments and the Harris County Hospital District proposition," said Harris County Clerk Teneshia Hudspeth. "Only voters who live within the City of Houston's legal boundaries are eligible to vote in the Houston Mayoral and City Council races." For a sample ballot, see HARRISVOTES.COM. Enter the name,



Voters within the City of Houston will be able to vote for Mayor and City Council. ABOVE, Mayoral candidates include Sheila Jackson Lee, John Whitmire, Lee Kaplan, Gilbert Garcia, and Jack Christie among a field of 18 candidates.

address, or Voter Unique Identifier (VUID) on your voter registration certificate to view all the contests and candidates. Sample ballots are unique to an individual's

CONTINUED. See EARLY VOTING, Page 7

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American Legion Post is Beneficiary of Several Donations



The Bicentennial Car Show Committee presents a check to the American Legion members for \$500. From left, Ron DeLorge, Johnelle Eilers, Don Guillory, Karen Foster, Eddie Foster and Post Commander Richard Newman. Not pictured is Coy Hearn.



The Eastside Veterans completed their work with the installation of the monument in Crosby Park and made a donation of \$2,220.95 to the Legion. From left, Post Commander Richard Newman, Eastside Veterans committee Cedrick Patterson, Judy Culbreath, Eddie Foster, Don Guillory, and Bob Ward.

By David Taylor

The checks kept coming. One by one, three different organizations announced their donations to the Crosby American Legion, David H. McNerney Post 658 Post last Thursday night, Oct. 5 and the group was stunned to be the beneficiary of such goodwill. The donations were welcome for the Legion Hall which had fallen on hard times.

Before the regular meeting began in earnest, the donors lined up to give checks.

"A couple of weeks ago, we had a bicentennial celebration here in Crosby. We worked 18 months putting it together, half of it at the fairgrounds, the other half here at the Legion Hall," said Eddie Foster.

He explained the front parking lot of the American Legion Hall was packed with a car show, and inside, a cornhole tournament also raised money.

"After we paid our bills and gave out the trophies, we had \$500 left over. The committee voted to donate

the money to the Legion Hall who never asked for money and graciously allowed us to use the facility here for the celebration," Foster said.

The Eastside Veterans Committee was formed in 2012 to honor veterans past and present with a parade and lunch on the Saturday closest to November 11 each year.

"In 2018, we changed our mission statement to include building a monument to honor all our service branches," said member Bob Ward.

Fundraisers included raffles and monthly trips to the Couthatta Casino.

"We give thanks to the American Legion for the use of the hall for all our activities honoring our veterans and for the use of their parking area as a pick-up and disbursement point for those going on the casino trips," Ward said.

The monument has been installed in Crosby Park between the library and baseball field. The space was provided by Harris County Commissioner Tom Ramsey

who also provided the lights and maintenance.

The organization was dissolved at the end of 2022.

"We present this check in honor and remembrance of our members that were a part of our organization that have passed on including John Lindsey, Mary Guillory, Rickey Cox, Dr. James Grasey, Louis Spearman, and Ronnie Barfield," Ward concluded.

The final check was presented by Bruce Filkins. It was his wife, Diane, who helped secure a \$5,000 donation from the company she has worked at for 35 years, Tristar Freight System.

"I do go back about once a week to work and they have always been very supportive of our veterans," she said. Tristar moves military household goods overseas and back.

Kathleen Nance, a Hardin resident, and the company have contributed \$12,000-plus over the years to the veterans at the Legion Hall, based upon their profits each year.

"She likes to do donations



Bruce Filkins presents a \$5,000 check to Post Commander Richard Newman to help defray expenses for the organization. Filkins' wife Diane helped secure the donation through her company Tristar Freight System.

to the fire station on Mesa Road, and other charities," Filkins said.

Her father, who passed away in 2008, started the business and was always mindful about giving back.

"I've only had two bosses my entire career—when he hired me in 1975 and his daughter when she took over the company," Diane Filkins said.

The American Legion members gave a thunderous applause in appreciation for the Tristar donation.

To help the Legion Hall, visit HYPERLINK "<https://www.americanlegionpost658.org/make-donations>" to donate. Donations are tax deductible

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Barbers Hill Press

Dayton

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

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

ON THE HILL

Christmas on The Hill Parade

Holiday traditions run deep in the south, and the Christmas on the Hill Parade is one of our most cherished Mont Belvieu traditions. This special event gives the community the opportunity to support our locals and 100% of the parade entry fees brought in from this parade are given directly to the West Chambers County Food Pantry right here in Mont Belvieu. 'Tis the season, so let's give back in one of the most meaningful ways we know how.

Parade info

The Christmas on the Hill parade will be at 6:00 p.m. on December 3, 2023.

Application - Go live on MONDAY, OCTOBER 23rd

Access the application form through Mont Belvieu website. Due to the high demand, the application process will be different in 2023. Once you complete your application and are confirmed by the parade organizers, you'll be emailed a link to pay for your entry and sent details for the pre-parade meeting.

2023 Entry Fees

Entry fees are \$50 per entry and an additional \$50 per vehicle included in your parade set up. (Truck + float is 1 entry - limit one float per entry)

2023 Parade Theme

The public has spoken - the 2023 parade theme will be Gingerbread Village.

2023 Parade Awards

- *Best Spectacle - for the Best of the Parade
- *Deck the Halls - for the most creative entry
- *Most Festive Spirit - for the most entertaining
- *Santa's Little Helpers - for the best school
- *Gingerbread Architect - for the best theme-based float
- *Santa's Shop Award - for the best business
- *Community Favorite - public will vote during the parade

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are needed for the City of Mont Belvieu Christmas on the Hill Parade. Volunteers will help delegate staging areas and maintain the integrity of the parade.

Volunteers need to be 18 years old or older and will be driving golf carts to help marshal the parade.

Attention Spectators!

Pick your favorite viewing spot on the Barbers Hill ISD side of Eagle Drive. The parade is best viewed from that side of the road and that's where all of the candy & handouts are given. Please stay off medians and remain behind the barricades for your safety.

Creighton Statement on S.B. 2, Historic New Funds for Texas Education

Austin, Texas— Today, Senator Brandon Creighton (R-Conroe) filed key legislation to fund, support and bolster education for the future of Texas.

"The future of Texas begins in the classroom, and it is incumbent on lawmakers to unleash the potential of education for the 6 million students we serve. This package of legislation infuses historic new funds into public schools, raises the basic allotment and provides immediate across the board raises for Texas educators.

Senate Bill 2, goes hand in hand with Senate Bill 1, the Texas Education Freedom Act— legislation that empowers Texas families with school choice. Senate Bill 1 will be filed later today. Both bills are consis-

tent with what I passed during the regular session, and set Texas on a path for continued prosperity and a strong economy for future generations. I had hoped to get these priorities across the finish line in the regular session, but the most recent state budget projection opens up an unprecedented opportunity to invest an additional \$1.2 billion into our Texas students and educators than what was approved in the state budget passed in May.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to advance this legislation and unleash the potential of Texas education."

Senate Bill 2 S.B. 2 provides \$5.2 billion for Texas public schools. By increasing the basic allotment, providing across the board



State Senator Brandon Creighton

teachers raises and infusing \$317 million into the teacher incentive allotment, S.B. 2 is the most significant investment in public education in Texas history. This investment will support and retain the state's excellent teachers and bring additional resources to school children across the state.

The almost \$1 billion increase to the basic allot-

ment imparts funds directly to school districts, providing full discretion of how to disburse state dollars. This is a significant shift that removes the requirement that 30% of basic allotment funds be spent on teacher salaries, and a result of the state's commitment to increasing compensation for Texas educators.

Most notably, this legislation appropriates an additional billion over the proposals considered during the 88th regular session. The legislature is appropriating funds to ensure Texas educators receive a much-deserved raise this school year by allocating \$3,000 as retention bonuses. Every public school teacher in the state will receive this additional compensation. Teachers in small and mid-size districts will

receive an additional \$7000, to retain talent and create a level playing field across the state.

Key Provisions:

- \$400,000,000 increased school safety funding (doubling the per student and per-campus funds passed in HB 3 (88R))

- \$975,000,000 investment in Basic Allotment Increases

- \$3.8 billion specifically for across the board raises for Texas teachers
- \$3,000 across the board pay raises

- \$7,000 raise for teachers in small-midsize districts (small - midsize districts have enrollment under 5,000 students, and make up 82% of school districts throughout the state)

- \$317,500,000 Teacher Incentive Allotment Acceleration and Grants

West Chamber County Pilot Club News



West Chambers County Pilot Club, Inc. Pilots helping at Old River/Winfree Founder's Day! President Jan Jones, Pam Wishum, Recording Secretary Linda Gilmore, Director Linda Polk and President-Elect Deana Fojt. With Old Rivers Founder's Day Director Linda Johnson.



West Chambers County Pilot Club members collected School Supplies Donations. (Pictured l-r) Corresponding Secretary Marla Van Pelt, President-Elect Deana Fojt, Recording Secretary Linda Gilmore, Director Angela Fackler, Director Karrell Hargrave, and past Texas District Pilot Governor Connie Hernandez.



Barbers Hill Education Foundation Donation

West Chambers County Pilot Club, Inc. recently donated \$1,500.00 to the Barbers Hill Education Foundation. (Pictured l-r) Amber Young, Barbers Hill Education Foundation Coordinator and WCCPC Past-President Judy Duncan.

Lee College Awarded \$2 Million From DOE to Support Student Parents

BAYTOWN, TX, Oct. 17, 2023 - Hundreds of Lee College students who are parents will not have to worry about child care expenses, thanks to a \$2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education (DOE). The Child Care Access Means Parents in School Program or CCAMPIS grant is a "game changer" for sustainable childcare services funding.

"One of the primary reasons students who are parents drop out mid-semester or do not attend college at all is due to challenges with child care," said Kelli Forde Spicers, executive director of Student Engagement and Belonging. "Now, this

grant will empower these mothers and fathers to prioritize their studies while their kids are in the care of professionals they choose."

According to the DOE, more than one in five students in the United States are parents, and 42% of all student parents attend community colleges. Many of these students must balance the demands of being primary caregivers or guardians for at least one child, and they face financial struggles while pursuing academic degrees and certificates.

The 2023 Hope Center Student Basic Needs survey sheds light on the challenges faced by student

parents at Lee College. Among the 578 Lee College students surveyed:

- 38% are parents.

- 13% have missed three or more days of class due to lack of child care.

- 78% believe that child care is unaffordable.

"The CCAMPIS grant represents a significant step toward supporting the academic aspirations of our student parents while alleviating their financial burdens," said Dr. Lynda Villanueva, Lee College president. "By providing them with access to affordable, quality care, our students have a greater chance of obtaining a college degree, leading to successful, family-supporting

careers."

The CCAMPIS grant will be administered through the Student Resource and Advocacy Center, which addresses unmet basic needs such as childcare services, food and emergency aid. During the 2022-2023 academic year and summer semester, SRAC provided financial assistance for child care to 81 Lee College student parents.

In addition to paying for licensed child care providers, funds from the four-year project will be used to hire a CCAMPIS Program Manager who will coordinate child care assistance, foster collaborative relationships with community

child care vendors, develop campus programs and outreach for parenting students. It will also enable the installation of lactation stations/pods and changing stations around campus to make the campus more family friendly.

"The assistance offered through CCAMPIS will resolve the child care issue for 360 to 400 Lee College student parents during the grant program," said Selah Tacconi, interim executive director, Lee College Foundation. "We believe this will disrupt generational poverty in our community by enabling parents to work toward making a living wage."

★ OPINION PAGE ★



Medicare Open Enrollment Period Has Started!

For years, the price of health care services and prescription drugs have soared, with little relief for working families. That's why House Democrats and the Biden administration have been working hard to lower health care costs for those who need it most.

On October 15, the Medicare Open Enrollment period began and seniors now have the opportunity to sign up for the program. This year, they are able to choose Medicare plans with new cost-saving benefits that came out of laws that Congressional Democrats and President Biden passed, including the Inflation Reduction Act.

Thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act, the cost of insulin for Medicare beneficiaries is now capped at \$35 per month. For many, that monthly cost will come down from as high as \$200 per month. But that's not all:

Starting October 15, many beneficiaries will now pay less for prescription drugs. Any drug covered by Medicare Part B will have a lower coinsurance if the price has increased above inflation. In 2024, Medicare Part D enrollees who have drug costs high enough to go beyond a certain threshold will no longer be required to pay any cost sharing for their Part D drugs.

Recommended vaccines are now covered under Medicare without cost-sharing. That means no out-of-pocket cost for vaccines to prevent shingles, tetanus, hepatitis, COVID, and flu.

Starting this month, if a drug company raises the price of a Medicare Part D prescription by more than the rate of inflation, the manufacturer will have to pay the difference in price back to Medicare. That means more money for Medicare to cover costs — savings that will be passed onto seniors.

To find out more about Medicare Open Enrollment, how you can change your own plan or work with the seniors in your life to get them on Medicare, visit here: Medicare.Gov or call 1-800-MEDICARE.

If you need assistance with your Medicare benefits, please contact my office: 832-325-3150

As your representative in Congress, I'll keep working to lower health care costs for you and your family so that no one has to worry about being able to afford the medicine they need to live.

Sincerely, Sylvia R. Garcia

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



★ THE POSTSCRIPT By Carrie Classon

Our Devices

My sister sends a text, telling me she is making lasagna, and asks if I will bring a cake.

"Sounds great!" I readily agree. "When?"

There is no response.

I know we are celebrating my mother's birthday early, but I have no idea when, so I don't know when this cake will be needed. I could call my sister, but that sounds difficult. Will she be busy? She is a teacher, and she is busy a lot. She gets up early and seems to be in constant motion from the time she gets off work until she goes to bed.

It seems like a silly way to live. But here we are.

I know young people hate to call. They text and instantly respond, and that seems to work well. When older people text, they tend to forget to check their messages, and balls get dropped. I'm guessing I'm not alone in this.

I like email. I am at my computer all day, and when I see I have an email, I am on it like a seagull on a leftover dinner roll. I have an immediate distraction from trying to find a more interesting word than "follow." ("Abide" is more interesting, but does it work?) When I see that little notification, I am like Pavlov's dog. Pounce!

Recently, I installed a program that sends all my text messages to my computer. Now, I rarely miss a text, but I suspect I bug the heck out of whoever wrote to me.

They send a five-word text with no punctuation (obviously), and I reply from my keyboard, all 10 fingers flying, with punctuation and paragraph returns and asides and possibly a few parenthetical comments for good measure. I have no idea how long it takes to read this on their device. This is probably why I still don't know when to bring the cake.

It is a cliché to complain about how much we use our devices, and yet, here I go. I will often call someone on my daily walk. Perhaps we haven't chatted in a while. Perhaps I am a little tired, and talking will make the walk go faster. I always enjoy the chat, and I am always amazed at how fast the time goes by. Only later do I wonder what I missed while I was talking.

When my phone stays in my bag, I am free to chat with the dogs and notice the flowers and smell the autumn air. My thoughts on my walks fly more freely than they do when I am indoors. They have more space. My best ideas bubble up on my walks. And all of that is missed when I am attached to my phone.

I would never want to go back to the time when long-distance calls cost money and letters were sent in the mail. You could argue it was romantic, and these obstacles to communication made us treasure communication more—and that might be true.

But sending an email to someone and knowing they will read it that day is a wonderful thing. Being able to chat with my mom and dad wherever I am in the world is a gift I do not take for granted.

Still, it's nothing like talking to someone face-to-face, and it never will be. It will never be as good as seeing my mom in person—preferably over cake.

Till next time. Carrie

★ STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders



Early Voting Now Underway

Early voting is now underway for the Nov. 7 general election. Voters will decide the fate of 14 proposed amendments, including measures to provide property tax relief and raise the homestead exemption to \$100,000.

A nonpartisan explanation of what each proposition entails has been produced by the Texas Legislative Council and can be found at this link: https://tinyurl.com/5n946d32.

There are also bond elections for school districts across the state, as well as municipal and school board elections, depending on where you live. Contact your county's election administrator or check the county's website to see what local elections are being held.

HOUSE UNVEILS LIMITED SCHOOL CHOICE PLAN

The Republican chair of the Texas House public education committee has filed a bill that increases education funding with one-time bonuses for school employees as well as education savings accounts on a limited basis. The Dallas Morning News reported.

The Senate has already passed a voucher plan in this third session but the House has balked, with opposition coming from rural Republicans and most Democrats. State Rep. Brad Buckley, R-Salado, has said he would not call for a committee meeting unless Gov. Greg Abbott includes teacher pay raises and school financing as agenda items for this session. Abbott has maintained he wouldn't do so until the Legislature passed a voucher plan, or what he terms school choice.

"We continue to have productive conversations with House members," Abbott spokesman Andrew Mahaleris told The News. "The governor looks forward to reaching an agreement on school choice, at which point he will gladly expand the call."

Meanwhile, House Democrats last week released their own plan to revamp



school funding, which would provide a \$15,000 bonus for Texas school employees, admittedly a long shot.

"We have this bill today because it is the opposite of a voucher scam," said Rep. Gene Wu, D-Houston. "We need the money that's in this bill because that is the future of Texas."

The bill would also increase per-student school funding by almost \$2,800. The likelihood of passage is slim in the GOP-dominated House.

VACCINE MANDATE BAN PASSES SENATE

A ban on COVID-19 vaccine mandates for employees of private businesses in Texas passed the Texas Senate Friday. The ban includes doctors' offices and other health facilities, though those facilities could still require unvaccinated employees to wear face masks.

The bill passed 19-12 along party lines, according to the Texas Standard. Supporters said the bill allows individuals to make their own health care decisions without jeopardizing their jobs.

"No one should be forced to make that awful decision between making a living for their family and their health or individual vaccine preference," sponsor Sen. Mayes Middleton, R-Galveston, told senators during a hearing.

A state law banning governmental entities from requiring the COVID-19 vaccine passed during the regular session and went into effect last month.

top ten MOST POPULAR HALLOWEEN CANDIES
1. Skittles
2. Reese's Peanut Butter Cups
3. M&Ms
4. Snickers
5. Starburst
6. Candy Corn
7. Hot Tamales
8. Tootsie Pops
9. Sour Patch Kids
10. Hershey Bar
Source: CandyStore.com

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WELL PLUGGING PROGRAM RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

After completing a complex project to remove surface casings on four wells plugged in the Neches River for more than four decades, the Texas Railroad Commission's well plugging program received accolades from the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission.

The casings had posed risks to boaters as the river's depth decreased due to recent droughts.

"The commission has been nationally recognized for our well plugging program and this award is yet another example of the reputation we have gained in our commitment to protecting Texans and the environment," said Wei Wang, executive director.

The RRC has received more than \$300 million from the federal government to plug, remediate and reclaim orphaned wells across the state. The money came from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, passed by Congress during the first year of the Biden administration.

SUMMER HEAT WAVE SLOWS STATE ECONOMY

Besides making outdoor living and work miserable, last summer's record heat wave possibly cost the state's economy \$24 billion, according to economists with the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. Their analysis found extreme heat reduced the state's gross domestic product by 1 percentage point, the Texas Tribune reported.

Extreme heat reduces agricultural production, slows down construction projects, and keeps people from going out to shop or dine, the analysis indicated. The sectors most affected by extreme heat were leisure, hospitality, and retail.

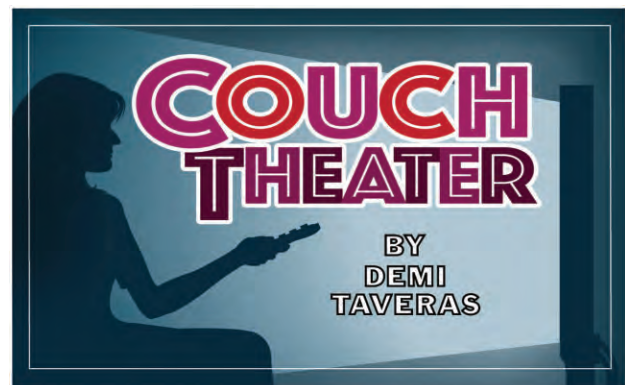
"The economy will need to adapt," Anil Kumar, an economic policy advisor and senior economist at the Dallas Fed and one of the authors of the analysis, told the Tribune. "Communities may adapt by adopting more technology to be more sustainable and other ways to mitigate the effects of heat waves."

The heat wave was also life-threatening. At least 97 Texans died from heat-related illness, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services.

TEXAS NAMED 'CUSSING CAPITAL' OF THE COUNTRY

An online search of Reddit posts conducted by BonusFinder.com indicates Texans topped all states in using profanity in posts, averaging 6.9 curse words per post, the Austin Statesman reported. That amount narrowly beat out Ohio and Florida. Something surprising, New Yorkers didn't even make the top 10 in this potty-mouth ranking.

In the 691 posts reviewed for Texas, there were 4,743 curse words, according to the survey.



Benicio Del Toro and Alicia Silverstone star in "Reptile."

"Reptile"

"REPTILE" (R) — In this crime thriller starring Benicio del Toro and Justin Timberlake, a detective (del Toro) with a past of uncovering crooked cops is put on the murder case of a young real estate agent. Her body was found by her boyfriend (Timberlake) in their home, painting him as a prime suspect. But with one trail leading back to her ex-husband (Karl Glusman), and another leading to a mentally unstable man seeking revenge for a corrupt real estate deal, solving the case won't be an easy feat. Del Toro's acting prowess is what easily carries the film, along with a refreshing performance from "Clueless" star Alicia Silverstone. Out now. (Netflix) ***

"FIVE NIGHTS AT FREDDY'S" (PG-13) — Based on the video game franchise of the same name, this horror film follows security guard Mike Schmidt (Josh Hutcherson) as he starts working the night shift at Freddy Fazbear's Pizza. Abby, Mike's little sister, is in his care and accompanies him to the abandoned family fun center, where she soon discovers a few animatronics that all seem to have a mind of their own. Although a local police officer (Elizabeth Lail) comes around to warn him of Freddy's sinister past, it's only a matter of time before Mike and Abby find out for themselves. You won't look at a Chuck E. Cheese the same after this. Premieres Oct. 27. (Peacock) ***

much traction. Determined to make her podcast succeed, she covertly takes advantage of an opportunity to get herself more clout when a student at her college, Jesse, suddenly disappears. After Jesse does eventually get found by Susie, she gets praised as a hero, and her social status instantly begins to climb. But when another student finds incriminating evidence of Jesse's kidnapper, Susie realizes that she might be way in over her head. Kiersey Clemons ("The Flash") plays the titular character in the film, with appearances by Alex Wolff, Jim Gaffigan and Alex Moffat. Premieres Oct. 27. (Hulu) ***

"SURROUNDED" (R) — "Black Panther's" Letitia Wright plays Moses "Mo" Washington, a female Buffalo soldier disguised as a man on a treacherous ride west in search of a gold mine after serving in the Civil War. When the stagecoach that Mo is smuggled on gets ambushed by thieves, she narrowly escapes death. But after deputies of the sheriff arrive at the scene, Mo is forced to stand guard for one of the thieves — legendary outlaw Tommy Walsh (Jamie Bell) — until they return with the sheriff. Knowing that other bandits from Tommy's gang are riding in search of him, Mo must continue her endless plight of survival with all the odds against her. This Western film, out now, features Michael K. Williams in his final appearance before his tragic death. (Amazon Prime Video) ***

"SUSIE SEARCHES" (NR) — College-aged student Susie is the host of a true crime podcast that doesn't really get

Greens Bayou Coalition: Another Great Regatta!

NORTH CHANNEL — October 7 — Another Great Regatta!

After a week of rain, the sun came out and we enjoyed a perfect day for paddling! There were some really fast paddlers out there, some folks out to clean up the bayou, and some paddlers enjoying a day in nature, but everyone seems to have had a good day on Greens Bayou!

Greens Bayou Coalition plans the Regatta each year to showcase Greens Bayou and draw paddlers out to a wonderful recreational jewel in urban Houston. Our mission is to improve the quality of life in the watershed. We host cleanups, plant trees, promote and look for funding for parks, trails, & boat launches, and advocate for flood mitigation and resilience. We also monitor water quality and have an environmental education program for kids. We are a 501(c)3 nonprofit and we are funded through donations, grants and sponsorships. The regatta serves as a fundraiser, an awareness campaign and a cleanup effort, all at the same time! This year, paddlers cleaned up almost 700 lbs of trash from Greens Bayou!

We couldn't do this without our many sponsors, listed below, or our volunteers! We thank everyone who sponsored, donated and participated, from Katz Coffee and Precincts 3 & 4 who donated Corporate Cup canoes to start us off, to TEXSAR and our sweep boat volunteers on the water, to Rico Torres of AR's Entertainment Hub and Bayou City Adventures who rocked the after-party and Coca Cola SWB who rehydrated us with fabulous beverages. The Barry Ross family, with help from North Belt UD, again cooked up our famous "Best Lunch on the Bayou" and St. Arnold's provided the beer. And finally, METRO got everyone back to their vehicles at the end of the



day with their usual excellent service. Race Director Tom Helm made sure the day was safe and fun. Our volunteers were amazing! A huge "thank you!" to all of our wonderful sponsors: our Presenting Sponsors Coca Cola Southwest Beverages and East Aldine District, our Gold Sponsor SWCA Environmental Consultants; Silver Sponsors Ratcliffe Adams Barner LLC and Lone Star College - North Harris, and our Bronze Sponsors Satterfield & Pontikes Construction, Inc., KNCS Constructor Services, and SWA Group, and our Copper Sponsor LAN. Without all of you, and our In-Kind sponsors, this event could not have happened.

Our volunteers helped the Regatta run so smoothly this year! Many thanks to all of them: Karen, John, Jacqueline, Beth, Lorene, Betty, Stephen, Fangyi, Shannon, Ella, Jackson, Dale, Fran, Christy, Allen, Nate, Michelle, Darrell and Karla and the North Shore Anchor teens! <https://www.greensbayou.org/>



Winners of the Styrofoam Cup, Brian Jenison and Dean Campa, collected just over 170 pounds of trash!



Overall winner, Alan Lindsey, finished with a time of 1:20:14. Congratulations Alan!

ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves



TIGER



The Spats



Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3x3 box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

HOCUS-FOCUS
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

October 23, 2023 Posting Date King Crossword

ACROSS

- Lass
- Choose
- Beans
- Historic time
- Actor's quest
- Theater award
- Contingency funds
- Goddess of victory
- Orange veggies
- Pursuing
- Cellist Casals
- Innocent one
- New York canal
- Misfortune
- Balloon filler
- Pal
- Big D.C. lobby
- Melancholy melodies
- Alike (Fr.)
- Aftermath
- Condition
- Of the Arctic
- Chinese dynasty
- Egg
- Believed
- Ganges wrap
- Skip
- Apprehend
- BPOE members
- Lectern locale
- Sticky stuff
- Lock opener
- Have a huddle
- Slightly
- Toll road
- Crystal gazer
- Like ganders
- "Dear —"
- Stew veggies
- Operatic solo
- Police ID
- Tosses in
- Nonsense
- Attractive
- "I smell —!"
- Hardy cabbage
- Sow's mate
- Hindu teachers
- Sicilian volcano
- Prepares flour
- Sit for a photo
- Ellipse
- Hide in the bushes
- 1502, in Old Rome
- Brick carrier
- "I — Rock"
- Eastern "way"
- "Game of Thrones" airer

DOWN

- Prized possession
- Altar constellation
- Small beetle
- Teaser ad
- Charged bits
- The Browns, on scoreboards

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Trivia test
by Fifi Rodriguez

- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a male duck called?
- LITERATURE: Who wrote the novel "Pride and Prejudice"?
- ASTRONOMY: In which constellation are the gas and dust clouds called the Pillars of Creation located?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president died at his retreat in Warm Springs, Georgia?
- MOVIES: Which 1999 movie features a character named Neo?
- MEDICAL: Which part of the human body is affected by Bright's Disease?
- TELEVISION: In which state is the sitcom "Newhart" set?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is the tallest mountain in Africa?
- HISTORY: Which politician made the phrase "Iron Curtain" famous in a speech about eastern Europe?
- U.S. STATES: What is the capital of South Dakota?

Solution time: 26 mins.

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FOOTBALL SCORES & SCHEDULES

THIS WEEK'S SCORES

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19
Aldine Eisenhower 31, Aldine Davis 24
North Shore 38, Humble 24
Spring Westfield 63, Aldine MacArthur 7

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20
Aldine Nimitz 47, Aldine 0
Barbers Hill 56, Kingwood Park 14
Crosby, bye
Deer Park 56, Channelview 39
La Porte 34, Baytown Sterling 0
Lumberton 46, Huffman Hargrave 14
Nederland 38, Galena Park 7
New Caney Porter 42, Goose Creek Memorial 7
Port Arthur Memorial 48, Baytown Lee 33
Texas City 41, Dayton 6

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21
Atascocita 28, C. E. King 21 OT

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26
Aldine at Eisenhower, 7 p.m., Leonard George Stadium in Spring
Channelview at Pasadena, 7 p.m., Memorial Stadium in Pasadena
Galena Park at Fort Bend Marshall, 7 p.m., Kenneth Hall Stadium in Missouri City
MacArthur at Dekaney, 7 p.m., Planet Ford Stadium in Spring

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27
Atascocita at North Shore, 7 p.m., Galena Park ISD Stadium in Houston
Barbers Hill at Port Arthur Memorial, 7 p.m., Memorial Stadium in Port Arthur
Baytown Sterling at Goose Creek Memorial, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium in Baytown
Davis at Westfield, 7 p.m., Planet Ford Stadium in Spring
Fort Bend Willowridge at Dayton, 7 p.m., Bronco Stadium in Dayton
Huffman Hargrave at Vidor, 7:30 p.m., Pirate Stadium in Vidor
Porter at Baytown Lee, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium in Baytown
Spring at Nimitz, 7 p.m., Leonard George Stadium in Spring

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28
C. E. King at Summer Creek, 7 p.m., Turner Stadium in Humble
Crosby at La Porte, 1 p.m., Bulldog Stadium in La Porte

Trivia Test Answers:
1. A drake; 2. Jane Austen; 3. Serpens; 4. Franklin Roosevelt; 5. "The Matrix"; 6. The kidneys; 7. Vermont; 8. Mount Kilimanjaro; 9. Winsion Churchhill; 10. Pierre.

★ SPORTS PAGE ★

SEASON FOOTBALL WEEK 9

No. 1, No. 2 picks meet as Stroud faces Young:

When the Texans won their final game of the 2022 season, many Texan fans were disappointed that they had lost out on the overall first pick of the 2023 NFL Draft. Houston fans badly wanted the team to draft Alabama QB Bryce Young, considered by many draft experts as the top quarterback in last spring's draft.

The Texans selected Ohio State QB C.J. Stroud with the No. 2 overall pick. I think Texans fans are now happy with the selection.

After their first six games, Stroud has led his team to a 3-3 record and the Texans are serious contenders in the AFC South race and are also in the Wild Card hunt. Things haven't worked out as well for Young and the Carolina Panthers. Young and Carolina lost their first six games and looks like they could very well be drafting first in 2024.

Stroud and Young meet on Sunday in Charlotte when the Texans visit the Panthers. This is a very winnable game for the Texans and if they hope to remain in the playoff hunt, they can't take the Panthers lightly. Young has done some good things thus far, but has thrown four interceptions in his first six games as a pro. Stroud threw his first interception two weeks ago in the Texans 20-13 win over the Saints. Ironically, Stroud's interception was returned to his team when the Saints defender fumbled and offensive lineman Tytus Howard recovered it.

Talk about being at the right place at the right time!

While the Texans, who had last week off, take on the Panthers, the Cowboys, who also had their bye last week, host an improved Rams team on Sunday at AT&T Stadium. The Cowboys need to win this one to keep within range of the Eagles in the NFC East race. Philly saw its undefeated season come to an end two weeks ago when they lost



KEENEY'S KORNER
By
MIKE KEENEY

to the Jets.

Other interesting games on the NFL schedule in Week 8 has Tampa Bay visiting Buffalo on Thursday Night Football. The Bengals visit the 49ers, who also saw their undefeated season come to an end two weeks ago when they were upset by the Browns in Cleveland. Week 8 concludes on Monday Night Football with the Raiders visiting the red hot Detroit Lions.

In college action, No. 6-ranked Oklahoma plays at Kansas in what could be a tough environment for Brent Venable's team. No. 9-ranked Oregon visits No. 14-ranked Utah in a key Pac 12 game while No. 1-ranked Georgia takes on arch-rival Florida in Jacksonville in what is dubbed as the world's Largest Cocktail Party.

Before we take a look at this week's schedule, let's review last week's record. A 10-2 week (finally!) brought the season record to 44-30 (59%). Now, onto this week's games.

NCAA

Oklahoma at Kansas: The Sooners need to be wary of this game. They should enter with a 7-0 record (they played Central Florida last week) and in first place in the Big 12. Kansas is a dangerous team that can put points on the board and you can bet KU head coach Lance Leipold will have his Jayhawks fired up for this one. This could turn into another Big 12 shootout as the

Sooners have a potent offense led by QB Dillon Gabriel (1,878 yards, 16 TDs), running back Tawee Walker (239 yards, 4 TDs) and wide receiver Jalil Farouq (20 receptions, 415 yards, 2 TDs). The OU offense will be without its top wide receiver who suffered a season-ending injury two weeks ago. The Jayhawks have also been hit hard by the injury bug, most notably to dual-threat QB Jalen Daniels (705 passing yards, 5 TDs/74 rushing yards in three games). His backup, Jason Bean (913 yards, 9 TDs) has experience and the Jayhawks also have a strong running back in Devin Neal (659 yards, 6 TDs). Look for plenty of points in this one, but the OU defense will make a play or two down the stretch to keep the Sooners unbeaten. My pick, Oklahoma 34, Kansas 31

Georgia vs. Florida: These two long-time rivals meet once again at a neutral site in Jacksonville in an SEC East battle. The No. 1-ranked Bulldogs will be without their best offensive player for the rest of the regular season as tight end Brock Bowers (41 receptions, 566 yards, 4 TDs) sustained an ankle injury two weeks ago against Vanderbilt that required surgery. Bowers should return for the College Football Playoffs (CFP) should the Dogs advance to it. With Bowers out, sophomore QB Carson Beck (2,147 yards, 12 TDs) will have to rely on his running game led by Daijun Edwards (460 yards, 6

TDs) and wide receiver Marcus Rosemy-Jacksaint (18 receptions, 333 yards, 2 TDs) will need to step up his game. The Gators have been up and down this year, but they will be up for this one. If they hope to pull off the upset, QB Graham Mertz (1,872 yards, 12 TDs) will need to play his best game of the season. He will need help from running back Montrell Johnson Jr. (438 yards, 4 TDs) and Ricky Pearsall (43 receptions, 624 yards, 3 TDs). Look for the Georgia defense to step up and be the difference maker in this one. My pick, Georgia 30, Florida 16

NFL

Tampa Bay at Buffalo: Week 8 of the NFL season kicks off with Thursday Night Football with the Bucs visiting the Bills. Two weeks ago, TB lost at home to Detroit, while Buffalo rallied for a win over the Giants. The Bucs have been one of the surprise teams this year and are squarely in the hunt in the NFC South. QB Baker Mayfield (1,088 yards, 7 TDs) has been steady and he has two quality targets to throw to in wide receivers Mike Evans (24 receptions, 386 yards, 3 TDs) and Chris Godwin (27 receptions, 332 yards). The Bills will go as far as QB Josh Allen (1,576 yards, 13 TDs/131 rushing yards, 3 TDs) and wide receiver Stefon Diggs (49 receptions, 620 yards, 5 TDs) take them. The Buffalo defense has been playing well thus far and look for them to force a turnover or two as they get the win on Thursday night. My pick, Buffalo 24, Tampa Bay 20

Houston at Carolina: C.J. Stroud (1,660 yards, 9 TDs) and Bryce Young (967 yards, 6 TDs/4 interceptions) meet for the first time as the No. 2 overall pick (Stroud) and the No. 1 overall pick (Young) faceoff in Charlotte on Sunday. Stroud has been more consistent than Young has thus far in their young careers. Stroud is a big reason the Texans are 3-3 and in second place in the AFC South. Houston had a week off to prepare for this game and heal

up. They should have a number of players back who missed the early portion of the season with injuries. Stroud has done a good job of spreading the ball around, especially to his top two targets, Nico Collins (29 receptions, 547 yards, 3 TDs) and Tank Dell (19 receptions, 324 yards, 2 TDs). DeMeco Ryan's defense has been a pleasant surprise and was a big reason why Houston upset New Orleans 20-13 two weeks ago. Young and the Panthers have had a rough start, losing their first six games. Wide receiver Adam Thielen (49 receptions, 509 yards, 4 TDs) has become Young's go-to guy, so look for the Texans secondary to try and take him out of the game. Houston is young and can't afford to take the Panthers for granted. If they hope to remain in the AFC South and Wild Card race, they must win games like this one. My pick, Houston 26, Carolina 20

Los Angeles Rams at Dallas: The Cowboys come off their bye week and host a much-improved Rams team on Sunday at AT&T Stadium. Two weeks ago, Dallas picked up a big road win with a 20-17 win over the Chargers on Monday Night Football. That was a big win considering the week before the Pokes were embarrassed on Sunday Night Football by the 49ers. The win over the Chargers, coupled with the Eagles loss to the Jets, left the Cowboys just one game behind Philly in the NFC East race. Dak Prescott (1,333 yards, 6 TDs) had a solid game in the win over the Chargers (227 passing yards, 1 passing TD, 1 rushing TD). If he will take what the defense gives him and not force things, the Dallas offense will be better off. The Cowboys need to get running back Tony Pollard (370 yards, 2 TDs) going. It appears wide receiver CeeDee Lamb (34 receptions, 475 yards, 1 TD) is poised for another big year. The Dallas defense will have its hands full with QB Matthew Stafford (1,677 yards, 6 TDs), running back Kyrren Williams (456 yards, 6 TDs) and wide receivers Puka Nacua (50 receptions, 598 yards,

2 TDs) and Cooper Kupp (15 receptions, 266 yards, 1 TD in 2 games). Look for the Dallas defense to get after Stafford and be the difference maker in this one. My pick, Dallas 26, Los Angeles Rams 18

Cincinnati at San Francisco: This should be an interesting game as the red hot Bengals (winners of three of their last four games) visit the 49ers. Two weeks ago, Joe Burrow (1,240 yards, 7 TDs) led Cincinnati to a home win over Seattle, while the 49ers lost at Cleveland. Burrow appears fully healed from a calf injury that slowed the start of his season. He and wide receivers Ja'Marr Chase (50 receptions, 556 yards, 3 TDs) and Tyler Boyd (30 receptions, 204 yards, 1 TD) by a good SF defense. The 49er offense led by QB Brock Purdy (1,396 yards, 10 TDs), running back Christian McCaffrey (553 rushing yards/23 receptions, 177 yards, 10 total TDs) and wide receiver Brandon Aiyuk (25 receptions, 454 yards, 2 TDs) should be able to make plays against a so-so Bengal defense. Look for Purdy to have a big day as the 49ers get the win at home. My pick, San Francisco 30, Cincinnati 26

Las Vegas at Detroit: Week 8 concludes on Monday Night Football with the Raiders visiting the Lions. Detroit is playing as well as any team in the NFL and are serious Super Bowl contenders led by QB Jared Goff (1,618 yards, 11 TDs), wide receiver Amon-Ra St. Brown (35 receptions, 455 yards, 3 TDs) and rookie tight end Sam LaPorta (19 receptions, 341 yards, 3 TDs). The Lions might be without leading rusher David Montgomery (385 yards, 6 TDs) who suffered a rib injury two weeks ago in their win over Tampa Bay. The Raiders should be 4-3 when they visit the Motor City behind QB Jimmy Garoppolo (1,079 yards, 7 TDs), running back Josh Jacobs (312 yards, 2 TDs) and wide receiver Davante Adams (39 receptions, 471 yards, 3 TDs). Ford Field will be rocking as the Lions get some prime time love. Look for a big win on Monday night for the Lions. My pick, Detroit 31, Las Vegas 17

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C/H Chamber Leadership,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



NEW CHAMBER BOARD MEMBERS: Current board member Crystal Erogozhkin, left, introduced new board members Tim Patterson, Tracy Gaylean, Chelsey Long, Bella Dion, Larry Koslovsky, and Toni Handley (not pictured).

"I think the board is trying to get a handle on what it is to be the Chamber of Commerce in our communities and figure out how we can get the most out of the resources we have," he said.

That includes finding ways to support membership better.

"We want to make some improvements in our operations and then around the first of the year, we will be prepared to hire someone to take her place," he said.

One of the biggest challenges is being able to have enough staff to remain a vibrant chamber.

"Our morale is good, and we have excellent members, but to attract more members, we need to make some moves to show the benefits of being in the chamber," Koslovsky said.

Their goal, he said, is to have a chamber that meets the needs of its membership and the quality of life in Crosby and Huffman.

To that end, the cham-

ber hosted their October luncheon where they elected six new board members: Crystal Erogozhkin, Tim Patterson, Tracy Gaylean, Chelsey Long, Bella Dion, and Larry Koslovsky.

Kim Harris is the new Community Center Director for the I. T. May Community Center in Huffman and promised to stay connected in both the Huffman and Crosby communities.

OBITUARIES

BETTY C. BREWER

February 12, 1935 ~ October 19, 2023 (age 88)



Betty Brewer, a remarkable woman known for her unwavering dedication to her community, her family, and her passions, passed away on October 19, 2023. Born February 12, 1935 in Cooper, Texas, she leaves behind a legacy that will forever shine brightly in the hearts of those who had the privilege of knowing her.

Betty's life was a testament to love and service. Betty is survived by her loving daughter Charlotte Pogue, and her husband Bill of Highlands Texas, along with her granddaughters Amanda Holt (Brandon) and Ashley Pogue (Daniel) of Highlands, Texas. Her love extended to her great grandsons Landon Pogue, Brady Garcia, Jacob Garcia and one on the way. Betty is survived by sisters Nada Crouch (Carrell) of Birthright, Texas, Margaret Eudy (Dean) of Cooper, Texas and Judy Petty (Rick) of Tira, Texas, and her sister-in-law Lulu Homes of Cooper, Texas, along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Betty was preceded in death by Clovis Brewer, her loving husband of 37 years; her parents Elmer and Claudia

Paul Harris Award for Rotary, an organization she held dear.

In addition to her community activities, Betty was the owner and floral designer of Florette Florist of Highlands, Texas for many years, spreading her love for the community through her work. She was also an Ambassador for Sterling White Funeral Home where she was compassionate about her work and the families she served.

Betty's memory will forever be a guiding light in our lives. She touched the hearts of many, and her legacy of love, service and dedication will continue to inspire us.

Services Visitation Tuesday October 24, 2023 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM Sterling-White Funeral Home 11011 Crosby Lynchburg Rd. Highlands, TX 77562

Funeral Service Wednesday October 25, 2023 11:00 AM Sterling-White Funeral Home 11011 Crosby Lynchburg Rd. Highlands, TX 77562

Holmes; sister Dorothy Pennix, Brother Elmer Joe Holmes, sister Marie Lowery, brother in-law Wesley Pennix, brother in law Ben Lowery and great granddaughter Kensley Holt.

Throughout her life, Betty was an active and cherished member of the community. She was a member of the Highlands Booster Club, Charter member of the Pilot Club of Highlands, Charter/Board member of Highlands Chamber of Commerce, Highlands Horizons and Highlands Rotary.

Her dedication earned her numerous awards and honors, including the Winfred Welch Award for Outstanding Service to the youth of Highlands; Who's Who of Houston (1983); The Terry Davis Award; Pilot Club Sweetheart; Masons Community Builders Award; Rotarian of the Year; and the

HIGHLANDS ROTARY CLUB NEWS

Highlands Rotary Club hears about Clothe-a-Child from Crosby Care



Deborah Florus with Crosby Care was the recent Speaker at the Highlands Rotary Club luncheon. Highlands Rotary is proud to support the Crosby Care Clothe-a-Child program which serves school aged children.

CHARLENE ANN MICHALSKY THOMAS

Charlene Ann Michalsky Thomas, born on December 10, 1942, in Highlands, Texas, was welcomed home into the arms of Jesus in Heaven on October 17, 2023. Charlene was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, aunt and friend, whose genuine hugs and giving heart touched the lives of many.

She shared 40 years of her life with her husband, Joe Wayne Thomas until his death in 2003, and together they were blessed with two children, Connie and Danny.

Charlene was preceded in death by her parents, Arnold



and Wilma (Zalesak) Michalsky, her beloved husband Joe Thomas, and her siblings Polly Lowden, Danny Michalsky, and Judy Shatzer, niece Angel McClosky and great grandson Tucker Mitchell. She is survived by her sister

Betty McClosky and husband Charles, her daughter, Connie Cameron, her spouse Rhonda, and her son, Danny Thomas, as well as her cherished grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

A visitation followed by services and burial were held at Sterling White Funeral Home and Cemetery in Highlands, Texas on October 23, 2023.

To leave condolences or to read the full obituary, please visit: www.sterlingwhite.com

STERLING ~ WHITE
FUNERAL HOME & CEMETERY
281-426-3555
11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd. Highlands, TX 77562

Early Voting starts Oct. 23 thru Nov. 3,

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address. Voters are encouraged to review or print their sample ballot before heading to the polls. Voters can take their printed sample ballot into the voting booth for reference.

"Voters are encouraged to vote during one of the 12 days afforded by the early voting period and not wait until Election Day," added Clerk Hudspeth. "As usual, voters can vote at any one of the available Early Voting Centers in Harris County, near home, work, school, or wherever is most convenient."

The following forms of photo ID are acceptable when voting in person:

- Texas Driver's License issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas Election Identifi-

fication Certificate issued by DPS

- Texas Personal Identification Card issued by DPS

- Texas Handgun License issued by DPS

- United States Military Identification Card containing the person's photograph

- United States Citizenship Certificate containing the person's photograph

- United States Passport (book or card)

Voters who do not possess and cannot obtain one of these forms of photo ID may fill out a **Reasonable Impediment Declaration (RID)** at a Vote Center and present another form of ID, such as a utility bill, bank statement, government check, or voter registration certificate.

The deadline to request a ballot by mail for the November 7 election is Friday, October 27 (received, not postmarked). To be eligible to vote early by mail in Texas, you must:

- be 65 years or older, OR
- be sick or disabled
- be out of the county on election day and during the period for early voting by personal appearance
- be expected to give birth within three weeks before or after Election Day
- be confined in jail but otherwise eligible.

Additional information is available at www.HarrisVotes.com. For news and updates, follow us on social media at @HarrisCoTxClerk and @HarrisVotes.

RICHARD CANTU

FOR HOUSTON CITY COUNCIL AT-LARGE, POS. 3



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- ✓ Infrastructure Investments - Better Streets & Reduced Flooding
- ✓ Clean Neighborhoods - Revitalization & Beautification
- ✓ Youth Development Partnerships - For a Successful Future

An Experienced & Proven Leader!

- ✓ Trustee & Former President - Harris County Department of Education
- ✓ Executive Director - East Aldine Management District
- ✓ Former Director - Mayor's Citizens' Assistance Office
- ✓ Former Civic Club President & Precinct Chair/Election Judge
- ✓ Political Science Degree (UofH) / Master's Degree in Public Administration (UST)

Visit us online to learn more about our agenda or to donate.

www.RichardCantu.org

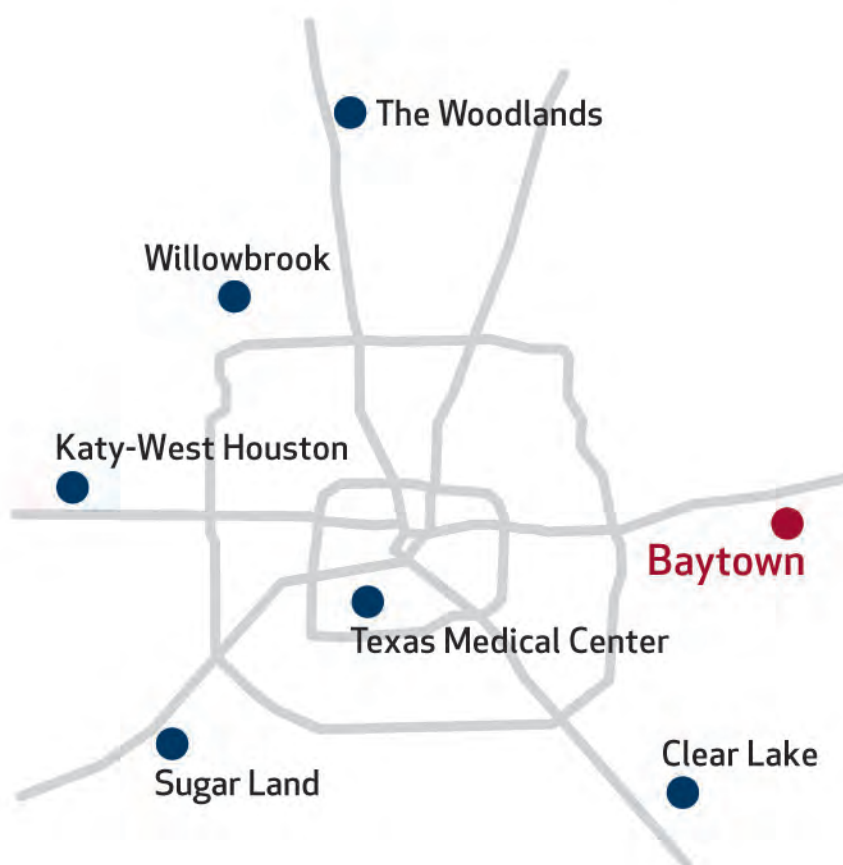
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