



The Livestock Auction is scheduled for Thursday, June 6 at 6:00pm. ABOVE, last year's Reserve Champion Steer.

HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

# Star Courier

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THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2024

P.O. DRAWER 446, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

**IN THE STARS**

**EVENTS**

**Crosby Fair & Rodeo Schedule**

**SATURDAY MAY 11**  
COWPOKE PAGEANT  
10:30 am  
Fairgrounds

**FRIDAY MAY 31**  
COOK-OFF  
BAG OF DONUTS

**SATURDAY JUNE 1**  
COOK-OFF  
LOGAN BEARD  
THE TWENTY TWOS

**JUNE 3-5**  
CROSBY YOUTH FAIR

**THURSDAY JUNE 6**  
LIVESTOCK AUCTION

**FRIDAY JUNE 7**  
RODEO  
RANDALL KING

**SATURDAY JUNE 8**  
RODEO  
DYLAN WHEELER

## Crosby Rodeo opens May 31 thru June 8

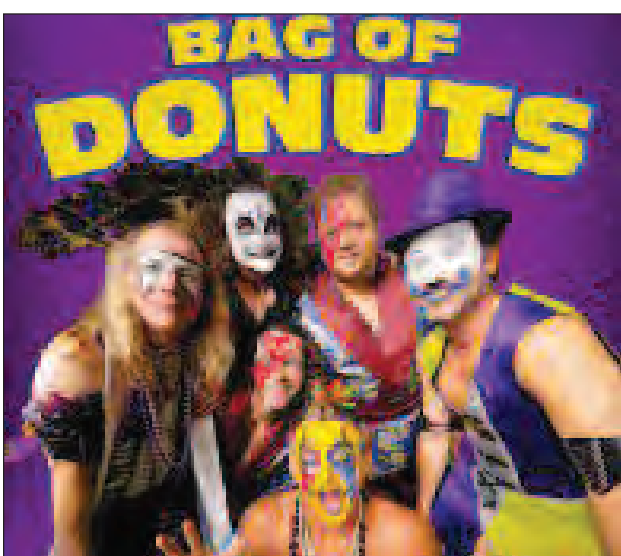
Community ready for biggest, best Annual Event

By David Taylor  
Managing Editor

For 78 years, fans looking for a good ole time and a place to return to their country roots turn out for the Crosby Fair and Rodeo. This year will be the best in recent years, with a lineup that will excite young and old with rodeo competition, a fair with lots of rides, a barbecue cookoff, and great musical entertainment to dance the night away.

Rick Loggins, director of public relations for the CFR, said this year was a banner year for the organization in awarding scholarships.

"We had a lot more applications this year and it's hard to say no to our own kids who grew up in this



Crosby Fair & Rodeo opens this Friday, May 31 with the start of the Cookoff and the BAG OF DONUTS entertainment at 7:00pm.

community," he said. "They were outstanding applicants, and this is all made possible by the support of the community for the rodeo and fair every year."

While some things remain the same, there is a noticeable change at the Rock'n C Arena this year.

"We did a refresh on the facilities," Loggins said.

Most notable is the paint job that sports a bright Cougar red.

"I'm told you can probably see it from space," he smiled.

Returning to take the stage to kick off the week's festivities on Friday, May

31 is Bag of Donuts, a New Orleans-based party band that's a little non-traditional for what's expected at a rodeo.

The fan favorites come dressed in a flair for kabuki make-up and extravagant costumes. The four Louisiana natives play and sing cover songs in a style they have self-branded as Superpop.

Doors open for all shows at 5 p.m. and a show start time of 7 p.m.

Saturday's show opens with Logan Beard followed by The 22's. The following weekend the rodeo hosts Randall King on Friday night, June 7, and Dylan Wheeler closes out the rodeo with a concert on Saturday night, June 8.

The annual BBQ Cookoff and carnival open the rodeo on May 31 at 5 p.m. The cookoff continues the following morning at 8 a.m. with judging later in the day.

The 78th annual Crosby

Fair and Rodeo parade winds down FM 2100 on Saturday, June 1 beginning at 10 a.m.

On Monday, the animals move in and through Thursday, own the arena with projects being presented and judged throughout the day. (See the website for a detailed schedule)

Thursday is one of the biggest days of the rodeo, especially for the young people who have worked hard to raise their projects and compete earlier in the week—it's auction day!

"We really encourage everyone to register as a buyer and come out and support these kids," Loggins pleaded. He also reminded them that even if they don't think they can afford to buy an animal on their own, they can always go in together with several families or buyers to

Continued. See CROSBY RODEO OPENS MAY 31, Page 2

## Community observes Memorial Day at Sterling-White

By David Taylor  
Managing Editor

A stillness fell over the 80 acres at 11011 Crosby Lynchburg Road in Highlands on Monday morning as the mournful sounds of Taps were remembered war dead at the Sterling-White Funeral Home and Cemetery. The bugle call is a signal for "lights out" at United States military installations around the world and performed at patriotic ceremonies and military funerals. On this occasion of Memorial Day, the 24-note strain of music, maybe the saddest ever played, signaled the end-of-life remembrance for 50 veterans who entered their eternal rest since last year.

The occasion was marked by the attendance of more than 250 people including the Crosby High School pep band who began the ceremony with the Star-Spangled Banner under the baton of director Kevin Knight.

They were followed by the Crosby U. S. Army Junior Reserved Officer Training Corps under the direction of Lt. Col. Toimu Reeves, Senior Army Instructor, JROTC at Crosby High School. Cadets marched to the corner of one of the roads in the cemetery where the Wall of Honor is constructed and dedicated to each of the branches of the military.

Carefully they posted a wreath in front of the large monument.

Members of Troop 264



Members of the Crosby High School Army ROTC carry a wreath to post at the Wall of Honor in Sterling-White cemetery on Monday, May 27, 2024. The unit memorialized those who have gone before them along with 250 spectators.



Members of Boy Scout Troop 264 unfurled Old Glory and hoisted her to her post at the site of the Wall of Honor



LEFT: Members of the Boy Scout Troop 264 lined the road in Sterling-White cemetery and saluted as the U. S. flag was posted by their colleagues.

RIGHT: Don Guillory and Dois Sutton from the David H. McNerney American Legion Post 658 in Crosby read the Honoree Roll Call and sound the bell.



Members of the Crosby High School Army ROTC carry a wreath to post at the Wall of Honor in Sterling-White cemetery



Vice Regent Laura Richard and Regent Alicia Spear from the Old 300 Chapter in Crosby of the Daughters of the American Revolution place their hand over heart for the pledge of allegiance.

marched in formation to the Wall of Honor and with the United States flag folded in hand. After the unfurling and posting of the flag, they led the crowd in the pledge of allegiance.

During the playing of America the Beautiful, Vice Regent Laura Richard laid a wreath at the Wall of Honor from the Old 300 Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Crosby.

Post Commander Martin Maier from the David H. McNerney American Legion Post 658 in Crosby spoke.

"What today we know as Memorial Day was once Decoration Day, first widely observed over 150 years ago on May 30, 1868," he said. "This day traces its roots to an order sent by Major General John A. Logan—the leader of a Union veteran's organization and Congressman. In his letter, Logan made a case and set the precedent for a holiday in memory of soldiers who died to preserve the Union and break the chains of slavery. He challenged his fellow Americans to 'Let no vandalism of avarice or neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten, as a people, the cost of a free and undivided Republic.'"

Bella Dion, director and owner of Sterling-White Funeral Home and Cemetery was pleased with the

Continued. See MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVED, Page 7

**HIGHLANDS LYNCHBURG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
Monthly Luncheon is 2nd Thursday  
San Jacinto Community Center -- RSVP at  
[highlandslynchburgchamber@outlook.com](mailto:highlandslynchburgchamber@outlook.com)  
Tel: 281-426-7227

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**WESTON G. COTTEN**  
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F. 281-533-6032  
[weston@westoncotten.com](mailto:weston@westoncotten.com)

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# Crosby Rodeo opens May 31 thru June 8

## Crosby Fair & Rodeo Performers



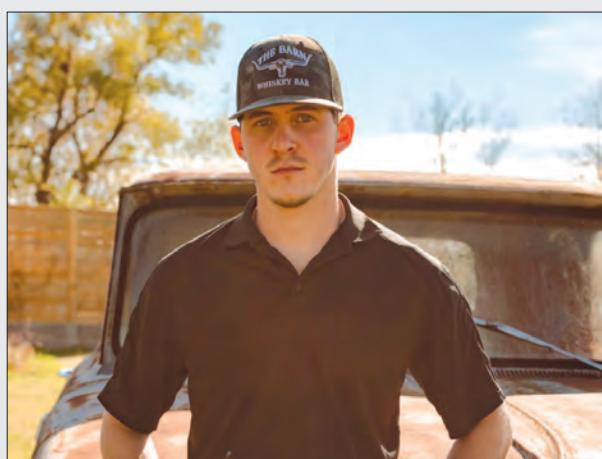
FRIDAY MAY 31 – BAG OF DONUTS 7:00 PM

With a flair for kabuki make-up and extravagant costumes, the four New Orleans natives and two brass men cover songs in a style they have branded as Superpop: Any song popular from any era. In the great tradition of stunning acts, BOD has to be experienced live to fully feel the impact.



SATURDAY JUNE 1 – THE TWENTY TWOS 7:30 PM

Twenty Twos is a country music band that captures the essence of heartland storytelling through their soulful lyrics and captivating melodies. With a sound that blends traditional country roots with modern flair, this talented group of musicians brings a fresh perspective to the genre.



SATURDAY JUNE 1 – LOGAN BEARD 7:30 PM

Logan Beard is a singer known for his country music genre and has released several singles, including: Late night and Lonely, Angel in Disguise.



FRIDAY JUNE 7 – RANDALL KING 7:30 PM

Randall King was born on the endless plains of West Texas. He grew up singing in the back of a '93 Chevy Suburban, mimicking the pure-country vocals of stars like Keith Whitley, George Strait, Alan Jackson and John Anderson and over the years became drawn to the electrifying energy of modern stars like Eric Church, Dierks Bentley and Jason Aldean.



SATURDAY JUNE 8 – DYLAN WHEELER 7:30 PM

Dylan Wheeler is a perfect example of what the evolution of the Texas Independent Music Scene looks like and the level of artist that it can produce. His music has all the singer-songwriter laden depth that lyric lovers covet, while his blending of both Rock and Alternative genres allows his original productions to feel comfortingly familiar whilst simultaneously breathing a gust of fresh air into a scene that has long been saturated by its Country roots.

**This Week**

**CROSBY FAIR & RODEO KICKS OFF THIS FRIDAY!**

Crosby Fair & Rodeo

GET YOUR PRE-SALE TICKETS AT [CROSBYRODEO.COM](http://CROSBYRODEO.COM)  
(PRICES AT THE GATE WILL BE HIGHER!)

PERFORMING THIS FRIDAY:

**BAG OF DONUTS**

UPGRADE TO VIP TICKETS FOR YOURSELF OR YOUR WHOLE CREW FOR RODEO NIGHTS ONLY

[CROSBYRODEO.COM](http://CROSBYRODEO.COM)

## Crosby Rodeo opens May 31 thru June 8,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

purchase one in the auction. Participants in the auction can also do 'add-ons' where they might not have won the bid but want to contribute to a student and can put money on their project.

all over east Harris County to participate in the auction. It's a big day for us and we invite everyone to come out and bid on an animal and support the kids of Crosby," he said.

Loggins said the organization earns between

\$400k and \$500k during the week and much of that goes to scholarships and expenses.

Outside of Friday night football games, the fair and rodeo is the largest event in Crosby every year.

## New Cougar RED paint livens up Rock'n C Arena



The Crosby Fair and Rodeo has a fresh new look after the facility was painted Cougar RED recently. The CFR shows begin Friday, May 31. Visit their website to purchase tickets at [crosbyrodeo.com](http://crosbyrodeo.com).



**IMPORTANT DATES**

**Crosby Fair & Rodeo**

MAY 31	Cook-Off Day One
JUNE 1	Cook-Off Day Two
JUNE 3-5	Crosby Youth Fair
JUNE 6	Auction
JUNE 7	Rodeo Night One
JUNE 8	Rodeo Night Two

GET YOUR MEMBERSHIP PIN TODAY!

# Barbers Hill Press

## Dayton

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

VOL. 29, NO. 21

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THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2024

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

### ON THE HILL

#### GRADUATION SCHEDULE

**TUESDAY, MAY 21**  
Stuart Career Tech HS  
Lee College Sports Arena  
200 Lee Dr.  
Baytown, TX 77520  
5:30 PM

**IMPACT Early College HS**  
Lee College Sports Arena  
200 Lee Dr.  
Baytown, TX 77520  
7:30 PM

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 22**  
Goose Creek Memorial High School  
Stallworth Stadium  
2102 E. Archer Rd.  
Baytown, Texas 77521  
7:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, MAY 23**  
Ross S. Sterling High School  
Stallworth Stadium  
2102 E. Archer Rd.  
Baytown, Texas 77521  
7:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, MAY 24**  
Dayton High School  
Lamar University Montagne Center  
4401 S. M. L. King Jr. Pkwy.  
Beaumont, Texas 77705  
10 a.m.

Robert E. Lee High School  
Stallworth Stadium  
2102 E. Archer Rd.  
Baytown, Texas 77521  
7:30 p.m.

Barbers Hill High School  
Eagle Stadium  
9752 Eagle Drive  
Mont Belvieu, TX 77580  
8 p.m.

**SATURDAY, MAY 25**  
Huffman Hargrave High School  
Ford Arena  
5115 I-10 Access Rd.  
Beaumont, TX 77705  
4 p.m.

**FRIDAY, MAY 31**  
Crosby High School  
Cougar Stadium  
14703 FM 2100  
Crosby, TX 77532  
7:30 p.m.

### Calendar of Events

#### Movies Under the Stars

Lights, camera... action! The Mont Belvieu Parks and Recreation Department brings the best of Hollywood to City Park with our family-friendly outdoor film series. All of the shows are free and begin at dusk. Bring your own chairs and blankets; refreshments are available on site. Coolers are permitted but alcohol is not permitted in the park.

#### Rock the Park

Come out and rock City Park with us! Bring a lawn chair, your friends, your dogs (on leashes, please), and your kids for a rockin' good time! All concerts are FREE to attend and in addition to the great music, we also have food trucks and family-friendly activities. We can't wait for you to join us and make more Mont Belvieu memories.

#### Dive In Movies

You've heard of a drive-in movie, but have you ever been to a DIVE-in movie? It's a splash-tastic time for the entire family! Everyone starts the evening with some tasty treats and splash time at the Eagle Pointe Recreation Center wave pool. Then, when the sun goes down, you'll want to stay in your tube and float your way to the best seat in the house to watch a blockbuster on the big screen. Let's face it, there's no better way to beat the summer heat!

## Dayton High School Graduates Celebrate Resilience and Gratitude at Commencement

Dayton High School marked commencement exercises on Friday, May 24, at the Montagne Center, located on the esteemed campus of Lamar University in Beaumont.

Valedictorian David Coll Leon delivered a valedictorian speech that encapsulated the collective journey of the graduating class of 2024. He reflected on the challenges and triumphs of their high school careers, emphasizing their resilience in the face of adversity. Despite the difficulties, he urged his fellow graduates to find the silver lining in every situation, fostering a positive outlook that brings fulfillment and strengthens bonds with friends and family.

Expressing gratitude to parents, teachers, and mentors for their unwavering support, Leon acknowledged their role in shaping their success.

"To our parents, families, and friends, your unwavering encouragement, sacrifices, and love have been the bedrock to our success. To our dedicated teachers, thank you for



Valedictorian David Coll Leon



Salutatorian Marisol Moran



Dayton High School graduates wait for the start of commencement exercises on Friday, May 24.

your commitment to our education for instilling in us the values of perseverance, integrity, and intellectual curiosity. I don't think this speech would be complete if I didn't thank

my parents, my brother, and my entire family for all their support, love, and guidance," he said.

In her salutatorian address that preceded Leon's, Marisol Moran

reflected on the transition the graduates are making as they step into young adulthood, creating their own niche in life.

"Future graduates, we have all anxiously await-

ed our moment on the stage when we receive our well-earned award. Being here is a privilege for all of us, to be surrounded by our peers and well-wishers to take the final step of our high school careers. Graduation is a time of great anticipation, a time of reflection and consideration, preparing for college, and for others, preparing for enlistment or entering the workforce. Regardless of the path, we are all learning to navigate adulthood," Moran said.

The halls of Dayton High School have borne witness to countless cherished memories that will endure in the hearts of its graduates for years to come, Moran said.

"We have been given the tools to persevere, to lead, and to approach the future with a level head. From today forward, what we do and how we do it will define us to the world. Our achievements will cut a path for future generations, so let's approach our trials and tribulations with perseverance, charisma, integrity, and conviction," she said.

## Jones Public Library Preparing for an Adventure with Summer Reading Program 2024 Coming Soon!

The Jones Public Library is excited to invite the community to join us for this year's Summer Reading Program! Programming will follow the theme "Adventure Begins at Your Library", and center around elements of the outdoors, nature, and camping. This month-long event will begin on June 17th with a visit from Smokey Bear and conclude with a Finale Party on July 13th on the Community Center lawn.

Throughout the month the library will host daily programming for patrons of all ages. This will include STEAM Mondays, Adult Programming Tuesdays, Storytime and Snack Time Wednesdays, Teen/Tween Thursdays, Craft and Activity Fridays, and a special Library Olympics event on the first Saturday of the event. All registered participants that attend programming will be entered to win door prizes on Friday afternoons. Beyond the programming, the library will be hosting an art contest for all ages, as well as our yearly reading

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
JUNE 17	<b>Opening Day Program</b> Smokey Bear Presentation 10 AM	<b>Adult Book Club</b> 10:00 AM <b>Trivia Night</b> Adults Only 5:30 - 7:00 PM	<b>CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF JUNETEENTH</b>	<b>Junior/Teen Book Club</b> Icebreakers and Paracord Bracelets 3rd - 8th Grade: 10 AM 9th - 12th Grade: 2 PM	<b>Craft Time</b> Cardboard Binoculars 10 AM <b>Door Prizes</b> 2 PM	<b>Saturday @ the Library</b> Library Olympics 11 AM - 1 PM
JUNE 24	<b>STEAM Monday</b> Make a Kite 9 - 11 AM 2 - 4 PM	<b>Adult Book Club</b> 10:00 AM <b>Lifelong Learning</b> Camping Ready Parfaits 5:30 - 7:00 PM	<b>Storytime</b> "The Wilderness" Yeti Craft 10 AM <b>Snack Day</b> Rice Krispie Mountains 2 - 4 PM	<b>Junior/Teen Book Club</b> Tie-Dye a Flag 3rd - 8th Grade: 10 AM 9th - 12th Grade: 2 PM	<b>Fitness Friday</b> Mixed Martial Arts Class 9:30 - 11 AM <b>Door Prizes</b> 2 PM	
JULY 1	<b>STEAM Monday</b> Pizza Box Oven 9-11 AM 2 - 4 PM	<b>Adult Book Club</b> 10:00 AM <b>Lifelong Learning</b> Storytelling Night 5:30 - 7:00 PM	<b>Storytime</b> "We're Going on a Bear Hunt" Paper Bag Bear Puppet 10 AM <b>Snack Day</b> Trail Mix 2 - 4 PM	<b>CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY</b>	<b>Craft Time</b> Friendship Bracelets 10 AM <b>Door Prizes</b> 2 PM	
JULY 8	<b>STEAM Monday</b> Slime Day 9 - 11 AM 2 - 4 PM	<b>Adult Book Club</b> Finale 10:00 AM <b>Ladies Craft Night</b> Landscape Painting 5:30 - 7:00 PM	<b>Storytime</b> "I Don't Care" Thumbprint Tree 10 AM <b>Snack Day</b> Moose Toots 2 - 4 PM	<b>Junior/Teen Book Club</b> Capture the Flag Showdown and Finale Party 3rd - 12th Grade: 2 PM	<b>Fitness Friday</b> Virtual Yoga Class 9:30 - 11 AM <b>Door Prizes</b> 2 PM	<b>Finale Party</b> 10 AM - 12 PM

Registration Open: June 10 - 21 | Last Day to Record Books: July 10

challenge. Registration is required for those wishing to participate in the reading challenge. Participants can register online or in person from June 10-21. Each participant that registers and completes

their reading goals will have a chance to win the Grand Prize in their category.

The Summer Reading Program calendar in English and Spanish will be available for pick up at the

front desk of the library beginning Tuesday, May 28th, as well as online on the Jones Public Library website and social media pages. If you would like more information please contact the library at 936-

258-7060 or via email at [JonesPublicLibrary@daytontx.org](mailto:JonesPublicLibrary@daytontx.org).

Join us here at the Jones Public Library for a summer of reading and adventure!

## Chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture & Livestock Rep. Briscoe Cain makes Statement on Interim Charges

Speaker of the Texas House, Dade Phelan, released interim charges for committees to consider ahead of the 89th Texas Legislature.

These responsibilities encompass overseeing agencies and programs within the committee's

purview, monitoring rule-making and government activities to uphold the legislative goals of recent laws, examining the protocols for stop-sale orders issued by the Texas Department of Agriculture, and safeguarding the agriculture and livestock

sector against potential risks stemming from foreign ownership.

"These interim charges build upon the success the Committee on Agriculture had during the 88th Texas Legislature," said Rep. Briscoe Cain, chairman of the Texas House Commit-

tee on Agriculture and Livestock.

"Our committee passed some of the strongest 'Right to Farm' legislation in the country, but we still have work to accomplish."

Cain said the charges encompass crucial areas for the House Committee

on Agriculture and Livestock to address and he looked forward to the committee's coming work.

"We must work to ensure the agricultural and livestock industry is protected for future generations," Cain said.

OPINION PAGE

Veteran Cedric Patterson chosen for Honor Flight



Cedric Patterson Honor Flight Houston #30

Crosby native and WWII Veteran Cedric Patterson was selected and flown to Washington April 18-20, 2024 on the Honor Flight Houston #30.

The Honor Flight mission is to transport, with a specific priority given to WWII veterans in the East Texas Region and Korean and Vietnam War veterans residing in the greater Houston area to Washington, D.C. to visit those memorials, dedicated to honor their service and sacrifices and return them home to their families and loved ones.

Their top priority is given to America's most senior heroes-Survivors of World War II in the East Texas Region and any veteran with a terminal illness who wishes to visit THEIR memorial. The program is also accepting applications from veterans who served during the Korean War, Vietnam War, and Cold War, and received the Korean/Vietnam and service medal, and reside in the greater Houston area.

The veterans on Honor Flight Houston #30 toured the following locations while in Washington:

- 1. Arlington National Cemetery changing of guard Ceremony
2. Air Force Memorial
3. Korea War Memorial
4. Vietnam War Memorial
5. FDR Memorial
6. Martin Luther King Memorial
7. Lone Sailor Memorial
8. WWII Memorial
9. National Museum of the United State Army
10. American Legion Post 177 Heroes Dinner

Mr. Patterson Served with the 1st Battalion 40th Field Artillery Headquarter supply SGT. August 1967-August 1968.(TET) Located on the DMZ in town called Dong Hall.His duties were as follow: He was responsible for overseeing, evaluation and processing all logistics related matters for the battalion Headquarter operation.

He supervised or perform duties involving requests, receipt, storage issue, accountability and preservation of individual, organizational, installation and expendable supplies and equipment; Receives, inspect, inventories, loads, segregate, stores and equipment. Such as the communication radios, fire direction control radar systems. Prepared and maintained all battalion supply documents utilizing a journals for accounting of the equipment and supplies.

In addition to providing operation training guidance to lower grade personnel and coordinate their supply room activities. While coordinating with Batteries and battalion personnel to insure that equipment and supplies were available and ready for battle.

- Awards:
• Presidential Unit Citation Army
• Solder of Month
• Army Accommodation Medal
• Good Conduct
• Meritorious Unit Commendation Army
• Vietnam Service Medal
Submitted by Cedric Patterson



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

House Democrats Call for Education Special Session

Texas House Democrats are urging Gov. Greg Abbott to call a special session to increase public school funding, while Abbott is criticizing them for opposing legislation last year that tied increased funding to his pet project — school vouchers.

"Our public schools are the bedrock of our communities, and it's imperative we provide them with the resources they need to thrive," Rosenthal said.

A number of Texas school districts are facing funding shortages for the 2024-25 school year budgets after no additional school funding was approved during the last legislative session, when lawmakers blocked passage of a voucher bill tied to increased funding.

A Statesman analysis in January indicated that when adjusted for inflation, per-student funding from state and local sources is down by 12.9% since 2020.

RAINS SWEEP TEXAS AS HURRICANE SEASON APPROACHES

While Texans in the Houston area and throughout East Texas continue to battle the effects of torrential rains — including storms last week that killed at least seven in the Houston area and left hundreds of thousands without power — the official start of hurricane season is just around the corner, on June 1.

As Dan Reilly, a Texas-based meteorologist, told the Texas Department of Insurance, "In most of the recent years, we've had many storms before June. So, in reality, I would say hurricane season probably starts in May."

Families are urged to protect their family and property by preparing now. Here are a few tips from TDI:

- Make or update your home inventory: Take pictures or videos of each room in your home. For major items, write down the serial number, what



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

you paid, and date you bought it. Don't forget to get a video of items inside closets and drawers. Having a home inventory is one of the best things you can do to make sure you get the value of your claim.

- Have an emergency kit packed and ready to go: Set aside 3 gallons of water per person, enough to last three days. Also pack non-perishable food, a can opener and utensils, a battery-powered radio, a flashlight and extra batteries. See a full kit list at ready.gov. Put some water and food supplies in your car too, just in case.

- Check your roof. Damaged shingles or leaks around chimneys or skylights will get worse in a storm. Have a professional secure loose shingles and check the metal flashing around openings or on roof valleys for leaks.

Get your yard ready. Remove dead tree limbs and branches that hang over your house. Check for loose items that can become wind borne such as yard furniture or trampolines. Tie them down.

DEI DISMANTLING CUTS HUNDREDS OF JOBS

Leaders of the state's public universities told state senators last week that dismantling diversity, equity and inclusion programs at Texas universities led to the firing of several hundred staff members and resulted in millions of dollars in program cuts, The Dallas Morning News reported.

A ban on DEI programs was passed in 2023 by the Legislature, meaning programs that provide resources for spe-

cific races, ethnicities or gender identities are no longer allowed. Examining the extent of that compliance was the aim of last week's hearing.

The hearing also focused on pro-Palestine protests that have resulted in more than 140 arrests on state campuses.

STATE LEADERS EXAMINING THE EXPLODING HEMP MARKET

An explosion of legal hemp dispensaries across Texas is prompting increased scrutiny from Texas lawmakers, The Texas Tribune reported. Since hemp products were legalized in 2019, there has been a rapid proliferation of shops selling baked goods, gummies and smokable buds laced with cannabis derivatives that purportedly are under the legal limit for containing THC, the psychoactive ingredient.

The number of hemp retailer registrations has jumped from 1,948 in 2020 — the first year the Texas Department of State Health Services began registration — to 8,343 last year, with 7,700 active registrations received in the first four months of 2024.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick last month ordered the Senate to look into possibly banning hemp products that contain THC and tougher regulations for retailers.

NEW 'CLICK IT OR TICKET' CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED IN TEXAS

The Texas Department of Transportation has launched a new "Click It or Ticket" campaign in hopes of improving traffic safety, the Statesman reported. Motorists are encouraged to wear their seatbelts or face fines up to \$200.

The campaign runs through June 2. Buckling up can reduce the risk of dying in a vehicle crash by up to 60%, according to TxDOT.

Nearly 1,200 people died in crashes on Texas roads last year because they were not wearing their seatbelts, TxDOT said.

WATER TREATY DISPUTE COULD MEAN AID WITHHELD FROM MEXICO

A bipartisan group of Texas lawmakers is demanding aid funding to Mexico be withheld unless that country lives up to an 80-year-old treaty requiring it send 1.75 million acre-feet of water to the U.S. every five years, The Tribune reported.

Inconsistent water delivery from Mexico has exacerbated water shortages that affect South Texas farmers.

"Farmers and ranchers across South Texas remain under continued financial strain and could suffer a similar fate as the sugar industry, should Mexico continue withholding water," the lawmakers wrote in a Friday letter to House and Senate appropriators.

Mexico blames drought conditions on its side of the border for not being able to deliver water as required by the treaty. It also claims the use of floating buoys in the river by the Abbott administration to deter migrants violates the treaty.

THE POSTSCRIPT By Carrie Classon

Multiplication Tables

Table with 10 columns and 10 rows of multiplication facts (1-10).

I never learned my multiplication tables. Not really.

To this day, if you ask me, "What is six times nine?" out of the blue, with some urgency, I will panic. (Please don't do this.)

The troubles started when I was transferred from one math class to another in the third grade. I now understand that this was some sort of promotion from lower math to higher math, but it did not feel like that at the time.

Almost immediately, I realized everyone around me was privy to some secret code I didn't know. It was called the multiplication tables, and I couldn't imagine how they all knew it, but I clearly didn't, and this was a source of enormous shame.

Only many years after the fact, I figured out that I had been transferred right after everyone had been drilled on the multiplication tables. The lower math class had not gotten to it yet. The higher class was finished with it. I was terrified.

I had no idea what was going on and, instead of actually learning the multiplication tables, I spent the next three years trying to hide my ignorance. In fact, as time passed, I became increasingly convinced this was knowledge I would never acquire and the best I could hope for was to escape detection.

I once talked to my mother about this. "I tried to help you with your multiplication tables," she said. "Don't you remember?"

Perhaps I do—vaguely. But I remained convinced that what I might be able to do at the kitchen table could never be replicated in real life—especially if someone shouted, "What is six times nine?"—which is exactly what my fourth-grade teacher did, in front of the class.

I had gone up to her to ask a question. Instead of answering it, she replied with this very loud non sequitur. Predictably, I had no answer.

"Don't come up here asking me questions until you've learned your multiplication tables!"

You can rest assured I never asked another question in the fourth grade.

Today, I can still remember that awful fear. "How can everyone in the room know something that makes no sense to me?"

In retrospect, it seems so unnecessary. Shouldn't someone have known that I hadn't been taught this? I moved from the class next door, not from Finland. I'm guessing no one ever thought learning multiplication tables could be so daunting and intimidating. Although I've gone on to do reasonably well in math, I still would not like a pop quiz.

This memory bubbled up to me the other day as I made preparations to do some performances of my writing after a long time away from performing. There is a lot I don't know. Some things have changed. Many things I never knew. There are acronyms I do not know and a lot of people talking and writing about stuff I've never heard of. I feel a familiar urge to hide under my desk.

I remember that feeling of being convinced there was this world of secrets I did not know, and I've been reminding myself there is a very good chance that there is no secret. And then reminding myself, if I don't know something, I can always just ask.

I'm trying to do what I should have done in third grade. I'm walking right up to people and saying, "I have no idea what you are talking about. Will you please explain this to me?"

And, so far, no one has looked at me and said, "What is six times nine?"

Till next time, Carrie


Americanisms



"Our flag does not fly because the wind moves it. It flies with the last breath of each soldier who died protecting it." — Unknown

Star Courier advertisement including contact information for Gilbert Hoffman, Mei-Ing Liu Hoffman, David Taylor, Julieta Paita, Kristan Hoffman, and Gerardo Hernandez. Includes address: Barbers Hill Dayton Press North Channel Star.

**PET MATTERS**  
In Memory of Susan Hoffman



*Harris County Pets has many dogs and cats for adoption during National Pet Month*

HOUSTON—Spring and summer bring many great things, including homeless dogs, cats, or unwanted puppies and kittens. Many are being brought to Harris County Pets (HCP), pushing the shelter past its capacity. During National Pet Month, HCP needs people to adopt or foster and rescue groups to help us in our effort to provide forever-loving homes for adoptable pets. Thanks to the generosity of the Bissell Pets Foundation, adoption fees are waived until May 15.

HCP is nearly 300 animals past its capacity with 690 animals! Up to 40% of animals brought to the shelter are surrendered by owners for various reasons. Although not all animals may be adoptable due to different circumstances (elderly, feral, sick, aggressive, or injured), many shelter animals would make great pets for individuals and families.

All animals adopted from HCP located at 612 Canino Road, Houston, TX 77076, are spayed or neutered, vaccinated, and microchipped. Pet

ownership requires an investment of time and money, so when adopting a pet, please consider:

- Selecting a pet that is suited to your home and lifestyle. Do you have time to walk your dog? Would an older pet be more suitable than an active kitten or puppy?
- Avoiding impulsive decisions when selecting a family pet.
- Owning only the number of pets that you can provide for appropriately.
- Ensuring that the pet is properly vaccinated, identified and registration is up to date.

Check out the wonderful animals waiting to find a loving forever home at [countypets.com](http://countypets.com). If you cannot adopt a pet, consider volunteering at our shelter. Volunteers are needed to facilitate adoptions, socialize, and foster animals. For more information, email [volunteer@countypets.com](mailto:volunteer@countypets.com) or call 281-999-3191.


**top ten Female Dog Names**



1. Bella
2. Lucy
3. Molly
4. Daisy
5. Maggie
6. Sophie
7. Sadie
8. Chloe
9. Bailey
10. Lola

Source: DogTime.com

**top ten Male Dog Names**



1. Bailey
2. Max
3. Charlie
4. Buddy
5. Rocky
6. Jake
7. Jack
8. Toby
9. Cody
10. Buster

Source: DogTime.com

**After the Storm Clean-up and Health-Safety Tips**

Hidden dangers include safety hazards and bacteria that may cause diseases

HOUSTON—Last night's sudden storm was devastating for many Harris County residents. As people move into recovery mode, please remember to take precautionary measures to stay healthy and avoid injury and illness. Be aware of things that can pose health and safety risks.

**Heat safety**

Despite the storm, hot weather continues to affect our community and can cause heat-related illness. Cool spaces and staying hydrated are the main defense from extreme heat.

- If air conditioning is not available, pull the shades over windows, close the blinds, and use fans to cool rooms.
- Drink a lot of water (even when you are not thirsty). By the time you realize you are thirsty, your body's water supply is already lower than it should be.
- Do not drink alcohol and avoid drinks with caffeine.
- If your heart begins to pound, if you become lightheaded, confused, weak or faint, stop all activity and seek immediate medical assistance.
- Pets can also suffer from excessive heat. Ensure your pets have adequate drinking water and a shady resting place.
- Never leave children, older adults, or pets unattended in a vehicle, even if the windows are cracked open.

- Protect your health during clean up.
- Dress for safety: Wear gloves, long-sleeved shirts, long pants, eye/ear protection, boots, and insect repellent to avoid mosquito bites.

**If you lost power:**

- Identify and throw away food that may not be safe to eat.
- Throw away food that has an unusual odor, color, or texture.
- Throw away any food that has been at room temperature for more than two hours.
- Throw away food that has been in a non-running refrigerator for four hours or more.
- Thawed food that contains ice crystals or is 40 degrees F or below can be refrozen or cooked. Refreezing these foods will be a quality (not safety) issue.
- Throw away canned foods that are bulging, opened, or damaged.
- Do not feed spoiled food to your pets since they may get sick just like people do.

**If you are using a generator:**

- Never use a generator inside your home or garage, even if doors and windows are open.
- Place generators more than 20 feet away from your home, doors, and windows.

**Additional health safety tips**

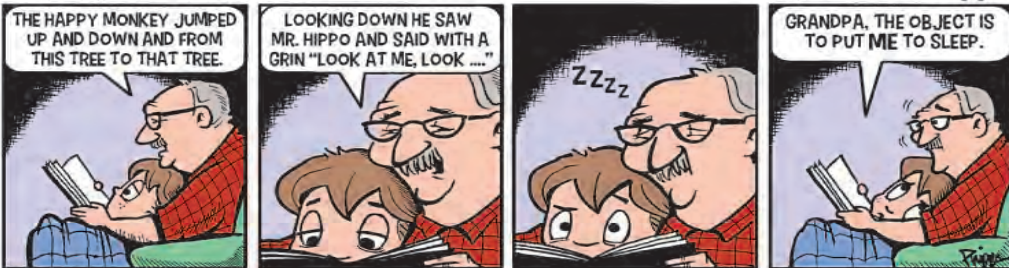
- Wash hands often and thoroughly with soap and clean, warm water for 20 seconds (sing the "Happy Birthday" song twice). If not possible, use an alcohol-based sanitizer.
- Empty any containers that may hold stagnant water to avoid mosquito breeding.
- Pace yourself during clean up. Decide which tasks are most important so you do not become overwhelmed.
- Check your GPS for any road closures due to fallen trees or debris due to the storm.
- Be careful around loose or lost pets. Frightened animals are more likely to bite if approached or handled.

For additional information, visit our website at [hcphtx.org/PrepareforEmergencies](http://hcphtx.org/PrepareforEmergencies).

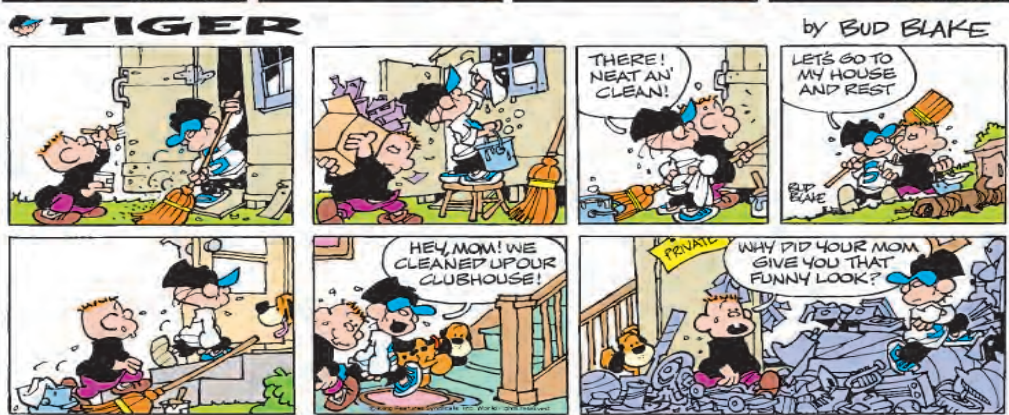
**ENTERTAINMENT**

**Amber Waves**

by Dave T. Phipps



**TIGER** by Bud Blake



**The Spats** by Jeff Pickering



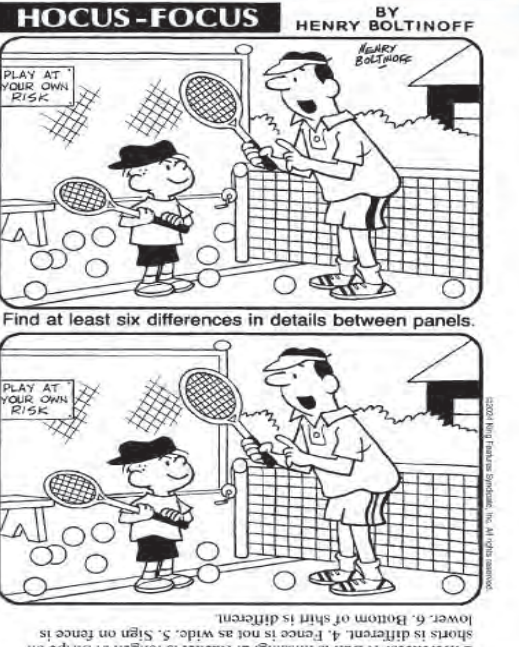
**Weekly SUDOKU** by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-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.

May 27, 2024 Posting Date **King Crossword**

**ACROSS**

- 1 Annoyed state
- 6 Suitable
- 9 TV schedule abbr.
- 12 Road reversal
- 13 Cornfield noise
- 14 "— the Walrus"
- 15 Idaho's capital
- 16 Minor complaint
- 18 Vehicle's capacity
- 20 Intends
- 21 German pronoun
- 23 "... — quit!"
- 24 Unravels
- 25 Second in command
- 27 Fighting
- 29 "Already?"
- 31 Unparalleled
- 35 Track horse
- 37 Continental currency
- 38 Nepal's neighbor
- 41 D-Day vessel
- 43 — -de-France
- 44 Sole
- 45 Litter container
- 47 Without a sound
- 49 Aromas
- 52 Ornate vase
- 53 Bit of physics
- 9 Leg bone
- 10 Pleasantly warm
- 11 Make — of (bungle)
- 17 "Peter Pan" author
- 19 Swiss money
- 21 Hosp. hook-ups
- 22 Corp. boss
- 24 Summer cooler
- 26 Spinach-eating sailor
- 28 German sausage
- 30 Granola grain
- 32 Man of La Mancha
- 33 Web address
- 34 Fair hirer, in ads
- 36 Boosler of comedy
- 38 Chef's hat
- 39 Accustom
- 40 Lose a starting contest
- 42 Letter-shaped hardware
- 45 Coagulate
- 46 "Garfield" dog
- 48 Cravat
- 50 Ske-daddle
- 51 CIA operative

**DOWN**

- 1 Tavern
- 2 Jurist Lance
- 3 Savory brunch pies
- 4 Celestial bear
- 5 January, to Juana
- 6 Find not guilty
- 7 Painter Cezanne
- 8 Prefix with night or light

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**Weekly SUDOKU**

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

Solution time: 26 mins.

**Trivia test** by Fifi Rodriguez

1. TELEVISION: What is the name of the community college in the sitcom "Community"?
2. GEOGRAPHY: Which two countries in South America are landlocked?
3. HISTORY: Where did the effective end of the Civil War take place?
4. U.S. STATES: Which state comes first alphabetically?
5. FOOD & DRINK: What is an affogato?
6. MOVIES: Which movie features the character Inigo Montoya?
7. ENTERTAINERS: What is singer/songwriter Taylor Swift's middle name?
8. ANATOMY: What is the smallest organ in the human body?
9. LITERATURE: Which fantasy novel (later made into an HBO series called "Game of Thrones") features a place called Winterfell?
10. GEOLOGY: What is the most malleable metal?

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# Hargrave High School Top Ten Students



KONSTANTIN SAVVON  
VALEDICTORIAN  
RICE UNIVERSITY



KAITLIN MARTIN  
SALUTATORIAN  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY



SOPHIE KONERZA  
UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA



LILI ARNEY  
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON



VALERIA REBOLLAR  
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS



SUMMER STOKER  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY



DYLAN LEAPS  
EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL  
UNIVERSITY



JOHN NOBLES  
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON  
DOWNTOWN



CELESTE MOLINA  
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS



ANNIE ENGLISH  
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

# Community observes Memorial Day at Sterling-White

Continued from Page 1

turnout.

"It was very emotional, especially at the end when the band played Amazing Grace," she said.

"We don't do this alone but with our partners in the community." Dion said all 30 employees were present at the ceremony to assist guests.

Only feet from the Wall of Honor lies the burial site of LCPL Anthony Aguirre, U. S. Marines who was killed in action during Operation Iraqi Freedom. The 21-year-old Channelview High School graduate grew up always wanting to be in the military.

"He was always very sweet and was willing to give you the shirt off his back to help anybody," said Christina Castillo, his older sister.

Castillo said he was a proud person of his school, his ROTC, his country, and his heritage.

"We knew from the time he was three years old that he was going to be in the military," she said. At that age, he received a brown military jacket and would wear it even when it was 103 degrees outside.

When Aguirre came home on leave to visit, he spent his time at the Channelview ROTC building talking to the students and encouraging them to join the military.

Three weeks before Aguirre died, he was injured, and his staff sergeant brought him in to discharge him.

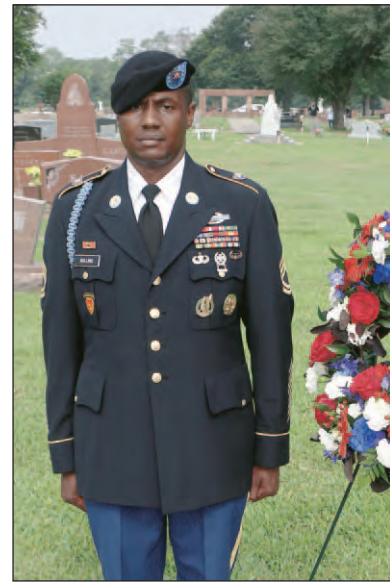
"He (Anthony) got down on his knees and he begged him not to let him go. He told his staff sergeant that his purpose in life was serving his country and three weeks later, he laid down his life for that staff



Dana Reed played Taps on his bugle



Pastor Larry Koslovsky from the Crosby Brethren Church reflected on the day and led the group in prayer



SFC "Sergeant" Allen Rollins, Army Instructor (AI), JROTC at Crosby High School stands at attention

sergeant and a couple of dozens of other brothers in arms," his sister said.

Aguirre and his platoon were on a mine clearing operation, and he was in the lead in front of the Humvee. Marines were posted on all sides of the Humvee. The order went out for them to wrap up the sweep. The next step Aguirre took, he heard a click. He didn't immediately jump or move out of the way.

"Instead, he kept his foot down and told the other 26 Marines standing around him to clear the area and take cover," she told his story. "When he saw that they were out of harm's way, he took his foot off the device."

LCPL Anthony Aguirre gave his life that day so his Marine brothers could live and preserve freedom.

"When we were growing up, Alice Johnson used to live across the street from us," his sister Krystal Rodriguez said. Johnson, a beloved custodian, is the namesake for one of the middle schools in Channelview ISD.

"We always used to talk about her and how neat it would be to have a school named after us," she said, not ever knowing then that Aguirre would have Channelview's second middle school named after him for being a war hero.

Each year his family makes the sad trek from Channelview to Sterling-White Cemetery to remember their son and brother on Memorial Day.

For many named in the Honor Roll Call and the family of Aguirre, it's a painful reminder that freedom is never free.



Members of the Crosby High School pep band performed the national anthem and a soul-stirring rendition of Amazing Grace to close out the ceremony



The family of LCPL Anthony Aguirre visit at their brother's grave on Memorial Day every year in the Sterling-White cemetery in Highlands. From left, Christina Castillo, Krystal Rodriguez, Jose Trevino, and Abel Trevino.



The Wall of Honor at Sterling-White cemetery in Highlands was adorned with all of the military flags and two wreaths laid in memory of those who were killed in battle.

## GOOSE CREEK CISD NEWS

### 2024-2025 Campus Start and End Times

Goose Creek CISD will implement the following campus start and end times for the 2024-2025 school year:

**SPECIALIZED CAMPUSES**

Stuart Career Tech High School 7:25am - 2:55pm  
Peter E. Hyland Center 7:45am - 3:15pm  
IMPACT Early College High School 8:00am - 3:30pm

**TIER 1  
7:20am - 2:50pm**

Baytown Junior  
Highlands Junior  
Horace Mann Junior  
Goose Creek Memorial HS  
Robert E. Lee HS  
Ross S. Sterling HS  
POINT Alternative Center

**TIER 2  
8:00am - 3:30pm**

Alamo Elementary  
Austin Elementary  
Bowie Elementary

Carver Elementary  
Crockett Elementary  
De Zavala Elementary  
Harlem Elementary  
Lamar Elementary  
Ashbel Smith Elementary  
Victoria Walker Elementary

**TIER 3  
8:40am - 4:10pm**

Banuelos Elementary  
Clark Elementary  
Highlands Elementary  
Hopper Primary

Liles Early Learning Academy  
Pumphrey Elementary  
San Jacinto Elementary  
Travis Elementary  
Cedar Bayou Junior  
E.F. Green Junior  
Gentry Junior

These adjustments have been made in response to our ongoing efforts to balance the budget, manage rising transportation costs, and implement more

efficient bus routes. We understand that these changes may require some adjustments to your daily schedules. Please know that these decisions were made after careful consideration and analysis, with the goal of minimizing impact while ensuring our financial sustainability and maintaining the quality of education. Thank you for your

understanding and cooperation. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Curriculum and Instruction Department at 281-707-3592.

From Susan Jackson Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction for GCCISD  
Goose Creek CISD



# PRIMARY CARE

Personalized to You



## Convenient, customized care — close to work or home.

Our Houston Methodist primary care doctors in Baytown and Mont Belvieu provide personalized care for you and your family, including physicals, immunizations and preventive health services.

Many of our practices:

- Provide in-person and virtual visits with online scheduling
- Offer same-day sick visits
- Are conveniently located close to work or home
- Accept most major insurance plans

*Your health and safety are our priority. We are taking every necessary precaution to keep you safe.*



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