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HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

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Complete Season's Schedule for All Area Teams Clip and Save on Page 2

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 2024

P.O. DRAWER 446, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

IN THE STARS

Crosby Library Book Sale Rescheduled

Friends of the Crosby Library will hold their Back to School Book Sale on:

Friday, Sept. 6 - 1pm - 6pm
Saturday, Sept. 7 - 10am - 5pm.

Hardback books \$1.00
***Take advantage of this special - 4 Romance paperbacks for \$1.00**

Children books priced as marked.
Children's books, mysteries, romance, cookbooks and craft books are just a sample of book choices, thanks to donations from patrons.

All proceeds from the Book Sale benefit the library and support the Summer Reading programs. Questions call the Library - 832-927-7790.

Rotary Washer Tourney set for Sept. 14

Highlands Rotary Club will hold their annual 3-Hole Washer Board Charity Tournament on Saturday, September 14, 2023 from 1:00pm to 5:00pm. THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE.

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

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

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

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

Event includes a Raffle for a Liquor Wagon.

Contact Gay Lynn Prescott Million gaylynn@yourtxhome.com or Denise Smith niecy1616@gmail.com, or Patricia Scott plscott1957@gmail.com to enter or for info.

Proceeds benefit Rotary Foundation and Polio Plus.

2024 FOOTBALL SCHEDULES

Thursday, August 29

Aldine Eisenhower at Beaumont Westbrook, 7 p.m., Beaumont ISD Stadium in Beaumont

Fort Bend Kempner at Aldine, 7 p.m., W. W. Thorne Stadium in Houston
Porter at Galena Park, 7 p.m., Galena Park ISD Stadium in Houston

South Houston at Baytown Lee, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium in Baytown

Friday, August 30

Aldine Davis at Willis, 7 p.m., Berton A. Yates Stadium in Willis

Channelview at Pasadena Memorial, 7 p.m., Veterans Memorial Stadium in Pasadena

CONTINUED. See Page 5

Lions roar at first meeting of new Crosby club

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

A half dozen Lions are roaring in the Crosby area. The Crosby Lions Club disassembled a few years ago affected by the pandemic and now the district wants to see a thriving group return, most especially to be the flagship sponsor for the very active Leo's Club at the high school, the companion youth organization for the club.

"When the Crosby club quit meeting, the Huffman Lions took over the sponsorship of the Crosby High School Leos and they have continued as a strong volunteer group," said District Governor Bill Simpson. He was joined by Past District Governor Chuck Martin and next year's First Vice District Governor Mike George. Last year, the high school Leo's Club at Crosby grew to 150 strong.

The trio of district leadership presented the details about the Li-



Past District Governor Chuck Martin (standing), First Vice District Governor Mike George, and current District Governor Bill Simpson made a visit to the Crosby Community Center on Thursday, Aug. 8 to invite prospective members to join the new Crosby Lions Club.

on's Club, their mission, details on how the local club is organized and run, and challenged those present to begin seeking additional members. The club can reorganize once they have 20 members.

The Texas Lions Foundation recently donated \$3,000 to the Churches United In Caring in Crosby to assist with hurricane relief and recovery efforts.

While they're not the largest service club, Rotary International holds that honor, they are the largest in the world claiming 1.4 million members across 200 countries.

"Theoretically, we have more Lions Clubs in different parts of the world than the United Nations," Martin said.

Crosby and Huffman both lie in District 2-S2, the smallest geographical area of the clubs, but probably the most populated, claiming Harris and six surrounding counties in-

Continued. See CROSBY LIONS CLUB, Page 7

Crosby ISD: Financial Success, New Middle School, and Student Achievement are 2024-25 Goals

Hello East Harris County and Crosby ISD families,

It's almost September! Each year, I like to do a community check-in and share with you the State of the District as we move further into the school year. I've recently shared portions of this update with staff members at Convocation and at a community breakfast with community leaders, pastors, and business owners. Here are 5 things you should know for 2024-25:

1. The state of our district is sound. We are on the right path financially, as the Board of Trustees approved a non-deficit budget for the current fiscal year. We are among the 20% of districts in Texas not operating in the red this year. On the other hand, it's estimated that



Paula Patterson
Crosby Superintendent

80% of districts, out of 1200 districts across the state, have a deficit budget. Many are having to make tough choices. We are expanding and moving forward.

2. A new, second middle school. The Board of Trustees gave the greenlight to start the process of building a new, second middle school. This school will begin as a 6th grade only center with room to expand.

We have not yet chosen the location, purchased land, drawn up blueprints, or determined a construction timeline. It's important for me to explain the finances behind this project. The funds are coming from the remainder of the bond monies that Crosby ISD voters approved in 2017. Those funds have continued to collect interest, and we now have enough to complete the second item on our priority list. That project list was approved by the Board of Trustees, based on recommendations from the citizen construction committee. We will update you every step of the way.

3. We are laser focused on three ways to improve student achievement this year. Number 1: write a little a lot. Number 2: better instruction. Number 3:



Drew Elementary School Principal, Ms. Kellie Hall, smiles with students after she read them a story. This year, kindergarten through 3rd graders in Crosby ISD receive 30 minutes of phonics instruction daily, readers will go home with students daily, and decodable readers will go home with students on a weekly basis.

more time on task. "Writing a little a lot" is exactly what it says. We're not asking students to sit down and write a five-page essay each day. "Writing a little a lot" will build their writing ability and their critical thinking skills. In

reading, kindergarten through 3rd grade students will receive 30 minutes of phonics instruction daily, readers will go home with students daily, and

Continued. See CROSBY SUPERINTENDENT, Page 5

HARRIS COUNTY ATTEMPTS UPLIFT 2.0 PROGRAM

County passes Family Assistance program

1600 preselected Families will receive \$500 monthly; Court challenge expected

Harris County, TX, August 15, 2024, Today Harris County Commissioners Court approved a new family financial assistance program. Under the new program, the approximately 1,600 families who were selected for Uplift Harris back in March will receive \$500 monthly payments on a prepaid debit card that can only be used at certain vendors like grocery

stores or pharmacies. According to the plan, families can expect to receive the payments in about four months.

"Hundreds of Harris County families were counting on \$500 monthly payments back in April to help lift them out of poverty, and they were left in the lurch because of Texas state leaders' political posturing. While

launching this new program instead of a guaranteed income program isn't ideal, it's the best way we can try to keep our promise to these families. I would say to the families who have been waiting for this lifeline: We are trying, but don't get your hopes up just yet. We're moving ahead with cautious optimism to see if the State will object," said Judge Lina Hidalgo.

In January, Harris County created the Uplift Harris pilot program,

joining more than 80 cities and counties across the nation and other countries around the world that have seen success through similar programs. Uplift Harris was designed to provide monthly payments of \$500 to some of the lowest-income Harris County residents using federal funding from the American Rescue Plan. Over 82,000 people applied for Uplift Harris, demonstrating the huge need for anti-poverty programs in Harris County.

Participants were notified of their selection for Uplift Harris by March 22. On April 23, the day that these families were set to start receiving payments and after these families had been counting on receiving these \$500 payments for several weeks, the Texas Supreme Court blocked implementation of the Uplift Harris program. State Attorney General Ken Paxton challenged

Continued. See COUNTY PASSES FAMILY ASSISTANCE PLAN, Page 7



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GOOSE CREEK CISD NEWS

Rotary Club of Baytown Donates \$2,500 to Lorenzo De Zavala Elementary for Back-to-School Supplies



Rotary Club of Baytown Presents De Zavala Elementary with a \$2500 check for school supplies. Pictured: Sonya Cather, Sandra Bell, Leah Abbate, April Turner Garrison, Christopher Turner, Don Coffey, and Dr. Randal O'Brien (Photo by Norma Martinez)

By Norma Martinez

Lorenzo De Zavala Elementary School received a generous donation of \$2,500 for back-to-school supplies, thanks to their Partner in Education, Rotary Club of Baytown. The check, which will support

the school's efforts to provide essential resources to students, was presented at a recent Rotary meeting. Principal Leah Abbate attended the event and gratefully accepted the donation from attorneys and Rotary members, April Turner Garrison and

Christopher Turner of Turner Garrison Law. This contribution emphasizes the strong community support for education in Baytown and will have a significant impact on the students as they begin the new school year.

TDCA Summit in Baytown – First Dual Credit Conference in Texas

In 2023-2024, Goose Creek CISD outperformed the state with 94% of its graduates receiving a CCMR point for accountability. This was in large part due to the 2,295 students enrolled in the dual credit programs with one of four higher education institutions. The district partners with Lee College, Lamar Institute of Technology, Houston Community College, and San Jacinto College for 26 degree options. In a related study, John Fink of Columbia University reported

that dual credit programs make college degrees more affordable and attainable for students who would normally not have access to the opportunities (Sparks, 2023). Goose Creek CISD understands the value of dual credit partnerships and invites the public to join them on November 3rd - 5th at the Texas Dual Credit Alliance (TDCA) Summit at the Hyatt Regency in Baytown. This summit is the first of its kind, the first Dual Credit conference in Texas. At-

tendance will provide much-needed collaboration between PK-12 and higher education institutions to identify and implement best practices to broaden student opportunities. The conference flyer promises powerful networking and workshops on research-based best practices and Texas legislative updates. For more information about the Texas Dual Credit Alliance or the Inaugural TDCA Conference - visit bit.ly/texasdualcreditalliance

Crosby ISD Celebrates Financial Success, New Middle School and Excellence as Enrollment Nears 7,000

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Superintendent Patterson presents the State of the District to a group of community members, faith leaders, and business owners earlier this month.

decodable readers will go home with students on a weekly basis. We know that students who are strong in phonics have a higher likelihood of becoming strong readers.

4. Student and staff safety. I cannot go into specific details, but we enhanced and hardened building safety measures at every campus over the summer. We are also utilizing the P3 Anonymous Alert system again this year. Anyone in the community can report more than two dozen concerning and suspicious behaviors through the P3 campus app.

5. A number to remember: 7,000! Crosby ISD is a 5A Division 1 district, and our enrollment will top 7,000 students very soon. We all know there is growth throughout our communities. Unfortunately, our infrastructure has not kept up. The school district is currently expanding Crosby High School with an opening date in the middle of next school year. However, our communities need more roads and wider roads to handle the population boom. The thoroughfares in our communities are the same ones I remember when I was a young girl growing up in Crosby / Barrett Station. The pop-



Students at Crosby Middle School, like students across Crosby ISD, are "writing a little a lot" this school year. In each class, students will "write a little a lot" to improve their writing ability and critical thinking skills.

ulation is 10 times what it was then. Very soon, we will begin gathering thoughts on different ways to adjust to the increased traffic on our roadways for next school year. We can never start planning too early for improvements. So that's the State of the District in five bullet points. As always, we appreciate your time and support. Lastly, Happy Homecoming! The Crosby ISD 2024 Homecoming celebration is coming up on Friday, September 13. We're hosting free games, giveaways, and classic cars in the circle drive outside

Crosby High School. The party runs from 4:30 until 6pm, followed by a Spirit Walk from CHS to Cougar Stadium. The varsity football game features our Cougars vs Fort Bend Marshall. At halftime, the 2024 CHS homecoming court will be crowned. I can't wait to celebrate with current students, staff members, and alumni. All community members are invited to join the celebration. The fun outside CHS is free for all families and kids of all ages. I hope to see everyone in their best and brightest Cougar Red! We are Committed to Excellence! Go Coogs!

LAKE HOUSTON 2024 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

BARBERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL EAGLES

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	STADIUM	TIME
Aug. 30	Friday	New Caney	Eagle	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 6	Friday	Manvel	Eagle	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 13	Friday	Deer Park	Abshier	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 20	Friday	Foster	Eagle	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 27	Friday	Lufkin*	Abe Martin	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 4	Friday	Baytown Sterling*	Eagle	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 11	Friday	PA Memorial*	Memorial	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 18	Friday	Beaumont United*	Eagle	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 25	Friday	Galveston Ball*	Kermit Courville	7:00 p.m.
		BYE		
Nov. 8	Friday	West Brook*	Eagle	7:00 p.m.

*district

GOOSE CREEK MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL PATRIOTS

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	STADIUM	TIME
Aug. 30	Friday	Baytown Sterling	Stallworth	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 6	Friday	Baytown Lee	Stallworth	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 13	Friday	Clear Brook	Veterans Memorial	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 20		BYE		
Sept. 27	Friday	Kingwood*	Stallworth	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 4	Friday	C. E. King*	Stallworth	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 10	Thursday	North Shore*	Galena Park ISD	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 18	Friday	Summer Creek*	Stallworth	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 25	Friday	Channelview*	Ray Maddry	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 31	Thursday	Humble*	Stallworth	7:00 p.m.
Nov. 7	Thursday	Atascocita*	Turner	7:00 p.m.

*district

CROSBY HIGH SCHOOL COUGARS

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	STADIUM	TIME
Aug. 30	Friday	Dayton	Bronco	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 6	Friday	Iowa Colony	Cougar	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 13	Friday	FB Marshall	Cougar	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 20		BYE		7:00 p.m.
Sept. 26	Thursday	Pasadena*	Veterans Memorial	6:30 p.m.
Oct. 4	Friday	Friendswood*	Cougar	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 10	Thursday	Kingwood Park*	Turner	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 18	Friday	FB Kempner*	Cougar	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 25	Friday	La Porte*	TBA	7:00 p.m.
Nov. 2	Saturday	Porter*	Randall Reed	7:00 p.m.
Nov. 9	Saturday	Angleton*	Cougar	7:00 p.m.

*district

HUFFMAN HARGRAVE HIGH SCHOOL FALCONS

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	STADIUM	TIME
Aug. 30	Friday	La Marque	Falcon	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 6	Friday	Furr	Jones-Cowart	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 13	Friday	Splendora	Falcon	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 20		BYE		7:30 p.m.
Sept. 27	Friday	Liberty*	Memorial	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 4	Friday	Lumberton*	Falcon	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 11	Friday	Vidor*	Pirate	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 18	Friday	Hardin Jefferson*	Falcon	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 25	Friday	Livingston*	Lion	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 1	Friday	Little Cypress*	Falcon	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 8	Friday	Bridge City*	Larry Ward	7:30 p.m.

*district

Barbers Hill Press

Dayton

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 2024

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

ON THE HILL

Baytown MDD Approves Funds for Hyatt Hurricane Repairs



BAYTOWN - On Thursday, City Council members, acting as the Municipal Development District (MDD), approved a payment of \$559,262 to Canco Construction LLC for repairs to the Hyatt Regency Baytown-Houston following damage from Hurricane Beryl in July. The funds will cover dryouts in the hotel and address unseen damage behind walls and ceilings.

The Hyatt remains open, hosting guests and events, with the restaurant, Anchor & Hearth Woodfired Kitchen, fully operational. According to City Manager Jason Reynolds, the repair costs fall within the insurance deductible, which is capped at \$3 million. Reynolds indicated that additional payments might be necessary within the next two months as further damage assessments are completed.

The MDD also approved a \$400,000 contract with Halo Das, LLC to enhance cellular service at the hotel. Reynolds noted that this contract aligns with the service agreement requiring MDD board approval for expenditures over \$50,000.

Reynolds said the hotel's occupancy is projected to increase from 42.2% to 50.7% also and revenue, including a rise in daily rates, are expected to contribute to a gross operating profit of \$304,000 in 2025.

Harris County Attorney Files Lawsuits Against Two Gas Stations for Price Gouging During Hurricane Beryl

Houston, Texas — Harris County Attorney Christian Menefee has filed lawsuits against two gas stations in Harris County for alleged price gouging during Hurricane Beryl. The Harris County Attorney's Office (HCAO) received over 250 complaints of price gouging following the hurricane. A dedicated team in the office worked to quickly investigate these complaints and find a resolution where possible.

The first suit is against BTCM Aviation LLC, Real Estate Chapter Texas LLC, and Houston Ventures LLC, which operate a gas station selling Shell fuel located at 5910 W. Loop S., Bellaire, Texas 77401. The station was



Baytown Gas station reported selling high price fuel. (Courtesy of Map data: Google)

selling regular unleaded gasoline for \$3.79 and \$4.29 per gallon, representing increases of 25% and 41% respectively from the pre-hurricane price of \$3.03.

The second suit is against A2S PetroTech LLC, operating a gas station selling Shell fuel locat-

ed at 5003 N. Main St., Baytown, Texas 77521. The station sold premium gasoline for \$5.49 per gallon, a 44% markup from the pre-hurricane price of \$3.80.

"My office worked tirelessly to respond to the flood of price gouging complaints we received during

this crisis," said County Attorney Christian Menefee. "Many times, businesses complied with cease and desist requests. These companies we're suing today, however, refused to provide information justifying their egregious price increase. I will continue to protect Harris County consumers from those who would exploit a disaster for profit. Let this serve as a clear warning for the future: we will not tolerate this kind of behavior, and we will take action against anyone trying to take advantage of our community."

The Harris County Attorney's Office continues to investigate price gouging complaints and urges residents to keep receipts and

report any suspected instances of price gouging during declared disasters.

For more information or to report price gouging, visit the Harris County Attorney's Office website at cao.harriscountytexas.gov.

About the Harris County Attorney's Office

Christian D. Menefee serves as the elected, top civil lawyer for Texas' largest county. The Harris County Attorney's Office represents the county in all civil matters including lawsuits. Menefee leads an office of 250 attorneys and staff members. He entered office at 32 years old, making him the youngest person and first African American elected as the Harris County Attorney.

Battleship Texas Makes Short Move in Galveston Amid \$75M Restoration: Final Home Still Undecided

The Historic Battleship Texas, currently under repair at Galveston's Gulf Copper Dry Dock & Rig Repair, made a brief journey within the Galveston Channel on Thursday. The historic vessel was towed from Pier D to Pier A at the same facility, a move described as "just a minor trip" by a narrator on the Battleship Texas Foundation's live YouTube broadcast. The relocation was necessary to continue the restoration work in a more suitable area with less traffic and access to better cranes.

The 573-foot battleship, which saw action in both World War I and World War II, is undergoing a \$75 million restoration. This extensive project includes the installation of a new hull, the repair or replacement of its superstructure,



"Texas" is the last Surviving Battleship that served un both world wars, it's 112-year-old ship.

and the refurbishment of its wooden decking. To date, over 700 tons of steel have been replaced, and nearly 300,000 man-hours have been invested in the restoration.

After serving as a floating museum near Baytown

at the San Jacinto Battleground from 1948 until 2022, the USS Texas was towed to Galveston for repairs. The ship was refloated in March 2023, marking a significant milestone in its restoration.

The final location for the

Battleship Texas remains undecided. The Battleship Texas Foundation is in talks with Landry's Inc., owned by billionaire Tilman Fertitta, to potentially move the ship to Galveston's Pier 21. However, the proposal faces op-

position from Katie's Seafood House, a popular harborside restaurant concerned that the battleship would obstruct its harbor view. The restaurant has launched a petition urging the Galveston Wharves Board of Trustees to prevent the move.

The Wharves Board, which manages the port, voted last October to negotiate a 10-year lease with the foundation and set an October 22 deadline to finalize the agreement. According to Matthew Pham, vice president of development for the Battleship Texas Foundation, the remaining issues between the port and the foundation are manageable. The foundation has also ruled out Galveston's Seawolf Park as a mooring location due to the high cost of necessary dredging.

CenterPoint Holding 16 Community Open House Event to gather Customer Feedback; Next Meetings in Dayton, Baytown, Houston

HOUSTON, TX — As CenterPoint continues efforts to improve customer service in response to outage after Hurricane Beryl, they want to hear from you.

As part of its Greater Houston Resiliency Initiative, CenterPoint is holding 16 Community Open House events in 12 area counties over the next six weeks.

"We have heard the calls for change, and we are taking action now," said CenterPoint President and CEO Jason Wells. "As part of our commitment to improving, we are encouraging all of our customers to share their experiences during Hurricane Beryl, as well as their ideas for how we can do better."

The events are being held to give customers a chance to provide feedback concerning the company's response to Hurricane Beryl. CenterPoint team members will also share details and answer questions about the 40 actions they're



taking to improve future storm response.

The actions include:

- **Installing stronger and more storm-resilient poles:** CenterPoint is replacing approximately 1,000 wooden poles by August 31 with stronger fiberglass poles that can withstand winds up to 132 mph.

- **Trimming or removing vegetation from power lines:** CenterPoint has doubled its vegetation management workforce in order to remove higher-risk vegetation near power lines by August 31.

- **Installing automated devices:** CenterPoint will install approximately 300 automated devices, known as trip savers. These devices mean that fewer customers experience outages, and quicker restoration times for those who do. The devices automatically re-energize the line in certain outages to help keep the power on for customers.

CenterPoint has taken a lot of heat for its storm preparedness and response after Beryl left over two million customers without power for days and in some cases weeks.

Several people died of hyperthermia because they had no power. CenterPoint is also the target of a state investigation as well as numerous lawsuits.

CenterPoint Community Open House schedule

- Wednesday, September 4, 4 P.M. - 7 P.M. Dayton Community Center at 801 S. Cleveland St., in Dayton (**Liberty County**)

- Thursday, September 5, 4 P.M. - 7 P.M.: West Side Complex Building at 8138 FM 3246 in Baytown (**Chambers County**)

- Saturday, September 7, 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.: Wright Cuney Recreation Center at 718 41st St in Galveston (**Galveston County**)

- Wednesday, September 11, 4 P.M. - 7 P.M.: Knights of Columbus Hall at 1310 Hwy 90 West in Sealy (**Austin County**)

- Thursday, September 12, 4 P.M. - 7 P.M.: Eagle Lake Community Center at 100 N. Walnut Ave. in Ea-

gle Lake (**Colorado County**)

- Saturday, September 14, 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.: Missouri City Landmark Community Center at 100 Louisiana St. in Missouri City (**Fort Bend County**)

- Saturday, September 14, 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.: Dow Academic Center at 500 College Blvd in Lake Jackson (**Brazoria County**)

- Wednesday, September 18, 4 P.M. - 7 P.M.: Bayland Community Center at 6400 Bissonnet St. in Houston

- Wednesday, September 25, 4 P.M. - 7 P.M.:

- Magnolia Event Center at 11659 FM 1488 in Magnolia (**Montgomery County**)

- Saturday, September 28, 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.: George H.W. Bush Community Center at 6827 Cypresswood Dr. in Spring

Customers can also view the schedule for future open houses by visiting www.CenterPointEnergy.com/OpenHouses.

OPINION PAGE

OPINION

By Brandon Herrera U.S. Term Limits Organization

Why Not Congressional Term Limits Like Presidential Limits?

Why Not Term Limits for Congress?

On February 27th, Americans across the nation celebrated National Term Limits Day. National Term Limits Day celebrates the ratification of the 22nd Amendment to the Constitution, setting a limit of two four-year terms for American presidents.

Until Franklin Roosevelt, no president had served more than two elected terms in office. It was a tradition established by George Washington. Two presidents prior to FDR had sought to do so – Ulysses S. Grant and Woodrow Wilson – and had failed in even securing their party's nomination.

After his presidency, there were widespread calls to establish a constitutional amendment to set term limits for the president. Roosevelt's successor, Harry Truman, who was an advocate of term limits for both the presidency and Congress, supported this initiative.

Harry Truman, who was president when the 22nd Amendment was ratified, believed two terms were enough for any occupant in the White House. Because he had served all but 82 days of two full terms, he opted not to run again in 1952.

Since then, terms limits has become the most popular, bipartisan issue in our country. A recent Pew Research poll showed 87% of Americans regardless of political affiliation support congressional term limits.

So, if Congress won't pass term limits what can be done? Just like presidential terms, the states can take the initiative – calling for a convention to adopt a congressional term limits amendment.

Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Wisconsin, and West Virginia – have called for a limited convention to propose a congressional term limits amendment to the Constitution.

Term limits would return accountability to the people and take away the power of the special interests in Washington. It's time: we need term limits for Congress.

Brandon Herrera is the Texas State Chair for U.S. Term limits

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.

Americanisms. The life of the nation is secure only while the nation is honest, truthful, and virtuous. — Frederick Douglass



THE POSTSCRIPT By Carrie Classon

Wearing a Scarf



I've been waiting a long time for my book, "Loon Point," to sell.

If I'm honest, it hasn't been that long. It's been five months, and that seems like a long time.

I talk to my old friend, Andrew, all the time about trying to get this book sold. Andrew told me that, if he ever sold a book, he'd ride around New York City in a red convertible wearing a long white silk scarf.

"New York is not a great climate for convertibles," I pointed out. "And the subway is much faster."

"I don't care. That's what I'd do."

"Plus, I've never seen you wear a scarf."

Andrew insisted he would wear one, so I bought him a scarf for his birthday. It was not white or silk. It was a soft wool plaid and much more practical.

But last week, I got some good news. "Loon Point" has finally found a publisher.

"2026?" my husband, Peter, said. I could tell he was disappointed.

"Yup. Eighteen months. I think that's pretty standard."

Since I spent only 50 days writing the book, it does seem slow. But I know that good things are worth waiting for, and this process of finding an agent and then having my agent find a publisher has taught me a lot.

There were times when I thought nothing at all was going to happen. I thought this book would go nowhere and never be in readers' hands. I occasionally even thought that the whole idea of becoming a fiction writer for the first time—at my age—was a little silly.

But these moods didn't last long because, even when no one seemed the least bit interested in my book, I was having a good time.

I was writing this column every week. I was writing more stories. And I was watching my old brain pick up new skills. I could look at something I'd written even six months earlier and see that I was better than I had been.

My new editor just sent me a long questionnaire to fill out. They want to know what I'd like the cover to look like, and whether there will be questions for the readers at the end, and what sorts of accents the person reading the audiobook should have.

As it is, I'm looking forward to learning how this whole thing works. I want to see how the sausage is made. I want to see how these editors and designers and directors and marketers do what they do so well.

My agent told me I should get the final contract next week. I told Andrew we needed to celebrate. I might even wear a scarf.

Till next time, Carrie

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Heat-related Deaths in Texas Likely Undercounted

As Texans endure the dog days of summer, experts say deaths related to heat in Texas and nationwide are likely undercounted, the Texas Standard reported.

With climate change causing warmer days and nights, last year was the hottest on record in Texas. Though this summer has not been quite as brutal, those working outside are still at considerable risk.

In 2023, 365 people in Texas died directly from heat, and heat was named a contributing factor in another 197 deaths. Accounting for heat's role in a death is challenging, however.

"The health impacts (of heat) are a little bit more subtle," said cardiologist Sameed Khatana, assistant professor of medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. "They can be delayed. And trying to tease apart whether a death or an adverse health effect occurred due to the temperature is quite challenging."

Heat has been called "the most dangerous phenomenon that workers face," according to the Texas Standard story.

OVERCROWDING, UNDERSTAFFING FORCE JAILS TO MOVE INMATES

Jails both large and small are struggling to properly house incarcerated people, and millions in tax dollars are being spent to transport inmates to other jails, sometimes in other states, The Texas Tribune reported.

The number of Texas inmates housed outside the county where they were arrested more than doubled from 2019 to 2024, from 2,078 to 4,358. In June 2024, 41% of Texas county jails housed inmates elsewhere, according to the Texas Commission on Jail Standards.

"Counties are having to think outside the box," said Ricky Armstrong, assistant director of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards. "We know there are some counties housing people out of state. It's not something we recommend or encourage, but we see that as a necessary evil."

Among the factors increasing the number of inmates



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

held elsewhere: a law limiting who can be released from jail while awaiting trial; an overburdened mental health system; and a difficulty in finding jailers.

While law enforcement officials advocate for increased jail space to ease the problem, civil rights advocates and defense attorneys say the state should invest more in mental health services and alternatives to jail.

"We are addicted to carceral solutions," Krish Gundu, co-founder of the Texas Jail Project, which advocates for people in Texas county jails, told The Tribune. "If we really cared about not having these people in jails, you'd look at why they are ending up in jail and solve the problem at the root."

PAXTON THREATENS TO SUE OVER STATE FAIR GUN POLICY

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton says he will sue the City of Dallas if it does not change a new gun policy. The city plans to ban licensed gun holders from bringing weapons to the State Fair of Texas unless they are active police officers or qualified retired officers.

A letter from the AG's office to the city of Dallas said the new policy violates state law, which says cities and other entities cannot ban handguns on government property unless there is a legal exception, such as for schools.

More than 70 Texas lawmakers issued a letter last week urging the fair to rescind

its new policy, saying "gun-free zones are a magnet for crime because they present less of a threat to those who seek to do evil," The News reported.

Meanwhile, the Houston Chronicle reported Paxton will work at a food bank as part of a plea deal he made in March with prosecutors to close the securities fraud case against him. He is required to complete 100 hours of community service and pay about \$300,000 in restitution to the victims.

A COOLER AND WETTER JULY FOR MOST OF THE STATE

The drought situation in Texas continues to ease, thanks in part to a wetter and cooler July, according to Mark Wentzel, hydrologist with the Texas Water Development Board. At the end of July, 20% of the state was in drought, down five percentage points from the end of June.

"Precipitation varied considerably, with large areas of Central and East Texas getting twice their normal rainfall, while parts of West Texas and the Panhandle got less than 25 percent of normal," Wentzel wrote.

The return of the La Niña weather system is likely to bring warmer and drier temperatures to the state this winter, according to Wentzel. Much of the drought area that remains in Texas is in the Big Bend area, as well as in the Hill Country west of San Antonio.

TWDB ADOPTS THE FIRST STATE FLOOD PLAN

The state now has its first comprehensive statewide assessment of flood risk after the water development board voted to adopt the 2024 State Flood Plan.

"Adopting the first-ever state flood plan is a monumental achievement for Texas," said TWDB Chairwoman Brooke Paup.

The plan presents about 4,600 plans and projects from 15 regional flood planning entities. Approximately one in every six people in Texas lives or works in known flood hazard areas.

TWDB will produce a new state flood plan every five years.

FRAUDULENT BANKING WEBSITE REPORTED

The Texas Department of Banking is warning consumers to be aware of a fraudulent banking website purporting to offer online and in-person banking services. A fake bank calling itself "All Finance Bank of Texas," claiming to be located in Houston, and a website, allfinanbnktxus, are not known to be associated with a known bank.

"No bank doing business under the name All Finance Bank of Texas has been authorized to provide banking services in Texas, nor is any bank by that name supervised by the Department of Banking, the FDIC, the Federal Reserve, or other U.S. regulatory authorities," TDB said in a news release.

Anyone with information or questions about the purported bank are urged to call TDB at 877-276-5554.

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FOOTBALL SEASON WEEK 1: Labor Day Weekend loaded with key college matchups

The holiday day weekend will be the official start of the 2024 college football season. While a handful of games were played last Saturday, Week 1 offers a host of intriguing matchups for the first weekend of the season. The 2024 season will also usher in a new College Football Playoff (CFP) format as 12 teams will qualify for the post-season tournament (up from four). The season will culminate on Monday, Jan. 20 with the CFP National Championship game slated for Atlanta's Mercedes-Benz Stadium.

The top four seeded teams in the CFP poll will receive first-round byes, while the remaining eight teams will be seeded 5-12. The higher seeds will host first-round games the weekend of Dec. 2-21 at their home stadiums, or a designated stadium near their respective campuses. The Quarterfinals will be held Dec. 31-Jan. 1 at the Fiesta Bowl (Dec. 31), the Peach Bowl (Jan. 1), the Rose Bowl (Jan. 1) and the Sugar Bowl (Jan. 1). The Semifinals will be held Jan. 9-10 at the Orange Bowl (Jan. 9) and the Cotton Bowl (Jan. 10).

The first round games will be held on ABC/ESPN and TNT Sports, while the Quarterfinals, Semifinals and National Championship games will be held on ESPN.

The Labor Day Weekend schedule is loaded as No. 1-ranked Georgia faces Clemson in Atlanta (The Bulldogs would love to start and finish their season at Atlanta, and might very well do so). No. 8-ranked Penn State faces a tough road opener at West Virginia, while No. 4-ranked Texas opens the season in Austin against Colorado State, hoping to land a second straight CFP spot. Texas and Oklahoma are now members of the SEC and will learn that maybe, just maybe, the grass isn't greener away from the Big 12.

Speaking of the Big 12, the Willie Fritz era begins at the University of Houston as the Cougars will host UNLV on Saturday.

Also in the Lone Star State on Saturday, No. 7-ranked Notre Dame pays a visit to College Station to take on No. 20-ranked Texas A&M and new head coach Mike Elko.

Other top matchups in Week 1 have Miami facing off against Florida in a battle of Sunshine State and the Labor Day Weekend concludes on Labor Day with No. 13-ranked LSU taking on No. 23-ranked USC in Las Vegas.

It should be a fun weekend of viewing.

So, without further ado, let's take a look at this weekend's games.

NCAA

TCU at Stanford – The long Labor Day Weekend football fest kicks off on Friday night when the TCU Horned Frogs head west to take on Stanford. After finishing 13-2 and playing for the national championship following the 2022 season, TCU fell off to a 5-7 record last year. Dykes has reshuffled his roster with a number of new players from the NCAA Portal and is



hoping sophomore QB Josh Hoover (2,206 yards, 15 TDs) is ready for bigger and better things in 2024. Look for the Frogs to get off to a good start as they pick up a win against the a Cardinal team that finished 3-9 last year. My pick, TCU 33, Stanford 20

Clemson vs. Georgia – This should be a good one to start a long Saturday of quality games. This one starts at noon and features No. 1-ranked Georgia against a Clemson team that wants to get back in the CFP picture. Dabo Swiney's team finished a respectable 9-4 a year ago, but they haven't been in the CFP since 2019. That can't be sitting well with Tiger fans. This game features two of the country's top QBs in Clemson's Cade Klubnik (2,844 yards, 19 TDs/4 rushing TDs) and Heisman Trophy contender Carson Beck (3,941 yards, 24 TDs). I think Clemson hangs with the 'Dawgs, but look for Georgia's defense to be the difference maker late as Kirby Smart's team picks up a big season-opening win. My pick, Georgia 31, Clemson 16

Penn State at West Virginia – No. 8-ranked Penn State heads to the hills to face a dangerous West Virginia team that was the surprise of the Big 12 a year ago with its 9-4 finish. PSU has CFP hopes and has a veteran QB returning in Drew Allar (2,631 yards, 25 TDs) and a two-headed running game led by Kaytron Allen (902 yards, 7 TDs) and Nicholas Singleton (752 yards, 10 TDs). The Mountaineers also have a solid signal caller back in Garrett Green (2,406 yards, 16 TDs) and a solid back in C.J. Donaldson (798 yards, 11 TDs). If the Nittany Lions are going to be serious CFP contenders, winning a tough road game to start the season could be a huge for its momentum. My pick, Penn State 27, West Virginia 23

Colorado State at Texas – Steve Sarkisian begins his fourth season at the 40 Acres and he and many Orange bloods believe this could be a special team. Texas is coming off a 12-2 season, a Big 12 title and a spot in the CFP. UT returns a solid nucleus on both sides of the football, led by QB Quin Ewers (3,479 yards, 22 TDs in 12 games), four of five offensive line starters and playmakers galore on the defense. UT suffered a big blow in pre-season camp when running back C.J. Baxter was lost for the season with a knee injury. Texas will pin its hopes on speedy sophomore Jadon Blue (398 yards, 4 total TDs and a Klein ISD product). Texas has a new set of receivers in Alabama transfer Isaiah Bond (48 receptions, 668 yards, 4 TDs) and UH transfer Matthew Golden. This will be a good test for the UT secondary as CSU QB Brayden Fowler-Nicolosi (3,460 yards, 22 TDs) can fling it all over the place. Look for the more physical Horns to wear down CSU in the Austin heat. My

pick, Texas 41, Colorado State 20

Miami at Florida – This Battle for the Sunshine State pits two teams that are looking to rebound from subpar seasons. Miami finished 7-6 a year ago, while Florida finished 5-7. The heat is on for both teams' head coaches. Miami will be led by Washington State transfer QB Cam Wards (3,736 yards, 25 TDs), while Florida will pin it hopes on Graham Mertz (2,903 yards, 20 TDs) and running back Montrell Johnson (817 yards, 6 TDs). Gator head coach Bill Napier knows he must win and win now, so look for the Gators to pick up a solid first win of the season. My pick, Florida 26, Miami 23

Notre Dame at Texas A&M – A good one for Saturday evening as the No. 7-ranked Fighting Irish head into College Station to take on No. 20-ranked A&M and new head coach Mike Elko. This should be a defensive battle as ND (10-3 a year ago) returns nine defensive starters and the Aggies have one of the best defensive lines in the country. ND will be led by QB Riley Leonard (1,102 yards, 3 TDs/352 rushing yards, 4 TDs in seven games). Riley played for Elko last year at Duke, so you can be sure the new Aggie head man knows a thing or two about the new Irish QB. A&M is hoping for a big year from their QB, Conner Weigman (979 yards, 8 TDs in just 4 games), who missed much of the 2023 season with a foot injury. The Aggies also suffered a loss at running back when starter Amari Daniels suffered a season-ending injury in camp. Rueben Owens (385 yards, 3 TDs) and LeVeon Moss (484 yards, 5 TDs) will be called on to pick up the slack in the running game. Weigman has a solid go-to guy in wide receiver Moose Muhammad II (27 receptions, 345 yards, 2 TDs). This should be a low-scoring game and I'm going with the better of the two defenses in this one, which means a big season-opening road win for Notre Dame. My pick, Notre Dame 20, Texas A&M 17

USC vs. LSU – This is a good one to finish off the Labor Day Weekend Football Fest. This should be a high-scoring game as the Trojans will start Miller Moss at QB (681 yards, 7 TDs). Moss stepped in for Caleb Williams in the Holiday Bowl and tossed six TD passes to earn MVP game honors. The Tigers are also starting over at QB as Heisman Trophy winner Jayden Daniels has moved on to the NFL. Head coach Brian Kelly (10-3 a year ago) will put his faith in backup Garrett Nussmeier (591 yards, 4 TDs). Look for running back Logan Diggs (653 yards, 7 TDs) to have a coming out season, while on defense linebacker Harold Perkins (5.5 sacks) will look to hound Miller all night long. My pick, LSU 30, USC 26

Community Star Newport resident celebrated for 50 years of 'service above self'



Newport resident BJ Johnson receives one of the world-famous North Shore Rotary Club coffee cups recently after speaking on his 50 years in the club.

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

Five decades ago, a Newport resident made what he calls one of the best decisions of his life.

Billy Joe Johnson, an insurance salesman and owner of Business and Estate Planning Alternatives in the North Shore area, found out that the Rotary Club was one of the best opportunities for him to volunteer his time, despite his already busy schedule.

BJ was born in a farmhouse outside of Vaughn, Texas between Hillsboro, and Waco. He and his family moved to Jacinto City in 1945 when he was seven years old. Johnson moved to the North Shore area and lived in Woodforest for 25 years. He graduated from North Shore High School.

He spent the next few decades building his own business.

He not only owned his own business, but ascended in the ranks to become President of the Houston Association of Certified Financial Planners and has also been a regional vice president of that organization. He entered the insurance business in 1963 and holds professional designations as a Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU), Chartered Financial Consultant (ChFC), and Certified Financial Planner (CFP).

Johnson was also very active in the North Shore area where he was past president of the North Shore Jaycees, Past District Chairman of the Boy Scouts, served as a coach in the North Shore Little League Baseball League, and served on the Calf Scramble Committee for 42 years at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and has been awarded a Lifetime Commitment. After moving to Crosby in 1990, Johnson became a founding member of the Newport Property Owners Association.

"In the early 70s, I had been invited to Rotary lunch on several occasions by friends and in 1973

was asked as president of the North Shore Jaycees to do a program on what the Jaycees were doing for the community," he said.

Following the program, he was invited to join the club, but declined as he didn't think he had the time to devote to two different organizations. That changed.

After a trip to Jamaica where Johnson saw the help Rotarians gave to a deaf school there, he couldn't wait to join when he returned.

"In those days, the deaf were put on the streets to fend for themselves," he said. "I saw what the club did for those kids and realized what a great organization Rotary was and I wanted to be a part of it."

He joined in 1973 under the classification of Life Insurance. Early rules of the club dictated that only one classification could be a member and that classification had to represent at least 75 percent of the member's income.

"One banker, one doctor, one jeweler, one real estate broker and so on," he described it. Fortunately for him, the insurance classification had just come open and he was admitted to the club. The rule is no longer in effect.

In true Johnson form, he went to work volunteering and later ascended to the presidency of the club in 1980-1981, the same year the club was recognized with the International Significant Achievement Award for best club in the district.

The joke amongst Rotary members is the real cost of Rotary is your time, something BJ Johnson was willing to share.

"At one point I had to back off a little to concentrate on my business," he said, but he never regretted his membership.

Recently, he shared his story of 50 years with the club members including the inclusion of women in the early 1980s.

"In 1973, there were two clubs—Rotary Club and Rotary Anns.

The wives made up the membership of the Rotary Anns which had their own officers. My wife Joetta was their president in 1976-1977," he said proudly.

"She's had ties to the club all 50 years that I've been involved. She is the love of my life, my social director, and keeps me on the straight and narrow," he laughed. "When I go astray, she tells me the things I don't want to hear."

He told one of the most hilarious stories that motivated the North Shore Rotary Club to get involved.

"Dr. BJ Westbrook, charter member of the club, helped start the North Shore ambulance service. He told us that Howard Funeral Home had the only ambulance in the area, a Chevrolet Station Wagon with a big siren on the fender and lights on top. Jerry Weisinger, another member of the club, drove the ambulance after he got out of high school," Westbrook said.

They received a call from Channelview to pick up a male patient. They loaded him up in the back and left. While traveling down Dell Dale to Highway 73 (now I-10), they took a right turn too fast at the corner and the back door of the ambulance came open. They lost the patient down the slope, chased after him, and caught him after about 50 yards.

"BJ said they loaded him back in the ambulance and proceeded down the road to Tidelands Hospital like nothing had happened," he described it.

Because of the story and the need, Westbrook was able to spur the North Shore Rotary Club to buy the first ambulance for the area.

Johnson said he was grateful for his time in the club and his participation has slowed considerably as he's aged, but he is still proud of his association with one of the most decorated Rotary Clubs in the nation.

Football Schedules
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Crosby at Dayton, 7 p.m., Bronco Stadium in Dayton
Dallas South Oak Cliff at North Shore, 7 p.m., Galena Park ISD Stadium in Houston
Goose Creek Memorial at Baytown Sterling, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium
La Marque at Huffman Hargrave, 7:30 p.m., Falcon Stadium in Huffman
Morton Ranch at Aldine Nimitz, 7 p.m., W. W. Thorne Stadium in Houston
New Caney at Barbers Hill, 7 p.m., Eagle Stadium in Mont Belvieu
Spring Westfield at C. E. King, 7 p.m., Sheldon ISD Panther Stadium in Houston

Saturday, August 31
Cypress Ridge at Aldine MacArthur, 6 p.m., W. W. Thorne Stadium in Houston

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Fatal Road Rage Shooting at 13500 East Freeway

Houston police are investigating the fatal shooting of a man that occurred at 13500 East Freeway (East Interstate Highway 10) about 10:45 p.m. on Thursday (August 15).

The identity of the male victim, 21, is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.

HPD Homicide Division Detectives M. Barrow and J. Caten reported:

HPD patrol officers, on routine patrol, were traveling eastbound on the East Freeway when they witness a possible road rage incident. Officers exited the freeway, made a U-turn and found an unresponsive man with a gunshot wound. Houston Fire Department paramedics responded to the scene and transported to the man to Memorial Hermann Texas Medical Center in

critical condition. On Saturday (August 17), doctors pronounced him deceased.

A preliminary investigation, and evidence from the scene, determined the male and the shooter exchanged gunfire resulting in the victim being struck. Both parties, including the shooter and the victim's family, remained at the scene. Both groups provided statements to investi-

gators.

No charges have been filed at this time, as the investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with additional information in this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or speak anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS.

Highlands-Lynchburg Chamber Monthly Meeting and Luncheon

Please join us for the Monthly Membership Meeting and luncheon

Our Guest Speaker will be Isabelle Dion and the Topic will be

Speed Networking
September 12, 2024
12:00 Noon

Location: San Jacinto Community Center
604 Highland Woods Drive

Meal catered by Hector's Mexican Restaurant

Please RSVP at highlandlynchburgchamber@outlook.com



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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE - RFP #25-003

The Barbers Hill Independent School District is accepting proposals for a multiple award bid for:

Physical Therapy Contracted Services

Proposals will be accepted on or before: 2:00 p.m., Friday September 13, 2024

The RFP can be obtained by visiting <https://www.bhisd.net/departments/financetax-office/purchasing> or contact Amy Presley at 281-576-2221 ext. 1268 to obtain a copy of the RFP.

The school district reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, waive any formalities and/or technicalities in the proposal and award the contract to the best proposal that serves the interests of the district. The district may negotiate with vendors that submit viable proposals.

32-2T

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE - RFP #25-004

The Barbers Hill Independent School District is accepting proposals for a multiple award bid for:

Large Commercial Cafeteria Equipment

Proposals will be accepted on or before: 2:00 p.m., Friday September 13, 2024

The RFP can be obtained by visiting <https://www.bhisd.net/departments/financetax-office/purchasing> or contact Amy Presley at 281-576-2221 ext. 1268 to obtain a copy of the RFP.

The school district reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, waive any formalities and/or technicalities in the proposal and award the contract to the best proposal that serves the interests of the district. The district may negotiate with vendors that submit viable proposals.

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LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 520230; Estate of WILLIAM ERNEST BAGWELL, Deceased; In Probate Court No. 3 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on AUGUST 21, 2024 to:


VICTORIA STEPP

The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is:

c/o Weston Cotten
1500 E. Wallisville Road
Highlands, TX 77562

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated this AUGUST 26, 2024


by WESTON COTTEN
Attorney for the Estate

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Chief Richard Wagner, Galena Park Chief of Police with the Department's Mascot "Lena" short for Galena. He's warning against animal cruelty. Photo by Allan Jamail

By Allan Jamail

Galena Park, TX. ~ August 20, 2024 at the Galena Park police station Chief Richard Wagner said with the August heat wave and the heat-index soaring into triple digits pet owners must take extra precautions with their pets.

Wagner said, "Some people take good care of their pets while at home indoors but then without thinking they'll take their dogs out for a walk not realizing the hot pavement is well over 150 degrees on their paws. This is animal cruelty even though it's unintentional." Dog owners sometime fail to realize the pavement temperatures is as hot on the dog's paws exactly as it would be on their own bare feet. A good walking leash length in order to keep control of a dog is from four to six feet and not over ten feet.

HEAT STROKE SYMPTOMS & TREATMENT

Texas law requires fresh cool water be made available to outdoor pets to prevent them from overheating and having a heat stroke and providing for their pets some shaded shelter out of the blazing hot sun.

Dogs or cats suffering from a heat stroke may have some of these symptoms; they'll lie down, pant when breathing, have excessive drooling, has a fast heart beat. **FIRST AID TREATMENT:** Immediately cool down the pet by wetting it with cool water but not ice water, put a fan on it and take it to a veterinarian.

Wagner said patrol officers are on watch for outside pets being placed on a short leash less than 10 feet long that the Texas Leash Law requires. Also for anything that appears to be inflicting the mistreatment of a dog or cat.

Recently the Texas Legislators amended existing laws and or created new laws.

ALL DOGS & CATS REQUIRED TO BE REGISTERED & LICENSED IN THEIR CITY EVERY 6 MONTHS

New Texas law related to the registration and licensing of dogs went into effect in Texas. According to the Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 828, all dogs and cats must be registered with the local animal services agency by the time the animal is four months old.

Pet owners must now renew their pet's registration every six months rather than annually. This change aims to encourage more frequent veterinary visits and ensure vaccinations stay up-to-date. Failure to register or renew a pet's license may result in late fees or civil penalties. However, some municipalities are using positive reinforcement by offering registration discounts for micro chipped pets.

TEXAS LAW MANDATES ALL DOGS & CATS MUST BE VACCINATED

In Texas, all dogs and cats over 3 months of age must be vaccinated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian. The rabies vaccine must be administered every 1 or 3 years depending on the type of vaccine used.

Failure to vaccinate dogs against rabies may result in fines and owners can face criminal charges for allowing unvaccinated dogs to expose others to rabies. The city may also impose quarantines on dogs without proof of rabies vaccination.

TYING OUTDOOR DOGS / 10 FOOT RULE / DOG CHAINING IS ILLEGAL



Dog or cats suffering from a heat stroke will pant when breathing, have excessive drooling, has a fast heart beat. Read treatment below.

Texas passed the Safe Outdoor Dogs Act which establishes new rules around tying and chaining dogs outdoors. The main changes include:

All dogs must be kept on a leash or have a physical barrier separating them from the public when outside of their owner's property.

Dogs cannot be tied unattended outdoors with a restraint less than 10 feet long.

The leash must be attached to a proper collar or harness, not directly around the dog's neck. Tied up dogs must have access to drinkable water and adequate shelter from the sun, heat or freezing temperatures.

Under the new law owners are now barred from tying up their dogs outside with chains or weighed-down restraints. The length of an outdoor restraint must be 10 feet long or five times the dog's length from nose to tail.

Tying up a dog outside is prohibited when a heat advisory or hurricane, tropical storm, or severe thunderstorm warning has been issued. Tying dogs outdoors is banned when the temperature drops below 32°F for more than 4 consecutive hours.

These new rules aim to prevent inhumane treatment and dangerous conditions for outdoor dogs in Texas. Violations are punishable under the state's animal cruelty laws.

CITIES & COUNTIES LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO ENFORCE

The new dog and cat laws in Texas will be enforced by local governments and law enforcement agencies and their officers. Cities and counties may appoint animal control officers to enforce animal-related laws and respond to complaints from the public. Law enforcement agencies can enforce laws relating to dangerous dogs and dog attacks.

Penalties for violating the new dog and cat laws include fines, seizure of the animal and even criminal charges and someone found guilty of animal cruelty could face jail time.

I dedicate this article to Susan Lynn Hoffman, the daughter of the North Channel Star Editor and Publisher Gilbert Hoffman. She died unexpectedly last year at the age of 64, from Cardiac Arrest suffered during a scheduled heart procedure.

Susan's interests included taking care for every conceivable stray animal she encountered.

She cared for many stray animals, including cats, dogs, and birds. She kept some, but found

foster homes when possible. She supported animal shelters and encouraged others to

do the same. She and I both love dogs and cats, we both have this in common.

As a patrolman before I became chief of police-city marshal I had the city's first official K-9 dog that was used on patrol in a police unit. My German Shepherd's name was Susan but called Susie for short. Susie helped me one night apprehend a criminal who broke into the office of the Houston Wiper & Mill Supply Co. When out at night patrolling Susie always gave me a sense of security, I kept her window down, when stopping a vehicle as I talked to a driver she would bark loud and the driver knew my K-9 was watching and nearby.

The public plays a role too by reporting violations. Call your local law enforcement agency any time you suspect an animal's basic needs are not being met. Phone numbers to keep in your cell phone for reporting any crime: Houston Police - 713-884-3131, Harris County Sheriff Office 713-221-6000, Jacinto City Police - 713-672-2455, Galena Park Police - 713-675-3471, Constable Pct. 2 Jerry Garcia - 713-477-4070, Constable Pct. 3 Sherman Eagleton - 713-274-2500.

New Crosby Lions Club,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cluding parts north of 59 in Fort Bend.

"What is our mission? We're here to empower volunteers," Martin continued. "Our vision is to be the global leader in community and humanitarian services. We want to be first on the ground in a crisis, even before the American Red Cross shows up."

The Lions Club began in 1917 and was organized in Chicago by Melvin Jones, an insurance agent.

"He wanted to do more for his community than what was going on, so he gathered his friends and colleagues and met in October of that year in Dallas. The Lion's Club was formed and they became an international organization in 1920 when they chartered a club across the river from Detroit in Canada," Martin said.

1925 was a special year for the club.

"Helen Keller came to the Lions Club International in Sandusky, Ohio at the international convention and asked the Lions to be the 'knights for the blind.' That mission gave the Lions Club a single mission and project they could sink their teeth into," he said.

Leo Clubs were first formed in 1957 involving

willing young people in the same mission and assuring the club's continuity and lasting effect.

More than 100 years later, Jones' ideas and wishes for his club have been met repeatedly.

The Foundation was formed in 1968 and continues to fund large projects and aid in disasters around the world.

With their incredibly well-known work with vision and glasses, they also have established eight pillars of projects they hope to accomplish: to provide support for the families of children with cancer; work to reduce the prevalence of diabetes and improve the quality of life for those living with the disease; take steps to meet immediate needs and provide long-term support for communities devastated by natural disasters; find ways to protect the environment to create healthier communities and a more sustainable world; identify the world's most crucial needs and provide humanitarian aid where it's needed most; to improve food security and access to nutritious food to help alleviate hunger; help prevent blindness and improve quality of life for people who are blind or visually impaired; and

lastly, to support young people so they make positive choices, lead healthy and productive lives, and become the next generation of service leaders.

"With each of these we have responded in our individual clubs," Martin said. "We have a special camera that we use to take a photo of the kid's eyes and within five seconds can tell you whether or not that child needs to go see an optometrist for a complete workup or if they're good to go," he said.

Martin's club also collects plastic bags and recycles them.

"We take them to a recycling company that mixes the bags with some wood chips, glue, and it produces a three-person bench that will last up to 25 years," he said.

Each club is allowed to pursue their own dollars and projects. There are dues that are mostly minimal and help the foundation. Most money remains in the area for community projects.

To learn more about the Lions Club, they will host another organizational and informational meeting on Monday, Aug. 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the Crosby Community Center.

County passes Family Assistance Plan,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the program in part because he argued that the "no-strings-attached" design of the original payments made Uplift Harris unconstitutional.

According to census data, roughly 1 in 6 people in Harris County live in poverty, more than the national average and more than all other large counties in Texas. Data from the Kinder Institute

shows that roughly 2 in 5 Houston residents say they would be unable to pay for a \$400 emergency.

Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo is Harris County's chief executive and Director of the Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Judge Hidalgo, alongside four county

precinct commissioners, oversees a budget of approximately \$5 billion that funds services and institutions for the third-largest county in the nation, home to nearly 5 million people. For more information about Harris County and the Office of the County Judge, please visit: cjo.harriscountytexas.gov.



Ryan Gosling, left, and Emily Blunt star in "The Fall Guy."

"The Fall Guy"

"THE FALL GUY"

(PG-13) — Let's move on to a film that actually underperformed at the box office, even with its two notable stars. This action comedy loosely based on the 1980s TV series of the same name gave us another "Barbenheimer" moment by putting "Barbie's" Ryan Gosling opposite "Oppenheimer's" Emily Blunt. Gosling plays stuntman Colt Seavers, who is tasked by his film's producer to find the missing lead actor, Tom Ryder (Aaron Taylor-Johnson), and stop his ex-girlfriend's (Blunt) film from being ruined. Turning into somewhat of a bounty hunter, Colt starts to track Tom's whereabouts, but the closer Colt gets to finding him, the more Colt realizes that he's been seriously misled as to what's really going on with Tom. Premieres Aug. 30. (Peacock)

"INSIDE OUT 2"

(PG) — The sequel to Disney's "Inside Out" (2015) has

become the second highest-grossing animated film of all time after bringing in a whopping \$1.597 billion, and it's well deserving of its immense success. The film boasts a star-studded cast, with new additions Maya Hawke ("Stranger Things") and Ayo Edebiri ("The Bear") joining Amy Poehler, Diane Lane, and Kyle MacLachlan, who reprise their roles from the first film. Taking place two years after she first moved to San Francisco, Riley is now officially a teenager and faces a new learning curve in life as she hits puberty. Insert four new emotions for her to deal with: anxiety, envy, embarrassment and ennui — oh, my! To keep their storytelling as authentic as possible, the film's production team even consulted psychologists so that teenage viewers could truly relate to Riley's pestilent pubescent problems. Rent it now! (Apple TV+)

"TWISTERS" (PG-13)

— Almost three decades after Helen Hunt and Bill Paxton's "Twister" hit the big screen back in 1996, a standalone sequel was released and pulled in \$315.3 million in the box office so far. The new cast of tornado chasers is led by Daisy Edgar-Jones ("Normal People"), Anthony Ramos ("Transformers: Rise of the Beasts"), and the always-grinning Glen Powell ("Hit Man"). Their adrenaline-loving, yet brilliant characters take on a myriad of bone-chilling storms throughout rural Oklahoma, facing tornadoes that reach a Category 5 of incredible damage on the EF Scale. While the story's scientific accuracy has been critiqued, the stunning visual effects make it a mesmerizing, nail-biting watch. Out now to rent. (Amazon Prime Video)

"SIMONE BILES RISING" (TV-MA)

— If you didn't get enough of the talented Simone Biles during the recent Paris Olympics, you should definitely give this two-part documentary series a try. Viewers can follow along as Biles prepares to make her return to the Olympic stage after withdrawing from the 2020 Tokyo Games due to her struggles with mental health. Starting from the point where Biles felt herself coming apart in Tokyo and leading up to moments before she would snag four medals in Paris, the series gives fans an intimate, up-close portrait of the world-renowned gymnast in all aspects of her life — as a daughter, a sister, a teammate, a friend and a wife. Two more episodes of the series are planned to be released later in the fall for a total of four episodes, but you can check out the first two now. (Out now, Netflix)

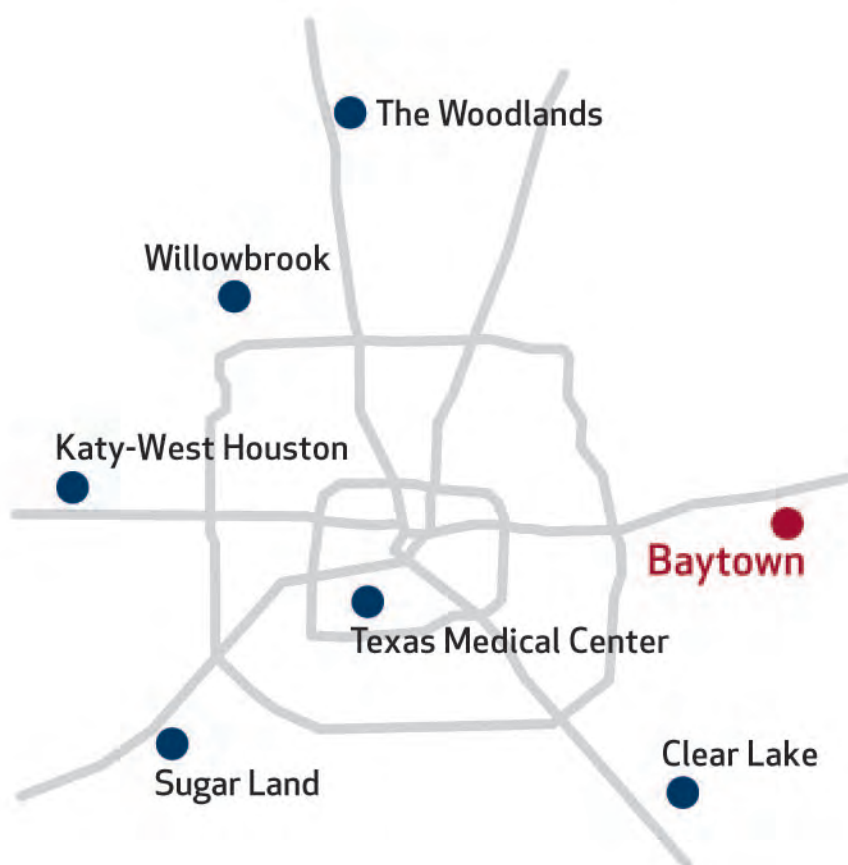
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