



HIGHLANDS CROSBY
Star **Courier**

Serving Highlands, Crosby, Huffman and Surrounding Communities
since 1955 ■ www.starcouriernews.com

VOL. 71, NO. 36- \$1.00 © Copyright 2024 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2024 P.O. DRAWER 446, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

IN THE STARS

**Crosby Chamber Luncheon
September 19**

Crosby Huffman Chamber of Commerce invites you to the monthly luncheon, Thursday, September 19 starting at 11:30am at the Crosby Community Center, 409 Hare Road, Crosby. Speaker is Cathe Heinrich, Business Development Manager at First American Title. TOPIC: Generating Sales with Google My Business. RSVP: 281-328-6984

**Crosby Historical Society Opening
September 21**

CROSBY HISTORICAL: The Crosby Historical Society hosts its official Grand Opening on Sept. 21, 2024, at 10 a.m. 5712 Pecan Street, Crosby, 77532. Additional parking is available in the First Baptist Church parking lot across the street from the museum with handicapped parking on 706 Runneburg Road. Refreshments will be provided by Sterling-White Funeral Home. The museum will be open until 3 p.m. For more info, contact Donna Davenport at 281-731-7010.

**Huffman Fall Festival & Harvest Market
Sat. Sept. 28**

The May Community Center hosts its annual Fall Festival and Harvest Market on Sept. 28, 2024, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Enjoy children's games, petting zoo facepainting, hay ride, community garage sale, pet adoptions and much more. For more information, call 713-274-2434.

Rotarians throw Washers for Worthy Cause

Charity event benefits Polio fight

HIGHLANDS – Warm weather didn't stop about 25 teams who competed last Saturday in the Highlands Rotary Club's annual Washer Throwing Tournament. The event was held at Charlie's Ice House on Main Street. Fans and team players numbered about 100 persons.

Excellent play from several throwers made this an exciting tournament, with expert throwing from both Continued. See ROTARY WASHERS, Page 2



TOP WINNING TEAM WAS BOOM SHAKA LAKA, L to R, Josh Digulio, club president GayLynn Milliorn, and Brittany White. Josh Digulio also won the prize for best scorer in the Tournament.



The Live Auction included two beautiful quilts made by and donated by Rotarian Connie Russell. ABOVE, this colorful quilt has a Houston Astros theme.

Studio Opening draws city-wide crowds

By Allan Jamail

Houston, Texas – September 14, 2024, The Silos at Sawyer Yards, 1502 Sawyer Street is home to Houston's artist Mei Hoffman. She's located in Suite 113 and if you visit her studio it'll be an experience you'll enjoy. She's an artist of Fine Art, created for aesthetic or intellectual purposes. Fine art is beautiful and can convey ideas, emotions and memories.

My wife Linda and I made it our goal to be the first to sign the studio's grand opening guest book. Our early arrival allowed us to visit with Mei so she could show us her paintings and describe her thoughts about painting them. They all were life-like and depicted many different subjects. Visitors would be able to resonate with most of them as they Continued. See MORE PHOTOS on Page 2



Mei Hoffman (center) at her Art Studio's Grand Opening. One of four walls in her studio of Fine Art Paintings. Located at The Silos at Sawyer Yards, Suite 113, 1502 Sawyer Street, Houston. L - R: Wendy Reichert, Mei Hoffman & Patricia Hoffman (Photo by Allan Jamail)



Mei Hoffman with a self-portrait. In opening her own art studio she pursuing and fulfilling her lifelong dream. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



Susan and Sarah Hill, friends of the artist seen at right, commented on the amount of work on display, and had a hard time picking their favorites from the many choices.



The viewing crowd included many folks from East Aldine, including Rocio Witte with husband and son, Patti Acosta, and Marina and Ken Sugg. They commented on the wealth of art to be seen at the Silos of Sawyer Yards.

September: Suicide Prevention Month

By Allan Jamail

September 6, 2024 ~ September is National Suicide Prevention Month – a time to remember the lives lost to suicide, acknowledge the millions more who have experienced suicidal thoughts, and the many individuals, families and communities that have been impacted by suicide. It's also a time to raise awareness about suicide prevention and share messages of hope.

More than 49,000 people in the United States died by suicide in 2022 —

that's one death every 11 minutes, and more than any other year dating to back at least 1941, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. On top of that, 13.2 million people seriously considered suicide, 3.8 million planned it and 1.6 million attempted suicide. It's the third leading cause of death among 15- to 29-year-olds.

One never knows what they could have done to prevent a family member

Continued. See SUICIDE PREVENTION, Page 5

Gov. Abbott touts removal of 1 million voters from rolls

AUSTIN – According to a statement from Governor Abbott's office, more than 1 million ineligible voters have been stricken from rolls by his government.

Texas has removed more than 1 million people from the state's voter rolls, including people who have moved out-of-state, have died, or are noncitizens.

"Illegal voting in Texas will never be tolerated. We will continue to

actively safeguard Texans' sacred right to vote while also aggressively protecting our elections from illegal voting," Gov. Greg Abbott said, touting a 2021 legislative overhaul of election laws.

However, some election experts point out both federal and state law already required voter roll maintenance and that this is a routine process.

"Year after year, peo-

ple are taken off the voting rolls for all manner of innocuous reasons," said Sarah Xiyi Chen, an attorney at the Texas Civil Rights Project.

Some watchdog groups are questioning whether the state is mistakenly removing voters it considers "noncitizens." In 2019, the state flagged 95,000 voters identified as such. Many of them turned out to be naturalized citizens, and the secretary of state at

the time resigned, The Texas Tribune reported.

The law that took effect in 2021 set new rules and penalties for assisting voters. The measure made it a felony for local officials to proactively distribute applications for mail-in ballots, gave partisan poll watchers increased autonomy inside polling places, and banned local attempts to expand voting hours and drive-through voting, among other practices.

A Generator offers Safety and Reliability. Call for a Free Quote with no Obligation, from the #1 Generator Company. 713-496-1933

AUTO & HOME INSURANCE
Jeremy Rosenkranz
State Farm Agent
440 S. Main Street, Highlands, TX 77562
281-426-3512
jtr@jeremyrosenkranz.com

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

STAR-COURIER PHONES: 713-266-3444 • E-MAIL: GRAFIKSTAR @ AOL.COM • FAX: 713-977-1188

DRIVE INTO THE SEASON WITH AN AUTO LOAN FROM CRCU

Community Resource CREDIT UNION
VISIT CRCU.ORG/90DAYS OR SCAN QR CODE

Rotarians throw Washers for Worth Cause,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

new and returning teams. Winning teams were:
#1 - BOOM SHAKA LAKA, Josh Digulio, Brit-tany White
#2 - COMMUNITY TOYOTA, Bob Fehring, Keith Gaedchens
#3 - RUNNING LATE, Stacy Richardson, Trent Richardson

The Rotary Trophy for high score by a Rotarian was won by Charlie Ward, who will keep it for a year until next tournament.

A live auction helped with the fund raising. Two beautiful handmade quilts, donated by Connie Russell, brought over \$1000 dollars. They were themed Astros, and Blue-Bonnets. A liquor wagon and a giant TV were included.

The tournament is a fundraiser with all proceeds going to Rotary International for their Polio Plus and other worldwide projects. Each year Highlands Rotary raises about \$10,000 for this cause.

Club president Gay-Lynn Milliorn said the Highlands Rotary Club wishes to thank all who helped make this a great success.



SECOND PLACE TEAM was COMMUNITY TOYOTA, L to R, Bob Fehring, club president GayLynn Milliorn, and Keith Gaedchens.



THIRD PLACE TEAM was RUNNING LATE, L to R, Stacy Richardson, club president GayLynn Milliorn with prize checks, and Trent Richardson.



At the Tournament, a MAJOR DONOR AWARD was presented to Denise Smith for her support of Rotary. At left Denise is second from right, with her husband Jerry at right and other Rotarians applauding her recognition.

Mei's Studio Opening,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

did for me bringing memories of times past and current scenes I've seen.

The Silos at Sawyer Yards includes 97 workspaces for 100+ artists and contains galleries, office spaces, and retail establishments. You'll be able to see many different types/styles of art. Example, see above photo of Oluseyi Soyege's fabric collage painting.

Sawyer Yards was officially launched in 2005 with the conversion of a 75,000-square-foot warehouse surrounded by a still-thriving rail yard. The renovated building debuted as Winter Street Studios and received the first art studio ordinance granted in Houston. At that point, the vision to move forward and construct a dedicated creative community gained momentum. The immediate success of Winter Street Studios was quickly followed by the unique, architecturally sensitive conversions of five other studio complexes in the area.

These former warehouses and industrial spaces have been converted into hundreds of art studios, art galleries, fine dining establishments, fitness concepts, craft breweries, entertainment venues, and more. The Sawyer Yards campus focuses on all forms of creativity, with plentiful recurring and unique events year-round.

The fact that all of this creativity has been built on converted old rail yard space is truly impressive, and it's worth it alone to visit as a testament to Houston's innovative and resourceful art spirit. More than 300 established and



First guests to arrive at the Grand Opening were Linda and Allan Jamail. Allan takes all the great sports photos for the newspapers, and now Art.



Gil and Mei Hoffman welcome guests with Dr. Elizabeth Guy.



Carlos and Gloria stopped to see the many types of artwork. At left, wire sculpture, at center oil paintings, and at right nature bundle.

emerging artists work at six different buildings, and you can meet them face to face.

Hoffman is extending her invitation to readers to come to The Silos on the second and third Saturday of the month to visit her studio (Suite 113) and the many other artists studios. Many of them open their doors and will be glad to discuss their art pieces with you. No matter what's

your budget; from affordable mementos to expensive masterpieces, you may find a piece of art that appeals to you and you can take it home.

Mei and Gilbert Hoffman are the current owners of the North Channel Star, Northeast News, Star Courier and other publications that bring community news to their readers.



Leading Medicine in MONT BELVIEU

Expanding Our Team of Leaders in Primary Care

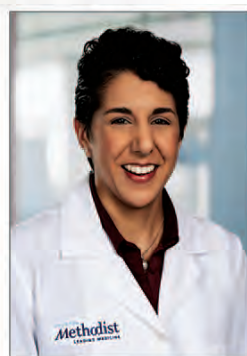
Gabriela Z. Hill, MD, and Jennifer N. Dorchuck, PA, are primary care providers who are passionate about building long-term and consistent relationships with patients.

They join Houston Methodist Primary Care Group in Mont Belvieu, where they will be seeing new and existing patients in person and virtually.

Their expertise includes:

- Acute and chronic care
- Children's health
- Diabetes
- Health screenings
- High blood pressure
- High cholesterol
- Minor procedures
- Preventive care
- Weight management
- Women's health

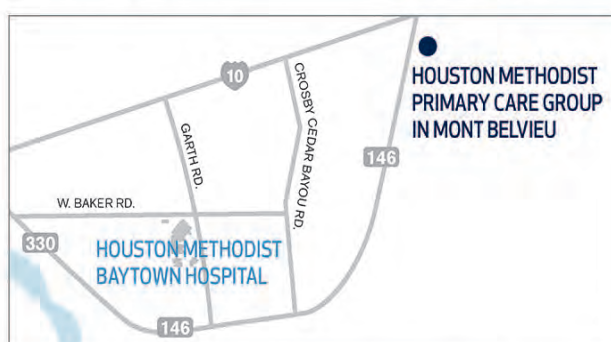
Schedule online at houstonmethodist.org/pcg/mont-belvieu or call 713.394.6638.



WELCOMING Gabriela Z. Hill, MD Family Medicine



WELCOMING Jennifer N. Dorchuck, PA Primary Care



8608 N. Hwy. 146, Suite 600, Baytown, TX 77523

Barbers Hill Press

Dayton

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

VOL. 29, NO. 35

© Copyright 2024

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

ON THE HILL

Mont Belvieu Trash Collection Reminders



It's important to set out your trash the right way on collection day. Here are a few tips to ensure a smooth and efficient pick-up by our Solid Waste team.

Correct Placement

Always bag your household garbage before placing it in your city-provided cart. When taking it out to the curb, make sure the handle is facing your house and the arrows on the cart are pointing toward the street. Keep your cart at least three feet away from anything like trees, parked cars, fences, mailboxes, basketball hoops, poles, and power lines. Our garbage trucks can't pick up carts that are too close to these objects.

Items Not Accepted In Your Garbage Collection

Please remember that only household garbage is accepted in your cart. Items such as tree waste, junk waste, yard trimmings, and household hazardous waste must not be placed in your garbage cart. Additionally, certain items are strictly prohibited (and even dangerous!) to throw out with your household trash, including:

- Aerosol cans
- Ammonia
- Bleach
- Cleaners
- Computer equipment
- Construction/Remodeling debris
- Dead Animals
- Fertilizers
- Fluorescent Lights
- Herbicides
- Household Chemicals
- Mirrors
- Motor oil and other automotive fluids
- Non-alkaline Batteries
- Paint Thinners
- Paints
- Pesticides
- Photographic Chemicals
- Pool Chemicals
- Sheet Glass

Following these simple steps helps make sure your trash gets picked up without any issues. For more information, visit www.montbelvieu.net/trash. Thank you for doing your part, and remember, don't be trashy... keep your cans classy!

TARGA Resources Donates \$10,000 to Fund Mont Belvieu PD's New Bicycle Unit

We love our industry partners in Mont Belvieu! Today, Ted Keller, Area Manager for TARGA Resources presented Chief Ellison with a donation of over \$10,000 that fully funded the complete roll-out of the new MBPD Bicycle Unit. This unit will benefit our department and community for years to come.

Thanks Ted and TARGA for your generous support and valued partnerships as we all work



together to make Mont Belvieu the best place to live and work in!

"Community Opinion expresses gratitude towards TARGA Resources for their generous donation to the Mont Belvieu Police Department's new Bicycle unit. Comments praise the partnership, while some worried about the practicality of bicycles in extreme heat and suggest safety modifications overall, the initiative receives enthusiastic support."

Baytown Residents Affected by Hurricane Beryl Urged to Complete Disaster Needs Application For Financial Assistance

Baytown, TX—East Harris County Empowerment Council (EHCEC) is asking residents affected by Hurricane Beryl to complete their Disaster Needs application as part of the Hurricane Beryl Recovery Fund led by the Greater Houston Disaster Alliance, a joint effort between United Way of Greater Houston

and the Greater Houston Community Foundation. This application will help determine the level of community need and allow for potential financial assistance as recovery efforts continue.

Residents from the Baytown, Cloverleaf, Greens Port, Greens Bayou, Woodforest, and Highlands areas

are encouraged to participate. The online application is available at www.eastharriscounty.org/berylfund. Application is limited to the following zipcodes: 77015, 77520, 77562

EHCEC is committed to providing recovery support to those impacted by the hurricane. Although com-

pleting the application does not guarantee immediate assistance, it is an essential first step in evaluating the community's needs.

"By completing the needs application, residents help us identify the areas where resources are most needed, allowing us to respond more effective-

ly to those affected by Hurricane Beryl," said a spokesperson for EHCEC. "We urge everyone who qualifies to take part."

For more information or to complete the Disaster Needs application, please visit

www.eastharriscounty.org/berylfund.

DPS Issues Reminders for Child Passenger Safety Week

AUSTIN – In recognition of **Child Passenger Safety Week**, which runs Sept. 15-20, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is reminding drivers to educate themselves on the best child safety seat practices in order to keep our state's youngest passengers safe on the road.

"Children mimic the adults around them, so it is critical for parents, grandparents and loved ones to model the importance of wearing seatbelts and following other safe practices in the car," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "A child's best protection in a vehicle collision is to be buckled up



correctly in the right car seat – and the department urges all drivers to make sure they know what those best practices are as soon as possible."

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation's **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration** (NHTSA), motor vehicle crashes are a leading cause of death for children ages 1 through 13. In 2022 alone, there were 1,129 children killed in motor vehicle crashes.

DPS offers the follow-

ing tips to ensure children are properly restrained while riding in a vehicle:

*When selecting a car seat for your child, ensure it fits in your vehicle properly before purchasing it.

*Avoid purchasing a car seat if you are not aware of the history (i.e. yard sales, social media platforms).

*Model good behavior to young passengers and make sure you are wearing your seatbelt so your children will know it's the

right thing to do.

*Infant car seats should always be rear-facing, and never used forward-facing.

*Be sure to check the maximum height and weight limits of the car seat so children may be properly transitioned to the next one.

*For older children who are using booster seats with lap belts, ensure the belt is across the pelvic area and the shoulder belt strap is placed across the shoulder. It should **never** be placed along a child's neck or abdominal area. It should never be used under the arm or behind the back as it could cause severe injury in a crash.

*Texas law states all

children younger than 8 years old, unless taller than 4'9", are required to be in the appropriate car seat wherever they ride in a passenger vehicle. The car seat **MUST** be installed according to the manufacturer's instructions.

*Children 8 years and older must be in a seatbelt, if an adult hasn't properly restrained a child, they can receive a \$250 ticket.

Certified technicians are available to inspect your car seat installation or assist with the process at locations across the state. Visit the **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration** website to find a location near you.

MBPD Arrest man for Abandoning Dogs on Roadway Near FM-1409

MONT BELVIEU – Thursday morning 9-12-2024, Mont Belvieu PD received multiple calls from witnesses who observed a male subject pull over near FM-1409 & Perry Avenue then open the trunk and remove two small dogs.

The witnesses reported that he then placed both dogs out on the roadway before driving away northbound on 1409, leaving the animals abandoned.

After a quick and thorough investigation, patrol officers and a detective subsequently located and arrested the suspect, 41-year old Fernando Cantù of Liberty County. He was booked on four (4) counts of Cruelty to Animals (non-livestock), Misdemeanor A. Our partners at Mont



Fernando Alvarez Cantu

Belvieu Animal Services rescued both pooches who are being housed at the Animal Shelter pending court release for adoption availability.

Great teamwork by alert citizens, MBPD and our Mont Belvieu Animal Shelter.

Billy "Bucky" Dean

Billy "Bucky" Dean, 89, of Tyler passed away Thursday, September 12, 2024 at Hospice of East Texas in Tyler, Texas. Visitation will be held Saturday, September 21, 2024 beginning at 12 p.m. until 1 p.m. service time at Stringer & Griffin Funeral Home Chapel with burial to follow in Magnolia Cemetery all in Woodville.

Officiating will be Brother Jason Talor. Serving as pallbearers will be Ryan Irvin, Jake Dean, Connor Irvin, Benjamin Solomon, Jackson Solomon and Kasey Hardy.

Bucky was born September 28, 1934 to Floyd T. "Boots" and Lois Edna Benthall Dean in Woodville, Texas. He was a math teacher for 30 years, many of those years in Barbers Hill school district in Mont Belvieu,



Texas. His greatest joy was his wife and family, fishing and golf and earlier in his life he was a math teacher, tennis player and coach in Gladewater, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Floyd T. "Boots" and Lois Dean; wife of 57 years, Carolyn Dean; brother, Ernest W. Dean; and daughter in law Joyce Dean. He is survived by his sons, Billy Dean of Brenham, and Stacy Dean of Henderson; daughter, Kimberly Irvin and husband, Steve of Tyler; grandchildren, Jennifer Dean Pedrotta and husband, Fabiano of Lausanne, Switzerland, Amy Solomon and husband,

Jonathan of Frisco, Kasey Hardy, Erin Irvin-Boles and husband, Travis of Madison, Wisconsin, Jacob Dean and wife, Theresa of Cedar City, Utah, Ryan Irvin and wife, Katie of Groves, Lauren Roberson and husband, Keith of Emory, and Dwayne Musick of Lufkin; great grandchildren, Dillon Pedrotta, Nolan Pedrotta, Connor Irvin, Benjamin Solomon, Jackson Solomon, Cooper Irvin, Colson Irvin, Corbin Irvin, Claire Solomon, Kingsley Boles, and Theodore Roberson; sisters-in-law and brother-in-law, Elizabeth Dean of Kountze and Janie Boykin and husband, Bob of Woodville. Memorials may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105 Services are under the direction of Stringer & Griffin Funeral Home in Woodville, Texas.

OPINION PAGE

FEMA Q&A

Q&A: FEMA Individual Assistance

FEMA Individual Assistance can help Texans recover from Hurricane Beryl by providing funds for basic and critical needs.

What kinds of help can FEMA provide?

FEMA may provide Serious Needs Assistance, Displacement Assistance, Home Repair Assistance, Rental Assistance, Personal Property Assistance, Transportation Assistance, Medical and Dental Assistance, and Funeral Assistance for eligible applicants.

How can I apply for FEMA assistance?

To apply, homeowners and renters can: Go online to DisasterAssistance.gov. Download the FEMA App for mobile devices. Call the FEMA helpline at 800-621-3362 between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m.

What can I do if I'm not approved?

If you disagree with the amount of assistance provided, you can appeal FEMA's decision and provide more information.

However, many times, an application is determined to be "not approved" because of a missing document. Examples include: Proof of insurance coverage (Declaration Page.) Copy of your insurance settlement pertaining to damage caused by the storms.

Proof of identity (U.S. passport, military I.D., Social Security card along with a federal or state I.D., a payroll stub that shows all or part of your Social Security number.)

Proof of occupancy (lease or rental agreement, rent receipts, utility bills, motor vehicle registration, etc.) FEMA has provided more ways to meet this requirement.

Proof of ownership (deed or title, mortgage documentation, homeowner's insurance policy, property tax bill or receipt, manufactured home certificate or title and home purchase contracts. FEMA has provided more ways to meet this requirement.

Proof the damaged property was your primary residence when the disaster occurred. You may need to submit these forms of additional information to resume the application process.

If you have questions about FEMA's decision, you may: Visit DisasterAssistance.gov, Call the Disaster Assistance Helpline at 800-621-3362, open seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. 7 days a week.

Visit a Disaster Recovery Center near you open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

What does a FEMA inspector look for? After you apply for disaster assistance, FEMA may need to verify your disaster-caused damage through a home inspection.

Is the exterior of the home structurally sound, including the doors, roof, and windows? Does the electricity, gas, heat, plumbing, sewer, and septic systems function properly?

Is the inside of the house habitable and structurally sound, including the ceiling and floors? Is the home capable of being used for its intended purpose?

Is there a safe access to and from the home? The inspector will verify your name, address, contact information, occupancy and ownership status, and insurance coverage.

The inspector will walk through the home and note damage to the structure and to personal property caused by the disaster. In many cases, disaster-related damage may exist, yet the residents can still safely live in their home.

The inspection is only one of several criteria used to make a decision and an inspector does not decide whether you qualify for assistance. They will never ask for financial information or charge a fee.

Why did my neighbor get more money than I received for repairs? Each case is different and every survivor has unique needs. There are numerous factors involved in this determination, including insurance status and the extent and type of damage documented.

I'm a renter. Do I qualify for FEMA assistance? Renters whose property was destroyed or damaged by the disaster may be eligible to apply for federal assistance.

I am not a U.S. citizen. Can my household qualify for FEMA assistance? To qualify for FEMA assistance, you or a member of your household must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or qualified non-citizen.

A qualified non-citizen includes the following: Legal permanent resident ("green card" holder.) An asylee, refugee, or a non-citizen whose deportation is being withheld.

Non-citizen paroled into the U.S. for at least one year. Non-citizen granted conditional entry (per law in effect prior to April 1, 1980.) Cuban/Haitian entrant.

Certain non-citizens subjected to extreme cruelty or who have been a victim of a severe form of human trafficking, including people with a "T" or "U" visa.

Legal residents in accordance with the Compacts of Free Association with the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

Adults, including the undocumented, who do not qualify under one of the categories above can apply on behalf of a minor child who does qualify and has a Social Security number.

If I disagree with FEMA's decision, how can I appeal? Every applicant has the right to appeal a FEMA decision. The appeal must be submitted within 60 days of the date of the decision letter.

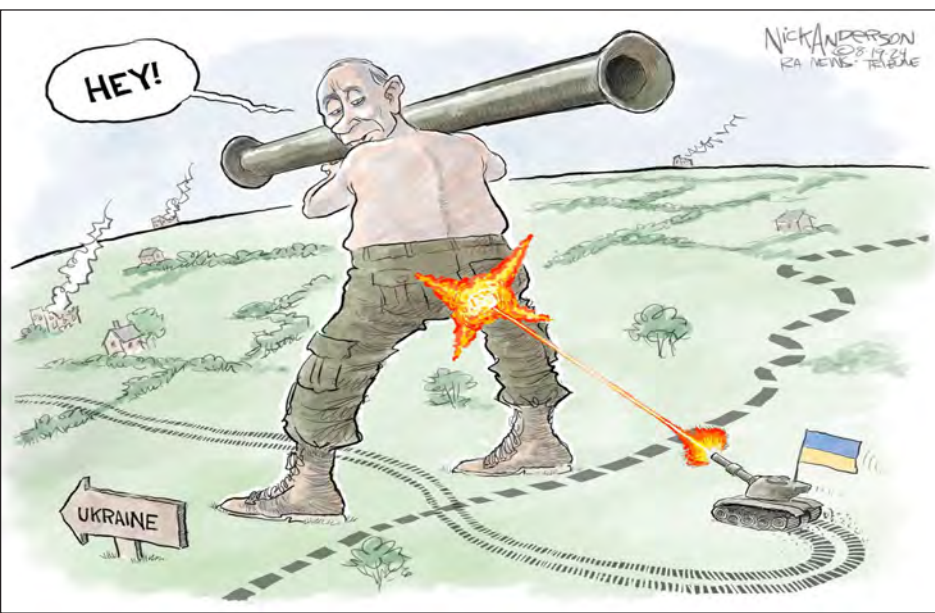
FEMA will provide an Appeal Request Form that may be used to provide additional information with your decision letter. The decision letter from FEMA will provide information on the types of documents or information that must be provided in an appeal.

Your appeal may be submitted to FEMA in person at a Disaster Recovery Center, online at DisasterAssistance.gov, or by Mail or Fax.

By mail: FEMA National Processing Service Center, P.O. Box 10055, Hyattsville, MD 20782-7055

By fax: 800-827-8112, Attention: FEMA

FEMA cannot duplicate assistance provided to you by another source, such as insurance settlements or another program. However, if your decision letter states you are underinsured you may receive further assistance for unmet needs after insurance claims have been settled by submitting a copy of the insurance settlement or denial documents to FEMA.



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



New Texas Laws now in Effect; SCOPE act challenged

NEW TEXAS LAWS NOW IN EFFECT

It took some time, but a set of new laws and rules passed by the Texas Legislature in 2023 went into effect on Sept. 1. Prominent among these are the SCOPE Act, or Securing Children Online Through Parental Empowerment Act, which tightens restrictions for online users younger than 18.

Under the SCOPE Act, users must register their age on social media and other websites. Minors are prohibited from making purchases from those sites, which are also required to filter and block certain material. Examples include content that promotes suicide or bullying, as well as trafficking and other forms of exploitation.

Violators could be fined up to \$10,000 per incident.

One of the bill's co-authors defended its intent.

"Testimony from parents and children in committee gave graphic examples underscoring how desperately we need to better protect kids online," state Rep. Shelby Slawson, R-Granbury, wrote. "The SCOPE Act will do just that."

Others don't agree. The non-profit Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression sued the state on Aug. 16, challenging the government restrictions.

"While these efforts to protect young people are well-intentioned, they lack perspective," the lawsuit states.

Another measure that took effect Sept. 1 updates qualifications for family violence shelters that provide lodging and care for domestic abuse victims in order to receive state funding. Criteria now includes providing direct services, establishing a referral service for victims, and having been in operation at least a year.

ELIMINATING PROPERTY TAXES WOULD REQUIRE MASSIVE FUNDING

Eliminating the state's property taxes is high on the wish list of some Republican lawmakers. They received a reality check last week when state budget officials said doing so would require the state to produce \$81 billion each year to cover the costs of public schools, as well as the revenue now received by cities, counties and special taxing districts through property taxes.



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

The Texas Tribune reported that Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick directed the Legislative Budget Board to tally the costs of replacing property tax revenue, which funds teacher salaries, law enforcement and many other government functions.

State Sen. Paul Bettencourt, R-Houston, is Patrick's chief lieutenant on property taxes. He noted \$81.5 billion is "a huge amount of money to be able to replicate."

Lawmakers have worked to lower property tax bills the past few sessions by raising the homestead exemption and limiting how much school districts and local governments can collect.

Without a state income tax, lawmakers are limited in how to completely replace property taxes with another form of revenue.

PERRY JOINS PHELAN'S TEAM AS ADVISER

Former Gov. Rick Perry has joined House Speaker Dade Phelan's office as a senior adviser, the Texas Standard reported. The embattled speaker, who survived a tough runoff race, now faces at least three Republican challengers to his speakership.

"[Gov. Perry] understands every facet of the legislative process, and that will be a tremendous asset as we work to strengthen our state's economy, improve education and ensure every member's voice is heard in the Texas House this session," Phelan said in a statement.

Phelan has been under fire for backing an ultimately unsuccessful attempt to impeach Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton and for being perceived

as not conservative enough by some of his Republican colleagues.

Perry will serve as a volunteer adviser until the 89th Legislature begins in January.

SCHOOLS HIRING MORE UNCERTIFIED TEACHERS

Critical teaching shortages in Texas are compelling school districts to hire more teachers who have not received formal classroom training, The Texas Tribune reported.

The number of uncertified teachers in the state's public schools has risen dramatically since the COVID-19 pandemic, which prompted many longtime educators to leave the profession for various reasons - health concerns, lack of resources, and feeling burned out. As a result, uncertified teachers, many of whom work in rural school districts, accounted for about 38% of newly hired instructors last year.

Since 2015, school districts under the District of Innovation law have been able to hire people with different professional experience who then would work on getting certified through alternative certification programs. The last legislative session ended with no significant base funding increases, leaving many school districts with budget shortfalls, and making it even harder to fill teacher vacancies.

"When you have a state where their coffers are full and local school districts where their coffers are empty, or in the process of being empty, you're going to have to have some state help to make sure that we're funding these types of programs," said Mark Henry, who served as Cy-Fair ISD's superintendent for more than a decade.

According to the Texas Education Agency, the attrition rate among Texas teachers has increased since the start of the pandemic from 9% to 12%. Texas ranks 30th in the nation for average teacher pay - \$8,828 less than the national average, according to the National Education Association.

PAXTON SUING BEXAR COUNTY OVER MAIL VOTER PLAN

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is suing Bexar County over its plan to mail voter registration forms to unregistered residents en masse, the Austin American-Statesman reported. The Bexar County Commissioners Court approved the voter registration plan last week, defying Paxton's warning that he would take them to court.

Paxton's suit argues that mail applications could entice felons and other ineligible people to register to vote. Commissioner Justin Rodriguez defended the plan.

"From our perspective, this was never a Democrat or Republican endeavor," Rodriguez told the Statesman. "It was making sure we used the resources within the elections office to be innovative, to be proactive when it came to registering voters, and we're doing everything (as it is) allowed by the Elections Code."

Paxton has warned repeatedly of potential voter fraud in November's general election. However, he has not provided evidence of widespread voter fraud in Texas, the Statesman reported.

THE POSTSCRIPT By Carrie Classon

Used Clothes



I wear used clothes.

I remember going to clothing stores years ago and buying new clothes. But about the time I stopped wearing business suits and flying in airplanes for work, I started going to used clothing stores. Then I discovered online consignment stores and, since then, I've hardly bought a new item of clothing except socks and shoes and underwear.

I like used clothes.

Of course, I like the prices. I've always been frugal and when I see how much a pair of new jeans cost or a new dress, I am shocked. But buying used clothes also eliminates buyer's regret. If the jeans I bought refuse to stay on my hips, or the color of a top is brighter than I like, or my sister tells me I look like an automatic car wash in the new dress I bought for Christmas (and once you see a thing like that, it's hard to unsee), I can donate the clothes to another used clothing store and let them go on their merry way to the next customer, guilt-free.

My mother tells me she wore almost exclusively hand-me-downs as a child, which is not surprising since she was the ninth of 11 children, and most of them were girls. She remembers when she got what she called her "Joyce coat," which delighted her to no end because, instead of coming from several sisters before her, this coat had been owned by only one person—a neighbor named Joyce—before my mother got it. There is a picture of her standing in front of the farmhouse wearing her Joyce coat, and she looks very pleased.

I was much more spoiled and usually had new clothes as a child. I occasionally got hand-me-downs from a neighbor across the street who was the same age as me but much taller. Lynn was the youngest in her family and the only girl, so she had a lot of nice clothes that she quickly outgrew. I remember I got a beautiful green dress from Lynn that required about an hour to iron. My mother was grateful when I also outgrew it.

These days, I occasionally wonder where my clothes came from.

It sometimes feels wicked to imagine my clothes living on someone else's body. I imagine there are people who wouldn't like the idea, and that's why they buy new clothes. But I have lived in plenty of houses where other people have lived, so the idea that my clothes have had another life is not troubling.

Still, it would be interesting to know the history of my clothes. They are usually in good shape and a lot of my used dresses still have the tags on and little bags of extra buttons, which I promptly lose. I wonder why a particular dress never worked out. I wonder if it was purchased for some occasion that never materialized. I wonder if that was disappointing. Maybe it was bought to wear when the owner lost 20 pounds that remained stubbornly where they were. I will never know. But at some point, someone decided it would be better to get a few pennies on the dollar than to keep it in their closet, and that is where every dress I own has come from.

"Where have you been?" I want to ask. The dress remains mum. And that's OK.

I imagine my dress had a very dull life, living in someone's closet, never being worn. It makes me want to put that dress on and make sure I have an especially good time while wearing it.

Till next time, Carrie

Advertisement for Star Courier newspaper, including contact information for the Barbers Hill, Dayton, and North Channel STAR editions, staff list, and subscription rates.

FOOTBALL SEASON WEEK 3:

Texans head to Minnesota: Cowboys have big test against Ravens

Week 3 of the NFL season has the Texans playing their second road game in three weeks, while a lot of eyes will be focused on AT&T Stadium in Arlington when the Cowboys host the Baltimore Ravens in what should be the Game of the Week.

College action continues as conference play commences across the country. In the SEC, No. 7-ranked Tennessee visits No. 15-ranked Oklahoma in a key test for the Sooners, while No. 11-ranked USC heads to No. 17-ranked Michigan to take on a suspect Wolverine team in Big 10 play. Back in the good old days, these two teams would be meeting in the Rose Bowl as the Pac 12 would be facing the Big 10, but the good old days are long gone now with the expansion of the Big 12, Big 10 and SEC.

In the Big 12, No. 14-ranked Kansas State faces a tough road challenge against a BYU team that won its first two games of the season and could enter this one 3-0 if it defeated a struggling Wyoming team last Saturday. Also in the Big 12, No. 12-ranked Utah takes on No. 13-ranked Oklahoma State in Stillwater.

DeMeco Ryan's Texans got off to a nice start to the 2024 season with a 29-27 win at Indianapolis in Week 1. The offense looked solid behind QB C.J. Stroud (234 yards, 2 TDs, running back Joe Mixon (159 yards, 1 TD) and wide receivers Stefon Diggs (6 receptions, 100 yards, 2 TDs) and Nico Collins (8 receptions, 75 yards). The pass defense needs a little work as Colts QB Anthony Richardson passed for 212 yards and two scores against the Texans.

Things should improve this Sunday against a Vikings team that has Sam Darnold as its starting quarterback. Darnold did throw two TD passes in his teams 28-6 season-opening win against a woeful Giants team. The Vikings still have one of the game's best wide receivers in Justin Jefferson, so the Houston secondary will have its hands full if the former LSU star.

Speaking of stars, Dallas owner Jerry Jones made QB Dak Prescott the highest paid player in NFL history prior to Dallas' season-opening victory at Cleveland when he signed Prescott to a four-year, \$240 million contract (\$231 million which is guaranteed). Now, Prescott has to live up to that lofty number and he will become the center of attention in every game he plays going forward. The Ravens have a pretty fair QB in Lamar Jackson and Prescott's big pay day could serve as a motivating factor for Jackson when he takes on the Cowboys in Jerry World on Sunday at 3:25 on FOX, with seven-time Super Bowl winning QB Tom Brady providing color commentary.

Other key games in Week 3 has the Los Angeles Chargers visiting the Pittsburgh Steelers, the Eagles visiting New Orleans, San Francisco facing the Rams in an early-season NFC West showdown and Kansas City visiting Atlanta on Sunday Night Football. Week 3 concludes with two Monday Night games as Jacksonville visits Buffalo and Cincinnati hosts Washington.

Before we take a look at this weekend's games, let's review last week's record. A 10-2 week brought the season record to 18-6 (75%). Now, onto this weekend's games.

Now, onto this weekend's game.

NCAA

Utah at Oklahoma State – The Utes play their first Big 12 road game and it's going to be a tough one when they visit Stillwater to take on Oklahoma State on Saturday. This could very well be the first of two meetings between these two could very well meet again in the Big 12 title game on Dec. 7 in Arlington. Utah is led by QB Cam Rising (346 yards, 7 TDs), running back Micah Bernard (151 yards) and wide receiver Dijon Stanley (4 receptions, 155 yards, 2 TDs). Rising injured his hand two weeks ago in Utah's win over Baylor, but the injury is not considered serious, and he should be good to go on Saturday against the Cowboys. OSU is led by QB Alan Bowman (593 yards, 4 TDS), running back Ollie Gordon (153 yards, 3 TDs) and wide receiver Brennan Presley (16 receptions, 126 yards, 2 TDs). Two weeks ago, OSU overcame a 21-7 deficit at home and rallied to defeat Arkansas, 39-31 in double overtime. The Utes will discover that playing in Stillwater is no



walk in the park. My pick, Oklahoma State 33, Utah 30

Tennessee at Oklahoma – The Sooners host their first-ever SEC game and what a way to start play in their new conference than by a visit from No. 7-ranked Tennessee and the Vols high-powered offense. In their first two games of the season, the Vols have averaged 60 points a game and have a load of offensive talent, led by QB Nico lamaleava (525 yards, 5 TDs) and wide receiver Don'te Thompson (3 receptions, 105 yards, 2 TDs). They can also run it with Dylan Sampson (256 yards, 5 TDs). OU is led by QB Jackson Arnold (315 yards, 6 TDs) and wide receiver Deion Burks (15 receptions, 89 yards, 3 TDs). OU struggled two weeks ago at home against Houston and if they aren't focused for this one, it could be a forgettable SEC opener for Sooners fans. My pick, Tennessee 31, Oklahoma 20

USC at Michigan – No. 11-ranked USC visits No. 17-ranked Michigan in the Big 10 opener for both schools. The Trojans on their first two games of the year, while the defending national champs struggled in their first two contests, with a lackluster win over Fresno State before being dominated at home by Texas (31-12) two weeks ago. USC is led by QB Miller Moss (607 yards, 2 TDs), running back Woody Marks (173 yards, 3 TDs) and wide receiver Lake McRae (9 receptions, 137 yards). Michigan has issues at QB as Davis Warren (322 yards, 2 TDs, 3 interceptions) has struggled to make plays in the passing game. This is a Michigan team that is still trying to find itself and things won't get any easier for them on Saturday in the Big House. My pick, USC 27, Michigan 23

Kansas State at BYU – A tough road trip awaits the Wildcats, another Big 12 favorite, when they travel to Provo to take on a tough BYU team. Two weeks ago, the Cougars upset SMU in Dallas 18-15 to improve to 2-0 on the season. KSU will need to get young QB Avery Johnson (334 yards, 4 TDS) going early. Look for him to use his running ability to soften up the BYU defense. Running back DJ Giddens (238 yards) could also help control the clock and keep BYU QB Jake Retzlaff (550 yards, 4 TDs) on the sidelines. My pick, Kansas State 27, BYU 20

NFL

Houston at Minnesota – The Texans play their second road game in three weeks when they take on the Vikings. This will be a homecoming for Texans defensive end Danielle Hunter, who left the Vikings to sign with the Texans and the Texans will face two former teammates in linebacker Brian Cashman and defensive end Jonathan Grennard. It appears the Texans have upgraded at running back with Mixon and another big day from him could help Stroud have another big passing day. On defense, the Texans will need to slow down running back Aaron Jones (94 yards, 1 TD in season opener) and get after Darnold to force him into a turnover or two. The secondary will have its hands full with Jefferson (4 receptions, 59 yards, 1 TD), but look for them to improve from their Week 1 performance as the Texans pick up another big road win. My pick, Houston 24, Minnesota 18

Los Angeles Chargers at Pittsburgh – This should be a defensive battle as Jim Harbaugh's Chargers visit Mike Tomlin's Steelers on Sunday. Pittsburgh's defense was the difference in their 18-10 road win at Atlanta to weeks ago as the unit came up with two sacks and two interceptions. The Chargers also played solid on defense in their 22-10 over the Raiders. The offense got a spark from running back J.K. Dobbins, who rushed for 135 yards and a touchdown. Look for QB Justin Herbert (144 yards, 1 TD) to be tested by the Steeler defense on Sunday. My pick, Pittsburgh 17, Los Angeles Chargers 16

Philadelphia at New Orleans – The Eagles opened the season in Brazil with a 34-29 win over the Packers and the new addition to the offense,

former Giants running back Saquon Barkley was the difference maker with three TDs and 109 rushing yards. Barkley gives QB Jalen Hurts (275 yards, 2 TDs) one more weapon to turn to, which could be bad news for the rest of the NFC. The Saints opened the season by blowing out lowly Carolina, 47-10 as QB Derek Carr passed for 200 yards and 3 TDs, while running back Alvin Kamara picked up 83 yards on the ground and 1 score. Look for the Eagles array of offensive weapons be too much for the Saints on Sunday, especially on that fast turf in the Caesar's Super Dome. My pick, Philadelphia 33, New Orleans 24

Baltimore at Dallas – While Prescott and his new big contract was the big news coming out of Dallas in Week 1, the Cowboys defense was the real story in their 33-17 domination of Cleveland. The Dallas "D" recorded six sacks, two interceptions and the special teams added a score on a punt return for a touchdown. Prescott had a pedestrian day throwing for 179 yards and 1 TD. CeeDee Lamb, who also signed a new, big deal prior to the start of the season, chipped in with five receptions for 61 yards. But it was the Dallas defense that was the story, that and the horrible play of Browns QB Deshaun Watson. This week, the Ravens and Jackson (273 passing yards, 1 TD/122 rushing yards in 27-20 loss to KC) will give the Cowboys a much sterner test. Baltimore added former Titans running back Derek Henry (46 yards, 1 TD) to the offense and Jackson may have found his favorite new target in tight end Isaiah Lively (9 receptions, 111 yards, 1 TD). Prescott will need to step up his game if the Cowboys are to hold off the Ravens on Sunday. Something tells me he will. My pick, Dallas 31, Baltimore 26

Kansas City at Atlanta – Sunday Night Football gives us the Chiefs at the Falcons. The Chiefs got off to a nice start with a 27-20 home win over Baltimore, while Atlanta and their new QB Kirk Cousins (155 yards, 2 interceptions) got off to an awful start with an 18-10 loss at home to the Steelers. Falcons cans were hoping that Cousins was the missing link to take them to the next level, and one bad game should not have them giving up on the season just yet. Cousins has the talent to turn things around. He will need more help from running back Bijan Robinson (68 rushing yards, 5 receptions, 43 yards) to get the offense going. Going up against Patrick Mahomes (291 yards, 1 TD), running back Isiah Pacheco (45 yards, 1 TDS) and wide receivers Rashee Rice (7 receptions, 103 yards) and Xavier Worthy (2 receptions, 47 yards, 1 rushing TD) could be the spark Cousins needs. My pick, Atlanta 24, Kansas City 23

Jacksonville at Buffalo – The Jags visit the Bills in the first of two Monday Night Football games this week. The Jags blew a 10-point lead at Miami in their opener and lost, 20-17 on a late field goal, while Josh Allen (232 passing yards, 2 TDs/39 rushing yards, 2 TDs) led the Bills to a comeback win at home against the Cardinals. Look for Allen to have another big night as the Bills find a way on offense to get the job done. My pick, Buffalo 34, Jacksonville 27

Washington at Cincinnati – The second Monday Night game pits the Commanders against the Bengals who got off to a wretched start to the season by losing at home 16-10 to a New England team that won four games a year ago. Cincinnati QB Joe Burrow (166 yards) had a bad day and could not make any big plays. Look for him to turn things around and get star wide receiver Ja'Marr Chase (6 receptions, 62 yards) more involved in the offense. Washington looks like it has a star in the making in rookie QB Jayden Daniels (184 passing yards/88 rushing yards, 2 TDs). He played well in the Commander's 37-20 loss at Tampa Bay in Week 1. Look for the Bengals to get things going on offense in Week 3. My pick, Cincinnati 33, Washington 18



SCORES & SCHEDULES WEEK 3

LAST WEEK'S SCORES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
Aldine Eisenhower 24, West Fork 14
C. E. King 42, Spring DeKaney 0
Galena Park 36, Madison 8

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13
Aldine 9, Northbrook 6 OT
Aldine Davis 31, Cypress Lakes 17
Baytown Lee 26, Baytown Sterling 17
Clear Brook 43, Goose Creek Memorial 20
Clear Creek 26, Channelview 25 OT
Deer Park 50, Barbers Hill 42 20T
Fort Bend Marshall 27, Crosby 14
Hffman Hargrave 61, Splendora 27
North Shore 47, Spring Westfield 3
West Brook 35, Aldine MacArthur 7

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19
Houston Chavez at Baytown Sterling, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium in Baytown

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
Aldine, bye
Aldine Davis, bye
Aldine Eisenhower, bye
Aldine MacArthur, bye
C. E. King, bye
Channelview, bye
Crosby, bye
Foster at Barbers Hill, 7 p.m., Eagle Stadium in Mont Belvieu
Goose Creek Memorial, bye
Huffman Hargrave, bye
Iowa Colony at Baytown Lee, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium in Baytown
North Shore, bye

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
Galena Park at Houston Sterling, 6 p.m., Barnett Stadium in Houston

Suicide Prevention,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

or friend from taking their own life, but here's some suggestions.

Being educated about suicide can help you be more supportive for your loved ones. Being informed about suicide and knowing that you don't need to be a mental health provider to lower your risk of suicide or support your loved ones is as important as ever.

Sometimes but not always those who commit suicide do so after some event in their life made them depressed. These individuals may need someone (POSSIBLY YOU) to talk to and express themselves to as to what's causing their depression.

"Any time you notice a family member, friend or anyone acting and or speaking unusual give notice of it and inquire as best you can what the reason for their unusual behavior."

It's possible if a depressed person discusses what's causing their depression this by-itself can be a relief to where they can get over it and move on with their life in a positive way.

Here's two ways you can help:

If your love one seems to be at risk of suicide, be supportive and intentional about asking them what's going on, experts said. Here's an example: "Hey, I've noticed life's gotten overwhelming these past couple days. Do you want to tell me about it?"

Listen to them, express appreciation for their openness and offer to help figure it out together, encourage them about all the wonderful reasons they should stay alive.

Don't wait... encourage them or even you should call or text the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Development

GRFIS1L, LLC: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA

ACTION: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS), as required by the National Environmental Policy Act, is issuing an environmental assessment (EA) in connection with possible impacts related to a project proposed by GRFIS1L, LLC. The proposal is for construction of the Crosby Park Model RV Park Project in Harris County. GRFIS1L, LLC has submitted an application to RBS for funding of the proposal.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: To obtain copies of the EA, or for further information, contact: Michael Self, Business & Cooperative Programs Director, 101 South Main Street, Temple, Texas 76501, at 254-742-9779 or michael.self@usda.gov. The EA is also available for public review at Huntsville Area Office, 2 Financial Plaza, Suite 745, Huntsville, TX 77340

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: GRFIS1L, LLC proposes to build an RV park facility will consist of 351 fully equipped RV sites and will be completed in two separate phases in Crosby, Harris County, Texas. The project area is located approximately 0.23 miles northwest of the intersection of Ulrich Lane and FM 2100, Crosby, Texas. The purpose of the Crosby Park Model RV Park Project will attract campers to the area, creating tax revenue for the local government and new customers for local businesses.

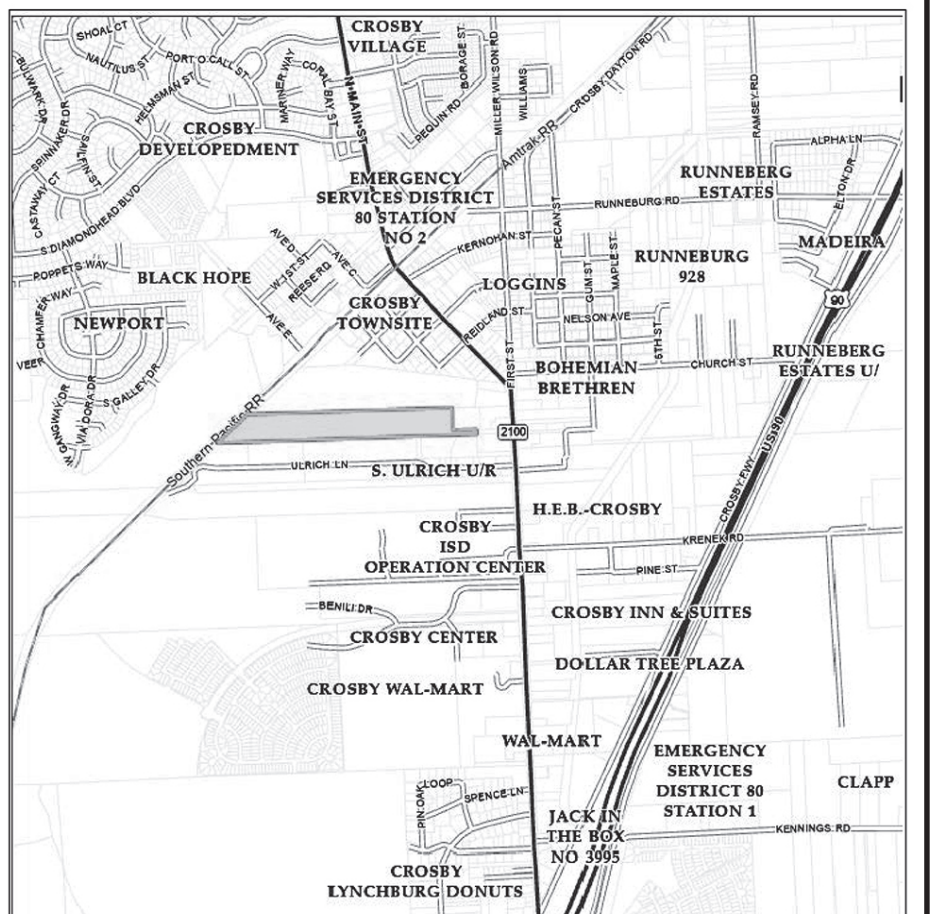
Logic Environmental, Inc., an environmental consultant, prepared an environmental assessment for RBS that describes the project, assesses the proposed project's environmental impacts, and summarizes as applicable any mitigation measures used to minimize environmental effects.

RBS has conducted an independent evaluation of the environmental assessment and believes that it accurately assesses the impacts of the proposed project. No significant impacts are expected as a result of the construction of the project.

Questions and comments should be sent to RBS at the address provided. RBS will accept questions and comments on the environmental assessment for 14 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Any final action by RBS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant Federal environmental laws and regulations and completion of environmental review procedures as prescribed by 7 CFR Part 1970, Environmental Policies and Procedures.

A general location map of the proposal is shown below.



Dated: 8/29/2024

GOOSE CREEK CISD NEWS

TEN GCCISD Schools Awarded America's Healthiest Schools 2024

Alliance for a Healthier Generation has named Alamo Elementary, Ashbel Smith Elementary, David Crockett Elementary, Dr. Antonio Banuelos Elementary, George W Carver Elementary, Harlem Elementary, Highlands Elementary, Impact Early College High School, Jessie Lee Pumphrey Elementary, and San Jacinto Elementary Schools as ten of America's Healthiest Schools for 2024. This annual recognition honors schools for implementing best practices to support the health of stu-

dents, staff, and families. **Eight hundred and seventy-nine** schools across **30** states were awarded this year.

America's Healthiest Schools are recognized in up to nine categories.

Alamo Elementary was among the most awarded, receiving recognition in seven topic areas:

- *Strengthening Social-Emotional Health & Learning, *presented by Kaiser Permanente*

- *Cultivating Staff Well-Being, *presented by Kaiser Permanente*

- *Increasing Family & Community Engagement, *presented by Kohl's*

- *Improving Nutrition & Food Access, *presented by Del Monte Foods*

- *Implementing Local School Wellness Policy

- *Bolstering Physical Education & Activity

- *Enriching Health Education

GCCISD is looking forward to working within Baytown and Highlands in building healthier communities that support children's physical, social, and emotional health.

Goose Creek CISD announces the new Chief of Police

Goose Creek CISD announces the new Chief of Police, Stewart Russell of Houston, Texas. Russell served in the Pasadena ISD Police Department for 31 years, and 13 years as the Chief of Police. His most recent assignment and recommendation comes from Waco ISD, where he has served as their Interim Chief of Police for the last few months.

Russell earned his Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Sam Houston State University with a focus in Finance. He is a Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas, Leadership Command College graduate and is certified as a Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) Master Peace Officer, TCOLE Training Coordinator, TCOLE Instructor, and TCOLE Firearms Instructor.

As he introduced his leadership to the new chief, GCCISD Superintendent Dr. Randal O'Brien emphasized Russell's vast experience and public education



Stewart Russell new Chief of Police

policing background, which made him an ideal candidate for the position, "We want to welcome Chief Russell, who brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this important leadership position. We are excited to see how he will prepare our police force to

exceed the standards of professionalism and customer service expected by our school community."

To learn more about Chief Russell and the Goose Creek CISD Police & Security Department, please visit www.gccisd.net.



Alamo Elementary School (pictured) received recognition in 7 topic areas. (Photo by Carrie Pryor Newman)

You can read the Star-Courier current and back issues on our website: www.starcouriernews.com

CLASSIFIED ADS

Call 713-266-3444

Your AD will reach up to 40,000 readers in our FIVE newspapers, with a combined circulation of 20,000 copies. Get ACTION on your AD. Rates start at only \$18 for 20 words. A bargain!

COMMERCIAL LEASE **COMMERCIAL LEASE** **COMMERCIAL LEASE**

Rent/Lease

RENTAL

Commercial Restaurant Space
1,328 SF - Second Generation Restaurant Space
For Lease

Arlan's Grocery Store Anchored Center in Growing Trade Area - Crosby, Texas
Move in Ready - Vent Hood, Grease Trap, Kitchen Counters, and other Fixtures Included
Available Immediately
Monthly Rent - \$2,600 monthly
6500 FM 2100, Suite 280, Crosby, TX 77532
Call (713) 208-8480
Email ramsey@chcinvestments.com

34-2T

OBITUARIES and MEMORIUM TRIBUTES are Published in this Newspaper. Inquire at your Funeral Home, or place them directly. Call 713-266-3444 for Rates and Dates.

GARAGE SALE **GARAGE SALE** **GARAGE SALE** **GARAGE SALE**

GARAGE SALE

THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 19 - 21
GARAGE SALE AT 16511 HORIZON DRIVE
CROSBY
8-3 PM. FURNITURE AND DECOR

Carter~Conley Funeral Home
13701 Corpus Christi St.
Houston, TX 77015
(713) 455-5100
*Funerals *Cremations *Pre-Arrangement
Family Owned and Operated Since 1992
www.CarterConleyFH.com

SHOP LOCALLY -- Save Time & Money

Business Directory

SHOP LOCALLY -- Save Time & Money

281-428-1187
1-800-345-8471
Sales & Repair Service
Baytown, Texas
John Henderson
628 Cedar Bayou Rd.

CENTRAL AUTO INSPECTIONS
FULL SERVICE VEHICLE INSPECTIONS
713-702-3200
JOHNNY GAENE
OWNER-INSPECTOR
911 S. MAIN
HIGHLANDS TX, 77562

Graphics Unlimited, Inc.
CORPORATE GRAPHICS AT ITS BEST
Signs & Banners
281-462-1200
www.graphicsunlimitedinc.net
213 Kernohan - Crosby, TX 77532

WESTON COTTEN, ATTORNEY
HIGHLANDS
281-421-4050 1500 E. Wallisville Rd.
NOT CERTIFIED BY THE TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

HILL MATERIALS
119 Listi Ln, Highlands
hillmaterials.com
WE DELIVER TO YOU
(281) 843-5000
residential · commercial · industrial

SMALL ADS BRING **BIG** RESULTS
Ask about our Business Directory Package
13 Weeks + Story + Display for \$260
Ask about our Ribbon Cutting Package
Photo + Story + Web for \$260
713-266-3444

Star ☆ Courier
Your Hometown Newspaper
News tips and Ad Inquiries:
713-266-3444

To advertise in the Business Directory, please call 713-266-3444 for details



Lovato and Nicola Marsh breaks down the enigmatic life of being a successful child star in Hollywood. Lovato called up a few of her fellow child stars to help her in this endeavor, including Drew Barrymore ("E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial"), Kenan Thompson ("All That"), JoJo Siwa ("Dance Moms"), Alyson Stoner ("The Suite Life of Zack and Cody"), Raven-Symone ("The Cosby Show"), and Christina Ricci ("The Addams Family"). These stars describe what it was like to ascend to fame at such a young age, the pressures and joys that accompanied this fame, and how some of them naturally gravitated to drugs and alcohol to relieve their stress. Check it out on Sept. 17. (Hulu)



From left, Natasha Lyonne, Elizabeth Olsen and Carrie Coon star in "His Three Daughters."

"His Three Daughters"

"HIS THREE DAUGHTERS" (R) — This cozy, heartwarming film follows three estranged sisters — Katie (Carrie Coon), Rachel (Natasha Lyonne), and Christina (Elizabeth Olsen) — who are forced to band together to take care of their dying father, Vincent. These three sisters are incredibly different from each other, and at first, their differences only seem to weigh down the already tragic situation they've been placed in. But as they watch over and take care of Vincent, who's receiving hospice care in their childhood apartment, each sister starts their own grieving process. At the same time, the tense dynamics between the sisters finally begin to mend. Premieres Sept. 20. (Netflix)

the DC Comics supervillain Oswald Cobblepot, aka the Penguin. Reprising his role from the 2022 film "The Batman," Colin Farrell transforms himself from head to toe once again to portray the menacing Gotham City mobster. Set one week after the film's events, Gotham is in the middle of a gang war following the death of Carmine Falcone, and the Penguin sees this chaos as his chance to step up and take control of Gotham's streets. But it won't exactly be easy, as Carmine's psychopathic daughter, Sofia (Cristin Milioti), is granted release from Arkham Asylum and has her own ambitions at the forefront of her mind. The first episode premieres Sept. 19, with subsequent episodes released every Thursday. (Max)

"DANCING WITH THE STARS: SEASON 33" (TV-PG) — America's favorite ballroom dance competition is back for its 33rd season! The cast of celebrities this year consists of an interesting and varied group of actors, reality stars, Olympians, models and even a fake heiress! Some of the competitors cha-chacha-ing their way to the Mirrorball Trophy are former "Real Housewife of Atlanta" Phaedra Parks; the prolific Eric Roberts ("Babylon"); former Los Angeles Lakers star Dwight Howard; and U.S. Olympians Ilona Maher, who dominated in rugby, and Stephen Nedoroscik, who was the pommel horse specialist on the men's gymnastics team. The competition begins on Sept. 17! (Disney+) (c) 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

"CHILD STAR" (TV-MA) — This documentary film directed by singer Demi

"THE PENGUIN" (TV-MA) — HBO's fall rollout begins with the premiere of this crime-drama series based on

WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE

The HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 528 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2024 on October 04, 2024 at 12:00 PM at 9 Greenway Plaza, Suite 1000 Houston, Texas 77046. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal: Garold Truax, Howard Wilhite, Kenneth Long and Matthew Maddox

AGAINST the proposal: None

PRESENT and not voting: None

ABSENT: Kuno Trostmann

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

Table with 3 columns: Category, Last Year, This Year. Rows include Total tax rate, Difference in rates, Average appraised residence homestead value, etc.

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23601, Water Code.

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

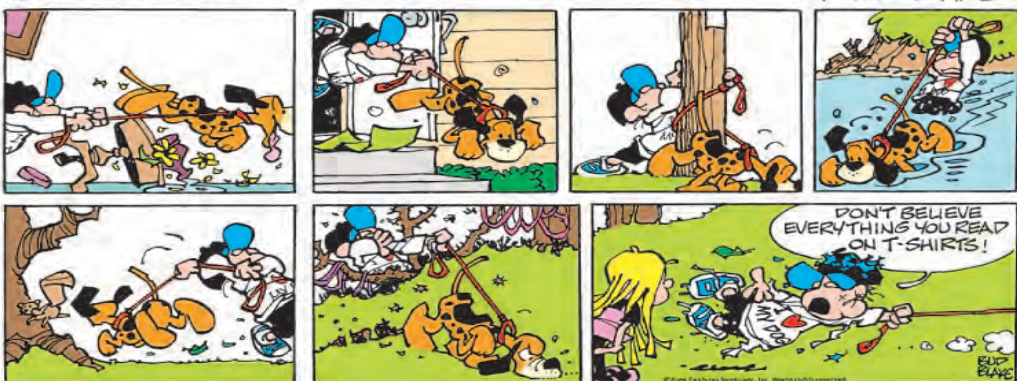
Wheeler & Associates, Inc. 713-462-8906

ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves



TIGER



The Spats



Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle. Includes a 9x9 grid and difficulty level: Moderate, Challenging.

HOCUS-FOCUS by Henry Boltinoff. Includes two panels of a man in a hat and instructions to find differences.

September 16, 2024 Posting Date King Crossword

Crossword puzzle grid with ACROSS and DOWN clues. Includes a grid with numbers 1-61.

Answers for King Crossword. Includes a grid for the answers and a solution time of 24 mins.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez. Includes 10 questions on geography, mythology, science, food, movies, medicine, literature, astronomy, and animal kingdom.

1. Naples; 2. Siren; 3. Rust; 4. Phyllo or filo; 5. Bruiser; 6. Teeth grinding; 7. The Tempest; 8. Seven; 9. Kansas; 10. Antarctica



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.



HOUSTON
Methodist[®]
PRIMARY CARE GROUP

houstonmethodist.org/pcg/east
281.428.2273