



HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

Star Courier



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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2024

P.O. DRAWER 446, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

IN THE STARS



Fireworks Okayed Oct. 25-Nov. 1

County approves sale of fireworks for Diwali, Día de Los Muertos

By David Taylor Managing Editor

Harris County Commissioners recently approved the eight-day calendar for selling fireworks for the celebration of Diwali, a major religious festival celebrated by Hindus, Jains and Sikhs. For Hindus, it symbolizes the triumph of good over evil, knowledge over ignorance and light over darkness. Setting off fireworks is a cherished part of the celebrations around the world.

"This was added to the fireworks legislation last legislature," said Sue Davis, spokesperson for Top Dog Fireworks. The fireworks were for the Diwali holiday, but Davis said they also added in the Día de Los Muertos since it falls on the last day of the holiday on Nov. 1.

"The Indian community would tell me they would go buy a bunch of fireworks on the Fourth of July, then store them, which is completely legal, and shoot them off during Diwali in the fall," she said. "I would

Continued. See FIREWORKS SALE OKAYED, Page 6

Candidates bring campaigns to Texas; Harris holds star-studded rally in Houston: Trump in Austin

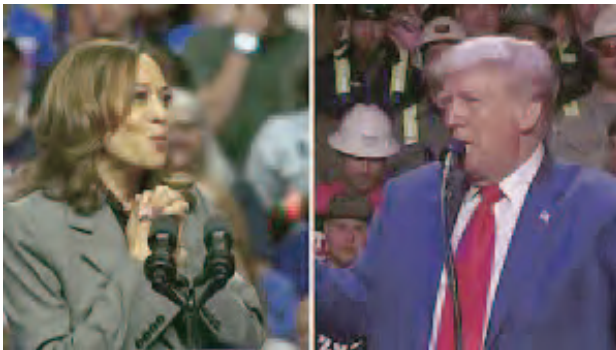
By David Taylor Managing Editor

Both presidential campaigns made visits to the Lone Star state last Friday making their final pitch for votes. While former president Donald Trump made a daytime visit to the state's capital, it was Vice President Kamala Harris who tapped Houston talent to highlight at her rally Friday night.

Beyoncé was the star of the rally not only with her willingness to share with the crowd in her first-ever appearance at a political rally.

"I'm not here as a celebrity. I'm not here as a politician. I'm here as a mother," she told the audience.

Willie Nelson, 91, joined



Kamala Harris holds Star-Studded Rally at Shell Energy Stadium in Houston; Trump appears in Austin, tapes long TV interview with Joe Rogan.

Harris onstage to show his support for whom he called "Madam President."

Earlier, bolstered by a large blue and white sign behind them that read "Reproductive Freedom," a group of physicians dressed out in their lab coats and filed onto the stage to speak out about abortion rights.

"In 10 days, we're going to beat Ted Cruz, and we'll make Roe v Wade the law of the land again," said Colin Allred, the Democratic candidate trying to unseat current Sen. Ted Cruz.

Allred was at the rally needing the boost to close the gap between him and Cruz.

Emerson College polling has Senator Cruz with a one-point lead over Allred, who has narrowed the gap from a four-point lead by Cruz in September.

According to the latest RealClearPolitics polling numbers, Harris trails Trump by 51.6 percent to 45.6 percent (https://www.realclearpolling.com/polls/president/general/2024/texas/trump-vs-harris) The six-point lead didn't deter Harris who was there primarily to bolster the Democratic Senate candidate's campaign and promote reproductive freedom rights across the country.

"We are fighting for freedom," Harris exclaimed to the large crowd. "As a community of people, as people of this country,

who stand strong for the freedom of a woman to make decisions about her own body."

The Trump rally in Austin sported a different tone as he was flanked by Border Patrol officials and the families of many whose lives had been disrupted by the Biden-Harris policy of open borders. "We're here in Texas which under Kamala Harris has been turned into Ground Zero for the largest border invasion in the history of the world," Trump said at the news conference.

Alexis Nungaray, whose 12-year-old daughter Jocelyn, was murdered allegedly by illegal aliens also

Continued. See ELECTION CAMPAIGNS, Page 2

Crosby ISD trustee election features one contested race with 3 candidates;

By David Taylor Managing Editor

While there are three positions open in the Crosby ISD school board race, there is only one contested position. Two years ago, the entire board was up for election, but this year only features three races.

The board is comprised of six single-member district trustees and one at-large trustee. Elections are normally held biennially on the November uniform election date.

Three seats are up for election this year including single member districts 2 and 7, and At Large seat 6.



ANDREW HEITZ

Incumbent Kea Lynn Lewis in Position 2 is unopposed. Incumbent Phillip Chapman, in At Large Seat 6, is also unopposed in the election.

The only race that is contested is Position 7 that includes incumbent Jenni-



JENNIFER ROACH

fer Roach and challengers Stacey Paine, and Andrew Heitz.

Each of those candidates were sent a short questionnaire to introduce themselves to the public. Each question had a minimum of words placed on

each question. None of their responses have been edited.

Here are the questions and the responses. Stacey Paine did not reply to our request.

How many school board meetings have you attended?

Jennifer Roach - I've attended over 150 board meetings, including 100+ in CISD. In four years on the board, I've missed only one regular meeting.

Andrew Heitz - I utilize the YouTube streaming service to catch the board meetings and have made a few in person.

Stacey Paine - No reply.

What kind of activities have you already participated in with the schools that would demonstrate your interest and commitment to the students?

Jennifer Roach - For 10 years, I've consistently served our schools—as a principal at CKC for 5 years, a school board trustee for 4, and a volunteer during my sons' time at CES, DES, CMS, and CHS. I have supported CEF and attend many school and community events for various student groups.

Continued. See CROSBY TRUSTEE ELECTION, Page 7

Crosby Fairgrounds to host Dog Show Nov. 8 thru 10

CROSBY - The Cypress Creek Kennel Club will present a three day Dog Show event on Friday through Sunday, November 8, 9, and 10 at the Crosby Fairgrounds, 14900 FM 2100 in Crosby 77532.

The Kennel Club welcomes spectators, and emphasizes there is no charge for admission.

You are invited to come watch and meet beautiful purebred dogs. You can talk to exhibitors, handlers and breeders, and learn what dog shows are all about.

The event includes a Saturday Lunch break, where Pros will teach kids how to show their dog.



On Sunday, the Lunch break will include 25 youngsters ages 5 through 9, who will get to show a registered dog to an AKC licensed judge. This will be an audience favorite.

The Cypress Creek Kennel Club says if you don't now have a Pure Breed dog, they will find you one!

The Schedule calls for Friday and Saturday Beginner Puppy, Friday Best

Bred by Exhibitor, Saturday Best Puppy, Sunday Best Veteran. Saturday RPH Clinic over noon, Sunday PeeWee.

For more information, you can contact the club, at cypresscreekkennelclub@gmail.com. See also the ad on Page 2 of this issue. You are invited to come by the Crosby Fairgrounds any of these three days, if you want to see an American Kennel Club dog show.

On Saturday and Sunday, the Cypress Creek Kennel Club will be presenting a \$1000 scholarship to the Best Junior, with the message that "You are the Future of Our Sport!"

New Officers & Board Members elected at Crosby Chamber of Commerce



Last Thursday, the Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce luncheon was focused on the election of new officers. Re-elected was Rev. Keenan Smith, new board members Sean Matthews, Carlos May, Edward Hardy, and also re-elected was Kay Sosa. Join the chamber members at their next luncheon at the Vera Brummet May Community Center, 2100 Wolf Road in Huffman at 11:30 a.m. next month on November 21.

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

Advertisement for Auto & Home Insurance: Jeremy Rosenkranz State Farm Agent, 440 S. Main Street, Highlands, TX 77562, 281-426-3512, jtr@jeremyrosenkranz.com

Advertisement for Weston G. Cotten Attorney at Law: O. 281/421-4050, F. 281/533-6032, weston@westoncotten.com

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Advertisement for CRCU: DRIVE INTO THE SEASON WITH AN AUTO LOAN FROM CRCU

Advertisement for Community Resource Credit Union: VISIT CRCU.ORG/90DAYS OR SCAN QR CODE

GOOSE CREEK CISD NEWS

Goose Creek CISD New Positions

Congratulations to Dr. Ellen Akers, the new Director of Employee Health and Wellness for Goose Creek CISD! Dr. Akers brings a wealth of experience to her new role, having previously served as the Director of Secondary Curriculum and Instruction within GCCISD. Prior to her career in education, she spent 15 years as an insurance broker and corporate trainer.



Dr. Ellen Akers

Dr. Akers holds a Bachelor's in Business Administration, a Master's in Education Administration, and a Doctorate in Education Administration with a specialization in technology. She has been married to Bruce for 25 years, and they have a daughter, Alexa, who is currently pursuing her Master's Degree in Communication at Texas A&M Corpus Christi.

Dr. Akers shared her enthusiasm for her new position: "I'm delighted to be the Director of Employee Health and Wellness because it allows me to positively impact the well-being of our staff, ensuring they have the support, resources, and care they need to thrive both personally and pro-

professionally. Serving the dedicated individuals in our school district is a privilege, as their wellness directly contributes to a healthier, more vibrant community for our students and beyond."

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Akers on this exciting new chapter!

Congratulations to Nancy Bonds, recently appointed as the new Director of Communications! Ms. Bonds brings extensive experience to her new role, having served in various capacities across the district, including 4th and 5th grade Math & Science teacher at Lamar Elementary, 6th and 7th grade Math teacher at Highlands Junior, Math Instructional Specialist, and Educational Technology Specialist at the high school level.



Nancy Bonds

Nancy is a proud graduate of Lee High School and holds a Bachelor's in Business Administration from Texas A&M University, as well as a Master's in Educational Administration from Lamar University. She is also a third-generation Goose Creek CISD employee and has dedicated 17 years to serving the district.

"I am truly honored to step into the role of Director of Communications for Goose Creek CISD. Having spent my entire career in this district, I've seen firsthand the positive impact we can make on our students, staff, and community. I look

forward to building even stronger connections and ensuring our district's story is shared with pride and purpose."

Please join us in congratulating Ms. Bonds in her new role in the district!

Congratulations to Dr. Norma Martinez on her appointment as the Director of Secondary Curriculum and Instruction! Dr. Martinez previously served as the Director of Communications at Goose Creek and brings great experience to her new role, including positions as a campus principal and extensive administrative experience in both elementary and secondary education. She has also been a special education teacher, bilingual teacher, interventionist, and is currently an adjunct professor for the Educational Leadership doctoral program at UHCL.



Dr. Norma Martinez:

"I am excited to return to the world of C&I, where I know that I can continue to support our campuses in providing high-quality instruction and choices to our families."

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Martinez on this important new role!

Dr. Martinez holds a Bachelor's in Psychology from Texas A&M, a Master's in Instructional Technology and Educational Management from UHCL, and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership with a specialization in the Superintendency from UHCL. She is married to Samuel Martinez and has two children, Chloe at Alamo Elementary and Samuel "Xander" at Peter E. Hyland Childcare Center.

Goose Creek CISD Unveils New Shade Structure at Harlem Elementary: A Sun Safety Milestone



Harlem Elementary hosted their shade structure ribbon cutting ceremony on October 9, 2024. (Photo by Carrie Pryor-Newman)

By Norma Martinez

In January 2023, the Goose Creek CISD Sun Safety Committee established criteria to award shade structures to schools, supported by the Be Well™ Baytown initiative from MD Anderson, funded by ExxonMobil. Throughout the 2022-23 school year, data was gathered from K-8 grades via quarterly surveys, documenting the implementation of coordinated school health best practices including sun safety. By June 2023, the committee selected three schools—Harlem Elementary, Bowie Elementary, and Banuelos Elementary—to receive new shade structures.

Although the construction process took some time due to vendor selection, permitting, and board approval, the efforts paid off. With significant support from the GCCISD Construction team, the projects progressed. The District showcased the first of three ribbon-cutting ceremonies on October 9, 2024, highlighting Harlem Elementary's shade structure. Notably, Harlem's Parent-Teacher Organization contributed \$5,000 to the project, showcasing community involvement.

Lori Rumfield, Healthy Community Special Projects Specialist, emphasized the initiative's commitment: "Be Well™ Baytown is an initiative of

MD Anderson and funded by ExxonMobil. GCCISD has served on the steering committee since inception and has been dedicated to sun safety for the students in our district."

Betty Baca, principal of Harlem Elementary, reflected on her decade-long commitment to the school, stating, "This shade structure makes a huge difference for our students. We have a commitment to our families to learn about healthy choices, and this is a perfect example."

The new shade structures not only enhance outdoor learning spaces but also promote a healthier environment for Goose Creek CISD families.

It's a Fact... Kids Love Dogs



Come watch and meet beautiful purebred dogs at the Cypress Creek Kennel Club Dog Show!

November 8, 9 & 10, 2024 Spectators welcome...there is no charge!

Talk to exhibitors, handlers and breeders Learn what dog shows are all about!

Saturday Lunch break

Pros will teach kids how to show their dog. Sign up at the club table

Sunday Lunch break

25 youngsters ages 5 - 9 will get to show a registered dog to an AKC Licensed judge. Sign up at the club table

Don't have a Pure Breed dog... we will find one!

Crosby Fairgrounds
14900 FM 2100 Crosby, TX
for more information contact
Cypresscreekkennelclub@gmail.com

JOIN US NOV 9TH

Please come out and show your support to Barry Garland as we rally together to help him with medical costs! Starts at 11am & goes all day.

BBQ PLATES \$15

Live auction @ 2pm

Silent auction

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT ALL DAY!

Keith McCoy & The CEO band



16402 Wallisville Rd, Houston TX 77049

Raffle Tickets

50/50 Tickets \$5 ea

Astros Quilt \$20 ea

Liquor Wagon \$20 ea

Lottery Hat 6 for \$20

Contact info:

Keith McCoy: 281-451-9911

Brittany: 281-457-6713 or

832-580-9789

Bruce: 346-917-3155

ALL DONATIONS WELCOMED

Barbers Hill Press

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

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2024

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

ON THE HILL

Chambers County Issue Burn Ban Due to Extreme Fire Risk

Effective immediately, Chambers County has issued a burn ban in response to the dangerously dry conditions and heightened fire threat. This decision follows a prolonged lack of rainfall, with weather forecasts offering little hope of relief. The persistent windy, dry conditions have pushed the Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI) to an average of 628, as determined by the Texas A&M Forest Service.

Key Factors Leading to the Burn Ban:
Extended Drought: Chambers County has not received significant rainfall for an extended period, increasing fire danger.

Increased Fire Activity: Local fire departments have seen a sharp rise in grass and brush fires, placing strain on resources.

Severe Risk of Wildfires: Current conditions create the potential for large, dangerous, and fast-moving wildfires, posing a serious threat to lives and property.

These precautions are necessary to protect the community from the risk of catastrophic wildfires. Chambers County officials urge everyone to comply with the burn ban and remain vigilant as these conditions persist.

Contact Chambers County Emergency Services with questions at 409-267-2445.

Jones Public Library



Memorials:

In Memory of:

Harbour, Clint Alfred: The 48 Laws of Power given by The Don Peoples Family

Hester, Alex Daniel: Heartstopper, Bah-Koo given by A Friend

Lewis, Lester (Bubba): The 24th Hour, Three Inch Teeth, Judgement

Prey given by Theo Smith

Miffin, Milton: Why a Son Needs a Dad, Dad & Daughter Forever Bond,

Grandpa Fix-It, How to Babysit a Grandpa given by Angie & Paul Doskocil

Sullivan, Nelli: Just in Case You Ever Wonder, Countries of the World given by David & LeeAnn Douglas

Battleship without a Home Berth: Galveston Wharves Board Terminates Negotiations

GALVESTON, Texas — A plan involving a new permanent home for the Battleship Texas appears to be in a battle of its own.

The Galveston Wharves Board voted Tuesday to terminate negotiations with the Battleship Texas Foundation.

The board said that it has not been able to reach an agreement with the Foundation on the plan for the ship to be relocated from a repair dock to a proposed location at or near Pier 20 at the Port of Galveston.

In addition, some waterfront restaurants have expressed a concern that the Battleship will block their views, causing them a loss of business and affecting their ambiance.



GALVESTON BUSINESSES OBJECT TO THE BERTHING OF THE BATTLESHIP TEXAS IN AREAS THAT WOULD BLOCK THE VIEW OF THE HARBOR, AND ENDANGER AFTER A HURRICANE.

The Foundation did respond to this latest development on its Facebook page Wednesday morning.

“We are surprised and disappointed by the Wharves Board’s decision to terminate negotiations with us regarding the Battleship,” the Foundation wrote. “We will continue to pursue alternate locations that we have been actively exploring along the way. The future of the Battleship remains bright, and we look forward to finding her forever home.”

The Foundation plans to begin selling tickets Wednesday for new tours that will get underway in the coming weeks.

The Battleship Texas has been undergoing renovations and repairs in Galveston since August 2022.

The Blue Doghouse Celebrates Grand Opening



Baytown and Mont Belvieu Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors with owner Leah Ferguson and her family

BAYTOWN – The Blue Doghouse celebrated their grand opening with a joint Ribbon Cutting Ceremony that included both the Baytown Chamber of Commerce and the Mont Belvieu Area Chamber of Commerce. Owner, Leah Ferguson welcomed guests and explained that she has dreamed of opening a doggie daycare her entire life. Chamber Ambassadors, Board and staff members were in attendance to help celebrate the opening.

The Blue Doghouse is located at 2827 N. Alexander Drive in Baytown. It is the ideal choice for pet owners looking for a safe, fun and interactive environment for their fur babies that feels like home. They offer open play, a large outdoor space, a toy room and a senior lounge.

For more information, please visit them on the web at www.thebluedoghouse.com or give them a call at (832) 572-7759.

Lee College Foundation Gala Raises Record \$231k for Student Success



Thank You for Making the Foundation Gala a Success!

We’re excited to share that the Lee College Foundation Gala raised a record-breaking \$231,000 with 425 attendees! These funds will support student scholarships, emergency aid, and critical resources for student success.

We honored our legacy donors and welcomed new supporters committed to our mission. Thank you to everyone who made this event possible!

Check out the album below to relive the highlights!

Early Voting underway in Mont Belvieu

Early voting for the 2024 Election began in the Mont Belvieu area on Monday, October 21 and continues through Friday, November 1. Have your voice heard, and avoid the long lines on November 5, by casting your vote at one of the Mont Belvieu area polling locations.

BHISD Community Elections Center - 9650 Eagle Dr., Mont Belvieu
Chambers County West Side Complex - 8138 FM 3246, Baytown

These locations will be open for early voting at the following times:

*Monday, October 21 through Friday, October 25 from 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

*Saturday, October 26 from 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

*Sunday, October 27 from 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

*Monday, October 28 through Friday, November 1 from 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

ELECTION DAY

On Election Day (Tuesday, November 5), Chambers County residents can vote at **ANY** of the polling locations in the county from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. In addition to the two locations listed above, Mont Belvieu area residents may want to take advantage of the additional polling location that will be located in the Mont Belvieu City Council Chamber located at 11607 Eagle Dr.

VOTER REGISTRATION

You can check your voter registration status at www.votetexas.gov under “Am I registered?”

MORE INFORMATION

More information about the 2024 Election and voting in Mont Belvieu and Chambers County can be found on the [elections page](#) of the County Clerk’s website.



Mont Belvieu Police Seize Large Quantities of Drugs

MONT BELVIEU - In a significant narcotics bust, in August 2024, MBPD received word of a suspicious package being shipped to the Mont Belvieu Post Office from an international origin. Through federal partnerships, that original package was intercepted and determined to contain 4 grams of Ketamine.

Follow-up investigation in Mont Belvieu over the last month resulted in MBPD Detectives, assisted by the Chambers County Sheriff’s Office,



executing a narcotics search warrant at an apartment located in the 6300 block of SH 146 on Tuesday October 1st.

As a result of that search, Detectives located and seized 923 grams of heroin (2.03 pounds), as well as 438 grams of Ecstasy/MDMA (.96 pounds), and 2910 grams (6.4 pounds) of THC. Also recovered were various pill production materials, narcotic precursor chemicals, and an assortment of cash.

In addition to the illegal substances seized, Detectives also seized electronic devices containing evidence of child pornographic images.

Charles E. Lindsey, 28, of Baytown Texas was arrested and booked on multiple charges into the Chambers County Jail:

1st degree felony Manufacture/Delivery of Controlled Substance Penalty Group1-Enhanced

2nd degree felony Manufacture/Delivery of Controlled Substance Penalty Group2- Enhanced

3rd degree felony Possession/promotion of Child Porn

This example of hard work and underscores the value of our local and federal partnerships.

OPINION PAGE

OPINION
 By Jackie Young Medcalf
 Founder/CEO THEA



Climate change is making polluted sites more susceptible to flooding

A mailbox is partially submerged on a flooded street in an unincorporated area in east Harris County near Houston on Sunday morning, May 5, 2024. The nearby San Jacinto River, overflowing due to heavy rainfall earlier this week, caused the flood waters. (AP Photo/Lekan Oyekanmi)

The physical and psychological scars from Hurricanes Helene and Milton will take weeks, months and years to repair. The threat from toxic waste released by floodwaters may be felt for decades.

It's not something people usually think about, but as climate change produces more frequent and intense storms, we need to recognize the damage they do to Superfund sites and large numbers of smaller, unrecognized toxic waste sites. Even when authorities think these sites are under control, flooding can expose people to carcinogens and other dangerous chemicals.

Flooding from Hurricane Helene impacted a shockingly wide area. Milton brought less flooding, but it cut through the center of Florida. Together, they cut pathways through many of the Superfund sites in the southeast.

These visuals show the hurricanes' tracks and the current or proposed Superfund sites.

While rudimentary and not to scale, they give a rough idea of what's at stake as climate change-induced weather events become more common. What they don't show is what happens on the ground when flood waters rage through sites where toxic chemicals are buried.

That is something we know too well here in Houston. When Hurricane Harvey tore through this region in 2017, it exposed a local site named the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site to historic water levels.

The containment areas storing dioxin and other paper mill waste material were breached. Chemicals flowed freely into the river and Galveston Bay, one of the nation's largest estuaries. Environmental Protection Agency dive teams found dioxin concentrations in the river that were more than 2,000 times higher than the maximum recommended levels.

That is not the only local site threatened by climate change. The Houston area has the most such sites in Texas, and the General Accountability Office estimates that 80 percent of them are at risk. Severe flooding this year put four sites underwater, and that wasn't even from a hurricane.

Even as we see more intense rain events, researchers believe sea levels in the Gulf of Mexico at Galveston are rising by more than half an inch a year as Houston experiences the worst subsidence in the country. Taken together, areas that never saw significant flooding in the past are now at risk.

In addition to the challenge that storms pose to known Superfund sites, we share another challenge with communities around the country experiencing increased flooding.

Houston expanded quickly with the growth of its petrochemical, port and rail industries. Hundreds of smaller industrial sites popped up to service those industries. Over time they moved, merged or closed. No one paid much attention to the chemicals left behind. Homes were built near or on the sites and the businesses were forgotten.

How many sites are there? A team from Rice University, NYU and Brown went back through the records and identified nearly 2,000 long-gone sites in Houston. With toxic waste contamination, forgotten doesn't mean gone or safe. Chemicals that seeped into the ground may still be there and may still be deadly.

Our analysis of known toxic sites in the city identified chemicals that have been linked to more than 30 cancers and other illnesses.

When flooding hits neighborhoods that never typically flooded in the past, the water mixes with chemicals from old sites, releasing them from the soil. They flow onto streets, lawns and living rooms. The storm runoff becomes a pathway for chemicals to enter waterways and aquifers.

The people who live closest to the sites are at a higher risk. The study authors estimate that 854,000 Houstonians live within a block of an abandoned site. That's more than a third of the city's population potentially at risk from an invisible threat that few are even aware of. The researchers found similar patterns of relic industrial sites in areas increasingly exposed to flooding in every city they looked at.

The tragic storms that struck the southeast created an immediate need to rebuild damaged homes and shattered lives. But toxic waste creates longer-term health concerns that can take years to manifest.

Our experience here in Houston may be a warning to other communities that we are unprepared for this climate change threat. The EPA recognizes that Superfund sites that were once considered under control may be at risk from climate change, but has been slow to address the threat.

Looking at the Superfund sites that were inundated in Houston this year, the EPA had inadequate protocols for testing the integrity of the sites following the flooding or notifying the public of the results.

As a nation, we lack the legislative and regulatory framework to address this evolving pollution problem. If Houston has hundreds of sites, the Texas Coast has thousands and America has millions of locations that will increasingly be inundated by the types of storms that ravaged the Southeast. Environmental laws like the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, or the Superfund Act, were not created with climate change in mind.

Finding answers will take time, but based on what we have seen this hurricane season, we need to get started on solutions now.

Jackie Medcalf is the CEO and founder of Texas Health and Environment Alliance, a Houston-based nonprofit that works with communities threatened by Superfund and other historic toxic waste sites.



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
 By Gary Borders



5th Circuit Court Removes Judge from Foster Care Suit

The federal judge who has repeatedly found Texas in contempt for not fixing its foster care system has been removed by the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals after a three-judge panel faulting U.S. District Judge Janis Jack's "highly antagonistic demeanor," The Texas Tribune reported. The three also reversed the \$100,000 daily fine against the state's defendants — the Texas Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Family and Protective Services, which runs the foster care system.

"We are pleased that the 5th Circuit recognized the significant efforts DFPS and HHSC have invested in serving the children and families of our state," according to a shared statement from the health commission and social services agency.

About 9,000 children are permanent wards of the state after being removed from their homes because of neglect or abuse. Jack has been hearing that case since 2011. More than \$200 million has been spent in attempts to improve the state's foster care system since the case was filed.

A lawyer for the plaintiffs said an appeal is planned.

"Frankly, this is a sad day for Texas children," attorney Paul Yetter said in a statement Friday. "For over a decade, Judge Jack pushed the state to fix its broken system. She deserves a medal for what she's done. We will keep fighting to ensure these children are safe."

CRUZ, ALLRED FACE OFF IN DEBATE

Republican incumbent Ted Cruz and Democratic challenger Colin Allred debated abortion, immigration and other contentious issues in their only scheduled debate last Tuesday, just days before early voting began on Monday.

The Austin American-Statesman reported Allred aggressively attacked Cruz for supporting the repeal of Roe vs. Wade, overturning that landmark abortion decision, while Cruz defended allowing the state's right to determine abortion policy. Cruz repeatedly sidestepped a question of



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
 By Gary Borders

whether rape or incest should be exceptions to the state's abortion ban, while Allred said he supports a federal law to essentially reinstate Roe.

The two also fought over immigration, with Cruz claiming Allred has voted against funding a border wall three times. Allred in turn slammed Cruz for helping kill a bipartisan border security bill that GOP nominee Donald Trump urged Republicans to reject for political reasons.

The Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol also was a point of contention. Allred, a former NFL linebacker who is now a three-term congressman, said he "took off my suit jacket" to prepare to defend the House from the mob.

"When the mob came, Senator Cruz was hiding in a supply closet," he said.

TOOL HELPS STUDENTS LEARN WHICH UNIVERSITIES WILL ACCEPT THEM

Texas high school students can now see which of the state's public universities would accept them based on their academic information, using a new tool called Direct Admissions, according to the Texas Standard. The tool is meant to streamline the college application process and let students quickly know which participating Texas public universities will accept them based on their class rank, grade point average, and test scores.

"Direct Admissions has the potential to reduce time, boost confidence, and increase transparency, encouraging Texans who might not otherwise consider college to take the next step," Interim Commissioner of

Higher Education Sarah Keyton said in a press release.

A total of 31 public universities in the state are using the new tool.

Meanwhile, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board is extending the state financial aid application priority deadline a month to Feb. 15 for the 2025-2026 application cycle because of continued delays with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which slowed applications last school year.

The state's priority deadline is intended to encourage students to complete their application promptly in order to raise the likelihood of receiving state funding.

REPORT: PURGE OF NONCITIZENS FROM VOTER ROLLS LIKELY INFLATED

An investigation by ProPublica and The Tribune found that of the more than 6,500 voters taken from the state's rolls because they were deemed noncitizens, many likely were removed because they did not respond to letters about their citizenship. Gov. Greg Abbott recently said that more than 1 million ineligible voters were stricken from the state's rolls, though a number of election experts said the culling is routine to remove people who have died or moved.

While Abbott touted the 6,500 figure, the secretary of state's office identified 580 people as noncitizens in a report it gave Abbott in late August.

Both Abbott and Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton have pushed claims that noncitizens are seeking to vote in the November election. Many election officials have said there is little to no evidence that is the case.

EARLY VACCINATION URGED AS FLU SEASON ARRIVES

The Texas Department of State Health Services is urging Texans to get vaccinated against flu as soon as possible, as cases traditionally begin to rise this time of year. It takes about two weeks for the body to make flu antibodies after getting the shot.

"We recommend everyone ages six months and older get a flu shot as soon as possible," said DSHS Commissioner Jennifer Shuford.

People with the flu are most contagious in the first three days of illness, with the virus being spread through droplets. Vaccines for other respiratory illnesses, such as VOCI-19 and RSV, are also available and can be taken at the same time as a flu shot, depending on advice from one's health-care provider.

STATE'S LATEST POPULATION ESTIMATES ARE IN

The state's estimated population as of Jan. 1, 2024 was 30,749,519, according to the Texas Demographic Center. That is an increase of 1.6 million since the 2020 census count — or 5.5%.

The two fastest-growing counties in terms of percentage increase are Kaufman, up 26.7% since 2020, and Rockwall, up 25% for the same time period.

THE POSTSCRIPT
 By Carrie Classon

Other Mothers



Over the weekend, Felix met his three other mothers.

Felix is our cat, and we adopted him from Mexico. We are now back in Mexico for the first time since we adopted him and, of course, Felix is with us.

When my husband, Peter, and I first discussed adopting a cat, I had in mind some needy little creature who would cuddle on my lap when I read. Instead, we got Felix.

Felix was a street cat for two years before he was scooped up by his foster mothers. He was very skinny when they found him. He is black and white, with silky fur and a sly grin, and he is not at all interested in sitting on anyone's lap. Instead, he likes to tear around the house like a maniac and play games with Peter and nibble my toes to show he cares. He's a good traveler, and he did not seem to mind either moving to the U.S. or getting in his backpack carrier and coming back to Mexico.

I had half-hoped there might be a mariachi band playing when we landed, congratulating Felix on his triumphant return. Instead, we were met by a customs official who made a photocopy of Felix's health records, took his temperature, and wished us all a pleasant visit.

Once we got to our little apartment surrounded by painted suns and got all our stuff back into the usual cupboards and cabinets, we contacted Felix's foster mother, Marcela, and told her we were back, and said we would love to have her over for cake.

Felix's foster mother works at the environmental preserve where Peter takes his long daily walk. She lives with her sister and her sister's daughter, and they all live with whatever animals they have collected and are caring for on that particular day. At present, there are two cats, four birds and eleven dogs.

"I think she spends all of her salary on animal food!" Marcela's boss told Peter. Marcela has a big heart. She was delighted to come with her sister and niece to our apartment for cake and to see how Felix was doing.

"Do you think they'll be surprised how big he is?" Peter asked.

"They'll think he's fat!" I said.

I was a little nervous because I knew that having them over for cake would be a challenge. They speak almost no English, and Peter speaks no Spanish, so I am the one who is supposed to be translating for everyone, and I do not speak enough Spanish to be a translator.

But it really didn't matter because no one was there to listen to me. They were there to visit Felix.

"Oh! He's big." That's what they all said—and even Peter understood that.

"He is!" I agreed. "Do you think he's fat?" The two women and the young girl all looked at Felix very seriously while eating their carrot cake.

"No," they all said, after a moment's consideration. They did not think he was too fat.

"But he is a little spoiled, don't you think?" I asked.

All three of them laughed and said, no, he couldn't be spoiled because he was a precious cat, and he deserved the best—and even Felix understood that.

So we finished our carrot cake, and the young girl played with her bubble machine, which looked like a camera but shot out bubbles, which Felix thought was very exciting.

"He has found a good family," Marcela said.

"We are all Felix's family now," I told her. And everyone agreed—especially Felix.

Till next time,
 Carrie

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FOOTBALL SEASON WEEK 9:

Texans visit Jets on Halloween night: Aggies have tough road test at S. Carolina

The Texans hit the road for the second time in three weeks when they take on Aaron Rodgers and the Jets on Thursday Night Football on Halloween night. Let's hope the ghouls and goblins don't get the Texans.

A year ago, Houston lost to the Jets 30-6 as starting QB C.J. Stroud left the game with a concussion and the Texans offense never got untracked. This time around, the second-year signal caller should be available and Texans fans are hoping for a better result this time around.

They'd better hope Stroud and his teammates aren't in the giving mood this Halloween and that the offensive line plays better than it did two weeks ago in their 24-22 loss at Green Bay. The O-line gave up four sacks and Stroud had his poorest passing performance of the season as the Packers defense limited him to 86 yards.

Texans fans hope the offensive line will have the kinks worked out when they head to The Meadowlands to take on a struggling Jets team that despite the addition of Rodger's favorite receiver when the two played in Green Bay, Davante Adams, fell to 2-5 two weeks ago after their 37-15 loss at Pittsburgh.

While the Texans and Jets open Week 9 on Thursday Night Football, the struggling Cowboys head to Atlanta on Sunday to take on a Falcons team that has been up and down this year. Ironically, the Cowboys have played better on the road (all three of their wins heading into last Sunday's game at San Francisco) have come on the road, while they have lost all three of their home games. The Falcons are also having trouble winning at home as they've dropped three home games thus far this season. The latest came two weeks ago when they were blown out at home by Seattle, 34-14.

The Game of the Week takes place in Green Bay when the Packers host the Lions in a key NFC North contest. Two weeks ago, Dan Campbell's Lions brought an end to the Vikings undefeated season with a 31-29 road win. The Packers improved to 5-2 win their win over the Texans. The NFC North is the best division in the league, as all four teams have winning records. This should be a good one at Lambeau Field on Sunday.

Jacksonville visits Philadelphia on Sunday Night Football and Week 9 concludes on Monday Night Football with Tampa Bay visiting the defending Super Bowl champion Chiefs in what should be an interesting contest.

The biggest game on the college schedule pits No. 4 Ohio State visiting No. 3-ranked Penn State in what should be a prime time contest. Oregon took the No. 1 spot away from Texas after the Longhorns' 30-15 home loss to Georgia on Oct. 19. The top-ranked Ducks have a tough road contest against a Michigan team that lost its third game of the season two weeks ago at Illinois. The Wolverines are struggling this year after winning the national title a year ago and they would like nothing more than to pull off the upset on Saturday.

No. 14-ranked Texas A&M has a tough road contest as well when they play at South Carolina against a Gamecocks team that dominated OU in Norman two weeks ago, 35-9.

The District 14-6A season enters its next-to-last week with Davis, Eisenhower and Nimitz still in the playoff hunt. Nimitz has a big game against Spring on Thursday night, while MacArthur hosts Dekaney on Friday night and Davis takes on league leader Westfield also on Friday. On Saturday, Eisenhower and Aldine meet at Thorne Stadium. Entering Week five of league play, Westfield lead the district with a 4-0 record, followed by Davis and Dekaney at 3-1 and Nimitz and Spring stood at 2-2. Nimitz closes the league season against Dekaney on Nov. 7, while Davis finishes with MacArthur on Nov. 7. Spring faces Aldine on Nov. 8 and Westfield and Eisenhower meet also on Nov. 8.

Before we take a look at this weekend's games, let's unfortunately, review last week's record. A 5-7 record brought the season record to 55-29 (65%). Now, onto this weekend's game.

NCAA



Oregon at Michigan – No. 1-ranked Oregon heads to Ann Arbor to take on the defending national champs in the Big House. The Ducks are rolling towards a berth in the College Football Playoffs, while the Wolverines are struggling to get bowl eligible. Michigan dropped its third game of the season two weeks ago at Illinois when its inept offense could muster just 7 points. The Wolverines are struggling at QB, as evidenced by just six TD passes thrown by the trio of Davis Warren, Jack Tuttle and Alex Orji. Michigan can run the ball with Kaleb Mullings (676 yards, 7 TDs), but Oregon can run it and throw it behind QB Dillon Gabriel (2,080 yards, 15 TDs), running back Jordan James (717 yards, 6 TDs) and wide receiver Tez Johnson (57 receptions, 536 yards, 7 TDs). Look for the Wolverines to come out fired up for this one, but Oregon's the much better team and will provide it on Saturday. My pick, Oregon 31, Michigan 18

Texas A&M at South Carolina – No. 14-ranked Texas A&M has a tough road test at South Carolina on Saturday. The Aggies will be coming off an emotional game the week prior against LSU, so they may be emotionally and physically worn out. But first-year head coach Mike Elko has done a very good job of having his team well prepared week-by-week. This will be a big test for him and his team on Saturday. Two weeks ago, the Gamecocks dominated Oklahoma in Norman and left with a 35-9 win. SC has a decent QB in LaNorris Sellers (968 passing yards, 5 TDs/247 rushing yards, 3 TDs), a solid running back in Raheim Sanders (426 yards, 6 TDs) and big-play wide receiver in Mazeo Bennett (19 receptions, 276 yards, 3 TDs). The Aggies have a stout defense and opportunistic offense led by QB Conner Weigman (718 yards, 6 TDs), running back Le'Veon Moss (674 yards, 8 TDs) and wide receiver Noah Thomas (21 receptions, 289 yards, 3 TDs). Look for the A&M defense to step up and be the difference maker in this one as the Aggies magical season continues. My pick, Texas A&M 30, South Carolina 23

Ohio State at Penn State – The Game of the Week is set for Saturday evening in State College, PA when the No. 4-ranked Buckeyes visit the No. 3-ranked Nittany Lions in a key game for both team's CFP and Big 10 title hopes. Ohio State already has one loss on the season (32-31 to Oregon on Oct. 12). Ryan Day's team might be able to lose one more game and still make the playoffs, but the Buckeyes probably don't want to take any chances. OSU has a potent offense that can make plays on the ground and through the air. The Buckeyes are led by QB Will Howard (1,574 yards, 14 TDs), running backs Quinshon Judkins (491 yards, 6 TDs) and TreVeyon Henderson (424 yards, 4 TDs) and wide receivers Jeremiah Smith (32 receptions, 553 yards, 7 TDs) and Emeka Egbuka (40 receptions, 526 yards, 6 TDs). Penn State isn't fancy on offense. The Nittany Lions take what teams will give them and QB Drew Allar (1,492 yards, 11 TDs) is a veteran signal caller who has played in a lot of big games over the last two years. He has a strong running game with Nicholas Singleton (434 yards, 3 TDs) and Kaytron Allen (423 yards, 3 TDs) and a big-play tight end in Tyler Warren (40 receptions, 513 yards, 4 TDs). Penn State has the better defense, but something tells me Howard and Co. will rise to the occasion and lead the Buckeyes to a big road victory on Saturday night. My pick, Ohio State 31, Penn State 29

NFL

Houston at New York Jets – The Texans and Jets kickoff Week 9 on Thursday Night Football with the Texans looking to avenge last year's 30-6 loss at the hands of the Jets. The Texans need to shore up things in the offensive line after allowing Stroud to be sacked four times two weeks ago in their 24-22 loss to Green Bay. The Jets struggled at Pittsburgh and fell, 37-15. It appears the Aaron

Rodgers (1,663 yards, 10 TDS) experiment isn't working out. The Jets have weapons on offense with running back Breece Hall (348 yards, 3 TDs) and wide receivers Garrett Wilson (46 receptions, 460 yards, 3 TDs) and Davante Adams, Rodgers buddy from their years in Green Bay. But the offensive line is an issue. Look for Will Anderson Jr. and Danielle Hunter to get after Rodgers early in this one and force a turnover or two, while Stroud (1,663 yards, 10 TDs) will look to running back Joe Mixon (401 yards, 5 TDs) to get things going in the running game. That should allow Stroud to make some plays downfield to Stefon Diggs (42 receptions, 415 yards, 3 TDs). The Texans pick up a big road win on Thursday night. My pick, Houston 26, New York Jets 18

Dallas at Atlanta – The Cowboys hit the road for the second straight week, which might be a good thing, when they take on the Falcons on Sunday in Atlanta. As bad as the Cowboys have played thus far, they've actually played decently on the road (three road wins). Dallas needs for QB Dak Prescott (1,602 yards, 8 TDs) to get things going with wide receiver CeeDee Lamb (32 receptions, 467 yards, 2 TDs) because the Cowboys have no running game. The Falcons do with second-year running back Bijan Robinson (483 yards, 4 TDs). QB Kirk Cousins (1,830 yards, 10 TDs/7 interceptions) was brought in to lead the Falcons to the promise land and he's been up and down thus far. He has two solid receivers in Drake London (44 receptions, 491 yards, 5 TDs) and Darnell Mooney (32 receptions, 414 yards, 3 TDs). The Cowboy secondary has been an issue this year, so look for Cousins to attack that unit early and often as the Falcons send the Cowboys home with another loss. My pick, Atlanta 31, Dallas 24

Detroit at Green Bay – This is probably the best game on the Week 9 schedule and it's also a big one in the NFC North, the best division in what appears to be the best division in the NFL this year. Two weeks ago, the Lions picked up a huge road win with their 31-29 upset of previously undefeated Minnesota. While the Lions were taking care of the Vikings, the Packers beat the Texans on a last-second field goal. This game matches two of the top QBs in the league in Detroit's Jared Goff (1,610 yards, 10 TDs) and GB's Jordan Love (1,351 yards, 15 TDs). Both teams have strong running games as the Lions are led by Jahmyr Gibbs (464 yards, 5 TDs) and David Montgomery (382 yards, 6 TDs) and the Pack is led by Josh Jacobs (540 yards, 2 TDs). Both teams have quality wideouts as the Lions are led by Amon-Ra St. Brown (39 receptions, 401 yards, 4 TDs) and the Packers are getting production in the passing game from Jayden Reed (29 receptions, 452 yards, 3 TDs) and Romeo Doubs (23 receptions, 312 yards, 2 TDs). This could be an offensive shootout, but look for the ball hawking Green Bay defense to force a mistake or two from Goff late to lead the Packers to victory. My pick, Green Bay 34, Detroit 30

Jacksonville at Philadelphia – The Jaguars head to Philly to take on the Eagles on Sunday Night Football. Two weeks ago, the Jags picked up their second win of the year with a 32-16 thumping of New England in London, while the Eagles dominated the Giants, 28-3, in New Jersey. Jacksonville will need a big game from QB Trevor Lawrence (1,527 yards, 9 TDs), running back Tank Bigsby (415 yards, 4 TDs) and rookie wideout Brian Thomas Jr. (30 receptions, 513 yards, 4 TDs). The Eagles are loaded on offense with QB Jalen Hurts (1,308 passing yards, 7 TDs/218 rushing yards, 4 TDS), running back Saquon Barkley (658 yards, 5 TDs) and wideouts DeVanta Smith (25 receptions, 301 yards, 2 TDs) and A.J. Brown (16 receptions, 324 yards, 3 TDs). Look for the Philly offense to put on a show in prime time on Sunday night. My pick, Philadelphia 36, Jacksonville 20

Tampa Bay at Kansa City –

Candidates bring Campaigns to Texas,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

spoke at the press conference.

"She was just being a child, but due to the Biden-Harris policies, she's no longer here anymore," her mother said. "I will forever be a grieving mother."

Paul Perez, interim president for the National Border Patrol Council, said "President Trump strikes fear in the enemies of America. That is the type of leadership we need in this country."

Trump left the press conference to join Joe Rogan on his podcast for approximately three hours.

Texas boasts the second largest haul in the electoral college with 40, only behind California who has 54.

Candidates on both sides of the aisle call this the most consequential election of a lifetime and early voting poll numbers seem to show that. At many locations, the lines are enormous.

"By the end of today, after 6 days of voting early in person, the 2024 early in-person voting in Harris county will be ahead of the 2020 six-day record pace," said Rosie Torres-Segura, spokesperson for the Harris County Clerk's Office who handles elections.

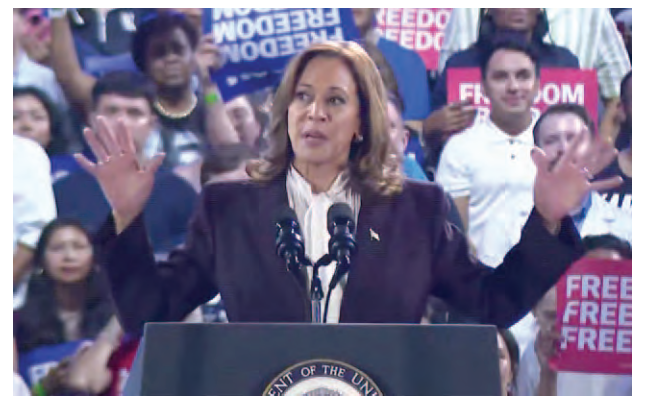
As of Saturday afternoon, 686,567 votes had been logged in only six days of voting.

"The only similar election was the record-breaking turnout in the 2020 presidential election," Torres-Segura said.

Segura said she believed in raw numbers, at minimum, this year's overall turnout will be similar to 2020.

"If the percentage turnout is repeated, the number of votes will jump by 138,000 from 1,656,686 to an estimated 1,795,226," she said.

Outside of the long lines, which she said are common at traditionally popular vote centers, no major issues have been re-



KAMALA HARRIS, SPEAKING AT THE RALLY IN HOUSTON'S SHELL ENERGY STADIUM, BEFORE A CROWD OF 30,000



BEYONCE SPOKE IN SUPPORT, BUT DID NOT PERFORM



WILLIE NELSON SANG "ON THE ROAD AGAIN" AMONG OTHERS

ported.

"With Countywide Voting, voters can vote at any of the 88 polling locations across Harris County during Early Voting and at 700 vote centers on Election Day, November 5. A list of vote centers is available at HarrisVotes.com," she said.

Segura said they hope to avoid any concerns about ballot paper for this election.

"Voting Centers have been allocated an abundance of ballot paper for both Early Voting and Election Day," she said. "Still, the paper supply at each voting center is being monitored on a daily basis to enable replenishing the supply if needed."

With less than 10 days before the election, the poll numbers are tighter than ever and both sides are encouraging voters to let their voice be heard at the polls.

Early Voting by personal appearance is underway

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SCORES & SCHEDULES WEEK 10

LAST WEEK'S SCORES

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24
Aldine Nimitz 41, Aldine Eisenhower 21
Spring Westfield 52, Aldine MacArthur 0

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25
Aldine Davis 42, Aldine 7 Barbers Hill 62, Galveston Ball 60 OT
Baytown Lee 17, Santa Fe 14

Baytown Sterling, bye
Channelview 27, Goose Creek Memorial 21
Galena Park, bye
Huffman Hargrave 76,
Livingston 22
Kingwood 21, C. E. King 20

OT
La Porte 52, Crosby 6
North Shore 27, Atascocita 23

WEEK 10-- THIS WEEK'S GAMES

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31
Humble at Goose Creek Memorial, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium in Baytown
Westbury at Galena Park, 7 p.m., Galena Park ISD Stadium (Senior Night) in Houston

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1
Aldine at Spring Westfield, 7 p.m., Planet Ford Stadium in Spring

Atascocita at Channelview, 7 p.m., Ray Maddry Stadium in Channelview
Barbers Hill, BYE
C. E. King at North Shore, 7 p.m., Galena Park ISD Stadium (Senior Night) in Houston
Dekaney at Aldine MacArthur, 7 p.m., W. W. Thorne Stadium in Houston
Lamar Consolidated at Baytown Lee, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium in Baytown
Little Cypress-Mauriceville at Huffman Hargrave, 7:30 p.m., Falcon Stadium in Huffman

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2
Aldine Eisenhower at Aldine, 2 p.m., W. W. Thorne Stadium in Houston
Crosby at Porter, 7 p.m., Randall Reed Stadium in Spring
Port Arthur Memorial at Baytown Sterling, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium

Week 9 concludes on Monday Night Football when the beat up Buccaneers visit the defending Super Bowl champion Chiefs. Two weeks ago in their 41-31 loss at home to Baltimore, TB lost starting wide receiver Chris Godwin to a dislocated ankle and Mike Evans (26 receptions, 335 yards, 6 TDs) to a pulled hamstring. Godwin should be out for a long period of time, while Evans appears to be day-to-day. If both are out, that will make

things difficult for QB Baker Mayfield (1,859 yards, 18 TDs) as he will be going up against a Kansas City defense that has been one of the top defenses in the league this year. That's good news for the Chiefs because QB Patrick Mahomes (1,389 yards, 6 TDs/8 interceptions). The KC offense has been decimated by injuries, especially its receiving corps. It's time for tight end Travis Kelce (28 receptions, 245 yards) and rookie wideout Xavier

Worthy (15 receptions, 198 yards, 3 total TDs) to pick up their games. The Chiefs have gotten nice production from running back Kareem Hunt (249 yards, 3 TDs), who was signed after starter Isiah Pacheco was injured early in the season. Look for Mahomes to get things going in prime time, while the KC defense will be its usual stifling self and shut down Mayfield and Co. My pick, Kansas City 30, Tampa Bay 13

Voters set to cast votes in school board elections

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

Four area districts will hold board of trustee elections. Most districts host elections each year with different positions rotating on and off periodically. Most board members serve their district for four year terms. Here's a list of the candidates and a little bit of biographical information.

Channelview
Position 1—**Keith Liggett** lives at 16530 Oak Lane and has worked as a safety manager at his job. He has lived in the district all his life. Liggett is a former board member.

Position 1—**Shumona Collins** refused to list her address and listed her occupation as an educator. She has lived in the district for 25-plus years.

Position 2—**Robert Byron Hay, III** lives at 842 Cario Street and lists his occupation as business owner. He has lived in the district for three years and 5 months.

Position 2—**Hector Martinez** refused to list his address and listed his occupation as a realtor. He has lived in the district for 41 years, and six months.

Position 3—**Tammy Hall** lives at 15613 Elgin and works as an operations manager at her job. She has lived in the district for the last 45 years.

Position 3—**Alex Ybarra** refused to list his address and listed his occupation as a welder. He has lived in the district for the last 21 years.

Crosby
Position 2—**Kea Lynn Lewis** lives at 17006 Coaming Court and serves as a peace officer. She has lived in the Crosby area for the last 7 years. She is unopposed in the election.

At-Large Seat 6—**Phillip Chapman** lives at 18805 Kubin Road and is a construction project manager. Chapman has lived in Crosby for the last 20-plus years. Chapman is unopposed in the election.

Position 7—**Stacey Paine** lives at 2911 Skimmer Way and serves as an assistant principal. She has lived in the district for 22 years and 8 months.

Position 7—**Andrew Heitz** lives at 20211 Nightbird Trail and works as a procurement manager. He has lived in the district for the last 11 years, and 8 months.

Position 7—**Jennifer Roach** lives at 1503 Running Bear Trail and works as an

educator. She has lived in the district for the last 5 years, and 8 months.

Huffman
Position 4—**Luke Hight** lives at 1815 White Feather Trail and is employed in insurance. Hight has lived in the district for the last 14-plus years.

Position 4—**Andy Jung** lives at 28004 Calvin Road and works as a business analyst. He has lived in the district all of his life.

Position 4—**Patrick Terry** lives at 935 Cobalt Crest Lane and works as a procurement specialist. He has lived in the district all of his life.

Position 5—**Sam Pier** lives at 27166 Fairway Crossings Drive and works as the owner of Lake Houston Brewery. He has lived in the district for the last 15 years.

Position 5—**Vernon Reed** lives at 11243 FM 1960 E #23 and is retired. He has lived in the district for the last 11 years.

Position 6—**Layla Karasek** lives at 227 Lago Trace Drive and is employed as an office manager. She has lived in the district for almost 14 years.

Position 6—**Joey Taylor** lives at 1002 Commons Waterway Dr. and owns his own business. He has lived in the district for the last 3 years, and 3 months.

Position 6—**Josh Dowies** lives at 92a Meyer Rd. and owns his own business. He has lived in the district for the last 31 years.

Position 7—**Julia Sullivan** lives on 2214 Hickory Manor Dr. and is an insurance agent. She has lived in the district for the last 42 years.

Position 7—**Amanda McGee** lives at 339 High Point Crossing and serves in education publishing. She has lived in the district for the last 9-plus years.

Sheldon
Position 1—Candace Randall
Position 1—Waldo Gavia
Position 2—Laticia Archie
Position 3—Kevin D. Gaines
Position 3—Darius Provost-Evans

Candidate forms for Sheldon ISD trustees were unavailable online, however, candidates participated in a School Board Candidate Forum on October 14. The recording is available at <https://www.facebook.com/SheldonISD/videos/1337528500961386>.

Crosby Big Red Machine Band hosted the Louisiana State University Tiger Marching Band



The Crosby Big Red Machine Band hosted the Louisiana State University Tiger Marching Band on Saturday. The band was enroute to the Texas A&M vs. LSU football game in College Station. The band performed for the Crosby students.

Fireworks Sale OKayed,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

just cringe at the thought of those fireworks sitting in 100-degree temperatures over the summer and the risk it brought to homeowners.

Davis said since the commissioners only approved the measure in early October, they have been scrambling to staff at least four of their stores at 16720 I-45 North, 20432 Highway 290, 14424 I-10 East in North Shore and 23822 Highway 249 in Tomball.

"We've been lobbying them for awhile to do this," she said,

"but they only approved it recently so these will be all we will have this go-around."

The fireworks sales begin on Friday, October 25 and stores open at 10 a.m. and will run through Nov. 1. The following day is Día de Los Muertos.

"It's a traditional Mexican holiday, it is believed that on this day the souls of the dead return to visit their living family members. For Día de los Muertos, people visit the graves of deceased loved ones

and set up altars," Davis said.

Buy one/get one free and other discounts will be available throughout the stores. In addition, Top Dog will donate a portion of its proceeds during this season to organizations in the Diwali community.

Davis reminded everyone that Harris County is under a burn ban.

"That makes it even more important that fireworks safety rules be observed, including always shooting fireworks on open, level ground; not aiming

at buildings or vegetation and, especially, disposing of fireworks by dousing them with water and putting them in garbage cans away from buildings. (The complete list of safety rules is below)," she said.

The burn ban prohibits the shooting of rockets with sticks and missiles with fins. Top Dog Fireworks will not be stocking these products.

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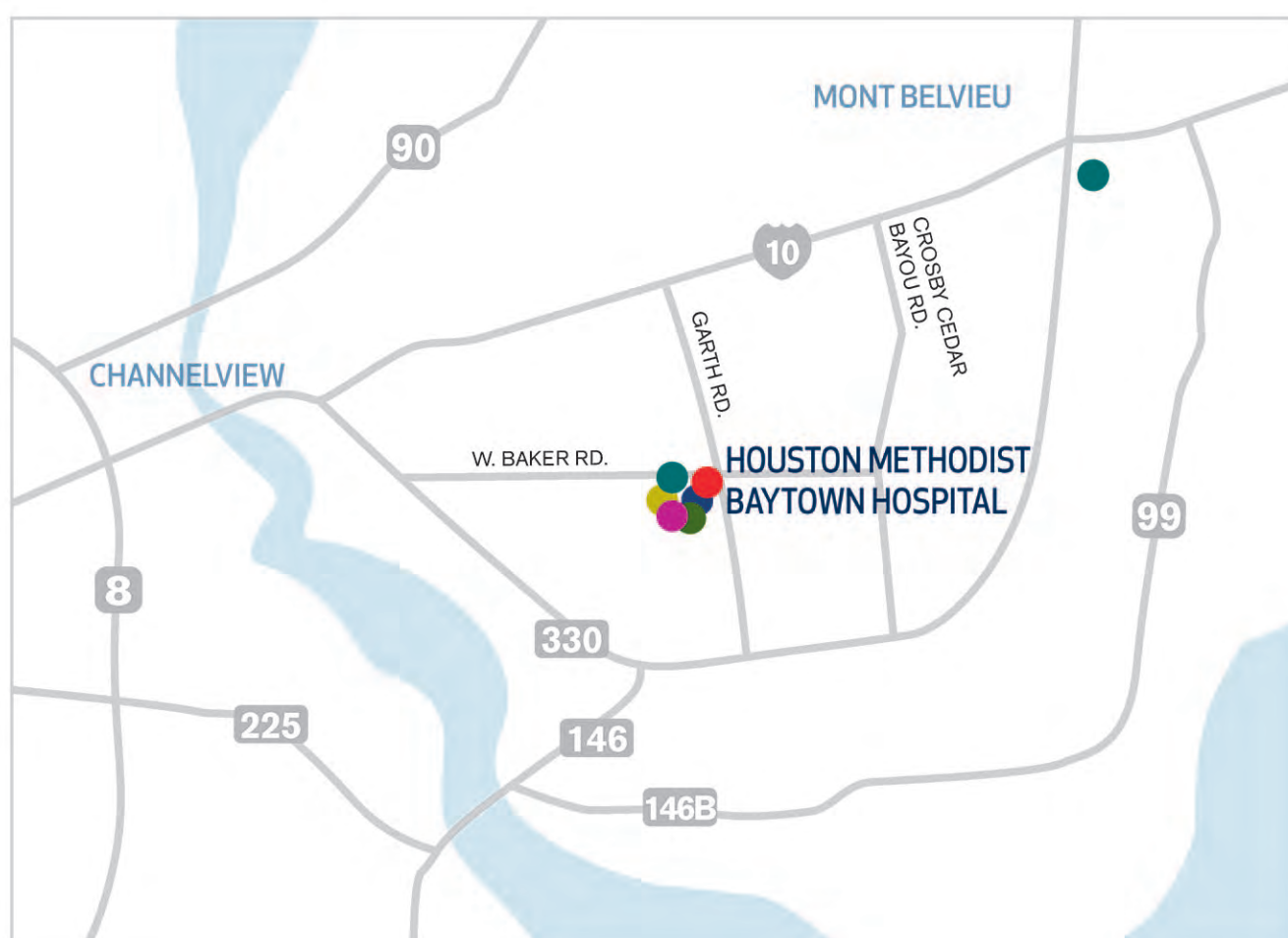


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