

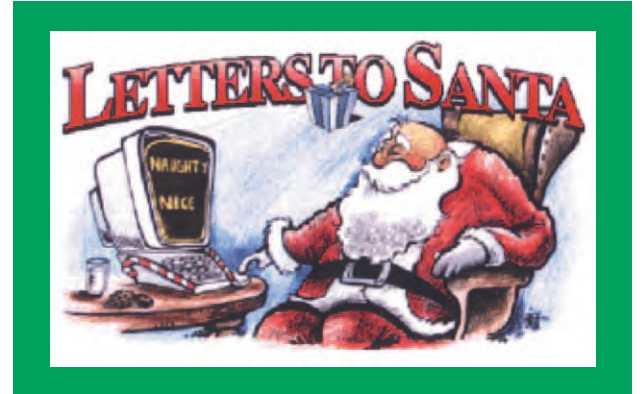


HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

# Star Courier

Serving Highlands, Crosby, Huffman and Surrounding Communities since 1955 ■ [www.starcouriernews.com](http://www.starcouriernews.com)



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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2024

P.O. DRAWER 446, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

## IN THE STARS

# Holiday Lights in Crosby Parade

### Highlands Post Office curtails hours

Due to recent breaks in the Lobby, the Highlands Post Office will only be open Monday-Saturday 8am to 4:30pm. It will be CLOSED Christmas and New Years Day.

### EPA meeting on Waste Pits Tuesday Jan. 7

The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) has scheduled a public meeting to update persons on the status of the remedial work at the Superfund Site. Meeting is Tuesday, Jan. 7 from 6:00pm to 7:45pm at the Highlands Community Center, 604 Highland Woods Drive, Highlands 77562. More information on Page 5.

### Holiday Fireworks legal in Harris County Still Banned in Cities

By David Taylor  
Managing Editor

After a sweltering summer where Harris County Commissioners took the advice of the Fire Marshal and restricted certain fireworks, the recent rains meant the cancellation of the burn ban and county residents only are free to shoot fireworks without abandon this New Year's. Sue Davis, spokesperson for Top Dog Fireworks, said "We're expecting a Continued. See Page 5

Crosby Christmas Parade avoids rain for fun experience

By David Taylor  
Managing Editor

For the second year in a row, rain tried to interfere with the Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade, but in both cases, the weather cleared enough for the fun Christmas activity to go on unobstructed.

The parade follows the Children's Festival held at the Crosby Church on US 90 where hundreds of children and their families visited. Continued. See Crosby Christmas Parade, page 6



WINNING PARADE ENTRIES included 1st Place Polar Express by Crosby Church; 2nd Place Whoville by Crosby Elementary Garden Club; and 3rd Place Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, a decorated Ford pick-up truck. Floats had to have a favorite Christmas Movie theme.



## CROSBY SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

# Crosby ISD Spreads Holiday Cheer, Celebrates Student Achievements and Looks Ahead to 2025

Hello East Harris County and Crosby ISD families,

I want to start by wishing all of our students, staff members, and families a Merry Christmas from Crosby ISD!

Thank you to the Precinct 3 Commissioner's Office for creating a winter wonderland for our elementary students. Students had a chance to visit with Santa and create holiday crafts at the Crosby Community Center. We very much appreciate the staff and volunteers who make these days in December so special for our students.

Speaking of making memories, it was a won-



Paula Patterson  
Crosby Superintendent

derful night on December 11 as Crosby ISD hosted a Community Christmas Movie Night. Families bundled up at Cougar Stadium to watch "The Grinch" on the giant scoreboard. The perfect movie to match our brand-new turf!

Kudos to the Crosby High School Student Council for hosting the event, and the Cougar Stars for handing out delicious hot chocolate.

'Tis the season for volunteering! We want to give a shoutout to the San Jacinto College baseball team for assisting at our weekly food drive. The entire Ravens baseball team showed up to load groceries into vehicles for families in need. This is the second year of our grocery distribution event on Thursdays. Since September, our student-volunteers have fed 1800 families. That's being ser-

Continued. See CROSBY SUPERINTENDENT, Page 3



A Crosby Kindergarten Center student talks to Santa inside the Crosby Community Center on December 9. The Precinct 3 Commissioner's Office invited students from each CISD elementary campus to see Santa, make holiday crafts, and enjoy sweet treats.

## Highlands Holiday tradition: Share Your Christmas



Once again, the community of Highlands provided new clothing and toys through the Share Christmas project for school children in the area. Partners in this project pictured are Soledad Harding (Hopper Primary counselor), Claudia Birdsong (Highlands First Baptist Church), Martha Sutton (Rotary Club), Nieketta Baptist (Hopper Primary), Tammy Endres (LJA Engineering), Renée Stripling (Highlands Elementary counselor), and Weston Cotton (Rotary Club). Sponsors not available for the picture are Saint Judes Catholic daughters of America, Charissa Cotton of Teel Construction, Woodforest Bank employees, Setco Pipe, Carlos's Snack Shack and too many individual sponsors to mention. We appreciate the school counselors who worked very hard and the sponsors who donate their time and money for this project to be a success. Theresa Cashion is chairman of this project.

## Rotary Chili Feast set for February 1

Raffle winner gets a new 2025 car

HIGHLANDS - The Rotary Club is preparing to hold their 50th Annual Chili Feast, on Saturday, February 1, 2025. A chili lunch will be served from 11 am to 3 pm or until the chili runs out, according to Chili Feast chairman Patricia Scott. A live auction will take place starting at Noon as well as a silent auction.

The event is being held at the St. Jude's Catholic Church social hall on Main Street in Highlands. The club president, GayLynn Milliorn,




The Chili Feast Raffle will award a new 2025 Chevy SUV from Turner Chevrolet to the lucky winner of the ticket draw.

invites the whole community to participate in this event, which benefits Rotary projects throughout the year.

The club members are continuing to sell raffle tickets. There are 700

tickets available for a \$100 donation. A ticket entitles you to two bowls of "Chester's Famous Recipe" chili, and a chance to win one of 17 Continued. See ROTARY CHILI FEAST, Page 3

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 Letters to Santa 

 Letters to Santa 

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
I been good this year to my sis and my baby brother, Santa how are you Elf? I'm really looking forward to Christmas this year. I really want a puppy and hello kitty, I would really to get a puppy if you have room in your sleigh this year. How does your Sleigh fly?  
Elena, 7 years old.  
Highlands Elementary

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
I hope the reindeer are all doing well. I have been good at school. I been getting good grades, I would really like to a Stanley and a Christmas blanket if you have room in your sleight. How does you give so much presents to good boys and girls in one night?  
Cesar Vega, 7 years old.  
Highlands Elementary

Dear Santa,  
For christmas I would like a Buggati and a tesla for my mom and a Rolls Rocce and a McClaren and the eart and a ps5 20 schools an a masion thanks.  
Arturo, 7 yrs old  
Highlands Elementary

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
Hello my dear friend I want my grandpa cancer to be cured for Christmas and also I want a baby doll and a cat. Can you do that? It not its ok. Thank you Lila Jane, 9 years old Crosby Elementary

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
Hi for Christmas i just want a chameleon, ninja turtle, a cool mantis and a Beef jerky that's all.  
Enoch, 8 years old Crosby Elementary

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
Can I have a Deadpool custom for Christmas and also I would love to



Season's Greetings  
from  
**WESTON COTTEN**  
Attorney at Law  
281-421-4050  
Not Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
I hope you have a safe trip on Christmas Eve. I deserve a gift card I am getting good grades. I would like to get a dirt bike if you have room in your sleigh. How hard the Elves working to make the toys?  
Bradley Harvey, 7 years old.  
Highlands Elementary

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
Hi Santa how are you this year? Santa I was born on 2017 June 5th. I love to play soccer. I really want to get a Santa pack of toys if you are so kind. How many Elves do you have?  
Kai Manzo, 7 years old.  
Highlands Elementary

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
I love Christmas season because it snow and we can stay home to open presents, I will leave milk and cookies for you when you come visit us.  
Chloe, 7 years old Crosby Elementary

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
May I get a Hello Kitty Lego. I wish you a merry Christmas and hope to catch you when you arrive here.  
Natalie, 8 years old Crosby Elementary

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
Hi Santa, I would like to have a Lie detector to test my dad, and some led lights, phone holder and any type of Star Wars legos. If you bring me that next year I will leave you some candy.  
Jett Wells, 9 years old Crosby Elementary

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
I am 7 years old. I live in Highlands. This year, I have been really bored. I would like you to bring me a camera and Iphone. I really want these things.  
Annaleah Pacheco  
Highlands Elementary

*Holiday Greetings from*  
**CENTRAL AUTO INSPECTIONS**  
FULL SERVICE VEHICLE INSPECTIONS  
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*From Our Family to Yours,  
Best Wishes for the New Year*




*Joe Stephens and family*

*Wishing You the Merriest Christmas and a Happy and Productive New Year*  
**JERRY & JULIE Fallin**

HAVE A MERRY  
*Cougar Christmas*  
  
CROSBY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Wishing you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Your commissioner,  
**Tom S. Ramsey, P.E.**  
Harris County Commissioner, Pct. 3

**STAR COURIER**  
wishes you  
*Happy Holidays*  
713-266-3444

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CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION  
  
DEC. 24 7 p.m. 5202 First Street, Crosby, TX  
Join us as we welcome special musical guests!

# Christmas Holiday Spirit invaded Crosby ISD,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



The Crosby ISD Board of Trustees honored academic and athletic achievements during the Fall Salute ceremony this month. That included celebrating district and area placements by students in the Crosby FFA program.



Thank you to the San Jacinto College Baseball Team. The team volunteered at the Crosby ISD Mobile School Market on Thursday, November 21. They loaded groceries into vehicles for families in need. The community support filled a big need. 1800 families have been fed by the weekly food drive at Cougar Stadium since September 9.

vice-minded!

A tip of the hat to an alumni! Crosby High School Class of 2023 graduate, Ayden Jones, was recently named to the FCS Football Central Freshman All-American Team. He's among the 69 best freshman players in the FCS (Football Championship Subdivision), the second-highest level of college football. Jones was most recently a line-backer at Prairie View A&M University and had a great career as a student-athlete at CHS. Way to go, Ayden!



Crosby Kindergarten Center student smiles with Santa at the Crosby Community Center. The Precinct 3 Commissioner's office invited students from each Crosby ISD elementary to attend holiday parties during a special week this month.

Congratulations to the current Crosby High School football players who made the 2024 THSCA (Texas High School Coaches Association) Academic All State list. Seniors Fady Habbas and Julian Zapata made 2nd Team All State. Seven CHS tennis players also made their way onto the Academic All District Team: Jorge Arauz, Patricio Salazar, Manuel Cavazos, Ella Jones, Damian Alonso, Maya Fuentes Logan, and Zach Zepeda. On the volleyball side, our Academic All District honorees were: Kali Mason, Erica Oney, Iyanna Saenz, Kate Valt, and Kylie Green. Nice work!

The Board of Trustees celebrated fall student achievements during a special called meeting on

December 2. Twelve teams, organizations, or groups were recognized for their successes this year. Among those recognized were AP Scholars and College Board Recognition recipients. Seniors Trinity Cook-Thompson, Nathan Folmsbee, Thomas Jackson, Gabriella Oates, Nathan O'Flaherty, Isabella Quintanilla Gaytan, and Oscar Vazquez all scored three or higher on three or more AP exams. The following students were honored by the College Board for having a GPA of 3.5 or higher and scored within the top 10% of a PSAT assessment test or scored three or higher on an AP exam. Students Trinity Cook-Thompson, Kaitlyn Daniels, and JaShara Pendleton earned the College Board's National

African American Recognition Award. The National Hispanic Recognition Award went to Isabella Quintanilla Gaytan, Oscar Vazquez, and Julian Zapata. Trinity Cook-Thompson, Braden Hicks, Gabriella Oates, Molly Ipock, Thomas Jackson, Abigail Seale, Oscar Vazquez, and Julian Zapata earned the College Board's National Rural and Small Town Award. A new award this year honors students who are or will be first-generation college students. The recipients of the National First Generation Award were Braden Hicks, Allison LeJeune, Gabriella Oates, Isabella Quintanilla Gaytan, and Oscar Vazquez. Congratulations to all of our students who earned recognition from the Crosby ISD Board of Trustees.

There is so much to be proud of as we close the chapter on 2024 and prepare to start the new year and new semester in January. We in Crosby/Barrett Station are blessed with the best students in the state, amazing educators, and outstanding support staff. I am thankful and hopeful for what's to come in 2025. May we all begin the year surrounded by those we love.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

We are Committed to Excellence! Go Coogs!

# Rotary Chili Feast,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

raffle prizes, all worth more than the \$100 ticket price.

Club members are also selling Chili lunches only, for \$10. Great for extra hungry folks, or to take home for later.

This annual event is a high point for many in the community, who see their friends at least this one time each year, and catch up with stories. It also has great food, and quality auction items.

Raffle prizes this year include gift cards, a 32" smart television, portable ice maker, battery charger, Beats wireless headphones, an air fryer, a 65 qt. Artic cooler, a shotgun, a 28" Black Stone Cooker, an outdoor Propane Fire Pit, a 22-

250 Rifle, a 55" Smart TV, and of course the grand prize, a new Chevrolet vehicle, the winner's choice of a 2025 Chevy Trailblazer or a 2025 Chevy Trax SUV.

The Highlands Rotary Club uses the proceeds from the Chili Feast for community projects, such as scholarships, library, and fire departments, as well as scouts and other organizations. Last year they built and donated an outdoor classroom to Highlands Elementary School.

The Highlands Rotary Club is now 76 years old, having been chartered in 1948. Fundraising for community projects over all those years has amounted to almost

\$1,000,000. Much of this was returned in scholarships, as the club annually awards about \$32,000 to graduating seniors and college students. The club actively supports our local schools, including Interact clubs at Chinquapin and Goose Creek Memorial.

The club members are selling raffle tickets and welcome your support. Contact 832-262-6828 or 713-906-2337 for information on how to acquire a ticket, or to become a sponsor.

The club is always looking for new members, also, if you would like to join others in community projects and fellowship.



\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa  
How are you doing Santa? I want a square trampoline that is green and orange to have it in my backyard. Easton, 8 years old Crosby Elementary

\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa  
Hey Santa if you gonna come to my house I would like you to help my mom because she is working super hard she always said that she is okay but she's not and I want her to be happy. Chloe Sanchez, 9 years old Crosby Elementary

\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa  
Can I have a Deadpool custom for Christmas and also I would love to

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Dear Santa  
I want you to bring me a P55, dog toy, scooter and a cowboy hat. Bhadey, 8 years old Crosby Elementary

v

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
I am 8 years old. I live in Baytown. This year I have really been good. I would like you to bring me a dirt bike. Love, Josiah Mitchell Highlands Elementary

\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I am 7 years old. I live in Texas. I have been really trying hard to be good. I hope you will bring me a dirt bike and iphone. Love, Jayson Villalon Highlands Elementary

\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
I am 7 years old. I live in Baytown, Texas. I have really been good this year. I would like it if you would bring me a barbie. Love,

\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa  
This is what I want for Christmas I want a big slime for Christmas and some Nike shoes, Pants and a backpack. Arizah, 8 years old Crosby Elementary

\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa  
You are nice and kind, I've been good all year to be in your list. You can bring any toys to us and if I'm not in the good list I wish a marry Christmas. James, 8 years old Crosby Elementary

\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa  
I don't want a lot just a teddy bear and a neckless and a basslets that's all I want good bye. Emma, 7 years old Crosby Elementary

\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa  
I'm been good to my parents all year. I want an iPhone pro for Christmas Ellis, 8 year old Crosby Elementary

## GIVE A NEW CAR AS A CHRISTMAS GIFT!

CALL (OR TEXT) FOR A RAFFLE TICKET  
713-906-2337 OR 832-262-6828

Highlands Rotary Club



50th Annual Chili Feast, Raffle & Auction

Saturday, February 1, 2025

St. Jude's Catholic Church

808 South Main, Highlands

11 a.m to 3 p.m. Live Auction at 12pm

Win a new 2025 Chevrolet Trailblazer or Trax from Turner Chevrolet. YOUR CHOICE!



Raffle Tickets \$100 Donation (includes 2 Chili dinners)

Meal Tickets at the Door \$10

Raffle Tickets purchased before Jan. 7, 2025 are eligible for the Early Bird Drawing for a \$300 Gift Card. Winners Need Not Be Present to Win!

Payment of all local, state, & federal taxes will be responsibility of the winner

Tickets Available From Highlands Rotarians



Tickets Available At Many Local Businesses

- 1st Ticket Drawn: \$200 Gift Card
- 50th Ticket Drawn: 32" Smart TV
- 100th Ticket Drawn: Portable Ice Maker
- 150th Ticket Drawn: \$200 Gift Card
- 200th Ticket Drawn: Air Compressor/Battery Charger
- 250th Ticket Drawn: Beats Solo 3 Wireless Headphones
- 300th Ticket Drawn: \$200 Gift Card
- 350th Ticket Drawn: Air Fryer
- 400th Ticket Drawn: 65 Qt RTIC Cooler

- 450th Ticket Drawn: Shotgun
- 500th Ticket Drawn: \$200 Gift Card
- 550th Ticket Drawn: 28" Black Stone Cooker
- 600th Ticket Drawn: Outdoor Propane Fire Pit
- 650th Ticket Drawn: 22-250 Rifle
- 699th Ticket Drawn: 55" Smart TV
- 700th Ticket Drawn: 2025 Chevy Trailblazer or 2025 Chevy Trax

Call/Text or 713-906-2337 or 832-262-6828 for Tickets or information!

OPINION PAGE

The Christmas Story

Luke 2:1-20,

King James Version

1: And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.
2: (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)
3: And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.
4: And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Phelan drops bid for speaker: No clear winner yet

House Speaker Dade Phelan withdrew last week from seeking another term leading that chamber. After three rounds of voting on Saturday, state Rep. David Cook, R-Mansfield emerged as the preference of most House Republicans.

The Dallas Morning News reported that Cook acknowledged the race for speaker wasn't yet over.

"I'll continue working between now and Jan. 14 to earn [the vote] of every member of the Texas Republican caucus — as well as any Democrat," Cook said.

Phelan, R-Beaumont, narrowly won re-election to his seat in the May primary, needing to prevail in a runoff to return to Austin. He was opposed by fellow Republicans who blamed him for the failure of several priorities in the last session, including the push to institute school vouchers.

Among Phelan's opponents were Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, who was impeached by the House but survived a conviction trial in the Senate. Paxton blasted Burrows, who voted to impeach him, as "Dade 2.0"

"Supporting Burrows is a betrayal of the conservative movement," Paxton said Friday. "Voters will remember."

VOUCHER PUSH SPURS CALL FOR ACCOUNTABILITY

Education savings accounts, popularly known as school vouchers, are again a top priority for Gov. Greg Abbott in the upcoming session after a similar push failed in 2023. This time, however, the primary loss of several voucher opponents last March has evened those opposing vouchers conceding passage of a measure is likely.

That means lawmakers will pass a bill to send public tax dollars to private schools, according to the Texas Standard.

At a recent visit to the private religious school Kingdom Life Academy in Tyler, Abbott said, "We are assuring that students who may have fallen through the cracks in their public school, they're going to have a new chance, a new opportunity to be able to, to learn, to achieve, to succeed."

Dallas school board member Dan Micciche recently said that since vouchers are a likely possibility, it is vital that private and home schools that receive taxpayer money be held to the same ac-

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

countability standards as public schools, including STAAR testing.

"Any school or educational entity that receives public funds should be held to the same accountability standards for student outcomes, fiscal performance, open records and meetings act, and student services," he said.

Public school administrators are also pushing for teacher pay raises, something that fell by the wayside in the last session when a voucher bill failed to pass.

LAWMAKERS MULL SOCIAL MEDIA BAN FOR TEENS

Texas lawmakers could consider banning social media from minors in the upcoming session, The Texas Tribune reported. A bill filed by state Rep. Jared Patterson, R-Frisco, would prohibit minors from creating accounts on social media sites and add age verification for new users.

Other online measures would attack use of artificial intelligence to make pornographic images using people's likenesses and would boost funding for internet crime units in law enforcement agencies.

"Social media is the most dangerous thing our kids have legal access to in Texas," Patterson said.

A number of national organizations, including the American Federation of Teachers and the American Psychological Association, have criticized social media companies for being a "root cause" of the nationwide youth mental health crisis. Studies indicate 95% of youth ages 13 to 17 use social media, with more than a third saying they use it "almost constantly."

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton sued TikTok in October, saying the company allows its algorithms to affect minors. That suit is set to go to court in coming months.

HIGHER RISK OF ANOTHER DEEP FREEZE IN TEXAS

The top meteorologist for the Electric Reliability Council of Texas said the coming winter could bring a higher risk of extreme cold temperature than experienced during the February 2021 storm.

Chris Coleman with ERCOT said a bevy of weather variables such as ocean currents, atmospheric patterns and soil moisture appear very similar to the 2021 conditions that spawned Winter Storm URI, the Houston Chronicle reported.

"The more I look at this winter, the more cold potential I see," Coleman said. "This is like a tornado watch. Doesn't mean a tornado is going to happen. It means conditions are there."

ERCOT is emphasizing that any potential rotating outages because of winter storms would be only hours long rather than multiple days because of improvements to the Texas grid, such as weatherproofing of power plants and more backup power sources.

"I always point to the weatherization program as probably being one of the most statistically significant changes that have been made, that has markedly changed the risk profile of the ERCOT grid, in particular during the winter seasons," ERCOT CEO Pablo Vegas told the board Tuesday.

TEA INVESTIGATING 100 TEACHERS IN CHEATING SCHEME

More than 100 Texas teachers are being investigated by the Texas Education Agency in connection with a teaching certification cheating scheme. The vast majority of teachers on a list released last week by TEA are employed by North Texas or Houston-area school districts.

Five people have been charged with felonies in connection with the scheme, allegedly organized by a Houston-area basketball coach, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

School districts have had a difficult time filling teacher vacancies since the pandemic, and the number of uncertified teachers hired has risen considerably. Statewide, 34.6% of teachers hired during the 2023-24 school year didn't have a teaching certificate, nearly three times the rate in 2019-20.

PATRICK VOWS TO GO AFTER THC PRODUCTS SOLD BY DISPENSARIES

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick said banning THC products will be a top priority next session, threatening the livelihood of dozens of stores across the state selling products with higher levels of the main compound in cannabis, the Chronicle reported.

Hemp was legalized in Texas in 2019. That has led to a proliferation of products containing higher levels of THC, which produces a high similar to cannabis, which is still illegal in Texas.

"Retailers exploited the agriculture law to sell life-threatening, unregulated forms of THC to the public and made them easily accessible," Patrick said.

Hemp producers are regulated by the Texas Department of State Health Services, and industry groups say there are far too few producers for the booming market.

"Such a ban would hand this multi-billion-dollar industry over to the illicit market, abandoning all opportunity to properly regulate the industry," said Heather Fazio, co-founder of Texans for Responsible Marijuana Policy.

Fireworks Okay,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

robust season for Christmas and New Year's. The weather looks to be perfect with comfortable temperatures and just enough rain to keep things from drying out."

While the restrictions of the burn ban this summer have been lifted, Davis warns that residents should be certain they live in an area that allows fireworks to be used.

"Please be sure that you are shooting fireworks in locations where it is legal and that you follow the basic, common sense safety rules," she asked.

No cities in Harris County allow fireworks, only areas that are in the county only.

Davis has seen numerous stories in the media where fireworks have caused a house or garage or both to be burned to the ground.

"Be careful how you dispose of hot fireworks. Douse them with water before you put them in a trash can but don't put the can in your garage or up against your house," she advised.

"Roll it down the driveway until you are sure the fireworks are cool."

Top Dog Fireworks has 14 locations in the greater Houston area. The locations can be found on their website at 222.topdogfireworks.com.

The company also shares its profits with organizations including bands, choirs, etc. who earn money as their students and parent organizations staff the warehouses.

"As always, Top Dog is proud to support our local community by working with organizations to manage our stores," she said.

Area schools participating include North Shore High School Band boosters, Crosby High School Band Boosters, and the Huffman-Hargrave Project Graduation.

The students learn skills working in a retail atmosphere and gain confidence in learning about their products and services.

The fireworks season begins on Dec. 20 and runs thru Jan. 1 at midnight.

"Everything is on sale," Davis said. "We are offering 25 percent off the entire purchase Dec. 20 thru Dec. 27."

A quick perusal through the store and there are deals to find like the \$89/99 cakes are by one, get one free. Also, roman candles, swords, and light sabers are also buy one, get one free

For every \$250 in purchases, customers receive one free cake.

"We're giving away a large assortment of fireworks. Register in store, or online at HYPERLINK 'http://www.topdogfireworks.com'" she said.

Davis offered a number of safety rules when using fireworks.

Fireworks Safety Rules —Always read and follow label directions.

—Have an adult present. Never give fireworks to small children—fireworks are not toys!

—Always shoot fireworks on level ground away from buildings and vegetation.

—Always have water handy (a garden hose or a bucket).

—Never try to re-light a "dud" firework. (Wait 15-20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water.)

—Light only one firework at a time.

—Never throw or point fireworks at other people.

—The shooter should wear eye protection. Never have any part of your body over the firework.

—Dispose of fireworks properly by soaking them in water and then disposing of them in your trash can. Do not put fireworks that are still hot in the trash can—this can lead to house fires. Place your garbage can away from your home and garage.

—If necessary to store fireworks, keep them in a cool, dry place.

TOP Ten

Most Popular Christmas Movies of All Time

- 1. The Santa Clause 2 (2002)
2. The Nutcracker and the Four Realms (2018)
3. The Santa Clause (1994)
4. The Holiday (2006)
5. Elf (2003)
6. The Polar Express (2004)
7. A Christmas Carol (2009)
8. How the Grinch Stole Christmas (2000)
9. Home Alone (1990)
10. The Grinch (2018)

Source: ScreenCrush

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Star Courier advertisement including contact information for Barbers Hill, Dayton, and North Channel, and a list of staff members like Gilbert Hoffman and Mei-Ing Liu.

## FOOTBALL SEASON WEEK 16:

Texas hosts Clemson in 1st round of CFP:  
Texans visit KC on Saturday looking for upset

The 12-team College Football Playoff (CFP) field is set and it has a strong Big 10 and SEC presence.

The two best conferences during the 2024 season were richly rewarded with the Big 10 leading the way with four teams as Oregon (No. 1), Ohio State (No. 5), Penn State (No. 6) and Indiana (No. 10) will represent the Big 10. The SEC landed three spots with Georgia (No. 2), Texas (No. 5) and Tennessee (No. 9) getting into the field. will represent the SEC. The ACC earned two spots with No. 11 SMU and No. 12 Clemson, while the Mountain West earned one spot with No. 3 Boise State, the Big 12 earned one spot with No. 4 Arizona State and Notre Dame (No. 7) earned a berth as an independent.

The top four seeds, Oregon, Georgia, Boise State and Arizona State earned first round byes. The other four teams will play first-round games the weekend of Dec. 20-21 with the higher seeded team hosting a game at their respective campuses.

On Friday, Dec. 20, Notre Dame (11-1) will host Indiana (11-1) at 7 p.m.. On Saturday, Dec. 21, Penn State (11-2) will host SMU (11-2) at 11 a.m., followed by Clemson (10-3) and Texas (11-2) at 3 p.m. and Ohio State (10-2) will host Tennessee (10-2) at 7 p.m. in the nightcap.

Weather could play a factor in three of the four first-round games. The 10-day forecast calls for temperatures in the low 30s in South Bend, State College and Columbus, while the Clemson-Texas game should be played in perfect football weather as the forecast calls for a high in the 60s.

The winner of the Clemson-Texas game will face Arizona State, while the winner of the Tennessee-Ohio State game will face Oregon. The winner of the Indiana-ND game will take on Georgia and the winner of the SMU-Penn State game will take on Boise State. The second-round games will be played in the Peach Bowl, the Rose Bowl, the Fiesta Bowl and the Sugar Bowl. The two semifinal games will be played in the Orange Bowl and Cotton Bowl. The CFP Championship game will be played on Monday, Jan. 20 at Mercedes Benz Stadium in Atlanta. The games will be televised on ABC, ESPN and TNT.

Of course, there is a bit of controversy with the field, mainly that Alabama was excluded for SMU. The Crimson Tide finished 9-3 on the year but owned a win over No. 2-ranked Georgia. SMU's best win came against Duke. Granted, 'Bama played in a much tougher conference, but its 24-3 loss against a .500 Oklahoma team on national TV might have been their undoing. SMU's rally in the ACC title game probably put them over the top. The Ponies trailed Clemson 24-7 at halftime but tied the game in the second half and lost on a last-second 56-yard field goal.

This should be an exciting four weeks as college football fans will be on the edge of their seats to see what two teams will play for it all in Atlanta on Jan. 20. It should be a fun ride.

In the NFL, the Texans head to Kansas City on Saturday to take on the Chiefs. Houston had its bye week in Week 14 and that might help DeMeco Ryan's team be rested and ready for the final stretch run of the season. The Chiefs clinched another AFC West title two weeks ago with a 19-17 win over the Chargers. KC has struggled this year and could be ripe for an upset on Saturday.

Week 16 starts with a good one for Thursday Night Football as Denver visits the Chargers in a key contest for both team's playoff chances.

Also on Saturday, the Steelers visit the Ravens in an important AFC North contest. On Sunday, the Eagles visit the Commanders, while Minnesota head to the Pacific Northwest to take on the Seahawks. The Cowboys host Tampa Bay on Sunday Night Football and Week 16 concludes on Monday Night Football with the Saints, who could be without starting QB Derek Carr (fractured hand) paying a visit to Lambeau Field to take on the Packers.

Before we take a look at this weekend's busy schedule, let's review last week's record. A 4-3 week brought the season record to 105-46 (70%).

Now, onto this weekend's game.



## CFP FIRST ROUND

**Indiana at Notre Dame** - Weather should not be a factor for either of these two teams that play in the state of Indiana. The Hoosiers were one of the surprise teams this season as first-year head coach Curt Cignetti has done an amazing job leading his team to 11 wins, but he faces a Notre Dame team that is as hot as any team still playing at this juncture of the season. The Hoosiers will face a ND defense that allows just 13 points per game. Indiana QB Kurtis Rourke (2,827 yards, 27 TDs), running back Justice Ellison (811 yards, 10 TDs) and wide receiver Elijah Sarrat (49 receptions, 890 yards, 8 TDs) will face their toughest test of the season. The Irish aren't explosive on offense, but are steady behind dual-threat QB Riley Leonard (2,092 passing yards, 16 TDs/721 rushing yards, 16 TDs) and burly running back Jeremiyah Love (949 yards, 15 TDs). Look for the Irish to use their running game to wear down the Hoosier defense and then turn Marcus Freeman's defense loose against Rourke. My pick, Notre Dame 31, Indiana 14

**SMU at Penn State** - The surprising SMU Mustangs booked their trip to the CFP with an 11-win season, but they face a daunting task against a Penn State team that is tough to beat in State College. The Ponies are led by QB Kevin Jennings (3,050 passing yards, 22 TDs/379 rushing yards, 5 TDs), running back Brashard Smith (1,270 yards, 14 TDs) and wideout Roderick Daniels, Jr. (38 receptions, 599 yards, 3 TDs). The Nittany Lions don't do anything fancy, they like to run the ball with its two-headed running game of Nicholas Singleton (838 yards, 7 TDs) and Kaytron Allen (822 yards, 7 TDs). Look for those two to soften up the SMU defense, which should open up the passing game for QB Drew Aller (2,894 yards, 21 TDs) to make plays to big-play tight end Tyler Warren (53 receptions, 1,062 yards, 6 TDs). My pick, Penn State 26, SMU 20

**Clemson at Texas** - Texas had a chance to earn a first-round bye, but could not beat Georgia's backup QB in the SEC title game. Longhorn fans had better hope Steve Sarkisian's team learned a big lesson from that game, or it could be one and out for UT. Once again, UT QB Quinn Ewers (2,665 yards, 25 TDs) failed to make the big play when it mattered, and it could have cost UT against Georgia. Sarkisian and the team have probably put that game behind them and are looking ahead to the post season. Look for Ewers to rebound against a 3-loss Clemson team, whose QB, Cade Klubnik (3,303 yards, 33 TDs/459 rushing yards, 7 TDs) will be returning to Austin where he played at Austin Westlake High School. The Texas defense, which is one of the top units in the country, will look to take Klubnik out of his comfort zone, then turn things over to Ewers, running back Quintrevion Wisner (863 yards, 3 TDs), wide receiver

Matthew Golden (47 receptions, 738 yards, 8 TDs) and tight end Gunnar Helm (49 receptions, 611 yards, 5 TDs) to make plays all over Royal-Memorial Stadium. Texas has a nice path to reach the semifinals, but the 'Horns must take advantage of the home field on Saturday afternoon. It says here they will. My pick, Texas 33, Clemson 20

**Tennessee at Ohio State** - The first round concludes on Saturday night in Columbus as the Vols of the SEC take on the Buckeyes of the Big 10. The winner won't only move on to the second round, but will have bragging rights for its respective conference. OSU ended the season on a disappointing note by losing to a five-loss Michigan team at home on Nov. 30. The offensive play calling was widely criticized as QB Will Howard (2,860 yards, 27 TDs) had his game restricted by offensive coordinator Chip Kelly. Kelly better have a better game plan against a Vols team that has a very good front seven and is tough to run against. The Buckeyes will need big games from running back Quinshon Judkins (805 yards, 9 TDs) and TreVeyon Henderson (751 yards, 6 TDs) and wideouts Jeremiah Smith (57 receptions, 934 yards, 10 TDs) and Emeka Egbuka (60 receptions, 743 yards, 9 TDs) if they hope to defeat the Vols. Look for Tennessee to give the OSU defense a steady dose of big-play running back Dylan Sampson (1,457 yards, 22 TDs), which should open up the passing lanes for QB Nico lamalova (2,500 yards, 10 TDs) and wide receiver Dont'e Thompson (25 receptions, 647 yards, 6 TDs). I think the Vols give the Buckeyes a game, but I also think that late-season loss at home to Michigan will serve as a motivating factor for Ohio State. My pick, Ohio State 26, Tennessee 23

## NFL

**Denver at Los Angeles Chargers** - Week 16 begins with a good one for the Thursday Night Football crew as the Broncos visit the Chargers. The winner of this one enhances their AFC Wild Card hopes (the Chiefs wrapped up the West two weeks ago with a win over the Chargers), while the loser will need help down the stretch. It will be interesting to see how Denver rookie QB Bo Nix (2,842 passing yards, 17 TDs/304 rushing yards, 4 TDs) handles the pressure of playing for a playoff spot this late in the season. LA's defense is tough and will go after Nix hoping to force a mistake or two. The Chargers will look for a big night from QB Justin Herbert (2,764 yards, 14 TDs). Herbert hopes he has rookie wideout Ladd McConkey (55 receptions, 815 yards, 4 TDs) back for this one. Look for LA to protect the home field on Thursday night. My pick, Los Angeles Chargers 23, Denver 20

**Houston at Kansas City** - The Texans and Chiefs meet on Saturday in KC in what's a big game for both teams. The Texans would like to pull off one

of the biggest upsets in their history, while the Chiefs will look to protect the No. 1 seed in the AFC. The Texans' bye week came at a perfect time. Let's hope QB C.J. Stroud (3,117 yards, 15 TDs), running back Joe Mixon (887 yards, 13 total TDs) and wideouts Nico Collins (49 receptions, 832 yards, 4 TDs) and Tank Del (43 receptions, 543 yards, 2 TDs) are ready to take on a very good KC defense. The Houston defense will need to pressure KC QB Patrick Mahomes (3,189 yards, 20 TDs/11 interceptions) into some mistakes. The KC offense isn't as potent as it has been in the past, but don't ever bet against Mahomes, tight end Travis Kelce (80 receptions, 682 yards, 2 TDs) and newcomers Xavier Worthy (38 receptions, 448 yards, 5 TDs) and former Texans De'Andre Hopkins (30 receptions, 357 yards, 4 TDs) at this time of year. My pick, Kansas City 24, Houston 20

**Pittsburgh at Baltimore** - Another good one on Saturday has the Steelers, leaders of the AFC North, battling division foe and heated rival Baltimore. These two met on Nov. 17 with the Steelers earning a hard-fought 18-16 win. I expect more offense in this one as Steeler QB Russell Wilson (1,784 yards, 14 TDs) and Ravens' QB Lamar Jackson (3,290 yards, 29 TDs/678 rushing yards, 3 TDs) do battle against one another. Baltimore will also need a big day from running back Derrick Henry (1,407 yards, 15 total TDs). Pittsburgh needs its running back Najee Harris (877 yards, 5 TDs) to step up his game as well. Both teams had big-play wideouts in Pittsburgh's George Pickens (who missed the Cleveland game two weeks ago with a hamstring injury), (55 receptions, 850 yards, 3 TDs)

and Baltimore's Zay Flowers (60 receptions, 863 yards, 4 TDs). Look for Jackson to outduel Wilson as the Ravens extract revenge from that Nov. 17 loss. My pick, Baltimore 30, Pittsburgh 26


**Philadelphia at Washington** - A big one in the NFC East as the Eagles head to Landover, MD to take on the surprising Commanders on Sunday afternoon. Two weeks ago, Philly struggled at home but pulled out a 22-16 win over Carolina as QB Jalen Hurts (2,602 passing yards, 16 TDs/544 rushing yards, 13 TDs) struggled throwing the ball, which was not lost on star wideout A.J. Brown (48 receptions, 836 yards, 4 TDs), who was critical of Hurts and the passing offense after the game. Look for running back Saquon Barkley (1,623 yards, 13 total TDs) to be the difference maker in this one, but Washington rookie QB Jayden Daniels (2,819 passing yards, 15 TDs/590 rushing yards, 6 TDs), running back Brian Robinson (646 yards, 8 TDs) and wide receiver Terry McClaurin (61 receptions, 896 yards, 9 TDs) will make it close. My pick, Philadelphia 26, Washington 23

**Minnesota at Seattle** - A big game for both teams as the Vikings look to protect their NFC playoff spot, while the Seahawks will look to hold onto their lead in the NFC West. Two weeks ago, Minnesota QB Sam Darnold (3,299 yards, 28 TDs) tossed five TD passes in a 42-21 win over Atlanta. He has two big-play wideouts in Justin Jefferson (75 receptions, 1,170 yards, 7 TDs) and Jordan Addison (44 receptions, 708 yards, 7 TDs) to makes plays to. Seattle will look to QB Geno Smith (3,374 yards, 14 TDs) to make plays to Jaxon Smith-Njigba (75 receptions, 911 yards, 5 TDs) and DK Metcalf.

Seattle is tough to beat at home, which Minnesota will discover come Sunday. My pick, Seattle 31, Minnesota 27

**Tampa Bay at Dallas** - The Buccaneers visit the Cowboys on Sunday Night Football looking to keep its hold on the top spot in the NFC South. TB QB Baker Mayfield (3,329 yards, 28 TDs) is having another solid season, and he has a two-headed running game with Bucky Irving (735 yards, 6 TDs) and Rachaad White (509 yards, 4 total TDs) to attack a suspect Dallas rush defense. When Mayfield decides to throw, he has a big-play target in Mike Evans (43 receptions, 590 yards, 7 TDs) to turn to. Dallas will need a big night from backup QB Cooper Rush (1,191 yards, 7 TDs), running back Rico Dowdle (731 yards, 2 total TDs) and wideout CeeDee Lamb (85 receptions, 973 yards, 5 TDs). Look for the Bucs offense to be too much for a porous Dallas defense come Sunday night. My pick, Tampa Bay 33, Dallas 23

**New Orleans at Green Bay** - Week 16 concludes with the banged-up Saints visiting the playoff-minded Packers on Monday Night Football. New Orleans will be without starting QB Derek Carr, who sustained a fractured hand in NO's 14-11 win over the Giants two weeks ago. Look for the Saints to give the GB defense a steady diet of running back Alvin Kamara (938 rushing yards, 6 TDs/64 receptions, 485 yards, 1 TD), but that won't be enough to hold off the Packers potent offense led by QB Jordan Love (2,724 yards, 21 TDs), running back Josh Jacobs (1,053 yards, 12 total TDs) and wide receiver Jayden Reed (44 receptions, 693 yards, 6 TDs). The Packers know they have little room for error if they hope to earn a Wild Card berth. My pick, Green Bay 31, New Orleans 16



# Happy Holidays & Happy New Year

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## YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

### San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site Community Meeting The Highland Community Center January 7, 2025 6:00 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in cooperation with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), Federal, State and Harris County agencies, local officials, and industry, invite you to attend the Community Meeting for the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund site. The meeting will be held:

**Date:** Tuesday, January 7, 2025  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.  
**Location:** The Highland Community Center  
604 Highland Woods Drive  
Highland, Texas 77562

During the meeting, an update will be provided on current site activities and next steps. Following the updates, a question-and-answer session will be open to the public. The presentation slides will be posted online on the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site at <https://www.epa.gov/tx/sjrwp>.

The meeting is being held in a fully accessible facility. Should you have any specific needs or questions about the facility,

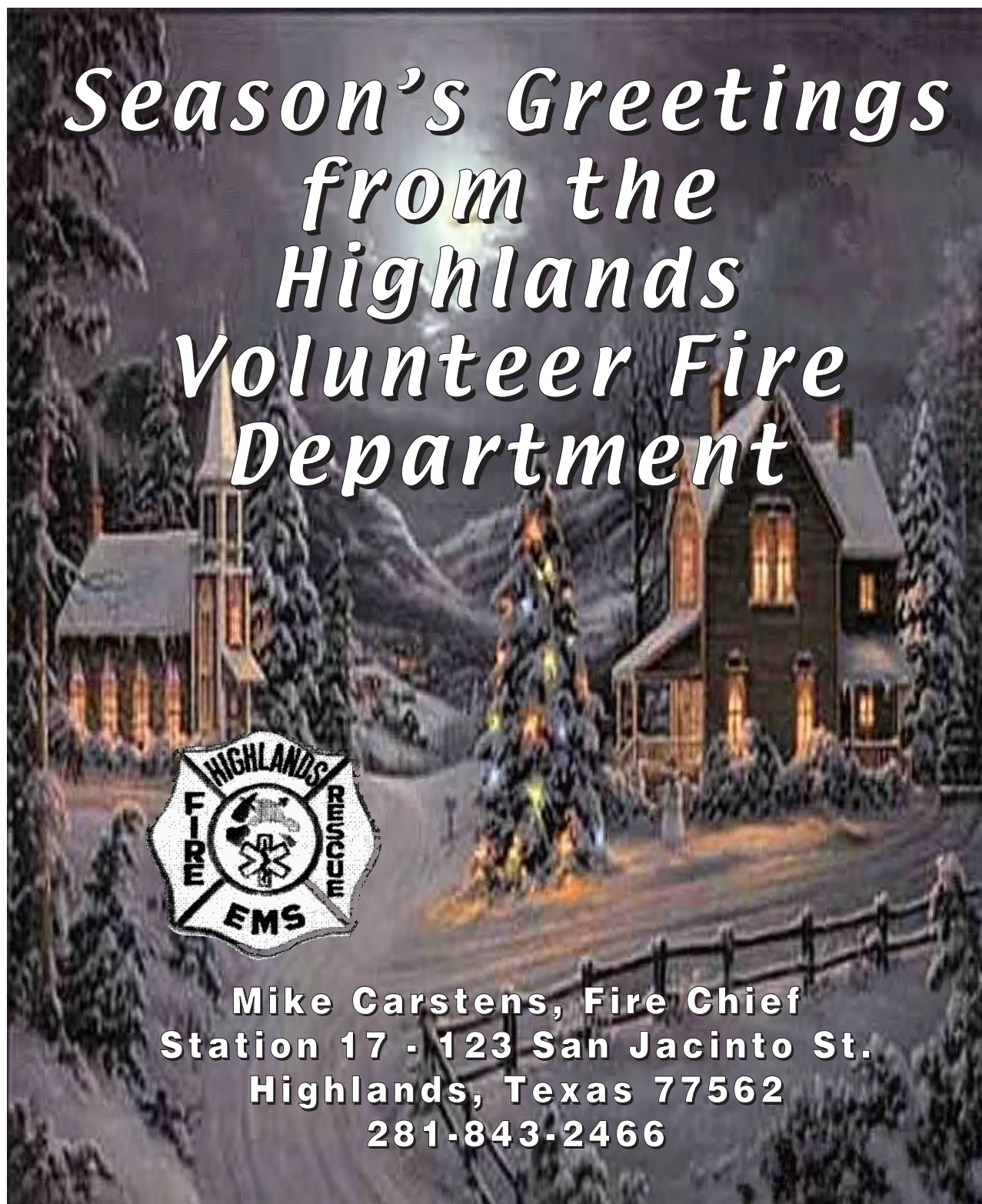
please contact EPA Senior Community Involvement Coordinator, Janetta Coats, at 214-665-7308 or 1-800-533-3508 (toll-free) no later than January 2, 2025.

On November 25, 2024, the EPA received the Respondents' Revised 100% Remedial Design (RD) - Northern Impoundment deliverable for the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site. The Respondents' Revised 100% RD will be available online on the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site:

<https://www.epa.gov/tx/sjrwp>.

Updates on the status of this meeting, if needed, will be posted online on the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site at <https://www.epa.gov/tx/sjrwp>. Copies of fact sheets, information bulletins, the administrative record, and other information are also available at this site.

**Para información en español, comuníquese con la Agencia de Protección Ambiental de los Estados Unidos (la EPA) a 1-800-533-3508 (llamada gratis).**



# Season's Greetings from the Highlands Volunteer Fire Department



**Mike Carstens, Fire Chief**  
**Station 17 - 123 San Jacinto St.**  
**Highlands, Texas 77562**  
**281-843-2466**



\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
 I am 7 years old. I live in Highlands, Texas. I have really been good this year. I helping my mommy. I would really like it if you could bring me a hoverboard and electric scooter.  
 Love,  
 Zy Angel Williams  
 Highlands Elementary

\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa  
 For Christmas can I have Lena Shoes and a big Lego set and something for my baby sister can you give her a baby toy.  
 Jayden, 7 years old  
 Crosby Elementary

\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa,  
 I am 8 years old. I live in Baytown Houston, Texas. I have really been good this year. I would really like it if you could bring me a Ronaldo shirt and a puppy. Merry Christmas Santa and I hope I se you next year.  
 Love,  
 Lilyana Gonzalez  
 Highlands Elementary  
 Valerie Salinas  
 Highlands Elementary

\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa  
 Can I have a blanket, and sweaters for each member of my family?  
 Olivia, 8 years old  
 Crosby Elementary

\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa  
 I like this time of the year because Santa is soon to come and its cold.  
 Merry Christmas.  
 Karen, 8 years old  
 Crosby Elementary

\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa  
 I am 7 years old. I live in Highlands. This year, I have been really bored. I would like you to bring me a camera and Iphone.. I really want these things.  
 Annaleah Pacheco  
 Highlands Elementary

\*\*\*\*

Dear Santa  
 I'm been good to my parents all year. I want an iPhone pro for Christmas  
 Ellis, 8 year old  
 Crosby Elementary

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Dear Santa  
 I love you Santa, can you send me a present this year? I would like a pink iPad, I will be good if you bring me that thing. Thank you Santa you are the best of the best.  
 Leandro 7 years old  
 Crosby Elementary

## Crosby Christmas Parade,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

it dozens of booths with vendors offering all types of wares for Christmas and plenty of free activities for kids to enjoy.

Despite the rain that stopped miraculously just before the parade began, hundreds of families lined up to see Santa Claus and The Cow from Chick-Fil-A ride through the parade.

Floats in the parade were tasked with the theme of their favorite Christmas movie.

A panel of judges voted on winners for the beautiful floats, and it was hard picking the winners.

First Place was awarded to Crosby Church for their Polar Express float complete with bubbles like snow floating around the entry.

Second Place was the Whoville float entered by the Crosby Elementary School Garden Club. The colorful cutouts, beautifully decorated float, caught the eye of the judges.

Third Place was Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer which was a late entry and the chamber didn't have a name by press time. The F-250 truck was decorated beautifully with antlers, red nose, and lights that practically covered every inch of the truck. It lit up the sky!

Winners are encouraged to drop by the chamber office and pick up their trophy.

**BID NOTICE**

**BID NOTICE**

**BID NOTICE**

Barbers Hill ISD is requesting bids for Erate eligible Category One and Category Two goods/services.

Additional information is available at [www.crwconsulting.com/ifcb](http://www.crwconsulting.com/ifcb). Bids will be opened 01/23/2024 at 2:00 p.m. at the Barbers Hill ISD Technology Integration Center.

48-2T

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 529893; Estate of JACK LEE NOVAK Deceased; In Probate Court No. 1 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on DECEMBER 4, 2024

**LEONARD SCHOFIELD**

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

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

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.  
 Dated this DECEMBER 10, 2024.

*Weston Cotten*

by WESTON COTTEN  
 Attorney for the Estate

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## Business Directory

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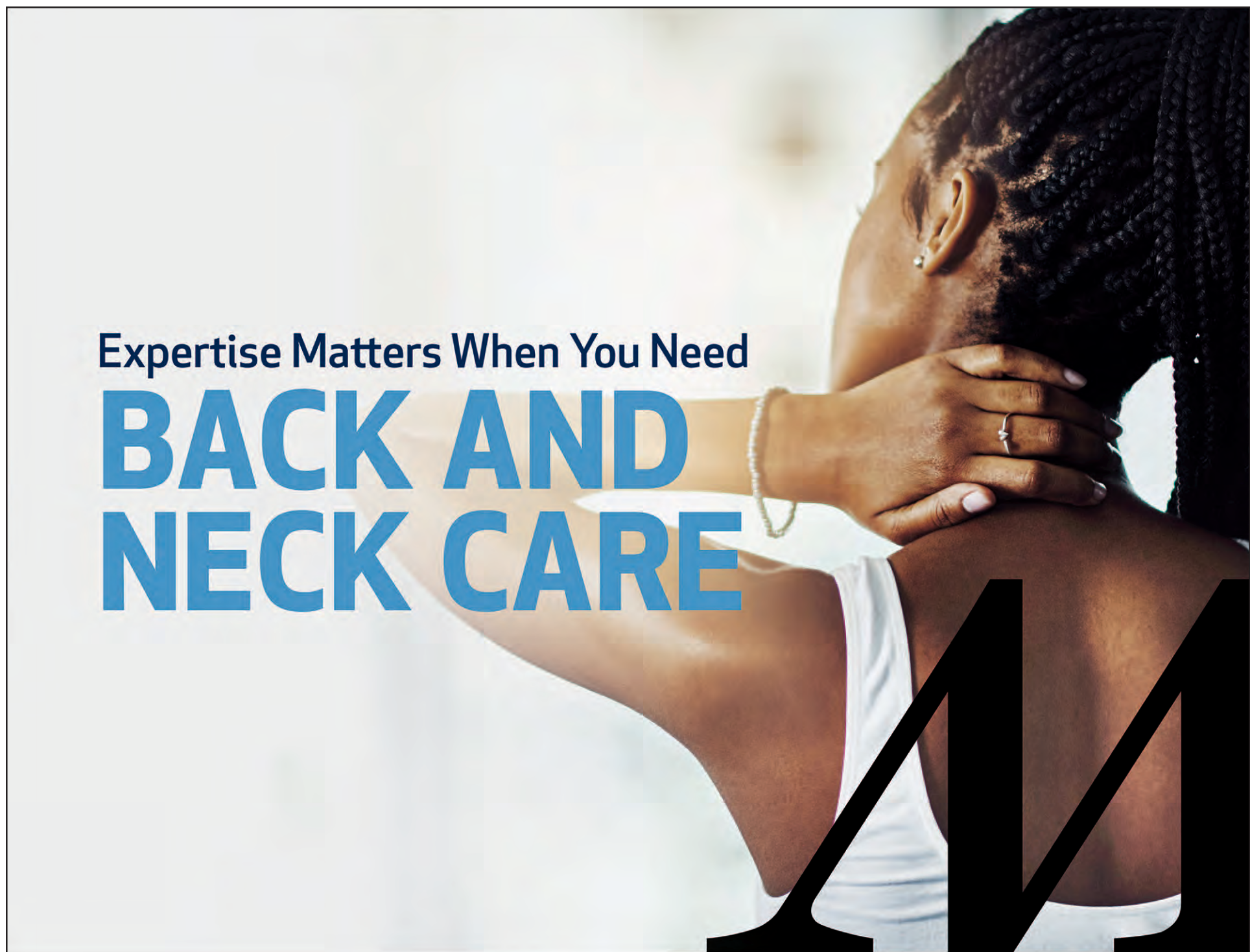
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# Letters to Santa



\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
I hope you are feeling good. I should have a gift because I help my mom do the dishes. I would really want to get a kitty and an iPhone 15 if you have room in your sleigh. Santa tell the Elves I said hi.  
Emma Lopez, 7 years old.  
Highlands Elementary

\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
I want a Tv and a iPad, some video games and some stickers and a PS5. I been listen to my mom and helping her around the house.  
Nathanael, 7 year old  
Crosby Elementary

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
I want my Elf to come back so he can make me laugh. I've been good at school but I am bad at my house so I will act better. I would really like a turtle if you have room in your sleigh. What are your reindeers name?  
Jaxon Anchondo, 7 years old.  
Highlands Elementary

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
Dear santa I want a new shoes, an roller skate, also I want stich Airforce and stich slippers.  
Rosalyn, 8 years old.  
Crosby Elementary

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
I am eight years old. I live in Baytown, Texas. I have been pretty good this year. Will you please bring me a dirt bike and PS5?  
Love,  
Cash Sanders  
Highlands Elementary

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
I love you very much. I wish a dirt bike. I would be thankful for that.  
P.D. I also want a rolling skate.  
Heat Servantes, 7years old  
Crosby Elementary

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
I want a dirty bike and I want a big tv.  
Rowan, 8 years old  
Crosby Elementary

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
I want for Christmas an AirPods, a watch, and walkie talkies.  
Victoria, 8 years old.  
Crosby Elem

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
I love Christmas I am really excited! I've been nice this year. I helped my friends when they fall and I helped my friends when they fall and I helped my mom when she is sick. I hope to get a Kuromi Plush and a bed set for Christmas, can you tell everybody at the toy shop that I said Hi?  
Briele Banda, 7 years old.  
Highlands Elementary

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa  
I hope Mrs. Claus is doing well. I let someone play with my toys. I would really like to get a PS5 and Legos if you have room in your sleigh. How many elves do you have?  
Austin Moore, 7 years old.  
Highlands Elementary

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
I am 8 years old. I live in Highlands, Texas on South Main Street. I have really been good this year. I am hoping you will bring me a \$500 roblox gift card and an apple pen.  
Love,  
Grace Peacock  
Highlands Elementary

\*\*\*\*  
Dear Santa,  
I am 7 years old. I live in Highlands. I have been really helpful this year. I would like a Nintendo and Xbox if you could bring me one.  
Love  
Atticus Ochoa  
Highlands Elementary

*Merry Christmas*

This Christmas season, the Highlands Lynchburg Chamber of Commerce extends our warmest wishes to every member of our incredible community.

**HIGHLANDS LYNCHBURG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
allabouthighlands.org  
281-426-7227

**Merry Christmas and Best Wishes during the Holiday Season!**

From DR. LARRY WHITE D.D.S. and Staff  
114 N. Main Street, Highlands 281-426-3558

Pictured: Kyliee Daley, Nicole Almazan, Jennifer Bell, Erika Salinas, Denise Ortegon, Dr. Larry White.

**UNITED WAY**  
Greater Baytown Area and Chambers County

As we approach the end of the year, there's still time to make a meaningful impact for individuals and families in need. Every gift to United Way of Greater Baytown Area and Chambers County brings hope—whether it's access to safe housing, nourishing food, or vital health services. Unite for our neighbors in need. Together, let's end the year united for hope - for a stronger, thriving community

**Thank you for being United for Hope!**

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2024 CAMPAIGN

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