

CANCER CLUSTER: Pct. 3 Commissioner Tom Ramsey said "We simply can't afford to wait any longer." See Story Below and MAP on page 7

IN THE STARS

Crosby-Huffman Chamber Awards Banquet Feb. 27

Crosby-Huffman Chamber will hold the Awards Banquet on Thursday, February 27 at 6:30pm at Stonebridge at Newport, 16401 Country Club Drive, Crosby.

Tickets, Sponsorships and information, contact www.crosbyhuffmancc.org. or 281-328-6984

Crosby Library Book Sale set for March 7 & 8

Friends of the Crosby Library will hold their Spring Book Sale.

Friday, March 7 - 1pm - 6pm Saturday, March 8 - 10am - 5pm

Book Sale Special

A bag of books for \$10 per bag of all the books you can fit in it!!!

Hard backed or paper back books / No Children books. Children's books priced as marked.

Hard backed books - \$1 or 3 for \$2.

\*\*\*\*Paperback Romance 5 for \$1.00 \*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*Regular paperbacks \$.50 each or 3 for \$1.00 \*\*\*\*

Childrens books, mysteries, romance, cookbooks and craft books are just a sample of book choices, thanks to the generous donations from patrons.

All proceeds from the Book Sale benefit the Library and support the Summer Reading programs.

Questions call the Library - 832-927-7790.

New Study shows huge Cancer Cluster around Waste Pits:

Gene Hennigan, a life-long resident of Lynchburg since 1977, stood before a gaggle of cameras and reporters on Monday afternoon at the San Jacinto Community Center in Highlands, Texas and begged the Environmental Protection Agency for help in cleaning up the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund site just a couple miles from his front door.

"While the responsible parties, EPA and many lawyers talk (for the last two decades), people in our community are dying," a tearful Hennigan said.

He knows.

His son Jeff, who played, swam, and fished in those very same waters as a kid, has died from two kinds of lung cancer. His youngest son's father-in-law who lived next door to



Cancer cluster advocates Jackie Medcalf, Gene Hennigan, and Harris County Pct. 3 Commissioner Tom Ramsey at a Press Conference on Monday.

him died of liver cancer. His daughter-in-law's family in the neighborhood have had cancer.

"I've had several skin cancer operations. My wife has had breast cancer and surgery," he told reporters.

Hennigan urged newly appointed EPA administrator Lee Zeldin to follow through on his promise when he took office.

"You said, 'The first pillar of your new plan is pushing for clean air, land,

and water for every American. Well, Lee, here is your chance to show people you mean it. You can stay at my house and drink my water," he offered.

The press conference in Highlands comes on the heels of a newly released report that confirms a cancer cluster finding in Harris County that encompasses 250 square miles of the San Jacinto River flood plain.

The study, requested by the Texas Health and Environment Alliance and area residents in February 2024 included over 65 census tracts and looked at 22 types of cancer in people of all ages, and showed increased rates of seven childhood cancers of the 29 cancer types examined. They also found unusual

patterns of leukemia, lymphoma, cervix, lung and bronchus cancers.

"I want to thank the Texas Department of State Health Services for publishing the study," said Jackie Medcalf, founder of THEA and area resident.

"While the findings are not a surprise to those of us living in the shadow of contamination, they are a sad vindication for what far too many of us have experienced," Medcalf said.

One of the shocking statistics is the size of the cancer cluster.

"The study area stretches from Atascocita to La Porte and from North Shore to Mont Belvieu. This is an enormous swath

Continued. See CANCER CLUSTER, Page 7

CROSBY SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Crosby ISD Shines: From Flag Etiquette to All-State Choir, Crosby Students and Staff Showcase Pride and Achievement

Hello East Harris County and Crosby ISD Families,

I want to share two examples of the pride we see our students taking in their community. First, a select group of students are exemplifying what it means to be great citizens and committed to service. Recently, nine members of Barrett Elementary School's National Elementary Honor Society were trained on proper flag etiquette. One of our JROTC instructors from Crosby High School, Army Sergeant Allen Rollins, traveled to BES to train these students on how to



Paula Patterson Crosby Superintendent

properly raise, lower, and fold the American and Texas flag each day. These students can now be seen each morning and each afternoon raising and lowering the flag outside BES. They

are called the "BES Flag Crew!" It's wonderful to see students deputized with the responsibility to care for and display of the school's flags. Thank you, Sergeant Rollins, for sharing your expertise with our young learners.

On the baseball field, Crosby High School baseball players spent part of the day on Saturday, February 15, coaching special friends on the field. The Cougars hosted the Challenger Division North Shore Little League. The

Continued. See CROSBY SUPERINTENDENT, Page 6



The Crosby High School baseball team hosted special friends for a special game on Saturday, February 15. They were able to hang out with students in the Challenger Division North Shore Little League, a league dedicated to children with cognitive and physical challenges.

Loggins Hardware Celebrates 50-year Milestone in Business

By David Taylor Managing Editor

A brief conversation between a loan officer and a business owner has turned into a legacy after the ink dried on the contract 50 years ago. This year, Loggins Hardware in Highlands celebrates their 50th anniversary in business.

Roy Loggins found the secret to success in business, and it has provided job security for him, and his second and third generation family members.

"I was working as the vice president and loan officer with Highlands State Bank and this opportunity came along in 1974," he said.

Aubrey Scott owned Scott's Building Supply for 25 years and was a customer of Loggins at the bank. The lot started as a cabinet shop and then Scott expanded it into the building and business that re-



Bryan, Carson, and Roy Loggins, three generations of the family, continue to work and lead Loggins Hardware in Highlands on Oak Street.

mains today.

"He was Ace Hardware store No. 1266. That would be a long time ago and those numbers are much higher now," Loggins smiled.

Ace Hardware now has 5,900 stores in about 60 countries that are locally owned and operated.

"He walked in one day and sat down at my desk and said he was tired. I

told him I'd just buy it from him," Loggins said. "He couldn't believe it." The papers were signed and 50 years later, Loggins said it all worked out okay. Loggins renamed it Loggins Building and Hardware and took over on Jan. 1, 1975.

Scott didn't abandon Loggins, he stayed on to help.

"He lived close by and

worked in here with us for a while to help us get our feet on the ground. Just like any other business, we've had our ups and downs," he said.

The store celebrates its 75th anniversary (between Scott and Loggins) and shows no signs of its age.

One of the disadvantages, being off the main drag, Loggins turned into an advantage.



Roy Loggins and his son Bryan, and grandson Carson invite you to drop by Loggins Hardware as they celebrate their 50th anniversary.

"Being a block off of Main Street has its benefits and disadvantages," he said. He likes that he doesn't have to put up with the traffic which can be crazy at times.

He's also relied on word of mouth to help him keep the business running, but he also found the secret sauce to make his customer base grow.

"Good customer service

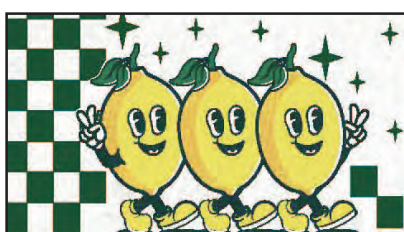
brings them back," he said. "In a big box store, a customer can walk into the store and not be able to find help."

A bonus for him was having his wife, son, and grandson involved in the business.

"I think there's still plenty of years left in the

Continued. See LOGGINS HARDWARE, Page 5

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Community Resource CREDIT UNION CRCU.ORG/EASYPEEZY

# LyondellBasell Channelview Complex Community Updates



## Understanding our flares

Safety devices called flares help protect our environment by safely burning excess gases at our facility. We use two types: tall "candlestick" flares that reach into the sky and ground-level flares hidden behind walls. Both types are closely monitored and meet strict environmental standards. The ground flares are particularly efficient, covering an area as large as two football fields and destroying 99.5% of gases. Flares play a vital role in keeping our operations safe and environmentally sound.



Candlestick flare

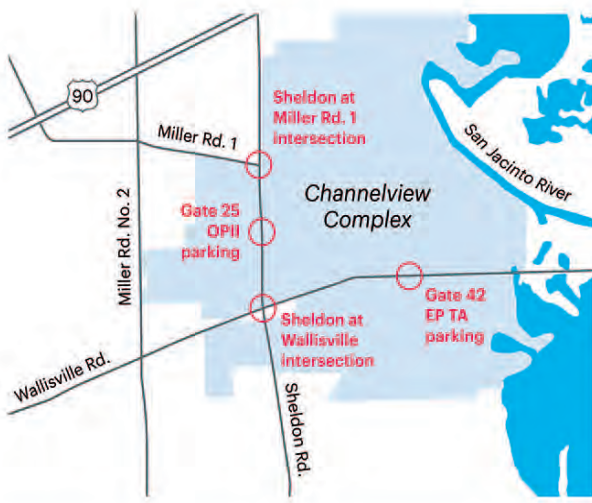


Ground-level flare

Flare pictures do not necessarily represent what is on site.

## Upcoming maintenance work: what to expect

From March through May 2025, we'll conduct planned maintenance work called a turnaround. Residents may notice increased traffic along Sheldon and Wallisville Roads. To help manage this, we're installing lighted traffic signs in February and working with law enforcement to control traffic flow. You might see flames from our flare stacks during this time - this is normal and carefully controlled.



### Interesting turnaround facts

- 3,000** Estimated number of professional contractors on-site each day at peak manpower in March
- 400** LYB employees assigned to the project
- 2** Years in planning to develop improvement projects, maintenance work
- 500,000** Direct labor hours associated with the turnaround
- \$362,000** Estimated economic impact from \$244,000 local hotel and \$118,000 meals\*
- 2,415** Tasks planned within the scope
- 2,862,326** Cubic feet of scaffold built, which equals the length of the Fred Hartman bridge over the ship channel
- 109,051** Gallons of water estimated to be consumed onsite by the work crews as they stay hydrated during work

### About our facility

The Channelview Complex employs about 2,200 people across its 4,000-acre site. Since 1957, we've produced materials used in everyday items, from car parts to food packaging. We maintain open communication with our neighbors and value community engagement.

8280 Sheldon Road, Channelview, TX 77530  
Email: askchannelview@lyb.com  
Phone: 281-862-4000

If you have questions about our turnaround project, email [askchannelview@lyb.com](mailto:askchannelview@lyb.com)

\*Based on U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) figures for the area (Channelview \$122 hotel, \$59 meal per diem. Estimated 900 number of visiting workers, 30 days in town)

Read more about the Channelview Complex and see a video message from our Site Leader



Scan for LYB Channelview Complex news site

### Emergency Response Team: Always ready



Our 223 Emergency Response Team members are trained experts ready 24/7. They use LYB fire trucks and ambulances permanently stationed at our Channelview Complex to handle fires, medical emergencies and protect the environment.



### In your community

We're proud to support our neighbors through various programs. Recently, our employees helped plant native species at Sheldon Lake State Park, ran a successful holiday toy drive that collected over 200 toys, and earned recognition from Crosby ISD for their volunteer work. These activities reflect our commitment to building a stronger community.

### Stay informed with CAER

Community Awareness Emergency Response (CAER), an online system and mobile app that provides alerts and messages about operational updates from local facilities. Scan QR code to access this free resource.



### Join our Community Advisory Panel

The Community Advisory Panel to Lyondell and Equistar (CAPLE) discusses site operations and environmental performance at meetings throughout the year. If you reside in Channelview, Crosby or Highlands email [CAPLEFacilitator@gmail.com](mailto:CAPLEFacilitator@gmail.com) for more details.



# Actualizaciones para la comunidad sobre el complejo de Channelview de LyondellBasell



## Entendiendo nuestras antorchas

Los dispositivos de seguridad llamados antorchas ayudan a proteger nuestro medio ambiente al quemar de manera segura el exceso de gases de nuestras instalaciones. Usamos dos tipos: antorchas altas tipo "candelero" que llegan al cielo y antorchas a nivel del suelo ocultas detrás de las paredes. Ambos tipos de antorchas son supervisados cuidadosamente y cumplen con estándares medioambientales estrictos. Las antorchas de suelo son especialmente eficientes. Cubren un área tan grande como dos campos de fútbol y destruyen el 99.5% de los gases. Las antorchas cumplen un papel fundamental en la seguridad y la protección del medio ambiente de nuestras operaciones.



Antorcha tipo "candelero"

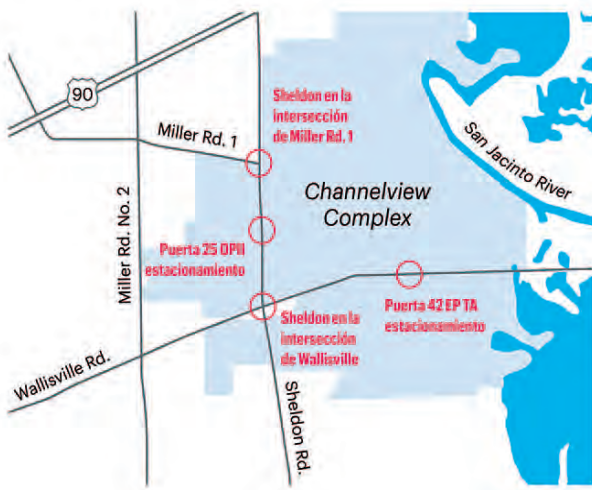


Antorcha a nivel del suelo

Las imágenes de las antorchas no representan necesariamente lo que hay en el sitio.

## Próximo trabajo de mantenimiento: qué esperar

Desde marzo hasta mayo de 2025, realizaremos un trabajo de mantenimiento planificado denominado remodelación. Es posible que los residentes noten un aumento del tráfico a lo largo de las carreteras Sheldon Road y Wallisville Road. Para un mejor control, en febrero instalaremos señales de tráfico iluminadas y trabajaremos con las autoridades policiales para controlar el flujo del tráfico. Es posible que vea llamas de nuestras chimeneas durante este tiempo. Esto es normal y se controla cuidadosamente.



### Datos interesantes sobre la remodelación

- 3,000** Cantidad estimada de contratistas profesionales en el sitio cada día en el pico de mano de obra en marzo
- 400** Empleados de LYB asignados al proyecto
- 2** Años de planificación para desarrollar proyectos de mejora y trabajo de mantenimiento
- 500,000** Horas de mano de obra directa asociadas con la remodelación
- \$362,000** Impacto económico estimado de \$244,000 en hoteles locales y \$118,000 en comidas\*
- 2,415** Tareas previstas en el ámbito de aplicación
- 2,862,326** Pies cúbicos de andamio construido, que equivale a la longitud del puente Fred Hartman sobre el canal de navegación
- 109,051** Galones de agua estimados de consumo in situ por las cuadrillas de trabajo para que se mantienen hidratados durante el trabajo

### Nuestras instalaciones

El complejo de Channelview emplea a aproximadamente 2200 personas en sus 1619 ha de terreno. Desde 1957, hemos producido materiales usados en artículos cotidianos, desde autopartes hasta empaques para alimentos. Mantenemos una comunicación abierta con nuestros vecinos y valoramos el compromiso comunitario.

8280 Sheldon Road, Channelview, TX 77530  
Email: askchannelview@lyb.com  
Phone: 281-862-4000

Si tiene preguntas sobre nuestro proyecto de remodelación, envíe un correo electrónico [askchannelview@lyb.com](mailto:askchannelview@lyb.com)

\*Basado en las cifras de la Administración General de Servicios (GSA) de EE. UU. para el área (Channelview \$122 hotel, \$59 comida viáticos. Estimación de 900 cantidad de trabajadores visitantes, 30 días en la ciudad)

Lea más sobre el complejo de Channelview y vea un mensaje por video de nuestro líder del sitio



Busque el sitio de noticias del complejo de Channelview de LYB

### Equipo de respuesta a emergencias: Siempre listo



Los 223 miembros de nuestro equipo de respuesta a emergencias son expertos capacitados y están listos las 24 horas del día, los 7 días de la semana. Usan camiones de bomberos y ambulancias de LYB estacionados permanentemente en nuestro complejo de Channelview para controlar incendios y emergencias médicas, y proteger el medio ambiente.

### En su comunidad

Estamos orgullosos de apoyar a nuestros vecinos mediante varios programas. Recientemente, nuestros empleados ayudaron a plantar especies nativas en Sheldon Lake State Park, llevaron a cabo una exitosa campaña de recolección de juguetes para las fiestas que recolectó más de 200 juguetes y obtuvieron el reconocimiento de Crosby ISD por su trabajo voluntario. Estas actividades reflejan nuestro compromiso de construir una comunidad más fuerte.



### Manténgase informado con CAER

Concientización Comunitaria y Respuesta a Emergencias (Community Awareness Emergency Response, CAER) es un sistema en línea y una aplicación móvil que proporciona alertas y mensajes sobre actualizaciones operativas de las instalaciones locales. Escanee el código QR para acceder a este recurso gratuito.



### Únase a nuestro Panel asesor comunitario

El Panel asesor comunitario de Lyondell y Equistar (Community Advisory Panel to Lyondell and Equistar, CAPLE) analiza las operaciones del sitio y el desempeño medioambiental en las reuniones durante todo el año. Si vive en Channelview, Crosby o Highlands, envíe un correo electrónico a [CAPLEFacilitator@gmail.com](mailto:CAPLEFacilitator@gmail.com) para obtener más información.



# Barbers Hill Press

## Dayton

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

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2025

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

### ON THE HILL

## Exxon Mobil's Hydrogen Burner a Breakthrough

ExxonMobil's Baytown Olefins Plant (BOP) has successfully conducted commercial testing of next-generation burners capable of operating on up to 100% hydrogen fuel, achieving a 90% reduction in direct CO2 emissions.

This breakthrough, developed over four years, marks a significant step in decarbonizing the chemical industry, particularly in olefins production, which is essential for plastics and other materials.

The burners, installed in December, have demonstrated the ability to produce ethylene and other olefins identical to traditional methods while significantly cutting emissions.

ExxonMobil plans to expand the use of these hydrogen-capable burners and is developing a hydrogen production plant at Baytown to further support the energy transition. The company hopes this innovation will inspire other manufacturers to adopt similar low-carbon technologies.

Sara Kallish, technical manager at BOP, is thrilled to be at ground zero for the project.

"We are very proud to have passed this exciting milestone of being the first in industry to run high-hydrogen in our steam cracking furnaces, right here in our Baytown Olefins Plant," she said. "We are excited to be in the forefront of this new technology that will enable emissions reductions in our ExxonMobil facilities."

"This feat is a testament to the hard work, dedication and innovation of many folks across both our technology and manufacturing organizations."

Industrial burners are very similar to burners on a home's gas stove, except that they are much larger and run much hotter," Hector Ayala, senior principal for heat transfer at ExxonMobil, said in a video on the company website.

Any list of "hard-to-decarbonize sectors typically includes the chemical industry. That's because producing olefins — the building blocks for plastics and other materials — requires a large amount of heat.

Temperatures inside the furnaces that "crack" hydrocarbon molecules into olefins exceed 2,000 degrees.

But being able to run the furnaces on hydrogen, a fuel that produces no CO2 when burned, would be a game changer, the release stated.

Visit our New Website for Chambers County News:  
[www.BHDPRESS.com](http://www.BHDPRESS.com)

## West Chamber County Pilot Club Will Hold Its Annual Fundraising Gala March 22nd

West Chambers County Pilot Club, Inc. will hold its annual fundraising Gala on Saturday, March 22, 2025 from 6:00 P.M.-10:00 P.M., at Barbers Hill High School, Mont Belvieu TX. The theme of this year's Gala is "Cruising the Fifties on the Hill".

For more information contact W.C.C.P.C. at P.O. Box 1032, Mont Belvieu, TX 77580, Email [wccpilotclub@gmail.com](mailto:wccpilotclub@gmail.com) or Linda Gilmore at [rayegil2@yahoo.com](mailto:rayegil2@yahoo.com) or to purchase tickets contact any West Chambers Coun-



(Pictured l-r) Scroll saw artist Steve Wavro and West Chambers County Pilot Club Secretary Linda Gilmore.

ty Pilot Club member or call Treasurer Diana Jackson – 505-220-7499.

Dinner tickets are \$15.00 each donation.

Drawing for a Queen blue/white quilt, tickets are \$ 5.00 each or 5 tickets for \$20.00

Drawing tickets for a Ruger American .308 Winchester/7.62 NATO Bolt-Action with Vortex Crossfire II Scope are 1 ticket for \$20.00 each. There will only be 200 tickets sold.

There will be a Texas Guides Outdoor Adven-

ture, half day guided Fishing trip in Trinity Bay, and a Fishing trip on a lake, both will be in the Live Auction.

Scroll saw artist Steve Wavro donated this Intarsia wood 1956 Chevy Bel Air Classic Car plaque for the "Cruising the Fifties on the Hill Gala" live auction, this Classic Car is comprised of 91 individual pieces of Aspen, Blue Spruce, Ebony, Edinam, Walnut, and Western Red Cedar. Finished with 4 coats of water-based satin polyacrylic.

## Liberty County Holds First Public Workshop on Stray Dog Issues

Liberty County officials held the first of several promised workshops in the county to address the problem of stray dogs and other animal welfare-related issues in the county.

The workshop was open to the public, and was held on Tuesday at Plum Grove City Hall located at 9485 Plum Grove Road.

The workshop comes following promises by county commissioners to hold these workshops to engage with the public on animal welfare issues.

The issue of stray and roaming dogs has been a persistent problem in Liberty



County, draining the resources of local rescuers. For three years, advocates have been calling for the establishment of an animal shelter, animal control services, and low-cost

spay and neuter programs. Multiple people across the county have reported being attacked by the aggressive stray dogs.

Members of the Liberty

County community have taken the problem to the Liberty County Commissioners Court with advocates being present at multiple meetings.

During the January commissioners meeting, Liberty County Precinct 2 Commissioner Greg Arthur announced there would be public workshops on the matter. However, controversy also broke out following the meeting after a hot mic captured Liberty County Pct. 3 Commissioner David Whitmire and Liberty County Judge Jay Knight appearing to mock the issue and the advocates.

The remarks led to frustration among the advocates.

"At the end of the day, it just reinforced that they don't care," said independent rescuer Jenni Rodriguez.

Commissioner says leaked audio of Liberty County officials mocking animal advocates should not have happened

While neither Knight nor Whitmire issued an apology, Commissioner Greg Arthur told KPRC 2 that he did not believe the comments were intended to be disrespectful. However, he acknowledged that the mocking should not have occurred.

## Sen. Mayes Middleton Leads Charge to Ban \$70M Taxpayer Funded Lobbying in Texas

Senator Mayes Middleton filed the ban on taxpayer-funded lobbying and other bills to address the waste, fraud, and abuse in our government and meet the mandate for D.O.G.E. in Texas.

### Ban Taxpayer-Funded Lobbying

For too long, taxpayers' and parents' own tax dollars have been used to lobby against them in Austin. These taxpayer-funded lobbyists have squandered millions of dollars of your hard-earned dollars to lobby against border security, election integrity, parental choice in education, teacher pay raises, and even fought against property tax relief and reform. Taxpayer-funded lobbying groups, like Texas Association of School Boards, use your school tax dollars to lobby against the bill to stop men from going into girls' restrooms and locker rooms, and invited transgender advocates to train school board members on how to use pronouns. Time and time again, we have seen taxpayer-funded lobbyists advocate against Texans and against common sense. Nearly \$70 million per year is spent on taxpayer-funded lobbying. We don't need an Austin lobbyist and middleman between the state and local elected officials. We are elected to represent our constituents directly. Thank you to Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick for making S.B. 19 a priority this session. There is a mandate for D.O.G.E. in



Texas, and taxpayers are sick and tired of government waste, fraud, and abuse. Now is the time to end this unethical practice of taxpayer dollars being used to lobby against taxpayers.

### Moving State Agencies out of Austin and Slashing Government Spending

Austin is one of the most expensive cities in Texas, with the highest cost of living. There is no reason almost all our state agencies should be in Austin. Moving state agencies to lower cost areas of the State will save taxpayer dollars about 40% on renting office space alone, and will improve government efficiency. President Trump has proposed the same concept for the federal government. Washington D.C. values don't match the rest of American's values, just like Austin doesn't represent the rest of Texas's values. Moving agencies out of Austin is a win-win for taxpayers and allows agencies to be closer to the Texans they serve and work for.

### Prohibiting Public

### Funds for Illegal Immigrant Deportation Defense

Texas stands with President Trump in securing the border and his deportation program to keep citizens safe and put America first. It's wrong to force Texas taxpayers to pay for legal fees to protect illegal immigrants from deportation and returning to their home country. Joe Biden endangered our communities and families by allowing countless criminals into our country with his open border policy. Now some governmental entities are making taxpayers pay to fight President Trump and keep illegal immigrants in America.

Local government should be working with President Trump to secure our border, not fighting against him with our own tax dollars. SB 1005 and HB 1554 are an answer to the clear mandate given to legislators in the most recent election: return to common sense policy and secure the border. These bills will stop the practice of using your tax dollars to pay for the legal defense of illegal immigrants.

Our government must be held accountable for the policies and resources they enact on behalf of the citizens they serve. There is no such thing as government funds, only taxpayer money. I will continue to fight to make sure Texans keep more of their paycheck, and make sure their tax dollars are being spent responsibly.

## Former Barbers Hill HS Teacher Accused of Improper Relationship

CHAMBERS COUNTY, Texas – A former Barbers Hill High School teacher was booked into jail last Tuesday, facing allegations that she had sex with a student back in 2023.

Molly Colleen Spears was indicted by a Chambers County grand jury for the charge of improper relationship with a student on Feb. 8, 2024. A warrant for her arrest was issued on Feb. 12, 2024, however, Spears was not arrested until Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2025, when her attorney said she self-surrendered to the Chambers County Jail.

Her bond was set at \$50,000. It has been confirmed that she bonded out.

Spears is accused of engaging in sexual contact and intercourse with a male student during her time as a teacher at Barbers Hill High School. She solicited the contact by text message and through a commercial online service to meet the student, according to court records.

In June of 2023, Barbers Hill ISD issued the following statement:

"Molly Spears worked as a high school teacher for Barbers Hill ISD from August 2021 to June 2023. She resigned earlier this month. Per policy, the district will not confirm any internal investigation into any matter," a district spokesperson wrote in an email.

At the time, no details confirming the nature of the allegations against Spears were



Ex Barbers Hill HS Teacher Molly Colleen Spears

released. She was previously listed as a high school language arts teacher.

Spears' defense attorney, Christopher L. Tritico, issued the following statement:

"Ms. Spears was first notified of the charges two days ago and we acted immediately to get the bond set up and in place. I cannot speak to why it sat for so dormant for so long. That is a question for the other side of the isle. Ms. Spears looks forward to having an opportunity to confront the allegations and to finally put this matter behind her."

According to Texas Education Agency records, Spears is currently under investigation for an allegation of misconduct but no formal determination has been made.

Before being hired by Barbers Hill ISD in 2020, Spears was previously employed by Coldspring ISD from 2012 to 2014 and Texas City ISD from 2014 to 2020.

--KPRC

OPINION PAGE

OPINION

By BILL KING



Another City of Houston Fiscal Chicken Comes Home to Roost

When Sylvester Turner left the Mayor's office at the end of 2023, he boasted of a supposed surplus in the City finances.

The first was the firefighters' lawsuit, claiming they were owed over \$1.2 billion in back pay. Turner had successfully delayed that suit until just after he left office.

A second chicken came home to roost recently when the Texas Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal from a lower court ruling that City officials had not been allocating the amount of money to the City's street and drainage fund required by a charter amendment twice approved by the voters.

The math on this is a little complicated, so let me give you the "Reader's Digest" version. The charter amendment specifies that several revenue sources must be set aside in a "Dedicated Street and Drainage Fund" (DSDf) and how those funds would be used.

The amendment also prohibited the City from borrowing any more money for street and drainage improvements, adopting instead a pay-as-you-go model. At that time, it took 11.8¢ of the City's tax rate to make the payments on the existing bonds related to street and drainage improvements.

However, in 2016, the voter-approved property tax cap, for the first time, forced the City to begin lowering its tax rate because inflation was low, and its population had begun to flatline.

The Truner administration's solution to this problem was to re-interpret the amendment to suggest the voters had intended a fixed percentage would apply and the percentage contributed would not increase when the tax rate was reduced.

This change made a big difference in the amount the City would contribute to the DSDf. As soon as the Turner administration began using this new formula, the transfers to the City's capital improvement program dropped by a quarter.

By my calculations in 2018, the City was short-changing the fund by around \$100 million per year. City officials have recently confirmed that the annual difference is in this range.

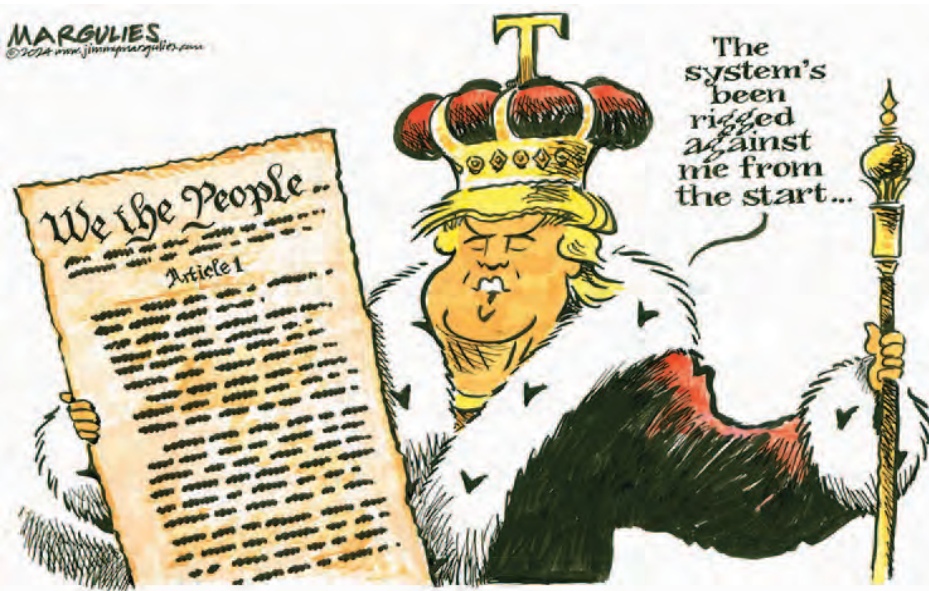
In the coming weeks, as the budget season for FY2025-2026 kicks off, we will hear more about the City's plans to address the shortfall.

However, this episode is another lesson that it is better to bite the bullet than kick the can. The Turner administration was faced with the dilemma that it could not continue spending at the level it wanted and comply with both the property tax cap and the street and drainage fund charter amendments.

Sadly, the Turner administration did not have the intestinal fortitude or the respect for the will of the voters to do so. As a result, we are left with another mess to clean up and millions of dollars wasted in legal fees on frivolous litigation.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Opinions expressed here are not necessarily that of this newspaper or its staff. YOUR OPINION is welcome. Send a letter for possible publication to Grafikpress Newspapers, 5906 Star Lane, Houston TX 77057 or an email to GRAFIKSTAR@aol.com.

MARGULIES



THE POSTSCRIPT By Carrie Classon

Traveling with Felix



Our cat, Felix, has turned into an excellent little traveler.

"What do you do with your cat?" we are invariably asked when we tell people we are headed off to Mexico to spend the second half of the winter.

"Oh! Felix is from Mexico," my husband, Peter, tells them. "He's just coming back with us!" And it is true. Felix enjoys his international status.

We worried, when we first brought him from our tiny apartment in Mexico, that he would feel lost and afraid in our much larger condo in the U.S. To our surprise, Felix loved it. Felix learned that if he got up enough traction in the carpeted bedroom, he could skid down the polished wooden floors in the hall, zoom across the living room, ricochet off the wall and land on the couch, all in a matter of seconds.

"Oh," Peter then said, "he's never going to be happy going back to that little apartment in Mexico!"

On the contrary, Felix was over-the-moon to discover that he knew exactly where he was when we returned to our little Mexican apartment. He jumped up on his little brushing table (aka the coffee table) and demanded an immediate brushing.

Felix also loves Lulu, who comes to clean our apartment twice a week. She plays with him and speaks Spanish to him while she cleans. And he is constantly occupied by the guests and employees coming up and down the stairs outside the screen door of our apartment.

And traveling back and forth with Felix is not bad either. I had been out of the cat-owning business for a while and was amazed to see how many new options in cat carriers were available.

We ended up with a kitty backpack that I wear with Felix in front. The entire front wall of it is curved plastic, so Felix can watch everything, and I have both hands free for luggage and tickets.

Since I knew that, unfortunately, I bear no resemblance to Ms. Swift, I googled when I got home and learned that Ms. Swift often travels with one of her cats and has popularized the cat backpack with the domed plastic window. The little girls who spotted Felix in his carrier knew this, and I certainly felt a lot cooler and more au courant once I did.

It is fun traveling with Felix. People in both countries are pleased to see him, a black-and-white ambassador to and from the U.S. and Mexico. He is welcomed by children in both English and Spanish who call out either "Gatito!" or "Kitty!" and he seems quite content with his jet-setting lifestyle.

If the inconveniences of travel ever start to make me anxious or annoyed, I look at Felix, watching the world like a minor celebrity through the window of his Taylor Swift carrier. I'm sure he doesn't know what will happen next, but like every good mini-celebrity, he is always open to the next adventure.

Till next time, Carrie

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Lawmaker wants Probe of \$95M lottery Jackpot

The Texas Lottery Commission and its former director are under scrutiny after they allegedly helped a single entity win a \$95 million Lotto Texas Jackpot, the Houston Chronicle reported.

Written testimony at a state legislative hearing last week from an attorney indicated an entity called Rook TX guaranteed it would win the jackpot by buying virtually every one of the nearly 26 million possible six-number combinations in the drawing, held in April 2023.

Houston lawyer Manfred Sternberg said that he represented clients victimized by a conspiracy between the lottery commission, former head Gary Grief, and online ticket vendor Lottery.com. He sent a 22-page letter outlining the allegations to multiple state officials, including Gov. Greg Abbott and Attorney General Ken Paxton.

"Our clients have been ignored by the State of Texas, and the State of Texas has been silent on investigating and prosecuting those responsible for serious crimes," Sternberg wrote.

The allegations raised concern among members of the Senate Finance Committee, gathered to consider the commission's budget.

"We just need to call in the Texas Rangers immediately," said Sen. Lois Kolkhorst, R-Brenham.

NYSE AND NASDAQ MOVE NEXT DOOR TO 'Y'ALL STREET'

The Texas Stock Exchange, which debuted in Dallas last June, has new neighbors: branches of the New York Stock Exchange and Nasdaq, which have moved from Chicago to the Dallas metroplex. The Dallas Morning News reported the two venerable exchanges apparently feel the heat of competition from the upstart stock exchange.

The TXSE began with \$120 million in backing, a fraction of those of the two older exchanges. The upstart exchange has clearly "rattled NYSE and NASDAQ," said Kirti Sinha, a University of Texas-Dallas assistant professor of accounting.

The Texas exchange sees a major opportunity in the 10-state Southeast providing a potential pipeline of 14,000



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

sponsor-backed private companies. Texas is already home to more than 50 Fortune 500 companies. The state has the largest number of NYSE listings, and more than 200 Texas-based companies are listed on Nasdaq, which caters to tech companies.

All of this indicates the emergence of the Dallas-Fort Worth area as a major player on the financial stage, The News reported.

LAWMAKER PROPOSES SEAT BELTS ON ALL SCHOOL BUSES

A bill in the Texas Legislature would require Texas school districts to install seat belts on all school buses, the Austin American-Statesman reported. The measure comes after a collision between a concrete pump truck and a Hays County school bus last March killed a 5-year-old boy and a man driving behind the bus.

"We just believe that having them physically restrained in their seats would help minimize - mitigate - any potential harm to the children," state Sen. José Menéndez, D-San Antonio, said. "It is just some common sense."

A 2017 law requires seat belts on all newly purchased buses but not on buses purchased before that and still in service. District officials have blamed a lack of funding for not being able to retrofit seat belts on older buses.

ABBOTT BACK IN D.C. SEEKING BORDER REIMBURSEMENT

The governor returned to Capitol Hill for the second time in eight days in his pursuit of \$11 billion from the federal government to cover the costs of Operation Lone Star along the Texas-Mexico border.

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der. The News reported Abbott met with most of the Texas Republican congressional delegation as well as House Speaker Mike Johnson, R-La.

Abbott's initiatives include sending state troopers and the Texas National Guard to the border, stringing buoys in the Rio Grande and razor wire along the banks, and busing more than 100,000 migrants to Democratic-run cities over the past four years.

At least one Texas GOP congressman agrees.

"We think the people of Texas should be reimbursed for the money they've already spent and are spending to secure our borders," Lance Gooden, R-Terrell, said.

TEXAS HHS EMPLOYEES FIRED FOR ACCESSING SENSITIVE DATA

Nine employees of the Texas Health and Human Services have been fired for accessing restricted data of Texans applying for programs offered by the agency, the Texas Standard reported. The employees were accessing the private information of people seeking to apply for Medicaid or assistance under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

About 60,000 people who applied or received assistance from June 2021 and December 2024 were affected. No arrests have been made to this point.

HHS Commissioner Cecile Young was asked at a Senate finance committee hearing if it was true that more than 8,000 HHS employees had access to private information, according to The Texas Tribune.

"One thing I wanted to make clear is oftentimes when you hear someone breaching privacy it's coming from the outside," she said. "And in this case, sadly, it was actually coming from our employees."

TEXAS LEADS NATION IN TOP-TIER UNIVERSITIES

A new report from the American Council on Education and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching indicates 16 universities in Texas have reached Tier 1 designation, the most coveted level. That means the state is home to more such institutions than any other state.

In the report, California has 14 and New York 12 top-tier universities. To reach that designation, a university must spend at least \$50 million and award at least 70 research doctorates on average each year.

The five new additions in Texas since the last release of university classifications in 2022 are Baylor College of Medicine, Southern Methodist University, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and the UT Southwestern Medical Center.

The news is "a testament to the quality of our higher learning institutions and the investment the state has made into education," Andrew Mahaleris, the governor's press secretary, said.

# Loggings Building Supply celebrates 50 Years of service,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



THREE GENERATIONS OF LOGGINGS: Grandson Carson Loggings, Roy Loggings and his son Bryan Loggings, at Loggings Hardware as they celebrate their 50th anniversary.

old business to get Bryan (his son) down the road ways," his dad said.

There hasn't been a lot of change.

"We just keep innovating. We try to keep the right products, change around products here and there that they can't find elsewhere," Bryan said.

To host a lot of variety also means lots of inventory.

"We are really pushed for space, but we make it work," he said.

They carry a variety of products like lumber, plywood, concrete steps, building materials and much more.

They have thousands of items for customers to choose from to help with their home repairs or projects.

One thing that hasn't changed in 50 years is the sales ticket.

"We still handwrite our tickets the old-fashioned way," he said, saying they're keeping a little of the old and new since it works for them.

Customers like to hear the pecking on the manual typewriter that Loggings has been using since he bought the business.

Roy continues to do the paperwork which is fine by Bryan.

"I'm glad he's doing it. It frees me up to do other things," Bryan said.

"The joke around here is that I will retire before my dad," Bryan laughed. "I've put in 33 years at the store."

They credit their employees' help over the years with keeping the customer service top notch.

Loggings also wanted to thank the community for their support and patronage over the years.

His dad, at 81, still has his health and has no intention of slowing down. After all, he has his family with him every day, and his customers are his friends. What more could a man ask for?

Drop by to see Roy and the boys at 713 Oak Ave. in Highlands and wish them a happy anniversary. They're open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon, and closed on Sundays. You can reach them by phone at 281-426-3516.



The original story in the newspaper 50 years ago when the Roy Loggings bought the store.

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# Commissioner Ramsey: Precinct 3 accounts for 75% of Harris County population: views future growth

18,000 new homes coming to east of Lake Houston

By David Taylor  
Managing Editor

Harris County Pct. 3 Commissioner Tom Ramsey spoke to the Highlands-Lynchburg Area Chamber of Commerce recently and announced 18,000 new homes will be built on the east side of Lake Houston in the next 10 years.

"We're not ready," he told chamber members.

Ramsey reminded chamber members that 75 percent of the unincorporated area of Harris County is in Precinct Three.

"The fastest growing part of Harris County is in Precinct Three. Did you know that there's more people living in the unincorporated area of Harris County than in the city of Houston?" the commissioner asked. He's responsible for more people than Houston Mayor John Whitmire.

"We have 15 school districts in the precinct, and I think they're all special," he said. "People live in the unincorporated area of Harris County because of school districts."

Growing up in Crockett, Texas, a small community in southeast Texas, Ramsey said he



Pct. 3 Commissioner Tom Ramsey

ran on three things: keep it simple, safe neighborhoods, and infrastructure.

"Two years ago, there were 600 murders in Harris County—485 of them were in the city of Houston while 115 were in the unincorporated area. Crime in Houston is five times more than the unincorporated area of Harris County," he said.

"We need more officers because we have more people moving into the precinct and we need to continue to invest in that."

Highlands, Crosby, and now Huffman have all endured the painful expansion of Main Street and FM 2100 and the construction delays. When finished, that stretch will boast at least four lanes from Interstate 10 straight through to SH 99. The

famous line from the movie Field of Dreams, "If you build it, they will come" is becoming a reality as homebuilders and businesses have begun populating the I-10 to SH 99 corridor over the last two years.

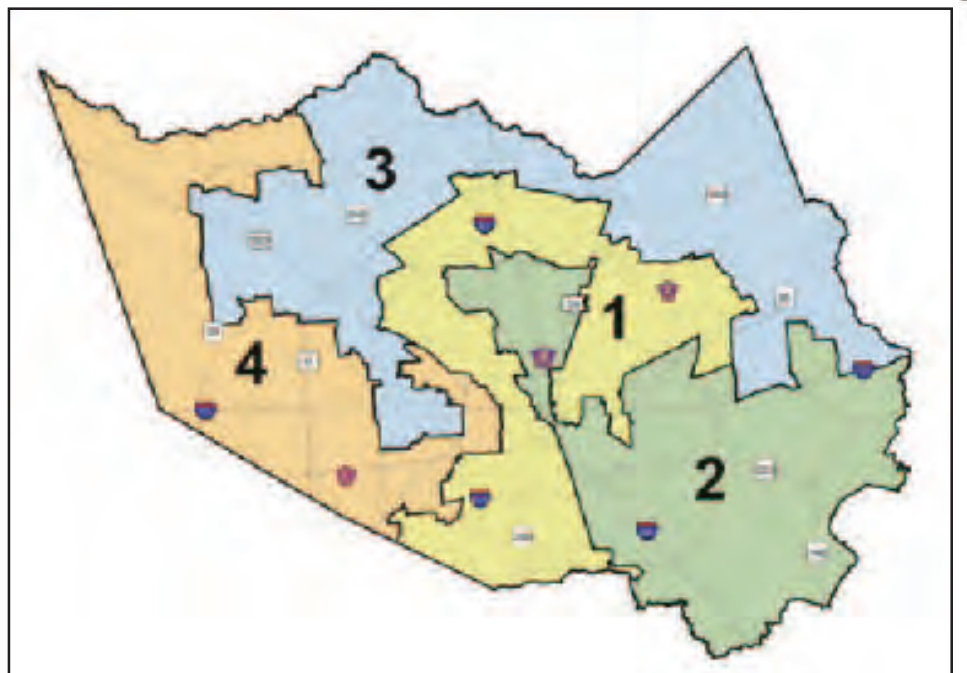
"We need more investments in roads," he said. "One of our biggest problems is we need a surface water supply."

Ramsey pointed to the city of Baytown being the only source of surface water on the eastside of the county.

"There's plenty of water. You can see that with all the canals all over the east side, but there's no surface water," he said.

Ramsey explained why that was so important.

"We could go and tour the Brownwood subdivision tomorrow,"



he told chamber members, "but we would need a boat or submarine."

He explained the beautiful subdivision in Baytown sunk into the bay.

"Subsidence," he said. "If we let developers completely develop, unmitigated in terms of surface water and allow them to pump that water out of the ground, I promise you, we don't have a lot of elevation from Huffman to Crosby to Baytown. We need to be sure that we get surface water here," he said.

Ramsey's office is working hard engaging with the subsidence district and making sure they hold the developer's feet to the fire in

terms of that issue.

He also announced that they are preparing to do an asphalt package from I-10 to Thorn Street beginning soon in the spring of 2025.

"There will also be \$108,000 spent on an outfall and roadway failure near West Houston Street," he said.

His crews will also be grading and cleaning out over 100,000 linear feet of roadway drainage south of Highway 90.

There will be sidewalk and drainage improvements around Highlands Park and the Highlands Community Center.

"We have planned some Garth Road improvements Phases 1 and 2 will widen Garth

Road from FM 1942 to Asheville Cove. We'll also be realigning some curves along there as well," he said.

His favorite project, however, is a new baseball field in Gene Russell Park.

"I've talked with former Baytown Mayor Stephen Don Carlos, and we've got the final details worked out. It's about a \$10 million investment and it will be one of the nicest, Triple A kind of ball fields," he said. Ramsey said he believed the area high school teams will want to play there and will also try to host some Little League events as well.

The investment is a combined effort of the county, city of Baytown, and private donor.

Current and Back Issues are available on our website: [www.starcouriernews.com](http://www.starcouriernews.com)

# Crosby ISD students excel in service, academics, and athletics,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

high school players demonstrated our Portrait of a Graduate through kindness and service-mindedness. They were able to be role models and good friends with students who face cognitive and physical challenges. Our boys did a great job making their baseball buddies feel like they were one of the team. Thank you to Coach McMurry and all the staff members who assisted our student-athletes making the day so special for some very special friends.

This month, I was honored to attend a recognition ceremony for JROTC cadets at Crosby Middle School. The cadets earned 75 certificates this school year, for everything from good grades to 30 hours of emergency response training. The cadets, who were recognized on Tuesday, February 18, represent a fraction of the total cadet corps for JROTC at Crosby High School and Crosby Middle School, which is well over 150 students. For example, one cadet in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, Cadet Staff Sergeant Elizabeth Spencer, received 12 certificates, making her the highest-ranking and most decorated cadet at Crosby Middle School.

Kudos to the Crosby ISD Technology Services team for helping testing week go smoothly. Approximately 5,500 Milestone 2 exams were administered during the week of February 17. Milestone 2 Exams are a follow-up to the Milestone 1 exams given in November. The Milestone 2 is a little more rigorous and prepares our students for the state assessment tests that cover core content areas in April and May. There were no major testing issues, and that's a testament to our testing coordinators and district technicians!

This month, the district named the following educators as HAABE (Houston Area Association for Bilingual Education) Award Winners: Ms. Veronica Barrientos (Crosby ISD Leadership Champion Award); Ms. Linda De Loa Rosa (Crosby Kindergarten Center Bilingual Teacher of the Year & Crosby ISD Bilingual Teacher of the Year); Ms. Carrie Quinn (Crosby Kindergarten Center ESL Teacher of the Year); Ms. Silvia Salazar (Newport Elementary School Bilingual Teacher of the Year); Ms. Traci Oney (Crosby Elementary School ESL Teacher of the Year); Ms. Andrea Diaz (Drew Elementary School Bilingual Teacher of



Crosby High School baseball players did a great job making their baseball buddies feel like they were one of the team. Thank you to Coach McMurry and all the staff members who assisted our student-athletes making the day so special for some very special friends.

the Year); Ms. Tashana Wright (Drew Elementary School ESL Teacher of the Year); Ms. Paola Rodriguez (Drew Elementary School Rising Star Bilingual Teacher of the Year and Crosby ISD Rising Star Bilingual Teacher of the Year); Mr. Jorge Salas (Barrett Elementary School Bilingual Teacher of the Year); Mr. Ruben Galicia (Barrett Elementary School ESL Teacher of the Year and Crosby ISD Elementary ESL Teacher of the Year); Ms. Laura Wilson (Crosby Middle School ESL Teacher of the Year and Crosby ISD Secondary ESL Teacher of the Year); and Ms. Maegan Hensley (Crosby High School ESL Teacher of the Year). Way to go!

We are so proud that a Crosby High School student proved to be one of the best high school singers in Texas! Crosby High School sophomore and tenor, Eduardo Palomo, earned the distinction of performing with the 2025 All-State Bass-Tenor Choir during the TMEA (Texas Music Educators Association) conference in San Antonio. The audition process was daunting, but Eduardo proved he is among the top 2.6% of student-musicians in the state and earned a spot in an All-State ensemble. Keep singing, Eduardo!

From music to midfield, there is a lot to celebrate in athletics as well. Crosby High School Head Softball Coach Troy Fox earned his 300<sup>th</sup> coaching career win during the Comal ISD tournament. The CHS softball team dominated their two games and came home with some hardware for the 2-game sweep. Junior pitcher Tori Dahnke was also



Superintendent Dr. Patterson congratulates JROTC 8<sup>th</sup> grade cadet, Staff Sergeant Elizabeth Spencer, who received 12 certificates on Tuesday, February 18, making her the highest-ranking and most decorated cadet at Crosby Middle School.



This month, the BES Flag Crew learned proper flag etiquette. You can now see them outside each morning and afternoon raising and lower the U.S. and Texas flags.



Members of the National Elementary Honor Society at Barrett Elementary School have formed the "BES Flag Crew." They received training from Crosby High School JROTC instructor, Sergeant Allen Rollins.

named to the All-Tournament Team. We're looking for great things when softball begins district play on March 4! Let's also share

shoutouts for two new members of the 1,000-point club in basketball. Crosby High School junior Evan Egans and senior Lamaya Clark each earned that special milestone during the regular season. The typical high school player who reaches the 1,000-point club averages about 15 to 20 points per game. That's impressive! We're happy to also share that the CHS boys and girls basketball squads both ended the regular season as co-district champs!

We are Committed to Excellence! Go Coogs!



Crosby High School sophomore and tenor, Eduardo Palomo, poses for photograph with CHS choir director, Ms. Bridget Perez. Eduardo earned the distinction of performing with the 2025 All-State Bass-Tenor Choir during the TMEA (Texas Music Educators Association) conference in San Antonio. Eduardo is among the top 2.6% of student-musicians in the state.

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# New Study reveals huge Cancer Cluster in East Harris County,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of land comparable to the island nation of Singapore. The findings affect a vast number of people," she said.

A small group of members in the community have been fighting to get changes, but almost to no avail.

"Many of us who have spent over a decade fighting for our community may never live to see the benefits of our work, but we keep pushing forward because at the end of the day, we can't go back. We can continue to fight for a cleaner environment for the future generations, because they will call this place home."

Harris County Pct. 3 Commissioner Tom Ramsey didn't mince words.

"I've been doing engineering for over 40 years. We've known about the San Jacinto River Waste Pits site. It's historic in terms of what people know," he said. "And yet we sit here and let people come up with plans to remediate. I can tell you, Mr. Hennigan, those attorneys got paid to do exactly what those attorneys did: delay, delay, delay. When you delay, the superfund site gets washed into probably the most important environmental fishing area that you could ever have—the bay of Galveston and that's a huge deal," he said.

While some danced around naming the responsible parties, Ramsey did not.

"I'll tell you their name, Waste Management International Paper. It's not like they don't have assets. If Waste Management has enough money to go sponsor a golf tournament, then I think they would have enough money to clean up our waste pits on the east side. It's time that they do it. They have delayed it way too long," the commissioner told reporters.

Another concern is protec-

tion for workers and the disturbance of the superfund site while the construction for a bigger and better bridge will be built by TxDOT in the next two years.

"Every time there's a hurricane, there's problems with the barges on the north side. We need to get rid of them," he said.

Ramsey detailed how the water from the pits themselves present a real danger to those downstream.

"There's 100 reasons why we need to do this. Not an 'Okay, when we get around to it,' but we need it done urgently," he said.

He was insistent that the new bridge not be built until the removal of the pits.

"That's a pressure point and also the barge issue," he said. "If the EPA has to take over the project (from the responsible parties), then they have to take it over."

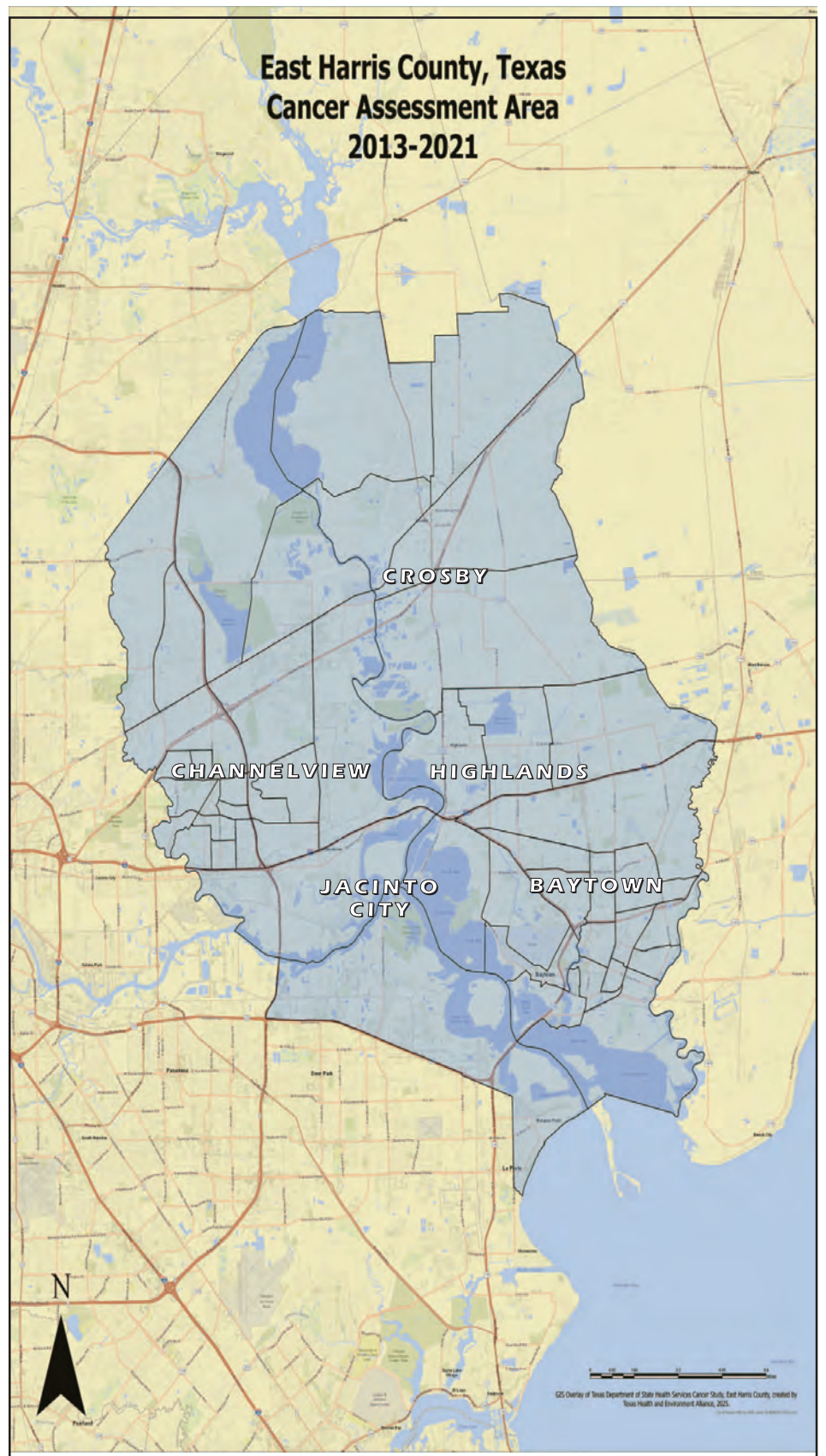
Medcalf, who has also battled cancer, said she would work to see this through.

"It's time for our state and

our federal government to stop acting, or to start acting. We will meet in the coming days with Texas Department of State Health Services and discuss with them some of the items omitted from this study and find out what their plan of action is based on the findings that we do have. For the EPA, we are calling on you to uphold the promise you made to our community after Hurricane Harvey and get the pit out of our river. We simply can't afford to wait any longer," she said.

More information is forthcoming on the report and where it will be available to the public.

"I look forward to getting this cleaned up. We're not going to be quiet. We've been quiet far too long and people are dying because of our silence. If we start now, maybe we can protect our grandchildren and our great grandchildren and others as this area continues to develop," Commissioner Ramsey said.



Dealing with the loss of a loved one is never easy, but maybe these guys can help!

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## ENTERTAINMENT

### Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

WAIT TILL YOUR FATHER GETS HOME, MISTER!

YOU ARE IN A WHOLE HEAP OF TROUBLE. JUST YOU WAIT AND SEE.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE KEEPING AN EYE ON YOUR SON! DO YOU KNOW WHAT HE DID?

WHY IS IT WHEN YOU DO SOMETHING WRONG I'M THE ONE WHO GETS IN MORE TROUBLE?

by BUD BLAKE

QUIT BOTHERING ME, HILSO

IF YOU DON'T GET AWAY FROM ME I'LL SLAP YOUR FACE!

BIG DEAL

I'LL PUNCH YOU SILLY! PHOOEY

I'LL SCRATCH YOUR EYES OUT!

DON'T SCARE ME

The Spats by Jeff Pickering

DO YOU LIKE DOVE CHOCOLATE?

I SURE DO!!

...IT TASTES WAY BETTER THAN THEIR SOAP

Weekly SUDOKU

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS by HENRY BOLTINOFF

TREES

MORE TREES

THIS IS A TREE

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Sign is lower; 2. Log is moved; 3. Thumb is moved; 4. Jacket is longer; 5. Cap is different; 6. Log is moved; 7. Elbow patch is longer; 8. Sign is lower; 9. Log is moved; 10. Thumb is moved; 11. Jacket is longer; 12. Cap is different; 13. Log is moved; 14. Elbow patch is longer.

### February 24, 2025 Posting Date King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Doubtful or Dalloway

4 Pesky insect

8 Blaze

12 "Alley —"

13 Verdi heroine

14 Booty

15 Sugar suffix

16 Some online essays

18 Doppler device

20 "Diamonds" singer

21 Brzezinski of MSNBC

24 Group character

28 Coin that keeps turning up

32 Stitched

33 Artist Yoko

34 "— luck!"

36 Actor Stephen

37 Euro fraction

39 Pub game

41 Cognizant

43 "No seats" signs

44 Olympics chant

46 Loan shark's crime

50 Ginsberg and Kerouac, for two

55 — Maria

7 Labels

8 Parade attractions

9 Cyclades island

10 Decay team

11 UFO engineers

17 Diner dessert

19 Sound booster

22 Handle

23 Poker payments

25 Medal earner

26 Actor Clive

27 Hitch

28 — Raton, Fla.

29 From the start

30 Lady of Spain

31 Belgian river

35 Stirs up

38 "We hold these — to be ..."

40 Letter addenda, for short

42 Sixth sense

45 Top-notch

47 Beehive State

48 Get up

49 Tibetan herd

50 "Kapow!"

51 Before

52 Play segment

53 Where Lux. is

54 Ring decision

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Trivia Test Answers

1. "Love, American Style"; 2. Agatha Christie; 3. Chicago, Illinois; 4. The Rio Grande; 5. Jupiter; 6. Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and Colorado; 7. Pollination by the wind; 8. 5 pounds; 9. An intense dust storm; 10. 1,000

King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

ACROSS

1 DUBIOUS

4 BEETLE

8 FIRE

12 ALLEY

13 VERDI

14 BOOTY

15 SUGAR

16 ONLINE

18 DOPPLER

20 DIAMONDS

21 BRZEZINSKI

24 GROUP

28 COIN

32 STITCHED

33 YOKO

34 LUCK

36 STEPHEN

37 EURO

39 PUB

41 COGNIZANT

43 NO SEATS

44 OLYMPICS

46 LOAN SHARK

50 GINSBERG

55 MARIA

7 LABELS

8 PARADE

9 CYCLADES

10 DECAY

11 UFO

17 DINER

19 SOUND

22 HANDLE

23 POKER

25 MEDAL

26 CLIVE

27 HITCH

28 RATON

29 FROM

30 LADY

31 BELGIAN

35 STIRS

38 WE

40 LETTER

42 SIXTH

45 TOP

47 BEEHIVE

48 GET

49 TIBETAN

50 KAPOW

51 BEFORE

52 PLAY

53 WHERE

54 RING

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. TELEVISION: The show "Happy Days" is a spinoff of which older sitcom?

2. LITERATURE: Which author created the character Hercule Poirot?

3. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Where is Barack Obama's presidential library located?

4. GEOGRAPHY: What river forms part of the border between the United States and Mexico?

5. ASTRONOMY: Which planet in our solar system has the strongest gravitational field?

6. U.S. STATES: Which four states intersect at the Four Corners monument?

7. SCIENCE: What is anemophily?

8. MOVIES: How much does an Oscar award trophy weigh?

9. WEATHER: What is a haboob?

10. MEASUREMENTS: How many millimeters are in a meter?

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# LEADING CANCER CARE in Baytown

At Houston Methodist Neal Cancer Center, our dedicated oncologists are working to stop cancer using the latest innovations in research, treatments and technology. From genetic screenings and clinical trials to advanced imaging and robotic surgery, our cutting-edge cancer care is available in Baytown.

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