

Barrett TX 150 yrs of History



Fred Barrett delivered the history of Barrett Settlement from 1,850 to 1930. Barrett is a descendant of Harrison Barrett, the founder of the town. See Pages 1,5

HIGHLANDS CROSBY

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Barrett Celebrates 150 years of History and Legacy

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

Barrett, Texas, a historically significant community founded by freed slaves after the Civil War, marked its 150th anniversary with a celebration that drew over 650 attendees to the Riley Chambers Community Center. The event blended reflections on the town's rich legacy with tributes to its founding principles of faith, family, education, and land ownership.

Fred Barrett, great-grandson of the town's founder Harrison Barrett, addressed the crowd with stirring words of gratitude and pride.

"It is my great honor and privilege to welcome you to this 150th celebration of the founding of Barrett, Texas. Harrison Barrett, my great-grandfather, believed in God, family, owning land, and education. These four pil-



Roger Barrett was the Grand Marshal for the 150th celebration of Barrett, Texas and Juneteenth.



Family member from the Fred Barrett family, descendants of founder Harrison Barrett, rode in the parade honoring their relative.

lars have guided our community through generations and continue to ensure its strength today," he said.

Barrett Settlement's origins trace back to Harrison Barrett's determination to reunite his family after their separation during slavery. Fred Barrett shared the story of Harrison's journey, saying, "By 1875, Harrison had located all his

scattered family except one sister. On June 19 of that year, the family celebrated their reunion and declared their land their home. This marked the establishment of Barrett Settlement."

The town flourished despite obstacles, thanks to Barrett's belief in hard work and resilience. Fred highlighted Harrison's achievements, noting that "He earned money from

training horses, selling timber, and operating a mill, all while helping sustain his family. Harrison knew that God had blessed him and expected his talents to be used for the good of all."

The celebration also reflected on the challenges faced by freed slaves in acquiring land. Harrison Barrett purchased 129 acres for 50 cents an acre from F.A. White in 1889,

property that would become the foundation of Barrett Settlement.

"While others faced discrimination and barriers, Harrison's determination and resourcefulness ensured that our family's legacy was built on land ownership and community," Fred Barrett added.

Harris County Precinct 3 Commissioner Tom Ramsey praised the community's resilience and

contribution to Texas history, saying, "This tremendous milestone serves as a testimony to the strength and resilience of the families that call Barrett their home. May the next 150 years be filled with even greater achievements than the first."

The event also included reflections on Barrett's growth during the 1920s, fueled by jobs from local industries such as the Humble Oil refinery and Houston Ship Channel. The 1927 Great Mississippi Flood brought new residents seeking safety and opportunity. Barrett's inclusive environment and strong sense of community welcomed them, solidifying its reputation as a beacon of hope.

Constable Sherman Eagleton underscored Barrett's enduring small-town

Continued. See CROSBY SUPERINTENDENT, Page 2

IN THE STARS

Klobassa Festival Saturday June 21
Crosby Knights of Columbus Klobassa Festival, Saturday June 21st from 11am - 5pm. at 915 Runneburg Road, Crosby. Live Music, Car Show, Raffle, and Dinner Plates. Raffle Tickets \$10, Dinner Plates \$15, Live Auction. All Proceeds go to Help Sacred Heart Catholic Church and Youth Groups. Info 713-819-4912.

Stratford Library Book Sale June 28
The Friends of the Stratford Library are having a book sale on June 28 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The revenue from the sales will support the Children's Summer programming, various classes throughout the year and special needs of the library.

CROSBY SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Crosby ISD unveils exciting expansion and leadership changes as summer kicks off

Hello East Harris County and Crosby ISD families,

What a great start to the summer! If you've recently driven by Crosby Middle School on FM 2100, you will see a bright and shiny building gleaming in the beautiful June sun! We want to thank proud Crosby High School Class of 2020 graduate, Armando Reyes, for applying a little TLC to CMS. Armando is the owner of Reyes Pressure Washing, and he does a wonderful job deep cleaning the facades, walkways, and driveways of district facilities. We thank Armando for his pressure washing skills and always



Dr. Paula Patterson
Crosby Superintendent

making sure Crosby ISD looks great. We love all our alumni who give back!

Crosby ISD students rocked the Crosby Fair and Rodeo this year. They won top prizes for horticulture,

Continued. See CROSBY SUPERINTENDENT, Page 2



On June 3 and June 4, district and campus administrators from across Crosby ISD came together for an administrative academy to strategize on district and campus initiatives for the 2025-26 school year. This year's Cougar Commitment theme will be Committed to Students.

Brother, Sister Shine at Crosby Fair and Rodeo



It was a family affair in the Market Steer division at the Crosby Fair and Rodeo last week with cousins Presley, JJ, and Peyton placing one, two, and three. From left, Presley Brown 3rd place Market Steer, JJ Givans Reserve Champion Market Steer, and Peyton Givans Grand Champion Market Steer. Peyton and JJ are brother and sister. This was the highest finish ever for Peyton and JJ's first year to show. It was Peyton's second year in a row to win Grand Champion Market Steer.

Continued. See SIBLINGS PEYTON & JJ GIVANS, Page 5

THEA Pushes for greater Transparency on Toxic Waste Pits Cleanup, Cancer Clusters

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

The Texas Health and Environment Alliance (THEA), a nonprofit focused on protecting public health and the environment, has ramped up its advocacy for addressing critical health and environmental concerns in communities near the San Jacinto River. During a recent meeting, Jackie Medcalf, founder and executive director of THEA, addressed the organization's ongoing efforts and frustrations.

In 2015, a study conducted by the Texas Department of State Health Services identified elevated rates of several types of



THEA founder Jackie Medcalf discusses the latest difficulties in a long list of challenges with the EPA cleanup of the San Jacinto River Superfund Waste Pits.

cancer, including leukemia and lymphoma, in a 257-square-mile area. An updated report, released in 2024, confirmed these findings but lacked detailed

data breakdowns by census tract and omitted next-step recommendations.

Medcalf expressed disappointment over the state health department's handling of the study.

"They have the data. They have all this information. They're just withholding it from the community and the public, and that's a problem," she said. "We firmly believe that data of the community should live with the community."

THEA has made formal requests for more detailed information from the health department, but as of May, the group received a terse response: "At this

Continued. See SIBLINGS PEYTON & JJ GIVANS, Page 5

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Crosby ISD celebrates achievements, expansions, and new leadership as summer begins,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

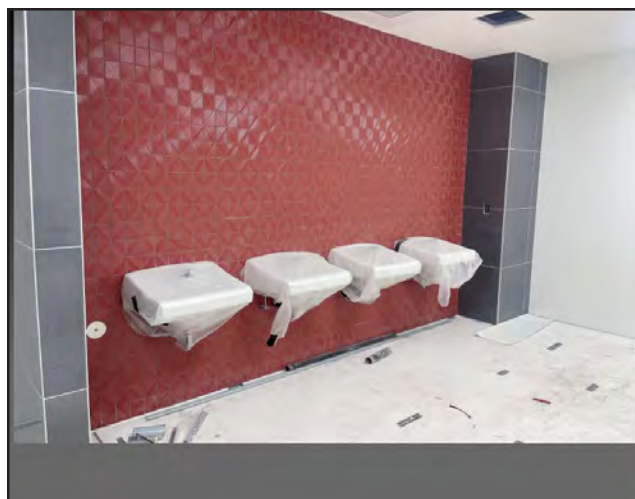
cooking, crafting, agriculture mechanic projects, and livestock competitions. I had a chance to attend the buyers' dinner, award show, and auction on Thursday, June 5. The Crosby Fair and Rodeo is one of the biggest events of the year for our communities, and it's wonderful that more than \$100,000 each year is raised to benefit our students. This year, Crosby ISD leaders had a chance to take a field trip to the rodeo on Tuesday, June 3. We had a chance to see up close all the wonderful projects our students dreamed up and then made a reality. I had a chance to spend a little time with Class of 2025 graduate Bryce Wheeler. He created what is essentially a tiny home complete with porch light and corrugated roof. I say it everywhere I go: our students are the best and blessed with wonderful abilities.

Crosby ISD had a chance to celebrate Barrett Station's Founders Day Parade on June 14, marking 150 years since the founding in 1875. Barrett Station has some of the richest African-American history in Harris County and Texas, including a replica homestead that members of the founding families first lived in. I am a proud descendant of one of the founding families, as is Board of Trustees Secretary, Heather Barrett. It was wonderful to see so many people waving and saluting 150 years of history this month. Kudos to all who coordinated the Founders Day celebration.

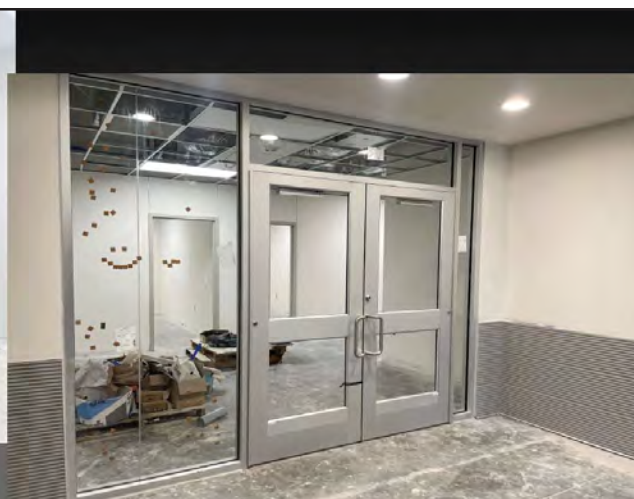
This summer is the homestretch for the expansion of Crosby High School. Since the Board of Trustees and I hosted a groundbreaking ceremony in July 2024, construction crews have been working diligently for more than a year on the new academic wing and expanded CTE (Career and Technical Education) Center. The academic expansion has 32 classrooms and eight science labs. The CTE center has additional workshops for welding and carpentry. In all, the expansion will increase classroom and lab space inside CHS by 50% and make room for 912 additional students in the high school. Each room and every inch of square footage has been amplified to encourage the best instruction possible for our students. We added four additional classrooms to the original design of the academic wing. We are turning a former storage room in the current structure of CHS into two new classrooms. The final touches on the expansion include tile installation in hallways, vinyl installation of floors, restroom fixture installation, acoustical ceiling installation, and final painting. The expansion will open this fall as the Gray House, joining the Red House and



Crosby Middle School before and after photos. Crosby High School Class of 2020 graduate, Armando Reyes, and his company, Reyes Pressure Washing, gave CMS a makeover this month. CMS is looking great!



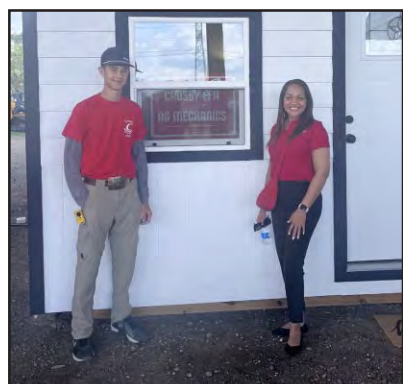
Bathrooms, classrooms, and office storefronts are coming together inside the Crosby High School expansion. The expansion will open this fall, adding 50% more classroom and laboratory space to CHS.



Barrett Elementary School Principal Dr. Ornelas is all smiles with two BES students competing at the Crosby Fair and Rodeo this month. Crosby ISD district and campus administrators took a field trip to the Crosby Fairgrounds to see student projects and competition livestock up close.



Crosby ISD campus and district administrators visited the Crosby Fair and Rodeo this month to support students and their projects. Newport Elementary School student Jackson Pogue explains his 4H horticulture project to Principal Ann Price.



Crosby High School Class of 2025 graduate, Bryce Wheeler, shows off his ag mechanic project to Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Paula Patterson, at the Crosby Fair and Rodeo. Wheeler built a tiny home complete with a porch light and corrugated roof.



The Crosby High School expansion includes new state-of-the-art welding and carpentry labs. The expansion will open this fall as the Gray House, joining the Red House and White House at Crosby High School.



All elementary principals in Crosby ISD took a photograph together at the Crosby Fair and Rodeo. From left to right: Principal Ann Price (Newport Elementary School); Principal Kellie Hall (Drew Elementary School); Principal Herlinda Minor (Crosby Kindergarten Center); Principal Dr. Ahime Ornelas (Barrett Elementary School); and Principal Dana Kratky-Fox (Crosby Elementary School).

White House at Crosby High School. We are so proud of this construction project which is the first new school construction project since 2016. The expansion is being paid for by monies from the 2017 voter-approved bond.

There will be new faces, new promotions, and familiar faces in new roles this coming school year. We want to welcome back Mr. Ty Holder, who will be an Assistant Principal at Crosby High School, and also welcome back Mr. Gerard Kwiatkowski (known affectionately as "Mr. K"), as the new Secondary Math Coordinator. Mr. Holder previously served as an Assistant Principal at CMS, while Mr. K. previously worked as an instructional coach and math department chair at CMS. We also want to welcome Ms. Haley Miller as the district's new RELA coordinator for PK-2nd grade. Welcome back and welcome aboard!

These new folks joined all other district and campus leaders for the two-day Administrative Academy on June 3 and June 4. We dove into the student achievement data from each campus, as we collectively strategized how to continue the momentum we are seeing at all campuses when it comes to test scores. We also unveiled our theme for the 2025-26 school year. We are in the middle of a five-year strategic plan outlining Cougar Commitments: Excellence, Students, Staff, Service, and Community. In 2024-25, we were Committed to Excellence. In 2025-26, we will be Committed to Students. I love that our district and campus leaders can also model the fun of learning, and they sure did on Day 2! We hosted a retro fashion show as each leader wore an outfit like what they wore in high school or middle school. Hello, 80's, 90's, and 2000's! One principal even wore an exact outfit she wore at Crosby High School when she was a student. It was a great fun session and great work to benefit our students in the coming year.

A reminder that registration and verification of new and returning students is available. We have a deadline of July 24 for families to complete the process so that they can secure transportation for the first day of school and teacher assignments for Meet the Teacher nights in August. Families can find the information on www.crosbyisd.org.

I hope our families are having a wonderful summer break. Relax, reset, and recharge! The first day of school will be Thursday, August 7. We can't wait to see our students back in class ready for another exciting year of growing and learning all new things.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2025

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

ON THE HILL

MB - Stay Informed

Register for Mont Belvieu INFOrcer alerts. Mont Belvieu INFOrcer Alerts are important notifications sent by the City of Mont Belvieu directly to residents.

These notifications include information and updates on emergencies, traffic, road construction, amber alerts, water issues, evacuations, and much more.

Listen to instructions from local officials for information on evacuation times and routes. After the storm, stay at your destination until advised to return home by local officials.

And, be sure to join us at this year's Hurricane Preparedness Workshop on **Thursday, June 5th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.** at the Eagle Pointe Golf Course Pavilion for more tips from Mont Belvieu Fire Department and Emergency Management Team!

www.smart911.com/smart911/ref/registration?pa=montbelvieu

Rock The Park Summer Concerts

Get Ready to Rock: Mont Belvieu's 2025 "Rock The Park" Lineup is Here!

We hope you're ready to turn up the volume because the City of Mont Belvieu's **Rock The Park is back for 2025!** Our free concert series is bringing an electric lineup to **Mont Belvieu City Park** (10900 Eagle Dr.) that'll have you singing, dancing, and making the most of those perfect Texas nights.

This year, we've got something for everyone: **June 13 – The Chee-Weez (80's Tribute Band)** (8:00 p.m.)

July 4 Celebration Braedon Barnhill – 4:00 p.m.

John Morgan – 5:30 p.m.

Stoney LaRue – 7:30 p.m.

"We are excited to bring Rock The Park back this year," said **Dustin Schubert**,

MontBelvieu Parks and Recreation Director. "Great music, delicious food, and an amazing crowd—what's not to love? It's always a fantastic time for the whole family, and we're looking forward to some truly unforgettable concerts."

For full details on the bands, food vendors, and all the fun extras happening on concert nights, visit www.montbelvieu.net/concerts.

Visit our New Website for Chambers County News: www.BHDPRESS.com

Travis Young Named Superintendent for Dayton ISD

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

Dayton ISD has officially welcomed Travis Young as its new superintendent, marking an inspiring new chapter for the district. A Dayton native and lifelong Bronco, Young brings decades of experience and passion for education to his new role. His appointment comes at a time when the district is poised for growth and progress amidst the changes in the local community.

In reflecting on his journey, Young shared, "My parents and grandparents always emphasized the importance of education. Their encouragement has driven me to not only pursue knowledge but also to give back to my community. It's an honor to step into this role and continue to serve Dayton ISD."

Young's career path exemplifies dedication. Starting as a teacher and coach at Dayton High School, he steadily advanced to roles including assistant principal, principal, and, most recently, assistant superintendent of student services. Such a journey has equipped him



Native Dayton resident and graduate Dr. Travis Young has been named the new superintendent for Dayton ISD. Young succeeds former superintendent Dr. Jessica Johnson.

with insights into the needs of students, educators, and families alike.

"My first teaching job taught me that students thrive when they know their teachers truly care about them," Young explained. "That lesson has guided me throughout my career, and I'm committed to fostering an environment that prioritizes student success and well-being at every level."

Young's vision for Dayton ISD is clear and ambitious. Under his leadership, the district aims to enhance opportunities for students by expanding Career and Technical Education (CTE)

Dual Credit courses, increasing access to high school credits for junior high students, and emphasizing early literacy and math proficiency for elementary learners.

"The Class of 2025 has already set a high standard, with an anticipated 97 percent earning College, Career, and Military Readiness distinctions. We will continue building on these successes," Young said.

Despite the construction of new homes within the district, Young noted that student enrollment has not yet seen a significant spike. However, he emphasized the importance of

preparing for future growth and maintaining strong partnerships with all stakeholders.

"Our community is integral to our success, and together, we can ensure Dayton ISD remains a place where students and staff thrive."

Young also credits his predecessor, Dr. Jessica Johnson, for helping prepare him for the role.

"Dr. Johnson has been an incredible mentor. Her leadership and guidance have been invaluable, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to follow in her footsteps. Serving as superintendent is challenging but immensely rewarding, especially when we see the success of our students and staff."

As Young steps into his new role, his commitment to faith, family, and community remains central. "My late parents, Joe E. Young and Marilyn D. Baldwin, were graduates of Dayton schools. Their legacy inspires me every day to prioritize education and strive for excellence."

The former Mr. Dayton High School was inspired by his late grandmother who served in Dayton ISD

as a custodian. Young's story ascending to the top office in the district is inspiring to all.

He also gave thanks to all the teachers, coaches, and administrators who influenced him throughout his journey.

Outside of his day job, Young's thirst for education and teaching doesn't stop.

"I am committed to upholding my faith and actively participating in my church community. I value spending quality time with my family and friends. Additionally, I serve as a mentor in the youth development program of my fraternity, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. (Houston Alumni Chapter), where I work with young men to support their preparation for college, career, or military service after graduation."

Johnson not only mentored Young into his current position, but she also taught him Pre-Algebra in eighth grade. Her confidence in him then and now is a tribute to Young's commitment to Dayton ISD.

"Every day is a great day to be a Bronco," he smiled.

Hurricane Season Starts Now—Be Prepared, Harris County!

HOUSTON – With the start of the 2025 hurricane season, Harris County Public Health (HCPH) is encouraging all community members to take proactive steps to prepare for severe weather and potential public health impacts. Hurricane season runs from June 1 to November 30, and early planning is crucial for ensuring safety, well-being, and a smooth recovery.

HCPH emphasizes the importance of creating a personal emergency plan, especially for

households with older adults, young children, individuals with disabilities, and those with chronic medical conditions. All community members are urged to:

- Build an emergency kit with essential supplies, including medications, water, non-perishable food, first aid items, and important documents.

- Know your evacuation zone and review local shelter options in advance.

- Make a family communication plan in case of displacement or sep-

aration.

- Stay informed by following trusted local sources like the National Weather Service.

Hurricanes and tropical storms can lead to power outages, flooding, and disruption of critical health services. These risks can worsen underlying health conditions, delay care, and increase exposure to harmful environments. Preparation not only helps protect individual households, but it also strengthens community resilience.

For more hurricane

preparedness tips and resources, visit the Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management's emergency preparedness website. Also, Ready.gov offers tools and resources for community members seeking relevant personal and family assistance.

Additionally, HCPH's Public Health Preparedness & Response Division offers health-related emergency preparedness resources and information, including the "Disasters and Your

Health" booklet in 10 languages. Community members can contact the State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR) to register for evacuation assistance by calling 211 or (877) 541-7905, Option 4.

For pet owners, visit <https://bit.ly/4a8DfBs> for weather preparedness resources and tips.

Follow HCPH on Facebook, Instagram, and X (formerly Twitter) for updates and additional resources.

Parents Charged with Making Gun Accessible to Teen Accused of Murdering 14 yrs-old Anaya Zachary in Baytown

The parents of the teen who killed 14-year-old Anaya Zachary in Baytown have been charged with providing access to the weapon used in the shooting.

Kenneth Coney, 61, and Cassie Coney, 37, have both been charged with making a firearm accessible to a child, a misdemeanor. At the time of this writing, they are not in police custody.

Authorities are arguing that the parents did not secure the gun in a way that prevented their 14-year-old son from accessing it and using it in the tragic attack.

The incident happened on March 21. The Coneys' son, who attended Baytown Junior High School, was riding home on the school bus when he got into an argument with Zachary. The altercation escalated, and the teen threatened to kill her.

After being dropped off at home, he entered his parents' bedroom and retrieved a black Taurus .38 special revolver that he knew his parents kept in a travel bag on the floor near their bed. He told authorities that he became aware of the gun's location roughly three weeks before the murder while he was searching their room for hair trimmers.

After taking the gun, he went to an apartment complex in Baytown and shot Zachary in the chest and abdomen, before returning home and placing the weapon back in the bedside bag.

Later that day, officials obtained a search warrant of the Coneys' home, where the revolver was quickly discovered in the bag. There was no lock found on the bag, and the single zipper made it readily accessible to the teen.

The teen admitted to shooting Zachary to authorities, and he was charged with murder.

The day after the shooting, officials attempted to speak to both parents, but they refused to provide a statement. They also refused to talk to case workers with Child Protective Services.

CPS employees informed officers that the Coneys had retained an attorney.

Mustang Martha- The Screenplay Experience

MUSTANG MARTHA: The Screenplay Experience — A Night of Baytown Storytelling!

Do you remember the legendary "Purple Planter" that turned heads in 1994? That unforgettable hot-pink Mustang filled with flowers, sitting proudly in front of Baytown Motors (now Frank's Collision) started as a quirky promo for a local auto body shop but quickly became a symbol of artistic rebellion when the City cited it as a violation of the Junk Car Ordinance. But Martha Barnett—one of the only female body shop owners at the time—stood her ground and fought back.

Now, her incredible story is being brought to life in MUSTANG MARTHA, a fictionalized film inspired by true events that happened right here in Baytown. And we want YOU to be part of it!

Join us for **Mustang Martha: The Screenplay Experience**, a one-night-only staged reading of the award-winning screenplay, performed in partnership with Baytown Little Theater and featuring local actors from the BLT community. This is your chance to hear the story straight from the page, experience the laughs, heart, and hometown pride—and give your feedback directly to the filmmakers!

Date: Saturday, June 28th
VIP Pre-Event @ 5:30 PM (\$50): As a thank you for helping bring this film to life, mingle over cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, meet Writer/Direc-

tor Jenny Waldo and Producer Joy Willard and hear how this script came to be and plans for production!— Silent Auction: Support the film and take home something special! *Mustang Martha is fiscally sponsored by the non-profit From the Heart Productions, making your donations tax-deductible!*

Live Reading @ 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM (\$25): Watch the script come alive on stage, followed by a community talkback session.

Baytown is more than just the backdrop—this community is the soul of the story. Be a part of the filmmaking journey from the very beginning and help shape how Baytown is represented on screen.

Tickets are limited—reserve your spot now and be part of Baytown movie history! Directed by Jenny Waldo

Buy your tickets here: www.buy.ticketstothecity.com/venue.php?org_id=34

OPINION PAGE

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS
By Lt. Governor Dan Patrick



Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick Adjourns the Texas Senate Sine Die, Touts the Senate's Most Conservative and Successful Legislative Session
"Texans are the real winners this legislative session."

AUSTIN – Upon adjourning the Texas Senate *Sine Die*, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick issued this statement:

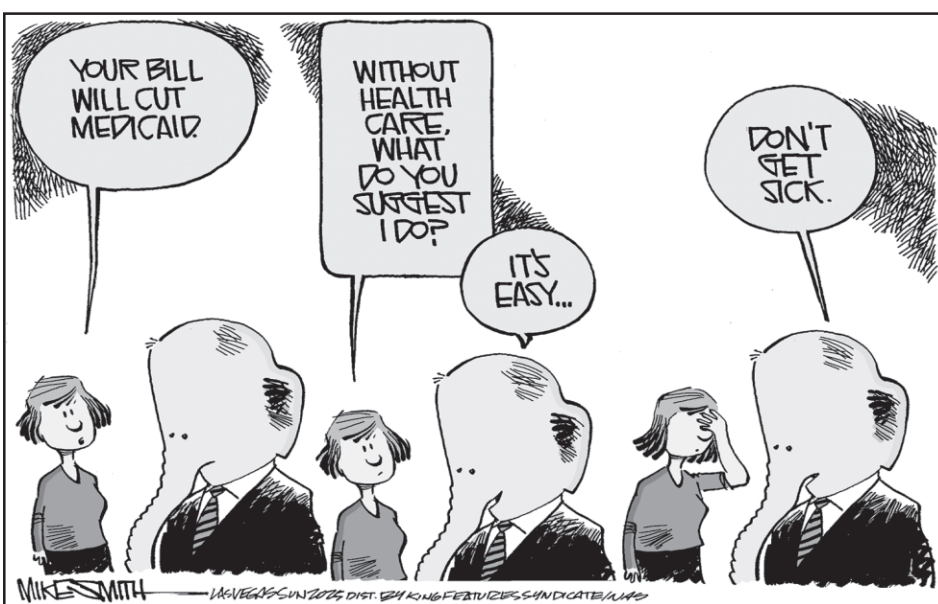
"Today, I adjourned the Texas Senate *Sine Die* for the 89th Regular Legislative Session. This session, the Texas Senate achieved victory after victory for Texans, passing many key bills that died in the Texas House during the 88th legislature.

"The Texas Senate passed all 40 of its priority bills to the House by April 29, setting a bold, conservative agenda to keep our state strong. Some key Senate victories include:

- Eliminating school property taxes for the average senior homeowner with a \$200,000 senior homestead exemption (\$140,000 homestead exemption for homeowners under age 65) and dedicating nearly 1 out of every 4 state dollars in our budget toward property tax relief (Senate Bill 1, SB 4, SB 23, Senate Joint Resolution 2, SJR 85)
- Launching the largest school choice program in American history (SB 2)
- Reforming bail to keep dangerous criminals behind bars (SB 9, SB 40, SJR 5)
- Investing billions of dollars to ensure Texas meets its future water needs (SB 7)
- Providing the largest teacher pay raise in Texas history
- Investing \$5 billion in strengthening Texas' electric grid (SB 1)
- Placing the Ten Commandments in public school classrooms (SB 10)
- Protecting the freedom to pray in public schools (SB 11)
- Requiring county law enforcement to comply with the federal government's deportation efforts, and establishing a homeland security division within the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) (SB 8, SB 36)
- Stopping taxpayer-funded abortion travel (SB 33)
- Providing significant business personal property tax relief
- Banning poisonous unregulated drugs sold near our schools (SB 3)
- Stopping foreign enemies from buying land in Texas (SB 17)
- Stopping AI-generated child pornography (SB 20)
- Guarding our children against inappropriate books in public schools (SB 13)
- Reforming liberal faculty control over universities (SB 37)
- Creating the Dementia Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (DPRIT) (SB 5, SJR 3)
- Establishing Texas as the #1 faith-based and family film producer in America (SB 22)
- Record-setting investments in children with disabilities (SB 568)
- Protecting Texas' true treasure, the Alamo (SB 3059)
- Ending the corrupt Texas Lottery Commission and moving the lottery to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) (SB 3070)
- Renaming the Gulf of Mexico the 'Gulf of America'
- Renaming the New York Strip the 'Texas Strip' – don't mess with Texas beef (New York only has dairy cattle)

"This session was a team effort. I want to thank all 31 senators and staff for their hard work and perseverance. None of these major victories would be possible without their dedication over the interim and session. I also want to thank Gov. Abbott and Speaker Burrows for their partnership

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. Please limit your words to about 200. Letters will be subject to editing. Thank you.



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By Gary Borders



Abbott has Until June 22 to Sign or Veto Bills

Texas legislators wrapped up the 89th session last week, passing more than 1,200 bills — 800 of which were sent to Gov. Greg Abbott in the last 10 days of the session, The Dallas Morning News reported.

Abbott has until June 22 to approve those that have not been signed, including the next two-year state budget. While the governor does not have the power to veto the entire \$338-billion budget, he does have line-item veto power over individual portions of it.

The Texas Constitution allows the governor to veto legislation, sign it, or allow it to go into law without his signature. All bills that passed with at least two-thirds of both chambers' approval cannot be vetoed. That means that all proposed constitutional amendments, which lawmakers passed by at least that margin, will go before voters in November. That includes proposed property tax relief for homeowners by raising the homestead exemption.

Abbott has not indicated which, if any, bills he will veto. He is facing considerable pressure from several groups, including veterans' organizations, to veto Senate Bill 3, which would ban all consumable hemp products containing tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana. Abbott also faces pressure from Republican state leaders, especially Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who led the charge to ban THC products, and law enforcement to sign it.

RURAL TEXANS SCORED BIG WINS IN SESSION

More than 3 million Texans live in rural areas across the state, The Texas Tribune reported, and the last session increased funding for them in several areas, including health care, agriculture, education, and emergency management.

Texas schools will receive \$8.5 billion in additional public education funding, with teachers in smaller districts receiving an \$8,000 raise if they have five or more years of teaching experience. Those with less than five years in the profession will get a \$4,000 raise.

A sweeping water bill will provide more money for rural Texas to address water and



wastewater projects. In addition, several bills address health care issues, including more money for rural hospitals. One measure creates a way to evaluate the financial health of rural hospitals and allows for updating reimbursement rates every two years.

"Because these things are now in statute, rural hospitals can count on it," John Henderson, CEO of the Texas Organization of Rural & Community Hospitals, said, "rather than worry about uncertainty related to renewals or budget cycles."

A grant program for rural counties to purchase ambulances was also passed.

Another measure expands a grant program that previously was limited to young farmers. The age restrictions have been lifted, and the amount available has increased from \$20,000 to \$500,000 with farmers paying a 10% match.

Finally, lawmakers passed a bill to establish a disaster recovery program for counties with fewer than 100,000 residents who have not received reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

IN-STATE TUITION FOR STUDENTS WITHOUT LEGAL STATUS ENDS

Texas has ended its policy of giving in-state tuition to college students who do not have legal status, the Texas Standard reported. Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton announced last week that the state had filed a joint motion with the federal Department of Justice to end the practice. The judge granted the motion.

"Ending this discriminatory and un-American provision is a major victory for Texas," Pax-

ton said in a statement.

The Justice Department had filed a complaint to stop the practice, which began in 2001 with the support of then-Gov. Rick Perry, claiming it discriminated against U.S. citizens not afforded the same privileges. At the time it began, Texas was the first state to do so, with 24 states now having similar policies.

A report from the President's Alliance on Higher Education and Immigration concluded there were about 57,000 students without legal status enrolled in Texas colleges and universities in 2022. The Austin American-Statesman reported that tuition costs would quadruple for students having to pay international student prices, citing tuition costs at the University of Texas and Austin Community College as examples.

JUDGES' PAY, LAWMAKER PENSIONS GET BOOST

One of the final bills passed in the recently concluded session would give a 25% raise to Texas judges, with base pay rising to \$175,000, The Tribune reported. If signed by Abbott, that also means legislative pensions, which are tied to judges' pay, would also rise.

A last-minute disagreement resulted in this being the final time the pensions are coupled with judicial pay. After that, the Texas Ethics Commission would take over assessing lawmaker pensions, as it does for per diem pay and other lawmaker benefits.

Texas judges' pay has been among the lowest in the nation. In the past, lawmakers have been reluctant to give a raise to judges since it was tied to their own pension, fearing voter blowback.

"Let's break this stalemate, support our judiciary and face the consequences together," state Rep. Brent Money, R-Greenville, said.

SAHARAN DUST RETURNS TO TEXAS

Saharan dust made its way into Texas late last week, bringing hazy skies to the eastern half of the state, the Statesman reported. The annual event likely won't be as intense as previous summers, but it can still affect people who have respiratory issues.

The dust is carried by winds across the Atlantic from the Saharan Desert. Besides sparking allergy symptoms, it provides colorful sunrises and sunsets, and poor air quality. It can also keep temperatures higher and the skies drier by trapping heat closer to the ground.

TEXANS URGED TO PREPARE FOR 2025 HURRICANE SEASON

Texans are being urged to be prepared and stay informed during the current hurricane season by the Public Utility Commission.

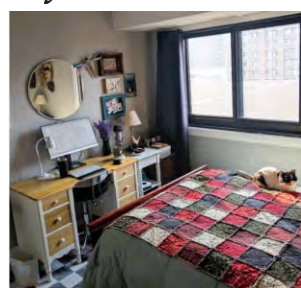
"Every Texan should take time to create or review their severe weather plans and prepare their families and property for a potential storm," PUC Chairman Thomas Gleeson said.

Potential power outages outages and restoration times can be tracked through the PUC's storm resources webpage: puc.texas.gov/storm.

Hurricane season began June 1 and ends on Nov. 30.

THE POSTSCRIPT
By Carrie Classon

A Smaller Life



My space is smaller than usual these days.

When my husband, Peter, and I bought a condo and moved to the city, Peter said we needed a little more room.

"I want two bathrooms!" Peter said. I'd never had two bathrooms in my home as an adult, but I was certainly fine with the idea in principle. Peter wanted a study where, in the mornings, he could do what he calls his "brooding." This is when Peter comes up with his finest ideas, I believe, although I can't confirm this because it is also the time of day when he prefers to be left alone to drink his coffee.

I also have a little office where I write. It has two doors which I keep wide open, because I like to know what both Peter and my cat, Felix, are up to.

But when we got back from Mexico this past spring, our bedroom was flooded, and it has taken this long to get a contractor to begin work. So, two days ago, we moved our bed into my office.

Peter thought we'd move into his den, but he already has a hide-a-bed sofa, and he rolls his bike in there to put it away and, of course, there is the morning brooding to work around. So I thought it would be easier if we just moved the bed into my office. I measured the old bed that Peter had inherited from his parents and determined I had 4 inches to spare between the footboard and the back of my office chair.

It has not been terrible, all in all.

Felix thinks that lounging in bed right behind me while I type is a great place to be. While I used to have a morning commute to work that was more than 20 feet, I have now reduced it to less than a foot, which naturally saves some time.

But more importantly, it's given me a new look at my house. I now wake looking up at the art that usually hangs over my reading chair. There are masks collected from around the world hanging on the wall, and looking at them from the underside in the morning sun is a new experience. The morning light is now coming in from the side, but the moonlight is more direct.

And it all reminds me of other rooms and smaller places I have lived in the past. It reminds me of being in my childhood bedroom, where I also had a desk and a bed in close proximity. It reminds me of when, at 50, I packed everything into the back of a pickup truck and went to grad school. I lived in a converted garage with hardwood floors and had a very similar setup—a private bath and a desk, a chair, a dog, a cat and a bed, all in one room. It was everything I needed.

That's how I feel now. I have everything I need within easy reach.

And I wonder, as I lie in this small room, if at the end of my life I'll again end up with everything I own in one small room. As I was thinking about it yesterday, it didn't seem like it would be so terrible to be permanently downsized to the point where all my possessions were within easy reach.

I started out with a smaller life. My life will probably end up smaller again. So right now, for a little while in between, I am enjoying having everything I need within easy reach.

Till next time,
Carrie

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Barrett, Texas celebrates 150 yrs of resilience and community spirit,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

spirit amidst its growth, saying, "It's growing, but the unity from that small community vibe is still here."

The celebration concluded with a message of gratitude for the enduring legacy of Harrison Barrett and the continued success of the Barrett community. As Fred Barrett said, "The fact that our town is still standing strong is a testament to Harrison's beliefs. He instilled his values into his family, and they have been passed down through generations. They still apply to our town of Barrett, Texas today."

Barrett, Texas, stands as a powerful symbol of resilience, unity, and progress, honoring its roots while striving toward a bright future for the next 150 years.



Senior Pastor Isreal Holmes and members of Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church in Barrett celebrate the auspicious occasion with an entry in the parade.



These young men are fishers of men celebrating the 150th anniversary of the founding of Barrett, Texas.



Members of the Crosby ISD school board and Crosby High School football team joined the celebration in the parade.



Children and their directors from Church are putting on the armor of the Lord and ready for spiritual battle.



Wilton and Verna Cook look at a display honoring their granddaughter who is only the second student from Barrett to graduate from Crosby High School as the valedictorian. Trinity Cook-Thompson will attend Harvard this year.



Doug Harris played his soprano saxophone for the crowd at the celebration of the 150th anniversary of Barrett, Texas.



Residents and family members were able to tour the exhibits honoring past and present Barrett distinguished citizens.



Harris County Pct. 3 Commissioner Tom Ramsey's staff drove construction vehicles in the parade symbolizing the new growth coming to Barrett.

Siblings Peyton and JJ Givans impress at Crosby Fair and Rodeo with top steer show honors,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

In a remarkable display of talent and dedication, siblings Peyton and JJ Givans have taken the steer show at the Crosby Fair and Rodeo by storm. Peyton, a sixth grader, secured the top honors of the Grand Champion Market Steer for the second consecutive year with her steer named "Mr. Clean." Meanwhile, her younger brother JJ, a third grader, earned the Reserve Champion Market Steer title with his steer named "Checkmate."

Peyton's achievement is nothing short of impressive. This marks her fourth year exhibiting a steer at the Crosby Fair and Rodeo, and she has already amassed an impressive resume. In her short time as an exhibitor, Peyton has placed Reserve Champion once and has won the show

twice. She has represented Crosby and Harris County 4H at major livestock shows, including the State Fair of Texas, Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo, Rodeo Austin, San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo, and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, all on multiple occasions. Despite her busy schedule, Peyton also plays soccer and participates in dance, but her true passion lies in the show barn.

"It's uncommon for someone as young as her to have such a great resume in the show ring," said her proud father, David Givans.

"She's won over 35 showmanship titles in such a short amount of time."

JJ, following in his sister's footsteps, made an impressive debut in the Rockin' C Arena this year. In his first attempt, JJ won

Reserve Champion Market Steer honors with his steer named "Checkmate," mirroring Peyton's success in her first year at Crosby. JJ has already exhibited in market steer shows at Fort Worth, San Antonio, Houston, and now Crosby. In addition to showing market steers, JJ also loves showing pigs and placed sixth overall at Crosby with his show pig named "The Hammer," purchased by North Shore Rotary.

"JJ looks to give his sister a run for her money in the show ring for years to come," said another family member. "And if that wasn't impressive enough, JJ is also already a member of the National Elementary Junior Honor Society."

The Givans family expressed their gratitude for the support they received at the sale. Peyton's Grand Champion steer sold for

\$10,000 to Omnix Healthcare, while JJ's Reserve Champion steer sold for \$7,750 to the Bohica Cookoff Team.

"We are thrilled that we finished where we did and we are blessed to receive the amount we did compared to others with just as costly of projects," said the Givans family.

Steer sales were down this year compared to previous years, some blaming the economy.

"Nothing in this is guaranteed. We do this for one person's opinion and in the hope that the community can come together and provide kids with a monetary gain that makes it beneficial to continue and eventually have funds remaining to pay for a portion of their higher education. There's no expecting any particular dollar amount."

Last year, the champi-

on steer "King Me" earned \$13,500 in the sale, while the reserve champion brought in \$11,500. That's a difference of \$7,250.

The Givans family emphasized the importance of the experience and lessons learned from raising show animals.

"I always say with all honesty that if you're looking to do this to 'make money,' then you're going to die heartbroken and penniless. It's an expensive activity, but so is travel ball, competitive cheer, and band. We do this to raise the leaders of tomorrow and teach values and work ethic that you can't learn inside a school room."

As the Givans family continues to enjoy their success at the Crosby Fair and Rodeo, they remain committed to the values and experiences that come with raising show animals.

"I think that the fair is one of the best institutions in the town, and they do a lot for our youth. Our kids only get to participate for a short amount of time in their life, and that's it," he said.

He remained optimistic for the future of the rodeo.

"It's a rollercoaster, and the past two years have been a pretty good ride for us, so we're enjoying it. But the competition here is tougher than anywhere else I see, especially on the top end, so I know that it's extremely important to enjoy the good years because you lose more than you win in this game."

For Peyton and JJ, the future looks bright as they continue to make their mark in the show ring. Their dedication, hard work, and passion for showing animals are sure to inspire others in the community for years to come.

THEA urges transparency and action on San Jacinto river health and environmental concerns,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

time, we do not have any additional information as it relates to your request." Medcalf criticized the lack of community engagement in the study process, saying, "Epidemiologists tell me it is best practices for the state to come to town and say, 'Hey, this is what we're doing, and we'll be back when we have the results.'"

The meeting also shed light on the environmental hazards posed by the abandoned San Jacinto River Waste Superfund site. Listed as a federal priori-

ty for cleanup in 2008, the site contains dangerous toxins, including dioxins and heavy metals, that are dispersed throughout water, sediment, and seafood in the region. THEA has been monitoring EPA's progress in removing the contaminants.

Medcalf highlighted the urgency of the cleanup efforts.

"The EPA estimated that if the waste were to remain in the river, it would stay toxic for upwards of 750 more years," she noted. "Removing this

waste from the river is something that we can do, not only to improve this area for our lifetime but for many generations to come."

After Hurricane Harvey in 2017, the EPA committed to fully removing waste at the northern site to levels safe for public recreation and remediating the southern site to standards suitable for industrial workers. However, delays and disputes between the EPA and responsible parties over cleanup designs have plagued progress.

The responsible parties have submitted multiple designs, each criticized for including plans to cap portions of the site, a method that Medcalf argues is unsuitable for the dynamic environment.

"Containment simply isn't going to work in this setting. It doesn't fit the EPA policies or their practices," she explained, referencing internal communications from Waste Management that allegedly show predetermined plans to push containment as the final

remedy.

Despite the challenges, Medcalf commended the EPA's responsiveness to community concerns during the latest design review process.

"Our team was pleasantly surprised at how well the EPA was replicating the concerns many of you in the room discussed with us," she said. The EPA is now preparing to host a community meeting in late summer or early fall to present updates.

Medcalf's message to the community was clear:

"You can create change, but slowly. If we combine strategic science, regulatory expertise, and grassroots community outreach, we can really get things moving—even within a slow government process."

For residents of the affected area, the stakes remain high. THEA continues to advocate for transparency, accountability, and expedited action to protect the health and well-being of the community and its environment.

Crosby VFD hosts Flood Water Boat Operator class



Crosby VFD hosted another three day Flood Water Boat Operator class earlier this week in partnership with Triad Rescue. This is the second class in three weeks hosted and at the conclusion of the class on Monday 60 Flood Boat Operators will have been trained from the following departments. Crosby Fire Department, Cyress Creek Fire Department, Klein Fire Department (HCESD 16), Village Fire Department, Abilene Fire Department, San Jaun Fire Department, and Montgomery County ESD 1.

This comes as we are entering hurricane season. This provides unmeasurable value to our communities as we prepare for responding to flood events where people may be stranded or in need of rescue.

Wind Blade travels through Houston



An Alert Reader caught this image of a Wind Blade being transported on a Houston Freeway. Despite it's size, there was no Permit displayed. These blades are now being made in Colorado by Vestas US, but companies Proinlosa and Rangel in Houston supply components.



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Texans Coach DeMeco Ryans Inducted into Cotton Bowl Hall of Fame

By Allan Jamail

Arlington, Texas Friday, May 23, 2025 at the AT&T Stadium the Houston Texans Head Coach **DeMeco Ryans** and seven others were inducted into the Cotton Bowl's 2025 Hall of Fame.

Every two years since 1998 the celebration is held to recognize those who made outstanding achievements at the annual Cotton Bowl Classic football game. Attending Ryans induction ceremony was his wife Jamila and their four children, his mother Martha, Diane his mother-law, his brothers, sister and cousins.

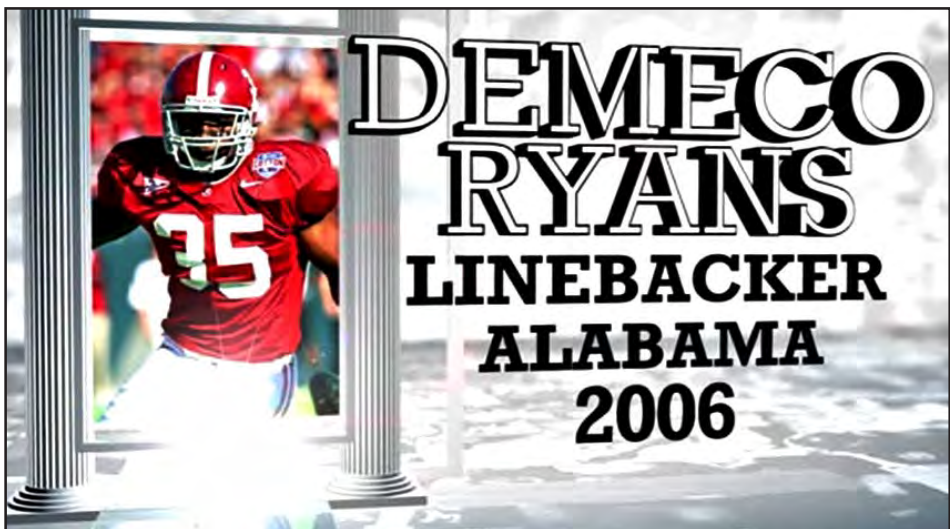
Alabama's Ryans in 2006 from his linebacker position was literally a coach on the field for the Crimson Tide. As a senior, he earned unanimous All-America recognition and was named Southeastern Conference Defensive Player of the Year. In the Alabama's 13-10 victory over Texas Tech in the 70th Cotton Bowl Classic, Ryans and teammates held the nation's top-ranked passing attack in



DeMeco & Jamila Ryans with their kids at his pictured poster inside AT&T Stadium. His name is also embedded in the AT&T Stadium's Cotton Bowl Walk of Fame sidewalk.

check. He was credited with seven tackles, five of them solo, two tackles for loss that included 1.5 quarterback sacks for minus-12 yards and was selected as the Felix R. McKnight Outstanding Defensive Player of the Game. He excelled in the classroom too, graduating with honors and named the school's top male student-athlete.

The Cotton Bowl selection committee selected the inductees, they were Notre Dame fullback **Jerome Bettis**, Texas linebacker **Randy Braband**, Ole Miss head coach **David Cutcliffe**, Nebraska running back **Tony Davis**, Cotton Bowl Athletic Association Chief Ambassador, Past Chair



Giant screen displaying a DeMeco Ryans action photo in his Cotton Bowl game at the inductee's ceremony.

and former Team Selection & Playoff Committee Chair **Finley (Fin) Ewing III**, CBAA Historian **Charlie Fiss**, Auburn running back **Bo Jackson** and Alabama linebacker **DeMeco Ryans** to be recognized for their lasting impact on the Cotton Bowl Classic, on and off the field.

W. Kelvin Walker, Chair of the Cotton Bowl Athletic Association (CBAA), which oversees the Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic, and Cotton Bowl Foundation said, "Today is

a special day to celebrate the contributions of eight extraordinary individuals who have impacted our game and our organization in so many positive ways." "The Cotton Bowl Classic is honored to have these legends now a permanent part of our history. We salute them and we're thrilled to call them Cotton Bowl Classic Hall of Famers," Walker concluded.

DeMeco, his wife Jamila and their children are members of Houston's

Fifth Ward Church of Christ (www.fwcc.org). Allan and Linda Jamail writers for the North Channel star attend there as well. Allan said, "Brother DeMeco who serves as a Deacon at the church was recognized Sunday in their Bible class for his hall of fame honors."

Coach Ryans gave the following exclusive comment to Allan for this North Channel Star article.

He began with, "All praise, honor, glory to

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Julianne Moore, left, and Sydney Sweeney stars in "Echo Valley."

"Echo Valley"

"The 78th Annual Tony Awards" (TV-PG) — Cynthia Erivo, who stunned everyone with her moving performance as Elphaba in "Wicked" (2024), is this year's host of the annual Tony Awards! Held at the legendary Radio City Music Hall in New York City, the ceremony can now be streamed if you missed the live broadcast on CBS. "Buena Vista Social Club," "Death Becomes Her," and "Maybe Happy Ending" lead with the most nominations (10 for each) and are, of course, included in the ceremony's performances. Meanwhile, George Clooney landed a nomination for his work in "Good Night, and Good Luck." Audra McDonald, who recently received Patti LuPone's deepest apologies due to LuPone's controversial statements, is nominated for her work as Rose in

"Gypsy." (Paramount+) "Deep Cover" (R) — Bryce Dallas Howard ("Argylle") leads this ridiculously hilarious action comedy, co-starring Orlando Bloom ("The Cut") and Nick Mohammed ("Ted Lasso"). The trio plays a group of aspiring actors who've landed at an improv club for the time being. Although their acting careers remain stagnant, a detective approaches them with a dire need for their help. A criminal gang in London runs rampant, and the detective is convinced that these three humble improvisers can pull off the undercover mission of infiltrating the gang. Premiering June 12, this film reunites several "Game of Thrones" and "House of the Dragon" actors such as Ian McShane, Paddy Considine and Sonoya Mizuno. (Amazon Prime Video)

"Echo Valley" (R) — The drama is intense with this next release on June 13, a thriller film led by the incredible duo of Julianne Moore and Sydney Sweeney. Following mother Kate (Moore) and daughter Claire (Sweeney), the film kicks off when Claire shows up at her mother's farm in Pennsylvania frightened and covered in her boyfriend's blood. Wanting to be there for her child, Kate tries to help Claire recover from a situation that resulted in an accidental death. But as time passes, their secret is threatened to be exposed, and Kate must decide how far she's willing to go to protect her kin. (Apple TV+)

"Love Island USA: Season 7" (TV-MA) — It's time to grab your pink suitcase, throw on your favorite swimsuit, and get your bevvy ready for another chaotic season of "Love Island USA." Ariana Madix is back to host her second season of the reality show, where 10 singles enter a villa in Fiji to find the loves of their lives (or lots of clout). Since the show's premiere on June 3, episodes release basically every day until mid-July, with a reunion episode following the finale about a month later in August. Time will tell if this season brings as much drama as last year's season with Leah Kateb and Andrea Carmona, but we'll definitely be rooting for a few of the Florida locals - Chelley from Orlando, Nicolas from Jacksonville, and Yulissa from Miami! (Peacock)

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Q: Is Garcelle Beauvais going to return to acting now that she's leaving "The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills," or will she get her own reality show instead? — T.O.

A: Garcelle Beauvais recently extended her partnership with the Lifetime network to produce and star in more projects with them. Her "Black Girl Missing" franchise of TV movies with the network has been a huge success. Next up for her is "Taken at a Truck Stop: A Black Girl Missing Movie," where she'll play Kai — a truck driver who launches her own investigation after her neurodivergent niece is abducted by an online predator.

She's also starring and producing in the next Terry McMillan project, titled "Tempted 2 Love," a sequel to last year's hit movie "Tempted By Love." Beauvais will once again play a star chef, but this time she's traveling to Ireland with her new flame only to bump into her much younger ex.

"I'm thrilled to continue telling stories that resonate deeply with audiences and put women — especially Black women — at the center," said Beauvais. "Working with Lifetime has given me the opportunity to expand narratives that are heartfelt, suspenseful, and full of purpose. Both of these films are incredibly special to me, and I can't wait for audiences to experience them."

"Garcelle is an undeniable creative force whose passion for telling authentic, impactful stories continues to inspire our audiences," said Elaine Frontain Bryant, EVP and head of programming at A&E, Lifetime and LMN. "These new films not only deepen the emotional and cultural resonance of our programming but also reaffirm our shared commitment to championing diverse voices and stories that matter."

Q: What is Tara Reid doing since she made a comeback with the "Sharknado" movies? Does she have any other movies coming out? — N.C.

A: Tara Reid's career has unfortunately taken a dive since the 1990s, when she shot to stardom in movies like "American Pie," "Cruel Intentions," and "The Big Lebowski." She became tabloid fodder



Garcelle Beauvais ("The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills")

soon after for partying with Paris Hilton and Lindsay Lohan. Her career fell into a slump until the campy TV movie "Sharknado" came out in 2013, which was followed by several sequels.

She told Variety that she's now producing her own projects and currently has 12(!) titles in the works on her IMDb page, including "Hollywood Heist" with Alec Baldwin and Mickey Rourke.

Q: What's the latest on a third season of "Big Little Lies" being filmed? Is it hard to get the A-list cast together again? — K.S.

A: According to "Big Little Lies" creator David E. Kelley, "everyone" wants to do a new season of the HBO series, which is based on the novel by Liane Moriarty. Nicole Kidman, Reese Witherspoon, Laura Dern, Zoe Kravitz and Shailene Woodley are all eager to reprise their roles, and Morarity is in the midst of writing the novel on which the script will be based. I wouldn't expect to see the finished product on-screen until mid to late 2026 or perhaps early 2027.

Send me your questions at NewCelebrityExtra@gmail.com. (c) 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps



by Bud Blake



by Jeff Pickering



BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Weekly SUDOKU grid and instructions. Difficulty: Moderate. HOO BOY!

HOCUS-FOCUS comic strip with a 'Find at least six differences' puzzle.

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Differences: 1. Word on sign is different; 2. Door is different; 3. Wheel is larger; 4. Box in window is moved; 5. Building is not as wide; 6. Hat is different.

June 16, 2025 Posting Date

King Crossword

- ACROSS: 1 Wildebeests, 5 Snitch, 8 Utah ski resort, 12 Impetuous, 13 Adam's mate, 14 Acquires, 15 "Zip- -Doo-Dah", 16 Beer purchases, 18 Fawcett of '70s TV, 20 Speeder's punishment, 21 Chanteuse Edith, 23 Chap, 24 Edible pod, 28 "Auld Lang -", 31 Blunder, 32 -Croat, 34 Texas tea, 35 Scrambled wd., 37 Brazilian city, 39 Dad on "Black-ish", 41 San - Obispo, Calif., 42 Thelma's buddy, 45 Brother's son, 49 Ink-loaded accessory, 51 Continental coin, 52 Carry, 53 Rage, 54 Family, 55 Beholds, 56 Scoundrel, 57 To-do list item, 7 Libretto, 8 You can count on it, 9 Comment to a jackpot winner, 10 Youngster, 11 CEO's aide, 17 Farm squealer, 19 Melodies, 22 Untamed, 24 Salty expanse, 25 Samovar, 26 School alumnus, 27 Was plentiful, 29 Zero, 30 "Strange Magic" gp., 33 Mayberry boy, 36 Tony-winner Tammy, 38 Phase, 40 "Sixth sense" series?, 42 D-Day carriers, 43 Oklahoma tribe, 44 Grand tale, 46 Luau dance, 47 Historic times, 48 Policy expert, 50 Notre Dame coach

Crossword grid with numbers 1-57.

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- 1. MOVIES: What is the title of the first James Bond film?
2. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the color of the "black box" that records an airplane's performance?
3. TELEVISION: What is the theme song for the long-running sitcom "All in the Family"?
4. LITERATURE: What is the name of Ron Weasley's family home in the "Harry Potter" series?
5. GAMES: How many dice are used in a game of Yahtzee?
6. SCIENCE: What does a mole measure in chemistry?
7. MYTHOLOGY: What is the Greek god of darkness called?
8. FOOD & DRINK: Which type of liquor is traditionally used in a gimlet?
9. ASTRONOMY: How many moons does Saturn have?
10. CHEMISTRY: What is the chemical symbol for gold?

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King Crossword Answers: 1. Dr. No; 2. Orange; 3. "Those Were the Days"; 4. The Burrow; 5. Five; 6. The amount of chemical substance; 7. Erebus; 8. Gin; 9. 274; 10. Au

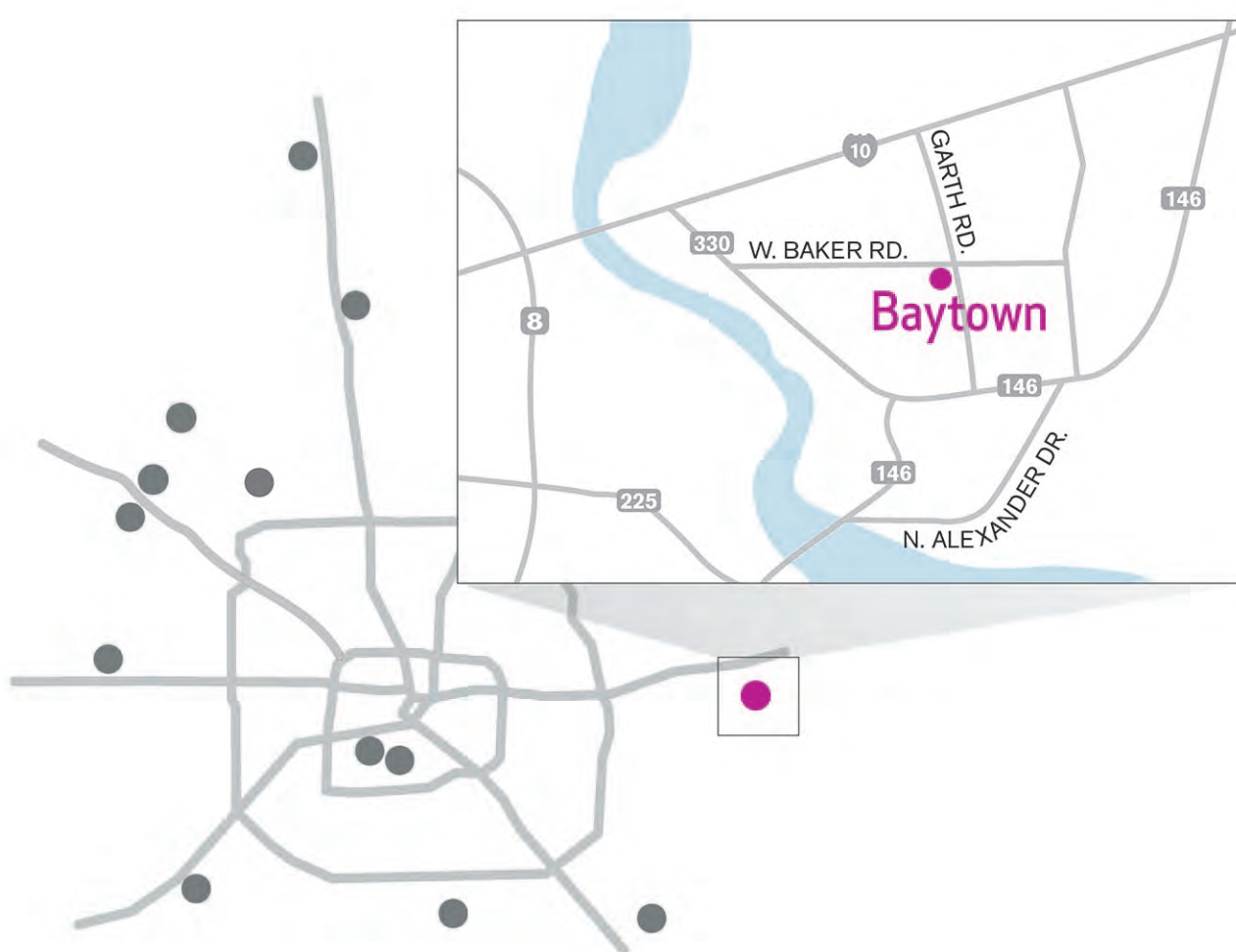


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