



Tony Wood, site manager for Lyondellbasell's Channelview Complex, thanked the educators as title sponsor for the event and welcomed them to the community. Story below and on page 2.

HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

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VOL. 72, NO. 30 - \$1.00

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 2025

HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

## New Educators Welcomed at Chamber Luncheon

By David Taylor  
Managing Editor

The Crosby Huffman Chamber of Commerce (CHCC) recently hosted its annual New Educator's Luncheon, celebrating the arrival of new teachers to the Huffman and Crosby school districts. The event, held at Crosby Church, brought together educators, chamber members, and community leaders to honor the dedication and commitment of those entering the teaching profession.

Dr. Angeles Perez, interim superintendent at Huffman ISD, expressed her gratitude to the new educators for choosing to embark on their teaching careers in Huffman and Crosby.

"We're here about you all," Dr. Perez said. "Thank you for choosing to go into



Pastor Keenan Smith, Crosby Church, was the emcee for the event hosted in his church gymnasium.

education in a moment in time when it's pretty difficult. I know that you have many choices where to go, and I'm so grateful that you chose Huffman and Crosby. I know that the future is bright because each and every one of you have chosen to go into ed-

ucation." Perez emphasized the importance of the new teachers' roles in shaping the future of their students. "Whether you're returning, changing districts, or starting your career, our students are eager to meet you. They

are looking forward to interacting with you all from the moment they arrive at your campus, to the smiles in the morning to the good-byes in the afternoon. The lessons that you designed for them. Your impact is so important and so please cherish that moment," she

said. In Huffman ISD, Perez said this is their year of passion, purpose, and possibilities.

"The magic of learning is really what we are trying to encompass, the direction we're going in, and I just want to say thank you. The magic isn't in the slogan, it's in what you guys are choosing to do every single day. Relish in the opportunity to spark that interest in your students. Please remember your why. Rekindle that passion for students every day, specifically on those days that are difficult, but the future is bright," she said.

Velma Ellison, chairman of the board for the CHCC, highlighted the significance of the luncheon and the support it provides to new educators.

"This is important for

the Chamber. Of course, it's tradition, but it's a good tradition because as a chamber we support the business community, the schools, and the community. This is a great way for the chamber members to give back," Ellison said. "For us, this is just one way that we can give back and honor all the new educators coming in. It promotes all those sponsors being able to put themselves in front of all these teachers in a good way because they're donating door prizes and goodie bag items and money for the luncheon. It just shows the generosity of our members and our community."

Ellison also noted the positive sign of teacher retention in Huffman ISD.

"Huffman was almost

Continued. See CROSBY-HUFFMAN CHAMBER WELCOMES, Page 2

### IN THE STARS

#### School Start Dates

Barbers Hill ISD  
Thursday, Aug. 14

Channelview ISD  
Monday, Aug. 11

Crosby ISD  
Thursday, Aug. 7

Dayton ISD  
Wednesday Aug. 13

Galena Park ISD  
Thursday, Aug. 14

Goose Creek CISD  
Wednesday, Aug. 13

Houston ISD  
Tuesday, Aug. 12

Sheldon ISD  
Tuesday, Aug. 12

## Updated Air Monitor Dashboard available online

Provides real-time air quality data to residents

By David Taylor  
Managing Editor

In a significant stride towards enhancing air quality monitoring in Houston, Air Alliance has launched an updated version of its air quality dashboard on their website. This innovative tool aims to provide real-time air quality data to residents, empowering them to make informed decisions about their health and environment.

Juan Flores, director of programs for Air Alliance Houston, shared insights into the dashboard's functionality and its impact on the community.

"We created one dashboard that brings all the



Juan Flores  
Air Alliance Houston

air monitors under one home. Now people can go to our website and check out the air quality in their respective neighborhoods," Flores explained.

The dashboard integrates various types of air monitors, including Purple

Air monitors and Sensit monitors.

"We use different types of air monitors. We have Purple Airs, Sensit monitors, and Sensit RAMPS. This dashboard has them all under one home," Flores added.

Flores emphasized the importance of the dashboard in providing real-time data, which can be crucial for residents with respiratory issues.

"It's real-time. People can use this data to make decisions about being outdoors, especially if they have respiratory issues," he said.

The dashboard is designed to be user-friendly, with color-coded indicators to represent air quality



levels.

"It's pretty simple. It's color-coded. If it comes out green, the air quality is good. If it goes up to red, it's getting bad. If it ever goes to purple, you probably don't want to be outdoors at all," Flores explained.

Air Alliance has been building this network over the past three years, with monitors placed in various locations within the community, including homes, schools, and city halls and the investment is over \$100,000.

"Our network is in people's neighborhoods, and it really helps out. We have about 60 air monitors spread out," Flores noted. In addition to those, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has another 47 air monitors and Harris County Pollution Control boasts 12 making Harris County the most monitored coun

Continued. See AIR ALLIANCE AIR MONITORS, Page 6

## Crosby Veteran Honored as Oldest Army Service member at Houston's 250th Army Celebration

CROSBY TX - Local Crosby Legionnaire Cedric Patterson was recognized during the June 10, 2025 Houston City Council meeting. Area Army veterans past and present were invited to celebrate the 250th Army Celebration with city council. Dr. Lashondra Jones the Veterans Affairs program coordinator was instrumental for providing this opportunity for veterans. Mayor Whitmire and the Council members express their thanks to the veterans in attendances.

Cedric Patterson is a member of the Crosby American Legion, who served in the Army and a tour in Vietnam 1967-1968. He was recognized as the oldest Army veteran in attendances and Capt. Ooh the youngest



Veteran Cedric Patterson of Crosby and Capt. Ooh hold a ceremonial sword used to cut the 250th cake.

were given the honor of cutting the cake. They both had the opportunity to give a brief reflection of their military service

Continued. See CROSBY LEGIONNAIRE AT CITY COUNCIL, Page 6

## Democrats Leave State to Block GOP Redistricting vote

Texas Democrats left the state Sunday in hopes of derailing a mid-decade redistricting plan.

State Rep. Gene Wu, D-Houston, announced the Democrats had left the state to break the quorum and stymie a vote in that chamber.

"This is not a decision we make lightly, but it is one we make with absolute moral clarity," Wu said in a statement. "Governor [Greg] Abbott has turned

the victims of a historic tragedy into political hostages in his submission to [President] Donald Trump."

Wu was referring to bills pending in the special session addressing the July 4 floods that killed at least 137 people in the Hill Country.

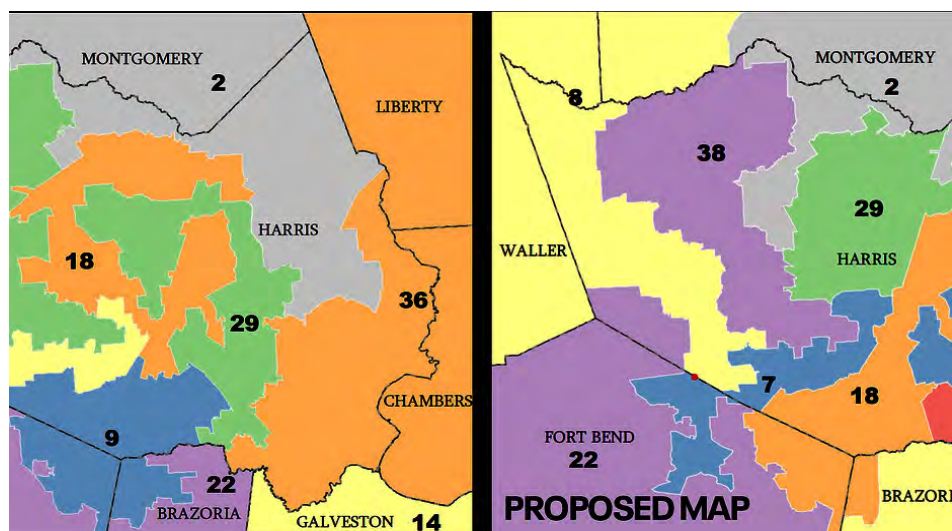
Democratic advisers told the media that the lawmakers will use Chicago as their base but plan to travel across the state to rally supporters to their cause.

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton blasted the fleeing Democrats.

"Democrats in the Texas House who try and run away like cowards should be found, arrested, and brought back to the Capitol immediately," he wrote on X.

Republican lawmakers hope to gain five more seats in the U.S. House under a redistricting map unveiled last week during the

Continued. See DEMOCRATS LEAVE STATE, Page 6



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# Crosby-Huffman Chamber welcomes new teachers at annual luncheon, emphasizes community support & retention,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

half as many as last year, which is a good sign of retention," she said. "There were 76 new teachers from Crosby and 35 from Huffman, and the rest were chamber members and guests who attended."

The luncheon was made possible through the generous contributions of various sponsors, including LyondellBasell, Houston Methodist, Community Resource Credit Union, Alliance Properties, Commissioner Tom Ramsey, and Skeros Furniture. The event was led by Emcee Pastor Keenan Smith of Crosby Church, whose church has sponsored the venue for numerous years.

"We want to thank the many volunteers and sponsors who pitched in and made this event possible," said Ellison. "CHCC has hosted this New Educators Luncheon for over 20 years."

The committee members who helped organize the event included Chairman Velma Ellison, Tim Paterson, Tiffany Mueller, Toni Handley, Traci Gaylean, Michelle Thompson, Deanna Becker, Debra Roberts, Chelsey Long, Krissi Taylor, Vasso Espinoza, and Kay Sosa.

The New Educator's Luncheon not only welcomed new teachers but also reinforced the strong sense of community and support that defines Huffman and Crosby. As the new school year begins, the educators are ready to inspire and make a lasting impact on their students' lives.



Crosby Curriculum and Special Education



Chamber members Kay Sosa (far left) and Sherrie Daniels (middle) join with two more volunteers to help serve at the luncheon.



Crosby Kindergarten



Barrett Elementary School



Crosby Elementary School



Drew Elementary School



Newport Elementary School



Crosby Middle School



Huffman Hargrave High School



Huffman Middle School



Huffman Elementary School



Falcon Ridge Elementary School

# Barbers Hill Press

## Dayton

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

VOL. 30, NO. 30

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 2025

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

### ON THE HILL

#### Mont Belvieu Activity Calendar

##### Dive In Movies

You've heard of a drive-in movie, but have you ever been to a DIVE-in movie? It's a splash-tastic time for the entire family! Everyone starts the evening with some tasty treats and splash time at the Eagle Pointe Recreation Center wave pool. Then, when the sun goes down, you'll want to stay in your tube and float your way to the best seat in the house to watch a blockbuster on the big screen. Let's face it, there's no better way to beat the summer heat! See our lineup on website.

##### 811 Day + Touch A Truck

Saturday, August 9, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | City Park  
Join us at the Mont Belvieu City Park for a day of fun & awareness. You'll find representatives from local industry leaders, info on how to start a project at home that involves digging, and lots of hands-on activities.

##### Anything but a Boat Race

Saturday, September 6, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. | City Park  
Get ready for a race like no other! Join us for the exhilarating Anything But A Boat Race, where participants will defy convention and race in vessels that are anything but traditional boats. Leave your expectations at the shore and embrace the creativity and ingenuity of this one-of-a-kind, FREE event.  
Boat Rules  
Race Rules  
Awards  
Participants operating vessel must be 14 years +  
Can be hand-made/constructed. Store bought floats or prefabricated items will be permitted (see next line).  
No boats, boat shells, surf boards, paddle boards, body boards, kayaks, submersibles, or other boat-like vessels. Be creative with your floating vessel.  
Inner tubes & floats may be used, but cannot be the only component - must build around or add on to your float / tube.  
Must be able to float  
Must be human powered only, no motors  
Participant / Vessel Operators must wear a Coast Guard approved life jacket while in the water  
No team size restrictions  
Register in advance and sign waiver (link below)  
Must be able to launch vessel from grass by pond - there is no boat ramp to load in your items.

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

## Mont Belvieu Police Department Hosts Monthly Safety Outreach for Local Youth



By Gerardo Hernandez,

MONT BELVIEU, Texas — Each month, the Mont Belvieu Police Department (MBPD) welcomes local children for a hands-on visit to the station, giving them a chance to explore police equipment and learn valuable safety lessons.

The department's outreach program focuses on helping young people — and their parents — understand

the importance of everyday traffic safety. Officers emphasize key habits such as buckling seatbelts, slowing down, and staying alert to help prevent fatal accidents on Texas roads.

Kids can have fun while also learning that safety is everyone's responsibility, something as simple as wearing a seatbelt or obeying the speed limit can save lives.

According to the Texas

Department of Transportation, at least one person has died on Texas roadways every day since November 7, 2000. MBPD is joining TxDOT's statewide #EndTheStreakTX campaign to raise awareness and promote safer driving behaviors.

Community members are encouraged to learn more and take action by visiting:

[txdot.gov/endthestreak-tx](http://txdot.gov/endthestreak-tx).



## Baytown Man Charged with Murder After Admitting to Setting his House on Fire that Killed His Father

BAYTOWN, Texas (KTRK) — A man is now charged with murder after law enforcement says he admitted to intentionally burning down his home in Baytown. Officials say the fire ended up killing his father inside.

According to court documents, Baytown Fire and EMS responded to the house last Monday and found it completely engulfed in flames. Those records said first responders found a dead man, later identified as 73-year-old Floyd Hadley, in a bathroom tub. Now his son, 40-year-old Clinton Hadley, faces a murder charge.

According to court



records, the Baytown Fire Arson Investigator said the gas meter appeared to be broken or possibly tampered with. Those same records detailed how officers located video footage from a neighbor showing a man walking from the side

of the home and leaving in a car. A few seconds later, officials said smoke could be seen coming from the back of the home.

Investigators later determined that the car belonged to Clinton.

This case took police

across state lines to Louisiana. That's where the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office said it arrested Clinton later that same day after he allegedly went to a business and threatened to burn the building down if a worker did not give him gas money.

He was taken to jail in Louisiana, and Baytown police went to see him. According to court records, the officer told Clinton his father died as a result of the fire. Clinton denied any involvement. But, those documents showed that the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office claimed Clinton admitted during their interview with him

that he intentionally set fire to his home.

Those records contend he admitted to detectives that he set furniture in his room on fire, before leaving in his vehicle. Clinton allegedly said he wanted to burn the house down and get away from his family.

According to court records, there has been a history of welfare concerns with Clinton. Just the night before, documents mentioned that his aunt called Baytown PD for a welfare check inside the home. She allegedly said Clinton was schizophrenic and was talking about setting the house on fire.



### Judge's Corner

Judge Lucia Bates, Justice of the Peace Pct 3-2

A Message from Judge Bates

Back to School Month

As we enter Back to School Month, it's a vital time to recognize the incredible importance of education in shaping the future of our children. School is not just a place for learning facts—it's where young minds develop critical thinking, creativity, and social skills that will guide them throughout their lives.

Prioritizing children's education means investing in their potential, opening doors to opportunities, and empowering them to become confident, capable adults. It's about building a strong foundation for lifelong learning and success.

The proverb, "it takes a village to raise a child," rings so true. We must come together as parents, educators, and communities to support every child's journey. When we put education first, we invest in our children's futures while preparing them for the life they deserve.

It is important that our children are equipped with everything they need when they start a new school year. Please look at the resources and community events on the second page of our newsletter. There are plenty of backpack and supply giveaways that you may qualify for! Here's to a great school year filled with new discoveries and accomplishments!

### In the Community

#### Independence Day

Judge Bates joined East Houston Medical Center in celebrating Independence Day! There was food, fun, and resources for members of the community!



#### Tea with Judge Bates

Judge Bates hosted a special teatime for the seniors of Precinct 3, where she had the opportunity to visit with them while they enjoyed delicious food and tea. We appreciate our community center directors, Tonya Kostka, Kim Harris, and Karen Thomas for being instrumental in helping us plan the event. A special thank you to Cassie Rogers and the staff of Crosby Community Center for allowing us to host the event at their center.



OPINION PAGE

**OPINION**  
By HC Pct. 2 Commissioner  
**ADRIAN GARCIA**



### “NO” to Proposed Tax Increase

In a recent media interview, Commissioner Garcia expressed opposition to Judge Hidalgo’s Proposal for a 1 cent tax increase to pay for child care programs in Harris County.

Harris County, TX — An interview this week with Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Garcia revealed why he will not be supporting Judge Lina Hidalgo’s proposed tax increase. In addition to his comments featured in the article, Garcia said the following:

Video clips of the quotes below can be found here ([https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tZadfZGyeUFLfJ\\_4pu6piczcm3VWOnjL/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tZadfZGyeUFLfJ_4pu6piczcm3VWOnjL/view)).

**Why Garcia is a “no” on this plan:** “Before I go to the taxpayers, to ask them for any more of their money out of their pocketbooks, to ask them to strain their household checkbooks and their budgets. I have to have a plan. And just because the Judge thinks she has an idea and thinks we ought to fall in line with it - that’s not governance. That’s not how it works.”

“This is not what you go to the taxpayers with when you’re asking them to strain their pocketbooks even more.”

**On the need for childcare in Harris County:** “Everybody knows that I talk about the need to support public education and the need to support early childhood education. And that’s why I constructed a model that could be something that we could build on. Something that didn’t cost the taxpayers any more money and something that has had an impact in my precinct”

**Why this “plan” is not right now:** “You don’t do this with a few months before you go to taxpayers. You know, Travis County, I think, worked for two years, to put their package together, to think through their process, to listen to their stakeholders and to their respective community.”

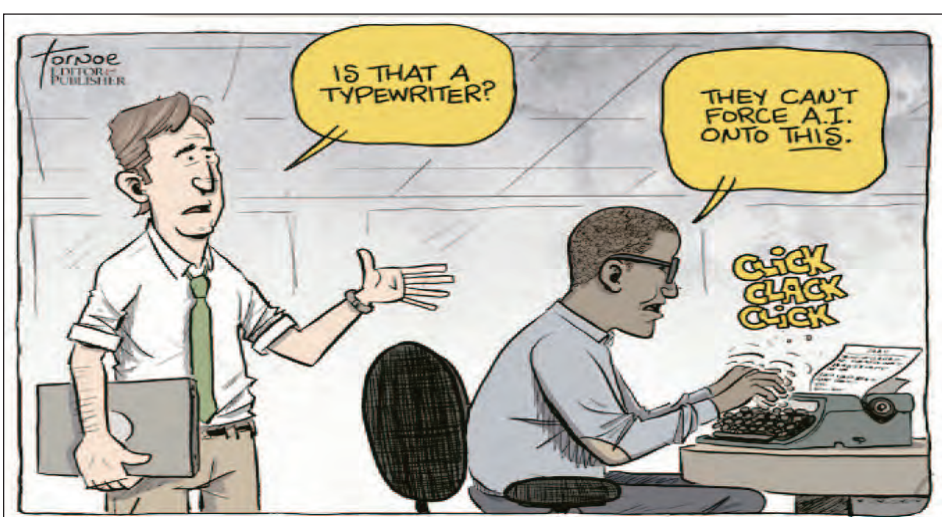
“It takes Months to try to propose a brand-new tax for a new system that currently does not exist and is currently not a part of Harris County government. This is not the way to do it. This is not the time to do it.”

**Critiques of the lack of a thorough plan put forth by the Judge’s Office:** “The most glaring thing is that there’s a bunch of X’s, where the dollar amounts should be. So, there again, this seems to be a half-baked idea without a whole lot of research and study.”

**Garcia’s suggestion for how to move forward:** “We want to make sure that we ever do something like this, that we do it, that it’s done right. That it does have an impact and that everybody can be proud of.”

Find out more about what is happening in your Precinct 2 community by following us on Facebook (Harris County Precinct 2), Instagram (@hcpct2), Twitter (@HarrisCoPct2), and visit [hcp2.com](http://hcp2.com), where we keep you updated on our latest news.

**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](mailto:GRAFIKSTAR@aol.com). Please limit your words to about 200. Letters will be subject to editing. Thank you.



**THE POSTSCRIPT**  
By  
**Carrie Classon**

### A Chance of Rain



I knew it was going to rain. I looked up the weather before I headed out, and there was a 94% chance of rain at 7:00. That was precisely the hour I planned to walk home.

“It’s going to rain,” I told my husband, Peter.

“Not till later,” he said. “Google says it’s not going to rain until 9:00.”

“Hmmm.” I wondered if I should bring an umbrella. The sun was shining. It was hot. I had a mile and a half to walk, and I was not really looking forward to carrying an umbrella. Maybe a hat, I thought. Maybe a wide-brimmed sun hat would do the trick.

I reached up into the coat closet and selected a brilliant blue sun hat I’d forgotten all about. It was given to me by my now deceased sister-in-law Shelley, who had exquisite taste. Perfect.

I headed out. There was not a cloud in sight. I was going to a church which holds a meditation once a week. While I find it hard to maintain concentration for a full hour on my own, something about being in a darkened room with stone walls and candles burning and a few other folks in prayer and meditation keeps me focused. So I sat down in my usual place. It was very peaceful. I was glad I came.

I need to do these things, I’ve discovered. I’ve always battled with a bit of anxiety, long before I had a name for it. Sometimes it’s just like the sound of the refrigerator running—so constant and persistent that I don’t notice it until it shuts off. “Oh. I’ve been anxious,” I’ll realize. Now I look for ways to give my refrigerator brain a break, and meditation is one of the better ones.

The hour passed. I opened my eyes. Even though the chapel is lit only by candles and the windows are stained glass, it still seemed darker than it should be. Then I heard a crash of thunder. I looked at my watch. 7:00 exactly.

I walked to the door. There was a curtain of rain falling. It was not a squall or an outburst. This was a steady downpour, without a sign of weakness in any direction.

“Hmmm.” I could have called Peter. He would have scooped me up in the car. I could have called an Uber if I was really feeling flush. I might even have waited near the door and asked a fellow meditator if they were driving in my direction.

Instead, I stepped out into the rain.

My first thought was how heavy and cold it was. But that really only lasted for a minute because, within a minute, I was as wet as a person could be, except for the top of my head and the part of my face shielded by the blue hat. I started walking quickly, but that accomplished nothing. I had a mile and a half to go.

I realized the rain was not that cold, once I was entirely wet. And I realized that I had two choices: fight the rain and lose, or decide to love the rain, and—without giving it a lot of thought—I chose the latter.

And I was filled with unreasonable joy.

I laughed, and I sang, and I splashed in puddles as I made my way home. Stepping into my cool house at last, I took off my hat and discovered my hair had turned blue. I laughed again.

And I wondered why it had been so long since I’d walked in the rain.

Till next time,  
Carrie

**STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS**  
By Gary Borders



### Kerr County Death Toll Now at 108; Two Still Missing

The number of people still missing in the July 4 Kerr County flood dropped to two after another body was recovered last week, the *Austin American-Statesman* reported. The two still missing are a child and an adult who were at Camp Mystic, where at least 27 campers and counselors died. The death toll in Kerr County now totals 108. Statewide, the death toll has reached at least 136. Gov. Greg Abbott has ordered disaster declarations for 30 Texas counties, making them eligible for both state and federal assistance. “Texas remains relentless in our efforts to help impacted Texans and communities rebuild,” Abbott said. The counties included in Abbott’s state-level declaration include Bandera, Bexar, Burnet, Caldwell, Coke, Comal, Concho, Edwards, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Hamilton, Kendall, Kerr, Kimble, Kinney, Lampasas, Llano, Mason, Maverick, McCulloch, Menard, Real, Reeves, San Saba, Schleicher, Sutton, Tom Green, Travis, Uvalde and Williamson.

#### LAWMAKERS BLAST RIVER AUTHORITY FOR NOT UPGRADING

Lawmakers from both parties ripped into Kerr County’s river authority for choosing to cut property taxes rather than modernizing a flood warning system, the *Statesman* reported. The hearing last week before 18 Texas Senate and House members came during the first week of the special session. Tara Bushnoe, general manager of the Upper Guadalupe River Authority, testified before the panel. State Sen. Charles Schwertner, R-Georgetown, called the decision “extremely disturbing.” A report published last week by the *Houston Chronicle* found the river authority was only willing to spend about \$100,000 to upgrade its flood warning system after a 2016 engineering study found a \$1 million overhaul was needed. The authority also turned down an interest-free loan from the Texas Water Development Board spanning 30 years for the upgrade. “You had the resources to deploy this system absent any FEMA grant, absent any water development loan, and I guess that’s troubling because you had the money but not the will,” state



Rep. Drew Darby, R-San Angelo, said. Bushnoe said the authority has funded other critical projects, including gauges used by the National Weather Service to predict floods. However, she said, “I agree there’s much room for improvement and we are working towards that.”

#### MOVE TO BAN HEMP-DERIVED THC GAINING TRACTION

Backers of a move to ban synthetic hemp-derived THC hope to build support for the state’s recently expanded medical marijuana program, arguing it is a safer and more effective alternative to the unregulated vapes and gummies sold across the state, *The Dallas Morning News* reported. “Cannabis is what has saved the lives of so many veterans in this country, but this unregulated version of cannabis is dangerous,” Sen. Roland Gutierrez, D-San Antonio, said. A proposal to outlaw most of the consumable products containing THC, the psychoactive compound found in cannabis plants, is gaining speed in the Senate despite a similar measure having been vetoed by Abbott after the regular session. The governor placed regulating hemp products on the special session agenda. Legislation to impose age limits, along with other regulations, is expected to be filed soon in the House. Abbott has said he would support such a plan. Medical marijuana is provided legally through the Texas Compassionate Use Program and has about 116,000 active participants. During the regular session, bills were passed increasing the number of medical marijuana licensees from three to 15 and increasing the number of dispensary and storage sites.

#### GOP REDISTRICTING PLANS DRAW IRE OF DEMOCRATS, OTHERS

The first hearing of a Republican plan to redraw congressional maps drew plenty of criticism at the House redistricting committee’s first public meeting, *The Texas Tribune* reported. “The effort to change these districts at this time has nothing to do with representing people better,” said Rep. Jon Rosenthal, D-Houston, and vice chair of the House committee in charge of redistricting. “It’s the opposite of that. It’s a power grab at the expense of Black and brown communities.” The attempt to redraw the congressional map at mid-decade comes at the behest of President Donald Trump in hopes of increasing the GOP’s narrow majority in the U.S. House in the 2026 midterms. The current map, drawn in 2021, has yielded 25 Republican seats and 13 for Democrats. No proposed revisions of the current map have been released to date.

#### PAXTON CLAIMING THREE HOUSES AS PRIMARY RESIDENCE

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton and his wife, Angela, are claiming three separate houses as primary residences, allowing them to get lower mortgage interest rates and save on property taxes, *the Associated Press* reported. Doing so may be a potential violation of both federal and state laws. Documents reviewed by the AP show the Paxtons hold mortgages on three homes — one in suburban Dallas and two in Austin, with each listed as their primary residence. The couple is now estranged after Angela Paxton filed for divorce earlier this month. Ken Paxton is running against incumbent U.S. Sen. John Cornyn in the GOP primary next March. Neither responded to multiple requests to comment before the story was published. Cornyn quickly criticized his opponent, who leads in early polls. “It’s a violation, in all likelihood, of state and federal law,” Cornyn said last week. After the story was published, Ken Paxton posted on X that, “John Cornyn and his establishment Swamp allies pushed this fake news to slander me, and Cornyn even called for the feds to take me down.”

#### 5,000-PERSON DETENTION CAMP TO BE BUILT IN EL PASO

The federal government has awarded a contract to build an immigration detention center at Fort Bliss in El Paso, *The News* reported. The tent camp would be the largest immigration detention facility in the United States. Acquisition Logistics, a Virginia-based company, was awarded the \$232 million contract. The facility would be used to house single immigrant adults. Immigrant advocates say using tents for detention is unlikely to meet federal standards. “All the reasons why you and I live not in tents but in homes are going to inevitably come up in a facility that doesn’t offer people walls and floors and insulation,” Emma Winger, deputy legal director at the American Immigration Council, said.

**top ten**  
Most Popular Films on NETFLIX

1. Red Notice
2. Don’t Look Up
3. The Adam Project
4. Bird Box
5. Leave the World Behind
6. The Gray Man
7. Damsel
8. We Can Be Heroes
9. The Mother
10. Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery

Source: Netflix

**HIGHLANDS CROSBY**

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Entered as Periodicals Class at Highlands Post Office, Highlands, TX 77562. Under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. Published 50 weeks per year, on Thursday, by Grafikpress Corp., 5832 Star Lane, Houston, TX 77057. Opinions in this paper are those of the authors, and not necessarily this newspaper’s. Any erroneous statement which may appear will be corrected when brought to the attention of the publisher. Liability for errors is limited to the reprinting of the corrected version. Submissions are encouraged, in person, by mail, by Fax, or by email, to [grafikstar@aol.com](mailto:grafikstar@aol.com).

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# GOOSE CREEK CISD NEWS

## Goose Creek CISD Students Excel at Texas History Day, 13 Advance to National Competition

Story by: Nancy Bonds, GCCISD Director of Communications

Goose Creek CISD is proud to announce that 14 of its students earned top honors at the Texas History Day competition, with 13 advancing to the prestigious National History Day contest.

Goose Creek students represented both junior and high school levels and demonstrated exceptional research, creativity, and historical scholarship. Eleven junior school students and two high school students will compete at the national level. The district saw an especially strong performance, sweeping first and second place in two competitive categories – Junior Group Exhibit and Junior Individual Documentary.

Students advancing to the national contest come from E.F. Green Junior School, Baytown Junior



GCCISD students gather at the Bullock Texas State History Museum in Austin, Texas.

School, Cedar Bayou Junior School, Gentry Junior School, Goose Creek Memorial High School, and IMPACT Early College High School. E.F. Green had five students advanced, Baytown Junior had three, Cedar Bayou had two, and Gentry, Goose Creek Memorial, and IMPACT each had one.

In addition to the national qualifiers, three Goose Creek CISD students received special awards for their outstanding projects.

“The students did an excellent job, and we are so proud of their hard work,” said Faith Longorio, Goose Creek CISD Associate Director for Social Studies and World Languages.

The National History Day contest will take place at the University of Maryland in June. Students from across the country will compete and showcase their historical research and projects on a national platform.

## GCCISD Texas History Day Winners 2025

The following Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District students placed or received special recognition at Texas History Day competition

Students Who Placed at the Texas History Day Competition:

**First Place**  
**Junior Group Exhibit:** Annali Ramirez, Gabriel Ramirez, Jonathan Lewis, and Yashvir Singh Gill

**Project title:** Set the Earth on Fire: Mining for Rights, Responsibilities and equality during the Anthracite Coal Strike

**School:** EF Green Junior School  
**Sponsor:** Claude Garrison, Isaac Orozco, Addison Ramsey

**First Place**  
**Junior Historical Paper:** Manavendra Chouhan

**Project Title:** The Montgomery Bus Boycott Empowering Rights, Embracing Responsibilities in a Journey Towards Equality, Justice, and Social Change for All

**School:** EF Green Junior School  
**Sponsor:** Claude Garrison

**First Place**  
**Junior Individual Performance:** Caleb Keeling

**Project Title:** Franklin on the Origins of the Fourth

**School:** Gentry Junior School  
**Sponsor:** Patricia Aumentent

**First Place**  
**Junior Individual Documentary:** Brinkley Benoit

**Project Title:** The Great IDEA: Speaking for Those



GCCISD competing students for Texas History Day in Austin, Texas.

**Who Cannot Speak for Themselves**  
**School:** Cedar Bayou Junior School  
**Sponsor:** Adam Clemmons

**Second Place**  
**Junior Individual Documentary:** Reagan Benoit

**Project Title:** Placing Out On the Orphan Trains: Balancing Rights and Responsibilities in an Early Child Welfare Program

**School:** Cedar Bayou Junior School  
**Sponsor:** Joanne Bell

**Second Place**  
**Junior Group Exhibit:** Austin Thomas, David Orellana, and Jack Pettine

**Project Title:** Exxon Valdez: Navigating The Tides Between Rights and Responsibilities

**School:** Baytown Junior School  
**Sponsor:** Seth Tunink

**Second Place**  
**Senior Individual Documentary:** Jody Valerie Go Hiong  
**Project Title:** “To Kill the Indian and Save the Man”

**School:** IMPACT Early College HS  
**Sponsor:** Ilija Milovanovic

**Second Place**  
**Senior Individual Website:** Sadvi Koora

**Project Title:** Ethics on Trial: The Controversy of the Willowbrook Hepatitis Study

**School:** Goose Creek Memorial HS  
**Sponsor:** Stephanie Schrul  
**Third Place**  
**Junior Individual Website:** Anay Gupta

**Project title:** Breaking the Trust: The Struggle Between Rights and Responsibilities at Watergate

**School:** EF Green Junior School  
**Sponsor:** Claude Garrison

**Special Awards at Texas History Day:**  
**Colonial Dames Award** – Papers dealing with the impact of innovative ideas embodied in the U.S. Declaration of Independence and/or the Constitution

**Junior Historical Paper:** Manavendra Chouhan

**Project Title:** The Montgomery Bus Boycott Empowering Rights, Embracing Responsibilities in a Journey Towards Equality, Justice, and Social Change for All

**School:** EF Green Junior School  
**Sponsor:** Claude Garrison

**Outstanding Regional Project**  
**Junior Division:**

**Junior Individual Documentary:** Brinkley Benoit

**Project Title:** The Great IDEA: Speaking for Those Who Cannot Speak for Themselves

**School:** Cedar Bayou Junior School  
**Sponsor:** Adam Clemmons

**Senior Division**  
**Senior Historical Paper:** Macei Heard

**Project title:** “The First Amendment Saves Lives”

**School:** Sterling High School  
**Sponsor:** Michael Fanning

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### Screenings to Identify Disabilities

CISD Special Education department provides screenings for children with suspected disabilities in an effort to identify every student with a disability who lives within the district's boundaries. Crosby ISD is committed to providing excellence in education to all students, and the screenings are designed to help identify children who may qualify for the district's special education programs. Eligible students with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 can be provided with services to ensure their successful participation in school. These services and supports may be provided through Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act. Special education services are also available starting at birth for eligible children who have a visual and/or auditory impairment.

If you know a child who may be challenged with a disability, please contact the Crosby ISD Special Education office at 281-328-9200, Extension 1108. If the child is already a student in Crosby ISD, please contact the counselor at the child's school. The counselor will be happy to assist you.

The special education personnel will coordinate efforts to evaluate the student and, if eligible, ensure that the student is provided with supports and services needed to benefit from instruction.

30-31

## Crosby Legionnaire part of 250th army celebration at Houston City council meeting,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Veterans were honored in a ceremony at Houston City Council on Tuesday, June 10th in Houston City Hall. Veteran Cedric Patterson, a member of the Crosby American Legion, is second from left. Others in the photo include Mayor John Whitmire, third from right, and other Veterans that were honored.

## Air Alliance Air Monitors,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ty in the state. The organization has received support from foundations such as Beyond Petrochemicals, which has helped fund the purchase of these monitors. "We got money from foundations to support us, such as Beyond Petrochemicals. They give us money, and other founda-

tions support the work that we do, Flores said. Residents can access the dashboard on the Air Alliance website at [airalliancehouston.org](http://airalliancehouston.org). The dashboard is located on the left side of the website under the air monitoring section. Flores encourages residents to use this tool to stay in-

formed about air quality in their neighborhoods and make decisions that can protect their health.

The organization is promoting a QR code that residents can scan and it will take them directly to the new dashboard. (see online)

For more information, visit [airalliancehouston.org](http://airalliancehouston.org).

## Democrats Leave State to Block Redistricting,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ongoing special session, which was voted out of committee Sunday and sent to the full House.

The primary changes would be to urban districts in the Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston, Austin-San Antonio, and South Texas regions.

The unusual mid-decade redistricting comes at the behest of President Trump in hopes that the GOP can hold on to a majority in the House after the 2026 general election.

Texas Democrats in Congress

called it an illegal attempt to dilute the state's minority voices.

"This map is a disaster — crafted to divide neighborhoods and rig the game for Donald Trump," U.S. Rep. Julie Johnson, D-Farmers Branch, said in a statement. "It's a desperate move from a party losing its grip on a changing state."

Meanwhile, a growing number of Texas Republican legislators are rejecting assertions by the U.S. Department of Justice

that the current district maps, drawn in 2021 by a Republican majority, violate voters' rights.

"I want to say right now, I don't think the map that is in place for Congress today is discriminatory," state Sen. Phil King, R-Weatherford, said Tuesday.

The special session ends on Aug. 19. However, Abbott is free to call another special session if he wishes.

—Texas Press Association

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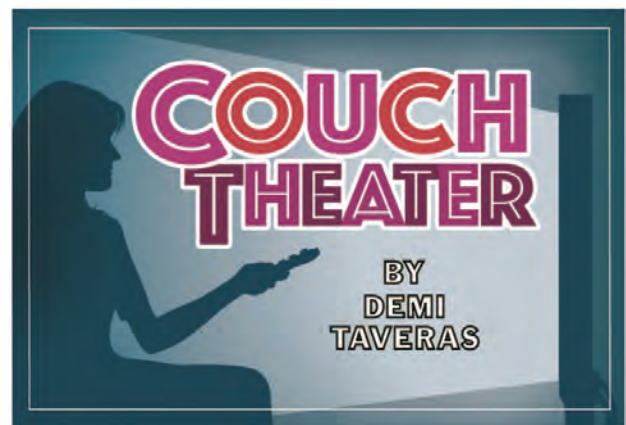
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Theo James plays a dual role of twin brothers in, "The Monkey."

"The Monkey"

"The Hunting Wives" (TV-MA) — This eight-episode drama series recently premiered in July, and it rocked the socks off its viewers, who quickly binge-watched the entire season and reported back with juicy details! Without giving too much away, the series is led by Brittany Snow ("Pitch Perfect") and Malin Akerman ("Rock of Ages") and follows Massachusetts Sophie (Snow) as she moves to East Texas for her husband's job. Once there, Sophie befriends Margo (Akerman), the leader of a socialite group called the Hunting Wives. Sophie enjoys bonding with them through hunting trips and nights out on the town, but after a teenage girl dies and leaves the Wives as the primary suspects, Sophie realizes that she's simultaneously fallen into a trap. (Netflix)

"Borderline" (R) — Ray Nicholson is on a mis-

sion to be an even creepier actor than his father, Jack! In this new comedy-thriller taking place in 1990s Los Angeles, Nicholson transforms into stalker/fan (stan, if you will) Paul Duerson, who is obsessed with actress Sofia Minor (Samara Weaving). Paul's delusion inevitably spurs him into taking action and finding his way into Sofia's own home, and after successfully kidnapping her, he plans to force marriage on her. The only person who can possibly stop Paul is Sofia's bodyguard Bell (Eric Dane), but it won't be easy to pull off. Alba Baptista co-stars in the film, which was produced by Margot Robbie and Tom Ackerley's production company LuckyChap. (Peacock)

"The Monkey" (R) — Theo James ("The Gentlemen") plays a dual role in this dark comedy-horror film that definitely rivals

the sinister energy of the previous film mentioned. Twin brothers Bill and Hal (both played by James) have a curse in their family in the form of a toy monkey. When the monkey's key gets wound up, a gruesome death usually follows. After sealing the toy away for 25 years, Hal receives news from his brother that the monkey has somehow returned and killed their aunt. Now, the monkey must be stopped once again, drawing the brothers back into a cycle of trauma and death that they can never seem to escape. Premieres Aug. 7. (Hulu)

In Case You Missed It "Natalie Wood: What Remains Behind" (TV-14) — After watching Mariska Hargitay's documentary about her mother Jayne Mansfield, I was inspired to go back and watch a similar documentary about actress Natalie Wood, told through Wood's own daughter's eyes. In the doc, which was made in 2020, Natasha Gregson Wagner walks viewers through her mother's start in Hollywood as a child star and how her mother evolved to become an exceptional lead actress in films like "Love with the Proper Stranger" and "Bob & Carol & Ted & Alice." Unfortunately, Wood's story was cut short when she drowned at the age of 43 after a night of debauchery with her husband at the time, Robert Wagner, and actor Christopher Walken. The circumstances surrounding her death are still a topic of controversy today. (Max)

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Billy Bob Thornton A Tommy Norris in "Landman"

Q:When is "Landman" coming back? At least I assume it is. It's a great show, and I love anything Billy Bob Thornton does. — A.M.

A: "Landman" is a Taylor Sheridan ("Yellowstone") creation, and he's on a hot streak! It was easily renewed by Paramount+ for a second season and is currently shooting in the Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas, area. According to Entertainment Weekly, the series' pilot "has seen a whopping 35 million global streaming viewers since its debut in November 2024."

Demi Moore ("The Substance") is also returning and should have a bigger role after Thornton's character appointed her to the board of his oil company. Ali Larter ("The Rookie") is also returning as Thornton's ex-wife, despite the show being accused of sexism for how her character was written. Larter disagrees, stating she loves that "Taylor writes for older women — women in their prime [who] were still allowed to be alive!"

Joining the cast is Sam Elliott, who appeared in Sheridan's "Yellowstone" spin-off "1883." Andy Garcia ("Expend4bles"), who debuted as a cartel boss on the season finale, will return to continue his story in season two.

Q: I just read that Holly Hunter is hearing-impaired. I never knew this about her. Was she born with the impairment? — Y.C.

A: You might have noticed that Academy-Award-winning actress Holly Hunter ("The Piano") tends to speak more out of the right side of her mouth, and this is because she lost her hearing in her left ear after contracting mumps as a child. In fact, the animators at Pixar made her character, Elastigirl, in "The Incredibles" and its sequel have the same way of speaking, drawing her mouth more to the side of her hearing ear when she speaks.

Hunter's next big role is a starring one in "Star Trek: Starfleet Academy," which is currently in production and will air on Paramount+ in early 2026. The series will also feature another fabulous actor — Paul Giamatti ("Billions") — and the chameleon-like actress Tatiana Maslany ("Orphan Black").

Q: I was watching the animated "Predator" series on Hulu recently. When was the last "Predator" movie, and will there be any more? — B.E.

A: The original scary sci-fi movie "Predator" starring Arnold Schwarzenegger ("The Terminator") debuted in theaters in 1987 with its sequel, "Predator 2," releasing three years later. "Predators" came along in 2010 and starred Adrien Brody ("The Brutalist"), and it was followed by "The Predator" with Boyd Holbrook ("The Sandman") in 2018.

We also shouldn't overlook "Alien vs. Predator" from 2004, which starred Sanaa Lathan ("Succession"). Clearly it's a popular franchise, and there's more on the horizon.

Coming to theaters this November is "Predator: Badlands," starring Elle Fanning ("A Complete Unknown"). Dan Trachtenberg, the film's director, just announced at Comic-Con that he recently met with Schwarzenegger about doing another "Predator" installment. The former Governor of California did lend his voice to the new animated series but hasn't appeared in a live-action "Predator" since the original from almost 40 years ago.

Send me your questions at NewCelebrityExtra@gmail.com.

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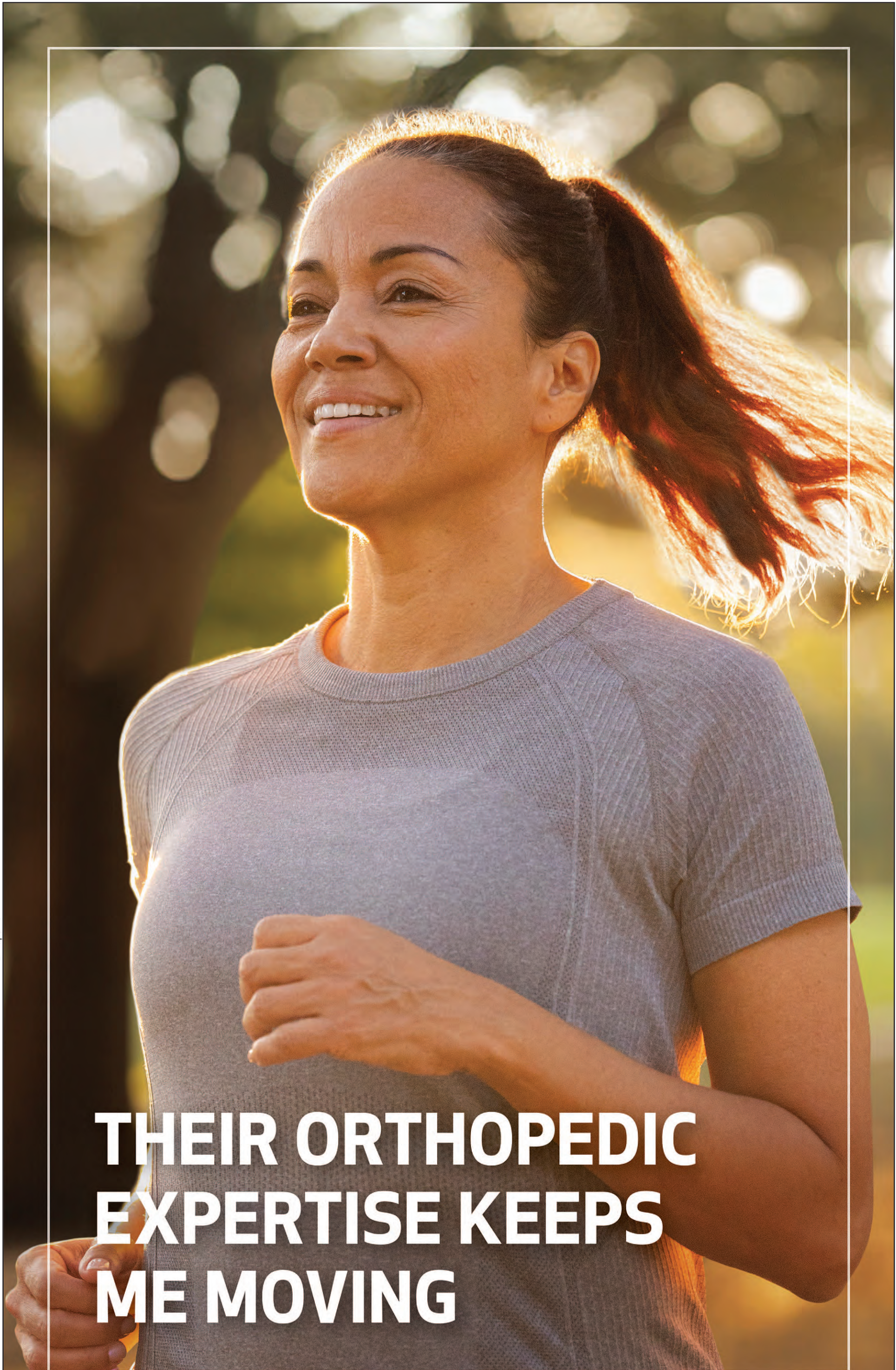
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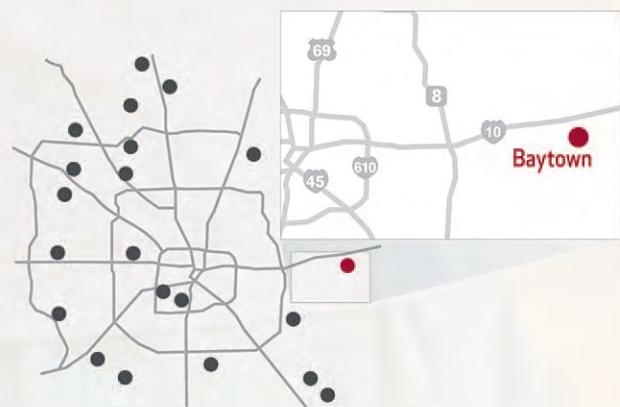


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