

BH Eagles Soar in Overtime Thriller, Page 3

Time Capsule's Nostalgic Unveiling, Page 6

Your Child Can Write a LETTER TO SANTA



Use the Form Inside on page 2, We will publish Letters in the next 2 Issues

HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

# Star Courier

Serving Highlands, Crosby, Huffman and Surrounding Communities since 1955 ■ www.starcouriernews.com

VOL. 72, NO. 47 - \$1.00 © Copyright 2025

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2025

HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

## IN THE STARS

### Stratford Library Book Sale. Dec. 6

The Friends of the Stratford Library will host a book sale on Saturday, December 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 509 Stratford St. in Highlands. Hardbacks are priced at \$1, and paperbacks are available for 3 for \$1.

### Runoff Election For Unexpired Term In Previous 18th Congressional District

AUSTIN-Governor Greg Abbott today issued a proclamation announcing Saturday, January 31, 2026 as the runoff election date for the unexpired term in the previous 18th Congressional District seat vacated by the late Congressman Sylvester Turner. Early voting will begin on Wednesday, January 21, 2026.

### Runoff Election For Texas Senate District 9

AUSTIN - Governor Greg Abbott today issued a proclamation announcing Saturday, January 31, 2026 as the runoff election date for the Texas Senate District 9 seat vacated by former Senator Kelly Hancock. Early voting will begin on Wednesday, January 21, 2026.

# Crosby Chamber Celebrates 27th Annual Christmas Festival and Parade Saturday Dec. 13

By David Taylor  
Managing Editor

Crosby is set to sparkle with holiday cheer as the 27th Annual Christmas Festival and Parade returns on Saturday, December 13, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Crosby Church, 5725 U.S. 90. This beloved event, organized by the local chamber, promises a day packed with festive fun for families and children—all completely free.

Attendees can look forward to a bustling Christmas market, photos with Santa, a petting zoo, balloon artist, inflatables, Holly the Elf, and much more. Free hot dogs, popcorn, and cotton candy will be available for everyone. LyondellBasell is this year's title sponsor and will serve as the grand marshal for the parade.



Last year's second place winner was the Whoville float entered by the Crosby Elementary School Garden Club. The colorful cutouts, beautifully decorated float, caught the eye of the judges.

Deanna Becker, membership director for the chamber, shared her excitement.

"This is the biggie for kids. Last year we had over 350 people come through, and we're anticipating 400 this year. It's the one time

of year that everybody gives back. Of course, the chamber gives back all the time, but this is special."

Santa Claus will arrive at 2 p.m. and stay until 4

Continued. See CROSBY'S CHRISTMAS FESTIVALS, Page 2

27TH ANNUAL Christmas FESTIVAL & PARADE

SAT. DECEMBER 13TH

INSIDE / OUTSIDE MARKET 1:00PM - 5:00PM  
PARADE 6:00PM

CHRISTMAS MARKET  
PICTURES WITH SANTA  
PETTING ZOO  
BALLOON ARTIST  
INFLATABLES  
HAYRIDE  
HOLLY THE ELF  
AND SO MUCH MORE!!

FREE HOTDOGS  
POPCORN  
& COTTON CANDY

CHCC Crosby Huffman Chamber of Commerce

LYB LyondellBasell

CROSBY CHURCH  
5725 HWY 90, CROSBY, TX

# Dr. Angeles Perez Named Lone Finalist for Huffman ISD Superintendent

By David Taylor  
Managing Editor

The Huffman ISD Board of Trustees has officially named Dr. Angeles Perez as the lone finalist to become the next superintendent of Huffman ISD. Perez has served the district for the past three years as Chief Officer of Academics and Student Services and, most recently, as Interim Superintendent.

Board President Jared Dagley expressed strong confidence in the board's decision, stating,

"Dr. Perez has a clear passion for Huffman ISD and an unwavering com-



Dr. Angeles Perez

mitment to our students, staff, and community. We are confident in the positive direction she will continue to lead our district."

The selection process was thorough, involving executive search services through Texas Association of School Boards (TASB), community and staff engagements, and surveys to develop a profile of the ideal candidate. Over 50 applicants from both in-state and out-of-state were considered. After interviewing six candidates over a two-week period, the board unanimously voted for Perez as the finalist, citing her alignment with the community's vision and

the district's recent progress and hiring from within the district.

"I'm excited. I think it's not only going to add a valuable person into that position, but it's going to add a great family to our community," Dagley said.

Perez currently serves as Interim Superintendent of Huffman ISD, leading a district of approximately 3,650 students across five campuses. In this role, she has strengthened instructional, operational, and fiscal priorities with a focus on transparency, strategic planning, school safety,

Continued. See HUFFMAN ISD PICKS ANGELES PEREZ, Page 6

# Two Tornadoes wreak havoc in NW Harris County areas

## 100 Homes damaged; No deaths reported

HARRIS COUNTY - A tornadic storm caused widespread and significant damage and power outages throughout northwest Harris County, officials say.

Neighbors were working to clean up tree limbs and debris that riddled the streets of the Klein area.

"We didn't see too much of it," explained Ron Manson. "Just happened so fast. The furniture in the back was swirling around and banging our glass windows."

Officials and residents reported damaged roofs, broken windows, and power outages. Images shared on media showed the damage the tornadic storm



This fallen tree, which crushed the car beyond, is typical of the damage that was sustained throughout the Cypress & Klein areas.

caused to neighborhoods.

"It could have been a lot worse. I'm looking at the positives, but this was totally unexpected," Miriam Harris said.

About 100 homes were damaged, according to the Harris County Precinct 4 Constable's Office.

Continued. See TORNADOES IN NW COUNTY AREAS, Page 5

# Knights of Columbus Grocery Grab Winner Bags Over \$1,000



Members of the Knights of Columbus, Council 3229 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Crosby, gather with Miguel Villanueva inside Arlans Supermarket in Crosby. Villanueva won the grocery grab and picked up more than \$1,000 in groceries for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Continued. See KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GROCERY GRAB FUELS, Page 5

STAR-COURIER PHONES: 713-266-3444 • E-MAIL: GRAFIKSTAR @ AOL.COM • ADS: 713-977-2555



# GHOST YOUR OLD BANK

JOIN THE CREDIT UNION THAT'S BEEN SERVING MEMBERS FOR 90 YEARS!

Community Resource CREDIT UNION

281.422.3611  
CRCU.ORG/REFER90



# Barbers Hill Press

## Dayton

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

VOL. 30, NO. 47

© Copyright 2025

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2025

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

### ON THE HILL

#### Sam Houston Center Annual Community Holiday Celebration, Dec. 13

Liberty, TX – The Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center invites members of the public to its third annual Holiday Celebration on Saturday, December 13 from 5 to 8 p.m. The Center will hold an open house with entertainment, including a 6:30 p.m. performance by the Liberty High School Choir, on its campus at 650 FM 1011 in Liberty.

All are invited to join the Sam Houston Center for free holiday activities for all ages, including sweet treats and hot cocoa, caroling, glittering holiday decorations and multiple opportunities to take your own photographs at the Jean and Price Daniel Home on the Center's grounds, which will be decorated for the holiday season. Families are invited to bring their little ones for photos with Santa and story time with Mrs. Claus. Guests may also visit the Center's history museum and explore exhibits chronicling the history of Southeast Texas during the event.

The Jean and Price Daniel Home and Archives, completed in 1983 and patterned after the Texas Governor's Mansion in Austin, sits on land donated by the Daniels for the Center. The house preserves and displays the library, archives, furniture and mementos documenting the lives and public service of Governor and Mrs. Price Daniel. Gov. Daniel was born in nearby Dayton in 1910; Jean Houston Baldwin Daniel was the great-great-granddaughter of Sam Houston.

For more information, [www.tsl.texas.gov/shc](http://www.tsl.texas.gov/shc) or call the Center at (936) 336-8821.

The Texas State Library and Archives Commission provides Texans access to the information needed to be informed, productive citizens by preserving the archival record of Texas; enhancing the service capacity of public, academic and school libraries; assisting public agencies in the maintenance of their records; and meeting the reading needs of Texans with disabilities.

Alana Inman  
Manager, Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center  
[ainman@tsl.texas.gov](mailto:ainman@tsl.texas.gov)  
936-336-8821

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

## Barbers Hill Mounts Epic Comeback, Downs Weiss 34-31 in OT to Claim Regional Final

MONT BELVIEU - Barbers Hill rallied from a 10-point fourth quarter deficit to force overtime and then defeated Pflugerville Weiss in the extra period, 34-31, Saturday at Spring ISD's Planet Ford Stadium.

Eagles advance to the fourth round for the first time since 1976, and will face Port Arthur Memorial in next week's 5A DI Region III final.

Kick off is set for 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 at Beaumont ISD's Doggett Family Stadium.

The Eagles lost to district foe Port Arthur Memorial in October, 34-6, at Eagle Stadium. Since then, the Eagles have won six games in a row.

Barbers Hill's success against Weiss was the result of a balanced offensive attack that saw several



Barbers Hill's London Schick boots the game-winning field goal in overtime against Pflugerville Weiss. (Photo by Rafael Lopez)

players step up, but quarterback Brady Barrier led the charge by throwing for 238 yards and one TD, while also rushing for 33 yards and one touchdown. Tripp Davis finished the

game with nine catches for 85 yards and a rushing touchdown. Garner Poole had seven catches for 71 yards.

Defense led the way for the Eagles all night, hold-



ing the high-powered Weiss offense to 225 total yards.

Colby Morgan and Dayton Smith both had interceptions. Trae Clark and Carson Hahn were the

leading tacklers, each with 13.

Port Arthur (13-0) downed College Station, 44-27, to advance to the Saturday showdown in Beaumont.

## Dayton ISD Recognized as a CTE District of Distinction by CTAT

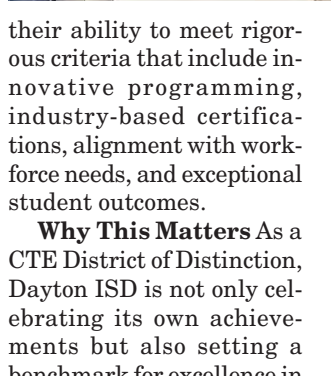
DAYTON TEXAS - Dayton Independent School District is proud to announce its selection as a CTE District of Distinction by the Career and Technical Association of Texas (CTAT). This esteemed recognition celebrates districts across Texas that demonstrate exemplary leadership, innovation, and commitment to student success through high-quality Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs.

The CTE District of Distinction program, launched by CTAT, highlights districts that excel in workforce readiness, foster innovation in CTE, and inspire others through their dedication to student achievement and community impact. Honored districts serve as models of excellence, showcasing best practices and driving progress in CTE statewide. Superintendent Dr. Travis Young expressed gratitude for the recognition, stating, "Being named a CTE District of Distinction is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our educators, administrators, and students. We are proud to lead the way in providing robust, future-focused CTE opportunities that prepare our students for success in the workforce."

CTE Director Mrs. Vonnie Anderson also expressed,

"The designation of being a CTE District of Distinction acknowledges just how important career and technical education is to the future of our students. Dayton ISD values our students' future successes and CTE programs provide students with direction for those future successes."

About the CTE District of Distinction Program The CTE District of Distinction program was designed to celebrate outstanding career and technical education programs across Texas. Honored districts are selected based on



their ability to meet rigorous criteria that include innovative programming, industry-based certifications, alignment with workforce needs, and exceptional student outcomes.

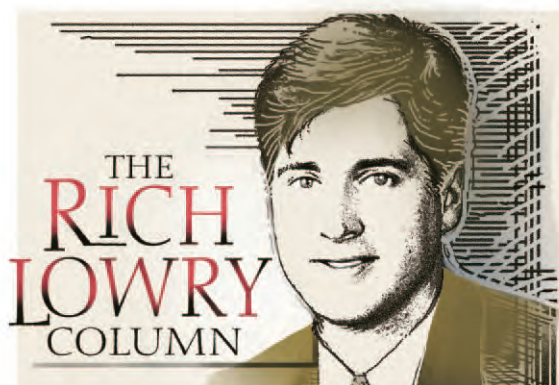
Why This Matters As a CTE District of Distinction, Dayton ISD is not only celebrating its own achievements but also setting a benchmark for excellence in CTE statewide. This designation opens doors to new opportunities for collaboration with educational and workforce development leaders, further advancing the district's mission of preparing students for success in a rapidly evolving economy.

CTE Leadership at Dayton ISD Dayton ISD's CTE programs are built on a foundation of innovation, workforce alignment, and a deep commitment to student success. The district

offers a wide range of programs—including agriculture, health science, welding, culinary arts, engineering, and business management—that provide students with hands-on experiences and opportunities to earn industry-based cer-

tifications and college credit. Partnerships with local employers, colleges, and community organizations further strengthen these pathways, ensuring Dayton graduates are well-prepared for both college and career success.

OPINION PAGE



Yes, Ozempic for all

Americans are going to get a little healthier. President Trump cut deals with the drugmakers Eli Lilly and Novo Nordisk to increase access to obesity drugs in a major benefit to American public health.

The agreements are a win-win-win — good for consumers, good for the companies and good for Trump.

One of the most irrational superstitions of our time is that Big Pharma, which has long been routinely delivering near-miraculous therapeutics to extend and improve our lives, is a public enemy. Its latest breakthrough is a class of so-called GLP-1 drugs that make it easier to lose weight and to avoid associated serious health problems, from Type 2 diabetes to heart disease.

The basic dynamic of the Trump deals is that the companies will, through lower prices, expand their market share, thus generating more revenue. The companies also get tariff relief and expedited review for select drugs.

Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr., the MAHA leader with a paranoid streak about modern medical advances, has been hostile to GLP-1 drugs, the most famous of which is Ozempic, sold by Novo Nordisk.

If everyone could do as many pushups and pullups as the hyper-fit 71-year-old Kennedy, perhaps we could turn our back on GLP-1s.

Certainly, RFK Jr. is correct that Americans should eat better and work out more. But our body mass index has been increasing for about 150 years, as we've made calories cheaper and more abundant over time. As it happens, the things that we like to eat or drink that are bad for us — fast food, soda, chips, cookies — are cheap, convenient and taste good.

Even if we manage to convince people that they should eat more fruit, vegetables and legumes, while taking a Peloton class every day, not everyone is going to do it as a matter of lifestyle constraints, individual preference or simple lack of willpower.

There's also the fact that once you put on weight, physiological changes make it more difficult to shed it.

About 40% of Americans are obese. Wouldn't it be great for them — and for American society at large, which spends roughly \$170 billion a year on obesity-related medical costs — if there were a safe, relatively convenient way for them to slim down?

Lo and behold, here it is. The GLP-1s started out as a treatment for diabetes and have exploded in popularity as weight-loss drugs.

Trump's reflex to make it easier for people to obtain Ozempic and the like — while, not incidentally, boosting his reputation as the nation's foremost dealmaker — is the correct one. Drug pricing is complicated, but by expanding the sale of the drugs direct to consumers, the companies can reduce prices. Meanwhile, Medicare will do more to cover the drugs, also bringing down their cost.

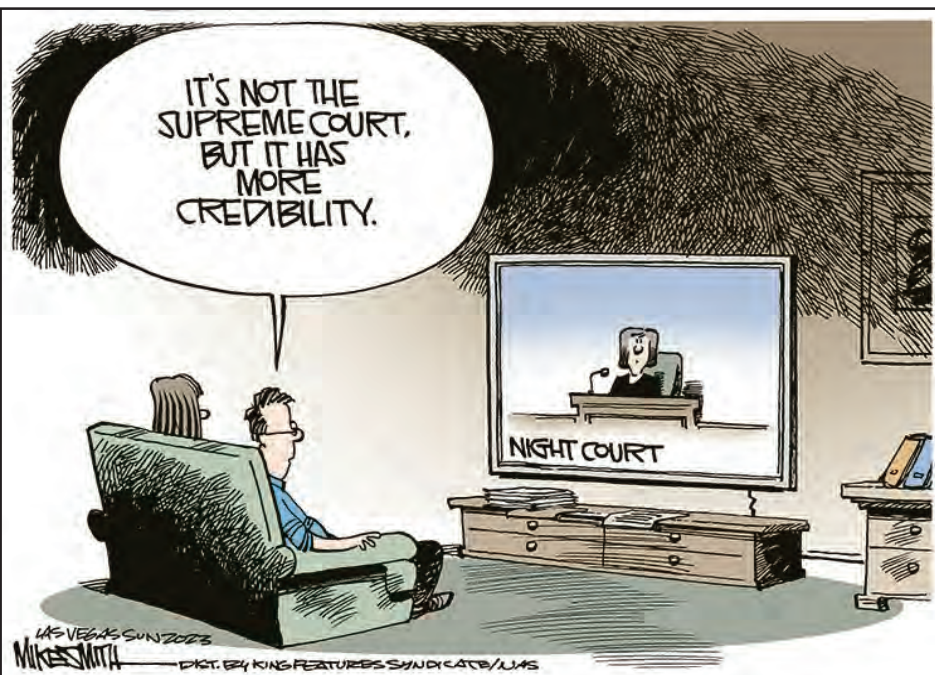
According to Gallup, about 12% of Americans report having used a GLP-1 drug at some point for weight loss, a stunning increase from about 6% in early 2024. Not coincidentally, Gallup is also now showing a slight dip in obesity. From 2008 — when the polling organization regularly began asking about weight — to 2022, the percentage of obese Americans increased by 14 percentage points, to nearly 40%.

Where any number of fashionable diets and continual government exhortations for more physical exertion have failed (before RFK Jr., Michelle Obama was urging, "Let's Move!"), drugs to slow digestion and reduce the urge to eat are working.

The percentage of Americans using GLP-1s will inevitably keep growing, especially if prices continue to go down, if more oral GLP-1s come online in addition to injectables, and if other medical benefits of the drugs emerge. GLP-1s could easily match the saturation level of statins, the cholesterol-reducing drugs.

By all means, we should all eat more arugula. Until then, we have found a pharmaceutical path to alleviating an ongoing health crisis. President Trump and the drug companies are to be congratulated for their creative cooperation to make it available to more Americans.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2025 by King Features Synd., Inc.



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Supreme Court Blocks Lower Court Redistricting Ruling

The U.S. Supreme Court on Friday blocked a lower court ruling that threw out the state's new congressional map, allowing the new districts to stay in place, at least for now. A federal panel, by a 2-1 vote, said a few days earlier that the new map was racially gerrymandered.

The Dallas Morning News reported Justice Samuel Alito signed the order after Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton appealed the lower court's decision, which would have forced the state to revert to the old map.

Alito asked the full court to rule by 5 p.m. on Nov. 24.

Days earlier, U.S. District Judge Jeffrey V. Brown, a Trump appointee, had granted a preliminary injunction. Brown was appointed to his position by President Donald Trump and is a former Texas Supreme Court justice who has long backed conservative policies. U.S. Circuit Judge Jerry E. Smith wrote a searing dissent.

The Texas Legislature last summer redrew the map at President Donald Trump's request, making it likely the GOP would pick up five additional congressional seats next year.

The filing deadline for a place on the primary ballot is Dec. 8. Until the issue is settled, potential congressional candidates will not know which position to file for.

JUDGE BLOCKS DISPLAY OF TEN COMMANDMENTS AT SOME SCHOOLS

A federal judge has ruled that requiring the display of the Ten Commandments in Texas classrooms interferes with the religious freedoms of the 15 Texas families who sued, issuing a temporary injunction against 11 districts across the state, the Houston Chronicle reported.

The ruling has been appealed to the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, which will hear arguments in both the Texas case and a similar case in Louisiana.

Meanwhile, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton has sued Round Rock, Leander and Galveston school districts after their school board members voted against putting up the displays. "These rogue ISD officials and board members blatantly disregarded the will of Texas voters who expect the legal and moral heritage of our state to be



displayed in accordance with the law," Paxton said in a statement.

Another lawsuit challenging the requirement to post the Ten Commandments also resulted in a temporary blocking of posting the Ten Commandments. A total of 25 school districts are affected by the rulings.

DALLAS FED: STATE'S ECONOMY IS COOLING

The Texas economy is cooling, according to a recent analysis by researchers at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. The News reported the analysis concludes that tariffs, inflation and uncertainty about the economy are taking a toll on the state's businesses.

"Tariffs and the surrounding uncertainty continue to impact the Texas economy," Luis Torres, a Dallas Fed economist who co-authored the analysis, said in accompanying comments. He added that nearly half of all the businesses surveyed are seeing costs go up because of tariffs, and more than a fourth are passing along those higher costs to their customers.

The survey found modest growth in the manufacturing sector while the services sector saw slight job losses.

Texas has the country's second-largest state economy, with 9% of overall U.S. gross domestic product.

NEW STATE PARKS PLANNED WITH \$1 BILLION FUND

After voters in 2023 backed a \$1 billion endowment to establish the Centennial Parks Conservation Fund, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is planning development of several new state parks. The largest is the Silver Lake Ranch acquisition from the Moody Foundation, which will be

developed with money from the fund, according to the Austin American-Statesman.

Other new parks planned include:

- Bear Creek State Park, 1,720 acres in Uvalde County.
· Post Oak Ridge State Park, 3,170 acres in Lampasas and Burnet counties.
· Enchanted Rock State Natural Area expansion, 3,700 acres in Llano County.

"This fund allows Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to address the demand for more public lands in Texas while conserving natural and cultural resources for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations," the Parks and Wildlife Department said on its website.

PAXTON ASKS COURT TO KEEP DIVORCE RECORDS SEALED

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is asking a Collin County court to seal records in his ongoing divorce case, The News reported. A hearing has been set for Dec. 19 on a lawsuit filed by several major media companies to make the records public.

"Allegations that might suggest abuse of marital assets, concealment of financial information, or personal conduct inconsistent with public responsibility are not merely private — they are of public consequence," the plaintiffs' filing reads.

In response, Paxton called the media companies' efforts an "unprecedentedly broad and intrusive request."

Paxton's wife, state Sen. Angela Paxton, R-McKinney, filed for divorce in July, citing infidelity, according to Collin County court documents. Ken Paxton is attempting to unseat U.S. Sen. John Cornyn in next March's GOP primary.

ADD A FLU SHOT TO THANKSGIVING SHOPPING LIST

The Texas Department of State Health Services is encouraging everyone to add flu shots to their Thanksgiving shopping lists. Flu vaccines are widely available at health clinics, doctors' offices, and pharmacies across Texas.

"It is especially important for older adults, very young children, people with chronic health conditions and pregnant women to get protection from the flu," said DSHS Commissioner Jennifer Shuford. "People in those higher risk groups are more likely to get seriously sick if they do get the flu, and some will inevitably need to be hospitalized and even die from their infections."

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that the flu caused at least 600,000 hospitalizations in the United States and tens of thousands of deaths last flu season. Cooler weather, holiday gatherings, and increased travel all increase the risk that the flu will spread. Public health officials recommend everyone six months of age and older get vaccinated.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches, Lufkin and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.

THE POSTSCRIPT By Carrie Classon

Warm Spots



In our household, my husband, Peter, and I have acquired nicknames which we imagine our cat, Felix, calls us by. To Felix, I am Mama and Peter is Mouse.

We came by these names because I spend more time cuddling with Felix—although he is not much of a cuddler. On the rare occasions when he decides he'd like to make biscuits (or whatever term you use for that endearing activity where a cat treats you like a loaf of bread and kneads you with his two front paws), I am the one he selects. But other than that, Mama has few redeeming qualities because it is Mouse who plays all the games, and Felix loves games.

Peter and Felix have string games and chase games and games in a box. They have surprise one another around the corner games and throw towels over Felix's head games. They have so many games in so many varieties that I do not try to keep track. Occasionally, I hear something fall to the ground (usually something that used to live on my nightstand) but, other than that, I don't pay much attention to the many games that Felix and Mouse play.

Mouse is also the one who dispenses the treats. This is because, according to Felix, Mouse knows where the treats are kept and he knows how to open a tuna can. There is no indication that Mama knows either of these things. Mama also does other things, things that Felix really does not like. Mama yells when Felix is on the table (Mouse pretends he does not see him). And—worst of all—Mama gets out the nail clippers and cuts Felix's beautiful curving claws. This is just plain awful and only barely compensated for when he then gets a special treat once the torture is complete. So Mama, it must be said, is rather useless when she is not outright annoying.

But lately, since the weather turned cold in San Miguel, Mama has demonstrated a new, unexpected skill that has come in quite handy. Mama can find the warm spots.

In reality, I have two electric back heaters that I plug in and use to keep warm since the apartment has no heating. I keep one under my desk, under a towel, and the other on my side of the bed, under the sheets. I only turn them on when I plan to use them, and these mysterious warm spots are very appealing to Felix. But he's never sure where they are and when they will be warm.

This has given Mama a little unexpected clout as she locates the warm spots in the apartment, and Felix follows her around to see if she is hogging one of them so he can move in.

If she is sleeping on one of them, he slowly works his way over until he is under Mama's armpit. If there is one under her desk, she inconsiderately puts her feet on top of it, so Felix has to stretch himself right over the top of her feet to suck up the available warmth. Then she'll get up to fetch more coffee and return, only to shove her feet under him again. It is very bothersome.

But once Mama has a fresh cup of coffee and Felix is securely on top of her wool socks, life is pretty good. Mouse goes out for his hike. Mama stays put at her desk making "tappa-tappa-tapping" noises on the computer above, and Felix decides Mama is not entirely bad after all.

Till next time, Carrie

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, 5832 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.

Advertisement for Star Courier newspaper, including contact information, subscription rates, and staff details.

**FOOTBALL SEASON WEEK 15:**

**Texans head to KC for prime time meeting on SNF: Cowboys hope magic continues against Lions on TNF**

Texas' two NFL teams will be featured in prime time this week as the Dallas Cowboys will face the Detroit Lions on Thursday Night Football in the Motor City, while the Houston Texans will head to Kansas City to take on the Chiefs on Sunday Night Football.

The Texans have had their issues beating the Chiefs, whether it's been at NRG Stadium or in Kansas City, as Houston has lost six of the last nine times they have faced the Chiefs. This is a huge game for both team's playoff chances. Two weeks ago, the Texans won their third straight game as the defense dominated Buffalo and QB Josh Allen, to lead the way to a 23-19 victory. The Texans should have starting QB C.J. Stroud back for this game, but backup Davis Mills did an outstanding job filling in for Stroud while Stroud recovered from a concussion, leading Houston to three straight victories.

The Chiefs know they will have their main man under center Patrick Mahomes, which should serve as plenty of motivation for the Texans defense, led by edge rushers Will Anderson Jr. and Danielle Hunter.

The NFL will take center stage in this week's column. While this weekend will feature conference title games in the Big 12, Big 10, SEC and ACC, the matchups were unknown heading into the final weekend of the regular season. Once the College Football Field (CFP) is set on Sunday, Dec. 7, we will take a look at those first-round games.

So, let's concentrate on the NFL this week. There's a big one in the AFC South as Indianapolis visits Jacksonville. The Texans will be very interested in the outcome of that game. Two weeks ago, the Colts fell to 8-3 with their overtime loss at KC. That left the Texans two games behind Indy for the top spot in the division.

In the AFC North, there's a big one as the Pittsburgh Steelers visit the surging Baltimore Ravens. Baltimore, which lost five of its first six games, took over first place in the North two weeks ago with its win over the Jets, while the Steelers lost at Chicago as starting QB Aaron Rodgers missed the game with a fractured left wrist. If the Steelers are to keep pace with the Ravens, they will need Rodgers back for this one and something tells me he will be ready to go on Sunday.

In other games this weekend, Seattle heads east to take on a struggling Atlanta team, while the NFL's oldest rivalries resumes as the Bears visit the Packers in a huge NFC North contest. The Bears lead the division, but the Pack is tough to beat at home, especially when it defense plays as it did two weeks ago when it stifled Minnesota, 23-6.

In the NFC West, the first-place Los Angeles Rams visit Arizona. Week 14 concludes on Monday Night football with the Eagles visiting the Los Angeles Chargers.

Before we take a look at this weekend's schedule, let's review last week's record. A 10-2 week upped the season record to 101-51 (66%).

Now, onto this weekend's games.

**NFL**

**Dallas at Detroit** - This game pits two of the top offenses in the NFL, so look for a lot of points on Thursday Night Football. Two weeks ago, both teams overcame second-half deficits to pull out victories. Detroit got a huge day from running back Jahmyr Gibbs (951 rushing yards, 10 TDs/48 receptions, 379 yards, 3 TDs) as he rushed for 219 yards, scored twice on the ground and once on a reception to lead his team to a 34-27 overtime win over the Giants. Gibbs' 69-yard TD run on the first play of OT sealed the win. The Dallas defense will have its hands full of Gibbs, QB Jared Goff (2,769 yards, 23 TDs) and wideout Amon-Ra St. Brown (75 receptions, 884 yards, 9 TDs). But so will the Detroit defense when it faces the Dallas offense. Two weeks ago, the Cowboys overcame a 21-0 deficit at home to rally for a 24-21 win over Philadelphia. QB Dak Prescott (2,941 yards, 23 TDs) had another big day, and will look for help from running back Javonte Williams (896



yards, 10 total TDs) and big-play wide receivers George Pickens (67 receptions, 1,054 yards, 8 TDs) and CeeDee Lamb (44 receptions, 611 yards, 2 TDs) and dependable tight end Jake Ferguson (65 receptions, 460 yards, 7 TDs). This one should go down to the wire, with Goff outdueling Prescott as the Lions pull out a big win to keep their playoff hopes alive. My pick, Detroit 34, Dallas 31

**Indianapolis at Jacksonville** - A big one for both teams in the AFC South has the Colts hitting the road for the second time in three weeks. Two weeks ago, Indy lost in OT at KC, while the Jags rallied for a win at Arizona. The Colts will need a solid performance from QB Daniel Jones (2,840 passing yards, 17 TDs/159 rushing yards, 3 TDs) and running back Jonathan Taylor (1,197 yards, 15 TDs/32 receptions, 268 yards, 2 TDs). Taylor was held to just 58 yards in the loss to KC. Jones will look to make plays in the passing game to rookie tight end Tyler Warren (55 receptions, 662 yards, 3 TDs). The Jags will need a big game from QB Trevor Lawrence (2,307 yards, 14 TDs/11 interceptions), and running back Travis Etienne (815 yards, 5 TDs). I think Indy will be more focused for this road trip and will pick up a big division win on Sunday. My pick, Indianapolis 26, Jacksonville 20

**Pittsburgh at Baltimore** - These two bitter AFC North rivals meet in a huge game on Sunday in Baltimore. Two weeks ago, the Steelers lost at Chicago as starting QB Aaron Rodgers was held out after he sustained a fractured wrist the week before. Rodgers (1,969 yards, 19 TDs) should play, which will benefit the Pittsburgh offense. He will need help from running back Jaylen Warren (604 yards, 4 total TDs) and wide receiver DK Metcalf (42 receptions, 573 yards, 5 TDs). After losing five of their first six games, the Ravens have gone on a run, winning five straight heading into their Thanksgiving night game against the Bengals. Baltimore has starting QB Lamar Jackson (1,595 passing yards, 15 TDs/237 rushing yards, 1 TD) back after he missed two games with a hamstring injury. Baltimore is a totally different animal with Jackson under center because it opens up things for running back Derrick Henry (871 yards, 9 TDs) and wide receiver Zay Flowers (58 receptions, 761 yards, 1 TD). This will be a physical, hard-hitting game, but look for Jackson and Henry to be the difference makers late as the Ravens continue their roll towards the AFC North title. My pick, Baltimore 23, Pittsburgh 20

**Seattle at Atlanta** - The Seahawks travel across the country for the second time in three weeks (they played in Nashville two weeks ago), but should have little trouble taking care of an Atlanta team that appears to be playing out the string of what has turned into a disappointing season. Seattle has an explosive offense led by QB Sam Darnold (2,785 yards, 19 TDs), running back Kenneth Walker III (677 yards, 4 TDs) and perhaps the best wide receiver in the league in Jaxon Smith-Njigba (80 receptions, 1,313 yards, 7 TDs). The Seattle defense will concentrate on slowing down versatile running back Bijan Robinson (853 rushing yards, 4 TDs/49 receptions, 543 yards, 2 TDs). If they accomplish that, they should tee off on QB Kirk Cousins (449 yards, 2 TDs). My pick, Seattle 34, Atlanta 16

**Chicago at Green Bay** - These two bitter NFC North rivals meet at Lambeau Field on Sunday with a lot on the line. Two weeks ago, the Bears won their seventh game in eight games to improve to 8-3 and sit atop the division standings, while the GB defense was dominating in its 23-6 win over the Vikings to help the team improve to 7-3-1. Both teams had tough games last week as Chicago visited Philadelphia, while the Packers visited Detroit. Bears QB Caleb Williams (2,568

yards, 16 TDS/293 rushing yards, 3 TDs) will get his toughest test taking on the GB defense. He will need a big game from running back D'Andre Swift (649 yards, 4 TDs) and wide receivers D.J.Moore (36 receptions, 485 yards, 3 TDs) and Rome Odunze (42 receptions, 653 yards, 6 TDs). GB will look for a solid effort from QB Jordan Love (2,560 yards, 15 TDs) and hopes star running back Josh Jacobs (659 yards, 11 total TDS) is back after missing the Minnesota game with a knee injury. Look for the GB defense to force a couple of turnovers from Williams as the Packers earn a big division win. My pick, Green Bay 24, Chicago 20

**Los Angeles Rams at Arizona** - Don't look now, but the Rams could very well be the best team in the NFL at this point of the season. Two weeks ago, LA dominated a good Tampa Bay team, 34-7, and QB Matthew Stafford (2,830 yards, 30 TDs) is having an MVP-type season. He has a lot of weapons with running back Kyren Williams (786 yards, 6 TDs) and wide receivers Puka Nacua (80 receptions, 947 yards, 4 TDs) and Davante Williams (48 receptions, 631 yards, 12 TDs). LA has a solid defense as well, as Cardinals QB Jacoby Brissett (1,887 yards, 11 TDs) will discover come Sunday. My pick, Los Angeles Rams 33, Arizona 17

**Houston at Kansas City** - This is an important game for both of these teams and their playoff hopes. Two weeks ago, the Texans kept theirs alive with a 23-19 home win over the Bills, while the Chiefs may have saved their season with a 23-20 overtime win at home against Indianapolis. Houston should have starting QB C.J. Stroud (1,702 yards, 11 TDs) after he missed three games recovering from a concussion. He will need help from rookie running back Woody Marks (422 yards, 3 total TDs) and big-play wideout Nico Collins (52 receptions, 697 yards, 4 TDs). But it will be the Houston defense that will determine the outcome of this one. If Will Anderson Jr. (10.5 sacks) and Danielle Hunter (11 sacks) can get consistent pressure on KC QB Patrick Mahomes (2,977 passing yards, 18 TDs/318 rushing yards, 4 TDs), then they may have a chance. But Mahomes knows his team can't afford any more losses heading down the stretch. Look for him to get help from running back Kareem Hunt (457 yards, 7 TDs), tight end Travis Kelce (54 receptions, 674 yards, 4 TDs) and wide receivers Marquise Brown (39 receptions, 439 yards, 4 TDs) and Rashee Rice (34 receptions, 394 yards, 4 TDs in five games). The Texans struggle playing at KC, which will once again prove to be true come Sunday night. My pick, Kansas City 23, Houston 20

**Philadelphia at Los Angeles Chargers** - Week 14 concludes with Monday Night Football as the Eagles visit the Chargers. Two weeks ago, Philly blew a 21-0 lead at Dallas and lost, 24-21. The Eagles definitely have issues on offense. They struggle to run the ball as star running back Saquon Barkley (684 yards, 4 TDs) has been unable to get untracked all season long. That is putting more pressure on QB Jalen Hurts (2,284 passing yards, 17 TDs/298 rushing yards, 8 TDs) to make plays in the passing game. He has two solid wideouts in Devonta Smith (55 receptions, 754 yards, 3 TDs) and A.J.Brown (46 receptions, 567 yards, 4 TDs), but something is missing this year. The LA defense won't make things any easier on Monday night as they love to bring pressure. They also have a few weapons on offense led by QB Justin Herbert (2,691 passing yards, 19 TDs/345 rushing yards, 1 TD) and productive wide receivers Ladd McConkey (54 receptions, 644 yards, 4 TDs) and Keenan Allen (56 receptions, 592 yards, 4 TDs). Something tells me the Chargers continue the Eagles' frustrating season on Monday night. My pick, Los Angeles Chargers 26, Philadelphia 23

**top ten**

**MOST POPULAR COLLEGE FOOTBALL TEAMS**

1. Ohio State
2. Notre Dame
3. Texas
4. Penn State
5. Michigan
6. Florida
7. Oregon
8. Alabama
9. Wisconsin
10. USC

Source: Alltime Collins & Company



**HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCORES/SCHEDULES**

**LAST WEEK'S SCORES**

**SATURDAY, Nov. 29**  
Barbers Hill 34, Pflugerville Weiss 31

**THIS WEEK'S GAME**

**5A Division 1, Region 3**

**Barbers Hill (10-3) vs.** Port Arthur Memorial (13-0) plays Saturday at 5 p.m., at Doggett Family Stadium, 5250 Bayou Willow Parkway, in Beaumont, TX 77705.



**Tornadoes in NW County areas,**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Sheriff Ed Gonzalez said a tornado touched down in the Cypress, Klein, and Spring areas in the area near Highways 249 and 2920, while a second possible tornado hit the Riata Rancho area.

The National Weather Service said they con-

firmed at least one tornadic storm moved over Harris County on Monday. A tornadic storm is a system that produces multiple tornadoes in its duration.

Despite the possible multiple tornadoes in the Cypress, Klein, and Spring areas, officials have not

reported any injuries.

"We're all healthy. We're blessed," remarked Elizabeth Matson, who hid with her three children in a closet as the storm passed through. "This is all stuff, and it's alright."

--KTRK

**Knights of Columbus Grocery Grab fuels charity and community in Crosby,**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

By David Taylor  
Managing Editor

The Knights of Columbus, Council 3229 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Crosby, recently held their annual Grocery Grab, a beloved fundraiser that brings together parishioners and residents to support families in need. Now in its fourth year, the event continues to grow in impact and generosity.

Henry Espinosa, communications director for the Knights of Columbus, explained the heart behind the initiative.

"All that money that we make goes back to the community. Scholarships, coats for kids, and support for low-income families—everything we do is about giving back."

This year's Grocery Grab winner, Miguel Villanueva, netted \$1,026 worth of groceries, a significant increase from last year's \$800.

Espinosa shared, "He went straight to the turkeys, the briskets, you name it. He had a daughter with an infant, so he got diapers and all the little things they need for the little one."

The win was a surprise for Villanueva who purchased 20 of the \$1 tickets.

"Sometimes you're not expecting things that are going to happen, and it happened, I just received a call from Mr. Henry, and I was so blessed to hear that I had won," he said.

"Obviously, that's a lot of food for just one family, so we always try to spread it for the more needy families," he said.

The event is carefully planned a month before Thanksgiving, with tickets sold for just one dollar at local businesses and during Sunday masses. "All the money that they collect with the \$1 tickets, funds all the groceries during the grab at Arlan's," Espinosa said.

Winners are chosen in a special drawing at the church, led by Father



Villanueva picks up some baby wipes and diapers for his daughter and grandbaby.

Emanuel. Espinosa described the moment.

"We have all the tickets in the tumbler, and he reaches in there and does a prayer and pulls out the winning ticket."

Villanueva had a little bit of a strategy before he began the grab.

"We get 90 seconds. That might seem like a long time, but it goes by fast," he said. He headed straight to the meat aisle to pick up several turkeys and some briskets.

"If you're going to cook for a lot of people, you need rice and beans, stuff like that," he said. Then he remembered his daughter and grandchild and picked up some baby wipes and diapers.

Villanueva has been attending the Spanish mass at Sacred Heart Catholic Church since 2016 and regularly supports the KOC.

"I always try to help whenever they're selling food or collecting to help anybody else," he said.

The Knights of Columbus also support other community events, such as the Kabasa festival, Super Bowl frenzy, and the

CzechFest, with all proceeds benefiting local causes. This year, funds from the Grocery Grab will provide 62 coats for children at the Barrett Station Community Center, helping families who struggle to afford childcare and winter essentials.

The KOC also donates money to the local Boy Scouts of America and provides scholarships for graduating seniors from Crosby High School each year.

Reflecting on the spirit of giving, Espinosa noted, "Last year's winner donated all the groceries back to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, whose mission is to aid those in need."

Through their ongoing efforts, the Knights of Columbus at Sacred Heart Catholic Church hope to continue to make a meaningful difference in Crosby, embodying the values of charity and community support.

"All I can say is that we are blessed and we thank the Knights of Columbus for doing this, our church, and God," Villanueva said.

**CLASSIFIED ADS**  
**713-266-3444**

# Huffman ISD picks its lone finalist Dr. Angeles Perez,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and academic excellence. She oversees the district's Balanced Scorecard, supports ongoing bond project implementation, and fosters a collaborative culture among staff, families, and community partners.

Prior to stepping into the superintendency, Perez served as chief officer of academics and student services and previously as chief academic officer for Huffman ISD. Her leadership in these positions provided executive oversight for curriculum, instruction, accountability, leadership development, and student services. She has improved instructional alignment, expanded professional learning systems, and ensured equitable access to high-quality programs for all learners. Her work has championed early childhood education, whole-child support, and data-driven decision-making across the district.

Perez's leadership career also includes successful tenures as an elementary principal in Spring ISD and Aldine

ISD, where she expanded literacy and numeracy programming, launched innovative early childhood initiatives, and strengthened family and community engagement systems. These efforts contributed to improved academic outcomes, increased attendance, and stronger support for emergent bilingual and economically disadvantaged students. She began her career as a bilingual teacher in Sheldon ISD.

She holds a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership from Sam Houston State University, a Master of Education in Administration and Supervision from Lamar University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and Communication from the University of Houston-Downtown. Perez is certified as a Texas Superintendent, Principal, and EC-4 Bilingual Generalist. She has presented nationally and published peer-reviewed research on postsecondary enrollment and school characteristics. Her recognitions include Sheldon

ISD's District Rookie of the Year, the ALAS Doctoral Scholarship, and nomination as a Clark Scholar at Sam Houston State University.

Dr. Perez shared that her focus remains on maintaining high expectations while ensuring that every student has the support they need to succeed.

"Every decision we make must lift students. When we lead with purpose, collaboration, and heart, schools become places where every child sees possibility — and every educator feels valued," she said.

In accordance with state law, the board will finalize the appointment after a mandatory 21-day waiting period, following the December board meeting.

"I am honored and thrilled to step into this new chapter as superintendent. Huffman is a special place, and I am deeply committed to serving our students, staff, families, and community. The future here is bright, and I am excited to continue the work that moves us forward — together."

# GOOSE CREEK CISD NEWS Austin Elementary Unveils 25 Year Time Capsule



Former Austin Elementary teachers and administrators. (Photos by: Carrie Pryor-Newman)

Story by: Nancy Bonds, GCCISD Director of Communications

Stephen F. Austin Elementary celebrated a special moment in campus history this week as the school opened a time capsule created by students and staff in the year 2000. Former students, teachers, and principals returned to campus to join current third-grade students for the unveiling and enjoy refreshments together in the school library.

Principal Heather Alarcon and Librarian Karen Trujillo led the event, carefully displaying each item for the group to see. The time capsule included treasures that reflected the era, including Beanie Babies, Hot Wheels cars, Pokémon cards, memory books, and other nostalgic items that sparked excitement from alumni and students alike. The capsule also included a VHS tape featuring each class introducing themselves, offering a nostalgic glimpse of the students and teachers who were part of the campus in 2000.

Barbara Wilson, who served eight years as principal and led the campus when the time capsule was created in 2000, returned for the celebration alongside former principal Laura Smith, who served the school for 20 years, with her last 12 as principal. Both reflected on the culture and community of Austin Elementary during their years of leadership.

When asked about her hopes for the students who would one day open the capsule, Barbara Wilson shared how meaningful it was to see former students return.

"One of the coolest things, even today, is seeing the students who came back. Thank goodness for social media. We have heard great responses."

Both Wilson and Smith spoke warmly about the school community as it existed in 2000, describing it as tight-knit, family-centered, and deeply connected. Smith emphasized how traditions like time capsules strengthen a school



Elizabeth Garcia, an Austin 3rd-grade teacher, is pointing to a picture of herself from kindergarten in 2000. (Photos by: Carrie Pryor-Newman)



Pictured, from left, Karen Trujillo, Austin Librarian, and Heather Alarcon, Austin Principal. (Photos by: Carrie Pryor-Newman)

community across generations.

"Goose Creek is such a great district. I was born and raised here. I can look back and see pictures and memories and be in the same district and see kids who are now grown."

The principals also shared messages for the students who helped bury the capsule and described what it meant to reunite for this moment. Wilson described the emotional significance of the day.

"I was actually nervous, even though I am here every month. It feels different when the previous staff member comes back, and your heart is huge. You love these people. It is a great feeling."

Smith reflected on the deep bonds formed among the staff.

"We had a family, and these people became our best friends. Our kids would play in the hallway together. Many staff members brought their children

to this campus."

Several former students also shared their favorite memories from their time at Austin in 2000 while holding items from the capsule. Brittany McArdle (Watkins), who was in fourth grade, remembered recess after lunch and visiting the snack bar for cookies and ice cream. Kylie Sobczak (Peloquin), a fifth-grader at the time, recalled how much she loved Mrs. Hutchins, enjoyed snack time, and got to walk down to her mother's classroom each day. Monica Perez (Suarez), who was in fourth grade, remembered the state test and proudly shared that she missed only one question on the reading test.

As current students listened to the stories and watched the items unfold, they received a firsthand look at Austin Elementary's legacy, shaped by relationships and a strong sense of community.

**Cleaner, safer water for healthier living.** LeafHome Water Solutions

Reduce contaminants in your homes water and enjoy the benefits of whole home filtration.

- Softer, cleaner water.
- Removes over 99% of harmful contaminants.
- One-day installation.

**Better Water in 3 Simple Steps**

1. Schedule an appointment
2. Get a custom water analysis
3. One-day installation

Save up to **25% off** A custom whole-home water system\*

Schedule your free in-home water test

**1(844) 991-2369**

Promo: 402 - Exp: 12/31/25

\*Promotional offer includes 15% off plus an additional 10% off for qualified veterans and/or seniors. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. ME 26210621, MN PC1799379, NC 871823, IL 32946, IA PA112250, TX 44085, WI 142890

★★★★★ "As a mom with two young daughters, and a doula who stresses the importance of hydration, providing my family and clients with safer, cleaner water is very important to me. I'm grateful for companies like Leaf Home that understand my needs and can provide the right solutions." **Emmy Robins** *ThinkGreen*

**Carter~Conley Funeral Home**

13701 Corpus Christi St.  
Houston, TX 77015

**(713) 455-5100**

\*Funerals \*Cremations \*Pre-Arrangements

Family Owned and Operated Since 1992

[www.CarterConleyFH.com](http://www.CarterConleyFH.com)

SHOP LOCALLY -- Save Time & Money **Business Directory** SHOP LOCALLY -- Save Time & Money

**HENDERSON GARAGE DOORS**

281-428-1187  
1-800-345-8471

**Sales & Repair Service**  
Baytown, Texas  
John Henderson  
628 Cedar Bayou Rd.

**CENTRAL AUTO INSPECTIONS**

FULL SERVICE VEHICLE INSPECTIONS

713-702-3200

JOHNNY GAENE  
OWNER-INSPECTOR

911 S. MAIN  
HIGHLANDS TX 77562

**Graphics Unlimited, Inc.**  
CORPORATE GRAPHICS AT ITS BEST

**Signs & Banners**

281-462-1200

[www.graphicsunlimitedinc.net](http://www.graphicsunlimitedinc.net)  
213 Kernohan • Crosby, TX 77532

**WESTON COTTEN, ATTORNEY**  
HIGHLANDS  
281-421-4050 1500 E. Wallisville Rd.

NOT CERTIFIED BY THE TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

**HILL MATERIALS**

119 Listi Ln, Highlands  
[hillmaterials.com](http://hillmaterials.com)

FILL DIRT  
BANK SAND  
ROADBASE  
LIMESTONE

WE DELIVER TO YOU  
**(281) 843-5000**  
residential • commercial • industrial

SMALL ADS BRING **BIG** RESULTS

Ask about our Business Directory Package

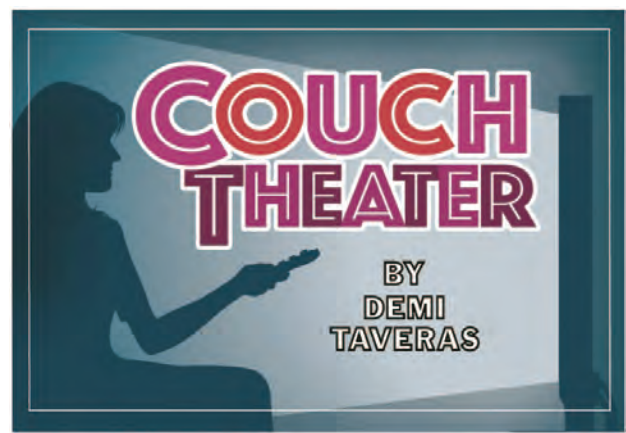
13 Weeks + Story + Display for \$260  
Ask about our Ribbon Cutting Package  
Photo + Story + Web for \$260

**713-266-3444**

**Star Courier**

Your Hometown Newspaper  
News tips and Ad Inquiries:  
713-266-3444

To advertise in the Business Directory, please call 713-266-3444 for details



Danielle Galligan is Lady Olivia Hedges in Netflix's "House of Guinness."

"House Of Guinness"

"The Wonderful World of Disney: Holiday Spectacular" (TV-PG) — Disney's annual TV holiday special is back right in time for the Christmas season to officially kick off. Premiering Dec. 2, the special will feature performances from several artists, some of Disney's most popular locations across the nation, and iconic Disney characters who are ready to spread Christmas cheer. You can expect to hear your favorite Christmas songs from celebrities like Gwen Stefani, Coco Jones, Trisha Yearwood and more. "Dancing With the Stars" judge Derek Hough will be hosting, so don't be surprised if you see him busting out his signature sharp moves throughout the special. (Disney+)

Burns film "The Brothers McMullen." This continuation builds on the same relationship themes of the original film but tells the characters' stories in a more modern way. Burns, Connie Britton ("The Life List"), and Michael McGlone ("The Bachelors") reprise their roles from the original film, while Pico Alexander ("The Honeymoon") and Halston Sage ("Neighbors") join the cast as Burns' children, who move back home with their father after a series of trials and tribulations. As their bonds get tested in ways that only family members know how to do, the McMullens learn important lessons about love and loyalty, leaving them stronger and more solid than ever. (HBO Max)

"The Family McMullen" (R) — This comedy-drama film premiering Dec. 5 is the sequel to the 1995 Edward

"House of Guinness" (TV-MA) — From the creator of Netflix's hit series "Peaky Blinders" comes this historical-drama se-

ries about the family behind the Guinness Brewing Company, which premiered all eight of its episodes a few months back. After the patriarch of the family, Benjamin Guinness, passes away, his four adult children are left to deal with the impact of the legacy he left behind. Add into the mix the Irish Republican Brotherhood, who riot against the Guinness' ties to the English, and you get pure action scenes that elevate the historical drama into something more exciting. Anthony Boyle ("Masters of the Air"), Louis Partridge ("Disclaimer"), Jack Gleeson ("Game of Thrones"), and James Norton ("King & Conqueror") star in the series, which might eventually premiere another season if creator Steven Knight's dreams go according to plan. (Netflix)

"Inheritance" (R) — This spy thriller film premiering Dec. 5 is led by two actors who have recently completed stellar performances in their own respective series. Phoebe Dynevor ("Bridgerton") and Rhys Ifans ("House of the Dragon") play a father-daughter duo who reconnect after Maya's (Dynevor) mother passes away. Sam (Ifans) is determined to have a relationship with his daughter and persuades her to travel with him so that they can run his "information gathering" business together. After her father suddenly disappears, and Interpol claims that Maya is in possession of stolen government property, Maya realizes she was suckered into some shady business. Now it's up to her to figure out whether she wants to inherit the role her father originated or give herself up to Interpol. (Hulu)

(c) 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

HOLLYWOOD by Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD — Adele, at 37, is considered one of the greatest singers of our time. She has won 16 Grammys, an Oscar (for writing the 007 song "Skyfall"), a Golden Globe, and an Emmy. After her Vegas residency ended, she said, "I don't have any plans for new music at all. I want a big break after this, and I think I want to do other creative things just for a little while."

Her big break in acting has finally come, and she'll make her film debut in Tom Ford's upcoming movie "Cry to Heaven." It's set in 18th century Italy and follows two men, a Venetian nobleman and a castrated opera singer, whose lives become intertwined. Her co-stars are Nicholas Hoult, Aaron Taylor-Johnson, Colin Firth and Thandiwe Newton, and it begins filming in London and Rome in January 2026.

Adele was married to Simon Konecki from 2018-2021, and they have a son who was born in 2012. She's recently become engaged to Rich Paul.

Oscar winners Matthew McConaughey and Leonardo DiCaprio, as well as Ashton Kutcher, have invested in AI companies that utilize celebrities voices (such as Liza Minnelli and Michael Caine) now and after they're gone. Talk about life after death! Caine explained, "For years, I've lent my voice to stories that moved people. ... Now I'm helping others find theirs."

McConaughey admitted, "I launched my newsletter ... as a way to share stories and ideas in my own voice with those who want to listen. Now, thanks to ElevenLabs, [my newsletter] is expanding with a Spanish language edition, allowing us to reach and connect with more people."

Caine recently announced that he is also coming out of retirement to star with Vin Diesel in "The Last Witch Hunter 2."

Recently, I told you about the sequel to "Screamboat Willie" that was in the works. (The killer in the film looks like Mickey Mouse.) Now they're reimagining the 1930s cartoon icon Betty Boop



Adele (Upcoming in Tom Ford's "Cry to Heaven")

(who just had her own Broadway musical) as a revenge-seeking murderer. "Screamboat Willie" flopped, which means that fans don't want to see iconic cartoon characters depicted as murderers!

What movies do popes like to watch? Our first American pope, LEO XIV of Chicago, invited a group of actors to watch his four favorite films. Cate Blanchett, Chris Pine, Viggo Mortensen, Alison Brie, Dave Franco, Adam Scott and Monica Belucci probably saw all four films before, as most of us have.

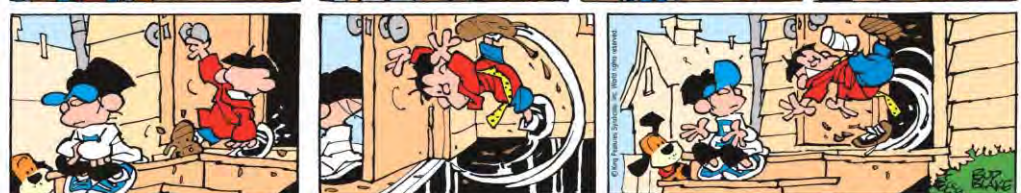
TITLE: Nonetheless, the blessed event screened "It's a Wonderful Life" (1946), which reveals how everyone's life matters; "The Sound of Music" (1965), about standing up for your beliefs, even in the face of a Nazi occupation; Robert Redford's "Ordinary People" (1980), about a disintegrating family who faces tragedy and loss; and "Life Is Beautiful" (1997), about how to survive a Nazi concentration camp through love and humor.

The only way they could lighten these screenings was with hot dogs, popcorn and pope-sicles!

(c) 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves



Weekly SUDOKU puzzle grid and instructions

HOCUS-FOCUS puzzle grid and instructions

December 1, 2025 Posting Date King Crossword

King Crossword puzzle grid and clues

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez with 10 questions

Answers to Trivia Test: 1. "Modern Family"; 2. Algeria; 3. "A Day in the Life"; The Beatles; 4. Composer John Williams; 5. Indigenous people in the Americas mastered the art of popping corn; 6. The remote island of St. Helena; 7. William Faulkner; 8. Capillaries; 9. 2017; 10. The pigment chlorophyll



# THEIR ADVANCED TREATMENTS BEAT MY CANCER

From diagnosis to treatment to recovery, your dedicated Houston Methodist cancer center team uses leading research, cutting-edge technology and the latest treatments to create a personalized care plan for you. At eight cancer center locations throughout the Greater Houston area, you'll find the cancer expertise to help you feel whole again.

That's the difference between practicing medicine and leading it. **For you.**



HOUSTON  
**Methodist**<sup>®</sup>  
 LEADING MEDICINE

[houstonmethodist.org/cancer](http://houstonmethodist.org/cancer)  
 713.790.2700