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Chris Block, north plant site operations manager at the Channelview Complex, spoke to the Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce membership at their monthly luncheon last Thursday. Block discussed many aspects of the business and answered questions from members. - See story in page 1 and 5.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2026

HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

IN THE
STARS

JULY 27, MONDAY.
CHCC to Host
New Educator
Luncheon

The Crosby Huffman Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce its upcoming "New Educators Luncheon," a special event dedicated to welcoming the newest teachers and staff joining the Crosby and Huffman Independent School Districts for the 2026-2027 school year.

Set for Monday, July 27, at 12:00 PM, the luncheon will take place in the Crosby High School Cafeteria. This annual gathering serves as a bridge between the community and its schools, offering new educators the chance to connect with local business leaders, community advocates, and essential resources while officially welcoming them to the area.

"The luncheon is a chance to show our educators just how much this community values them," said a Chamber representative. "We want to ensure their first impression is a positive and memorable one."

Community Support Requested

To make the event a success, the Chamber is actively seeking support from local businesses and residents in two key areas:

Sponsors Needed:

Businesses are encouraged to sponsor the event to showcase their support for educators while gaining valuable visibility within the district.

Giveaway Items: The Chamber is asking for donations of door prizes, gift cards, school supplies, and promotional items. To ensure every educator receives a meaningful welcome gift, the organization requests that all giveaway donations have a minimum value of \$50.

For sponsorship opportunities or to donate items, please contact the Crosby Huffman Chamber of Commerce directly. The event reflects the Chamber's ongoing mission to "Connect, Support, and Welcome," embodying their motto: Investing in Educators. Investing in Our Future.

LyondellBasell Highlights Safety, Operations & Community Outreach at Chamber Luncheon

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

LyondellBasell's Channelview Complex is one of the largest and most complex petrochemical operations along the Texas Gulf Coast, but Chris Block told members of the Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce last Thursday that its mission is rooted in products people use every day and a commitment to operating safely in the communities around it.

Block, north plant site operations manager at the Channelview Complex, said LyondellBasell is a global company whose products touch nearly every part of daily life, from transportation and food packaging to health care,



Chris Block of LyondellBasell (center) is joined by Chamber leaders Deanna Becker and Debra Roberts on the left, and Susan Scott, communications for LyondellBasell, Chamber Chairman Velma Ellison, and Pct. 3 representative Kent Klingerman.

agriculture and renewable energy.

"We like to say we provide solutions for everyday sustainable living," Block said.

He said the company's products are used in more efficient fuels, lighter-weight vehicle parts, portable water delivery systems, food packaging that extends shelf life, personal protective equipment for medical workers, pharmaceutical packaging, agricultural applications, children's toys, cosmetics, solar panels and wind turbines.

"We affect just about every part of everybody's lives on a daily basis," he

Continued. See LYONDELLBASELL HIGHLIGHTS SAFETY, page 5

Questions Mount Over 339th District Judge's Bond Decisions in Louis Erebia Murder Case

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

HARRIS COUNTY — The June 6 killing of Houston father Louis Erebia has renewed scrutiny of Judge Ta'iva Bell and the 339th Criminal District Court, where critics say repeated decisions to keep violent or repeat offenders out of custody have had deadly consequences.

Erebia was killed while trying to help his son recover a stolen vehicle, according to accounts shared on The Isiah Factor. Police have arrested and charged 37-year-old London Hogan with murder in the case. Hogan, according to those interviewed, was already on felony probation at the time of the killing and had a criminal history that victims' advocates say should have kept him behind bars.

For Erebia's family, the case is not only about one man accused of pulling the trigger. It is about a justice system they believe failed long before Erebia died.

"Unimaginable," Erebia's wife, Aman-



Judge Ta'iva Bell is under scrutiny following her decision to allow 37-year-old London Hogan out on bond, even after he had violated his bond parameters, and then allegedly shot and killed Louis Erebia. Family, community members and leaders are demanding answers.

da, said on The Isiah Factor. "Something that you think you only see in the movies, but you would never have to live. My kids lost their dad. They're going to spend most of their life without a dad. And I lost my husband of 22 years."

Family members and supporters said Erebia was not acting recklessly or trying to take the law into his own hands when he was killed.

"Louis didn't chase the vehicle," Amber Burrough, Erebia's sister-in-law said on the program. "Louis was not out there trying to be reckless. He wasn't trying to be a lone ranger. He knew that his son's best friend was in danger and he shielded that boy with

his body."

Burrough said Erebia "went out there to protect. That's how he lived his life."

The case has focused attention on Hogan's past and on decisions made in Bell's court. Andy Kahn of Crime Stoppers of Houston described Hogan as a "career habitual offender" during the interview, saying Hogan had been to prison multiple times and had been placed on probation for a violent offense before allegedly killing Erebia.

"So, Hogan is what you call a career habitual offender," Kahan said. "He's

Continued. See BOND DECISION SPARKS DEBATE OVER, Page 6

Magic Brings Fun to Precinct 3 Summer Kids Program

By Gerardo Hernandez,

HIGHLANDS — Children attending the Harris County Precinct 3 Summer Kids Program enjoyed an afternoon of magic, laughter and entertainment recently as magician Magic Lanny visited the program.

The performance delighted young attendees with a variety of tricks and interactive activities, creating what Brittany White an organizer described as an "Abracadabra kind of day."

Program organizers also expressed appreciation to the Highlands Stratford Branch Library, Friends of the Stratford Library, Seniors Helping Seniors, Food Town and Goose Creek CISD for their support in making the event



Magician Magic Lanny performing a trick at San Jac Community Center.

Continued. See MAGIC BRINGS FUN TO PRECINCT 3, Page 2

Goose Creek CISD Approves Two-Tier Guardian Program to Bolster School Safety

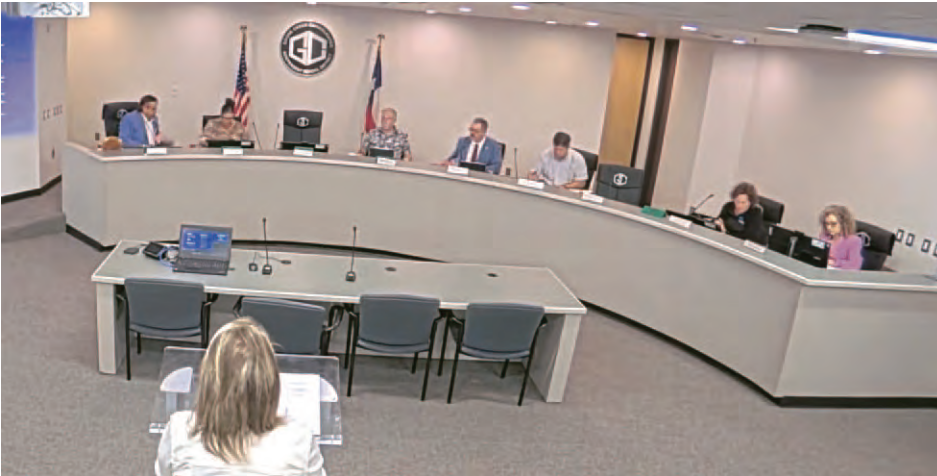


Photo credit Goose Creek CISD Youtube Channel

Story by: Nancy Bonds
GCCISD Director of Communications,

BAYTOWN - This week, the Goose Creek CISD

Board of Trustees approved the adoption of a two-tier Guardian Program. The program is designed to enhance the district's existing safety and security mea-

sures while creating a framework for qualified individuals to participate in the Guardian Program.

Continued. See GCCISD EXPLAINS GUARDIAN PROGRAM, Page 2

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Community
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The following information provides an overview of the program and the steps that will take place before implementation.

Texas Penal Code Section 46.03 authorizes school districts to establish Guardian Programs that permit certain employees to carry a firearm on school property. The Board's action establishes the framework for Goose Creek CISD to implement a two-tier program consisting of qualified retired law enforcement personnel and selected district employees who meet rigorous eligibility, screening, training, and approval standards.

The Guardian Program is intended to complement the many safety and security measures already in place throughout the district and provide an additional layer of protection for students, staff, and visitors.

Under the approved framework:

- **Tier 1 Guardians** will consist of qualified retired law enforcement officers who may serve in locations where additional security personnel are

needed.

- **Tier 2 Guardians** will consist of selected district employees approved by the Superintendent after completing a comprehensive vetting process and rigorous firearm training.

The Board's approval was a necessary first step, allowing district administration to begin developing the procedures and guidelines needed to implement the program. No employees have been selected as Guardians at this time. Under the Guardian Program, no employee may carry a firearm unless authorized by the Superintendent and all program requirements have been met.

As procedures are finalized, the administration will communicate with employees regarding opportunities to volunteer for consideration. Interested employees will undergo a multi-step screening process. Candidates who meet initial qualifications will be considered for further evaluation, including psychological assessments, background checks, and

specialized training requirements.

The district's selection and training standards will exceed the minimum requirements established for a Texas License to Carry. Participation in the program will be limited to individuals who demonstrate the judgment, professionalism, and readiness necessary to serve in this role.

The Guardian Program is one component of Goose Creek CISD's broader safety and security efforts, which include Goose Creek CISD Police Department officers, security personnel, controlled-access procedures, emergency-response protocols, safety training, and strong partnerships with local law enforcement agencies.

The safety and security of students and staff remains the district's highest priority. As the program's procedures and timelines are finalized, Goose Creek CISD will continue to provide updates to employees, families, and the community.

Second Suspect Charged in Fatal Shooting of 17-Year-Old Angel Garcia

By Gerardo Hernandez,

EAST HARRIS — A second suspect has been charged in the fatal shooting of 17-year-old Angel Garcia, who was gunned down during a large party in east Harris County last summer.

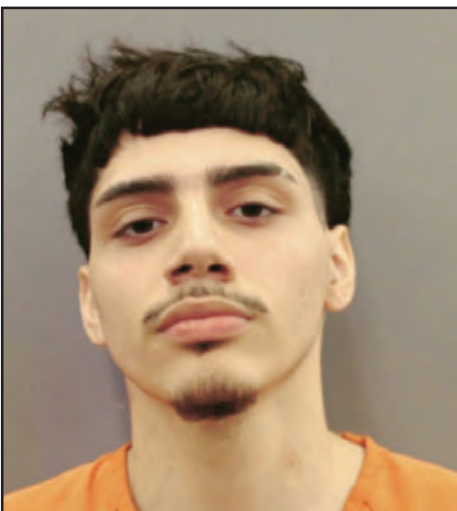
The Harris County Sheriff's Office announced that 19-year-old Enrique Aguilar was charged with murder on June 17 in connection with Garcia's death. Authorities said Aguilar was already in custody on an unrelated murder charge stemming from the February shooting death of another teenager.

Investigators said prosecutors have also filed a motion seeking to deny bond for Aguilar in the Angel Garcia case.

Garcia was shot and killed on Aug. 30, 2025, during a party attended by approximately 200 people in the 14700 block of Waldine Street. Deputies responding to reports of gunfire found the 17-year-old suffering from gunshot wounds. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Earlier this month, authorities arrested 18-year-old Jefferson Velasquez, who also faces a murder charge in Garcia's death. Velasquez remains in the Harris County Jail on a \$500,000 bond.

Investigators have not publicly detailed



Enrique Aguilar, 19 yrs old suspect

the roles each suspect allegedly played in the shooting, and no trial dates have been announced.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office said the investigation remains active. The latest arrest marks a significant development in a case that has remained unsolved for nearly 10 months and brought renewed attention to youth violence in east Harris County.

Sources: Harris C. Sheriff's Office.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

possible.

The summer program will conclude next Thursday June 25 at 2 p.m. with a special presentation by Creature Teacher at the San Jacinto Community Center in Highlands.

Source: Brittany White - San Jacinto Community Center Facebook page.



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THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2026

MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

Pat Green to Headline Mont Belvieu's July 4 Celebration

By Gerardo Hernandez,

MONT BELVIEU — One of Texas country music's biggest names will headline Mont Belvieu's annual Independence Day celebration as the city prepares for what organizers are calling the biggest celebration of the summer.

Texas country star Pat Green will take the stage at 7:30 p.m. on July 4,



serving as the featured performer during the city's patriotic festivities. Green, known for hits such as "Wave on Wave" and "Carry On," is expected to draw a large crowd for the evening concert.

The entertainment lineup begins at 4 p.m. with Meaux Cotton and his band, The Feel, who will open the celebration and get the crowd energized for a full afternoon

of music.

At 5:45 p.m., Micky & The Motorcars will take the stage, bringing their blend of Texas country and rock to keep the festivities rolling before the evening headliner.

The concert series is part of Mont Belvieu's annual Fourth of July celebration, which also features family-friendly activities and a patriotic atmosphere as residents

gather to celebrate Independence Day and America's 250th anniversary.

City officials are encouraging residents and visitors to arrive early and enjoy the full lineup of live entertainment.

Additional information about the event is available at www.MontBelvieu.net/july4th

Texas Leads Nation in Solar Growth

By Gary Borders,

Texas is leading the nation in new solar capacity, installing 50% more than any other state in the first quarter of 2026, the San Antonio Express-News reported. Across the nation, solar generation and battery storage accounted for 91% of new energy capacity.

"Texas is actually soon to overtake California for the most total installed solar capacity," said Daniel Giese, state director for the Solar Energy Industries Association. California now has 55.5 gigawatts of installed capacity, barely exceeding Texas' 53.5 gigawatts.



watts.

A separate report from a global energy think tank showed that nationally, solar supplied more electricity than coal in May for the first time. Solar accounted for 12.8% of U.S. energy last month, while coal dropped to 12.2%. In Texas,

as, the Electric Reliability Council of Texas expects solar to exceed coal for the first time later this year.

The growth in data centers is a major reason for the growth in new solar capacity in Texas, since it can come online fairly quickly.

Mont Belvieu Police Join Statewide Effort to Combat Impaired Driving During July 4 Holiday

By Gerardo Hernandez,

MONT BELVIEU — As Independence Day celebrations approach, the Mont Belvieu Police Department is reminding residents to plan ahead and avoid impaired driving as part of a statewide safety campaign aimed at reducing holiday traffic crashes.

The department is participating in the Texas Department of Transportation's Impaired Driving Mobilization – Independence Day Wave, which runs from June 19 through July 6. The initiative brings together law enforcement agencies across Texas to increase awareness and enforcement efforts targeting impaired drivers during one of the busiest travel periods of the year.

Officials noted that Fourth of July festivities often include cookouts, fireworks and family gatherings, but stressed that driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs can quickly turn a celebration into a tragedy.

Police are encouraging residents to make transportation plans before attending holiday events, including designating a sober driver, using a rideshare service or arranging for a safe ride home.

The campaign's goal is to reduce crashes, injuries and fatalities caused by impaired driving and help ensure everyone reaches home safely after holiday celebrations.

"Have fun. Get home safe. It's that simple," the department said in its public safety message.

Judge Larry Cryer Retires After Decades of Public Service

By Gerardo Hernandez,

MONT BELVIEU — After more than four decades of service to the community, Judge Larry Cryer has retired, closing a distinguished career that spanned 44 years as Justice of the Peace for Precinct 6 and more than 20 years as Municipal Judge for the City of Mont Belvieu.

The Mont Belvieu Police Department recently honored Cryer for his years of dedication to the administration of justice and public service.

Throughout his career, Cryer presided over countless court proceedings, conducted death inquiries and handled late-night warrant requests, earning the respect of law enforcement officers, attorneys and residents alike. Mont Belvieu PD Officials praised his commitment to serving the community with honor, fairness and compassion.

In a statement, the police department thanked



Pictured Left - Right, Judge Larry Cryer, and Officer Ferguson

Cryer for his many years of service and wished him well in retirement.

While his presence on the bench will be missed, community leaders said his legacy of professionalism and dedication will

not be forgotten. As he begins a new chapter, many across the area are celebrating the lasting impact he made through decades of public service.(Photo credit MB PD social media)

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Commissioner Garcia Honors Community Pillars at Precinct 2 Juneteenth Celebration



By Gerardo Hernandez,

NORTH HARRIS – On Friday, June 19, Commissioner Adrian Garcia hosted a Juneteenth celebration to commemorate the historic day.

At the Harris county’s annual Juneteenth gathering, Garcia presented awards to a slate of local leaders, singling out those whose daily work “strengthens families, uplifts neighborhoods, and moves Precinct 2 forward.”

In a social media post following the event, Garcia reflected on the legacy of freedom while stressing the work that lies ahead. “We reflect on the legacy of

freedom,” he wrote, “but we also recommit to the continued work of building stronger, more connected communities.”

The honorees a mix of grassroots organizers, small-business owners, and longtime volunteers were celebrated for their behind-the-scenes impact on everything from youth mentorship to food access.

With sponsors and community partners looking on, the event mixed live music, historical exhibits, and a call to action.

The celebration capped a week of county-led Juneteenth events, all aimed at turning remembrance into renewed civic energy.



COUNTY MATTERS

Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo

Judge Hidalgo Honors Juneteenth

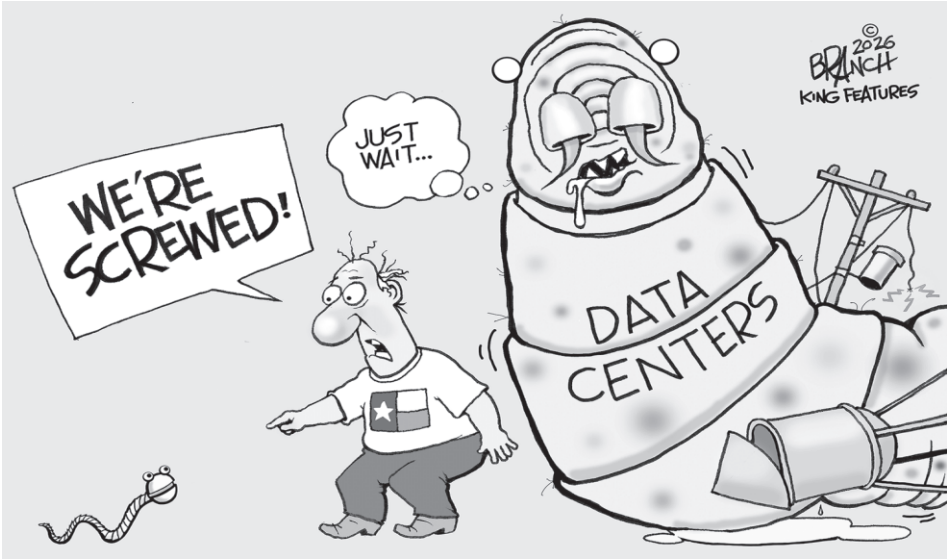
Harris County, TX, June 18, 2026, Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo released the following statement in honor of Juneteenth tomorrow:

“In Harris County, we have so much diversity and tolerance is the glue that keeps our community together. As we honor the history and contributions of Black Americans tomorrow, we also commemorate our shared history of helping one another through struggle. And as we remember the sacrifices and fights that continue to this day, let us also remember the late Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee for her decades of work to recognize Juneteenth as a federal holiday,” said Judge Lina Hidalgo.

Fun Fact

In 1867, on Coney Island, New York, an immigrant named Charles Feltman invented the first “hot dog bun,” enabling beachgoers to enjoy his “Frankfurter” sausages without needing plates or silverware. Over the next 60 years, Feltman’s “hot dog” stand grew into Feltman’s Ocean Pavilion, serving up to 40,000 hot dogs each day.

Source: www.feltmansofconeyisland.com



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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders

Gains Seen in all Subjects on STAAR test

Texas high school students showed improvement in every subject in this spring’s end-of-course STAAR exams, the Texas Education Agency reported.

The results include assessments in Algebra I, English I, English II, biology and U.S. history. The biggest improvement was in biology, with 71% of students meeting expectations, up 9%.

“These results reflect the hard work of Texas students, educators and families and demonstrate that focused instruction and high expectations continue to produce positive outcomes for students across our state,” said Commissioner Mike Morath. “These results may also be reflective of the legislature’s ban of cell phone use in classrooms, so that students are better able to stay focused on their schoolwork while at school.”

Parents and families can access their child’s individual STAAR EOC results through their school district’s family portal or by visiting TexasAssessment.gov and using the unique access code provided by their child’s school.

STAAR results for students in grades 3-8 will be available this week.

Schools will begin phasing out STAAR end-of-year testing beginning in the 2027-2028 school year.



past year experienced their first non-pandemic enrollment decline in nearly 40 years, with 76,000 fewer students. The drop was primarily among Hispanic students in traditional neighborhood campuses. Charter schools still increased enrollment, but at a lower rate. They now educate roughly 446,000 students, or 8% of the state’s nearly 5.5 million public school students.

“It was the changes in immigration enforcement that caused the enrollment to turn the way that it turned this year, especially as it relates to the Hispanic community,” said Templeton.

ABBOTT, ROLLINS UPDATE TEXANS ON SCREWORM RESPONSE

Gov. Greg Abbott and U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins briefed the public on the state and federal governments’ ongoing response to the threat posed by the New World Screwworm. There have been 11 confirmed cases in Texas as of Monday.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is importing and dispersing sterile male flies to combat the invasion, and the Texas Animal Health Commission has designated five “infested zones” that include Coke, Edwards, Gillespie, Kerr, Kimble, La Salle, Sutton, Tom Green, Uvalde, Val Verde, Webb, and Zavala counties.

Warm-blooded animals must pass an inspection before being authorized for shipment outside an affected area.

“Sterile flies are the well-established solution to the

spread of the New World screwworm,” Abbott said.

Ranchers and livestock owners are urged to remain vigilant by checking animals daily and treating wounds promptly. The screwworm lays its larvae in open wounds.

Texans are urged to report any suspected New World screwworm cases in livestock to the Texas Animal Health Commission at 1-800-550-8242 and report suspected wildlife cases to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) at (512) 389-4505

ABBOTT TAKES AIM AT TEXAS DATA CENTERS

Abbott has directed electric regulators and ERCOT, the agency that oversees the electric grid, to require new data centers to pay for the power and infrastructure needed to power their operations, The Dallas Morning News reported. The explosive growth in the centers is sparking fears that they will drive up consumer electric bills.

The governor further ordered the Public Utility Commission to ensure that new data centers actually reduce residential electric bills.

“Data centers must operate in ways that reduce costs for residential electricity customers, do not drain water needed for our communities and take into consideration the needs of our neighborhoods,” Abbott said in a statement.

He has also proposed new laws in next year’s legislative session that would repeal a data center sales tax exemption that could cost the state billions of dollars in tax revenue, require data centers to use water-efficient technologies, and report electric and water usage.

AGENCY TO SET RULES ON USING FRACKING WASTEWATER ON FARMLAND

Lawmakers have directed the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to lead the charge in setting water quality guidelines for using treated oilfield wastewater on Texas farmland, The Tribune reported. As the state’s demand for water grows, lawmakers have invested millions of dollars studying ways to treat the billions of gallons of toxic wastewater produced from fracking operations so it can be used for irrigation purposes.

Each site where the water is to be used will require its own permit, including limits on pollutants before the water is released, and reporting requirements “as necessary to ensure protection of human health and the environment,” said Laura Lopez, a TCEQ spokesperson.

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

The Stick Game



When I was 8 years old, I played a game while on vacation.

I was visiting the ocean for the first time. The sand was dry, and as the waves hit the beach, I would see which wave came up highest, and I would put a stick on the high-water mark.

I kept doing this. To my amazement, the record continued to be broken — not by every wave, but within a minute, a new wave would break in a place higher up on the beach. I kept moving the stick higher and higher up the beach. It was a very exciting game.

I didn’t learn about the tide until much later.

Somehow, the idea that the waves would simply be outdoing one another didn’t require an explanation at 8. And, of course, the notion of a lowering tide never entered my mind.

I was reminded of that this morning, and I wondered if I’ve ever gotten over playing my stick-on-the-beach game. Because I love to break records for myself. I love to write more and write faster, walk farther, get more done. I tally up every day by what I have accomplished. This might be because I write instead of having a real job, where my hours would be recorded or I would be given a performance review. Perhaps I need to reassure myself that typing away on my computer really is proper work.

But I have always done this — to a greater or lesser degree. I was once told by a reliable source (my brother-in-law) that I must never get a fitness tracker because watching the numbers click up for every step I took would become a mad compulsion.

I confess, my brother-in-law knows me well.

For someone who has never had any interest in competing with others, I am insatiably competitive with myself. I am always looking for the next wave to hit a higher point on the beach, and I always assume I can keep doing it. Up and up and up.

At some point, the tide has to go out. And that is a good thing, or the planet would be covered by water. (I’m not sure what being covered by water would look like, for me personally, but it doesn’t sound good.)

A friend recently asked a variation on the old question, “Would you rather be happy or rich?” by adding, “or content?” And everyone seemed to agree that contentment beat out happiness because it was lasting and stable, and happiness was so flighty.

I wasn’t so sure. A little dose of discontent is what spurs me to try new and harder things, to go a little further than I did the last time, to explore ideas outside the ones I already know. I don’t think any of this is bad. I told him I’d take happiness — even with its unreliable nature.

But sometimes, I need to recognize that the tide will go out, my stick will not move up and that is OK as well. I guess that would be contentment. At least it would be a rest.

Today I am looking at crazy words I wrote in the middle of the night, words that look as if they want to turn into a new book — and I have not quite finished the previous one. It seems like a little rest would be a better idea.

But maybe the tide is going up now, and it’s OK to play the stick game a little longer. I’m not a young person, after all, and the tide will not come up forever.

Till next time,
Carrie

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LyondellBasell highlights safety, community commitment,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said.

Globally, Block said LyondellBasell has about 19,000 employees, sells products in about 100 countries and operates manufacturing facilities in about 20 countries. The company ranks No. 1 or No. 2 in several of its major markets, including oxyfuels, polypropylene, propylene oxide and polyethylene.

The Channelview facility, located nearby, has been operating for 69 years, beginning in 1957. Block said the site covers 4,000 acres, with about 1,100 acres currently developed, leaving room for future growth.

The scale of the operation is significant. According to Block, the complex includes about 17 operating units, 144 reactors and roughly 260 distillation columns. The facility makes about 58 different products and has approximately 1,200 employees and 1,000 contractors on site each day. During major maintenance events, the number of contractors can increase by as many as 3,000.

“Lots and lots of folks come through our door each and every day to help us run the plant safely and efficiently,” Block said.

Block also described the company’s integrated Gulf Coast footprint, including sites in Channelview, La Porte, Bayport, Mont Belvieu and Corpus Christi. He said interconnected pipelines and storage areas, including salt dome storage, allow Lyondell-Basell to move materials between facilities as needed.

A major portion of Block’s presentation focused on health, safety and environmental performance, which he described



The monthly meeting of the chamber was held at the Crosby Community Center and membership filled the room for the presentation by LyondellBasell.

as central to the company’s operations.

“We can’t do what we do unless we protect our people, protect the environment and protect our communities,” he said.

The Channelview facility operates around the clock. Block said operators staff control rooms 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year, monitoring and controlling processes through computers and monitors. Outside operators and maintenance personnel also work directly with equipment throughout the site.

The complex also has a communications center staffed 24 hours a day. The center monitors radio communications, answers emergency and non-emergency calls and helps coordinate emergency response and weather-related notifications across the site.

On environmental issues, Block said the facility operates under strict air and water permit requirements. Flares are used to safely burn gases during startups, shutdowns, process upsets and some routine operations.

He said wastewater from the facility is treated

before being discharged into the San Jacinto River, and described the site’s treatment process as extensive.

“The water that leaves our facility, what we call our wastewater, is actually cleaner than the water that we pull out of Lake Houston,” Block said.

He added that the company self-reports permit deviations to state and local agencies and investigates those events to prevent recurrence.

Block said the Channelview Complex is also proud of its safety performance, which he said routinely ranks in the top 10 percent across industry. He said the site had recorded zero injuries so far this year and reached several million man-hour safety milestones.

“We work hard every day to ensure that everybody that walks in our gates leaves in the same condition or better as they return home to their families,” he said.

The site also maintains a 225-member volunteer emergency response team, including fire and hazardous materials responders, fire apparatus operators,



er events can lead to shutdowns, most commonly due to loss of power or steam. In those cases, safety systems and emergency procedures are used to bring equipment to a safe state. The company may also proactively shut down ahead of a major hurricane or freeze if expected impacts are severe enough.

Block also addressed questions about flares, which are among the most visible parts of the facility. He said some candlestick flares are between 450 and 500 feet tall and have pilot flames that remain lit so gases can be safely burned if sent to the flare.

“They are an essential safety function,” Block said.

He said candlestick flares destroy 98 to 99 percent of the material sent to them, while ground flares are about 99.5 percent efficient. Ground flares, he said, can produce a large orange glow that may alarm residents, but they are safety devices and not necessarily signs of danger.

Block also said flaring can produce noise, usually a rumbling sound caused by the volume of material sent to the flare and the steam used in the process.

The company is also preparing for a major project known as Flex 2, a second unit that will convert ethylene into propylene. Block said the technology is proprietary and designed to minimize air emissions by recycling process gases and reusing material wherever possible.

Another large piece of equipment, a distillation tower built in South Korea, is currently being shipped to the site and is expected to arrive in the coming months.

Block closed by emphasizing community outreach. He said the Channelview Community Outreach Committee works with communities including Precinct 2, Precinct 3, Channelview, Crosby, Sheldon and Highlands to identify needs and determine how employees can help.

He also described CAPLA, the Community Advisory Panel to Lyondell Equistar, which brings community members to the site each month to learn about operations and share concerns.

Block encouraged residents to use the CAER line, a community awareness and emergency response tool that can notify the public about site activity, including flaring or unit upsets.

“The biggest thing is we feel like we need to be listening to our community’s needs and then responding to those,” Block said.

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Audien Hearing

Bond decision sparks debate over judicial discretion,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

been to prison multiple times. He's done time in state jail. He's done time in county. Matter of fact, the only time he's been crime free is when he's been locked up."

Kahn said Hogan received five years of probation in 2024 for assault with intent to impede breathing. While on probation, Kahn said, Hogan traveled to Louisiana and was charged with four felonies, including allegations involving an attempt to deliver drugs and alcohol into a federal correctional facility.

Prosecutors filed a motion to revoke Hogan's probation, Kahn said, but Bell dismissed the motion and sentenced Hogan to 30 days in jail, with credit that reduced the actual time served to roughly two days.

"The judge dismissed the motion to revoke and gave him 30 days jail with credit for 13, meaning he had to do a whopping two days in jail for violating his conditions of probation," Kahn said. "If the judge would have taken a good hard look at his record, there is no ifs, ands, or buts. Louis is alive today. He was failed by our criminal justice system. It is a cataclysmic failure. None of this should have ever happened. He should have never been out."

In a separate interview, Kahn said the decision reflected a broader problem with probation revocations in Harris County.

"Why bother having conditions of probation if



Louis Erebia, 56 and his wife Amanda Erebia

you're never going to enforce them, especially when you're convicted of a new felony while on probation?" Kahn said. "What kind of message are you sending?"

Kahn called Erebia's death "so utterly preventable," adding, "Our criminal justice system failed this family. Miserably."

Bell has faced similar criticism before. In a 2023 FOX 26 "Breaking Bond" report, Judge Tavia Bell, then presiding over the 339th Criminal District Court, was criticized after she revoked and then reinstated the bond of 18-year-old Jamie Salinas, who had been charged with disarming a police officer. According to the report, Bell set Salinas' bond at \$7,500. After Salinas allegedly violated curfew requirements, Bell revoked the bond but allowed him out

of jail the next day without increasing the bond amount.

Salinas was later charged with capital murder in the death of Jamie Torres, a 26-year-old father of four.

"That decision you can plausibly argue perhaps cost Mr. Torres his life," Kahn said in the FOX 26 report.

Kahn said the problem is not limited to one case.

"This is judicial discretion, and this is not an anomaly," Kahn said. "I've seen this happen repeatedly."

He said he has asked state leaders to examine how courts handle motions to revoke probation.

"I suggested to the lieutenant governor and the governor that we take a good hard look at what's going on with motion to revoke probations," Kahn

said. "Like I said, this is not an anomaly. I've seen this repeatedly happen."

During The Isiah Factor interview, Kahn said judges and courts must confront the consequences of leaving offenders on probation after new arrests or convictions.

"How do you allow someone who's already on probation getting another conviction while on probation and still be allowed to remain on probation?" Kahn said. "That's the question that's going to haunt this family and this community forever."

April Aguirre, a family friend, said on the program that Erebia's death reflects a larger failure to hold repeat offenders accountable.

"The truth is, a lot of people are just tired of being victimized," Aguirre said. "When you get a call from your son saying, dad, somebody just put a gun to my face, I think he reacted like any father would do."

Aguirre said the family wants accountability not only for the person accused of shooting Erebia, but also for others involved.

"I don't just want the shooter," she said. "I want the getaway driver, and I want all of his buddies."

Amber Burrough, Erebia's sister-in-law, said the family is trying to honor Erebia's life while demanding answers from the justice system.

"It's tough because it should have never happened," Burrough said. "This gentleman has a record of multiple egre-

gious felonies. He was on probation. He violated bond. He should have never been released in the first place."

Burrough said the family wants the courts to do what they believe should have happened before Erebia was killed.

"I ask that you pray for my sister," she said. "I ask that you pray for my nieces and nephews. I ask that you pray for the victim, the other victim who was shot and just released from the hospital. And most importantly, I ask that the judicial system works and that these criminals are punished to the fullest extent of the law."

Kahn said the issue now belongs not only to Erebia's family, but to the public and lawmakers who have the power to change the system.

"This makes a mockery of the entire system," Kahn said. "Very rarely do I see anybody's probation re-

voked, and that includes with a new conviction. And that to me is the core issue of this."

For Erebia's family, those questions are no longer abstract. They are tied to a husband, father and community member they say died while trying to protect someone else.

"I think the way that we're going to cope with this is honoring the life of my brother-in-law," Burrough said, "who was a man who put his family first, his faith above everything, and he served his community."

062226 ErebiaJudge 01 – Judge Ta'iva Bell is under scrutiny following her decision to allow 37-year-old London Hogan out on bond, even after he had violated his bond parameters, and then allegedly shot and killed Louis Erebia. Family, community members and leaders are demanding answers.

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LEGAL NOTICE

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

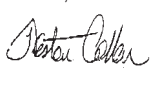
Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 540600; Estate of BLANCHE G. FRASER Deceased; In Probate Court No. 2 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on JUNE 9, 2026 to:

NANCY W. SMITH

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

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

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Dated this JUNE 15, 2026



by WESTON COTTE5N
Attorney for the Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

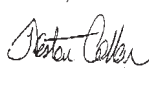
Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 544134; Estate of DAVID LOUIS BYROM Deceased; In Probate Court No. 5 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on JUNE 8, 2026 to:

EDNA MALDONADO BYROM

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

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

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Dated this JUNE 15, 2026



by WESTON COTTE5N
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Eric Andre, Left, and John Cena star in "Little Brother."

“Little Brother.”

“House of the Dragon: Season 3” (TV-MA) — Fans of the “House of the Dragon” series have been waiting two years for this season premiere, and because much of the second season was a build-up to the third season. Eight episodes long, the season kicked off on June 21 with episodes premiering every Sunday night at 9 p.m. ET. Heads of Team Black, Matt Smith (“The Death of Bunny Munro”) and Emma D’Arcy (“Rhoda”), are back in their respective roles of Daemon and Rhaenyra as they brace themselves for war against Team Green. At the end of last season, viewers learned that Otto Hightower was taken captive, Rhaena finally found her wild dragon, and “King” Aegon and Larys fled the city together in secret. Get your flagons of wine and mead ready for

what should be a memorable season! (HBO Max)

“Little Brother” (R) — Guess we’ve lived long enough to see John Cena (“Heads of State”) go from playing the funny guy in a buddy comedy to playing the serious one! (What range, am I right?) In this film premiering June 26, Cena plays Rudd, a type-A real estate agent who lives an orderly life with his wife (Michelle Monaghan) and sons. When he receives sudden news that his estranged “brother,” Marcus (Eric Andre), was in a car accident, the incident leads them to reconnect. The thing is ... Marcus isn’t really Rudd’s brother; they met as kids through a “Big Brother, Little Brother” program. So, when Marcus starts causing havoc in Rudd’s perfect life, Rudd wonders if having a brotherly bond is worth all this trouble.

Ego Nwodim (“Saturday Night Live”) and Christopher Meloni (“IF”) co-star.

“Strung” (TV-MA) — This latest Peacock original film is a psychological thriller from Blumhouse Productions, led by Chloe Bailey (“Fight Night: The Million Dollar Heist”) and Lynn Whitfield (“Eyes of Wakanda”). Bailey plays a violinist named Layla, who signs on to be a live-in music tutor for a young girl from a wealthy family. Upon meeting the young girl, Layla is put off by an odd mask that the girl carries, as well as an ominous air that permeates the house. On top of this, the girl’s mother, Jasmine (Coco Jones), becomes increasingly hostile toward Layla, leaving her to think that she made a terrible mistake in taking this job. Lucien Laviscount (“People We Meet on Vacation”) and Anna Diop (“The Man in My Basement”) co-star in the film, which premieres on June 26. (Peacock)

“Queens of the Dead” (TV-MA) — This campy zombie-comedy film is a great watch for Pride Month, and hopefully, it’ll pave the way for more queer horror in the future. Led by Katy O’Brien (“Love Lies Bleeding”), the film takes place on the night of a giant warehouse party in Bushwick. Club owner Dre (O’Brien) is scattered in her preparation for the party, which makes her warehouse the prime spot for a zombie attack. Later that night, as zombies start blending into the chaos of the party, drag queens, club kids and disco dolls are forced to join forces and put up a gnarly fight against the monsters. Premieres June 26. (Hulu)

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HOLLYWOOD

by Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD — We first noticed Jason Momoa in the series “Stargate Atlantis” (2005-2009), then in “Conan the Barbarian” (2011), and finally in “Aquaman” (2018). Twenty-five films later, there’s no doubt that he’s a superstar! He’s completed six films that are currently awaiting release.

The first is “Supergirl,” led by Milly Alcock with David Corenswet as Superman, and it opens on June 26. In October, “Street Fighter” comes out, in which Momoa co-stars with Noah Centineo (star of the upcoming film “John Rambo”), as well as Curtis “50 Cent” Jackson. Then there’s “Dune: Part Three,” which opens on Dec. 18. In addition, he’s joining Andy Samberg in the action/comedy “Protecting Jared.”

Momoa’s also confirmed to star in the next “Superman” film called “Man of Tomorrow” with Corenswet, Nicholas Hoult, Rachel Brosnahan and Nathan Fillion for a July 2027 release date. Now he’s preparing to shoot “A Minecraft Movie Squared” (with Jack Black and Kirsten Dunst) for a July 2027 release as well. (The original “Minecraft Movie” cost \$150 million and made \$961.2 million.)

Momoa was married to Lisa Bonet from 2017-2020, but they officially divorced in 2024. (They produced a daughter, 18, and a son, 17.) Momoa’s now dating Adria Arjona, who played Dorothy Gale in “Emerald City” (2017). She also starred in “Father of the Bride” (2022) and “Hit Man” (2023).

Arjona’s now shooting the action/thriller “Onslaught” (with Dan Stevens), which opens in September. Additionally, she has “The Thomas Crown Affair” with Michael B. Jordan and Lily Gladstone landing in March 2027; “Man of Tomorrow” with Momoa; “Alpha Gang” with Cate Blanchett, Chris Pine and Dave Bautista; and the erotic thriller “Scorn” with Kingsley Ben-Adir of “Peaky Blinders.” Momoa turns 47 in August, while Arjona is 34.

The unforgettable “Harry Potter” lead Daniel Radcliffe was set to star in the Vietnam War thriller “Trust the Man” with Oscar nominee Lucas Hedges (“Manchester by the Sea”), but Hedges had to bow out due to the comedy “Love Is Not the Answer.” The latter was written and di-



Actress Adria Arjona (Upcoming in “Onslaught”)

rected by Michael Cera, and Pamela Anderson, Steve Coogan and Jamie Dornan co-star. (They’re shooting in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.)

Radcliffe saved the day by suggesting that his “Merrily We Roll Along” co-star Jonathan Groff take Hedges’ place. (Both Radcliffe and Groff won Tony Awards for the 2023 Broadway revival.) Groff also returned to Broadway as Bobby Darin for “Just in Time.” But here lies the rub. ...

Why take these two huge Broadway musical stars and cast them in a Vietnam War movie that definitely isn’t a musical?

Aaron Sorkin has written, is producing and is directing a sequel to “The Social Network,” titled “The Social Reckoning.” It stars Jeremy Allen White, Jeremy Strong, 2025 Best Actress Oscar winner Mikey Madison (“Anora”), and comic Bill Burr. It’s set for an October premiere. Why’d it take so long for him to come up with a sequel for his “Social Network,” which cost \$40 million and grossed a whopping \$225 million? Was he anti-“Social” for 16 years?

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ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves



Weekly SUDOKU

			4		7			1	5
1	5	7	8	3	6				
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Label is different. 2. Bowl is missing. 3. Sign is shorter. 4. Napkin holder is missing. 5. Hair is smaller. 6. Sleeve is shorter.

June 22, 2026 Posting Date

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 "Caught ya!"
- 4 Spring melt-down
- 8 Baby's bed
- 12 Barbecue seasoning
- 13 Meditative exercise
- 14 Verdi heroine
- 15 Muffin-like treats
- 17 General — Chicken
- 18 Couturier Christian
- 19 Bracelet site
- 20 Liniment targets
- 22 "Arrivederci —"
- 24 One-named supermodel
- 25 Castle features
- 29 Unruly group
- 30 Ram
- 31 Solidify
- 32 Short extracts
- 34 Taj Mahal site
- 35 TV host Kelly
- 36 Analyze
- 37 Poultry choice
- 40 Humdrum
- 41 Honker
- 42 Marching band section
- 46 Scrambled wd.
- 47 Gumbo need
- 48 Language akin to Thai
- 49 Sleep phenomena
- 50 Whig rival
- 51 Bagel topper
- 7 Existed
- 8 40 winks
- 9 Jeopardize
- 10 Teen fave
- 11 Pyramid part
- 16 Carriage
- 19 You love (Lat.)
- 20 Goals
- 21 "Let's go!"
- 22 Indian yogurt dish
- 23 Unrefined metals
- 25 Get ready, briefly
- 26 Paint finish times
- 27 Prefix with byte
- 28 Do in
- 30 Neat as —
- 33 Plug parts
- 34 Now, on a memo
- 36 Makeup brand
- 37 Scorch
- 38 Highly rated
- 39 Baby carriage
- 40 Duelist Aaron
- 42 Youngster
- 43 MGM rival
- 44 Eastern path
- 45 Boston team, for short

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Trivial Pursuit by Fifi Rodriguez

1. TELEVISION: Which TV sitcom features a pet pig named Arnold Ziffel?

2. GEOGRAPHY: Which three countries make up Scandinavia?

3. MONEY: When was the euro currency introduced?

4. MEDICAL TERMS: What is a more common name for myocardial infarction?

5. MYTHOLOGY: Who is the Egyptian god of the underworld?

6. MOVIES: What is the building whose steps Rocky Balboa climbs triumphantly in the movie "Rocky"?

7. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which three signs of the Zodiac are considered to be water signs?

8. GAMES: How many wooden blocks are in a game of Jenga?

9. U.S. STATES: Which state is home to the Petrified Forest National Park?

10. ANATOMY: Which system in the human body is responsible for hormone production and regulation?

Weekly SUDOKU

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

Answers

King Crossword

Solution time: 26 mins.

Trivia Test by Fifi Rodriguez

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1. "Green Acres"; 2. Denmark; 3. 1999; 4. Heart attack; 5. 54; 6. The Philadelphia Museum of Art; 7. PISCES, CANCER and SCORPIO; 8. 54; 9. Arizona; 10. Endocrine

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