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CHANNEL CURRENTS

DEC. 5, MONDAY EPA Meeting on Waste Pits

EPA will hold an IN-PERSON (Not Virtual) community meeting to update information on the San Jacinto River Waste Pits. Monday, December 5 from 6:00pm to 7:45pm. Public is invited. Highlands Community Center, 604 Highland Woods Drive, Highlands 77562.

DEC. 13, TUES. NCA Chamber Open House

North Channel Chamber invites you to their Annual Holiday Open House, Tuesday Dec. 13 from 12pm to 3pm. Holiday cheer, Yummy hot food, drinks. 13301 East Freeway. RSVP 713-450-3600.

New Hospital Tower opens in Baytown

BAYTOWN - Houston Methodist Baytown officially opened a new five-story building to patients last week. The new state-of-the-art tower is named Unity Tower and features 75 private rooms, an intensive care unit, and an entire floor dedicated to childbirth and obstetrics services.

"This is an exciting time for Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital, our staff, physicians and the community," said Chief Executive Officer David Bernard. "I am proud to expand the hospital and our services so that we can better serve the community that has supported us for nearly 75 years."

The Unity Tower project includes vital infrastruc-



Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital held a ribbon cutting last Friday, November 11 to officially open their new patient tower and related support and emergency facilities. Hospital CEO David Bernard, local officials and Chamber members, and hospital personnel joined in the Ribbon Cutting ceremony. (Contributed Photo)

ture, including a new pharmacy, expanded laboratory, hospital kitchen, dialysis unit and many other clinical enhancements to serve our patients.

Unity Tower is part of a \$250 million facilities master plan that started in 2017 and includes the new and expanded emergency department, outpatient center, Houston Methodist Neal Cancer Center at Baytown facility, parking garage, central utility plant and numerous infrastructure enhancements.

Each patient and visitor will be welcomed to campus through a new lobby that features symbols of

Continued. See New Hospital Tower, Page 5

MUSTANGS DEFEAT DICKINSON 43-34; ADVANCE IN PLAYOFFS

BY ALLAN JAMAIL

Friday, November 18, 2022- GPISD Stadium - Head Coach Jon Kay's North Shore (NS) Mustangs on their home turf battled a hard fighting Dickinson Gator football team, 43 - 34. His team didn't put away the Gators until late in the fourth quarter.

The Eastside Boys advances to the Regional Semifinals Playoff round to face the Katy ISD Cinco Ranch Cougars. The 2:30 pm daytime game on Friday, November 25th gives

CONTINUED. SEE MUSTANGS IN PLAYOFFS, PAGE 6



#7 NS defensive back Jayven Anderson took the ball away from a Gator receiver running it back for the game's first score. He's stole opposing team's offensive balls in five consecutive games, four of them he scored on. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



NS #23 Defensive linebacker Jaylon Joseph goes airborne to block Gator quarterback #2 John Solomon pass. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

GP/JC Rotarians serve Thanksgiving Dinner to local needy families



GP/JC ROTARIANS SERVE THANKSGIVING DINNER TO FAMILIES
From Maria Cortez-Ochoa: Not everything is a feeder on these festive days, so I am working hand in hand with my birthday Rotarians of Galena Park/Jacinto City Rotary Club preparing 75 Thanksgiving baskets for families in our community. What a blessing to be able to serve others.

CLOVERLEAF ACTIVISTS

Appreciation Luncheon for Deputy Sheriffs



Harris County Sheriff Deputies in uniforms:
L - R: Tim Mordecai, Henry Martinez, Don Ta, Mike Rivers & Sgt. Donnie Williams
Ladies in the center: L - R: Commissioner Adrian Garcia's Community Liaisons Cindy Miller, Sandra Zamarripa & Master of Ceremony Luz Lopez (Community Activist). (Photo by Allan Jamail)

By Allan Jamail

Thursday, November 10, 2022 at the Felix Baldree Community Center resident volunteer community activist held their second annual deputy sheriffs appreciation luncheon.

Master of Ceremony Luz Lopez thanked everyone in attendance for coming. She recognized each of the deputies present and made sure all of them knew how valuable they are to the Cloverleaf and Channelview communities.

At the conclusion of the ceremony Lopez recognized

each of the volunteers by name and had them come up for a group photo. They received a loud ovation for their service to the communities. Everyone enjoyed a delicious meal with refreshments and desserts.

Lopez said, "I am grateful to God and for the sponsors who came together to help me show our appreciation for the Harris County Sheriff Department. This luncheon was a way to say thank you for their engagement in the Cloverleaf Area. We are a family who can work together to become aware of the resources avail-

able in our area."

Lopez continued, "I could not have done this without the Felix Baldree Center, Mrs. Adrian Garcia Cantus Kitchen, Lopez Cakes, Glendi Ramos, Aleyda Garza, Yanira Mendoza, Texas Robots, Edith Ponce and our Cloverleaf Volunteers lead by Mrs. Lorena Sandoval. Including our elected officials, the schools and so many Harris County Leaders. I invite you to be part of this experience." You can become a sponsor for our 3rd Annual Luncheon. Call 832-258-5102 OR EMAIL Lopez.luz39@yahoo.com



You are Invited to our

Annual Candlelight Remembrance Service

Carter-Conley Funeral Home cordially invites the families we have served, as well as the general public, to begin the Christmas holidays with a time of remembrance during our Annual Candlelight Remembrance Service.




Sunday Afternoon
December 4, 2022 at 3:00 P.M.

At Carter-Conley Funeral Home, 13701 Corpus Christi Street, Houston, Texas 77015

If you have lost a loved one and find the holidays to be a difficult time, please join us for some words of encouragement, followed by a candle lighting ceremony in memory of your loved one. This year's service will be LIVE STREAMED, so you may join us virtually in the safety of your home. Visit our website or our Facebook page to obtain access.

Our Christmas Remembrance Tree will be in our lobby from
November 28, 2022 thru January 2, 2023

We invite you to stop in and personalize an ornament with the name of your deceased loved one, which will be yours to keep following the Remembrance Service.

It is our hope to make this time a little more bearable as we remember those we have lost.

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Sincerely, Carter-Conley Funeral Home staff






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SHELDON ISD NEWS

Students Celebrate With Thanksgiving Feasts

The week of November 14, early childhood and elementary students celebrated with Thanksgiving feasts. Families were invited to attend lunch with their child. Sheldon ISD campuses and offices will close for Thanksgiving break Monday, November 21 through Friday, November 25. Classes will resume Monday, November 28.



Career Cluster Night Showcases Future-focused Programs in Sheldon

Sheldon ISD’s career and technical education department is hosting four Career Cluster Nights to feature and educate students, future students and families about the career academies offered in Sheldon ISD at King High School. A Career Cluster Night was held on Tuesday, November 15 and featured the district’s cosmetology program, culinary arts, and legal studies. Parents learned how to do home manicures and cook gumbo. The next Career Cluster Night will be held February 21, 2023.



Students Present Work at Annual Gifted and Talented Expo

It was a packed house at Sheldon ISD’s annual Gifted and Talented Expo on November 16 with more than 600 people in attendance. At the expo, elementary students in the district’s gifted and talented program featured projects that were created by the students at each grade level. Projects included biographies, construction of a utopian city, an unsolved mystery such as a board game, and more. There were 239 projects at this year’s event, and all students who completed a project and presented received a medal.



King High School FFA to Host Winter Project Showcase

The King High School FFA organization would like to invite the public to their Exhibitor and Project Meet and Greet. The second annual Winter Project Showcase will be held Tuesday, December 6 from 4 to 7 p.m. There will be a hot cocoa bar, food items (while supplies last), face painting by the King High School Art Club and a showcase of student projects for the January Live-

stock Show. The event will be held at the Sheldon Agriculture Center (17552 Beaumont Hwy, Houston, 77049). Save the date for the 66th annual Sheldon Livestock Show on January 12-13 and the Buyer’s Luncheon and Auction on January 14. Sponsors and buyers are needed. Those interested may contact robynjones@sheldonisd.com or 346-378-7099.

GALENA PARK ISD NEWS

Galena Park ISD Recognized Two Wind Ensembles at November Board Meeting

Houston, TX: Galena Park ISD recognized the Galena Park High School and North Shore Middle School Wind Ensembles for being selected by the Foundation for Music Education as Commended Winners in the 2022 Mark of Excellence National Wind Band Honors Project. The Mark of Excellence is a national music competition that recognizes musical en-

sembles for high standards in performance. This year, 376 of the finest musical ensembles throughout 39 states entered the competition. These young performers represent the very highest level of achievement. Congratulations to each of them!
Story Credit: Dr. Tommie L. Smith
Photo Credit: Christopher Gause



Pictured: Superintendent of Schools, Dr. John Moore; GPISD Board Trustee, Ramon Garza; Galena Park High School Band Director, KC Christensen; Galena Park High School Principal, Dr. Kimberly Martin; and students who represented the Galena Park High School Wind Ensemble



Pictured: GPISD Board Trustee, Ramon Garza; North Shore Middle School Principal, Dr. Christopher Eckford; Superintendent of Schools, Dr. John Moore; North Shore Middle School Band Director, Danny Rubio; Assistant Band Director, Jorge Gutierrez; Cobb Sixth Grade Campus Head Band Director, Felicia Rubio; North Shore Senior High School: Band Director, Shane Goforth and Percussion Director, Jay Davis; North Shore 9th Grade Center Principal, David Pierson; and students who represented the North Shore Middle School Wind Ensemble

CHANNELVIEW ISD NEWS

Channelview ISD Earns Superior Rating for Financial Accountability by the Texas Education Agency

Channelview, TX — November 15, 2022: Channelview ISD earned a “Superior Achievement” rating from the School Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) on Tuesday morning. Accountability classifications are based on analysis of staff, student, budgetary and actual financial data reported for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. This recognition marks the 20th consecutive year that CISD has exceeded the State of Texas’ standards for financial accountability in public schools.
The rating is the state’s highest recognition for fiscal responsibility. Developed by the Texas Education Agency (TEA), the goal of School FIRST is to encourage Texas public schools to establish best fiscal practices with their financial resources to provide the maximum allocation possible for direct instructional purposes.
“Our department of finance works diligently to ensure every single dollar is well spent and exercising good usage of taxpayer dollars,” said Assistant Superintendent of Finance Jennifer Carnathan. “I am proud of the work the team has done

to remain transparent to our community and to the state.”
The accomplishments of CISD’s “Superior Achievement” rating comes with a healthy fund balance that has continually increased over the last 4 years. Currently, the district’s fund balance sits at an estimated \$47.7 million. In addition, the CISD Board of Trustees adopted a lower tax rate of \$1.3064 per \$100 property valuation for the 2023 fiscal year. As of September 2022, CISD’s school tax rate is the lowest in the North Channel Area.
“This rating demonstrates that Channelview’s schools are accountable not only for student learning, but also for achieving these results cost-effectively and efficiently,” said CISD Superintendent Dr. Tory C. Hill. “This is a tremendous accomplishment for our department of finance and showcases the level of commitment they have for our school district.”
Lila Hollin
Executive Director of Communications
Channelview Independent School District

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CHARLOTTE'S WEB

By Charlotte Jackson



Being Grateful

I woke up on Saturday to the sound of the rain and I could feel that the temperatures had dropped. I thought about rolling over and going back to sleep. Then I realized I had time to get up and work on a life changing project before I needed to leave for a volunteer assignment.

I started the day with prayer and then I quickly took my shower, shampooed, and dried my hair and after getting dressed, I sat down at my computer. I skimmed over social media, checked my email, and then got busy working on the project. By the time I had finished, I assumed I would be running late. Instead, as I took my morning medicines, I realized I was still going to be on time for the turkey distribution.

I arrived in Barrett Station to find two of the team members from East Harris County Empowerment Council already smiling as community members were lining up for the distribution. I volunteered to walk out to the cars and thank them for showing up and remind them that the distribution would start several hours later and as I talked to the neighbors, I took the time to share with them about Constable Eagleton's RUOk? Senior Program. To my surprise, one of the drivers was already enrolled in the program and shared with me that she looks forward to those Thursday calls. I met another volunteer that said he knew several people in the program, but he had questions about it. After I answered his questions, he told me that he would be happy to take some applications to pass out to those who might need to enroll.

Just a few minutes later the delivery truck arrived with the frozen turkeys. Volunteers quickly began putting the turkeys into bags to help make the distribution easier. I grabbed ten bags and headed out to make deliveries to those who were without transportation or unable to drive. When I arrived at the first home, I tried to call the lady and it went to voicemail. I decided to return her trashcan to an area under her carport and then I knocked on the door. I waited a few minutes and decided that as cold as it was, it was safe to leave the bagged turkey in her chair on the porch. I looked at the list and realized the second stop was just down the street.

What a blessing to be met by an eighty-seven-year-old lady who was listening to praise music and so happy to see me. We have been talking weekly for three years but this was the first time to meet in person.

Once back in my car, I went to deliver turkeys to two ladies who live near each other in an apartment complex. When I stopped at the first one, the lady was on the phone with the neighbor who was currently on a machine doing a treatment, so she offered to let me leave the turkey with her. As I turned to leave, her son was just arriving with breakfast. As I introduced myself, he told me that his momma waits for her weekly call from our office. He walked me out to my car to tell me that in addition to the phone calls, his mom has told him that I have sent cards to encourage her and that she knows that I pray for her. She had mentioned to him that I must have a notebook filled with details as I remember to ask about different things she has shared in the past. All I could do was smile and acknowledge that I was one of the most blessed individuals he would meet. And he mentioned that it showed in my smile. I told him that when you are blessed, you have to be thankful and that causes smiles.

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Abbott to investigate Harris County voting

Governor Abbott Calls For Investigation Of Harris County Elections

AUSTIN – Governor Greg Abbott today called for an investigation into the widespread problems with Harris County's elections last Tuesday. Voters in Harris County were frustrated by confusion and delays including missing keys, insufficient paper ballots in Republican precincts, staffing problems, and more.

"I'm calling on the Secretary of State, the Attorney General's Office, and the Texas Rangers to initiate investigations into allegations of improprieties in the way that the 2022 elections were conducted in Harris County," said Governor Abbott. "The allegations of election improprieties in our state's largest county may result from anything ranging from malfeasance to blatant criminal conduct. Voters in Harris County

deserve to know what happened. Integrity in the election process is essential. To achieve that standard, a thorough investigation is warranted."

HARRIS COUNTY GOP ALSO FILES LAWSUIT

Shortly after the Governor's order, the Harris County GOP party announced a lawsuit against Harris County and Elections Administrator Clifford Tatum, alleging that thousands of voters were turned away from voting for various issues.

In response, the County Democratic party called it another example of "political theater."

Houston to host 2026 FIFA World Cup Soccer

Get Ready for the 2026 FIFA World Cup!

Harris County, are we ready for some soccer?!?! We are thrilled that Houston has been selected as a host city for the FIFA 2026 North America World Cup, in Harris County's own NRG Stadium! Our community is a transportation hub with world-class infrastructure that has hosted the Superbowl, the World Series, the MLS Cup, so we are ready to welcome this international event, teams, and committed fans to Harris County!

With 48 teams, this 2026 FIFA World Cup will be the largest ever and take place June to July in three countries – USA, Mexico, and Canada.

Houston is expected to host five to six matches at NRG Stadium. When matches are not being played in Houston, we will be hosting other public events and viewing parties.

Beyond the excitement of the events and games, the World Cup is estimated to have an economic impact of \$800 million to \$1.3 billion on our region. Welcome FIFA!

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ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim: “How to Research the Rolex Reference Number”

One of the first things we recommend doing when learning how to spot a fake Rolex is researching the reference number. Also known as the model number or style number, the reference number on a Rolex watch contains information about the watch including its age (e.g., if it's vintage, discontinued, modern, etc.), model type, material type, and bezel type. Having this information allows you to compare the specific watch with its reference number to make sure everything matches up as described.

A Rolex reference number can either be 4-digit, 5-digit, or 6-digit numbers that sometimes include letters too. The length of a reference number roughly determines the age of the watch, as Rolex has added digits to their reference numbers over the years. For instance, 4-digit reference numbers indicate vintage Rolex watches, 5-digit numbers indicate discontinued Rolex watches (although not necessarily vintage), and 6-digit numbers indicate Rolex watches made in 2000 and after.

In both 5 and 6-digit reference numbers, the last digit number indicates the material of the watch. Below is an index of which specific numbers indicate which material(s) when used as the last digit of a watch's reference number:

- 0 = stainless steel
- 1 = two-tone stainless steel & rose gold
- 2 = two-tone stainless steel & platinum
- 3 = two-tone stainless steel & yellow gold
- 4 = two-tone stainless steel & white gold
- 5 = rose gold
- 6 = platinum
- 7 = 14k yellow gold
- 8 = 18k yellow gold
- 9 = white gold

For example, a Rolex Submariner ref. 116610 is a stainless-steel model while a Rolex Submariner ref. 116619 is a white gold model.

Similarly, the second to last digit number indicates the bezel type. This number is a bit more complex, with certain numbers signifying different bezel types for different Rolex watch collections. For example, the number 0 as the second to last digit of the reference number for a Rolex Sea-Dweller indicates it has a rotating bezel. Whereas a 0 as the second to last digit of the reference number for a Rolex Pearlmaster means, instead, that it has a gemstone-set bezel. For simplicity's sake, and because listing out the bezel types of every watch in every Rolex collection and model would easily take the helm of this entire article, we'll leave it at those examples. When researching reference numbers, a simple Google search can help you look up the bezel type of the specific Rolex you are looking into.

As mentioned, some Rolex reference numbers are alphanumeric and include letters at the end. These letters are codes that indicate the bezel insert colors, specifically for Rolex sports watches. These codes are translated from French descriptors, which determine the letters used as codes for each color. The most frequently used color codes include:

- LN (Lunette Noir) = Black bezel
- LB (Lunette Bleu) = Blue bezel
- LV (Lunette Verte) = Green bezel
- BLNR (Bleu/Noir) = Blue and Black bezel
- BLRO (Bleu/Rouge) = Blue and Red bezel
- CHNR (Chocolat/Noir) = Brown and Black bezel

Here are some examples of Rolex reference numbers including these color codes: a Daytona 116500LN has a black bezel, a Submariner 126610LV has a green bezel, and a GMT-Master II 116710BLNR has a blue and black bezel.

Credit to The Watch Standard for these articles: <https://www.thewatchstandard.com/how-to-spot-a-fake-rolex/amp/>.

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OPINION

By Bryan Golden

Thanksgiving: Having an Attitude of Gratitude

Thanksgiving is much more than a big meal with family and friends. It's a time to reflect on, and be thankful for, all of the good things you have. It's important to be grateful, not just on Thanksgiving, but each and every day. Rather than lamenting what you feel is lacking in your life, begin each new day by developing an attitude of gratitude. Take inventory of your blessings and you will be surprised at just how much you have to be thankful for.

If you have enough to eat, a place to live, a way to get around, people who care about you, or people you care about, then you are wealthy. If you lack any of these elements, you must still be grateful for what you do have, while striving to obtain whatever is absent.

Focus on all positive aspects of your life. Take nothing for granted. Every morning, recharge your appreciation. Be happy for everything there is, not upset over what you feel is missing.

Dreams of the future shouldn't diminish appreciation for the present. If all you do is concentrate on what you want, you won't enjoy today. Don't be jealous of others; what they do or have has no bearing on you.

You can feel bitter or resentful for a variety of reasons. Perhaps you feel something is missing from your life, things aren't going your way, or you have been treated unfairly. You may wonder, "why do these things always happen to me?"

Life's problems tend to dominate your thoughts, turning your focus to what you feel is wrong. You may start to resent those who appear to be better off. You're apt to dwell on things you think would make your life better if you had them. If only you had more money, more time, a bigger house, a different car, a different job, a different boss, had picked a different career, etc.

Once your attitude becomes one of deficiency instead of abundance and appreciation, you can become overwhelmed by feelings of frustration and feel like a victim. As this happens, a consuming vicious cycle starts.

Being bitter or resentful blows situations out of proportion. People who are bitter frequently find that their situations deteriorate and their mental and physical health decays.

It's difficult, if not impossible, to achieve your goals while you are bitter or resentful. Regardless of what challenges might befall you, bitterness makes finding solutions much more elusive.

There is no point to feeling bitter since it accomplishes nothing, harms you and makes things worse. Filling yourself with gratitude on a daily basis makes you feel good, while driving out negative feelings.

Begin your practice of gratitude each morning as soon as you wake. Every day is a great day. If you have any doubts, try missing one. Take inventory of everything, no matter how small or seemingly insignificant, that is good in your life.


If it helps, make a written list of all things you are grateful for. Read your list every day. As you do this, you will build and reinforce your attitude of gratitude. Don't waste any time with what you feel you don't have.

Keep things in perspective. Consider all the people who have overcome difficulties far worse than yours. Don't be consumed by your problems, there is always a solution. Maintaining an attitude of gratitude allows your mind to devise a resolution for your circumstances.

Make everyday a day of Thanksgiving and you will be amazed how much better your life will become.

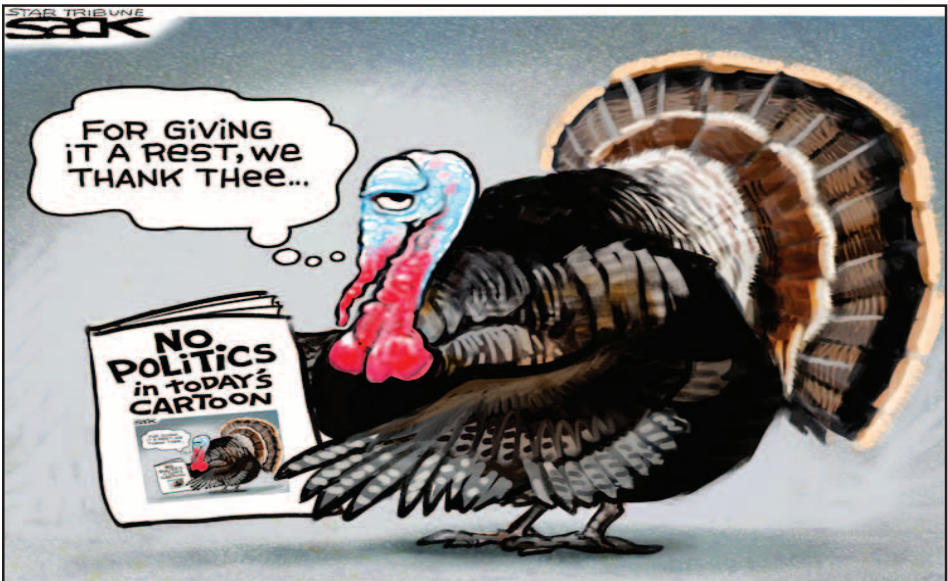
Bryan is the author of "Dare to Live Without Limits." Contact Bryan at Bryan@columnist.com or visit www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com Copyright 2022 Bryan Golden

Americanisms



"Thanksgiving is so called because we are all so thankful that it only comes once a year."
— P. J. O'Rourke

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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Turnout Drops in Recent Election

Voter turnout in the midterm elections again dropped statewide, with just over 45% of registered voters either casting ballots early or at the polls on Nov. 8. Republican candidates continued to hold a hammerlock on statewide positions, with incumbent Gov. Greg Abbott handily winning a third term over challenger Beto O'Rourke.

The Texas Standard reported turnout in the state's largest counties was well below 50% and lower than the record 2018 midterm turnout. Brandon Rottinghaus, a political science professor at the University of Houston, said he wasn't surprised at the relatively low turnout.

"Usually, it's hard to get Texans to vote in midterm elections. We saw a sizable increase in 2018 and then a big bump in 2020, but it's starting to look like the 2018 and 2020 numbers were basically an aberration," he said.

In Harris County, turnout dropped from 52% in 2018 to 43% this year. Dallas County saw turnout plunge from 57% in 2018 to 44% this year, while in Tarrant County turnout was 47%, down from 57% in the last midterm.

"The turnout in this election was abysmal. It was way too low. And so, voters need to understand that if they don't participate in the process, then their ability to control what happens in Austin is limited," Rottinghaus told the Texas Standard.

LAWMAKERS: GET TOUGHER ON POLLUTERS

The Texas Sunset Advisory Commission, which periodically reviews state agencies, has concluded the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality needs to make frequent polluters more accountable and increase the possible fines companies can face.

The commission consists of 10 legislators and two members of the public. The Texas Tribune reported the sunset commission called for state lawmakers to pass legislation next session that would increase the

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS: Editorial poll by Texas Press Association. Average pay: \$25,000 per day to \$40,000.

"I think people wanted to send a message that we were cognizant of the burden upon industry while also recognizing the importance of increasing the penalty after this period of time so that the TCEQ has the power and the tools to actually enforce compliance with its rules," said Sen. Nathan Johnson, D-Dallas, and a member of the commission.

The sunset commission's recommendations will be considered during the next legislative session, which begins in January.

DRY OCTOBER LEADS TO DROUGHT LEVEL INCREASE

A fairly dry October, except in West Texas, led to an increase in drought levels to 75% of the state, up 14 percentage points from the end of September.

Dr. Mark Wentzel, hydrologist with the Texas Water Development Board, wrote that months of drought have adversely affected surface water resources and are now beginning to affect ground water resources as well.

For example, the Edwards Aquifer's water level has dropped 35 feet to its lowest level since the 2011 drought. Storage levels in the state's water supply reservoirs are at 68% of capacity — 13 percentage points below normal for this time of year.

"It's too far out to say with certainty, but spring 2023 may be our next best chance for drought relief," Wentzel wrote.

HOUSTON BUSINESS CONVICTED OF WORKERS' COMP FRAUD

A Houston-area business has been convicted of a first-degree felony in a worker's compensation scheme.

Sehgal & Sons Enterprises was convicted of concealing payrolls by having two separate payroll accounts but only reporting the smaller account to Texas Mutual Insurance Company. The company was fined \$300,000, according to the Texas Department of Insurance.

"Concealing payroll is a scheme companies use to get lower workers' compensation insurance rates, and that's fraud," said Debra Knight with the Department of Workers' Compensation.

MORE THAN \$355 MILLION IN PUBLIC SAFETY GRANTS

Gov. Greg Abbott last week announced more than \$355 million in public safety grants, covering a variety of programs, including victims' services, anti-human trafficking efforts, and law enforcement support. The funding is a combination of state and federal dollars.

The money will go to provide bullet-resistant vests, homeland security, to combat human trafficking, border security and about a dozen other programs.

"This crucial grant funding will further bolster organizations and agencies as they work around the clock to ensure justice for victims of crime, protect against threats, prevent human trafficking, and support statewide emergency infrastructure, among other critical public safety initiatives," Abbott said.

WHOOPING CRANES SPOTTED ON TEXAS COAST

First sightings of the endangered whooping crane have been reported along the Texas coast, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department reported.

Janess Vartanian, with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, says that on Oct. 21 a pair of whooping cranes were the first to arrive this season on Matagorda Island. Most will arrive in and around the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in December.

Whooping birds, according to TPWD, are the tallest, rarest birds in North America. The current population is estimated at about 543 birds. They migrate this time of year 2,500 miles from northern Alberta, Canada, to the Texas coast.

COVID-19 CASES DROP BELOW 10,000

The number of new COVID-19 cases reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University in Texas dropped to 8,955, along with 32 deaths. The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations stayed steady, with 998 reported across the state as of Sunday.

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THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

Newcomers

My husband, Peter, and I feel like social butterflies.

We certainly are not. But it feels as if we are, because we are staying in a new city and finding it is easier to make new friends than any time since we were children.

When Peter and I moved back to Minnesota to be closer to our family, we missed our old routines and the friends we used to spend time with. Moving to a new city did not bring with it a lot of new friends. Everyone already had friends. Peter and I saw a lot more of our families, which was wonderful. But except for the friends we still had from when we lived here as teenagers, we didn't see a lot of new people.

This is not the way it works when we are in Mexico.

"Can we have brunch with Karina and Rick on Friday?" I asked.

"We're going to dinner with Joel and Chené on Friday."

"I thought we could do brunch."

"We're having brunch with Raul and Nathan."

"Oh."

I realized I had something scheduled every day this week. This is not like me.

Somehow, spending time with people who are all new to this place—leaving what is familiar and trying something new—something about this pulls us together. I realized it's because we're all newcomers.

As newcomers, we're eager to share our newcomer energy, to hear where other newcomers have been and where they're going next. Almost all the newcomers I meet are making changes, going to new places, trying something new. And, because they are newcomers, they all are excited (and a little nervous) to tell others about it.

"I started painting during the pandemic," Rosalie told us. She claims she is not an experienced painter, yet all her work has been eagerly taken by friends who have it hanging in their homes.

"I'm working on a memoir."

"I've taken up yoga."

"I'd like to write a novel."

"I'm fostering a dog."

The thing we newcomers all share is the opportunity to look at this new place with fresh eyes and apply that fresh perspective to our lives. I am amazed how few people I meet are trying to replicate the lives they have in the U.S. or Canada. Instead, they are figuring out how to do things differently in this very different place—where fireworks go off every night and occasionally at six in the morning, where roosters are constantly crowing, and dogs barking, and the streets are paved with cobblestones, and a lot of the shoes we brought do not work at all.

"Oh, my gosh! I nearly killed myself trying to walk in platform sandals last night!"

"I know. Platforms do not work!"

I love hearing stories about changing course, trying new things, getting off the beaten track.

Meanwhile, I keep working on my new project, getting my first novel ready to sell. My agent tells me we're almost ready. It will be a long process, she says, and there are no guarantees. I'm OK with that. I know I'm a newcomer to this as well.

Spending time with newcomers in Mexico has made me realize that most of us aren't attached to a particular outcome. We like what we are doing right now—and we like doing it together.

"It's about enjoying life while we're living it—and not worrying about when it's going to end," Karina, another newcomer, said over dinner last night.

I like that. And I think there might be time to squeeze in one more coffee this week.

Till next time,

Carrie
Photos from the column and other fun stuff can be found at CarrieClasson.com.

Baytown Hospital opens new Tower,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

our culture, including The Extending Arms of Christ Mosaic and an I CARE glass wall. The second floor holds the intensive care unit; the third floor is obstetrics; the fourth and fifth floors are medical and surgical units. Unity Tower will serve as a focal point for Houston Methodist Baytown, unifying the campus and staff with the community to promote a spiritual healing environment. The tower's design helps solidify Houston Methodist Baytown as part of the Houston Methodist system. "I am excited to share this new space with our community and continue

to provide unparalleled safety, quality, service and innovation for our community for many years to come," said Bernard. A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the expansion was held on Friday. ### About Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital has provided Baytown and east Harris, Liberty and Chambers counties with excellent medical care since its opening in 1948. The hospital continues to grow to meet the health care needs of its growing community through an ongoing construction and renovation

program that has seen the opening of a new 5-story tower, emergency center, outpatient center and medical-surgical units. As a health care leader, the hospital is proud to have a fully integrated residency program focused on educating and inspiring future practitioners. Today, Houston Methodist Baytown provides the most advanced and innovative procedures while never wavering from its focus on compassionate care and providing a safe, patient-centered healing environment. Houstonmethodist.org/baytown.



Lobby View of the new Unity Tower building.



Typical Private Patient Room in the new Unity Tower.

FOOTBALL SEASON WEEK 13: No. 2 Ohio State hosts No. 3 Michigan in key Big 10 game: Cowboys host Giants on Thanksgiving in key NFC East contest

Thanksgiving Week is upon us, and that means plenty of food, fellowship and football! And while many of us will gather with friends and family, college and pro football teams will be plying their trades with a number of key games on top at both levels this holiday weekend.

The biggest game on the college scene will be the annual grudge match in the Big 10 between No. 2-ranked Ohio State and No. 3-ranked Michigan. This year, the Buckeyes get to host their arch rivals from the north looking to avenge the 42-27 thumping the Wolverines put on them in Ann Arbor a year ago. That win propelled Jim Harbaugh's team into the College Football Playoffs and sent OSU to the Rose Bowl. Both teams are in the CFP hunt again this year and the winner should land one of the four spots available. The loser could also get in, but it would need some help from other teams to get in. If TCU runs the table and wins the Big 12 championship game, then it might be difficult for the CFP Committee to keep the Frogs out of the playoffs. The same can be said for USC. If the Trojans, who face long-time rival Notre Dame this holiday weekend, win out, they would be a 12-1 team with one of the most prolific offenses in the country.

So, this game is not only for the Big 10 East title and a slot in the Big 10 title game, but the winner should also be looking solid for the CFP berth.

Other interesting games this weekend have Texas hosting Baylor looking to get back on track after its 17-10 loss to TCU two weeks ago in Austin. In that game, quarterback Quinn Ewers struggled, as did the rest of the offense and did not score an offensive touchdown (UT's lone TD came on a fumble return for a touchdown by the defense). Ewers came out of South Lake Carroll High School as the No. 1 recruit in the country and originally signed with Ohio State, but transferred to UT. Texas fans were excited to land him, but he has yet to live up to expectations. Perhaps he will be all that he's been advertised to be, but he still has a way to go.

No. 9-ranked Alabama and Auburn meet in their annual grudge match and don't be surprised if Nick Saban's team takes their frustrations out on their hated rivals. For the first time since 2019 that the Tide have not appeared in the league championship contest.

That's because LSU surprisingly won the SEC West this year under first-year head coach Brian Kelly. Give Kelly a lot of credit. He inherited a mess in Baton Rouge, but rallied his team to the division title where they get rewarded with playing No. 1-ranked Georgia on Dec. 3. Good luck with that, LSU.

The Tigers visit Texas A&M on Saturday bringing an end to what has been a miserable season in Aggieland for the team and head coach Jimbo Fisher. A&M entered the season ranked No. 6 in the pre-season polls, but a six-game losing streak ended their hopes of earning a bowl bid. The Aggies would like nothing more than to end the season on a high note with an upset of the Tigers in Kyle Field.

In the NFL, the league will give us a triple-header on Thanksgiving Day starting with the annual game in Detroit as the Bills visit the Motor City. Two weeks ago, Buffalo blew a double-digit lead at home and lost to Minnesota in overtime, while the Lions won their second straight game of the season with a 31-30 win in Chicago.

The second game of the day will be a big one in the NFC East as the second-place Giants visit the third-place Cowboys. Two weeks ago, Dallas blew a 14-point fourth-quarter lead at Green Bay and lost 31-28 in overtime to Aaron Rodgers team.

The nightcap will feature New England at Minnesota.

The 1972 Dolphins are popping the champagne now that the previously undefeated Philadelphia Eagles suffered their first loss of the season two weeks ago when Washington upset them 32-20 on Monday Night Football. The '72 Dolphins, led by Hall of Fame Head Coach Don Shula, is the only team in NFL history to go undefeated for an entire season. The Eagles will look to get back on track on Sunday Night Football when they host Rodgers and the Green Bay Packers.

On Sunday, the Texans head to South Florida to take on the high-scoring Dolphins. If the Houston defense does not play better, it could be a long afternoon in Miami for Lovie Smith's team.

Before we take a look at those games and a handful of others, let's review last week's record. A 5-5 week brought the season record to 83-47 (64%).

Before we look at the games, I'd like to wish all of you a very Happy Thanksgiving.

NCAA

Baylor at Texas: Texas hosts Baylor on Friday afternoon looking to end the season on a high note. If UT beat Kansas last week, they would enter this game with a 7-4 record and a chance to finish 8-4, a big improvement from Steve Sarkisian's 5-7 finish in his first year in Austin. Baylor has been an up-and-down team this year and two weeks ago, the Bears suffered a 31-3 home



loss to Kansas State. Look for Ewers (1,507 yards, 13 TDs) to play better this week and look for running back Bijan Robinson (1,158 yards, 14 total TDs) to run wild as the Longhorns send the Bears back to Waco with a loss. My pick, Texas 34, Baylor 17

Auburn at Alabama: As stated earlier, Saban's Crimson Tide will show little mercy to their long-time rival when Auburn comes calling on Saturday. Alabama has lost twice in SEC play this year (at Tennessee and at LSU) and staved off a three-loss season with a gritty 30-24 win at Mississippi two weeks ago. The win over the Rebels handed LSU the SEC West title. Look for 'Bama QB Bryce Young (2,443 yards, 22 TDs) to bring his "A" game on Saturday as this could be the final time he plays before the fans in Tuscaloosa. Most experts expect Young to announce for the NFL draft once the season is over. Running back Jahmyr Gibbs (774 yards, 6 TDs) is another potential first-round pick, so look for him to also have a big day against an Auburn team that has suffered through a very disappointing season. My pick, Alabama 38, Auburn 13

LSU at Texas A&M: No. 7-ranked Texas A&M heads to College Station on Saturday to tune up for the SEC title game the following week. The Aggies have been one of the most disappointing teams in college football this year and Fisher will have a lot to answer to during the offseason. The first priority should be bringing in an offensive coordinator to bring new life to a dormant offense. Fisher also needs to change things up on offense. Perhaps a new set of eyes would help to remedy the situation. Look for the Aggies to play hard, but if they will have their hands full with LSU dual threat QB Jayden Daniels (2,080 passing yards, 14 TDs/629 rushing yards, 10 TDs). Look for the LSU front seven to be the difference maker in this game as the Tigers pick up win No. 10 on the season. My pick, LSU 23, Texas A&M 21

Kansas at Kansas State: This isn't only for state bragging rights, but a win by Kansas State would land them a spot in the Big 12 title game against TCU. The Kansas Jayhawks have been a pleasant surprise this year. Known for decades as the doormat of the Big 12, second-year head coach Lance Leipold has his team bowl eligible and has brought optimism about the future of Kansas football. Sure, KU will always be a basketball school, but folks are now excited about the football program. I expect this to be a competitive game as KU QB Jason Bean (1,256 yards, 14 TDs) and running back Devin Neal (951 yards, 7 TDs) will give it their all against the Wildcats. KSU has too much to play for to look past their in-state rivals. The Wildcats are a more balanced offense with Will Howard (717 yards, 9 TDs) under center. KSU also has one of the best backs in the Big 12 in Deuce Vaughn (1,081 yards, 5 TDs). This one should be an offensive shootout. My pick, Kansas State 34, Kansas 31

Michigan at Ohio State: This is THE Game of the Week in not only the Big 10 but in college football this Thanksgiving Weekend. No. 3 Michigan takes on No. 2 Ohio State in what should be a classic encounter. The Wolverines have one of the best defenses in the nation and that unit will get its biggest test of the season. The Michigan defense allows just 11.2 points per game, while the Ohio State offense averages an eye-opening 46.8 points per game. The Buckeyes defense isn't too shabby either, allowing just 15.6 points per game. OSU has the edge at quarterback in C.J. Stroud (2,750 yards, 34 TDs) and star wide receiver Marvin Harrison Jr., (60 receptions, 969 yards, 11 TDs), the son of Pro Football Hall of Famer Marvin Harrison. Fellow wide out Emeka Egbuka (51 receptions, 832 yards, 8 TDs) can also make big plays, while the Buckeyes also have two capable runners in TreVeyon Henderson (552 yards, 6 TDs) and Miyan Williams (783 yards, 13 TDs). Michigan has a capable QB in J.J. McCarthy (1,744 yards, 14 TDs) and a stud runner in Blake Carum (1,349 yards, 17 TDs). Look for Michigan to give Carum plenty of work and if he finds success, the Wolverines will look to focus on the running game to keep Stroud off of the field. But even if OSU's offensive snaps are limited, Stroud and Co. can score from anywhere at any time. This will be a competitive game, but the Buckeyes just have too many offensive weapons and that unit will wear down a very good UM defense come the fourth quarter. My pick, Ohio State 31, Michigan 23

NFL

Buffalo at Detroit: The Thanksgiving triple header kicks off in Detroit as the Bills visit the Lions. Maybe it's a bit early to pencil in the Bills as the AFC rep in the Super Bowl. Earlier this season, Buffalo looked like the team to beat in the AFC, but they dropped two straight heading into last week's game against Cleveland. QB Josh Allen (2,733 yards, 20 TDs/476 rushing yards, 4 TDs) has been dealing with an elbow injury on his passing arm.

He played through it in the loss to Minnesota two weeks ago, but threw two picks and had one fumble. He needs to do a better job of protecting the ball if the Bills are going to contend for the AFC title. Look for running back Devin Singletary (394 yards, 2 TDs) and wide receiver Stefon Diggs (72 receptions, 985 yards, 7 TDs) to have big days against a bad Detroit defense. The Lions do have a decent offense led by QB Jared Goff (2,277 yards, 15 TDs), running back Jamaal Williams (604 yards, 9 TDs) and wide receiver Amon-Ra St. Brown (49 receptions, 518 yards, 3 TDs). The Lions always play well on Thanksgiving Day and I think they give the Bills a game, but look for Allen to be the difference maker come Turkey Day. My pick, Buffalo 33, Detroit 17

New York Giants at Dallas: The Cowboys return home after playing the last two weeks on the road and they had better hope for some home cooking against a Giants team that has been one of the surprise teams this season. Two weeks ago, the Giants took care of the Texans, 24-16 at home as running back Saquon Barkley (931 yards, 6 TDs) rushed for more than 150 yards. QB Daniel Jones (1,596 yards, 8 TDs/387 rushing yards, 3 TDs) has played much better this year and takes what defenses give him. The Dallas defense is still having issues stopping the run and if they don't improve in that area, Barkley could be in for another big day. In their first meeting on Sept. 26, Dallas sacked Jones five times and intercepted him once. The Cowboys will need another such effort if they hope to subdue the Giants on Thanksgiving Day. On offense, Dak Prescott (856 yards, 6 TDs) needs to continue to make plays downfield to CeeDee Lamb (53 receptions, 706 yards, 5 TDs) and let Tony Pollard (621 yards, 6 TDs) and Ezekiel Elliott (443 yards, 4 TDs) handle things on the ground. And if they take the lead, they need to build on it, something they didn't do two weeks ago in their 31-298 overtime loss at Green Bay. Look for Dallas to be more focused from here until the end of the season because they know there is little room for error from here on out. My pick, Dallas 26, New York Giants 18

Cincinnati at Cleveland: An in-state battle in the AFC North has the Bengals visiting the Browns on Sunday. The Bengals appear to be rounding into form and should battle Baltimore for the division title down the stretch, while the Browns are waiting for Deshaun Watson to take over at QB in Week 11 against the Texans. Look for Joe Burrow (2,535 yards, 18 TDs), running back Joe Mixon (588 yards, 6 TDs) and Tee Higgins (41 receptions, 564 yards, 3 TDs) to have a big day against a porous Browns defense. If superstar wide receiver Ja'Marr Chase returns from a hip injury, Cleveland could be in for a long day. The Browns will need a big day from running back Nick Chubb (904 yards, 11 TDs), but he won't be enough to hold off the surging Bengals. My pick, Cincinnati 33, Cleveland 20

Houston at Miami: This one could get ugly, and ugly early. The Texans defense could be in for a long afternoon in South Florida at Dolphins QB Tua Tagovailoa (2,265 yards, 18 TDs) and wide receivers Tyreek Hill (81 receptions, 1,148 yards, 4 TDs) and Jaylen Waddle (51 receptions, 878 yards, 6 TDs) should have a field day against a suspect Houston secondary. The Dolphins are starting to play better on defense and that's bad news for Texans QB Davis Mills (1,975 yards, 11 TDs/9 interceptions) and running back Dameon Pierce (772 yards, 3 TDs). This one should be over by halftime. My pick, Miami 38, Houston 16

Green Bay at Philadelphia: The Packers visit Philly on Sunday Night Football hoping their comeback from behind 31-28 OT win over Dallas two weeks ago is the spark they've been looking for to make a late-season playoff run. QB Aaron Rodgers (2,315 yards, 17 TDs) looked like his old self in the Dallas game throwing for 224 yards and three TDs. The Dallas game was a coming out party for rookie WR Christian Watson, who hauled in seven catches for 104 yards and three TDs against the Cowboys. GB will need a big game from running back Aaron Jones (733 yards, 2 TDs) if they hope to upset the Eagles and QB Jalen Hurts (2,217 passing yards, 14 TDs/354 rushing yards, 4 TDs). Hurts has a load of talent on offense with running back Miles Sanders (710 yards, 6 TDs, wide receivers A.J. Brown (44 receptions, 725 yards, 6 TDs), Devonta Smith (46 receptions, 481 yards, 3 TDs) and tight end Dallas Goedert (43 receptions, 544 yards, 3 TDs). While the Eagles are loaded on offense, they have some holes on defense, namely stopping the run (sound familiar, Cowboy fans?). If the Packers can get Jones and A.J. Dillon rolling early, that could set up the play-action pass for Rodgers. I think the OT win over Dallas gave the Packers a spark to finish strong, so look for them to give the Eagles all they can handle on Sunday night. My pick, Philadelphia 31, Green Bay 27

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NS MUSTANGS DEFEAT DICKINSON GATORS 43-34; ADVANCE IN REGIONAL SEMI-FINAL PLAYOFFS,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the Cougars home field advantage. If the Mustang Nation fans turns out it could take away the Cougar advantage as it has before in playoff contests.

The Mustangs run defense and rushing the quarterback once again played a major role in preserving their undefeated perfect 12-0 record. At halftime it was a close game separated by a NS Carlos Dominguez 3 point field goal, NS 24 – D 21.

The Gators best weapon was attacking NS's pass defense. Gators quarterback John Soloman threw for three touchdowns (TD's) but by game's end they came up 9 points short.

Mustang's defensive back Jayven Anderson once again stole another offensive player's ball making the game's first points. In Anderson's last 5 games he's taken the opposing offense's ball away, four by interceptions, this time he scooped up the ball away from the Gator player and ran it in for 6 points.

Kay's offense was mixing things up by using Evan Jackson as quarterback (QB) but then some plays changing to David Amador for QB. This proved confusing to the Gators. Running backs were very productive, Rashaad Johnson, averaged 13 yds a carry, he had 21 runs for 158 yds and 2 TD's. D'Andrea Hardeman averaged 10.5 yards a carry, running 15 times for 141 yds and 2 TD's.

Mustangs QB Evan Jackson completed 55 percent of his passé (7-13) for 143 yds, hitting David Amador for 6 completions and a TD. Christopher Barnes and Kaleb Thomas caught passes and Carlos Dominguez kicked the extra points.

Cinco Ranch was barely able to advance to the regional semifinals. This is their second consecutive season to make the regionals. To advance they won over Cy-Fair 13-10 on a 45-yard field goal as time expired. They were tied 3-3 for three quarters in a low scoring defensive game. Linda Jamail, statistician.

Scoring by quarter:					
	1	2	3	4	Final
NS	14	10	13	6	43
D.	14	7	7	6	34



Mustang Coach Jon Kay engaging with his players as he does throughout the game. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



#8 Davis Amador catches QB Evan Jackson's 42 yard pass for a Mustang score. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



#34 Rashaad Johnson gallops 55 yds for a NS score, one of his 2 TD's. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



#80 Carlos Dominguez boots 30 yd field goal to give Mustangs a halftime lead 24 - 21. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



Mustangs Game Team Captains before game heading to coin toss. L to R: #8-David Amador, #2-Christopher Barnes, #10-Jarvon Coles and #7-Jayven Anderson. (Photo by Linda Jamail)

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HARRIS COUNTY WATER CONTROL AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1

TO THE RESIDENTS OF HARRIS COUNTY WATER CONTROL AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 51.129 of the Texas Water Code, that there has been a change in the Ordinance Adopting Amended Rates and Fees for Service and Rules and Regulations; Establishing Certain Other Policies and Providing Penalties and Violations Thereof (the "Rate Ordinance") for Harris County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 (the "District"). The Rate Ordinance contains definitions of terms, water and sewer rates, rules and regulations covering water and sewer service and enforcement provisions of the District.

The District's Rate Ordinance has been amended to require property within the District to use District water and sanitary sewer services unless otherwise approved by the Board of Directors of the District. A violation of the District's rules and regulations will subject the violator to a penalty.

The entire Rate Ordinance is on file at the principal office of the District, 125 San Jacinto, Highlands, Harris County, Texas 77562, where it may be read by any interested person. The Rate Ordinance was adopted on November 15, 2022, and the rules and regulations contained therein are effective and enforceable five days following publication of the notice required by Section 51.129 of the Texas Water Code.

46-2t

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Channelview ISD Property Foreclosure Auction;

December 6, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.;

Bayou City Event Center at 9401 Knight Rd, Houston, TX 77045;

Cause Number 2007-63987;

TRACT 1: LT 3 BLK 11 SAN JACINTO RIVER ESTATES 1;

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BARBERS HILL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT'S STATE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING

Barbers Hill ISD will hold a public meeting at 6:30 p.m., Monday, December 12, 2022 In the J. Justin Jenson Conference Room, 9600 Eagle Drive, Mont Belvieu, TX.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Barbers Hill ISD's rating on the State's financial accountability system.

45-2t

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THANKSGIVING



Enjoying Thanksgiving Leftovers Is Easy as Pie

What's the best thing about Thanksgiving? I know we're supposed to say it's friends and loved ones gathered around the table groaning with traditional food and all the blessings and thankfulness. Yadda, yadda, yadda. Just admit it: It's the leftovers. What we're thankful for is knowing that for the rest of the long weekend, we can stand in front of our open fridge with nothing but a plate and a fork and come away with the makings of a gastronomic masterpiece.

So, what if we could buy an extra ingredient while doing our last-minute shopping that will transform these anticipated leftovers and make them even better? Something beyond the usual soup and sandwich. Perhaps pie dough or puff pastry. Try these tasty takes on leftovers.

THANKSGIVING HAND PIES

Yield: 12 mini pies
Time: 45 minutes

One package of two 9-inch pie crusts, or homemade equivalent
1/2 cup diced turkey
1/2 cup mashed potatoes
1/2 cup stuffing
1/4 cup sweet potatoes or carrots
1/4 cup cranberry sauce
One egg
Gravy for dipping, optional (but why wouldn't you?)

Preheat oven to 375 F. Cover a baking sheet with parchment paper. Thinly roll out the pie dough and cut into desired size circles. I use a 4-inch cookie cutter.

Using a teaspoon measure, place a small amount of each ingredient on one half of the circle, being sure to leave about a quarter-inch clear on the outer edges.

Fold each dough circle over to cover the filling, pressing around the edges with your finger, letting out as much air as possible. Use the tines of a fork to seal the edges. Place on baking sheet.

Whisk the egg in a small bowl with a teaspoon of water, and brush the tops of the pies with the egg wash. Poke the top with a fork to vent steam.

Bake for 30 minutes or until crust is golden and irresistible. Serve with gravy for dipping.

PERSONAL THANKSGIVING POT PIES

Yield: 6 pies
Time: 50 minutes

1 tablespoon butter
1 medium onion, diced
1 teaspoon poultry seasoning
1/4 cup all-purpose flour
2 cups whole milk
2 cups cooked turkey, diced
2 cups assorted leftover Thanksgiving veggies
1 sheet frozen puff pastry (from a 17.3-ounce package), thawed
1 egg

Preheat oven to 375 F. Grease six (12-ounce) ramekins or bowls, place on a rimmed baking sheet.

Heat butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Add onion and cook, stirring occasionally, until tender, 5 to 7 minutes. Add poultry seasoning



You know that perfect Thanksgiving bite where you load up your fork with turkey, potatoes, stuffing and cranberry? Well, I think it's even better when it's wrapped in a buttery, flaky crust.

Lifestyle expert Patti Diamond is the penny-pinching, party-planning, recipe developer and content creator of the website "Divas On A Dime — Where Frugal, Meets Fabulous!" Visit Patti at www.divasonadime.com and join the conversation on Facebook at [DivasOnADimeDotCom](https://www.facebook.com/DivasOnADimeDotCom). Email Patti at divapatti@divasonadime.com

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Knockout Pumpkin Pie Spice

Use the basic ratios below, but don't be afraid to lighten up one or go heavy on any of the supporting players. As long as the cinnamon base remains stable, you'll have a spice mix to fall for!

- 3 tablespoons cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1 teaspoon allspice

Mix dry ingredients and store in an airtight jar.

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TURKEY COOKING TIMES



Number of pounds	Stuffed	Unstuffed
8-12	3 to 3.5 hours	2.75 to 3 hours
12-14	3.5 to 4 hours	3 to 3.75 hours
14-18	4 to 4.25 hours	3.75 to 4.25 hours
18-20	4.25 to 4.75 hours	4.25 to 4.5 hours
20-24	4.75 to 5.25 hours	4.5 to 5 hours
24-30	5.25 to 6.25 hours	5 to 5.25 hours

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We can't wait for the pumpkin pie...

...and the family football game.

Kids: color stuff in!

Newspaper Fun!

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Happy Thanksgiving, Everyone!

Hey little guy! Some day you will have my job hosting Thanksgiving. So, **Let's Talk Turkey!** Have you ever heard people say that phrase? They mean that they want to talk in a plain way or get down to business.

Gobble?

Wow! That looks delicious.

Yum!

Time to talk turkey! Read the clues to fill in the puzzle with everything "turkey":

- The turkey comes from the _____ of North America.
- In a year, a female turkey can lay between 80-100 _____ – about 1,000 per lifetime.
- Turkey eggs are brown and speckled. They are _____ than chicken eggs.
- A baby turkey is called a _____.
- Female turkeys are called _____.
- Male turkeys are called _____.
- Turkeys sometimes sleep in _____.
- Only wild turkeys can _____. They travel short distances, up to 55 miles per hour!
- If you scare a turkey, it can _____ up to 20 miles per hour.
- Male turkeys can _____ to 4 feet long, and females to 3 feet long (including tail).
- Wild turkeys eat plants and _____: nuts, seeds, flowers, ants, grasshoppers, small frogs and lizards.
- In diaries describing the Pilgrims' "Thanksgiving," it doesn't say that the Pilgrims and Indians ate _____, but only "wild fowl."
- Since the Wampanoag People – the Native Americans who ate the harvest _____ with the Pilgrims – ate wild turkey, it is thought that they introduced it to the Pilgrims.
- Today, it is thought that at least 90% of families enjoy turkey for their _____ dinner.
- The average wild turkey _____ about 12 pounds while a turkey sold in the supermarket averages about 15 pounds.

Fill in the blanks to spell the 3 sisters:

Potatoes came from the Americas too.

Thanksgiving eggs turkey 14 larger grow 3 2 hens 4 poult 15 13 trees feast toms run forests 11 fly animals 12 9 6 5 10 8 7 weighs

Over the river and through the woods to Grandmother's House we go...

Hey, are those bouncing cranberries singing?

Native Americans showed the Pilgrims how to grow the 3 sisters:

- __ q u a __ h
- co _ n and
- __ ea _ s

Print out free puzzles: **Native American Tribes, Counting Fun, Our National Parks** bookmark puzzlers, and the new reading log and certificate set @ www.readingclubfun.com

Gobbling Pi(e)!

Have you ever heard of Pi? I don't mean the apple or pumpkin kind! I'm talking about the **Pi** used in math. Pi is a **number**. It's the number you get when you divide the "line around" the outside of a circle by the "line going across" the middle point of the circle. Pi is the same for every circle!

Pi is the number 3.14159...the numbers to the right side of the decimal point never end – they go on and on forever. Even supercomputers have not found the last number in Pi.

This "pie chart" shows the parts used to find "Pi."

We are the pumpkins used **for** pies!

Why do people care about Pi? It can tell you the area of a circle or the volume of a sphere (basketballs and soccer balls are spheres). Why should you have to learn about Pi? Because Pi is used in the math people use to design or build everyday things we need, such as machines.

Read these statements to learn how Pi helps us. Then fill in the puzzle with the words in bold print:

- Architects use Pi to design patterns like curves and **arches** in houses and buildings.
- Scientists** use Pi to learn how molecules work in our body, which helps them design new medicines.
- Designers use it to make the curves in the **print** you are reading on this page!
- Engineers** use it to design every part of a bridge: arches, beams, wires.
- Parts of a **car** – steering wheel, engine belts, tires and gears – are designed using Pi.
- When an **airplane** travels around the earth it is on the path of an arc. The path must be figured out in order to know how much fuel the plane will need.
- The **computer** program an artist uses to create 3-D drawings and artwork will use Pi.
- TVs and **radios** are designed using Pi to let them receive programs over the air.
- Sports stadiums and their **domes** were figured out and built using math with Pi!
- Your bicycle tires and **gears** were designed using math that has Pi in it.

WE'VE REACHED NEW HEIGHTS

Right Here in Baytown

New Patient Care Tower
NOW OPEN



Leading Medicine — Close to Home

At Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital, we are dedicated to providing Baytown and surrounding communities with high-quality care, advanced treatments and an outstanding patient experience. As part of that commitment, we are excited to announce the opening of our new state-of-the-art, five-story patient tower, Unity Tower. The facility will expand capacity and services to the Baytown area and embodies our continued pledge to deliver unparalleled health care to your neighborhood.

We are proud to offer:

- **A full spectrum of health care services:** Primary, specialty, emergency and women's care to treat patients from head to toe, no matter the condition
- **World-class physicians and nurses:** A skilled and compassionate team of experts who work together to provide outstanding, personalized care
- **Advanced imaging and technology:** A hospital-of-the-future design featuring the latest lifesaving tools and equipment to enhance surgical precision and speed patient recovery
- **Thoughtful patient amenities:** Private patient rooms with Wi-Fi-connected tablets, room service with online meal ordering, and comfortable waiting rooms for visitors and loved ones

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