



SANTA rides on the Channelview Fire Department Fire Engine in last year's Parade.

# NORTH CHANNEL ★ STAR

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Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Cloverleaf, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City  
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## CHANNEL CURRENTS

### Jacinto City Christmas Parade Saturday Dec. 3

Traditional Christmas Parade down Market Street, and Tree Lighting at the Town Center. Galena Park Yellowjackets High School Choir will sing Holiday songs.

### Channelview Fire Dept. Toy Drive Sat. Dec. 3

Channelview Fire Department will hold their Annual Community Toy Drive on December 3, 2021 from 10:00am to 1:00pm at the Walmart Parking Lot, corner of Wallisville Road and Beltway 8. "EVERY CHILD DESERVES A CHRISTMAS"

You are invited to Donate a NEW Unwrapped Toy, or Donate a Gift Card, or Donate Money.

### EPA Meeting on Waste Pits Dec. 5

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.

### Candlelight Remembrance Service Dec. 4

Carter-Conley's Annual Candlelight Remembrance Service, Sunday Dec. 4 at 3:00 pm. In person at 13701 Corpus Christi Street, Channelview, or Live Streamed. See the website or Facebook page for access. The Remembrance Tree will be in the lobby of the Funeral Home from Nov. 28, 2022 through Jan. 2, 2023. You are invited to come and leave a remembrance hanging on the tree. More information, 713-455-5100.

### NCA Chamber Open House Tuesday Dec. 13

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.

## Holiday Season opens with Feasts, Parade

By Gilbert Hoffman

Houston got into the Holiday mood starting on Thanksgiving day, with a Super Feast at the George R. Brown Convention Center, serving almost 20,000 a tasty Thanksgiving dinner, and a festive, colorful Parade in downtown Houston.

The Parade continued in spite of a light rain that came and stopped intermittently. Marching band members and riders on floats and horseback simply donned plastic ponchos and kept going. "Don't Rain on my Parade" was the theme, it seemed.

The Super Feast is in its 44th year, and served over 35,000 meals, to both in-person sit-down diners, and drive-up patrons. Each received a food package with about 60 to 80 pounds of various types of foods, including a turkey, chicken or ham, enough for a family for about a week. The organizer of the Super Feast is the City Wide Club of Houston. They



Houston Thanksgiving Day Parade stretched for 20 blocks through downtown.



Super Feast served over 20,000 diners at George R. Brown Convention Center



Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia loading a turkey into an auto trunk.

serve these meals twice a year, on Thanksgiving Day and the day before Christmas, to everyone who comes to the Convention Center.

The Thanksgiving Day Parade is sponsored by H-E-B, and is in its 73rd year. It traverses over 20 city blocks, and features elaborate floats, colorful marching bands and drill and dance teams, balloon figures, horse and wagon units, and much more. Several hundred thousands spectators line the streets to see the spectacle, as well as thousands more watching TV. The Grand Marshal of the Parade this year is Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson. Participating from Aldine was the Carver HS Dance Company.

In the spirit of the Holiday Season, a number of Turkey giveaways occurred through our communities. Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia gave away over 1000 turkeys at a dozen sites, as did Judge Joe

Continued on Page 5

## Mustangs breeze into Quarterfinals over Cougars

### North Shore 49 – Cinco Ranch 21

By Allan Jamail

Katy, Texas – Friday, November 25, 2022 @ 2:30 pm @ the Jack Rhodes Memorial Stadium the home of the Cinco Ranch Cougars the Mustangs won the District 6A Division I Regional playoff game 49-21.

In the first quarter North Shore's (NS) Coach Jon Kay's Eastside Boys played like they ate too much turkey the Thanksgiving Day before. Cougars led them 14-7 at one point. Eventually NS juiced up and gave their opponent some serious digestion, leaving the rain soaked field at halftime 28-14.

The entire second half more rain came down;



LEFT: #34 NS's Rashaad Johnson bulldozes over Cougar defender for a TD. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

RIGHT: Eastside Boys gang tackle Cougar ball carrier, #95 Cortney Brooks, #19 Dillon Dixon, #11 Marlon Germany & #7 Jayven Anderson. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

LEFT: #28 D'Andrea Hardeman glides across goal on a 25 yd Evan Jackson pass. (Photo by Linda Jamail)

RIGHT: NS defensive lineman #93 Ry' Nichols sacks Cougar QB #12 Gavin Rutherford. (Photo by Linda Jamail)



sometimes so much it was difficult to get photos.

The Mustangs defense proved once again to be too much (see defense photos) for their opponents. The swarming defense made tackles behind the line of scrimmage on the Cougars running backs and quarterback (QB). The Cougars only hope to score was in the air, their running game was virtually shut down. The hard rushing NS pass defense kept the Cougars QB running in circles... many times he threw the ball away to prevent a sack or setback.

North Shore's offense made seven touchdowns (TD's) and was led by Evan Jackson who passed for three TD's. TD's were

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

## EPA meeting Dec. 5 to review Waste Pits status

HIGHLANDS – The federal EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) will hold a community meeting on Monday night, Dec. 5 to inform the public about current status of remediation work at the San Jacinto River Waste Pits north and south sites. The public will have an opportunity to ask questions and receive more information, according to Jeanetta Coats of the EPA.

The meeting will be led by EPA Remediation Project Manager Lauren Poulos and other EPA staff members.

Coats said the work involves excavation and off-site disposal of dioxin-containing wastes from the portion of the site known as the Southern Impoundment, an area of about 20 acres on a small



SIGNS OF PROGRESS: Contractors have positioned excavators, storage trailers, and offices on the site of the Waste Pits Southern impoundment prior to start of actual removal of the toxic waste.

peninsula extending just south of Interstate 10.

EPA Regional Administrator Dr. Earthea Nance said "By starting construction on the remedy for the Southern Impoundment, we are taking the first

steps to ensuring these wastes are no longer a threat to the surrounding communities."

EPA issued a Unilateral Administrative Order to

Continued on Page 5

## Pct. 2 dedicates Vietnam Fallen Warriors Monument



Veterans and City and County officials were present at the Ribbon Cutting for the new Vietnam Fallen Warriors Monument on Tidwell Road.

Harris County – Thursday, November 10th, 2022, at 10:30 a.m., Vietnam Combat Veterans Association unveiled the Vietnam Fallen Warriors Monument at Veterans Memori-

al Park. The monument, a four-year project, honors the 544 service members who died in the Vietnam War from the Houston area. Each of their names is inscribed on this monu-

ment. The total cost of the project was \$300,000 and was raised by foundations, VWF, through fundraisers, and grassroot supporters.

Continued on Page 5



## GALENA PARK ISD NEWS

# Galena Park ISD Shares Hope for the Holidays

Houston, TX: “Our hope is that we support as many families as we can this holiday season and many more to come,” was the sentiment shared by Dr. John Moore, Superintendent of Galena Park ISD schools. Those sentiments were shared as all of Galena Park ISD’s school counselors gathered to pick up Thanksgiving boxes filled with HEB turkey vouchers, traditional accompanying side items, and love. East Harris County Empowerment Council partnered with HEB to provide the turkey vouchers, and Galena Park ISD employees donated the side items.

School counselors throughout the district worked with their families to pre-register for a box; at the same time,

GPISD employees began to donate needed side items. All donations were placed in boxes GPISD students decorated to be picked up by school counselors and delivered to their respective families. Christina Ally, Director of Community Impact for East Harris County Empowerment Council, ended with, “Today alone, nearly 200 families will know that partnerships [Galena Park ISD and East Harris County Empowerment Council] work!”

Thank you, Galena Park ISD and East Harris County Empowerment Council, for making Galena Park ISD A Great Place To Be!

Story Credit: Dr. Tommie L. Smith  
Photo Credit: Christopher Gause



Pictured: Thanksgiving boxes; GPISD school counselors and East Harris County Empowerment Council; and GPISD employee Fernando Rueda loading boxes into vehicles

# GPISD Recognized Top Middle School ESL Teachers in Texas

Houston, TX: At the November 14<sup>th</sup> Board of Trustees Meeting, Galena Park ISD recognized Rose Cunanan and Linda Ford, from North Shore Middle School, for being recognized by Summit K-12 as top Middle School ESL Teachers in Texas. Rose Cunanan and Linda Ford guided students to achieve substantial growth on their English Language Proficiency Assessment. They helped each of their English learner students reach their full potential despite

the adversity they faced during the last two years. Both, Cunanan and Ford, were recognized by Summit K-12 at this year’s TABE Conference on October 14, 2022.

Congratulations to each of you on such a great accomplishment and distinguishing yourselves among other Texas teachers utilizing the Summit K-12 Connect to Literacy program.

Story Credit: Dr. Tommie L. Smith  
Photo Credit: Christopher Gause



Pictured: GPISD Board Trustee, Ramon Garza; ESL LOTE Program Director, Michelle Smith; ESL Teacher, Rose Cunanan; ESL Teacher, Linda Ford; North Shore Middle School Principal, Dr. Christopher Eckford; and Superintendent of Schools, Dr. John Moore

## Operation Warm at WAES

Houston, TX: Woodland Acres Elementary School hosted Operation Warm. The school was chosen by Operation Warm to receive winter coats for every student—that’s over 400 students! FedEx Cares sponsored the event, and each Woodland Acres Elementary School Wildcat received a brand-new coat and a bag of gifts. Operation Warm is a national nonprofit that brings brand-new, high-quality coats to children in need. Volunteers compassionately assisted each student to ensure the student’s desired selection fit appropriately and provided them with warmth. Sherivale Cheng Bish, Director of FedEx Cares, shared,

“It was our utmost pleasure to provide the winter coats and toys for your school last Friday. What a blessed moment indeed, and all of the never-ending smiles that will last a lifetime! FedEx really cares for our community.”

Thank you to Operation Warm and FedEx Cares for the gift of warmth, hope, and confidence to over 400 students at Woodland Acres Elementary School!

Pictured: FedEx Cares volunteers as they facilitated the selection and fit of coats for each student

Story Credit: Dr. Tommie L. Smith  
Photo Credit: Christopher Gause



Pictured: FedEx Cares volunteers as they facilitated the selection and fit of coats for each student (Photo Credit: Christopher Gause)

## CHANNELVIEW ISD NEWS

# Save The Children Awards Channelview ISD \$25,000 Food Grant to Supplement Food Insecurity in Area

Channelview, TX — October 26, 2022: The Department of Communications secured a \$25,000 Save The Children food grant to go towards food insecurity projects in Channelview, TX.

Utilization of this grant is for bulk purchases of food by the school district to be given away at mass community events the district hosts in lieu of the lack of grocers in the area. The grant allows for the purchase of produce and other food items to then be distributed in boxes to CISD families. These packages are expected to be enough ailment to supplement a family of four for a week.

According to the Houston Food Bank, around 1 million people in Southeast Texas are considered food insecure – meaning they have limited or uncertain access to adequate food.

“Hunger is evident around East Harris County,” said CISD Director of Nutrition Tanya Edwards. “I am proud of the work my team and I are doing everyday to provide food to kids around the district.”

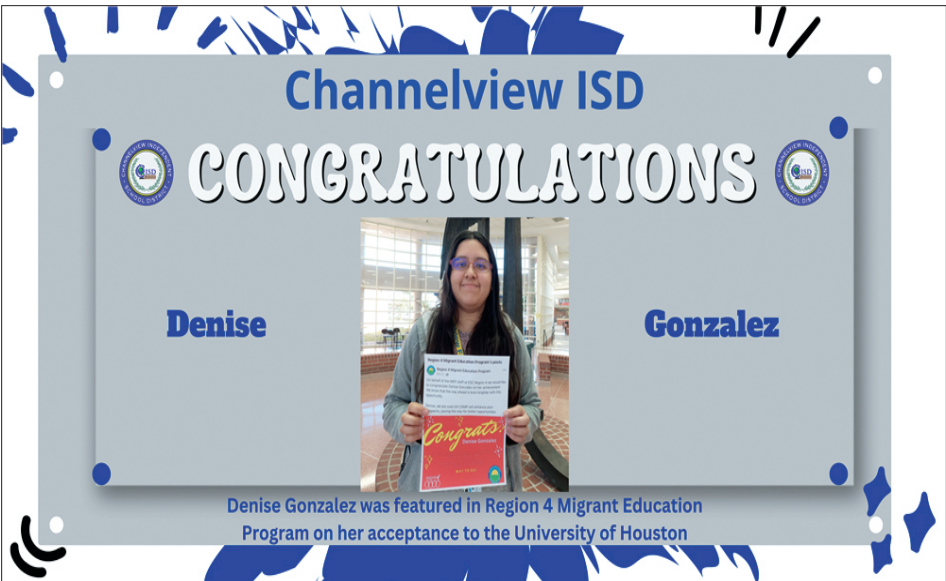
The Conduent Healthy Communities Institute – a 3rd party healthcare data management organization – deter-

mined that Channelview, TX (77530, 77049) is in the 66th percentile of need to address food insecurity in Harris County. This determination is funded by weighted scores of socio-economic factors Channelview residents fall under such as Medicaid insurance enrollment, perceived health status, household expenditures, household income, and single-parent headed households. This data is then correlated with the amount of Channelview residents on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to reach a Food Insecurity Index (FII) value. The higher the value, the greater the need to address the lack of access to food.

“This grant will help us to ensure that our kids do not go hungry at school and at home,” said CISD Superintendent Dr. Tory C. Hill. “We do not stop at just helping kids, families also play an important role in this community. They too, should not worry where their next meal is coming from.”

Lila Hollin  
Executive Director of Communications  
Channelview Independent School District

# Congratulations to Our Student Denise Gonzalez on her Acceptance to the University of Houston



Check us on the go at  
[www.starcouriernews.com](http://www.starcouriernews.com)  
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CHARLOTTE'S WEB

By Charlotte Jackson



HOPE



For parents who have lost a child, for children who have lost a sibling or for students who have lost a classmate, the holidays can be a season of mixed emotions. Yet, rarely do those emotions include much happiness or joy. That is unless you have experienced the Candlelight Remembrance Ceremony held at San Jacinto College North at the Christmas Box Memorial Garden. This annual event hosted by Hearts Of Parent Endure, is an opportunity for family and friends to gather and celebrate their loved ones who have left too soon. This annual event is held on December 6 at 7 p.m. at the college as well as at over one hundred other locations around the world.

It is a time when the names are mentioned, and memories are shared. Of the original nine children listed on the base of the statue, I knew eight of the young people. Of the many names which were added to pavers at the base of the statue as well as the stories shared over the years, there are too many familiar to me.

A young student who drowned in drainage ditch. A young girl who passed away due to cancer. A young man who was killed while deployed in the Army. A young boy who lived with Autism drowned the first night his parents left him with a caregiver. A young man who could not face what the future held and died by suicide. A precious young mother running from domestic abuse who ran into oncoming traffic and was killed. Two brothers lost to a drive-by shooting. Another young mother killed by the father of her five children. The pain is still as fresh when the parents share their child's name as it was the day their child died. Yet amid their pain and sorrow, counseling, grief support groups and many prayers have helped in various ways.

The original eight families chose the college as a place to donate the statue, which is based on a book by Richard Paul Evans, as it was a place they could come to sit and remember their children other than a cemetery. Over the years, parents as well as others have stopped by to meditate and often in the background, they can hear activity on the college campus as well as at the Galena Park ISD Athletic Complex just yards to the east.

The week of the dedication of the statue, it had rained daily yet the parents were determined to have the dedication outdoors even if a tent was needed. They had invited the author of the book to attend and just as the college bells struck one o'clock, it was as if their prayers were heard. There was a beautiful rainbow appearing in the sky. It was a sign that even amid their grief, they live with the blessed hope of seeing their loved ones again at the end of their lives.

If you have never experienced this event, especially if you have lost a young person in your life, please make plans to attend. The event is on December 6 at 7 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Glenda at 281.685.4273, as all are welcome.

NS Mustangs advance to Quarterfinals,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

made by David Amador (1), Rashaad Johnson (2), Terrence Guillory (2), and D'Andrea Hardeman (2). Carlos Dominguez kicked the 7 extra points, Jonathan Soto did the kickoffs.

If Coach Kay cannot get his team to stop their penalties they may lose this next game. They had 8 penalties for 80 yds, two for 15 yds; Cougars had one for 5 yds. Linda Jamail, Statistician & photographer.

North Shore, Atascocita set for rematch: North Shore and Atascocita have seemingly been on a collision course since their regular-season meeting, a game won 16-13 by the Mustangs. North Shore (13wins-0). Atascocita (11-2), meanwhile, pulled away late for a 46-24 win against Ridge Point. They will play a rematch in the Regional Quarterfinals' this Friday at 7 pm at Randall Reed Stadium in New Caney, Texas.

Scoring by quarter:					
	1	2	3	4	Final
NS	14	14	7	14	49
CR	14	0	7	0	21



#23 Mustang's defense back Jaylon Joseph chases down Cougar QB Rutherford for a sack. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



Mustangs defensive players #99 Elijah Fields & # 43 Nicolas Goins crush CR QB #12 Gavin Rutherford (Photo by Allan Jamail)



NS's Special Teams kickoff defenders #28 D'Andrea Hardeman & #38 Julian Johnson tackle Cougar kickoff returner #9 Yetxiel Perez Gilbes for a no gain runback. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

Suspect Arrested, Charged in Fatal Shooting at 9101 Clinton Drive

Charges have been filed against a suspect arrested in the fatal shooting of a man at 9101 Clinton Drive about 9:20 a.m. on Saturday (October 29).

The suspect, Anthony Elijah Edwards, 25, is charged with murder in the 179th State District Court. He is accused in the death of Dequan M. Landry, 23.

A booking photo of Edwards is attached to this news release.

HPD Homicide Division Detectives K. Heaverlo and A. Dudley reported:

HPD patrol officers responded to a request for assistance from Houston Fire Department paramedics in a business parking lot at the above address. Upon arrival, officers found Mr. Landry



Anthony Elijah Edwards

inside a vehicle that was still running. He had suffered multiple gunshot wounds and was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Further investigation identified Edwards as a suspect in this case. He was arrested on Tuesday (Nov. 1) and subsequently charged.

ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim: “How to Spot a Fake Rolex with Weight and Materials”

As a general rule of thumb, a real Rolex will almost always weigh more than a counterfeit. Therefore, simply feeling for the weight of a Rolex watch is an easy enough tip for how to spot a fake Rolex. This is because authentic Rolex watches are crafted from the highest-grade materials.

More modern Rolex timepieces are made of such materials like 904L stainless steel, 18k gold, or 950 platinum. Some vintage Rolex watches are made from 9k gold, 14k gold, gold shell, and 316L stainless steel before Rolex switched over to using 904L steel.

That being said, most imitation Rolexes are made with cheaper materials – in both cost *and* quality – and tend to be comparatively more lightweight, less sturdy, and in shoddier condition than genuine Rolex watches.



Something else to consider is which material the Rolex model in question is made of. For instance, some Rolex watches like the Milgauss, Explorer, Explorer II, and Deepsea have only ever been made in stainless steel. Knowing this, you can tell that any of these models made in any other material like gold, platinum, or any two-tone combination of materials is indeed a replica.

By the same token, watches from Rolex's Day-Date collection are made exclusively with precious metals like 18k gold or platinum, and any Day-Date you see made with other materials can be determined a fake.

Furthermore, the new rubber Rolex Oysterflex bracelet is only ever fitted to yellow, white, or rose gold Rolex watches. Accordingly, if you ever find an Oysterflex bracelet fitted on a steel, platinum, or two-tone Rolex, you can be sure that it's not authentic.

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

Thank you for reading the “Ask Diamond Jim” column and for supporting the North Channel Star Newspaper!

Diamond Jim is a master jeweler, diamond dealer and precious metals broker. Pineforest Jewelry has been a proud member of the Independent Jewelers Organization (IJO) and the Retail Jewelers Organization (RJO) for many years. See more at: [www.pineforestjewelry.com](http://www.pineforestjewelry.com).

If you have questions pertaining to jewelry, watches, diamonds, precious stones, precious metals, and other questions related to the jewelry industry, email [jmills@pineforestjewelry.com](mailto:jmills@pineforestjewelry.com).

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OPINION PAGE

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OPINION

By Gus Bova

Texas Observer Magazine

# Beto's Lost Year

"I don't know what my role or yours will be going forward," said the Texas Dems' political star, after \$70 million bought a bracing defeat.

by Gus Bova, Texas Observer magazine

On Tuesday night, once it was clear his bid for Texas governor had been soundly defeated, Democrat Beto O'Rourke bounded up to address what one reporter called a "small, energetic crowd" in his hometown of El Paso. He flashed his toothy grin; he sported his trademark light-blue button-up. Yet his buoyant demeanor contrasted with seemingly spontaneous lines that came off profoundly sad.

"This may be one of the last times I get to talk in front of you all," he said, prompting a chorus of dismay from the crowd. He spoke of shifting his focus to helping his mom fight through cancer. He jested that his wife, Amy, might be the next O'Rourke to run for office—to which she indicated "No." Finally, he detailed the vision that propelled his year-long crusade to be Texas' top executive: A state "where every woman makes her own decisions about her own body," where "children don't have to fear going to school and being gunned down in their classroom," and where people are "free enough and healthy enough" to fulfill their potential.

"Well, that still is the Texas that I want to live in, that is the dream that I ... will continue to pursue," he said. "I don't know what form that will take—I don't know what my role or yours will be going forward—but I'm in this fight for life."

The crowd began chanting "Beto."

It was an apt microcosm. O'Rourke's personal charm, which helped propel him to premature political stardom, was evident even in defeat. The crowd evinced its passion for him as an individual. Yet the showing was a shadow of 2018, when his concession speech was at a packed minor league baseball stadium. Back then—after falling just 2.6 points shy of unseating U.S. Senator Ted Cruz—O'Rourke said: "I'm as hopeful as I've ever been in my life," and it was believable. We all knew then he would run again for something; it was just the beginning. But now, he says he doesn't know what's next, he implies he's done running, and it's believable.

Beto O'Rourke addresses the crowd at a town hall in Austin on June 3, 2022. Gus Bova/Texas Observer

Here are the numbers, in all their bleak implacability. On Tuesday night, O'Rourke lost to incumbent GOP Governor Greg Abbott by 11 points. That's 5 points worse than President Biden's showing in 2020 and 8 points worse than O'Rourke's tally against Cruz. It is, barely, an improvement over hopelessly outmatched Lupe Valdez's 2018 gubernatorial result. In bellwether Tarrant County, which Biden and O'Rourke narrowly won in the past two cycles, Abbott prevailed by 4. Turnout for the marquee race was 46 percent, down 7 points from 2018. And all this comes after O'Rourke raised and spent more than \$70 million.

Dave Carney, Abbott's longtime campaign guru, now says he hopes O'Rourke will run for office again. "We need Beto," Carney cheekily told the Dallas Morning News in a Wednesday article. "He helps us energize our base. He helps us raise money. He's a good asset to our side."

So, how did we get here? Just four years past, O'Rourke was pure political dynamism—really, the only thing going for statewide Dems in the long shadow of Wendy Davis' 2014 gubernatorial flameout. He was the unheralded El Pasoan, who burst forth on a Facebook Live stream and took the state by storm, stirring something even in cynical observers and coming within a hair of ousting the eminently disagreeable Cruz. Not long after, following some combination of bad instinct and bad advice, he launched a quixotic bid for the Democratic presidential nomination, during which he staked out hard-left positions on unpopular issues. He painted himself into a corner; he outlined himself sharply in the eyes of a Texas electorate that previously saw him in something of a soft, forgiving glow.

By the time O'Rourke declared for governor last November, nothing looked good. Polling was already suggesting a comfortable lead for Abbott and, most tellingly, that O'Rourke was almost universally known and more disliked than liked. Nationally, O'Rourke was stepping into a midterm with an unpopular Democrat in the White House, against an incumbent known for fundraising and campaigning prowess. It was an inauspicious time.

Texas Dems, however, had no one else to run; O'Rourke, two losing campaigns under his belt, was far and away the strongest candidate they could muster. It was practically his duty to run, and lose, like the Lone Star State's fleeting liberal stars before him.

In response, O'Rourke did what O'Rourke does. He hopped in a pickup truck, drove like mad around the whole state, raised a ton of money, and mobilized a bunch of ardent volunteers. He worked hard to massage his past unpopular positions, and he seized on each opportunity fate provided. Often, these took the form of disasters: the lethal electric grid failure of 2021, the suicides of National Guard members deployed to the border, the worst school shooting in Texas history in Uvalde, and the termination of the constitutional right to abortion. It's hard to imagine the gods providing any clearer examples of the violence and power-lust woven through Abbott's politics and practices.

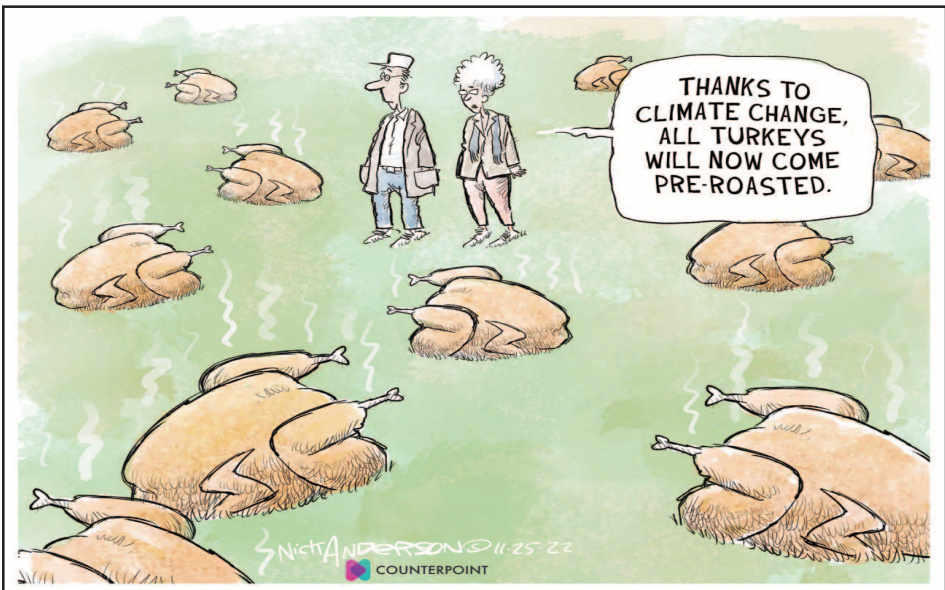
Beto painted himself into a corner; he outlined himself sharply in the eyes of a Texas electorate that previously saw him in something of a soft, forgiving glow.

For a time, these nation-shaking events did seem to deflect the governor's race. Over the summer, the polls tightened a tad, and there was all that money coming in. But maybe that was all wishful thinking. What's striking now, looking back, is the static nature of the race. Abbott was up by 12 in an early speculative poll last June; the RealClearPolitics average of all the polling over time is plus-10.4 for Abbott; Abbott won by 11.

If there are silver linings, they're slim. Unlike in 2018, when O'Rourke propelled a suite of down-ballot Democratic wins, this year's race was run on an overwhelmingly non-competitive, freshly gerrymandered map. It's possible that O'Rourke's spending and campaigning helped Houston-area Dems narrowly avoid a county-level wipeout Tuesday. It's also feasible that O'Rourke's statewide campaign infrastructure will one day be inherited by a promising new avatar of Texas progressivism. But, for now, this isn't much to hang one's hat on.

"I'd honestly like to see [O'Rourke] take a break," Carolina Machado, a school counselor, told the Texas Tribune after Tuesday's concession speech in El Paso. "I think he needs some time to kind of chill and be a family man for a little bit ... but I'd love to see him get back out there and really fight for us as Texans."

Machado has the right of it, of course; O'Rourke and his family have more than earned a reprieve. And should he decide to run for office again, the El Paso mayor's seat is up in just a couple short years.



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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders

# Legislators begin filling bills

## LEGISLATORS BEGIN FILING BILLS AHEAD OF SESSION

Texas legislators are off to the races, filing more than 850 bills on Monday, the first day of filing season for the 88th session, which begins Jan. 10.

The Austin American-Statesman reported the potential laws, constitutional amendments and propositions address everything from property taxes to border security, access to guns, abortion, education and health care.

Thousands more bills will be filed prior to the March 10 deadline. Gov. Greg Abbott, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and House Speaker Dade Phelan have not yet announced their legislative priorities.

Property tax relief is likely to be a top item, given past remarks from the state's leaders. With a hefty state surplus of \$27 billion predicted, two bills would carve into that surplus to reduce property taxes.

Other topics drawing proposed legislation:

- Democrats have filed a bevy of bills to increase gun safety and limit access to certain firearms.
- Eight Democratic state senators filed a bill that would create exceptions to the state's abortion ban in the case of rape or incest, as well as additional medical exceptions.
- Legalizing gambling will again be before the Legislature, as it has the past several sessions.
- Another Democratic measure would expand Medicaid benefits for women both before and after birth.

## DACA RECIPIENTS URGE QUICK CONGRESSIONAL ACTION

A number of recipients of the Obama-era program known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) are urging Congress to act during the lame duck session to give them permanent protec-



tion against deportation.

The Texas Standard reported Austin accountant Edilsa Lopez was one of several recipients who met with Congressional leaders to tell their stories and urge them to adopt such legislation.

Nearly 600,000 children who were brought here by parents who are not U.S. citizens are protected under DACA, while another 400,000 are eligible but have been stymied from enrolling by legal challenges.

"This is my third time in D.C. flying to meet with congressmen from both sides of the aisle and they just keep on talking and talking," said Diego Corzo, 32, of Austin. "I think it's time that they finally put an importance to find a solution — a long-term solution — for the DACA recipients, for the Dreamers, so that we stop living in limbo."

## RRC INSPECTORS SENT TO REEVES COUNTY AFTER QUAKE

The Texas Railroad Commission sent inspectors to Reeves County in West Texas Thursday after the area was rocked with a 5.4 magnitude earthquake near its border with Culberson County. The agents are examining disposal activity at injection wells in the area.

Tremors from the earthquake were felt in both San Antonio and Austin.

## STATE NOW BUSING MIGRANTS TO PHILADELPHIA

The City of Brotherly love is the latest recipient of migrants being bused from Texas border communities, the Texas Tribune reported. The first bus arrived in Philadelphia last Wednesday.

"Since April, Texas' busing strategy has successfully provided much-needed relief to our border communities overwhelmed by the historic influx of migrants caused by President Biden's reckless open border policies," Abbott said.

Texas has been sending busloads of migrants to Washington, D.C., Chicago, and New York in an attempt to pressure Biden to stiffen his immigration policies.

Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney said the city welcomed the migrants and has been preparing for their possible arrival since summer.

"As a proud welcoming city, we will greet our newly arrived neighbors with dignity and respect," said Kenney.

## SAFE DRIVING URGED DURING HOLIDAY SEASON

The Texas Department of Public Transportation is urging holiday season motorists to exert caution and to especially not drink and drive.

The state saw 48,641 traffic crashes during the holiday season from Dec. 1, 2021, to Jan. 1, 2022, with 433 fatalities and 1,695 serious injuries. Nearly a quarter of those deaths — 23% — were related to drunk drivers, according to TxDOT.

"Get together with family and friends and have a great time, but please find an alternative way home if you choose to drink," Marc Williams, TxDOT executive director, said. "You have many options available."

Those options include a designated sober driver, calling a taxi or rideshare service, public transportation, or just staying put.

## FED FUNDS SOUGHT AFTER NORTH TEXAS STORMS

Abbott has requested a disaster declaration from the U.S. Small Business Administration for Northeast Texas counties that were hit by severe weather and tornadoes earlier this month.

An SBA disaster declaration would make federal funds available for residents and business owners in Lamar, Morris, Bowie, Camp, Cass, Delta, Fannin, Marion, Red River, Titus, and Upshur counties.

The program, if approved by the SBA, would provide long-term, low-interest loans to qualifying persons who sustained damage and losses.

★

THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

# Loved and Lost

We thought we would miss the festivities, which just shows how much we still have to learn about Mexico.

My husband, Peter, and I arrived in San Miguel de Allende on the 2nd of November.

"It's too bad we'll miss the Day of the Dead," I told Peter when he made reservations. I knew a little about the Day of the Dead. I'd seen the elaborate skeleton costumes and the cemeteries filled with flowers and families. I figured it would be all over.

But when we arrived, the streets were festooned with streamers, and there were bright orange Mexican marigolds decorating every doorway. It did not appear the party was over yet.

My former sister-in-law, who is Catholic, explained it to me later.

"Oh! It's All Souls' Day!" she said. All Souls' Day follows All Saints' Day which, in Mexico, is the Day of the Dead.

There were long lines of booths where people were having their faces painted to look like skeletons in an infinite variety of styles. Everyone on the street was dressed in elaborate costumes—adults and children and even a few dogs. One little dog was dressed in festive local fabric in a vivid shade of pink.

"Aren't you cute?" Peter said. The little dog lunged at Peter and barked. It's hard to look vicious when you're all decked out in pink.

There was a man carrying a brightly colored iguana on his shoulder.

"Is it your pet?" I asked his daughter. She nodded.

"Is it nice or dangerous?" I asked. She laughed.

A mariachi band played in the square and a woman sang songs that it seemed everyone knew except me and, finally, there was a parade with carriages pulled by giant draft horses in fancy harnesses, and enormous skeletons walking on stilts, and more bands, and police officers in dress uniforms riding in their jeeps and on their motorcycles, most of them with painted skeleton faces as well. It was marvelous.

But most memorable of all were the "ofrendas," the altars put up all around the square to honor the dead.

Some were quite large, and they were decorated with brilliant orange marigolds, photos of the dead, food, tequila, and other remembrances of things the deceased had loved. Some honored many family members. One was for victims of domestic violence. One was for men who had died on motorcycles. One was for a beloved nun. Most of them, we could only guess.

There was a framed photo of a beautiful woman that looked as if it had been taken several years ago. "Brave heart," the sign below her said. Peter, who lost two sisters to cancer in the last two years, was deeply touched.

Because, beneath all the festivities, there was a serious side to this wonderful celebration. It was a day to remember the souls of people loved and lost. It was a time set aside to remember how short life is and how we miss those who have left us. It was a day to honor them and remember them and feel their presence more keenly than most days of the year. We wish them well. We hope they wish the same for us.

Peter and I had dinner in a restaurant after the parade had passed and the light was growing dim. There would be fireworks later on, as there is for every celebration. The restaurant was filled with people in beautiful, colorful costumes that all, in some way, reminded us that we should enjoy this sweet day and celebrate the dead—before we, too, join their ranks.

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

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# Dedication of the Vietnam Fallen Warriors Monument,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Vietnam Fallen Warriors Monument Ribbon Cutting, with remarks by Adrian Garcia, Harris County Commissioner, Precinct 2, a City of Houston representative, and Chief Sergeant Major Juan Chavez.

The ceremony was held Thursday, November 10, 2022, from 10:30a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at Veteran’s Memorial Park , 1896 Tidwell Road, on Houston’s north side.



Keynote speakers at the dedication ceremony included Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, and Chief Sergeant Major Juan Chavez.



View of the Vietnam Fallen Warriors Monument, which is part of the Veterans Memorial Park on Tidwell Road.

# Rotary hears of EHC Navigation Center for homeless

EAST HARRIS COUNTY – Rotarians heard about the new Navigation Center that has been established in the Highlands Methodist Church, to serve homeless and needy persons throughout the East Harris County area.

The speaker was Tom Kelchner, a Baytown Rotarian and now full-time social worker, who has teamed with Marcelous-Williams Resource Center to provide support services to the needy population.

Ramonia and Eddie Williams joined with Kelchner in this new endeavor, which is supported by Lee College, Harris County Precinct 2, and a number of Baytown industries.

Services are provided at their offices in the Highlands Methodist Church, on



Tom Kelchner and Ramonia Williams speaking at Highlands Rotary about the new Navigation Center.

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 11am to 3pm. So far about 100 persons have been helped, with plans to expand the outreach. These services are open to anyone, and will be asked to commit to a liflfe plan. The center tries to provide

food, clothing, jobs, and housing where appropriate. Kelchner said donations are welcome, and volunteers. To learn more about the Navigation Center, there is an Open House planned on Dec. 8th from 2:00-5:30pm at the church.

# Holiday Season has started,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Stephens in the North Channel area, and a similar giveaway at Davis High School in Aldine. Many other organizations throughout the county had similar free food distribution during the Thanksgiving week.

BLACK FRIDAY SHOPPING

After Thanksgiving, many families spent the next day shopping for bargains at Black Friday sales. However, stores were not as busy as previous years, perhaps because there are more shopping days this year, or online

sales have taken the pressure off. Many stores were closed on Thanksgiving day, for the first time. Some shoppers took advantage of Toys-R-U's returning as a department inside Macy's stores.

TREE LIGHTING

Communities throughout the county were preparing for Christmas celebrations, with tree lighting ceremonies and appearance of Santa Claus for chats and photos. In Highlands the event will be at the Community Center on Thursday December 8, from 5pm to 7pm, with

cookies and hot chocolate and an appearance by the Grinch. In East Aldine a huge tree will be lighted on Friday December 9, from 6pm to 9pm and includes Frosty the snowman, Horse drawn rides, photos, hot cocoa, and Real Snow! In Crosby the 23rd Annual Christmas Festival takes place Saturday December 10 from 1pm to 5pm at Crosby Church, with hayrides, petting zoo, photos with Santa 2pm to 4pm, Holly the Elf, a Christmas Market, free food and at 6pm a Lighted Parade.

# Waste Pits meeting Dec. 5,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

International Paper in 2021 to address the contamination in the Southern Impoundment. IP contractors will conduct the work under EPA oversight. The first few weeks of work will include per-

sonnel and equipment mobilization and site prep prior to the start of excavation. The work is expected to take two years to complete.

Members of the public

are reminded to follow posted warning signs and stay out of the fenced area of the site. A fish consumption advisory remains in place for the San Jacinto River.

# FOOTBALL SEASON WEEK 14: Deshaun Watson returns to Houston: TCU looks to make its case for a CFP bid

The Prodigal Son is returning.

Former Texans QB Deshaun Watson will make his debut as the Cleveland Browns starting quarterback (and savior?) when he returns to NRG Stadium to face his former team on Sunday.

Watson served an 11-game suspension for violating the NFL's personal conduct policy after more than 20 women accused the former Texans No. 1 draft choice of inappropriate conduct while he received messages from them. Watson also fell out of favor with the Houston front office and demanded a trade. That's just what General Manager Nick Caserio did, trading the talented signal caller to the Browns for a boat load of draft picks.

Ironically, Watson plays his first game for the Browns against the team that made him the 12th overall pick in the 2017 draft.

Watson had his moments during his tenure as a Texan, but he forced a divorce and now long-suffering Browns fans are hoping they finally have a quarterback who can take them all the way. It won't be this year because the Browns are pretty much out of the playoff hunt, but Watson has the talent to lead a turnaround in 2023. Cleveland has the pieces in place to be a playoff contender next season.

While a lot of attention will be played to Watson's return to his old stomping grounds, there will be a lot of focus at the college level as teams play their conference title games all over the country. Once the dust has settled, we should have a pretty good idea of what four teams will make up the College Football Playoff field this year.

Defending national champion Georgia takes on LSU and first-year head coach Brian Kelly in the SEC title game in Atlanta. Georgia should have one of the CFP berths locked up, as should the winner of the Big 10 title game, which will be either Michigan or Ohio State. In the Big 12, TCU is assured of one of the slots in the conference title game. The Horned Frogs opponent should be either Kansas State or Texas. If TCU wins the conference title game, they would move to 13-0 on the season. Tennessee's upset loss at South Carolina two weeks ago eliminated the Vols from CFP contention and put TCU in solid position to land perhaps the fourth berth. USC is another team that will be considered for the CFP if the Trojans and first-year head coach Lincoln Riley finish with a win over a good, but not great Notre Dame team and a victory in the Pac 12 title game. The Committee could also consider a one-loss Michigan or Ohio State team as well. Clemson could also be playing for a playoff berth when they face North Carolina in the ACC title game.

Needless to say, there is a lot that will be decided this weekend.

In the NFL, there are a number of interesting games on tap this first weekend of December. Aside from Watson's return to Houston, the Cowboys host the Colts on Sunday Night Football, while the Jets travel to Minneapolis to take on the Vikings. The Chiefs and Bengals meet in a rematch of their AFC title game, but this time they will be playing this one in Bengal country. Week 13 concludes with an NFC South battle as the Saints visit Tom Brady and the Bucs.

Before we take a look at this week's games, let's review last week's record. A 10-2 week brought the season record to 93-49 (65%).

Now, onto this weekend's game.

## NCAA

**SEC Title Game: Georgia vs. LSU:** A year ago, Kirby Smart's team was upset in the SEC title game by Alabama, but I don't expect that to be the case this year. Georgia should have learned from last year's experience. Kelly has done an amazing job in his first year in Baton Rouge and expect him to have something up his sleeve on Saturday in the Mercedes-Benz Dome. The Georgia defense is once again one of the top units in the country. The Dawgs allow just 11 points per game, and they do a great job of neutralizing their opponents top weapon. That means the Georgia defense will center its attention on LSU dual threat QB Jayden Daniels (2,377 passing yards, 15 TDs/740 rushing yards, 11 TDs). Look for Georgia's front seven to take the run away from him and force him to throw the ball. When the Bulldogs have the ball, look for QB Stetson Bennett IV (3,011 yards, 14 TDs) to make plays down field to tight end Brock Bowers (41 receptions, 625 yards, 4 TDs) and dependable wideout Ladd McConkey (46 receptions, 606 yards, 4 TDs). Look for running back Kenny McIntosh (568 yards, 7 TDs) to handle the work on the ground. Look for the Bulldogs to send a message to the rest of the college football world that they are serious about winning a second straight national title. My pick, Georgia 34, LSU 16

**Big 12 Title Game: TCU vs. Kansas State or Texas:** TCU is assured of one of the berths in the Big 12 title game, but their opponent is still up in the air. If Kansas State defeated in-state rival Kansas last week, the Wildcats



head to Arlington to take on the Horned Frogs. If KSU loses and Texas beat Baylor the Friday after Thanksgiving, then the Longhorns will be the other participant in the Big 12 title game. TCU defeated both teams in the regular season could be playing for much more than a Big 12 title, most notably a berth in the CFP. The Horned Frogs are led by QB Max Duggan (2,888 passing yards, 26 TDs/291 rushing yards, 5 TDs), running back Kendre Miller (1,188 yards, 14 TDs) and wide receiver Quentin Johnson (49 receptions, 764 yards, 5 TDs). If KSU makes it to Arlington, they will lean on running back Deuce Vaughn (1,148 yards, 6 TDs) and if it's UT, Steve Sarkisian's team will also lean on its star running back Bijan Robinson (1,401 yards, 16 TDs). Robinson rushed for a career high 243 yards and scored four TD's in UT's 55-14 thumping of Kansas two weeks ago. TCU appears to be a team of destiny, so they are the pick to win the Big 12 title game.

**ACC Title Game: Clemson vs. North Carolina:** Clemson's stingy defense takes on NC's high-scoring offense in the ACC title game. A Clemson win keeps their CFP hopes alive, while a loss will dash those hopes. The Clemson defense is very solid, but it will have its hands full with Tarheel QB Drake Maye (3,614 passing yards, 34 TDs/597 rushing yards, 5 TDs). Two weeks ago, NC was up 17-0 at Georgia Tech and wound up losing 20-17. North Carolina can't afford a let up against a Tiger team that is led by QB DJ Unga-galelei (2,406 yards, 21 TDs) and running back Will Shipley (960 yards, 13 TDs). Look for the Clemson defense to be the difference maker in this one as the Tigers win another ACC title. My pick, Clemson 30, North Carolina 20

## NFL

**Buffalo at New England:** Week 13 begins with a key AFC East contest on Thursday Night Football as the Bills visit New England. This game will feature the high-scoring Bills offense against a stingy Patriots defense, so something has to give. Two weeks ago, the Bills ended their two-game losing streak with a 31-23 win over Cleveland in Detroit after Buffalo was shut down due to six feet of snow. QB Josh Allen (2,930 passing yards, 21 TDs/483 rushing yards, 4 TDs) did just enough to get the Bills back in the winning mode. Buffalo has found a running game behind Devin Singletary (480 yards, 3 TDs), which should open up more passing plays for Allen and wide receiver Stefon Diggs (76 receptions, 1,033 yards, 8 TDs). The Bills offense will face a tough test Thursday night as Bill Belichick has molded one of the top defenses in the NFL. Two weeks ago in their 10-3 win over the Jets, that unit gave up just 213 yards of total offense. NE won the game an 84-yard punt return by former UF star Marcus Jones with just five seconds left in the game. Unlike the Jets, the Bills can play offense and look for Allen and his team to start their late-season run as they look to challenge KC for the best record in the AFC. My pick, Buffalo 27, New England 13

**Cleveland at Houston:** About the only interesting thing about this game is how well Watson will play after almost two years off the field and what sort of reaction he receives from Texans fans. These are two bad teams, but Watson should be a boost to the offense. With him now under center, teams will have to respect the pass and his mobility, which things should open up for star running back Nick Chubb (923 yards, 11 TDs). And facing the porous Houston run defense should be another factor as for why Chubb could have a huge day inside NRG Stadium. The Browns can bring pressure with Miles Garrett and Jadaveon Clowney off the edges, so look for Houston QB Davis Mills (2,144 yards, 11 TDs) to be in for another long afternoon. My pick, Cleveland 31, Houston 16

**New York Jets at Minnesota:** The offensively-challenged Jets (they had only 103 yards of total offense in the NE loss) travel to Minneapolis to take on a Vikings team that was dominated 40-3 at home by the Cowboys two weeks ago. The Jets are OK on defense, but their offense can't seem to get going. QB Zach Wilson (1,279 yards, 4 TDs) has got to play better if the Jets hope to challenge for a Wild Card spot. Look for the Vikings offense to shake off its worst performance of the year and bounce back in a big way. QB Kirk Cousins (2,461 yards, 14 TDs) should make some plays to star wide receiver Justin Jefferson (72 receptions, 1,093 yards, 4 TDs), which should open up the running game for running back Dalvin Cook (797 yards, 6 TDs). Look for the Vikings to get back on track against the Jets on Sunday. My

pick, Minnesota 26, New York Jets 13

**Tennessee at Philadelphia:** The Titans head to the City of Brotherly Love to face the Eagles in a battle of division leaders. The Titans are atop the AFC South standings, while the Eagles rule the roost in the NFC East. Tennessee is a tough, hard-nosed football team, sort of like the Washington team that physically dominated the Eagles on Nov. 14 and handed Philly their first loss of the season. The Titans can run the football with Derrick Henry (1,010 yards, 10 TDs) and QB Ryan Tannehill (1,685 yards, 10 TDs) does a good job of taking what defenses give him. He's not a flashy quarterback and the Titans don't throw deep a lot, but they will take their shots when they see an opening. Two weeks ago, the Eagles escaped Indy with a last-second 17-16 win on QB Jalen Hurts (2,407 passing yards, 14 TDs/440 rushing yards, 8 TDs) late TD run with just seconds left in the game. Hurts will look to make plays in the passing game to wide receivers A.J. Brown (49 receptions, 785 yards, 6 TDs) and Devonta Smith (52 receptions, 559 yards, 3 TDs). Losing dependable tight end Dallas Goedert to a shoulder injury will hinder the Eagles passing game. Look for Henry to have a big day as the Titans pull off the upset. My pick, Tennessee 26, Philadelphia 23

**Washington at New York Giants:** Don't look now, but the Commanders are in the playoff hunt. The Commander's 23-10 win over the hapless Texans two weeks ago was their fifth win in their last six games and this Sunday they take on the Giants in a key NFC East contest in The Meadowlands. Two weeks ago, the Giants were upset at home by the Lions as running back Jamaal Williams gouged the NY defense for three scoring runs. NY needs to play better on defense, or their bubble could begin to burst. Washington has a tough defense and if defensive end Chase Young is back for this game, Giants QB Daniel Jones (1,596 yards, 9 TDs) and running back Saquon Barkley (931 yards, 6 TDs), could be in for a long day. The Giants will have an extra three days of rest to prepare for this game after they played Dallas on Thanksgiving Day. Look for the Giants to win a tight one on Sunday. My pick, New York Giants 23, Washington 20

**Miami at San Francisco:** The high-flying Dolphins take their offensive show to Northern Cali to take on the 49ers in what should be one of Week 13's better games. The 49ers defense will have their hands full with QB Tua Tagovailoa (2,265 yards, 18 TDs) and speedy wideouts Tyreek Hill (81 receptions, 1,145 yards, 8 TDs) and Jaylen Waddle (51 receptions, 878 yards, 6 TDs). The 49ers will be looking for a bust out game from speedy running back Christian McCaffrey in this game. Miami's defense is so-so, which means SF QB Jimmy Garoppolo will need to make some big plays downfield to WR Deebo Samual and tight end George Kittle. I think the SF defense steps up to lead the 49ers to a big home win. My pick, San Francisco 26, Miami 24

**Kansas City at Cincinnati:** A rematch of last year's AFC Championship game has the Chiefs playing at the Bengals this time around. This game should be a shootout between KC QB Pat Mahomes (3,265 yards, 28 TDs) and Cinci QB Joe Burrow (2,890 yards, 22 TDs). This game will feature a wealth of offensive weapons as KC tight end Travis Kelce (69 receptions, 855 yards, 11 TDs) and rookie running back Isiah Pacheco (386 yards, 1 TD) will take on Bengals running back Joe Mixon (605 yards, 6 TDs) and wide receivers Tee Higgins (50 receptions, 712 yards, 3 TDs) and Ja'Marr Chase (47 receptions, 605 yards, 6 TDs). Chase should be back for this game after missing the last four games recovering from a hip injury. If Chase is back, he will present the KC defense with a real challenge and make Higgins an even bigger target for Burrow. The Chiefs are not intimidated by playing on the road and will be up to the challenge come Sunday. Two weeks ago worked his magic once again as he led his team on a late game-winning drive as he connected with Kelce for the game-winning touchdown. Mahomes and Kelce hooked up for three scores in the win over LA. I also think the Chiefs want to avenge last year's home loss in the AFC title game, so look for Mahomes to work his magic on the road once again. My pick, Kansas City 33, Cincinnati 31

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524 Louisiana No. 15 Bacliff 339-1107

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(This Ad is reduced in size. Your card will be twice as large— a Full Page)

We will publish your Card Ad in our Christmas Editions Dec. 15 and 22

For Details call 713-266-3444

## Letter to Santa

Dear Santa, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

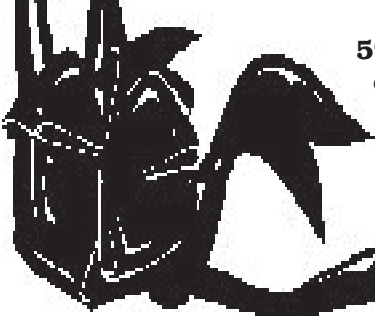
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Letters can be mailed to Santa,  
5906 Star Lane, Houston, TX. 77057  
or e-mailed to [grafikstar@aol.com](mailto:grafikstar@aol.com).  
Letters must be received by  
Dec. 9 for publication in  
our Special Christmas Editions



### Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

by Mike Marland

by Jeff Pickering

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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. Machine is different. 2. Lamp is missing. 3. Table leg is different. 4. Tape is missing. 5. Stripes are missing. 6. Number 9. Table leg is missing.

### November 28, 2022 Posting Date King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Asian desert

5 Weep loudly

9 Swiss peak

12 Mideast gulf

13 "Night" author Wiesel

14 Life story

15 Pantheon members

16 Quest

17 Director Howard

18 Region

19 Texter's "Wow!"

20 Full house, e.g.

21 Dolphins' org.

23 Here (Fr.)

25 Used a hoe

28 Put a price on

32 Dole out

33 Stage

34 Show bad posture

36 Creatures

37 Your

38 Ornate vase

39 Corn castoffs

42 Tavern

44 Party pooper

48 Small battery

49 Ireland

50 Theater box

51 Norm (Abbr.)

52 Swampy terrain

53 Portent

DOWN

1 Quite enthusiastic

2 Bloodhound's clue

3 Eliot's "Adam —"

4 Important details

5 Observe

6 Grad

7 Improvise

8 Allow

9 Start of a spell

10 King of the jungle

11 Frogs' hang-out

20 Everywhere

22 Command to Fido

24 Prank

25 "Now, where — I?"

26 Right angle

27 "Xanadu" band

29 Cooking fuel

30 Ballpark fig.

31 — Moines

35 Cross

36 Stovetop feature

39 Mama — Elliot

40 Swearword

41 Commanded

43 Suffix for billion

45 "Arrivederci —"

46 On in years

47 Actor Hackman

49 Punk-rock subgenre

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

Q	V	M	R	H	D	O	E	H	S
N	E	W	O	E	R	I	W	E	S
D	O	L	N	I	H	S	A	V	A
G	V	A	H	B	A	S	B	O	O
S	V	S	U	H	A	L	I	O	T
S	T	S	B	E	A	S	T	L	O
P	A	S	E	H	O	T	L	A	V
E	D	E	T	A	V	E	E	W	M
I	C	I	L	F	L	N			
N	D	H	G	M	O	A	R	E	A
N	O	N	T	N	H	S	D	O	O
O	I	P	E	L	E	N	S	E	O
A	L	P	B	A	W	L	A	O	O

Solution time: 21 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

### Trivia test

1. GEOGRAPHY: Which country is the most forested in the world?
2. HISTORY: When were tanks first introduced in war?
3. TELEVISION: What is the name of the Netflix sequel to the "Karate Kid" movies?
4. MUSIC: Which music prodigy was signed to a record deal at age 11?
5. ASTRONOMY: In which year will Halley's Comet reappear?
6. LAW: Which justice served on the Supreme Court for the longest?
7. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What kind of dogs did President Obama's family have in the White House?
8. FOOD & DRINK: Where did the first White Castle restaurant open?
9. ANATOMY: What is the rarest human blood type?
10. LITERATURE: What is Harry Potter's middle name?

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# 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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**Methodist**<sup>®</sup>  
BAYTOWN HOSPITAL

