



GLO has built 12,000 Homes in Texas since Hurricane Harvey. See Pages 2,4

# NORTH CHANNEL ★ STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Cloverleaf, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City  
VOLUME 11, NO. 33 (#483) THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 2023 www.northchannelstar.com

## CHANNEL CURRENTS

GPHS VS GCM  
YELLOWJACKETS  
14, PATRIOTS 13  
STORY ON PAGE 5

## Rotary Washer Tourney Sept. 9

Highlands Rotary Club will hold their annual 3-Hole Washer Board Charity Tournament on Saturday, September 9, 2023 from 1:00pm to 5:00pm. THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE.

The Tournament starts at 1:00pm Sharp, at Charlie's Ice House, 906 N. Main Street in Highlands.

All teams must register and sign in no later than 12:30pm the day of the tournament.

TEAMS: 2 person teams, \$50 per team entry, Double Elimination rules. Awards and Prize Money for the top 3 teams, \$150, \$100, and \$50.

SPONSORSHIPS: Board Sponsors at \$100 and \$200; T-Shirt Sponsors at \$150 and \$250; Major Sponsor available at \$500 with benefits.

Event includes a Raffle for a Liquor Wagon.

Contact Denise Smith niecy1616@gmail.com, or Patricia Scott plscott1957@gmail.com to enter or for info.

Proceeds benefit the Rotary Foundation and Polio Plus.



## FOOTBALL SCORES & SCHEDULES

### RESULTS

#### THURSDAY, AUGUST 24

Alvin 49, Aldine 0  
Eisenhower 18, Morton Ranch 16  
Kingwood Park 21, MacArthur 13  
Nimitz 20, Grand Oaks 7

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 25

Barbers Hill 28, Magnolia West 18  
Baytown Lee 33, South Houston 22  
Baytown Sterling 63, Northbrook 0  
C. E. King 58, Crosby 22  
Galena Park 14, Goose Creek Memorial 13  
Humble 21, Channelview 0  
Katy Jordan 39, Davis 21  
Legacy School of Sport Sciences 29, Huffman Hargrave 0  
Porter 42, Dayton 21  
North Shore 38, The Woodlands 17

### SCHEDULE

#### THURSDAY, AUGUST 31

Baytown Sterling at Brazoswood, 7 p.m., Hopper Field in Freeport  
Eisenhower at Conroe, 7 p.m., Moorhead Stadium in Conroe  
Nimitz at Cy Ridge, 6:30 p.m., Pridgeon Stadium in Cypress

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Aldine at Northbrook, 7 p.m., Tully Stadium in Houston  
Barbers Hill at Montgomery, 7:30 p.m., Montgomery ISD Stadium in Montgomery  
C. E. King at Allen, 7 p.m., Eagle Stadium in Allen, Texas  
Clear Brook at Baytown Lee, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium in Baytown  
Crosby at Fort Bend Marshall, 7 p.m., Kenneth Hall Stadium in Missouri City  
Cypress Lakes at Davis, 7 p.m., Leonard George Stadium in Spring  
Galena Park at Caney Creek, 7 p.m., Moorhead Stadium in Conroe  
MacArthur at Channelview, 7 p.m., Ray Maddy Memorial Stadium in Channelview  
Silsbee at Huffman Hargrave, 7 p.m., Falcon Stadium in Huffman  
Spring at North Shore, 7 p.m., Galena Park ISD Stadium in Houston  
Galena Park at Caney Creek, 7 p.m., Moorhead Stadium in Conroe

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Dayton at Waltrip, 6 p.m., Delmar Stadium in Houston  
Goose Creek Memorial at Bellaire, 6 p.m., Butler Stadium in Houston

## TXDOT sets September meetings to reveal details of new I-10 Bridge and Right-of-Way over River

EAST HARRIS COUNTY – TXDOT, the Texas Department of Transportation, has announced that they will hold two public meetings in September, to inform the public of plans for reconstruction of the I-10 bridge over the San Jacinto River, and the rebuilding of travel lanes of I-10, from Magnolia Street to Thompson Road and Spur 330.

The first meeting will be virtual only (online via internet) and provide information on the proposals. This meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 19, 2023 starting at 5pm. It will consist of a pre-recorded video presentation. TXDOT advises that this information will not be available online until the above stated time.

The second meeting is scheduled as an in-person presentation, with interac-

tion with TXDOT personnel and a chance to comment, ask questions and offer opinions. This meeting will take place on Thursday, September 21, 2023 from 5 to 7pm at the Flukinger Community Center, 16003 Lorenzo Street, Channelview.

The purpose of the project is to improve traffic flow, increase navigational safety, and enhance roadway network connectivity within the project limits. The proposed project would replace the existing I-10 mainlane bridges over the San Jacinto River. The existing bridges have a 23-foot-vertical clearance and a 158-foot-wide horizontal navigational clearance. Due to repeated barge traffic collisions with the bridge structures on the San Jacinto River, the proposed I-10 mainlane bridge-



The new I-10 Bridge may be similar to this standard TXDOT design.

would consist of a wider navigational opening and tentatively consist of steel girder bridges with a 52-foot vertical clearance and a 386-foot horizontal navigational clearance.

The proposed project would also add vehicular capacity to I-10 within the project limits. The existing highway in this location consists of three lanes in each direction. The proposed project would add one general purpose lane, acceleration/deceleration

lanes and entrance and exit ramps, and two managed lanes in each direction. Managed lanes are highway lanes where operational strategies, such as, but not limited to HOV lanes or emergencies services, are proactively implemented and managed in response to changing conditions. Proposed improvements along Spur 330 include widening to add one managed lane in each direction and connect to the proposed I-10 managed

lanes. Currently Spur 330 consists of two 12-foot mainlanes and two 12-foot frontage lanes in each direction.

The proposed project would, subject to final design considerations, require approximately 5.4 acres of additional right of way and potentially displace one non-residential structure containing two businesses and would relocate the City of Baytown city limit monument. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program and services and benefits for those displaced and other affected property owners, as well as information about the tentative schedule for right-of-way

Continued. See I-10 BRIDGE DESIGN, Page 3

## GPISD discusses proposed budget and tax rate

By David Taylor  
North Channel Star Editor

They're not exactly flying by the seat of their pants, but without certified tax rolls in their hands, it might seem like it.

Last Monday, Aug. 21, Galena Park ISD held a special board meeting to discuss the proposed budget and the tax rate. The budget was posted online for consideration on Aug. 10.

"The budget has to be adopted by Aug. 31 in order for our departments and campuses throughout the district to have funds for spending on Sept. 1," said Sonya Haidusek-Niazy, PhD, chief financial officer and deputy superintendent for operational support in Galena Park ISD.

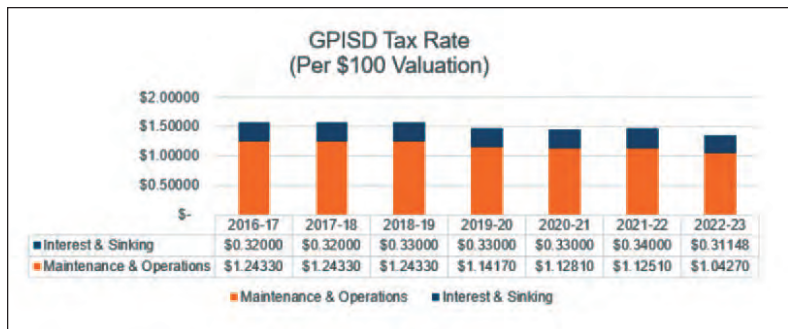
A vote on the tax rate was postponed to a future board meeting until voters have their say at the polls on the legislators pro-



Sonya Haidusek-Niazy, PhD, chief financial officer and deputy superintendent

posed increased mandatory homestead exemption to \$100,000. The measure requires statewide approv-

Continued. See GPISD BUDGET & TAX RATE, Page 7



GPISD TAX RATE - Bar Chart demonstrates the 2023-2024 tax rate, when approved, will be the lowest in five years for taxpayers.

## Mustangs stampede over Highlanders 38-17

By Allan Jamail  
North Channel Star

August 25, 2023 – at the Conroe ISD Woodforest Bank Stadium located in Shenandoah, Texas the North Shore Mustang's new head coach Willie Gaston unveiled his inaugural football game program. The visiting Eastside Boys handily won 38 to 17 over the hosting Highlanders in the season's opening non-district game.

Coach Gaston has been the Mustang's offensive coordinator under former head coach Jon Kay who retired at the end of last season and went to coach the Rice University Owls linebackers. Kay's team last season went 15-1 with a lone loss in the state title game.

Allan Jamail NC Star writer said, "I remember watching Gaston as a player, then as an assistant coach (offensive coordinator) and now head coach. He's played an important role in Mustang's history including numerous state titles. If he can command the same discipline

Continued/More Photos. See MUSTANGS STAMPEDE, Page 5



Mustangs Cameron Smith hauls in a Kaleb Bailey TD pass for season's 1st score. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



Mustangs new Head Coach Willie Gaston discussing game strategy with quarterback Kaleb Bailey. (Photo by Linda Jamail)

## County plans \$2.5 Billion Bond vote for Harris Health System

LBJ Hospital will become Level 1 Trauma center; more beds, more clinics for county

HARRIS COUNTY - Thursday, August 17, 2023, Today Harris County Commissioners Court approved an order for a bond election for the November 2023 General Election to finance upgrades to the Harris Health System.

The \$2.5 billion bond would help fund the following improvements and expansions to facilities within the Harris Health System by:

--Constructing a Level 1-capable trauma center at Lyndon B. Johnson (LBJ) Hospital. Level 1 trauma centers provide the highest level of trauma care to critically ill or injured patients on a 24/7 basis.

--Renovating the existing LBJ Hospital to address current service gaps and increase the availability of outpatient services.

--Increasing capacity at Ben Taub Hospital by adding approximately 120 patient rooms, extending the facility's lifespan by at least 15 years.

--Creating three new community clinics in high-need areas.

LBJ Hospital and Ben Taub Hospital have not undergone significant upgrades or renovations since their initial construction 30 years ago. Harris County's population has nearly doubled during that time and both hospitals

are currently operating at or over capacity.

Over the next ten years, the bond is projected to have minimal impact on the average homeowner with a cost of approximately \$6/month.

Individuals can learn more about the upcoming bond election by visiting www.harrishealth.org. Individuals can register to vote or update their registration by visiting www.harrisvotes.com before October 10th.

### MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE HARRIS HEALTH SYSTEM:

Harris Health System is the public healthcare safety-net provider established

in 1966 to serve individuals in Harris County, Texas. Harris Health champions better health for the entire community, with a focus on low-income uninsured and underinsured patients, through acute and primary care, wellness, disease management and population health services. Ben Taub Hospital and Lyndon B. Johnson Hospital anchor Harris Health's robust network of more than 40 clinics, health centers, an extensive health care for the homeless program, a chronic dialysis center, a dental services clinic, and virtual (telemedicine) technology.

Harris Health is among an elite list of health systems in the U.S. achieving Magnet® nursing excellence designation for its hospitals, the prestigious National Committee for Quality Assurance designation for its patient-centered clinics and health centers and its strong partnership with nationally recognized physician faculty, residents and researchers from Baylor College of Medicine; McGovern Medical School at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth); and The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.



# TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Making long-term recovery progress in the City of Houston and Harris County

MORE THAN  
\$1 BILLION

In infrastructure and mitigation funds being deployed in Houston and Harris County

MORE THAN  
12,000

Homes for Texas homeowners and renters rebuilt since Hurricane Harvey

2,250

Houstonian and Harris County program approvals, with nearly 1,600 homes fully rebuilt

\$86 MILLION

OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSES REIMBURSED to nearly 3,000 Texas families

AWARDED MORE THAN  
\$89 MILLION

to help 574 businesses support/create 1,843 jobs

*"My goal is simple, to serve the people we are supposed to serve, and do it well."*

COMMISSIONER DAWN BUCKINGHAM, M.D.

Texas General Land Office  
Commissioner Dawn Buckingham, M.D.  
Disaster Recovery





CHARLOTTE'S WEB

By Charlotte Jackson



## Make a Way

So many people I have talked to lately, seem to be battling depression and feeling helpless and hopeless. Groceries prices and gasoline prices have soared. Not having a full-service hospital in the area has been an adjustment for many. Those that are new to the area are typically shocked to realize that there are very limited routes on public transportation in our area. And when they realize that their address may say “Houston”, but they live in an unincorporated area, they are confused.

Yet, despite the not-so-great conditions, we have much to be excited about. We have great schools as most of the residents are not zoned to Houston ISD. We have several home-grown elected leaders as well as extremely dedicated school administrators. We have many successful business owners who grew up in the area and are still contributing by hiring local employees and supporting the many great non-profits in the area. There are more churches in the area than ever before.

The heat of summer has drained many people. Not only are the bills higher, but the heat has zapped the energy of many individuals. Yet, as always, there were over twelve back-to-school events to help with school supplies, hair cuts and more. We have amazing programs in the area to help our senior adults, our youth and it only takes asking a few questions and you can find a resource for you needs.

Soon the temperatures will begin to fall, and we will begin to see the annual church bazaars and festivals being promoted. Men will be cooking while the women are gathering up donations for different booths at the events. Students will be excited for the football games and before you know it, Homecoming will be here.

Former residents will be returning for events, and I hope that when they see community pride and are happy to see that despite obstacles, the area has thrived. They will notice several area churches have continued to meet in the area for more than fifty years. They will notice alumni serving on the school boards as well as the San Jacinto College Board. Some of the spots they once frequented are gone, but there are many new places to visit. They will see improved roads and see hike and bike trails as well as noticing improved parks.

One difference in the area is that there are now multiple resources for those with mental health needs as well as opportunities for residents to get involved to help make a way. When someone is having a difficult time, they no longer must search for resources across the city, they can find help here. We have come a long way. Yes, we still have a way to go, but we are making progress.

We need to work together to show our resilient nature is still as strong as ever and that we will continue for generations to come.

In North Shore, nearly everyone reads the NORTH CHANNEL STAR.  
Your Hometown Newspaper.

COURTNIE Nursing



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## I-10 Bridge Design,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

acquisition and construction, may be obtained from Angelica Sizemore, Right of Way Project Coordinator, at (713) 504-9628.

Written comments from the public regarding the proposed project are requested and may be submitted in any language. Please submit your comments by mail to the TxDOT Houston District Office, Advanced Project Development Director, P.O. Box 1386, Houston, Texas 77251-1386. Written comments may also be submitted by email to [HOU-PIOwebmail@txdot.gov](mailto:HOU-PIOwebmail@txdot.gov). All comments must be received or postmarked by Friday, Oct. 6, 2023. Responses to comments received will be available online at the web address listed above once completed.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the public meeting, please contact Jeanne Javadi, P.E., Project Manager, at (713) 802-5517 or by email at [Jeanne.Javadi@txdot.gov](mailto:Jeanne.Javadi@txdot.gov).



## TOP TEN MOVIES

FOR RELEASE Aug. 28, 2023

1. Blue Beetle (PG-13) Xolo Maridueña, Bruna Marquezine
  2. Barbie (PG-13) Margot Robbie, Ryan Gosling
  3. Oppenheimer (R) Cillian Murphy, Emily Blunt
  4. Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (PG) Micah Abbey, Shamon Brown Jr.
  5. Strays (R) Will Ferrell, Jamie Foxx
  6. Meg 2: The Trench (PG-13) Jason Statham, Jing Wu
  7. Talk to Me (R) Ari McCarthy, Hamish Phillips
  8. Haunted Mansion (PG-13) LaKeith Stanfield, Rosario Dawson
  9. Mission: Impossible — Dead Reckoning Part One (PG-13) Tom Cruise, Hayley Atwell
  10. Sound of Freedom (PG-13) Jim Caviezel, Mira Sorvino
- (c) 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

**FLASHBACK**

By Mick Harper —

1. What was the original name of the group Bill Haley and the (His) Comets?
2. Who penned and released “I Believe in Music”?
3. Little Eva had one No. 1 chart topper. What was it?
4. What was the proposed original title of the Beatles’ ‘White Album’?
5. Name the song that contains these lyrics: “I wondered, too, if by chance you heard it for yourself, I never told a soul just how I’ve been feeling about you.”

Answers 1. Bill Haley and the Saddlemen. They made the change to “the Comets” due to the public’s mispronunciation of the famous comet’s name ... which was actually Hallie. 2. Mac Davis, in 1970. Legend says that Davis got the idea when he declined an invitation to a seance, saying that he didn’t believe in that, but he believed in music. 3. “The Loco-Motion,” in 1962. Several groups around the world released their own covers over the years. 4. “A Doll’s House.” The 1968 double album contained 30 songs. 5. “On the Radio,” by Donna Summer, in 1979. The song was written for the Foxes soundtrack. It was released in several formats, including a seven-minute promo for DJs, an instrumental with a slower tempo, as a ballad and as a disco version.

ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim: “How Did the Tennis Bracelet get its name?”



Tennis season is behind us. Wimbledon and the women’s U.S. Open are finished for the year. So, it’s a perfect time to look at the tennis bracelet – a great piece of jewelry that comes with a great story.

At the 1987 U.S. Open, tennis star Chris Evert was playing in a hotly contested game. She suddenly stopped mid-match and asked the officials for a time out. The reason: The clasp on her diamond bracelet had broken and the bracelet had fallen off her wrist, and she wanted to find it before playing the next point. When asked about it in an interview, she called the missing piece of jewelry her “tennis bracelet,” and so the iconic name was born.



Chris Evert sporting her diamond tennis bracelet at the 1989 U.S. Open. Photo by Adam Stoltman, © Corbis

The bracelet Evert was wearing during the match was a line bracelet set with diamonds made by noted jewelry designer George Bedewi. Traditionally featuring diamonds, this style of bracelet can also be set with colored stones or a combination of diamonds and colored stones. Thanks to Evert’s incident that brought it into the national spotlight, sales of the bracelet exploded and became forever known as the tennis bracelet.

Considering Evert’s famous mishap, you might be wondering if wearing a tennis bracelet during a match is a good idea. GIA experts offer a few suggestions so you can wear your bracelet without fear:

1. In addition to the clasp, add a safety catch on the side of the bracelet for added protection.
2. Have the tennis bracelet routinely checked by a jeweler to make sure the clasp, safety catch, and mountings are secure.
3. Keep the diamonds sparkling with periodic cleaning.

Nearly 30 years have passed since Evert’s unforgettable on-court incident, and the tennis bracelet is still a fashion accessory for the sophisticated set. The tennis bracelet remains popular because it’s an elegant piece of jewelry that comes with a fun story. Now you have some ideas to decorate your wrist.

For our first responders and military personnel, we express our gratitude by offering a 10% discount on online and in-store purchases. We look forward to providing you with an unparalleled jewelry experience. For more tips and insights into the world of jewelry, check out our [Ask Diamond Jim](http://AskDiamondJim.com) blog series on our website at [www.PineforestJewelry.com](http://www.PineforestJewelry.com).

Let us know what topics you’d like to see covered next. We’re always here to answer your questions and make your Pineforest Jewelry experience a “WOW Experience”!

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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TEXAS GLO

By Dawn Buckingham, M.D.

Commissioner, Texas General Land Office

## GLO has built more than 12,000 homes in Texas since Hurricane Harvey

When Hurricane Harvey struck the Texas coast nearly six years ago, the destruction was immense. The damage was so significant, Governor Greg Abbott tapped the Texas General Land Office (GLO) to be the first state agency to assist the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) with distributing short-term housing resources. Then in 2018, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) gave the GLO the greenlight to draft a plan for more than \$5 billion in long-term housing recovery funding. By 2019, the Texas GLO had launched the largest home repair and reconstruction program in Texas.



Happy Houston Homeowner Neisha Andrews

All long-term disaster recovery funding from HUD for homeowners in Houston and Harris County were initially administered at the local level. However, when progress lagged, the GLO stepped in to help rebuild homes, allowing local leaders to focus on other recovery efforts such as buyouts, infrastructure, multifamily rentals, and public services. Under a new cooperative plan spearheaded by Land Commissioner Dawn Buckingham, for the first time both Harris County and the City of Houston met all of their program benchmarks with Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds. These milestones were set by the city and county and approved by the GLO to ensure all programs will be completed as timely as possible.

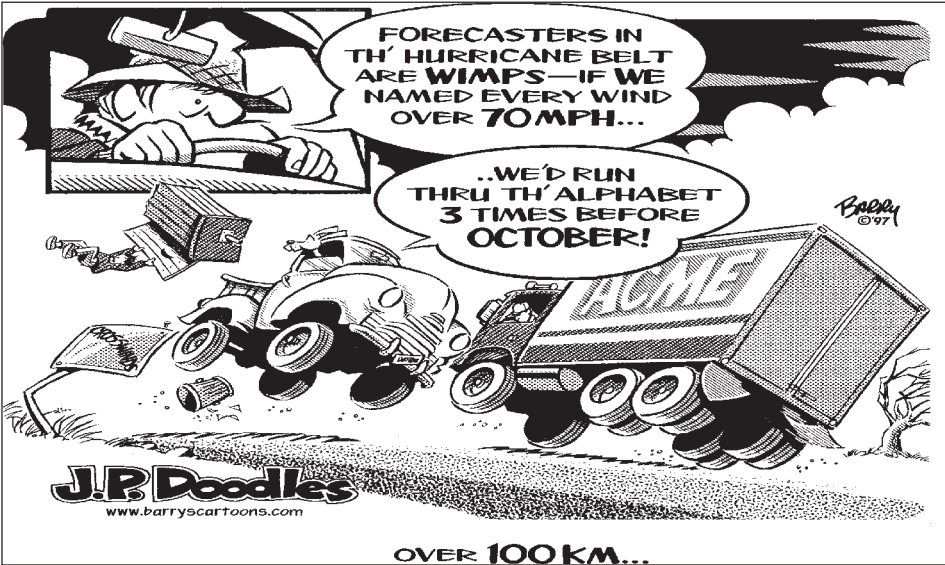
The GLO has achieved tremendous success in administering the Homeowner Assistance Program, which has helped more than 2,250 Houstonians and Harris County residents get approved for home rebuilding assistance and has fully rebuilt nearly 1,600 homes. Overall, the GLO has rebuilt more than 12,000 homes for homeowners and renters in Texas since Hurricane Harvey. In January 2021, the GLO completed the state's first Homeowner Reimbursement Program having reimbursed about 3,000 Texas families for approximately \$86 million in out-of-pocket repairs. The GLO has also awarded \$89,125,000 to help 574 businesses recover from Hurricane Harvey while creating or supporting 1,843 jobs.

"My commitment remains steadfast, to serve the people we are meant to serve and do it well," said Commissioner Dawn Buckingham, M.D. "This success is proof of my commitment to ensuring more than disaster recovery and mitigation funding is put to work to benefit the people who call Harris County and the City of Houston home."

On June 6, 2023, Harris County Commissioner's Court unanimously approved a list of projects for \$322 million in CDBG-DR funds and up to \$502.5 million in mitigation funds as well as authorized the Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) to take all necessary actions to expedite the administration of the funding. This development follows a robust commitment to cooperation, which was highlighted in March with a joint press conference with several county leaders and Commissioner Buckingham in Houston.

Commissioner Adrian Garcia introduced Item 115 to the court stating, "I want to give a shout out to the GLO and Commissioner Buckingham for her support of Harris County and giving us a degree of trust." Commissioner Tom Ramsey noted the fairness of the plan noting that it worked out to about 25% for each precinct and stated, "job well done by the whole." Commissioner Lesley Briones echoed the sense of gratitude to HCFCD Director, Dr. Tina Petersen, and to Commissioner Buckingham for working together stating, "This is so wonderful that we were able to hit reset and really focus on the progress going forward."

"Thanks to open communications and focused cooperation, we are proud to see new success with disaster recovery, housing, infrastructure and mitigation funding," said Dr. Buckingham. "The GLO is dedicated to helping Harris County and the City of Houston put these vital funds to good use."



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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders

## STAAR Scores Show Continued Struggles in Math, Reading

Texas public student scores in standardized testing continue to improve since the pandemic, but more than half of those taking the test still struggle with math and just under half read below grade-level, the Texas Tribune reported.

Students in grades three through eight took the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness tests in math and reading last spring. The results were released last week by the Texas Education Agency.

Math scores have improved since the pandemic low of just 35% meeting grade level or above in math in 2021, up to 43% in the latest STAAR scores. The percentage of students reading at grade level or above was essentially flat at 52%, but still above pre-pandemic levels, which were 47% in 2019.

Teachers across Texas continue to work with passion and skill to help students learn," said Mike Morath, Texas Education Commissioner. "This year's results show the efforts of our educators continue to deliver improved results for students."

### LAWYERS: PAXTON USED BURNER PHONES, FAKE UBER ACCOUNT

A series of documents filed by House impeachment managers claim suspended Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton gave indicted real estate developer Nate Paul "unfettered access" to the AG's office in order to "harass his enemies," The Dallas Morning News reported.

Paxton used burner phones, a secret personal email account and a fake Uber account in order to visit a woman with whom he was having an extramarital affair, the documents indicate.

"Uber records reflect drivers picked up Paxton under the alias of 'Dave P' a block from his home and



ferried him to his lover's or Paul's properties more than a dozen times from August 6, 2020, until October 2, 2020," the House managers wrote.

Paul allegedly bribed Paxton by paying for a house remodeling and giving Paxton's lover a job, the documents indicate.

Paul was indicted in June for federal financial crimes. A federal grand jury is reportedly looking into Paxton's connection with Paul. Paxton was impeached by the Texas House in late May and faces trial in the Senate on Sept. 5. He was immediately suspended without pay upon being impeached.

Paxton also faces a criminal trial next year on a 2015 indictment for securities fraud.

### NEW STRAIN OF COVID-19 BEING MONITORED

The World Health Organization is monitoring a new strain of COVID-19 it says is accounting for a growing share of cases in several countries, including the United States, according to the Texas Standard. EG.5, or "Eris," is being monitored to see how it might mutate.

Dr. Catherine Trosi, an infectious diseases epidemiologist at UTHealth Houston School of Public Health, said it's hard to know the exact cause of the recent uptick in COVID cases.

"When the public health emergency ended,

a lot of tracking went away," she told the Texas Standard. "The latest data shows 17% of cases are due to this variant. But we're not tracking cases really well because people have stopped testing. Even if you test positive, it doesn't get reported to health departments. So really the markers we have are hospitalizations, which we have seen go up quite significantly – although it's important to remember we are still at historic lows in terms of hospitalizations due to COVID."

The Texas Department of State Health Services reported a rolling seven-day average of 929 hospitalized COVID-19 patients, up 132 from the previous week, with 21 fatalities.

### SURVEY: 80% OF ANTI-MIGRANT BUOYS ARE IN MEXICO

A survey by the binational agency in charge of the Rio Grande indicates nearly all of the anti-migrant buoys Texas has installed in the river are on the Mexican side of the river, The Dallas Morning News reported.

The survey by the International Boundary and Water Commission found that of the 995-foot string of buoys installed near Eagle Pass last month, 787 feet — nearly 80% — are on the Mexican side.

The U.S. Justice Department has sued the state in attempt to force it to remove the barrier. In court, the state has insisted the barrier is on the U.S. side of the river. Mexico contends the barriers violate both federal law and an international treaty between it and the United States.

### EMPLOYMENT RECORDS SET IN THE STATE

Texas has more jobs and more people employed than ever before, according to the Texas Workforce Commission. The state has recorded 29 consecutive months of growth and again leads the nation in the number of jobs added over the past year — 441,700 new positions since July 2022.

"Texas leads the nation in sustainable job growth with more than 2.7 million positions added in the past decade," said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel. "The Texas economy remains strong, and TWC will continue to provide support through tools and resources for job seekers and employers alike."

The leisure and hospitality sector led job growth with 9,800 jobs, while manufacturing added 6,600 positions, closely followed by private education and health service with 6,400 jobs. Of the 26,300 new jobs added in July, all but 400 were in the private sector.

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THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

## Daddy's Home

It's seven minutes after 10 p.m., and the usual ruckus ensues.

My husband, Peter, is wearing earplugs. He is in the habit of doing this when we're staying in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, because our little apartment is right in the center of town and, like all the homes in San Miguel, there is no air conditioning because it is cool this high in the mountains.

But the last few weeks have been warm, and it's nice to have fresh air. So we open the sliding door to our little balcony, and we hear everything that happens on our street.

The occasional truck rattles down the cobblestones. The street is too narrow for large vehicles, so it's only a few small trucks and folks getting home late from work.

We are surrounded by churches in all directions, and church bells ring early most mornings. Visitors are mystified, trying to understand when they ring and for how long. I suspect this is not, in fact, an exact science. Someone has to climb all the way to the top of the bell tower to ring the bells, and I guess anyone willing to take that job should be able to ring them as long as they like.

Firecrackers explode—sometimes in the evenings, but frequently in the mornings when the church bells ring. The fireworks have to do with the celebration of various saints and events on the religious calendar and so, while they are startling, I respect that they are part of the culture, part of living in the center of this very old city in the middle of Mexico.

But, usually, just before we go to sleep, the dogs across the street start barking like crazy, and even Peter's earplugs do no good.

This is the thing that used to irritate me the most.

I would be almost asleep, and there would be this terrific yapping—loud and persistent and very high-pitched. I assumed it was random, and I was irritated that the owner didn't do something about this nightly nuisance.

It was Peter who finally recognized the pattern.

At roughly the same time every night, we hear a motorcycle come down the narrow cobblestone road. We hear it stop, and as soon as it does, two little dogs start barking. We hear the sound of a metal garage door open, and the barking increases. Then we hear the motorcycle start up again and the garage door close behind. That's when the barking reaches a fever pitch.

Peter says, "Daddy's home."

I wondered if he was right, so I started listening. Sure enough, it happened at the same time every night. Occasionally, Daddy got home an hour early, but generally, it was just after 10 p.m.

Motorcycle stops. Barking starts. Motorcycle starts. Barking goes crazy.

And who can blame these two unseen dogs for losing their little minds once a night—the most exciting time of the day—when Daddy finally gets home?

Of course, we don't know what happens. We don't even know which house the little dogs live in. But I imagine Daddy makes dinner for them when he gets home. He probably tells them what good dogs they are. I can tell from their excitement it is a happy household with these two dogs and Daddy.

And so now, in addition to the church bells and the firecrackers and the occasional rattling truck, I listen for those two excited dogs. They no longer annoy me. I imagine their anticipation—the motor stopping, the motor starting and finally the long-awaited moment.

Daddy's home!  
Till next time,  
Carrie

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Entered as Periodicals Class at Highlands Post Office, Highlands, TX 77562. Under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. Published 50 weeks per year, on Thursday, by Grafikpress Corp., 5906 Star Lane, Houston, TX 77057. Opinions in this paper are those of the authors, and not necessarily this newspaper's. Any erroneous statement which may appear will be corrected when brought to the attention of the publisher. Liability for errors is limited to the reprinting of the corrected version. Submissions are encouraged, in person, by mail, by Fax, or by email, to grafikstar@aol.com.

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# Mustangs Stampede,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

as former coach Jon Kay did with the players, I expect him to continue the winning tradition of the program, they have 5 state titles. His inaugural head coaching program has just started.”

Kaleb Bailey, the 6’2” – 210 pound Mustang junior starting quarterback starred in his comeback performance since his last season ending injury on September 29, 2022. Wearing a knee brace he passed for three touchdowns (TD’s) and ran for another. (see photo) After watching from the sidelines most of last year you could see Bailey was back to his true form and anxious to play, being very elusive in the pocket and using his dual run/pass threat to open-up receivers.

The Mustangs took the opening kickoff and with just 1 minute and 51 seconds off the clock Bailey led the offense to the game’s first TD. The scoring drive took just 3 plays; one was a 65 yard pass from Bailey to Terrence Guillory, 2 plays later an 8 yard scoring pass to Cameron Smith. (see photo)

Eastside Boys Six Scores: Bailey TD pass to Cameron Smith (2), Bailey TD pass to Kaleb Thomas (1), D’Andre Hardeman run (1) & Kaleb Bailey run (1) Jonathan Soto 21 yard field goal. Extra point kicker Soto was perfect 5-5. Bailey totaled 266 passing yards, completing 20 of 29 passes for 68 percent, leading the running game was D’Andre Hardeman with over 150 yards, putting the offense over 500 total yards without any turnovers.

The Mustang swarming defense was stingy stopping the run and pass by sacking the Highlanders quarterback #7 four-star senior quarterback Mabrey Mettauer, 6’-6” – 225 lbs a Wisconsin commit, numerous times. (see photo) This defense is fast and never let the Highlanders become a threat. Linda Jamail, statistician.

Scoring by quarter:

	1	2	3	4	Final
North Shore	7	17	7	7	38
Woodland	0	7	3	7	17

The Mustangs next play Friday, September 1 @ 7:30PM in their home opener a non-district game with the Spring Lions.



#9 Mustang’s quarterback Kaleb Bailey walks untouched into the end zone for a TD. Supt. Dr. John Moore on sideline with wife Terri celebrating. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



#93 Cedric Henderson Mustangs lineman with a QB sack on #7 Mabrey Mettauer. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

## Galena Park defeats Baytown Goose Creek Memorial Yellowjackets 14, Patriots 13

By Allan Jamail

August 25, 2023 the Galena Park Yellowjackets opened the season with a close game by nudging by the home team GC Memorial Patriots 14-13 in a defensive battle.

Spiro Amarantos, Yellowjackets Head Coach/Athletic Director a former player for the Yellowjackets is in a tough district. He’s brought improvements to the

program and is looking to make more positive changes in the future. He’s always had a tough defense and this season is no different.

The Jackets ran against a strong Patriots defense for 247 yards and passed for 41 with a decent game total of 288 yards.

Galena Park’s offense: Jordan Balderas, Galena Park, senior running back led the rushing game with 10 carries for

95 yards, averaging 9.5 yds per carry. Joshua Williams, a GP senior had a good running game with 12 carries for 104 yards, averaging 8.6 yds per carry, Daniel Gomez, 7 carries for 17 yds., Edgar Cortes, 2 carries for 1 yd. & Christian Giron, 7 carries for 30 yds.

Defense solo tackles were made by Isael Barboza – 15, Isai Merian – 15, Ian Barboza - 11, Sebastian

Bernal – 10, Vincent Lopez – 9, Aubrey Joseph – 8, Matthias Valenzuela – 6, Diego Quintanilla – 5, Adrian Eguia - 4, & Kendall Combs- 4. These same players each made numerous assisted tackles.

The Yellowjackets travel to Caney Creek High School to Moorehead Stadium to play the Panthers, Friday, September 1st. at 8PM.

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### TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

#### Notice of Draft Federal Operating Permit

Draft Permit No.: O3764

**Application and Draft Permit.** Kinder Morgan Crude & Condensate LLC, 1001 Louisiana St, Houston, TX 77002-5089, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a renewal of Federal Operating Permit (herein referred to as Permit) No. O3764, Application No. 33183, to authorize operation of the Galena Park Splitter Facility, a Petroleum Refineries facility. The area addressed by the application is located at 407 Clinton Dr in Galena Park, Harris County, Texas 77547-3460. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to the application. You can find an electronic map of the facility at: <https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-95.220277,29.732777&level=13>. This application was received by the TCEQ on January 18, 2022.

The purpose of a federal operating permit is to improve overall compliance with the rules governing air pollution control by clearly listing all applicable requirements, as defined in Title 30 Texas Administrative Code § 122.10 (30 TAC § 122.10). The draft permit, if approved, will codify the conditions under which the area must operate. The permit will not authorize new construction. The executive director has completed the technical review of the application and has made a preliminary decision to prepare a draft permit for public comment and review. The executive director recommends issuance of this draft permit. The permit application, statement of basis, and draft permit will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ Central Office, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Building E, First Floor, Austin, Texas 78753; the TCEQ Houston Regional Office, 5425 Polk St Ste H, Houston, Texas 77023-1452; and the Galena Park Branch Library, 1500 Keene St, Galena Park, Texas 77547-2400, beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The draft permit and statement of basis are available at the TCEQ Website:

[www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/tvnotice](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/tvnotice)

At the TCEQ central and regional offices, relevant supporting materials for the draft permit, as well as the New Source Review permits which have been incorporated by reference, may be reviewed and copied. Any person with difficulties obtaining these materials due to travel constraints may contact the TCEQ central office file room at (512) 239-2900.

**Public Comment/Notice and Comment Hearing.** Any person may submit written comments on the draft permit. Comments relating to the accuracy, completeness, and appropriateness of the permit conditions may result in changes to the draft permit.

**A person who may be affected by the emission of air pollutants from the permitted area may request a notice and comment hearing.** The purpose of the notice and comment hearing is to provide an additional opportunity to submit comments on the draft permit. The permit may be changed based on comments pertaining to whether the permit provides for compliance with 30 TAC Chapter 122 (examples may include that the permit does not contain all applicable requirements or the public notice procedures were not satisfied). The TCEQ may grant a notice and comment hearing on the application if a written hearing request is received within 30 days after publication of the newspaper notice. The hearing request must include the basis for the request, including a description of how the person may be affected by the emission of air pollutants from the application area. The request should also specify the conditions of the draft permit that are inappropriate or specify how the preliminary decision to issue or deny the permit is inappropriate. All reasonably ascertainable issues must be raised and all reasonably available arguments must be submitted by the end of the public comment period. If a notice and comment hearing is granted, all individuals that submitted written comments or a hearing request will receive written notice of the hearing. This notice will identify the date, time, and location for the hearing.

**Written public comments and/or requests for a notice and comment hearing should be submitted to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087, or electronically at [www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/](http://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/) and be received within 30 days after the date of newspaper publication of this notice.** Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address and physical address will become part of the agency's public record.

**A notice of proposed final action that includes a response to comments and identification of any changes to the draft permit will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments, a hearing request, or requested to be on the mailing list for this application.** This mailing will also provide instructions for public petitions to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to request that the EPA object to the issuance of the proposed permit. After receiving a petition, the EPA may only object to the issuance of a permit which is not in compliance with the applicable requirements or the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 122.

**Mailing List.** In addition to submitting public comments, a person may ask to be placed on a mailing list for this application by sending a request to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address above. Those on the mailing list will receive copies of future public notices (if any) mailed by the Chief Clerk for this application.

**Information.** For additional information about this permit application or the permitting process, please contact the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Public Education Program, MC-108, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087 or toll free at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained for Kinder Morgan Crude & Condensate LLC by calling Ms. Jenni C. Melder at (225) 364-5799.

Notice Issuance Date: August 10, 2023

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of \$0.596874 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of City of Jacinto City.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.596874 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.577352 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.598639 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2023 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for City of Jacinto City from the same properties in both the 2022 tax year and the 2023 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that City of Jacinto City may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that City of Jacinto City is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2023 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 14, 2023 AT 06:00 PM AT City Hall Annex 10301 Market Street, Houston, Texas 77029.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, City of Jacinto City is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the City Council of City of Jacinto City at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

Property tax amount= (tax rate) x (taxable value of your property)/100

FOR the proposal:	Mayor, Ana Diaz	Councilman, Jimmy Rivas
	Councilman, Gregg Robinson	Councilman, Allen Lee
	Councilwoman, Carmela Garcia	Councilman, Mario Gonzales

AGAINST the proposal:

PRESENT and not voting:

ABSENT:

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](http://Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Jacinto City last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Jacinto City this year.

	2022	2023	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.655880	\$0.596874	decrease of -0.059006, or -9.00%
Average homestead taxable value	\$89,962	\$100,372	increase of 10,410, or 11.57%
Tax on average homestead	\$590.04	\$599.09	increase of 9.05, or 1.53%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$3,978,917	\$4,135,614	increase of 156,697, or 3.94%

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for City of Jacinto City at 713-274-8000 or [tax.office@tax.hctx.net](mailto:tax.office@tax.hctx.net), or visit [www.hctx.net](http://www.hctx.net) for more information.



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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION  
FOR TPDES PERMIT FOR MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER

AMENDMENT

PERMIT NO. WQ0010195001

**APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION.** City of Jacinto City, 1301 Mercury Drive, Jacinto City, Texas 77029, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a major amendment to Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0010195001 to change the minimum pH limit from 6.5 standards units (SU) to 6.0 SU. The current permit authorizes the discharge of treated domestic wastewater at an annual average flow not to exceed 1,640,000 gallons per day. TCEQ received this application on August 22, 2022.

The facility is located at 12202 Market Street, in the City of Jacinto City, Harris County, Texas 77029. The treated effluent will be discharged directly to Hunting Bayou in Segment No. 1007 of the San Jacinto River Basin. The designated uses for Segment No. 1007 are navigation and industrial water supply. In accordance with 30 Texas Administrative Code § 307.5 and the TCEQ's Implementation procedures for the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards (June 2010), an antidegradation review of the receiving waters was performed. A Tier 1 antidegradation review has preliminarily determined that existing water quality uses will not be impaired by this permit action. Numerical and narrative criteria to protect existing uses will be maintained. A Tier 2 review is not required since no exceptional, high, or intermediate aquatic life use water bodies have been identified in the discharge route. Existing uses will be maintained and protected. The preliminary determination can be reexamined and may be modified if new information is received. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and is not part of the application or notice. For the exact location, refer to the application.  
<https://tceq.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=db5bac44afbc468bbddd36of8168250f&marker=-95.222777%2C29.766111&level=12>

The TCEQ Executive Director has reviewed this action for consistency with the Texas Coastal Management Program (CMP) goals and policies in accordance with the regulations of the Texas General Land Office and has determined that the action is consistent with the applicable CMP goals and policies.

The TCEQ Executive Director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The Executive Director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if issued, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The permit application, Executive Director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at Jacinto City Hall, 1301 Mercury Drive, Jacinto City, Texas.

**ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE NOTICE.** Alternative language notice in Spanish is available at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notice>. El aviso de idioma alternativo en español está disponible en <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notice>.

**PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING.** You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ holds a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING.** After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider all timely comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. **Unless the application**

is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to comments will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting a contested case hearing or reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court.

**TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR REQUEST:** your name, address, phone number; applicant's name and proposed permit number; the location and distance of your property/activities relative to the proposed facility; a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the facility in a way not common to the general public; a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period; and the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing." If the request for contested case hearing is filed on behalf of a group or association, the request must designate the group's representative for receiving future correspondence; identify by name and physical address an individual member of the group who would be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity; provide the information discussed above regarding the affected member's location and distance from the facility or activity; explain how and why the member would be affected; and explain how the interests the group seeks to protect are relevant to the group's purpose.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. **If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law relating to relevant and material water quality concerns submitted during the comment period.**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION.** The Executive Director may issue final approval of the application unless a timely contested case hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed. If a timely hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed, the Executive Director will not issue final approval of the permit and will forward the application and request to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

**MAILING LIST.** If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent and/or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

**All written public comments and public meeting requests must be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 or electronically at [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment) within 30 days from the date of newspaper publication of this notice.**

**INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE.** For details about the status of the application, visit the Commissioners' Integrated Database at [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid). Search the database using the permit number for this application, which is provided at the top of this notice.

**AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION.** Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment), or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Any personal information you submit to the TCEQ will become part of the agency's record; this includes email addresses. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040 or visit their website at [www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep). Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from City of Jacinto City at the address stated above or by calling Mr. Kyle Vincent, P.E., LJA Engineering, Inc., at 713-657-6024.

Issuance Date: August 11, 2023

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# GPISD Budget & Tax Rate,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

al at the November general election.

Galena Park ISD received their estimated taxable value of \$12.6 billion on Aug. 25 from the Harris County Appraisal District. Niazy explained the number was the current estimate that accounts for the changes in law made by Senate Bill 2, acts of the legislatures during the called session. Previously, the estimate was \$13.2 billion but the new estimate considers House Joint Resolution 2 authorizing the constitutional amendment. Once the election is over, districts across the state will have a clearer idea of their annual budget.

The new proposed tax rate will decrease by 20.5 cents with compression, she said. That will mean a maintenance and operations rate of \$0.83760 and a debt service rate of \$0.31148, a total of \$1.14908.

“I know that the debt service will change, but this is the maximum rate we could establish. Once we’ve received those final values on Aug. 28, we do expect that valuation adjustments will trigger a

decrease in those rates,” she explained.

Niazy said she considers a multi-year modeling of enrollment and projects a 1 percent decline in 2023-2024 with an estimated average daily attendance of 19,116. That number, she said, is the main number used to generate state aid.

“Our campuses are funded on an average daily attendance estimate and if they have an increase in enrollment, we adjust and increase their allocations. However, if they have a decline, we never take away from their budget once the year has started, she said.

In June, the board adopted an across-the-board general pay increase of 3 percent with a beginning salary of \$64,450 for all employees tied to the teacher pay scale.

“All returning teachers receive a minimum increase of \$2,000,” Niazy said.

The district will also increase their contribution for employee’s health insurance after the Teacher Retirement System increased rates by as much as 6.8 to 7.2 percent.

“We felt it necessary for the district to increase their contribution to \$50 per month for employees participating in the insurance,” she said which led to an additional \$850,000 from the district.

Niazy also pointed out in the budget that a whopping 84.21 percent of the budget is attributed to payroll costs.

“We have proposed food budget revenues of 19.6 million and expenditures of 20.7 million leaving a deficit of 1.1 million,” she told board members. She explained the deficit was due to upgrades in the cafeterias.

The debt service budget includes revenues of \$41.3 million and expenditures of \$38.9 million, leaving a surplus of \$2.4 million.

Niazy said the district no longer has any bonds to sell and is currently in repayment of the bonds remaining.

Operating without certified tax rolls is not easy, and Galena Park ISD isn’t the only one.

“We’re in Harris County. It’s a large county and Galena Park ISD has a very complicated property tax base with so many

commercial accounts here,” she said. Many of the commercial properties are large with considerable inventory. The rate, she hopes, will be set by October, possibly November.

“There are some unique situations this year,” she said. “It’s possible that taxpayers may not see a tax bill until mid to late November.”

Niazy said they use a lot of forecasting models and is very familiar with each commercial account to be able to use analysis to project comfortably a fair tax rate for the public.

Compression began with House Bill 3 in 2019 where the state’s share of public education funding reached an incredible low.

“What they started doing

was as your value increased, they started lowering your tax rate. That way the state share would increase. It basically makes sure that the state keeps up with inflation, and rising property values so that it doesn’t all fall on the taxpayer,” she explained.

“It’s a way to benefit the taxpayer,” Niazy said.

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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of \$0.0470 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.0470 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.0420 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.0434 per \$100
DE MINIMIS RATE	\$0.0470 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2023 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 from the same properties in both the 2022 tax year and the 2023 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate, unless the de minimis rate for Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 exceeds the voter-approval rate for Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50.

The de minimis rate is the rate equal to the sum of the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate for Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50, the rate that will raise \$500,000, and the current debt rate for Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2023 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 18, 2023 AT 6:00 PM AT 1210 Dell Dale Avenue, Channelview, Harris County, Texas.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the voter-approval tax rate but not greater than the de minimis rate. However, the proposed tax rate exceeds the rate that allows voters to petition for an election under Section 26.075, Tax Code. If Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 adopts the proposed tax rate, the qualified voters of the Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 may petition the Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 to require an election to be held to determine whether to reduce the proposed tax rate. If a majority of the voters reject the proposed tax rate, the tax rate of the Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 will be the voter-approval tax rate of the Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

Property tax amount= (tax rate) x (taxable value of your property)/100

FOR the proposal:	Michael Burr, Vice President	Brenda Biggers, Secretary
	Robert Ballew, Treasurer	Alma Cedillo, Asst. Secretary/Treasurer

AGAINST the proposal:

PRESENT and not voting:

ABSENT: Jim Owens, President

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 this year.

	2022	2023	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.0500	\$0.0470	decrease of -0.0030, or -6.00%
Average homestead taxable value	\$152,964	\$170,877	increase of 17,913, or 11.71%
Tax on average homestead	\$76.48	\$80.31	increase of 3.83, or 5.01%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$4,042,357	\$4,661,753	increase of 619,396, or 15.32%

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for Harris County Emergency Service District No. 50 at 713-274-8000 or [tax.office@tax.hctx.net](mailto:tax.office@tax.hctx.net), or visit [www.hctx.net](http://www.hctx.net) for more information.



Notice

Virtual Public Meeting with In-Person Open House

Interstate Highway (I) 10 at San Jacinto River Bridge Reconstruction

(I)10: From Magnolia Street to Thompson Road and

Spur 330: From I-10 to Thompson Road

Control Section Job (CSJ): 0508-01-379

Harris County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Houston District, is proposing improvements along I-10 at the San Jacinto River from west of Magnolia Street to Thompson Road and Spur 330 from I-10 to Thompson Road in Harris County, Texas, a distance of 4.5 miles. This notice advises the public that TxDOT will be conducting an online Virtual Public Meeting on the proposed project with an in-person open house. **The Virtual Public Meeting will be available starting on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, by 5 p. m.** The Virtual Public Meeting will consist of a pre-recorded video presentation and will include both audio and visual components. To view the Virtual Public Meeting presentation and view project information, go to the following web address [www.txdot.gov/projects/hearings-meetings.html](http://www.txdot.gov/projects/hearings-meetings.html).

Please note that the presentation will not be available on the website until the time and date listed above. If you do not have internet access, you may call (713) 802-5560 between the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, to ask questions and access project materials during the project development process. Formal comments may be provided by mail or email as explained below.

Additionally, TxDOT is providing an in-person open house option for individuals who would like to participate in person, instead of online. In-person attendees will be able to view the same pre-recorded presentation as posted online, review hard copies of project materials, ask questions, and submit written comments. **The in-person open house option will be held on Thursday, September 21, 2023, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Martin L. Flukinger Community Center, 16003 Lorenzo Street, Channelview, Texas 77530.**

The purpose of the project is to improve traffic flow, increase navigational safety, and enhance roadway network connectivity within the project limits. The proposed project would replace the existing I-10 main lane bridges over the San Jacinto River. The existing bridges have a 23-foot vertical clearance and a 158-foot-wide horizontal navigational clearance. Due to repeated barge traffic collisions with the bridge structures on the San Jacinto River, the proposed I-10 main lane bridges would consist of a wider navigational opening and tentatively consist of steel girder bridges with a 52-foot vertical clearance and a 386-foot horizontal navigational clearance.

The proposed project would also add vehicular capacity to I-10 within the project limits. The existing highway in this location consists of three lanes in each direction. The proposed project would add one general purpose lane, acceleration/deceleration lanes and entrance and exit ramps, and two managed lanes in each direction. Managed lanes are highway lanes where operational strategies, such as, but not limited to HOV lanes or emergencies services, are proactively implemented, and managed in response to changing conditions. Proposed improvements along Spur 330 include widening to add one managed lane in each direction and connect to the proposed I-10 managed lanes. Currently Spur 330 consists of two 12-foot main lanes and two 12-foot frontage lanes in each direction.

The proposed project would, subject to final design considerations, require approximately 5.4 acres of additional right-of-way (ROW) and potentially displace one non-residential structure containing two businesses and would relocate the City of Baytown city limit monument. Relocation assistance is available for displaced persons and businesses. Information about the TxDOT Relocation Assistance Program and services and benefits for those displaced and other affected property owners, as well as information about the tentative schedule for ROW acquisition and construction, may be obtained from Angelica Sizemore, Right of Way Project Coordinator, at (713) 504-9628.

The proposed project would involve construction in wetlands.

The proposed project would involve an action in a floodplain.

Any environmental documentation or studies, maps and drawings showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the proposed project are on file and available for review Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the TxDOT Houston District Office, 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas 77007. Project materials are also available online at [www.txdot.gov/projects/hearings-meetings.html](http://www.txdot.gov/projects/hearings-meetings.html). These materials will also be available in hard copy form for review at the in-person open house.

The Public Meeting will be conducted in English and Spanish. If you need an interpreter or document translator because English or Spanish is not your primary language or you have difficulty communicating effectively in English or Spanish, one will be provided to you free of charge. If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. If you need interpretation or translation services or you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation to attend and participate in the public meeting, please contact Gabriel Adame, NEPA Public Engagement Coordinator, at (713) 802-5199 or [Gabriel.Adame@txdot.gov](mailto:Gabriel.Adame@txdot.gov) no later than 4 p.m. CT, **Thursday, September 14, 2023**. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for the project team to arrange.

Written comments from the public regarding the proposed project are requested and may be submitted in any language. Please submit your comments by mail to the TxDOT Houston District Office, Advanced Project Development Director, P.O. Box 1386, Houston, Texas 77251-1386.

Written comments may also be submitted by email to [HOU-PIOWebmail@txdot.gov](mailto:HOU-PIOWebmail@txdot.gov). All comments must be received or postmarked by **Friday, October 6, 2023**. Responses to comments received will be available online at the web address listed above once completed.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the Public Meeting, please contact Jeanne Javadi, P.E., Project Manager, at (713) 802-5517 or via email at [Jeanne.Javadi@txdot.gov](mailto:Jeanne.Javadi@txdot.gov).

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

Please call (713) 802- 5199 to request special accommodations or if you have need for interpretation/translation.

Mandarin: 如對住宿有特殊要求或需要口譯或筆譯，請撥打 (713) 802-5199.

Swahili: Tafadhali piga simu kwa (713) 802-5199 ili kuomba malazi maalum au ikiwa unahitaji ukalimani au utafiri.

Vietnamese: Xin hãy gọi (713) 802-5199 để yêu cầu cho các điều chỉnh đặc biệt hoặc nếu bạn cần có phiên dịch hoặc biên dịch.

Creole: Tanpri rele (713) 802-5199 pou mande aranjman espesyal oswa si ou bezwen entèprèt oswa tradiktè.





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