## NORTH CHANNEL \*STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper



this SATURDAY, Sept. 9 starting at 12 noon at Charlie's Ice House. Public Welcome to Play.

Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Cloverleaf, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City www.northchannelstar.com THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2023 VOLUME 11, NO. 34 (#484)

Waste Pits: Work stalled on Northern site

#### CHANNEL **CURRENTS**

#### **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.

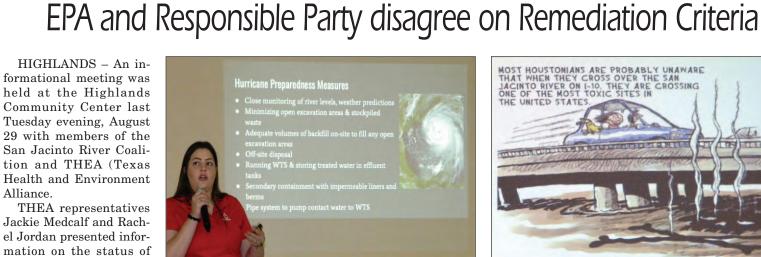
TEAMS: 2 person teams, \$50 per team entry, Double Elimination rules. Awards and Prize Money for the top 3

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.



Rachel Jordan of THEA presents information on the measures that the Remediation Contractor will take if the Southern site is threatened by a

to over 2000 truckloads or 58,000 cubic yards, and taken offsite to a licensed disposal facility.

There have been two minor releases of waste water during excavation, Jordan said, in March and

May of this year. In each case, the water was contained and stored properly. Jordan noted that an EPA inspector is present every day to check on proper procedures. This was a major issue with THEA that was properly resolved. Jordan said that the work was on schedule, to be completed by July 31, 2024.

This cartoon by Nick Anderson illustrates the serious safety issues and

threats to the public's health presented by the existence of the Waste Pits.

It was also noted that work is continuing through the hurricane season, which was not the original plan. However, Jordan explained that EPA had agreed to additional safeguards to stop work and cover open excavations, in

Continued. See WASTE PITS



#### **FOOTBALL SCORES & SCHEDULES**

#### LAST WEEK'S SCORES

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31 Baytown Sterling 28, Brazoswood 23 Conroe 28, Eisenhower 0 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 Barbers Hill 56, Montgomery 6 C. E. King 45, Allen 28 Clear Brook 35, Baytown Lee 32 Fort Bend Marshall 56, Crosby 7 Caney Creek 27, Galena Park 7 Channelview 33, MacArthur 13 Silsbee 41, Huffman Hargrave

North Shore 53, Spring 0 SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 Dayton 49, Waltrip 7 Goose Creek Memorial 26, Bellaire 9

#### THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 LaPorte at Goose Creek Memorial, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium in Baytown FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 Aldine at Houston Math, Science, and Tech, 7 p.m., Dyer Stadium in Houston Baytown Sterling at Barbers Hill, 7 p.m., Eagle Stadium in Mont Belvieu C. E. King at Pearland, 7 p.m., Oiler Stadium in Pearland Channelview at Clear Creek, 7 p.m., Veterans Memorial Stadium Crosby at Baytown Lee, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium Eisenhower at Tomball Memorial, 7 p.m., Tomball ISD Stadium in Tomball Montgomery at Dayton, 7 p.m., Bronco Stadium in Dayton Needville at Huffman Hargrave, 7 p.m., Falcon Stadium in North Shore at Westfield, 7 p.m., Planet Ford Stadium in Spring Splendora at Galena Park, 7 p.m., Galena Park ISD Stadium Westside at Davis, 7 p.m., Leonard George Stadium in

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Center in Cypress

Nimitz at Cy Park, 6 p.m., Berry

### NS Mustangs Gallop Past Spring Lions 53-0

By Allan Jamail

Alliance.

remediation efforts at the

Northern and Southern

to report positive news

about work accomplished

at the Southern site. To

date, since construction

started in November 2022,

approximately 50% of the

toxic waste material has

been removed, amounting

Rachel Jordan was able

Impoundment sites.

September 1, 2023—the home opener for the North Shore (NS) Mustangs against the Spring Lions was nothing more than a low key scrimmage game, NS  $53 \sim \text{Spring } 0$ .

Just as last week's game Head Coach Willie Gaston's Eastside Mustangs offense scored in less than 2 minutes. It was a no contest from the start; usually preseason games allow coaches and players to evaluate the team's strengths and weaknesses. But by playing a team like the Lions with so many players under-matched against the Mustangs I'm not sure an accurate eval

CONTINUED. See Mustangs Hammer Lions 53-0, p. 5



#18 Charles Ross Mustang's linebacker sacks Lions quarterback Ahran Ogbor for a loss of yards. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



had a perfect game making all 7 of his kicks. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

### HC CONSTABLE PCT. 3 HOLDS CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

For the last 6 weeks Precinct 3 has hosted our first Citizens Police Academy and we must say it's been a blast! Each Wednesday evening community members have dedicated their time to learning about what happens "behind the badge".

Our instructors have outlined subject matter to be discussed and experienced weekly including air boat rides, firearms simulations, dog bite and search demonstrations, taser taser (yes...a deputy volunteered to ride the lightning), trying out and trying on the Crime Interdiction Units gear and equipment, not to mention a fish fry on the river.

We've made new friends who are now family and hope they've enjoyed our classes as much as we've enjoyed teaching them. We're excited to continue this and hope to see you in our next Citizens Police Academy, Behind The Badge!

We want to especially thank Tom S Ramsey, PE, Harris County Precinct 3 Commissioner's Office and Precinct 3, Place 2 Judge Lucia Bates for their continued support of our community and our department. It's takes teamwork to make the dream



Pct. 3 Commissioner Ramsey presents a Certificate to Constable Sherman Eagleton



Constable Eagleton and Judge Lucia Bates



Judge Bates and Constable Eagleton with the Citizens Police Academy class.

### **SHELDON ISD NEWS**

### Panther Football kicks off Home Season with Senior Night



Congratulations to the King High School Panther football team on their victory over Crosby on August 25. The Panthers won 58 to 22. It was a great Senior Night for all the seniors who are athletic trainers, cheerleaders, and football players. November 3 will be the next Senior Night recognizing the Class of 2024 involved in fine arts programs.





## **Carroll Elementary Students Shine** in live Morning Announcements

Fourth and fifth grade students at Sheldon ISD's Carroll Elementary have an opportunity to participate in a student-led live morning announcements show hosted every morning. The crew rotates through a variety of jobs, including on-air anchor producer, writer, videographer, and director. As students produce and host the on-air broadcast, they gain critical real-world skills such as time management, collaboration. public speaking, and project implementation. The librarian, Amanda Chacon, monitors the News Crew and recruits new members as needed.

"Students are responsible for all aspects of the show, from the pledges to leading the entire school through a breathing exercise and positive affirma-



tions every morning," said Librarian Amanda Chacon. Further, they handle all special announcements for such events as Hispanic Heritage Month, Black History Month, and Read Across America Week, to name a few.

"Having students take ownership of such a critical aspect of the school's daily operations is essential in fostering a sense of community and pride," Chacon said. At the end of every school year, outgoing News Crews students train new incoming News Crew, furthering the student-led and developed aspect of the program. The students are live every morning from 7:45 - 7:50

### **Panthers Give Back**



The King High School girls' basketball team made a surprise appearance in the car rider line at Garrett Elementary on August 30. The team welcomed students to school as they opened car doors. The Panthers' basketball season begins in November. Look for schedules on our website at <a href="https://www.sheldonisd.com">www.sheldonisd.com</a>.

## **Sheldon ISD District Leaders to Head State Organizations**





Dr. Rachelle Ysquierdo

Sheldon ISD's Dr. Brenda Dearmon, assistant superintendent of administrative services, has been installed as the president-elect for the Houston Area Alliance of Black School Educators (HAABSE). Once she completes this term, she will serve as the president of HAABSE in 2024.

Dr. Rachelle Ysquierdo, director of teacher and learning, has been chosen to lead the Texas Elementary Principal and Supervisor Association as the Region 4 president. TEPSA's Board of Directors plays a critical role in advancing the Association's mission for Texas Pre-K through 8th grade school leaders.

## KHS Teacher Selected as September Honored National Teacher



School, is the September Honored National Teacher. As the recipient of the Honored National Teacher Award, she received a \$5,000 cash award and a \$1,000 gift card to Donors Choose. She was nominated by one of her students. Additionally, Jorge Castillo, an esteemed writer for the Los Angeles Times, will write her story highlighting her impact on her students' lives.

Yaritza Sifuentes, a math teacher at King High

#### Yaritza Sifuentes

#### Panther Band Performs Annual Fall Showcase



The King High School Panther Band performed a spectacular Showcase at Panther Stadium on August 18. This event kicked off their fall performance season with a glimpse into the 2023 halftime performances and created an opportunity for the community to come out to support.

### **CHANNELVIEW ISD NEWS**

#### **Message from The Superintendent**



As the Superintendent of Channelview ISD, it brings me great joy to extend a warm welcome back as we prepare for the upcoming fall semester. Our theme for this year is #WeAreChannelview. I felt this theme was appropriate for this school year to remind us that we are a community that will strive to work together for the betterment of our students. I want Channelview to be a place where all can learn, work and live.

As we begin this new academic year, it is with a renewed sense of optimism and excitement. Our dedicated teacher and staff members have been

working tirelessly to prepare for the new academic year, and their enthusiasm and passion for education will undoubtedly inspire and empower our students.

I firmly believe in the power of collaboration and open communication. This year several community members, parents, educators and students participated in a Strategic Planning Committee. This committee met regularly over the course of 6 months to develop a 5 year Strategic Plan. The first of its kind for Channelview ISD! We received feedback from the committee on how to improve the district and the strategic plan will help us do that. In addition, we officially adopted district colors, secondary logos, and a motto—Empowered To Thrive. It's important to know, our traditional seal will not be replaced, it's a part of the district's history and we plan to cherish it.

I am incredibly optimistic about the possibilities that lie ahead of us. As we come together to embark on this new academic year, let us create a vibrant and nurturing educational community. Remember, #WeAreChannelview and our students are Empowered To Thrive.

With Channelview Pride, Dr. Tory C. Hill Superintendent of Schools

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

## CHARLOTTE'S WEB By Charlotte Jackson



#### Similarities

his past weekend, I met several interesting people and as I began to talk to them, I was interested in how they ended up in Houston. One lady from Albania had been in Houston for less than two weeks. I met a gentleman from Ethiopia as well as three younger adults from Lake Charles. Later I met two men in the early forties who relocated from Michigan.

Most of them came for job opportunities. There were two who came to check out the area before relocating. I wanted to know how they decided on Houston as a future home. While they each had something to say about the money, there were other factors that helped them decide. The variety of professional sports as well as the diversity of residents were high on the list. One person shared that they had heard so much about the various religions that are allowed to be practiced in Houston, was a deciding factor. I mentioned that there are several amazing groups in the area who encourage us all to explore the differences yet as we do, we find many more similarities.

How so? I explained that Houston Interfaith Ministries has been offering "Dialogue Dinners" for many years. Participants sign up and they note as many details as possible on their application. For example, when I went to dinner, I included that I was a middle-aged Caucasian divorced Christian mother with some college credits and worked for a community college. (Yes, that was over five years ago.) As other participants signed up, there were Hispanics, Jordanians, Irish, Italian, British, Chinese as well as those who did not identify with any one religion. There were couples, there were men, married individuals who came without their spouse, as well as several engaged individuals. The ages ranged from eighteen to eighty. There were some very interesting people. Some were staunch Republicans, and some were very liberal Democrats. There were some who were not registered to vote, some were not eligible to vote, and others registered that evening. Some participants love that Houston is home to a vibrant museum district, others came for the world-renowned Medical Center and others for an education at one of the many universities.

As the night progressed, we began to focus on our similarities. Some were parents and even grandparents. Several individuals had no desire for children. Women seemed to outnumber the men when it came to a desire to travel. The men found the music scene in Houston to be fulfilling. We each discussed our favorite types of food as well as the various nonprofits were volunteered with.

Several of the group had learned about the Dialogue Dinners after attending a program or workshop hosted by The Center for Healing of Racism. This organization was founded before some of the members in our group were born. It was birthed from the heart of an amazing African American scholar who is married to a man from Austria. She could not understand why people so often look for the differences instead of looking for likenesses. As I shared with my new friends about these two amazing groups, I realized that perhaps what we all need is to look for our similarities and focus on doing good.





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## San Jacinto Pilot Club hears of Homelessness



At the August meeting of the San Jacinto Pilot Club, ladies listened to Don Nichols, Sgt. Perez, and Constable Garcia from Pct. 2 Constable's office on how they help the homeless and seniors in the area.



The club participates in that effort helping assemble hygiene packs to be distributed to the homeless and donating rulers for school supply backpacks for students in the district.

### COMMUNITY WATCH

#### Information sought on murder of Sean Martinez on Federal Road

Reward of up to \$5,000 leading to the arrest of the suspect(s) involved in this case.

Crime Stoppers and the Houston Police Department's Homicide Division need the public's assistance identifying the suspect(s) responsible for a Murder.

On Thursday, May 4, 2023, at approximately 6:30 a.m., Sean Martinez was killed in the 1300 block of Federal Rd. in Houston, Texas. During the incident, Mr. Martinez was in a parking lot when he was approached by the suspects. The suspects assaulted and stabbed the victim. Sadly, Mr. Martinez died as a result of the injuries sustained.

The family of Sean Martinez is requesting the community's help with identifying the suspects responsible for this Murder.

Crime Stoppers may pay up to \$5,000 for information leading to the charging and/or arrest of the suspects in this case. Information may be reported by calling 713-222-TIPS (8477), submitted online at www.crime-stoppers.org or through the Crime Stoppers mobile app. Only tips and calls DIRECTLY TO Crime Stoppers are anonymous and eligible for a cash reward.

All warrants are active at the time this press release was created and are subject to change. Crime Stoppers of Houston is not making any legal claim that this is the most current legal status.

## Chase ends in deadly crash on East Freeway

EAST HARRIS COUNTY — A vehicle with four individuals trying to get away from police crashed out on the East Freeway Saturday, killing one person inside that vehicle.

This incident started at about 4 p.m. when deputies tried to pull the vehicle over for a traffic violation, deputies said. The driver refused to stop, which started a chase.

Officials said the vehicle was driving erratically, which forced deputies who were following it to

The vehicle kept going and eventually crashed into another vehicle in the 12000 block of East Freeway near Holland Avenue. Fortunately, no one in that other vehicle was injured, but one person in the suspect's vehicle was thrown out of the car due to the impact of the crash and died on scene.

The other three suspects got out of the vehicle and tried running away. Two were eventually caught. One remains on the run.

The two that were caught were taken to nearby hospitals with minor injuries.

As deputies investigated the crash scene, they learned the vehicle they were chasing was stolen.

Deputies are asking anyone who may know the whereabouts of the suspect on the run, to call 713-221-6000

#### **ASK DIAMOND JIM**

#### Diamond Jim: "What is the Birthstone for September?"

#### **SAPPHIRE**

When hearing the word Sapphire many people immediately envision a stunning violet-blue gemstone because the word "Sapphire" is Greek for blue. For centuries, the Sapphire has been referred to as the ultimate blue gemstone. Since Ancient times the Blue Sapphire represented a promise of honesty, loyalty, purity and trust. To keep with this tradition Sapphires are one of the most popular engagement gemstones today.



Sapphire is found in many parts of the world, but the most prized Sapphires are from Myanmar (Burma), Kashmir and Sri Lanka. Sapphires with highly saturated violet-blue color and "velvety" or "sleepy" transparency are more rare than other sapphire colors. The purer the blue of the Sapphire, the greater the price. However, many people find that the darker hues of Sapphire can be just as appealing.

Sapphires are not only blue, they come in almost every color of the rainbow: pink, yellow, orange, peach, and violet colors. The most sought-after color fancy Sapphire is the rare and beautiful Padparadscha: a pink-orange corundum with a distinctive salmon color reminiscent of a tropical sunset. These ultra-rare, ultra-expensive stones are among the most coveted gems in the world.

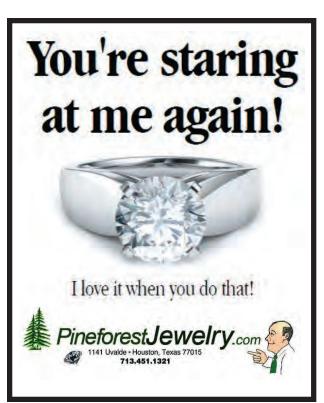
Really, the only color you won't find termed a "Sapphire" is red, because red sapphire is called Ruby. For a more in-depth look a Sapphires and other colorful gem stones, visit us in our store or online at PineforestJewelry.com.

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.

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.





#### ★ OPINION PAGE ★



## Judge Hidalgo visits the White House about ARPA



When Harris County received nearly \$1.2 billion in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding in 2021, the county decided that the best way to serve residents with these funds was to invest in transformational programs, instead of using the money to plug budget holes. As Harris County approaches its third year of ARPA funding, the county has so far invested nearly \$643 million ARPA dollars. The programs that the county has chosen to invest in have turned the region into a national leader on issues from reducing homelessness to maternal health to early childhood education. Some of the things Harris County has been able to accomplish with ARPA funding include:

- -- Reducing homelessness by 20%
- -- Investing in apprenticeship programs that will help create hundreds of jobs in high-growing, fastpaced industries like construction and IT
- -- Increasing the number of slots available for high-quality child care by 10%
- -- Tackling Harris County's high maternal mortality rates by helping hundreds of mothers receive prenatal care and support through home visitation
- -- Making county buildings and schools safer by establishing a comprehensive lead abatement program

Earlier this summer, Judge Hidalgo visited the White House to share success stories from ARPA programs in Harris County. Investing ARPA funds in big picture programs gives the county the potential to serve constituents for years to come. Thank you to the Biden Administration, the county's federal partners and all the departments here in Harris County that have helped put these programs in motion.

#### \$2.5 Bn Bond Issue Election for Harris Health approved for November ballot

At one time or another, you or someone in your community has received care at Harris Health System. Yet, Lyndon B. Johnson (LBJ) Hospital and Ben Taub Hospital have not undergone significant upgrades or renovations since their initial construction over 30 years ago. Harris County's population has nearly doubled during that time, and both hospitals are currently operating at or over capacity.

In August, Harris County Commissioners Court approved an order for a November 2023 bond election to finance upgrades to the Harris Health System. The \$2.5 billion bond would help fund a Level 1-capable trauma center at LBJ Hospital, which provides the highest level of trauma care to critically ill or injured patients; increase capacity at Ben Taub Hospital by adding approximately 120 patient rooms; and create three new community clinics in high-need areas.

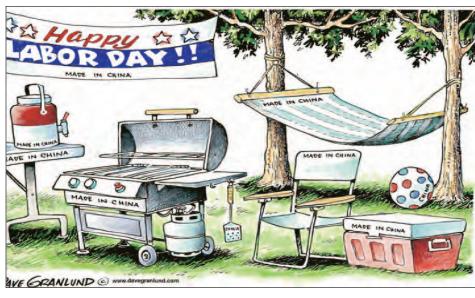
Over the next ten years, the bond is projected to have a minimal impact on the average homeowner with a cost of approximately \$6/month. Learn more about the upcoming bond election by visiting www.harrishealth.org, and visit www.harrisvotes.com before October 10th to register to vote.

### County to Invest \$7.2 Million in Homelessness Project

Harris County is leading the way on ending homelessness. Even in the middle of the pandemic, the county and the city, along with the Coalition for the Homeless and other nonprofit partners, have been able to reduce homelessness by almost 20%.

The county is working to reduce it even more. In June, Commissioners Court approved \$7.2 million in American Rescue Plan funding for the Knowles-Rowland House Project, which will create 31 new permanent supportive housing units for people experiencing homelessness. The project will transform the existing gymnasium on the Bread of Life Campus into housing units and provide all residents with supportive services such as transportation so residents can go to job interviews, doctor appointments, and mental health counseling.

The more space provided, especially places that have the support and community that people experiencing homelessness need, the more people the county can help. While this is a proud step forward, there's still more to do. As of last count, over 1,800 people in Harris County live in shelters. The county is making progress, but the fight to end homelessness is not done.



## STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

#### Texans Asked to Conserve Energy in Heat Wave

The agency that operates the power grid for much of the state asked Texans to conserve energy use several times last week as the grid was beset with high demand and low wind-power generation, according to the Austin American-Statesman.

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas has asked electric users to reduce energy use as the state continues to face a tenacious heat wave.

Demand on the grid operated by ERCOT has record levels 10 times this summer. The system has held up to the strain to this point. Any outages across the state have been local and caused by other reasons other than demand on the grid, such as downed power lines or blown transformers.

ERCOT is calling on large electric customers to voluntarily cut consumption during peak periods and is working with out-of-state power operators to secure additional power generation capacity.

In addition, two "virtual power plants" are now able to provide power to the grid, according to the Public Utility Commission of Texas. According to the PUC, "The pilot project tests how consumerowned, small energy devices, such as battery energy storage systems, backup generators, and controllable Electric Vehicle (EV) chargers, can be virtually aggregated and participate as a resource in the wholesale electricity market, strengthening grid reliabili-

The two pilot projects underway involve Tesla customers who have electric storage systems in their homes and have agreed to sell their surplus power in the ERCOT market.

#### WILDFIRE DANGER REMAINS HIGH IN TEXAS

The Texas A&M Forest Service continues to respond to requests for assistance on wildfires across the state as dry weather continues. Currently there are four active fires, the largest being the Shearwood Creek Fire in Jasper County. As of Sunday it had burned 3,000 acres and was 70% contained.

As of Sunday 208 counties

HIGHLANDS

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had burn bans in place. Meanwhile, a helicopter delivering water to the 150-acre Barth Fire in Caldwell County almost collided with a drone being flown by someone not with the agency. It came within feet of the helicopter.

"Pilots have no way to detect a drone or know there is one present in the airspace until they see it," said Jared Karns with the forest service. "Suppression aircraft can respond to wildfires quickly, increasing the likelihood that a new ignition remains a small, manageable wildfire. Utilizing aircraft greatly enhances the state's firefighting efforts, but they have to be able to fly in a safe environment."

Under Federal Aviation Administration rules, all aircraft, including drones, are prohibited from flying over wildfire areas. More than 1,350 wildfires have occurred in the state in July and August to date.

### TPWD TRYING TO BUY PROPERTY CONTAINING STATE PARK

The commissioners overseeing Texas Parks and Wildlife Department voted unanimously last week to negotiate acquiring the roughly 500 acres that contains Lake Colorado City State Park in Mitchell County. The state has been leasing it from Vistra Corp. for more than 50 years.

Earlier this year, the energy company sold a piece of property that contained Fairfield State Park to a developer, forcing the park's closure.

"This makes all the sense in the world," outgoing commission chairman Arch "Beaver" Alpin III said about the

CROSBY

Gilbert Hoffman

.....Julieta Paita .Kristan Hoffman

.Willie Glasgow

purchase, according to The Dallas Morning News. "I believe we've had a meeting of the minds on being able to do it. This will allow us to secure one of our parks for the long term and be able to own it."

The park is located off Interstate 20 about halfway between Sweetwater and Big Spring and offers opportunities for water recreation and outdoor activities for nearly 30,000 visitors annually.

#### JUDGE REJECTS 'INVASION' DEFENSE IN BUOY SUIT

A federal judge in Austin rejected the state's assertion that it has the right to install buoys in the Rio Grande because of a "migrant in vasion," The News reported.

"We are here for purposes of determining whether this is a barrier to navigation, whether this is a navigable waterway," U.S. District Judge Ezra said.

The U.S. Justice Department has sued the state over the buoys, saying their placement ignored the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, which established that the federal government controls navigable waterways. The state's defense claims the Rio Grande is not navigable in the section where the buoys were installed, near Eagle Pass.

#### COUNTIES CAN'T BAN SOLAR FARMS, AG RULES

An attempt by Franklin County officials to ban solar farms has failed after provisional Attorney General Angela Colmenero ruled that counties don't have specific authority to do so, the Texas Standard reported.

Commissioners in that county voted last year to impose a 180-day moratorium on commercial solar development. They later rescinded it, but the Franklin County attorney asked for an attorney general's ruling.

As elsewhere, some Franklin County residents opposed the solar farms on grounds that trees would be cut down, grasslands destroyed, and wildlife blocked by fences.

#### WWI NAVAL SHIPWRECK FOUND IN NECHES RIVER

The Texas Historical Commission has confirmed a shipwreck found in the Neches River dates to World War I. The wooden-hulled vessel was one of nearly 40 built in Beaumont by the U.S. Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation and abandoned when the war ended.

Many of the 40 vessels were unfinished and often converted to barges or sold for scrap. Designed as steamships, they were nearly 282 feet long.

Many were eventually abandoned in the Neches and Sabine rivers near Orange in the 1920s.

THC said the shipwreck sites are protected under state and federal laws. The latest one became visible as a result of low water levels in the Neches due to drought and the summer heat.



#### Apple Empanadas

Usually, just as I am getting close to leaving Mexico, I find some absolutely irresistible treat and have to eat it every single day until I leave.

I arrive back in the U.S. a few pounds heavier, wondering how I ever got so carried away. I return to my more or less normal eating habits and more or less normal weight, only to return and discover some new treat across the border

This week, it was apple empanadas.

I didn't know what an empanada was. I thought it was a sort of meat sandwich and not something I'd get excited about. That was until Jorge, our benevolent landlord (possibly too benevolent), showed up at our doorstep with a small plate. On the plate were two large, crispy, perfectly browned triangles covered in cinnamon sugar and filled with apples.

"For you!" He explained, unnecessarily. "Empanadas!"

It was midafternoon and not exactly our coffee and pastry hour. (Full disclosure: My husband, Peter, and I didn't have a coffee and pastry hour, although this soon changed.) We cut one of those apple empanadas in half and tried it. And that was pretty much it.

We ate the second empanada. Then, I went downstairs to find Jorge.

"Where do we get more of these?"

Jorge laughed and gave me directions, but no address. The next day, I went hunting.

"But only after 2 p.m.!" he warned me.

Jorge said it was near the flower shop. There was a bakery across the street, but I'd been in there, and there were no empanadas.

San Miguel is a historic town, so they don't put up much permanent signage. They will hang a shingle out when they are open and take it down at night. Many times, I have walked right by a business with no way to recognize it after it was closed.

On my first day, I found no sign of empanadas. On the second day, I asked a couple of gringos nearby, and they knew nothing about them. On the third day, I went into the flower shop and asked in Spanish. The owner pointed to the bakery.

"No, not the bakery." I told him it was empanadas, specifically, I was looking for.

The people in San Miguel are used to being asked stupid questions. They answer the same stupid questions over and over, and then gringos come up with new ones.

The owner of the flower shop stopped working on the roses at his table. He took me gently by the arm and guided me out the door. I wondered where we were going. He walked directly to the bakery that I had, by now, passed at least half a dozen times.

"Here are empanadas," he told me. Still, I doubted.

I stepped inside. There they were.

Miraculously, a whole new selection of baked goods had appeared. Because a crispy apple pastry was something I would eat in the morning, I expected them to be there in the morning. But that would be foolish if you wanted to eat them warm and fresh from the oven in the afternoon, as they do in San Miguel.

I got the last two on the tray and brought them home to Pe-

"Now we're in trouble!" I announced as we ate an empanada each.

But, before I went home, I stopped at the flower shop to thank the store owner. The vocabulary I have in Spanish to explain that I am stubborn and pigheaded is limited. And now I think I should do something about that—both the vocabulary and the stubbornness.

Till next time, Carrie

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#### Mustangs Hammer Lions 53-0,

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1** 



# 26 Mustang's Chris Thomas dives across the goal line for a TD. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

uation was achieved.

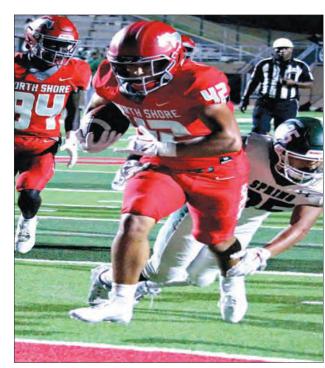
Gaston replaced starting quarterback Kaleb Bailev in the second half with backup quarterback Joshua William. Bailey threw for 2 touchdowns (TD's but was not as accurate with his passing game as he was in game one the week before. He had receivers open put couldn't throw a catchable ball, he also ran for a TD.

The Mustang's defense continued to dominate offenses as they did in their first game shutting out the Lions and sacking their QB numerous times (see photo) and holding the total pass and run offense to under a hundred yards (91 yds). They've allowed only 2 TD's in eight quarters.

A bright spot for NS is junior kicker Jonathan Soto who last season only saw limited playing time. This season he's posted a perfect record, booting 3 field goals and 10 extra points (see photo).

NS's offense made about 500 yards (yds) in each of their first two games, this game, rushing yds 295, and passing 186 yds.

Eastside Boys scorers:



#42 Johan Zuniga Mustang's running back scores on a 12 yd. run. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

Deion Deblanc pass TD-(1), Christopher Barnes pass TD- (1), Najae Alexander run TD- (1), QB Kaleb Bailey run TD- (1), Chris Thomas run TD-(1), Sebastian Serrano pass TD- (1), Johan Zuniga run TD-(1) & Kicker Jonathan Soto 5 extra points & 2 field goals (see photo). Lin-

da Jamail was the statis-

The NS Mustangs may have this season's first real test as they travel Friday, Sept. 8th to play the Spring Westfield Mustangs at Planet Ford Stadium; kickoff is 7PM (both teams undefeated).

Scoring by quarter:

	1	2	3	4	Final	
North Shore	17	17	7	12	38	
Spring	0	0	0	0	0	

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



### **Shift Towards Adoption Of Shelter Dogs Over Purebred Purchases in Texas**

In the past, the sight of purebred dogs like Dachshunds, Boston Terriers, and French Bulldogs was common in American neighborhoods. However, recently a notable shift in consumers' preferences has steered away from these purebreds despite their previous popularity.

For some, the exorbitant cost of purebred dogs, which can reach up to \$10,000 for breeds such as Rottweilers and Chow Chows, is a considerable deterrent. For others, the concern is over health issues commonly associated with purebreds. English Bulldogs and Pugs, for instance, are often plagued with respiratory problems. Also, many individuals also feel a moral obligation to provide homes to shelter dogs.

Bone Voyage Dog Rescue recently conducted a study revealing a significant shift towards adopting shelter dogs over purchasing purebreds from breeders. A survey of 3,000 potential dog owners in Texas revealed that an impressive 46% of them expressed an intent to adopt from shelters, marking a 6% swing towards possible shelter dog ownership when contrasted with older data from the Humane Society of the United States, which indicated that 40% of pet dogs in households were previously shelter dogs.

"This increasing trend towards shelter dog adoption promises substantial improvements in the welfare of homeless animals. The shift could lead to a decrease in the number of dogs in shelters, as more are adopted," says Annette Thompson, Executive

Director of Bone Voyage Dog Rescue, when commenting on the study.

A state-by-state analysis of the survey data revealed the strongest preference for shelter dog adoption is in Nebraska, with a remarkable 81% expressing a preference for shelter dogs over purebred breeds.

Interactive map showing survey results in each state (click on 'embed' to

In a complementary study, Bone Voyage Dog Rescue used Google Search trends to understand the public's interest in shelter dogs over the past year. The insights from Google mirrored the survey data, reinforcing the shift towards shelter dog ownership.

Among the top 25 states most interested in 'shelter dog adoption', 22 demonstrated a marked shift towards this preference, as per the survey data. Wyoming, for instance, had the highest proportion of shelter dog searches, reflecting its second-place ranking in the survey. Similarly, Texas ranked 25th in Google searches for shelter dogs, aligning with its position in the survey for those most likely to adopt a shelter dog.

The rising trend of shelter dog adoption holds considerable potential for improving animal welfare in the US. This shift could have multi-faceted benefits, creating a ripple effect that extends beyond the lives of the individual dogs adopted.

Decreasing the number of dogs residing in shelters is a primary benefit. With more dogs finding homes, the overall population in shelters

would shrink. Consequently, shelters would have more resources available per animal, including space, staff attention, and medical care. This shift would result in better living conditions for the remaining animals while reducing the strain on shelter resources.

Secondly, an increase in the adoption of shelter dogs could influence the supplydemand dynamics of the pet industry. If consumers choose adoption over purchasing from breeders, it might discourage unethical breeding practices, including those prevalent in puppy mills. This change would further contribute to enhancing animal welfare on a larger

Finally, each adopted dog's individual quality of life would likely see significant improvements. Home environments typically offer more space, personal attention, and stability than shelters. Adopted dogs receive consistent care, training, and socialization opportunities, leading to better physical health and behavioral outcomes. This transformation enriches the adopted dog's life and can bring immeasurable joy and companionship to the family adopting.

"This rising trend of adoption not only promises a brighter future for shelter dogs but also signifies a broader cultural shift towards responsible pet ownership and empathy towards animal welfare," adds Thompson. "The data certainly supports the trend, and it's a trend that would have immense impact across the animal welfare field."



#### Waste Pits Update,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the event a hurricane is likely to reach the work

#### TROUBLE AT NORTHERN SITE

Jackie Medcalf had to report that the situation at the Northern Impoundment site was quite different that the Southern site. EPA and the RP (Responsible Party) are in disagreement on the details of the Remedial Design. Although the parties signed off on a Record Of Decision (ROD) 6 years ago, subsequent tests and design and safety issues have delayed the RP from agreeing to proceed.

Issues that have not been resolved include the criteria level for toxic material to remain, dewatering systems, depth of sheeti piling, and the dangers of uplift if the river water level and pressure are too high.

EPA has told the RP that there proposal is "not what we agreed on" in the ROD, and asked for an independent technical review by a third party engineer to make recommendations.



Sometimes presenters need a little help. In this case, Jackie Medcalf gets help from her daughter

It was also learned in the THEA presentation that with the work proposal for the Northern Impoundment seemingly stalled, that EPA has referred the matter to its legal department for possible assumption of responsibility for executing the work. EPA rules allow them to take over remediation if the RP is found to not be responsive.

Frustrated by the long delay, Jackie Medcalf suggested that it was time for residents to mount an "issue based campaign" to pressure the parties to resolve the problems and move forward.

#### I-10 REPLACEMENT BRIDGE

In other matters, it was announced that TXDOT has scheduled public meetings on September 19 and 21 to display details on the proposed bridge over the San Jacinto River to replace the existing bridge and highway lanes. It was noted that this design may have a major impact on the Waste Pits, both during construction and afterward depending upon its right-of-way design. More information will be available after the meetings,

Medcalf said. It was noted that the Cancer Study by the Texas State Health Services Department had not been updated in many years, and Medcalf said that THEA will ask for a new study. She said that previous data showed at least 17 types of cancer that are unusually high in the study area around the waste pits.

THEA has scheduled the next public meeting for Tuesday, November 14 where information on all these issues will be updat-

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#### **SEASON FOOTBALL WEEK 2**

#### Texas looks to future when it visits Alabama on Saturday: DeMeco Ryans makes head coaching debut at Baltimore

It's going to be quite a weekend for football fans.

The NFL begins its 103rd season when the defending Super Bowl champion Kansas City Chiefs host the Detroit Lions on Thursday

On Sunday, Houston Texans first-year head coach DeMeco Ryans makes his debut as an NFL head coach when he takes his Texans to Baltimore to take on the Ravens and dual-threat quarterback Lamar Jackson.

Week 1 has a number of interesting matchups as Miami will visit the Los Angeles Chargers in what could be an offensive showcase. Both teams are loaded with weapons on that side of the football so that game should be a must see for pro football fans.

The Dallas Cowboys will visit The Meadowlands to take on their NFC East rivals the New York Giants on Sunday Night Football. This game will feature two teams that qualified for the playoffs a year ago as the Cowboys finished 12-5, dominated Tampa Bay in the Wild Card round, before following to their playoff nemesis San Francisco in the Division Playoffs. The Giants won at Minnesota in the Wild Card, before being blown out by Philadelphia the following

Week 1 concludes with Monday Night Football on the 22nd anniversary of 9-11 as the Buffalo Bills will take on Aaron Rodgers and the New York Jets in an AFC

In the college game, No. 23ranked Texas A&M travels to South Beach to take on the Miami Hurricanes in an important game for both teams. The Aggies and 'Canes both finished 5-7 a year ago and want and it's important that both teams get off to solid starts in 2023 or their head coaches could start feeling the



The Game of the Week will take place in Tuscaloosa when No. 11-ranked Texas takes on No. 4ranked Alabama. A year ago, the Longhorns gave the Tide all it could handle before 'Bama escaped with a 20-19 win in Austin. Texas will get a taste of what life will be like in the SEC as they move into the nation's best football conference (along with Oklahoma) next season.

So, without further ado, let's take a look at what this weekend has to offer.

#### NCAA

Texas A&M at Miami: As stated earlier, this is a key earlyseason game for both teams. The Aggies had a disappointing 5-7 season in 2022, while the Hurricanes finished with a similar record. A year ago, the Aggies earned a hard-fought 17-9 win at Kyle Field. There should be more offense this time around now that the Aggies have given the QB job to sophomore Conner Weigman (896 yards, 8 TDs). Weigman has two quality wide receivers in fellow sophomores Evan Stewart and Moose Muhammad II, but the key to the Aggie offense this year will be the health of speedy wideout/ running back Ainias Smith. Smith played in just four games a year ago and he is back to full speed. That's good news for Jimbo Fisher's team and could be bad news for the 'Canes defense. The A&M defense will get tested by returning QB Tyler Van Dyke (1,835 yards, 10 TDs) and running back Henry Parrish Jr. (616 yards, 4 TDs). Look for the A&M defense to be the difference maker in this one as Fisher's team picks up a big early-season road win. My pick, Texas A&M 27, Miami 20

Texas at Alabama: This should be a good one as Steve Sarkisian returns to his old stomping grounds (he served as Nick Saban's offensive coordinator before departing for the 40 Acres three years ago) with a team many think can not only win the Big 12 this year, but also contend for a spot in the College Football Playoffs. UT's offense will go as far as QB Quinn Ewers (2,177 yards, 15 TDs) takes it. He has a stud at wide receiver in Xavier Worthy (60 receptions, 760 yards, 8 TDs) and a host of other talented pass catchers. Texas must find a replacement for running back Bijan Robinson, and Sark has a stable of backs to choose from. The Texas offense will get a big test against a solid "Bama defense. Saban has three choices at QB in returning backup Jalen Milroe (397 yards, 5 TDs, Ty Simpson and Notre Dame transfer Tyler Buchner (651 yards, 3 TDs in just 3 starts). Look for Saban to call on veteran running back Jase McClelan (655 yards, 7 TDs) to get a lot of work as the QBs settle into their roles. Look for UT to give the Tide a game, but the home crowd and 'Bama' defense will be the difference maker come Saturday. My pick, Alabama 23, Texas 20

Lions would like nothing more than to spoil the Chiefs Super Bowl celebration in front of a national TV audience on Thursday night. Good luck with that, Detroit fans. But seriously, the Lions finished as one of the hottest teams in the NFL last year, winning seven of their last nine games and closed the season with a win at Green Bay that knocked the Packers out of the playoffs. The Detroit offense will give the KC defense problems as QB Jared Goff (4,438 yards, 29 TDs) and wide receiver Aman-Ra St. Brown (106 receptions, 1,161 yards, 6 TDs) will give the KC secondary fits. The Lions have a new backfield as Jamaal Williams (New Orleans) and D'Andre Swift (Philly) have departed and have been replaced by former Bear David Montgomery (801 yards, 5 TDs) and rookie Jahmr Gibbs (926 rushing yards, 7 TDs/44 receptions, 444 yards, 3 TDs at Alabama). The Chiefs have a pretty good offense as well led by league and Super Bowl MVP Patrick Mahomes (5,250 yards, 41 TDs) and tight end Travis Kelce (110 receptions, 1,338 yards, 12 TDs). You know head coach Andy Reid will have a few tricks up his sleeve to get others involved in his offense. This should be a good season opener, with the Chiefs' offense leading the way. My pick, Kansas City 33, Detroit 24

Detroit at Kansas City: The

Houston at Baltimore: The Texans begin the DeMeco Ryans era with a tough season opener when they face a solid Baltimore team on the road. No. 2 overall pick C.J. Stroud will make his first NFL start in a very hostile environment. Stroud, who threw 85 TD passes in two years as the starter at Ohio State, progressed nicely in the pre-season, but he will face a stern test in his pro debut against a very good Ravens defense. He will need a big day from running back Dameon Pierce (939 yards, 4 TDs) and a coming out party for third-year WR Nico Collins (37 receptions, 481 vards, 2 TDs in 10 games). The Houston defense, which should be much improved under Ryans tutelage,

will face a healthy Lamar Jackson (2,242 yards, 17 TDs/764 rushing yards, 3 TDs in just 8 games) who can be a handful. He still has dependable tight end Mark Andrews (73 receptions, 847 yards, 5 TDs) to throw too, as well as newly-acquired Odell Beckham, Jr. Look for the Texans to give Baltimore a game, but Jackson will be the deciding factor late. My pick, Baltimore 26, Houston 20

Miami at Los Angeles Chargers: If you are a fan of highscoring games, this should be right up your alley. This game will feature two of the top offenses in the league with a boatload of offensive talent on both teams. The Dolphins are hoping that QB Tua Tagovaila (3,545 yards, 25 TDs in 13 games) is fully recovered from the concussions that derailed his 2022 season. He has two explosive wide receivers in Tyreek Hill (119 receptions. 1,710 yards, 7 TDs) and Jaylen Waddle (75 receptions, 1,356 yards, 8 TDs) to throw to and two solid running backs in Raheem Mostert and Jeff Wilson Jr. The Chargers have perhaps the best overall running back in the NFL in Austin Ekeler (915 rushing yards, 13 TDs/107 receptions, 722 yards, 5 TDs) and a top-flight QB in Justin Herbert (4,739 yards, 25 TDs). Herbert still has veteran WR Keenan Allen (66 receptions, 752 vards 4 TDs) to throw to as well. This should be a fun game to watch. Look for Herbert to make one or two more plays than Tua to lead the Chargers to the win. My pick, Los Angeles Charger 34,

Dallas at New York Giants: Nothing like starting your season with a key division game right off the bat, but that's the scenario facing the Cowboys and Giants as they meet on Sunday Night Football in an NFC East battle. Dallas begins the season with a new running back as Tony Pollard (1,007 rushing yards, 9 TDs/39 receptions, 371 yards, 3 TDs) is now the starter as former starter Ezekiel Elliott was released in the offseason and signed with New England. Dak Prescott (2,860 yards, 23 TDs/15 interceptions) is

still the starting QB and if the Cowboys are to move past the Division round, Prescott must cut down on the turnovers. He has plenty of weapons at wide receiver led by CeeDee Lamb (107 receptions, 1,359 yards, 9 TDs), Michael Gallup and former Texans WR Brandin Cooks (57 receptions, 699 yards, 3 TDs). Dallas has a solid defense led by Micah Parsons. That unit will get tested by Giants QB Daniel Jones (3,205 passing yards, 15 TDs/708 rushing yards, 7 TDs) and speedy running back Saquon Barkley (1,312 yards, 10 TDs). The Giants offense should also get a boost with the acquisition of former Raiders tight end Darren Waller. Look for the Dallas defense to be the difference maker in this one as the Cowbovs get a big road win to start the season. My pick, Dallas 23, New

Buffalo at New York Jets: The

Aaron Rodgers era for the Jets begins on Monday Night Football with a key AFC East contest against the Buffalo Bills. Rodgers (3,695 yards, 26 TDs in Green Bay last year) give the Jets a bonafide quarterback, something they have badly missed over the last few seasons. He won't be a one-man team. He has a solid running game in former Vikings Dalvin Cook (1,173 yards, 8 TDs) and secondyear man Breece Hall (463 rushing yards, 4 TDs/19 receptions, 218 yards, 1 TD in 7 games). He also has the reigning NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year in speedy wideout Garrett Wilson (83 receptions, 1,103 yards, 4 TDs). The Jets also have a top 10 defense. That unit will get a stern test from Buffalo QB Josh Allen (4,283 passing yards, 35 TDs/762 rushing yards, 7 TDs) and a bigplay wide receiver in Stefon Diggs (108 receptions, 1,429 yards, 11 TDs). The Bills need to do better running the football and they will put their running game in the hands of James Cook (Dalvin's younger brother) and former Patriot Damien Harris. Look for Rodgers to give the Jets fans something to crow about as his Jets debut is a successful one. My pick, New York Jets 26, Buffalo 24

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#### JENNIFER LEIGH GASKEY

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

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

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law Dated this AUGUST 28, 2023

by WESTON COTTEN Attorney for the Estate **GARAGE SALE** 

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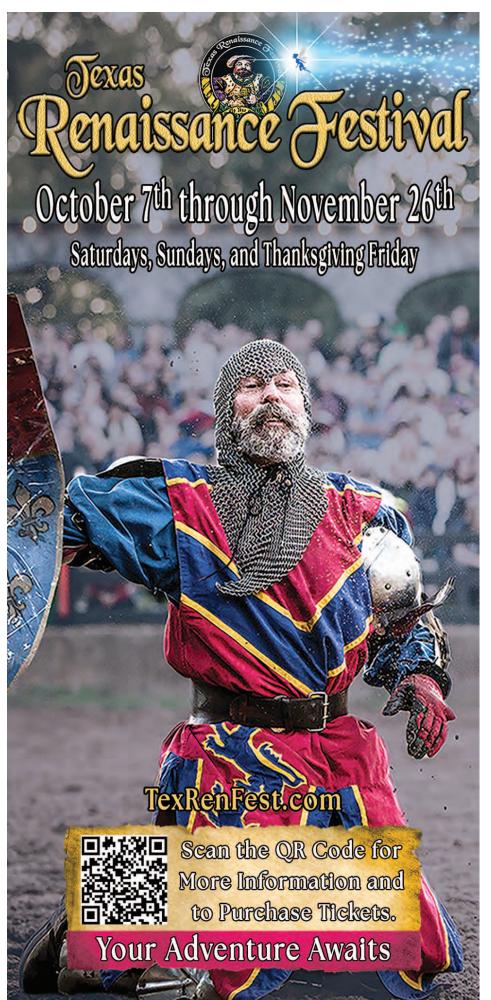
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	2.	Flaming Mountains, Chir	na (150°)
	3.	Death Valley, California	(134°)
	4.	Kebili, Tunisia	(131°)
	5.	Mitribah, Kuwait	(129°)
	6.	Tirat Tsvi, Israel	(129°)
	7.	Turbat, Pakistan	(128.7°)
	8.	Oodnadatta, Australia	(123°)
	9.	Rivadavia, Argentina	(120°)
]	10.	Athens, Greece	(118.4°)
		Source: Trav	vel + Leisure

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#### TOP TEN MOVIES FOR RELEASE sept.

4, 2023

1. GRAN TURISMO (PG-13) David Harbour, Orlando **Bloom** 

2. BARBIE (PG-13) Margot Robbie, Ryan Gosling 3. BLUE BEETLE (PG-13) Xolo Maridue a, Bruna Marquezine 4. OPPENHEIMER (R) Cillian Murphy, **Emily Blunt** 5. TEENAGE **MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: MUTANT MAYHEM** (PG) Micah Abbey, Shamon Brown Jr. 6. STRAYS (R) Will Ferrell, **Jamie Foxx** 7. MEG 2: THE **TRENCH** (PG-13) Jason Statham, Jing Wu 8. RETRIBUTION (R) Liam Neeson, Noma Dumezweni 9. THE HILL (PG) Colin Ford, **Dennis Quaid** 10. TALK TO ME

(R) Ari McCarthy,

**Hamish Phillips** 

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#### ENTERTAINMENT





Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

2

4

3

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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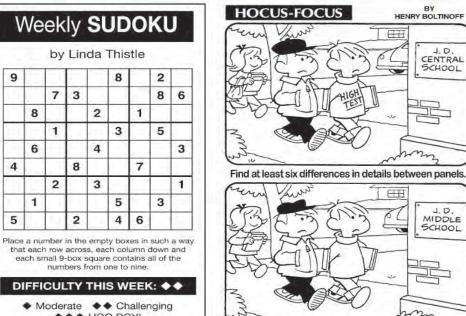
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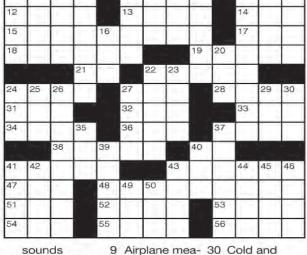






#### September 4, 2023 Posting Date King Crossword

#### **ACROSS** Martial art Smack a baseball 15 9 Romance 12 Abbr. on a 18 phone



- sounds Insult, slangily 31 Luau souvenir 52 Boast
  - 53 Pac-12
  - school
- Gardner 54 Observe 33 Santa 55 Utters
- winds 34 Ward (off)

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14 "Big Blue"

Actress Vardalos 18 Naval rank 19 Avid 21 Hosp. triage

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Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

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- Bankroll
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22 Refuge

24 Sprite

26 Prized

"Funny Girl"

16 Ball club VIP

muscles

23 Pre-diploma

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25 Grant's foe

- Chinese vessel
- 29 Popular card
- game © 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

- 46 Actor Morales 49 401(k) alternative

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37 Hide from

39 Action words

40 Busy insect 41 Young fellows 42 New York

view

canal 43 Early birds?

44 Formerly

10 Theater award 35 Conk out

 $t\!e\!st$  by Fifi Rodriguez

1. FOOD & DRINK: What does the acronym "IPA" stand for in a beer? 2. LITERATURE: Who is the author of "The Hunger Games" series? 3. U.S. STATES: Which state has the most lighthouses?

4. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of New Zealand?

5. GAMES: What is a perfect score in bowling? SCIENCE: What does an auxanometer mea-

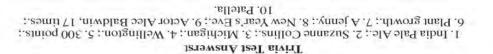
7. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a female donkey called?

8. MOVIES: Which holiday is celebrated at the end of "When Harry Met Sally"?

9. TELEVISION: Which entertainer has hosted "Saturday Night Live" the most?

10. ANATOMY: What is the anatomical name for the kneecap?

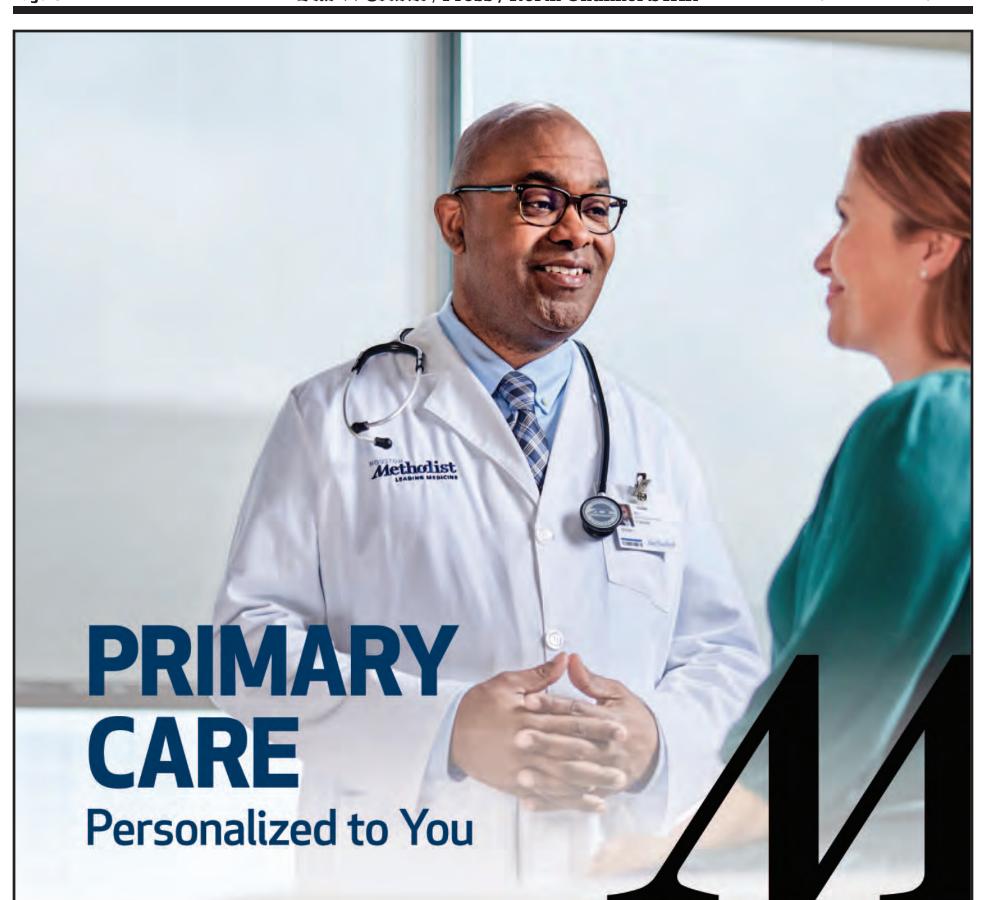
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Answers

Solution time: 25 mins. King Crossword



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