# NORTH CHANNEL \*\*STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper



Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Cloverleaf, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City VOLUME 11, NO. 35 (#485) THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023 www.northchannelstar.com

## North Shore (45) tramples Spring Westfield (9)

By Allan Jamail North Channel Star

September 8, 2023 the nationally ranked North Shore Mustangs traveled to Planet Ford Stadium and romped on the Spring Westfield Mustangs, 45 to 9. Both team's mascot is the Mustangs but that's all they had in common while on the football field.

Again the Eastside Boys proved to be overpowering against their opponents in their first three games. Fans are wondering and asking, is North Shore that good, or are the other teams that bad? Time will tell once they get into the playoffs, which I think

they will

North Shore (3 wins-0) had 23 first downs to Westfield's (1win-2) 7 first downs. North Shore offense had a total of 499 yards and Westfield had 102. They scored on their first five possessions in the first half. The Eastside Boys led in penalties too with eleven which shows a lack of self discipline. They cannot give up that many penalty yards in a close game without resulting in a loss.

This game provided a good look at NS quarter-back (QB) Kaleb Bailey (see TD photo). This was Bailey's third game after ending his season early





#9 NS's quarterback Kaleb Bailey dives airborne across the goal line. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

At Left, #9 NS's quarterback Kaleb Bailey is up-ended as he failed to jump over a Wildcat defender and goes airborne in a somersault 360 degrees landing hard on his shoulder. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

last year (Sept. 29, 2022) with an injury from running.

Bailey ran well and actually in my opinion he ran too often considering the score was so far out of reach for Westfield early in the game, thus providing no reason for his running so much.

The QB is the key offensive player and the most valuable player on the team. Risking an injury in a non-district game with a lopsided leading score doesn't make good sense to me. I'm not the coach, Willie Gaston is, I just report

Continued. See NORTH SHORE TRAMPLES SPRING, Page 5

### **200th ANNIVERSARY**

## Crosby prepares for its big Bicentennial Celebration

By David Taylor Managing Editor

The final meeting of the Crosby Bicentennial Committee ended last Thursday with a group photo and committee members taking loads of signs to post throughout the community. Permits have been approved and signage will be appearing throughout the community if not already.

"It's been a marathon,"

said Donna Davenport of the Crosby Historical Society who is partnering with the Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce to host the event.

The committee was formed and has met for the last 18 months discussing their vision and now the reality of those plans is days away from occurring.

"It's amazing," Davenport said.
"We now have more than 90 vendors scattered throughout the fairgrounds," an exceptional participation for such a small com-



munity.

Many of those are from the dozen or more churches participating who will have games and challenges for kids to participate in.

Most everything is free to the community with a few exceptions, including parking which is \$5 to park at the rodeo fairgrounds. The money is a fundraiser for the Crosby Young Farmers who will also by handing out two Crosby Bicentennial keepsake buttons per car, first

come, first served.

Here's an abbreviated timeline of

the events occurring throughout the day.

8:00 AM Lineup for the parade begins in the East Parking Lot of the CHS football stadium. The parade route begins at Crosby Middle School and proceeds north down FM 2100 to Wahl Street. The procession will make a left

Continued. See CROSBY BICENTENNIAL, Page 5

## Rotary Washer Tournament raises fun, and funds for R.I.

HIGHLANDS – About 20 teams competed last Saturday in the Highlands Rotary Club's annual Washer Throwing Tournament. The event was held at Charlie's Ice House on Main Street.

Excellent play from several throwers made this an exciting tournament, with the final winning team determined by a play-off after the top two teams tied with perfect 100 coerces.

Winning teams were:

#1 - DIAMONDS IN THE ROUGH, Billy Young, Norman

#2 - DOUBLE TROUBLE, Bryan Teel, Bobo Cotten



TOP WINNING TEAM was DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH, sponsored by Rotarian Connie Russell (center). L to R, Kim Adkins, Billy Young, Connie, Norm Adkins, and club president Denise Smith. Billy Young also won the prize for best scorer in the Tournament.



Each year the ROTARY TROPHY is awarded to the Rotarian with the best score. This year is was won by Team Izzy, Ruben and Mini Izaguire, presented by club president Denise Smith.

#3 - THE STOCKWELLS, Theron Stockwell, Teary Stockwell

The Rotary Trophy was won by Ruben and Mini Izaguire, who will keep it for a year until next tournament.

A live auction helped with the fund raising. Two beautiful handmade quilts, donated by Connie russell, brought over \$1000 dollars. A liquor wagon and a giant TV were included.

The tournament is a fundraiser with all proceeds going to Rotary International for their Polio Plus and other worldwide projects. Each year Highlands Rotary raises almost \$10,000 for this cause.

## Another attempt to install barge moorings in the SJ River

By Carolyn Stone
Opinion Special to the NC Star

CHANNELVIEW This Labor day weekend some community members received by mail from the US Army Corps of Engineers notice of another Holtmar Land LLC Letter of Permission (LOP) SWG-2015-00855 dated 08/29/ 23. Holtmar Land LLC is a.k.a. Buffalo Marine Service, Inc. The LOP's Applicant Point of Contact is Tim Studdert. Tim Studdert is the Vice President of Buffalo Marine. The LOP SWG-2015-00855 is the 5<sup>th</sup> attempt by Holtmar to receive a USACE permit to dredge approx. 15,000 cy (405,000 cf) from an approx 2.5 –acre area of the San Jacinto River (SJR) north of I-10 East and to install three (3) 36-inch steel monopile moorings within the SJR in the area along properties Holtmar owns at 17525, 17601, 17603, 17605 & 17607 River Rd. in Channelview.

The proposed location is in a FEMA Special Hazard Flood Area, is a Harris County Flood Control Floodway, is a Harris County Flood Mitigation Area under HCFCD buyout, in a protected blue crab, shrimp, flounder and speckled trout estuary of the San Jacinto River, in the Area of Con-

cern for the SJR Waste Pits Superfund Site and in close proximity to residential homes.

Our communities are very aware of the havoc raised by the SJR flood waters in the area from the banks of Highlands and Baytown to Magnolia Dr. in Channelview which includes this project's location and the dangers and damages caused by the barges in the area. Barges in the proposed area will potentially send barges onto the properties in the San Jacinto River Estates , Meadowbrook Park, onto I-10 itself and increase the

Continued. See Barges in the San Jacinto River, Page 3

## GP Yellowjackets sting Splendora 63-14

By Allan Jamail North Channel Star

HOUSTON, TX. ~ Friday, September 8, 2023 the Galena Park Yellow Jackets stung the visiting Splendora Wildcats 63 – 14 in front of their home crowd.

Spiro Amarantos, Yellow Jackets Head Coach/Athletic Director and former player for the Yellow Jackets had his coaching staff and team providing lots of firepower for 9 touchdowns (TD's). The defense was stingy, allowing only 2 (TD's) in four quarters.

The Yellow Jackets offense had an impressive 15.28 yards per carry with 29 rushes for 443 yards. Offense play-

ers; Jordan Balderas, Joshua Williams, Daniel Gomez, Edgar Cortes & Christian Giron.

The GP defense tacklers were: Kennon Thomas (8), Vincent Lopez (7), Armando Esquida (7), Isael Barbosa (6) & Lewis Marshall (6).

Scoring by quarter:

Splendora

1 2 3 4 Final Galena Park 14 14 35 0 63

The Jackets have 2 wins & 1 loss and will be entering District 9-5A-II play for their homecoming game Thursday, September 21 at 7PM against the Texas City Stingarees.



### Panthers take the Win vs Allen

Congratulations to the King High School Panther football team on their victory Friday, September 1 against Allen High School. The Panthers defeated the Eagles, a five-time football state championship high school, 45 to 28. Way to go, C.E. King High School!



## Panthers Featured on FOX Friday Night Fever

On September 8, the King High School football team, cheerleaders, drill team and band were featured on Fox 26 Friday Football Fever with Nate Griffin. The Panthers play Pearland High School in the September 8 away game. The Panthers are undefeated thus far in the 2023 season.





## Walk Your Child to School in Sheldon ISD on Sept 22

MALE ROLE MODELS, JOIN US FOR

NATIONAL WALKING STUDENTS TO SCHOOL DAY



A DISTRICT-WIDE EVENT HAPPENING ON **22** 

ENTER A DRAWING FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A PARTY PACK FOR THE C.E. KING HIGH SCHOOL HOME FOOTBALL GAME ON SEPT 29

Calling all male role models! Join Sheldon ISD for National Walking Students to School Day on Friday, September 22. This district-wide event encourages parent engagement throughout the 13 schools in Sheldon ISD. Families can enter a drawing at their child's campus to win a party pack for the September 29 King High School Panther football home game.

## Families Gather for First Ambassador Academy Meeting



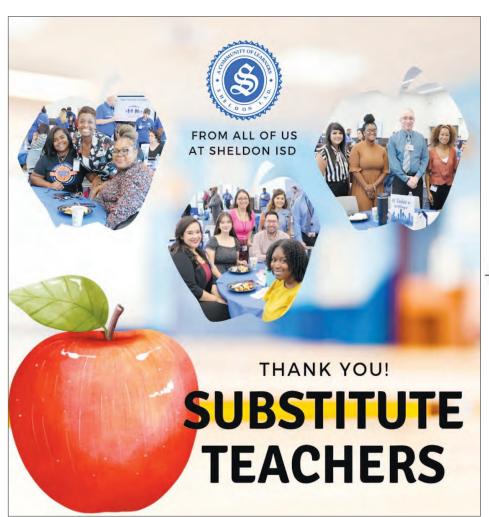
On Thursday, September 7, approximately a group of community members and parents met for the first Sheldon Ambassador Academy Meeting for the 2023-24 school year. The purpose of the academy is to develop community leaders that encourage interaction, partnership, learning and dialogue to promote and support the

district's mission. This is a year-long program where participants get a look behind the scenes. Sessions focus on specific areas of the district to include operations, academics, student services, athletics, fine arts, school finance and bonds.

During the first meeting, attendees heard from

Superintendent Dr. Demetrius McCall in a State of the District presentation and listened to Board President Fred Rivas discuss an overview of the role of a school board member. Interested participants should contact the communications department at communications@sheldonisd.com or 281-727-2007.

## Thank You to Our Substitute Teachers



September 4-8 is National Substitute Teacher Appreciation Week. Sheldon ISD staff and faculty would like to thank each and every one of our substitutes that help us throughout the year. We are so grateful to those who step in to support our classrooms.

If you are interested in becoming a substitute in Sheldon ISD, please follow the link: <a href="https://jobs.willsubplus.com/jobs?districtIds=635">https://jobs.willsubplus.com/jobs?districtIds=635</a>

## Royalwood Church Donates Supplies to Sheldon Elementary



Community partners Royalwood Church donated supplies for students and bags for teachers on September 1. We are grateful for partnerships like Royalwood Church who support us by providing resources at no cost for our employees and students.

You can read the North Channel Star curent and back issues on our website:

www.northchannelstar.com

## CHARLOTTE'S WEB

By Charlotte Jackson



## Days of September

s a child, I loved September to arrive. It meant a long weekend and then school would begin. When I was a child, it was before the Sam Houston Parkway existed and I felt like I was cut off from my classmates, as my childhood home was in North Shore Woods. Going back to class meant seeing friends and making new ones.

It also meant that football would soon be starting, not that North Shore had many fans back then, we just wanted to be at Dement Field to see friends. Later, in our high school days, it meant that we could go skating at a rink on our side of Interstate 10. Of course, by then we were driving, and we may have ended up at other locations.

September also brought my mother's birthday as well as a variety of church bazaars and festivals throughout Houston. I remember several years going with my dad to the Greek Festival in the Montrose area and falling in love with Niko Niko's gyros.

Unfortunately, by the time I was a parent, September took on a new meaning. It was the time of year that our nation was attacked in New York City. At the time, we were attending Woodforest Baptist Church. By the grace of God, we were already in the middle of a weeklong revival and just as soon as I could pick my children up from school, we joined hundreds of others in prayer at the church. I remember children weeping and older adults being in a state of panic. It seemed as if those who were with us on the night of September 11, 2001, became our family. I will forever be grateful for the families who made sure my children felt safe, especially when I had to work late or go out of town.

Over the next few years, we saw many young people join the military. My daughter was one of those. Before she began her Senior year at North Shore, she enlisted with a delayed entry program and was ready to serve our country. I would not say that her time was filled with joy, but it made her a tougher person. She traveled the world, saw several countries, and met interesting people. She returned home to a different America. It appears the climate in America...a time when people forgot to be kind and caring.

Now that I have grandchildren, September means lots of excitement as the schools and churches often celebrate Grandparents Day. It is an opportunity for me to share with other grandparents about the Are You Okay Senior Program as well as to run into community members that are active and involved who I can recruit for other community projects. Life is good. Add football games into the schedule, especially since North Shore has come a long way since my youth, as well as Channelview being able to boast that Jalen Hurts played for them. I hope that as September is busy, you will get involved as well.

## Barge moorings in the SJ River,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

strikes to the SJR Bridge and the SJR Waste Pits Superfund Site.

Public comments are due by: Wednesday, September 13, 2023

### Approval of this permit will:

- 1. allow for the privatization of our public San Jacinto River waterway for private use and profit
- 2. create a barge mooring area and a floating chemical storage area in a FEMA Special Hazard Floodway
- 3. create barge mooring areas and installing floating chemical storage areas in the SJR near homes
- 4. prohibit and endanger public use of the SJR
- 5. endanger Meadowbrook Park, residential properties, I-10, the San Jacinto Waste Pits Superfund Site devalue residential properties

Each application appears to follow after complaints from community members are filed with the USACE of unpermitted construction and dredging by Holtmar/Buffalo or their other entity Tim-Tom Land Holdings. Community members have documented the unpermitted activities of dredging, land reclamation, pile driving, construction land and wetland fill and aquatic estuary destruction. Per Holtmar's own submitted project plans the project site has increased in elevation since 2015 to 2023 from 3 feet to 7 feet even though the area suffers from subsidence and flood erosion. This latest LOP application follows community complaints of Buffalo's creation of a barge mooring area in the SJR just west of the project

After 8 years of community members witnessing the unpermitted actions by Holtmar/TimTom/Buffalo the USACE on this latest LOP states "Permits issued for activities or work within the SJWP-AOC shall contain the following language: "By accepting this permit, the permittee

agrees to accept potential liability for both costs and natural resource damages, to the same extent as would be inherent under the Comprehensive Environmental Response and Liability Act 1980 (CERC-LA) as amended (42 U.S.C. 9601 et. Seq.) Further, the permitee agrees that this permit does not exclude the permitee from liability for response costs, damages, and any other costs that may be assessed under the CERCLA." as if this statement will negate the unpermitted actions already taken, will ensure the permittee will no longer participate in additional unpermitted activities, will be responsible for damages to the community members personal property and health.

Thank you for prompt attention to this urgent matter and in stopping barges in the public waterway of the San Jacinto River

#### Comments should be submitted by email to: Brian.J.Bader@usace.army.mil Phone #409 766-3037

*Or* mailed to: Brian J. Bader, Galveston District, Corps of Engineers, P. O. Box 1229, Galveston, TX 77553-1229

If you prefer Texas Health & Environmental Alliance (THEA) has prepared a petition in opposition of the project and requesting a public hearing you can sign and THEA will submit it to all emails and addresses for you. The link to THEA's petition is:

h t t p s : / / www.cognitoforms.com/
THEA1/USACESJR-CLOP920232

Sincerely,

Carolyn Stone

## Channelview Health & Improvement Coalition

Channelview, Texas C.H.I.C.77530@gmail.com

FaceBook: https:// www.facebook.com/ groups/892294181644780

"A voice for Channelview"

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## **ASK DIAMOND JIM**

## Diamond Jim: "How Can I Protect My Money?"

I'm sure you've heard about Biden's reckless inflation, his plan to raise taxes even higher, his alleged corruption, his troubled son Hunter, and how he's putting our economy at risk...

But you probably haven't heard much about Biden's WAR ON GOLD.

First, he TARGETED Nicaragua's gold industry...Then he BANNED Russian gold imports...Then he BLOCKED the Pebble Gold Mine in Alaska.

All the while Central Banks and governments across the world have been STOCKPILING the shiny yellow metal. Why is that? Is there something we're all missing?

If that wasn't enough, Biden quietly signed an Executive Order to "explore" the creation of a DIGITAL DOLLAR for the US that could track and control YOUR MONEY.

You know what they can't track and control... your physical gold.

The good news is that you can opt out of Joe Biden's scheme by owning physical silver and gold bullion...coins, bars, and rounds. If this is your first time investing, start with silver. It's the best precious metal to use for barter and, with the direction our current Government is taking us, were going to need it sooner than later.



Call Jim C. at Pineforest Jewelry and he will be happy to answer all of your questions.

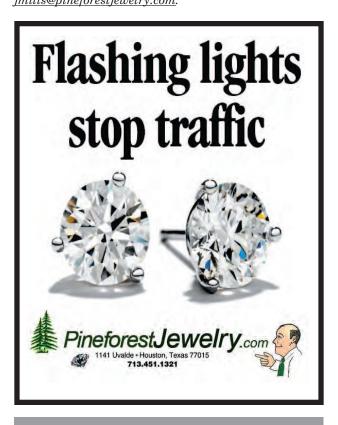
Don't wait until it's too late. You can reach Jim at (713) 451-1321.

Protect the money you've worked so hard to earn. Place your order NOW!

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.









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#### OPINION PAGE $\bigstar$ $\bigstar$



#### New Harris PROSPERS Plan Maps Out Pathways to Success for Harris County Families



The unveiling of the new initiative Harris PROSPERS on August 10th. Commissioner Rodney Ellis at the podium.

Every person in Harris County deserves a stable foundation and a clear path to prosper, thrive, and build a better life for themselves and their families. Yet, according to recent data, half of Harris County residents can't afford a \$400 emergency, and one in five households earns less than \$25,000 annually.

That is why on August 10th Harris County unveiled Harris PROSPERS (Pathways to Realize Opportunity, Security, Potential, Equity, Resilience, and Safety), a plan to accomplish two goals: creating paths to jobs and opportunity and ensuring families have the basic building blocks to succeed.

To learn more about Harris County's commitment to prosperity for every family and the programs that encompass Harris PROSPERS, visit HarrisProspers.com.

#### Funding Approved for TeleDeputy Unit to Speed Up Response to Emergency Calls

In recent years, population growth and staffing challenges have contributed to the Harris County Sheriff's Office receiving a much higher volume of emergency calls resulting in longer response times to the scene of the crime. However, not all of these emergency calls are actual emergencies requiring an officer to physically respond.

To help meet demand and free up officers needed for emergencies, Harris County Commissioners Court has approved \$1.7 million to fund a new TeleDeputy program to allow officers to respond remotely to non-emergency calls, such as needing to file a police report after a car break-in or reporting an abandoned vehicle. The TeleDeputy program is expected to reduce response wait times from an average of over 14 minutes to less than 10 minutes. The new TeleDeputy Unit is another example of how Harris County is giving law enforcement the 21st-century tools they need to do their jobs most effectively, and ultimately better protect the community.

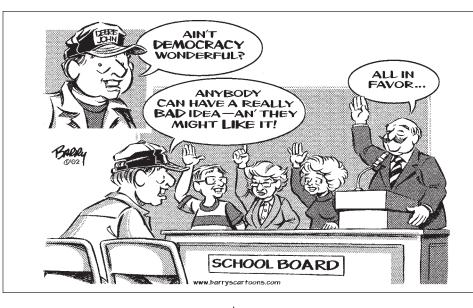
#### County Breaks Ground for New Building for Hay Center



At the Hay Center Groundbreaking on June

Every year in the Houston area, more than 200 youth exit the foster care system when they reach adulthood or graduate high school. Nationwide, 20% of kids who age out of foster care become instantly homeless. Without traditional family support and community connections, many youth will face unstable housing and have a greater risk of homelessness.

The HAY Center, a program of Harris County Resources for Children and Adults, has provided comprehensive, wraparound services for these foster youth in Harris County since 2005, and has helped thousands of young people in Harris County get access to the education, employment, mentoring and health services they need. In June, Harris County broke ground on a new campus that will, for the first time, give the HAY Center the capacity to actually house youth with its 50 on-site apartment units. The new campus will also provide wraparound services including therapy, employment assistance, transportation, and more for 1,300 additional foster youth in the county. Construction is scheduled to be complete in Summer 2024.



## STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS **By Gary Borders**

## Hundreds of New Laws go into effect on September 1st

#### HUNDREDS OF NEW LAWS GO INTO EFFECT

A total of 774 new laws went into effect on Sept. 1, affecting Texans in many areas of their lives, the Austin American-Statesman reported. The new laws concern property taxes, registration fees and voting access, among other issues. Several have drawn court challenges from opponents.

A few examples of the new laws include:

--Book vendors must create a rating system for books deemed "sexually relevant" or "sexually explicit." House Bill 900 is currently being challenged in an Austin federal courtroom by several Texas book sellers. Other major legislation concerning schools provides nearly \$330 million over the next biennium to increase school safety infrastructure and resources.

-- The cost of a new electric car goes up \$400 after Senate Bill 505 passed both chambers unanimously, adding a new registration fee. In addition, owners of existing electric cars now must pay a new \$200 annual registration fee, with the money from both fees going to the state highway fund, which is primarily financed by gaso-

--Governmental entities in Texas are now banned from implementing COVID-19 restrictions, such as vaccine mandates or requiring the wearing of masks under Senate Bill 29.

#### LAW ERODING LOCAL POWER **RULED UNCONSTITUTIONAL**

A Travis County judge last week declared unconstitutional a new state law stopping cities and counties from passing ordinances that go beyond what is allowed under state law. The ruling came just before the so-called "Death Star" bill went into effect, the Texas Tribune reported.

The state has appealed the ruling by State District Judge Maya Guerra Gamble. Local officials across the state's urban areas blasted the law as an overreach that prevents them from meeting local needs, such as providing water breaks to construction workers. That municipal requirement is now banned under state law.



Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner hailed the ruling.

"The Governor's and Legislature's ongoing war on such home-rule cities hurts the state and its economy, discourages new transplants from other states, and thwarts the will of Texas voters who endowed these cities in the Texas Constitution with full rights to selfgovernment and local innovation," Turner said in a statement. "This self-defeating war on cities needs to end."

Gov. Gregg Abbott defended the bill, saying, "Texas small businesses are the backbone of our economy. Burdensome regulations are an obstacle to their

#### **PAXTON TRIAL COMPLETES FIRST WEEK**

The first week of suspended Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton's impeachment trial in the Senate ended with his former lead law enforcement officer testifying an Austin developer alleged to have bribed Paxton constructed a "conspiracy theory" that federal officials altered a search warrant for his property, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

David Maxwell, the former AG official, said real estate developer Nate Paul pushed Paxton to investigate federal law enforcement agencies probing his business. Paul has since been indicted for inflating his assets on loan applications. Paxton aides looked into Paul's allegations at Paxton's request but concluded they were meritless.

"My feeling was Nate Paul was a criminal and we should not be associating with Nate Paul," Maxwell testified.

Maxwell was ultimately

nation after he resisted investigating Paul's allegations. Paxton blames the impeachment on his political op-

fired by Paxton for insubordi-

ponents. He appeared on the first day of the trial but has not been in the Senate chamber since then.

#### **APPEALS COURT: BUOYS CAN STAY FOR NOW**

A federal appeals court last week stayed a federal district judge's ruling that the floating barrier installed by the state in the Rio Grande to stem illegal entry by migrants violated federal law and treaties.

A three-judge panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals temporarily halted U.S. District Judge David Ezra's order that the 1,000-foot barrier near Eagle Pass be removed by Sept. 15, pending an as-yet unscheduled hearing.

The U.S. Department of Justice filed the lawsuit, saying the buoys violated an 1899 federal law that forbids unauthorized construction in navigable waterways, The Dallas Morning News reported. Gov. Greg Abbott argued the river is too shallow to be navigable and that an "invasion" of migrants and drug smugglers made it necessary for the state to defend itself.

"Texas has clear constitutional authority to defend its territory against the invasion that Governor Abbott has declared," the state told the lower court last week. Ezra rejected that argument, saying by that reasoning the state could declare an invasion and wage war at will.

Mexican authorities have lodged formal diplomatic complaints, and critics of the buoys in the United States called them inhumane.

#### **ERCOT CALLS FOR POWER CONSERVATION**

For the first time this summer, the Electric Reliability Council of Texas last week declared an emergency, introducing the possibility of rolling blackouts to stabilize the state's power grid.

A sudden drop in power reserves last Wednesday night caused the system to lose more power than expected, prompting the first emergency alert since Winter Storm Uri in February 2021, according to kut.org.

The emergency lasted about two hours, though the next day, for the 11th time, ERCOT asked Texans to conserve power as continued extreme heat pushed electric usage close to

its capacity. Texans have experienced the second-hottest summer on record, the Texas Tribune reported, with an average temperature of 85.3 degrees between June and the end of August. That average is just behind the record set in 2011, when blistering heat and dry conditions pushed the average temperature to 86.8 degrees, and wildfires swept the state.

The good news is that the heat wave is expected to finally break this week, with rain expected and temperatures dropping down well below the triple digits that much of the state has weathered since June.



#### Circumstantial Evicence

"My mother reluctantly adopted Stubby after the tragic loss of half his tail last year. He went from her archenemy to her best friend, and now my mother feeds him every day. He has become quite tame and is clearly devoted to my mother and so, naturally, every time I chat with my mom, I ask how Stubby is doing.

Apparently, Stubby got into some trouble."

"Circumstantial Evidence"

The Postscript by Carrie Classon

It was time to come back from

It wasn't because of the weather. The weather was wonderful. The nights up in the mountains were cool, and the days were warm, and sometimes, in the afternoons, a thunderstorm would roll in, and a refreshing rain would fall, leaving the air clean and sweet. No. It wasn't the weather.

And it wasn't really my family-although, I do miss them. My parents have been in the thick of summer activities at their cabin by the lake. They had lots to do and lots of visitors, and I knew they were doing well. No. It wasn't my family.

The truth is, I heard some concerning news about Stubby, my mother's pet red squirrel, and I thought it was time I went to visit him to make sure everything

My mother reluctantly adopted Stubby after the tragic loss of half his tail last year. He went from her archenemy to her best friend, and now my mother feeds him every day. He spent the winter under their deck, digging tunnels through the snow to get to the treats my mother left under the bird feeder. He has become quite tame and is clearly devoted to my mother and so, naturally, every time I chat with my mom, I ask how Stubby is doing.

Apparently, Stubby got into some trouble.

According to my mother, their neighbor, Rod, painted his deck recently. I can picture Rod's deck. It is a cheerful blue and has bright yellow flowerpots and patio furniture on it. It's a beautiful deck, but keeping it that color requires a bit of upkeep. So I'm assuming that when there was no rain in the forecast, Rod got out there to paint the deck.

At this point, I would like to emphasize that there is no proof whatsoever of Stubby's guilt.

According to Rod, whose house is next door, his work was spoiled with little squirrel tracks all over his newly painted deck. Rod was not happy. He told his wife that he was going to get some squirrel traps and catch whoever ruined his paint job and deposit them far away.

Rod would never kill a red squirrel, but I can imagine he was pretty angry about the deck and would be willing to drive quite a long way to relocate whoever had left paw prints all over it.

Char, Rod's wife, was chatting with my mother last week, and she told Mom about Rod's plan.

"Oh, no!" my mother said. She told Char she wished Rod wouldn't do that, but she never heard back, and she hadn't seen Rod or Char since.

"I haven't seen Stubby all day," my mother wrote me. "Should I be worried?" And she signed her note, "Stubby's friend and protector."

And that was how the story was left.

There is a lot I don't know. First—and most importantly there is no evidence that it was Stubby who ruined Rod's deck. Stubby is missing his tail, not a paw, and his tracks would look like any other red squirrel's-including the very wicked squirrel who ran across that fresh blue paint. And I never heard back from

my mother. Surely, she would have called me in Mexico if Stubby had gone missing for more than 24 hours. So now I am planning a visit to check up on my mom and my dad—and Stubby.

But I will tell you right now, if I happen to notice a slightly blueish tint on Stubby's feet, I do not plan to say a word.

Till next time, Carrie



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

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### North Shore tramples Spring Westfield 45-9,

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1** 



#9 NS's quarterback Kaleb Bailey bulldozing over a Wildcat defender crossing the goal line. (Photo by Allan

on what I see and hear to form my opinion. Some of his runs were on designed pass plays and with open receivers, maybe he failed to see the open receivers, I'm

At one point in the game the aggressive playing Bailey scampered alone without any of his blockers and tried to high-jump over a defender. Bailey's jump was too low and the defender came up hitting him which caused him to flip airborne upside down landing hard on his shoulder (see #1 photo). This silenced the crowd as everyone waited to see if he was injured. Fortunately he was okay. Gaston took him out eventually and used his backup QB's to finish the game.

North Shore's scorers: Kaleb Bailey, (1) D'Andre Hardeman (3), 7 Christopher Barnes (1), kicker Jonathan Soto continues a perfect record with 2 field goals 5 extra points, backup kicker Daniel Cruz made 1. Linda Jamail was the statistician.

#### Scoring by quarter:

Final **North Shore** 45 Westfield

North Shore will have a Bye this next week before opening up 6A Region III District 21 district plays on Friday, Sept. 22. @ 7:00 PM at GPISD Stadium, the homecoming game against Beaumont United Timberwolves.



Kaleb Bailey TD pass. (Photo by Linda Jamail)



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

LAST WEEK'S SCORES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 Cy Lakes 34, MacArthur 7 LaPorte 56, Goose Creek Memorial 6

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 Aldine Davis 29. Houston Westside 0 Barbers Hill 49, Baytown Sterling 0 Baytown Lee 44, Crosby 43 C. E. King 37, Pearland 21 Clear Creek 45, Channelview 6 Dayton 39, Montgomery 34 Galena Park 63, Splendora 14 Houston Math, Science, and Tech 29, Aldine 10 Needville 34, Huffman 7 North Shore 45, Spring Westfield 9 Tomball Memorial 36, Eisenhower 3

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 Nimitz 49, Cy Park 7

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14** Aldine, bye Davis, bye Eisenhower, bye MacArthur, bye Nimitz, bye

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 Barbers Hill at Crosby, 7 p.m., Cougar Stadium in Crosby Baytown Lee at LaPorte, 7 p.m., Bulldog Stadium in LaPorte C. E. King, bye Clear Lake at Channelview, 7 p.m., Ray Maddry Memorial Stadium in Channelview Dayton, bye Galena Park, bye Goose Creek Memorial, bye Huffman Hargrave at Navasota, 7 p.m., Rattler Stadium in Navasota Kingwood Park at Baytown Sterling, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium in Baytown

North Shore, bye



Maxsid

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## Crosby Bicentennial,

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1** 

at Wahl and head west to FM 2100. They will make a left back onto FM 2100 south and return to Crosby Middle School. The public is invited to line the route on both sides and urged to use caution. Bring your lawn chairs, cameras, and friends for Crosby's largest-ever parade!

10:00 AM A cannon from The Alamo in San Antonio, Texas will fire from the front of the parade signaling the beginning of what organizers are promising to be the largest in Crosby's 200 years. Parade organizer Eddie Foster estimated more than 500-plus people would be in the parade, including the Crosby Big Red Machine band, the Cougar Star Dance Team, JROTC, and the CHS cheerleaders.

"The fire department and EMS will have numerous vehicles in the front and back of the parade, Precinct Three Commissioner Tom Ramsev's folks will have several vehicles, and Pct. Three Constable Sherman Eagleton will have several vehicles as well." Foster said. Texas All Star Jeeps will have a dozen or more in the parade and a refurbished Mc-Cormick Farmall 140 tractor from 1964. Expect floats, motorcycles, muscle cars, and antique show cars scattered throughout the parade, and yes, even Miss Jewel, the donkey from St. Francis Creative Farms Mobile Petting Zoo.

10:15 AM Shortly into the parade, the town of Crosby will receive a U.S. Army military salute with a flyover by the 1st Assault Helicopter Battalion, 158th Aviation Regiment, nicknamed the "Ghostriders", who is headquartered in Conroe, Texas. The battalion flies UH-60 Black Hawks as part of the United States Army Reserve's 11th Theater Aviation Command.

11:30 AM The parade should end by now and crowds will migrate to the Crosby Fair & Rodeo grounds. Jeremy Reagan takes the stage to begin centennial officially closes

playing and more than 90 vendors will open their booths to the public. Food trucks will begin serving and remain into the night. Food vendors include Taqueria El Regio, Birdz Bitez, La Cruda BBQ, Chick-Fil-A, The Good Stuff Italian Ice, Simply Sweets and Kettle Corn, and Gelu Italian Ice Baytown. The Car Show begins at the American Legion Hall next door to the fairgrounds.

12:15 PM Carol's Dance and Gymnastics perform at the Pavilion area.

1:00 PM Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce hosts a ribbon cutting ceremony kicking off the celebration of 200 years with a Bicentennial cake made by the students of Crosby Bistro from CHS. Davenport, who has guided the committee was voted unanimously as the Crosby community representative to cut the ribbon. The Crosby community will also be the recipient of numerous proclamations by state and local governments all read in the Pavilion area.

1:15 PM The Crosby Dance Academy performs in the Pavilion area.

2:00 PM The Car Show Awards begin at the American Legion, 14890 FM 2100, and The 22s take the stage to play in the Pavilion area.

3:00 PM A huge Cornhole Tournament begins at the Crosby American Legion, 14890 FM 2100.

3:30 PM A live auction begins in the Pavilion area with beautiful quilts, prints from the early years of Crosby and many other unique items.

4:15 PM Bob Suttie takes the stage in the Pavilion area.

5:30 PM Cody Kouba starts playing in the Pavilion area.

6:00 PM The Crosby Bi-

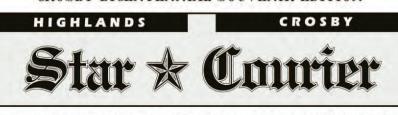
with the cannon firing once again, this time from behind the American Legion. Food Trucks can stay until 9 p.m. when the last band is finished.

7:00 PM Leroy Thomas and The Zvdeco Roadrunners begin playing. The event ends at 9 p.m.

There are several exhibits of note for residents throughout the day. St. Francis Creative Farms Mobile Petting Zoo is available to kids as well as several small carnival rides. Life Flight will land their helicopter on the rodeo grounds and will be available for tours. Several fire, EMS, law enforcement vehicles will also be available for the public to view and explore. The Texas Rangers and DPS will have their mobile museum open to the public. A group of Crosby Fair & Rodeo members have created a salsa just for the bicentennial occasion called "1823," a nod to the first year of Crosby's existence. Other unique items will be books, train whistles, and Crosby postcards offered by the Crosby Historical Society. The chamber of commerce will be selling Crosby Cookbooks with tons of recipes including numerous kolaches. The Society for the Preservation and Appreciation of Antique Motorized Firefighting of America will have two antique fire trucks available for viewing. The Texas Parks and Wildlife will also have a vehicle and boat for kids to check out. The Alamo will have three cannons on site, and kids can meet the Harris County Sheriff's mascot McGruff. San Felipe de Austin will be handing out copies of the original Humphries land grant.

Next week, the Star-Courier will publish a Bicentennial Souvenir Edition with a short story of the history of Crosby, photos from the early years, a list of vendors and a vendor map, a parade route map, and much more.

CROSBY BICENTENNIAL SOUVENIR EDITION



This special edition will run the week leading up to the celebration on Sept. 23 and includes a history of Crosby's last 200 years with vintage photos, a map of the parade route, a map with the location of all booths and activities, and a timeline of all activities planned for the weekend plus much more.

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#### **SEASON FOOTBALL WEEK 3**

#### Texans host Colts in Ryan's' first home game: Cleveland faces rival Pittsburgh

The Texans make their home debut on Sunday when they host the Indianapolis Colts at noon in NRG Stadium. This will be the first official home game for first-year Texans head coach DeMeco Ryans. It will also be rookie QB C.J. Stroud's first home game. This game will feature two rookie QBs as Stroud goes up against the Colts first-year quarterback Anthony Richardson. Stroud, an Ohio State product, was taken No. 2 in last April's NFL Draft, while Richardson, a Florida product, was taken fourth overall by the Colts.

This Sunday will be a busy one in the NFL for Texas' two teams. While the Texans host the Colts, the Cowbovs will entertain Aaron Rodgers and the New York Jets. When Rodgers was with the Packers, he was a pain in the Cowboys' side, owning a 6-3 record over

Week 2 of the NFL season kicks off on Thursday Night Football on Prime with Minnesota visiting Philadelphia. Other key games have Kansas City visiting Jacksonville in a rematch of last year's Divisional Round game won by the Chiefs on their way to winning the Super Bowl. The Jags are an up and coming team and if they hope to take the next step in being a legitimate SB contender, a win over the defending champs would go a long way in establishing themselves as a true contender.

Other key contest has Seattle playing at Detroit, Miami visiting New England on



Sunday Night Football and Cleveland taking on Pittsburgh in a key AFC North battle as one of two Monday Night Football games. The other will pit New Orleans against No. 1 overall pick Bryce Young and Carolina. That game will be shown on ESPN, while the Cleveland-Pittsburgh game will be televised on ABC.

In college action, the University of Houston will play its first-ever Big 12 contest when it hosts TCU at TDECU Stadium on Saturday. LSU, which was routed 45-24 by Florida State in their opener. will open SEC play with a trip to Starkville, MS to face Mississippi State. Texas will host a Wyoming squad that upset Texas Tech in their season opener, while Washington faces a tough test at Michigan State and Tennessee will open SEC play against Florida.

Speaking of records, I went 7-5 (58%) in Week One. Now, onto this weekend's games.

#### NCAA

LSU at Mississippi State: Brian Kelly's Tigers entered their season opener against Florida State ranked No. 5 in the country. They aren't No. 5 anymore. The Tigers dropped a 45-24 decision to the Seminoles

and now have another tough road assignment when they take on the Mississippi State Bulldogs on Saturday afternoon in Starkville. LSU will need a big day from QB Jayden Daniels (347 passing yards, 1 TD/64 rushing yards in loss to FSU) if they hope to win their first league game. The Bulldogs rolled to a 48-7 win in their season opener against Southeast Louisiana. Veteran QB Will Rodgers (227 yards, 2 TDs) and running back Jo'Quavious (127 yards, 2 TDs) will face a ticked off LSU defense on Saturday. Look for the Tigers to rebound and pick up a big

road, conference win. My pick,

LSU 33, Mississippi State 23 Washington at Michigan State: Washington quarterback Michael Penix, Jr. made a strong case as being part of the Heisman Trophy conversation as he threw for 450 yards and five TDs in the Huskie's 56-19 route of Boise State in their season opener. Penix received help from wide receiver Rome Odunze who chipped in with seven receptions for 133 yards and one TD. If Washington wants to get in the College Football Playoff convo, they will need to win on the road, and playing at Michigan State will be a good test on Saturday. The Spartans opened the season with a 31-7 thumping of Central Michigan. Sparty will need big days from QB Noah

Kim (279 vards, 2 TDs) and running back Nathan Carter (113 yards, 1 TD). Penix will get tested by a solid MSU defense but should be the difference maker as the Huskies pick up a big road win. My pick, Washington 27, Michigan State 20

Wyoming at Texas: The Cowboys take on their second Big 12 school when they travel to Austin to take on 11th-ranked Texas. Two weeks ago, Wyoming shocked Texas Tech 35-33 in overtime (as a Tech grad and fan. I'm still fuming about that loss). This week, the Pokes have a much tougher test when they play on the road against a talented UT team. Texas opened the season with a 37-10 win over Rice as QB Quinn Ewers passed for 260 yards and three TDs. Wide receiver Xavier Worthy had a nice day with seven catches for 90 yards. Look for the Longhorns defense to take care of Wyoming QB Andrew Peasley (149 passing yards, 2 TDs/68 rushing yards in the win over Tech. UT should use this as a tune-up for Big 12 play. My pick, Texas 38, Wyoming 12

TCU at Houston: When the old Southwest Conference disbanded in 1996, the University of Houston was not invited to join the Big 12. It's been a 27-year wait, but the Cougars are now part of the Big 12 and will make their conference debut on Saturday against TCU at TDECU Stadium. UH opened the season with a lessthan stellar 17-14 win at home against UTSA, while TCU (which played in the CFP title game a year ago) lost at home to Coach Prime and Colorado, 45-42. TCU lost a ton of talent on both sides of the ball to the NFL and graduation after producing 13 wins a year ago, so this year's team is a work in progress for head coach Sonny Dykes. The Horned Frogs can score and are led by QB Chandler Morris (277 yards, 2 TDs) and running back

Emani Bailey 164 yards). UH got two passing TDs from new starting QB Donovan Smith (and 233 yards passing) and six receptions and 106 receiving yards from Samuel Brown. Fellow wideouts Matthew Golden and Joseph Manjack IV caught TD passes in the UTSA win. Something tells me the Coogs will be sky high for this game as they want to let the Big 12 know they are better than some think (writers picked UH to finish 12th in the 14 team conference). My pick, UH 30, TCU 27

#### $\mathsf{NFL}$

Minnesota at Philadelphia: Week 2 of the 2023 NFL season begins on Thursday night with Al and Kirk calling the action for Prime TV. These two teams met a year ago on Monday Night Football and Jalen Hurts and Co. ran all over the Vikings enroute to a 24-7 win. The Eagles suffered some key losses on defense to free agency, but they still have Hurts and big-play wide receivers A.J. Brown and Devonta Smith. They've also added former Lions running back D'Andre Swift. The Vikings will go as far as QB Kirk Cousins and phenomenal wide receiver Justin Jefferson take them. This should be another long prime-time contest for the Vikings. My pick, Philadelphia 30, Minnesota 13

Indianapolis at Houston: These are the types of games Ryan's' team needs to win. While the Texans won but three games a year ago, this year's squad appears to be more talented and much better coached. This game will pit rookie QB's as C.J. Stroud starts for the Texans and Anthony Richardson starts for the Colts. Indy will be without the services of star running back Jonathan Taylor, who has been placed on the PUP list and could face further suspension due to conduct detrimental to the team (he's seeking a trade, but the Colts have not received an offer they are happy with). Look for

Texans RB Dameon Pierce to have a big day against a suspect Indy defense as Stroud does just enough to earn his, and Ryan's', first NFL win. My pick, Houston 23, Indianapolis 17

Seattle at Detroit: A year ago, these two played a 48-45 offensive shootout with the surprising Seahawks coming out on top. Look for another offensive contest this year as Seattle QB Geno Smith and bigplay wide receivers D.K. Metcalf and Tyler Lockett put up big numbers once again. The Lions will counter with QB Jared Goff and wide receiver Amon-Ra St. Brown and running backs David Montgomery and Jahmyr Gibbs. This should be a fun game to watch, but this year, Dan Campbell's team extracts revenge against their visitors from the Pacific Northwest. My pick, Detroit 34, Seattle 31

Cleveland at Pittsburgh: One of two Monday Night Football games (the other features No. 1 pick Bryce Young hosting the Saints) pits these two-longtime rivals from the days of the AFC Central. Now in the AFC North, this is an important game for both teams. The Browns are hoping QB Deshaun Watson returns to his old form when he was making plays for the Texans. Barring an injury, he should be the man under center all season for the Browns. He has one of the league's best running backs in Nick Chubb to take some pressure off of him. Watson and Chubb will get tested by a good Steeler defense. The key to the Steelers season will be how much second-year QB Kenny Pickett has progressed. Running back Najee Harris could be the key to the Pittsburgh offense this year. Look for him to have a big night as the Steelers pick up the win. My pick, Pittsburgh 20, Cleveland 17

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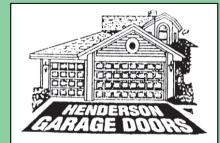
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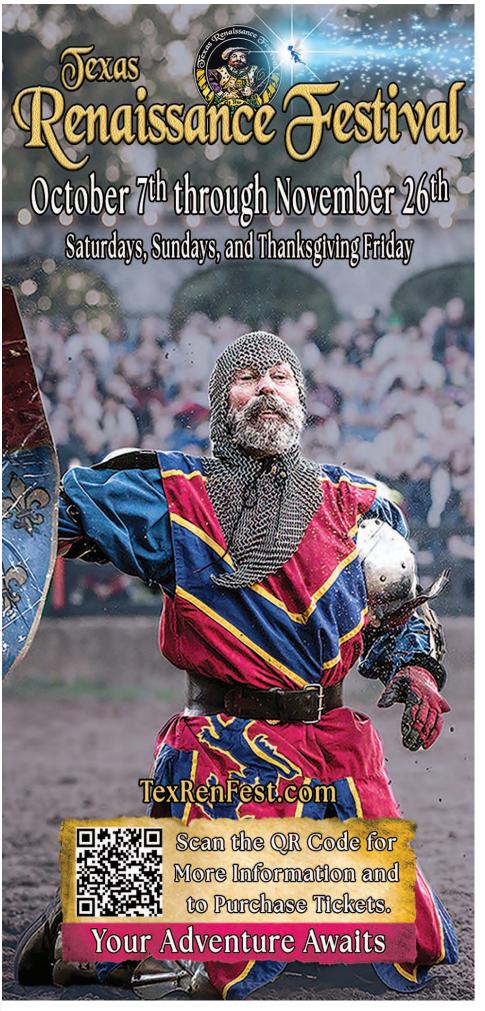
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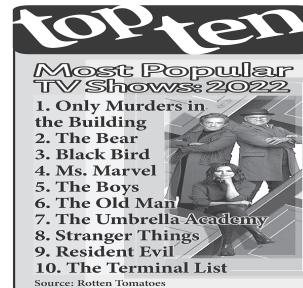
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### **TOP TEN MOVIES**

FOR RELEASE Sept. 11, 2023

1. THE EQUALIZER (R) Denzel Washington, **Dakota Fanning** 

2. BARBIE (PG-13) Margot Robbie, Ryan Gosling

3. BLUE BEETLE (PG-13) Xolo Maridue a, Bruna Marquezine

<u>4. GRAN TURISMO</u> (PG-13) David Harbour, Orlando **Bloom** 

**5. OPPENHEIMER** (R) Cillian Murphy, **Emily Blunt** 

**TEENAGE** MUTANT NINJA **TURTLES: MUTANT MAYHEM** (PG) Micah Abbey, Shamon Brown Jr.

7. BOTTOMS (R) Rachel Sennott, Ayo Edebiri

8. MEG 2: THE TRENCH (PG-13) Jason Statham, Jing Wu

9. STRAYS (R) Will Ferrell, Jamie Foxx

10. TALK TO ME (R) McCarthy, Ari **Hamish Phillips** 

### ENTERTAINMENT













Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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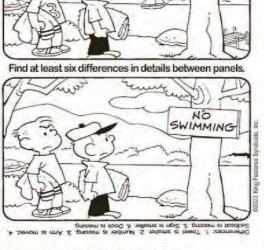
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MANNERS









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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: • Moderate
 ◆ ◆ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY! © 2023 King Features Synt., Inc. 8. Gross domestic product.; 9. Grimalkin.; 10. J. Robert Oppenheimer. Solution time: 26 mins. 4. "Dr. No."; 5. Bulova watch.; 6. Coco Chanel.; 7. Cut into short, thin strips.; Answers 1. California, Sequoia National Park.; 2. An herbivore, a plant eater.; 3. Agra.; — King Crossword — Trivia Test Answerst

King Crossword

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Big gulp 8 Miles away 12 Boxing legend

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35 Supporting 36 Rum cocktail 38 Armored vehicles

39 Unspoken 42 Legal document

43 Aviation prefix 44 Answer an invite

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L. U.S. STATES: Which state is home to a giant sequoia tree named General Sherman? 2. ANIMAL KINGDOM: Is a rhinoceros an herbivore, omnivore or carnivore?

3. GEOGRAPHY: Which city in India is home to the Taj Mahal? MOVIES: What is the title of the first James

Bond movie? 5. TELEVISION: What was the product fea-

tured in the first TV advertisement? 6. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which French fashion designer is credited with inventing the

Little Black Dress? 7. FOOD & DRINK: What does it mean to julienne vegetables?

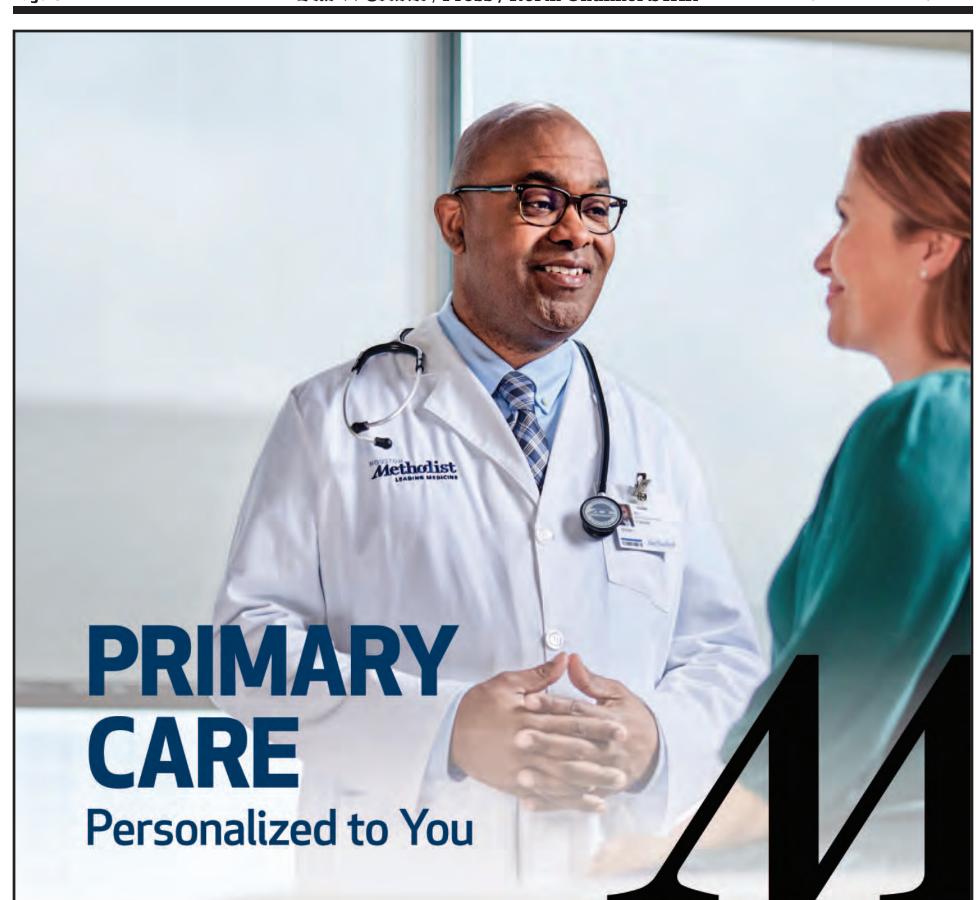
8. GOVERNMENT: What does the acronym GDP stand for in economic terms? 9. LITERATURE: What is the cat's name in

Shakespeare's "Macbeth"? 10. SCIENCE: Who is considered the father of

the atomic bomb?

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