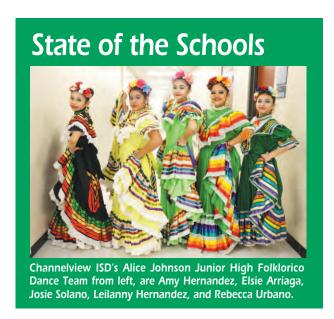
# NORTH CHANNEL \*\*STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper



Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Cloverleaf, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City VOLUME 11, NO. 40 (#490) THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023 www.northchannelstar.com

## **CHANNEL CURRENTS**

#### 14th Annual Mark Mulloy Golf Tournament

Thursday, Oct. 19 at Stonebridge at Newport in Crosby. Contact Matt Davis, 281-682-1703 to participate. 4 person Scramble. Start 11am. Cost \$125 per player, includes lunch. Prizes for longest drive, closest to pin, Hole in One \$5000.

## North Channel 'Salutes' set for Nov. 2nd

North Channel Chamber Annual Business EXPO and Health Fair.

Thursday, November 2nd 10am to 2pm at Armentia's Reception Hall, 823 Sheldon Road, Channelview.

A 'Salute' to Veterans and First Responders. FREE Admission. Prize for Best Decorated Booth. Lunch served 11:30am. \$20 Lunch

RSVP to ysenia@ncachamber.com, or 713-450-3600.

#### North Channel 47th Annual GALA Jan. 19

North Channel Chamber Annual Awards & Installation Gala, Friday Jan. 19, 2024. New Venue: Hyatt

Regency Baytown. 6:30pm Reception 7:00pm Dinner & Dance Live Music & Dancing

with the Greenway Band. Silver Sponsor Available, \$2000. Individual tickets \$100. RSVP to ysenia@ncachamber.com, or 713-450-3600.

## Chamber hears Superintendents' State of Schools

By David Taylor North Channel Star

There was a lot of pride on display with the annual presentations made by area school district superintendents at the North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce luncheon last Friday.

The event draws one of the biggest crowds of the year as Galena Park, Channelview, and Sheldon ISDs present their version of the State of the District.

In recent years, the districts have become creative, and competitive, in their approach to showing off their accomplishments.

Board chairman Ronny Dwairy introduced Dr.



CHAMBER PROGRAM – The North Channel Chamber of Commerce hosted the area superintendents at the annual State of the District luncheon. From left, Channelview ISD superintendent Dr. Tory Hill, Sheldon ISD superintendent Dr. Demetrius McCall, Galena Park ISD superintendent Dr. John Moore, and Chamber President and CEO Margie Buentello and Chamber Board Chairman Ronny Dwairy.

John Moore and congratulated him and the Galena Park ISD district for their greatest accomplishment of an A rating issued by the Texas Education Agency.

Liz Lalor, deputy superintendent for educational support and school administration, led off the presentation, a professionally assembled video presentation featuring Moore as the conductor of a chorus and orchestra of professionals across the district who work together to harmoniously produce a winning ensemble of students.

Moore has served in virtually every level of education including a 32-year stint as teacher before ascending to superintendent.

"Making sure our students have a well-rounded education and all academic areas are the notes and rhythm of how we compose our song. Each school here is the centerpiece of our concert because

Continued. See STATE OF THE SCHOOLS, Page 3

## Mustangs Gallop past Bruins 62-14

By Allan Jamail

Beaumont, TX. — October 13, 2023 ~ The North Shore (NS) Eastside Boys ran-away with the home team Beaumont Westbrook Bruins 62-14. The #2 state ranked Mustangs continued its District 21-6A title defense and remains undefeated this season (7-0) and extending their district winning streak to 40 games.

The Bruins was no match against Head Coach Willie Gaston's team. The Bruins were not able to stop the pass or run plays allowing NS to score at will, they led 56 - 0 at half-time. Gaston wisely took out his starters in the third quarter which gave his second team players to gain valuable experience. The

Mustangs had 8 penalties giving up 65 yards.

The Eastside Boys menacing defense tormented the Bruins quarterback sacking him numerous times and forcing him to throw indiscriminately. They held them to only 36 yards in the first half. The Bruins run and pass game went nowhere until the 3rd quarter after the number one NS defense was taken out.

Mustang scorers: D'Andre Hardeman - 2, Terrence Guillory-2, Jaylen Bocard -2, Noah Warner -1, Cameron Smith -1. Kicker Jonathan Soto kicked 6 extra points and continues his perfect season. Kaleb Bailey completed 9 of 9 passes for 285 yards and four touchdowns, the offense made



#28 D'Andre Hardeman makes a Mustang score in the first 30 seconds of the game on a 36 yard run.(Photo by Allan Jamail)



#11 Jaylen Bocard sophomore wide receiver scores on a Kaleb Bailey pass.(Photo by Allan Jamail)

Continued. See MUSTANGS BEAT BRUINS,



## Lady Yellow Jackets lose Volleyball Battle

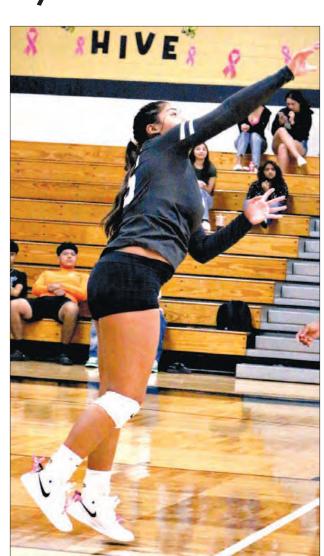
By Allan Jamail

October 10, 2023 ~ GPHS Gym – The 2<sup>nd</sup> place Galena Park Varsity Lady Yellow Jackets battled the 1<sup>st</sup> place visiting Carnegie Vanguard Rhinos (CVR) and lost in a 3-1 split of four games. The evenly talented players kept the game competitive in all four sets. The fans for both teams jumped up and down rooting throughout the close contest.

Coach Mary DeFiore always fields a highly competitive team and has coached district championships. With four games remaining out a 46 game schedule their standing in the district remains the same.

Set 1—GP 21-CVR 25, Set 2—GP 25-CVR-21, Set 3—GP 19-CVR-25, Set 4—GP 21-CVR25

GP Camila Esquivel a junior earned player of the game recognition for the Lady Yellow Jackets. Linda Jamail, Statistician.



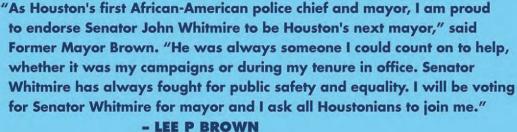
#25 Camila Esquivel, Lady Yellow Jacket Player of the game. (Photo by Allan Jamail)













#### PROUDLY ENDORSED BY







Afro American Police Officers League



**Houston Police** Officers' Union



Houston Professional Fire Fighters Assn.



Texas Gulf Coast Area Labor Federation

#### **ELECTION DAY NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>**

**EARLY VOTING** OCT. 23RD - NOV. 3RD

www.JOHNWHITMIRE.com

Pol. adv. pd. by the John Whitmire Campaign.

#### WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE

The HARRIS COUNTY F.W.S.D. #51 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on November 8, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. at 367 Queenstown Road, Houston, Texas 77015. Guest may attend the hearing by Zoom video conference at <a href="https://zoom.us">https://zoom.us</a> or by Telephone at 346-248-7799, Metting ID: 320 452 4804 Passcode: 382181. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

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

FOR the proposal: Jerry Dominy, Mike Bilnoski, Cary Stephens, Les LeBleu and

David Gray

**AGAINST** the proposal: None **PRESENT** and not voting: None ABSENT: None

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

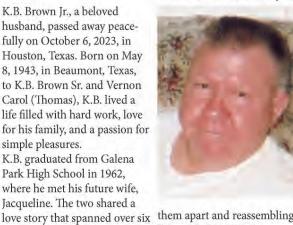
	Last Year	This Year	
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$ .20000/\$100	\$ .14000/\$100	
	Adopted	Proposed	
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$-0.06000/\$100		
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	-30.00%		
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 192,585	\$ 213,633	
General homestead exemptions available	\$ 38,517	\$ 42,727	
(excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)			
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 154,068	\$ 170,906	
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 308.13	\$ 239.26	
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if			
proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)	\$ -68.8	7	
and percentage of increase (+/-)	-22.3	5%	

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that

Bob Leared Interests 713-932-9011

## **OBITUARIES**

#### K.B. Brown Jr.



decades, filled with laughter,

dance, and enduring compan-

who was the apple of K.B.'s eye

and beloved like a daughter.

Throughout his life, K.B. was

a dedicated worker, starting

his career in custodial services

within the Channelview and

Galena Park School Districts.

He also worked at Sun Belt

Regional Hospital, where

he was known for his dili-

gent work ethic and friendly

demeanor. K.B. followed in his

Carter Funeral Home, a job he

held close to his heart. He later

worked at Brown and Root In-

dustrial Services and a plaster

years of dedicated service.

stood out. He enjoyed taking

K.B. was a man of many

father's footsteps, working at

them apart and reassembling them, a hobby that showcased his meticulous nature and patience. He was a fan ionship. Their love also extendof Johnny Cash, often found ed to their fur baby, Maryanne, humming along to his favorite tunes while working in the yard. However, his greatest joy was dancing with his wife, Jacqueline, a pastime that kept their love young and vibrant. He is preceded in death by his parents, K.B. Brown Sr. and Vernon Carol (Thomas). K.B. leaves behind his loving wife, Jacqueline Brown, and their cherished fur baby, Maryanne. He is also survived by his siblings-in-law, Karyn Milton and her husband Bobby, and Vivian Richardson and her husband Rodger, K.B. was a beloved uncle to numerous shipyard, where he retired after nieces and nephews, who will remember his warm smile and kind heart. interests, but his love for clocks K.B. Brown was a man who

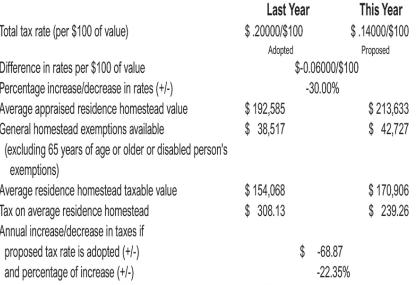
Carter~Conley

**Funeral Home** 

touched many lives with his hard work, dedication, and love for his family. His memory will live on in the hearts of those who knew and loved him. His life was a testament to the power of love, the value of hard work, and the joy found in simple pleasures. He will be deeply missed, but his legacy will continue to inspire all who were fortunate enough to know him.

Funeral services for K.B. are pending at this time. He will be laid to rest at San Jacinto Memorial Park Cemetery under the direction of Carter-Conley Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, the family asks memorial donations be made to the Huntington's Disease Society of America in honor of K.B. The family held a visitation at Carter-Conley Funeral Home on Tuesday, October 17, 2023 that began at 10:30 A.M. with funeral services at 11:30 A.M. A police escorted funeral procession then departed for a 1:00 P.M. graveside service at San Jacinto Memorial Park Cemetery under the direction on Carter-Conley Funeral





#### NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code. An election is not required if the adopted tax rate is less than or equal to the voterapproval tax rate.

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

#### CONGRATULATIONS To Mary Cortinas of Channelview, who won Free Tickets to the Texas Renaissance Festival. You can win too. Just send us a photo reading this newspaper. See information on Page 7, and enter the Drawing.







#### CHARLOTTE'S WEB

By Charlotte Jackson



### **Community**

ast weekend was an amazing time to be in our area. The weather was cooler and we began to see a little more happening in the community with garage sales, fun activities for the family and more of a sense of community. The week had started off rough for many due to the shooting at a local sports bar, followed by some rain and hopefully one of the last of the muggy days for a while

By the time Friday rolled around, we were beginning to think about the eclipse that was going to happen on Saturday as well as a weekend of exciting sports activities. While some of the high school games did not bring a victory, North Shore continued to prepare for another trip to the State Championship Game. It was also a week filled with fundraisers for local schools, Scout troops and various groups associated with young people.

It was a week where several of the senior adults in my life were hospitalized for various reasons and a young man lost his fight for survival. When I had worked at San Jacinto College, I somehow became an adopted mom or aunt by many of the students. I have been praying for months for one of them who somehow "fell off the grid" and nobody had heard from. After months of prayers, I located him and for the first time in several years, he is doing remarkably well. Another young man has returned to the community needing assistance. When you have lost both parents by the age of twenty-four, you have no "home" to return to, yet in his case, he has always known there is love to be found in the area. After several days of searching, he was reconnected with his sister. Even though she cannot open up her home to him, she has stepped up and made sure he has food, clean clothes and

Sunday as Texans fans celebrated a great win over the New Orleans Saints, Astros fans went to sleep a little on the disappointed side. I say a little as there are several games ahead and fans will be there until the end. And while many our focused on football and baseball, it is time to begin to shit attention to basketball. Yes, the Rockets have upcoming preseason games but even more exciting, the guys who formed East Houston United Basketball, and brought home four national championship wins are stepping out on yet another venture.

Kevin Williams has organized a new professional basketball league and several of those who will be playing on the team representing Houston are familiar on the east side. The HBCU Movement is the first professional basketball team featuring all HBCU Athletes. These amazing young men will—soon be playing on October 28 at the Smoothie Center in New Orleans. This will be the ABA Opening Game as they take off North Alabama War Dawgs. Immediately after their win, the New York Knicks will be playing the New Orleans Pelicans. More to be seen in the month's ahead but check your calendar now, you will want to be a part of the history.

Again, as the seasons change, look for opportunities to get involved, make a difference and mentor the younger generation while being sure to check on our elders. It takes a village.

## NORTH CHANNEL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

#### COMMERCIAL PRINTING

Commercial Printing

We specialize in 4 Color Brochures, Magazines, Sale Flyers, We print Newspapers, too.

Call for a Quote

GRAFIKSHOP

713-977-2555



E.luis@luisgarcialaw.com www.luisgarcialaw.com

NORTHSHORE VACUUM Professional Floor & Carpet Cleaning



Call 713-266-3444 to Advertise

YOUR Business in this Directory. 5,000 readers Weekly

## State of the Schools,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



The Alice Johnson Junior High Folklorico Dance Team opened the Channelview presentation with their colorful dresses and dancing. The program is in its second year and is one of the many extracurricular activities offered by the school. Dancers are, from left, Amy Hernandez, Elsie Arriaga, Josie Solano, Leilanny Hernandez, and Rebecca Urbano.



The Channelview Falcon cheerleaders finished the Channelview presentation with a pom pom dance.



Sara Saeed and Alexandra Cordova led the newscast for Sheldon ISD's presentation and surprised the chamber guests with a song from Chicago that the drama students will present in December.



The drumline excites chamber members as they during the last part of the Sheldon ISD



Dr. John Moore introduces a professional video created by his talented team at Galena Park ISD based on a musical theme woven throughout the presentation.

academics are the foundation of student learning," Moore said in the video.

His leadership team boasts more than 200 years of experience in GPISD.

"Our true purpose is to love the children of our community into success. You love them so hard. You push them into being successful. And they get to define success, not us," he said.

Channelview ISD introduced their superintendent with a Hispanic flavor with the Alice Johnson Junior High Folklorico Dance Team and finished with the cheerleaders performing a pom dance for the crowd.

Superintendent Tory Hill upon his arrival has spearheaded a five-year strategic plan laying a foundation for continued success for the district.

"His focus on literacy as a fundamental skill leads to innovative programs that enhance student's reading skills and across all grades." Dwairy said

skills and across all grades," Dwairy said.

Hill also earned a nomination for Superintendent of the Year in the region while he was at Sweeney ISD.

"One of the elements of the comprehensive five-year plan is a brand-new vision statement," he said. It reads, "Channelview ISD will empower future lead-

ers prepared to thrive in an ever-changing world.

Another of the changes includes a new seal for the district and last year an increased competitive pay scale

for their teachers.

"Likewise, we also offer daycare for our employees, a unique element of our school district," he said. They have also launched a new LyondellBasell literacy bus that

will be rolling around soon to support students yearround.

Dr. Demetrius McCall of Sheldon ISD became superintendent of the district in June this year. He was formerly the principal of C. E. King High School and has

also served in other school districts.

"I am proud to share a few of our highlights including the class of 2023 Earning a record breaking \$4.4 million in scholarships," the superintendent said.

McCall said 41 percent of SISD early college high school students earn an associate degree through the Sheldon Early College High School program that meets the national average by 11 percent.

"We have recognized STEM programs nationally recognized programs including an all-girls team that is starting with NASA this fall," he said.

King High School students also earned more than 300 industry-based certifications last year.

To learn more about the districts, visit their websites.

### **ASK DIAMOND JIM**

## Diamond Jim: "What is The Birthstone for October?"

As the traditional birthstone of October, opal offers a myriad of colors all residing within one beautiful stone. Because opal has the colors of other gems, the Romans thought it was the most precious and powerful of all. The Bedouins believed that opals contained lightning and fell from the sky during thunderstorms. When Australia's mines began to produce opals commercially in the 1890s, it quickly became the world's primary source for this October birthstone.

Opal is the product of seasonal rains that drenched dry ground in regions such as Australia's semi-desert "outback." The showers soaked deep into ancient underground rock, carrying dissolved silica (a compound of silicon and oxygen) downward. During dry periods, much of the water evaporated, leaving solid deposits of silica in the cracks and between the layers of underground sedimentary rock. The silica deposits formed opal.



#### **How Opal Forms**

Opal is known for its unique display of flashing rainbow colors called play-of-color. There are two broad classes of opal: precious and common. Precious opal displays play-of-color, common opal does not. Play-of-color occurs in precious opal because it's made up of sub-microscopic spheres stacked in a grid-like pattern—like layers of Ping-Pong balls in a box. As the lightwaves travel between the spheres, the waves diffract, or bend. As they bend, they break up into the colors of the rainbow, called spectral colors. Play-of-color is the result.

Although experts divide gem opals into many different categories, five of the main types are:

· White or light opal: Translucent to semitranslucent, with play-of-color againsta white or light gray background color, called bodycolor.

· Black opal: Translucent to opaque, with play-of-color against a black or other dark background.

· Fire opal: Transparent to translucent, with brown, yellow, orange, or red bodycolor. This material—which often doesn't show play-of-color—is also known as "Mexican opal."

· Boulder opal: Translucent to opaque, with play-of-color against a light to dark background. Fragments of the surrounding rock, called matrix, become part of the finished gem.

· Crystal or water opal: Transparent to semitransparent, with a clear background. This type shows exceptional play-of-color.

Writers have compared opals to volcanoes, galaxies, and fireworks. Admirers gave extraordinary opals poetic names like Pandora, Light of the World, and Empress. In ancient Rome, this gem symbolized love and hope. The Romans gave it a name—opalus—that was synonymous with "precious stone."

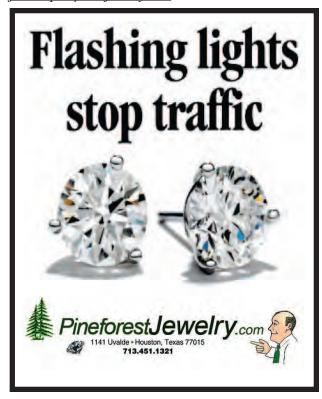
Opal is considered an October birthstone. Some people think it's unlucky for anyone born in another month to wear an opal. But that particular superstition comes from a novel written in the 1800s (Anne of Geierstein by Sir Walter Scott), and not from any ancient belief or experience. In fact, throughout most of history, opal has been regarded as the luckiest and most magical of all gems because it can show all colors. Once, it was thought to have the power to preserve the life and color of blond bein

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 ★



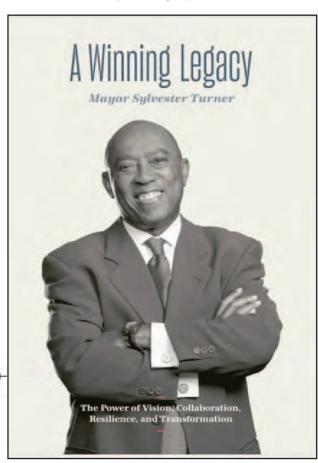
### Mayor Turner's 2023 State of the City

"I am proud of the city that I shall pass forward."

--Mayor Turner Delivers Final State of the City Address

HOUSTON - Mayor Sylvester Turner delivered his eighth and final State of the City address Wednesday to a sold-out audience of 1,500 community members and business leaders. The mayor began his remarks by thanking Houstonians for their support and highlighting the work of all City of Houston employees. He gave special recognition to 35 outstanding municipal workers who have demonstrated dedication and passion for serving the public. A highlight of the event included the release of "A Winning Legacy," a book detailing the mayor's achievements and legacy of resilience and transformation during his administration.

A copy of the book is available online: Download/Read the Mayor's Legacy Book



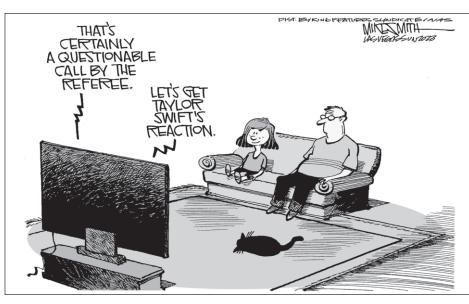
"Together, we have faced many storms – seven federally declared disasters in eight years. From floods or a freeze, from a Super Bowl or the pandemic, we rose and met the challenges of the day," said the mayor. "From inequities in neighborhoods investments to billions of dollars in pension unfunded liabilities, from One Safe Houston to One Clean Houston, we confronted each issue head on and set the City on firmer footing."

#### **Speech Highlights:**

- During the address, Mayor Turner announced the City of Houston and FEMA have reached an agreement on building a new municipal courts building damaged during Hurricane Harvey.
- His administration will leave a \$420 million surplus to the next mayor's administration. When Mayor Turner was elected, the City faced a \$160M deficit.
- The City's pension liability has been reduced from \$8.2 billion when he became mayor to \$2.2 billion
- Houston will get nearly \$2 billion in the coming years to transform the convention center and the surrounding district, a project that will catalyze further development in that part of downtown.
- The Sunnyside Solar Farm will be operational in 2024.
- Groundbreaking of a new cutting edge Solid Waste Northeast Transfer Station to open in 2025.
- The North Canal Stormwater Project and the Lake Livingston Flood Water-gates in Kingwood are in the design stage.
- The I-45 Expansion Project is moving forward.

"We are diverse, yet inclusive. We are greener, more compassionate, more united, and more forward-moving than we ever imagined, but at the same time, we work every day to be inclusive. We are greener, more compassionate, more united, and more forward-moving than we can ever imagine," said Mayor Turner. "What I can say to Houstonians is that I have given you my best, and I am proud of the city that I shall pass forward."

EDITOR'S NOTE: Opinions expressed here are not necessarily that of this newspaper or its staff. YOUR OPINION is welcome. Send a letter for possible publication to Grafikpress Newspapers, 5906 Star Lane, Houston TX 77057 or an email to GRAFIKSTAR@aol.com. Please limit your words to about 200. Letters will be subject to editing. Thank you.



## STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

## Abbott Ties Voucher Passage to Teacher Pay, School Funding

Gov. Greg Abbott, just hours after the Senate initially approved a school voucher measure, said he would add teacher raises and increased public school funding to the ongoing special session agenda if the Texas Legislature passes his voucher plan, the Texas Tribune reporteD.

"I want to make sure we provide a carrot to make sure this legislation gets passed," Abbott said of vouchers. "Once [education savings accounts] are passed, I will put on the legislative agenda full funding for public education, including teacher pay raises for teachers across the state."

However, Democratic and rural Republican legislators remain opposed to vouchers, maintaining vouchers would drain funding for public schools, the Texas Standard reported.

"Every dollar that we spend on a voucher is going to be a dollar that is taken away from being able to invest in public education," Rep. Stan Lambert, R-Abilene, said.

State Sen. Robert Nichols, R-Jacksonville, called Abbott's approach a "political threat." He said most constituents in his district would find it a hardship to send their children to private schools because of the distance and cost.

"Most of my constituents, even with an \$8,000 discount, the private school is probably so far away, they're going to have to travel 30 or 40 miles to get to a private school," Nichols said. "And they still won't be able to afford the balance of what's owed."

The Senate bill initially approved would give families who opt for private schools \$8,000 of public money each year.

#### PATRICK: NO REASON TO RETURN PAC MONEY

Lt. Gov Dan Patrick says he has no intention of returning \$3 million in political contributions received from a political action committee whose leader met with an avowed Nazi sympathizer earlier this month, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

Former state representative Jonathan Stickland, now head of the Defend Texas Lib-



erty PAC, met with white supremacist Nick Fuentes for several hours, prompting a number of Republican lawmakers to donate money they received from the PAC to pro-Israel charities at the urging of House Speaker Dade Phelan, R-Beaumont.

Patrick and Phelan have been feuding for months, especially over the impeachment and ultimate acquittal of Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton. Patrick called on Phelan to resign after the speaker demanded he return the \$3 mil-

"I didn't think even Dade Phelan would stoop this low," Patrick said in a statement. "He has now absolutely hit rock bottom. His latest stunt is disgusting, despicable and disingenuous."

Phelan pushed back. "I didn't take \$3 million from a PAC that associates itself with Nazis and Nazi sympathizers. That's not my problem," he said.

#### TWO TEXAS CONGRESSMEN OPPOSE BULLET TRAIN

Two Texas congressmen are trying to stop funding for a bullet train from Houston to Dallas, the Houston Chronicle reported. U.S. Reps. Jake Ellzey and Michael McCaul, both Republicans, have asked the federal Department of Transportation to deny federal funding for the project, announced recently as a collaboration between Amtrak and Texas Central Railroad.

The proposed route of 240 miles would have a travel time of 90 minutes – less than half the time it takes to travel by car.

"At its core, this project is intended to take land from American citizens and put it under the control of a Japanese company, which is itself subsidized using money from U.S. taxpayers," the two congressmen wrote in part.

A number of Texas land-

A number of Texas landowners have expressed concern about the route cutting through their farmland.

"Landowners deserve to have their land rights protected against the unrealistic and financially infeasible rail project proposed to be funded through these applications," McCaul and Ellzey said in their letter.

#### ONLY TWO TEXAS UNIVERSITIES CRACK TOP 100

Only two Texas universities managed to crack the top 100 in the Wall Street Journal's annual ranking, the Houston Chronicle reported. Texas A&M was ranked 38th, while Rice University came in at 64th. The University of Texas came in at No. 118, according to the rankings.

"To generate the rankings, the Journal partnered with research groups College Pulse and Statista to analyze a mountain of data, measuring everything from expected student salaries and years needed to pay for attendance to the quality of the school's 'learning-related facilities' and oncampus diversity," the Chronicle reported.

Twenty Texas colleges and universities made the top 400. Princeton University was ranked No. 1 overall.

#### MORE THAN 50,000 MIGRANTS BUSED ELSEWHERE

The state of Texas has bused more than 50,000 migrants to what Gov. Greg Abbott terms sanctuary cities since the launch of Operation Lone Star, his office announced. The migrants have been bused to Washington, D.C., New York City, Chicago, Philadelphia, Denver and Los Angeles since April 2022.

Enhancing border security is one of the items Abbott has called upon the Legislature to address in the special session now underway. He is proposing a law that allows all licensed law enforcement officers in Texas to arrest anyone who illegally enters Texas.

## INCREASED FOCUS ON PEDESTRIAN SAFETY THIS MONTH

Last October marked the highest number of vehicle-pedestrian crashes, which is why the Texas Department of Transportation is pleading with drivers this month to be more aware of "our most vulnerable road users."

"As we shift to fewer hours of daylight, it's up to drivers and pedestrians to adapt and help keep our roads safe," said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "Motorists need to stay alert and look for people walking, and pedestrians can take measures to be seen by drivers who may be inattentive behind the wheel."

In 2022, 5,764 traffic crashes involving pedestrians occurred in Texas, resulting in 829 deaths and 1,526 serious injuries.



## Talking to Dogs

It's no secret that I love dogs.

I love dogs, and I don't have one right now because, traveling as much as my husband, Peter, and I do, having a dog makes no sense. We know this. We have discussed this. There are times I would like to have a dog so much it makes my heart hurt. And then I realize how easy it is to get on a plane without worrying about the welfare of a dog, and I know we have—at least for now-made the right decision.

And so my solution is to talk to other people's dogs.

I'm sure I'm not the only one who talks to dogs on my daily walk. I'd be surprised, however, if anyone was more enthusiastic about it. I am also (if I say so myself) very good at it. This is because I have a secret method for talking to dogs.

I start before the dog (and their person) have even met me on the sidewalk. I see them coming, and I make a little noise. It is my secret little dog call. It is a high little squeak, and every dog can hear it, and most of their owners cannot. This little noise gives me my edge.

The dog is alert. "That person is talking to me!" the dog says. It looks at me closely. If it has ears that go up, they are at attention.

"What a sweet pup!" I then say, loud enough for the owner to hear. There is almost no one who does not like to hear they have a sweet pup.

I imagine every one of these pups has been something less than sweet at some time or another (maybe just last night), and the owner of that dog appreciates a total stranger—with no investment in the matter whatsoever—confirming their bias that this is an obviously special dog, a dog well worth any trouble they might have caused.

At this point, since the dog and I have already been having a conversation and the owner is now looking at me, most dogs figure I am "A Friend." If their owner was nervous around me or disinterested, some of them would pretend they were disinterested as well. But once their owner confirms that I am "A Friend," the dog almost always rushes over to become better acquainted.

I try not to hold them up too long. I don't stop runners because that seems rude. But most people strolling along with their dog don't seem to mind me scratching their dog's ears and maybe getting a dog kiss.

If the conversation is going well, I sometimes learn the dog's name. Learning his name is Barney extends our meet-and-greet time because then I get to say, "Oh, Barney! What do you think of this weather?"

Barney is even more delighted because not only am I "A Friend," I am "A Friend Who Knows His Name!" which is the very best kind. This seems to work equally well in English and Spanish, in the city or hiking through the woods.

Then I say goodbye, and I always thank the owner for sharing their dog. I go on my way, and I am aware—right there on my walk—that I feel better than I did before I met that dog. My heart is lighter. My step is quicker. My day, even if it was good already, has just improved.

So that is my secret for talking to dogs. It is also the secret to being a little bit happier every day.

Till next time,



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

GRAFIKPRESS is publisher of community newspapers, including Highlands STAR-Crosby COURIER; Barbers Hill Dayton PRESS; Northeast NEWS; North Forest NEWS, North Channel STAR. Combined circulation of these newspapers exceeds 20,000, Readership exceeds 50,000 according to industry standards. We also print dozens of school, ethnic, and government publications on contract. Call for information to 713-977-2555.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: In-county, \$28.00 per year. Out of county, \$35.00 per Year. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Star-Courier, P. O. Box 405, Highlands, TX 77562

News and Ad Phones....713-266-3444

lews and Ad Phones....713-266-344 FAX Line....713-977-1188 email: grafikstar@aol.com Member Texas Press Association

### Mustangs Beat Bruins 62-14,

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1** 

529 yards. In the first 30 seconds D'Andre Hardeman dashed 36 yards for one of his two touchdowns. Linda Jamail, statistician and photographer.

North Shore will host the Humble Wildcats Thursday, Oct. 19th @ 7pm. The following week on Friday, October 27th @ 7pm, the home game with the Atascocita Eagles will probably decide the Class 6A Division I champions. Now both are undefeated.



Mustang's #55 defensive lineman John Nealy sacks the Bruins quarterback. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

Scoring by quarter:

0 1	1	2	3	4	Final
Mustangs	28	28	6	0	62
Bruins	0	0	14	0	14



North Shore's Game Captains, Seniors: L-R: #43-Nicholas Goins, #2-Christopher Barnes, #4-Terrence Guillory and #7-Dillion Dixon (Photo by LINDA Jamail)

## LLYWIII

## by Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD — It's finally official! Vanna White will continue flipping letters on "Wheel of Fortune" when Ryan Seacrest becomes the new host starting next season. The producers would only give her a two-year contract, but you know she will be flipping those letters even if she needs to use a walker to get to them!

In 1980, Byron Allen was a successful stand-up comic. I used to chat with him between sets at the Improv, a popular comedy club, and he was always friendly and easy to talk to. He soon signed on to host NBC's primetime show "Real People" and eventually became founder and CEO of Allen Media Group. Also known as Entertainment Studios, Inc., the company produced shows such as "Comics Unleashed" and owns the Weather Channel, as well as several regional sports networks and TV stations.

In 2020, Byron tried to buy the Denver Broncos and lost to a higher bidder. But vou can't keep a good man down ... he's now offered the Walt Disney Company \$10 billion to buy ABC, FX and National Geographic. Disney's financial problems might make his offer irresistible.

In case you've wondered why writers and actors are so worried about AI (artificial intelligence), here's a case in point: Highly respected British actor Stephen Fry (who scored as Oscar Wilde in "Wilde" and also starred in "V for Vendetta," "Gosford Park" and "The Hobbit" trilogy, to name a few of his credits) discovered that an AI system mimicked his very recognizable voice for a narration of a historical documentary.

"I said not one word of that," Fry confessed. "It was a machine. Yes, it shocked me. They used my reading of the seven volumes of the 'Harry Potter' books, and from that dataset, an AI of my voice was created, and it made that new narration. What you



Vanna White (Wheel of Fortune)

heard was not the result of a mash-up. ... The words are modulated to fit the meaning of each sentence ... all without my knowledge and without my permission."

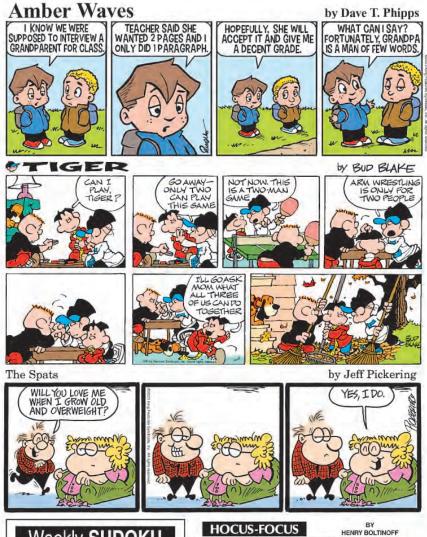
Mark Wahlberg is only 52, but the father of four is already beginning to question how much longer he can stand in front of movie cameras. He recently revealed, "Well, I'm certainly working harder now than ever. ... But I don't think I'll be acting that much longer at the pace I am now."

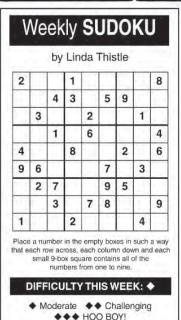
Before the strike, he completed "Arthur the King;" "The Union" for Netflix, with Halle Berry and J.K. Simmons; and the Apple TV+ comedy "The Family Plan," with Michelle Monaghan. He wants to devote more time to his two boys and two girls who are currently 13, 15, 17 and 20, as well as his family business "Wahlburgers," which has grown to 90 sites within the U.S., Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

(c) 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

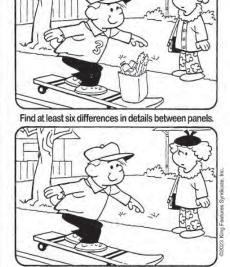


### ENTERTAINMENT





© 2023 King Features Synd., In



10. The whale shark 7. One — Dwight Eisenhower; 8. "The Catcher in the Rye."; 9. "Living Single."; 1. Georgia.; 2. "Titanic."; 3. Michelangelo.; 4. Gene Cernan.; 5. Canberra.; 6. 1945.; Trivia Test Answerst



ring Robert Redford lunch? 26 Kathmandu's 49 "Doing my best" 29 Census stat Vogue rival 30 Chemical suf- 51 Brit. record label

31 Exploits 32 LPs' successors 54 Squealer 33 Air outlet 55 North Sea

20 Stoic philoso-

film star-

pher

22 Baseball

land

34 - de mer 35 Before 36 Rodeo rope 37 Baseball film starring Kevin Costner

40 Hawaiian island 41 Phase 45 Quick look

7 9 8 2 8 9 4 7

8 4 3 6 7 8 1 2 9

8 8 9 6 1 7 2 7 9

1 8 8 2 7 9 6

9 6 2 1 8 8 4 7

3 8 1 9 6 2 7 5 4

8 3 6 7 2 6 4 1 5

2 9 6 9 8 8 7 1 7

8 2 8 4 9 4 3 7 8

19WSUA

Weekly SUDOKU

Solution time: 25 mins.

STOWERS

King Crossword —

DOWN Bygone Peruvian Betting group Teensy bit Stately duo?

feeder

Long time 47 Extended Slaloms

8 Reeves of "Speed" Dieters count them 10 "Right you

52 April forecast "Kidnapped" 53 D.C. insiders monogram 19 Stanley Cup org.

> A deadly sin 26 Feeling no

38 Minnesota's 10,000+ 21 Paris summer 39 Custom 42 List-ending 23 Consumer crusader abbr. Ralph 43 First bed 24 Curry and 44 Emmywinning Daly Landers 45 Zing 25 Jared of "Panic Room" 46 "Xanadu"

28 Helter-skelter

32 Squad car

33 Dracula, for

35 College URL

36 Vegas lead-in

ender

band

48 Ms. Thurman

27 Birthright bar-© 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

1. U.S. STATES: Which state is home to the

Girl Scouts, founded by Juliette Gordon Low in 2. MOVIES: Which 1990s movie features a character named Jack Dawson?

3. ART: Who painted the Sistine Chapel ceil-

4. ASTRONOMY: Which U.S. astronaut wrote his daughter's initials on the moon? 5. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Aus-

6. HISTORY: In which year was Korea divided into two occupation zones that would become North and South Korea? 7. U.S. PRESIDENTS: How many presidents

were elected in the 1950s? 8. Which 20th-century novel features a character named Holden Caulfield?

9. TELEVISION: Queen Latifah stars in which 1990s TV sitcom?

10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is the largest species of shark?

© 2022 King Features Synd., Inc.



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

THIS WEEK'S SCORES THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12 Spring Westfield 28, Eisenhower 0

Kingwood Park 21, Baytown Lee Spring 51, MacArthur 0

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13 Aldine Nimitz 42, Aldine Davis 28 C. E. King 58, Beaumont United 14 Crosby 15, Baytown Sterling 7 Huffman Hargrave 51, Splendora 22

North Shore 62, Bmt. Westbrook

Port Arthur Memorial 57, Goose Creek Memorial 0 Port Neches-Groves 41, Dayton 14 Santa Fe 50, Galena Park 23 Spring Dekaney 72, Aldine 0

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14 Pasadena Dobie 41, Channelview

#### THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 Eisenhower at Davis, 7 p.m.,

Leonard George Stadium in Spring

Humble at North Shore, 7 p.m., Galena Park ISD Stadium in Houston MacArthur at Westfield, 7 p.m.,

Planet Ford Stadium in Spring FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

Barbers Hill at Kingwood Park, 7 p.m., Turner Stadium in Humble Crosby, bye

Deer Park at Channelview, 7 p.m., Ray Maddry Memorial Stadium in Channelview Goose Creek Memorial at Porter, 7

p.m., Randall Reed Stadium in Porter Huffman Hargrave at Lumberton,

7:30 p.m., Raider Stadium in Lumberton LaPorte at Baytown Sterling, 7

p.m., Stallworth Stadium in Baytown

Nederland at Galena Park, 7 p.m., Galena Park ISD Stadium in Houston

Nimitz at Aldine, 7 p.m., Leonard George Stadium in Spring Port Arthur Memorial at Baytown Lee, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium

in Baytown Texas City at Dayton, 7 p.m., **Bronco Stadium in Dayton** 

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 C. E. King at Atascocita, 6 p.m., Turner Stadium in Humble

#### SPORTS PAGE

#### **SEASON FOOTBALL WEEK 8**

#### Penn State v Ohio State pits 2 Top 10 teams: Dolphins visit Eagles in stellar SNF tilt

It looks like we will finally have a good Sunday Night Football game to watch this week when the Miami Dolphins visit the Philadelphia Eagles in prime time.

That will be a pleasant departure from what we had to witness two weeks ago when the Dallas Cowbovs were blown out on SNF by the San Francisco 49ers, 42-10. Thankfully for Cowboy fans (and I'm one of them), Dallas will have its bye week, along with the Texans, to try and figure out how to salvage a season that started with so much promise. After back-to-back dominating wins over the Giants and Jets, Dallas lost at Arizona, blew out New England (which isn't saying much if you've seen how bad Bill Belichick's team is this year) and then had it handed to them by the 49ers

Dallas QB Dak Prescott continues to struggle to make plays downfield and the defense that looked so good in Weeks 1 and 2 were thoroughly dominated by Brock Purdy (four touchdown passes) and the 49ers.

While the Cowboys were being dominated, the Texans lost a 21-19 heartbreaker at Atlanta on a lastsecond field goal. DeMeco Ryan's team is showing a lot of fight and rookie QB C.J. Stroud is looking like he could be the franchise quarterback Houston has been looking for since it parted ways with Deshaun Watson.

While Texas' teams take the week off, the focus on Sunday will be the prime time meeting between the Dolphins and Eagles in what should be an offensive shootout. Both teams have weapons galore on that side of the football, so this game should be

Other key games on Week 8 have the Jaguars visiting New Orleans. Jacksonville won back-to-back games in London with wins over the Falcons and Bills, while the Saints handed the Patriots a 34-0 stomping two weeks

Detroit, which leads the NFC North, has a tough road matchup at



Baltimore, while the Browns and Colts go at it in Indy. Week 8 will conclude with Monday Night Football as the cruising 49ers visit the disappointing Vikings in what could be a make or break game for Minnesota's season

In the college land, there's a big one in the Big 10 as No. 6-ranked Penn State visits No. 3-ranked Ohio State. In the SEC, No. 19-ranked Tennessee visits No. 11-ranked Alabama. A year ago, the Vols upset the Crimson Tide 52-49 on a lastsecond field goal. You'd better believe 'Bama head coach Nick Saban will be looking for revenge on Saturday in Tuscaloosa. In the ACC, No. 17-ranked Duke visits No. 5ranked Florida State.

Before we take a look at this week's games, let's review last week's record. A 6-6 week brought the record to 34-28 (55%).

Duke at Florida State: No. 17ranked Duke travels to Tallahassee to take on No. 5-ranked Florida State in an ACC battle. The Blue Devils hope to have dual-threat quarterback Riley Leonard (912 passing yards, 3 TDs/ 326 rushing yards, 4 TDs) back for this one and they will need him against the high-scoring Seminoles. Leonard sustained an ankle injury in Duke's 21-14 loss to Notre Dame on Sept. 30. He missed last week's game against North Carolina State. If Leonard is out, that could limit bigplay wide receiver Jordan Moore (24

receptions, 313 yards, 4 TDs). But it's the Duke defense that will have its hands full come Saturday with FSU QB Jordan Travis (1,198 yards, 12 TDs), running back Troy Benson (496 yards, 6 TDs) and wide receivers Johnny Williams (20 receptions, 357 yards, 2 TDs) and Keon Coleman (20 receptions, 278 yards, 6 TDs). The 'Noels not only want to win the ACC. but also have dreams of a berth in the College Football Playoff, Look for them to roll on Saturday. My pick, Florida State 36, Duke 13

Penn State at Ohio State: This is a huge one in the Big 10 for both teams as No. 6-ranked Penn State visits No. 3-ranked Ohio State on Saturday. Both teams won their first five games with relative ease and this should be a competitive contest. The Nittany Lions have a balanced offense led by QB Drew Allar (1,092 yards, 9 TDs) and one of the most explosive running backs in the country in Keytron Allen (307 yards, 2 TDs). They also have a big-play wide receiver in KeAndre Lambert-Smith (25 receptions, 372 vards, 3 TDs). The Buckeyes have some weapons of their own in first-year starting QB Kyle McCord (1,375 yards, 8 TDs), veteran running back TreVeon Henderson (295 yards, 5 TDs) and perhaps the best wide receiver in the land in Marvin Harrison Jr. (25 receptions, 499 yards, 4 TDs). OSU proved it can win a tight game as evidenced by its road win at Notre Dame. Look for Henderson to the difference maker in this one as OSU sets it sites on No. 2-ranked Michigan in the final week of the season. My pick, Ohio State 26, Penn State 23

Tennessee at Alabama: The Vols visit the Tide on Saturday looking for a second straight win over Nick Saban's team. A year ago, the Vols won in Knoxville on a lastsecond field goal to finish off a wild 52-49 win. I don't think this will be the offensive shootout that it was a year ago, but Tennessee can put points on the board behind QB Joe Milton III (1.164 yards, 9 TDs), running back Jaylen Wright (435 yards, 1 TD) and wide receiver Squirrel White (26 receptions, 276 yards). After a Week 2 loss at home to Texas, 'Bama has reeled off four straight wins and QB Jalen Milroe (1.159 vards, 9 TDs) is improving as a passer week-by-week Two weeks ago, in a 26-20 win at Texas A&M, Milroe hooked up with wide receiver Jermaine Burton (17 receptions, 386 yards, 4 TDs) nine times for 197 yards and two TDs. Running back Jase McClellan (371 yards, 3 TDs) is also finding his groove, along with the 'Tide defense that allowed just three points to the Aggies in the second half. Look for a solid effort on both sides of the ball come Saturday as Alabama looks to keep ahold of the top spot in the SEC West, My pick, Alabama 27. Tennessee 18

NFI

Jacksonville at New Orleans: Week 8 of the NFL season kicks off with Thursday Night Football as the Jaguars visit the Big Easy to take on the Saints in what should be a competitive contest. After losing two of their first three games, the Jags won two straight in London (over Atlanta and Buffalo) to move into first place in the AFC South, while the Saints also won three of their first five games. It looks like Jacksonville QB Trevor Lawrence (1.255 vards, 5 TDs) is finding his groove, along with running back Travis Etienne (396 yards, 3 TDs). Lawrence has two solid targets to throw to in wide receivers Christian Kirk (30 receptions, 335 yards, 1 TD) and Calvin Ridley (22 receptions, 333 vards, 2 TDs). The Saints have gotten decent play from QB Derek Carr (946 yards, 4 TDS) and wide receiver Chris Olave (25 receptions, 381 yards, 1 TD). Having running back Alvin Kamara (131 yards, 1 TD in 2

games) back has also been a boost to the NO offense. Look for the Saints defense to be the difference maker in this one as NO picks up the win on Thursday night. My pick, New Orleans 24, Jacksonville 20

Cleveland at Indianapolis: A key AFC game for both teams who so far are alive in their respective division races (Cleveland in the AFC North and Indv in the AFC South) and in the Wild Card race. The Browns had a bye week two weeks ago and should have QB Deshaun Watson (678 yards, 4 TDs) back after he missed his team's Oct. 1 home loss to Baltimore with a shoulder injury. If Watson is back, he will look to make plays down field to wide receiver Amari Cooper (18 receptions, 259 yards, 1 TD). The Colts could be without rookie QB Anthony Richardson who injured his shoulder two weeks ago in a win over Tennessee. Indy has a capable backup in Gardner Minshew (553 yards, 2 TDs). Indy also has star running back Jonathan Taylor back after he missed his team's first four games. His backup, Zac Moss (445 yards, 3 TDs) filled in well and the Colts should use both of them to pound the ball. My pick, Indianapolis 23, Cleveland 20

Los Angeles Chargers at Kansas City: A big one in the AFC West pits the Chargers against the Chiefs at Arrowhead Stadium. The Chargers are hoping to have versatile running back Austin Ekeler back for this one after missing three of the team's first four games with an ankle injury. If Ekeler is back, that should only help QB Justin Herbert (1,106 yards, 7 TDs) and wide receiver Keenan Allen (35 receptions, 434 yards, 3 TDs). The Chiefs will do what the Chiefs do, and that's to let QB Patrick Mahomes (1,287 yards, 10 TDs) make plays down field to tight end Travis Kelce (27 receptions, 222 vards, 3 TDs). KC also has found a running back behind second-vear back Isiah Pacheco (325 yards, 3 TDs). The Chiefs own the Chargers, especially at home. Look for that trend to continue come Sunday. My pick, Kansas City 33, Los Angeles Chargers 24

Miami at Philadelphia: The best Sunday Night Football game so far this season pits the Dolphins against

the Eagles in what should be an offensive shootout. Miami is led by QB Tua Tagovailoa (1,614 yards, 11 TDs), wide receiver Tyreek Hill (36 receptions, 651 yards, 5 TDs) and rookie sensation running back De'Von Achane (460 yards, 5 TDs). Achane and Hill are two of the fastest players in the NFL, and they should provide a stern test to a sturdy Philly defense come Sunday night. The Eagles have a few weapons of their own on offense with QB Jalen Hurts (1,262 yards, 6 TDs/206 rushing yards, 4 TDs), running back D'Andrew Swift (424 yards, 2 TDs) and wide receiver A.J. Brown (35 receptions, 541 yards, 2 TDs) and Devonta Smith (23 receptions, 290 yards, 2 TDs). Miami struggled at Buffalo on Oct. 1 and was blown out, 48-20 by the Bills. I think head coach Mike McDaniel and his term learned a hard lesson in that one that should keep them focused on Sunday night, but winning at the Link is a tall order. Look for the Eagles to pick up the win in what should be a very entertaining game. My pick, Philadelphia 34, Miami 30

San Francisco at Minnesota: Week 8 concludes on Monday Night Football when the 49ers visit the Vikings. Two weeks ago, SF routed Dallas 42-10 on Sunday Night Football, while the Vikings lost at home to the Chiefs. SF looks like a total team on both sides of the ball. On offense, they have a young QB in Brock Purdy (1,271 yards, 9 TDs) who has yet to lose a regular season game in his first two years in the league. They have perhaps the best running back in the NFL in Christian McCaffrey (510 yards, 8 total TDs) and a big-play wide receiver in Brandon Aiyuk (21 receptions, 378 yards, 2 TDs). They also have a ball hawking defense that can also pressure the QB. That's not good news for Kirk Cousins (1,498 yards, 13 TDs), who will be without star wide receiver Justin Jefferson (36 receptions, 571 yards, 3 TDs) who will miss at least four games with a hamstring injury after being placed on the injured reserve list. Looks like another win for the 49ers. My pick, San Francisco 31, Minnesota 18

## CLASSIFIED



#### Call 713-266-3444

Your AD will reach up to 40,000 readers in our FIVE newspapers, with a combined circulation of 20,000 copies. Get ACTION on your AD. Rates start at only \$18 for 20 words. A bargain!





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

**FOR RENT** 

**FOR RENT** 

**FOR RENT** 

**FOR RENT** 

IN GALENA PARK **DUPLEX 2 BEDROOM 1 BATH** across from School. Central Air & Heat. CALL 281-389-6567

38-2T

#### FREE INTERNET

Qualify today for the Government **Free Internet Program** 

YOU QUALIFY for Free Internet if you receive Medicaid, SNAP, WIC, Housing Assistance, Veterans Pension,



Maxsid

**CALL TODAY (888) 573-0497** 

Consumer Cellular

HALF THE COST. 855-821-6277

DIRECTV ON SUNDA IS INCLUDED FOR THE FIRST 3 MONTHS AT NO EXTRA COST! ot your local DIRECTV dealer! 844.622.1982 DIRECTV DEALER



SHOP LOCALLY -- Save Time & Money

## **Business Directory**

SHOP LOCALLY -- Save Time & Money



281-428-1187 1-800-345-8471

Sales & Repair Service

Baytown, Texas John Henderson 628 Cedar Bayou Rd.



713-702-3200

JOHNNY GAEKE

911 S. MAIN HIGHLANDS TX. 77562



WE DELIVER TO YOU (281) 843-5000 residential · commercial · industrial



**Signs & Banners** 281-462-1200

www.graphicsunlimitedinc.net 213 Kernohan • Crosby, TX 77532

SMALL ADS BRING **BIG** RESULTS Ask about our Business Directory

Package 13 Weeks + Story + Display for \$260 Ask about our Ribbon Cutting Package Photo + Story + Web for \$260

713-266-3444

#### WESTON COTTEN, ATTORNEY

**HIGHLANDS** 281-421-4050 1500 E. Wallisville Rd.

NOT CERTIFIED BY THE TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL

**SPECIALIZATION** 

### Star \* Umurier

Your Hometown Newspaper News tips and Ad Inquiries: 713-266-3444

To advertise in the Business Directory, please call 713-266-3444 for details

### SHELDON ISD NEWS

### **Sheldon Tax rate Lowers Saving Homeowners Thousands**

At the September School Board meeting, trustees adopted the 2023-24 total tax rate of \$1.2575. This lowers the previous tax rate of \$1.41 ultimately saving taxpayers more than \$1,000 depending on their home value. For example, if a Sheldon ISD homeowner has a home with an appraised value of \$300,000, the newly adopted tax rate of \$1.2575 will now save this homeowner \$1,069.50 annually.

"Our local property values have increased which has helped to reduce our tax rate," explained Chief FInance Officer Abraham George. "Additionally, Sheldon ISD is one of the few school districts in the area to offer a 20% savings for the total value of residents property for homestead exemption."

In addition to Sheldon ISD's homestead exemp-

tions, recent state legislation has passed an additional state mandated homestead exemption up to \$100,000 (increase from current \$40,000 exemption). This could ultimately save a homeowner \$62.87 each month. However, this additional homestead exemption is pending approval by Texas voters at the upcoming November election.

## C.E. King High School kicks off **Homecoming with Annual Parade**



Sheldon ISD students participated in the annual Homecoming parade on October 11. Students from each of the district's 13 schools participated as they marched with floats around Panther Stadium. Performances included the drill team, cheerleaders and band as well as other student groups.

## **College Week Provides Opportunities to Explore the Future**

During October 9-13, Sheldon ISD students spent the week learning about the importance of college during the district's annual College Week. The King High School College and Career Center developed activities for students to participate in. Activities focused on career and college readiness as well as discovering colleges that may be of interest as well as learning about financial opportunities to assist with school. King High School held its annual College Fair on October 12 with college





### **Sheldon ISD Students Star in Annual State of Schools** Luncheon

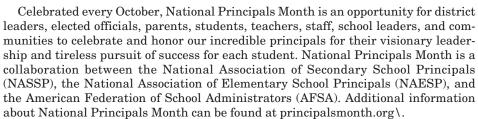
Sheldon ISD Superintendent Dr. Demetrius McCall participated in the annual North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce State of Schools luncheon on October 13. Dr. McCall selected to feature high school theater, choir, band and drill team students with live performances during his presentation. A special thank you to more than 30 students who helped make the performances possible.





## **GALENA PARK ISD NEWS**

## **GPISD Appreciates Principals**



GPISD is fortunate to have 26 principals who all significantly impact the success and well-being of our students. Thank you to all the amazing leaders for shaping young minds. Their dedication, passion, and commitment to education are truly remarkable, and we appreciate all the hard work they do to make a positive difference in the lives of so many. Thank you for being outstanding role models, advocates, and inspirations!



## **Student Nutrition Takes on the** Challenge

Galena Park ISD (GPISD) joins schools across Texas that will celebrate agriculture throughout the month of October. We will eat local, teach local, and be social by serving Texas-grown foods, offering agricultural learning opportunities, and sharing our celebrations on social media. Commissioner Sid Miller and the Texas Department of Agriculture are committed to introducing Texans to local foods and supporting Texas farmers and ranchers, which is part of the reason for Miller's Farm Fresh Challenge for School Nutrition programs Throughout Texas. GPISD readily accepted the challenge and will prioritize agriculture education and Texas foods as a way for schools to strengthen local economies and recognize the efforts of Texas farmers and ranchers. The Galena Park ISD Stu-

dent Nutrition Services received the "Best of the Bunch" Recognition for completing the Farm Fresh Challenge during the 2022-2023 school year, and we look forward to recognition for the 2023-204 school year.

#### Farm Fresh October

During the month of October, Galena Park ISD celebrates Texas agriculture by offering locally grown and produced menu items. Check out these Farm Fresh items on our serving line this Month!

Alpha Foods Co's production center is located in Waller, TX (just West of Houston). Try a slice of their Simply Delicious Pepperoni Pizza or personal-size Selfie Pizza when it's on the menu! We can't think of a better way to celebrate Texas Farm Fresh Month than with a slice that tastes like Home.

Hiland Dairy is Galena Park ISD's main milk producer. The milk our children enjoy at every meal service (Breakfast, Lunch, and Supper) comes from dairy farms in Central TX.

In our garden salad every Friday, we proudly offer Monte Carlo lettuce from True Harvest Farm located in Belton, TX. This vibrant lettuce is not only local to TX, it's also grown in a hydroponic environment and 100% organic.

The watermelons we offer in the month of October are locally grown and sourced through the partnership between USDA and DOD. Pick up a serving of this seasonal item when it's on the menu to celebrate Texas's rich farmland.

This INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY **PROVIDER** 



At Houston Methodist Neal Cancer Center, we treat every aspect of your cancer. Leading oncologists work with our specialists across disciplines to minimize cancer's effects on major organs. One comprehensive team — dedicated to your individual care — uses the latest research, treatments and technology to stop your cancer. From infusion and clinical trials to surgery and reconstruction, our innovative care is available in Baytown.

That's the difference between practicing medicine and leading it.

TO CANCER CARE in Baytown





281.428.2273 houstonmethodist.org/cancer-baytown

