



2023 North Shore High Eastside Boys Game Team Captains: L - R: #93-Cedric Henderson, #3-Deion Deblanc, #6-Devin Sanchez and #7-Dillon Dixon. (Photo by Linda Jamail)

NORTH CHANNEL ★ STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

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

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 Ticket.

Holiday Dinner San Jacinto River Coalition Nov. 14

San Jacinto River Coalition will hold a Holiday Dinner on November 14 at 6:00pm at the Highlands Community Center, 604 Highland Woods Drive, Highlands.

Complimentary dinner, hosted by THEA, Texas Health & Environment Alliance. Updates on Superfund Site and recent accomplishments.

For more information see ad on Page 2 or call 281-315-5242. RSVP to info@txhea.org.

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

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Silver Sponsor Available, \$2000. Individual tickets \$100. RSVP to ysenia@ncchamber.com, or 713-450-3600.

Voters face Bond issue, 14 Constitutional Amendments

By Gilbert Hoffman, Editor

NORTH CHANNEL – Voting is currently underway in the General and Municipal election. Early Voting started Oct. 23 and ends this Friday, Nov. 3 with Election Day on Tuesday November 7. Polls will be open from 7am to 7pm on each of these days.

Voters who live in the city will be choosing a new mayor, city controller, Council persons, and deciding on 2 propositions. In addition,

city and county voters will decide on a \$2.5 billion bond issue for the Harris County Hospital District, to renovate LBJ and Ben Taub hospitals, and county health clinics. A new Level 1 trauma center will be included in the new LBJ complex, which most experts agree is long overdue for a city of our size.

There are 17 candidates for Houston Mayor, with the leading candidates being state senator John Whitmire and U.S. Congress-

woman Sheila Jackson-Lee. With so many contenders, it is expected that this race will need a run-off later in November.

Sixteen city council seats are open and will be voted on, as well as the City Controller.

The ballot will have two City of Houston Propositions. Prop. A enables 3 council persons to place an item on the Agenda for consideration. Currently only the mayor can do this.

Prop. B would ban the

City from participating in the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) unless it gets representation on HGAC's board in proportion to its population. See the discussion on Page 4. Our columnist believes this proposition should not pass, and would not be effective if it did.

The 14 amendments to the Texas Constitutional are generally housekeeping type of proposals.

Proposition 3 would prohibit a wealth tax in Texas,

purely political posturing. Proposition 4, increases the homestead exemption for school districts to \$100,000 and reimburses school districts for lost revenue.

Our columnist says that Proposition 7 will not help the energy industry, and they have indicated they don't need it to build more power plants. Proposition 14 will have a definite impact on quality of life in Texas, creating and maintaining more park spaces for everyone's benefit.

DISTRICT 21-6A CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE GAME

Battle of the unbeaten, Mustangs 61 Eagles 35

By Allan Jamail

October 27, 2023 In a battle for the District 21-6A championship title the defending champion GPISD North Shore (NS) Mustangs plucked the Humble ISD Atascocita Eagles 61-35. The game was hyped up by the sports world to be the game of the week for Texas sports fans.

Jon Kay the former NS head coach was on the sideline watching some of the player's play that he coached. I'm sure this gave them an extra boost to perform well.

The fan base for both teams showed up and was loud and proud of their



First score of the game. Mustang's defense tackled Eagles QB Cardae Mack for a 2 point touchback (safety). Tacklers: #93 Cedric Henderson, #21 Morris Taylor & #7 Dillon Dixon. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



#4 Receiver Terrence Guillory scores a Mustang TD on a 73 yrd pass from QB Kaleb Bailey. Guillory made 3 TD's on Bailey passes. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

team. At the end of the third quarter it was 47 to 28 for a 19 point NS lead, the Eagles fans began to fly the coop and leave early. It's pretty certain they'll meet up again in the post season playoff games as they did last season. NS took them then again in the playoff game and went on to play for the state championship title that they lost to Duncanville 28 - 21.

With thirteen TD's it was a display of offense the fans enjoyed... one of the referees said to Linda and I that he was getting out

Continued. See BATTLE OF THE UNBEATEN, Page 7

Yellow Jackets Bow to Buffalos 48 - 6

By Allan Jamail

October 26, 2023 ~ The Galena Park Yellow Jackets lose on Senior's Night to district rival the visiting Fort Bend Marshal Buffalos 48-6. Coach Spiro Amarantos' Jackets never gave up the fight. They are a battled hardened bunch but were outplayed by a tough team. The Buffs had a balanced offense using the run and pass game well.

The Jackets rely mostly on run plays and that's not enough to win consistently. They must develop a passing game or will remain in a lower spot of



Yellow Jackets Team Captains: L-R: #3-Jordan Balderas, #4-Isai Merian, #33-Sebastian Bernal and #73-Miguel Hermoso. (Photo by Linda Jamail)

their district. It's not easy to have an effective passing game without a superior offensive line to protect the quarterback. Without an effective consistent offense the defense got little rest and by the game's end they were wore out.

Next week, Friday, Nov. 3rd at 7:00pm the Jackets travel to play the Port Neches-Grove Indians the #1 team in their district. The Jacket were placed in a very tough district two years ago. Before that change they made the playoffs. Linda Jamail, statistician.



#24 Edgar Cortes fights a Buffalo defender for a Jacket touchdown. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

Record Turnout in Early Voting

Joint General & Special Elections

(Houston, TX) – Harris County Clerk Teneshia Hudspeth reports that voters have cast more than 54.4K in-person ballots during the first four days of Early Voting for the November 7 Joint General & Special Elections. More people are choosing to vote early compared to the most similar election in 2015, when only 36.3K voted in person during the same time.

"We are looking at an increase of about 50%. We have been working hard to

ensure Voting Centers are up and running on time, and voters are getting in and out easily," said Clerk Hudspeth. "Voters are showing interest in this election and are eager to make their choices ahead of November 7."

There are 42 political entities on the November 7 ballot. However, voters will only see the contests that are connected to the address where they are registered to vote. Some may see a minimum of 15, while others a maximum of about 35 contests on their

CONTINUED. See EARLY VOTING, Page 2

Galena Park Middle School Dance Team



Back row (Left to right): Coach Jasmine Contreras, Alizee Beltran, Alyssa Rosas, Dayami Roman, Aracely Betancourt, Brittney Martinez, Emery Hernandez, Alexandra Bonilla, Laura Cavazos, Izabella Uribe, Samantha Garza, Brizeyda Rincon, Jasmine Padron, Zuri Llanas, Camila Pina, Coach Valerie Regalado.
Front Row (Left to right): Manager Camila Valencia, Lexi Elrod, Maria Vasquez, Jasmine Guerra, Lieutenant Neveah Robledo, Lieutenant Ashley Espinosa, Captain Desiree Jackson, Co-Captain Alize Moreno, Isabella Torres, Priscilla Pina, Jacqueline Segovia, Fernanda Rodriguez, Manager Zariah Villalobos. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

Proposed
Constitutional Amendments
NOVEMBER 2023 UNIFORM ELECTION

01

RIGHT TO FARM

Establishing the right to engage in farming, ranching, timber production, horticulture, and wildlife management.



02

CHILDCARE FACILITIES

Allowing local governments to exempt childcare facilities from property taxes.



03

PERSONAL WEALTH TAX

Prohibiting the imposition of an individual wealth or net worth tax on individuals or families.



04

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

Increasing the homestead tax exemption by a school district to \$100,000 and increasing state funding for public education.



05

TEXAS UNIVERSITY FUND

Renaming the National Research University Fund as the Texas University Fund and allowing certain state universities eligibility to receive money from the fund.



06

TEXAS WATER FUND

Creating the Texas Water Fund to assist in financing water projects in this state.



07

TEXAS ENERGY FUND

Creating the Texas Energy Fund to support the construction, maintenance, modernization, and operation of electric generating facilities.



08

BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE FUND

Creating the Texas Broadband Infrastructure Fund to expand high-speed broadband access and assist in the financing of connectivity projects.



09

RETIRED EDUCATORS

Providing a cost-of-living adjustment to eligible annuitants of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas.



10

MEDICAL PRODUCTS

Allowing the legislature to exempt from property taxes equipment or inventory held by manufacturers of medical or biomedical products.



11

EL PASO PARK BONDS

Authorizing the Legislature to permit El Paso to develop and finance parks and other purely recreational facilities with taxes.



12

GALVESTON COUNTY TREASURER

Abolishing the office of the county treasurer in Galveston County.



13

JUDGE RETIREMENT AGE

Increasing the mandatory retirement age for state judges and justices from 75 to 79 and the minimum retirement age to 75 years, up from 70.



14

CENTENNIAL PARKS CONSERVATION FUND

Providing for the creation of the Centennial Parks Conservation Fund to be used for the creation and improvement of state parks.



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Record
Breaking
turnout
in Early
Voting,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ballots. Only voters who live within the City of Houston’s legal boundaries are eligible to vote in the Houston Mayoral, Controller, and City Council races.

“More than 700 election workers are stationed at the 68 Voting Centers across Harris County during the early voting period, and more than 6,000 will be working at the 701 Voting Centers on Election Day, November 7,” added Clerk Hudspeth. “It takes a lot of people to run an election, and I am grateful for each and every one of them.”

Voters are encouraged to take advantage of Early Voting, which continues through Friday, November 3. To review and or print a sample ballot, click here. Enter the name, address, or Voter Unique Identifier (VUID) on your voter registration certificate to view all the contests and candidates. Sample ballots are unique to an individual’s address.

The following forms of photo ID are acceptable when voting in person:

—Texas Driver’s License issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)

—Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS

—Texas Personal Identification Card issued by DPS

—Texas Handgun License issued by DPS

—United States Military Identification Card containing the person’s photograph

—United States Citizenship Certificate containing the person’s photograph

—United States Passport (book or card)

Voters who do not possess and cannot obtain one of these forms of photo ID may fill out a Reasonable Impediment Declaration (RID) at a Vote Center and present another form of ID, such as a utility bill, bank statement, government check, or voter registration certificate.

Additional election information is available at www.HarrisVotes.com. For news and updates, follow us on social media at @HarrisVotes and @HarrisCoTxClerk.

CHARLOTTE'S WEB

By Charlotte Jackson



Integrity

Perhaps one of the issues that we hear about as elections near, is integrity or the lack of it. In the past fifty years we have seen news of infidelity, outright lying and lives being lived with no integrity. We have seen religious leaders arrested for solicitation of prostitutes and we have seen an American President resign on national television. As a nation, we have too often put athletes, entertainers and elected leaders on a stage where it is easy to see their mistakes as well as watch their falls from grace.

Every election cycle we see that candidates are vying for endorsements and votes. Yes, after the election is over, what are they doing for the constituents? Some of them may choose to host food distributions and never be seen again. Others promised to make a difference and they do. I have personally watched some of the leaders dig into their own pocket and provide much needed items for constituents. I have seen many work tirelessly to help raise scholarship funds for local students.

The limited time that those serving in Austin have back home in their district is typically filled with events, meetings and checking on the community. Likewise with those who serve in Washington, D.C. Those that serve in Harris County are pulled from one meeting to another and their calendars are overwhelming. Yet, when someone decided to run for an office, they must stop and realize they are ALWAYS in the public eye.

If they are only showing up for photo opportunities and not to make a difference, you have to question their motives. I personally do not think any elected leader needs to serve forever. Our world is rapidly changing, as are the priorities of the voters. If an elected leaders is just working to receive one more award, one more endorsement and feel that they do not have to be held accountable to those they represent, vote them out of office.

I recently had a former elected leader call me to tell me what a wonder writer I was and how they appreciated how involved in the community that I am, and then they lowered my opinion of them; they asked me to write a letter to a local institution suggesting that they name a facility after them. They went on and on telling me all of the great things they had done through the years. I think they also forgot that at another time they told me they did what they did because they enjoyed the all-expense paid trips to conferences and being able to network with others. There were times they took a family member of friend with them since the organization they were representing was paying for the expenses and their tag along would only need to pay for food. I remember thinking was that THE reason they were running for an office. Needless to say, I did not write the letter and do not want any part of it. I have met individuals who have volunteered countless hours for same organization and more who would never ask someone to do such a thing. I was greatly disappointed.

This person is old enough to be my parent, yet somewhere along the way they forgot that integrity is what you do in public and in private. One conversation lowered my opinion of them. Let's be the example and be the same person all day, every day.

Galena Park HS Jacketeer of The Week



Valeria Sias, GP Jacketeer of the week. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

By Allan Jamail

October 26, 2023 ~ Vanessa Boyce, Jacketeers Dance Director announced the Directors and the Dance Officers chose Valeria Sias as their Jacketeer of the Week. She was bestowed with the honor at the Yellow Jackets Varsity football game on Seniors Night. Director Boyce said

this is a big honor and it's an award given to the member that has shown not only great dance ability but a great attitude, drive and dedication to the team. Valeria is a senior and 4 year member of the Jacketeers. Dance Director Vanessa Boyce and Assistant Director Alyza Vasquez produce some of the state's best dance performers.

ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim: “Do you think everyone should go to collage?”



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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

By BILL KING



Ballot Measures

In the upcoming elections, voters will be asked to decide on a number of ballot measures. The specific referendums on the ballot will depend on where you live.

Texas Constitutional Amendments

As many of you know, we have a completely dysfunctional state constitutional system, where voters are asked with regularity to amend the State Constitution. In this election, there are fourteen amendments that have been proposed by the Texas Legislature. To get on the ballot, each of these measures were approved by at least a two-thirds vote of both houses.

For the most part, the proposed constitutional amendments seem pretty innocuous to me. Some, like Proposition No. 3, which would prohibit a wealth tax in Texas, are purely political posturing. Others, like Proposition No. 4, which increases the homestead exemption for school districts to \$100,000 and reimburses school districts for the revenue they will lose as a result, are important.

My friend and former UT professor, Mark Miller, follows state constitutional propositions very closely and has written this summary of those on the current ballot. I will probably not follow his lead on Proposition No. 7, which establishes a fund to finance electric grid improvements, but his analysis of the amendments is thorough and objective; I highly recommend it.

Harris Health Bond Referendum

Harris County residents will be asked to approve a \$2.5 billion bond issue. The funds will primarily be spent on rebuilding the LBJ hospital complex on the North Loop 610 between Lockwood and Homestead and on making improvements to Ben Taub Hospital in the Texas Medical Center. One of the big selling points is that a new Level 1 trauma center will be included in the new LBJ complex, which most experts agree is long overdue for a city of our size.

I think it is noteworthy that the leadership of every major healthcare system in the region has endorsed the bond proposal. I have spoken to several of the CEOs personally and they are adamant in their support. They cite the new trauma center but also point to the growing number of uninsured residents in the County.

Several critics of the proposal have raised a number of legitimate concerns, such as the fact that the LBJ site is surrounded by property in the 100-year flood plain. Also, some question whether building a new facility in a part of the county where there has been little growth is the right location. Proponents respond that location is an area where there are high levels of uninsured residents and the buildings will be protected from any flooding risk.

If I were designing the plan, there are probably some tweaks I would make to it. But I think this is one of those issues where we cannot let perfect be the enemy of good and I will vote in favor of the bond. I would encourage those with concerns about the plan to support it but to stay engaged after the election as the detailed planning and implementation proceed.

City of Houston Propositions

Proposition A asks voters to amend the City charter to provide that any three Council members can require that an item appear on the Council agenda. Currently, the mayor has the sole power to decide what items Council will consider.

Some of you may recall that I said in my mayoral campaigns that I thought the City's strong-mayor form of government went too far and that we needed to re-balance power between the mayor and Council. This was one of the reforms I proposed. Therefore, I would strongly urge everyone vote for Proposition A.

Proposition B is a proposal that would ban the City from participating in the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) unless it gets representation on HGAC's board in proportion to its population. For those of you not familiar with HGAC, it is a regional council of local governments charged with, among other things, allocating transportation funding the in Houston region. While I can understand the objection of Houstonians that they should get proportional representation, this proposition is a little like someone threatening to shoot themselves if they don't get their way. I can assure you that none of the other entities at HGAC will spend one minute mourning the loss of the City of Houston's participation.

Apparently, the belief behind the backers of this proposition is that it would allow the City to form its own "Metropolitan Planning Organization" (MPO), which would then apply for federal funds directly without going through HGAC. The fly in this ointment is that under the current law, the Governor would have to approve the City setting up its own MPO. There is exactly a zero chance Abbott would do that. So, the most likely outcome would be that the City would simply not be represented at all in the decision-making process of how transportation funds are allocated in our region.

The bad news is that the polling currently shows the proposition is likely to pass. The good news is that because the courts have made it nearly impossible for citizens to enforce city charter provisions, the next mayor and Council will likely just ignore the amendment as the previous mayors and Councils have ignored other citizen-initiated referendums, e.g., the limitation on increasing water and sewage rates.

There are a number of other bond elections and city elections in the area. For those living in Harris County, you can view what will be included on your ballot at Harris Votes.

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.*



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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Abbott, House Deadlocked Over School Choice, Teacher Pay

Gov. Gregg Abbott and the Texas House are at loggerheads over which will come first – vouchers for parents to pay for private school tuition, or funneling more money to public schools, The Dallas Morning News reported.

The House wants money for teacher bonuses and a revamp of public-school accountability passed at the same time as Abbott's proposed education savings accounts, often referred to as ESAs. The governor insists the House first pass a voucher program. A version of his voucher program has already passed the Senate. The Legislature can't consider increased school funding or teacher bonuses unless Abbott adds it to the special session agenda.

This third special session ends by Nov. 7, though Abbott has indicated he would call another one if this one ends without a decision on vouchers.

"I think there is still significant opposition to any school finance bill that includes an ESA," Rep. Drew Darby, R-San Angelo, told the Texas Tribune. "I'm comfortable we have enough like-minded rural Republicans, and urban Republicans, to stand against that in numbers sufficient to defeat it."

Abbott has dismissed the House's compromise proposal, House Bill 1, which would create a limited voucher program while increasing spending on public education, calling it "insufficient."

HOUSE PASSES THREE BORDER SECURITY BILLS

The House passed a trio of bills that increase border wall funding, increase the penalty for smuggling migrants, and allow state and local police to arrest migrants living illegally in the state, The News reported. The votes came last week after a lengthy heated discussion among Democratic and Republican lawmakers.

The anti-smuggling bill has already passed the Senate and now heads to Abbott's desk, while the other two bills are going to the Senate.

Rep. Victoria Neave Criado, D-Dallas, who chairs the Mexican American Legislative Caucus, said the plan would undercut the U.S. Constitution so that the state



could "flex its muscle with the power that it does not have," according to The News.

Democrats unsuccessfully tried to change the bill by filing nearly four dozen amendments. Rep. Cody Harris, R-Palestine, filed a successful motion to limit amendments, which led to a confrontation between him and Rep. Armando Walle, D-Houston.

"This is an emotional issue," Walle said in a statement late Wednesday evening. "This affects my family and puts so many families like mine at risk."

PAXTON SUES OVER RAZOR WIRE BEING CUT

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is suing the Biden administration, claiming Border Patrol agents are illegally destroying state property by cutting through concertina wire placed by the state on the banks of the Rio Grande to deter illegal immigration.

The state has spent \$11 million in the past three years placing 70,000 rolls of the wire along the Texas-Mexico border, according to the Texas Tribune.

"By cutting Texas's concertina wire, the federal government has not only illegally destroyed property owned by the State of Texas; it has also disrupted the State's border deterrence efforts, leaving gaps in Texas's border barriers and damaging Texas's ability to effectively deter illegal entry into Texas," the attorney general's office said in a statement.

The Department of Homeland Security, under which the Border Patrol operates, said it doesn't respond to

pending litigation.

In Eagle Pass earlier this year, a state trooper claimed the concertina wire has injured people, including a woman who had a miscarriage while entangled in the wire, the Tribune reported.

HIGH COURT TO HEAR CASE OF JUDGE'S REFUSAL TO MARRY GAY COUPLES

The Texas Supreme Court last week heard oral arguments in a case to decide whether a Waco justice of the peace can legally refuse to perform same-sex wedding ceremonies, kut.org reported. McLennan County Justice of the Peace Dianne Hensley has refused to perform those ceremonies, saying it violates her Christian beliefs and is protected under the state's religious freedom laws.

The State Commission on Judicial Conduct in 2019 issued a warning to Hensley for her refusal. Lower courts have dismissed her claims against the commission.

Initially, Hensley declined to officiate any wedding ceremonies after the landmark U.S. Supreme Court in 2015. She began performing weddings again the following year, but only for straight couples.

NEW AREA CODE FOR HOUSTON AREA APPROVED

The greater Houston area has another area code after the Public Utility Commission of Texas approved a proposal to add 621 to the four existing area codes – 281, 346, 713 and 832. The area was expected to run out of new phone numbers using the existing area codes by 2025.

The new code is expected to meet demand for new numbers for another nine years. Houston's first area code, 713, was created in 1947 as one of the original four codes assigned to Texas.

RECORD \$345 MILLION APPROVED FOR PEDESTRIAN, BIKE PROJECTS

The Texas Transportation Commission has approved more than \$345 million for new sidewalks, bikeways and other types of mobility infrastructure for 83 projects across the states.

"This is a major investment in communities across the state that will help make it safer and easier to get around on foot or a bike," Texas Transportation Commissioner Robert "Robbie" Vaughn said.

The state has seen pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities rise nearly 30% over the past five years. Two dozen of the projects will go in areas with a high pedestrian crash record.

EARLY VOTING ENDS FRIDAY; ELECTION TUESDAY

Early voting for the Nov. 7 general election ends on Friday. Voters will decide the fate of 14 proposed state constitutional amendments, including items dealing with property tax cuts and increasing pay for retired teachers. In addition, municipal and school board races are being held across the state, as well as school, city, and county bond elections.

Contact your county's election office to see what is on the ballot where you are registered.

★

THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

Celebrating Halloween

I have always loved Halloween, and I love it now more than ever.

I love to get in costume and have fun with other people in costume. People seem freer when they are dressed in different clothes. They seem to have a little more fun. I like the challenge of making or putting together elaborate costumes but, as the years passed, I've done less and less of it. Costume parties seem to be less common, and I don't spend time in bars, so the opportunity to celebrate the holiday has diminished.

Then I started going to Mexico, and all that changed.

Halloween is celebrated there, but it is a more somber affair, with beautiful "ofrendas" dedicated to the dead in homes, in the parks and in the cemeteries. It is a tradition that brings the dead closer to the living through remembrances and photos and collections of the things and the people the dead loved, all gathered together in their honor.

And then there is a party.

After Halloween, the Day of the Dead is celebrated, followed by All Souls Day, and each has its own significance, and its own traditions, which vary from one community to another. But what is, in the U.S., a short evening's activity celebrated primarily by children is a much bigger deal, a celebration that goes on for most of the week, involving people of all ages. The celebrations mix a reverence for the dead and a joy for life in a way I find breathtaking.

So my husband, Peter, and I will be celebrating Halloween this year. Peter, it should be noted, is not as big on the whole "getting into costume thing" as I am.

"What will I wear?" he asks, with obvious skepticism.

He worries he will look silly. He is sure he will be uncomfortable. But I have gotten Peter a costume (a fabulous costume, if I say so myself), and he says he is going to wear it. He knows it is important to me and he genuinely enjoys the celebration and so, this year, he will be a part of it—even if that might not be his first choice.

But, because we will be celebrating in Mexico, I want to observe the other part of the holiday as well.

Last week, we celebrated my mother's birthday with my parents and sister and my father's only sister, Joanne, and her husband. We got to talking about my father's mother. Joanne was telling the story we all knew about how my grandma wore elegant purple suede boots in her late 80s and thought—because of her cataracts—they were brown. No one thought a thing of it, because my grandma was always a stylish dresser, and we thought those purple boots were snazzy. But when my grandma found out, she took Joanne to task.

"Why didn't you tell me I was wearing purple boots?" she demanded.

My grandma wore a bright fuchsia raincoat to her husband's funeral. I honestly don't think any of us were to blame.

But it is a wonderful story, a great remembrance of my grandma, who lived to be 100 years old and gave us so many good memories. I love the idea of a day—or the better part of a week—set aside to tell stories like that and to keep the memory of my grandma, and so many others we have loved so much, alive.

And then we do will exactly what my grandma would have liked best. We will get all dressed up and have a big party.

Till next time,
Carrie

SHELDON ISD NEWS

Panther Band performs at Area Marching Contest



On October 21, the King High School marching band performed their “Dark Canvases” show and placed 20th at the Area F Marching Contest at the Galena Park ISD stadium. The team continues to improve in placement each year. The Area Marching Contest is the second round of the three-round process that culminates at the State Championships. The Panther Band competed against bands from multiple regions combined across the Houston area. Sheldon ISD is proud of their achievements and continued work toward success.

Superintendent Scholar Squad takes Action to Serve



The Sheldon ISD Superintendent Scholar Squad met Wednesday, October 25 to formulate a community service project that will guide their efforts throughout the school year. This group of fourth through 12th grade students serves as a student advisory group for Superintendent Dr. McCall. Throughout the year, the squad will meet to take time to lead discussions, brainstorm, collaborate and serve.

Buster Arrives to Improve Bus Safety



There’s a new bus in town named Buster, thanks to a grant from the Sheldon ISD Education Foundation. Buster will make an appearance at all Sheldon ISD campuses to teach our students all about school bus safety. Get a chance to meet Buster at the upcoming Community Fall Festival on Saturday, October 28.



San Jacinto River Coalition Holiday Dinner

November 14th at 6:00 PM
Highlands Community Center
604 Highland Woods Dr,
Highlands, TX 77562

Texas Health & Environment Alliance will host a community gathering to present the updates on the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site and celebrate recent accomplishments. Join us to hear the latest and to enjoy a complimentary holiday dinner.
Please RSVP: info@txhea.org

Sheldon Recognizes 4 Employees for Excellent Customer Service

In its fourth year, Sheldon ISD administration surprised four employees with the CARE Award in partnership with Woodforest Bank. This month’s CARE Award winners include:



Stephen Zuklic, King 9th Grade Campus
Mr. Zuklic is a teacher at the 9th Grade Campus. He has been recognized for going above and beyond what is expected by offering his help and assistance with students, regardless if they are in his class.



Wanda Chavez, Child Nutrition Office
Ms. Chavez is the payroll clerk in the child nutrition office. She has been nominated for her excellent management skills, as well as positive and friendly attitude.



Sofia Ruelas, King High School
Ms. Ruelas is a secretary at King High School. She has been nominated for her positive, encouraging and motivational nature with those who work with her. Colleagues say she is very calm and works well with all she comes in contact with.



Zulema Perez, Carroll Elementary
Ms. Perez is the lead custodian at Carroll Elementary. She has been recognized for always having a smiling, friendly face. She is always well prepared for any event the school hosts and is committed and dedicated to her responsibilities.

The CARE Award stands for Caught Acting and Responding with Excellence. Employees are nominated by their peers and/or families for demonstrating outstanding customer service while on the job. Administration surprises Sheldon employees with the award quarterly throughout the school year.

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SPORTS PAGE

★

SEASON FOOTBALL WEEK 10

Aggies look to end road woes at Ole Miss: Cowboys, Eagles meet in key NFC East contest in Philly

It's been another tough year for Texas A&M Aggie fans. Another season that started with so much optimism has once again devolved into disappointment and head coach Jimbo Fisher's coaching future could be in doubt in College Station.

There are a couple of things going in Fisher's favor. One, it would cost A&M \$77 million to buyout his contract and he has recruited well over the last two seasons bringing in a load of young talent. Those youngsters should only get better with time. But Fisher was hired to contend with Alabama and LSU in the SEC West. The Aggies have not come close to winning their division, let alone the entire conference in his six years on the job.

A&M has had trouble winning on the road. This year, they have lost at Miami, Alabama and at Tennessee and this Saturday they face a dangerous Mississippi Rebels team in Oxford.

The Aggies have been decimated by some key injuries this year, most notably starting quarterback Conner Weigman. Backup Max Johnson has filled in well, but he's no Weigman.

Perhaps Fisher can rally the troops this weekend and pick up a much-needed road victory.

Other key games on the college landscape have No. 15-ranked LSU visiting No. 9-ranked Alabama in a key SEC West contest. A win by Nick Saban's team could pretty much wrap up the SEC West, while a win by Brian Kelly's team will tie things up in the division. Both teams had an extra week to prepare for this one.

No. 14-ranked Notre Dame visits a disappointing Clemson team that has already lost three games. Like Fisher, Dabo Swiney's seat could also be



KEENEY'S KORNER

By
MIKE KEENEY

getting hot. A team that was expected to contend for the ACC title and perhaps a spot in the College Football Playoffs (CFP) is now playing for a mid-range bowl game. The folks at Clemson expect more.

A win on the road for Marcus Freeman's team could get them into the CFP conversation. ND has played a tough schedule and owns wins over USC, and Duke.

In the NFL, the spotlight will be on the NFC East when the Cowboys visit the Eagles in a key division contest. The Texans host Tampa Bay looking for their second home win, while Tennessee and Pittsburgh kick off Week 9 on Thursday Night Football. Two weeks ago, the Steelers improved to 4-2 with a big road win over the Rams, while the Titans had the week off. Miami and Kansas City meet in Germany and Sunday Night Football has a good one as the Bills visit the Bengals in a rematch of last year's divisional playoff game which was won by the Bengals in Buffalo.

Before we take a look at this weekend's schedule, let's review last week's record. Another 10-2 week upped the season record to 54-32 (63%).

Now, onto this weekend's games.

NCAA

Texas A&M at Mississippi:
The Aggies travel to Oxford, MS to

take on the explosive Rebels. A&M has had trouble winning in Oxford and it won't be any easier this time around when the Aggies take on an explosive Ole Miss offense. The Rebs has a solid dual-threat QB in Jaxon Dart (1,840 passing yards, 13 TDs/346 rushing yards, 6 TDs) and one of the best running backs in the nation in Quinshon Judkins (567 yards, 7 TDs). They have two big-play wide receivers in Jordan Watkins (36 receptions, 536 yards, 2 TDs) and Tre Harris (21 receptions, 469 yards, 6 TDs). The A&M defense had better come ready to play. It would help if need a big day from running backs Le'Veon Moss (387 yards, 3 TDs) and Amari Daniels (287 yards, 2 TDs) and wide receivers Ainiias Smith (27 receptions, 451 yards) and Evan Stewart (31 receptions, 451 yards, 4 TDs). I'm going out on a limb here and saying Fisher's team earns its biggest win of the season on Saturday. My pick, Texas A&M 31, Mississippi 27

Notre Dame at Clemson: This is a dangerous one for the Irish. They are playing in a hostile environment against a team that is going to be trying to save its season come Saturday. The Irish have a balanced offense led by QB Sam Hartman (1,838 yards, 18 TDs), running back Audric Esteime (787 yards, 9 TDs), wide receiver Chris Tyree (16 receptions, 355

yards, 3 TDs) and tight end Mitchell Evans (24 receptions, 356 yards, 1 TD). Clemson is led by QB Cade Klubnik (1,684 yards, 13 TDs), running back Will Shipley (494 yards, 3 TDs) and wide receiver Tyler Brown (28 receptions, 389 yards, 2 TDs). Look for the ND defense to be the difference maker in this one as it forces a key turnover or two from Klubnik. My pick, Notre Dame 30, Clemson 23

LSU at Alabama: A good one in the SEC West pits the Tigers against the Crimson Tide. LSU already has one conference loss and can't afford another, but they are taking on a 'Bama team that seems to be hitting its stride. Two weeks ago, the Crimson Tide trailed Tennessee 20-7 at the half and outscored them 27-0 in the second half on the way to a 34-20 victory. QB Jalin Milroe (1,617 yards, 12 TDs) is taking what defenses will give him and he needs to do a good job of managing the offense when he faces a very fast and quick Tiger defense. Running back Jase McClellan (569 yards, 4 TDs) and wide receiver Jermaine Burton (23 receptions, 508 yards, 5 TDs) both need big games on Saturday. LSU will lean on dual-threat QB Jayden Daniels (2,574 passing yards, 25 TDs/521 rushing yards, 5 TDs), running back Logan Diggs (611 yards, 6 TDs) and big-play wideouts Malik Nabors (56 receptions, 981 yards, 9 TDs) and Brian Thomas (42 receptions, 732 yards, 11 TDs). This will be a tough test for the Alabama defense, but with two weeks to get ready for this one, I'm sure Saban will have something special for the Tigers come Saturday. My pick, Alabama 32, LSU 26

NFL

Tennessee at Pittsburgh: Week 9 begins with Thursday Night Football as the Titans visit the Steelers. The Steelers won four of their first six games thanks to a conservative offense and a tough defense. The Titans have had a rough start to the season. QB Ryan Tanehill (1,128 yards, 2 TDs) needs to step up his game.

The Titans will once again rely on Derrick Henry (425 yards, 3 TDs). He should find it tough going against a Pittsburgh defense that has 19 sacks, led by T.J. Watt with eight. The offense isn't explosive, but QB Kenny Pickett (1,257 yards, 5 TDs) takes what defenses are willing to give him. Look for running back Najee Harris (300 yards, 1 TD) and wideout George Pickens (27 receptions, 500 yards, 2 TDS) to get it going against the Titans. My pick, Pittsburgh 26, Tennessee 14

Miami vs. Kansas City: The good people of Frankfurt, German will get a treat when they get to host the Dolphins and the Chiefs on Sunday in what should be an offensive shootout. Two weeks ago, Tua Tagovailoa (2,092 yards, 15 TDs) and the Dolphins lost at Philly, 31-17, while the Chiefs won their sixth straight game with a 31-17 home win over the Chargers. Miami will need big games from running back Raheem Mostert (474 yards, 11 total TDs) and wide receiver Tyreek Hill (53 receptions, 902 yards, 7 TDs). Hill will be facing his former team this weekend, which should be plenty of motivation for the speedy wide receiver. Look for Patrick Mahomes (2,017 yards, 15 TDs), running back Isiah Pacheco (419 yards, 3 TDs) and tight end Travis Kelce (48 receptions, 525 yards, 4 TDs) to have big days against a suspect Miami defense. My pick, Kansas City 34, Miami 30

Tampa Bay at Houston: The Texans return home for the first time since Oct. 15 when they host the Bucs. Look for C.J. Stroud (1,660 yards, 9 TDS) and wide receivers Nico Collins (29 receptions, 547 yards, 3 TDs) and Tank Dell (19 receptions, 324 yards, 2 TDs) to make plays early to set up running back Dameon Pierce to wear down the Bucs defense in the second half. Look for the Houston defense to get after turnover-prone Baker Mayfield as the Texans continue their winning ways and should be considered legitimate playoff contenders. My pick, Houston 23, Tampa Bay 16

Dallas at Philadelphia: The Cowboys visit the City of Brotherly Love to take on an Eagles team that will be looking to make some separation between themselves and Dallas in the NFC East race. Dallas must get a solid game from QB Dak Prescott (1,333 yards, 6 TDs) or it could be a long day for the Pokes. The offensive line will have its hands full against a Philly defense that recorded 24 sacks in their first six games. Dallas needs to get the running game going with Tony Pollard (370 yards, 2 TDs) and some big plays downfield from wideout CeeDee Lamb (34 receptions, 475 yards, 1 TD). The Dallas defense, which had 16 sacks in its first six games, will have its hands full with dual-threat QB Jalen Hurts (1,821 passing yards, 9 TDs/274 rushing yards, 6 TDs), running back D'Andre Swift (514 yards, 2 TDs) and wide receivers A.J. Brown (52 receptions, 809 yards, 3 TDs) and Devonta Smith (32 receptions, 383 yards, 2 TDs). Dallas will once against struggle at Philly. My pick, Philadelphia 26, Dallas 23

Buffalo at Cincinnati: A good one for the Sunday Night Football crew has the Bills visiting the Bengals looking to avenge last year's 27-10 home playoff loss. The Bills have been so-so this year, winning four of their first seven games. Two weeks ago, they lost to a then one-win New England team, 29-25. QB Josh Allen (1,841 yards, 15 TDs/148 rushing yards, 1 TD) needs to make more plays to Stefon Diggs (55 receptions, 678 yards, 6 TDs) and should be able to do so against an average Cincinnati defense. After losing two of their first three games, the Bengals won two straight heading into their bye week. QB Joe Burrow (1,230 yards, 7 TDs) appears to be finding his groove. He'll need running back Joe Mixon (366 yards, 1 TD) and wide receivers Ja'Marr Chase (50 receptions, 556 yards, 3 TDs) and Tyler Boyd (30 receptions, 203 yards, 1 TD) to have big days against a beat up Buffalo defense. My pick, Cincinnati 26, Buffalo 21

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Bobby Cannavale, Bokeem Woodbine and Bill Burr star in "Old Dads."

“Old Dads”

“OLD DADS” (R) — In this comedy film out now, stand-up comedian and actor Bill Burr (“The Mandalorian”) decides to take a seat in the director’s chair for the first time. Burr, Bobby Cannavale (“The Watcher”) and Bokeem Woodbine (“Ray”) play a trio of out-of-touch Gen Xers struggling to find their place in the modern world after selling their vintage sports jersey business. Watching as their prized business gets gutted from the inside out and revamped by a younger boss, the three men are at a loss on how to find their way in a world that they barely recognize. Burr tied in many common grievances about political correctness that are often voiced by his generation, which might incite a laugh here and there, but doesn’t necessarily make for great comedy. (Netflix)

“FELLOW TRAVEL-

ERS” (TV-MA) —Matt Bomer (“American Horror Story”) and Jonathan Bailey (“Bridgerton”) take on this steamy seven-episode miniseries that stretches from the 1950 Lavender Scare in the U.S. to the 1980 AIDS crisis. Bomer plays Hawkins Fuller, while Bailey portrays Tim Laughlin; the pair are political staffers who begin a forbidden and volatile relationship that starts in Washington, D.C. With Hawkins being a more serious and stoic man, the idealistic Tim divulges a different side to him, amid the fact that their political careers could be disintegrated in seconds if their affair was to be discovered. Allison Williams (“Get Out”) and Jelani Alladin (“Tick, Tick ... Boom!”) also star in this political thriller series. The first episode is out now, with subsequent episodes releasing every Sunday. (Paramount+)

Battle of the Unbeaten Mustangs 61 Eagles 35,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of breath running from end zone to end so quickly. The second half started with four touchdowns in the opening 3:20.

Head Coach Willie Gaston had the NS team playing like they were hungry for another state title game. He’s been the NS Offensive Coordinator in most of their state title victories.

Near the end of the third quarter the Mustangs cooped up the Eagles to where they could score at will.

Mustang scorers: Terrence Guillory – 3 tds, D’andre Hardeman – 1 td, Chris Thomas – 1 td, Devin Sanchez – 1 (pick six), Christopher Barnes – 1 td, QB Kaleb Bailey ran for a touchdown and passed for four, three of them to Terrence Guillory. Jonathan Soto’s perfect kicking made 8 extra points and a 3 point field goal. He’s not missed this season. The offense made 263 yds to the Eagles 141.

Junior defense back Devin Sanchez , a 6-foot-2 cornerback, is among the top in the country, he picked off a Eagle pass for a pick six TD at the start of the 2nd quarter, his 4th interception of the season.

NS defense gave the team a big morale boost for the games first points four minutes into the contest. The defense led by defensive lineman Cedric Henderson and assisted by line backer Morris Taylor and defensive back Dillon Dixon made a tackle in the end zone on the Eagles QB. By game’s end the Eagles had a negative 11 yards rushing.

For the season NS offense has made 419 points, their defense has allowed only 133 points. They’ve won 41 straight district contests. Linda Jamail statistician and photographer.

Scoring by quarter:	1	2	3	4	Final
North Shore	16	17	14	14	61
Atascocita	7	7	14	7	35

North Shore will take their perfect 9 – 0 record on the road to play the Kingwood Mustangs Thursday, Nov. 2nd at &PM.



NS Kaleb Bailey on a QB keeper play sprinted 52 yds for a TD in the 1st quarter. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



#6 Devin Sanchez made a pick-6 interception for a 2nd quarter NS score. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

#28, running back D’andre Hardeman’s 63 yrd running NS TD. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



#26 Chris Thomas scampers for a NS TD. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

ENTERTAINMENT

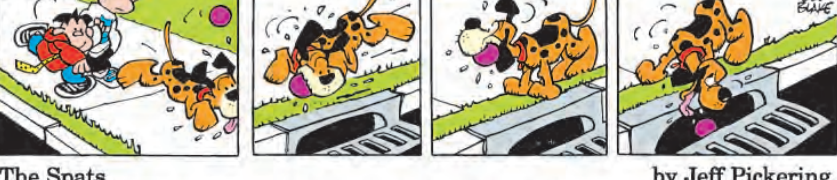
Amber Waves



TIGER



The Spats



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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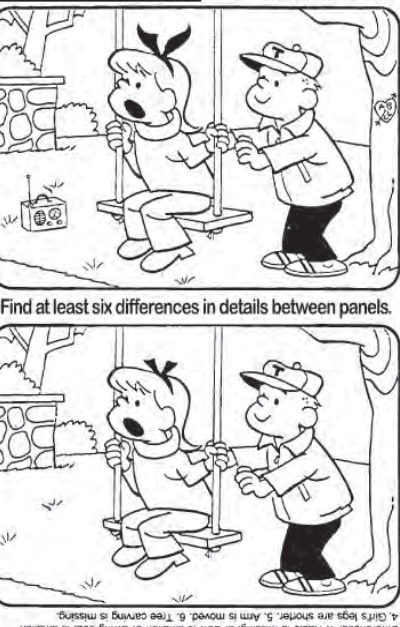
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

October 30, 2023 Posting Date
King Crossword

- ACROSS
- Netting
 - Composer Porter
 - "I'm not impressed"
 - Dog food brand
 - Send forth
 - Chopper
 - "Arrivederci!"
 - Marathon fraction
 - Blemish
 - Difficult
 - JFK info
 - Gentle soul
 - Victory
 - Greek X
 - Quick run
 - Cry of distress
 - Exact
 - moment
 - Broadcast again
 - Rouse
 - Caviar provider
 - "Xanadu" band
 - "— Blue?"
 - Family fight
 - Zodiac animal
 - Frost
 - Hostel
 - Future tulip
 - Tex. neighbor
 - Scribble (down)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
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18				19				20		
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48				49				50		
51				52				53		
54				55				56		

- Regarding
- Paris airport
- Equi-
- "Scram!"
- Calendar squares
- Fragrant flowers
- Summer on the Seine
- Crib cry
- Physical
- Basil or thyme
- Bread and butter, so to speak
- Chip giant
- Seraglio
- Resort
- "Wham!"
- Estuary
- de cologne
- "Top Gun"
- target
- Historic time
- "Take your time"
- Panda's diet
- South Pacific nation
- Eve's grandson
- "Do — others ..."
- Sax range
- Gumbo veggie
- Friend
- Beams
- Some coll. degrees

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Trivia test

- by Fifi Rodriguez
- SCIENCE: What was Joseph Lister’s main contribution to science?
 - HISTORY: Which pro football team won the very first Super Bowl?
 - MUSIC: What is the title of the Rolling Stones’ 2023 album?
 - MOVIES: Who played the monster in Mel Brooks’ “Young Frankenstein”?
 - U.S. PRESIDENTS: How much of the popular vote did Abraham Lincoln receive when he was elected president in 1860?
 - GEOGRAPHY: In which country is the ancient city of Petra located?
 - AD SLOGANS: What product was advertised by a man who kept saying, “I can’t believe I ate the whole thing”?
 - FOOD & DRINK: What is often called the national dish of Canada?
 - LANGUAGE: What does an oologist study?
 - TELEVISION: What does SVU stand for in “Law & Order: SVU”?

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FOOTBALL SCORES & SCHEDULES

LAST WEEK’S SCORES

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26
Aldine Eisenhower 55, Aldine 7
Aldine MacArthur 42, Spring Dekaney 7
Channelview 58, Pasadena 10
Fort Bend Marshall 48, Galena Park 6
New Caney Porter 31, Baytown Lee 17

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27
Aldine Nimitz 44, Spring 24
Barbers Hill 52, Port Arthur Memorial 23
Baytown Sterling 43, Goose Creek Memorial 13
Fort Bend Willowridge 56, Dayton 22
North Shore 61, Atascocita 35
Porter 31, Baytown Lee 24
Spring Westfield 78, Aldine Davis 21
Vidor 49, Huffman Hargrave 28

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28
La Porte 43, Crosby 27
Summer Creek 33, C. E. King 12

THIS WEEK’S GAMES

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2
Aldine at Westfield, 7 p.m., Leonard George Stadium in Spring
Dayton at Fort Bend Marshall, 7 p.m., Kenneth Hall Stadium in Missouri City
Eisenhower at Spring, 7 p.m., Planet Ford Stadium in Spring
North Shore at Kingwood, 7 p.m., Turner Stadium in Humble

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3
Barbers Hill at Porter, 7 p.m., Randall Reed Stadium in New Caney
Baytown Lee at Baytown Sterling, 7 p.m., Stallworth Stadium in Baytown
Galena Park at Port Neches-Groves, 7 p.m., Indian Stadium in Port Neches
Goose Creek Memorial at Crosby, 7 p.m., Cougar Stadium in Crosby
Little Cypress-Mauriceville at Huffman Hargrave, 7:30 p.m., Falcon Stadium in Huffman
MacArthur at Davis, 7 p.m., Leonard George Stadium in Spring
Nimitz at Dekaney, 7 p.m., Planet Ford Stadium in Spring
West Brook at C. E. King, 7 p.m., Panther Stadium in Houston

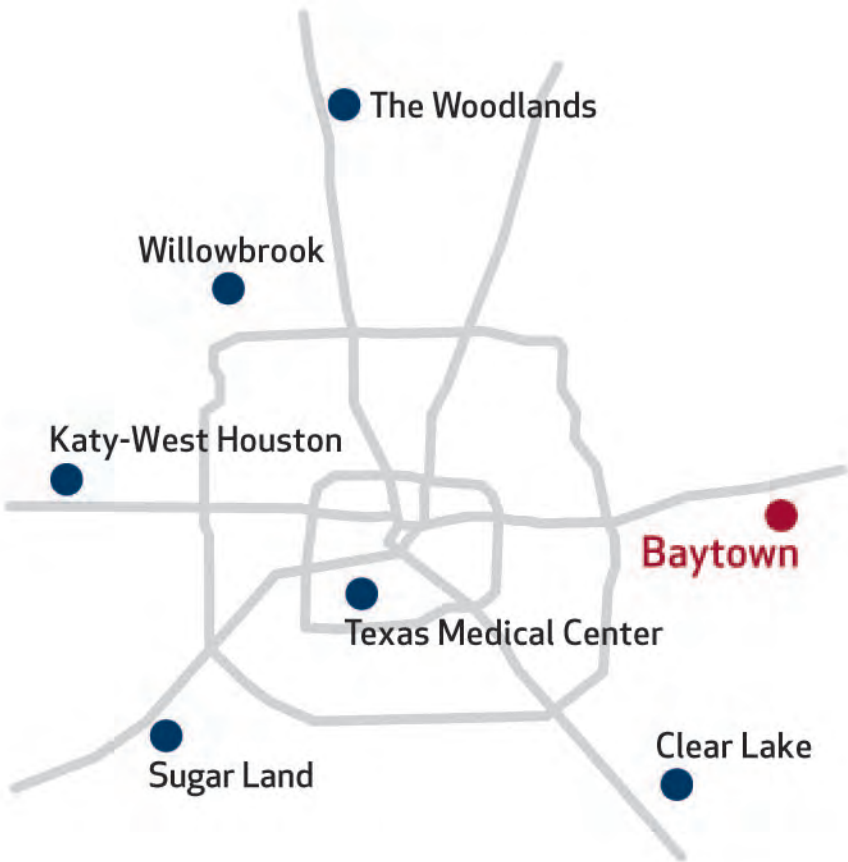
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4
Channelview at Pasadena Memorial, 2 p.m., Memorial Stadium in Pasadena



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