



Antonya Bruno, 32, riding with her father Anthony who is the trail boss for the Northeastern Trail Rider's Association, as they turn onto Church Street in Crosby off the US 90 feeder road.

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CHANNEL CURRENTS

Trail Riders on their way to RodeoHouston

Northeastern Trail Ride brings a bit of history to the North Channel area

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

For a few hours in Northeast Houston, the modern was mixed with old as tradition continued for the 32nd year when the Northeastern Trail Rider's Association trail ride rode through Crosby and Channelview last Wednesday. Established in 1982, the association ride continues in the face of dwindling numbers, but Trail Boss Anthony Bruno is hell-bent on preserving their history.

The riders' trek on Wednesday was 18 arduous miles, navigating around construction on US 90 in Liberty.

"We do it like we're



The wagon train was decorated with the US and Texas flags and decked out in preparation for the Saturday Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo parade. The wagons typically carry food and water supplies for the trail riders.

working," Bruno said. "We'll ride for a couple of hours, take a restroom break, then another two hours and then lunch. Then we mount up again for another two-hour ride, and then a bathroom and water break, then head on to our overnight camp," the trail boss said.

The trail riders started out in Cheeks, Texas, just southwest of Beaumont, and traveled to Devers on their first leg of the trip to spend the night. On Monday, the riders mounted up and headed to Rivon's Arena in Raywood for their overnight stay. Tuesday found the third leg of the trip ending at Bar-N-

Continued. See TRAIL RIDERS, Page 7 with RODEOHOUSTON ACTS

BLACK HISTORY

MONTH

Bill "Bojangles" Robinson Honoree



Black History Month Honoree, Bill "Bojangles" Robinson Tap Dancer
May 25, 1878 - November 25, 1949)
Last of a series

By Allan Jamail

February 27, 2024 ~ North Channel Star's writer Allan Jamail selected Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, a famous Black tap dancer as the NC Star finalizes their recognition of achievements for this year's Black History Month.

From February 1, 2024 - March 1, 2024 people in the United States celebrate the achievements and history of African Americas as part of Black History Month. It was begun in 1976.

Bill Robinson, nicknamed Bojangles (born Luther Robinson; May 25, 1878 - November 25, 1949), was an American tap dancer, actor, and singer, the best known and the most highly paid Black entertainer in the United States during the first half of the 20th century. His long career mirrored changes in American entertainment tastes and technology. His

Continued. See BLACK HISTORY MONTH, Page 5

New San Jacinto College Biotech Center at Generation Park

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

When there's a need, they fill it. San Jacinto College, the exclusive provider of the National Institute for Bioprocessing Research and Training (NIBRT) for the southern part of the United States, broke ground on a new Center for Biotechnology at the Generation Park campus on Friday, Jan. 26. The state-of-the-art facility, in collaboration with McCord Development, Inc., will provide comprehensive, hands-on training with realistic good manufacturing practices (GMP) simulated environments.

"The Center and the overall components of the Biotechnology program will play a vital role in meeting the growing de-



San Jacinto College administrators, board members and McCord Development representatives attend the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Center for Biotechnology at Generation Park. The first floor will house 10,000 square feet of training space.

mand for skilled professionals in the biotechnology sector," said Dr. Brenda Hellyer, Chancellor, San Jacinto College. "We are committed to equipping our students with the skills and knowledge necessary for success in the

dynamic biopharmaceutical industry. Our vision is to not only meet the workforce needs of today but will also shape the future of biotechnology education and training in our region."

According to SJC, the

Center will offer an associate of applied science degree in biomanufacturing technology, and shorter credentials for post-graduates, to meet workforce needs.

"We are thrilled to have San Jacinto's new Center

for Biotechnology at Generation Park, reinforcing our commitment to fostering Houston's life science ecosystem. The world-renowned NIBRT program will provide quality workforce training in the pharmaceutical manufacturing space, strengthening Houston's ability to attract and retain world-class companies in the industry," said Ryan McCord, President of McCord Development.

At approximately 10,000 square feet, the San Jacinto College Biomanufacturing Training Program facility will house the latest industry equipment, including biosafety cabinets, benchtop bioreactors and wave bioreactors, au-

Continued. See SAN JAC BIOTECH CENTER, Page 5

Channelview's Public Servant Cindy Miller Retires

By Allan Jamail

Channelview, Texas ~ Cindy Miller, a long time advocate for the North Channel and Channelview area has retired. She's served the area for many years helping many people in need of assistance.

Miller has been a lifelong resident of Channelview... she was born November 19, 1964 as Cynthia Allison Thompson at the now departed Tidelands General Hospital which was located on IH-10.

All of her schooling was in the CVISD, beginning with Kindergarten @ DeZavala, then 1st - 5th @ Viola Cobb, 6th - 8th @ Davy Crockett Jr. High and 9th - 12th @ Channelview High School.

She married Mark Miller on September 28, 1985 and they had two children, Tyler Miller and Kelly Miller Kubosh that they raised in Channelview. She is proud of her two grandson's



Cindy Miller (right) receives retirement recognition certificate from Linda Jamail, Community Liaison for State Rep. Ana Hernandez, December 2023. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

Lincoln & Sawyer Kubosh and frequently goes to watch them play baseball.

After more than 28 years working in East Harris County as a volunteer and working as a staffer for several organizations and governmental agencies she's decided it's time to retire.

I first met Cindy while she was Jacinto City's Heritage Hall Director. As the former mayor of Jacinto City I've always taken a special interest in our city's seniors so I visited Cindy and the seniors of

CONTINUED. See Cindy Miller, P. 3

Judge, Sheriff join "Hat Toss" Day at RodeoHouston

Kicks Off Rodeo Season and a New Tradition

Harris County, TX, February 22, 2024, Harris County, TX, February 22, 2024, Judge Hidalgo along with County officials welcomed the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo to NRG Stadium by tossing the hat over to Rodeo officials during Harris County's First Ever "Hat Toss Day." This new tradition signals the start of the iconic event here in Houston and Harris County and an unofficial kick-off to Rodeo season.

Judge Hidalgo, Rodeo Chairman Pat Mann Phillips and Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez also made history by becoming the first Harris County riders of the rodeo's newest



Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez, Mascot HOWDY, Judge Lina Hidalgo, and Rodeo Chairman Pat Mann Phillips at HAT TOSS day.

Carnival ride, the Joker 360.

"I am so excited to kick off a new tradition for rodeo season, Harris County Hat Toss Day, where we officially welcomed one of our prized tenants, the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo, to Harris County's NRG Stadium. Harris County and the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo have such a special rela-

tionship and the rodeo means so much to our community. I think we can all remember the first time we came to the rodeo and just being in awe of how impressive it is and how much it brings our community together. Going forward, the opening day of Cookoff will always be

Continued. See JUDGE HIDALGO AT THE RODEO, Page 3

SALUTE TO BUSINESS & INDUSTRY EDITION



GET TWO FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!!

This special edition will run the week of February 27-30 and salutes the strength of the east Harris County area economy with local business and industry. With features and a history of area iconic work, the community can learn about your business/industry and how it contributes to the success of the area—Highlands, Crosby, Huffman, Dayton, Barbers Hill, North Shore, Channelview, Sheldon, Galena Park, and Jacinto City. With one of the three sizes listed below, your business can submit a photo and article (dependent on the size of the ad) to go with your ad.

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*Online information will be added the week of Feb. 27-30

AD DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16 AT NOON—NO EXCEPTIONS.

For ad specs and additional information, please call 713-266-3444 and speak to Gil Hoffman or David Taylor at 832-453-6737.

SHELDON ISD NEWS

Sheldon ISD Announces Principals of the Year



Sheldon ISD is proud to announce the Elementary Principal of the Year is Mrs. Jana Rolling. Mrs. Rolling has been the principal of Sheldon Elementary since 2021. During her 13 year career in Sheldon ISD, she has served as a principal, campus assistant principal at Sheldon Elementary, the district's elementary math curricu-

lum coordinator, as well as a math and science instructional coach and a classroom teacher. The Secondary Principal of the Year is Mrs. Jumana Mills. Mrs. Mills has been the principal of KASE Academy since 2022. In her 14 years as an educator in Sheldon ISD, she has served teachers, students, and parents in

multiple capacities. She began her work as a teacher and later served as a counselor and MED Academy Principal before assuming her current role as associate principal of operations and student services. Mrs. Mills and Mrs. Rolling will advance for the title of Region 4 Principal of the Year. Congratulations!

You can read the North Channel Star current and back issues on our website:
www.northchannelstar.com

GALENA PARK ISD NEWS

Galena Park ISD: Custodial and Maintenance Heroes

By Dr. Tommie L. Smith

The Galena Park ISD Board of Trustees recognized Custodial and Maintenance Department employees for their exemplary performance during the recent, local freeze. The following Custodial and Maintenance Department employees received recognition:

Custodial Department:

- Javier Delacruz
- Levi Gaston
- Ignacio Guevara
- Chris Jones
- Maria D. Luna
- Maria Ruiz
- Michael Sierra
- Luis Vasquez

Maintenance Department:

- Gregory Culpepper
- Cesar Garza
- Alejandro Guajardo



Daniel Guajardo
Jaime Hernandez, Jr.
Charles Miller

Due to inclement weather, on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, Purple Sage

Elementary School's first and second floors flooded, affecting six areas of the building. Thanks to the commitment of our employees who rapidly re-

sponded; it is team members like this that make Galena Park ISD A Great Place to Be.

A plaque was presented to Gregory Culpepper,

Javier Delacruz, Cesar Garza, Levi Gaston, Alejandro Guajardo, Daniel Guajardo, Ignacio Guevara, Jaime Hernandez, Jr., Chris Jones, Maria D.

Luna, Charles Miller, Maria Ruiz, Michael Sierra, and Luis Vasquez, on behalf of the Board of Trustees and Dr. John Moore, Superintendent of Schools.

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- Government Check
- Paycheck
- Government document with your name and address including your Voter Registration Certificate

If you're eligible to vote by mail, learn more about the requirements and how to identify yourself on your ballot by mail materials.

Find out more about voting in Texas at **VOTETEXAS.GOV**
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or call 1-800-252-VOTE (8683)

*For voters aged 18 - 69 years, photo ID can be expired for up to four years. For voters aged 70 and older, photo ID can be expired for any length of time if otherwise valid.

CHARLOTTE'S WEB
By Charlotte Jackson 

Appearance Matters

Most of us have been taught to not judge a book by the cover, but many people find themselves being held to a standard that reflects differently. Please let me explain. When we hear certain words, we tend to envision certain standards. When someone says the word nurse, we think about someone who has earned a degree and joined a caring profession. We assume they will be a model of clean hygiene and their appearance will be impeccable. When we hear the word librarian, we think of someone who not only loves to read but presents a welcoming appearance with a smile, especially when someone asks for help.

When we hear mechanic, we tend to think of a man who likes to work independently and his hands show that he takes pride in his work. When we hear teacher, we think about someone who earned their title by studying long hours and has a passion for helping students learn. What about when we see someone on the back of a trash truck? Do we think of them as uneducated or do we think of them as someone doing what it takes to earn a living and provide for their family?

While we should not judge a person by their appearance, we also need to think about how we present ourselves to strangers. If you were to walk into a bar and see one of the local pastors walking out, would you think that they are there supporting a local business, perhaps checking on someone they have not seen in a while or what? If you ran into the grocery store on Saturday and saw the female assistant principal of your child's school wearing snug shorts with a revealing top and you noticed her legs were covered in tattoos, would it change your opinion of them? What about if you saw a married man from your job hanging out with a divorced female also from the job? And when you saw them, they appeared to be very friendly with each other and just chilling at a local restaurant having a few alcoholic drinks?

Unfortunately, human nature is to think the worst and it does not take long for reputations to be attacked. So what are we supposed to do?

I have learned that in spite of wanting to do as I please, I have to flee all appearances of wrong doing. I have to think, how will I appear to others? I know someone who had been looking for work for months and the day after an interview, she rushed out of the house in pajama pants and a t-shirt only to run into the person who interviewed her the day before. Unfortunately, she did not get a job offer even though she was qualified on paper. Likewise, I met someone who had been homeless for months and yet, every day they would make their way to find a shower and present their self as if they were the CEO of a company. This person was offered a job as a personal coach for others that were looking for work.

Life is not fair, yet if we put forth the effort to be a blessing, doors will open and we realize that taking pride in our appearance pays off.

Judge at the Rodeo,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Harris County Hat Toss Day," said Judge Lina Hidalgo.

Press event attendees included:

Lina Hidalgo, Harris County Judge

Ed Gonzalez, Harris County Sheriff

Ryan Walsh, CEO/Harris County Sports & Convention Corporation Executive Director NRG Park

Pat Mann Phillips, Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo, Chairman of the Board

Dr. Chris Boleman, Houston Livestock Show &

Rodeo, President & CEO Howdy, Rodeo Mascot

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is a co-tenant in the 1.9 million-square-foot NRG Stadium, the largest and most expensive rodeo and football facility ever built. The rodeo has been held at NRG Stadium since 2003. The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is a Section 501(c)(3) charity that benefits youth, supports education, and facilitates better agricultural practices through exhibitions and presentation.

Cindy Miller Retires after Decades of Service to Channelview Tx,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ten while grabbing a cup of coffee. She always provided the best of care for the seniors. She went the extra mile to ensure no one was left behind or left without. She gave the seniors any assistance they needed to make them feel comfortable if it was within her means and ability to provide it.

Her position at the time of her retirement was with Commissioner Adrian Garcia's office, she was the Community Relations Liaison in the North Channel area of Precinct 2.

Following is some of Cindy's positions and agencies/organizations she's been affiliated with.

In 1995 with Channelview Independent School District at Endeavor Learning Center.

In 2000 she was hired as the Jacinto City's Assistant Director of Heritage Hall's Senior Center. Within three months she was promoted as the Director there.

In 2015 she was offered the Directors position at Grayson Community Center, and later in 2018, the Administrative Assistant at Martin L. Flukinger Community Center.

In 2019-2023 she rounded out her public service career when she became the Community Relations Liaison in the North Channel area of Precinct 2.

Cindy's efforts included the Senior Citizen Meal Programs, Senior Citizen

Olympics, Senior Citizen Parties and oversaw the Senior's daily activities, managed community center reservations and organizing trips.

Her responsibilities grew to include forming strategic partnerships, statistical reporting, logistics and support of the division's daily activities; acted as a key point of contact for residents, faith and business leaders in the local area.

Miller was a activist for East Harris County, she attended many meetings of neighborhoods associations, Chambers of Commerce, School District Board, and other key organizations.

She was a very efficient organizer and supported Precinct 2 with events, meetings, adopt a County Mile and activities to promote the precinct at external events and ceremonies.

She's to be credited with saving untold numbers of citizen's lives by readily making available to them the COVID-19 pandemic vaccine.

In 2023, she was awarded a Circle of Excellence Award for her work and service in Precinct 2.

She plans to spend more time with her family, grandsons Lincoln and Sawyer, friends and traveling. Cindy God bless you, you'll be missed and thank you in behalf of the North Channel Community.

ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim: "Where can I learn to be a watchmaker?"



Rolex is set to open a new watchmaking school in Dallas this fall in an effort to address the worldwide shortage of watchmakers.



The Rolex Watchmaking Training Center (RWTC) is located within the Rolex Service Center on North Harwood Street in Uptown Dallas. The brand said the school, which is currently under construction, will occupy the fourth floor of the building. It will accept 15 students for the inaugural class, set to commence in September, and 15 in each class thereafter beginning in March and September annually.

RWTC is a tuition-free school that will offer an 18-month program during which students will receive technical training alongside more conceptual education. Six months of the program will be spent focusing on the repair and service of Rolex watches. It is the only program in the United States to offer this, according to Rolex. "For decades, mechanical watchmaking has been experiencing a resurgence as new customers learn to appreciate the tradition and craftsmanship that goes into making these special timekeepers. But crucially, there aren't enough watchmakers to keep up," the brand states on the school's [newly launched website](#).

"The goal of the Rolex Watchmaking Training Center is to play a vital role in preserving the art and heritage of watchmaking while equipping a new generation of watchmakers with the skills and knowledge necessary to thrive in the industry. We expect employment opportunities to continue to be plentiful across North America and beyond."

The center is not Rolex's first watchmaking school in the United States. The brand has operated the Lititz Watch Technicum in Lititz, Pennsylvania, since 2001. Like the RWTC in Dallas, the school shares space with one of the brand's service centers. Rolex confirmed that the Lititz school is still open but declined to comment when asked what the opening of RWTC will mean for its future. The brand also has a training center in Geneva, Switzerland.

Thank you for reading the "Ask Diamond Jim" column and for supporting the North Channel Star Newspaper!

Diamond Jim is a master jeweler, diamond dealer and precious metals broker. Pineforest Jewelry has been a proud member of the Independent Jewelers Organization (IJO) and the Retail Jewelers Organization (RJO) for many years. See more at: www.pineforestjewelry.com.

If you have questions pertaining to jewelry, watches, diamonds, precious stones, precious metals, and other questions related to the jewelry industry, email jmills@pineforestjewelry.com.

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OPINION PAGE

OPINION
By **BILL KING**



Debating Relative Degrees of Senility

Last week in a press conference, President Biden confused Mexico with Gaza and said he had recently spoken to François Mitterrand, who has not been the president of France since 1995 and died in 1996. On the same day, former President Trump said in a speech to the National Rifle Association that he saw a migrant shoplifting a refrigerator. It is truly frightening to watch both Biden's press conference and Trump's speech and think that one of them will likely be our president for the next four years.

On Sunday, I was on a television panel discussing the two incidents with a Biden supporter and Trump supporter arguing over which gaffe was worse. Is this really what our country has come to – debating which of the leading candidates for the nominations of the Democratic and Republican parties is less senile?

The American people have certainly not missed the awful choice they are likely to face in November. Polling has consistently shown 60%-75% do not want to see a Biden-Trump rematch. The polling also shows that a majority of those who plan to vote for one of the candidates are primarily motivated by wanting to vote against the other guy.

As of now, Biden is clearly coming out on the short end of the cognitive stick in voters' minds. But he is much more in the public's view now because of the various international hot spots and his inexplicable border policy. Such events always put the spotlight on whomever is president. As the campaign heats up, the public's attention will become more focused on Trump. And there are a couple of things we know about Trump. He cannot stop talking and he cannot stay on script. So, there is no telling what will come out of his mouth between now and November.

I think we should be wary of relying too much on the polling at this time to predict what will happen in November. One can imagine all kinds of events between now and the election that could sway the independents who will decide this race. And at ages 81 and 77, there is the distinct possibility that either could suffer an acute health crisis between now and the election, especially when you consider the enormous pressure and stress of a presidential campaign. I believe the election could go either way.

Regardless of the outcome in November, the dysfunction of the two-party system will never have been on a grander display than in this trainwreck of an election. Defending the two-party system after it has forced this dreadful Hobson's choice on us won't be easy.


In his 2020 book, *The Storm before the Calm*, George Friedman predicted that after a tumultuous decade, there will be a historic reset of the American political landscape in 2028. His prediction is predicated to a large degree on the collapse of traditional institutional authority and credibility, including our two moribund political parties.

Most Americans are not actively engaged in politics. They are too busy making a living, caring for their families, coaching youth sports, attending their place of worship, and the myriad other activities that make up their daily lives to pay a lot of attention to the nonsense that passes for civic discourse today. So far, they have been content to suffer the growing dysfunction of our government at all levels, as is indicated by the fact that a third of Americans do not bother to vote, even in presidential elections. Many who do, mostly go to vote, with little enthusiasm, for the least objectionable alternatives on the ballot.

But as Theodore Roosevelt once observed, "The American people are slow to wrath, but when their wrath is once kindled it burns like a consuming flame." I think that moment is coming, and perhaps as George Friedman predicts, it will come in the next election cycle. It may be a wild ride, but I agree that there will be calm on the other side of the building storm.

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.

Americanisms



"Live each day like it's your last, 'cause one day you gonna be right."
— Ray Charles

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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By **Gary Borders**



Federal Judge Appears Skeptical of New Border Law

A federal judge is expected to rule quickly on the constitutionality of a Texas law about to go into effect that institutes new state penalties for illegal border crossings. During a hearing last week, U.S. District Judge David Ezra said he had concerns that other states would follow Texas' lead in creating their own immigration laws – a power given exclusively to the federal government under the U.S. Constitution.

The Austin American-Statesman reported the U.S. Justice Department sued the state over the law set to go into effect next month. It would allow any law enforcement official in the state to arrest someone here illegally, with mandatory sentences of between six months and 20 years.

An attorney with the Texas attorney general's office argued the state's immigration law should be seen as necessary because of increased illegal immigration. Ezra questioned the ramifications of Texas setting a precedent for other states to reject federal authority and create their own immigration laws.

"I will try to get my decision out as quickly as I possibly can," he said, noting that however he rules, it will be appealed.

PAXTON, CORNYN TRADE BARBS OVER AID BILL

U.S. Sen. John Cornyn and Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton escalated their feud last week, after Cornyn backed a \$95 billion aid package to Ukraine, Israel and Taiwan, The Dallas Morning News reported. Paxton on social media blasted Cornyn, with the senator responding that the embattled attorney general should mind his own business – specifically his pending securities fraud trial.

"Unbelievable that @JohnCornyn would stay up all night to defend other countries borders, but not America," Paxton posted on X, formerly Twitter.

Cornyn quickly responded. "Ken, your criminal defense lawyers are calling to suggest you spend less time pushing Russian propaganda and more time defending longstanding felony charges against you in



Houston, as well as ongoing federal grand jury proceedings in San Antonio that will probably result in further criminal charges," he wrote on X.

PAINTFULLY SLOW ROLLOUT OF BROADBAND FEARED

Texas is due to receive \$3.3 billion in federal funds for expanding broadband internet, but internet providers in rural areas are worried the money won't be used efficiently to improve high-speed connections for the 7 million residents now lacking that resource.

The Texas Tribune reported a relatively new state office is trying to build a staff to oversee the work, noting earlier federal funding programs have seen limited success because many companies underestimated the costs to install broadband in sparsely populated areas.

"We want to make sure that there's a responsible allocation of these dollars," said Rusty Moore, COO of Big Bend Telephone Company in Alpine. "We've been very vocal about where the challenges are."

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act signed by President Joe Biden in 2021 provides \$42.5 billion nationwide for broadband access and aims to connect 2.5 million households in Texas. Texas received the largest portion of the funds and created the Broadband Development Office to manage disbursement of its share.

DEMOCRATS PROPOSE BILL TO CONNECT TEXAS TO NATIONAL GRIDS

Two Democratic members of the U.S. House of Representatives plan to introduce legislation that would require the

Electric Reliability Council of Texas to connect to major electric grids outside of Texas, the Houston Chronicle reported. The measure, sponsored by Rep. Greg Casar, D-Texas, and Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., said Texans would save money, avoid blackouts, and help fight the climate crisis since Texas leads the nation in clean energy production.

"Over 10 million Texans needlessly lost power, hundreds of people died, and there were these mass power outages that we all knew could have been avoided," Casar said in a news conference last week, referring to the February 2021 winter storm.

Nearly all of Texas is served by the state's stand-alone grid system, except for parts of East Texas, El Paso and the upper Panhandle.

NONMEDICAL VACCINE EXEMPTIONS AT RECORD LEVELS

Vaccine exemptions for non-medical reasons hit record levels among Texas schoolchildren last year, the Chronicle reported, with 3.24% of Texas kindergarteners receiving an exemption "for reasons of conscience," according to the Texas Department of State Health Services. That's almost double the rate from 10 years ago.

The exemptions are part of the "post-pandemic momentum behind anti-vaccine messaging," the story said. A number of bills were filed during the 2023 legislative session to restrict education regarding vaccines and access to vaccines. House Bill 44 was signed into law and took effect last September. It threatens to withhold Medicaid funding for physicians who refuse to offer vaccine exemptions for patients.

"I'm looking at the unintended consequences that lawmakers aren't necessarily thinking about because they want to get their win and move on," said Rekha Lakshmanan, chief strategy officer at The Immunization Partnership. "But then, all of us Texans are left holding the bag."

COMPUTERS NOW SCORING STAAR ESSAYS

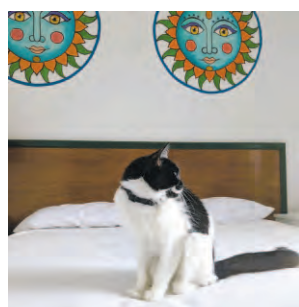
Written responses on the state's performance exam will most likely be scored by a computer, The News reported. The Texas Education Agency rolled out a new model for evaluating student answers on the State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR) in December, saying three-quarters of written responses are graded by an "automated scoring engine."

The automated scoring engine is "programmed by humans, overseen by humans, and is analyzed at the end by humans," said Jose Rios, director of the student assessment division for TEA, told The News.

TEA officials said the new test format, which includes essays at every grade level, would require four to five times the number of human scorers and cost up to \$20 million more. Under the new format, only one in four student essays will be scored by a human.

THE POSTSCRIPT
By **Carrie Classon**

A New Life for Felix



Last night was surprisingly calm, all things considered.

I told my husband, Peter, that he should not plan to get a good night's sleep. I told him this because Peter has never had a cat, and yesterday, we adopted one.

I have had several cats over the years, but my last cat, Lucy, died just a few months before I met Peter, 10 years ago. Peter has had dogs all his life and knows nothing about cats (which means every cat who has ever met him finds him fascinating). So we decided we would adopt a Mexican cat and take it to and from Mexico with us. Last Saturday, we had our first visit with Felix.

Felix is an adolescent. He was a stray cat, so we don't know exactly how old he is, but the kind ladies who rescued him are guessing he is about 5 months old. Marsala and her sister, Elena, and Elena's daughter, Daniela, brought him over to visit. I thought, right then and there, Felix was a very well-behaved kitty. I expected him to be wild and scared in a new house. But he stretched out on the sofa and looked as if he might go to sleep. "What a mellow kitty!" I told them.

"He is very relaxed," Elena said.

So after we had all the supplies we needed, they brought Felix to live with us. I could tell Daniela, who is 13 and wants to be a veterinarian, was a little sad.

"Will you miss him?" I asked. Daniela nodded. But I showed her the new litter box and the carrier we bought to bring Felix back with us to the U.S., and his fluffy little bed and the two matching bowls I'd bought for him at the market. Daniela seemed to approve, and she left her little charge with us for his first night.

He fell fast asleep—until the middle of the night.

"What was that?" Peter asked. Peter sleeps with earplugs when we are in Mexico, but the noise outside our bedroom woke him. I went to investigate. It appeared there had been some small-scale vandalism in the night. The garbage can had been mysteriously overturned and bits of crumbled bread were all over the floor.

"Oh, Felix!" I said. Felix came running to me and bumped his head against me. Then he circled around me as I cleaned up breadcrumbs, purring all the while.

We fell back to sleep. A little later in the night, we heard meowing. It got louder and louder.

Marcela and Elena rescue dogs and cats from the streets. At last count, they were caring for 11 dogs and three cats, so their house must be very lively. When Felix woke, there was no one in the room but him. I imagine it must have been a surprise, waking up all alone.

"Felix!" I called. "We're in here!" Felix came running. He jumped up on the bed, discovered the two gringos under the covers and started purring again.

So far, Felix seems to be happy in his new home. He has discovered that Peter keeps all sorts of interesting things on his bedside table that can be knocked off and played with in the middle of the night. He has discovered how easily the garbage can be tipped over and how much fun can be had with the contents. And he has discovered the two sleepy people in bed who—if things get too scary—can be relied upon to scratch his chin.

I think Felix is liking his new life.

Till next time.
Carrie

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San Jac Biotech Center,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



The artist's rendition of the new San Jacinto College Center for Biotechnology at Generation Park will be part of a 50-acre bio manufacturing campus hoping to attract biopharma companies from around the world. Dirt work is underway with an expected completion date in the First Quarter of 2025.

tomated viability and cell counters, filter integrity tester, and more. The resources of the Biotechnology offerings at San Jacinto College will continue to expand to meet the needs of this thriving industry.

"As we unveil the Biomufacturing Training Program, we are taking a significant step toward meeting the growing demands of the biotechnology sector right now," said Dr. Christopher Wild, executive director, San Jacinto College Center for Biotechnology. "This program is designed to provide a seamless entry into the field for new professionals, with a focus on practical experience and exposure to industry practices."

Wild, who has been at San Jac for 15 years, was tapped to lead the Biotechnology Center in October last year and in March will transition to the job full time.

"Our degree has already been approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board as well as our regional accreditors," he said. The program will also offer customized cor-

porate training including onboarding training for industry partners.

"It's designed by industry, for industry," he said.

The bio manufacturing facility is dedicated to training while academic classes will be held in the current building at Generation Park.

"It will house the bio manufacturing processes with a cell culture lab, prep lab, upstream training lab, downstream training lab, global fill finish training lab, and a cleanroom for training purposes," Wild explained. The facility will mimic industry standards providing a smooth transition into the workplace.

Many of the faculty traveled to Dublin to study at the world-renowned NIBRT facility. The San Jac facility will be the only one in 11 contiguous states in the global partners program with NIBRT.

"We now have access to their entire curriculum, and their expertise, facility design, equipment, requirements for training programs, all of our faculty go to Dublin to train," he said.

The first cohort of 30 students at The Center for

Biotechnology will begin in August 2025. The facility is scheduled for completion in the first quarter of 2025 and once in full operation, will graduate approximately 120 students per year over two sites including the South Campus on the 288 corridor.

"The profile of a student we're seeking is like that of a process technology student. They are inclined to work with their hands, have some technical know-how, and they're hungry for a career that is sustainable," Wild said. The vision is a 50-acre bio manufacturing campus in which biopharma companies will reside and be supported by the Center for Biotechnology.

Average starting pay, according to Wild, would be in the \$50k to \$55k range with advancement.

To learn more about the biotechnology program at San Jacinto College, visit [HYPERLINK "https://www.sanjac.edu/programs/areas-of-study/stem/biomanufacturing-tech"](https://www.sanjac.edu/programs/areas-of-study/stem/biomanufacturing-tech) https://www.sanjac.edu/programs/areas-of-study/stem/biomanufacturing-tech.

Black History: Bojangles,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

career began in the age of minstrel shows and moved to vaudeville, Broadway theatre, the recording industry, Hollywood films, radio, and television.

According to dance critic Marshall Stearns, "Robinson's contribution to tap dance is exact and specific. He brought it on its toes, dancing upright and swinging," adding a "hitherto-unknown lightness and presence." His signature routine was the stair dance, in which he would tap up and down a set of stairs in a rhythmically complex sequence of steps, a routine that he unsuccessfully attempted to patent. He is also credited with having popularized the word copacetic through his repeated use of it in vaudeville and radio appearances.

He is famous for his dancing with the white childhood actor Shirley Temple in a series of films during the 1930s, and for starring in the musical Stormy Weather (1943), loosely based on his own life and selected for preservation in the National Film Registry. He used his popularity to challenge and overcome numerous racial barriers. Robinson was one of the first minstrel and vaudeville performers to appear as Black without the use of blackface makeup, as well as one of the earliest black performers to perform solo, overcoming vaudeville's two-color rule. Additionally, he was an early black headliner in Broadway shows. Robinson was the first black performer to appear in a Hollywood film in an interracial dance team (with Shirley Temple in The Little Colonel, 1935), and the first black performer to headline a mixed-race Broadway production.

The idea for bringing a black dancer to Fox to star with a white child star Shirley Temple in The Little Colonel was first proposed by Fox head Winfield Sheehan after a discussion with D. W. Griffith. Sheehan set his sights on Robinson but, unsure of his ability as an actor, arranged for a contract that was void if Robinson failed the dramatic test. Robinson passed the test and was brought in to star with Temple and to teach her tap dancing. They quickly hit it off, as Temple recounted years later.

"Robinson walked a step ahead of

us, but when he noticed me hurrying to catch up, he shortened his stride to accommodate mine. I kept reaching up for his hand, but he hadn't looked down and seemed unaware. Fannie called his attention to what I was doing, so he stopped short, bent low over me, his eyes wide and rows of brilliant teeth showing in a wide smile. When he took my hand in his, it felt large and cool. For a few moments, we continued walking in silence. "Can I call you Uncle Billy?" I asked. "Why sure you can," he replied... "but then I get to call you darlin.'" It was a deal. From then on, whenever we walked together it was hand in hand, and I was always his "darling" Temple said.

Robinson came under heavy criticism for his apparent tacit acceptance of racial stereotypes of the era, with some critics calling him an Uncle Tom. He strongly resented this, and his biographers suggested that critics were underestimating the difficulties faced by black performers engaging with mainstream white culture at the time, and ignoring his many efforts to overcome racial prejudice. In his public life, Robinson led efforts to persuade the Dallas Police Department to hire its first black policeman; lobby President Franklin Delano Roosevelt during World War II for equal treatment of black soldiers; and stage the first integrated public event in Miami, a fundraiser which was attended by both black and white city residents.

Robinson was a popular figure in both black and white entertainment worlds of his era, and is remembered for the support that he gave to fellow performers, including Fred Astaire, Eleanor Powell, Lena Horne, Jesse Owens and the Nicholas Brothers. Sammy Davis Jr. and Ann Miller credited him as a teacher and mentor, Miller saying that he "changed the course of my life." Gregory Hines produced and starred in a biographical movie about Robinson for which he won the NAACP Best Actor Award.

Robinson's talents transcended his famous stair dance. The steps were not essential to Robinson's performances; rather, Robinson would naturally shift into "a little skating step to stop-time; or a

scoot step, a cross-over tap" or many other tap steps involved in his particular movement. Robinson changed rhythmic meter and tap steps and syncopated breaks seamlessly. Often Robinson would talk to his audience, share anecdotes, and act as if he were surprised by the action of his feet. His amusing personality was essential to his performances and popularity. Robinson is said to have consistently performed in split-soled wooden shoes, handcrafted by a Chicago craftsman.

Robinson's early life, at the age of five, Robinson began dancing for small change, appearing as a "hooper" or busker in local beer gardens and in front of theaters for tossed pennies. A promoter saw him performing outside the Globe Theater in Richmond and offered him a job as a "pick" in a local minstrel show. At that time, minstrel shows were staged by white performers in blackface. Pickaninnies were cute black children at the edge of the stage singing, dancing, or telling jokes.

In 1890, at the age of 12, Robinson ran away to Washington, D.C., where he did odd jobs at Benning Race Track and worked briefly as a jockey. In 1891, he was hired by Whallen and Martel, touring with Mayme Remington's troupe in a show titled The South Before the War, performing again as a pickaninny, despite his age. He travelled with the show for over a year before growing too mature to play the role credibly. He later teamed up with a young Al Jolson, with Jolson singing while Robinson danced for pennies or to sell newspapers.

In 1898, he returned to Richmond where he joined the United States Army as a rifleman when the Spanish-American War started. He received an accidental gunshot wound from a second lieutenant who was clearing his gun.

Despite being the highest-paid black performer of the time, Robinson died penniless in 1949, his funeral paid for by longtime friend Ed Sullivan. In 1989, Congress designated Robinson's birthday of May 25 as National Tap Dance Day.

ENTERTAINMENT

February 26, 2024 Posting Date

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

1. THIS IS GREAT! I LOVE IT WHEN THE FARMER'S WIFE TRIES COOKING NEW STUFF!
2. LOOK AT ALL THIS SLOP! WE'RE GONNA JUST EAT LIKE KINGS ALL WEEK!
3. PERHAPS WE SHOULD PUT SOME IN TUPPERWARE?
4. THAT NEVER WORKS. THEY JUST END UP EATING ALL THE TUPPERWARE.

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

1. I CAN'T PLAY NOW. I'M BUSY.
2. GO OUTSIDE AND BUILD A SNOWMAN. I'M TIRED OF BUILDING SNOWMEN.
3. WELL, TRY A SNOWWOMAN FOR A CHANGE.
4. I'LL TRY.
5. HEY, TIGER!
6. I NEED A FLASHLIGHT. WHY?
7. FOR HER TO HOLD.

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

1. MY GOAL IS TO LOSE TEN POUNDS THIS MONTH.
2. ...I'VE ONLY GOT FIFTEEN POUNDS TO GO.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

8		6			9			
	4	8						1
7			9	5				
	3	8	4					7
9		6		3				
2			1		4			
	8	4						3
		6		2	9			
3			7					2

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

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

1. He can talk with animals; 2. Vincent van Gogh; 3. Cucumbers; 4. 13; 5. Tears or crying; 6. 1977 (Chita Guy); 7. Theodore Roosevelt; the Nobel Peace Prize; 8. Mexico; 9. Steve Carell; 10. Naples.

King Crossword

ACROSS

- Not so hot?
- Dog tags, e.g.
- Quick look
- Antioxidant berry
- French vineyard
- Impetuous
- Dungeon's quality
- Actress Rae
- Small batteries
- Detroit hoopster
- Like a neglected lawn
- Coop group
- Within (Pref.)
- Foppish behavior
- Caustic cleaner
- Loud
- Dean's list stat
- Writer Steel
- Three- sloth
- Barn birds
- Travesty
- "Jane Eyre" author
- Tofu source
- Chicago's Mayor Lightfoot
- Hanging loosely
- Location

DOWN

- Bankroll
- Obamacare acronym
- Scouted
- Japanese emperor
- Frosts a cake
- Hosp. workers forte
- Hitchcock
- Overly proper
- Bridge position
- Canadian gas brand
- "Star Trek II" villain
- Aye undoer
- "500" race
- Use a blowtorch
- New Age singer
- Genesis garden
- Salutes
- Prettified
- Composer Stravinsky
- Detail, briefly
- Created
- Salamander
- Sea off Sicily
- "Fearless" singer Swift
- Boating hazard
- Humdrum
- "Gilmore Girls" daughter
- Utah city
- Use scissors
- "Exodus" hero
- "— had it!"
- Museum-funding org.
- Econ. measure

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- LITERATURE: In the children's book, what is Doctor Dolittle's special talent?
- ART: Who painted the work titled "Starry Night"?
- FOOD & DRINK: Which vegetable is commonly used to make pickles?
- MUSIC: What is pop singer Taylor Swift's favorite number?
- MEDICAL: What is a common name for lachrymation?
- BUSINESS: When was the Chia Pet invented?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first American to win a Nobel Prize?
- HISTORY: The Aztec civilization emerged in which modern-day country?
- TELEVISION: Who played the character Michael Scott on TV's "The Office"?
- GEOGRAPHY: The volcano Mount Vesuvius overlooks which modern-day Italian city?

Solution time: 23 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

OBITUARIES

Maria Elena Castillo

Maria Elena Castillo, 68, of Cuero passed away Wednesday, February 7, 2024. She was born February 2, 1956 in Victoria to Hilario and Francisca T. Baladez. She married Martin Alvarez Castillo on April 30, 1985 in Houston. She worked as a special education paraprofessional and retired after working over twenty years for Galena Park ISD. Her hobbies included zumba, dancing, going to the gym, martial arts, shopping and arts and crafts. Her favorite pastime was devoting her life to her family – especially her grandchildren and fur-babies.



Castillo of Houston; siblings, Angelita, Yolanda, Ralph and Joe Baladez, all of Angleton; grandchildren, Denicio Castillo, Diego Castillo, Gabriella Castillo, Melia Espinoza, Sophie Gregory and Joshua Castillo and great-grandchild, Sarahi Castillo.

2024, 5:00 – 7:00 PM at Freund Funeral Home with a rosary to begin at 6:30 PM. Funeral Services will be held Friday, March 1, 2024, 2:00 PM at Freund Funeral Home with Deacon Leo Sharron officiating.

Honorary Pallbearers include Denicio Castillo, Diego Castillo and Joshua Castillo.

Memorial Contributions may be made to Driscoll Children's Hospital in Corpus Christi, the Ronald McDonald House in Corpus Christi or your local Catholic Church.

You may sign the guest-book or send condolences at www.freundfuneral-home.com.

Freund Funeral Home, 361.275.2343.

She is survived by her husband of thirty-eight years, Martin Castillo; daughters, Valerie Gregory of Alexandria, VA and Vanessa Espinoza of Victoria; son, Martin

She was preceded in death by her parents and brothers, Hilario, Manuel and Jimmy Baladez.

Visitation will be held Thursday, February 29,

PET MATTERS

In Memory of Susan Hoffman



PugHearts of Houston looking for foster families for pug pups

PugHearts of Houston rescue is urgently seeking people to foster pups: How you can help

HOUSTON – Have you been thinking about adding a furry friend to your family?

The PugHearts Houston rescue is desperately seeking people who are willing to foster pugs.

The rescue told KPRC 2 anchor Lisa Hernandez it has over 200 dogs in its programs and more fosters are needed to enable PugHearts to accept more dogs.

If you wish to be considered for pet adoptions, then you'll need to complete a form on the rescue's website. See information and photos of the adorable pups you can choose from.

For more information on how you can foster a pup, go to <https://www.pughearts.com/>.

About PugHearts of Houston

PugHearts of Houston is a non-profit rescue dedicated to giving unwanted and neglected pugs a second chance. It is staffed by a network of volunteers in and around the greater Houston area. None of the dogs stay in a shelter or kennel — all of the animals are in private foster homes throughout the area.



top ten SURPRISINGLY DANGEROUS FOODS FOR DOGS

1. Popcorn
2. Avocado (skin)
3. Macadamia nuts
4. Grapes
5. Onions/garlic
6. Tomato plants
7. Raw potatoes
8. Coffee/tea
9. Dairy*
10. Sugar-free gum

*Yes, even cheese!
Source: rover.com

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We have 4 Cemetery spaces for sale at the San Jacinto Memorial Park-Funeral Home off of I-10. They are located in the Blue Lagoon section Lot #57 and spaces 9,10,11,and 12. They are \$5000 each. We can break them up and sell 2 groups of 2. Please email sacain55@yahoo.com for more information.

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Trail Riders on their way to RodeoHouston

Continued from Page 1: Northeastern Trail Ride brings a bit of history to Crosby

Bar Rodeo Arena off FM 1409 in Dayton. Construction in Dayton and parts of Liberty County made the fourth day a little more arduous, but the trail riders made their way into Crosby, coming down US 90 to Church Street and then into the Crosby Rodeo and Fairgrounds around 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday. The Thursday trek took riders into the Sheldon area and north Houston at Triangle Seven Arena off Parker Road. On Friday, the trail riders rode into Memorial Park and met up with 10 other trail rides and hundreds more riders and wagons who spent the night before the Saturday parade.

The trail ride was founded by Bruno's father and 13 other friends and family members.

"We wanted to represent the northeast part of town where we live and our Louisiana culture," Bruno said. His father, Joseph, rode in the trail ride until he turned 82 and physically could no longer make the trek into Houston. He passed away at 90 in 2022, the day after Christmas.

Bruno's great great grandfather was born a slave and worked as a stable boy.

"He would train the mules and horses for the plantation that he lived on. That's where our horse and mule interest came into play. We've had horses all our lives," Bruno said.

The trail boss retired from trucking after 30 years and went back to work with his dad as a longshoreman at the Port of Houston.

"You can't imagine how much water is moved across those waters," he smiled. He praised the insurance his father had through the longshoremen local and believed it helped extend his life.

The smaller group is tough on the trail ride. "It's economics. This is an expensive hobby. We're just doing our best to keep our culture alive and teaching people about our history," he said.

Like his father taught him, Bruno had his daughter with him on the trail ride this year.

The trail ride started with 36 riders, but not all can take the whole week off, so they join them on different days during the ride.

"We have more people on our roster than rides on the trail ride, so they kind of rotate the days off," he said.

The riders are escorted by law enforcement and every trail ride has scouts who are responsible for the safety of the riders, flagging down traffic and leading the trail mostly on the side of the road or in a single lane so traffic can go around them safely.



The Northeastern Trail Ride is one of the smaller groups to make their way to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, but a proud one with a rich history and tradition. The group travels approximately 111 miles from Cheek, Texas near Beaumont to Memorial Park every year for the annual HLSR parade.



Trail riders wind down Church Street in Crosby on their way to the Crosby Rodeo and Fairgrounds. Flagmen for the trail ride are wearing the construction type vests and flags to direct traffic.

"When we get home after this trail ride, we start immediately planning for next year," Bruno said. "We already have campsites secured for next year and we can always make adjustments if something comes up."

The trail ride is a little more modernized using RV's and custom trailers for the meals at night and sleeping arrangements.

Typical fare includes chili one night, etouffee another, and other trail delicacies.

Along the trail, riders make stops at local elementary schools in Devers, Dayton, and Sheldon to present scholarships and share history with the kids.

Some of that history includes the restoration of the wagons.

"Every wagon out here is an authentic 1800 wagon," he said. "They are refurbished, but the undercarriage on all of them are from the 1800's and brought up to standards." Some of those wagons are from the plantations in Louisiana and a couple from Tennessee.

"The Amish do a lot of refurbishing work on the wagons," he said.

Bruno has been riding since he was 9 years old and has no plans of retiring from the trail ride. He plans on continuing his legacy, sharing history to anyone who will listen.

Rodeo Announces Star-Studded 2024 RODEOHOUSTON® Entertainment Lineup

Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo officials released the entertainment lineup for the 2024 Rodeo season, scheduled for Feb. 27 – March 17.

"The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is proud to bring such a wide range of musical genres to the RODEOHOUSTON stage," said Chris Boleman, Rodeo president and CEO. "We're welcoming 10 new entertainers who will make their debut on the star stage, as well as many fan-favorites from a variety of genres from our country roots, to EDM and hip-hop."

Some of these artists have special connections to the Rodeo including 50 Cent. In 2023, his Champagne, Le Chemin du Roi Brut won the Rodeo Uncorked! Grand Champion Best of Show honors and was auctioned off for a record-setting \$325,000. A true Houston icon, Bun B debuted on the rap scene in 1992, and over the past two years, he has had dozens of guest appearances during his performances at RODEOHOUSTON. This year, Bun B has another incredible lineup of guest artists who will join him on the star stage.

As for the Jonas Brothers, they will be returning to RODEOHOUSTON for the first time in over a decade. We are thrilled to welcome back longtime supporters of the Rodeo, Brad Paisley, Hank Williams Jr., Zac Brown Band and for KING + COUNTRY. Los Tigres Del Norte will return to RODEOHOUSTON to perform on Go Tejano Day, presented by Fiesta Mart, on Sunday, March 10. 2024 will be memorable for country star Luke Bryan as he performs for the 10th time on the iconic star stage in NRG Stadium. The Rodeo is thrilled to showcase both Lainey Wilson and HARDY before they begin their own tours later this year. And award-winning artist, Eric Church will close out



The following entertainers will perform on the RODEOHOUSTON stage in NRG Stadium, Feb. 27 – March 17.

Tuesday, February 27 – Blake Shelton Opening Day presented by Texas Capital Wednesday, February 28 – Carly

Pearce Armed Forces Appreciation Day presented by Crown Royal Thursday, February 29 – for KING + COUNTRY Friday, March 1 – 50 Cent Black Heritage Day presented by Kroger Saturday, March 2 – HARDY Sunday, March 3 – Ivan Cornejo Monday,

March 4 – Hank Williams Jr. First Responders Day presented by BP America Tuesday, March 5 – Oliver Anthony Wednesday, March 6 – Jelly Roll Community Day presented by TC Energy Thursday, March 7 – Luke Bryan Volunteer Appreciation Day

Presented Phillips 66 Friday, March 8 – Major Lazer Saturday, March 9 – Lainey Wilson Sunday, March 10 – Los Tigres del Norte Go Tejano Day presented by Fiesta Mart Monday, March 11 – Whiskey Myers Tuesday,

March 12 – Bun B Wednesday, March 13 – Nickelback Thursday, March 14 – Zac Brown Band Friday, March 15 – Jonas Brothers Saturday, March 16 – Brad Paisley Sunday, March 17 – Eric Church

the 2024 Rodeo on Sunday, March 17.

Half of the 2024 RODEOHOUSTON entertainer lineup will perform on the star stage for the first time: Carly Pearce, 50 Cent, HARDY, Ivan Cornejo, Nickelback, Oliver Anthony, Jelly Roll, Major Lazer, Lainey Wilson, Whiskey Myers and. Together, the 20 acts have a total of 56 Academy of Country Music Awards, 47 Country Music Association awards, 17 American Music Awards and 15 GRAM-

MY® awards.

INDIVIDUAL RODEO TICKETS

Tickets will go on sale at rodeohouston.com Thursday, Jan. 18, 2024, in two waves, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Wave 1 tickets for Feb. 27 – March 7 performances.

Wave 2 tickets for March 8 – 17 performances.

(The Online Waiting Rooms will open at 9:30 a.m. for Wave 1 and 1:30 p.m. for Wave 2. Customers in the Waiting Room

will be randomly selected to enter the store to purchase tickets at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.)

A place in the Waiting Room does not guarantee tickets.

Ticket prices start at \$25, plus a \$4 convenience fee.

Individual Rodeo tickets can be purchased online at rodeohouston.com.

All tickets will be delivered electronically via AXS Mobile ID Delivery; please allow 48 hours for delivery.

To access your pur-

chased tickets, download the rodeohouston app and login with the email used to purchase tickets.

About the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo promotes agriculture by hosting an annual, family-friendly experience that educates and entertains the public, supports Texas youth, showcases Western heritage, and provides year-round educational support within the community. Since its

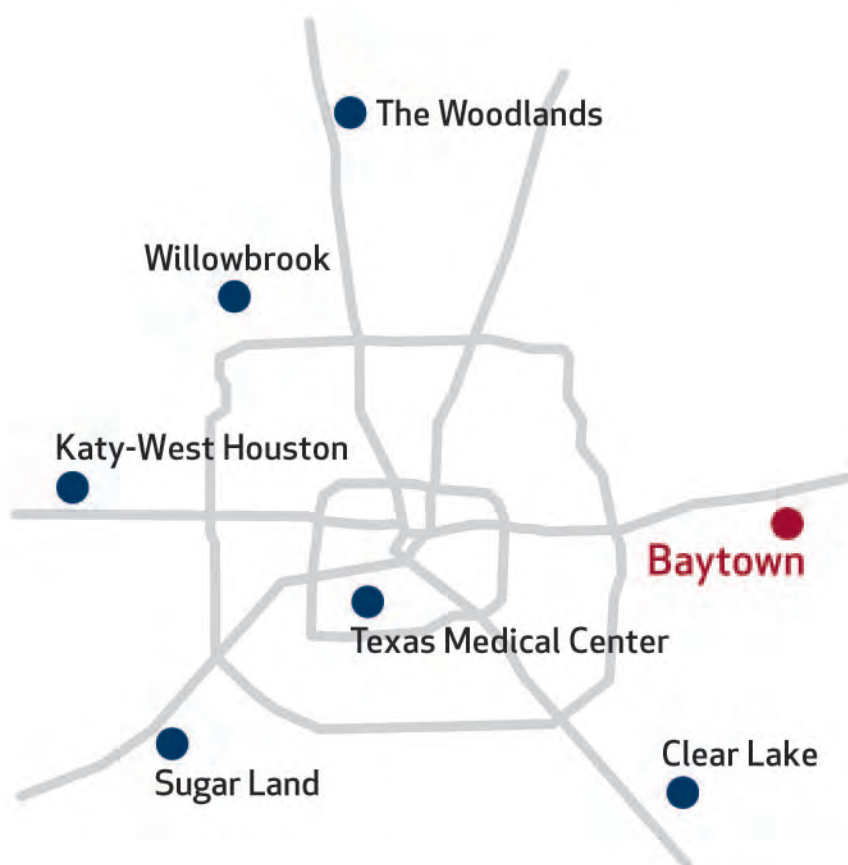
beginning in 1932, the Rodeo has committed more than \$600 million to the youth of Texas and education. The 2024 Rodeo is scheduled for Feb. 27 – March 17. The 2024 World's Championship Bar-B-Que Contest, presented by Cotton Holdings, is scheduled for Feb. 22 – 24. For more information, visit rodeohouston.com and follow @RODEOHOUSTON online via Facebook, X (Twitter), Instagram and YouTube for all the latest news.



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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.



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