



See Graduation & Summer News for Area Schools
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NORTH CHANNEL ★ STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Cloverleaf, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City
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The Crosby Bras For A Cause organization handed out \$120,000 in checks to the Pink Heals at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital, Houston Candlelighters, and Joseph's Warriors at the annual Crosby Fair and Rodeo last Saturday night. The funds are raised every year at their annual BFAC show with celebrity models from the community. (Photo Michele Eaglin)

'Bras For A Cause' donates \$120k to cancer causes

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

Tucked between the professional rodeo events and the final concert at the Crosby Fair and Rodeo last Saturday night was another celebration that Crosby is still in the fight against cancer.

President Beth King and members of Bras For A Cause presented checks to local organizations who continue to fight against

cancer in the Crosby area community to the tune of \$120,000.

"To date, in 14 years we have donated approximately \$1.9 million to these organizations and will continue to do so," King said.

Checks were presented to Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital for \$75,000, Houston Candlelighter's in the amount of \$75,000, and Joseph's Warriors for \$5,000 at the rodeo.

"The Breast Care and Lung Care Centers at Methodist have funds that share the money," she said. "We made around \$147,000 at our fundraising event back in February."

King said the organization keeps some money back in the event there are other needs or organizations throughout the year that need help.

"We've already given out about \$10,000 this year

alone," she said. "Some of those funds were left over from last year."

The fundraising for cancer began in 2006 with the final night of the rodeo being designated as Tough Enough To Wear Pink night.

"They would sell pink t-shirts and other memorabilia to raise money," King said.

In 2014, they shifted gears and started the Bras For A Cause event.

"Shirley Rodgers came up with the idea of the guys wearing the bras and raising the money and that's primarily where we get our money now," she said.

The raucous event in February features models or celebrities from the community who wear unique bras, most created with a theme. Some dressed as cowboys, sailor, Santa Claus, Hello Kitty, Trump, cherries and whipped

cream and many more hilarious ideas that spur the crowd into bill stuffing and raising bids to big numbers.

"We could not do it without those 20 brave men from the community and around Texas who are willing to come out and help us raise the money," King said.

Continued. See BRAS FOR A CAUSE, Page 5

North Channel Area Chamber Ribbon Cuttings



Marco's Pizza celebrated their ribbon cutting with the North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce ambassadors last Tuesday, June 4, at their location at 15727 Wallisville Rd, Houston, TX 77049. Marco's has over 1,100 stores nationwide and is America's No. 5 pizza brand. Hours at the store are 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 12 a.m. on Friday and Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Sunday.



Last Tuesday, June 4, Ambassadors from the North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce celebrated the ribbon cutting for HotWorx in Channelview. The fitness biz is a 24-hour infrared sauna fitness studio that offers a variety of virtually instructed workouts. The workouts are designed to help users experience the benefits of infrared heat absorption while completing a 30-minute isometric workout or 15-minute High Intensity Interval Training (HIIT) session. They are located at 16344 Wallisville Rd, Houston, TX 77049.

President Noe Esparza, GPISD Trustee

By Allan Jamail
A Personal Memoir



NOE ESPARZA
GPISD Trustee President

Galena Park, Texas ~ June 4, 2024 ~ it gives me pleasure to bring attention to someone from our community that has achieved success in making a valuable contribution to the North Channel Area.

Noe and his twin brother Erik played little league baseball in Jacinto City with my son Allan Jamail Jr. They were good enough to play on several playoff teams. I remember one night before an important playoff game their coaches wanted to be sure these star players were well rested and up to their best game.

The decision was to have them spend the night at my house, since I was chief of police, the coaches felt surely I could see they

went to sleep early and was rested for the big game.

They bedded down on my living room floor and as most 10 and 11 year boys would be, they were excited about the big game and this caused me to be up numerous times during the night to corral them and to demand they knockoff all the cutting up

and laughing.

Noe's wife Angie is the Secretary of Dr. John Moore, GPISD Superintendent. They are very supportive of the schools youth activities and are always spotted at most all events and sports activities. She and Noe have two children.

The Esparza children both GPISD North Shore graduates are successful in the business world. Cristian is the National Accounts Manager at ZF and Nicolas is a pilot for a private company.

Noe is a graduate of Galena Park High School, San Jacinto College and University of Houston.

Erik is a teacher and coach for the district. He's been valuable as a soccer coach helping to lead the Galena Park Yellowjackets to some big playoff wins.

Beat the Bite! HCPH Reminds Residents Mosquito Season is Here

Take simple steps to protect yourself and your loved ones from mosquito-borne illness

HOUSTON - With temperatures rising, Harris County Public Health (HCPH) reminds residents that mosquito season is upon us. While mosquitoes are present year-round, their peak activity coincides with warmer weather, typically from May through October. This increases the chance of mosquito-borne disease transmission.

Out of the 56 mosquito species in Harris County, only a few can transmit viruses like West Nile, Saint Louis encephalitis, chikungunya, dengue, and Zika.

HCPH's Mosquito and Vector Control Division (MVCD) is committed to safeguarding residents from mosquito-borne diseases throughout the year. They achieve this through:

- Countywide mosquito trapping
- Testing mosquito pools for viruses



•Treatment in neighborhoods where a virus is detected
Interactive maps detailing mosquito-borne disease activity, services, and proposed treatment locations are available at hcphtx.org/mc.
"While the past two years saw a

relatively low number of mosquito samples testing positive for diseases compared to previous years," said MVCD Director Maximea "Max" Vig

Continued. See MOSQUITO SEASON, Page 3

SHELDON ISD NEWS

King High School Graduates 847 Seniors

Congratulations to the Class of 2024 from C.E. King High School. On June 1, 847 graduated during the ceremony held at M.O. Campbell Center. Seniors from KHS earned more than \$6 million in scholarships, with more than \$2.4 million dedicated to STEAM graduates and \$1.7 million to Early College High School students.



GALENA PARK ISD NEWS

FREE SUMMER MEALS FOR CHILDREN

This summer, Galena Park Independent School District will be providing the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Seamless Summer Option which offers free breakfast and lunch to all children 18 years of age and younger. The Free Summer Meals for Children schedule is listed below.

The program is scheduled to run from May 28 to July 11, 2024. Program dates and serving times for each site will vary. Children do not have to sign up for meals; they simply need to come to the school site during serving hours. Regulations require that meals must be eaten at the school site.

For more information about the program contact the GPISD Student Nutrition Department at (832) 386-1211.

School Site	Date of Service	Breakfast Serving Time	Lunch Serving Time
Cimarron Elementary 816 Cimarron Houston, TX 77015	June 3 to July 11, 2024 Monday – Friday Closed June 19 & July 4	7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.
Pyburn Elementary 12302 Coulson Houston, TX 77015	June 3 to July 10, 2024 Monday – Friday Closed June 19 & July 4	8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.
North Shore Elementary 14310 Duncannon Houston, TX 77015	May 28 to July 11, 2024 Monday – Friday Closed May 31, June 19 & July 4	7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Galena Park Elementary 401 N. Main Galena Park, TX 77547	June 3 to July 11, 2024 Monday – Friday Closed June 19 & July 4	7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Tice Elementary 14120 Wallisville Rd. Houston, TX 77049	June 3 to July 3, 2024 Monday – Thursday Closed June 19	7:45 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Galena Park Middle School 400 Keene Galena Park, TX 77547	June 3 to June 18, 2024 Monday – Thursday	7:30 a.m. – 8:10 a.m.	11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Galena Park High School (Lilly Center) 1000 Keene St. Galena Park, TX 77547	June 3 to June 20, 2024 Monday – Thursday	7:15 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
North Shore Senior High School 353 N. Castlegory Houston, TX 77049	June 3 to June 20, 2024 Monday – Thursday	7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	10:40 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
North Shore Senior High 10th 353 N. Castlegory Houston, TX 77049	June 3 to July 11, 2024 Monday – Thursday Closed July 4	7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	10:40 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Woodland Acres Middle School 12947 Myrtle Lane Houston, TX 77015	June 3 to June 18, 2024 Monday – Thursday	7:30 a.m. – 8:10 a.m.	11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

CHANNELVIEW ISD NEWS

Channelview ISD FREE Summer Feeding Program

Locations:

Barrett-Lee Early Childhood Center:
June 4th- 7th Tu-Fri
June 10th- 27th Mon-Thu
Breakfast: 7:15-7:45
Lunch: 11:00-12:30

Channelview High School
June 10th- 27th
Breakfast: 7:30-8:15
Lunch: 10:30-12:30

Hamblen Elementary School
July 15th- 25th
Breakfast: 7:30-8:00
Lunch: 11:00-12:00

BELIEVE IN ME! Start Pre-K in GPISD

GALENA PARK ISD PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN EARLY REGISTRATION

The Student Admissions Department will conduct the last opportunity for early registration of all new Kindergarten and eligible Pre-K 3 and 4 year old students for the 2024-2025 school year.

ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS

June 03 - June 18, 2024
Skyward will be closed June 7-10

www.galenaparkisd.com/prek

Please visit our website for required registration documents, Pre-K eligibility criteria, and specific information about the Pre-K 3 year-old program.

IN-PERSON SUPPORT SITE

June 17, 2024 (12:00 PM - 6:00 PM)
June 18, 2024 (9:00 AM - 12:00 PM)
Location: Zotz Education Center
13801 Hollypark Dr., Houston, TX 77015

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

If you have additional questions regarding registration, you may contact us at:

☎ 832-386-1188
✉ prekinfo@galenaparkisd.com

www.galenaparkisd.com

CHANNELVIEW ISD GT SUMMER CAMP

Monday, June 17 through Thursday, June 20
and
Monday, June 24 through Thursday, June 27

CHANNELVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

2ND-6TH GRADE GT STUDENTS

For just \$35, participants will be able to participate in all activities, attend a field trip, and receive a T-Shirt.

Complete the form below to register your child. Registration Forms available at Channelview Administration Building.
All forms and payment can be returned on the first day of camp
Payment can be made by cash or check on the first day of camp. 6/17

Register here:

GT Summer Olympics Camp Form

SPACE IS LIMITED

CHARLOTTE'S WEB
By Charlotte Jackson 

Explore the Community

Think about when you were a teenager. Did you enjoy sports? Did you enjoy working with children? You are retired now, what type of work did you enjoy? When you were younger, did you enjoy traveling? When you were a child, did you have a favorite series of books to read? Did you collect baseball cards? Who was your favorite athlete?

If you were asked to talk five minutes on one topic, what would it be? Have you ever met someone famous? If so, how? Where? And when?

Life is full of opportunities to explore various subjects and perhaps when you were younger, you researched certain subjects. What details stayed with you? What would you like to share with others? Have you considered volunteering in our community and sharing your experiences with others?

I have met residents who have traveled the world over and have so many memories as well as pictures that they could share with others. Did you know we have an older couple in the area with everything from stuffed raccoons to a polar bear in their living room? Can you imagine the stories they could share? There are others who have lived in Jacinto City their entire life and can share details that are not printed anywhere. Some of the residents of Galena Park can tell you stories of rowing across the Houston Ship Channel to go work at the paper mill before the Washburn Tunnel was built. There are others who can tell you about living in Channelview their entire life and can share so many interesting details.

This summer, I would suggest that you find one topic you are interested in and then start asking around. If you ask enough, you will find out who the original members were of the Rotary Club of North Shore. Those men have remarkably interesting stories of how they got to North Shore and what interested them enough to join Rotary. Maybe look at the local websites for the school districts as well as San Jacinto College and make a list of the buildings, streets and points of interests and then find residents who can share details about those whose names are familiar, yet we do not know the details. Examples include Proctor Brightwell, Dr Nichols, Ed Lehr, Charles Grant, Neeley Drive, Cravens Drive, Bill Neal, or the streets located in Cloverleaf such as Barbara Mae, Nancy Rose, Frankie and Nadolney.

If you have traveled between Normandy and Uvalde, along Road, you have surely noticed Tice Elementary as well as Cunningham Middle School. Do you know the details of contributions to our community? Would you care to guess which one has a son who now represents Chambers County as a Commissioner? Or which other Commissioner in Chambers County has a history in North Shore? Have you taken a trip to Thomas Bell Foster Park just east of Normandy? Do you know the connection between Mr. Foster and Foster Fence? Take some time to learn more about community founders.

Mosquito Season

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ilant, "we must remember that sudden surges in mosquito-borne viruses can still occur and pose a threat to vulnerable populations, especially young children, older adults, and people who are immunocompromised."

In 2023, Harris County, including the City of Houston, reported 38 human cases of mosquito-borne diseases, including malaria, dengue, and West Nile virus. Thirty-six of the total cases were travel-related (34 malaria and 2 dengue). The two West Nile virus cases were local.

Thankfully, Harris County had no confirmed deaths linked to mosquito-borne illnesses last year. However, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) reported six human deaths in the state due to mosquito-borne disease (specifically West Nile virus).

"Our surveillance and testing haven't detected any positive mosquito samples so far in 2024," Dr. Vigilant said. "However, that's likely to change as we enter peak mosquito breeding season. We urge everyone to take simple steps to protect themselves and their loved ones from mosquito bites. This includes eliminating stagnant water around your home and using EPA-registered mosquito repellents according to the instructions."

KNOW THE 3 Ts: TIP, TOSS, TAKE ACTION

As temperatures rise, so do mosquito populations. HCPH wants residents to remember the 3 Ts to mosquito control - "Tip, Toss, Take Action." - Tip

Heavy rains during the summer months in the Houston region can create a "perfect storm" for mosquitoes to breed. Follow these simple tips to prevent mosquito breeding sites around your home, especially right after a weather event:

- **Tip** or empty standing water from pet bowls, flowerpots, tires, buckets, and other containers.
- If you have a birdbath, change its water every three to five days.

ToSS

Mosquitoes can also breed in small spots where stagnant water might be hidden from the human eye. Practice the following tips to re-

duce mosquito breeding in those covered spots:

- **Toss** out debris, trash, and other unwanted items around your home.
- Clean out clogged rain gutters.
- Keep outdoor trash bins closed and avoid overflowing them.
- Do not sweep lawn clippings, leaves, or litter into storm drains, as this will prevent water from flowing, creating ideal mosquito-breeding sites.

- Minimize opportunities for standing water to accumulate by emptying stagnant water from flower pots, buckets, tires, or other water-collecting objects.

Take action

There are also several ways to **take action** and reduce mosquito populations.

- When using mosquito repellent, keep these points in mind:

- Use as directed by the label instructions on the product.
- Do not use insect repellents on babies younger than 2 months.
- Do not use products containing oil of lemon eucalyptus or para-methane-diol on children younger than 3 years of age.

- Apply an EPA-registered repellent on yourself and your loved ones when outdoors.
- When possible, wear long sleeves, pants, and socks.
- Treat standing water with larvicides in areas where water cannot be covered, emptied, or removed and will not be used for drinking. Larvicides are a type of pesticide that kills mosquitoes in their early stages of development (larvae) before they become biting adults. They are sold as liquid, tablets, pellets, granules, or briquettes and are available in most hardware stores. Larvicides are safe to use for the environment. Follow the instructions of the particular larvicide product you are using.
- Make sure to completely turn off outdoor faucets to prevent leaks; fix any faucets that are constantly leaking.
- Keep tight-fitting screens on doors and windows.

For other mosquito prevention tips and resources, visit hcphtx.org/mc.

 **ADRIAN GARCIA**
COMMISSIONER

FEMA & SBA ASSISTANCE NOW AVAILABLE

FEMA and SBA are working to support recovery-impacted individuals with new benefits and streamlined assistance. Read below to learn more about some of the assistance available.

Quick help when you need it:

- **Get \$750** For essentials things you need right away.
- **Stay Housed:** Get money upfront for a place to stay.

SUPPORTING ENTREPRENEURS

Get Money: Fix your tools and equipment

MAKE YOUR HOME SAFER

- Fix Your Home: Make it clean and safe.
- Improve Accessibility: to support those with disabilities.

ASSISTANCE FOR EVERYONE

- No Discrimination: FEMA is committed to helping everyone, no matter what.
- Need Help?: Call toll-free:

833-285-7448

HOW TO GET HELP

- **IMPORTANT:** Must apply during the first 30 days after a disaster is declared.
- Online: DisasterAssistance.gov
- Phone: Call 800-621-3362 (6 a.m. to 10 p.m. CDT)

HOW TO GET HELP

- Visit fema.gov/disaster/4781 for more.
- Follow us: [@FEMARegion6](https://twitter.com/FEMARegion6) on Twitter
- [Facebook.com/FEMARegion6](https://facebook.com/FEMARegion6).

FEMA y SBA están trabajando para apoyar a las personas afectadas por la recuperación con nuevos beneficios y asistencia simplificada. Lea a continuación para obtener más información sobre algunas de las asistencias disponibles.

Ayuda rápida cuando la necesite:

- **Obtenga \$750** para lo esencial que necesita de inmediato.
- **Quédese alojado:** obtenga dinero por adelantado para un lugar donde quedarse.

APOYANDO A LOS EMPRENDEDORES

- Obtenga dinero: arregle sus herramientas y equipos

HAGA SU HOGAR MÁS SEGURO

- Repare su hogar: hágalo limpio y seguro.
- Mejorar la accesibilidad: para apoyar a las personas con discapacidad.

ASISTENCIA PARA TODOS

- Sin discriminación: FEMA se compromete a ayudar a todos, pase lo que pase.
- ¿Necesita ayuda?: Llame gratis:

833-285-7448

COMO AYUDAR

- **IMPORTANTE:** Debe aplicar durante los primeros 30 días después de la declaración de desastre.
- Online: DisasterAssistance.gov
- Telefono: Llame al 800-621-3362 (6 a.m. to 10 p.m. CDT)

FEMA ESTA AQUÍ PARA TI

- Visite fema.gov/disaster/4781 para más Información.
- Sigamos: [@FEMARegion6](https://twitter.com/FEMARegion6) en Twitter,

 **ADRIAN GARCIA**
COMMISSIONER

STORM DEBRIS CLEAN UP

SEPARATING YOUR DEBRIS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT STORM CLEAN UP

What is the difference between storm-related debris and regular household trash?
Storm debris includes any trees, tree limbs and shrubs that wind down in the hurricane. Regular household trash is what you would throw away on a typical week.

When will the storm debris be collected from my curb and what should I do to prepare?
There is no schedule for when storm debris will be collected from your neighborhood, but be assured that it will. Cleanup efforts take time.

When will my regular household collections resume?
Regular collections of garbage, recycling and your normal weekly yard waste resume as soon as it is safe for collection crews to do so.

DEBRIS SHOULD BE PLACED CURBSIDE, WITHOUT BLOCKING THE ROADWAY OR STORM DRAINS

<p>HOUSEHOLD TRASH</p> <p>Normal household trash and bagged debris of any kind will not be picked up with disaster debris. You should continue to follow your normal garbage removal schedule.</p>	<p>VEGETATIVE DEBRIS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logs • Plants • Tree branches • Leaves (do not put in bags! If you have a lot of leaves and small twigs in plastic bags, please set those aside from any trash piles) 	<p>CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION DEBRIS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building materials • Carpet Drywall • Furniture Lumber • Mattresses Plumbing 	<p>APPLIANCES & WHITE GOODS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air conditioners • Dishwashers • Freezers • Refrigerators • Stoves • Washers, dryers • Water heaters
<p>ELECTRONICS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computers • Radio Stoves • Televisions • Other devices with a cord 	<p>HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE</p> <p>Please, no chemicals at the curb! They can create a fire hazard!</p>	<p>DEBRIS SEPARATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate debris into the six categories shown. DO NOT STACK OR LEAN • Placing debris near or on trees, poles, or other structures makes removal difficult. This includes air hydrants and meters. <p>UNSURE WHERE TO PLACE DEBRIS?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you don't have a sidewalk, ditch, or utility line in front of your house, place debris at the edge of your property before the curb. <p>FOR MORE INFO CALL: 3-1-1</p>	

ASK DIAMOND JIM

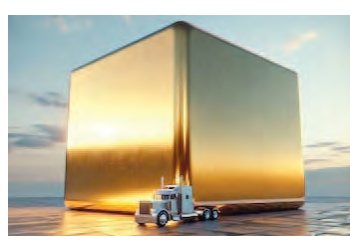
Diamond Jim: "How Much Gold is there in the World?"

The world is your oyster
How much gold is there in the world?
The quick answer is not much - at least not relatively speaking.

According to the World Gold Council, as of the end of 2023, around 212,582 tons of gold have been mined throughout history. About two-thirds of that amount was dug out of the ground since 1950. That sounds like a lot of gold, but if you melted down every ounce of gold ever mined and formed it into one block, it would only measure 73 feet on each side.

Or to look at it another way, you could take all of the gold in the world and fit it into four and a half Olympic-sized swimming pools.

Here is a cube that size next to a semi.



The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) comes in with a slightly lower estimate of 187,000 tons. Each year, mining adds approximately 2,500-3,000 tons of gold to the above-ground stock.

Knowing how much gold remains in the ground is a difficult task. The USGS estimates that known mineable reserves total about 57,000 tons.

There is likely much more gold buried beneath the earth's surface but a lot of it would be difficult to reach given the current technology. Some estimates put the total of inaccessible gold deep beneath the earth's surface at around 400,000 tons.

There are as many as 1.6 quadrillion (16,000,000,000,000,000) tons of gold in the earth's molten metallic core. Scientists estimate there are about 20 million tons of gold suspended in the ocean. That's a lot of gold, but it is spread out through a lot of water. According to NOAA, that's only about one gram of gold for every 100 million metric tons of ocean water in the Atlantic and North Pacific. That comes to 13.3 million tons. There is no economically viable way to extract it.

The bottom line is gold is scarce and that's part of what gives it its value.

Credit to Mike Maharrey for the content in this article.

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.

It tells Dad more than the time

It thanks him for all the time he spent with you, and all the sweet memories.

PineforestJewelry.com
1141 Uvalde • Houston, Texas 77015
713.451.1321

Dealing with the loss of a loved one is never easy, but maybe these guys can help!

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OPINION PAGE

COUNTY MATTERS
Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo



Unveiling Harris County's new State-of-the-Art Commissioners Courtroom



Earlier this month Harris County celebrated the opening of the new Commissioners Courtroom! After nearly two years of construction, Judge Hidalgo and county officials were excited to unveil the brand new facility.

The new courtroom is more accessible to Harris County residents now that it's on the first floor instead of all the way up on the ninth floor. The new courtroom is now ADA compliant with an ADA accessible electric chair lift.

Finally, more people can have a seat at the table of county government with an expanded seating capacity of almost 150 people, compared to just 40 people in the previous courtroom.



Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia, Commissioner Rodney Ellis, and Judge Lina Hidalgo celebrating the opening of the new Harris County Commissioners Courtroom.

Working with the Biden-Harris Administration on Behalf of Harris County




Judge Hidalgo meets with President Joe Biden aboard Air Force One during his recent visit to Houston

Judge Hidalgo had the opportunity to meet with President Biden twice in recent weeks. She attended a Women's History Month reception at the White House in March as President Biden announced the most comprehensive set of executive actions ever taken to expand and improve research on women's health.

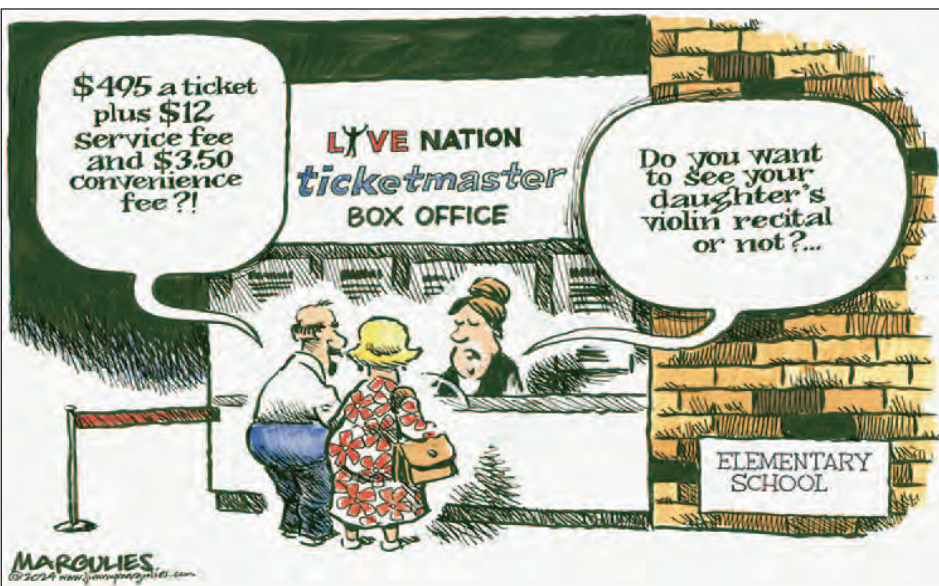
She also greeted President Biden when he came to Houston in April.

Americanisms



"Whether you think you can or you think you can't, you're right."
— Henry Ford

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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By Gary Borders



Phelan Wins Re-election bid, Seeks Speaker Post again

House Speaker Dade Phelan, R-Beaumont, narrowly won re-election in a hotly contested runoff race and has vowed to seek his third term as speaker, drawing threats from Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton to oppose any of his supporters in the 2024 primary. "I've done it twice, Phelan told The Dallas Morning News. "I'll do it a third time." But Patrick was quick to threaten opposition to any representative supporting Phelan's bid. "My message to Austin is clear: to those considering supporting Dade Phelan as speaker in 2025, ask your 15 colleagues who lost reelection how they feel about their decision now," Paxton said in a statement. "You will not return if you vote for Dade Phelan again." Two former Phelan supporters already have announced they will run for speaker. Rep. Tom Oliverson, R-Cypress, announced his plans to do so before the runoff results were known. Rep. Shelby Slawson, R-Stephenville, announced her candidacy on Thursday. Phelan has drawn Paxton's ire since supporting impeaching the attorney general, who was ultimately acquitted by the Senate last September.

FEMA OPENS MORE DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has opened more disaster recovery centers in southeast Texas counties hit by recent storms and flooding, the Houston Chronicle reported. New centers opened in Hardin, Montgomery and Walker counties and are open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Meanwhile, Gov. Greg Abbott added five more counties to the disaster declaration list: Dallas, Fannin, Hockley, Lynn, and Rockwall. That means more than 100 Texas counties are now under a disaster declaration after severe storms and flooding swept a considerable portion of the state in late April, with heavy rainfall, flash flooding, flooded rivers, large hail and hazardous wind gusts. "I encourage every Texan who sustained damage to their



home or business to report it using the Texas Division of Emergency Management's iSTAT damage survey," Abbott said. The link to the survey can be found at: damage.tdem.texas.gov.

SBOE TO APPROVE MORE RIGOROUS COURSE MATERIAL

Public comment is now open for new course materials proposed by the Texas Education Agency and under consideration by its governing body, the State Board of Education. The Austin American-Statesman reported the state has developed academic content that will be offered free online for kindergarten through fifth grade reading and language arts, and for kindergarten through eighth grade math. SBOE must approve the materials for use in all public schools that wish to use them. Education Commissioner Mike Morath said the intent is to provide free, state-developed and vetted course materials. He said teachers have said in TEA surveys that they spend many hours outside of school looking online for such material. "In many cases, the materials that have been cobbled together by curriculum teams or grade level teams, while seemingly appropriate, have not given students exposure to the background knowledge they need," Morath said. "You want kids to be able to read independently, but you want them to be really stretched." If approved by the board, districts will receive an additional \$40 per student to use board-approved books and \$20 to print state-owned content. Anyone

interested in viewing the proposed materials and provide feedback by going to the board's website — sboc.texas.gov — and finding the "Instructional Materials Review and Approval" page. The board could approve use of the materials in November.

TPWD APPROVES RULES FOR TRAPPING MOUNTAIN LIONS

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission last week approved rules for hunting and trapping mountain lions in the state, banning canned hunts and setting a 36-hour limit for checking traps for live mountain lions, kut.org reported. Before the vote, there were no requirements for checking traps, and whatever was trapped could be left to die of exposure or dehydration. "We don't need to facilitate negligence. We have a duty to manage wildlife. We have a duty to be ethical as hunters," Brandt Buchanan, a ranch manager and hunter, told commissioners. Violating the new regulation is a class C misdemeanor. Prior to the vote, Texas was the only state that did not have any rules for trapping or hunting mountain lions. Wildlife filmmaker Ben Masters told commissioners that technology provides an economical way for ranchers and trappers to comply with the new regulations for live mountain lions caught in traps, showing them a small motion-activated camera that can let them know what is in a trap. "I'll have the opportunity today to show some dignity and respect to our cats," Masters said prior to the regulation being approved.

STATE REVAMPS NARCAN DISTRIBUTION FOLLOWING DELAYS

Texas is revamping its distribution program for an overdose-reversing medication after years of supply and distribution challenges, The Texas Tribune reported. The state has tapped into more than \$45 million in federal funds since 2019 in order to get Narcan into the hands of law enforcement and members of the public seeking to reduce overdose deaths. The program has been beset by delays, supply challenges and communication lapses, however. UT Health Science Center San Antonio will continue to administer the program, now called Naloxone Texas, and says it has improved distribution and communication in recent months. "I am aware that individuals have expressed concern about the rapidity with which they receive naloxone," said Jennifer Sharpe Potter of UT Health San Antonio. "This is life-saving work, and we want to make sure that people get naloxone as quickly as possible." UT Health San Antonio's contract with the federal Health and Human Services Commission requires it to distribute at least 120,000 doses a year in Texas, The Tribune reported. This year marks the first time the state is using its own funds in part for distributing naloxone instead of relying solely on federal money.

THE POSTSCRIPT
By Carrie Classon

Tattoos



I'm about the only person I know without a tattoo.

Well, this is not true. My parents don't have tattoos, and I don't think most of their friends do—although I've not done a close inspection. That would be hard to do, and probably not very polite.

But among people my age and younger, I've become something of an oddity, yet I can honestly say I've never considered getting one. This isn't because I have anything against tattoos. I've seen some that were beautiful. But I've also seen some that read "Forever Young" or "No Regrets," and I wonder if this will always be the case.

And that's the problem.

I don't think I've ever been sure enough of anything to ink it on myself permanently. I remember having a conversation with a man who had a lot of tattoos, and I expressed this concern.

"How do you know you'll always think that way and want that on your arm?" I asked.

"Oh, I probably won't!" he answered cheerfully. "But that's not the point. The tattoo is a reminder of where I've been, not necessarily where I'm going."

This made sense to me but didn't solve the problem. I've gone through a lot of changes in my life, and I have a lot to say. I'm afraid I'd run out of available space in a hurry.

What if there was no writing space left and I still had years to go? I'd have to write very small, to make sure I had room for major life events. Since I have no idea how big each event will be—or how many of them I will have—this seems challenging.

And I honestly don't mind not having a tattoo. I figure they are like every other kind of fashion and will come and go. If I manage to live long enough, not having tattoos will probably be cool, allowing me to be a very cool nonagenarian. I have that to look forward to.

Instead, when I am in Mexico, I go to a fellow who makes bracelets. He weaves them by hand and ties them onto my wrist. He will write anything I want (provided it is not too long) in the colors I choose. I imagine I would have had a tattoo reminding me of these same things—if I were not so cowardly.

I had one bracelet made that said, "Act as if."

I was trying to remember to behave as if I was already the person I wished to be, not always waiting around for "someday." When the bracelet did not seem to be doing the trick, I had another one made in a different color, and one more after that. Eventually I was wearing three bracelets. I have to say, I have been doing a much better job of living in the moment of late—although I'm not sure I can give the bracelets all the credit.

But bracelets are not tattoos and, when they eventually got shabby, I cut them off. Now I am back to a wrist without slogans, and that might be for the best.

Because once a reminder is with me long enough, it stops reminding me, and I suspect it would be the same with a tattoo. If I can't rely on a bracelet for instructions, I don't think a tattoo would help, either.

Instead, I take a long walk every day, and at some point, I am reminded that I am a very lucky person. And I start acting as if I am. With or without tattoos.

Till next time,
Carrie

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EHCEC - East Harris County Empowerment Council's Hot Meal Distribution during the recent Storms and Power Outages

EHCEC - East Harris County Empowerment Council

NORTH CHANNEL – EHCEC wants to give a big shoutout to the Las Diamantes crew for keeping their community fed during EHCEC's Hot Meal Distribution. This group of dedicated volunteers is truly North Shore's best!

Las Diamantes worked tirelessly alongside Operation BBQ Relief for four days to make over 7,000 hot meals for residents across East Harris County. Their commitment to service and dedication to supporting our community is nothing short of incredible.

Thank you Las Diamantes, you are amazing people!

#EastHarrisCounty
#VolunteerAppreciation
#LasDiamantes #EHCEC



Bras for a Cause,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Despite all the cat calls and fun, King said many of the models return every year to participate.

"The Schexnayder boys Teaque and Jacob I think have been with us since the beginning and it was great to have our school board president J. R. Humphries out this year," she said. Many of the crowd favorites Quentin Klaus, Adam Notgrass, Jeremy Strang, Chris Baird, and Santa Claus James Blaha she hopes will be back next year.

She also emphasized the support from the community is off the chain.

"Crosby always turns

out to support us," she said. "We have people who come from other areas, but our biggest support is from Crosby. They've been supporting us for years and we appreciate it."

She pointed out those same folks come out for the Crosby Education Foundation, Crosby Fair & Rodeo, and other events throughout the year.

"We have a great community with great support," she added.

To make donations during the year, King suggested going to their Facebook page at Crosby Bras For A Cause and send her a message.

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LEGAL NOTICE

Attention Non-Profit Private Schools, Home Schoolers

Non-profit private schools and homeschoolers who legally qualify as non-profit (currently hold a 501-C3 certificate) are invited to meet with a representative from Channelview Independent School District to learn more about federally funded services available for eligible residents of Channelview ISD. Please contact the district, Dr. Patricia Glaeser (patricia.glaeser@cvisd.org), Director of Federal Programs, no later than Thursday, June 20, 2024.

Atención Escuelas Privadas y Educados En Casa

Escuelas privadas sin fines lucrativos y estudiantes educados en casa, que legalmente califican como una entidad no lucrativa y que tengan un certificado 501-C3, son invitados a una junta con representante de Channelview para aprender más sobre servicios financiados por el gobierno federal que están disponibles para los residentes elegibles en dichos distritos. Por Favor de contactarse con Dr. Patricia Glaeser la coordinadora del Programa Federal de Distrito de Channelview (patricia.glaeser@cvisd.org), a no más tardar el día Jueves, 20 de junio de 2024.

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Citizens receive Active Shooter Safety Training



Sgt. Landon McDonald and Sgt. Louis Hooper teamed up together to teach the CRASE training to residents in Highlands preparing them for an active shooter incident.

church as requested,” Hooper said.

The training is required now for every peace officer in the state through the Texas State University ALERRT Center—Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training.

McDonald said the former acronym of Run, Hide, Fight has changed to Avoid, Deny, Defend or (ADD) and was developed by ALERRT in 2004 and offered a strategy to victims a proven plan for surviving an active shooter event.

“That Run, Hide, Fight slogan has changed now,” he told the audience. “The new training is Avoid, Deny, Defend and makes more sense in survival,” he said.

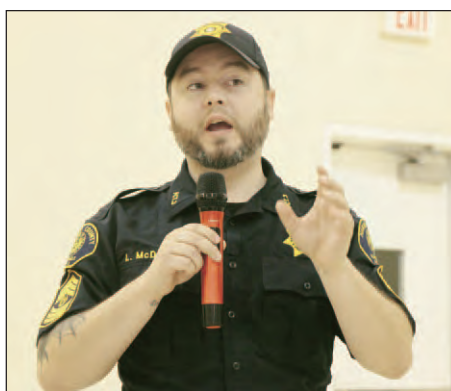
Throughout the night, the team provided background history and prevalence statistics of active shooter events, explained some of the positive and negative civilian response options, and the need for planning ahead when visiting a place citizens have never been before.

“Most of the time, the attacker generally has no profile,” McDonald said.

Many, he told the audience, have an Avenger type mindset. In other words, a person seeking revenge for an offense or wrong done to them or their people; often taking it out on an innocent group of people in revenge for someone else.

“Their risk factors include a history of violence, exposure to violence, substance abuse or dependence, mental illness, and a history of suicidality,” Hooper explained.

He also said they may also have a history of stalking, harassing, or threatening behavior, negative



Sgt. Landon McDonald of Pct. 3 Constable Sherman Eagleton's office talks to a crowded San Jacinto Community Center crowd on active shooter training. CRASE prepares citizens in the event they find themselves in a mass shooter event.



Sgt. Louis Hooper of Pct. 4 Constable Mark Herman's office explains the new acronym A.D.D. to Highlands residents.

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

EAST HARRIS COUNTY – More than 50 citizens and business leaders assembled at the San Jacinto Community Center in Highlands last month to protect themselves in the event they find themselves amid a mass attack or by an Active Shooter.

While it's easy to say it could never happen here, that was also the same mindset for many others that have gained national attention over the last decade.

The training was offered by Sgt. Louis Hooper with Pct. 4 Constable Mark Herman's office and Sgt. Landon McDonald with Pct. 3 Constable Sherman Eagleton's office.

Several of the officers in both constable's offices are promoting the training around their precincts after the Uvalde shooting caught the attention of the nation and teaching on how to survive has changed since the Santa Fe High School shooting.

“I go as often as I'm scheduled and happy to make a presentation to any business, organization, or

family dynamics and support system, isolation or instability, where others are concerned.

The numbers are daunting.

The latest FBI numbers show 520 mass shooting incidents in the last year that numbers were reported. To qualify as a mass shooting event, more than three have to be killed, according to Hooper.

More than 47 percent of the attacks occur at a business, while 24 percent are outdoors, 13 percent at schools, and about 14 percent qualify under 'other'.

At least 61 percent of the time, there is no connection to the attacker versus his victims.

The team listed three different stages of disaster response.

“Denial is when you hear gunshots but pass it off as fireworks or a car backfiring,” Hooper said. “You're not going to always hear fireworks in the off-season and cars don't have a rapid backfire. If you hear it, go to the next step which is deliberation.”

In deliberation, McDonald asked citizens to remain calm and assess

their surroundings.

“A lot of times, when you hear gunfire like in a mall, you want to start running but are you running away from the threat or into it?” he asked. “Just that short second of calming yourself and listening and observing might save your life,” he reminded the crowd.

He also asked that everyone script and practice how they're going to get out of a situation.

“Thinking ahead can provide you an out or at least a better chance of survival,” he said.

In one of the club fires where there was a mass casualty event, 31 people died in the entrance to the club because everyone was trying to get out of the same exit instead of observing and leaving through others.

“When you walk into a place of business, always observe where the exits are and know in your mind how you're going to get to them in a hurry to escape the threat,” he said. One of the mantras of most cops is never to sit with their back to the entrance.

A decisive moment is when you have to make a

life-altering decision.

“Sometimes you may have to fight,” they said. Put yourself in a position where you have the best chance to survive.

At Virginia Tech, some of the students lay on the ground pretending to be dead before the shooter even walked into the room. The shooter saw them, shot them in the back and killed them. Eleven students died in that one room alone.

In a room next door, the professor and a student held the door while the other students escaped out the window. No students died in that room.

“That old mantra, ‘if you see something, say something’ is still important. Call law enforcement. We can check it out and if it's nothing, we go back to patrolling,” Hooper said.

When law enforcement arrives, follow commands, show them the palms of your hands above your head, and don't move.

McDonald and Hooper invited the community to call them if they wanted a training class at their business, school, or church.

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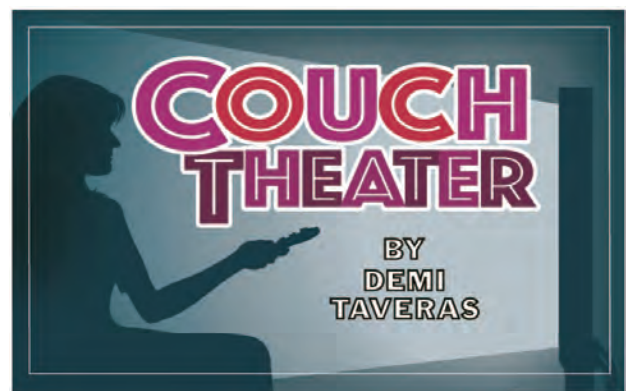
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Jake Gyllenhaal, Center, STars in "Presumed Innocent"

"Hit Man"

Glen Powell ("Any-one But You") leads this rom-com with an action twist, which seems to be right up the actor's alley. Powell plays a staffer named Gary in the New Orleans Police Department who goes undercover as a hitman with the intent of arresting the people who hire him. But when his services are requested by a battered woman named Maddy (Adria Arjona) who begs him to help her kill her husband, the last thing he expects is to fall for her. Even though he denies her request, a steamy romance develops between the two of them. Then just when it seems like Gary has the woman of his dreams, Maddy's husband is found dead, and she becomes the main suspect. Out now! (Netflix)

"PRESUMED INNOCENT" (TV-MA) -- This legal thriller miniseries led by Jake Gyllenhaal ("Roadhouse") and Ruth Negga ("Good Grief") hits streaming on June 12. Gyllenhaal immerses himself in the role of Rusty Sabich, a prosecutor at the Chicago Prosecuting Attorneys' office. Although seemingly a family man and a respectable employee, Rusty hides a mountain of secrets that dare to be revealed when his colleague, Carolyn, ends up dead. As his co-workers and family learn that he was romantically involved with Carolyn and borderline obsessed with her, Rusty buckles up for a long battle of trying to prove himself innocent of murdering Carolyn. The first two episodes are out now, with more episodes com-

ing every Wednesday. (Apple TV+)

"BRATS" (NR) -- Andrew McCarthy ("Pretty in Pink") rallies his Brat Pack for this documentary film directed by McCarthy himself. The Brat Pack, a play on the Rat Pack from the 1950s, consisted of a group of young actors who appeared alongside each other in coming-of-age films during the 1980s. Some of these actors include Hollywood icons like Rob Lowe, Molly Ringwald, Demi Moore and Emilio Estevez. Featuring current interviews with Lowe, Moore and Estevez, among others, the documentary dives into the films that brought the Brat Pack to their special stardom -- and why, at the time, the young actors hated being known as "Brats." Premieres June 13. (Hulu)

"NIKKI GLASER: SOMEDAY YOU'LL DIE" (TV-MA) -- Shortly after she gave a killer set during the recent Tom Brady roast, comedian Nikki Glaser smartly lined up her second HBO special to hit the small screen. In this one-hour special, Glaser takes on the reality of aging as a woman, why she doesn't want kids, and how she's planning her own death well ahead of time. Although she's known for her blunt delivery and quirky relatability, her jokes fall flatter in an hour-long setting than during the shorter sets she gives at roasts. Check it out now. (Max)

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HOLLYWOOD by Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD -- Think you've got problems with all those scams popping up on your phone and emails? Riley Keough (Elvis Presley's granddaughter and daughter of the late Lisa Marie Presley), the heir to Elvis' Graceland, called an attempted foreclosure of the estate "fraudulent." She fought to block the investment firm, claiming that Lisa Marie borrowed \$3.8 million in exchange for the deed of trust to Graceland as a security measure.

Keough alleged that the note and deed were forged, and the notary testified that he never met Lisa Marie or signed those papers. She successfully blocked the foreclosure, and the investment firm has been mysteriously unreachable. She believes that they're a false entity created for the sole purpose of defrauding the Elvis Presley Trust.

Is anybody ready for a "Pirates of the Caribbean" Barbie? "Pirates" franchise producer Jerry Bruckheimer admitted, "If it was up to me, [Johnny Depp] would be in it." But allegedly, Disney isn't hot on Depp after his recent marital scandals, and they'd rather put their money behind a "Pirates" movie with Margot Robbie instead.

Bruckheimer confirmed that their plan is to make the reboot of "Pirates" without the familiar characters from the franchise, which would rule out the return of Depp as Jack Sparrow. This is strange since Depp led the franchise to a \$4.5 billion box-office gross. Bruckheimer even added, "I love him. He's a good friend."

In 2022, Robbie told Vanity Fair that Disney was not interested in her "female-led movie," but then again, this was before she led "Barbie" to a \$1.446 billion box-office gross, which may have changed their minds.

Over at Paramount Pictures, talk is thick that "Star Trek" is back on track with two films -- a prequel and a sequel. The sequel will narrate the final mission of the Enterprise, with stars Chris Pine, Zachary Quinto and Zoe



Riley Keough, owner of the Estate Graceland

Saldana returning. Of course, this could change if rumors of Sony's bid of \$26 billion in cash to buy out Paramount Pictures (parent company of CBS and the Paramount+ streaming service) comes to fruition.

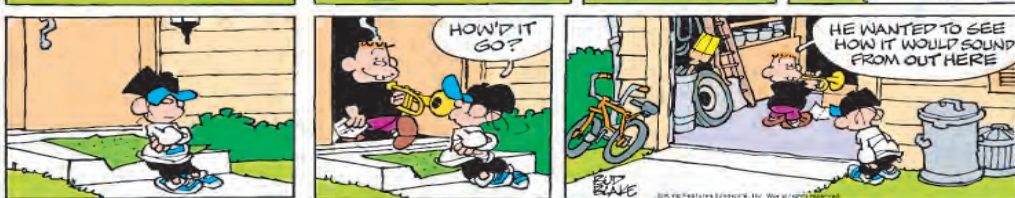
Many were skeptical when Jake Gyllenhaal remade Patrick Swayze's "Road House" film, but Gyllenhaal's reboot pulled in 80 million viewers on Amazon Prime Video in March, which prompted them to green-light a sequel. This is a feat that the 1989 original, which made \$61.6 million, never accomplished!

But before Gyllenhaal revisits the "Road House" again, he'll star with Henry Cavill and Rosamund Pike in Guy Ritchie's action-thriller "In the Grey" (opening January 2025). Cavill's recent Ritchie film "The Ministry of Ungentlemanly Warfare" was like kryptonite at theaters, grossing only \$25.3 million against its \$60 million cost. The former "Man of Steel" definitely needs more muscle at the box office!

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ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves



Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle. Includes a 9x9 grid and difficulty level: Moderate, Challenging, HOO BOY!

HOCUS-FOCUS by Henry Boltinoff. Includes two panels of a man and woman and a list of differences to find.

Trivia Test Answers: 1. Angela Merkel; 2. Oslo, Norway; 3. Carl and Ellie Fredrickson; 4. 1.2 to 1.5 gallons; 5. Electrical resistance; 6. "Home Improvement"; 7. Pregnancy; 8. Louisiana (Louis); 9. Bess and George; 10. Tamandá.

June 10, 2024 Posting Date

King Crossword

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a grid diagram and a list of 61 clues.

King Crossword Solution time: 22 mins. Includes a crossword grid with letters filled in and the word 'ANSWERS' written vertically.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez. Includes a silhouette of a head with a question mark and 10 trivia questions with answers.



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