

Keep up with our storm coverage on the Herald Facebook page!



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Good Afternoon

Church unveils new name

The Embassy Church (formerly First Assembly of God Rosenberg), 2512 Ave. N in Rosenberg, is hosting Embassy Day on Sunday. Everyone is invited to come join the congregation for worship at 10:30 a.m. as the church unveils its new name to the community and celebrate afterwards with a meal. For more information, contact 281-342-3805.

American Legion

American Legion Post 271 and Auxiliary will meet on Thursday at the Post Home 4520 SH 36 South. Covered dish meal at 6:30 p.m. followed by meeting at 7:30 p.m. Call 281-341-9966 for more information.

Needville Harvest Festival

Needville Harvest Festival turkey, ham, dressing, and all the trimmings drive-thru dinner will be held on Sunday, Sept. 10. Proceeds will go toward scholarships. For meal tickets, call 713-254-1300.

Deadline extended

The 34th Annual Needville Harvest Festival Sponsorship has been extended due to the hurricane. Any business or individual interested in sponsoring the 2017 festival may call 281-468-9314. Deadline is Sept. 12.

Monthly dance

The Happy Cousins Dance Club will hosts its monthly dance on Saturday, Sept. 9, from 8-11:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, 4520 SH 36, in Rosenberg. Al Sulak and The Country Sound will perform. For information, call 281-232-3531. The club will also take donations for Hurricane Harvey victims.

Fort Bend Journal

One great thing

“What great thing would you attempt if you knew you could not fail?” — Robert Schuller

— BH

Around the Bend

Polly Ryon Middle School students **Jasey Johnson**, **Kate Krafcheck**, **Molly Moore**, Campbell elementary students **Yvette Garza**, **Ava Campbell**, **Brook Billedo**, Terry High School coaches **Patrick Longstreet**, **Darnell Jackson**, **Nick Cavallo**, **Greg Jones**, Beasley Elementary School teacher **Amy Jones**, Jane Long fourth-grader **Matthew Moody**, Smith Elementary School Principal **Carla Thomas**, PTO mom **Kim Ashley**, **Ramon Torres**, **Robert Hodge**, Terry junior **Treshuan Marshall**, sophomores **Moses Alvarez** and **Ruperto Rodriguez** volunteer their time helping victims of Hurricane Harvey...

Obituaries

**Joe Edward Stransky, 87**  
**Lavern Oakes**  
**Karen Kay Henson**  
**Ernest Wendt, 71**  
**Bertha (Gonzalez) Villagomez, 91**  
See page 5

Today's Scripture

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!  
Psalm 133:1

Thought for Today

“We live in a fantasy world, a world of illusion. The great task in life is to find reality.”  
— Iris Murdoch, Anglo-Irish author and philosopher (1919-1999)



Hurricane Harvey

CLEANUP BEGINS



HERALD PHOTO BY TYLER JOHNSON

VOLUNTEER **BRYAN Moss**, left, and Rosenberg homeowner **Jessie Leandro**, right, carry a china cabinet out of Leandro's home on Monday. Leandro's home took on about 2 feet of water from the overflow of the Brazos River.



HERALD PHOTO BY TYLER JOHNSON

VOLUNTEER **DAVID Tong**, left, and Rosenberg homeowner **Jessie Leandro**, right, carry a damaged couch out of Leandro's home on Monday. Leandro's home sits about 50 yards away from the Brazos River. “I lost everything,” he said.

Residents return to their flood-damaged homes

BY TYLER JOHNSON  
sjohnson@fbherald.com

With his house only about 50 yards away from the Brazos River, Rosenberg resident **Jessie Leandro** knew everything in his home had been ruined by Hurricane Harvey and a record-high Brazos River last week.

He also knew he had a lot of cleaning to do once the river receded.

He'd need help. That much was certain.

On Monday, he got it.

Nearly a dozen volunteers from Friends of North Rosenberg, a local Attack Poverty organization, helped Leandro remove couches, bookshelves, dishes, clothes, carpets, pictures and other furnishings from his home.

“I lost everything,” Leandro said later Monday. “It messed me up real bad.”

Leandro's home took the worst of the storm on Tuesday, Aug. 29. His girlfriend **Gloria**, whose home in Fairchilds was also flooded, said his home took on about 2 feet of water.

The Friends of North Rosenberg has been working diligently to find homeowners who were affected like Leandro.

The volunteer group's main goal right now is to assess the damage of their homes, figure out what the homeowners

■ **Needville FCCLA members to hold collection drive for storm victims Thursday. Story, Page 3.**

■ **Chamber of Commerce collects items for victims. See list of drop-off sites, Page 8.**

■ **Pecan Grove first responders treated to meals, thanks to local business. Story, Page 8.**

■ **Museum, George Ranch Historical Park offer discount admission. Story, Page 8.**

■ **Hurricane and flood victims will need help to rebuild. You can help. See Our view, Page 4.**

■ **Lack of zoning contributed to human misery after historical flood. See Froma Harrop, Page 4.**

■ **City of Rosenberg lifts mandatory evacuation orders. Story, Page 3.**

SEE CLEANUP, PAGE 12

Texas Lt. Gov. Patrick visits Common Threads in Richmond

He also visited the county's emergency operations

Texas Lt. Gov. **Dan Patrick** joined state Sen. **Joan Huffman** at the Fort Bend County Emergency Operations Center on Tuesday afternoon.

**Patrick** and **Huffman** then visited the Volunteer Disaster Recovery Center at Jane Long Elementary School in Richmond where Common Threads volunteers were helping victims of Hurricane Harvey.

“They are another great example of

people coming together to help,” **Patrick** said.

**Patrick** joined state Sen. **Lois Kolkhorst** and state Rep. **Phil Stephenson** and Texas Gov. **Greg Abbott** in Wharton earlier in the day. They visited the emergency operations center in the hard-hit community.

Last week, **Kolkhorst** visited Terry High School, which was serving as a shelter for hurricane and flood victims.

Hurricane Irma slams Caribbean as Cat. 5 storm

ST. JOHN'S, Antigua (AP) — Hurricane **Irma** roared into the Caribbean with record force early Wednesday, its 185-mph winds shaking homes and flooding buildings on a chain of small islands along a path toward Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Cuba and a possible direct hit on South Florida.

The strongest Atlantic Ocean hurricane ever recorded passed almost di-

rectly over the island of Barbuda, causing widespread flooding and downing trees. France sent emergency food and water rations to the French islands of Saint Martin and Saint Barthelemy, where **Irma** ripped off roofs and knocked out all electricity.

The regional authority for Guadeloupe and neighboring islands said the fire station in Saint Barthelemy was flooded by more than 3 feet of water.

Library to hold annual photo contest in September  
Theme: Capture Fort Bend County

Fort Bend County Libraries is seeking entries for its “Capture Fort Bend County” Photography Contest in September. Amateur photographers of all skill levels are invited to enter original photographs that portray the culture, nature, people, and places of Fort Bend County — from hidden gems in our communities to favorite places and scenes around town.

Entries can be submitted at any of the libraries in the Fort Bend County library system beginning Sept. 5; the deadline for entries is Sept. 30.

Prizes will be awarded for 1st-, 2nd-, and 3rd-place entries.

Winners will be announced at a special

SEE CONTEST, PAGE 9

Rosenberg council floored by cost of new city hall roof

BY AVERIL GLEASON  
agleason@fbherald.com

Rosenberg City Hall is in the process of getting a new roof.

The only problem is, some Rosenberg City Council members are not happy that the \$300,000 allocated for the roof replacement project will be spent on building a flat roof.

At the Tuesday city council meeting,

council members voted in favor of roof repairs for City Hall and fence repairs for the police department.

“This is not the place for a flat roof, that's for sure,” council member **Alice Jozwiak** said. “Maybe in some point in the future there would be a way to put a pitch on that roof, but that is going to take some money. Right now, that's not in our budget.”

SEE ROSENBERG, PAGE 9



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FRI & SAT 7:30AM – 10:00PM • SUNDAY, 7:30AM – 9:00PM

WEATHER

Local 5-Day Forecast

Thurs 9/7	Fri 9/8	Sat 9/9	Sun 9/10	Mon 9/11
85/61	86/62	87/64	87/64	86/64
Sunny, highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 60s.	Sunny, highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 60s.	Sunny, Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the mid 60s.	Sunny, Highs in the high 80s and lows in the mid 60s.	Sunny, Highs in the high 80s and lows in the mid 60s.
Sunrise: 7:03 am Sunset: 7:37 pm	Sunrise: 7:04 am Sunset: 7:36 pm	Sunrise: 7:04 am Sunset: 7:35 pm	Sunrise: 7:05 am Sunset: 7:34 pm	Sunrise: 7:06 am Sunset: 7:32 pm

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	87	60	M Sunny	El Paso	93	68	Sunny	Midland	91	61	Sunny
Amarillo	86	61	P Cloudy	Fort Stockton	90	63	Sunny	Raymondville	90	69	P Cloudy
Austin	86	61	Sunny	Gainesville	84	58	M Sunny	Rosenberg	85	61	Sunny
Beaumont	82	60	Sunny	Greenville	85	60	M Sunny	San Antonio	87	62	Sunny
Brownsville	88	72	P Cloudy	Houston	86	64	Sunny	San Marcos	86	59	Sunny
Brownwood	88	55	Sunny	Kingsville	90	65	P Cloudy	Sulphur Springs	84	58	M Sunny
Corpus Christi	87	69	P Cloudy	Livingston	82	59	Sunny	Sweetwater	88	61	Sunny
Corsicana	86	60	Sunny	Longview	82	58	Sunny	Tyler	82	60	Sunny
Dallas	86	63	M Sunny	Lubbock	88	60	P Cloudy	Weatherford	85	59	M Sunny
Del Rio	93	63	Sunny	Lufkin	81	58	Sunny	Wichita Falls	87	61	P Cloudy

Your World

in Five Minutes

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

STATE

NATION

WORLD

Bystander among 3 women shot at end of police chase

HOUSTON — Three women have been shot and wounded by Houston police as a miles-long chase ended with the driver of a car hitting a tree and fire hydrant on a dead-end street and then backing up to ram a patrol car. Authorities say one woman shot was a bystander in the neighborhood where the chase ended as officers opened fire.

Rehab sanctuary center is for the birds

EL PASO — They may be considered the only surviving dinosaurs but, these days, the odds are highly stacked against birds. If it's not a free-roaming cat that is threatening their existence, there are the man-made obstructions — everything from development that encroaches on their habitats to collisions with moving cars, windows or electrical wires. "In the last 40 years, we have lost 40 percent of all wildlife," said Josie Karam.

Oklahoma police: Fatal hit-and-run targeted homeless

TULSA — Two hit-and-run crashes reported in less than 12 hours appeared to target homeless people in northeast Oklahoma, and investigators believe the same person carried out both attacks, police said. The first crash killed one person Monday morning under an interstate overpass, Tulsa Police Sgt. Stephen Florea told the Tulsa World . He said the crash appeared to be a deliberate attack.

NC appeals court restores man's lawsuit against wife's lover

RALEIGH — A jilted husband's lawsuit against a doctor accused of stealing his wife's love can proceed after a North Carolina appeals court ruled Tuesday that the husband can continue suing the spouse's lover, seeking damages. The state Court of Appeals decision resurrects a lawsuit that a trial judge had thrown out in Forsyth County, whose seat is Winston-Salem.

Colombia says nation's top drug fugitive eyes surrender

BOGOTA — Colombia's president says the country's top drug fugitive has expressed interest in turning himself and ending a life on the run with a \$5 million U.S. reward offered for his capture. President Juan Manuel Santos says Dairo Usuga sent word that he is interested in surrendering Sept. 3. Usuga's top lieutenant was recently killed in an encounter with security forces.

Inventor kept in custody over journalist's death

COPENHAGEN, Denmark — A Danish judge has extended the detention of Peter Madsen, the inventor suspected in the death of a Swedish woman aboard his home-made submarine. In the first public hearing since Madsen was arrested on Aug. 11, the 46-year-old claimed freelance journalist Kim Wall died after she was accidentally hit by a hatch in the submarine's tower, and denied all accusations of sexual assault.

Read the rest of these stories, and more, online at fbherald.com

Sign Me Up!

BREAKING NEWS!

■ Considering the recent weather event in our community, the Literacy Council of Fort Bend County feels it is in everyone's best interest to postpone the 2018 Great Grown-up Spelling Bee.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 10

■ Holy Rosary Catholic Church, 1416 George St., in Rosenberg, will hold its 81st annual bazaar. Barbecue beef, chicken and sausage meal served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the gym. Drive-thru is available from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Allen Street entrance. Event includes children's activities and game booths. Live music will be performed by the Lazy Farmers Polka Band. Auction begins at 1:30

FRIDAY, SEPT. 29

■ The Fort Bend County Fair will kick off with a parade at 9 a.m., and the parade committee is presently accepting applications for entries. For more information on the Fair's schedule or parade entry forms, visit fortbendcountyfair.com or call the Fair Office at 281-342-6171.

MONDAY, OCT. 2

■ County Judge Robert Hebert is challenging mayors in Fort Bend County to put on their game face and join the Hope For Three Golf "Fore" Autism charity tournament on Oct. 2, at Sugar Creek Country Club, 420 Sugar Creek Blvd., Sugar Land. Tee time is

FRIDAY, SEPT. 29

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SATURDAY, OCT. 7

■ Keep Richmond Beautiful will host a free onsite document shredd event at the Richmond City Hall, 402 Morton St. from 9 a.m. to noon. Shred items include all paper-based materials. No need to remove staples, paperclips, or fasteners. Three-ring binders, metal or plastic objects, and electronic media will not be accepted. ID is required. Bring your city of Richmond water bill stub for identification purposes. Keep Richmond Beautiful volunteers will be on-hand for any assistance needed. For more information on the shred event or to volunteer, call Keep Richmond Beautiful Chair Barbara Johnson at 281-342-4114.

Springsteen and SpongeBob lead Broadway's fall season

NEW YORK (AP) — On Broadway over the next few months, you can catch a member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, a pair of big-name comedians, a "Downton Abbey" star and an appearance by Squidward in human form. Here's a look at some of the highlights of the first half of the 2017-18 Broadway season:

"Look Up"

Amy Schumer and Steve Martin will team up for laughs — one onstage and the other off it. The actress will star in Martin's four-person comedy "Meteor Shower," about two couples who get together to observe the celestial event that inspires the title. (Opens Nov. 29 at the Booth Theatre.)

"Laugh and Cry"

Amy Schumer isn't the only comedian on Broadway this fall: Emmy winner John Leguizamo stars in his original one-man comedic play "Latin History for Morons," about the forgotten history of Latinos in the Americas. (Opens Nov. 15 at Studio 54 theater.)

"Bruuuuuce!"

The Boss — Bruce Springsteen — plays a solo show in which he performs songs from his career, interspersed with readings of his best-selling memoir "Born to Run." (Opens Oct. 12 at the Walter Kerr Theatre.)

"Wall Street Skewered"

Playwright Ayad Akhtar, who won the Pulitzer Prize for "Disgraced," turns his attention to 1980s-era finance in "Junk," starring Steven Pasquale. It's both a modern-day morality tale and a road map to the way we live today. (Opens Nov. 2 at the Vivian Beaumont Theatre.)

"Visit Bikini Bottom"

The idea of a stage musical of "SpongeBob SquarePants" with real actors sounds as odd to be a Broadway show as the original Nickelodeon series. It's got original songs by Steven Tyler, Sara Bareilles, John Legend, Lady Antebellum, Cyndi Lauper and David Bowie. (Opens Dec. 4 at The Palace Theatre.)

Today in History

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Wednesday, Sept. 6, the 249th day of 2017. There are 116 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On September 6, 1901, President William McKinley was shot and mortally wounded by anarchist Leon Czolgosz (CHAWL'-gawsh) at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, New York. (McKinley died eight days later; Czolgosz was executed on October 29.)

On this date:

In 1861, Union forces led by Gen. Ulysses S. Grant occupied Paducah, Kentucky, during the Civil War.

In 1916, the first self-serve grocery store, Piggly Wiggly, was opened in Memphis, Tennessee, by Clarence Saunders.

In 1925, the silent film horror classic "The Phantom of the Opera," starring Lon Chaney, had its world premiere at the Astor Theater in New York.

In 1939, the Union of South Africa declared war on Germany.

In 1943, 79 people were killed when a New York-bound Pennsylvania Railroad train derailed and crashed in Philadelphia.

In 1954, groundbreaking took place for the Shippingport Atomic Power Station in western Pennsylvania.

In 1966, birth control advocate Margaret Sanger died in Tucson, Arizona, at age 86, eight days before her birthday.

South African Prime Minister Hendrik Verwoerd (fehr-FOORT) was stabbed to death by an apparently deranged page during a parliamentary session in Cape Town.

In 1970, Palestinian guerrillas seized control of three U.S.-bound jetliners. (Two were later blown up on the ground in Jordan, along with a London-bound plane hijacked on Sept. 9; the fourth plane was destroyed on the ground in Egypt. No hostages were harmed.)

In 1975, 18-year-old tennis star Martina Navratilova of Czechoslovakia, in New York for the U.S. Open, requested political asylum in the United States.



Lon Chaney



Margaret Sanger



Martina Navratilova

Area Birthdays

Happy 17th birthday to Maria Gleason, from Mom, Dad, favorite sister Averil, and Smokey.

Note: The deadline for Area Birthdays is 9 a.m. Monday through Friday, and 4 p.m. Friday for the weekend edition. Any birthdays called in after that will go in the following day.



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MORNING 3-4-9 DAY 2-4-5 EVENING 2-7-8 NGHT 8-9-9



11-17-59-70-72-(1)

The Fort Bend Herald is not responsible for the accuracy of the lottery numbers. See State Lottery website.

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HERALD PHOTO BY SCOTT REESE WILLEY

MARY SUE Ferrell of Wharton donates a few bucks on Tuesday to Jessica Loredo, a junior at Terry High School, left, and Meagan Gonzales, a sophomore at Terry. The Terry High School Rangerettes Dance Team

joined the George Ranch High School Lariettes to collect gift cards and bedding for victims of Hurricane Harvey. Ferrell said she lost everything she owned in the storm, but still wanted to help other flooding victims.



HERALD PHOTO BY SCOTT REESE WILLEY

GEORGE RANCH High School 10th-grader Selma Kidwai, with bucket, and Ashly Rodriguez, a senior at Terry High School, ask for donations from drivers in front of Target on Tuesday. About two dozen dancers from the Rangerettes and Lariettes collected gift cards and bedding for victims of Hurricane Harvey.



HERALD PHOTO BY SCOTT REESE WILLEY

FOSTER HIGH School JV boys basketball coach Brian Henry donates a \$15 gift card to Johana Romera, a senior at Terry High School, and George Ranch High School ninth-grader Sophia Martin, center, in front of Target on Tuesday. Their dance teams collected gift cards and bedding for victims of Hurricane Harvey.

## Needville students collect supplies for storm victims

Needville High School Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) and Texas Association of Future Educators (TAFE) members are holding a school supply drive to help students affected by Hurricane Harvey.

The event will take place from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7, and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 8, at Needville High School.

Here is the list of supplies the students will be collecting”

- Pencils- My First Ticonderoga Pencils or #2 Pencils
- Erasers- Pink erasers or large white erasers
- Crayons- Box Crayola brand - 24 count
- Markers- 8 ct. Crayola (Classic Primary Color) washable markers-broad tip
- Scissors- Fiskars scissors 5 inch blunt edges, Fiskar pointed tip scissors 5” or 7”
- Glue- 4 oz. or 8.oz. bottles of Elmer’s white school glue – No gel or 4 pack of glue sticks regular or jumbo
- Folders- Plastic pocket folder without brads-red, blue, plastic pocket folder with brads – Blue, red, yellow, green
- Plastic school box (No larger than 6 ½ “X 9”) or plastic school pouch
- Roll of paper towels
- Large box of facial tissues – 175 count, large boxes of Kleenex
- 80 ct. baby wipes
- Box of Ziploc bags – 50 count– snack, sandwich or quart size
- Box of Ziploc bags gallon bags
- Backpacks – Standard Size (without wheels)
- Red ink pens
- Highlighters, fat yellow and pink desk style hi-liter, or pkg. of different color highlighter markers (4 count) yellow, green, blue, and pink
- Crayola water color paint set
- 12 count map pencils
- Primary writing journals – Stage 3 – (Drawing space and Handwriting Lines)
- Flashcards- addition flashcards 0-18, subtraction flashcard 0-18, multiplication flash cards 0-12, division flash cards 0-12
- 1” Binder w/clear view pockets or 1 ½” Binder w/clear view pockets
- 1 Subject, wide rule spiral notebook
- Wide rule composition notebook
- Small pencil sharpeners
- Plastic rulers with centimeter and inch markings
- Package of dividers (8 tab)
- 100, 150 or 200 ct. notebook paper – wide rule
- Spiral notebooks – 100 ct. each (No dividers/wide rule)
- 8 pocket poly organizer (can be found at Office Depot) and poly pocket folders with brads (1 blue, 1 red, 1 yellow, 1 green)
- Pkg. dry erase expo markers 4 ct. ■ Chisel point – bBlack
- Pkg. dry erase expo markers 4 ct.

## Rosenberg lifts mandatory evacuation orders citywide

The city of Rosenberg lifted its mandatory evacuation orders on Sept. 5.

The evacuation for the following areas is cancelled, effective immediately:

- West Street and Mulcahy Street North of Avenue D
- River Road area: All properties

North of River Road, adjacent to the river

■ North of the Brazos River: all properties North of the Brazos River within City limits

■ North Rosenberg: All properties East of 4th Street, North of Avenue B; all properties on 1st Street, North of Avenue D

*Thank You!*

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to St. Jude  
For Keeping Me Safe  
—Joyce Beyer

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Dr. Neel Srikishen

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Pat on the Back

Thanks to **Texas Roadhouse** and **Hartz Chicken Buffet** in Rosenberg for feeding hundreds of first responders early this week.

Our View

Harvey is gone; misery remains

Hurricane Harvey is long gone, and the Brazos River continues to recede. Many of us can breathe a sigh of relief. Others of us cannot. Some Fort Bend County residents are just now returning to their flooded homes. They're finding everything they own ruined. Couches, beds, chairs, tables, rugs, carpets, lamps, toys, clothing, chests of drawers — even irreplaceable photographs, scrapbooks and other heirlooms — are being thrown away. Some may even lose their vehicles, the only way they have of getting to work and feeding themselves and their families. Sadly, many of these people don't have the means to replace their belongings. It will take them months or years to get back to the life they used to know. Just cleaning out the stinky brown Brazos River mud that seeped in every opening and between walls will require a monumental effort. Yet others will suffer a worse fate: They will lose their entire home to the hurricane and the subsequent river rise. Bulldozers, pry bars and sledge hammers will demolish many of these homes in the months to come. These poor souls will start rebuilding their lives from the ground up. The state and federal government will help many victims recover from the historic flood. And nonprofit groups will provide clothing, food, bedding and other necessities. They'll also get help from a caring community. If you have extra cash on hand, why not donate a gift card, cleaning supplies or even money to these agencies? Or grab a mop or broom and head to the river's edge and see who needs help. It'll be appreciated and make a big difference in someone's life.

The price rises on Houston's housing

As the floodwaters recede, much of Houston's famously "affordable" housing may seem less of a bargain. We're not just talking about rising rents, inevitable with so many units destroyed. We are talking about the emotional cost of having to move in with friends, rebuild and buy new furniture more than once in a lifetime. Floods have been a regular occurrence in Houston, but the city's lack of zoning and sloppy land-use practices made matters worse. Developers had covered land that could absorb water and built willy-nilly in floodplains. The disaster in Houston has put many conservatives on the defensive. Houston was their urban model. Developers could put almost anything anywhere, which lowered the cost of living. By unfavorable comparison, "elite" coastal cities that regulate development have relatively high housing costs. But it's an extreme creed that portrays regulation as the enemy of investment. In the real world, smart regulation can protect investments. Libertarian Joel Kotkin has long touted Houston as "America's Opportunity City" — the product of its freeway-driven sprawl and no zoning. "The once-depopulating Fifth Ward," he wrote approvingly, "has seen a surge of new housing — much of it for middle-income African-Americans." That was pre-Harvey. Last week, Fifth Ward residents found themselves waist-deep in water; their possessions ruined. Now they fear that nearby industrial sites may be leaking toxic compounds into the mix. Kotkin's Center for Opportunity Urbanism now blames the area's clay soil (doesn't absorb water well) and flatness (doesn't drain well) for much of the flooding. Well, isn't that all the more reason to preserve wetlands and pave less? The constant carping at expensive coastal cities tends to ignore that their land areas are hemmed in by major bodies of water. Houston could grow and grow into the limitless Texas plains. The Atlantic Ocean curbs New York's sprawl. The Pacific limits San Francisco's. In praising the Houston way, Kotkin points out that the average one-bedroom home rents for 60 percent less in Houston than in San Jose, California. It's odd how free-marketeers often ignore free markets. The cost of housing is high in San Jose because lots of people want to live there. It's a supply and demand thing. Some people consider long commutes in heavy traffic a fair trade for more square footage. Others want a walkable environment ensured by urban planning and are obviously willing to pay for the privilege. It's a free country. Conservatives unwilling to seriously confront climate change are trying to avoid evidence of its role in the Houston calamity. The Wall Street Journal fights the notion, widely shared by leading climatologists, that global warming has made storms like Harvey fiercer. "No amount of flood control could have prevented damage from a once-in-500-years storm," an editorial said. Perhaps true, but Harvey was Houston's third 500-year flood in three years. Something's happening up there, ya think? Of course, all debates on Houston's affordability must now be conducted in the past tense. With an estimated 60,000 housing units no longer viable, rents are sure to rise. Furthermore, the "affordable" housing seems to have suffered far more in the floods than the luxury buildings. Another risk is that taxpayer hearts will harden toward the National Flood Insurance Program. In the wake of Katrina, Sandy and now Harvey, this subsidy for homeowners who live in flood-prone places has come under increasing attack. Serious reform would place the risks more squarely on the owners of vulnerable properties.

Froma Harrop can be reached at [fharrop@gmail.com](mailto:fharrop@gmail.com).

Your View

Hurricane victim thanks city

My husband, two dogs, and my bearded dragon were under mandatory evacuation in Sienna Plantation in Missouri City and sent to a shelter in Richmond. We stopped a policeman in Sugar Land to get an address for the shelter. We made our way there and what a response from the people of Richmond! Limited bedding and only snacks but water and more importantly great compassion and caring by all of the volunteers. By day 1 and a half, the food was in abundance, and there was clothing, water, and everything you could need. A volunteer drove back to her house to get a heating pad for my reptile. It kept him alive. It might not have been important for a lot of people but he is my pet and she cared that it was a pet. I have never experienced such compassion from strangers. Extraordinary! Thank you, Richmond, you have the Texas spirit

Charise Miltenberger  
Missouri City

The First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.



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Maria's turning 17  
The best sister I never wanted... kidding

I remember exactly where I was when my mom told me she was pregnant.

She was getting ready in the bathroom of our old house when she asked me how I would feel about having a little brother or sister. I didn't care, really. As long as that thing growing inside my mom was a girl. And lucky for me, she was. I had just turned 6 when Maria Consuelo Gleason was born on Sept. 6, 2000.

Alternatively, Sept. 6 was the day my life was ruined. Or so it seemed. For six glorious years, all eyes had been on me. I was famous among friends and family. An icon, if you will. I brought light to everyone's lives I touched.

And then Maria came along. My infant sister was an unintentional attention hog and I hated her for that. After learning that sharing also takes place outside of the classroom, I came to terms with my weasel of a sister. And don't get me wrong, I love her. But until last year, I didn't even really like her. It wasn't her fault. I moved away to college when she was 12 and I didn't return until she was nearly 16. In those years that I was gone, Maria totally changed. Adolescence took charge, and as she grew, she didn't leave a space for me in her life. So when I got moved home after college, it was like the roles were reversed. Maria was the star of the show at home, and I was the weasel stealing the show. It took time. Like, a lot of time before Maria and I were on good terms again. Snide remarks and ugly looks were the only things we exchanged for months. I was 100 percent ready to be part of Maria's life again, but I had to wait. I had years of her life to make



Averil Gleason

up for as a sister, but more importantly, I had to mend our friendship. And then one day, I woke up and things were different. I wasn't sure what had happened, but Maria and I were friends again. I mean, kind of. We went shopping and worked out together and although things weren't back to normal, they weren't unbearably bad anymore. Today, Maria is 17. She's smart and funny and has a little bit of a temper on her when she gets hungry, but you know what? I wouldn't trade her for anyone else in the world. Maria has the ability to light up a room (almost as bright as I do) without even trying. While she is a woman of few words, when she does choose to speak she is quick-witted and smart. She's cute, she's fun, she's young and she's my new best friend. Maria, I hope you have a bangin' birthday. You deserve it. Reach Averil Gleason at [agleason@fbherald.com](mailto:agleason@fbherald.com).

Outside View



Harvey Provides Teaching Moments

'Dog catches car.' That may be happening in the nation's capitol, and in the Texas capitol, where Republicans control the legislative and executive branches of government. Or, in the sobering wake of Hurricane Harvey, they may have caught the bus. Hurricane Harvey, being described as the biggest natural catastrophe in US history, will be a test of how federal and state governments will deal with all the rebuilding and refurbishment, and rethinking of infrastructure planning to reduce damage in future calamities.

All the volunteer efforts to help rescue, evacuate, transport and provide temporary shelter for flood victims — many whose homes were badly damaged or destroyed by Harvey's wind and rain — has been heart-warming and impressive. And in addition to an impressively large number of efforts by individuals, churches and other organizations, other governments have pitched in. For instance, Austin's police department sent 51 officers to Houston on a bus, to pair up in patrol cars with Houston officers



Dave McNeely

to ease some of the burden on the city's strapped police department. Williamson and Travis Counties sent water rescue teams. And so on, from around Texas and the nation. School officials outside the flood zones invited refugee school-age kids to attend classes at their schools, while the refugees wait weeks or months before they can return home. But rehabilitating all those homes, plus roads and streets and simply hauling off trash, is going to be an enormous challenge, and require a lot of time, effort, and money. The Republicans' control of the levers of government in Washington and Austin essentially means that they own Harvey. While Democrats will certainly help, the ultimate responsibility to provide services, rather than just cutting taxes and services willy-nilly, rests with the Republicans. In the process, they may learn lessons from challenges in several different areas. Flood Control. Houston's tradition of avoiding zoning is going to come into question like never before. There will be questions aplenty about rebuilding in flood-prone areas without significant changes, like requiring houses to be elevated, like many buildings along the coast. There will be some areas where rebuilding won't be allowed — or at least shouldn't be. Flood Insurance, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). There proba-

bly will be new consideration of funding and requirements for flood insurance. Estimates are that about three-fourths of the flooded houses didn't have it. Also, the administration of President Donald Trump may have to re-think its proposed budget cuts to programs for federal preparedness for and response to such disasters, that were added after the slow response to Hurricane Katrina's devastation of New Orleans in 2005. Cuts are proposed for FEMA; the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which helps rebuild hospitals, community centers, homes and parks; the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which helps prepare coastal resident for potential disasters; and the National Weather Service (NWS), which helps forecast huge storms. Emergency Federal Funding. Trump has asked Congress for \$7.85 billion as immediate federal aid to begin Harvey recovery efforts. But Texas Gov. Greg Abbott called that a "down payment." Abbott estimated the eventual cost could be between \$150 billion and \$180 billion — significantly more than the cost of either Hurricane Katrina that hit New Orleans in 2005, or Hurricane Sandy that hit New Jersey and several East Coast states in 2012. Alternatives to using the Rainy Day Fund. Reach Dave McNeely at [dave-mcneely111@gmail.com](mailto:dave-mcneely111@gmail.com).

Bernie Sanders criticizes end to Dreamers program

MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP) — Vermont U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders on Monday called President Donald Trump's reported decision to end a program that grants temporary legal status to people who were brought to the United States illegally as children "one of the most cruel and ugly" decisions by a modern president. In a Labor Day speech to members of the New Hampshire AFL-CIO in Manchester, Sanders said it was the job of union members

to bring people together and stand with those affected by the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or DACA, and the people of Houston who lost their homes in flooding from Hurricane Harvey. "Imagine telling 800,000 young people, bright young people, exemplary young people ... that they are going to lose their legal protections," Sanders, an independent who ran for president as a Democrat, said to the estimated 350 union members and activists at the

St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral. "So I say to the United States Congress: If Trump goes ahead with his very, very cruel decision, our job is to pass legislation to protect the young DACA people and to make that program permanent."

There are an estimated 800,000 immigrants, nicknamed Dreamers, who are part of the DACA program. Trump, a Republican, is expected to announce on Tuesday that he's going to end the program with a six-month delay.



## FORT BEND COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

**Children's programs at Fulshear/Simonton branch library resume fall schedule in September**

Fort Bend County Libraries' Bob Lutts Fulshear/Simonton Branch Library, 8100 FM 359 South in Fulshear, presents a variety of free children's programs — Toddler Time, Story Time, and After-School Breaks — every month.

These programs are free and open to the public.

The fall schedule is as follows: Toddler Time — Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m. — offers caregiver/child activities, stories and songs for older babies, from 12 to 36 months of age.

The program dates are Sept. 12, 19, and 26.

Pre-school children, 3 to 6 years of age, will enjoy Story Time, where they hear stories, watch movies, and participate in age-appropriate craft activities, beginning at 10:15 a.m. each Wednesday.

The program dates are Sept. 6, 13, 20, and 27.

The After-School Break — crafts, movies, stories, and more for school-aged children in grades 1 through 5 — will begin at 4:30 p.m. on the second Thursday in the fall. The program on Sept. 14 will be "We All Scream for Ice-Cream!"

For more information, please call the Bob Lutts Fulshear/Simonton Branch Library at 281-633-4675 or

the library system's Public Information Office at 281-633-4734.

**Albert George branch library plans children's programs in September**

Fort Bend County Libraries' Albert George Branch Library, 9230 Gene Street in Needville, presents a variety of free children's programs — Toddler Time, Story Time, and After-School Breaks — every month.

These programs are free and open to the public.

The fall schedule for September is as follows:

Toddler Time — Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. — offers caregiver/child activities, stories and songs for older babies, from 12 to 36 months of age.

Toddler Time will take place on Sept. 13, 20, and 27.

Story Time — Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. — provides stories, movies, and age-appropriate craft activities for pre-school children, from 3 to 6 years of age.

Story Time will take place on Sept. 7, 14, 21, and 28.

The After-School Breaks — crafts, movies, stories, and more for school-aged children in 1st through 5th grades — will begin at 4 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of the month.

The September schedule is as follows:

Sept. 14 — Marble Maze Game

Sept. 28 — Library Scavenger Hunt

For more information, please call the Albert George Branch Library at 979-793-4270, or the library system's Public Information Office at 281-633-4734.

**George Memorial Library to offer children's programs in September**

Fort Bend County Libraries' George Memorial Library, 1001 Golfview in Richmond, presents a variety of free children's programs — Toddler Time, Story Time, Pajama Night Story Time, and After-School Breaks — every month.

These programs are free and open to the public.

The fall schedule for September is as follows:

Toddler Time — Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. — offers caregiver/child activities, stories and songs for older babies, from 12 to 36 months of age. Program dates are Sept. 7, 14, 21, and 28.

Pre-school children, 3 to 6 years of age, will enjoy Story Time, where they hear stories, watch movies, and participate in age-appropriate craft activities, beginning at 10 a.m. each Wednesday. Program dates are Sept. 6, 13, 20, and 27.

Pajama Night Story Time — which takes place on the every Thursday beginning at 6:30 p.m. — gives families an evening option for some activities presented during the day time. Pajama Night Story Time

will take place on Sept. 7, 14, 21, and 28.

Family Story Time takes place every Saturday at 10 a.m.

Families with children of all ages are invited to come and enjoy stories, movies, and crafts together.

Family Story Time will take place on Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30.

The After-School Break — crafts, movies, stories, and more for school-aged children in grades K through 3 — takes place on the third Thursday beginning at 4 p.m., in the Meeting Room.

The program on Sept. 21 will be "Drawing with Chalk."

The Creative Connection — activities specially designed for kids in grades 4 through 8 — will take place on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month, beginning at 6 p.m., in the Middle Grades department on the 2nd floor of the library.

The schedule of activities is as follows:

Sept. 13 — Cute Animé Animals

Sept. 27 — Animé Elves

The Middle-School Programs, which are designed for youth in grades 6 and up, normally take place on the first and third Mondays, beginning at 6 p.m.

Because of the Labor Day holiday, the Middle-School Program will take place on Sept. 18 only with a "Flextangles Craft" program. For more information, call George Memorial Library at 281-342-4455.

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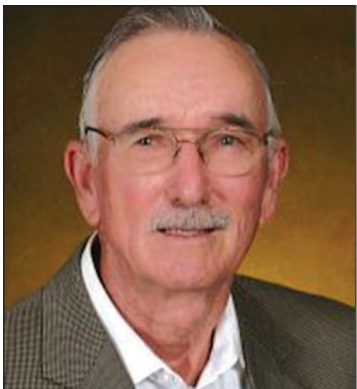
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**Obituaries****Joe Edward Stransky**

Joe Edward Stransky, devoted husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather died peacefully in his Needville home surrounded by family on September 3rd, after a 15-month courageous battle with brain cancer.

Joe was born March 18, 1930 in Needville, Texas to Mary (Janak) Stransky and Joseph Frank Stransky. He was a veteran of the Korean War.

He served in many capacities as a member of the Knights of Columbus for well over 50 years. He was an active member of St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in Needville. He also served as a Cub Master with the Boy Scouts.

In his free time, he enjoyed gardening, farming and ranching at his home in Needville.

Joe will be remembered for his Czech heritage, speaking, reading and writing Czech fluently, and enjoying a good Czech polka.

He was a devoted Catholic and will forever be remembered by his family for his daily recitation of the rosary, leading family prayers before meals and living his strong faith through hard work, honesty, kindness and sincerity.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Mary and Joseph Stransky, brothers Frank and Oldrich (OJ) Stransky and grandson, Christopher Kurtz.

He is survived by his wife, Annie Marie (Novak) Stransky and their six children: Jo Ann Bily and husband Robert, Anthony Stransky and wife Debbie, Berni Reyes and husband Reuben, Liz Carver and husband Paul, Tim Stransky and wife Norma and Joe Stransky II and girlfriend Jackie Twardowski.

He is also survived by his fourteen grandchildren: Nicole Reid, Shelley Akers, Steve Bily, Staci Aldridge, David Kurtz, Vanessa Kurtz, Nick Kurtz, Stephanie Jackson-Cullison, Julia Leggett, Raychel Wansley, Jenna Stransky, Jared Stransky, Laura Diaz and Kevin Stransky.

Additionally, he is survived by his nine great-grandchildren: Raven Reid, Rachel Reid, Jocelyn Fricke, Gabriella Akers, Liam Woods, Audriana Akers, Peyton Leggett, Renae Wansley and Patrick Cullison.

Visitation will be at Davis Greenlawn Funeral Chapel in Rosenberg, on Friday, September 8, 2017 from 4-8 P.M. with a Rosary at 7:00 P.M.

Funeral Mass and services will be held at St. Michaels Catholic Church in Needville, Texas on Saturday, September 9, 2017 at 10:00 A.M. located at 9214 Main Street in Needville. Burial will follow in St. Michael's Catholic Cemetery on Foster School Road.

Following the services, a reception will be held for friends and family at the church annex.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Catholic Charities at catholiccharities.org.

**Lavern Oakes**

Funeral services for Lavern Oakes of Cat Spring, TX are pending with Garmany & Carden Funeral Directors, 1201 Fourth Street, Rosenberg, TX 77471 (281)342-4671. Mrs. Oakes died September 5, 2017 in Cat Spring, TX. Updated arrangements and Online Guest Book will be available at www.garmcnycarden.com.

**Karen Kay Henson**

Funeral services for Karen Kay Henson, of Richmond, are pending with Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Home, 3900 B.F. Terry Blvd., Rosenberg, Texas 77471, Phone: 281-341-8800.

**Earnest Wendt**

Funeral arrangements for Earnest Wendt, 71, of Needville, TX., are pending with E.P. Compean Funeral Directors, 1223 Sixth St., Rosenberg, TX. 77471, 281-238-4443. "Our Family Serving Your Family"

**Bertha (Gonzalez) Villagomez**

Bertha (Gonzalez) Villagomez, 91, of Rosenberg, Texas went to be with her Lord and Loved Ones on September 5, 2017 surrounded by her family. She was born October 17, 1925 in McAllen, Texas to Hipolito and Celerina Gonzalez. She was a long-time member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church in Rosenberg. Bertha was a loving mother and doting grandmother. She took great pride in taking care of her family. Her hobbies included cooking, sewing and gardening — just to name a few. This loving mother, grandmother, great grandmother, sister, aunt and friend will truly be missed.

In addition to her parents, Bertha is preceded in death by her husband, Efrain; son, Manuel, and grandson, Manny.

Survivors include her children, Efrain and wife, Lydia, Peter and wife, Kayla, Yolanda Kokoska, Sonia Porter and husband, Neal, Celia, Lila, Sylvia Sharp and husband, Daniel; daughter-in-law, Nellie; siblings, Ramiro Gonzalez and wife, Zulema and Maria De la Luz Lamas; twenty grandchildren; twenty one great grandchildren; along with a host of extended family and friends.

Visitation will be held from 5:00 p.m. — 8:00 p.m. with a Rosary at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 8, 2017, in the Chapel of Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Home in Rosenberg.

The funeral mass will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m., Friday, Septem-

ber 8, 2017 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church in Rosenberg with Father Lee Flores officiating. Interment will follow at Greenlawn Memorial Park in Rosenberg.

Pallbearers will include Bertha's grandsons: Efrain Villagomez III, Abel Villagomez, Toby Kokoska, Andy Castillo, Cole Villagomez, Cale Villagomez, Zach Sharp and Josh Sharp.

Tributes and words of condolence may be left for the family at www.davisgreenlawnfh.com.

Arrangements are under the direction of Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Home, 3900 B.F. Terry Blvd., (Hwy 59 South @ FM 2218) in Rosenberg, Texas 77471, Phone: 281-341-8800.

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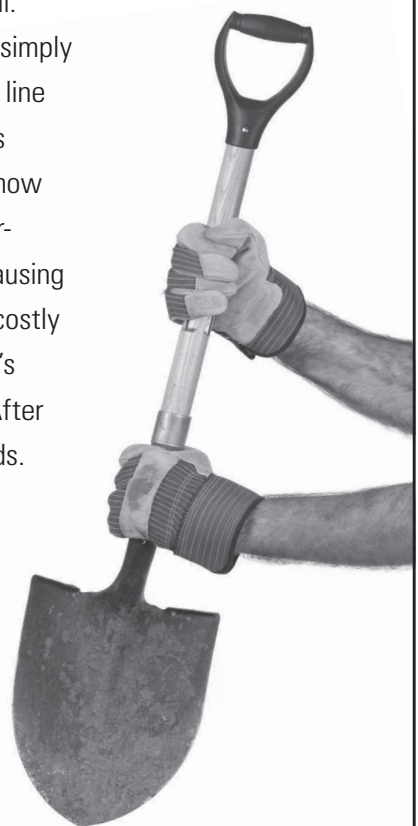
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**10:30 am**—contemporary service in the Worship Center with weekly Communion

Children and Youth will be have Sunday School at 9:00 am and Kids & Youth Worship at 10:30 am.

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High School Sports Calendar

**Foster**



Saturday, Sept. 16

**Football:** Falcons vs. Seven Lakes, Traylor Stadium, 6

**Fulshear**



Thursday, Sept. 14

**Football:** Chargers vs. George Ranch JV, Charger Stadium, 7

**George Ranch**



Saturday, Sept. 16

**Football:** Longhorns vs. UANL Tigers, Traylor Stadium, 3 (Homecoming)

**Lamar Consolidated**



Friday, Sept. 15

**Football:** Mustangs vs. Brazoswood, Traylor Stadium, 7

**Terry**



Thursday, Sept. 14

**Football:** Rangers vs. Spring Woods, Traylor Stadium, 7

**Travis**



Saturday

**Football:** Travis at Katy Taylor, Katy Taylor H.S., 10:30 a.m. (Scrimmage)

**Needville**



Friday

**Football:** Blue Jays vs. Brookshire Royal, Blue Jay Stadium, 7:30

**Brazos**



Friday

**Football:** Cougars at Burton, Panther Stadium, 7:30

Professional Sports Calendar

**Astros**



Wednesday

**MLB:** Astros at Mariners, 9:10

Friday

**MLB:** Astros at Athletics, 9:05

**Dash**



Saturday

**NWSL:** Dash at North Carolina Courage, 6:30

**Dynamo**



Saturday

**MLS:** Dynamo vs. Colorado Rapids, 7:30

**Texans**



Sunday

**NFL:** Texans vs. Jaguars, 12

**Skeeters**



Wednesday

**Atlantic League:** Skeeters at Bridgeport Bluefish, 6:12

High school volleyball

Lady Jays knock off Barbers Hill

BY RYAN DUNSMORE  
rdunsmore@fbherald.com

The Needville Lady Jays continue to put in work after Hurricane Harvey.

Following the trip to San Antonio for the St. Mary's Hall Tournament, the Lady Jays traveled to Mt. Belvieu to take on the Barbers Hill Eagles.

The Lady Jays' success continued with a 3-1 victory, 25-17, 18-25, 25-18, 25-19.

Senior Sydney Sacra and junior Anna Gadway combined to collect over 50 percent of the team's kills. Sacra accounted for 19 and Daway had 16.

Senior Peyton Sulak had two

aces and Gadway added another.

Senior Hayden Smyers led the team with 18 digs. Junior Madison Schultz had 14, senior Kaitlyn Kovarsik had 12 and Gadway contributed 10.

Senior Janssen Cain had 28 of the team's 48 assists. Gadway had 13 assists. Kovarsik had 18 serve receives and Smyers contributed 16.

Needville's next scheduled game is on Friday against El Campo at home. No word yet if it will be changed with the fluid situation after Hurricane Harvey.

TGCA Poll

The Texas Girls Coaches As-



sociation 2017 Volleyball Poll for the week of Sept. 5 includes two west Fort Bend County teams.

Needville is in the top 5 for Class 4A behind Glen Rose, Bushland, Midlothian Heritage and La Vernia.

Brazos checks in at No. 21 in the Class 3A list ahead of district foe East Bernard, which is tied at No. 25 with Jacksboro.

Iona sits atop the Class 2A list, Leander Rouse is No. 1 in Class 5A and San Antonio Reagan leads Class 6A.

HERALD STAFF PHOTO

**Needville senior Sydney Sacra had 19 kills against Barbers Hill.**

NFL

Texans looking ahead to opener after tough week with Harvey

HOUSTON (AP) — After a tough week waiting out Hurricane Harvey in Dallas and scrapping their final preseason game, the Houston Texans are home and looking toward Sunday's opener against Jacksonville.

While their thoughts are with the city as it begins its recovery from the storm and subsequent floods, the Texans know they must shift their focus to football this week.

"It's about winning football games," coach Bill O'Brien said. "I think that we'll do whatever we can in our spare time that we have to help the city, but ... as a football team, we're paid to coach and play and to win games. So, that's what our job is and we're going to go back to making sure we do as good a job as we can at our job."

Houston returned to a normal schedule on Monday for the first time since playing its third preseason game in New Orleans on Aug. 26.

From New Orleans the Texans flew to Dallas in advance of the storm and remained there, practicing in the Cowboys' facilities, until piling in busses

and driving back to Houston on Wednesday when the roads into town were finally clear enough to return safely.

Players and staff spent Sunday in various locations around the city volunteering before returning to practice on Monday.

NRG Stadium was not damaged in the storm and O'Brien confirmed Monday that Sunday's game against Jacksonville will be played there as planned. He said team officials spoke with Houston mayor Sylvester Turner before making the decision.

"Everyone agrees that our game will not take resources away from other parts of the city and that this game will be an opportunity to continue to bring us all together as Houstonians and as Texans," O'Brien said.

And receiver DeAndre Hopkins, who practiced on Monday after missing time with an injured thumb, believes the game will be a boost to the city.

"In a big way. This is a football state," Hopkins said. "The state of Texas, in general, is a football

state, so for us to go out there and get a win, I think that's what this city needs."

Hopkins said O'Brien didn't talk to the team about switching gears this week and he doesn't believe they have to shut out what's going on around the city to be successful on Sunday.

"I'm sure guys are going to go out this week and still (volunteer), even though we have a game Sunday, and I don't think that's going to mess our focus up," he said.

The Texans face a quick turnaround after Sunday's game with a Thursday night game at Cincinnati in Week 2, making preparations this week even more important with the short turnaround looming.

"We're professional coaches and professional football players. The train's not stopping in the NFL," O'Brien said. "Nobody feels real sorry for us, for the football team."

"Obviously there's been a great outpouring of support for the city, but in the NFL, they're moving forward and we have to move forward."

MLB

New guys Verlander, Maybin lift Astros

SEATTLE (AP) — The only comparison Justin Verlander could come up with for his Houston Astros debut was opening day.

The nerves. The excitement. The desire to be at his best.

"The unknown. Don't really want to let everyone down. New team," Verlander said. "But these guys have made the process pretty easy on me so far fitting in and making me feel right at home as quickly as possible."

Verlander could find a home anywhere with the kind of performance he delivered Tuesday night, throwing six strong innings to beat the Seattle Mariners 3-1 after Cameron Maybin hit a two-run homer in the seventh for Houston's first hit.

It was the first time in 381 career regular-season starts that Verlander, a six-time All-Star, pitched for

someone other than the Detroit Tigers. Even if his uniform colors were slightly different, his fastball and ability to dominate a game were the same.

It wasn't Verlander at his best. But it was a very good beginning in the latest chapter of his career, with the top team in the American League.

"To get to know him, we have to do it quickly. And to see his mannerisms, to see how he competes, he throws every pitch with a purpose," Houston manager A.J. Hinch said. "I don't think he had great feel for his breaking ball early in the count. Had a really good fastball and he went to it."

With fiancée Kate Upton in the stands, Verlander (11-8) allowed six hits and struck out seven while completing six innings for the 10th

straight start.

His only costly mistake was a 3-2 pitch that Kyle Seager hit for a home run leading off the fourth. Seattle threatened in the sixth when Robinson Cano opened the inning by hitting a liner off Verlander's right wrist. Nelson Cruz followed with a single, but Seager grounded into a double play and Mitch Haniger struck out with Cano on third to end the threat.

The final pitch from the 2011 AL MVP was a 99 mph fastball that fanned Haniger.

"That was as impressive a finish of an outing as we could ask for, especially in the big moments where the inning starts out with runners on base," Hinch said. "He never gets out of control."

Joe Musgrove threw two innings of scoreless relief and Ken Giles

pitched the ninth for his 29th save.

With all the attention on Verlander's first game for a team other than the Tigers, it was another deadline acquisition that sent Houston to its sixth straight victory. Maybin's drive with one out in the seventh snapped a 1-all tie.

Maybin arrived on Aug. 31 after being claimed off waivers from the Los Angeles Angels.

"This team has been playing great team baseball and everybody has something to do with the success. I'm just trying to fit in to the mold of trying to help out," Maybin said.

Seattle starter Ariel Miranda threw 112 pitches over six hitless innings that included six walks — three of which led to Houston's first run in the third on Alex Bregman's sacrifice fly.

MLB on deck

DH Beltran is back

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A look at what's happening all around the majors Wednesday:

Beltran in lineup

Carlos Beltran returned to the Astros' lineup after missing the previous four games with a foot injury. Beltran was 0 for 3 with a run scored.

Astros manager A.J. Hinch said Beltran will likely only play designed hitter for the remainder of the season.

Hinch said the club hopes to have OF Jake Marisnick back in the next few days as well. Marisnick has been slowed by a groin injury.

Up next

Astros RHP Lance McCullers (7-3) will be activated from the disabled list to make his first start since July 30. McCullers was sidelined for more than a month by back discomfort.

Mariners RHP Andrew Moore (1-3) will slide back into the rotation. He hasn't started for Seattle since July 26 and his last appearance for the Mariners came on Aug. 11 out of the bullpen.

Cleveland rocks

The Indians try for their 14th straight victory, which would tie the longest winning streak in team history that they set last season. Carlos Carrasco (13-6,

3.67 ERA) starts for Cleveland on the road against the Chicago White Sox. The AL Central leaders already own the top winning string in the majors this year.

Amped Arizona

The Diamondbacks go for a team-record 13th win in a row when Taijuan Walker (8-7, 3.42 ERA) starts at Dodger Stadium. Arizona matched the club mark Tuesday night when it beat NL West-leading Los Angeles 3-1 in 10 innings.

You guys again

Cubs lefty Jose Quintana tries to beat Pittsburgh for the second time in a week when he starts at PNC Park. He pitched six innings last Wednesday as the NL Central leaders topped the Pirates at Wrigley Field. Quintana is 5-3 with a 4.50 ERA since being acquired from the White Sox.

He's here

Braves lefty Luiz Gohara makes his major league debut, starting the opener of a day-night doubleheader against Texas at SunTrust Park. The 21-year-old Brazilian began the season in Class A. The hard-throwing Gohara also pitched at Double-A Mississippi and Triple-A Gwinnett this year, going a combined 7-4 with a 2.62 ERA before getting the call to the majors.

NFL

Dolphins-Bucs will not be played in Miami this week

DAVIE, Fla. (AP) — The Miami Dolphins' season opener against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers will not be played in Miami this week, but may be moved to a neutral site because of Hurricane Irma, the NFL said Tuesday.

If the game is not relocated, it will be postponed until November, when the teams share the same bye week.

Kickoff had been scheduled for Sunday at 1 p.m. EDT, but Irma is forecast to threaten South Florida this weekend. The NFL decided against switching the game to Thursday night in Miami.

"In the interest of public safety in light of the current state of emergency, the NFL, in consultation with state and local officials as well as both clubs, has decided that playing an NFL game in South Florida this week is not appropriate," the league said in a statement.

"The league will continue to examine other options, including playing the game this Sunday at a neutral site or in Miami later this season."

A decision on when and where to play is expected by Wednesday.

"We're going to keep practicing and getting ready for the game until somebody tells

us different," Dolphins coach Adam Gase said.

"I want to play today if we could," Miami receiver Jarvis Landry said.

The teams would prefer to avoid moving the game to the weekend of Nov. 19, because it would mean both teams would play their entire season without a break.

"Like 16 weeks straight?" Landry said. "It's a long season, let's be honest about it. We could use that bye."

Irma is forecast to be a major hurricane as it approaches Florida late this week.

"I've never been through anything like that," said Gase, a Michigan native in his second season with the Dolphins.

"I don't know what to expect. I just want our guys to think, 'Hey, we know what we're doing.'"

Quarterback Jay Cutler, who joined the Dolphins a month ago, said this is also his first flirtation with a hurricane.

He acknowledged the distraction for players as they worry about their families and preparations, but said a change in the kickoff won't faze them.

"We're open to anything," Cutler said.

"This team is young and flexible, and they're ready to rock."

A few requests for the new Rockets owner

Keep the winning mindset and better food

As it was reported on Tuesday, Houston-based billionaire Tilman Fertitta bought the Houston Rockets for an NBA record \$2.2 billion.

Fertitta has made the bulk of his money in the restaurant business. He owns Landry's, Inc. and The Golden Nugget Hotel and Casinos.

Now that he will be running things around the Toyota Center, I have a few simple requests for the 60-year-old restaurant billionaire.

First of all, Fertitta needs to keep the winning mindset current owner Leslie Alexander brought to the franchise since buying it in 1993 for \$84 million.

Alexander always strived to put the best players on the court and wasn't afraid to take the high-risk, high-reward gamble, like in 2002 when he drafted 7 feet 6 inch center Yao Ming from China.

The gamble paid off as Ming went on to have a Hall of Fame career.

Secondly, Fertitta should never question general manager Daryl Morey. He just needs to step back and let Morey do his job.

Since Morey became the general manager in 2007, the Rockets have never had a losing season. The worst season under Morey came in that 2015-16 debacle when the team fired its head coach after only 11 games.

My third request is a simple one for him.

I want better food served at the home games.

When I'm at a game, I get hungry and I don't like having to pay an arm and a leg for a chicken finger basket.

For that price, Fertitta could maybe offer a crab cake or a shrimp kabob. I'd pay \$15 for a shrimp kabob.

Last, why can't the upper level fans get the same amount of T-shirts tossed to them?

Fans up there get about two R-shirts tossed to their section and that's nothing compared to the eight being tossed per section on the lower level.

Like I said, these are just simple requests that I hope the new owner takes into consideration.

Jim "Mattress Mack" McIngvale was said to have been working on getting a group of investors to purchase the team. Former Rocket and current Hall of Famer Dikembe Mutombo also expressed interest in buying the franchise.

Fertitta has already been working on bringing others into the fold.

On Tuesday, he told TMZ Sports he would gladly bring Houston native and pop sensation Beyoncé into the fold and that makes us all winners.

Reach Tyler Johnson at [sjohnson@fbherald.com](mailto:sjohnson@fbherald.com) and on Twitter at [@FBHeraldSports](https://twitter.com/FBHeraldSports) and [@STJfbherald](https://twitter.com/STJfbherald).

Newton: Kaepernick better than some starting QBs in league

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Cam Newton became the latest NFL player to voice his support of free agent quarterback Colin Kaepernick, saying it's "unfair" that he's not on a roster.

The Carolina Panthers quarterback asked and answered a few of his own questions on Tuesday:

"Do I think Kaepernick is better than some of these starting quarterbacks in this league? Absolutely.

"Should he be on a roster ...? Absolutely.

"Is he good enough to be a starting quarterback? Absolutely."

Newton and the Panthers are preparing to play Kaepernick's former team, the San Francisco 49ers on Sunday.

There are players who believe Kaepernick, who had a better passer rating than roughly half the starting QBs in the league in 2016, has been blackballed by teams for choosing to kneel during the national anthem in protest to police violence and social injustice.

lins' owner.

The Marlins will be leaving Miami after Wednesday night's game against the Washington Nationals for a seven-game road trip to Atlanta and Philadelphia.

"We all feel the same way, you all

feel the same way too. If you had your kids here and you're leaving on a trip, it's not the best feeling to leave your family somewhere," Mattingly said. "We really don't have a family trip so it is actually probably a good thing."



## NFL

## Elliott's appeal of a 6-game suspension denied

SHERMAN, Texas (AP) — An arbitrator denied Dallas running back Ezekiel Elliott's appeal of a six-game suspension in a domestic violence case, but the 2016 NFL rushing champion will play in the opener because of the timing of the decision.

Elliott attorney Jeffrey Kessler told the judge near the end of a nearly 2 1/2-hour hearing in federal court that Elliott's suspension was sustained by arbitrator Harold Henderson.

At the start of the hearing, NFL attorney Daniel Nash told the judge it was "his understanding" that Elliott could play Sunday night against the New York Giants because the league didn't want to rush the judge.

U.S. District Judge Amos Mazzant said he would rule on Elliott's request for a temporary restraining order by Friday. If the request is denied and no further legal action taken, Elliott's suspension would start in Week 2 at Denver. He would be eligible to return Nov. 5 against Kansas City.

## Turner out this year

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) — Notre Dame star center Brianna Turner, who ruptured the anterior cruciate ligament in her left knee during the NCAA Tournament in late March, will miss the upcoming season to continue rehabilitation. The 6-foot-3 Turner, who averaged 15.3 points, 7.1 rebounds and 2.5 blocks per game.

## World Cup

## Wood's tying goal gets US out of Honduras with 1-1 draw

SAN PEDRO SULA, Honduras (AP) — The legs were heavy and the tension high in the 85th minute at Estadio Olimpico Metropolitano, where exuberant fans had been cheering and blowing vuvuzelas nonstop.

The United States was losing to Honduras in a World Cup qualifier played in searing late-afternoon tropical heat, just a few minutes from falling into a deep hole that would jeopardize the Americans' streak of seven straight World Cup appearances.

Bobby Wood then silenced the crowd, scoring from short-range off a scramble following a free kick. The U.S. escaped from Honduras with a 1-1 tie Tuesday.

"Huge point. Great point," U.S. captain Michael Bradley. "In a lot of moments it has nothing to do with football. It's about finding a way to survive and dealing with everything that gets thrown at you, having a group that can hold up in the toughest moments."

Playing from behind after Romell Quioto put the Catrachos ahead in the 27th minute, the U.S. dropped to fourth in the North and Central American and Caribbean region with nine points, but more importantly remained ahead of Honduras on goal difference with two qualifiers left. Panama moved into third place when it beat last-place Trinidad and Tobago 3-0 and eliminated the Soca Warriors.

## College football

## Florida State drops to No. 10

Florida State slipped all the way to the No. 10 in The Associated Press college football poll after losing to Alabama and losing quarterback Deondre Francois to a season-ending injury.

The Crimson Tide is No. 1 again, securing 60 of 61 first-place votes in the first Top 25 of the regular season. Ohio State remained No. 2 in the media poll and received the other first-place vote. Defending champion Clemson moved up to No. 3. Penn State is No. 4 and Oklahoma moved up to No. 5, meaning for the second straight week there will be a top-five matchup. The Sooners play at Ohio State on Saturday.

Florida State was No. 3 in the preseason poll and lost an opening-week showdown with Alabama, 24-7. Francois went down with a knee injury late in the game.

## Baylor settles

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Baylor University has settled a federal lawsuit filed by a former student who said she was gang raped by two football players and alleged the program at the nation's largest Baptist school fostered a "culture of violence."

The settlement is one of several in recent weeks as Baylor moves to close out lawsuits filed in the aftermath of an investigation into how the school handled reports of sexual and physical assaults for years. The probe led to the firing of former football coach Art Briles and the departure of former school President Ken Starr.

## MLB

## Pirates extend GM and manager

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The architect of the Pittsburgh Pirates' renaissance and the man who helped guide the team to three straight playoff berths are sticking around.

The Pirates announced they have extended the contracts for general manager Neal Huntington and manager Clint Hurdle through the 2021 season. Both have played integral parts in Pittsburgh's emergence from 20 consecutive losing seasons. The Pirates reached the postseason in 2013, 2014 and 2015.

## WNBA

## Atlanta Dream fire head coach Michael Cooper

ATLANTA (AP) — The Atlanta Dream fired coach Michael Cooper after their worst season since 2008.

The WNBA team announced it "decided to part ways" with Cooper, the former Los Angeles Lakers star who guided the team for the last four years. Leading scorer Angel McCoughtry decided to sit out this season to rest and the Dream plummeted to 12-22. It was the worst showing since a 4-30 mark in their inaugural season as an expansion team.

## US Open

## Federer, Nadal can set up 1st US Open clash

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

sius)

A quick look at the U.S. Open for Wednesday:

For the sixth time, Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal are each a victory away from finally meeting at the U.S. Open, the only Grand Slam tournament where the rivals have never played each other. Juan Martin del Potro prevented it once and can do it again. Federer plays del Potro in the men's quarterfinals, and top-seeded Nadal faces 19-year-old Russian Andrey Rublev. Del Potro beat Nadal in the 2009 semifinals at Flushing Meadows, then ended Federer's five-year championship reign by upsetting him in the final. Federer will be the fresher player in their night matchup, having beaten Philipp Kohlschreiber in straight sets Monday, while the 24th-seeded del Potro was overcoming illness and a two-set deficit to rally past No. 6 seed Dominic Thiem in more than 3 1/2 hours. In the women's quarterfinals, No. 1 Karolina Pliskova of the Czech Republic faces No. 20 CoCo Vandeweghe of the U.S., and 15th-seeded Madison Keys of the U.S. meets 418th-ranked Kaia Kanepi of Estonia, the first qualifier in the U.S. Open women's quarterfinals since Barbara Gerken in 1981.

## Wednesday's forecast

Rain. High of 73 degrees (23 Cel-

## Tuesday's results

Men's quarterfinals: No. 12 Pablo Carreno Busta beat No. 29 Diego Schwartzman 6-4, 6-4, 6-2; No. 28 Kevin Anderson beat No. 17 Sam Querrey 7-6 (5), 6-7 (9), 6-3, 7-6 (7).

Women's quarterfinals: No. 9 Venus Williams beat No. 13 Petra Kvitova 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (2); Sloane Stephens beat No. 16 Anastasija Sevastova 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (4).

## Stat of the day

37 — Venus Williams' age, making her the oldest women's semifinalist at the U.S. Open in the Open era, which began in 1968.

## Stat of the day II

0 — Number of sets lost by Pablo Carreno Busta through the quarterfinals. No man has won the U.S. Open without dropping a set in the Open era, which started in 1968.

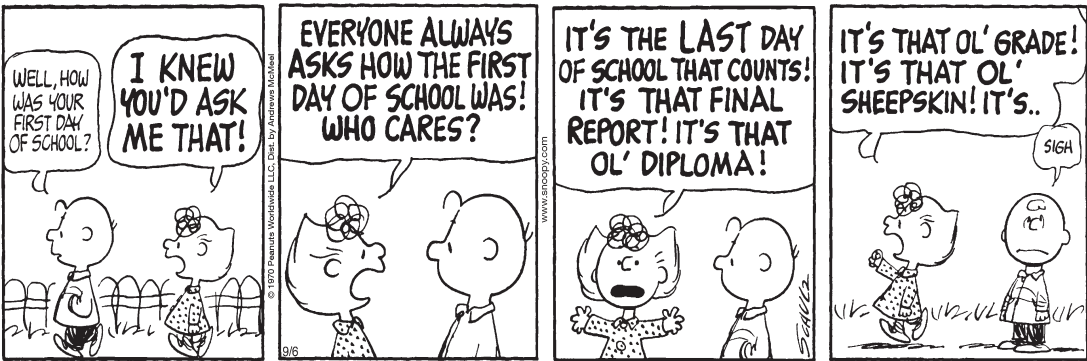
## Quote of the day

"When I started my comeback at Wimbledon, I could have never even dreamed of something like this happening, having these results." — Sloane Stephens, who had foot surgery in January and returned to the tour in July. She reached her first Grand Slam semifinal since 2013.

## FEATURES

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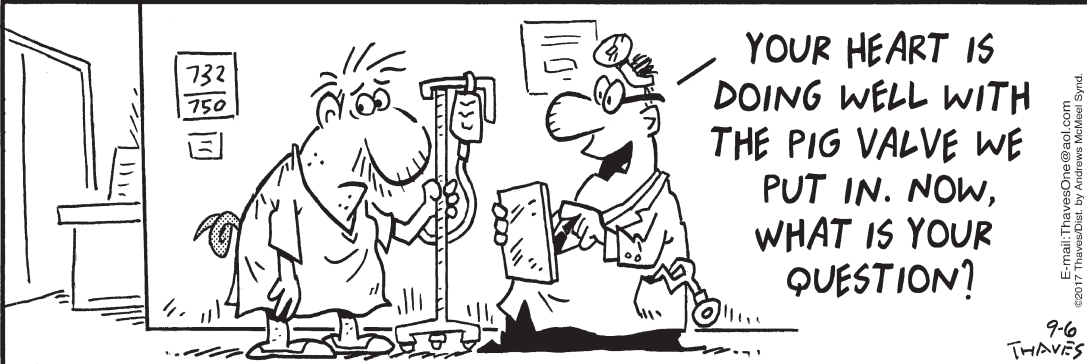
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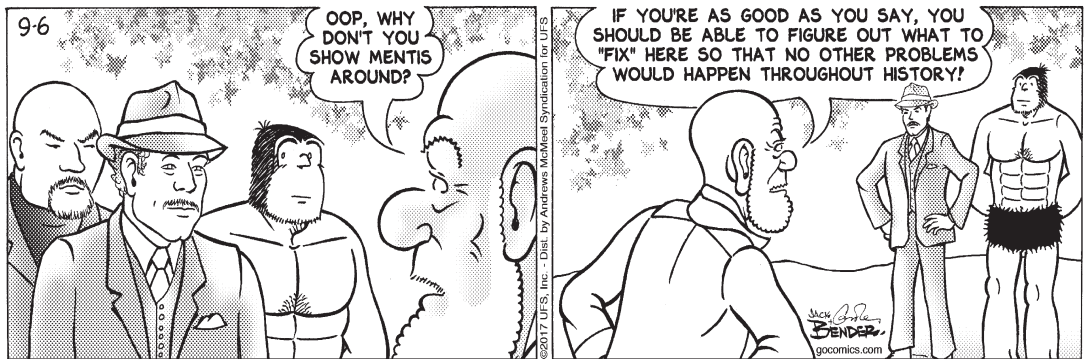
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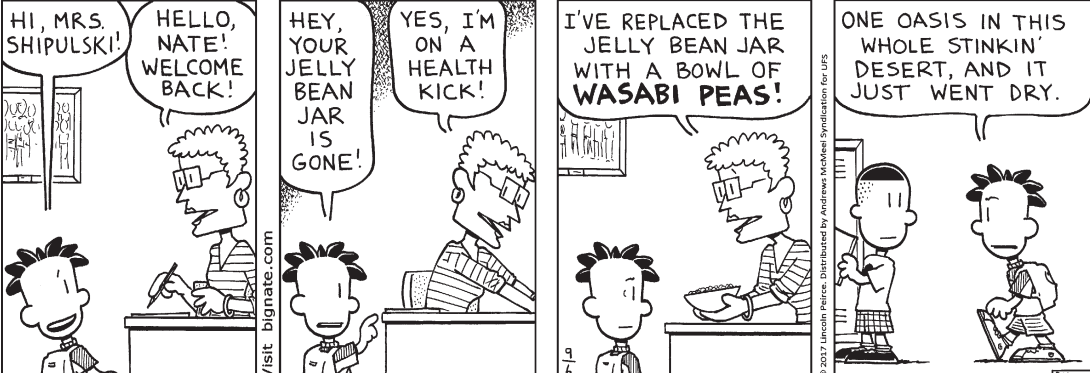
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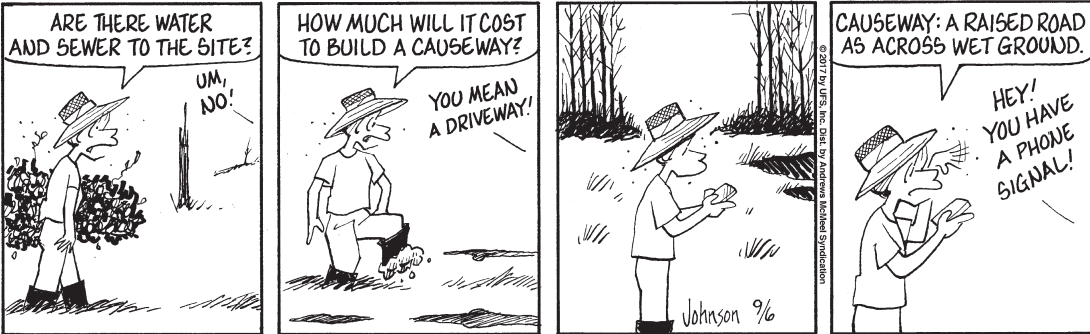
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Zodiac  
Birthdays Tomorrow

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2017 -

Explore new interests and people if you want to discover things about who you are and what you are capable of doing. Satisfaction will come from looking inward and realizing what you have to offer. Don't disregard your achievements, attributes or ability to make a difference.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Do the work yourself and save some money. Use your skills to fix minor problems at home or find natural ways to improve your health and avoid unnecessary costs.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Draw on your experience and the people you know you can count on. Someone who has a tendency to bully will question a change you try to implement.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Don't feel that you must follow the crowd. Impulsive or risky pursuits may work for some, but you aren't likely to prosper if you get involved. Do your own thing.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Welcome change. Whether it's learning something new or going somewhere different, the experiences you encounter will have an impact on the way you live and how well you get along with others.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Don't be fooled by what others do. Following the crowd will not turn out as planned. Use your intelligence and head in a direction that allows you to practice your skills.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Revisit old ideas and consider how to update and implement them into your current situation. Relationships will weigh heavily on the decisions you make. Romance is encouraged.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Look for alternative ways to put your skills, knowledge and experience to good use. If someone stands in your way or puts demands on you, back away and do your own thing.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) -- Emotions will surface and could cause trouble if you cannot control what you do or say. Concentrate on personal growth and your outward appeal. Choose love over discord.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) -- Go over your important papers or contracts and make any adjustments that are needed. A discussion with a colleague or instructor will result in positive personal or professional change.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) -- If you pitch in and help, the rewards will be

worth your time and effort. Make family a priority and put a passionate relationship at the top of your list.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) -- Get along with others. Communal effort will make it much easier to reach your goal. Express your thoughts and concerns and be willing to listen to good advice.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Don't give

in to someone taking advantage of your generosity. Be clear regarding your expectations and what you want in return. Stick to the people you know you can trust. Romance is highlighted.

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## Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS										DOWN																	
1 Neck	5 Took the risk	10 Summer annual	12 Rio Grande town	13 Straightens	14 Not susceptible	15 Singer Seeger	16 Cure leather	18 Whirlpool locale	19 Rackets	22 All geared up	25 New York cagers	29 Brownies	30 Taj —	32 Play footsie	33 Fallback strategy (2 wds.)	34 Approval	37 Advances, as money	38 Surrounded	40 Actress Gardner	43 SFO info	44 Drama award	48 Strikingly different	50 Begin to burn	52 Recess	53 Hard worker	54 Itty-bitty	55 Date source
										1 Scramble piece	2 — for keeps	3 Gives rise to	4 Loud, confused noise	5 River tamer	6 Starfish features	7 Enlist again (hyph.)											

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**A kind gesture**

Pecan Grove firefighters and first responders stand with Kevin and Jennifer Gibbs, center, who treated the public servants to a free meal at Belin Park in Pecan Grove. The couple owns The Moonwalk Man. They inflated their moonwalks and slides for the first responders' children to play on during the fete. From left are Larry Danna, Chief Joe Woolley, Jacob Martin, Kevin and Jennifer Gibbs, Eric Orem, Jesse Woolley, Denise Davis, Jason Sweatt, Jarrod Vontz, and Milton Dinges. The Gibbs were planning a vacation to Mexico but decided to spend the money on the first responders instead.

**Museum, historical park offer discount admission**

The Fort Bend Museum and George Ranch Historical Park have reopened to the public on Wednesday.

As a benefit to the community, the Museum will offer free admission and the park will offer half-price admission through Saturday.

"After nearly two weeks of dealing with the stress and trauma of the storm, people need a place to go have a break and take their minds off the destruction," said Fort Bend History Association Executive Director Claire Rogers.

"We invite the community to bring their whole family to the Museum or Park this week and enjoy a Texas history experience on us."

In addition to free admission, the Museum will also have special activity stations set up for children on Thursday and Friday from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

"Children can spend the morning playing Victorian games, making crafts and taking part in 1800s chores that include churning butter, grinding corn and washing clothes," said Museum Site Manager Ana Alicia Estrada.

Tours of the Long-Smith Cottage and 1883 John and Lottie Moore Home will also be available, along with a showing of the film "Night at the Museum," she said.

Like thousands of others all across the Houston area, several of the Fort Bend History Association's structures sustained damage during the storm, including a ceiling in the Museum's 1883 John and Lottie Moore Home and the Park's Visitor Center, which was flooded with eight inches of water. All of the other historic homes, artifacts and livestock are safe, Rogers said.

"We've been damaged, but we're not down," she said. "It could have been much worse, and we're grateful to be able to re-open this quickly."

A temporary Visitor Center will be set up in the Programs Office at the George Ranch Historical Park until repairs can be made.

Temporary signage has been set up to direct visitors to the new location; the rest of the Park experience will not be affected.

This Saturday's historic lunch will take place as planned at the Park's 1830s Jones Stock Farm site; the menu includes candied

pork belly, venison and pork smoked sausage, pinto beans and fatback, dandelion greens with potatoes and onions, cornbread and blackberry shortbread with cream.

The meal will take place at 12:30 p.m. and costs \$14 for adults and children 13+, \$13 for seniors (62+), \$11 for children ages five to 12 and \$4 for children four and under.

Members of the Fort Bend History Association will receive a discount on the meal price.

Reservations for the meal can be made online at <https://www.georgeranch.org/event/saturday-lunch-1830s-jones-stock-farm/> or by calling 281-343-0218.

Proceeds from the park's activities benefit the History Association.

**Central Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce members collecting items for storm victims**

The Central Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce is collecting supplies for hurricane/flood victims.

"As we work through the tremendous and sometimes overwhelming tasks of putting our community back together, we must all remain mindful that it is life's challenges and how we meet them that define us," Regina Morales, president of the chamber told members in an email on Tuesday.

"The Fort Bend community's giving heart makes us a stronger and closer community with each adversity."

Current chamber businesses serving as dropoff and pickup points are:

- Block House Coffee — 611 Jackson St., Richmond, Open Monday-Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Central Fort Bend Chamber — 4120 Ave. H, Rosenberg. Open Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- FastSigns — 28000 U.S. 59, Suite H-1, Rosenberg. Open Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- Safari Texas — 11627 FM 1464 Road, Richmond. Open seven days a week, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Donations:**

Drop off donations from the list below to the Old TSC Location; 1400 FM 2218, Rosenberg:

- Absolutely no clothes will be accepted.

The following specific items are needed:

- Nonperishable foods — canned goods/boxed foods such as macaroni and cheese, individual cereal
- Bottle water
- Gatorade
- Plastic ware/cups/ paper plates
- Plastic to go containers
- Can openers
- Hygiene items
- Diapers — all sizes
- Wipes/baby formula
- Pet kennels/ pet food
- Gallon Ziploc bags
- Black trash bags
- Cleaning supplies
- Gloves/masks
- Shovels

- Brooms
- Buckets
- Bug spray
- Bleach
- Fans
- Boxes

"Fort Bend is one of the most giving and helpful counties," Morales said.

"The outpouring of support for those devastated by the Harvey floods, is awe inspiring.

"Our ability to help so many through our partnership with The Church continues and the following locations are setup as points of pickup for flood victim families in need of assistance through the end of this week."

**Pets are victims, too**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Back row, from left, are Bo Langdon, Kelsey Kuhrt, Ashton Langdon, Keith Beck and Darwin Enax. Kneeling in front, from left, are Patrick Flarity, Tammy Horton, Crystal Carson, and Ashley Bonds.

St. John's United Church of Christ, located at 1513 West St. in Rosenberg, is a pet supply drop off and distribution site.

For information, you may call the church office at 281-342-5159.

Please call between the hours of 9 a.m. and noon daily, Monday through Friday.

The site is also available for supply drop offs on Sunday from 9-11 am.

The site manager is Sandra Flarity, assisted by Cisco Kolkmeier.

The church also has parking in the rear, located behind the church at Avenue M and Brazos Street.

On Saturday, Sept. 2, six members of Rescuers Without Borders and rescue group MASA from Midland, Texas, delivered supplies to the site.

The site is accepting needed supplies, such as cat and dog food, non-clumping kitty litter, litter pans, food bowls, carriers, wire collapsible crates, leashes, collars, toys, dog chew bones and treats. During their time in Fort Bend County, they have rescued several dogs for a trip back to Midland.

The Fort Bend County and Rosenberg AC Shelter is overflowing, and many dogs and cats need

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**Employees may donate vacation leave to victims**

The Internal Revenue Service has announced special tax relief designed to support leave-based donation programs to aid victims of Hurricane Harvey.

Under these programs, employees may forgo their vacation, sick or personal leave in exchange for cash payments the employer makes, before Jan. 1, 2019, to charitable organizations providing relief for the victims of this disaster.

Under this special relief, the donated leave will not be included in the income or wages of the employees. Employers will be permitted to deduct the cash payments as business expenses.



## ROSENBERG: Council approves new roof

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

However, because the AC unit sits just below the roof of City Hall, it is harder to reconstruct the roof at a slant, council member Lynn Moses said.

The city still needs an engineering report on the roof repair, according to City Manager John Maresh.

"With the amount of work due to hurricane damage, prices are going to go up and that may impact (costs), not with the roof pricing, but with construction," he added.

Council member Jimmie Pena told council he does not like flat roofs. "I guess we're just giving work for somebody else to come back and fix," he said.

Council also voted in favor of the police department fence repair being budgeted with the current year sales tax revenue, amounting to \$36,000.

In other business, council members adopted the proposed budget and tax rate (46.2 cents) for the 2018 fiscal year.

"We did not raise your taxes and we did not lower them 2 or 3 cents," Jozwiak said. "But remember that we did not raise them."

Assistant City Manager Joyce Vasut said that the total budget for all funds is approximately \$78.7 million.

The FY 2018 budget appropriates income necessary to fund city operations, including water and wastewater operations, debt service obligations, special revenue fund operations and internal service fund operations.

Council members unanimously named Glenn Dresner as the newest member of the hotel occupancy tax committee. The committee reviews applications for the use of tax revenues to ensure the proposed projects

meet the criteria.

Other members of the evaluation committee are Moses and Jozwiak, Rosenberg Development Corp. Vice President Allen Scopel and city staff representative Joyce Vasut.

Because of Hurricane Harvey and the resulting flood, council authorized a temporary waiver of building permit fees for construction repairs related to the storm.

According to city staff, this will help minimize further hardship for the property owners that find it necessary to perform repairs and/or rehabilitate flood-damaged properties.

The fee waiver will be effective for building-related permits applied for and issued from Sept. 1 of this year through Aug 31, 2018.

The next council meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Sept. 19 at City Hall, located at 2110 Fourth St.

## CONTEST: Entry deadline is Sept. 30

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

reception and awards ceremony on Saturday, Oct. 28, at George Memorial Library in Richmond.

All photographs will be displayed in the Bohachevsky Gallery at George Memorial Library from Oct. 28 through Dec. 1.

Winning photographs will be determined by a panel of judges, who will make their determinations based on the following criteria: relationship to contest theme, composition, focus, lighting, emotional impact, and creativity.

Photographs will be anonymous until after the judging is

complete.

All entries must be original, unpublished, and the work of the person submitting it.

Only one photo may be entered per person.

Photographs should be printed on photo-quality paper, and must be no smaller than 8"x10" and no larger than 11"x17."

Photos may be in color or black-and-white.

FBCL reserves the right to print or display any entry to this contest for an indefinite period of time.

Entries will be exhibited for the general public to see, so they should be appropriate for all ages to view.

The photographer is respon-

sible for obtaining verbal or written release for public use of the photo from all identifiable individuals in the photograph submitted; the photographer accepts all liability from the use of a photo where this release has not been obtained.

The contest is open to amateur photographers only. Professional photographers, who earn a living by selling their photographs, are not eligible to participate.

There is no fee for entering the contest. Library employees and their immediate families are not eligible to win.

For more information, call the library system's Public Information Office at 281-633-4734.

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

Rating: GOLD

Solution to 9/5/17

3	4	6	5	7	8	9	1	2
9	7	8	2	1	4	3	5	6
5	2	1	3	9	6	8	7	4
6	1	2	9	4	7	5	3	8
4	9	3	8	5	2	7	6	1
8	5	7	1	6	3	2	4	9
7	6	9	4	2	5	1	8	3
1	8	4	7	3	9	6	2	5
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# CLEAN UP: Rosenberg flood victims return to find flooded homes, ruined belongings



HERALD PHOTO BY TYLER JOHNSON  
**ROSENBERG HOMEOWNER** Jessie Leandro, left, and **Friends of North Rosenberg** volunteer Bryan Moss, right, carry out a bookshelf to the garbage on Monday. “I just bought that bookshelf,” Leandro said. “I never even got a chance to use it.”

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

er’s immediate needs are and additional needs moving forward in the recovery phase.

“Sadly, some of the areas that have been affected were affected 15 months ago during the 2016 Memorial Day Flood,” Initiative Director Rose Pickens said.

“We’ve been through this whole process before and we will continue to be there moving forward as (homeowners) return their damaged homes.”

Homes that were affected most by severe flooding are located north of Avenue A in Rosenberg and along the gully of the Brazos River, which runs down Sixth Street.

Currently, Friends of Rosenberg has three teams mobilized, with one of them already starting the “Muck and Gut” process at Leandro’s home on Seventh Street.

The “Muck and Gut” process is the removal of all furniture, debris and damaged sheetrock and

flooring.

Most of the volunteers helping with Leandro’s home are from River Pointe Community Church in Richmond.

“It’s sad,” River Pointe member and volunteer Bryan Moss said. “Mr. Leandro lives so close to the river so it’s going to take him even longer to recover.”

Moss and his daughter Olivia said they were more than willing to help people in this time of need.

“It’s what Jesus would’ve done,” Moss said.

Volunteer Remi Asade and her son Tobi carried boxes of wet and dirty clothes out to the road where they were dumping all of Leandro’s damaged belongings.

“I’m just serving God,” Asade said, pointing to the sky. “I’m just trying to be a light in the darkness.”

Friends of North Rosenberg are working with other organizations and churches, like River Pointe, to continue the “Muck

and Gut” process on Tuesday.

Pickens said she is hoping to have 20-30 teams in the North Rosenberg region within the next few weeks.

Friends of North Rosenberg will be sending teams out to the 100 Block of Eighth Street on Tuesday.

Over the next few days, Friends of North Rosenberg will branch out to the Cumings Road area as soon as they receive clearance from Fort Bend County emergency officials.

Persons interested in volunteering should contact the Friends of North Rosenberg office, 503 3rd St. in Rosenberg, or call them at (832) 471-6090.

Aspiring volunteers can also contact the group through its Facebook page.

“We know it’s going to take at least six months to a year in some cases just so homeowners can return to their homes,” Pickens said. “Friends of North Rosenberg are in it for the long haul.”

## Brazos Bend State Park extends closure

Brazos Bend State Park extended its closure to public use because of impacts from Hurricane Harvey and historic flooding.

“The flooding that followed Hurricane Harvey crested at 52.67 feet at the FM 1462 gauge in Rosharon. That is the highest level flood recorded at that gauge since the 1957 floods,” said Park Superintendent Chris Bishop.

Although floodwaters are receding, there is still water between the entrance and park headquarters and between the Park Headquarters and the interior of the park, Bishop reported.

He said that the staff would

provide public access to the park headquarters for information purposes only as soon as it is safe to allow traffic to that point.

He re-iterated that no picnicking nor any form of day-use recreation would be possible until the park re-opens later in the fall.

“I cancelled all incoming reservations through Oct. 4,” Bishop added.

“At this point, I do not think that re-opening on Oct. 5 is realistic. However, we will need to to conduct a preliminary damage assessment before we make a wise decision about what is realistic and appropriate for a re-opening date.”

Brazos Bend State Park is a

5,000-acre parcel of public land managed by Texas Parks & Wildlife Department to conserve natural and cultural resources, provide recreational and educational opportunities, and foster an understanding of the diversity of Texas’ lands and heritage for all generations.

For more information about Brazos Bend State Park or this release, please contact Chris Bishop, (979) 553-5101, or email Bishop at christopher.bishop@tpwd.texas.gov.

Or, visit [www.brazosbend.org](http://www.brazosbend.org) or Texas Parks & Wildlife on the web at [www.tpwd.state.tx.us](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us), or join the park’s Facebook fan site.

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