PORT AUTHORITY CHIEF RESIGNS

Geraldine Semien, PHA Small Business Office, networking/management liaison for the Port of Houston Authority’s Small Business Office, announced her resignation Monday. Ms. Semien has been working for the Port Authority for 26 years. She was highly respected by her coworkers for her knowledge, dedication and commitment to the company and the business community. She is a graduate of the University of Houston and a native of Galveston, Texas. Ms. Semien and her husband have two children. She is the proud grandmother of four grand children.

Networking Forum

The North Channel Chamber of Commerce Networking Forum was held on January 17th. Attendees were given an opportunity to network and interact with Port Authority staff; and learn about upcoming projects at the Port; in addition, the audience heard about current and upcoming proposed projects and the implications the projects will have on the community. Following the meeting, attendees went to the Port Authority for a special luncheon featuring Gary Miller with a series of questions regarding the lack of environmental focus on environmental issues. The Port Authority along with the City of Houston and the Harris County Flood Control District are responsible for managing and controlling excess water run off, and managing water quality in the San Jacinto River. They presented options ranging from river to land, full reclamation of the contaminated sites.

HOUSTON – It was certainly a Gala Event, as several hundred Chamber members, guests, and friends gathered last Jan. 25th at the Houston Baptist University Banquet Hall, for the 37th Annual Chamber Gala. An exquisite meal, served with candlelight and wine, set the tone for the evening. The featured speaker was Deborah Duncan, emcee award-winning TV host of the program Great Day Houston. Deborah is known for her radio and TV personality in Austin, Dallas and New York. After telling a bit about her life, including amusing tales of life, including amusing tales of her “will sister” that she had to accommodate, and her military family’s travels through Tuscan, Japan, Texas and elsewhere, she turned to stories of her community service, including the support of families and their children.和 her new role as president of the shaving. She said that Lesson One was that you are responsible for your language.

Lesson Two: Value who you are. Don’t compare yourself with others. They are not better.

Lesson Three: Sometimes you have to ask or speak what is on your mind.

Lesson Four: try to know the rest of the story, and see something as others see it.

Lesson Five: everyone is equal, and has value.

Lesson Six: tell the one you love about that you love them.

Continued, see GALA, Page 2

Debra Duncan entertains members at Chamber Gala

Life’s Lessons in a humorous manner

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Continued, see GALA, Page 2

EPA Meeting reveals the dangers of toxins in the San Jacinto River near Channelview

The featured speaker was Gary Miller with a series of questions regarding the lack of environmental focus on environmental issues. The Port Authority along with the City of Houston and the Harris County Flood Control District are responsible for managing and controlling excess water run off, and managing water quality in the San Jacinto River. They presented options ranging from river to land, full reclamation of the contaminated sites.

After listening to a long presentation and slide show from the EPA staff, which included similar to the presentation earlier in the year, but in slightly more detail, the audience focused on the sixth and final slide, which promised complete removal of the toxic material. EPA project manager Gary Miller explained that this option had pros and cons.

See WASTE PITS, page 2

Jackie Young at the microphone

NC Chamber installs new board, Buentello as new President

NORTH CHANNEL – The North Channel Chamber of Commerce was the setting for the announcement, from new Chamber Chairman Greg Ollis, of the selection of Dr. Charles Grant, then chair, of the North Channel Chamber Board of Directors. Dr. Grant has been selected as the permanent North Channel Chamber President/CEO in September, upon the retirement of Dr. Charles Grant, then chair, of the North Channel Chamber Board of Directors. She has provided guidance and assistance to chamber members and activities. In this role, she has provided leadership and management skills.

Margie Buentello, 1st vice chair; Adam Lund, Treasurer; Shalonda Dawkins, Secretary; Wilfred Broussard, Jr. Past chair; and June Harris, Foundation chair.

See NEW PRESIDENT, p. 7

San Jacinto College MLB Stars return for legends game

HOUSTON – The San Jacinto College baseball team is to host the Legends Game on February 6th. The game will feature baseball greats from the college attended San Jacinto College baseball games.

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See WASTE PITS, page 2
San Jacinto Waste Pits,

Continued from Page 1

Although it promised complete remediation, that never happened, took a long time, and therefore the community spread to the toxic area, reaching a peak of about 200,000, and a day of 110,000 would strike during the process. The cost of the project ranged from $104 million to $636 million, and the time required to remove 219,000 cubic yards of soil was 16 months. The pollution companies will have to pay for the remediation, Miller said.

Present at the meeting were a number of county and state officials, and the meeting was held independent environment, as well as resi-

dents of Highlands, Leyczard, and Channelview. This group included residents that have formed the San Jacinto River Coalition, the Texas Together environment-
atal group, and the Galveston Bay Foundation.

The ExxonMobil spill was not the only event occurring in the area, with many residents having concerns about the waste pits and the EPA's plans to vacate the site. Participants will be able to register at the event, but they will need to apply for the axis pits permanently.

Make hot months adventures with scuba diving certification

At the January meeting of the Community Advisory Panel (CAPLE) of LyondellBasell and Remedi- 

ation/Feasibility Study, participants had the opportunity to discuss the future of the site, which will be delivered through the Tex-

as Community Foundation.

The next regular CAPLE meeting will be held at the Alvin Baggett 

Center, 4627 Main Street, Alvin, Tx, on March 20, 2014. All meetings are held on first

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Crosby Chamber EXPO brings citizens to business

By Don Springer

Approximately 85 vendors from Crosby and Huffman area came together last Saturday for the annual Crosby Consumer Expo at the local High School. They greeted more than 400 visitors who took the time to spend a couple hours talking with these vendors and local citizen groups representing their area.

Kim Harris, events coordinator for the Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce, explained the Expo was moved back to the January-February time schedule after the Chamber, sponsor of the event, experimented with a May time frame last year. "It was time to interest some vendors of outside equipment and greenery last year but didn't have the attraction," said Miss Harris. "This year the Expo will be in the winter time frame." Harris also said that news paper the local resident Home or Monroe was the winner of the Attendant Card drawing. Monroe took home a Kindle Fire offered by the Chamber. Several entertainment groups provided musical entertainment and demonstrations during the event. Instrumental group from Crosby Middle School was part of the entertainment for visitors at the Crosby Consumer Expo.

In addition to the Attendant Card drawing a number of additional drawings for vendors products were made by many participating business.

Eastside Veterans’ Celebration team with Crosby Quilt Guild to spot a relief for the quilt depicted above in an effort to raise funds for a special celebration on Veteran’s Day Weekend. Drawing for the event. This drawing is the major prize for attendees. Compete for the Crosby High, 11th grade sang beautifully for visitors. Compete for the Crosby Consumer Expo. Instrumental group from Crosby Middle School was part of the entertainment for visitors at the Crosby Consumer Expo.

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AUSTIN — Six Republicans, led by Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, hoped their small group would be the difference maker in the Texas Senate, the body where votes are scarce.

Last week, the board considered dozens of amendments to the 2015-16 Public Education Plan. The ESP report total of $47 million for Crosby ISD. Last year, the Texas Legislature created the 2015 Foundation High School Program. The new programs require students to complete three years of English and four-credit endorsements and four-credit endorsements in specific subjects but left decisions about many of the plans to the State Board of Education.

The neighborhood in flood zone area’s of San Jacinto River Terrace Estates #1 was flooded out by Hurricane Ike in 2008. Missed last year as it happened on March 4.

Donor registry grows
The Gluten-Free, Texas State Registry is the state database of individual organ donors, and these decisions to donate- related facts and tissues have saved thousands of people currently suffering from organ transplants. Some 8.6 million Texans had registered organs and tissues donor list of Dec. 31, Texas Department of Public Safety reported.

More than 34,000 individu- als were registered for theTexas State Registry in January.

As a member of the local press, you owe it to our community to report information about local government, local businesses, local school districts, courts, and any other aspect of your community that is newsworthy. These views do not necessarily represent the views of this newspaper in its edition. As published by this newspaper, we welcome diverse opinions and will publish them when appropriate.

Sincerely,

Please feel free to use some of this information for a story if you like.

To the Editor

My name is Melissa Coyle and I am the mother of Pat Kroszak, candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives for the 36th Congressional District which includes the communities of Crosby and Highlands. My daughter and her husband, Tom, have lived in Crosby for the past 25 years. My daughter is currently the President of the Crosby School Board. My husband and I are both life-long residents of Texas. We were born, raised and have lived our lives in the Houston area.

I would like to start by telling you a little about my daughter, Pat Kroszak. Pat was born and raised in the Texas Panhandle. She graduated from Texas A & M University in 1990 with a degree in Environmental Engineering and went on to work at the Texas Water Development Board and eventually received a master’s degree from Cornell University in 1994.

The EPA, however, re- quires us to take steps for- ward. The EPA, Texas Department of Health and Human Services, and the AT&T, and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission are currently working on the issue.

I am proud of my daughter, Pat, for entering this race. I knew her decision to run was not made easily because of the amount of time and financial resources needed to take it to the level.

In summary, we are prepared to help the community who have an important decision to make at the Republican Primaries on March 4.

Thank you,

Melissa Coyle

Do not comment on the character of Ms. Kasprzak.

To the Editor

I try to take it at least one day at a time. I have always kept my life in my home!

I do not think you will be disappointed. I do not think you will return by Seattle added the return. Whatever it is there might soon be at end.

By Don Sterling

By Ed Sterling

President's annual address draws reactions

The neighborhood in flood zone area’s of San Jacinto River Terrace Estates #1

Weekend full of events

SB XLVIII—This week I can’t write a column because the Super Bowl is only a few days away. The Denver Broncos beat the Carolina Panthers 48-21 in Super Bowl 50.

On Saturday, the Denver Broncos will play the Carolina Panthers in Super Bowl 50. The Broncos beat the Panthers 48-21.

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Jessie Jake Lowrance _______ February 5, 2014 _______ Online Obituaries

Jessie Jake Lowrance of Highlands, Texas, a well-loved member of the community, passed away on Monday, February 4, 2014. Services were held at the Highlands Community Center on Tuesday, February 11, 2014, with Rev. Royce Measures officiating. His final rest was at Liberty Cemetery in Highlands, Texas. He is survived by his loving family and friends.

Norma Pauline Curtis

Norma Pauline Curtis, loving mother and grandmoth- er of Jessie Lowrance, passed away on Tuesday, February 4, 2014, in Houston, Texas. Services were held at the Highlands Community Center on Tuesday, February 11, 2014, with Rev. Royce Measures officiating. His final rest was at Liberty Cemetery in Highlands, Texas. He is survived by his loving family and friends.

Legalize pot bad idea

Linda Daisy Johnston

Linda Daisy Johnston passed away on Tuesday, January 31, 2014, in Port Worth, Texas. She was born June 16, 1942, to Robert and Muriel Goodwin Johnston in Franklin, Tennessee.

Testamentary Power of Attorney

Weldon Rainbow, 62, of Gonzales, passed away on Sunday, October 20, 2013. He was born on February 27, 1951, in Gonzales, Texas, the son of Elmer and Elizabeth (Waldo) Rainbow. He was baptized into the Church of Christ by immersion. He attended Gonzales High School where he was an all state football player. He was a member of the Gonzales Masonic Lodge and attending the Gonzales Methodist Church. He was also a member of the Gonzales Jaycees. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1969 to 1972. He was married to Betty (Caroline) Johnson Rainbow in 1972, and was the father of Robert Rainbow.

You Just Can’t Hide

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Friday Thrift Food Center

I can do everything through him who gives me strength. Philippians 4:13

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La Porte Head Start program recruits families of children ages 3-5

Head Start La Porte location is recruiting families of children ages 3-5 for its new site tapas in La Porte. For more information, call 361-344-5239 Ext. 2121 or visit the LSC-Bridgeland Career Center, La Porte location at 901 W.CompanyId Street, La Porte, TX 77571.

Barris County Department of Education

The Barris County Head Start programs in and around Cross Creek have additional slots available for children in economic eligible families or families of children with special needs. To participate in the program, parents or guardians will need to complete an application and attend an enrollment session with social service agencies, local businesses, the Head Start and local schools.

Sixty-six sites work together to serve, educating the children as soon as they arrived along the superhero path.

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Happy Valentine’s Day February 14, 2014

DARK ORIGINS OF VALENTINE’S DAY

By Diamond Jim

Valentine’s Day is a time to celebrate romance and love and kissy-face fealty. But the origins of this festival of candy and cupids are actually dark, bloody—and a bit muddy.

Though no one has pinpointed the exact origins of the holiday one good place to start is ancient Rome, where men hit on women by, well, hitting them.

From Feb. 13 to 15, the Romans celebrated the feast of Lupercalia. The men sacrificed a goat and a dog, then whipped women with the hides of the animals they had just slain. The Roman romantics “were drunk. They were naked,” says Noel Lenski, a historian at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Young women would actually line up for the men to hit them, Lenski says. They believed this would make them fertile.

The brutal fete included a matchmaking lottery, in which young men drew the names of women from a jar. The couple would then be “coupled up” for the duration of the festival—or longer, if the match was right.

The ancient Romans may also be responsible for the name of our modern day of love. Emperor Claudius II executed two men—both named Valentine—on Feb. 14 of different years in the 3rd century A.D. Their martyrdom was honored by the Catholic Church with the celebration of St. Valentine’s Day.

Later, Pope Gelasius I muddied things in the 5th century by combining St. Valentine’s Day with Lupercalia to expel the pagan rituals. But the festival was more of a theatrical interpretation of what it had once been, Lenski adds, “It was still the same ritual, but the Christians put clothes back on it. That didn’t stop it from being a day of fertility and love.”

Around the same time, the Normans celebrated Galatin’s Day. Galatin meant “lover of women.” That was likely confused with St. Valentine’s Day at some point, in part because William Shakespeare helps romanticize Valentine’s Day in his work, and it gained popularity throughout Britain and the rest of Europe.

As the years went on, the holiday grew ever Chaucer and Shakespeare, romanticized in its work, and gained popularity throughout Britain and the rest of Europe. Handmade paper cards became the valentine-du-jour in the 19th century. Eventually, the tradition made its way to the New World. The industrial revolution ushered in factory-made cards in the 18th century. And in 1913, Hallmark Cards of Kansas City, Mo., began mass producing valentines. Valentine’s Day has not been the same since.

Today, the holiday is big business. Valentine’s Day sales are expected to exceed $18.6 billion. And so the celebration of Valentine’s Day goes on, in varied ways. Many will break the bank buying jewelry and flowers for their beloveds. Others will celebrate in a SAD (that’s Single Awareness Day) way, dining alone and binging on self-gifted chocolates. A few may even be spending the day the same way the early Romans did. But let’s not go there.

I wish you a very happy Valentine’s Day!