

# NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

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

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www.northchannelstar.com

## CHANNEL CHATTER

### Federal Judge Rules Texas Voter ID Law Discriminatory

Austin, Texas - For the second time, a Federal judge has ruled that the Texas' Voter ID Law, Senate Bill 14 passed in 2011, is discriminatory in practice and intent.

"Once again the courts have struck down this discriminatory law as a blatant attempt to make it harder for minorities to vote. There's no need for this law. There needs to be oversight to ensure every eligible Texan has an equal opportunity to exercise their constitutional right to vote. By placing unnecessary burdens on Texas voters, we will continue to have unacceptable low voter turnout," stated Senator Sylvia Garcia.

### Credit by Examination offered

Channelview Independent School District offers students currently enrolled in grades Kindergarten through 12 the opportunity to take Credit by Examination tests (CBE). The exams will be administered June 5-8 or July 24-27, 2017. Two sessions of testing per day will be offered with the first test starting at 9 a.m. and the second test starting at 1 p.m. Students must score 80 percent or better on exams to receive credit. Students have the opportunity to advance an entire grade level in elementary or junior high and students in high school can receive course credit. Interested students can be registered now through April 18, 2017. Students and/or their parents should visit with their school counselor regarding registration and eligibility.

## DEPUTY GREENWOOD'S KILLER IDENTIFIED, COMMITS SUICIDE

HOUSTON - A week after a man walked up to Assistant Chief Deputy Clinton Greenwood's assigned parking space at the Baytown Courthouse Annex and fired twice with a pistol striking him in the neck and bulletproof vest, a suspect has been named and that man had suicided the day after the murder.

Lt. Steve Dorris of Baytown P.D. named William Francis Kenny, 64, of West Houston, as prime suspect and "Investigators also learned that the weapon Mr. Kenny used to take his own life is consistent with the weapon used in the murder of Assistant Chief Deputy Clint Greenwood."

Dorris said Keeny was



Bill Kenny

tracked through surveillance video of his vehicle.

Sources say deputies had gone to the home of Kenny when he failed to show up for a court appearance on Monday, April 10.

They learned he had been in the morgue since April 4, when apparently he shot himself near Ben Taub Hospital. His body had recently been released to the family.

Kenny had a long history of grievance against law enforcement that began on St. Valentine's Day 2012 when a relative of his ex-wife had made an emergency call indicating that Kenny acted in a threatening manner. The deputy that made the call never charged Kenny with a crime in the apparent domestic disturbance.

Kenny however started a website, www.fryroad.com in which

he made accusations against the HCSO's office. He appealed to HCSO's Internal Affairs Division and failing to obtain the desired results from that appealed to the County Attorney's Office, appealing all the way to the Texas Attorney General's Office.

One has to dig hard to find that the only connection to Clint Greenwood was that Greenwood was head of Internal Affairs during his appeal. Kenny said of the Deputy Clint Greenwood, "Major Greenwood is a legal criminal lacking basic ethics."

See Alleged deputy killer is suicide, p. 8

### Waste Pits update by Jackie Young

At the monthly meetings of the San Jacinto River Coalition, and related organizations, Jackie Young brought the audience up to date on testing of water quality that is underway. Harris County Pollution Control department is conducting what it terms "Phase II" tests on previously untested wells, and direct

See WASTE PITS, p. 8



Young discusses ground water testing with some Highlands residents.

## Channelview FFA auction highlights successful show

The 54th annual Channelview FFA Livestock Show celebrated another successful year as the auction highlighted the conclusion of the event.

Many livestock, horticulture and craft exhibits were featured during the week. In addition, the annual parade took place before the auction with the route travelling from Schochler Elementary and Channelview High School. FFA members that served in the military served as Grand Marshals of the parade.

The highlight of the auction was the bidding for Colton Taylor's Grand Champion Steer, which earned \$7,500 with Tubular Services winning bid. Kirsten Dominy's Reserve Champion Steer was purchased for \$5,000 by Channelview Glass.



Colton Taylor shows his Grand Champion Steer at the Channelview FFA Livestock Auction on Saturday, March 8. Taylor's steer was purchased by Tubular Services for \$7,500.

See Channelview FFA PARADE, p. 8

## Easter at the San Jacinto Mall

BAYTOWN - San Jacinto Mall is hosting the Easter Bunny, and invites you and your children to come by and say hello, and have pictures taken with the Easter Bunny.

Children can visit the Easter Bunny in his springtime garden at the Mall, near Bath & Body Works now through Saturday, April 15th. Photo packages are available, starting at \$24.99. All children will receive a complimentary activity book for visiting the Bunny, while supplies last.

Hours are Monday-Saturday 10am to 9pm. In addition, kids can visit www.sanjacintomall to experience "Bunnyville" with interactive games and educational opportunities.



Children from 1 year to 100 years seem to love the Easter Bunny. Every year the Malls have a Bunny talk with the children, as seen above at a local mall. You can also have your child's picture taken with the Bunny, see schedule in article.

## COMMUNITY WATCH

### Governor pledges to fight high crime rate

#### Cites gang-related violent activity as major cause

AUSTIN - April 10, 2017 - Governor Greg Abbott today held a press conference in Houston where he announced a new operation to crack down on the alarming rise and brutality of gang-related violent crime in Houston and Harris County. During the press conference, the Governor expressed concern about the double-digit growth in the violent crime rate in Houston and in Harris County and laid out his plan to take action in collaboration with the FBI and other local law enforcement agencies.

"This recent wave of senseless violence cannot continue," said Governor Abbott. "Government's foremost responsibility is to keep our citizens safe and secure. Texas will take action and use all lawful means to put an end to this lawlessness."



PHOTO: Office Of the Governor. Governor Abbott at the time of the press conference in Houston.

To help combat this wave of gang-related violence, Governor Abbott is immediately directing state resources to a violent crime reduction operation in Harris County.

- Establish a Tactical Operations Center in Houston to enhance and coordinate operations around the clock.
- Provide \$500,000 in new funding from the Gov-

ernor's Criminal Justice Division to increase Texas Anti-Gang Center resources in the Houston area.

- Deploy additional Texas Rangers and DPS Special Agents to support local law enforcement.
- Deploy added technology, including air assets and patrol unit tracking, to enhance timely collection and analysis of intelligence.

## SPORTS

### Channelview Falcon soccer completes stellar season



Channelview's David Sorto launches the game-deciding goal in the Falcon's Regional Semifinal victory against Cy-Ridge.

The Channelview Falcon Boys Soccer Team completed its best season in the history of the program finishing as Region 3 Finalists.

Last weekend at Deer Park's Abshire Stadium, the Falcons outlasted Cy-Ridge in a 6-5 shootout in the Regional Semi-Final game. Channelview then faced a down to the wire fight in its Regional Final match with Pasadena Dobie. After regulation play and two overtimes ended

in a 2-2 tie, the Falcons season ended in 7-6 shootout.

The Falcons can take pride in their best season in the history of the program with a 21-2-5 overall record and finishing among the state's "elite eight" teams.

"I am very proud of everything this team has accomplished," Channelview head coach Carlos Galuppo said. "To get this deep into the playoffs, you have

to beat the best of the best - and we met the challenge. Finishing among the top teams says so much about the hard work and dedication of our guys."

Channelview finished league play as District 21-6A Runner-Up, then defeated Deer Park in the Bi-District Round of the playoffs. The Falcons beat Alief Hastings in the Area Round and C.E. King in the Quarterfinals before their final two matchups.

# COMMUNITY NEWS

★

COMMUNITY  
CALENDAR

**Library Computer Class**  
Stratford Library - Highlands offers beginning computer classes every Monday night at 6:30 PM. The classes include Computer Basics, Email & Internet, Word, Library Apps, and Resume Help. No experience necessary! Space is limited and registration is required. Please call 832-927-5400 to sign up or with any questions. The Stratford Library is located at 509 Stratford Highlands, TX 77562, 2 blocks behind Food Town.

**Crosby Alumni Assoc. Mtg.**  
“The Crosby Alumni Association has announced the dates of the 4 meetings for planning the annual All-Classes CHS Alumni Reunion to be held on August 5, 2017 at the American Legion Hall.  
The meetings will be held at the Crosby Community Center on Hare Road beginning at 6 pm. The dates are: April 18, May 16, June 20 and July 18. All graduates of Crosby High School are invited to attend these meetings regardless of year graduated.”

**Crosby CC April events**  
**Diabetes Empowerment Education Program:** Beginning Tuesday, April 25 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. The DEEP was developed to provide community residents with the tools to better manage their diabetes in order to reduce complications and lead healthier, longer lives based on principles of empowerment and adult education. This is a 6 to 10 week course conducted by a trained facilitator. Crosby Community Center is located at 409 Hare Road, Crosby 77532.

## Celebrate National Library Week April 9-15

Highlands, TX –April 9-15 is National Library Week, a time to highlight the changing role of libraries, librarians and library workers. Libraries aren't just a quiet place filled with books, but also community centers where people can access a wide array of information and resources, free of charge.  
Libraries are evolving to meet the needs of the communities they serve by providing resources to address the needs of the communities. By providing such resources as e-books and technology classes, materials for English-language learners, access for job seekers or a safe haven in times of crisis, libraries and librarians transform their communities.  
Libraries also offer something unique to their communities, the expertise of individual librarians. Librarians assist patrons in using increasingly complex technology and sorting through the potentially overwhelming mass of information bombarding today's digital society. This is especially crucial when access to reliable and trustworthy data is more important than ever.  
The Stratford Library is celebrating National Library Week by hosting Pop Up Libraries in the community. Keep your eyes open for our mobile library under the blue tent around town. Or follow our Facebook page to find out where we will be next!  
For more information, visit the Stratford Library at 509 Stratford, call 832-927-5400, see the library's Web site at [www.hcpl.net](http://www.hcpl.net) or follow us on Facebook as "Stratford Branch Library."

## LyondellBasell Gulfspan Industrial LLC donates pipes



LyondellBassell and Gulfspan Industrial generously donated steel pipe to Crosby High School. The welding students will make good use of these materials. Knowing industry needs enables the school to teach the skills industry needs. Above personnel from the petrochemical industry, volunteer students, especially those of the vocational education departments and the principal and faculty of Crosby ISD vocational departments pose in front of a flat bed trailer loaded with steel pipe and valve parts that students will practice welding skills upon to learn to be better enabled to learn jobs within the industry. LyondellBassell and Gulfspan Industrial volunteered to transport and donate the steel to Crosby ISD in months past.

## GCM UIL Spellers Head to State Competition

The Goose Creek Memorial UIL Spelling team is headed to the state competition after earning 2nd place at the region tournament and scoring high enough to clench the wild card spot. Senior Chinmayee Kulkarni (second from right) earned 1st place in the individual competition at region as well. Pictured are team members (from left) Fahad Ali Sayed, Angela Qin, Chinmayee Kulkarni and Jatin Kulkarni. Their coach is Rosie Adolphin.



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CROSBY'S HOME TOWN HOME CARE



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## SHELDON ISD C.E. King HS student athletic trainer helps save life on the way to church



Sheldon ISD Superintendent King Davis and C. E. King High School junior Joshua Early.

C. E. King High School junior Joshua Early was recognized by the Sheldon ISD school board on March 21 for helping save a life on Sunday, March 19.

While on his way to church, Early arrived upon an accident that had just occurred. A female passenger was reportedly ejected from the vehicle and suffered multiple injuries.

Early, who also serves as a student athletic trainer at KHS, was able to as-

sist and provide immediate first aid which proved to be critical for this young lady. Also, he was able to further assist the paramedics once they arrived on the scene.

Early was recognized for his heroics by receiving a standing ovation at the March 21 school board meeting, and he also received handshakes and well wishes from Sheldon ISD Superintendent King Davis as well as SISD school board members.

## Channelview Stuck in mud, driver dies as car burns



CHANNELVIEW – Deputies were unable to identify the person, man or woman, who perished in a fire in their car. The accident and death occurred last week, on Shields Street near River Road.

Deputies said that the car apparently became stuck in water and mud, after taking a sharp turn too fast. Witnesses said the 1999 red Ford Explorer was speeding.

Mired in the mud, with its wheels spinning, somehow the vehicle caught fire and quickly consumed the driver, according to Sheriff's deputy Ryan Musil.

## GPISD Participates in Texas Reads One Book



On Monday, April 3, Galena Park ISD third graders joined Dallas Cowboys head coach, Jason Garrett, as he kicked off Texas Reads One Book with his videotaped reading of the first chapter of *The Lemonade War*. Every student received their own copy of the book, and many elementary campuses went all out to create excitement for the vent by decorating hallways and classrooms.

During the next three weeks, families will take up where Coach Garrett left off, reading a chapter from the book each night. Daily trivia questions, discussions, and other activities in the classroom ensure that reading takes center stage in the home, school and community throughout the duration of the program. The Texas Reads One Book program's goal is to encourage family involvement in the reading process and boost student engagement with books.

## GALENA PARK ISD North Shore Tennis Player Advances to Regionals

Galena Park ISD would like to congratulate Valentina Rodan, North Shore tennis player, for placing 2nd at the 21-6A District Tennis tournament! She advances to the Regional Tennis



Tournament in Deer Park on April 18-19! Good luck, Valentina!

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Bible Conference

Spanish Bible Conference at the Channelview Church of Christ, 1301 Sheldon, Channelview. Will be held from Wednesday April the 10th- through Friday, April 14th. There will be a bilingual service on Wednesday night with a meal after, service starts at 7:00 PM. Everyone Welcome. Thank you Ron Bible 713-829-3131.

### Small Business Lunch & Learn

Wednesday, April 19 & 26 | 11 AM - 2 PM. Woodforest National Bank - 80 Uvalde Rd. Houston TX 77015.

Session A 11:00 AM - Banking Services  
Session B 12:00 PM - Credit Reporting  
Session C 1:00 PM - Cash Flow

For more information contact Rene Guerra at 713-495-8027 or Brandon Baird at 713-495-8019.

### East Houston Democrats meeting

East Houston Democrats will hold their monthly membership meeting on Thursday, April 20 at 6:30 p.m. at Fuddrucker's located at 855 Normandy, Houston 77015. At the April 20 Meeting, Constable Chris Diaz will be speaking on his journey from Mayor of Jacinto City to his current position as Harris County Constable of Precinct 2. The added bonus is that his wife has not only traveled this journey but also has been active in the community, currently serving as Mayor of Jacinto City.

Should you have any questions, please contact Charlotte Jackson at 832-896-1633 or Linda Britten at brittenl@yahoo.com

### North Channel Branch Library

-Thursday, April 13, 10:30 am, Baby Time; 12:00 pm, AARP Tax Help. Library closes at 5 pm.  
-Friday April 14 & 15 - CLOSED.

-Monday, April 17, 4:30 pm, Earth Day Craft: Recycled Bottle Cars.  
-Tuesday, April 18, 10:15 & 11:15 am, Toddler Time; 1:30 pm, Polliwag Club: Animal Engineers.

-Wednesday, April 19, 4:30 pm, MeeTeen: Opne-Mic Night,  
-Thursday, April 20, 10:30 am, Baby Time; 4:30 pm, MeeTeen: Earth Day-Plantable Planet Earth.

-Saturday, April 22, 3:00 pm, Pokémon Club.

North Channel Library is located at 15741 Wallisville Rd., Houston, 77049. For more information on these and other programs, please call 281-457-1631.

### Evening San Jacinto Pilot Club Meeting

This newly chartered club meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7 pm at the Woodforest Presbyterian Church. For more information, see the Facebook page entitled Evening San Jacinto Pilot Club or call 832-964-1565 / 832-289-4762.

### Galena Park Senior Dance

Senior Dance is every Monday at the Alvin D. Building, 1302 Keene St., Galena Park. 7 pm - 9 pm. No cover charge. Live band Country music. Call for more information: 713-455-7335.

### North Shore Senior Dance

North Shore Seniors holds a dance every Thursday from 1 - 4 pm at the Grayson/Baldree Building, Corpus Christi street. Live bands and refreshments. Cost is \$ 5/per person. For more information call 713-455-3660.

### The Buckshot Jamboree

Enjoy Classic Country music every Saturday night from 7 pm - 10 pm with The Buckshot Jamboree at 7414 Hartman near Old Beaumont Highway. More info, call 281-458-0729 or 832-444-5000.

### San Jacinto Pilot Club meeting

The Club meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at Lyondell-Basell on Sheldon Road at noon. For more information, please visit [www.SanJacintoPilot.com](http://www.SanJacintoPilot.com).

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OPINION PAGE

How To Keep Your Garden Growing

(NAPSI)—When it comes to creating a yard that makes the neighbors green with envy, many Americans are saving time and trouble by turning to a surprising “garden tool.”

The driving force behind the latest in backyard maintenance is a utility task vehicle (UTV).

Your UTV And You

A hardworking and smooth-riding vehicle, not only is it good for pulling out stumps and hauling rocks, mulch and heavy equipment, but a variety of attachments are available to turn it into a sprayer, tiller, rake or mower. Plus, when your yard work is done, you can use it for off-road adventures.

The No. 1 selling UTV lineup is that of the Polaris RANGER. The new XP 1000, available in base, EPS and new special editions, offers an industry-leading 1,000 ccs and 80-horsepower ProStar engine with gobs of torque, and a Three-Mode Throttle Control switch on the dash to enhance the driving experience. The Performance mode offers maximum and instant throttle response for snapper acceleration and is used predominantly for recreational purposes. For a traditional blend of torque and high-speed performance, the operator would select the Standard mode. The Work mode provides lengthened low-RPM band for better slow-speed control, which is perfect for towing a trailer or when navigating tight spaces.

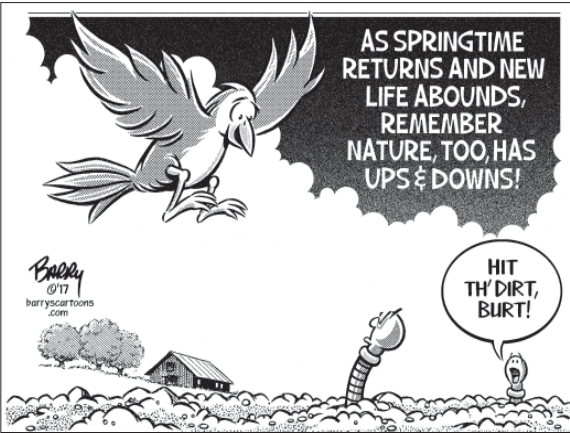
The limited-edition HVAC vehicles are the first gas-powered UTVs to offer an HVAC

system for all-weather comfort. The Ranch Edition offers an innovative, self-leveling, rear suspension with Nivomat shocks that automatically adjust the suspension depending on load, for a higher-loaded ground clearance and a smoother ride.

What Else You Can Do

Here are five more tips to help your garden grow:

1. When you're dealing with Mother Nature, remember Father Time. Plant as early and as late in the season as you can with the help of row covers, cold frames, tunnels and similar devices.
2. Go for perennials—let your crops plant themselves. Plants that come back year after year save time and maintenance, usually limited to annual weeding, fertilizing and mulching.
3. Resist rows. According to Colorado State University, you can quadruple per-square-foot production of many vegetables such as lettuce, carrots and beets by planting them in blocks within wide beds rather than in rows. Block planting makes efficient use of space by keeping the spacing between plants tight and eliminating unnecessary pathways.
4. Be bright about bulbs. Keep the local wildlife from dining on your daffodils and onions by staking netting over the bed. Cut holes in the cloth to let the plants grow through.
5. Be a good egg to your garden. Give your plants a calcium boost by grinding up empty egg shells and sprinkling them on the plants.



Next step: House, Senate must work toward agreement on state budget

AUSTIN — After more than 15 hours of floor debate, the Texas House of Representatives on April 7 approved a balanced, \$218 billion, state budget for fiscal years 2018-2019.

During the debate, state representatives proposed some 378 amendments to the House version of Senate Bill 1, although many were tabled or withdrawn.

The House version of the proposed budget must now undergo the scrutiny of the Senate, which passed its own \$218 billion version on March 28. Members of the House and Senate will meet in a conference committee to reconcile differences in the two versions and finalize a budget that then can be sent to Gov. Greg Abbott for approval.

The House version, which cuts overall state spending by more than \$1 billion compared to the current 2016-2017 budget, provides an additional \$1.5 billion for public schools, \$500 million to address a shortfall in the health care program for retired teachers and an increase of more than \$450 million to address crises in Child Protective Services and foster care. It also puts more resources toward mental health services and Texas Grant scholarships, and it protects voter-approved funding for transportation improvements, House Speaker Joe Straus explained.

Straus expressed appreciation for the work of House Appropriations Committee Chair John Zerwas, R-Richmond, and fellow committee members, and to House members, who voted 131-16 in favor of the budget. “This plan keeps Texas living within its means while making investments that will strengthen our economy and brighten our future,” Straus said.

Also, Straus pointed out, on April 7, the House approved House Bill 2, legislation to provide funding to close a Medicaid shortfall and to fulfill other supplementary needs, such as family and protective ser-

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling



**Zika virus risk increases**

As temperatures continue to climb, mosquito activity will increase, so people statewide should protect themselves from mosquitoes at home and while traveling to areas where Zika is spreading, the Texas Department of State Health Services recommended last week.

On April 3, the agency issued an alert calling for the testing of all pregnant residents of Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, Webb, Wilacy and Zapata counties in both the first and second trimesters of pregnancy and any resident who has a rash plus at least one other common Zika symptom: fever, joint pain or eye redness.

For the rest of the state, DSHS recommends testing for anyone who has at least three of those four Zika symptoms and all pregnant women who have traveled to areas with ongoing Zika transmission, including any travel to any part of Mexico.

Precautions and travel advice are available at [TexasZika.org](http://TexasZika.org).

**Revenue intake increases**

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on April 4 announced that state sales tax revenue totaled \$2.24 billion in March, an amount 3 percent greater than in March 2016.

“Overall net growth in sales tax revenue represents mixed performances by major industry sectors,” Hegar said, in an agency news release. “Collections from the manufacturing, wholesale trade and information sectors increased, while receipts from construction, retail trade and restaurants declined from last year’s levels.”

Also, according to the comptroller’s office, total sales tax revenue for the three months ending in March 2017 was up by 2.1 percent compared with the same period a year ago.

Sales tax revenue is the largest source of state funding for the state budget, accounting for 58 percent of all tax collections in fiscal 2016. Motor vehicle sales and rental taxes, motor fuel taxes and oil and natural gas production taxes are also large revenue sources for the state.

**Abbott hails Boeing move**

Gov. Greg Abbott on April 5 welcomed Boeing’s new Global Services unit to Texas, following Boeing’s announcement that the unit’s headquarters would be located in Plano’s Legacy West business development.

Projected to be operational in July, the unit will house leadership and support staff and will serve as the central hub for 20,000 employees around the world.

In November 2016, Boeing announced the debut of Global Services, a unit to integrate its defense, space and commercial sectors’ service capabilities “into a single, customer-focused business, providing agile, cost-competitive services to commercial and defense customers worldwide.”

Volunteer Opportunity For Veterans

(NAPSI)—The nation’s nearly 22 million veterans may not be aware of a volunteer opportunity that continues on the tradition of purpose, camaraderie and service to the country and community: becoming a volunteer firefighter.

Why Volunteer in the Fire Service

Many veterans find joining a local fire department involves values they can uniquely appreciate, such as loyalty, honor, courage, discipline, teamwork and respect.

Plus, the need is great. Seven out of 10 firefighters and emergency responders are volunteers, and volunteer firefighters save communities nationwide an estimated \$140 billion a year. However, many local departments are struggling to meet staffing needs as call volume has tripled in the last 30 years and departments’ roles in communities continue to expand. Many community members are unaware of this need. A National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) survey found 41 percent of respondents did not know that their department used volunteers and 79 percent did not know their department was looking for more volunteers. The NVFC is the leading nonprofit membership association representing the interests of the volunteer fire, EMS and rescue services.

**How To Volunteer**

Fortunately, anyone can become a volunteer firefighter—they come from all types of backgrounds and professions and encompass all ages, genders, races and ethnicities. Veterans are especially well equipped to volunteer as emergency responders, and it provides a sense of purpose, commitment, and lifesaving service to the community that few other volunteer opportunities can offer. Certain departments may have specific requirements, such as a high school degree, a physical or a background check, but when it comes down to it, volunteering as a first responder is all about having the heart and drive to make a difference where it’s needed most. And who can understand that better than a veteran?

New recruits are trained by the department. Skills to learn vary based on the department’s response requirements, but training may cover a wide array of emergency situations such as fires, emergency medical incidents, terrorist events, natural disasters, hazardous materials incidents, water rescue emergencies and other public service calls.

**Where To Learn More About Becoming A Volunteer**

For further information and to find a nearby fire service volunteer opportunity, visit [www.MakeMeAFirefighter.org](http://www.MakeMeAFirefighter.org).

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LIFESTYLE

OBITUARIES

Jerry Daniel Whitman

Jerry Daniel Whitman, 72, of Baytown, passed away Wednesday, April 5, 2017 in Humble. He was born October 9, 1944 in Beaumont to his late parents, Royce Everett Whitman and Mavis Ilene Keenan Whitman. Jerry was a longtime resident of the Baytown area, retired from the Mont Belvieu Police Department, having serving as chief from 1988 until 2007 and was a U.S. Army veteran having served as an M.P. during Vietnam. He had also served as a volunteer policeman and volunteer fireman in Anahuac.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a step-son, Erron Dunlap.

Survivors include his daughters, Jennifer Winter and her husband, Greg and Lisa Whitman; grandchildren, Chance Winter and his wife Katie, Cody Orum, Daniel Winter, Logan Grantham, Andrew Dunlap, Tyler Dunlap, Micah Dunlap, Mikaila Dunlap and Erron Ferrell; great-grandchildren, Reagan Winter, Hadley Winter, Bayden Orum and Gunner Winter; brothers, Randy Whitman and his wife, Bonnie and Scott Whitman; half-sisters, Brenda Tantzen, her husband, Dan and their family and April Pettit, her husband, Ronnie and their family; half-brother, Dan Zuber, his wife Beverly and their family; nephews and nieces, Matt Whitman, Justin Whitman, Lauren Whitman-Sathees and Sarah Whitman and mothers of his children, Barbara Whitman and Renee Winter.

The family will receive



friends from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sunday, April 9, 2017 at Navarre Funeral Home. A service will be held at 2:00 p.m., Monday, April 10, 2017 at Wooster Baptist Church with Rev. Jason Shuttlesworth and Rev. Derek Wade officiating. Burial will follow at Palms Memorial Park in Dayton with military and police honors.

Pallbearers will be Cody Orum, Daniel Winter, Chance Winter, Asa Cole, Virgil Blasdel, Steve Ferguson, Matt Whitman and Justin Whitman. Honorary pallbearers will be Shane Dunlap, Bruce Oliphant and current and former members of the Mont Belvieu Police Department.

For those who desire, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association 6055 South Loop East, Houston, TX 77087-1005, 800-272-3900 / 713-314-1313 or go to [http://www.alz.org/join\\_the\\_cause\\_donate.asp](http://www.alz.org/join_the_cause_donate.asp).

To view his online obituary, or post a tribute to his family go to [www.navarrefuneralhome.com](http://www.navarrefuneralhome.com).

Arrangements are under the direction of Navarre Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 2444 Rollingbrook Drive, Baytown, Texas 77521, (281) 422-8111.

Sacred Heart celebrates Catholic Faith in Action Advocacy Day



Individuals pictured: Coach Kyndrick Hill, Ms. Nancy Jasso, Raenice Dunbar, Alex Sepulveda, Rafael Garcia, Zachary Eagleton, Sawyer Caso, Ethan Pena-Park, Michelle Landry, Adrian Sepulveda, Andre Dizon, Marco Salazar, Representative Briscoe Cain, Principal Susan Harris, and Mrs. Julie Caso.

Middle school students from Sacred Heart Catholic School of Crosby traveled to the Texas State Capitol in Austin on April 4, 2017 for Catholic Faith in Action Advocacy Day. Students toured the Capitol and visited the offices of senators and representatives. State Representative Briscoe Cain from District 128 took time to meet with the students and discuss the legislative process.

Iva Christine Howard

Iva Christine Howard, 87 of Groveton, Texas was called home to be with our Lord April 10, 2017. Iva was a loving mother, grandmother, sister and a great friend. She loved her children and especially her grandchildren, great and great-great grandchildren. She was head of the youth department of Uvalde Baptist Church where she was a member, for many years and belonged to the Women's Mission of the church. She also sang in the choir. Iva also worked with the Little League Baseball and

worked in the school when the children were growing up. She grew up in Bentley, Oklahoma in Atoka County and moved to Houston when she married. Later in life they moved to the Groveton area.

Visitation will be held at Groveton Funeral Home in Groveton, Texas on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 beginning at 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Funeral Services will be held Thursday April 13, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. in the Cartwright Memorial Chapel of Groveton Funeral Home with Brother Lewis Jones officiating. Burial will follow in Pennington Cemetery in Pennington, Texas.

Christine is preceded in death by her husband Charles Howard; son Roddy Howard; daughter Betty Howar Gerson; parents William and Iva Leuty; brothers: Lester Leuty, O.P. Leuty, George Leuty and Cecil Leuty; sisters: Vivian Tomlinson, Kathryn Elliot and Helen Hall.

Mrs. Howard is survived by her children: two daughters Linda Blackstock and husband Blackie and Wanda Howard and two sons Darrell Howard and wife Kim and Joshua Howard and wife. Misty, grandchildren: Buddy Blackstock and wife Belinda, Lisa Quinn and husband Wayne, Michael Maynard, Kristen

Howard, Ethen Richardson, Landon Howard, Rachel Moser and husband Damien, Sarah Morrison, Austin Huff, Tyler Huff, Victoria Huff and Ashton Moser; great grandchildren: Cody Blackstock and wife Jenny, Brittany Blackstock, Makayla Blackstock, Brady Blackstock, Kasi Bartsch, Melanie Bartsch, Tyler Engeling, Avery Shielle, Julie Morrison, Luke Morrison, Caleb Morrison, great-great grandchildren: Blake Engeling and Branson Blackstock and a host of other relatives and many friends.

Please share your thoughts with the family by signing the online guestbook [www.grovetonfuneralhome.com](http://www.grovetonfuneralhome.com)

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John 7:38

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All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Acts 2:4

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Be alert. Continue strong in the faith. Have courage and be strong.  
1 Corinthians 16:13

Rise in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God.  
Leviticus 19:32

# ASK THE EXPERT

## Diamond Jim: "What is the birthstone for April?"



### ASK DIAMOND JIM

The Birthstone for April is Diamond

#### HISTORY OF THE DIAMOND AS THE APRIL BIRTHSTONE

Natural diamonds are a rare and unique ultimate gift for a loved one. Thought to be one of the hardest substances on the globe, diamonds date back billions of years.

The diamond is the traditional birthstone of April and holds significant meaning for those born in that month, thought to provide the wearer with better relationships and an increase in inner strength.

Wearing diamonds is purported to bring other benefits such as balance, clarity and abundance. It's also symbolic of eternal love, and those fortunate to call April the month of their birth will enjoy the following history behind this rare gem.

#### Diamond Gemstones

Adopted from the Greek word adamas, meaning "invincible," diamonds come in a wide range of colors such as black, blue, green, pink, red, purple, orange and yellow. The color is dependent upon the type of impurities that are present in the stone. For instance, yellow stones have minute traces of nitrogen while blue ones contain boron.

#### The Origin of Birthstones

It's uncertain how the specific months became connected with the various stones. However, some speculate that the origins of birthstones dates back to biblical times when the breastplate belonging to a priest was decorated with 12 assorted colored gems. As time wore on, the 12 gems became associated with the zodiac and the months connected to it.

This started the tradition of wearing a colored stone each month as a sort of good luck charm. Initially people wore all twelve stones, rotating according to the month of the year to derive the greatest benefit of each stone.

Believing that the various gems held magical powers for the individual born within a given month, people started to wear the stone associated with their birth month for the entire year.

In 1912, the American National Association of Jewelers designed a list dedicating different gems to various months. What was once thought to be controversial based on its commercialism is now widely accepted as the official birthstone list.

#### The History and Beliefs Surrounding the Diamond

As told through the Encarta, Sanskrit texts dating back before 400 B.C. found that people associated significant value and wonderment with crystals. There is also significant research dating back to 1330 showing diamond cutting in Venice. The diamond trading business flourished towards the 15th century with the opening of Eastern trade routes.

Ancient theories touting the magical powers of diamonds were prevalent: some thought lightning bolts formed diamonds, while other theories asserted that diamonds were the tears of god.

#### The Healing Powers of Diamonds

During the Middle Ages, diamonds were thought to hold healing powers and to cure ailments stemming from the pituitary gland and brain. By heating the crystal and taking it to bed, it was thought to draw out the harmful toxins that were crippling the body.

It was also believed that diamonds could have an effect on an individual's balance and clarity and could boost their energy when combined with other crystals like amethyst.

The diamond as the April gemstone has garnered the hearts of many and is the most coveted crystal to date. Deemed as the "King of all Birthstones," diamonds make the ideal choice for an April birthday gift. (She'll love you for it!)

If you have questions pertaining to jewelry, watches, diamonds, precious stones, precious metals, and other questions related to the jewelry industry, email [jmills@pineforestjewelry.com](mailto:jmills@pineforestjewelry.com). Diamond Jim is a diamond dealer and precious metals broker of NTR Metals. See more at: [www.pineforestjewelry.com](http://www.pineforestjewelry.com).

#### CHANNELVIEW ISD

## Aguirre's AVID program receives national honor



Aguirre Junior High students proudly display a certificate presented to the school for being named an AVID Schoolwide Site of Distinction. The campus is one of 104 schools nationwide to be named as a Site of Distinction. In addition, only 10 percent of AVID secondary schools globally hold this certification.

Aguirre Junior High has earned national recognition as the campus was recently honored as an AVID Schoolwide Site of Distinction.

AVID, formally known as Advancement via Individual Determination, has enhanced Aguirre students' college and career readiness skills through pre-advanced placement programs, enrichment opportunities, individual support and tutorials. Aguirre is one of 104 schools nationwide to be named as a Site of Distinction. Only 10 percent of AVID secondary schools globally hold this certification.

"This is a great honor and a reflection of the hard work and dedication of the Aguirre teachers, students and staff," said Greg Ollis, Channelview ISD superintendent. "We are proud of their achievements and commitment to making sure all students are successful."

Aguirre Principal Eric Lathan said the school is now pursuing their goal of achieving National Demonstration School status, which is the highest level of certification awarded.

"AVID is like a family," Lathan said. "It is a schoolwide system that embeds

itself into the culture of our school. AVID not only teaches the skills and behaviors for academic success, but it also develops a sense of hope for personal achievement gained through hard work and determination."

Lathan said the school must meet certain guidelines and criteria in order to become a National Demonstration School. In addition, the campus is required to follow a detailed application process.

"If the AVID center determines that our campus meets the guidelines and our application is approved, we will then be recommended for an 18-month coaching cycle from an AVID Center coach," he said. "During the coaching cycle, the AVID Center will look at 4 campus domains: Instruction, Systems, Leadership and Culture. Our campus data will also be analyzed to ensure we are improving academic performance for all students based on increased opportunities."

Aguirre's AVID program has served as a model for other districts, such as Houston ISD. This past November, a group of HISD secondary teachers, coordinators and administrators

visited with Aguirre principals, staff and students to learn about what has made the program successful. One Houston ISD AVID administrator referred to Aguirre's program as "the blueprint of how a successful program works."

Lathan said the success of the program is a collaborative effort among teachers, students, parents and tutors. "These relationships and open lines of communication allow for feedback and exchange of new ideas that help our program to grow and better serve our students," he added.

Lathan said the rigorous, but personalized curriculum of AVID allows students to develop the skills that will guide them academically and socially.

"Implementing a culture of college and career readiness throughout the campus motivates and encourages students to strive for success through their own individual determination," he said. "Our teachers are influential in making sure that students not only receive academic support, but also emotional support that motivates them to set their goals high and achieve them," he said.

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As required by Federal Rule 34 CFR 300.624, Crosby ISD does hereby give notice to eligible students or the parents of students of the district's intention to destroy Special Education records that have expired retention periods. The retention period for Special Education records is five (5) years after graduation or cessation of services plus five (5) years. This will include those students receiving special education services who graduated in May of 2011. Those that have expired retention periods will be destroyed as noted by the rules of the Department of Education Federal Register, no sooner than May 31, 2017, unless objected to by eligible students or the parents of the student in writing to :  
  
Karla McGee  
Director of Special Education  
Crosby ISD  
706 Runneburg Rd.  
Crosby, TX 77532  
  
281-328-9200 X1108

NOTICE TO PROPOSERS

HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 5  
  
Sealed Proposals ("Proposals") for the Construction of a New Driveway and Site Paving for Station No. 1 will be received by the Architect for Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5 (HCESD 5) until **5:00 p.m., April 25, 2017**, and then publicly opened at the District's meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 27, 2017, at the meeting place of the District, located at 5915 F.M. 2100, Crosby, Texas 77532 (in the Board Room).  
  
The Sealed Proposals shall be labeled on the outside of the envelope as follows:  
  
Harris County ESD No. 5  
Station 1 Driveway and Site Paving Project  
SEALED PROPOSAL. DO NOT OPEN IN MAIL.  
  
The full Request for Proposals, including proposal requirements, selection criteria and other necessary information may be obtained from the office of the Architect, BGK Architects, at 99 Detering, Suite 120, Houston, Texas 77007, (713) 864-0058.  
  
A Proposal Bond, Certified Check, or Cashier's Check payable to "Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5 in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the Owner's construction budget must accompany each proposal. PROPOSALS THAT DO NOT HAVE THE ACCOMPANYING PROPOSAL SECURITY WILL BE RETURNED TO THE PROPOSER.  
  
Bonds are required for this project. The successful proposer shall be required to obtain a performance bond as stipulated in the Request for Proposal documents. In addition to the required performance bond, the proposal security, in one of the forms mentioned above, is required for a proposal to be considered.  
  
HCESD 5 reserves the right to reject any or all proposals or to waive any informalities incidental thereto. The contract, if any, will be awarded to the proposer presenting a proposal most advantageous to HCESD 5, based on the selection criteria as referenced in the Request for Proposals documents.  
  
Mr. John Strawbridge  
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Harris County ESD No. 5

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## Construction progresses on the Jacinto City Police Station



Work continues on the new Jacinto City Police Station, being built on a site on Market Street directly behind the current police station. In this view, the concrete floor slab has been poured, and underfloor piping is in place. The next step will be the erection of a steel frame that will define the exterior of the building. The new building should be ready by the end of the year, and then the old building will be torn down, and the land used for parking and landscaping.

## Channelview FFA Parade,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Other major winners and their buyers included: Grand Champion Rabbits – Madison Hall, purchased by Woodforest Bank, \$1,700

Reserve Champion Rabbits – Colton Taylor, purchased by Yates Remodeling, \$1,500

Grand Champion Hog – Hana Lindsey, purchased by ASI Appliances, \$3,750 Reserve Champion Hog – Madisyn Beach, purchased by North Shore Rotary, \$1,500

Grand Champion Broilers – Madisyn Beach, purchased by Dr. Donald R. Nino, \$1,250

Reserve Champion Broilers – Josh Nash, purchased by ASI Appliances, \$1,400

Grand Champion Meat Goat – Madison Hall, purchased by Tubular Services, \$2,500



Creative floats such as this patriotic barn theme highlighted the Channelview FFA Parade.

Reserve Champion Meat Goat – Kirsten Dorn, purchased by Tubular Services, \$2,750

Grand Champion Lamb – Madisyn Beach, purchased by Channelview Glass, \$2,000

Reserve Champion Lamb – Madison Hall, purchased by ASI Appliances, \$1,500

Grand Champion Horticulture – Brianna Casey, purchased by Cedillo Tax Service, \$1,000

Reserve Champion Horticulture – Fernando Garcia, purchased by John Well, \$700

## Galena Park Middle School Band makes School History



On April 7, the Galena Park Middle School band made history! For the first time, the Symphonic Band received all ones and brought home a sweepstakes trophy at the 2017 UIL Competition. Congratulations to the GPMS band and their directors, Kayla Wood and Justin Allen!

## San Jacinto Waste Pits,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tor Bob Allen has said that 148 letters were sent to known well owners seeking consent to test their wells. These wells would be specifically tested for 17 contaminants know to be related to the sludge in the Waste Pits. Allen said that they know of about 15 wells on the west side of Highlands, and about 140 wells in the Channelview area that would qualify for these tests.

Young also revealed that two chickens from Lynchburg and their eggs had been tested for contaminants. Of 21 possible heavy metals that could be detected, 18 of them were present in the eggs. This suggested a serious health problem, she said, and indicated further tests of this type were necessary.

On the EPA activities related to the Superfund site, Young said that the government agency had “been very quiet” with no new information issued. She noted that they were busy reviewing the public comments that had been submitted, including 6000 individual comments, 48,000 petition signatures, and 2800 technical comments. She indicated that

inspite of the change in administration at the EPA in Washington, there is no sign that it has affected the review work in Dallas related to the Waste Pits.

Young said that the final ROD, or Record Of Decision that will be the final plan for remediation, is due by the end of 2017. It will be made public at that time, and additional comments from the public will be possible.

An EPA inspection of the existing cap, made on January 23, 2017 discovered 7 deficiencies on the eastern edge, and several on the western side. It also found that the whole site had sunk, or subsided, by about a foot since the initial survey in 2015.

Young distributed a sample letter, and asked those in attendance to consider writing a similar letter to the TCEQ in Austin. The letter calls for complete removal of the waste material in the pits, and asks that the standards for how much contaminants would be acceptable to remain be lowered, so that more material would be removed. She said this would be consistent with EPA Superfund sites in 7 other lo-

cations that were remediated.

Young said that the letter would counteract the activities of the KeepIt-Capped organization, that has recently been writing TCEQ and EPA with technical information meant to keep the waste pits in place in the river.

She noted that an anonymous source is also using “robo” calls to residents of Crosby giving them information about the waste pit remediation that she termed “incorrect.”

Young said that she is planning on a training class sometime this summer, to teach small groups of activists how to conduct a letter writing campaign, and how to campaign door-to-door with surveys and information packages.

Young said they are also studying two other waste sites. One is the Liberty Waste site in Highlands, near the ends of Ellis School and Steele Roads. The other is known as the Halls Bayou site, in Hitchcock Galveston County, where Waste Management supposedly filled 32 pits with paper mill sludge after they quit using the San Jacinto River site.

## Alleged deputy killer is suicide,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Former Sheriff Ron Hickman (in office at the time) indicated Kenny was not seen as a threat but a complainer.

Investigators say they first tracked the rented vehicle to a convenience store and there got a photo of the man later identified as Kenny. Once they discovered who he was they say they then discovered he had killed himself.

Lt. Dorris indicated that the investigators would continue to investigate the case, “as if he is still alive and planning to go forth with prosecution.”

Sheriff Ed Gonzalez had said, “We’re going to do everything we can to make sure that we track down whoever was responsible for this. We’re going to stand united in this and we appreciate all of the collaboration that we’ve seen

this morning, the show of support from the community and law enforcement community for having lost a fellow law enforcement officer.”

According to Precinct 3 Position 1 Justice of the Peace Don Coffey “Monday morning was not normal. I was late feeding my dog when I heard gunshots. My back yard is about 200 yards from the courthouse, and it was about 6:45 a.m. and just turning daylight. I didn’t know what to make of the shots, so I convinced myself it must be something else. Then a few moments later sirens began to wail, and Randy O’Brien sent me a text saying Sterling High School had just been put on lockdown. That’s when I knew the gunshots were real.”

“Why Assistant Chief Deputy Greenwood was the person that he went after, we just don’t know right now,” stated Lt. Dorris.

The 100 Club provides assistance to law enforcement killed in the line of duty, according to Precinct 3 spokesperson, the 100 Club is handling all fund raising for the Assistant Chief Deputy Greenwood. Donations can be made online at the100club.org or sent to 100 Club Survivors Fund, 5555 San Felipe St., Suite 1750, Houston, 77056.

Community reaction in support of law enforcement has been outstanding. Throughout Crosby residences and stores have flown the American Flag with deep blue and azure stripes.

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DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES POSITION 1

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