

NORTH CHANNEL STAR

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

VOLUME 2, NO. 14

APRIL 2, 2014

www.northchannelstar.com

CHANNEL CHATTER

North Channel Chamber Luncheon

The North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce will host its monthly luncheon this Friday, April 4, 2014 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at San Jacinto College North located at 5800 Uvalde Rd., Houston, Tx, 77049. Contact Blanca Lerma at 713-450-3600 for more information.

Town Hall meeting

Keep Harris

County Safe Apr.8

The Harris County Sheriff's Office will host a Town Hall meeting to talk about "Our County, Our Concerns and Our Future".

Save the date for this community town hall and attend on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 from 6 pm to 8 pm. The meeting will take place at the North Shore High School Auditorium located at 353 N. Castlegary, Houston, TX 77049.

Attend to ask questions, voice your concerns and learn how county agencies are working together to keep Harris County a safe place.

Featuring local leaders and officials include Sheriff Adrian Garcia, District Attorney Devon Anderson, Pct. 2 Commissioner Jack Morman, Constable Phil Sandin, Constable Ken Jones and Galena Park ISD Police Chief Bryan Clements.

Candidates

Forum, April 25

A municipal election will take place in Galena Park on May 10th, for the offices of Mayor and City Council.

The North Channel STAR will hold a Candidates Forum on Friday night, April 25 at 6 pm. in the Baggett Center, to introduce the candidates to the public. All are welcome. Contact the Star for more information, 281-328-9605.

Homeless Shelter for families will serve North Channel

Elswick details Baytown Facility at North Shore Rotary meeting

NORTH CHANNEL - Rotarians heard from Roger Elswick last week, about the planned Family Center to serve homeless families in the Bay Area Homeless Service area.

Elswick is the campaign chair for the fundraising effort to build, furnish and equip the new center. The goal is to raise \$1.2 million for this unique project.

Elswick is CEO of Community Toyota/Honda/Kia in Baytown, and devotes much of his time to worthwhile civic causes. He was accompanied in his presentation by Jim Wadzin-



ROGER ELSWICK is Campaign Chair for the fundraising effort for a new Family Shelter. He has been speaking to many area organizations and companies to raise \$1.2 million for the new facility.

ski and BAHs executive director Bill Eckert.

Elswick explained that although the BAHs has been in existence since 1982, it serves homeless men, women and

children in separate facilities. What was needed was a family facility, so that BAHs did not have to split them up. The new building, when completed in 2015, will be 6000 square feet in size, and have six family suites, dining areas, kitchen play area, office, and living room. It will be unique in East Harris County, with no other similar facility available for homeless families, he said.

BAHS service area is East Harris County, Chamber, and Liberty counties. This includes Channelview, North Shore, Sheldon, Galena Park,

See FAMILY SHELTER, p.6



CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW FAMILY CENTER is scheduled to start in the 4th quarter of 2014, and be completed in 2015. The building will house up to six homeless families, for short periods of time while they receive BAHs services and prepare to reenter the mainstream of society. Besides housing and meals, the center will provide job training, resume preparation, and transportation for job interviews. BAHs is currently seeking donations to complete their \$1.2 million fundraising campaign.

Channelview FFA Livestock Show

Channelview FFA festivities for this weekend

The Channelview FFA will hold its 51st annual Livestock Show April 1-5 at the Allen Hall Fairgrounds, located on Wood Drive in Channelview.

Livestock Show activities begin April 3 with the move-in and weighing of all the market animals, followed by the sheep and meat goat shows starting at 6:30 pm, and continues through the April 5 with The Mighty Thomas Carnival open daily at 6 pm.

Passes to ride all the rides at the carnival will be \$20 on Thur., Fri. and Sat.

Event festivities will wrap



Channelview High School graduate Emily Taylor showing last year's Grand Champion steer at last year's auction. And to the right, Channelview FFA Advisory at last year's parade.

up on Saturday, April 6 with a chili cook-off at 8 a.m., parade at 10 a.m., and event award ceremony at 1 pm, directly followed by the livestock auction, with carnival operations open from 11 a.m. - 11 pm.



COMMUNITY PROFILE:

Buckshot Jamboree is a HOOT!

NORTH SHORE - A treasure of country western music is right here in North Shore. If you are looking for an enjoyable way to spend a Saturday evening, in a friendly, fun non-alcoholic environment, the Buckshot Jamboree will more than live up to your expectations.

The Jamboree is a life-long dream of Buck Sloan, realized in his own building on a side road, Hartman Street, off Old Beaumont Highway. Buck and his wife Shirley, and their band "The Buckshots" play every Saturday evening for three hours, to an audience that varies from 50 to 200.

The music is classic country western, with some rock and contemporary thrown in for variety. And the sounds they make are wonderful, and bring back memories to most

everyone attending. Although the same band plays every Saturday, the program is always different, with four or more guest artists singing and playing.

On a recent Saturday, we listened to Mary Dooley, Johnny Lee, Derrick Gough, Don Gough, and Pamela Walker.

Classic country songs included Because You Care, Fool #1, Jealous Heart, Mona Lisa, the Keys in the Mailbox, Just Walk on By, All My Exes Live in Texas, Tennessee Waltz, There Goes my Everything, and my favorite, an Elvis rendition of Heartbreak Hotel by Derrick Gough.

Buck Sloan proudly claims that his band is the "oldest" country western band in Texas. By that, he means the to-

See BUCKSHOT, page 8



BUCKSHOT JAMBOREE BAND: SEATED, Buck Sloan and Shirley Sloan; STANDING, Kaleb Jordan, Dusty Stewart, Jerry Orvis, and Royce Melton. This group of old-timers will put a smile on your face, and heart, and your foot will be tapping all night!

CARNIVAL & FAIR Apr. 11-13

GP-JC Rotary Annual Country Fair & Carnival

Galena Park Jacinto City Rotary Club is planning their Annual Country Fair & Carnival for next weekend, April 11, 12, and 13. Events start Friday night at 6 pm until midnight, Saturday 11 am until midnight, and Sunday 12 noon until 5 pm. Location is the Baggett Building and grounds, on Keene Street in Galena Park.

Fun for the whole family is planned, with Food, Shopping, Rides, Games, Live Entertainment each day, a Kids Zone, and lots of vendor booths.

Also included this year is a Health Fair, co-sponsored by Community Health Choice. This will include Screenings for BMI, Dental, Glucose, Mam-



mograms, Spinal, Pregnancy Test, Blood Pressure, HIV/AIDS, Health Insurance information, and Application Assistance for CHIP and Medicaid. (Bring current check stubs, child's birth certificate, social security card.) This is a major fundraiser for the club, so go and have fun.



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★ COMMUNITY NEWS ★

Crosby Education Foundation's golf tournament a huge success

The Crosby Education Foundation (CEF) held its annual golf tournament on Friday, March 21, 2014, at Newport Country Club. The 3rd annual tournament, sponsored by *cre8 architects*, was a tremendous event enjoyed by all. A great flight of golfers and a record amount of donations highlighted the day. Proceeds from the tournament provide funding to the classroom education grant program established by CEF. The grant program benefits Crosby ISD students and teachers.

The team of Mike Parrott, Joe Harwell, Ken Junck and Mike Watson led the field and earned the tournament crown. Raymond Balcerowicz, Dixon Davis, Daniel Loren, and Tannie Gillespie followed with a second-place finish. The third-place team consisted of Michael Maharaj, Kris Maharaj, Jim Boatman, and John Dowdall. Individually, Travis Nelson won the longest drive contest and Kendal Bryant was closest-to-the-pin. Merv Thomas and Sam Gonzalez were winners of the raffle drawing and 50/50 split respectively.

The Crosby Education Foundation would like to thank the following sponsors for making this event possible: *cre8 architects*, The Rampart Companies, Stevens Dentistry, United Community Credit Union, Dan Kasprzak, Johnson, DeLuca, Kurisky & Gould, PC, R. L. Doskocil, John E's Restaurant, Oilwell Tubular Consultants, Inc.,

Michael G Evers, CPA, Hudson Mechanical, Inc., Houston Methodist, San Jacinto Hospital, Southwest Securities, Atascocita Car Care & Collision, Inc., Baytown Landscaping, Rick and Susan Cade, Community Bank of Texas, N.A., Constable Ken Jones, Crawfish Shack, Crosby Dry Cleaners and Laundry, Crosby Fair & Rodeo, Inc., Don & Maryland Hendrix, Keith & Lee Moore, Graphics Unlimited, Inc., Jeremy Gabryszewski Toronto Blue Jays, Law Office of Karen Blomstrom, Leaps and Bounds Tutorial Services,



FIRST PLACE WINNERS: Ken Junck and Mike Watson. Not Pictured, Mike Parrott and Joe Harwell.



2nd. place winners Raymond Balcerowicz, Dixon Davis, Daniel Loren, Tannie Gillespie.

Mike and Rosanne Joseph, Newport Property Owner's Association, Omnix Health Care Services, Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins & Mott LLP, Representative Wayne Smith, Sterling Structures, Inc. and Shine

Dental.

CEF has awarded approximately \$80,000 in grants to CISD teachers for the benefit of students and classrooms in the last year. These grants ranged from equipping classrooms with

the latest technology to providing musical instruments for elementary students. For more information, please contact Crosby Education Foundation at crosbyeducationfoundation.org.



Art Scholarships awarded

(l to r) Alexis Sanchez (RSS) and Elizabeth Keyes (GCM) are recipients of the Baytown Art League Annual Scholarship. Not pictured is Madeline Poirot (REL), who also received a scholarship. The scholarship is given to a deserving senior from each Goose Creek CISD high school who will be pursuing a degree in art. The students are under the direction of Annie Watson (RSS), Darcy McDonald (REL), and Jill Chauvin (GCM). Their artwork was on display at the Baytown Art League until March 31.



Students get Anti-gang speech

Angel Ponce, former gang member and current intern in the Mayor's Anti-Gang Office in Houston, speaks to students at Baytown Junior School about the poor choices he made and the obstacles he is overcoming.



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SCHOOLS, CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS

Galena Park High School takes on the world

Paul Johnson Honored as Robotics Teacher of the Year as Galena Park High School Team KAOS Qualifies for VEX World Championships.

This spring, Team KAOS, the robotics team from Galena Park High School, competed in the South Texas VEX Championship tournament.

There were 66 teams that had previously qualified from prior events across the state and Mexico that participated in this event.

After some hard fought qualifying matches, the girls' team finished the competition as semi-finalists and the boys' team finished as finalists. This qualified both teams for the VEX World Championships that will be held at Disney Land, Anaheim, California on April 23-26, with an expected 600 teams competing from around the world.

The boys' team was also awarded the Energy Award for the competition, which is based on team enthusiasm displayed at the event. The winning team must demonstrate boundless passion and energy throughout the competition - in the pit area, on the field, and in the audience, even when their robot is not in action.

The team mentor and GPHS teacher, Paul Johnson, was awarded the Teacher of the Year Award at the contest. Mr. Johnson has been a career and technology teacher with



Pictured (left to right): South Texas VEX Championship event coordinators Frances Lynch, Paul Johnson, Andrew Lynch

GPISD for nine years.

Astrid Cavazos, Team KAOS Robotics Co-President, stated, "Three years ago, Mr. Johnson embraced the initiative to become the team's lead mentor. Since then, Team KAOS has flourished and succeeded to new heights. Mr. Johnson is a huge advocate of ensuring that his students are always placed before himself. We believe that Mr. Johnson is one of Team KAOS' biggest assets. The team depicts values in him that could never be replaced."

Under his leadership, the robotics students at GPHS have earned almost \$800,000 in scholarship money over the past four years and are currently attending various universities under engineering disciplines. Johnson promotes engineering awareness in the schools by hosting annual robotics summer camps for local elementary and middle school students and has even worked with Team KAOS sponsor, GE Energy, to host Women in Engineering day at their facility.

Cavazos continued, "He has fundamentally changed the philosophy of how the community sees our robotics team through promoting the positive influences we have had in our community service programs such as the Santa's Workshop, bikes for the community, food for the elderly, and working at the Houston Food Bank."

GPISD for nine years. Astrid Cavazos, Team KAOS Robotics Co-President, stated, "Three years ago, Mr. Johnson embraced the initiative to become the team's lead mentor. Since then, Team KAOS has flourished and succeeded to new heights. Mr. Johnson is a huge advocate of ensuring that his students are always placed before himself. We believe that Mr. Johnson is one of Team KAOS' biggest assets. The team depicts values in him that could never be replaced."



Aspiring administrators learn what it takes to be a successful administrator in GPISD.

One of the many characteristics which make GPISD such a special district is a single focus on student achievement and success. The Aspiring Administrator Academy is designed to communicate these expectations, along with many

other requirements of a district leader, including the commitment required to our community. Through this academy, future leaders are able to learn just what it takes to uphold the reputation of a GPISD leader.


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Channelview

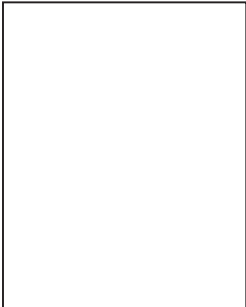
Kuhrt receives award from state assessment group

Channelview ISD Testing Coordinator Shannon Kuhrts was presented with the President's Award from the Texas Statewide Network of Assessment Professionals (TSNAP) at the group's annual conference in Austin.

The award is presented to someone who has shown outstanding leadership and service to the organization.

Kuhrts has served in her position in Channelview for the past four years. She is an active TSNAP member. She currently serves as the TSNAP treasurer.

The TSNAP organization promotes professionalism among assessment specialists and increased communication among testing professionals across the state. TSNAP maintains a positive working relationship with TEA and



Shannon Kuhrts, Channelview ISD Testing Coordinator

conducts new test coordinator academies in the fall of each year in conjunction with Pearson Educational Measurement and the Student Assessment Division of Texas Education Agency.

Channelview FFA students awarded at Houston Rodeo

Once again, Channelview FFA students made quite an impression at the 2014 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

For the second year in a row, the Channelview FFA was awarded first place in Junior Market Steer Good Herdsman division for having the cleanest and neatest display of their steers from the hundreds of 4-H and FFA chapters entered from throughout the state of Texas. Steer exhibitors were Madisyn Beach, Sydnee Beach, Hunter Bell, Trey Bond, Alexis Brown, Kirsten Dominy, Madison Hall, Greyson Noble, Colton Taylor and Trever Thompson. For their efforts, they received a plaque, trophy belt buckle and \$800 cash.

During Spring Break, Channelview FFA members participated in the school children's agricultural tours event and received a third place plaque for their efforts. Beach showed a Duroc barrow pig placed sixth in the heavy-weight class and sold the pig later at the swine auction. On the last Monday of the show, the FFA participated in the Livestock Judging contest and Dominy placed in the top 20 and will receive a certificate to purchase a steer to show next year.

Bell showed a calf he won in last year's judging contest and placed third in the European Division. At the Calf Scramble Banquet for exhibitors, parents and donors, Bell was awarded the Supreme Champion belt buckle for the accumulating the most points for his monthly records, scrap book and essays during the feeding period. He also received a \$3,000 cash award for his hard work. Also during the final week, Beach placed sixth in the Simmental steer show. In addition, Dominy's steer placed third and Brown's placed eighth in the All Other Breeds division.

Channelview FFA first-year member Yvette Leos caught a calf during the March 2 Calf Scramble. She will receive a certificate to purchase a steer to show at 2015 Houston Livestock Show.

During the final Friday of the show, Bell placed 10th in the heavyweight Chianina division. All of four of the Channelview placing steer were sold in the Houston Livestock Show steer auction.

"Our FFA members did an excellent job of representing the Channelview community, the school district and their chapter," said Dominic Mazoch, Channelview FFA adviser.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

APRIL

North Channel Library events

-Friday, April 4, Strings Attached, 1:30 pm.
-Friday & Saturday, April 4 & 5 Library BOOK SALE
-Monday, April 7, Monday Movie Madness 4:30 pm
-Tuesday, April 8, Toddler Time, 10:30 am; Preschool story, 1:30 pm.
-Wed., April 9, Afterschool Craft, 4:30 pm.
15741 Wallisville Rd., Houston, TX. 77049. Call 281-457-1631 for more information on other programs/classes.

APRIL

Galena Park Library events

-Tuesday, April 8, Internet Basics II 1 pm; Raton y Teclado, 4 pm.
-Wed., April 9, Children's Story Time, 11 am.
-Thur., April 10, Baby Time, 11 am
1500 Keene St. Galena Park, TX. 77547. Call 713-450-0982 for more information on other programs.



FEBRUARY- APRIL


Free tax help for seniors

The Tax-Aide program sponsored by the IRS and AARP Foundation. The program is designed to assist taxpayers age 60 and over but will also assist low and moderate income filers.
-North Channel Branch of Harris, County Public Library, Thursdays noon to 4 p.m.
Services are ongoing until Tuesday, April 15th.
Taxpayers should bring the following items with them:
-Social Security cards for yourself and all dependents
-A copy of last year's tax return
-W-2 forms from each employer
-Unemployment compensation statements
-All 1099 forms (1099-INT, 1099-DIV, etc.)
-Child care provider information
-Receipts or cancelled checks if itemizing deductions
-Some type of picture ID
For more information, call 1-888-227-7669 or visit www.arp.org/taxaide.

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OPINION

By Sen. Sylvia Garcia



Do you call this progress? I don't

Women throughout Texas have suffered a devastating loss of lifesaving access to health care. Over the last several years, more than 200,000 Texas women have lost their access to basic health care including cancer screenings, birth control, and the providers they trust. Seventy-six neighborhood health centers have had to close their doors.

The real life impact of these policies is severe and heartbreaking. Access to quality, affordable health care is not a political issue, no matter how much partisans in power have tried to make it one. It is a deeply personal issue. When a woman finds a lump in her breast, only to learn that the health care center she relied on is closed, no amount of political posturing alleviates her deep fear. When a woman in the Rio Grande Valley loses access to her annual exam, there is no talking point that will give her back the care she needs.

But now, in an infuriating and insulting twist, it seems as if those who caused such harm expect Texas women to send them Thank You cards. Despite all facts and experience to the contrary, those who cut access to care would like Texas women to believe their access has improved. It is outrageous to decimate women's access to basic health care. It is even more outrageous to deny the realities of hundreds of thousands of Texas women.

Texas women, however, are anything but stupid. They understand the real world impact these policies have caused in their lives. Last summer made very clear that women are paying attention, and they know what harm has been dealt them.

The facts are that in 2011 the Texas Legislature slashed funding for the state's family planning program by two-thirds and implemented a tiered funding system that excluded specialty family planning providers like Planned Parenthood from the program. As a result, Texas' family planning program served only 75,160 women in 2012—63% fewer women than in 2011—and paid 15% more per client for care. This reduced access to birth control is expected to cost Texas taxpayers up to \$273 million.

As a direct result of these policies, 76 health centers

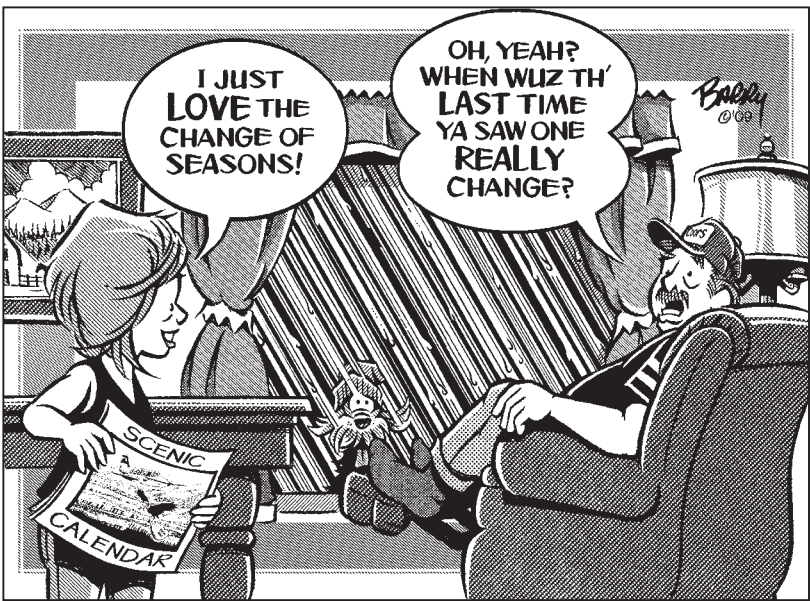
have closed or stopped providing family planning services and another 55 providers have reduced their hours.

During the most recent legislative session, the Texas Legislature adopted a biennial budget for 2014-15 that added \$100 million in new funding to the state's primary care program for women's health, including family planning. But this new funding will primarily go to organizations that have not traditionally been the lead provider of family planning services in Texas. Despite the infusion of funding, Texas is still struggling to provide care for as many women as were being served before the budget shredding in 2011.

In yet another move to politicize women's health care, in 2011, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission adopted rules that would exclude Planned Parenthood from the Medicaid Women's Health Program. Nearly 40% of the women in the program relied on Planned Parenthood for cancer screenings, birth control, and other preventive health care.

In order to circumvent federal law preventing Texas from denying women access to qualified providers like Planned Parenthood, state lawmakers ended the Medicaid Women's Health Program, rejecting approximately \$40 million in federal matching funds for the program that covered 90% of the program's cost. Researchers from George Washington University concluded that alternative providers are unable to handle the massive increase of patients that would be necessary to preserve the level of care the program provided in 2011 without Planned Parenthood. During the first six months of the new program, it was reported that birth control services declined by 38% and the number of well woman exams decreased by 23% overall.

No amount of fuzzy math or spin changes these facts, or the reality that women throughout the state are unable to get the care they need and deserve. What can change that reality is this November's election. Women will decide the outcome of this election. And one fact we can all agree on is that you can't win in Texas by working against Texas women.



Vietnam Veterans Monument is placed at Capitol

Austin — Forty-one years after the last U.S. combat troops left Vietnam, the new Texas Capitol Vietnam Veterans Monument was dedicated in a March 29 ceremony attended by a crowd of thousands, including veterans, active duty military, families, friends and relatives.

Some 3,417 Texans died or are unaccounted for in Vietnam, according to the State Capitol Preservation Board.

Speakers at the ceremony included: Gov. Rick Perry; U.S. Rep. Sam Johnson of Dallas, an Air Force pilot who was held captive and tortured as prisoner of war in Vietnam for seven years; Lt. Gen. Mick Kicklighter, director of the United States 50th Commemoration of the Vietnam War; state Sen. Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa, D-McAllen, and state Rep. Wayne Smith, R-Houston, Vietnam veteran legislators who co-sponsored the monument authorization legislation; Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst; Robert Floyd, chairman of monument committee; and state Sen. Leticia Van de Putte, D-San Antonio, who introduced the memorial tribute that included students from San Antonio's Edgewood Memorial High School and wreaths presented by the families of Texans killed and missing in Vietnam, the Texas Vietnamese community and the Texas legislature.

The bronze monument depicting soldiers in action poses cost \$2.2 million and was paid for with private donations.

Violators face penalties

Texas Department of Transportation is working with law enforcement entities to recover unpaid tolls and fees from drivers who have not settled those debts. On March 21 TxDOT announced violators will be "subjected to having their vehicles banned from toll roads, ticketed by law enforcement, impounded and possibly reported to the county tax assessor's office in an effort to block vehicle registration renewal."

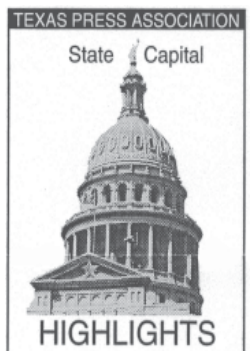
James Bass, TxDOT interim executive director, said, "Not paying tolls is effectively stealing from the taxpayers of Texas. Recovering unpaid tolls is a responsibility TxDOT will continue to



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

take seriously as we pursue millions of dollars in delinquent tolls that could be used to better serve the people of Texas."



'Debt page' gets update

State Comptroller Susan Combs on March 26 announced an update for her agency's "Debt at a Glance" Web pages detailing finances for every city, school district and community college district in Texas.

With 50 local bond elections coming up in May, Combs said, the information is especially relevant. "Since we launched our local debt features last year, we have continued to add information beneficial to taxpayers," she explained.

Find it at http://texastransparency.org/Special_Features/Debt_at_a_Glance/.

Appellate court rules

A three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit on March 27 issued a unanimous decision upholding House Bill 2, a revision to the Texas abortion law passed by the state Legislature in 2013.

The decision reverses a lower court ruling in favor of Planned Parenthood Greater Texas Surgical Health Services et al., that the state law violated the constitutional rights of patients.

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott called the Fifth Circuit's decision "a vindication of the careful delibera-

tion by the Texas Legislature to craft a law to protect the health and safety of Texas women."

The Fifth Circuit's decision may be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Spill cleanup continues

Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson on March 26 said work crews and equipment are already in place to protect Matagorda Bay from any oil spilled by a barge at Texas City.

On March 22, some 170,000 gallons of fuel oil escaped from the barge following a collision in the environmentally sensitive Houston Ship Channel.

Magazine rates Austin 1st

Forbes magazine, in its annual ranking of cities including their associated Metropolitan Statistical Areas, named Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos the nation's fastest-growing city in 2013. Austin's growth rate over the year was 2.5 percent.

In the same study, Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington placed 4th; Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown placed 10th; and San Antonio-New Braunfels placed 20th.

Noted Texan dies

Robert S. Strauss, 95, died March 19.

He was born in Lockhart and later lived in Hamlin and Stamford before attending the University of Texas as an undergraduate and going to earn a law degree from the UT School of Law.

Strauss served in the FBI during World War II. He co-founded the Gump & Strauss law firm in Dallas in 1945. In political life, a few examples of the many high-level posts he held include: U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union, U.S. ambassador to Russia, special envoy to the Middle East, Democratic National Committee chairman, and U.S. trade representative.

TEXAS

With Russell A. Graves

Sportsman Shooting Center

I've been a shooter most of my life. From the time I was a boy carrying a Red Rider BB gun through Fannin County fields until today, I've been enjoyed shooting sports. As such I am always looking for new opportunities and a few months ago, I was invited to visit the Sportsman Shooting Center in Grapevine, Texas.

Sportsman Shooting Center is a fully enclosed indoor training center that provides the opportunity for shooters to practice on dynamic hunting scenarios inside an air conditioned live-fire cinema range using their own rifle and ammunition. The center occupies a newly built, state of the art 9,000 square foot range facility.

While the building is impressive, what's amazing is the center offers shooters access to an advanced three-part program which includes a fully enclosed 100 yard sighting tunnel, an interactive laser training simulator, and a live fire cinema range. With the exception of the simulator, the tunnel and cinema range are all live fire using your own firearm.

My first station is the fully enclosed, climate controlled 100 yard sighting tunnel. I hunt with a Savage Model 110 .243 rifle that my parents gave me for Christmas 25 years ago. That gun shoots well and although I thought I had the scope dialed in nicely, the electronic target sighting system allowed to refine the scope much more precisely than I could have using paper targets.

Each time I'd shoot, I'd get instantaneous shot feedback on a computer screen via sound wave detection technology. This system shows shot placement automatically on a flat screen display near the shooter for analysis by the instructor.

The next station was the interactive training simulator. It's a system that allows the shooter to engage computer-generated targets using a non-firing replica firearm fitted with an eye-safe laser emitter. The simulator mimics the trajectory of most popular cartridges and shot analysis is conducted via a 360 degree view of shot placement and real time barrel tracking. After a bit of time in the simulator, I know I became a better shot.

The final station is in the USA's first live-fire cinema range. The cinema range consists of four shooting stations that face a 12 foot tall by 30 foot wide screen where footage of real hunting scenarios are presented.

Using my own rifle and live ammunition, I shoot multiple scenarios of various hunting scenes from wild hogs to African game like kudu. Each time I shoot, the footage stops and reveals - via a red dot - my shot placement.

When I am done shooting my hunting rifle, I engage Olympic style targets with an AR-style firearm.

In my mind, the Sportsman Shooting Center is the premier facility in which to train and refine your shooting technique. Randy Sykora and his staff do a great job in making you feel at home and making sure you get the most from your experience.

The technology at SSC is incredible and from talking with the other patrons in the center, they agree.

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Entered as Periodicals Class at Highlands Post Office, Highlands, TX 77562. Under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. Published 50 weeks per year, on Thursday, by Grafikpress Corp., 5906 Star Lane, Houston, TX 77057. Opinions in this paper are those of the authors, and not necessarily this newspaper's. Any erroneous statement which may appear will be corrected when brought to the attention of the publisher. Liability for errors is limited to the reprinting of the corrected version. Submissions are encouraged, in person, by mail, by fax, or by email, to grafikstar@aol.com.

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Celebrate Texas public schools week

Districts across Texas joined the campaign to Celebrate Texas Public Schools during the month of March. Each Goose Creek CISD school selected a week to celebrate and planned activities to showcase the achievements of students, teachers and staff members. The events encouraged parents to stay involved in their children's education. Among the activities planned at the schools were Academic Family Night and Carver All-Star Lunch to allow parents the opportunity to eat lunch with their children among many other family fun activities for students and parents. The many activities in which Goose Creek CISD schools participated to Celebrate Texas Public Schools depicted the 2014 theme "Leave Your Mark" in style. "Our Goose Creek CISD schools, teachers, staff and students provide our community with so much to celebrate," said Dr. Salvador



Carmen Lopez from Robert E. Lee High School and her daughter, Lauren Ramirez, 7th grade student at Baytown Junior School, enjoy lunch together in the BJS Commons as part of the Celebrate Texas Public Schools activities in March.

Cavazos, Goose Creek CISD superintendent. "By providing a quality education in a nurturing environment, our schools prepare our students to accomplish their goals for the future."

Students learn fire safety



Photo by Carrie Pryor-Newman

Baytown Junior School Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) students Alan Reyes, Jesus Juarez, Alysia Watts, Fabian Macias and David Martinez show off the wrist bands given to them by the Harris County Fire Marshal's Office at their recent program. Their newly-trained puppy Cinder helped teach the students fire safety. The Fire Marshal's Office donated 600 key ring flashlights, six-inch rulers, "Know your Way Out" stickers, wrist bands and home evacuation maps with instructions were distributed to the students on the March 28 Incentive Fun Day!

★

LITTLE BIDDY BITS

By Danny Biddy

Looking Up

As my mother-in-law was taking her usual

morning walk, she heard a voice say, "Hello." She stopped to respond, but there was no one there. She started on and was again interrupted with "Hello." This time she looked in every direction then noticed a little boy in a tree near the street. As she was telling this

story to her Sunday School class the next week she said, "You know, sometimes you just need to look up to hear who is talking to you." "Look to Me, and be saved, all you ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other." (Isaiah 45:22)

Meaning of Bracketology

Bracketology is a slang term for predicting winners and losers in the NCAA Basketball National Championship Tournament every spring. The field of 64 is chosen by a committee with selection and seeding based on team records and strength of schedule with conference champions from the various NCAA Division I conferences given an automatic invite. The first round officially begun weekend of March 22, but "March Madness" actually began earlier with four "play-in" games. Winners of these games completed the four regional brackets. On each of the three weekends of the NCAA tournament, three fourths of the teams are eliminated with one fourth of the teams surviving to advance to the next round. Bracketology is the phenomenon of nationwide interest by hard core basketball enthusiasts, casual sports fans, and even complete novices in picking the winners in the brackets. The field narrows from 64 on the first weekend to the Sweet 16 to the Elite 8 to the Final Four. Although the NCAA Tournament is commonly referenced as March Madness, the championship game will not be until April 7th when the 2014 champion will be crowned in AT&T Stadium in Arlington Texas. Upsets invariably happen and top seeds do not always survive to the Final Four, and that's the fun of bracketology! Experts and novices alike make predictions with no certainty that the person who studies the conferences and

★

PASTOR'S NEWS VIEWS

By Tim Edwards

stats will do any better in their bracketology than the person who picks a winner because she likes the uniforms or mascots of a school. Bracketology is on the internet, at offices and plants, and with family and friends. It is truly deep-rooted in 21st century culture in the USA. There is another bracketology in play for everyone this March. This bracketology is the "games" of business, health, government, finance, and numerous other daily life choices. Individuals and families make predictions and fill in their brackets, but there is no certainty that events will occur just as predicted. James, pastor of Jerusalem church, wrote Holy Spirit inspired truth in the 1st century about how Christ-followers are to trust God in plans and predictions. *Look here, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we are going to a certain town and will stay there a year. We will do business there & make a profit." How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog—it's here a little while, then it's gone. What you ought to say is, "If the Lord wants us to, we will live & do this or that." Otherwise you are boasting about your own plans, and*

all such boasting is evil. Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do & then not to do it. James 4:13-17 NLT It's impossible to fill out a perfect bracket in the NCAA Tournament and even more so in the bracketology of life. Every day and every moment reflects the reality of the unknowns. Outcomes are always known by God, but people simply fill in the bracket with predictions. Therefore, the daily choice is to simply trust God and persevere in doing the good that God's Word instructs you to do! Live each day in the excitement of the moment, and in the certainty of ultimate victory. One team will cut down the nets as champions of the Final Four. Bracketology is predicting who that will be. In God's Bracketology, all His Teams cut down the net in triumph because Jesus is the One on whom we depend for salvation day by day and eternally! As you keep up with your brackets in March Madness, remember that God's Bracketology is the championship celebration of the eternal trophy —life with Jesus forever! I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. **Philippians 3:14 NASB**

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SPORTS NEWS

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LETTER
To The
Editor

Dear Editor,

I enjoyed reading your paper. A dear friend that lives in North Shore on Joliet saved her first papers for me.

I like the obituaries and pastor's views. We have not received a paper here at our house yet. Please add police reports around our area, robberies, etc.

Thanks for coming to our area. We have really missed out since The Sentinel stopped a few years ago; now look forward to your paper and news so much.

Wayne and Gladys Schilhab

San Jacinto College hosting financial workshop

HOUSTON - San Jacinto College and the Women's Resource of Greater Houston are collaborating to offer a financial workshop.

The one-day workshop is free and open to the public, and will be held on Wednesday, April 9 from 8:45am to 9:45am and 10:15am to 11:15am. All workshop sessions will be held at the San Jacinto College North Campus, 5800 Uvalde Road, in the Wheeler Building Auditorium (Building 10) Room 128.

The April 9 workshop will include two sessions:

1. 8:45 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. - "Money Matters," which will deal with the importance of setting financial goals. Topics will include how to prepare personal spending plans and ways to decrease spending and increase income.

2. 10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. - "Pay Yourself First," which will deal with the importance of saving money and will include information about various savings options.

Dr. DeRhonda McWaine, San Jacinto College student success course coordinator, says she received positive feedback from last year's workshop. "We had a very successful workshop last year, during which many students and members of the community learned valuable financial strategies to help them improve their lives," she commented. "We encourage everyone to attend this year's event to receive valuable financial guidance."

At the conclusion of the workshop participants can enter a college scholarship essay contest.

FAMILY SHELTER,

Continued from page 1

Jacinto City, Crosby, Highlands, Baytown, Mont Belvieu, Dayton, Liberty, and Anahuac.

Elswick is seeking donations, or pledges, that can be spread out over 3 years. BAHs is a 501c3 organization, so there is a tax advantage to donations. Individuals or companies that donate can have various rooms permanently named for them.

Elswick and Eckert explained further about the services and requirements of Bay Area Homeless Services. Day to day expenses are paid for by United Way, federal grants, fundraisers, and smaller grants. Homeless persons or families that are taken in are provided a safe, friendly environment. They must be drug and alcohol free, and are screened for this on-site. They are not allowed to stay if they violate this rule.

While at the facility, homeless persons receive housing, food, job training, resume help for job searches, and transportation for job interviews.

The overall Campaign Chairman for this drive is Baytown mayor Stephen DonCarlos. The campaign is termed "Building Hope." If you wish to pledge or donate, contact Executive Director Bill Eckert, at 281-837-1654 or Roger Elswick at 281-839-7700.

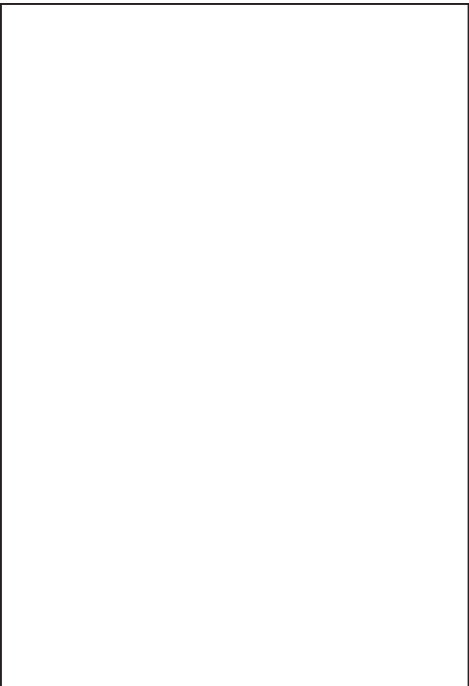
Schools use golf to emphasize values and health

Students and teachers from Galena Park ISD braved the brisk, foggy morning of Saturday, March 29, 2014 to participate in the First Tee National School Program Champions Challenge. Students from each GPISD elementary campus joined in the fun and challenge of putting and driving the ball through numerous obstacles.

The Houston Golf Association hosts The First Tee National School Program Champions Challenge on the Saturday prior to the famous Shell Houston Open. The First Tee of Greater Houston's 3-hole, par 3 course is located adjacent to the Redstone Golf Club in Humble, Texas. Nearly 360 fourth grade students from area school districts, two students from each participating elementary school, competed in this exciting contest. Students were selected to participate based on their performance in The National School Program activities held during their schools' physical education classes. The yearly event provides an opportunity for students to apply their putting, chipping, driving, and etiquette skills on an actual golf course, as well as attend a PGA TOUR event.

The National School Program curriculum is based on nationwide physical education standards and emphasizes character building through an introduction to golf and The First Tee Nine Core Values™ and The First Tee Nine Healthy Habits™.

"This program is great for the kids, parents and teachers.

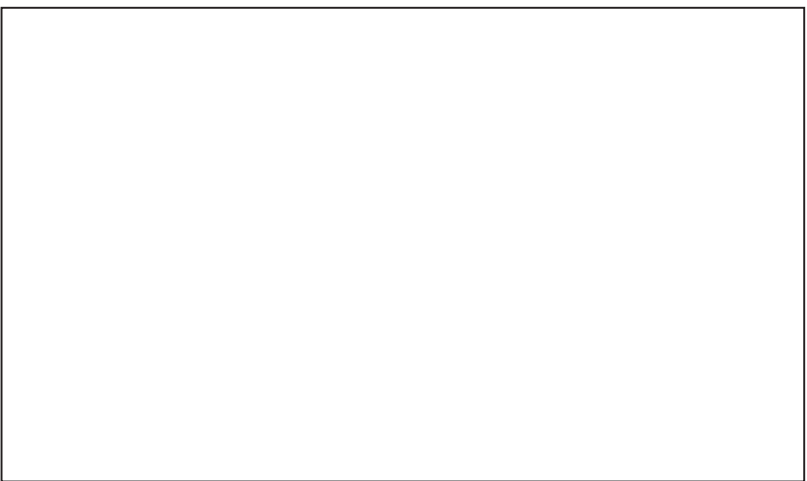


Pyburn Elementary School's Luis Rodriguez celebrates after hitting a hole in one.

It gives them all an opportunity to experience a real golf course - a golf course where a major, professional tournament is about to take place," said Vivian Dancy, Girls Athletic Coordinator for Galena Park ISD. "It's also good that students get exposure to a sport other than the big three (football, basketball, baseball). Using golf and fitness related activities, students learn about respect, integrity, sportsmanship, and the other core values taught by First Tee," Dancy added.

Women's basketball coach reflects on first year, looks forward to next season

Howard named All-American Honorable Mention



San Jacinto College's Women's Basketball Head Coach Brenita Williams-Jackson is proud of the way the team toughed it out despite setbacks and obstacles through the 2013-2014 season. Photo by Rob Vanya

HOUSTON - The 2013-2014 season was disappointing for the San Jacinto College women's basketball team. Yet, first-year Head Coach Brenita Williams-Jackson is proud of the way the team toughed it out despite setbacks and obstacles.

"Our record of 3-27 was a hard pill swallow, but given the circumstances our kids played to the best of their abilities," she commented. "We lost key players due to season-ending injuries, and lost a few others for academic reasons. Consequently, we really had only six steady players for much of the season."

The team's three victories were solid wins. On Nov. 15, San Jac beat Victoria College 95-53; on Dec. 21 the team beat Texas Storm 121-85; and on Jan. 15 they beat Panola College (on the road) 96-88. The coach saw good signs in those victories. "We talked repeatedly about not giving up and fighting through adversity," she remarked. "The players did just that in the games we won, and in very close games against Jacksonville, Paris and Angelina. We now have standards in place and high expectations that will benefit the team in the future and hopefully will help us to win more games next season."

A bright spot in the season was the solid overall performance of freshman guard Kendra Howard (Dallas / Cedar Hill High School), who was named to the Region XIV all-region and all-conference

teams. She also earned an Honorable Mention recognition on the Women's Basketball Coaches Association All-America team. Howard led the team in scoring at 18.8 points per game, a mark that ranked 16th in the country. She shot 37.1 percent from the field, and 33.1 percent from 3-point range. She was second on the team in assists per game at 4.0. "Kendra stepped up when we needed her most and started playing beyond even her own expectations," said Williams-Jackson. "It is nice to see Kendra recognized, because she deserves it."

During the off-season, the team will work to improve three key areas - defense, rebounding, and ball handling. Williams-Jackson is pleased with how players have served, and continue to serve,

as positive ambassadors for the College, through such volunteer efforts as visiting patients at the Texas Children's Hospital, and serving at the Houston Food Bank. "We've been working diligently to build relationships on campus and in the local community," she commented. "Lajeah Rice (freshman guard, Converse / Judson High School) leads New Student Orientation presentations and Sarah Davis (freshman guard, Porter / Porter High School) serves as an officer for the Ladies of Integrity student mentoring program. These experiences will benefit these young ladies beyond basketball because they are learning to be leaders, to give back to the community, and to strive for excellence in all areas of life."

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Published each Wednesday by GrafikPress Corp. Any erroneous statement which may appear will be corrected when brought to the attention of the publisher. Liability for errors is limited to the reprinting of the corrected version. Submissions are encouraged, in person, by mail, by Fax, or by email, to: northchannelstar@gmail.com

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13-3

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 428313; Estate of ROSA JOHNSON Deceased; In Probate Court No. 2, of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on March 5, 2014.

TAMMY FRANCES FAYLE a/k/a TAMMY FRANCIS FAYLE, DAVID JENTHO, and WESTON COTTEN

The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is:

c/o Weston Cotten 5223 Garth Rd. Baytown, TX 77521

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this March 12, 2014

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by WESTON COTTEN
Attorney for the Estate

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CROSBY: Post Office Library Community Center Race Track Arlan's Market Kroger's Community Bank

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Geological time

4 Nibble

8 Actress Helgenberger

12 Chap

13 Inflammation (Suff.)

14 Eight (Sp.)

15 Mess

17 Vincent van Gogh's brother

18 Choose

19 Winning

20 Win by —

22 Withered

24 Charged bits

25 3/17 symbol

29 Young fellow

30 Like Santa's laundry?

31 Shell-game need

32 Hair-salon supply

34 Birth month for some Leos

35 Tug hard

36 Actress Berry

37 Flower

40 Ranch visitor

41 Cavort

42 Like magic priests

46 Trendy berry

DOWN

1 Type squares

2 "Go, team!"

3 Big snake

4 Sacred text

5 "— have to do"

6 Dead heat

7 Curvy letter

8 Whistler

9 Rue the run

10 Comical

11 Suitable

16 Tousle

19 Legion

20 Has a bug

21 Early boatwright

22 Trembled

23 Comestibles

25 Any minute now

26 Wealth

27 Honeycomb compartment

28 Mitty

30 Unwanted email

33 Nearsightedness

34 — Pinkett Smith

36 Wit

37 Actor Pitt

38 Nutty

39 Muscat's nation

40 Valley

42 Hot tub

43 Leap

44 Annoy

45 Miller Sebastian

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E	K	E	H	E	P	A	V	N	O	D	
O	R	O	O	T	O	D	I	V	O	V	
C	I	N	V	W	V	H	S	d	W	O	H
E	d	n	d	W	O	T	B				
E	T	T	V	H	K	N	V	A			
A	T	U	J	S	O	O	W	V	H	S	
V	E	d	A	J	O	S	d	V	T		
K	O	R	W	V	H	S	S	N	O	I	
			H	E	S	E	S	O	N	A	
D	V	E	H	A	T	L	N	O			
O	E	H	T	S	E	T	B	W	V	H	S
O	H	O	S	I	T	I	N	V	A		
M	A	R	A	T	E	B	I	R	A	E	

Solution time: 27 mins.
Answers
— King Crossword —

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COMMUNITY NEWS



Buck and wife Shirley sing a duet, the standard way to open the evening. As a spoof, Buck wrote a song "Help me make it through the night" with the lyrics "Come and lay down by my side/and pretend you haven't died," a good natured look at how they have aged and cared for each other. They have been married 38 years, having met at a beer joint in Lufkin, where they first lived.



BUCK SLOAN plays the piano, guitar, and fiddle. He is in the Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest Hall of Fame. The band includes guitar player Jerry Orvis, bass guitar Royce Melton, Steel Guitar player Dusty Stewart, and percussion/drummer Kaleb Jordan. Other musicians often sit in on the band, and each Saturday performance features four or more guest singers/performers.

BUCKSHOT JAMBOREE,
Continued from page 1

tal age of the performers. Buck is 89, his wife Shirley 74, his musicians Jerry Orvis 76, Royce Melton 58, Dusty Stewart 83, and the youngster Kaleb Jordan 23.

Buck was born in 1924, and with the depression coming on, his one possession was a guitar for entertainment. Later he served in WWII, was wounded and received the Purple Heart.

You may have heard Buck in another venue previously. He and Shirley played at the Jacinto City Opry, and at The Hitching Rail off C. E. King in past years.

The building he built and decorated, with Shirley, is not only a music hall, but a museum and showcase of his collection of memorabilia and objects. He has displayed them on the walls, for all to see and enjoy. They include license plates, newspaper clippings, hardware items, tools, and much more. Buck says "You don't have to listen to the music, just come and look at the junk."

Buck and Shirley have only had the Jamboree and the building for a few years. They formed the Buckshots in 2007, and moved into their building about three years ago. Even though he is 89, he reminds us that his mother lived to 102, and we hope Buck does too, and keeps on pickin' and playing. Shirley says "We are trying to preserve and keep Classical "Old Time" Country Music alive.

You can catch their show at 7414 Hartman every Saturday, from 7 pm to 10 pm. Take C. E. King or Beltway East to Old Beaumont Highway, then to Hartman. Admission is a \$7 donation for adults, and \$3 for kids. You can come early or late, and have a good time. It is such an informal and friendly place that you will feel right at home.

SJC Employees recognized for excellence



Recipients of the 2013-2014 San Jacinto College Excellence Awards include from left, Stephan Lorenz, biology professor; Amanda Rose, student life coordinator, Central Campus; Dr. DeRhonda McWaine, college preparatory professor; Sandra Ramirez, vice president, human resources; Malcom Sadler, geology professor; Sonia Townsend, coordinator, financial aid; and Ann Pearson, assistant director, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. Shown with the award winners (at right) is San Jacinto College Chancellor Dr. Brenda Hellyer. Not pictured, Jane Stimpson, South Campus librarian. Photo credit: Amanda Booren, San Jacinto College marketing, public relations, and government affairs department.

PASADENA, Texas - Eight San Jacinto College employees recently earned the 2013-2014 Excellence Awards based on their dedication in service and involvement with the College community, role model characteristics, collaboration, and other exemplary attributes.

The following are the San Jacinto College employees who earned the Excellence Awards, along with noted achievements: Stephan Lorenz, North Campus biology professor, Amanda Rose, Central Campus student life coordinator, Dr. DeRhonda McWaine, North Campus college preparatory professor, Sandra Ramirez, vice president of human resources, Malcom Sadler, Central Campus geology professor, Sonia Townsend, South Campus financial aid coordinator, Ann Pearson, assistant director for the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning and Jane Stimpson, South Campus librarian.

Each San Jacinto College Excellence Award winner has the option of attending either the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) conference in May, or the John and Susanne Roueche Excellence Awards conference hosted by the League of Innovation in March.

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