

NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

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

Channelview High School graduation set for May 27

Graduation ceremonies for Channelview High School will be held at 7 p.m., Saturday, May 27 at the M.O. Campbell Center, 1865 Aldine Bender Road in Houston. The graduation will be video streamed live on the Web by Aldine ISD. For those who would like to view the video of this year's graduation, log on to the Aldine ISD website at www.aldineisd.org, go to the Community link at the top of the home page, then click on the Graduation Video Feeds link. For more information, contact the high school at 281-452-1450.

Keep Houston Beautiful

Congressman Gene Green will be hosting the 15th Annual North Channel Area Community Clean-Up, Saturday, April 29, 8:30 am - 12 pm. Kickoff site: East Freeway HPD Storefront, 12001 A- East Freeway, Houston, TX. 77029. Volunteers are needed! Please call 281-999-5879 to register.

Galena Park-Jacinto City CIP meeting

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2017
5:45 - light dinner. 6:15 business starts. Meeting adjourns by 8:15 p.m. at Alvin Baggett Recreation Building, 1302 Keene in Galena Park. Host plant: PCI Nitrogen. Your RSVP by noon on Mon. May 1 will help us plan food and seating. Contact facilitator Diane Sheridan at dsfacilitator@gmail.com or 281-326-5253.

Sheldon approves plans for New High School

The Sheldon ISD school board recently approved these plans for the new high school and site development fronting Beltway 8 near Garrett Road. The project is part of the \$285 million bond issue passed by voters in May 2016, according to Superintendent King Davis. General Contractor Durotech has begun work on the site, clearing and grading in the initial phase. The project will include

a new football stadium, parking and a water retention lake. Davis said that the bond package also included a new sixth elementary school, technology upgrades district-wide, and conversion of C.E. King high school to a new middle school, and conversion of the middle school to an Educational Support Building. Other additions and renovations will be undertaken on existing district schools.



VIEW OF THE CAMPUS FROM BELTWAY 8. STADIUM AT LEFT, SCHOOL AT RIGHT, LAKE OR RETENTION POND IN FOREGROUND. All drawings courtesy of Huckabee Architects.



VIEW OF THE FRONT FACADE OF THE NEW HIGH SCHOOL, WITH THE ROUND ENTRANCE HALL AT THE CENTER.

Greenwood fundraiser held at Royal Purple Raceway



Thousands of well-wishers congregated at the Royal Purple Raceway in Baytown last Saturday, for a benefit fund-raiser for the family of fallen Deputy Constable Clint Greenwood. Cooks boiled tons of Crawfish for the crowds. Constable Sherman Eagleton expressed his sorrow, saying "I'm so thankful that everyone came out... bringing us all together, and we're surviving." The benefit was the idea of Caleb Warden, and included many local cooking teams. The group has set a goal of raising \$100,000 for the Greenwood family.

Manhunt for suspect in 3 shootings

(Harris County, TX) Harris County Sheriff's Office homicide investigators are seeking the public's help in locating an individual connected to two shooting deaths that occurred on Monday and another shooting that happened Tuesday morning. Russell Cormier, 53, is charged with the murder of his estranged wife, 61-year-old Fannie McWhite, at approximately 6 a.m. on Tuesday, April 17 in the 12300 block of Greencanyon Drive. Cormier fled McWhite's residence in a black Toyota Tundra pickup and drove to a residence in the 600 block of Shotwell in northeast Houston. There he collected some belongings and set the trailer in which he was living in on fire.



Russell Cormier is considered to be an ongoing threat to the public. He is responsible for killing his wife and shooting to two other victims.

See Manhunt, Page 3

NORTH CHANNEL CHAMBER Rockets Mascot "Clutch" speaks about his career

Members of the North Channel Chamber were entertained by a speaker that they knew in costume, as "Clutch the Bear" the Houston Rockets mascot, but didn't know as a person. Robert Boudwin spoke about his personal life, including the 21 years he enjoyed and profited from being mascot Clutch, and the "craziest half hour of my life" with several personal tragedies in 2011. Boudwin showed a video of his stunts and performances as Clutch. He said he talked his way into the job, starting at \$20,000 a year and ending at \$300,000 a year. His tragedies included a father with cystos fibrosis that needed a lung transplant, a wife that left him at his time of crisis, and the sale of his house in the midst of this. Boudwin has become an advocate for organ transplants, and urged the audience to register for this cause. He said that 9.5 million people are registered in Texas to donate organs on their death. The website for this is donatelifetexas.org. See CLUTCH, page 8



ROBERT BOUDWIN AS HIMSELF AT THE CHAMBER LUNCHEON.



ROBERT BOUDWIN AS THE ROCKETS MASCOT "CLUTCH"

COMMUNITY WATCH Man drowns near Magnolia Gardens attempting to save girl



EAST HOUSTON - A man drowned in the San Jacinto River, on Saturday about 2:30 p.m. The incident occurred near Magnolia Gardens, at Beach Street and Riverside. Authorities said that a family was enjoying a swim, when a young girl in the group began to flound

der in the water, and was drowning. Four male members of the party jumped into the river to rescue the girl, but one of them, a 25-year-old man, drowned while trying to swim to the girl. The San Jacinto River is notorious for a slippery

bottom in the area, and swimmers are always cautioned about the dangers. The girl was rescued and safe, according to Sheriff's deputies. However, they had to search the river to recover the body of the man who did not survive the rescue attempt.

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: 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.

Houston Firefighters Scholarship Fund Fundraiser

Crawfish Fundraiser for City of Houston Firefighters Children & Grandchildren Scholarships. Saturday, April 29, 2017, 12 pm - 5 pm at Crawfish Shack, 5822 FM 2100, Crosby, TX. 77532. Crawfish Shack will be donating 25% of all sales to the fundraiser. For more info call 281-385-8525.

Mother-Daughter Luncheon

Stonebridge at Newport, 16401 Country Club Drive, Crosby, TX. Sunday, April 30, 2017 - 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Enjoy a Salad Buffet (Pasta, Tuna, Chicken, Egg & Greens) Assorted Desserts & Tea. Displays for Jewelry, Hand Bags, Make-Up, Oils and More. Door prizes every 20 minutes. Special prize recognition for: Oldest and Youngest Mother, Most generations.

Reservations may be made at Management Office (281) 462-4199 Ext. 10 or Pro Shop at Golf Course (281) 328-3576 Ext. 1.

Crosby Friends of Library meeting

The Crosby Friends of the Library will hold their annual meeting on April 24th, from 6:30-8:00 pm with guest speaker Kim Ogg, Harris County District Attorney. Refreshments will be served.

Kim Ogg is the newly elected Harris County District Attorney. She is a native Houstonian; licensed by the State Bar of Texas in 1987; and recognized as a specialist in Criminal Law by the Board of Legal Specialization since 1992.

Kim served as a prosecutor for the Harris County District Attorney from 1986 - 1994, where she rose to the level of Chief Felony Prosecutor. She was appointed by Mayor Bob Lanier as the City of Houston's first Anti-Gang Task Force Director in 1994 and oversaw a 40% reduction in gang crime during her tour of duty. From 1999 - 2006, Kim served as the Executive Director of Crime Stoppers and led the organization to international record-breaking years, capturing thousands of violent felons. In 2006, Kim transitioned to private legal practice where she was the Managing Partner of the Ogg Law Firm, PLLC, a family-owned litigation firm that fought for the rights of families, individuals accused of crimes, and police officers and citizens whose civil rights have been violated. Kim now brings her strong track record of public service and thirty years of professional experience to the position of Harris County District Attorney.



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FESTIVAL



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COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Small Business Lunch & Learn

Wednesday, April 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.

North Channel Branch Library

-Saturday, April 22, Pokémon Club, 3 pm.
-Tuesday, April 25, Toddler Time, 10:15 am & 11:15 am; Preschool Story Time, 1:30 pm.
-Wednesday, April 26, North Channel Book Club, 10 am; Tween Time: Wayne Thiebaud Paper Cupcake Craft, 4:30 pm.
-Thursday, April 27, Baby Time, 10:30 am; Dia de los Niños/Dia de los Libros: Celebrate Dial, 4:30 pm.
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 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 LyondellBasell on Sheldon Road at noon. For more information, please visit www.SanJacintoPilot.com.

Senior Honor Student's Luncheon

Friday - April 28, 2017. San Jacinto College North - Monumment Room. SPONSORS NEEDED. Sponsor a student for \$20 or become a Contributing Partner for \$250 (LIMITED SPACE). Please contact blanca@ncachamber.com or 713-450-3600 for more details.

Fidelity High School Historical Committee

The Fidelity High School Historical Committee is hosting a Zydeco and Crawfish Festival on May 20th from 2:00 pm until 6:00 pm. The festival will take place at the Evelyn Churchill Center, 1505 Hunter Street in Galena Manor. All Fidelity graduates, non-graduates and their families are encouraged to attend.
For additional details call (832-444-1622) or (832-755-6294).

Channelview ISD's April Students of the Month

Channelview ISD recently honored their April Students of the Month by hosting a recognition luncheon in the top level of the press box at Ray Maddy Memorial Stadium. The April Students of the Month include, top row, from left, Kimberly Sanchez (Channelview High School), Israel Del Rosario (Joe Frank Campbell Learning Center), Kaile Mitchell (Aguirre Junior High), Yahir Ferretiz (McMullan Elementary) and Janay Janece Coombs (Kolarik Ninth Grade Center) and Glenda Sanchez (Alice Johnson Junior High). Pictured bottom row, from left, Evelyn Manzanara (Cobb Elementary), Angel Granados (DeZavala Elementary), Shalom Rivera (Schochler Elementary), Elizabeth Vaca (Hamblen Elementary), Noemy Salinas (Crenshaw Elementary) and Sara Garcia (Brown Elementary).



Manhunt

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Cormier then drove to a business located in the 12200 block of Kindred Street, where he waited for a 60-year-old male and shot him as he drove up to report for work.

Cormier then fled the scene.

On Tuesday morning, at around 4:30 a.m., Cormier returned to a neighbor's home on Shotwell Street and confronted a male who lived in the home.

Cormier is suspected of shooting the male one time and fleeing the scene. The male victim is in stable condition.

The Houston Police Department are investigating the shooting on Shotwell street.

Russell Cormier is described as an African American male, 6 feet in height and weighing 160 pounds.

He was last seen driving a late 2000 model Dodge Stratus, black in color and missing the front driver-side hub cap.

Russell Cormier is considered armed and extremely dangerous.

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of Russell Cormier is urged to call the Harris County Sheriff's Office Homicide unit at 713-247-9100.

GALENA PARK ISD

Purple Sage Elementary celebrates 25 years of service

On Tuesday, April 11, Purple Sage Elementary celebrated 25 years of successful service. Principal Robin Blount welcomed many current staff members, former staff members, retirees, administrators and former students to PSE.

Over 17,800 former and current Bulldogs have walked through the halls of Purple Sage. In the past 25 years, PSE has added a new Kindergarten wing, a new gymnasium and recently completed the Bulldog Bistro. The Bulldogs have received Recognized ratings from 2000-2006 and Exemplary ratings from 2007-2010.

Guests were invited to tour the facility and learn about the many services offered. Everyone enjoyed refreshments and departed with a keepsake commemorating the special day.



Former Purple Sage Principal Charlie Winsor, School Board President Wilfred J. Broussard, Jr. and current Purple Sage Principal Robin Blount.

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OPINION PAGE

No better time to prepare for your own funeral than tax time

(NAPSI)—As Benjamin Franklin famously wrote, “In this world, nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes.” If you, like most Americans, are beginning to work on your yearly taxes, why not start preparing for that other inevitability of life—your death.

Benefits of Preplanning

Planning for end of life is a subject many wish to avoid, but there are many advantages of planning your own funeral. When you take charge of your final arrangements, you remove the guesswork that family members will face regarding your last wishes. You personally decide whether you want a traditional burial or cremation instead of leaving these difficult decisions to loved ones.

Planning your end-of-life celebration in advance—known as prearranging—lifts the financial burden from your family's shoulders. Also, most funeral homes and cemeteries allow you to lock in today's prices when you prearrange so you get the added benefit of guarding against inflation.

Considerations When Choosing a Funeral Provider

Many people like the idea of prearranging but hesitate because they are not certain where they will live in the future. If this is a concern for you, look for a funeral provider that provides portability. Dignity Memorial® has a network of more than 2,000 locations in the United States and Canada, and offers the National Transferability of Prearranged Services Program to its clients. This ensures that your prearranged funeral services are fully transferable and will be honored at any Dignity Memorial provider throughout North America if you move more than 75 miles from where your

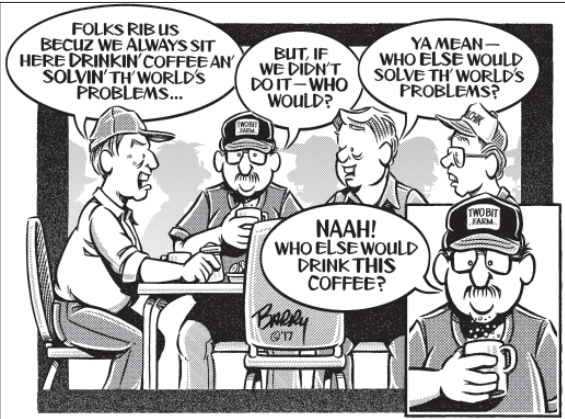
original arrangements were made.

You may also want a funeral provider that offers additional benefits to help your loved ones cope with their loss. As North America's largest provider of funeral, cremation and cemetery services, Dignity Memorial® offers grief management support tools, including access to a 24-hour Compassion Helpline® staffed by professionals with advanced degrees and specialized training in grief counseling. Many locations also offer support groups.

As you research end-of-life options, you will see that more and more people are choosing to enhance traditional funeral services with highly personalized life celebrations. This can be as simple as requesting certain songs be played during the service or arranging a more elaborate, themed celebration that highlights a special interest, passion or hobby of the family's loved one. Many families also hold catered receptions after the service. When you preplan, you personally decide how you want friends and family to remember you.

A Step-by-Step Guide to Begin Preplanning

To help you get started, pick up The Dignity Memorial® Personal Planning Guide at a Dignity Memorial® provider near you. The guide takes you step by step through the planning process. You can record your final wishes, personal affairs, family heritage, military history, estate information and other vital end-of-life information in a single document. You can also get started with a convenient tool—the Insider's Guide—to help you plan these important decisions from the comfort of your own home.



Federal judge says again, Texas voter ID law is discriminatory

AUSTIN — U.S. District Judge Nelva Gonzales Ramos of Corpus Christi on April 10 ruled the State of Texas has failed to prove that the voter identification law was not written with discriminatory intent and purpose.

The ruling came in response to a charge by the New Orleans-based U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit that Judge Ramos re-examine the evidence and her 2015 findings in Veasey et al., plaintiffs, v. Greg Abbott et al., defendants.

Plaintiffs alleged racial discrimination in violation of the U.S. Voting Rights Act of 1965 in response to the passage of Senate Bill 14 by the Texas Legislature in 2011. The law changed the list of acceptable forms of identification voters may use at polls and enacted other restrictions. The State of Texas argued that the law was passed not with a discriminatory purpose, but to combat voter fraud at the polls.

Ramos wrote that lawyers for the State of Texas failed to demonstrate that the law would have been enacted without a discriminatory purpose. Ramos said SB 14 violates Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, a provision that generally prohibits the enforcement of discriminatory voting laws.

Ramos, under a directive issued by the Fifth Circuit last summer, prescribed an interim voting plan for Texas to overcome discriminatory effects in the voter ID law in time for the November 2016 general election. It is up to the Texas Legislature to craft a state law that does not violate the federal voting rights law.

Meanwhile, legislation filed in the current session of the Texas Legislature by Sen. Joan Huffman, R-Houston, addresses federal court issues with the voter ID law. Huffman's SB 5 was passed on March 28 by the Republican-dominated

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling



flashlights priced at less than \$75; hurricane shutters and emergency ladders priced at less than \$300; and portable generators priced at less than \$3,000.

Seat belt bill advances

The Senate Transportation Committee voted unanimously in favor of SB 693, legislation that would require all new school buses purchased by a school district to be equipped with three-point seat belts.

The bill would amend the Transportation Code to expand the type of vehicles to which the three-point seat belt requirement applies to include a “multifunction school activity bus” or a “school-chartered bus.”

Multiple school bus accidents in Texas have led to fatalities and caused injuries that could have been prevented if these buses were equipped with three-point seat belts, said the bill's author, Sylvia Garcia, D-Houston. “The goal of this legislation is to protect children, prevent injuries, and demonstrate that the State of Texas is serious about the safety of school children. We spend a lot of tax dollars educating children to buckle up. Not requiring them to buckle up on the way to school is inconsistent,” she added.

Kubota heads for Texas

Gov. Greg Abbott on April 7 announced Kubota Tractor Corporation North American headquarters is relocating from Torrance, California, to Grapevine, Texas. The new facility is expected to create more than 340 new jobs and generate \$51 million in capital investment.

At a ribbon-cutting event, Abbot called Kubota “the model business partner.” Kubota has been one of the largest tractor producers in the United States since 1969.

TxDOT cautions drivers

The Texas Department of Transportation on April 6 reported work zone fatalities in Texas last year increased 27 percent, resulting in 181 lost lives. Of those fatalities, 174 — 96 percent — were motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists.

The agency asked motorists to take special care when transiting work zones.

Expert tips to help job seekers clean up their Social Identity

(NAPSI)—Social media is a popular pastime for work and play for nearly 70 percent of Americans.1 For job seekers, social networking sites can be useful tools to share professional experience, network with peers and employers, and seek job openings, but the content that individuals post on social platforms could be detrimental during the job hunt.

Companies often use social media to research job candidates during the interview process to learn more about them. And, unfortunately, if a candidate's social media presence contains unsavory photos, comments or posts, that information can be factored into the decision about whom to interview and ultimately hire.

The bottom line: Individuals seeking a new job would be wise to remove any potentially damaging photos or content. That said, can you truly hide your social identity? Dan Konzen, Phoenix Campus chair for the College of Information Systems and Technology at University of Phoenix, said the answer may be “no,” but he has tips to help clean up your social identity.

Can Social Media Cost Me My Job?

The easy solution to hide your social identity seems to be to delete it entirely, but this may not be the best option for job seekers. Hiring managers are actually less likely to interview candidates who don't have a social media presence.

Individuals must be careful, though, of what content is posted online. Knowing that a potential employer may be looking at your social media presence, it's best to present yourself in the most flattering way. It's not just about what you post, it also applies to what friends are posting about you, as the content is discoverable.

Some social media snafus include inappropriate photos, videos or content; alcohol or drug use; discriminatory comments; slander toward previous company or fellow employees; and poor communication skills.

Current employees should also be wary of their online presence. Nearly half of employers said they use social media to research current employees, and one-fourth have fired an employee for what they found.3

Tips to Clean up Your Social Identity

Konzen warns that what individuals post online can never be completely hidden, but people can take steps to help clean up their social identity.

“Consider how your social media accounts are perceived by others of different backgrounds, such as a recruiter sharing it with a hiring manager,” Konzen said. “The best way to clean up your social identity is to be aware of what is already out there and be mindful of what you post.”

Konzen shares the following tips to help clean up your social identity:

- Remove any provocative, inappropriate or distasteful photos or comments. This includes ones you've been tagged in by friends. Contact the poster and ask him or her to remove the photo or content. If that isn't possible, untag yourself.
- Tools such as justdelete.me and Lightbeam can help you manage accounts and see who's viewed your profiles.
- Google yourself and set up Google Alerts to monitor your online presence. If you find anything concerning, chances are, hiring managers will, too.
- Edit past social media and blog posts for grammatical errors. Poor communication skills on social media are a reflection of your brand. Consider making your social media profiles more career focused. Think of the type of candidate the employer is seeking and model your social media accounts after that. Creating a profile under a pseudonym can be used to keep in touch with old friends or post content that may not be work appropriate.

Advertisement for Canada Drug Center featuring Celebrex and Celecoxib prices, a list of other medications with their prices, and a coupon for \$15 off plus free shipping on the first order.

Advertisement for Star★Courier newspaper, including contact information for the publisher, subscription rates, and a notice of ownership.

LIFESTYLE

Crosby Community Center Hippity Hop Egg Hunt

PHOTO ALBUM



Local residents inducted into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

BATON ROUGE, LA (04/12/2017)-- The following local residents recently were initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society.

Chanel Cox of Highlands (77562) was initiated at Texas Tech University

Brittany Flowers of Huffman (77336) was initiated at Texas Woman's University

These residents are among approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership.

Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 300 campuses in the United States and the Philippines. Its mission is "To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others."

More About Phi Kappa Phi

Since its founding, 1.5 million members have been initiated into Phi Kappa Phi. Some of the organization's notable members include former President Jimmy Carter, NASA astronaut Wendy Lawrence, novelist David Baldacci and YouTube co-founder Chad Hurley. The Society has awarded approximately \$15 million since the inception of its awards program in 1932. Today, \$1.4 million is awarded each biennium to qualifying students and members through graduate fellowships, undergraduate study abroad grants, member and chapter awards, and grants for local, national and international literacy initiatives. For more information, visit www.phikappaphi.org.

22nd Annual Czech SpringFest April 23

Join us for our Annual Czech SpringFest to be held on April 23, 2017 at the SPJST Lodge 88, 1435 Beall Street, Houston, Texas, beginning at 11 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Admission is \$8.00 for Adults and Children under 11 Free.

A Traditional Czech Dinner will be served from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Adults - \$10, and Children under 11 years - \$7.00. Soup and Sausage with Sauerkraut served at 1:00 p.m.

Guest Artist, Iveta Dandova, Czech National Enterprise Award Winner in 2001, 2002 and 2003, will display her prize winning items. She will have many items for sale.

Kovanda's Czech Band will play from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., and the Czechaholics Band will play from 3:00 until 6:00 p.m. for your dancing pleasure.

Spend some time in the Country Store where you will find Kolaches, Czech Pastries, Home Made Bread and Canned Goods. Visit Vendors selling their Art, Jewelry, and Handcraft Items. Last but not least, we will have a Silent Auction with over 100 items for bid.

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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

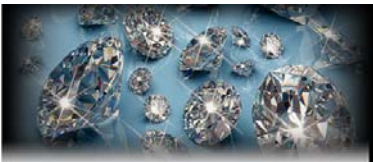
Rise in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God.
Leviticus 19:32

ASK THE EXPERT

Diamond Jim: "How old are natural diamonds?"



ASK DIAMOND JIM



Most natural diamonds are formed at high temperature and pressure at depths of 140 to 190 kilometers (87 to 118 mi) in the Earth's mantle. Carbon-containing minerals provide the carbon source, and the growth occurs over periods from 1 billion to 3.3 billion years (25% to 75% of the age of the Earth). Diamonds are brought close to the Earth's surface through deep volcanic eruptions by magma, which cools into igneous rocks known as kimberlites and lamproites. The word is from the ancient Greek *ἀδάμας* – *adámas* "unbreakable".

Diamonds have been treasured as gemstones since their use as religious icons in ancient India. Their usage in engraving tools also dates to early human history. The popularity of diamonds has risen since the 19th century because of increased supply, improved cutting and polishing techniques, growth in the world economy, and innovative and successful advertising campaigns.

In 1772, the French scientist Antoine Lavoisier used a lens to concentrate the rays of the sun on a diamond in an atmosphere of oxygen, and showed that the only product of the combustion was carbon dioxide, proving that diamond is composed of carbon. Later in 1797, the English chemist Smithson Tennant repeated and expanded that experiment. By demonstrating that burning diamond and graphite releases the same amount of gas, he established the chemical equivalence of these substances.

The most familiar uses of diamonds today are as gemstones used for adornment, a use which dates back into antiquity, and as industrial abrasives for cutting hard materials. The dispersion of white light into spectral colors is the primary gemological characteristic of gem diamonds. In the 20th century, experts in gemology developed methods of grading diamonds and other gemstones based on the characteristics most important to their value as a gem. Four characteristics, known informally as the four Cs, are now

commonly used as the basic descriptors of diamonds: these are carat (its weight), cut (quality of the cut is graded according to proportions, symmetry and polish), color (how close to white or colorless; for fancy diamonds how intense is its hue), and clarity (how free is it from inclusions). A large, flawless diamond is known as a paragon.

Not all diamonds found on Earth originated on Earth. Primitive interstellar meteorites were found to contain carbon possibly in the form of diamond. A type of diamond called carbonado that is found in

South America and Africa may have been deposited there via an asteroid impact (not formed from the impact) about 3 billion years ago. These diamonds may have formed in the intrastellar environment, but as of 2008, there was no scientific consensus on how carbonado diamonds originated.

Misconception about diamonds forming from compressed coal

Few diamonds are formed from highly compressed coal. More than 99% of diamonds ever mined have formed in the conditions of extreme heat and pressure about 90 miles (140 km) below the Earth's surface. Coal is formed from prehistoric plants buried much closer to the surface and is unlikely to migrate below 2 miles (3.2 km) through common geological processes. Most diamonds that have been dated are older than the first land plants and are therefore older than coal. It is possible that diamonds can form from coal in subduction zones and in meteoroid impacts, but diamonds formed in this way are rare, and the carbon source is more likely carbonate rocks and organic carbon in sediments, rather than coal. To learn even more about diamonds, come see the incredible selection of loose diamonds and diamond jewelry at Pineforest Jewelry.

Diamond Jim is a diamond dealer and precious metals broker of NTR Metals. See more at:

www.pineforestjewelry.com. If you have questions pertaining to jewelry, watches, diamonds, precious stones, precious metals, and other questions related to the jewelry industry, email jmills@pineforestjewelry.com.

San Jacinto College alumnus to deliver commencement keynote

Dr. Lonnie Howard to address graduates



PASADENA, Texas – Dr. Lonnie Howard, President at Lamar Institute of Technology, will offer the keynote address at the San Jacinto College commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 13 at 7 p.m.

The 2017 Spring commencement ceremony will bring together San Jacinto College graduates from each of its four campuses for one combined ceremony. The ceremony will take place at NRG Stadium.

"Dr. Howard has a remarkable story that many students can relate to," said San Jacinto College Chancellor Dr. Brenda Hellyer. "He is passionate about community colleges and higher education, and is an amazing success story. As a first-generation college graduate and a San Jacinto College alumnus, I am excited for him to return to where his journey began to share his story with our graduates. I look forward to hearing him speak."

Following high school, Howard joined the U.S. Army where he served with distinction. He received an honorable discharge, but did not have any employment skills. His first job was as a janitor in an industrial shop. Despite facing many hardships, Howard never forgot his mother's optimistic saying, "It doesn't matter where you start. The important thing is where you finish."

Howard graduated with his first associate degree at the age of 36. Twelve years later he had a total of five college degrees – an associate of applied science in welding, an associate of general studies, a bachelor's degree, a master's degree and a Ph.D. in educational administration from the University of Texas. He has also completed postdoctoral training in strategic business management at

Dr. Lonnie Howard, President at Lamar Institute of Technology, will address graduates and guests at the San Jacinto College Spring commencement ceremony at NRG Stadium on Saturday, May 13. Submitted photo.

Harvard University and emerging leadership at Penn State University.

"Being a former developmental student, then graduating from San Jacinto College with an associate degree in welding, moving on to become a college president, and now invited back to be the commencement speaker, this demonstrates the best of the American Dream," said Howard. "My hope for the 2017 May graduating class is that some of them will also come back and tell success stories of their own American Dream."

Prior to being named President at Lamar Institute of Technology in April of 2016, Howard spent three years as President and CEO at Clover Park Technical College, the largest technical college in Washington state. He previously served as executive director of the School of Continuing and Professional Studies at the University of Houston System and has held teaching and research positions at several institutions.

More information about the San Jacinto College commencement ceremony can be found at sanjac.edu/commencement-ceremony.

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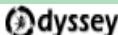
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San Jacinto Day Festival set for this Saturday

Houston, TX — The largest battle reenactment in the state is the centerpiece of the admission-free San Jacinto Day Festival, to be held on Saturday, April 22, 2017, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the grounds surrounding the San Jacinto Monument. The reenactment recreates the events leading up to Texas winning its independence from Mexico 181 years ago at the decisive Battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836

On Saturday, reenactors from across the state become figures in Texas history, for the day. Visitors can wander freely among the Mexican and Texian camps to learn what the soldiers and their families were doing prior to the battle in 1836. At 3 p.m., the official (and historically accurate!) reenactment of the Battle of San Jacinto begins. With hundreds of history reenactors, this reenactment—complete with cannons, horses and pyrotechnics—is the largest in the southwest United States.

Sponsored by the San Jacinto Museum of History Association, the festival is a full day of entertainment, vendors, food, family activities, cultural exhibits, games and fun set amidst living history: music and dancing on three stages featuring country-western bands, flamenco



The largest battle reenactment in the state will take place this Saturday at San Jacinto Monument grounds from 10 am to 6 pm. The reenactment recreates the events leading up to Texas winning its independence from Mexico in April 21, 1836.

dancers, Native American presentations, square dancers and much more; 15+ food vendors; make-and-take activities and crafts for children; children's train; petting zoo; medicine wagon show; birds of prey; weavers, spinners, blacksmiths and other demonstrators; and dozens of unique handcrafted items for sale.

PARKING will be significantly closer this year. There will be several lots along Independence Parkway open for the general public. Disabled parking is

available at the Battleship Texas parking lot (disabled placard or license plate required) at 3523 Independence Pkwy, La Porte, TX 77571. Free shuttles will be running between the lots and the festival from 9:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

"We are so proud to continue to present this festival with free admission, free shuttles and free parking, which would not be possible without our presenting sponsor H-E-B, as well as The Dow Chemical Company, Pasadena Strawberry Festival. City

of Deer Park, City of La Porte and LyondellBasell," says Larry Spasic, San Jacinto Museum of History President. "Just as important are our partners who help us coordinate this event, including the City of La Porte, TPWD, the volunteers from San Jacinto College and Deer Park ISD, Clean Harbors, La Porte EMS and Hampton Inn Deer Park."

For more information, visit www.sanjacintomuseum.org or call 281-479-2421.

NORTH SHORE Three charged in killing of local man



(Harris County, TX) Harris County Sheriff's Office Homicide investigators have charged three men with capital murder in the shooting death of a local North Shore man during a robbery.

Investigators say that on April 19, 2017, Amin Yarbrough, Quincy Thomas and Tyre Hartley met with the victim 29 year old Marquiet Davis in the parking lot of a Carl's Jr. restaurant located at 15236 Wallisville rd. in east Harris County.

Davis was alone in a vehicle when Yarbrough and Thomas entered the vehicle. Yarbrough then shot

the victim and Thomas grabbed a bag on the front seat of the vehicle.

They then both ran to a white Nissan Sentra driven by Hartley and fled the area.

EMS was called but the complainant was pronounced deceased.

Investigators were able to obtain evidence and eyewitness statements that placed all three defendants at the murder scene.

All three men are currently in The Harris County Sheriff's Office Detention Facility with a No Bond and a court date of April 20, 2017, in the 185th District Court.

CHANNELVIEW Teenager dies from drowning

CHANNELVIEW, Texas
- A person is dead after
drowning last Friday, April
14 in Channelview, HCSO
reported.
The drowning happened

in the 1000 block of Will-
ersley Lane around 6:30
pm. Authorities said it's
likely a suicide, no more
information has been re-
leased.

Sheldon's new High School,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Clutch at Chamber,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Boudwin is an accomplished performer, marketer, coach, and producer of school shows. He estimates that in 21 years he has presented at 1750 schools.

Boudwin has won many awards for his work as a mascot, and appeared in several other costumes at other events.

As an inspirational speaker, he often talks with high school students. He urges them to “overde-

liver" to succeed.

He points out that there are three good "I's" to live by:

- Integrity
- Initiative
- Inspiration

-- Inspiration
In turn, he says there

- Indifference (I don't care)
- Ignorance (I don't know)
- Insignificance (I don't matter)

Boudwin's life story is about going from "Tragedy to Triumph" and his personal career story of perseverance and persistence along the way.

He has motivated tens of thousands, he says, with his "SMILES" presentation. Since his release from the Rockets, he has been developing a new mascot character known as "Newton" that he takes with him to schools and events.

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