NORTH CHANNEL & STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

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

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www.northchannelstar.com

CHANNEL CHATTER

Judge Parrot **Spring Swing**

Judge Mike Parrot will be celebrating 23 years of service with a Final Spring Swing, Din-ner & Auction, April 27, 2015, 5 pm - 8 pm at North Shore Rotary Pavilion. Get your dinner tickets, 713-453-7283 or 832-483-3505.

CHANNELVIEW

SJ Waste Pits **Superfund Site** Open House

E.P.A and TCEQ, local officials and many more will host a "Superfund Open House for the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Site from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm, Thursday, April 30, 2015 at Martin Flukinger Community Center, 16003 Lorenzo Street in Channelview, Texas

North Channel CC Monthly Lucheon

North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce May monthly Luncheon, May 1, 11:30 am at San Jacinto College North, 5800 Uvalde Rd. inside Monument room of the Student Center. Speaker: Dr. Brenda Hellyer, San Jacinto College Chancellor. Re-serve at 713-450-3600.

Health Wellness & Financial Check-Up Day

Health Wellness Screenings include: free blood pressure checks, diabetes testing and dental exams. Learn creative ways to be healthier and more active. Tips on how to buy a home and build your credit. Event to take place Saturday, May 2, 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 pm, IBE-RIA BANK - East End Branch, 13535 East Freeway, Houston,

New Waste Pits study calls for removal

EPA quidelines for toxic sites examined

HIGHLANDS – About 60 interested residents of the Highlands and Channelview are attended a briefing last Wednesday evening, held at the San Jacinto Community Center in Highlands.

The meeting was hosted by Jackie Young, environmental activist with the San Jacinto River Coalition, and TexansTogether.

Young had contracted with an instructor of hers, Dr. Kathleen Garland, to prepare a report on EPA guidelines for dealing with toxic waste sites, as applied to other locations around the United States.

Garland teaches at the University of

States.
Garland teaches at the University of Houston Clear Lake, and is a Geologist and Environmental Management Expert.
Garland worked from existing data, on how the federal EPA had dealt with other

toxic Superfund sites similar to the San Jacinto Waste Pits. Young's hypothesis is that if the cases are similar, and EPA has required removal of toxic materials, then they should call for a similar solution in the San Jacinto River, therefore treating



San Jacinto River Coalition's Jackie Young, left, and consultant Kathleen Garland, Geologist at UH Clear Lake. The two spoke last Wednesday night at a community meeting, to present an environmental report on EPA guidelines for toxic sites.

this in a similar method as others.

Young said that a final decision will be made by the EPA this spring, since the National Remedy Review Board is meeting in April, and announced in a Final Report in September 2015.

This approaching deadline has caused Young to increase her public push for citizens to be involved



Waste Pits in the San Jacinto River received this containment cap, a membrane covered with rocks, in 2013. The "Responsible Parties" are arguing that this is all that needs to be done, but the San Jacinto River Coalition want complete removal

and concerned, as evidenced by articles recently published in the Texas Monthly maga-zine and the Houston Chroni-cle telling of her campaign to fully remove the toxic materials from the river. She said

that in addition to the EPA determination of remedial ac-tion, there are also two lawsuits pending against the

See NEW STUDY, page 8

County Attorney appeals court rulings in Waste Pits Case

Harris County Attorney Vince Ryan today appealed trial court rulings in the case involving the contamination of the San Jacinto River.
County Attorney Ryan filed a Notice of Appeal in the case of Harris County and the State of Texas v. International Paper.
The case involves the contamination of the river by International Paper's predecessor Champion Paper in the 1960s, when Champion's Pasadena Mill disposed of dioxin-laced paper mill waste in pits dug on disposed of dioxin-laced pa-per mill waste in pits dug on the river bank. The waste leaked into the river for more than four decades, where it has contaminated the water, the sediment and the fish. The case was tried in Oc-tober 2014, with a group of

companies settling with Har-ris County and the State for \$29.2 million before the jury returned its verdict.

The County is appealing on the grounds that the jury was not permitted to hear was not permitted to hear key evidence from experts and witnesses who live and work near the river. The trial court excluded reports from the Environmental Protection Agency and the Texas Department of State Health Services about International Paper's pollution of the San Jacinto River and endangement of the people of Harris County with dioxin exposure. Harris County is also appealing the trial court's instructions to the jury that took many of the factual issues out of the jury's hands.

"Because of the numerous rulings at trial, Harris County did not get to present its case to the jury," County Attorney Ryan said. "We respectfully disagree with those rulings, and will be appealing on behalf of the people of Harris County."

Among other findings, the court ruled as a matter of law that once the waste was pumped into the pits, it was no longer Champion's waste despite the fact that the company hired to dispose of the waste also disclaimed ownership of the waste as well. The court also held the jury could not hear evidence that Champion had done the same with another site in Texas.

See WASTE PITS, page 6

Rep. Gene Green to host annual job fair

Over 50 confirmed employers from the public and private

NORTH CHANNEL - Congressman Gene Green invites constituents to his 13th Annu-al Job Fair on Monday, April 27th at San Jacinto College North from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00

North from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

"We have employers coming from all over the Houston area, and job opportunities ranging from lifeguards to sales representatives to police cadets," (freen said. 'Changing careers or landing that first job can be challenging. Our hope is that this job fair creates a space where people can meet potential employers from a variety of industries and make that first connection or take that first step."

The event is being orga-

nized in conjunction with Workforce Solutions and the North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce, and will host over 50 employers that are looking to fill full and part-time, and seasonal positions immediately

looking to fill full and partime, and seasonal positions immediately.

In addition to job opportunities, Workforce Solutions will be offering assistance on interviewing skills and resume critiquing. Attendees should dress professionally and bring resumes. For a full list of participating employers, visit Congressman Gene Green's website.

San Jacinto College North, Monument Room is located at 5800 Uvalde Road, Houston, TX 77049.

NORTH CHANNEL

Community will join together against cancer at Relay for Life, May 1

The North Channel commu

The North Channel community is joining together with strength in numbers in the fight against cancer.

With 47 teams and counting, the Relay for Life-Houston North Channel's "Carnival of Hope" event will be a funfilled night, benefitting the American Cancer Society and cancer research. The annual event will be held from 6 p.m.-1 a.m., Friday May 1 at the track of the North Shore High School Ninth Grade Campus on Woodforest near Uvalde.

In addition to the teams setting up campsites around the track, there will be food, special games and music as part of the lively atmosphere.

"We invite the entire community to come out and join us," said Vince Bradshaw, event co-chairman. "It's a fun night and the festivities are all for a good cause."

In 2014, the event raises and the second of the seco

night and the testuvities are all for a good cause."
In 2014, the event raised \$113,000 to go toward cancer research. The funds were raised through individual pledges and corporate donations. This year, hopes are high



Cancer survivors take the first lap around the track at last year's Relay for Life-Houston North Channel. This year's event is growing in numbers and the community is invited to join the fun on May 1.

that the North Channel Relay will exceed that total.

The event will begin with special introductions and pre-sentations, followed by the opening lap of the evening – the Survivor's Lap. The Parade of Teams is then held, with some of them wearing 'crazy' outfits to get in the switt some of them wearing "crazy" outfits to get in the spirit of

fun for the evening.

Throughout the night, music from different groups is provided, along with a Disc Jockey – and it's not unusual to find groups of people dancing in the middle of the foot-

See RELAY FOR LIFE, page 3

GP/JC COMMUNITY-INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP Panama Canal talk by Bill Diehl



BOCKIUS, K-M 50,000 gallons/day. This is Unit 1, and Unit 2 will go on line later this year, he said. The distillate product is being sent to local Galena Park companies, and to barges for export. Bockius said that the city of Galena Park should realize about \$4 million yearly from this new plant.



CAPT. BILL DIEHL, USCG (RET) and President of the Port Bureau

The new canal is 50 miles long, he said, and has 3 locks at each end to raise or lower ships. Capacity will be 14,000 vessels per year, compared with current activity of 4000 per year in Los Angeles, and 8000 in Houston.

The new canal will be able to accommodate wider ships, now 13 containers wide but they will be 22 containers wide in the future. They are known

as "PanaMax" Ships. Anothe

as "PanaMax" Ships. Another way to gauge their size: current ships hold 4400 TEU (Tonnage Equivalent Units) and future ships will carry 12,000-14,000 TEU.

Diehl said East Harris county will need more highways and rail lines to accommodate the increase in ship cargo traffic when the canal opens, but they will not go through Galena Park.

COMMUNITY NEWS

San Jacinto Battle Re-enactment



Cavalry at San Jacinto Battle Re-enactment last Saturday at San Jacinto Battlegrounds State Historic Site in La Porte.

The Battle of San Jacinto re-enactment featured hundreds of featured hundreds of history re-enactors -complete with cannons, horses, dogs, women, children and pyrotechnics - that recreates the events leading up to Texas winning its independence 179 years ago in a decisive defeat of Mexican troops under Gen. Santa Anna's command on April 21, 1836.





ABOVE: Our own Major Lewis Spearman, an annual Re-enactor at San Jacinto Battlegrounds State Historic Site, leads a training exercise for young future Texians.

LEFT: Weary Texian Re-enactors take a break under the famous Oak Tree where Santa Anna surrendered. Wet weather caused the battle action to be modified, but the day was deemed a success by the participants nevertheless.

Babin votes to cut taxes for Texas taxpayers

Washington, DC – U.S. Representative Brian Babin (TX-36) voted for House-passage of two important bills that cut taxes and provide certainty for Texas taxpayers, the State and Local Sales Tax Deduction Fairness Act (H.R. 622) and the Death Tax Repeal Act (H.R.

ness Act (H.R. 1922) and the Death Tax Repeal Act (H.R. 1105).

"Hardworking Texas taxpayers should not be punished for living in a tax-friendly state like Texas," said Rep. Babin. "Permanently restoring the sales tax deduction will create a level-playing field for Texas tax-payers and save Texans roughly a billion dollars a year. I am proud to support this legislation, as well as a bipartisan bill to fully repeal the death tax. The death tax is an unfair tax that penalizes Texas farmers and ranchers who want to hand down their small business to the next generation. These two binext generation. These two bipartisan bills provide critical tax relief to Texas taxpayers and ensure their hard-earned dollars stay in our communities rather than in Washington's cof-fers."

Additional information on

Additional information on these two bills:

•H.R. 622, the State and Local Sales Tax Deduction Fairness Act would permanently allow citizens of states like Texas that do not levy an income tax to instead deduct their sales taxes from their federal tax obligation. Since 2004, the state sales tax deduction has allowed Texas taxpayers to save more

sales tax deduction has allowed Texas taxpayers to save more than \$10 billion.

• H.R. 1105, the Death Tax Repeal Act would permanently repeal the estate tax, also known as the death tax, which is a 40 percent tax on an indi-vidual's transfer of assets in excess of an exemption amount to the next generation at the



small business or family farm, and a death tax bill can make a



Yard of the Month

Highlands-Lynchburg Chamber of Commerce recognized Sterling-White Funeral Home for their lovely landscaping. Pictured are Jeff Moore, left; Betty Michalsky, middle and Sandy Denson, right. You may submit recommendations to info@HighlandsLynchburgCC.org



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CROSBY'S HOME TOWN HOME CARE

SCHOOL NEWS

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Gospel Singing

April 30, 2015, 6:30 p.m. Market St. Baptist Church will host a night of Gospel Singing. Guest will be New Generations. Sandwich-Salad souper. 12964 Market St. Call 713-453-5584 for

North Channel Library events

-Monday, April 27, 6 pm,
STEAM Camp: Art.
-Tuesday, April 28, 10:30 am,
Toddler Time; 1:30 pm,
Preschool Story Time.
-Wednesday, April 29, 4:30
pm, Tween Time: Autism
Awareness month craft.
-Thursday, April 30, 10:30 am,
Baby Time.

Baby Time.
COMPUTER CLASSES:
-Review, Part 1, April 27, 1-3 pm. -Review, Part 2, April 29, 1-3

•Registration required. Library is located at 15741 Wallisville Rd., Houston, TX. 77049. Call 281-457-1631 for more information

Galena Park Library events

-Wednesday, May, 6, 11 am, Story Time; 1 pm, Computación Básica I; 3:30 pm, Computer Basics I.

-Thursday, May 7, 11 am, Baby Time; 3:30 pm, Mother's Day

Please call the library at 713-

450-0982 for more details. The library is located at 1500 Keene St. Galena Park, TX. 77547.

SATURDAY NIGHTS 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.

2nd & 4th THURSDAY San Jacinto Pilot Club meeting

San Jacinto Pilot Club meets 2nd and 4th Thursdays at noon at the Galena Park ISD Adminis-tration Building.

Rotary Food & Resource Fair

Food fair will take place on Friday, May 1, 2015 from 9 am -12 pm. It will take place at 1302 Keene St., Galena Park, TX., 77547.

77547.
Other services include dental information, help for applying for SNAP (Food Stamps) and TANF (Temporary Assistances), Children's Medicaid/CHIP.
For more information please call 832-369-9390.

CHANNELVIEW ISD

Foundation surprises teachers with Innovative Teaching Grants

The wide eyed looks of surprise and faces lighting up with joy seemed to be the natural reaction among a select group of Channelview ISD teachers recently.

With noisemakers and cheers filling the hallways, the Channelview ISD Education Foundation made several teachers very happy as the organization handed out more than \$14,000 in Innovative Teaching Grants during its "Surprise Patrol" on April 17.

"The opportunities that the

more than \$14,000 in Innovative Teaching Grants during its "Surprise Patrol" on April 17.

"The opportunities that the Foundation is providing us through this grant is just amazing and open up a whole new world for our students," said Channelview High School art teacher Tamara Foster, who was awarded a \$5,000 grant for an outdoor pottery lab. "Thanks to the generosity of the Foundation and the people who support it, we will be able to provide collegiate-level learning experiences for our students while they are still in high school."

Foundation board members and donors, school administrators, and Channelview High School cheerleaders and Channelettes dance team traveled by bus to present the grants.

Funds for the grants came from private donations from business and community members, as well as various individuals.

"One of the missions of the Channelview ISD Education Foundation is to provide teachers with the resources they need that helps learning come to life for students," CISD Foundation President Bill Hendrix said. "We are proud to play a part in helping make these opportunites become a reality."

This year's grant recipients included:

included:
Amanda Kennington, Cobb
Elementary. Grant Title: ACCELERATED Environment. Amount:

\$842.34 Summary: The goal of the project is to increase student and Sa42.34
Summary: The goal of the project is to increase student and staff physical activity awareness through the use of a non-invasive instrument similar to pedometers (the accelerometer) providing instant feedback and possibly as a behavior modification tool within the physical education classroom. The tool will be used to service titness challenges for all children (K-5). School staff may also benefit from the use of the technology to monitor and adjust their own physical fitness program.

Darlene Way, Aguirre Junior High. Grant Titlie: Project Focus Amount: \$2,657.04
Summary: Through equipping her classroom with stability yoga balls and open front desks for her classroom, this will help special needs and all students to focus by giving them an outlet for excessive energy through movement.

The special equipment will also help them to develop better posture as well. This method of learning has been proven effective among many educational experts. Tamara Foster, Channelview High School, Grant Title: Alternative Firing and Finishing Processes for Clay. Amount: \$5,000 Summary: Alternative firing processes are not new, but are an important part of the history and the future of ceramics as an art form. Current and past students of the ceramics program have been limited to electric kiln firing, only reading about other methods in textbooks. This grant would make the textbooks come to life.

college readiness and tuture careers.

Dean Rogers, Joe Frank Campbell Learning Center Grant Title:
The Comics for Comprehension
Project. Amount: \$2,847.96

Summary: The goal of this
project is to provide an ample
amount of high-interest reading
materials for struggling readers
of all backgrounds. Graphic novels not only offer the traditional
struggling reader a portal to the
world of reading, it also extends
this lifeline to second language
learners. The project is designed learners. The project is designed to meet the developmental needs of diverse students with regard to literacy.



Channelview ISD Education Foundation President Bill Hendrix congratulates Channelview High School art teacher Tamara Foster, who was the recipient of a \$5,000 grant during the group's "Surprise Patrol" recently.

The grant will fund equipment to make Raku, Smoke Firing and Pit Firing accessible to every ceramics student, which will prepare them for a future working with clay, as well as an introduction to processes that will expand at the university level. This method will put equipment into place that will influence students' methods, techniques and thought processes for years to come.

Frances Bushnell, Aguirre Junior High, Grant Title: Increasing Engagement with Scientific Minds. Amount: \$1,320

Summary: Science Starters is a tool, for engaging enrichment,

Summary: Science Starters is a tool for engaging enrichment, remediation and review for midremediation and review for mid-dle school students. This program provides a teacher-friendly pro-cess for teaching state standards using strategies that benefit all students. Science Starters is a series of 120 web-based, digital video lessons that break science into bite-sized chunks of instruc-tion, which helps makes the con-cepts easier to comprehend. This program helps education stu-dents in the area of foundational science concepts and to prepare students for state assessments,

Kareen Neal, Channelview High School. Grant Title: Project Green Light. Amount: \$2,158.59
Summary: The new versions of "green screen" for Media Productions students that were filming video give students expanded opportunities to be more creative and less restricted because of equipment. Older versions of green screen were cumbersome to set up for video shoots on locations outside of the classroom, plus required various types of lighting. With the new portable green screen, it can be easily transported to any location and can be used in any type of lighting. With this equipment, it allows the students to truly explore imaginations and talents.

The CISD Education Foundation was formed in 2012 as a 501c3 non-profit organization that benefits Channelview ISD students and staff by supporting activities not funded by tax dollars through the regular school budget. For more information on the Foundation, contact Executive Director Mark Kramer at marcus.kramer@evisd.org.

GALENA PARK

Hundreds attend Galena Park ISD Career Explosion



At North Shore Senior High School's Second Annual Career Explosion, GPISD student Laniko Harden inquires about future job opportunities at HydroChem.

The Galena Park ISD Career & Technical Education (CTE) Department hosted the second annual Career Explosion at North Shore Senior High School. More than 800 junior high and high school students attended. Laura Mann, GPISD Director of CTE stated, "Career Explosion was designed to express explosion was designed to express explosion." designed to expose students to a wide gamut of careers and professional business expecta-tions and standards." Stuprofessi dents were able to speak directly with volunteers from directly with volunteers from local business/industry on a variety of career opportunities, asking questions and interacting with individuals who work in the assorted fields. "This is what Career and Technical Education is all about - the school district working hand in hand with business and industry to prepare students for life after high school," Mann added. Career Explosion featured

Career Explosion featured 14 career clusters represent-Career Explosion featured
14 career clusters represented by nearly 40 companies, educational institutions and
military branches. These clusters provided students in
grades 8-12 an opportunity to
gain further insight about
their career pathways. Each
student gained useful workforce experience and exposure,
catapulting their career interests and professional awareness to the next level. Dr.
Steve Horton, Executive Director of the Construction &
Manufacturing Educational
Foundation (CMEF) said,
"Thank you for offering the opportunity for our volunteers to
facilitate an information booth at the GPISD Career Explosion. Speaking to hundreds of students throughout the day about great careers in the Construction Industry is invaluable. The students were most respectful and quite attentive as they stopped by our booth to receive printed information and engage in conversation with Industrial and Commercial Construction Industry representatives." In addition to business and industry booths, students engaged in breakout sessions provided by Career & Technical Student Organizations (CTSO) and at the GPISD Career Explo-Organizations (CTSO) and Workforce Solutions.

Organizations (CTSO) and Workforce Solutions.

The breakout sessions included interviewing and resume critiques, social media presentations, and a professional business style [fashion] show. CTE Counselor Alicia Green noted, "The goal of Career Explosion was to ensure students gained meaningful experiences and exposure related to their career interests." For example, the interactive social media session was geared towards helping students become more aware of the impact today's posts might have on future job opportunities. Likewise, the interviewing and resume critique sessions provided students with time to interview with surrounding area business and industry representatives. Lastly, the style show provided students with a competitive edge in preparing for their next interview, job, or leadership position through delivering professional dress standards and expectations.

RELAY FOR LIFE,

Continued from page 1

ball field. Also, community members and others make laps around the track and also participate in different "themed" laps. Different games for the kids, including inflatable slides, are also situated on the football field.

Relay attendees will also have an opportunity to put

bids in on many Silent Auction items that were donated for

he event.
At dusk, the Luminaria At dusk, the Bullians.
Ceremony is held to remember those who valiantly fought the fight, those who continue to fight and those who have lost their battle with cancer. Guests at the Relay may purchase bags and design them in memory or in honor of a fami-ly member or friend and the bag is placed around the track. As the stadium lights go dark, candles inside the bag are lit

candles inside the bag are lit for the ceremony.
Special event chairpersons for Relay will also continue to lead those in attendance in a variety of fun activities until closing ceremonies are held around 1 a.m.
For more information on the North Channel Relay for Life, you may call 281-452-8080.



YOU ARE INVITED TO THE SAN JACINTO RIVER WASTE PITS SUPERFUND SITE **INFORMATION OPEN HOUSE**

Channelview, Texas Harris County Thursday, April 30, 2015 6:30 p.m.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in cooperation with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), Harris County, State and local officials, will conduct a Superfund Open House for the San Jacinto River Waste Pits site from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 30, 2015, at

Martin Flukinger Community Center 16003 Lorenzo Street Channelview, Texas

This informal meeting is to update the community on the EPA's remediation process, ongoing studies and next steps for the site located on the west bank of the San Jacinto River directly north of the I-10 Bridge.

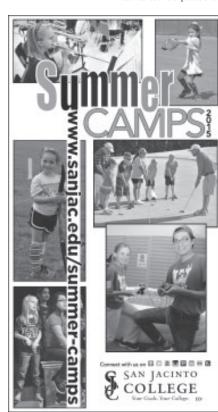
Agency officials will also update residents on upcoming activities, site schedule and what's next.

The meeting is being held in a fully accessible facility. Should you have any specific needs or questions about the facility, please contact EPA Community Involvement at 1.800.533.3508 (toll-free).

Additional information is also available on the following EPA websites:

http://www.epa.gov/region6/6sf/texas/san_jacinto/ $\underline{http://epaosc.org/site/site_profile.aspx?site_id=6534}$

Para información en español, comunicase con la Agencia de Protección Ambiental de los Estados Unidos (la EPA) a 1.800.533.3508 (llamada gratis).



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OPINION PAGE

TEXAS With Russell A. Graves

Texas Independence



I am a Texan.

I am a Texan.

From the time I was a small boy I can remember my parents hauling all over the state showing me culturally and historically important sites and teaching me how to be a Texan.

As I think I

As I think back those

As I think back those are happy times.
Fast forward thirty years and now I am a dad myself, and like my mom and dad, I think it's important for me to share those same lessons with my kids and instill in them, the same pride of place which was taught to me three decades prior. Therefore, we hit the road often.

otten.

It wasn't long ago that I took my family on a big swing down the Texas Independence trail. Like many, we've been to the Alamo many times but this time, we decided to go to lesser known sites and envelope ourselves in a significance pieces of significance pieces of history that took place 179

Our first stop was outside of Gonzalez at Cost, Texas. Cost is the site of the first shot of the Texas war for independence from Mexico and inspired the "Come and Take It" flag in which Texans rallied around after that fateful day in October of 1835. After that, we visited the big "Houston Oak" where Sam Houston mustered his volunteers to go fight the Mexican Army at San Jacinto at the end of the revolution.

From there we traveled rrom there we traveled to Washington on the Brazos near Brenham. Washington on the Brazos is the site where delegates from the fledgling country convened and signed the Texas Declaration of Independence on March 2, 1836. The declaration, 1836. The declaration, authored by George Childress, was debated and signed in a little wooden shack just up the bank from the Brazos River. It is a place of quiet contemplation and I sense that my kids realize that as they run their hands across the stone marker and explore the empty space of the convention hall.

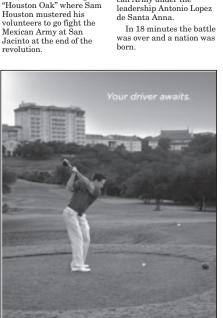
From a distance, La

From a distance, La From a distance, La Porte, Texas looks like an industrial town full of refineries. However, as you get closer to the San Jacinto battleground you start to notice immense murals depicting the final battle in the war for Texas Independence painted on the side of the petroleum storage tanks.

Then you see it

Then you see it.

Pointing skyward 567 feet in the air and topped with a 220-ton Texas star, the San Jacinto Monuthe San Jacunto Monu-ment is a fitting tribute to the battle that took place on April 21, 1836. At the battle, Sam Houston led his band of Texas volun-teers against a well armed and well organized Mexi-can Army under the leadership Antonio Lonez



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OMNI & RESORTS



Senate passes version of 2016-2017 *state budget*

AUSTIN — The Texas Senate on April 14 passed its version of the 2016-2017 state budget. Because the Houseand Senate-approved budgets are \$1.6 billion apart, five Senate members will be appointed to a conference committee to resolve differences.

The Senate's version of the budget totals \$211 billion in state and federal funds to pay for state services over the next two fiscal years. Senate Finance Committee Chair Jane Nelson, R-Flower Mound, who spearheaded the writing of the legislation, said the budget is one that "will keep our state strong, prosperous and compassionate."

Nelson pointed out that transportation funding under CSHB 1 would increase by almost \$5 billion over the current allotment. "That includes \$2.4 billion in oil and gas tax revenues approved by voters last November and \$1.3 billion from ending diversions of transportation funds to other parts of the budget. The rest of the additional money is contingent on passage of a measure that would authorize a of the additional money is contingent on passage of a measure that would authorize a one-time shift of motor vehicle sales tax funds to the Texas Department of Transportation."

As Department Transportation."
According to Senate documents, CSHB 1 also would fund border security efforts at "unprecedented levels" by sending \$811 million to the Texas Department of Public Safety and associated agencies to pay for manpower, technology and training along the border. Nelson also said CSHB 1 devotes \$373 million to cover caseload growth in Medicaid. Senate passes contract bill

caseload growth in Medicaid.
Senate passes contract bill
Senate Bill 543, legislation
to strengthen oversight and
management of state contracts by Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, was
unanimously approved by the
full Senate on April 14.
"Poor management of some
contracts results in inadecontracts results in inade-

"Poor management of some contracts results in inade-quate delivery of goods and services and costs taxpayers millions of dollars," Zaffrini said, adding that her bill "would improve state contracting at every stage of the process, including planning,





procurement, contract formation and oversight."

SB 543, Zaffirini said, is complementary to SB 20 by Senate Finance Committee Chair Nelson, passed by the Senate last month to crack down on the contracting practices of state agencies. Both bills have come in the wake of a series of investigative stories by the Austin American-Statesman that brought to light \$110 million no-bid contracts awarded by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission.

Border cameras get results

Health and Human Services Commission.

Border cameras get results Texas Department of Public Safety on April 13 announced its law enforcement effort using a motion-detection camera array along the Texas-Mexico border, was responsible for some 29,300 apprehensions and more than 44 tons of drugs seized in 2014. Motion-detection cameras used in "Operation Drawbridge" are placed on farms and ranches near the border. According to the DPS, when a smuggling or suspicious event is detected, an alert is sent to border county sheriffs, the U.S. Border Patrol and the DPS, who work together to arrest suspects.

Traffic camera bill moves

who work together to arrest suspects. Traffic camera bill moves Senate Bill 714 by Sen. Bob Hall, R-Edgewood, legislation to ban police departments' use of red light cameras in the ticketing of motorists, was passed by the Senate Trans-

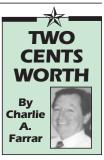
The bill next will be con-

portation Committee on April
13. The bill next will be considered by the full Senate.
Figures furnished by the
state Comptroller's office suggest that banning the automated cameras statewide
would result in an estimated
loss of \$96.5 million in general revenue in fiscal year 2016.
Jobless rate falls in March
Texas Workforce Commisstate's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped to
4.2 percent in March, down
from 4.3 percent in February.
According to the agency,
Texas has not seen a rate this
low since July 2007 and continues to trend below the national awerage of 5.5 percent.
Notably, however, the Mining
and Logging sector, which in
cludes oil and gas employment, saw a decline in March
with the loss of an estimated
2,800 jobs statewide.
House approves 'carry' bill
On a vote of 96.35, the

2,800 jobs statewide.
House approves 'carry' bill
On a vote of 96-35, the
House on April 17 tentatively
approved CSHB 910, allowing
a person who is licensed to carry a handgun to openly carry
a holstered handgun. A final
vote on the bill may be taken
this week.

A House Senate conference

A House-Senate conference committee would have to be named so differences between the House bill and a similar bill passed earlier by the Sen-ate could be hashed out. A fi-nal, agreed-upon version then would go before the House and Senate for a final vote.



Spring Travel

Man has this rain kicked in Man has this rain kicked in the grass and weed growth; suckers on tomatoes too. Almost afraid to mow some parts of the yard, do not want to take a chance at getting stuck and rutting the dickens out of the yard. Over at the old house the old neighbor would come over when I was stuck and pull me out with his scooter cycle. The creek rose and it's too wet to plow.

Sweet talked the Mrs. into

scooter cycle. The creek rose and it's too wet to plow.

Sweet talked the Mrs. into a little trip to San Antonio and it worked. Did the Alamo again and must say I've never been to the Alamo when it was not hot. Had a good time huffing and puffing around, I finally found me a seat @ Market Square with a five dollar Budweiser. Mercy that woman can look for hours and come dragging out with one little sack... well sometimes.

The bus and street cars sure make it easy if you know how to read their schedule. Eat good too, thanks to Jim Hays who showed me where the Little Red Barn Steak house is a long time ago. Lots of Yankees there in San Antonio visiting this time of year. Met some who flew in from Michigan. Couldn't help but ask where they were from once I heard them talking.... up north. Then the next week we went to Rockport for an

thing when we go up north.

Then the next week we went to Rockport for an overnight trip with the Harris County Seniors out of Highlands, Texas. Enjoyable trip via big bus where one could look more than while driving. Managed to see one Caracara on a power-line. A Caracara is a bird of prey and right pretty, also known as Mexican Eagle. Goorle knows all.

Google knows all.

The group was scheduled
to go to Corpus Christi for an
aquarium tour and another
tour on the carrier Lexington
BUT they had a fish kill the
day before and we all elected
to head back up north due to
the expected bad weather
which came just after we got
home. A fun trip with those
folks and didn't smell denture
crème at all.

Love those mariachi band.

Love those mariachi bands that walk around the restaurants and play their strings. Down south in Mexico one year in bird season we went out to eat at a restaurant which had real cloth napkins. Uncle JC from Big Spring, Texas was with us. Needless to say while at supper the band came to our table. Next thing I know they gather around me and start singing Happy Birthday. Kin folk, you gotta love them.



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LIFESTYLE

Billy Joe Blackstock

Billy Joe Blackstock, 85, of Houston, Texas, passed from this life on April 19, 2015 in Pasadena, Texas. He was born May 19, 1929 in Idabel, Okla-Pasadena, Texas. He was born May 19, 1929 in Idabel, Oklahoma to parents, Thomas F. & Blanche Blackstock. He served his country in the U.S. Army during the Korean War as First Lieutenant in the 45th Infantry Division. He was the manager for the old TG & Y in the Northshore area for 15 plus years and worked in real estate with ReMax here in the North Channel area for many years. He is preceded in death by his parents and by one grandson, Dalton Joe Johnson; He is lovingly survived by his wife of 64 years, Virginia Blackstock, by daughter & son-in-law, Tammie Jo & Bill Johnson; by grandchildren Addison Joe Johnson and Mikayla Jo Tamme Jo & Bill Joinison, by grandchildren Addison Joe Johnson and Mikayla Jo Johnson; and by great-grand-



children, Kreedon Johnson, Baylei Rae Joh Kalli Raine Johnson and nain Kaine Johnson and a lit-tle one on the way. A Memori-al Service will be held Friday evening April 24, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at Carter Funeral Home's Chapel with Rev. Gene Sum-mers officiating.

Carter Funeral Home 13701 Corpus Christi S Houston, TX 77015 713/455-5100

Joseph Theodore Reynolds

Reynolds

Joseph Theodore Reynolds, 59, of Houston, Texas, passed from this life on April 16, 2015. Joseph was born February 07, 1956 in Charleston, South Carolina to parents, James Michael Sr. and Forence Geneva Reynolds. He served his country in the U.S. Army and worked in construction as a sheet rock finisher. He is preceded in death by his parents and by siblings, James M. Reynolds, Jr., Francis J. Reynolds, and Florence Y. Seagraves. He is survived by children, Michael J. Reynolds & wife, Cristine and Cheryl R. Parks & husband, Jeff; by grandchildren, Alexandra, Johnny, Michelle, Mathew, and Mary Reynolds; and by Gabriel, Alexander, and Lillian Parks; by siblings, Richard W. Reynolds & wife,



Bonnie; Jacquelyn M. Bohn & husband, Steven; Linda G. Brack & husband, Jon and Brenda J. McGrew & husband, Tony. The family will be holding memorial service's at a later date.

Carter Funeral Home, 13701 Corpus Christi St. Houston TX 77015 713/455-5100

OBITUARIES

Ruby Pearl Adams

Ruby Pearl Adams, 76, passed away Tuesday, April 14, 2015 in Baytown, Texas.
She was born September 21, 1938 to parents Hollis and Pauline Carney in Tyler Town, Mississippi, Ruby married John Quincy Adams on July 14, 1961 and they soon started a beautiful family together.
Ruby was a loving wife.

14, 1901 and they soon stared a beautiful family together.

Ruby was a loving wife, mother and grandmother who enjoyed spending time with her family. She was a secretary for many years with Galena Park Independent School District. Ruby and her husband John, together with her brother Buddy and sister-in-law Linda Carney, opened Brother-in-Laws BBQ in 1981 in the Cloverleaf area.

She is preceded in death by her parents; and grandson, Kevin Langston Shimek. Ruby is lovingly survived by her husband of 54 years, John Q. Adams, Sr. son, John Q. Adams, Jr. and wife, Joni; daughters, Andrea Shimek and husband Gary, Kim Wood; sisters and brother, Judy Jenkins and husband, Don, Ann Reuter, Buddy Carney and wife, Linda; grandchildren, Britni Cooper and husband Gary, Kryson Adams, Breadam Adams, Brianne Adams, Keith



Shimek, Dakota Doherty, Stryker Doherty; great-grandchildren, Tanner Coo-per and Jett Cooper, as well as numerous extended fami-ly members and friends. Friends joined the family for Friends joined the family for visitation from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Friday, April 17, 2015 at Carter Funeral Home. Funeral aservices, officiated by Rev. Johnny Brady, were held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, April 18, 2015 at Fellowship of the Nations, 13305 Woodforest Blvd., Houston, Texas 77015. Graveside services immediately followed at San Jacinto Memorial Park, Houston, Texas, under the direction of Carter Funeral Home. Home

ome. Carter Funeral Home 13701 Corpus Christi St. Houston, Texas 77015 713-455-5100

Holy Family Catholic Church McNair,

KNIGHTS OF PETER CLAVER and LADIES AUXILIAMY co and count #341 will be hosting their third annual craw and festival, on May 16, 2015 starting at 11 am until 6 proceeds fund their scholarships. The event will be free open to the public, held under the protection their par rain or shine. Plates will contain crawfish, corn and po rain or shine. Plates will contain crawfish, corn and potato for \$10.00, sausage is extra. We will have a variety of zydeco, country and other music throughout the day. Holy Family Church is located on I-10 east at 7122 Whiting Rock Baytown,

George "Henry

George "Henry" Johnson, Jr., 91, of Channelview, Texas, passed from this life on April

passed from this life on April 14, 2015.
Mr. Johnson was born Feb-ruary 19, 1924 in Hattiesburg, Mississippi to parents, George Henry Sr. & Amelia Johnson. He joined the U.S. Navy Feb. He joined the U.S. Navy Feb. 20, 1941 and was assigned to the USS Crosby in May 1941, for patrol and convoy duty on the West Coast from California to Alaska. In February 1943 the USS Crosby entered Mare Island Navy Yard and was converted to high speed transport, reclassified APD-17 and sent to the South Pacific, landing troops on Solomon Island, New Georgia, Treasury, Choiseul Island, Bougainville, Cape Gloucester, New Britan, Saidor New Guinea, Green Island and Emirau. After being sent to the Philadelphia Navy Yard for High Pressure Boiler School training, he was assigned and commissioned to the USS Stormes on January 27, 1945. After shakedown he was sent to Okinawa. The USS Stormes was hit by a suicide plane May 25, 1945. He left the USS Stormes and discharged April 3, 1947 with the rank of Water Tender First Class.

Henry re-enlisted in the U.S. Navy Oct. 1, 1951 and reported to he Sth Naval District in New Orleans, LA for assignment Nov 11, 1952 and reported to NrTO, Bainbridge, Maryland Jan. 22, 1952; then to Norfolk, VA for recommission on the USS Lake Champaign Sept. 19, 1952; released from active duty to inactive duty April 3, 1953; and discharged from the US Navy Oct. 1, 1955. Henry enlisted in the U.S. Air Force March 16, 1957 for three years in the reserves and discharged March 15, 1960. Mr. Johnson was awarded the American Defense Service Medal with 1 star, the American Theater Medal; Asi-



atic-Pacific Theater Medal with 7 stars; Good Conduct Medal with 1 star; Guadalcanal Defense; Navy Unit Citation and World War II Victory Medal.

He worked for Humble Oil Company for 15 years and worked construction 24 years before retiring in 1986. He was preceded in death by his wife of 28 years in August of 1985. Henry is preceded in death by his beloved wife of 28 years, Jimmie Rae Johnson; and preceded by parents, and by siblings, Cleo, Melva, Kenny, Ross, Doris, Lynn, Skylar and Claude.

Doris, Lynn, Skylar and Claude.

He is survived by one sister, Ruth Gray of Channelview, TX, by nieces Amelia Foster, Gathia Walton and Tonia Sherrouse and nephew, George Mabe; by great-nieces, Shawna Smith, Lindsey Mabe, Lauren Kubin; and great-nephews, Jody Ferguson, Curtis Musick, Danny Mabe and Kris Kubin. A visitation will be held Friday, April 17, 2015 at Carter Funeral Home from 6-8:00 p.m. with services celebrating his life on Saturday, April 18, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. Graveside services will follow with Military Honors in San Jacinto Memorial Park under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

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The Crosby-Huffman Chamber held it's welcome to the Chamber Ribbon Cutting for Mrs. Dottie Beal for her Tupperware Line. You can contact Dottie at 832.644.9661 or visit her website at http://dottiebeal.my.tupperware.com. Please tell her the Chamber sent you.



The Crosby-Huffman Chamber welcomed New Member Leslie Deen with Young Living Essential Oils with her Ribbon Cutting. The next time you drive by a field of fresh peppermint or hike through a pine forest, breathe deeply—you're experiencing the soul-soothing power of essential oils. But essential oils are more than nice scents; these powerful plant extracts are your path to the lifelong wellness we are committed to helping you discover. If you would like to learn more about Essential Oils you can contact Leslie Deen at 281.704.6273 or visit her website @ http://essetaillydeendesigns.ylsocial.net

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ORGANIZATIONS, SPORTS

CHANNELVIEW ISD:

Mustang to become a Cowgirl



Alongside her proud parents, Claudia Santos signs a letter of intent to compete at Oklahoma State University.

Claudia Sofia Santos, a four-year letterman of North Shore Senior High School's Cross Country and Track & Field teams, signed her na-tional letter of intent to com-pete on the Women's CC and Track team at Oklahoma State University. During her

time at North Shore, she has racked up numerous district championships and regional qualifiers in both CG and Track & Field. During her senior year she was 2014 District Champion in Cross Country, she finished 7th at Region III and was a State

Qualifier. She also doubled at the District 21-6A track meet with gold medals in both the 3200M and 1600M. She com-petes in both races at the area track meet at the GPISD Track & Field Complex on Thursday, April 23.

FCCLA Entrepreneur Team heading to nationals

The STAR Events team of Elisha Boland, Alicia Gonzalez and Ashlee Stelzer took top honors in the Entrepreneur category at the recent state contest and will advance to the national Families, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) competition in Washington, D.C. this summer.

mer.
At the state competition, the STAR Events team designed and developed a detailed business plan – which also earned gold medal honors at the region competition.
In addition, 16 students from CHS and Kolarik Ninth Grade Center combined earned medals in the Job Interview and Etiquette FCSA testing categories. Those students were:

dents were: Gold Medalists: Stevie Bar-

n. Silver Medalists: Elisha Silver Mediansis. Silver Mediand, Alicia Gonzalez, Christian Metz, Malcolm Roach, Juan Carlos Rodriguez, Jessica Silva, Ashlee Stelzen, Silver Mediand, Janese er, Felicia Trevino, Jane'e Whitaker, Courtney Williams.



The Channelview High School STAR Events team of Elisha Bolden, Ashlee Stelzer and Alicia Gonzalez took first place at the State Families, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) competition. The team now advances to the national competition this summer.

Bronze Medalists: Kasey Kim, Roberto Rodriguez. Kolarik FCCLA Gold Medalist: Crystal Perez. Silver Medalist: Deysi Garduno. Bronze Medalist: Brittany Glenn.





SHELDON ISD

Educator and Students of the Month

Pictured left to right: Dr. Vickey Giles, Su- perintendent of Sheldon ISD; Students of the Month (March)— Marcus James from King HS, William Figueroa from King MS, Summer Bridges from Null MS; and Educator of the Month—Keon Banks.

WASTE PITS,

Continued from page 1

"Under that theory, any polluter could escape punishment by giving waste away, and they would no longer be responsible for it," Ryan said. On April 6 the trial court overruled Harris County's Motion for New Trial, clearing the way for the appeal.

Vince Ryan will ask the Harris County Commission ers Court to use the funds from the \$29.2 million settlement for environmental projects that will benefit the people of Harris County who were most affected by the contamination.

Please, honey. No gifts this anniversary.



Don't believe her if vou want her to keep calling you honey



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NORTH CHANNEL BUSINESS DIRECTORY



LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

A public meeting will be held at the Highland Division Office of

answer questions regarding the

into the Highland Reservoir and

Canal System for invasive exotic

stocking of Triploid Grass Carp

SJRA located at 1108 E. Canal Street, Highlands, TX 77562 on May 1, 2015 at 2:00 PM to

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notice to creditors

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tors

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters
Testamentary for Dockt No. 438484 Estate of MARION ELBERT CAUGHMAN, Deceased; In Probate Court No. 3, of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on April 15, 2015.

BILLY CAUGHMAN 8 ERNEST CAUGHMAN

The residence address

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

All persons having claims against this Estate which is current-ly being administered are required to present them within the time and n the manner pre cribed by law. Dated this April 21, 2015

Deston Coller by WESTON COTTEN Attorney for the Estate

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LEGAL NOTICE

"Proposals will be received by the Galena Park Independent School District until 10:00 a.m., May 19, 2015 for COVERED WALKWAYS-FABRICATION & INSTALL RFCSP 15-013. At that time proposals will be opened at the GPISD Admin Bldg. located at 14705 Woodforest Blvd., Houston, TX 77015. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Purchasing Dept. at 832-386-1008 or on our website: https://doi.org/10.1007/j.galenaparkisd.com/purchasing_currentbids. The Galena Park ISD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals."

posals will be received by the Galena Park Independent of District until 11:00 a.m., May 19, 2015 for FLOOR-MATERIALS, DEMO & INSTALLATION RFCSP 15. At that time proposals will be present at the Galena P. 011. At that time proposals will be opened at the Galena Pa. ISD Admin Bldg. located at 14705 Woodforest Blvd., Houston TX 77015. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Purchasing Dept. at 832-386-1008 or on our website: http://galenaparkisd.com/purchasing_currentbids. The Galena Park ISD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals."

"Proposals will be received by the Galena Park Independent School District until 2:00 p.m., May 19, 2015 for **PORTABLE BUILDING RELOCATION RFCSP 15-012.** At that time proposals will be opened at the GPISD Admin Bidg, located at 14705 Woodforest Blvd., Houston, TX 77015. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Purchasing Dept. at 832-386-1008 or on our website: http://galenaparkisd.com/purchasing_currentbids. The Galena Park ISD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals."

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PROJECT NAME.... Channelview Independent School District

Channelview I.S.D. will accept Competitive Sealed Proposals fro qualified general contractors until 1:30 PM on Tuesday, 05 Ma 2015, at:
Channelview I.S.D. Education Support Center, 828 Sheldon Road, Channelview, TX 77530, for the 'Foodservice Improvements at Channelview High School and Crenshaw Elementary School' project. Proposal evaluation criteria are published in the 'Instructions to Proposers' section of the propodocuments.

published in the "Instructions to Proposers" section of the proposa documents.

Plans and specifications will be released Tuesday, 14 April 2015, and can be obtained from the following address with a refundable deposit of \$150.00 per set, made payable to Texas-IBI Group

Texas-IBI Group

455 E. Medical Center IBNd., Suite 500

Webster, TX 77598

Phone: 281-286-6607

A Pre-Proposal Conference shall be held at 3:30 PM, on Thursday, 30 April 2015, at Channelview I.S.D. Education Support Center, 828 Sheldon Road, Channelview, TX 77530

The Owner reserves the right to waive all informalities and to reject any or all proposals.

"Proposals will be received by the Galena Park Independent School District until 10:00 a.m., May 18, 2015 for BOOKS, PUBLICATIONS & AUDIO VISUAL MATERIALS RFP 15-019. At that time proposals will be opened at the GPISD Admin Bldg. located at 14705 Woodforest Blvd., Houston, TX 77015. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Purchasing Dept. at 832-386-1008 or on our website: http://galenaparkisd.com/purchasing_currentbids. The Galena Park ISD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals."

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BRADLEY COUNTY, TENNESSEE IN RE: JONATHAN DAVID METZNER, d.o.b. 11/04/08 A minor child under the age of eighteen years old

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LEGAL NOTICE

Docket No. V-15-084_

LESLIE METZNER. AND
JONATHAN BLAKE,
Responder/Father

JAMES MADDOX and wife MARGARET MADDOX, Petitioners

ORDER OF PUBLICATION and NOTICE OF HEARING

It appearing from the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights in this cause that the address and domicile of the Respondents, LESLIE METZNER and JONATHAN BLAKE, is unknown and cannot be ascertained so that ordinary process cannot be served upon the Respondent.

It is therefore ordered that the Respondent, LESLIE METZNER and JONATHAN BLAKE, will appear and make defense within thirty (30) days to the Petition, or the same will be taken for confessed as to default and set for hearing ex parte. If there is no answer, a hearing default and set for hearing ex parte. If there is no answer, a hearing will be held on the 22nd day of July, 2015 at 3:00 a.m., Failure to answer or appear may result in termination of the Respondents' parental rights to the child referenced above.

A copy of this order and notice of hearing shall be published for four consecutive weeks in the Highlands Star, a newspaper published in Huffman, Texas, the last known residence for the Respondents, LESLIE METZNER and JONATHAN BLAKE.

Within that time Respondents are required to serve a copy of their pleadings upon Philip M. Jacobs, Petitioners' Attorney whose address is P.O. BOX 191, 30 Second Street, NW, Cleveland, TN 37364-0191.



COMMUNITY NEWS

NEW STUDY,

Continued from Page 1

'Responsible Parties' to recover monetary damages for health injuries and property devaluation. One suit, led by attorneys Smith & Hassler, has engaged over 170 per sons who they plan to represent in

who they plan to represent in court.

Young said that one of the key issues is whether the DSHS, or Texas Department of Health Services, would conduct a health study of sickness in the area. DSHS said they are preparing a "Cancer Cluster" study from existing statistics, but do not plan an on-site survey of health. Young said this is not satisfactory, because it is not specific enough, nor focused on a small enough geographic area. The data covers everything from Baytown to Humble.

Garland Report

to Humble.

Garland Report

The study made by Dr. Garland identified seven sites in the U.S. similar in toxins and geography to the SJR Waste Pits.

Pits.

They needed to have similar contaminants or COCs such as dioxins and furans; they had to be a tidal basin site; sediments had to extend to a river bottom; and seafood consumption was a factor, with signage advisories.

Garland studied over 400 sites, to find 7 that met the criteria. She found that in all these sites, if the dioxins were highly concentrated, i.e. above 1 part per billion, the EPA chose to fully remove the material. For lower levels, they would accept a permanent cap, often a concrete block mat.

Garland's conclusion is that this solution must be followed, to be consistent with the EPA's own National Contingency Plan, i.e. full removal of the highest concentrations, and cap over lower dangers.

The audience contributed questions and their own experience, after the presentation.

One woman said that her medical bills were \$3000/month and she felt that her health was affected by the waste pits.

Another said her son had attended San Jacinto Christian Academy in Lynchburg, which drew well water near the river, and that he had developed non-hodgkins lymphomia while he attended. Later, this ceased when he was not at the school

this ceased when he was not at the school.

Pam Banta said that one goal of the Coalition is to recover some money from the Harris County lawsuit for a mobile screening van to test residents health, and also to provide piped city water to homes that are now on wells that are possibly contaminated. The suit recovered \$29.2 million.

City

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ASK DIAMOND JIM

Can wearing a copper bracelet cure arthritis?



Arthritis is a condition that results in deterioration and loss of the joint surface cartilage, where the repair process fails to keep up with the breakdown. Copper bracelets have long been sold as a cure for arthritis. Vendors propose that the metal is absorbed through the skin and helps cartilage regeneration. But there are certain facts you should know before you rush out and buy that bracelet.

According to the Center for Hand and Upper Extremity of Arkansas for Medical Services), copper deficiency is extremely rare and most regular diets provide enough copper to meet the daily requirements. Copper is a component of some of the normal cellular enzymes in most mineral rich foods, such as vegetables, potatoes, legumes (beans and peas), nuts (peanuts and pecans), Arthritis is a condition that

grains (wheat and rye) and fruits. Supplementation is only needed in patients with serious medical conditions that affect their gastrointestinal tract and impair their ablity to absorb nutrients. While it's never been proven that copper can be absorbed through the skin by wearing a bracelet, research has shown that excessive copper can result in poisoning. This can be seen after ingesting foods boiled in copper vessels or seen after ingesting foods boiled in copper vessels or from contamination of water from corroding copper pipes, causing vomiting and, in se-vere cases, liver damage. In re-ality no modality of treatment has been shown to cure or re-verse the changes of arthritis. Diamond Jim is a diamond

dealer and precious metals broker of NTR Metals.

broker of N1R Metails. See more at www.pineforestjewelry.com. J 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.

Energy Department releases first ever QER

WASHINGTON, April 21, 2015 – On Tuesday, the De-partment of Energy (DOE) re-leased the initial installment of its first ever Quadrennial Energy Review (QER). The review examines vulnerabili-ties in U.S. energy infrastructure and proposes policy recommendations to modernize systems, and promote eco-nomic competitiveness energy security, and environmental responsibility. After reviewing the QER, Congress-man Gene Green released the following statement:

man Gene Green released the following statement:

"It's important to us that the Administration sees the need for investment in our energy infrastructure.

"The energy revolution in our country has drastically changed markets and economies in the U.S. and across the globe. Ten years ago, we faced rising costs, falling employment, and companies moving overseas, and today that couldn't be further from the truth.

"To encourage additional development and achieve the Administration's emission reductions goals, the U.S. needs to modernize its pipeline and grid network. Today, cost-competitive oil and gas are being produced in new areas of the country that are not

infrastructure. Even in my home state of Texas faces pipeline and grid connectivity issues, so we know it's a problem.

"I support the Administra-on's work to quantify the istions work to quantify the issues facing our energy infrastructure, but rather than spending billions of federal dollars on special programs, we need to streamline and expedite permitting in a way that eliminates endless delay, while still protecting

delay, while still protecting the environment.

"Mid-stream companies, like the ones in our District, and the energy sector as a whole are ready to spend billions in private capital to meet the demands of the market, but they simply cannot do that without permitting certainty. This is costing us American jobs and new revenue.

American jobs and new revenue.

"I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee to find a way to take the most innovative and effective solutions from all stakeholders and crafting legislation that will make room the developing energy sector, and our growing economy."

OBITUARY

MARY ALICE BUNDY

Mary Alice Bundy, 84, of Galena Park, Texas, known to her family as Honey, passed from this life on April 20, 2015.



n u r s e with the o l d
Deaton Hospital in Galena
Park and she loved spending time with family and friends and especially her friends at "Tops".

She was preceded in death by her parents and by her beloved husband, James Ferguson Bundy, Jr. She is survived by children, Sherrie Frye kusband Joe; James "Steven"
Bundy & wife, Kathleen; by Cindy Roberson & husband, John Charles and by Bart Bundy & wife, Carla; as well as by grandchildren, Ian, Joanna, Chase, Zachary, Benjamin, Joshua, Jason and Karli; and 13 great-grandchildren.

A visitation will be held Thursday evening, April 23, 2015 from 5-8:00 p.m. at Carter Funeral Home. She will be laid to rest privately in Houston National Cemetery, Houston, Texas.

CARTER FUNERAL HOME

CARTER FUNERAL HOME 13701 Corpus Christi St. Houston, TX 77015 713/455-5100

PORT BRIEFS

Texas Secretary of State begins Statewide "Down to Business" Tour at Bayport Terminal

New Texas Secretary of State Carlos Cascos and mem-bers of his staff began a state-wide introductory tour in Houston on March 24 at the Port of Houston Authori- ty's Bayport Container Terminal. Cascos serves as the state's Port of Houston Authori- ty's Bayport Container Terminal. Cascos serves as the state's 110th Secretary of State. As the new Secretary of State, Cascos was interested in learning more about how the Port of Houston contributes to international trade and the Texas economy and made the Port of Houston his first stop. "I wanted to start here (Port of Houston) because this is the economic engine of the coast and of the state," Secretary Cascos said.

The Port Authority operates the public terminals at the Port of Houston, which is the nation's largest port in terms of foreign waterborne tonnage. The Port of Houston contributes to the creation of more than one million jobs in Texas, with an economic impact of

near- ly \$179 billion.

Port Commission Chairman
Janiece Longoria, along with
key Port Authority officials,
welcomed the Secre- tary of
State and provided a tour and
a briefing

State and provided a tour and a briefing.
"We were thrilled to host Secretary Cascos for a briefing and tour of Bayport, to demonstrate the technology, innovation and teamwork that makes our container terminals and other facilities the best and most productive in the nation," Chairman Longoria said

the nation," Chairman Longoria said.

The briefing Cascos received focused on the port's economic impact and the Port Authority's growth and expansion plans. Opportunities for trade due to ex- pected population growth and the Panama Canal expansion also were disparation of the property of the property

pansion also were dis-



PICK-UP LOCATIONS FOR THE NORTH CHANNEL STAR

North Channel Chamber Office, I-10 in Woodforest Bank Bldg

Pineforest Jewelry, Uvalde Rd Carter Funeral Home, 13701 Corpus Christi St. San Jacinto College North, Student Center & Library

Library
Fonteno Court House, Wallisville Rd
East Houston Hospital, I-10
Foodtown, Uvalde Rd
Sellers Brothers Market, Uvalde Rd YMCA, Wallisville Rd

Fiesta Market, I-10 HPD Substation, I-10 Federal Road Barber Shop, Uvalde @ Halifax reaeral koad Barber Shop, Uvalde e Hairtax Panera Restaurant, Beltway 8 @ Wallisville CiCi's Pizza, Uvalde @ Woodforest Kroger's, Woodforest @ Beltway 8 Fuddruckers, Normandy Rd Walgreens, Maxey Rd @ Woodforest Senator Sylvia Garcia office, in Woodforest Bank Bldg

North Channel Library, Wallisville Rd North Shore High School, at Wallisville Rd Walgreens, 155111 Wallisville Rd United Comm. Credit Union, Normandy United Comm. Credit Union, Wallisville

CHANNELYJEW
K&T Western Wear,Sheldon Rd
Channelview High School, Sheldon Rd
Woodforest Bank, Sheldon Rd
Channelview Admin Bldg, Sheldon Rd
Food Fair, Sheldon Rd @ I-10 Flukinger Comm Ctr, Lorenzo St Holiday Inn, I-10 E

SHELDON
Sheldon ISD Admin Bldg.
C. E. King High School, Tidwell Rd
Kroger's, Normandy at Woodforest
Parkway Feed, CE King Blvd
Community Bank of Texas, Tidwell Road

CLOVERLEAF

HC WCID #36, Hollywood St Grayson Community Center, Corpus Christi St Galena Park Admin Building, Beltway 8 at Woodforest

CommunityBank of Texas, I-10 E @ Freeport Gatti's Pizza, Uvalde

North Channel Assistance Ministries, Bonham @ Freeport

City Hall, Main Street
El Ahorro Market, Main Street Community Center/Senior Center, Oates Rd Capital Bank, I-10 E Jacinto City Branch Library, Akron St State Rep Ana Hernandez office, Mercury Drive Sellers Brothers Market, Market St JC Police Dept., Market St Market Street Feed Store, Market St

GALENA PARK

Baggett Community Center, Keene St Galena Park High School, Keene St Galena Park City Hall, Clinton Drive Galena Park Library, Keene St United Comm. Credit Union, 16th St.

If you would like to be a PICK-UP LOCATION, let us know. 281-328-9605 or northchannelstar@gmail.com.



State

_ Expiration

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Check or M.O.
Credit Card