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CHANNEL CHATTER

Galena Park - Jacinto City CIP 50th Meeting
Thursday, April 7, 2016 early start! - 5:45 call to order. Tour of LyondellBasell Houston Refinery & Visit to Control Room. Assemble at LyondellBasell Training Center, 317 Allen-Genoa Road.

North Channel Area Community Clean-Up
The 14th Annual North Channel Community Clean-up is scheduled on Saturday, April 9, 2016 from 8:30am - 12:00noon. The kick-off location is the East Freeway HPD Storefront.

4th Annual North Channel Job Fair
A Job Fair has been scheduled on Thursday, May 5, 2016 at San Jacinto College North Campus from 10:00am - 2:00pm.

LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT
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.

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.

Precinct One to spend \$1.75 million for concrete repairs of neighborhood streets, sidewalks and curbs

Harris County Commissioner Gene L. Locke has announced plans to improve streets in several neighborhoods throughout Precinct One, including unincorporated areas that are in need of infrastructure improvements. The announcement was made after Harris County Commissioners Court on Tuesday approved a measure that adds \$1 million to an existing contract with a firm that will make concrete repairs on dozens of streets. The account previously contained \$750,000, of which about \$380,000 have been spent on repairs. The latest list includes \$909,154 for street repairs. Teamwork Construction Services Inc. will perform the repairs and replacement of concrete pavement, curbs, driveways, sidewalks and related in-



Harris County Commissioner Gene L. Locke

frastructure. In the east precinct, \$702,754 will be spent for work on streets in communities such as Sterling Green, Sheldon Woods, Sonoma Ranch and Beaumont Place. In the north precinct, \$93,000 worth of work will be done on street in the Interstate 45 and Airtex area; the I-45 and East Richey area; the Kuykendahl and Ella area; and the North Lake Houston Parkway and Lockwood area. In the south, \$113,400 will be spent on roads in South Belt, Scarsdale and Friendswood areas. Since taking office in January, Commissioner Locke has developed an aggressive plan to improve streets throughout Precinct One, both in unincorporated areas and inside Houston city limits located in the precinct.

JACINTO CITY Main drainage blockage problem repaired

By ALLAN JAMAIL

JACINTO CITY – The Harris County Flood Control District main drainage channel from Jacinto City to the Ship Channel had major blockage since November 2014, due to a collapse of the concrete liner along the south surface near Holland Avenue. This drainage channel is known as Turkey Run Gully, emptying into Hunting Bayou to the east, according to local resident Allan Jamail.

See PROBLEM SOLVED, p. 2



THE OBSTRUCTION OF JACINTO CITY MAIN DRAINAGE KNOWN AS 'TURKEY RUN GULLY' HAS BEEN REPAIRED AS AUTHORITIES DISCUSSED AND APPROVED AS FIRST PRIORITY LAST JUNE.



MAJOR OBSTRUCTION SEEN LOOKING EAST TOWARD HOLLAND.

Photos courtesy of Allan Jamail

Sullivan tells a taxing tale



Mike Sullivan, Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector

Mike Sullivan is the Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector. As such, he administers a number of functions that involve the public. Sullivan was the speaker last Tuesday at the Rotary Club of Highlands, and talked about his career, and the workings of his office. The functions he is involved in include collecting taxes, such as the property tax you must pay every Jan. 31st if you own real property, the inspection sticker fee for an auto inspection (known as ONE STICKER) or trailer, or boat, providing jurors for jury duty, registering autos and administering their titles, and voter registration roles. Sullivan explained that he is an "east side guy," having grown up in Channelview and helped with the family paint business. Later because of his interest in serving the public, and community involvement, he served in a number of public offices, including Humble school board, Houston city councilman serving the North

See TAXES TIPS, page 8

COMMUNITY AWARDS North Channel Chamber recognizes GPISD students and educators



On Friday, April 1, 2016, the North Channel Chamber of Commerce recognized outstanding students and educators from Galena Park ISD. We would like to congratulate North Shore Senior High School's Director of Bands, Mr. Shane Goforth, left, and MacArthur Elementary's Campus Instructional Coach, Mrs. Julie Goggin, right. Both of these educators have served GPISD for many years with continued dedication and excellence. The students recognized were North Shore Senior High School's Taryn Surratt (third from left), senior, and Galena Park High School's Ricardo Flores (second from left), also a senior. Both of these students have excelled both academically and musically and have represented GPISD proudly. We wish them both much success as they prepare to graduate and begin their college studies.

COMMUNITY AWARD Longtime district partner earns Stand Up for Texas Public Schools Award

CORRECTED VERSION

For the past 20 years, Jason Bailey and Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins & Mott LLP have built a strong partnership that has greatly benefitted Channelview ISD schools. Bailey serves as the district's tax attorney, but helping to provide for the needs of students is something he takes seriously. The longtime support of Bailey and Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins & Mott has earned them the Stand Up for Texas Public Schools Award, sponsored by the Texas Association of School Boards. Bailey accepted the award on the firm's behalf as part of a special recognition by the CISD Board of Trustees.



Bailey accepts Stand Up for Texas Public Schools Award.

"We believe in giving back to the districts that we serve," Bailey said. "Our partnership with Channelview ISD has grown over the years and it's truly been a pleasure to help provide students and teachers the resources they need to be successful." Bailey and the law firm

See PARTNER AWARD, page 6

SCHOOL NEWS

Woodland Acres Middle school student wins Law Day Poster Contest

Woodland Acres Middle School student Katia Hernandez received first place honors in the 2016 Law Day Contest, which is hosted by the Houston Bar Association. The American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division Law Day Contest requires entering participants to create an art piece exploring the procedural protections afforded to all of us by the U.S. Constitution and why the preservation of these principles is essential to our liberty. Participants are to utilize the theme: Miranda: More than Words. We are proud of Katia and feel confident we will see her serving in a role as one of our community's leaders in the future.



PROBLEM SOLVED,

Continued from page 1

This channel reportedly is responsible for draining 75% of the watershed around Jacinto City, and citizens were concerned that if a major hurricane were to hit last year, flooding and water damage would be

widespread. Marvin James, manager with the Harris County Flood Control District, mentioned to the North Channel Star that repairs for the channel had been bid, and were awaiting ap-

proval of the Commissioners Court on June 2, 2015.

The contractor, N and Z Contracting, could start work shortly thereafter, according to James. Mr. Jamail termed this a "vital repair" for the safety of all Jacinto City residents, prior to hurricane sea-

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COMMUNITY

Jacinto City confirms Police Reserve Officer Henri Mestizo

Thursday, March 24, 2016 Jacinto City's Mayor Ana Diaz and City Council confirmed Henri A. Mestizo as a Reserve Police Officer. Chief Ayala says he has two other reserve officers and before confirming they're required to complete the full basic law enforcement officer training course of 700 hours.



Photo & story by Allan Jamal
L to R: Jacinto City Police Chief Joey Ayala, Reserve Officer Henri Mestizo and his mother Lidia Salgado.

GPISD Student competes in Houston Public Media Spelling Bee

Galena Park Middle School student, Edeline Gomez, received the chance of a lifetime as she competed in the Houston Public Media Spelling Bee on Saturday, April 2, 2016. She represented GPISD well as the district's TOP speller. Edeline was able to spell her way all the way to the fifth round with only seven finalists left. We are super proud of our little bee!



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OPINION PAGE

★
OPINION

Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is modern day slavery. Kevin Bales of Free the Slaves defines it as “a relationship in which one person is controlled by violence through violence, the threat of violence, or psychological coercion, has lost free will and free movement, is exploited economically, and paid nothing beyond subsistence.”

Who Can Be Trafficked

Adults as well as children can become victims of trafficking. Traffickers enslave both males and females. People can be trafficked in their own country or they can be trafficked internationally as well.

The Major Types of Trafficking

Under Texas law we divide trafficking into four types:

1-Trafficking of adults for forced labor, for instance in agriculture, food service, factory work or sales;

2-Trafficking of adults for sex, in strip clubs, brothels, massage parlors, street or internet prostitution;

3-Trafficking of children under the age of 18 for forced labor; and

4-Trafficking of children under the age of 18 for sex. An individual can be trafficked into any industry or type of work. Legally, someone is trafficked if force, fraud or coercion is applied to make the trafficked person work or if a child under the age of 18 is trafficked for sex by any means, regardless of whether the trafficker has to use force, fraud or coercion.

Children Have Special Protections

A child under the age of 18 is a victim of sex trafficking if they are being prostituted by someone other than themselves, regardless of whether the child complied with the trafficker's demands or actively resisted. Sex trafficking of children can be completed by any means and does not require the use of force fraud or coercion. Some of the more common methods of recruitment of children include:

- a promise of romance, love, or acceptance,
- offers of cash, luxury items, a place to stay, independence or a glamorous lifestyle,
- the persuasion of a peer who is already involved,
- meeting the immediate need of a child for food, clothing, shelter, or love
- taking advantage of a vulnerability or a desperate situation
- flattery, lies, manipulation, deception
- exploiting an existing position of power
- making an offer that is too good to be true
- establishing relationship with false or tenuous connections

Who Are the Traffickers and Who Are the Buyers of Trafficked People

There is no one particular look to a

trafficker. Traffickers are people who are willing to treat other people like objects or commodities that they can buy, sell or exploit for their own benefit. They can be:

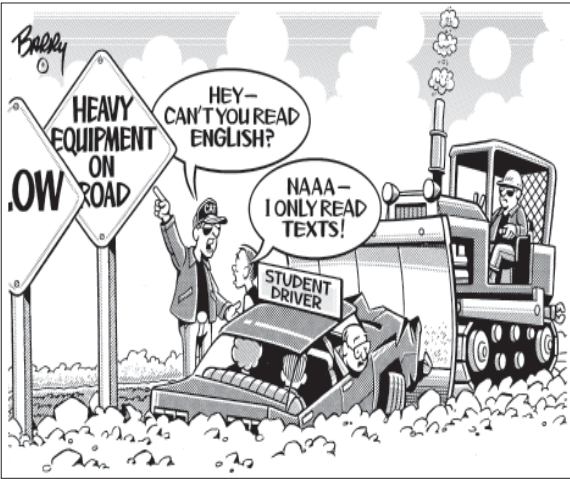
- family, relatives
- peers
- international third party recruiters
- unscrupulous employers
- organized crime syndicates, cartels or gangs
- strip club owners/managers
- opportunistic criminals
- intimate partners
- neighbors and friends
- sex buyers who pay for children under the age of 18 or adults who are being forced to prostitute

When it comes to children and trafficking for sex, trafficking is Texas citizens selling Texas children for sex to other Texas citizens. We are the buyers and the sellers and our children are the victims.

Isn't Trafficking About Immigration and People Who Come Across the Border Illegally?

No. Trafficking is a crime separate and distinct from smuggling. You can be an American citizen trafficked by another American citizen inside the territorial borders of the United States. Smuggling, on the other hand, requires the illegal crossing of an international border. In the crime of smuggling, one person pays another to bring them across an international border illegally. Both are committing a crime against the nation they are trying to enter but there is nothing involuntary about the exchange. The crime of smuggling can become the crime of trafficking if the smuggled person is then placed in debt bondage or made to labor for another through force, fraud or coercion, including threats to turn the person over to immigration authorities. Trafficking is a crime against a person. Under Texas law you don't have to be moved to be trafficked. You can be trafficked in your own home. For instance, a mother who brings men to her home to have sex with her underage child is trafficking that child without ever moving her. In the crime of trafficking, only the trafficker is committing a crime even if the trafficked person is being made to engage in a criminal activity like prostitution because either the trafficked person is being forced, defrauded or coerced or because the trafficked person is under the age of 18 and being made a victim of a sexual offense.

If the situation is an emergency or you believe someone is in immediate danger, call 911 and alert the authorities. Tell them you think it may be human trafficking or slavery so that it can be routed to the proper investigators. Follow that call with a call to the National Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-3737-888 or report online at Report@PolarisProject.org.



Senate Finance chair confirms behavioral health budget

AUSTIN — The Texas Health and Human Services Commission will have some \$6.7 billion to fund the state's behavioral health services efforts during the 2016-2017 fiscal biennium.

Senate Finance Committee Chair Jane Nelson, at a March 30 meeting of the committee, confirmed the \$6.7 billion, using figures provided by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission and the 10-member Legislative Budget Board. In the 2014-2015 state budget the amount for behavioral health funding was an estimated \$6.2 billion.

One of the legislative interim charges assigned to the committee by the lieutenant governor is to monitor the state's progress in coordinating behavioral health services and expenditures across state government.

“We have serious challenges to address, but I want to make sure we have a true understanding of our commitment to mental health — by knowing not only how much we are spending — but also how we are spending the funds,” Nelson said.

The budget includes a rider by Nelson coordinating the delivery of care among 18 state agencies.

Several members of the committee mentioned a shortage of “forensic beds” for patients assessed with mental illness, especially in Dallas and Harris counties, the state's highest-population counties. More forensic beds, they said, would help relieve the strain on jails, where people in need of behavioral health services may be placed when county facilities lack capacity for such purposes.

★
STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By Ed Sterling



Grants aid communities

On April 1 the governor's office announced the awarding of a second round of more than \$15 million from the Texas Military Preparedness Commission's Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant program.

Under Gov. Greg Abbott's leadership, the Texas Legislature in 2015 allocated some \$30 million to the program to assist communities that may be negatively impacted by a future congressionally mandated Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) round.

Named to receive funding in the second round of disbursements are:

- City of Killeen, Fort Hood, \$3.47 million;
- Bexar County, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, \$4.71 million;
- Tom Green County, Goodfellow Air Force Base, \$2.04 million;
- City of El Paso, Fort Bliss, \$2 million; and
- City of Del Rio, Laughlin Air Force Base, \$3.3

million.

In December 2015, Governor Abbott awarded the first round of disbursements, sending more than \$15 million to the Alamo Area Council of Governments, the city of Houston, Val Verde County and the city of Wichita Falls.

The Texas Military Preparedness Commission is part of the governor's office and advises the governor and the Legislature on ways to strengthen the position of Texas military installations in preparation for a potential BRAC and other defense-related issues. The commission's 13 members serve six-year staggered terms. Typically, each member represents an installation in his or her community.

Employment figures improve

The Texas Workforce Commission on March 25 reported that Texas added jobs for the 11th consecutive month in February, with a gain of 2,100 non-farm jobs.

Commission Chair Andres Alcantar said that over the past year Texas gained 170,900 jobs.

Also, Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 4.4 percent in February, down from 4.5 percent in January, and remained below the national average of 4.9 percent.

“Private employers have expanded their payrolls by 142,800 jobs in Texas over the past year,” said Ruth R. Hughs, the workforce commissioner who represents employers. “We are pleased to see that trend continue because it reflects the strength and resiliency of our state's economy.”

Initiative targets hogs

The Texas Department of Agriculture on March 22 announced the 2016 Coordinated Hog Out Management Program (CHOMP), running for the entire month of May.

Through CHOMP, counties may apply for assistance grants to continue local abatement activities after the program ends. The effort is intended to reduce the feral hog population.

Feral hogs cause an estimated \$52 million in agricultural damage each year. Texas is home to 2.6 million feral hogs, the largest feral hog population in the U.S.

“Feral hogs are both an urban and rural problem, and there is no single solution that will solve it statewide,” Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller said. “Through this partnership, local officials will have the flexibility to implement feral hog abatement efforts that work best in their areas.”

★
SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM

An important step for men to remember

(NAPSI)—If you or someone you care about is a young man turning 18, you should know about a simple move that can change his whole future.

What He Must Do

By law, he must register with the Selective Service System. The same is true for male immigrants, documented or not, between the ages of 18 through 25. Failure to register is a violation of the Military Selective Service Act and may result in imprisonment for up to five years and a fine of \$250,000.

While most young men are aware of this and register promptly, within 30 days of their birthdays, those who don't can find themselves in all sorts of difficulties.

What He Could Forfeit

Registration is required for:

- Federal student loans and grant programs worth billions of dollars altogether
- Federal job training under the Workforce Investment Act
- Federal jobs or security clearance as a contractor
- U.S. citizenship for immigrants
- Driver's licenses in some places.

Those are all good reasons for friends and relations to urge young men to sign up.

Signing Up Is Simple

To make registering easy, some high schools have a faculty or staff member who serves as a Selective Service registrar.

A Selective Service form may come in the mail and forms are available at U.S. post offices and U.S. embassies and consulates for Americans living abroad.

In addition, he can simply check “Yes” on the Selective Service Box on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form. This lets the Department of Education send Selective Service your information.

Some people even send in their registration information as early as age 17 years and 3 months. The Selective Service System keeps the information on file, processes it automatically and sends an acknowledgment card.

Perhaps the easiest way is to get the online registration form at www.sss.gov/Registration/Register-Now/ Registration-Form. A downloadable form is at www.sss.gov/Portals/0/PDFs/regform_copyINT.pdf.

Where To Learn More

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LIFESTYLE

Diamond Jim: "What type of precious metal jewelry should I choose?"



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PRECIOUS METAL JEWELRY

The word gold, used by itself, means all gold or it can refer to "pure" gold, meaning 24 karat (24K) gold. Because 24K gold is soft, it's usually mixed with other metal jewelry called alloys to increase its hardness and durability. If a piece of jewelry is not 24 karat gold, the karat quality should accompany any claim that the item is gold. The karat quality marking tells you what proportion of gold is mixed with the other metals. Fourteen-karat (14K) jewelry contains 14 parts of gold, mixed in throughout with 10 parts of an alloy metal. The higher the karat rating, the higher the proportion of gold in the piece of jewelry.

Jewelry should be marked with its karat quality. Near the karat quality mark, you also should see the name or the U.S. registered trademark of the company that will stand behind the mark. The trademark may be in the form of a name, symbol or initials. If you don't see a trademark accompanying a quality mark on a piece of jewelry, look for another piece.

List of precious metals:

Platinum is a type of precious metal jewelry that costs more than gold. It usually is mixed with other similar metals, known as the platinum group metals: iridium, palladium, ruthenium, rhodium and osmium. Different markings are used on platinum jewelry as compared with gold jewelry, based on the amount of pure platinum in the pieces. The quality markings for platinum are based on parts per thousand. For example, the marking 900 Platinum means that 900 parts out of 1000 are pure platinum, or in other words, the item is 90% platinum and 10% other metals. The abbreviations for platinum — Plat. or Pt. — also can be used in marking jewelry.

The words silver or sterling silver describe a product that contains 92.5% silver. Silver products sometimes may be marked 925 which means that 925 parts per thousand are pure silver.

Some jewelry may be described as silverplate: a layer of silver is bonded to a base metal. The mark coin silver is used for compounds that contain 90% silver. According to the law, quality-

marked silver also must bear the name or a U.S. registered trademark of the company or person that will stand behind the mark.

Choose a Precious Metal that Fits Your Lifestyle

We all know that different people have different interests. But did you know that when choosing jewelry, you can pick a metal that fits your interests? Certain precious metals, platinum for instance, are more durable and fit an active lifestyle. Look at the lifestyles below, and see the metals that fit yours!

True Romantic Tim — Tim leads a moderately active lifestyle. He likes to play sports with his friends, but you won't catch him on the field every day. When it comes to romance, he's a traditionalist. What should he do to match his lifestyle? Buy gold. Coveted for its luster and beauty, gold is the traditional metal for wedding rings. However, gold continues to hold its own among a bevy of new metals. The percentage of gold in a ring is measured by karats. Since gold is a relatively soft metal, the higher the percentage of gold (and the higher the Karat), the softer the ring. Men's rings generally are made in 10, 14 and 18 karat gold, so that the rings will be more durable. Most gold jewelry is either yellow or white. The alloys used will alter the color. Some gold is plated with rhodium to make it appear a brighter white. Since the coating can wear away with time, active individuals may prefer a more durable white metal such as platinum or palladium. Visit your local American Gem Society jeweler for quarterly polishing and cleaning to keep the luster alive.

Everyday Evelyn — Evelyn likes to wear jewelry every day. Earrings, bracelets, rings, necklaces — and she likes to wear different jewelry often. What should she buy? Silver. Silver is the softest — and the least expensive — of the fine metals. Since it scratches easily, it is best used for jewelry that is not worn daily. Since it is inexpensive, silver allows you to have many pieces you can switch out. People who are extremely active or enjoy gardening or working with their hands, may want to consider a harder metal.

Gotta Go Gary — Gary is active. He likes sports, and he often helps his wife in the garden. He's found he often forgets to remove his gold wedding ring, and it is covered in scratches. What should Gary do? Purchase Titanium. Coming in an array of silvery colors, titanium is a great metal for the most active of people. Titanium is the hardest of the metals, therefore more scratch, dent, and bend resistant. Another benefit is that in its pure form, titanium is 100% hypoallergenic. Titanium does have its drawbacks: since it cannot be soldered, titanium rings cannot be sized and in an emergency, it is much harder to cut off than other metals.

Allergic Anna — Anna is young and active with many interests. But she also has sensitive skin, which white gold tends to irritate. Being young, she is still climbing the career ladder. What should she buy? Palladium. This is a popular choice among the young and active. As a white metal, palladium strikes a harmonic balance between white gold and platinum. Harder than gold, yet softer than platinum, palladium can be used in jewelry in its near pure form, making it hypoallergenic. Also, palladium, unlike white gold, is naturally white. Palladium is also less expensive than platinum and can be sized and polished.

Nancy Nightlife — Nancy keeps her schedule full, day and night. She needs jewelry that can keep up with her and can have the style she needs if a late business dinner leaves her running for the night club. What should Nancy do? Invest in platinum. This prestigious — and expensive — metal is hypoallergenic dense, heavy and scratch resistant. It fits an active style where a sense of class and elegance are desired, even while on the run.

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 jmtls@pineforestjewelry.com.

North Shore Theatre succeeds at competition



North Shore Theatre had an incredible performance on Saturday. They were named the Advancing Play in the Bi-District UIL One-Act Play competition held at Dickinson HS and will compete in the UIL Area One-Act Play contest on Friday, April 8th at San Jacinto College Central Campus in the Slocumb Auditorium in the Fine Arts Building (8060 Spencer Highway, Pasadena, TX, 77505). In addition to being named Advancing Play, North Shore also earned All-Star Cast and Best Actress (Asia Allen) recognitions. There were six schools who competed in the Bi-District contest (Clear Creek, Deer Park, Dickinson, Friendswood, La Porte, North Shore). The UIL Area OAP competition will begins at 2:00 PM on Friday, North Shore will perform at 5:00 p.m.. Included in the photo are students and directors Veronica Stell, Vaughn Belcher and Fernando Albarran.

North Shore Middle School Video Contest Winners

Two North Shore Middle School video crews have been chosen as winners by the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission as part of their 2016 video contest! As part of their commemoration of Genocide Awareness and Prevention Month, the commission required that students submit their videos in the form of a news report on genocide and they had a strict time limit. The Cambodian Genocide by 8th graders Katherine Parada, Martin Valdez, and Antonia Villegas, and The Pygmy Genocide by 8th graders Alan Ly, Jose Aguilera, and Eric Dominique). Winners will receive scholarship awards and are invited to join the Commission to receive recognition at a state meeting. NSMS video classes (part of Galena Park ISD Technology Applications) are taught by Mr. Steve Vaughn.



North Channel Chamber of Commerce welcomes new member



Ellida's Bridal, located at 12450 East Freeway #125, Houston, TX. 77015. This is her 2nd location.

CHURCH LISTINGS

Channelview, Jacinto City, Galena Park, Houston

•Second Street Church of Christ, 15821 2nd. Street, Channelview, TX. 77530. www.2ndstreetchurchofchrist.com

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

•Galena Park Assembly of God, 1211 2nd. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-455-0836.

BAPTIST

•New Life Baptist Church of East Houston, 18570 Van Road, Houston, 77049. 281-456-0082
•Second Baptist Church, 1913 18th. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-672-9232.
•Second Baptist Church, 10501 Muscatine, Jacinto City, TX. 713-674-8463.
•St. Matthew Baptist Church, 119 Fidelity, Houston, TX. 713-674-0062.

•First Baptist Church, 1505 1st. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-455-1261.

BAPTIST-Southern

•Dell Dale Avenue Baptist Church, 402 Dell Dale Avenue, Channelview, TX. 281-452-3704.

•South Drive Baptist Church, 15229 South Drive, Channelview, TX. 77530. 281-452-4500.

•First Baptist Church of Jacinto City, 10701 Wiggins, Jacinto City, TX 77029. 713-672-2802.

•Beaumont Place Baptist Church, 13101 Ivydale Street, Houston, TX. 77049.

CATHOLIC

•St. Andrew Roman Catholic Church, 827 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, TX. 281-452-9865.
•Our Lady of Fatima, 1705 8th St., Galena Park, TX. 713-675-0981.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

•Channelview Church of Christ, 1301 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, Tx. 281-452-7129.

•Galena Park Church of Christ, 301 Holland Ave, Galena Park, TX. 713-455-0826.

EPISCOPAL

•St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 13125 Indianapolis St., Houston, 713-451-2909.

HOLINESS

•Bible Missionary Church, 10246 Fairfax St., Jacinto City, 713-671-3500.

METHODIST

•Old River Terrace United Methodist Church, 16102 East Freeway, Channelview, TX. 281-452-2861.

•Galena Park United Methodist, 1705 1st. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-672-0245.

•Holy Trinity United Methodist, 13207 Orleans St., Houston, Tx. 713-453-7203.

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1 Corinthians 16:13

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Leviticus 19:32

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BUSINESS

Should You Change Your Investment Mix Over Time?

To be successful at investing, some people think they need to “get in on the ground floor” of the next “big thing.” However, instead of waiting for that one “hot” stock that may never come along, consider creating an asset allocation – a mix of investments – that’s appropriate for your needs, goals and risk tolerance.

But once you have such a mix, should you keep it intact forever, or will you need to make some changes? And if so, when?

To begin with, why is asset allocation important? Different types of investments – growth stocks, income-producing stocks, international stocks, bonds, government securities, real estate investment trusts, and so on – have unique characteristics, so they rarely rise or fall at the same time. Thus, owning a mix of investments can help reduce the forces of market volatility. (Keep in mind, though, that allocation does not ensure a profit or protect against loss.) Your particular mix will depend on your investment time horizon, comfort with risk, and financial goals.

When you are young, and starting out in your career, you may want your asset allocation to be more heavily weighted toward stocks and stock-based investments. Stock investments historically have provided the greatest returns over the long term – although, as you’ve probably heard, past performance can’t guarantee future results – and you will need this growth potential to help achieve your long-term goals, such as a comfortable retirement. Stocks also carry a greater degree of investment risk, including the risk of losing principal, but when you

ASK THE EXPERT

By Edward Jones

have many years to invest, you have time to potentially overcome the inevitable short-term declines.

Once you reach the middle-to-later stages of your career, you may have achieved some of your goals that required wealth accumulation, such as sending your children to college. However, what is likely your

biggest long-term goal – retirement – still awaits you, so you may not want to scale back too much on your stocks and other growth-oriented investments. Nonetheless, including an allocation to bonds can help to reduce some of the volatility of the stock portion of your portfolio.

Now, fast forward to just a few years before you retire.

At this point, you may want to lower your overall risk level, because, with retirement looming, you don’t have much time to bounce back from downturns – and you don’t want to start withdrawing from your retirement accounts when your portfolio is already going down. So, now may be the time to add bonds and other fixed-income investments. Again, though, you still need some growth opportunities from your investments – after all, you could be retired for two, or even three decades.

Finally, you’re retired. At this point, you should adjust your asset allocation to include enough income-producing investments – bonds, certificates of deposit, perhaps dividend-paying stocks – to help you enjoy the retirement lifestyle you’ve envisioned. Yet, you can’t forget that the cost of living will likely rise throughout your retirement. In fact, at a modest 3% inflation rate, the price of goods will more than double after 25 years. So even during retirement, you need your portfolio to provide some growth potential to help you avoid losing purchasing power.

By being aware of your asset allocation, and by making timely adjustments as necessary, you can provide yourself with the opportunities for growth and income that you will need throughout your life.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Edward Jones
6830 E Sam Houston Pkwy N, Suite 150
Houston, TX 77049
281-436-0396

North Channel Library offers Free tax help

The Tax-Aide program sponsored by the IRS and AARP Foundation is again providing free federal income tax assistance this year. The program is designed to assist taxpayers age 60 and over but will also assist low and moderate income filers.

•North Channel Branch of Harris County Public Library. Thursdays noon to 4 p.m.

Services will begin on Tuesday, February 2nd and conclude on Thursday, April 14th.

Taxpayers should bring the following items with them:

- Social Security cards for yourself and all dependents
- A copy of last year’s tax return
- W-2 forms from each employer
- Unemployment compensation statements
- SSA-1099 form if you were paid Social Security benefits
- All 1099 forms (1099-INT, 1099-DIV, etc.)
- 1099R forms if you received a pension or annuity
- All forms indicating federal income tax paid
- Child care provider information
- Receipts or cancelled checks if itemizing deductions
- Some type of picture ID
- Info about health insurance coverage for you and any dependents.

If you purchased your insurance through the healthcare.gov site please bring any info and forms that they provided you including form 1095-A.

Additional information can be obtained by calling 1-888-227-7669 or visiting the website at www.aarp.org/taxaide.

PARTNER AWARD,

Continued from page 1

have supported a variety of programs and events in the district, including the B.H. Hamblen Scholarship Golf Tournament, in which they have been a sponsor for all 18 years of the event. In addition, the company has supported the annual Channelview FFA Livestock Show and Auction, along with the district Teacher of the Year awards ceremony. The company is a sustaining partner and Founding Donor to the Channelview ISD Education Foundation. Bailey also serves on the Board of Directors of the Foundation.

•Jason’s personal com-

mitment to Channelview ISD is definitely above and beyond the scope of work performed for the district and we are appreciative of his support,” said Greg Ollis, Channelview ISD superintendent. “We are very fortunate to have Jason and Perdue Brandon’s willingness to serve our students and staff in capacities far beyond any expectations.”

As part of TASB’s Business Recognition Program, Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins & Mott LLP is listed on the statewide honor roll of the Stand Up for Public Schools award recipients at www.tasb.org.

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LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PUBLIC TEST OF LOGIC AND ACCURACY AND TEST OF TABULATION EQUIPMENT

Notice is hereby given that Harris County Emergency Services District No. 11, Harris County Emergency Services District No. 7, Harris County Emergency Services District No. 20, Harris County Emergency Services District No. 9, Harris County Emergency Services District No. 24, Harris County Emergency Services District No. 48, Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5, Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80 will conduct a public test of the logic and accuracy of direct recording electronic voting machines and precinct scanners which will be used in the election to be held on May 7, 2016. The test will determine that the voting machines will accurately record the votes cast for all offices and all propositions.

Harris County Emergency Services District No. 11, Harris County Emergency Services District No. 7, Harris County Emergency Services District No. 20, Harris County Emergency Services District No. 9 will also conduct a public test of tabulation automatic tabulating equipment used for counting ballots at a central counting station.

The tests will be conducted on April 12, 2016 commencing at 9:00 AM at the following location: Spring Volunteer Fire Department, Administration Building, 656 East Louetta Road, Spring Texas 77383.

AVISO PÚBLICO DE LA PRUEBA DE LÓGICA Y PRECISIÓN Y PRUEBA DEL EQUIPO DE TABULACIÓN

Se notifica por el presente que el Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 11 del Condado De Harris, el Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 7 del Condado de Harris, el Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 20 del Condado de Harris, el Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 9 del Condado de Harris, el Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 24 del Condado de Harris, el Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 48 del Condado de Harris, el Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 5 del Condado de Harris, el Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 80 del Condado de Harris, realizarán una prueba de la lógica y precisión de las máquinas de votación electrónicas de grabación directa y de las máquinas escáners que serán utilizadas en la elección a celebrarse el sábado 7 de mayo de 2016. La prueba determinará que las máquinas de votación registrarán con exactitud los votos que se emitan para todos los cargos y proposiciones.

El Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 11 del Condado de Harris, el Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 7 del Condado de Harris, el Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 20 del Condado de Harris, el Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 9 del Condado de Harris, también realizarán una prueba del equipo de tabulación automática que se utilizará en la estación central de conteo para contar los votos.

La prueba se llevará a cabo el 12 de abril de 2016 comenzando a las 9:00 a.m. en el siguiente lugar: Spring Volunteer Fire Department, Administration Building, 656 East Louetta Road, Spring Texas 77383.

CHÍNH XÁC VÀ VIỆC KIỂM TRA CÁC TRANG THIẾT BỊ KIỂM PHIẾU

Thông báo theo đây cho biết rằng Cơ Quan Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp số 11 Quận Harris, Cơ Quan Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp Số 7 Quận Harris, Cơ Quan Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp Số 20 Quận Harris, Cơ Quan Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp Số 9 Quận Harris, Cơ Quan Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp Số 24 Quận Harris, Cơ Quan Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp Số 48 Quận Harris, Cơ Quan Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp Số 5 Quận Harris, Cơ Quan Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp Số 80 Quận Harris, sẽ tiến hành kiểm tra công khai mức độ logic và chính xác của máy bỏ phiếu điện tử ghi trực tiếp và các máy quét ở phân khu sẽ được dùng trong cuộc bầu cử diễn ra vào ngày 7 tháng Năm, 2016. Mục đích của buổi kiểm tra là để bảo đảm các máy bỏ phiếu sẽ ghi chính xác các lá phiếu bầu cho tất cả các vị trí và các kế hoạch đề nghị.

Cơ Quan Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp Số 11 Quận Harris, Cơ Quan Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp Số 7 Quận Harris, Cơ Quan Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp Số 20 Quận Harris, Cơ Quan Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp Số 9 Quận Harris, cũng sẽ tiến hành kiểm tra công khai các trang thiết bị kiểm phiếu tự động sẽ được dùng để đếm các lá phiếu tại một trạm kiểm phiếu trung ương.

Buổi kiểm tra sẽ diễn ra vào ngày 12 tháng Tư, 2016, bắt đầu từ 9 giờ sáng, tại địa điểm sau đây: Spring Volunteer Fire Department, Administration Building, 656 East Louetta Road, Spring Texas 77383.

關於邏輯和準確度測試和自動列表顯示設備測試之公告

特此公告, Harris 郡緊急服務區第 11 區, Harris 郡緊急服務區第 7 區, Harris 郡緊急服務區第 20 區, Harris 郡緊急服務區第 9 區, Harris 郡緊急服務區第 24 區, Harris 郡緊急服務區第 48 區, Harris 郡緊急服務區第 5 區, Harris 郡緊急服務區第 80 區將舉行直接記錄電子投票機和選區掃描儀的關於邏輯和準確度的公共測試, 其將用於與 2016 年 5 月 7 日舉行的選舉。此測試將確定投票機會準確記錄所有投給辦公室及議案的票數。

Harris 郡緊急服務區第 11 區, Harris 郡緊急服務區第 7 區, Harris 郡緊急服務區第 20 區, Harris 郡緊急服務區第 9 區將舉行自動列表顯示設備的公共測試用於在中部計票站計算選票。此測試將於 2016 年 4 月 12 日, 上午 9:00 舉行, 地點如下: Spring Volunteer Fire Department, Administration Building, 656 East Louetta Road, Spring Texas 77383.

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You now have the option of placing your Legal Ads in a local newspaper that meets your requirements, reaches more readers in your area, and costs much less. Rates are \$15.00 per column inch, plus \$10 for an affidavit, or 50¢ per word plus affidavit. We can give you an exact quote if required. Please call or email for assistance. Thank you for supporting our community and keeping our dollars local.

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A GrafikPress Newspaper

281-328-9605 email: northchannelstar@gmail.com

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A GrafikPress Newspaper

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A GrafikPress Newspaper
281-328-9605

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Backdraft Rest.
Woodforest Bank
Conoco Station
Post Office (outside)

CROSBY:
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Community Center
Race Track
Arlan's Market
Kroger's
Community Bank (2)

HUFFMAN
Exxon Station
Community Bank

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COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY EVENTS

North Channel Library events

-Saturday, April 9, 10 am, Scrapbooking; 11-12:30 pm Ask A Lawyer.
-Monday, April 11, 4:30 pm, Monday Movie Madness (Hotel Transylvania 2).
-Tuesday, April 12, 10:30 am, Toddler Time; 1:30 pm, Eat, Play, Grow presented by HCPHES.
-Thursday, April 14, 10:30 am, Baby Time; 12:00 pm, AARP Tax Help; 4:30 pm, MeeTeen! Paper Clip Bracelets.
Library is located at 15741 Wallisville Rd., Houston, TX. 77049. Call 281-457-1631 for more information on other programs.

San Jacinto Pilot Club

The Club meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Mr. Gatti's on Uvalde at noon.

Jacinto City Library programs

-Saturday, April 9, Children's Movie Theater, 12:30.
-Tuesday, April 12, Word, 10:30 am; Word Básico, 4:30 pm.
-Wednesday, April 13, Baby time, 10:30 am; ESL Class, 12:30 pm.
-Thursday, April 14, email, 11 am; Children's Story Time 3 pm; Ebooks/Devices, 6 pm.
-Friday, April 15, Clases de Inglés usando Mango, 1 pm; 1-on-1 Digital Tech Help, 3 pm.
-Saturday, April 16, Children's Movie Theater, 12:30 pm; Internet, 3:30 pm.
Jacinto City Branch Library, 921 Akron, Jacinto City, TX. 77029. For more information on these and other programs at the library, please call 713-673-3237.

CHANNELVIEW ISD District's Public Relations Office captures state awards

The Channelview ISD Public Relations Office earned five Gold Star Awards for their publications and photography work at the Texas School Public Relations Association's Annual Conference held at Horseshoe Bay Resort near Austin.

More than 1,100 awards entries from communications professionals in small and large districts statewide were submitted for TSPRA awards.

District Public Relations Officer Mark Kramer earned Gold Star awards for External Newsletters, Published News/Feature, General Photography and Sports Photography. The district's winning External Newsletter entry, ChannelViews, is mailed out quarterly to all addresses in the Channelview ISD zip codes. Kramer's feature story, "A Surprise for Eli," told the story of a surprise homecoming at a school event between an Early Childhood Center student and his father who served in the armed forces. In addition, the story of the reunion between father and son earned a Gold Star for General Photography. One other General Photography entry, "Hats off to the graduates," highlighted



Channelview District Public Relations Officer Mark Kramer

ed the ceremonial cap toss at the conclusion of graduation ceremonies. The hail-mary game winning catch against North Shore in 2014 earned a Gold Star in Sports Photography. The department was also awarded a Bronze Star for its District Report publication.

TSPRA is a non-profit, professional organization dedicated to promoting public schools through effective communications. With more than 800 members, TSPRA is comprised primarily of public information and communications professionals who serve the public school districts and education organizations of Texas.

He also wants to use technology and social media to find new ways to conduct his office.

He is currently conducting a series of workshops to teach taxpayers how to reduce their appraisals, and therefore their taxes.

With his wife Kim, they also run a full-service real estate firm in Kingwood.



Cunningham Middle School Sapphires take First Runner-Up

The Cunningham Middle School Sapphires recently competed in the Crowd Pleasers Dance Competition and brought home first runner-up in the National Champion for Middle Schools. Our students were commended by the organization for their conduct, demeanor, manners and attitude. The Crowd Pleasers Dance Competition attracts some of the most competitive teams in the area, and the Sapphires rose to the very top during each performance.

2016 North Channel Senior Olympics set April 25-29

The 2016 Pct. 2 North Channel Senior Olympics will take place from April 25-29. Registration is required to receive a t-shirt by April 15, 2016.

On Monday, April 25 the opening ceremony will be at 8:45 am at Jacinto City/Milton Lusk Gym.

Tuesday, April 26 events will begin at 9 am with a Walking Relay at North Shore Rotary Pavilion.

Wednesday, April 27

Bean Bag Baseball is set at 9 am at the Barret/Riley Community Center.

Thursday, April 28, please join them at Ramsey Community Center starting at 9 am for Bean Bag Toss at the parking area of Ramsey Community Center.

The last day of the Olympics, Friday, April 29, the Award Announcements will begin at 9 am at North Shore Rotary Pavilion.

Craft categories include: Afghans/Lap throws, Art, Ceramics/Porcelain, Fabric/Crochet/Needle work, glass, jewelry, misc., photography, quilts/blankets, wood.

For more information on how to register, please call:

North Channel Senior Program at 713-274-2352, Barret/Riley Community Center at 281-328-4713, Leon Grayson Community Center at 713-455-3660.

TAXES TIPS,

Continued from page 1

Channel/Ellington/NASA area, and finally Tax A-C.

His goals are to improve the service to the public of his office, and rebuild the voter registration office with a more diverse staff.

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