

NORTH CHANNEL STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City
VOLUME 3, NO. 32(#85) WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2015 www.northchannelstar.com

CHANNEL CHATTER

REP. GREEN'S FREE IMMUNIZATION DAY SHOTS

Congressman Gene Green's 20th Annual Immunization Day, Saturday, Aug. 22, 2015, 9 am - 12 pm at Galena Park High School, 1000 Keene Street, Galena Park, TX. Please bring your child's shot record with you. Call 281-999-5879 for more information.

REP. GENE GREEN TOWN HALLS & EVENTS

- Senior Citizens Issues Forum, Friday, August 21, 10:00-11:00 a.m., Baggett Community Center, 1302 Keene Street, Galena Park, Texas 77547

- Town Hall Meeting, Wednesday, September 2, 6:00-7:00 p.m. In conjunction with Wood Shadows II Civic Club, HPD East Freeway Storefront, 12001-A East Freeway, Houston, Texas 77029.

- Northside/Aldine Job Fair, Wednesday, September 2, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., M.O. Campbell Center, 1865 Aldine Bender Road, Houston, Texas 77032

- Paying for College Workshop and Academy Day, Monday, October 5, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Austin High School (HISD), 1700 Dumble Street, Houston, Texas 77023.

HERNANDEZ LEGISLATIVE TOWN HALL MEETINGS

Join State Representative Ana Hernandez on:

- Thursday, August 27, 2015 from 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM at Channelview High Joyce Hendrix Educational Center, 828 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, TX. 77530.

- Tuesday, September 15, 2015 from 6:45 pm - 8:30 pm at Neighborhood Centers, Inc. Ripley House, 4410 Navigation, Houston, TX. 77011.

Come get an update on new laws passed during the 84th Legislative Session.

For more information call 713-675-8596.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS CONTINUE:

Corps of Engineers report says Toxic Waste Pits can stay, with cap

By GILBERT HOFFMAN
North Channel Star

Residents along the San Jacinto River, and environmental activists will be disappointed in a report issued Monday, Aug. 10th by the Army Corps of Engineers.

They were expecting the report to clearly indicate the need to remove the waste pits and toxins they contained, but instead the report was ambivalent at best, saying that dredging and removal posed as much of a risk to health as leaving the wastes under a secure, well maintained

See WASTE PITS, page 8



Waste Pits under this containment cap are no more dangerous to the Public's health, than if an attempt is made to excavate and remove the toxic waste, according to the new report by the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Report Card gives Galveston Bay a "C"

Galveston Bay Report Card Identifies Highs and Lows of Bays Health

La Porte, Texas – The Galveston Bay Foundation (GBF) and the Houston Advanced Research Center (HARC) today announced the first-ever Galveston Bay Report Card on the health of the Bay. This is the first time researchers have graded the Bays overall health, and some of the results are concerning.

GBF spent a year gathering input from thousands of local residents and stakeholders to determine what people want to know about the health of Galveston Bay. As a result, HARC analyzed data and trends on the topics of

Water Quality, Pollution Events & Sources, Wildlife, Habitat, Human Health Risks, and Coastal Change.

The combined grade for all six categories is a C, which the report card describes as adequate for now. The Bays most significant challenges are pollution, declines in habitat acreage and some shellfish species, and the impacts of sea level rise. Some of the issues that have been identified are due to human activities that can be prevented. Others are more complex and will require cooperation and planning on both the local and regional levels.

We are not in crisis mode

See REPORT, page 6

San Jacinto College Board calls for bond referendum of \$425 million

PASADENA, Texas — In an effort to continue to meet the demand of the region's workforce, and to support students as they transition to four-year colleges and universities or directly enter the workforce, the San Jacinto College Board of Trustees unanimously voted to call for a bond referendum for the Nov. 2015 election.

Voters within the San Jacinto College District will vote on the issuance of \$425 million in general obligation bonds needed to prepare students to live and work in the community. Proposed projects include state-of-the-art facilities to train students and workers in the petrochemical, energy, engineering, computers, and technology sectors; a new welcome center providing a "one-stop shop" for student support services such as admission, financial aid, and counseling; new culinary and cosmetology facilities; and additional classroom facilities across the district. Nine buildings will be renovated – most of which are more than

30 years old – which will provide updated space for early college high school and dual credit programs, as well as more relevant, efficient, and technically updated instructional space for employees and students. Additionally, the funding will provide for security, access, and safety upgrades throughout all facilities and significant infrastructure upgrades and replacements for systems at the end of their useful life.

"San Jacinto College brings great value to our region," said Board Chairman Dan Mims. "This bond referendum will allow us to continue to be a leader in the Gulf Coast region. The area is experiencing growth and expansion, as well as a retiring workforce, so it is imperative that we continue to meet the changing needs of our industry partners, while also helping students realize their earnings and career potential by completing their certificate or associate degree."

Impact on taxpayers in the San Jacinto College District

is expected to be minimal. The maximum increase in taxes for debt service when all the bonds are issued will not exceed 3 cents per \$100 of valuation. Residents that own a home with an appraised value of \$100,000 will see their taxes increase a maximum of approximately \$28.50 per year, or \$2.38 per month. Most senior citizens of age 65 or older will see no increase in their taxes; however, those seniors over 65 who own a house valued for taxes above \$132,500 will see a nominal increase.

"We are committed to keeping taxes low for our residents," noted San Jacinto College Chancellor Dr. Brenda Hellyer. "Our goal is to help our students succeed by completing what they start. We want them to gain the skills they need to enter the workforce or transfer to a four-year college or university to continue their education, and we know that keeping taxes low and offering an af-

See San Jac BONDS, p. 8

GALENA PARK AMENDMENTS: PONDER WINS JUDGMENT AGAINST CITY; APPEAL OR ELECTION TO BE CONSIDERED

GALENA PARK – The city learned on Monday that the judge of the 270th Judicial Court, Judge Brent Gamble, had granted a Summary Judgment in favor of the plaintiff, Barry Ponder, and ordered his proposed four amendments to be on the ballot at the next election.

The original lawsuit was filed by Ponder in January 2015, seeking to force the city to place four Charter Amendments on the ballot in the May 2015 election.

Ponder had secured over 614 signatures of registered voters, to place the amendments on the ballot. City Secretary Mayra Gonzales had certified that at least 492 of the signatures were valid, and wrote to Ponder, in care of the Citizens for a Better Galena Park, on Oct. 1, 2014.

In spite of that certification, and the petitions that

were signed, the City Council decided to propose their own 18 amendments for voters to consider, instead of Ponder's original four. They set up a Charter Commission to draft these amendments, which they subsequently adopted.

Ponder then filed suit against the mayor, the council, the city manager, the city secretary, the city attorney, and the city in general. This lawsuit and countersuits by the city dragged on, and the 18 amendments appeared on the November ballot, and were all defeated.

Ponder's suit claimed that the city and council had "arbitrarily rejected the election petition." It also claimed that Councilman Simms had illegally benefitted from health insurance amounting to

See GP LAWSUIT, page 3

REENACTMENT

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee reenacts signing of 1965 Voting Rights Act

By Allan Jamail

Houston, TX. August 6, 2015 – On the 50th Anniversary of the Voting Rights Act Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee produced a reenactment of the signing of the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

Congresswoman Lee, a Senior Member of the House Judiciary Committee, today hosted constituents, veterans of the civil rights movement, student groups, local faith leaders and community activists at an event commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act.

She said, "The right to vote is the bedrock of our democratic society. Today marks fifty years after President Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act, it is clear that the struggle for the right to vote is not over. We must renew our commitment to protecting this fundamental right for all Americans."

"The right to vote is a critical and sacred constitutionally protected civil right. To challenge this is to erode our democracy, challenge



Former Texas Governor Mark White, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee and Harris County Judge of the 125th Court Kyle Carter, acting as President Lyndon Johnson signing the 1965 Voting Rights Act is .

justice, and mock our moral standing. The Voting Rights Act is for EVERYONE!!!!"

Today's reenactment at Houston's Federal building came on the heels of Wednesday's 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling that the 2011 Texas law

runs afoul of parts of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 — handing down the decision yesterday on the eve of the 50th anniversary of the landmark civil rights

See REENACTMENT, page 8

COMMUNITY PROFILE

GPISD Recognizes New Administrators at Board of Trustees Meeting



At the most recent Board of Trustees meeting, administrators who were new to the district, or earned new positions, were recognized. Congratulations to these hard working, deserving individuals! Front row (l/r): Livia Callahan - Director for Elementary Instructional Support; Dr. Karen Brown - Coordinator for College Readiness; Julien Guillory - Principal, Zotz Education Center; Sherrhonda Johnson - Senior Director for School and Community Relations; Jessica Sanchez - Assistant Principal, Sam Houston Elementary; Jillian Howard - Assistant Principal, North Shore Senior High School; Dr. Angi Williams, Superintendent of Schools.

Second row (l/r): Antonio Avalos - Associate Principal, North Shore Senior High 9th Grade Center; Erik Esparza - Assistant Principal, North Shore Senior High School; Laurie Crockett - Assistant Principal, Galena Park Elementary School; Helen Tiller - Program Director for Secondary Language Arts; Lynn Everett - Assistant Principal, Dr. Gerald Cobb 6th Grade Campus; Wiley Johnson - Assistant Principal, North Shore Senior High School.

Back row (l/r): Lemond Mitchell - Assistant Principal, Dr. Shirley J. Williamson Elementary School; Joe Stephens - GPISD Board of Trustees, president.

Not pictured: Janie Jimenez - Assistant Principal, Cloverleaf Elementary School; Colleen Martin - Director for Employee Benefits.

Huffman ISD New Educators



Huffman New Educators

Great door prizes

- Abby Greenberg

Misty Henley

Disney Martin

Deborah Ross

Tania Russell

Nicole Aguilar

Debra Cleveland

Ashley Flowers-Fade

Lori Freshour

Jordan Hapeman

Susan Hinson

Jaime Noel

Lydia Pierce
- Janna Pokluda

Corona Reese

Ashley Webb

Jeanine Carroll

Madison Cook

Melissa Duncan

Deanna Favela

Alicia Hughes

Shelby Maxwell

Kerry Mourning

Stacy O'Neal

Carly Rochner
- Rachel Brownlow

Matthew Ceravolo

Mayra Cowart

Erin Dunn

Cari Nelsen

Nicholas Newsome

Amy Richter

Adam Skinner

Kelli Thurber

Randi Wilson

Brit Britton
- John Cowen

Charlie Duke

Jack Koon

Joshua McNamara

Caleb Shipley

Jeannie Spates

Steven Stripling

Keia Strother

Shad Swanzy

Gwendlyn Flahrity



Both Community Resource Credit Union representatives attend the gift of two new iPad Airs to two Huffman Teachers at the Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce new Educator's Luncheon.

Do Your Kids A Big Favor!

PREPLAN YOUR
FINAL RESTING PLACE NOW!

Two Cemetery Plots* And Flat Granite
Companion Marker** For Only:

\$3895.00*

Payments As Low As
\$70.00/Month... **Interest Free!*****

LIMITED TIME ONLY! OFFER EXPIRES AUG. 31, 2015

* Gardens Of Matthew, Mark, Luke, And John Only.
Price Includes 15% Perpetual Care And Admin Fee!

** Engraving And Installation Not Included

***All Interest Will Be Rebated If Balance Paid In Full
Within 60 Months

STERLING ~ WHITE

FUNERAL HOME & CEMETERY

11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd. | Highlands, TX 77562
www.sterlingwhite.com

For More Information Call Gerald Miller at
281-426-3555

FOR MORE INFORMATION PREPLANNING FUNERAL SERVICES
VISIT WWW.PREPAIDFUNERALSERVICES.TEXAS.GOV

OMNIX
HEALTH CARE SERVICES, INC.

281-328-5869

Home Health Care

Skilled Nursing, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy,
Speech Therapy, Medical Social Worker, Home Health Aide
*Physical Therapy Position Available

CALL TODAY TO SEE IF YOU QUALIFY FOR MEDICARE FUNDED
HOME HEALTH CARE

Physical Therapy Position Available

Locally owned and Operated by Tabatha and Jonathan Brady

Non-Discrimination Policy
No client shall be, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, age, sex, disability or handicap,
sexual orientation, marital status, religion or status with regard to public assistance or veteran status,
excluded from admission to services through Omnix Health Care Services, Inc.

CROSBY'S HOME
TOWN HOME CARE

COMMUNITY, SCHOOLS NEWS

GALENA PARK LAWSUIT,

Continued from Page 1

\$167,475, and that city manager Robert Pruett had exhibited racism in his official capacity. These claims were disputed in a countersuit.

Ponder's amendments, which were not on the ballot, called for the following:

#1. City departments would be administered through the Mayor.

#2. The Mayor's signature would be required for hiring and firing in the fire department, the fire marshal, and the police chief.

#3. Voters could initiate a referendum or recall,

on ordinances.

#4. Other measures would strengthen the Mayor's authority.

The Galena Park City Commission (Council) has called two special meetings to deal with this court order for Summary Judgment. The first meeting, in Executive Session (non-public) will be Thursday, August 20 at 4:30 p.m. in City Hall. The second meeting, open to the public, is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, to announce legal action, or call for the election.

ASK THE EXPERT

By Edward Jones

A College Degree is still a smart investment

Summer is almost over, which means it's "back-to-school" time. If you have young children, you may be purchasing backpacks, pencils, notebooks and similar items. But one day, you could be shopping for colleges — and when you do, you'll find the bill is a little bit higher than the one you get from your local school-supply store. That's why it's never too soon to start saving.

Just how costly is college? For the 2014-2015 school year, the average expense — tuition, fees, room and board — was \$18,943 at a public four-year school and \$42,419 at a four-year private school, according to the College Board. And if recent history is any guide, these numbers will likely keep climbing.

But there's no need to panic. For one thing, your child may be eligible for loans, grants or scholarships. Still, you will likely end up shouldering some of the financial load, and you may ask yourself if it's worth it. How much difference can a college degree make in the lives of your children?

Actually, college still seems to be a pretty good investment: The average college graduate will receive about \$1 million more in lifetime earnings than the average high school graduate, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. So when you assist your children in getting to college, you can be reasonably sure that you're at least helping them start on the path toward a rewarding career.

How should you put away money for college? Unfortunately, more parents use a general savings account than any other method, according to Sallie Mae's How America Saves for College 2015 study. These accounts pay little or no interest and offer no tax benefits.

As an alternative, consider investing in a 529 plan. Contribution limits

are quite high, and federal taxes won't be assessed on earnings used for qualified higher education expenses. (The earnings portion of withdrawals will be taxed, though, and can incur a 10% penalty if the withdrawals aren't used for qualified expenses.) Furthermore, your 529 plan contributions may be deductible from your state taxes. But 529 plans vary, so be sure to check with your tax advisor regarding deductibility.

Another college funding option is a Coverdell Education Savings Account, which, like a 529 plan, can generate tax-free earnings if the money is used for higher education expenses. You can typically only put in a maximum of \$2,000 per year to a Coverdell account, but it offers more flexibility in investment choices than a 529 plan.

You could also consider a custodial account, known as either UGMA or UTMA. You can put up to \$14,000 per year into a custodial account without incurring gift taxes, and earnings would only be subject to the "kiddie tax" — that is, the first \$1,050 is tax-exempt, the next \$1,050 will be taxed at the child's tax rate, and just the amount over \$2,100 will be taxed at your tax rate. However, once your children reach the age of majority (either 18 or 21), they take control of the money and can do whatever they want with it — and their plans may not include college.

Don't wait too long to begin funding whichever savings vehicle, or vehicles, you choose. Your children may be young today, but before you know it, they'll be college bound.

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

GALENA PARK ISD

125 Students Embark on 4-year Journey

It's coming — the first year for Galena Park ISD's Career and Technical Education Early College High School (CTE ECHS) is days away from opening. Beginning on August 24, 2015, 125 students will enter the new high school, located at the San Jacinto College North Campus, to begin earning a high school diploma along with an associate's degree or an industry certification.

"This is our first year of existence so everything here is a first — the first class, the first student council, the first 'first day.' We're making history here," said a very enthusiastic Dr. Hutchinson, CTE ECHS Principal. The planning process has been long, with many decisions to make along the way. "There's a lot that goes in to opening a new school. We had to register with

the TEA (Texas Education Agency). We had to pick school colors and a mascot. (The students voted on school colors and the mascot. They chose blue and silver for their colors and the lion as their mascot.) Then we interviewed and hired staff, and on and on." Hutchinson said. Understandably he is excited to hear the students roar into action on the first "official" day of school; although he has already had opportunities to meet his students. On August 11-12, the students attended "Lion" Camp, an on campus orientation so the students could familiarize themselves with the campus and expectations for the school year. Hutchinson describes CTE ECHS students as drug free, hard workers who are eager and willing to learn and committed to their future.



Students, teachers and administrators of the GPISD CET ECHS gathered at San Jacinto College North for Lion Camp.

Carmen Brown, formerly of Galena Park ISD, named director of Early Head Start at HCDE

Carmen Brown is the new director of Early Head Start Education at Harris County Department of Education. Brown leads the Early Head Start expansion in Baytown, Texas, a collaborative funded by a \$2.8 million federal grant. Early Head Start provides services to needy children ages birth to 3 and their families.

As the former director of Early Head Start in the Galena Park Independent School District, Brown directed the program recognized for excellence

through an exemplary status by federal Head Start administration program audits.

Brown, a 30-year educator and Galena Park resident, earned her Bachelor of Arts from the University of North Texas at Denton and a Master of Social Work from the University of Houston.

Through the years, she served as psychotherapist, case manager supervisor and program administrator within numerous agencies throughout greater Houston and in Washing-



Carmen Brown, HCDE director of Early Head Start

ton, D.C.

Brown said HCDE Early Head Start is committed to expand quality childcare in Baytown through an addition of five classrooms to serve 40 infants and toddlers. The program also supports training and services for existing childcare agencies in Baytown.

"Our expansion allows us the opportunity to grow the scope and services for at-risk children and their families while supporting the community in building quality, childcare businesses," said Brown.

Man shot to dead in parking lot

Houston police are investigating the fatal shooting of a man found at 670 Maxey Road about 8:55 p.m. last Monday, August 17.

According to Houston Police, the victim, Dwight Swearington, 26, parked his vehicle in the parking lot of his apartment complex at Maxey Road and was shot several times af-

ter getting out of his vehicle.

Swearington was pronounced dead at Ben Taub General Hospital.

At this time, there is no known motive or suspect (s).

Anyone with information in this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS.

Starting, dismissal times for Channelview schools

When Channelview ISD schools begin classes on August 24, their starting and dismissal times for the 2015-2016 school year are as follows:

• Channelview High School - 7:05 a.m. - 2:35 p.m.

• Aguirre JH and Alice Johnson JH - 8:35 a.m. - 4:05 p.m.

• Cobb, Crenshaw, DeZavala, Hamblen - 7:45 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

• Brown, McMullan, Schochler - 8:10 a.m. - 3:40 p.m.

• Barrett-Lee Early Childhood Center (Pre-K) - 8-11 a.m. (Morning Session), 12-3 p.m., (Afternoon Session)

NORTH CHANNEL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Call 281-328-9605 to Advertise YOUR Business in this Directory. 10,000 readers Weekly

EILEEN BRIGHTWELL, DDS
www.brightwelldental.com
1820 Holland St. • Jacinto City, TX 77029
(713) 455-7923

Se Habla Español
MR. ROOFER
(281) 452-0000
New Roofs, Repairs, Painting, Seamless Aluminum Gutters
HARDI PLANK SIDING
CALL FOR FREE ESTIMATES
Mrroofer@mail.com VISA MC

Estate Sale - 2nd Release
LOG HOME KITS
AMERICAN LOG HOMES IS ASSISTING LIQUIDATION OF NEWLY RELEASED ESTATE & ACCOUNT SETTLEMENT ON HOUSES
3 Log Homes selling for BALANCE OWED, FREE DELIVERY
• Model # 101 Carolina \$40,840 — BALANCE OWED \$17,900 ★
• Model # 202 Topoka \$34,050 — BALANCE OWED \$14,900 ★
• Model # 203 Georgia \$49,500 — BALANCE OWED \$22,900 ★
• NEW - HOMES HAVE NOT BEEN MANUFACTURED
• Make any design changes you desire!
• Comes with Complete Building Blueprints & Construction Manual
• Windows, Doors, and Roofing not included
• NO TIME LIMIT FOR DELIVERY
Call 713-455-7923 or 713-455-7923
SERIOUS ONLY REPLY, Call 713-455-7923 ask for Accounting Dept.

• Electrical
• Lawn & Garden
• Tools
• Gas Logs
• Grills
• Lights
• More
Loden's Hardware
Since 1949
Randy Pruett
Owner
• Plumbing
We cut 6 thread up to 4" pipe
10823 Market Street
Jacinto City, Texas 77029
TEL/FAX (713) 455-0808

FREE Lifeline Service
Available for Income-Eligible Residents
If you participate in public assistance programs or meet monthly income level guidelines, you may qualify for a free phone* & 250 minutes/texts.
To apply visit www.enroll.accesswireless.com
access WIRELESS

NORTH CHANNEL ★ STAR
Printing Department
713-977-2555

Take Charge of Your Future.
Create and implement a strategy designed to help you achieve your long-term financial goals.
Do something positive for yourself. Call today for a no-cost, no-obligation portfolio review. Together, we can create a strategy that's right for you based on your current situation, objectives and risk tolerance.
Call or visit your local Edward Jones financial advisor today.

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

OPINION PAGE

Babin: Push the Pause Button on Refugee Resettlement

I recently introduced H.R. 3314, the Resettlement Accountability National Security Act, which would press the pause button on a program that grants permanent legal residency to nearly 70,000 new immigrants a year under a program coordinated through the United Nations (U.N.), known as the Refugee Resettlement Program.

H.R. 3314 would temporarily suspends the program until the Government Accountability Office (GAO) completes a thorough examination of its costs on local governments, states and American taxpayers.

The Refugee Resettlement Program has been running on autopilot for far too long with little regard to economic, social and national security implications. We need to step back and examine all aspects of this program. Such as, why is the U.N., whose policies often run counter to the best interests of the U.S., even in the equation?

Nearly half-a-million refugees have entered the U.S. under the Refugee Resettlement Program while President Obama has been in office – with the state of Texas and its taxpayers being asked to take in more than any other state during that time.

With America's growing budgetary and national security challenges, it is extremely troubling that this program would continue at an unchecked pace without a clear picture of its costs to federal, state and local taxpayers – as well as the national security risks it poses.

According to the Congressional Research Service, those granted legal permanent residency are allowed the following taxpayer funded services: seven years of Supplemental Security Income (SSI), seven years of Medicaid coverage, five years of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families subsidies, and no limit on Food Stamp eligibility. This adds billions of dollars in federal

spending to our national debt, which is particularly troubling at a time when these services are expanding at an unsustainable pace.

When I asked officials what the costs of these programs were, I was told that they have no idea. I believe most Americans would agree that it is plain common sense to seek a full accounting of the Refugee Resettlement Program – and that is exactly what H.R. 3314 does.

It also gives us an opportunity to fully investigate the national security risks associated with resettlement. The Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) is increasingly worried about this program and its potential to generate home-grown terrorism.

Clearly, there are serious problems with this program especially in regards to how these individuals are selected and resettled in communities across the United States.

Under the current system, affected communities essentially have no voice in the process. This is extremely troubling considering the fact that these communities will be forced to bear the costs. Local residents should have every right to say no to resettlements within their communities – a protection they unfortunately do not have.

A full examination of this program is long overdue. As one supporter of H.R. 3314 wrote, "I've been following this issue for eight years and this is the first time I have seen anyone in Congress (other than recent concerns about Syrian refugees) take a single step to begin to scrutinize the entire program."

The Resettlement Accountability National Security Act brings much-needed accountability and transparency to this broken program. Our bill exposes the impact it is having on our nation, our economy and communities across the nation.



University president says Davis statue to be moved

AUSTIN — A bronze statue of Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederate States of America, will be moved from the Main Mall of the University of Texas at Austin campus to UT's Center for American History for interior display, in accordance with a decision made last week by UT President Gregory Fennes.

Fennes said he appointed a task force in June, shortly after he became president, "to identify options for the statues along the Main Mall that have long been a source of discussion, debate and more recently, controversy." The task force reported its findings to Fennes on Aug. 10.

"While every historical figure leaves a mixed legacy, I believe Jefferson Davis is in a separate category, and that it is not in the university's best interest to continue commemorating him on our Main Mall. Davis had few ties to Texas; he played a unique role in the history of the American South that is best explained and understood through an educational exhibit," Fennes said in a news release.

"The Briscoe Center is the logical location for the Davis statue and can provide a well-curated, scholarly context for its permanent display. As the home of one of the nation's largest collections of Southern history, and as the keeper of UT Austin's own history — including the papers of George W. Littlefield, a former regent and major benefactor responsible for the statues and fountain, and sculptor Pompeo Coppini — the Briscoe Center will bring a scholarly depth that enhances the educational value of the Davis statue. The Briscoe Center has long planned a renovation of its facility, including new exhibit space, and my office will help raise the remaining funds needed for its completion," Fennes added.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans filed a request for a restraining order ahead of the statue's Aug. 15

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling



move date. A Travis County state district court is expected to review the matter this week.

Suspect arrested in Iowa

Texas Department of Public Safety on Aug. 13 published a bulletin announcing the arrest of a suspect in Iowa who was being sought in connection with arson of a vehicle in the Texas Capitol parking lot on Aug. 7.

The suspect, Michael Patrick Wagner, 38, is being held in the Linn County (Iowa) jail and extradition proceedings have begun and are pending.

"Thanks to great police and investigative work by local, state and federal law enforcement in Texas as well as our partners in Iowa, we are pleased to announce that the suspect in this case has been arrested," said DPS Director Steven McCraw.

Records forms to change

Texas Department of State Health Services on Aug. 13 announced its review of vital events forms and all vital event areas and records that may be af-

fected by a U.S. Supreme Court decision and a U.S. district court decision reached earlier this summer that require state and local governments to recognize same-sex marriage.

"As a result, DSHS is implementing revised policies and procedures and also will amend certain vital events forms and records related to vital-events records to recognize married, same-sex couples," the agency stated in a news release.

Those records include birth certificates, death certificates, supplementary birth certificates (for adoptions) and birth certificates resulting from gestational agreements (surrogacy).

Local registrars or other entities that may file vital information such as hospitals and funeral homes will receive revised forms and instructions when they become available.

Sales tax revenue increases

State Comptroller Glenn Hegar on Aug. 13 announced his agency's monthly distribution of sales tax revenue to local governments would be an estimated \$760 million.

Local sales tax allocations for the month of August represent an increase of 7.6 percent compared to August 2014.

Hegar also said state sales tax revenue in July was \$2.4 billion, up 2.7 percent compared to July 2014. "July's modest growth in sales tax revenue is in line with the biennial revenue estimate issued in January," Hegar said. "Stronger growth in receipts from consumer driven sectors, including retail trade, restaurants and services offset declining receipts from oil and gas-related sectors."

A Sweet and effective way to combat Mosquitoes

(NAPSI)—Mosquitoes can be a big problem for small to medium-sized businesses.

That's the word from experts who say mosquitoes are more than a nuisance. With growing concerns about the spread of West Nile virus, Chikungunya and other diseases, they can present a serious health threat to employees and, in many cases, to customers as well.

Fortunately, there are techniques for combating mosquitoes that are designed with businesses in mind.

For example, a company that has been a leader in pest control for 85 years—Terminix—offers an exclusive solution with natural active ingredients. Called the Attractive Targeted Sugar Bait®, or ATSB®, it is not a barrier or repellent. Rather, it is a solution that puts an end to the mosquitoes that can take over outdoor spaces.

Once a month during mosquito season, a commercial service professional strategically treats nonflowering vegetation and other places that mosquitoes frequent with an environmentally friendly solution containing sugar from fruit extracts and encapsulated garlic oil that are safe around people, pets and food. "A sugary syrup in the bait helps attract mosquitoes to feed and the garlic acts as a gut toxin," says Stanton Cole, Ph.D., Director, Entomology and Regulatory Services, Terminix International. The mosquitoes are attracted to the bait, eat it and then die—more than 90 percent in the three weeks following an application.

Plus, it's effective on a wide range of mosquito types, including hard-to-control urban species (e.g., Asian tiger mosquito). And with monthly treatments, mosquito problems at your business will be greatly reduced.

Although the ATSB service is designed to deliver maximum effectiveness, it's safe around people and pets. It won't harm the environment either because the active natural ingredient is garlic oil.

When a company is in need of immediate relief from mosquitoes, Terminix Commercial can also set up what's known as a knock-down treatment. Used in conjunction with the ATSB system, it can provide quick results while the bait-and-kill solution becomes established.

Knock-down treatments may be applied every 21 days during the mosquito season or 48 hours before an event.

In places where water doesn't drain properly or other areas where standing water conditions can't be avoided, larvicide applications are available that will prevent mosquito larvae from developing into breeding, biting adults. In some locations, Ultra-Low Volume (ULV) fogging, often applied to extensive areas such as neighborhoods and large commercial properties, is also available.

To learn more, visit www.terminix.com/Commercial.

HIGHLANDS CROSBY

Star★Courier

USPS 244-500

and the

Barbers Hill★Dayton PRESS

The Highlands Star Founded 1955
The Crosby Courier Founded 1958
Consolidated with the Star 1961
SERVING HIGHLANDS, CROSBY, HUFFMAN
AND NORTHEAST HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Editor & Publisher.....Gilbert Hoffman
Associate Publisher.....Mei-Ing Liu Hoffman
Assoc. Editor/Advertising Manager.....Lewis Spearman
Assistant Editor.....Julietta Paika
Production Manager.....Luis Hernandez
IT Technical Manager.....Pedro Hernandez

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

GRAFIKPRESS is publisher of community newspapers, including Highlands STAR-Crosby COURIER, Barbers Hill Dayton PRESS, Northeast NEWS, North Forest NEWS, North Channel STAR. Combined circulation of these newspapers exceeds 50,000. Readership exceeds 110,000 according to industry standards. We also print dozens of school, ethnic, and government publications on contract. Call for information to 713-977-2555.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: In-county, \$25.00 per year. Out of county, \$35.00 per year. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Star-Courier, P. O. Box 405, Highlands, TX 77562.

News and Ad Phones.....281-328-9605
FAX Line.....713-977-1188
email: grafikstar@aol.com
Member Texas Press Association

New! Crosby Antique Mall

Antiques • Collectibles

and Unique Items

Crosby Street Dance

Oct. 17, Noon 'til 10pm

Open Tuesday - Saturday

10pm - 5pm

5600 S. Main in

Old Town Crosby, TX

SAVE 20%

SEND BOUQUETS FOR ANY OCCASION

anniversary | birthday | just because

ProFlowers

Hurry! Order now for unbelievable low prices, with flowers from \$19.99+*

Visit www.ProFlowers.com/Sunshine or call 800.854.0243

Join Over 12 Million People Who Have Found a Better Way to Send Flowers

*20% off bouquet with same occasion. Minimum purchase of \$24.99. Does not apply to gift cards or memberships, same-day or international delivery, shipping and handling, taxes or third-party related products. See www.proflowers.com/terms for details. Bouquets not valid on bulk or corporate purchases of 10 or more. ©2015 ProFlowers

LIFESTYLE

Connie Lee Sonnier



Connie Lee Sonnier, 59, of Georgetown, Texas (formerly of Temple, Texas) graciously entered into eternal rest on August 14, 2015, after her courageous battle with cancer.

Connie was born on February 27, 1956 in Houston, Texas to John Lee and Dorothy Jean (Wagner) Robbins. The oldest of seven children, Connie learned that family is a most important thing in life, second only to your relationship with God. She carried that into her marriage and instilled her faith and beliefs into her own family. Connie married Andy Sonnier on March 22, 1975 in Baytown, Texas. A mother to three daughters, Connie was an intelligent, motivated and hard working woman. Her unwavering faith, her love for her family, and her love for those around her were plainly seen both at home and during her career. In 1982, Connie accepted a job as a dental assistant in Temple, Texas without knowing

★
OBITUARIES

she had stepped into an opportunity for a stellar career. In 1999, she became the assistant to the Executive Director for the Texas Academy of General Dentistry (TAGD). Four short years later, Connie was promoted to the Executive Director of TAGD and remained in that position until June of 2014. Connie was said to have drive, vision, tenacity, passion and a strong work ethic - all characteristics that made her the "go-to gal" in the General Dentistry realm.

Connie has gone home to be with her Lord and Savior. We will miss her greatly, yet celebrate her life and rejoice in her reunion with our heavenly Father.

Connie was preceded in death by her father, John Robbins; brother, Kenneth Robbins; niece, Jennifer Robbins; nephew, Mark Furlong; sister-in-laws: Sandy Robbins and Mary Majeed; as well as her mother and father-in-law, Ruby and Saven Sonnier.

To cherish her memory, Connie leaves behind her husband, Andy Sonnier of Georgetown, Texas; daughters: Elena Kotrla and husband Scott of Wylie, Texas, Brenda Sonnier of Fort Worth, Texas, Amanda Epplin and husband Eric of Yukon, Oklahoma; grandchildren: Jacob, Adam and

Matthew Kotrla, Kennedy and Logan Epplin; mother, Dorothy Robbins; brothers: Mike Robbins, John Robbins, Jeff Robbins and wife Donna; and sisters: Susan McMillan and husband Thad and Judy Keck and husband Dave, and sister-in-law LaDonna and husband Junior. She also leaves behind numerous nieces & nephews who loved & will miss their "Aunt Connie."

Memorial donations may be made in Connie's memory to the Jack T. Clark Foundation (c/o TAGD), or the MD Anderson Cancer Center.

A visitation will be held on Wednesday, August 19, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Ramsey Funeral Home in Georgetown, TX. The rosary will begin at 7:00 p.m. The funeral mass will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 20, at St. Helen Catholic Church, Georgetown, TX, with a reception to follow.

An additional visitation will be held from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 22, at Sterling-White Funeral Home and Cemetery in Highlands, Texas with burial immediately following. 11011 FM 2100 Road, Highlands, Texas.

You may share a message or memory in the online memorial guestbook at www.RamseyFuneral.com.

Andrew, Rizpah, Elijah, Peter 6. Who prayed three times a day at an open window? Daniel, Jonah, Stephen, Solomon

ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Psalms; 3) Keeper of sheep; 4) Deborah; 5) Peter; 6) Daniel

Church hosts full contact sparing



Crosby Church: A Fellowship of Believers hosted the Full Contact Sparing event on Friday night with several hundred in attendance to raise funds for the media department to acquire camera upgrades. Depicted above are MMA Competitors some professional and some amateur. All participants prayed before entering the ring. Several both professional and amateur were attendees of Crosby Church and were excited to help the Church's Media drive. Above fans are excited by the display and Pastor Keenan Smith watches at left.



Students prepare to move to junior school

Gloria Medina (middle), 8th grade student at Highlands Junior School, takes incoming 6th graders Joshua Gomez (left) and Puneet Singh on a tour of the school at the recent Tadpole Camp. Students participated in activities to help them make a smooth transition to junior school.

★
LITTLE BIDDY BITS
By Danny Biddy

"Sharp Tongue"

One of the more interesting creatures on the planet is the lamprey, an eel-like water animal that has a mouth and teeth, but no jaws. So how does it chew? Its teeth are in its tongue. When the unsuspecting victims are drawn into the lamprey's grasp, it is too late.

Guard your life well. Refuse to be drawn into conversations where the words begin to devour others. If we are not careful, we can all fall into the trap of having a "sharp tongue." God's word warns us, "Hide me from the secret counsel of the wicked, they sharpen their tongues like swords and aim their words like deadly arrows." (Psalms 64:2-3)

BIBLE TRIVIA

1. Is the book of Hebrews in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord" is found in what book? Psalms, Proverbs, Numbers, Jeremiah

3. What did Abel do for a living? Carpenter, Keeper of sheep, Tax collector, Tent-maker

4. Who was the first woman judge in Israel? Deborah, Sarah, Jezebel, Lydia

5. To whom did Jesus say, "Get thee behind me, Satan"?

WESTON COTTEN, ATTORNEY
BAYTOWN

281-421-5774 5223 Garth Rd.

NOT CERTIFIED BY THE TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

Your ad could be here
Just \$10 a week.
Call 281-328-9605 to
find out more information.

Open M - F 8 AM - 5:30 PM

A-AUTOMOTIVE

Chris Arnold-Owner - 281-385-1782
2926 FM 565, Mont Belvieu, Tx 77580

OILWELL TUBULAR CONSULTANTS

P.O. Box 1267, Crosby, TX
281-328-6220

Complete Line of Groceries

KWIK MART FOODS

14443 FM 1409 281-576-5788

Attorney at Law

KAREN A. BLOMSTROM

281-328-7311

510 Church Street Crosby, TX 77532

NOT CERTIFIED BY THE TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

Call
GRAFIKSHOP

for printing jobs

713-977-2555

Pride only breeds quarrels,
but wisdom is found in
those who take advice.

Hours: Mon-Fri 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Sat 8 a.m.-1p.m.

KWIK KAR OIL & LUBE

Operated By Chris & Jennifer
Arnold
11525 Eagle Drive
281-385-LUBE (5823)



Cheerleaders help at school supply drive

Goose Creek Memorial High School cheerleaders (front, l to r) McKenzie Reznicek, Danielle Bailey, Courtnee Lambright, (back) Briia Kately, Kendyl Stewart, Angel Ross, Alexis Moreno, Tayler Macias and Kaylin Strouhal help with the school supply drive sponsored by Altus Emergency Center. Robert E. Lee High School cheerleaders also participated, and the Goose Creek CISD Transportation Center provided a bus for the event.

THOUGHTS FROM MARANATHA CHURCH

Who Is Jesus?

Dr. Mark Trice

There are 354 Old Testament prophecies regarding the birth of the coming King. In Jesus' birth, we see every single one of them fulfilled! We cannot doubt who He is, but who is He?

He is the...
Son of David
Jesus is of the lineage of David through both His mother and His legal father. This unbroken bloodline makes Him the rightful king of the Jews.

Son of Mary
"Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women." (Luke 1:28) These words radically altered the life

of Jesus' mother, a truly innocent young woman who dared believe the words of God's messenger and receive a seemingly impossible Gift. He began changing lives before He was born.

Son of Man
As the Son of Man, Jesus shared our problems with the flesh. If we face a temptation, we know He faced a similar temptation and conquered it. He hungered, got thirsty, suffered weariness, and felt physical pain and emotional torment. Nonetheless, He overcame all adversity in order to fulfill God's ultimate plan.

He, and only He, could be our ultimate sacrifice. He lived His whole life on this earth facing temptation, but never falling into it. He refused to sin, to do even the "smallest" wrong. His continual righteousness, this spotlessness, is what made Him worthy to be the Ultimate Sacrifice, the Savior who would reunite man and God.

Soon Coming King
Those who watch know that prophecies are being fulfilled at an astounding rate. It doesn't take much study to see, to realize the truth. Time is running out. Jesus is, truly, our SOON COMING KING!

THRIFT-TEE FOOD CENTER

10955 Eagle Drive 281-576-5040

STERLING ~ WHITE

FUNERAL HOME & CEMETERY
11011 CROSBY-LYNCHBURG RD.
HIGHLANDS, TX 77562
(281) 426-3555
WWW.STERLINGWHITE.COM

"A Tradition of Excellence Since 1824"

St. Timothy's
Episcopal Church

All Invited to Worship with Us

SUNDAY Holy Eucharist Rite II 9:00 am
SUNDAY Coffee Hour 10:00 am
Spanish Service/Holy Eucharist 11:00 pm

13125 INDIANAPOLIS ST., HOUSTON, 77015
sttimsinhouston.com

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

ROOF LEAKING

Call Mr. Roofer
1-844-WET ROOF
1-844-938-7663

All Roof Types Repairs 281-452-0000

Your BUSINESS Ad in the
GRAFIKPRESS
NEWSPAPERS will be seen
by 25,000 readers weekly.
Call 281-328-9605 to
talk with our Ad
Representative.

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

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

CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

10th ANNIVERSARY

Join Representative Ana Hernandez in celebrating her 10 year anniversary of working for the people of District 143. Thursday, September 3, 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm at Cadillac Bar, 1802 Shepherd, Houston, TX. 77007.

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.

MONDAYS

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.

2nd & 4th THURSDAY

San Jacinto Pilot Club

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

AUGUST

Galena Park Library events

-Monday, August 24, First day of class.
-Wednesday, August 26, 10:15 am, Internet Basics I; 11 am, Children's Story Time; 1:30 pm, Internet Basics I.
-Thursday, August 27, 11 am, Baby Time.
-Saturday, August 29, 11 am, Meditation: A tool for stress reduction and healthier lifestyle.
Please call the library at 713-450-0982 for more details.
The library is located at 1500 Keene St. Galena Park, TX. 77547.

Troop 707 recognizes Eagle Scouts



Eagles and Leaders from Troop 707, Raven District, welcomed Joseph Willoughby into the Eagle Scout Rank last Sunday, Aug. 16. Over 75 family and friends attended the Eagle Court of Honor at Woodforest Presbyterian Church on Wallisville Road. From left to right are Scoutmaster Sandra Escobar and Eagles Mario Johnson, Nick Martinez, Joseph Willoughby, Antelmo Reyes, Gerardo Reyes, and Committee Chair Donna Bernelle.

SAN JACINTO COLLEGE

United States Maritime Administration tours Maritime Technology and Training Center



United States Maritime Administrators and staff from local State Rep. visit San Jacinto College Maritime Technology site. Photo credit: Jeannie Peng-Armao

LA PORTE, Texas – Administrators from the United States Maritime Administration (MARAD), along with staff from United States Senators John Cornyn and Ted Cruz, recently visited the construction site of the Maritime Technology and Training Center, where they received a glimpse of one of the region's only waterfront campuses being built specifically for mariner training and as a home to the state's first maritime transportation associate degree program.

Michael Rodriguez, MARAD deputy maritime administrator; Shawn Ireland, MARAD director of Office of Ship Disposal Programs; Bill Cahill, MARAD deputy associate administrator for Strategic Sealift; and Kevin Tokarski, MARAD associate administrator for Strategic Sealift, visited with San Ja-

cinto College administrators to tour the maritime center site and to learn more about the needs of the Houston region's maritime industry and of the training San Jacinto College offers to prepare more mariners for work. In addition, Matthew Conner, deputy regional director for United States Senator John Cornyn, and Will Miller, deputy regional director for United States Senator Ted Cruz, were in attendance.

"The days of getting on the dock and onto a boat are over," commented Rodriguez. "You have to have trained people who are ready. There are many people my age working in this industry, and you don't see very many who are younger."

Located at 3700 Old Highway 146 in La Porte, Texas, the Maritime Technology and Training Center is set to open

in January 2016. Currently, the San Jacinto College maritime training program and maritime transportation associate degree program are operating out of a facility in Pasadena, Texas. The waterfront facility along the Port of Houston will serve as the new site for certificate and associate degree maritime training delivered through U.S. Coast Guard-required and approved course work.

It will house 15 classrooms; engineering simulators to train maritime engineers for hydraulic, electric, pump control, motor control, heating and air conditioning, and refrigeration; and a multipurpose space for industry conferences and corporate partner meetings. Highlights of the new facility will include three full-mission ships bridge simulators, donated in 2013 by the Houston Pilots.

★ OBITUARIES

Charley Murchison

Charley Murchison, 95, of Houston, Texas, passed from this life Sunday, August 16, 2015. Charley was born May 06, 1920 in Texarkana, Texas to parents, Calbert Dunn & Julia Ida (Turner) Murchison. He had lived in the North Channel area for many years and retired from Armco Steel after 39 years.

He loved spending time with family and fishing and was a regular handyman when needed and always happy to share his handyman talents.



He is preceded in death by his parents and by his beloved wife, Cora (Fussell) Murchison in 1997.

He is survived by children, Mary Stephenson, Betty Sausage & husband, John, Charles Murchison & wife, Judy and Terry Murchison & wife, Ranae; by brother, Earl Lee Dean & wife, Francine; by grandchildren, Craig Hopper, Darryl Murchison, John Sausage, Jr., Sheryl Lemman & husband, Don, Tracy Hopper, Lynn Schreck & husband, Tom, Wendi Lindsey & husband, Jeff and Kelly Hollier &

husband, Patrick; and by great-grandchildren, Jacob Rodriguez, Troy Rodriguez, Jacob Schreck, Will Schreck, Kyle Herrington, Luke Lindsey, Ella Lindsey, Hannah Hollier, Marshall Cox and Leo Hollier. A visitation will be held, Tuesday, August 18, 2015 at Carter Funeral Home from 5-8:00 p.m. with services at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, August 19, 2015 in Carter's Chapel. Interment will follow in San Jacinto Memorial Park under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

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

ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim... "How much should I spend on an engagement ring?"



There are all kinds of crazy "rules" on buying engagement rings... the gross salary rule, the age rule, the hotness rule (yes, hotness rule). Most are simply nuts! The simplest and fairest is The Car Rule For Engagement Ring Buying. The Car Rule simply states that a man should spend up to, but no more than the initial purchase price of his car... and no more than 10% of his annual gross or net income! Most guys like cars. The more obsessed he is about cars, the bigger and better your potential ring. We all realize that buying a car hurts our finances because it's a depreciating asset. Cars are to men what engagement rings and are to women. If your man can't spend as much money for a ring as he does on his car, you've got a

problem. He is being completely self-centered and selfish if he hints to you that spending money on a nice engagement ring is a waste of money. If a man follows the 1/10th rule for car buying, he'll never be stuck in this engagement buying predicament. Of course, the woman can be incredibly gracious and tell him only love matters so don't worry about The Car Rule. But... we all know you're just being nice, don't we?

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.

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

Galveston Bay REPORT,

Continued from Page 1

yet, but we will be if we don't take better care of our beloved Galveston Bay, said GBF President Bob Stokes. We hope this report card will serve as a wake-up call and prompt people to think about how their actions can impact the Bay.

The report card calls attention to the items that are putting Galveston Bay at risk and provides recommendations on how people can help preserve the Bay. Some of the recommendations include:

- Slow runoff by reducing paved areas and installing rain barrels or rain gardens.
- Help preserve and restore habitats, like forests, wetlands, and oyster reefs.
- Don't over-fertilize or over-water your lawn.
- Always dispose of trash and pet waste properly.
- Report environmental violations, discharges, or spills.
- Never pour fats, oils or grease down kitchen, bath or storm drains.

While the overall report card grade shows need for improvement, some areas of Galveston Bay are thriving. According to the analysis, the Bays nutrient and dissolved oxygen levels (the indicators that make up the water quality grade) are in good shape. And, federal regulations under the U.S. Clean Water Act

are credited with significant improvements in pollution control and the preservation of saltwater wetlands. Additionally, most fish and bird populations are holding steady.

Report Card Categories

- **Water Quality** The Bays overall water quality received the highest grade - a B. The water quality is threatened mostly by runoff from residential areas and wastewater from human activity.
- **Pollution Events & Sources** This category received a D. Oil spills, trash, and toxic contamination are environmental risks that can harm wildlife, habitats, and the safety of our seafood supply. In 2014, Galveston Bay suffered a large oil spill from a ship collision that increased oil spill volume by nine times over the previous decades average.
- **Wildlife** Galveston Bays wildlife, which plays an important role in the Bays ecosystem, received a D as well. Some shellfish populations have been deteriorating and need to be restored.
- **Habitat** The Bays natural habitats also received a D. Freshwater wetlands, underwater grasses, and oyster reefs were found to be under stress.
- **Human Health Risks**

The Bay received a C for human health risks. While most Bay seafood is safe to eat, a long history of toxic contamination has led to seafood consumption warnings for some species in certain areas of the Bay. Additionally, swimming in area streams and bayous is generally discouraged due to recurring high levels of bacteria that can make people sick.

- **Coastal Change** The Bay received a C for coastal change. The Bays physical environment is affected by rising sea levels, changing weather patterns, and increasing demands for freshwater.

The entire Galveston Bay Report Card can be found online at www.galvbaygrade.org. The report card will be updated annually. The overall grade of a C for Galveston Bay is not the end, but just the beginning, said HARC Vice President Lisa Gonzalez. It provides an important baseline for action and future assessments of the Bay.

Galveston Bay Galveston Bay plays an important role in the Houston-Galveston area's economy. The Bay is responsible for half of the nation's petrochemical production and is a major producer of seafood. It also

supports water-based industries, such as shipping, boating, fishing, and nature tourism. These industries contribute billions of dollars to the region's economy and employ thousands of people. Additionally, the Bays upland prairies and wetlands help absorb floodwaters and filter contaminated storm water runoff.

About Houston Advanced Research Center

HARC is a research hub providing independent analysis on energy, air, and water issues to people seeking scientific answers. The 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization focuses on building a sustainable future that will help people thrive and nature flourish. For further information, contact HARC at (281) 364-6000 or visit its website at HARCresearch.org.

About Galveston Bay Foundation

The mission of the GBF is to preserve, protect, and enhance the natural resources of the Galveston Bay estuarine system and its tributaries for present users and for posterity. The Foundation was incorporated in 1987, and is a Section 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. For further information, call (281) 332-3381 or visit its website at galvbay.org.

MEET J.P. AND MATT
Never in our imagination
DID WE CALCULATE
"ACCELERATION IN MATHEMATICS"
equaling
HIGHER COMPLETION RATES.

SAN JACINTO COLLEGE
Your Goals. Your College.
Connect with us on

281-998-6150 www.sanjac.edu EOI

CLASSIFIED ADS

Call 281-328-9605

Your AD will reach up to 120,000 readers in our FOUR newspapers, with a combined circulation of 40,000 copies. Get ACTION on your AD. Rates start at only \$16 for 20 words. A bargain!

BOATS FOR SALE

SAILBOAT: PEARSON
23' 1979 in the water at Watergate Marina in Clear Lake.
713-977-2555.

11n

HELP WANTED

DRIVER & MECHANICS needed, must have TWIC, 4 yrs. exp. local & regional. Email resume to biglakes@gmail.com

30-4

CEMETERY LOTS

CEMETERY
Lots for sale, San Jacinto Memorial Park, East Bellway 8/1-10. St. Hyacinth, lots 38 (1-4) 713-666-2223.

31-4

RENT/LEASE

SINGLE ROOM for rent. No pets. Fully furnished. All utilities paid.
281-843-2626.

30-4

Classified Call 281-328-9605

DRIVERS WANTED

MORE EXPERIENCE = ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

LOCAL WORK BEAUMONT AREA

Earn up to \$70,000+ yr
Excellent Benefits including 401K and up to \$5000 Sign-On Bonus for Experienced Drivers
Quarterly Safety Bonuses

CDL-A w/ "X" Endorsement
1 year 18-Wheeler or Tanker Experience Needed
GulfMark Energy, Inc. EOE

Apply Online at www.gulfmarkenergy.com
Call: 800-577-8853

31-2

DRIVERS WANTED

LOST/FOUND

CHOCOLATE
lab dog rescued. Need foster or permanent home. Approx. 3-4 yrs. of age, male.
832-259-2107.

SERVICES

Experienced Video Photographer specializes in Weddings, Birthdays, Conferences. Call Ari @ 832-630-4487

LEGAL NOTICE

"Proposals will be received by the Galena Park Independent School District until 10:00 a.m., September 29, 2015 for RFP 16-008 Instructional Teaching Supplies – Catalog Pricing. At that time proposals will be opened at the Galena Park ISD Admin Bldg. located at 14705 Woodforest Blvd., Houston, TX 77015. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Purchasing Dept. at khelton@galenaparkisd.com or on our website: http://galenaparkisd.com/purchasing_currentbids. The Galena Park ISD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals."

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

The Mayor and City Council of Jacinto City will meet in Special Session on Thursday, August 27, 2015 at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Chamber, 10301 Market Street for the purpose of the first public hearing on the anticipated budget for the fiscal year 2015/2016. Public participation is encouraged.

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS, A VARIANCE HEARING APPLICATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED. MR. SANTIAGO ANGUIANO OF IGLESIA ALIENTO DE VIDA WANTS TO USE 10527 MARKET STREET FOR A CHURCH. THE VARIANCE BOARD WILL HEAR THE PETITION ON AUGUST 24TH, 2015 AT 6:00 PM AT THE CITY HALL ANNEX, 10301 MARKET STREET ROAD. ANY INTEREST PERSON MAY ATTEND.

Commercial Printing
713-977-2555



Solution time: 27 mins.
Answers
King Crossword

dish YOU Choose The Deal!

For 12 months
Not eligible for other offers
Upgrade to DISH TODAY!

\$19.99 mo.

Join Without a Contract!

✓ NO Contracts.
✓ NO Credit Check.
✓ NO Commitment.

ADD HIGH SPEED INTERNET AS LOW AS ... \$14.95 mo. where available

CALL NOW - SAVE UP TO 50%!
1-800-404-1194

Call 7 days a week 8am - 11pm EST Promo Code: MB0114

one call could save you 28% on car insurance

Call 1-800-408-4537 to see how much you could save.

esurance
an Allstate company

Attention: VIAGRA & CIALIS Users

There's a More Affordable & Effective Alternative to US Pharmacy High Prices!

50 Pill Special: Only \$99 PLUS Free Shipping!
For discreet home delivery, CALL NOW!
800-923-6962

Operators Available 24/7!

rb RITCHIE BROS. Auctioneers

Unreserved public equipment auction

1 of 3 - 2013 John Deere 310K 4x4
2 of 4 - Unused 2015 AJLR TC28D 4 Door 28 Drawer Tool Cabinet

Equipment incl. Container, consumer items, welders, tanks, pumps, generator sets & much more
Financing available! Up to 100% financing, with no money down

Houston - Aug 26-27
15500 Eastex Fwy, Humble, TX
New items daily
Call about selling: 713.455.5200

See complete listings at rbauction.com

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 CNBC's Cramer
4 Oxen's burden
8 warning Links
12 Oklahoma city
13 State with certainty
14 Egyptian wading bird
15 Observing
17 Goes up and down
18 Lummax
19 Not just plump
20 "Yippeel"
22 Classic Welles role
24 Settled down
25 Strong
29 Director Howard
30 Customs
31 Compass dir.
32 Brought into disrepute
34 Elevator name
35 "Born Free" lioness
36 Treaties
37 Boston Marathon month
40 Eve's third son
41 Reddish mount
42 Nolan Ryan's job
46 Capri, e.g.

DOWN

1 Mandible
2 Mrs. McKinley
3 In harmony
4 "Gulliver's Travels"
5 "Metamorphoses" writer
6 Barbie's companion
7 Work unit
8 Untruthful one
9 Reed instrument
10 Cage components
11 Being, to Brutus
16 Coagulate
19 Individuals
20 Hospital section
21 Lotion additive
22 "M*A*S*H" locale
23 Dumbstruck
25 Spacecraft compartments
26 Attractive
27 Monad

28 Not so much
30 Shopping center
33 — (restricted)
34 Inauguration
36 Pie nut
37 Sahara-like
38 Sit for a photo
39 Bronchial sound
40 Goblet feature
42 Tablet
43 Glass of NPR
44 Big Apple sch.
45 Jewel

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK

TexSCAN Week of August 16, 2015

REAL ESTATE

15 ACRES, Concho County, \$2475 down, \$451/mo.; 20 acres, Edwards County, \$2695 down, \$491/mo.; 21.96 acres, Kinney County, \$1592 down, \$290/mo., (all payments 9.9%, 20 years) 1-800-876-9720 or www.ranchenterprisesltd.com

LOOKING TO SELL land? Reach over 2-million readers for one low price in the Texas Statewide Advertising Network. Contact this newspaper or call 1-800-749-4793

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

EARN \$500 A DAY: Insurance Agents Needed. Leads, No Cold Calls. Commissions Paid Daily. Lifetime Renewals. Complete Training. Health & Dental Insurance. Life License Required. Call 1-888-713-6020.

NOTICE: While most advertisers are reputable, we cannot guarantee products or services advertised. We urge readers to use caution and when in doubt, contact the Texas Attorney General at 1-800-621-0508 or the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-FTC-HELP. The FTC web site is www.ftc.gov/bizop

Extend your advertising reach with TexSCAN, your Statewide Classified Ad Network.

MEDICAL SUPPLIES

SAFE STEP WALK-IN Tub. Alert for Seniors. Bathroom falls can be fatal. Approved by training as FAA-certified Aviation Technician. Arthritis Foundation. Therapeutic Jets. Less Financial aid for qualified students. Job than 4 Inch Step-In. Wide Door. Anti-Slip placement assistance. Aviation Institute of Floors. American Made. Installation Included. Maintenance. 1-800-475-4102.

Call 1-800-606-8052 for \$750 Off.

TRAINING/SCHOOL

DRIVER TRAINING

DRIVER TRAINEES - PAID CDL TRAINING! Stevens Transport will cover all costs! NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED! Earn \$800 per week! Local CDL Training! 1-888-589-9677 or drive4stevens.com

DRIVERS - NO EXPERIENCE? Some or LOTS of experience? Let's Talk! No matter what stage in your career, it's time, call Central Paid Daily. Refrigerated Home. 1-844-945-3509 or www.CentralTruckDrivingJobs.com

Run Your Ad In TexSCAN!

Statewide Ad.....\$550
288 Newspapers, 844,050 Circulation
North Region Only.....\$250
95 Newspapers, 297,505 Circulation
South Region Only.....\$250
101 Newspapers, 366,627 Circulation
West Region Only.....\$250
92 Newspapers, 205,950 Circulation

To Order: Call this Newspaper direct, or call Texas Press Service at 1-800-749-4793 Today!



Participants of the Voting Right Act reenactment at Houston's Federal Building. Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee centered in blue sponsored the event.

REENACTMENT,

Continued from page 1

law.

Texas was allowed by the court's to use the voter ID law during the 2014 elections, thereby requiring an estimated 13.6 million registered Texas voters to have a photo ID to cast a ballot.

The New Orleans federal appeals panel ruled the Texas ID law has a "discriminatory" effect on minorities. And it sustained the lower court's ruling that the law interacts with "social and historical conditions in Texas to cause an inequality in the electoral opportunities

enjoyed by African-Americans and Hispanic voters." Jose Garza, attorney for the Mexican American Legislative Caucus, one of the groups that sued over the voter ID law said, "We believe in a secure ballot, but this law doesn't get us there. Now we have an opportunity to improve on the legislation and make sure the interests of the minority communities are not ignored in this process."

Texas Republican Gov. Greg Abbott called it "imper-

ative" that Texas has a voter ID law, and said the state will continue fighting for the measure.

In Washington today President Obama marked the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act on Thursday by calling on Congress to update the law and urging people to register to vote.

"There are people of goodwill on both sides of the aisle who are willing to do it, but it keeps slipping as a priority," Obama said. "This has to be a priority. If this isn't working, nothing's working."

San Jac BONDS,

Continued from Page 1

fordable tuition rate are keys

to the success of our students

and our community."

Early voting for the Nov. 2015 election runs Monday, Oct. 19 through Friday, Oct. 30. Election Day is Nov. 3.

For more information about the San Jacinto College 2015 Bond proposal, including a complete list of proposed projects by campus, visit sanjac.edu/bond. Follow the conversation online with the hashtag #SanJacTomorrow.

Toxic WASTE PITS,

Continued from Page 1

membrane cap.

At the request of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, who are charged with cleaning up Superfund Sites, including the so-called Toxic Waste Pits in the San Jacinto River, the Corps conducted a thorough study of six varied remediation schemes ranging from containing and capping the site, to partial removal, to complete removal of the toxic materials. These toxic materials on the site include dioxins, and other carcinogens with the potential to affect human health. The toxins are contained in a sludge, or sediment that was deposited on the site, from barges filled with waste from paper mills, around 1965 and later.

The EPA has identified Potential Responsible Parties as McGinnes Industrial Maintenance Corp., Waste Management, and International Paper. These so-called PRPs were responsible for constructing the current membrane and rock containment cap now over the waste site, and they have argued that this is all that is required to safely isolate the toxic wastes.

However, the Harris County Attorney, Vince Ryan, and his assistant attorney Rock Owen, have sued the companies in court for damages and to clean up the site. They won a judgement against McGinnes and Waste Management for \$29.4 million dollars, but International Paper was excluded from the settlement by a jury. The county is now appealing the ruling on this third company.

In addition to the county suite, several other lawsuits have been filed against the PRPs, including one wity about 170 in-

dividuals who live in the general area along the river, and another by Vietnamese fisherman who have had their livelihood affected by the restrictions issued by the county on fishing and consuming certain species.

The Corps of Engineers report is a draft, and subject to revisions. The public is invited to submit comments up until September 8th.

Jackie Young, representing the San Jacinto River Coalition, plans on meetings Tuesday, September 1st at 6:30 pm at the Highlands/San Jacinto Community Center, and Tuesday, September 15th at 6:30 pm at the J.D. Walker Community Center on Wade Road.

In comments to the Star Courier, Young indicated that she thinks the report is incomplete and flawed, and that the executive summary presents a completely wrong picture of the situation.

In particular she mentions that the report does not model or study the affect that a hurricane or surge event could have on the cap over the site; and that during such a heavy weather event, barges perhaps broken loose as they were in the flood of 1994, might severely damage the cap and release some or all of the toxins.

Young noted that the SJRC is also waiting to hear from the Texas Department of State Health Services, on whether they will conduct a cancer investigation study, to determine if there is in fact a causal relationship between pollution in the river and ground water of nearby wells, and a high incidence of certain types of cancers that have been documented recently in a state statistical study.

COMMUNITY WATCH

Snow cone man fatally shot

HARRIS COUNTY, Texas – A man was fatally shot in east Harris County.

According to Harris County Sheriff's Office, the shooting happened around 5:30 p.m. last Friday, August 14, 2015 at Longview and Hollywood.

Officials said Felix Orozco, 54, was riding a bicycle through an east Harris County neighborhood seeking ice cream and snow cones when he was shot.

Witnesses hear two gunshots and saw a small tan

SUV and two hispanic males inside speed off.

Orozco was lying in the road bleeding to death, Stg. Robert Spurgeon said.

Orozco's family is trying to raise money to send his body back to his home country of Guatemala. Orozco had moved to Houston 7 years ago to work.

Investigators said the motive for the shooting was possible a robbery.

To help the family to raise money, community members set up a GoFundMe account.

We turn funky into flashy

We work magic with your old gold.

PineforestJewelry.com
1141 Uvalde • Houston, Texas 77015
713.451.1321

GALENA PARK ISD SENIOR GOLD CARD

What are the benefits of the GPISD Senior Gold Card?

The GPISD Senior Gold Card provides members with free admission to all GPSID performing arts and athletic events (excluding play-offs or away games). Members also receive subscriptions to GPISD's fine arts and athletics newsletters, access to informative e-mail blasts, and all athletics and fine arts calendars. Other benefits include a discount in the Lone Star Grill at the GPISD Administration Building. Card members receive the employee discount on lunch Monday – Thursday, making the meal only \$4.50

Who is eligible to receive a GPISD Senior Gold Card?

The GPISD Senior Gold Card Program is available to all GPISD residents 55 years of age or older.

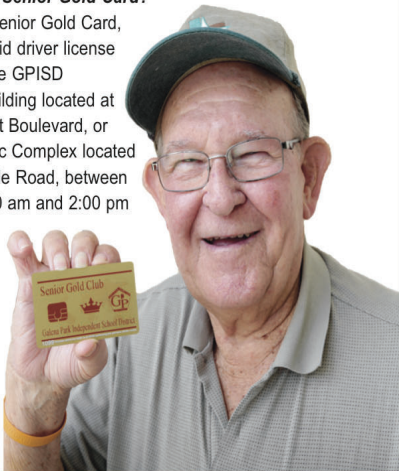
How much does the GPISD Senior Gold Card cost?

The GPISD Gold Card is FREE to all qualifying members because we value the many contributions these individuals have made to our community and our schools over the years, and we want area seniors to continue to be active members of our community and schools.

How do I get my Senior Gold Card?

To receive your Senior Gold Card, please bring a valid driver license or I.D. to either the GPISD Administration Building located at 14705 Woodforest Boulevard, or the GPISD Athletic Complex located at 15025 Wallisville Road, between the hours of 10:00 am and 2:00 pm Monday – Friday.

For questions or additional assistance, please contact Lupe Garcia at 832-386-1505.



2015 Chevy Silverados OVER \$10,000 OFF



Introducing the Chevrolet Educator Discount

To those who make us who we are, Chevrolet and its dealers proudly offer special pricing for educators. Through September 30, 2015, current employees of a public or private school, university or college are eligible to participate in the new Educator Discount program and receive a discount on the purchase or lease of a new 2015 or 2014 Chevrolet vehicle. Check out our award-winning, fuel-efficient lineup to find the perfect vehicle for you.

Get Your Discount CALL TURNER CHEVY NOW!

Register for an account or log in: www.chevy.com
Get your discount code authorization. Visit Turner Chevrolet and drive home with your new GM vehicle.



Our People Make The Difference! We Want To Make You A Customer For Life!

TURNER
CHEVROLET
Crosby, Texas

21001 Crosby Freeway • Crosby

Call 281.328.4377
TurnerChevroletCrosby.com

CHEVROLET COMPLETE CARE

2wd 2015 Crew Cab Silverado m.s.r.p. \$39705.00 \$37121.06 supplier price, -\$1500.00 Rebate -\$750.00 GM BONUS CASH, -\$1,000.00 down payment assistance with ALLY, Wells Fargo GM FINANCIAL, -\$1000.00 Incremental Consumer Cash, -\$750.00 Credit Union Member, -\$500.00 Farm Bureau Member, -\$2000.00 Select bonus cash tag price \$ 29621.06 OVER \$10,000 OFF CASH DOWN 75 MONTHS 2.99% RATE WAF \$44.00 a month not a lease. Tax, tag and license extra.

dmendez@turnerchevroletcrosby.com