

# NORTH CHANNEL STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

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

### CONGRESSMAN GENE GREEN'S IMMUNIZATION DAY

## Over 1,800 vaccines administered to students

### REP. GENE GREEN TOWN HALLS & EVENTS

- 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.

### GALENA PARK COUNCIL VOTES TO APPEAL COURT RULING

On Monday, Aug. 17, Plaintiff Barry Ponder won a Summary Judgment from Judge Brent Gamble, against the City of Galena Park for his lawsuit asking the city to have an election to adopt four Charter Amendments.

However, on Tuesday, Aug. 18 the city's attorney, John Hightower, filed an Appeal with the Court of Appeals.

On Thursday, Aug. 20 Council met in executive and public session, to consider a charter election. Instead, they voted to authorize the appeal, that had already been filed. According to Ponder, this was not a legal action due to timing.

The City now awaits the ruling on the Appeal, from the 1st or 14th Court of Appeals.

**CORRECTION:** In an article last week, the North Channel Star stated that Ponder's lawsuit included actions against Councilman Simms, and City Administrator Robert Pruett. This was not correct, because those items were removed in an amended filing on June 11, 2015.

GALENA PARK – The halls of the high school were lined with hundreds of students ready to receive their annual immunization shots, and to receive backpacks and school supplies donated by Rotary District 5890, with the help of two local Rotary Clubs.

In an expansion of his annual drive, Green had arranged to administer these shots in three locations this year, Aldine, Galena Park, and the AAMA Learning Center on the Gulf Freeway. All of these areas are in Green's Congressional District, Texas 29th.

Rep. Gene Green's 20th Annual Immunization Days served over 2,500 participants this year, with qualified volunteers deliv-



CONGRESSMAN GREEN confers with some of the Healthcare Providers that helped administer immunization shots, to the hundreds of children pictured in the background of the Galena Park High School gymnasium.

ering more than 1,800 vaccines.

"By hosting this event over two days and three locations, we were able to serve more people than last year," Green said. "We

had over 2,500 attendees, and more than 900 children received the vaccines they needed, free of charge."

Last year, the Centers for Disease Control and



GREEN partnered with a number of organizations to achieve this large immunization, including these members of the North Shore and Galena Park/Jacinto City Rotary Clubs.

Prevention (CDC) put out an analysis of how many children's lives have been saved by immunizations between 1994 and 2013. The CDC estimated that among the 78.6 million

children born during that period, vaccines prevented 322 million illnesses, 21 million hospitalizations, and 732,000 premature

See IMMUNIZATION DAY, page 8

## State Rep. Ana Hernandez presents Legislative updates

BY GILBERT HOFFMAN  
North Channel Star

GALENA PARK – State Representative Ana Hernandez is holding a series of Town Hall meetings, to report to the public on the results of the 84th Legislative Session that finished its work in June.

Hernandez also had the help of State Representative Sylvia Garcia, Pct. 2 Constable Chris Diaz, and at times the help of her 5 year old son Gregory.

Her presentation was aided by very detailed and understandable slides, covering all the major points. She explained the legislative process, the make-up of the House and Senate, and what their responsibilities are. They meet in odd numbered years for 140 days, she noted. This year they passed 1454 bills for the Govern-



STATE REPRESENTATIVE ANA HERNANDEZ led a presentation on recent Legislative actions, along with State Senator Sylvia Garcia and Pct. 2 Constable Chris Diaz.

NORTH CHANNEL STAR PHOTO/Hoffman

nor's consideration, of which he signed 1286, vetoed 42, and allowed 163 to pass without signing.

The Budget is the most important business, and the two-year budget was set at \$209.4 billion, an increase of 3.6%. \$41.2 billion of that was for public

education, and \$19.9 billion for higher education.

Transportation was funded at \$25.1 billion, and for the first time all gas tax money will go to road.

Tax cuts were passed, but the Homestead Ex-

See UPDATE, page 8

## HARRIS COUNTY PLANS \$848m BOND VOTE IN NOVEMBER

Harris County voters will face another bond election at the ballot box this November. Harris County commissioners are finalizing the language and amounts on four measures that will be on the ballot seeking voter approval.

The total bond package is expected to be \$848 million dollars. Of this, \$700 million is set for roads and infrastructure, \$64 million for flood control, \$60 million for parks, and \$24 million to upgrade the animal control facility. Voters will get to choose on each measure, Judge Ed Emmett said.

Budget director William Jackson pointed out that these bonds are essentially loans to the county, and will be issued over the next seven years, not all at once.

The county is currently paying back previous bonds, at the rate of \$100 million per year and the new bonds would just supplant paid off debt, he said.

Judge Emmett said that the bonds are needed to keep up with population growth, which has seen 750,000 new residents in unincorporated Harris County since 2000. This growth requires new government-funded roads and infrastructure, he said, to catch up with projects and "in anticipation of further growth."

Emmett emphasized that the bond issues will not result in a tax increase. Municipal bonds are sold to private investors, the funds are available for use,

See BOND, page 3

### RIBBON CUTTING:

## New Nature Trail opens in Hermann Brown Park



SPEAKING AT THE NATURE WALK RIBBON CUTTING were City Councilman Robert Gallegos, Pastor Robert Dixon, Jr., Congressman Gene Green, HPD Captain Greg Fremin, and Houston City Parks Director Joe Turner. The trailhead leads away at left, behind the speakers.

HOUSTON – A new Nature Walk Trail was officially opened last Saturday, as part of the development of Hermann Brown Park.

The ceremony was held beside North Shore Community Fellowship of Faith Church. Entrance to the walking trail is gained from their parking lot un-

til a new entry off Maxey Road is completed.

Parks Director Joe Turner explained that his department won a \$20,000 grant to develop the trail, in a nationwide competition sponsored by the Walt Disney Company and the National Recreation and Park Association.

The walking trail is a

half-mile loop through a forested area, featuring shade areas, seating, tree stools, a pollinator garden, memorial grove, and education station.

Also participating in the opening ceremony were students from Furr High School, and members of the church congregation and Mrs. Dixon, Sr.

### BACK TO SCHOOL:

## Channelview students head "Back to School"



ABOVE: Kindergarten students at McMullan Elementary appear to be enjoying themselves by the looks on their faces on the first day of school on Monday, August 24.

RIGHT: Crenshaw Elementary third grade teacher Angela Martinez hands out journals to her students on the first day of class. More than 9,000 students reported to the first day of classes in Channelview ISD.





# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Beautification work underway at Highlands Community Center



LANDSCAPING MATERIALS ARE DELIVERED to the parking lot beside the Highlands Community Center, as Pct. 2 begins a major beautification project to upgrade the centers. The original Highlands Community Center has been in use for almost 4 decades, and will benefit from some new shrubs and sod.

## May Community Center's Ongoing September Calendar

**Rhythm Walking:** Weekday mornings from 8:10 a.m. to 8:55 a.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. Come rain or shine for a 2-mile walk to music in the comfort of the Center.

**Body Toning Chair Exercise:** Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Boost your energy, stamina, and flexibility with other individuals at the center.

**Decorative Painting:** Mondays at 9 a.m. Master decorative artist teaches the art of decorative painting.

**Pickleball:** Mondays at 11 a.m. Pickleball is all the craze in the US and now it's coming to May Community Center! Played on a court similar to tennis and with a paddle similar to

ping pong – Pickleball! Dress in comfortable attire, no experience necessary. Equipment is provided.

**Party Bridge:** Mondays at 1 p.m. Play party bridge every Monday and meet other intermediate level bridge players from the Lake Houston area. This class is not suitable for beginners.

**Pinochle:** Mondays at 1 p.m. Players score points by trick-taking and also by forming combinations of cards.

**Zumba™ Fitness:** (class resumes on Wednesday, September 9) Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. These volunteered classes are fun and good for the body.

**Woodcarving:** Tuesdays at 9 a.m. Join volun-

teer Jim Logsdon and learn how to take an ordinary piece of wood and turn it into a work of art.

**Blood Pressure/Sugar Check:** Tuesday, September 15 at 9 a.m. Keeping a healthy lifestyle means keeping blood pressure and blood sugar in check.

May Community Center's free intergenerational programs are part of Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Jack Morman's educational and recreational commitment to Harris County residents. May Community Center is a Precinct 2 Community Center located at 2100 Wolf Road, Huffman 77336. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information regarding classes or other Center programs please call (713) 274-2434.

## CROSBY ISD FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL



PARENTS AND THEIR TODDLERS make their way to the Crosby Kindergarten for their first classes of the new school year. For some, this will be their first school experience.



## GOOSE CREEK CISD First Back to School day at San Jacinto Elementary

Students at San Jacinto Elementary find a unique way to bring apples to their new principal, showing her that school is a balancing act. Pictured are (front, l to r) Esteban Martinez, 3rd grade; Jacob Otto, 1st grade; Alexandra Valladares, 2nd grade; (back, l to r) Brayden Jaime, 5th grade; Makenzie McKittrick, 5th grade; Rachel McAdam, principal; Pablo Loreda, 2nd grade and Nick Rodriguez, 4th grade.

Photo by Susan Passmore

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**281-426-3555**

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## HIGHLANDS ROTARY CLUB

Invites you to the 9th Annual

### 3-Hole Washer Board Charity Tournament

**September 19, 2015**  
**12pm - 4pm**  
**Tournament starts at 12pm SHARP**  
Entries must be in before 11:30am on September 19, 2015 - NO EXCEPTIONS  
**Charlie's Ice House**  
**906 N. Main Street**  
**Highlands, TX 77562**

**2 - Person per team**  
**Double Elimination**  
**\$50.00 per team entry**  
**Awards & PRIZE MONEY for top 3 teams: \$150, \$100, and \$50**  
**Limited to 50 teams**

**Sponsorships also available**

Questions or Information: Contact Larry White at (281)426-3558  
Find us on Facebook - Rotary Club of Highlands TX  
Tax ID 74-6104352

### Sponsorship Order Form

\_\_\_\_\_ \$50.00 Team Entry, 2 players:\_\_\_\_\_

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\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total (please circle:) Check Enclosed Bill Me Credit Card  
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Call Larry White at (281)426-3558 for more information

**FIND US ON FACEBOOK - ROTARY CLUB OF HIGHLANDS TX**



SCHOOLS NEWS

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.

Galena Park-  
Jacinto City CIP  
monthly meeting

Thursday, Sep. 3, 2015, 6 pm - 8 pm at Alvin Baggett Recreation Building, 1302 Keene in Galena Park.

Questions! Contact facilitator Diane Sheridan at dsbfacilitator@gmail.com or 281-326-5253.

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

-Saturday, August 29, 11 am, Meditation: A tool for stress reduction and healthier lifestyle.

-September 2, 11 am, Children's Story Time; 4 pm, Get Active.

-September 3, 10 am, Baby Time.

-September 7 - CLOSED  
Please call the library at 713-450-0982 for more details.

The library is located at 1500 Keene St. Galena Park, TX. 77547.

SEPTEMBER  
North Channel  
Library events

-Tuesday, Sep. 1, 10:30 am, Toddler Time; 1:30- 2 pm, Preschool Story Time.

-Wed., Sep. 2, 4:30 pm, Strings Attached.

-Thur., Sep. 3, 10:30 am, Baby Time; 4:30 pm, Teens: Blanket Program.

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

CHANNELVIEW ISD:

Norfleet 'at home' as new  
Hamblen principal



Constance Norfleet, new Hamblen Elementary School principal, shares some time visiting with students on the first day of school on Aug. 24. Norfleet served as an assistant principal for 19 years at the school before being named the campus leader during the summer.

The purple and white of Hamblen Elementary School is something that Constance Norfleet wears close to her heart. It's those same colors that she proudly wore as she began her new role as campus principal on the first day of school on Aug. 24.

Norfleet says she has loved every minute of the past 19 years she has spent at Hamblen and is excited about her new opportunity.

"As part of the Hamblen family for many years, I've viewed each day as a joy and a blessing," Norfleet said. "I've had the opportunity to work with some great principals, such as Janice Powell and Mr. (Greg) Ollis and I have learned a lot from them. Hamblen has been more than just a school to me. It's my home away from home. We have always functioned as a family in a cohesive child centered environment and we will continue to do so."

Norfleet replaced longtime CISD principal Janice Powell, who recently retired after 39 years in education. Norfleet was hired as an assistant principal in

1996 by then-principal Greg Ollis. Ollis currently serves as the district's superintendent.

Hamblen has been noted for receiving high marks for academic excellence over the years - including the state's Met Standard rating this year and Designation Distinctions in Reading/English Arts. Norfleet's goals are to continue building on the school's tradition of academic achievement.

"My top priority as principal will be maintaining current systems of success and implementing new ideas that will focus on achieving excellence," she said. "My philosophy has always been to accept nothing less than the very best and under my leadership, I am confident that achieving excellence will continue. We have always and will continue to be child centered."

Norfleet said she is looking forward to making new memories at Hamblen, but still looks back fondly on past experiences that have shaped her today.

"Some memories are as small as seeing students' faces light up as they grasp

new concepts or experience success on a quiz or a major test," she said. "Other memories come from my interactions with our dedicated staff members. Some of my fondest memories involve rewarding the students for their successes on the state mandated assessments. It's all about the kids and always will be."

Norfleet earned her bachelor's degree in Special Education from Lamar University and her master's degree in Education from Prairie View A&M University. Prior to coming to Hamblen, she served as a teacher and counselor in Galena Park ISD.

While her responsibilities have expanded, Norfleet feels the transition to the principal's position has gone smoothly.

"The difference now is that my responsibility and accountability have increased," she said. "I respectfully embrace the challenge of my new role as principal and look forward to making an even greater impact on my campus and in Channelview ISD as a whole."

CHANNELVIEW ISD

Brown Elementary staff  
visits neighborhoods  
to deliver supplies



Brown Elementary Principal LaKeisha LeBlanc delivers school supplies to a student as part of the school's community outreach program.

Eager, enthusiastic and energetic Harvey Brown Elementary staff members returned to work on Friday, August 14 and hit the streets embarking on a back to school bus tour reaching out to the communities surrounding their campus.

Staff members greeted parents and provided school supplies to students in the community as part of their new initiative, "HBE Turn Up the Heat." This community service activity is one of many outreach projects the school will provide as they aim to provide additional resources to the families they

serve. CISD bus drivers drove Brown Elementary teachers and staff to subdivisions in the school's attendance area, including Rancho Verde, Sonoma Ranch and Carpenter's Landing.

"It is an honor to serve with staff members who strive to make a difference in the lives of our families," Brown Elementary Principal LaKeisha LeBlanc said. "I am excited about the endless possibilities this school year will bring as we work hard to provide the very best for our learning community."

GALENA PARK ISD:

Náñez honored as TABE  
Teacher of the Year



The Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE) honored Green Valley elementary teacher Hilda Náñez as the TABE 2015 Bilingual Education Teacher of the Year. Her dedication to the needs of English language learners and her outstanding leadership attributed to TABE selecting her for this honor. Along with this honor, she will be representing the state of Texas for the National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE) Teacher of the Year competition.

Weekend college courses offer  
convenience, flexibility

PASADENA, Texas - For convenience and flexibility, San Jacinto College offers a range of academic and technical courses on weekends at all three campuses. Courses are available on Friday, Saturdays and Sundays, with classes being held during mornings, afternoons, and evenings.

The College offers the weekend courses to help every student succeed, no

matter the circumstances. "San Jacinto College provides a large selection of classes in a format that is convenient for students," commented Dr. Bill Raffetto, provost of the San Jacinto College North Campus. "In addition to day and evening classes, we also offer distance learning classes. However, some students prefer face-to-face classes but are not able to come to our cam-

puses during the week. For these students, weekend courses are ideal."

Registration is under way now at all three San Jacinto College campuses for weekend courses that begin on Sept. 11.

For more information about class options and class schedule dates and times, please visit [sanjac.edu/apply-register/types-admissions/weekend-college](http://sanjac.edu/apply-register/types-admissions/weekend-college).

BOND,

Continued from page 1

and eventually the taxpayers pay back the bond debt from current revenue.

Projects that may be funded with the bond money in this area include Pct. 1 completing Miller Road 2 and East Mount Houston Phase 2, said Commissioner El Franco Lee, as well as further park development.

In Pct. 2, Commissioner Jack Morman said he may

use the money for roads and freight capacity around the Port of Houston, to widen evacuation routes such as I-10 and I-45. He also had plans for an overpass bridge over the railroad tracks on Federal Road at the Washburn Tunnel, and the widening and repaving of the Crosby-Lynchburg corridor to a four-lane thoroughfare.

Commissioner Cagle said that Pct. 4 had a number of road and greenway projects that needed funding, including Kuykendahl and Gosling, Telge, and Elridge.

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EDE

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OPINION PAGE

Start Smart: Top tips for parents this school year

(NAPSI)—Whether you're a newbie sending your kids to kindergarten or a grizzled veteran parent of a high school senior, school season can be an emotional time. Here's a quick list of things you can do for more stress-free days at school.

10. Plan Lunches  
If you are buying school lunch, check the online menu to see what they're serving. If you're making lunch, have your kids help you plan a few in advance—they'll like what they're eating and feel involved in the process.

9. Watch for Bullying  
Many kids don't want to admit they're being bullied, so parents have to ask the right questions. Asking "How was your day?" usually elicits the "Fine" default response. Instead, ask questions like "Whom did you sit next to at lunch today?" Specific questions require more detailed answers, which gives you a clearer idea of how they are faring.

8. Visit Your School/Teacher  
Most schools have a "Back to School Night" for students and parents in the first weeks of school. If not, call the school and set something up.

7. Hand Washing Is Key  
The good news—your kids will be drinking from the cup of knowledge. The bad news? All the other kids are drinking from the same cup. Your best defense? Teach your kids to wash their hands frequently and cough into their elbows instead of their hands.

6. Find at Least One Friend in Class  
Just about everyone has Facebook, so use it during the first few weeks of school to ask other parents who have a child in the same grade which class their son or daughter

is attending. This will alleviate the stress your child feels by not knowing anyone.

5. Create a Checklist  
Organization is a challenge, especially in the morning. Create a checklist of items (lunch, backpack, books, homework) and place it by the door; you and your child will be less likely to forget things.

4. Buy the Right School Supplies  
Most schools send precise lists of what kids need for each new grade level. If you don't have this list, ask the teacher. Bonus tip—buy some extra supplies on the list for the classroom. Many teachers spend their own money on school supplies, so they GREATLY appreciate when parents ease their burden with donated items.

3. Get Into a Routine  
Set a specific bedtime, eat breakfast early and get your children dressed in a fixed amount of time—they'll be calm and on time for school.

2. Set the Tone  
It is understandable for parents to be stressed about school. But while it's perfectly natural to be upset, try not to let your kids see your angst. They take their cues from you, so if you're emotional and anxious about the start of school, they'll follow suit. You can cry after they get on the bus, which brings us to...

1. Get a Box of Tissues  
If your child is young, you might need tissues after shedding tears about how fast he or she grew up. Parents of that second child might be using the tissues to dry their tears of joy at the thought of having a little bit of free time during the day.

For more school year tips, visit [www.follett.com/back-to-school](http://www.follett.com/back-to-school).



Energy agency chief rails against federal plan

AUSTIN — Texas Railroad Commission Chair David Porter on Aug. 19 spoke against America's Clean Power Plan, a regulatory framework rolled out by the White House on Aug. 3. Texas is one of at least a dozen states lining up in opposition.

Porter called the plan "another blatant attack on the oil and gas industry that will further impede America's energy security, kill jobs and put even more stress on our national and state economies." Porter was elected chair of the three-member commission that oversees the energy industry regulating state agency in June 2014.

President Obama called the final version of the plan to reduce methane emissions from the energy and agriculture industries "the biggest step we've ever taken to combat climate change." Obama said the plan "sets the first-ever carbon pollution standards for power plants while providing states and utilities with the flexibility they need to meet those standards."

The plan is designed to reduce premature deaths attributed to power plant emissions by nearly 90 percent in 2030 compared to 2005 and decrease pollutants that contribute to soot and smog and can lead to more asthma attacks in kids by more than 70 percent, Obama said. The plan also would spur the creation of tens of thousands of jobs while ensuring grid reliability, the president added.

On Aug. 3, Gov. Greg Abbott reacted to the president's announcement, saying: "Texas will lead the fight against an overreaching federal government that seems hell-bent on threatening the free-market principles this country was founded on."

**Jail study to be launched**  
Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who presides over the state Senate, and Senate Criminal Justice Committee Chair John Whitmire, D-Houston, on Aug. 18 announced an interim study on Texas jail standards.

This comes in the wake of the death of Sandra Bland, a woman who in July was found dead in a Waller County jail cell three days after she was arrested and jailed following a traffic stop. The death was ruled a suicide but questions remain.

"Our criminal justice system assumes a great responsibility for the people in our custody. In many instances, individuals have unresolved issues in their lives, particularly a mental illness, which has resulted in their arrest. It is our responsibility to make certain we have the necessary tools and resources to meet the health, welfare and safety needs of every individual in our custody," Whitmire said.

**Early ratings come out**  
Texas Education Agency on Aug. 21 announced its release of preliminary financial accountability ratings for more than 1,200 school districts and charters across the state. Ratings are based on annual financial reports provided by districts and charters from the 2014 fiscal year.

Figures show that of the 1,024 public school districts in Texas, 1,012 received a favorable rating and of the 167 charter schools in the state 155 received a favorable rating.

Any district or charter wishing to appeal its rating must submit a written appeal with supporting evidence by Sept. 8, Education Commissioner Michael Williams said.

Job growth continues  
Texas Workforce Commission on Aug. 21 announced Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained at 4.2 percent in July, the lowest monthly unemployment rate since July 2007.

With the addition of 31,400 seasonally adjusted nonagricultural jobs in July, Texas Workforce Commission Chair Andres Alcantar said the state has added jobs in 57 of the last 58 months.

**Returned funds set record**  
Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on Aug. 20 announced his agency had returned a record \$248 million in unclaimed property to rightful owners this fiscal year.

Hegar said the previous record was \$205 million in unclaimed property returns in fiscal 2014.

Texans may call 1-800-654-FIND to see if the state is holding some of their unclaimed property. Those who have Internet access may visit [ClaimItTexas.org](http://ClaimItTexas.org).

**More Cyclospora reported**  
Texas Department of State Health Services on Aug. 18 announced an uptick in reports of illness caused by the parasite Cyclospora. Some 243 cases have been reported in Texas this year.

Past outbreaks have been associated with the green vegetable cilantro from the Puebla area of Mexico. The major symptom of the illness is watery diarrhea lasting a few days to a few months.

**More patrols are watching**  
Texas Department of Public Safety last week announced the increase of DWI patrols during the Labor Day holiday period starting Aug. 21 and ending Sept. 7.

State troopers will focus patrols in high-risk locations at times when alcohol-related crashes are most frequent, said DPS Director Steven McCraw.

Be "Pro-pack-tive" and send a Healthful Lunch

(NAPSI)—Lunch is important to power kids through their school day, explains Dr. Kurt Hong of the Center for Human Nutrition and director of Huntington Medical Foundation.

He recommends combining complex carbohydrates with lean protein—nonfat yogurt and granola, a lean turkey sandwich on whole grain bread, low-fat cottage cheese with fruits and vegetables—for a concentrated, long-lasting source of energy (consider Crispy Fruit from Crispy Green when fresh fruit is not available or a convenient option).

Of course, packing a healthful lunch is one thing; getting kids to eat it may be another. Here are four hints that can help:

- Get colorful. A rainbow of fruits and vegetables, meat and cheese can entice children to eat right. So can sending it all in lots of different-colored plastic containers to live up the lunchbox.
- Go small. Serving size does matter. Big meals can seem daunting to small appetites. Send bite-size versions of lots of different good-for-you foods, from carrot sticks to cheese sticks.
- Be a cutup. Shape sandwiches with cookie cutters into bite-size treats.
- Be fruitful. Parents can now pack a healthful, easy-to-carry, lightweight, mess-free and nonrefrigerated fruit snack that scores high with kids and nutritionists. The tasty, 100 percent natural, Non-GMO Project Verified snack is also excellent for extracurricular activities and kids constantly on the go.

It's 100 percent pure fruit—freeze-dried in slices to satisfy a snack attack anytime, anywhere. Flavors include tangerine, apple, Asian pear, banana, cantaloupe, mango and pineapple. The freeze-drying process results in a light crispy texture that can be enjoyed like a chip but has all the nutrients of fresh fruit. Called Crispy Fruit, it's from Crispy Green and comes in individual, single-serving packets that are easy to pop into lunchboxes, soccer bags, overnight totes and backpacks.

Not only will your children benefit from this treat, you can help other kids in need. The company is a sponsor of the Power Your Lunchbox campaign from Produce for Kids. Now through September 18, parents who take the Power Your Lunchbox Pledge to pack healthier lunchboxes can get lunchbox ideas, tips and coupons. Plus, for every pledge taken, \$1 will be donated to Feeding America to support children's hunger programs. You can take the pledge at [poweryourlunchbox.com](http://poweryourlunchbox.com).

Learn More  
To find a retailer nearby that carries Crispy Fruit, go to [www.crispygreen.com/where-to-buy.html](http://www.crispygreen.com/where-to-buy.html). For further facts and tips, visit [www.crispygreen.com](http://www.crispygreen.com).

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T-Rex Engineering and Construction, LC, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for renewal of Air Quality Permit No. 22109, which would authorize continued operation of a surface coating and abrasive blasting facility located at 16425 Jacintoport Boulevard, Houston, Harris County, Texas 77015. Additional information concerning this application is contained in the public notice section of this newspaper.

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LIFESTYLE

Back to School Vignettes: Crosby Center hosts 15th Arts Exhibit



**First Day of School Year 2015-2016**  
On the first day of school, Ross S. Sterling High School seniors (from left) Jasmine Williams, Elijah Stanislas, Erin Kelly and Levi Hetherington show their pride as members of the Class of 2016.  
*Photo by Susan Passmore*



Piano Music, fine hors d'oeuvres hallmark the Crosby Community Center's 15th Annual Arts and Crafts Exhibit and Reception last Friday, August 21 from 5 until 8 p.m. Above while the exhibit was closely examined by attendees there was time for fellowship.



**HS students at First Day of School**  
Laura Reyes (middle), principal of Goose Creek CISD-IMPACT Early College High School, welcomes sisters (left to right) Ladisha Rawlins-Mogere and Dalasha Davis and sisters Paige Soape and Katrina Soape to the 2015-2016 school year on the new IMPACT ECHS campus.  
*Photo by Mima Trujillo*



Works encompassed a wide variety in style, content, texture and composition. There was even more diversity than their were snacks to feast upon and the fair was substantial from cheeze to sweet. According to Crosby Community Center Director Michele Thompson, "Many thanks to all of the artists for sharing their wonderful pieces with the community. We are proud to have you." The Center is under Precinct 2 Commissioner Jack Morman.

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**Jerry Aylor**  
1944 - 2015

Jerry Aylor, race car driver, father, PawPaw, and "homeboy", died on Tuesday, August 18, 2015 in his home at Battle-ground Speedway in High-lands, Texas.

Jerome Henry Aylor was born July 23, 1944 in Galveston, Texas. Jerry cherished his mother, Noma Faye Aylor, who preceded him in death by only 5 short years. Jerry inherited his strength of character and self-as-suredness from his father, Winston Wesley Aylor, who died when Jerry was 39 years old after a long battle with cancer. Jerry's sister, Donna Carol Aylor, was his oldest and dearest friend, even though he claimed she "drove him crazy" - if only because they were too much alike.

In his 71 years, Jerry had many "lady friends". He met the first love of his life, Lisa Mottesheard Aylor, in 1964 in La Marque, Texas. Lisa blessed Jerry with two children - Michelle Elizabeth Aylor, who shares Jerry's charis-ma and love of people, and Jerome Wesley Aylor, who inherited his father's de-termination and ability to fix anything mechanical.

In 1985, Jerry met his third wife, Robin Kirbow, with whom he shared two children, a daughter Coty Aylor Gentry, and a son, Chase Bresee. Jerry shared a passion for racing with his son Chase, and they spent many nights to-gether working on his car. Coty and her husband Joey Gentry, remained close to

Jerry until the end, listen-ing to every tall tale and taking care of Jerry as his health declined. Even in poor health, Jerry was never too sick to play with his grandsons, Jackson and Easton Gentry. Every week he would show up with a big bag of chips, ready for a toy dinosaur fight.

Jerry never met a stranger. He devoted his life to racing, and he re-mained a friend and men-tor to the racing community until the day that he died. Jerry is sur-vived by an abundance of Aylor and Mottesheard family, and by a countless number of close friends, among them are: his chil-dren Michelle and Wes Aylor, Coty Aylor Gentry, and Chase Bresee; his sister Donna Aylor; his former wives, Lisa Aylor and Rob-in Kirbow; his nieces Deo-na Southall Sokol and Jeanine Southall; his

grandchildren, Tiffany Wilson, James Westbrook, Jackson and Easton Gen-try, and Wyatt Winston Aylor; and one great grandbaby, Grace Wilson.

Jerry's magnetism touched everyone that he met, his huge heart and personality impacted the lives of more people than we will probably ever know.

In the end, Jerry Aylor went out the way that he lived - on his own terms, with his puppy Maddie, surrounded by his family, and at a race track.

Memorial service to be held on Friday September 4, 2015 at Royal Purple Raceway in Baytown, TX, at 7:30 p.m.. In lieu of flow-ers, the family requests do-nations be made to Jerry's favorite charities: St. Jude's Children's Hospital or the SPCA. The family invites you to share your stories of Jerry at: <http://on.fb.me/1HWrx7C>.

★  
**LITTLE BIDDY BITS**  
By Danny Biddy

Put on a Happy Face

Jerry's dad had a fa-vorite saying, "You can be happy if you are of a mind to."

Jerry told me, "Dad was uniquely qualified to correct my attitude because he lived out what he preached. He was a paraplegic from about age 20 due to a WWII combat injury."

"Put on the oil of glad-ness for mourning and the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness." (Isaiah 61:3)

*Danny R. Biddy,  
Pastor of the Church on Old River since 1977.  
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All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Acts 2:4

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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, SPORTS



## Rotary Kickoff Luncheon

Area football coaches gave previews on their teams at the North Shore Rotary Club's annual Kickoff Luncheon on August 20. After the program, Rotary's Mark Tice, center, visited with the head coaches that shared some insight on their teams. Coaches that spoke about their teams were North Shore's Jon Kay, left, Channelview's Averion Hurts, C.E. King's Don Price and Galena Park's Dave Handal.

## Falcons frustration to serve as motivation in 21-6A race

One more win – and they would have been in

By MARK KRAMER

It's a memory that has burned in the minds of a Channelview Falcon football team that needed to defeat La Porte in the final game of the season to advance to the playoffs. However, the Bulldogs defeated the Falcons and an earlier District 21-6A loss to Beaumont West Brook left Channelview empty-handed and frustrated.

Overall, the Falcons had a winning record at 7-3, one of the highest scoring offenses in the Houston area, a Division I recruit at quarterback and a Falcon team that achieved what some deemed impossible – beating North Shore. On the surface, it was a season of many positives. But still, no playoff berth.

Channelview hasn't forgotten the pain of being so close to reaching the post-season and heads into this season with a bit of chip on its shoulder.

"We had some nice wins last year, but we had some extremely painful losses," said Channelview head coach Averion Hurts said. "Our players are motivated for many reasons, but those losses have fueled our fire for this season."

Twenty-two returning lettermen and a number of senior leaders on offense and defense will serve as a strongpoint for the Falcons. Channelview's obvious main strength is senior quarterback Jalen Hurts, son of the Falcon head coach. He has committed to University of Alabama and is rated one of the top quarterbacks in the area, throwing for 2,551 yards last year and 21 touchdowns in 2015. He also rushed for over 900 yards and 19 touchdowns on the ground and helped the Falcons average over 50 points per game last season.



Channelview quarterback Jalen Hurts is back this season and hopes to guide the Falcons to a playoff berth. Hurts is one of the top-rated quarterbacks in the area and has committed to the University of Alabama.

Coach Hurts says the offensive line will be "much improved" over last year, with three returning starters and some new talent. Etterious Giles and Anthony Means were frequent targets at wide receiver and they both are returning for another season. The only offensive question mark remains at running back with the loss of All-District First Team selection Chris Jefferson. Senior Andrew Baker and junior Demontre Tuggle are expected to both see time at the running back spot this year.

The defense has gained some strength with eight starters returning to the lineup, including free safety Tre'Michael Tutt, defensive back Tuciano Pope, linebacker Andrew Baker and defensive linemen Stephen Mendiola and Stephen Grimes.

However, Coach Hurts knows that the competition in District 21-6A is going to be tight once again. "You have those traditional powers such as North Shore and La Porte that just reload," he said. "We will be facing North Shore at home this year, but they haven't forgotten about losing to us last year."

## “Is a lab created stone genuine or not?”



### ASK DIAMOND JIM

It has been said time and again that the phrase lab created stones is synonymous for synthetic stones. Lab created gemstones are basically gemstones that are created in a lab. They are very much "real" and genuine, and according to the Federal Trade Commission, in order for a gemstone to be deemed lab created it must be identical to its natural counterpart in all ways. So when it comes to chemical composition, hardness, and brilliance (the way that a gemstone shines and sparkles in the light, called scintillation) the lab created stone must be absolutely identical to the natural stone.

Unlike a simulant gemstone – which is a stone that has completely different chemical, physical, and optical properties – a lab created stone is mandated by federal law to avoid being deceptive. Sometimes a lab created gemstone can look almost too perfect because there are no surface imperfections or inclusions in the stone.

For this reason quite of-

ten consumers will want the lab created gemstone over the natural stone. Further, because it was made in a lab, the assumption would be that the lab created stone will last longer and be a more durable stone, as well as being higher quality.

Nearly every stone that is found naturally can also be created in a lab. There is no true way to tell the difference when looking at either the lab created gemstone or the natural gemstone.

Some customers equate the words lab created with simulant or what the public knows as fake stones. This is hardly the case. Most lab created stones are advertised as such – that is advertised as being lab created so that the customer is not blindsided as to the origin of the stone.

This is known as "disclosure", and disclosure is the rule at EVERY quality jewelry store. Ultimately, purchasing a lab created gemstone is purely a mat-

ter of personal preference.

If you are looking for beauty, brilliance, and longevity... and even a lifetime guarantee against breakage as is the case with Chatham Created Gemstones... then perhaps a lab created gemstone is for you. If you are only interested in whether or not a stone is created by nature, then you should opt for a genuine gemstone. Just like most jewelry, the prices of lab created gemstones will vary according to the size of the stone and quality of the cut...but are always going to save you enormously over the price of the natural.

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](mailto:jmills@pineforestjewelry.com).

*Diamond Jim is a diamond dealer and precious metals broker of NTR Metals. See more at: [www.pineforestjewelry.com](http://www.pineforestjewelry.com).*

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CITY SECRETARY

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LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND  
INTENT TO OBTAIN AIR PERMIT RENEWAL

PERMIT NUMBER 22109

APPLICATION T-Rex Engineering and Construction, LC, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for renewal of Air Quality Permit Number 22109, which would authorize continued operation of a surface coating and abrasive blasting facility located at 16425 Jacintoport Boulevard, Houston, Harris County, Texas 77015. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to application.  
<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=29.761388&lng=-95.111666&zoom=13&type=r>. The existing facility is authorized to emit the following air contaminants: organic compounds, particulate matter including particulate matter with diameters of 10 microns or less and 2.5 microns or less, and hazardous air pollutants.

This application was submitted to the TCEQ on August 10, 2015. The application will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ central office, TCEQ Houston regional office, and the Harris County Public Library – Galena Park Branch, 1500 Keene Street, Galena Park, Harris County, Texas, beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review in the Houston regional office of the TCEQ.

The executive director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application. Information in the application indicates that this permit renewal would not result in an increase in allowable emissions and would not result in the emission of an air contaminant not previously emitted. **The TCEQ may act on this application without seeking further public comment or providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT** You may submit public comments, or a request for a contested case hearing to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. The TCEQ will consider all public comments in developing a final decision on the application. **The deadline to submit public comments is 15 days after newspaper notice is published.** After the deadline for public comments, the executive director will prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the TCEQ's jurisdiction to address in the permit process.

After the technical review is complete the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. If only comments are received, the response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will then be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or who is on the mailing list for this application, unless the application is directly referred to a contested case hearing.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING** You may request a contested case hearing. The applicant or the executive director may also request that the application be directly referred to a contested case hearing after technical review of the application. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court. Unless a written request for a contested case hearing is filed within 15 days from this notice, the executive director may act on the application. **If no hearing request is received within this 15-day period, no further opportunity for hearing will be provided.** According to the Texas Clean Air Act § 382.056(o) a contested case hearing may only be granted if the applicant's compliance history is in the lowest classification under applicable compliance history requirements and if the hearing request is based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission may only grant a hearing on those issues raised during the public comment period and not withdrawn.

A person who may be affected by emissions of air contaminants from the facility is entitled to request a hearing. If requesting a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, daytime phone number, and fax number, if any; (2) applicant's name and permit number; (3) the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing;" (4) a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the application and air emissions from the facility in a way not common to the general public; (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the facility; and (6) a description of how you use the property which may be impacted by the facility. If the request is made by a group or association, the one or more members who have standing to request a hearing and the interests the group or association seeks to protect must also be identified. You may also submit your proposed adjustments to the application/permit which would satisfy your concerns. Requests for a contested case hearing must be submitted in writing within 15 days following this notice to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

If any requests for a contested case hearing are timely filed, the executive director will forward the application and any requests for a contested case hearing to the Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. Unless the application is directly referred to a contested case hearing, the executive director will mail the response to comments along with notification of Commission meeting to everyone who submitted comments or is on the mailing list for this application. **If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact relating to relevant and material air quality concerns raised during the comment period.** Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the Commission's jurisdiction to address in this proceeding.

**MAILING LIST** In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list for this application by sending a request to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. Those on the mailing list will receive copies of future public notices (if any) mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk for this application.

**AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION** Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at [www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html), or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. If you communicate with the TCEQ electronically, please be aware that your email address, like your physical mailing address, will become part of the agency's public record. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the Public Education Program toll free at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from T-Rex Engineering and Construction, LC, 16425 Jacintoport Blvd, Houston, Texas 77015-6589 or by calling Mr. Charles Rodriguez, HS&E Manager, at (281) 833-9200.


Notice Issuance Date: August 13, 2015

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



Notice of Draft Federal Operating Permit

Draft Permit No.: O1060

Application and Draft Permit. Stolthaven Houston, Inc., 15602 Jacintoport Boulevard, Houston, Texas, 77015-6533, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a renewal of Federal Operating Permit (herein referred to as Permit) No. O1060, Application No. 20425, to authorize operation of the Stolthaven Houston, a Special Warehousing and Storage facility. The area addressed by the application is located at 15602 Jacintoport Boulevard in Houston, Harris County, Texas 77015-6533. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to the application. You can find an electronic map of the facility at: <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=29.739444&lng=-95.128055&zoom=13&type=r>. This application was received by the TCEQ on November 6, 2013.

The purpose of a federal operating permit is to improve overall compliance with the rules governing air pollution control by clearly listing all applicable requirements, as defined in Title 30 Texas Administrative Code § 122.10 (30 TAC § 122.10). The draft permit, if approved, will codify the conditions under which the area must operate. The permit will not authorize new construction. The executive director has completed the technical review of the application and has made a preliminary decision to prepare a draft permit for public comment and review. The executive director recommends issuance of this draft permit. The permit application, statement of basis, and draft permit will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ Central Office, 12100 Park 55 Circle, Building E, First Floor, Austin, Texas and the TCEQ Region 12 Office, 5425 Polk Street, Suite H, Houston, Texas, beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The draft permit and statement of basis are available at the TCEQ Website:  
[www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/tvnotice](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/tvnotice)

At the TCEQ central and regional offices, relevant supporting materials for the draft permit, as well as the New Source Review permits which have been incorporated by reference, may be reviewed and copied. Any person with difficulties obtaining these materials due to travel constraints may contact the TCEQ central office file room at (512) 239-1540.

**Public Comment/Notice and Comment Hearing. Any person may submit written comments on the draft permit.** Comments relating to the accuracy, completeness, and appropriateness of the permit conditions may result in changes to the draft permit.

A person who may be affected by the emission of air pollutants from the permitted area may request a notice and comment hearing. The purpose of the notice and comment hearing is to provide an additional opportunity to submit comments on the draft permit. The permit may be changed based on comments pertaining to whether the permit provides for compliance with 30 TAC Chapter 122 (examples may include that the permit does not contain all applicable requirements or the public notice procedures were not satisfied). The TCEQ may grant a notice and comment hearing on the application if a written hearing request is received within 30 days after publication of the newspaper notice. The hearing request must include the basis for the request, including a description of how the person may be affected by the emission of air pollutants from the application area. The request should also specify the conditions of the draft permit that are inappropriate or specify how the preliminary decision to issue or deny the permit is inappropriate. All reasonably ascertainable issues must be raised and all reasonably available arguments must be submitted by the end of the public comment period. If a notice and comment hearing is granted, all individuals that submitted written comments or a hearing request will receive written notice of the hearing. This notice will identify the date, time, and location for the hearing.

Written public comments and/or requests for a notice and comment hearing should be submitted to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087, or electronically at [www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html) and be received within 30 days after the date of newspaper publication of this notice. If you communicate with the TCEQ electronically, please be aware that your email address, like your physical mailing address, will become part of the agency's public record.

A notice of proposed final action that includes a response to comments and identification of any changes to the draft permit will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments, a hearing request, or requested to be on the mailing list for this application. This mailing will also provide instructions for public petitions to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to request that the EPA object to the issuance of the proposed permit. After receiving a petition, the EPA may only object to the issuance of a permit which is not in compliance with the applicable requirements or the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 122.

**Mailing List.** In addition to submitting public comments, a person may ask to be placed on a mailing list for this application by sending a request to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address above. Those on the mailing list will receive copies of future public notices (if any) mailed by the Chief Clerk for this application.

**Information.** For additional information about this permit application or the permitting process, please contact the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Public Education Program, MC-108, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087 or toll free at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained for Stolthaven Houston, Inc. by calling Mr. Timothy M. Friday at (281) 860-6805.

Notice Issuance Date: August 6, 2015



## Four Corners is strategic passage for New ExxonMobil Baytown Refinery

FOUR CORNERS—The roadways and small businesses at the corner of I-10 and Crosby-Lynchburg Road are known locally as “Four Corners” and this summer they have been their busiest ever, because this is the main route for huge refinery equipment to be shipped overland to a new ethane plant in Baytown, on Highway 330/Decker Drive.

Rotarians of the Highlands club heard about the new plant, and the extraordinary efforts to ship and erect the parts of the plant, from ExxonMobil representatives David Schertz and Connie Tilton, at their luncheon meeting last August 18th.

This new plant is only one of several refinery expansions taking place in the Baytown/Highlands/Mont Belvieu area, and expected to have permanent impact on the area.

Schertz explained that these projects will create 10,000 temporary construction jobs, over a 3 or 4 year period, and add 4000 new permanent jobs to the area, including 350 at this plant.

Economists have said that the new plants in the area will add \$1 billion business, and create \$90 million in local tax revenue.

The new plant itself is huge, as large as 5 Disney World parks, he said. The equipment pieces for the plant, furnaces, distillation towers, quench towers, were too large to transport on normal highways, so ExxonMobil and their contractors made a new “port” at Four Corners, where barges could be unloaded by crane, and “crawlers” could carry the pieces overland to the plant site. This meant closing Decker Drive and Crosby-Lynchburg for short periods, and building special “bridges” over some streams and canals, to get the equipment moved down the road.

Planning for the new



New ExxonMobil plant in Baytown under construction. Named the North American Growth Project, this ethane steam-cracker plant will make 1.5 million tons per year of ethylene, which will be sent by pipeline to Mont Belvieu and other plants to be made into polyethylene. ExxonMobil has two plants in MB capable of 650,000 tons per year each. BELOW: One of the distillation tubes.

plant had started in 2012, and most of the equipment had to be built overseas, because American plants no longer have the capability, Schertz said.

The plant consists of 4 main towers, and furnaces, that heat the feed-stock, natural gas from shale, to 1500 degrees, and then in the distillation towers cool and compress the ethylene molecules to -100 degrees. This is the process to convert ethane gas to ethylene, Schertz said.

The heavy equipment in the Olefins Recovery part of the plant has been moving through Four Corners most of the summer, starting in April, and ending by September of this year. 170 pieces will be moved, 36 of which must arrive by barge and moved by crawlers. The largest of these pieces, a “C2 Splitter” is 278 feet long, it weighs 800 tons, is 40 feet in diameter, and will take over two days to move.

The Olefins Furnace part of the plant had 8 steam crackers made in Thailand. 68 pieces will require transport from Cedar Bayou by Decker Drive in a contraflow direction to the plant site. This will



start in October 2015 and finish in May 2016.

The heavy equipment was all made overseas, in countries such as China, South Korea, India, Thailand, and Europe.

ExxonMobil is also moving heavy equipment to Mont Belvieu as part of this expansion program, Schertz said. This equipment is unloaded at a Cedar Bayou landing, and moved on Highway 146 and FM565 during evening and night hours.

In conjunction with the new plant, ExxonMobil is working with the Texas Workforce Commission and Lee College, and nine total community colleges, to train operators for these plants. As many as 50,000 students may be involved, and benefit from these projects, over the next five years. Lee College has already seen an increase in enrollment or 20% to 30% in their process classes.

## No Secrets to Investment Success

Many people look for the “secrets” to investment success. Is it timing the market just right? Is it finding those hot stocks or getting in on the “ground floor” of the next big thing? Actually, these types of moves have little relevance to the vast majority of investors—even the most successful ones. So let’s take a look at some steps you can take that can be effective in helping you work toward your financial goals.

It’s time in the market...not market timing. Some investors think they can succeed at “market timing”—buying when the price is low and selling when the price is high. And this would indeed be a good strategy if they could predict highs and lows. No one can accurately forecast these peaks and valleys, though. So, instead of ducking in and out of the market in a vain attempt to catch the highs and lows, simply stay invested. The more time you spend in the market, the lesser the impact you’re likely to feel from short-term price swings. And if you’re always invested, you’ll always be in a position to benefit from the next market rally.

It’s “buy and hold”—not “buy and sell.” Even if you aren’t trying to time the market, you may be tempted to buy and sell frequently as you look for new and better opportunities. Yet, this constant buying and selling can be costly. Frequent trading, with all the additions and subtractions from your portfolio, can make it hard for you to follow a consistent, unified investment strategy. You’re better off purchasing quality investments and holding them for the long term, until either your needs change or the investments themselves no longer possess the same attributes they did when you purchased them.

It’s building a strong foundation—not getting in on the “ground floor.” Many people regret not being one of the initial investors of a company that has done spectacularly well. But most new companies don’t

### ASK THE EXPERT

By Edward Jones

achieve anywhere near that level of success. So, instead of looking for the next big thing on the “ground floor,” try to build a strong “foundation” consisting of a mix of quality investments suitable for your risk tolerance, goals and time horizon. This type of investing may not sound glamorous, but a strong foundation is better equipped than a possibly shaky ground floor to withstand the shifting winds of market forces.

It’s cool-headed thinking—not chasing “hot stocks.” If you browse the internet or watch one of the investment shows on cable television, you are bound to read or hear about “hot” stocks. But by the time the news reaches you, these stocks may already be cooling off. Even more importantly, they might not be right for your

needs in the first place. Instead of chasing after hot stocks, which, by their nature, carry a strong emotional component (namely, the desire for quick, big gains), try to coolly and dispassionately analyze your situation to determine which investments are really most appropriate for your goals.

There really aren’t any shortcuts to reaching your desired financial destination. But by taking the slow and steady path, you can work toward getting there.

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

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## IMMUNIZATION DAY,

Continued from page 1

deaths.

“Vaccines save lives, and they are the best investment we can make for public health, and for our children’s future,” Green said. “Since 1996, our office has hosted Immunization Day and thousands of children have received free vaccines. Through events like this and a coordinated effort on the city and county level, the immunization rate in Harris Coun-

ty has increased from 64 percent for school-aged children in 2002 to 76 percent today. We have to continue to make them more widely accessible, as well as easier to access and track.”

Immunization Day was held in partnership with Aldine ISD, Galena Park ISD, AAMA Learning Center, Harris Health System, Aldine Community Health Center, Texas Children’s

Hospital, Vecino Health Centers, Saint Hope Foundation, Texas Children’s Health Plan, Lyondell-Basell, Rotary International District 5890, Texas Medical Association Foundation, Walgreens, Sea Smiles Dental, Lone Star College Nursing Program, University of Houston and Texas Southern University Pharmacy Programs, and San Jacinto College Nursing School.



Rotarian Dr. Don Nino, and GPISD Superintendent Angi Williams at the event.



GALENA PARK ROTARIAN Maria Rodriguez and Congressman Gene Green view the students lined up in hallways prior to getting their immunizations.

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE,

Continued from page 1

emption increase requires voter approval in November.

Healthcare was a major issue, she said, and although an additional \$1.7 billion was allocated for Medicaid, due to population growth, the state continues to refuse to accept \$100 billion available from the federal government.

House Bill 18 and last session’s House Bill 5 provided high school graduation choices, and Hernandez worked to make sure it included multilingual information packets and information on these choices.

Open Carry of firearms was also an issue for this Legislature, and two bills resulted. They are known as Open Carry and Campus Carry. Open Carry will

take effect January 1, 2016 and basically changes the “concealed” nature of today’s firearms carry bill, to an open arrangement. House Bill 910 requires the gun to be holstered.

At this point, Constable Chris Diaz and Deputy Lt. F. Taylor demonstrated various holster types, and discussed their advantages. Hernandez pointed out that businesses can post signs excluding Open Carry firearms on their premises.

Campus Carry will take effect August 2016 for 4 year colleges, and August 2017 for community colleges, and CHL licensed holders will be allowed to have guns on campus, but in a concealed only fashion.

Border Security was discussed, but Hernandez



Gregory helps his mom.

said no effective program accompanied the \$800 million funding.

Hernandez passed a number of bills strengthening and simplifying law enforcement procedures.

She established a Texas Women Veterans Program to help these transition back into civilian life.

Sen. Garcia said that 37 of her bills passed, including a revenge pornography bill, a study of homeless veterans, a veterans court jurisdiction expansion, on-line training for deputy registrars for voting. She helped stop the repeal of the Dream Act.

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