

COMMUNITY NEWS

Area teen honored with 4-H Gold Star Award

Harris County 4-H on Thursday August 11 honored area youth and leaders at their yearly Awards program.

Madison Nash of Crosby 4-H Club was one of three Harris County youths who were awarded with the Gold Star Award. This is the highest county achievement award and will be awarded only once in a member's 4-H career. This award is presented to the most deserving young person. The member must be at least fifteen at the time of application and must have completed at least three years in 4-H, including the current year. Also has submitted appropriate record forms and have participated in one or more activities Leadership, Citizenship, Projects Exhibits, or Public Relations.

Madison has served as an officer in her club for four years. She has worked with her club and county with citizenship projects. Animals are her love and she has shown both steers and heifers at Crosby Fair along with prospect shows across Texas. Madison has taken her heifers to major shows throughout Texas and to Jr. Nationals for Main Anjou, Chinana and



Madison Nash of Crosby 4-H Club was awarded with the Gold Star Award.

ORB in Springfield, Illinois in 2015 and this June to Grand Island, Nebraska. Beside her main love of cattle Madison also show's swine & turkeys at Crosby and has shown lambs and goats.

When asked how she felt about winning Gold

Star she smiled and stated I am following in my Dads footsteps. He was awarded the Gold Star in 1987 and my sister Meagan in 2014.

Madison is the daughter of Billy and Shannon and the sister to Meagan and Trey Nash.

Crosby Historical Society: Grocery stores before 1980



Speakers at Crosby Historical Society meeting include Jimmy Petrick, left; Phillip Baker, middle, and Hugh Lee Baker.

The Crosby Historical Society held a meeting Saturday, August 28, 2016, at the Crosby Brethren Church. The meeting focused on the history of grocery stores in Crosby and Barrett Station before the 1980s.

Guest speakers were Jimmy Petrick, representing Jay's Super Market (presently Arlan's on Hare Road); Hugh Lee Baker representing Baker's Super Market (presently Ace Hardware); and DeeAnn Denson Rook representing her grandfather who had the Crosby Mercantile formerly at the northwest corner of Crosby Dayton Road and Runneburg Road.

It was noted that a special guest was present at the meeting, who is our oldest citizen in Crosby, Mrs. Pearlie Martin, having just celebrated her 104th birthday.

The next meeting will be held in January.



Mrs. Pearlie Martin and little Miss Emma Duda, the oldest attendant with the youngest attendant.

Blue Jean Ball outside gala



Steak dinner, family and friends made a pleasant event on Aug. 26.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce monthly luncheon

Friday, September 2, 2016 at 11:30 am at San Jacinto College North, 5800 Uvalde Rd., 77049 (inside the Monument Room of the Slovacek Student Center) with Guest Speaker Leslie Herbst, Port of Houston Authority Community Relations Manager. She will be talking about State of the Port, Port overview and impact of Panama Canal.

The Buckshot Jamboree

Enjoy Classic Country music every Saturday night from 7 pm - 10 pm with The Buckshot Jamboree at 7414 Hartman near Old Beaumont Highway. More info, call 281-458-0729 or 832-444-5000.

Galena Park Senior Dance

Senior Dance is every Monday at the Alvin D. Building, 1302 Keene St., Galena Park. 7 pm - 9 pm. No cover charge. Live band Country music. Call for more information: 713-455-7335.

North Shore Senior Dance

North Shore Seniors holds a dance every Thursday from 1 - 4 pm at the Grayson/Baldree Building, Corpus Christi street. Live bands and refreshments. Cost is \$ 5/per person. For more information call 713-455-3660.

San Jacinto Pilot Club meeting

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

Jacinto City Library programs

-Thursday, Sep. 1, JC Teen Advisory Group Meeting, 6-15 pm.
-Friday, Sep. 2, Clase de Inglés Usando Mango, 1 pm.
-Saturday, Sep. 3, Family Movie Theater, 12:30 pm.
-Monday, Sep. 5, CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY.
-Tuesday, Sep. 6, Toddler Time, 10:30 am; Children's Storytime, 11:30 am.
-Wednesday, Sep. 7, ESL Classes (Clase de Inglés), 12:30 pm.
NOTE: Will be suspending COMPUTER CLASSES at this location until further notice. There are free computer classes at the Galena Park Library, 713-450-0982 and North Channel Library, 281-457-1631.
Jacinto City Branch Library, 921 Akron, Jacinto City, TX. 77029. For more information on other programs, call 713-673-3937.

Galena Park Library Programs

-Thur., Sep. 1, Kid's Creations, 4 pm.
-Mon., Sep. 5, LIBRARY CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY.
-Wed., Sep. 7, Toddler Time, 10:30 am; Story Time, 11:30 am.
-Thur., Sep. 8, Kid's Creations (Kick Off to Football Season), 4 pm.
ADULT PROGRAMS:
-Sat., Sep. 3, Golden Classics Movies, 10 am.
-Wed., Sep. 7, Microsoft Word Básico I, 10:15 am; Microsoft Basics I, 1 pm; Get Active/Activate, 4 pm.
All children programs require tickets. Tickets are free and available the Monday before the program at the front desk. Galena Park Branch Library, 1500 Keene St., Galena Park, TX. For information on other programs, please call 713-450-0982.

Man fatally shot inside mobile home



Officers investigate a shooting at a mobile home where a man died last Sunday morning.

August 29, 2016 - Houston police are investigating the fatal shooting of a man at 1215 Falcon Street near the East Freeway, about 5 a.m. last Sunday, August 28.

According to HPD Homicide Officers, patrol officers responded to a shooting call at a trailer park and found a man, Charles Alvarez, 34, being given medical assistance by HPD paramedics. Further investigation determined Alvarez had sustained a gunshot wound to the leg. Alvarez was transported to Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital where he died.

At this time, there are no known witnesses nor suspects.

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.

ExxonMobil awards scholarships to students pursuing petrochem careers

BAYTOWN, Texas – San Jacinto College process technology student Victoria Owens said she's aware of the need for more women in process technology, and with the help of a scholarship from ExxonMobil she's well on her way to help meet that need.

"Working in process technology provides great opportunity for women," said Owens, who previously attended college and is coming back for a career change. "You can really move up in this field."

Thanks to ExxonMobil, \$45,000 in scholarships were recently presented to 34 selected students from across the nine community colleges that make up the Texas Gulf Coast Consortium of Community Colleges and the Community College Petrochemical Initiative (CCPI), now in its fourth year. With the Gulf Coast area petrochemical industry needing more than 50,000 new workers within the decade, CCPI has spread the word across the region that typical salaries in this expanding industry average nearly \$100,000 and opportunities are available with those who possess the necessary skills.

"I started taking dual credit courses in process technology during my junior year of high school, and that's what really inspired me to continue studies in this program at Brazosport College," said scholarship recipient Patrick Haynes. "I love learning about the different processes, and I really love the pay. I heard it's really good."

ExxonMobil Chemical Company Senior Vice President Matt Aguiar congratulated the students and spoke to why ExxonMobil



PHOTO BY JEANNIE PENG MANSURY/SAN JACINTO COLLEGE.

(left to right) Dr. Allatia Harris, San Jacinto College vice chancellor, strategic initiatives; Veronica Cortes, CCPI scholarship recipient and San Jacinto College process technology student; Woody Paul, plant manager for Baytown Olefins Plant; Victoria Owens, CCPI scholarship recipient and San Jacinto College process technology student; Jose Arias, CCPI scholarship recipient and San Jacinto College process technology student; and Martin Crichlow, San Jacinto College recruiter. Not pictured: Nghi Nguyen, CCPI scholarship recipient and San Jacinto College engineering student; and Robert Aguilera, CCPI scholarship recipient and San Jacinto College instrumentation student.

continues to invest in the program.

"We continue to see great progress as these colleges educate, train and develop candidates to fill the increasing number of jobs in the petrochemical industry," Aguiar said. "Because of the ongoing success, I'm proud to announce that ExxonMobil is providing another \$300,000 for this important training program."

ExxonMobil has contributed more than \$1.8 million toward training skilled new workers. This is the third consecutive

year that the initiative and ExxonMobil have brought together new recipients to present scholarships and encourage them in their educational pursuits.

The following are the 2016 CCPI scholarship recipients of ExxonMobil scholarships:

* Alvin Community College: Jasen Foytik, Andrew Flores, Mandi McLemore, Clarence Johnson
* Brazosport College: Rigoberto Cardenas, Patrick Haynes, Zackary Nieto, Yolanda Richo, Hong To
* College of the Mainland: Brandon Abshier, Richard Ahamba, Louis Maldonado, Cristina To-

bias
* Galveston College: Zachary Davis, Jacob Mares, Fabian Urias
* Houston Community College: Cajetan Nwachukwu
* Lee College: Ellis Dorrance, Marisela Morales, Camrin Lynn, Gerardo Palominos, Estaban Sanchez
* Lone Star College: Benjamin A. Brown, Douglas Bragg, Baleriano V. Perez
* San Jacinto College: Robert Aguilera, Jose Arias, Veronica Cortes, Victavia Owens, Nghi Nguyen
* Wharton County Junior College: Al'lon Jones, Carl Jones, Johnathan Klotz, Rocio Salazar Yezpe

College sets open auditions for 'Just Add Zombies'

PASADENA, Texas – The San Jacinto College theatre and film department will hold open auditions for "Just Add Zombies," a comedy that incorporates elements of the classic tale of Romeo and Juliet.

Auditions will be held on Saturday, Sept. 10, and Sunday, Sept. 11 at 6 p.m. on both dates at the Jerry Powell Arena Theatre (Building 13) located on the Central Campus at 8060 Spencer Highway in Pasadena. Auditions for the show are open to anyone in the community and enrollment at the College is not required. The cast is suitable for middle school and older and will include at least three males, nine females, eight any gender, with 12 to 40 performers possible, depending on turnout at auditions. People who audition need not prepare anything and should be dressed to move.

In the show, the parents of a high school drama

troupe pretend to be dead to avoid their kids' shows and their faculty sponsor flees with specific instructions, "Don't try to find me." In a last-ditch effort to save their star-crossed production of Romeo and Juliet and indeed their program, the desperate thespians roll the dice and gamble that a zombie cast member or two will put people in the seats. But will their hungry new actors forever change the meaning of "live theatre?"

"Just Add Zombies" opens at the Powell Arena Theatre on Oct. 19 and will run through Oct. 21, with an 11:59 p.m. performance on Oct. 31. General admission is \$10 per person at the door, with a discount price of \$8 per person for all who purchase tickets by Oct. 18. The box office phone number is 281-476-1828.

To find out more about theatre degrees and courses at San Jacinto College, visit sanjac.edu/career/theatre-film.

Immunization Day,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

fective public health tools available for preventing disease and death," said Green, the Ranking Member for the Subcommittee on Health. "Our immunization effort is organized over two days, in three locations, and coincides with National Immunization Awareness Month, with the hope that the greatest amount of students will receive the vaccines they need, free of charge, and their families will be connected to the medical information they need to stay healthy."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), among children born during 1994-2013, vaccination will prevent an estimated 322 million illnesses, 21 million hospitalizations, and 732,000 deaths over the course of their lifetimes.

"My number one goal is increasing access to vaccines because they save

lives," said Green. "Vaccines not only protect the recipient, but also help prevent the spread of certain diseases, especially to those that are most vulnerable to serious complications, such as infants and young children, elderly, and those with chronic conditions and weakened immune systems. The bottom line is that efforts like these keep our communities safe from outbreaks of preventable diseases."

Immunization Day is held in partnership with: Harris Health System, Texas Children's Hospital Mobile Clinic Outreach Program, Galena Park ISD, Galena Park ISD School Based Clinic, Texas Children's Health Plan, North Shore Rotary Club, AAMA, Rotary International District 5890, Lyondell Basell, Walgreens and MD Anderson.

Weapons & Drugs,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Deputies seized 22 weapons, 3 vehicles and over 10 kilos of cocaine, which has an estimated street value of over 1 million dollars.

In addition, three persons were arrested. Jason Rivera, 37, and Angelica Mata, 29, were charged with "Delivery of a Controlled Substance" and "Possession of a Controlled Substance with Intent to Deliver." Denica Chabolla, 41, was

charged with "Possession of a Controlled Substance."

This investigation was conducted in conjunction with the Harris County Joint Task Force, the High Risk Operations Unit, the Gang Unit, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and Homeland Security Investigations (HSI).

Channelview Falcons,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

this group to grow up fast if we expect to have the same success as last year."

A strong offensive line will be of great benefit to the Falcons, with center Roberto Varvelo, tackle Bernard Childs and guard Gil Bernal entering their third year as varsity starters. "These guys will give us some much needed experience, which will certainly help our young offense," Hurts said.

The defensive front appears to be stout as well, with tackle Tayvien Green, defensive ends Blake Stanley and Jontrell Howard returning to the lineup. Middle linebacker Devante Brooks and two-time All-District defensive back Tuciano Pope are also expected to make solid contributions.

The Falcons will have to contend with some different faces with realignment placing five new teams in District 21-6A. Highly-ranked Atascocita, Kingwood and Summer Creek join from Humble ISD, while Goose Creek Memorial is moving up from Class 5A. A former rivalry will be rekindled as C.E. King has moved up in classification to join the district. North Shore and Baytown Sterling round out the eight-team league. "The quality of our competition won't change that much, other than we expanded by two teams," Hurts said. "It's going to be a tough district from top to bottom – anyone is capable of beating anybody on any given night."

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OPINION PAGE

TxDOT urges drivers to plan for a sober ride leading up to Labor Day

'Plan While You Can' Campaign aims to reduce crashes, save lives during holiday weekend

AUSTIN — As celebrations are finalized to mark the last days of summer, the Texas Department of Transportation urges drivers to make a plan leading up to the Labor Day holiday — a plan for a safe and sober ride home.

"Drinking and driving remains a big problem in Texas," said TxDOT Executive Director James Bass. "If you plan to drink, you must plan ahead for a safe and sober ride home. It's a plan that could save a family — even your own — from the heartbreak of losing a loved one."

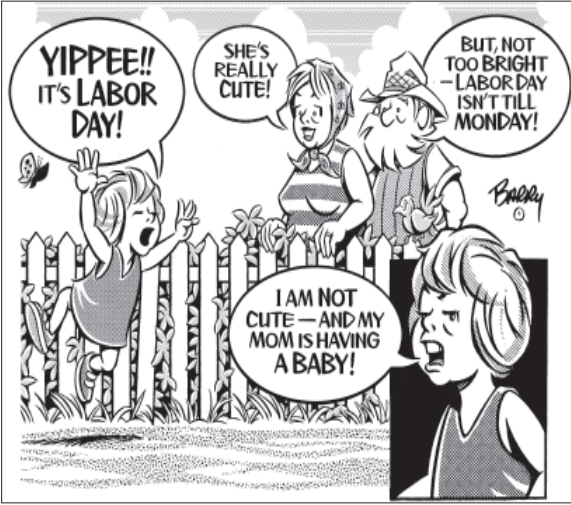
TxDOT's "Plan While You Can" campaign kicked off today in San Antonio and runs through September 5 to coincide with Labor Day and increased DWI enforcement in Texas. During the Labor Day holiday period in 2015, there were 359 alcohol-related crashes that led to 12 fatalities and 36 serious injuries.

The campaign is a

multi-city tour featuring an interactive dodgeball game that uses gaming technology to educate the public about the effects of alcohol on a person's reflexes. As participants play, virtual drinks are added and the players' on-screen avatars become less able to dodge incoming "dodgeballs." The game demonstrates how even one drink can slow reaction times.

As always, TxDOT strongly encourages everyone to plan for a sober ride before going out. In addition to potentially life threatening crashes, drivers under the influence of alcohol could face up to \$17,000 in fines and fees, jail time and loss of their driver's license. Visit SoberRides.org to find alternatives to drinking and driving, such as:

- Calling a taxi or using a transportation app on your smart-phone.
- Using mass transit.
- Asking a sober friend or family member for a ride home.
- Stay where you are and spend the night.



Teaching your child healthy habits

(NAPSI)—If you're like most parents, you work hard to make sure your children eat their veggies, brush their teeth and always say "please" and "thank you," but one important habit is often forgotten.

Experts advise parents to teach children the importance of smiling. Smiling can positively affect you and the people around you, and lower stress, which should improve your child's quality of life.

What You Can Do

Here's a look at a few of the habits that can be crucial to ensuring children enjoy a healthy lifestyle:

1. Setting a regular bedtime: According to the National Sleep Foundation, children need at least 10 to 12 hours of sleep. By the age of 2, children have spent more time asleep than awake. Why is this? Sleep is vital to children's development and lets them be alert, fresh and ready to learn every day. While bedtime tantrums can be frustrating, they may well be an indicator that your child needs sleep. Avoid active endeavors right before bed and replace them with 30 minutes of relaxing, quiet activities. This will encourage a healthy bedtime routine for kids and may help them to see the importance of a good night's sleep.
2. Keeping active: Encourage your children to play outside, join a team or take part in some other activity outside of school. This provides a great opportunity to meet and socialize with other kids they may not meet otherwise. Developing hobbies from a young age helps keep children busy and gives them a chance to learn beyond the classroom.
3. Eating fruits and vegetables: Reinforcing a healthy diet will improve your children's mood, health and even their smiles. Instilling a healthy diet early will create lifelong habits that will benefit your child for years to come.
4. Smiling more often: Teach your child the importance of proactive oral care to ensure fewer trips to the dentist and a bright, healthy smile for life. Getting your children to brush and floss twice a day may not be easy, but parents can ensure their kids have a complete oral care routine by using Sunstar GUM®'s suite of toothbrushes, toothpaste and flossers for kids featuring popular themes such as Crayola™, Power Rangers™, Dragons™ and Lalaloopsy™. The new kid's toothpaste collection lets kids add color to their brushing routine. You can find your child's favorite colorful toothpaste, toothbrushes and flossers in retailers such as Target and online at www.gumbrand.com.
5. Reading for pleasure: Encourage your kids to take a break from video games, social media and other distracting forms of technology and pick up a book instead. Reading for pleasure will help expand your children's imagination and develop their reading skills. Once their homework is complete, designate a daily "screen-free" hour or make it a family activity by reading a chapter or two together before bed each night.

Federal court rules in favor of UT's campus carry policy

AUSTIN — An attempt by three University of Texas as at Austin professors to prevent licensed permit holders from carrying their concealed handguns while attending classes was denied by U.S. District Court Judge Lee Yeakel on Aug. 22.

Named as defendants in the professors' lawsuit were Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, UT President Gregory L. Fenves and each member of the UT Board of Regents. The campus carry policy that sparked the lawsuit was approved by the board of regents in accordance with Senate Bill 11, a law passed by the state Legislature in 2015 allowing concealed carry on public university campuses. The law took effect Aug. 1 and the first day of classes was Aug. 24.

In their lawsuit, the professors asserted that classroom discussion would be "circumscribed by the near-certain presence of loaded guns" and that their ability to "make (their classrooms) truly a marketplace for the robust exchange of ideas will be impaired." Their suit also argued that the new law and policy made them "incited to err on the side of 'trimming their sails,' academically speaking, when they push for classroom debate."

In his ruling, however, Yeakel ruled that the law and the policy did not compromise their academic freedom in violation of the First Amendment, did not deny them due process under the Fourteenth Amendment, and are not unconstitutionally vague.

Meanwhile, on the first day of classes, thousands of UT students reacted to the ruling and drew widespread media attention by attending on-campus rallies against guns in classrooms and openly carrying sex toys.

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling



Transgender guidelines on hold

A Fort Worth federal court on Aug. 21 halted the U.S. Department of Education's new guidelines proposing to create a safe and nondiscriminatory environment for transgender students in public schools. The guidelines would have allowed transgender students to use restrooms and locker rooms consistent with their gender identity.

In the case brought by the State of Texas and 12 other states, U.S. District Judge Reed O'Connor granted the plaintiffs injunctive relief. O'Connor concluded that the Department of Education failed to comply with the federal Administrative Procedures Act by: (1) foregoing the act's notice and comment requirements; and (2) issuing directives which contradict the existing legislative and regulatory texts.

O'Connor forbade the Department of Education from enforcing the guidelines against the plaintiffs and their respective schools, school boards and other public, educationally based institutions. O'Connor further instructed that all parties maintain the status quo until the court rules on the merits of this claim or until further direction from the Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Many teachers work 2 jobs

Almost a third of teachers (31 percent) responding to a Texas State Teachers Association survey hold outside jobs during the school year to support themselves and their families, TSTA reported Aug. 25.

The extra jobs are in addition to the 17 hours the respondents said they spend on average each week outside the classroom on teaching-related tasks, such as grading papers and preparing lesson plans, the association said.

The survey, conducted for TSTA by faculty members at Sam Houston State University, found that 49 percent of respondents had summer jobs.

Respondents also reported spending an average \$656 a year out of their own pockets for classroom supplies and an average \$326 a month on health insurance premiums.

Furthermore, TSTA reported, "Public education funding in Texas lags almost \$2,700 per student below the national average and teacher pay falls more than \$6,000 below the national average."

Mobility improvements to come

The Texas Transportation Commission on Aug. 25 approved the 2017 Unified Transportation Program with \$70 billion worth of projects to help TxDOT meet the state's growing transportation demands.

Developed with extensive public input and legislative approval, the 10-year plan targets congestion in the state's most-populated areas and includes projects to better connect the major interstates in rural areas with local roads and highways, according to the Commission. Outside urban areas, the program calls for enhancing and completing interstate highways, as well as addressing the continuing needs within the energy sector and along hurricane evacuation routes.

"The Unified Transportation Program reflects TxDOT's commitment to planning for and meeting the mobility needs of our fast-growing state," said Transportation Commission Chairman Tryon Lewis.

OPINION

Off-Road Riding becomes more connected

(NAPSI)—Good news for powersports enthusiasts: Infotainment features from the auto industry are now being customized for off-road! The new enhanced riding experience connects drivers not only to their vehicle, but to their passengers, other drivers, and friends and family back home.

The Problem

Off-road riding is intended to be a social experience, as most off-road enthusiasts ride with a passenger or in a group. But the reality is that riding is often disconnected.

Being strapped into a vehicle with a helmet makes it difficult to communicate with others; having multiple gadgets such as a GoPro, GPS and a smartphone is cumbersome; and capturing ride memories to share is challenging—often requiring multiple steps, including getting out of the vehicle, remembering to turn the GoPro on, and taking your gloves off to use touch interfaces.

Technology Rides To The Rescue

Now, there's a unique solution that combines a mobile phone app and an intuitive, glove-touch, weather-resistant, in-dash, 7-in. display.

Known as RIDE COMMAND, the system is available as an accessory for select Polaris RZR vehicles and is standard on the RZR XP 1000 EPS Velocity Blue Limited Edition. With the app, you can map rides in advance and transfer waypoints from your phone to the display via Bluetooth. You can also track where the group is without needing to actually see them—or to hang in their dust trail. This not only helps keep

you and other riders from getting lost, it enhances everyone's overall experience by letting you leave more space between vehicles. The app will even alert you when friends are close by, and you can track and share your ride stats directly to your social feed.

There's also seamless device control in one spot. Get text and call notifications right on the screen for easier viewing. Listen to music either through Bluetooth or an AM/FM radio, also on the display. To help you communicate with your passengers, there's an accessory Sena headset connected via Bluetooth. Loading, unloading and traversing obstacles is easier as the display integrates with standard front- and rear-wired cameras.

Along with being available for select RZR vehicles, the technology is also available on the Indian Chief and Indian Roadmaster, and enables fleet-management capabilities in Polaris' GEM line of electric vehicles.

More Fun On Your Off-Road

Once you've got your vehicle all kitted out, you may care to consider these five other ways to add to your riding enjoyment:

- Join an ATV club.
- Take lots of photos of your rides and at events.
- Put a video camera on your helmet for a different perspective on your rides.
- Try a trail exchange. Ask family and friends to recommend trails you haven't tried.
- Take the latest off-road vehicle models for a test ride to see all the new technology available.

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LIFESTYLE

OBITUARIES

Nathan Earl Dowdy

Born Nov. 17, 1964 in Baytown, TX, Nathan Earl Dowdy passed from this life, to go rest in the arms of his Savior, on Nov. 24, 2015, at the age of 51. Nathan is lovingly survived by his mother, Faye Robins and husband Jim; his father, Adrian Earl Dowdy; sister, Rebecca Dowdy Hale and husband Lee; brother, Kent Dowdy and wife Tammy. He is also survived by his daughter, Brittany Christine Dowdy Martinez and her husband Jency; his grandchildren, Briley, Brissa, and Jency Jr., Martinez; his aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and numerous friends. He was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Olaf and Doris Underwood and paternal grandparents, Dock and Erma Lee Dowdy; also, two cousins, Jacob O'Baya, and John Dowdy. Nathan was a Channelview ISD student. He loved to tell jokes and was a defender for those that were bullied. He loved to make little children laugh. One of his favorite pastimes was feeding and watching the birds and squirrels, while listening to country music. There was no bigger fan of Willie, Waylon, Johnny and the "boys" than Nathan. During his illness, there were people around him that he came to appreciate and admire. In no special order, some of these were Dr. Matthew Horsfield (who always listened to his jokes), Dr. Gerard Francisco (whom he affectionately nicknamed "Hollywood"), Dexter (whom he loved to joke with), Helen (who was like a 2nd mom), and Nabil



(who treated him like a brother). Although other names are lost on us, Nathan remembered each one, and spoke with affection whenever he recalled them. Thank you to each of you for the kindness you showed him. You always helped to brighten his days. The family held a private Memorial Service on Aug. 9, 2016, led by Pastor Stephen Daily, at the San Jacinto Memorial Cemetery. 2 Timothy. 4:7-8 (KJV)

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CHURCH LISTINGS

Crosby, Highlands, Huffman, Baytown

ANGLICAN CHURCH

• Church of the Resurrection, meeting at Crosby Brethren Church, 5202 1st Street, Crosby. 832-661-9693.
• APOSTOLIC CHURCH
• First Apostolic Church of Highlands, 1211 S. Main St. Highlands. 281-426-4133

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

• Crosby Gospel Assembly, 633 Kenning Rd., Crosby. 281-328-2516
• First Assembly of God, 406 N. Magnolia St., Highlands. 281-426-3170
• Gospel Lighthouse, 8218 John Martin Rd., Baytown. 281-421-1168

BAPTIST

• Calvary Baptist, 2217 Huffman Eastgate Rd., Huffman, 281-324-3409
• Highlands Baptist, 111 E. Canal Rd., Highlands. 281-426-2470
• Northeast Freeway Baptist, 1635 Runneberg Rd., Crosby. 281-328-2723
• Unity Baptist, 2625 Broad Dr., Highlands. 281-426-4223
• Iglesia Bautista Comunidad, 5323 Highway 90, Crosby. 281-421-9810. "Venid y te Haremos Bien"

BAPTIST-Missionary

• Antioch Missionary Baptist, 2500 Harris St., Highlands. 281-426-6565.
• First Missionary Baptist Church, 301 Cypress Avenue, Crosby. 281-462-7634.
• Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist, 315 Nod, Crosby. 281-328-4650
• True Vine Missionary Baptist, 404 Oak Ave., Crosby. 281-328-7637
• Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, 12418 Crosby Rd., Crosby. 281-328-1851

BAPTIST-Southern

• First Baptist- Crosby, 615 Runneberg Rd., Crosby. 281-328-2564
• First Baptist- Highlands, N. Magnolia at Wallisville, Highlands. 281-426-4551

• First Baptist- Huffman, 25503 FM 2100, Huffman. 281-324-1888
• Northside Baptist, 317 Barbers Hill Rd., Highlands. 281-426-5415
• Second Baptist, 400 E. Wallisville Rd., Highlands. 281-426-5557
• Crosby New Hope Baptist Church, 18319 FM 2100, Crosby. 281-328-6086

BRETHREN

• Crosby Brethren, 5202 1st St., Crosby. 281-328-2442

CATHOLIC

• Holy Family, 7122 Whiting Rock, Baytown. 281-426-8448
• Sacred Heart, 915 Runneberg Rd., Crosby. 281-328-4871
• St. Martin De Porres, 12606 FM 2100, Crosby. 281-328-4422
• St. Jude Thaddeus, 800 S. Main St., Highlands. 281-843-2422
• St. Phillip the Apostle, 2308 3rd St., Huffman. 281-324-1478

CHURCH OF CHRIST

• Church of Christ at Wallisville Rd., 1500 E. Wallisville Rd., 281-426-7557.
• Crosby Church of Christ, 3737 Hwy 90, Crosby. 281-328-3496
• Highlands Church of Christ, 214 Clear Lake Rd., Highlands. 281-426-2742
• Barrett Station Church of Christ, 281-328-7882

CHURCH OF GOD

• First Pentecostal Church of God, 1328 Old Atascocita, Huffman. 281-324-1518
• Harvest Time Church of God, 495 S. Diamondhead Blvd., Crosby. 281-462-8060

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

• Mt. Rose Church of God in Christ, 13000 FM 2100, Crosby. 281-328-1314

EPISCOPAL

• Church of the Resurrection, 5202 Church St., Crosby.

INDEPENDENT

• Crosby Church, 5725 Hwy 90, Crosby and 30673 Huffman

Cleveland Rd., Huffman, 281-328-1310
• Huffman Church, 1707 Huffman Eastgate Rd., Huffman, 281-324-3705
• New Covenant of Faith, 12217 Holly Rd., Crosby. 281-328-1315
• Restoration House, 1609 Jones Rd., Highlands. 281-843-4000
• Son Harvest, 2027 FM 1942, Crosby. 281-543-2860.

LUTHERAN

• Our Shepherd, 19704 FM 2100, Huffman. 281-324-2422

METHODIST

• Crosby United Methodist, 1334 Runneberg Rd., Crosby. 281-328-2616
• Highlands United Methodist, 107 W. Houston St., Highlands. 281-426-3614
• Lake Houston United Methodist, 23606 FM 2100, Huffman. 281-324-1541

NON DENOMINATION

• Lifepoint Church, 9235 North Highway 146, Baytown, TX. 77523. 281-576-5452.

UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

• Pentecostals of Crosby 502 Pine at Hwy 90 Crosby, TX 77532(281) 328-5054. Sunday 10 AM. Wednesday 7 PM. Pastor Kerry D. Lee

Channelview, Jacinto City, Galena Park, Houston

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

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

BAPTIST

• New Life Baptist Church of East Houston, 18570 Van Road, Houston, 77049. 281-456-0082

• Second Baptist Church, 1913 18th. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-672-9232.
• Second Baptist Church, 10501 Muscatine, Jacinto City, TX. 713-674-8463.
• St. Matthew Baptist Church, 119 Fidelity, Houston, TX. 713-674-0062.
• First Baptist Church, 1505 1st. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-455-1261.

BAPTIST-Southern

• Dell Dale Avenue Baptist Church, 402 Dell Dale Avenue, Channelview, TX. 281-452-3704.
• South Drive Baptist Church, 15229 South Drive, Channelview, TX. 77530. 281-452-4500.
• First Baptist Church of Jacinto City, 10701 Wiggins, Jacinto City, TX 77029. 713-672-2802.
• Beaumont Place Baptist Church, 13101 Ivydale Street, Houston, TX. 77049.

CATHOLIC

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

CHURCH OF CHRIST

• Channelview Church of Christ, 1301 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, TX. 281-452-7129.
• Galena Park Church of Christ, 301 Holland Ave, Galena Park, TX. 713-455-0826.

EPISCOPAL

• St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 13125 Indianapolis St., Channelview, TX. 281-451-2909.

HOLINESS

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

METHODIST

• Old River Terrace United Methodist Church, 16102 East Freeway, Channelview, TX. 281-452-2861.
• Galena Park United Methodist, 1705 1st. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-672-0245.
• Holy Trinity United Methodist, 13207 Orleans St., Houston, TX. 713-453-7203.

For corrections or new listings, call 281-328-9605

GCCISD employee rewarded for rescuing family



Anthony Price, Goose Creek CISD deputy superintendent, presents a gift certificate for an aluminum jon boat to Richard Reynolds from the Grounds Department. Last fall, Reynolds rescued a family whose boat had overturned on Cedar Bayou, endangering his life and resulting in the loss of his wallet, phone and fishing equipment. During the rescue, his boat sank and the motor was ruined. Price contacted Reynolds Marine, Inc. in Baytown and owner Bob Johnson arranged with Bass Pro Shop to sell Reynolds a boat at cost. With the help of Johnson, Price and other Goose Creek CISD staff members, enough money was collected to purchase the boat. Reynolds and other staff members from each department were recognized as heroes at the recent Auxiliary Convocation held in the Goose Creek Memorial High School Auditorium.

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

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

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

BUSINESS

Diamond Jim: "How old is The United StatesArmy?"



ASK DIAMOND JIM

The United States Army
The United States Army (USA) is the largest branch of the United States Armed Forces and performs land-based military operations. It is one of the seven uniformed services of the United States and is designated as the Army of the United States in the United States Constitution, Article 2, Section 2, Clause 1 and United States Code, Title 10, Subtitle B, Chapter 301, Section 3001. As the largest and senior branch of the U.S. military, the modern U.S. Army has its roots in the Continental Army, which was formed (14 June 1775) to fight the American Revolutionary War (1775–83)—before the U.S. was established as a country. After the Revolutionary War, the Congress of the Confederation created the United States Army on 3 June 1784, to replace the disbanded Continental Army. The United States Army considers itself descended from the Continental Army, and dates its institutional inception from the origin of that armed force in 1775 (so, The United States Army is approximately 241 years old).

As a uniformed military service, the Army is part of the Department of the Army, which is one of the three military departments of the Department of Defense. The U.S. Army is headed by a civilian senior appointed civil servant, the Secretary of the Army (SECAR-MY), and by a chief military officer, the Chief of Staff of the Army (CSA) who is also a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. In the fiscal year 2016, the projected end strength for the Regular Army (USA) was 475,000 soldiers; the Army National Guard (ARNG) had 342,000 soldiers, and the United States Army Reserve (USAR) had 198,000 soldiers; the combined-component strength of the U.S. Army was 1,015,000 soldiers. As a branch of the armed forces, the mission of the U.S. Army is "to fight and win our Nation's wars, by providing prompt, sustained, land dominance, across the full range of military operations and the spectrum of conflict, in support of combatant commanders. The service participates in conflicts worldwide and is the major ground-based offensive and defensive force.

The Continental Army was created on 14 June 1775 by the Continental Congress as a unified army for the colonies to fight Great Britain, with George Washington appointed as its commander. The army was initially led by men who had served in the British Army or colonial militias and who brought much of British military heritage

with them. As the Revolutionary War progressed, French aid, resources, and military thinking influenced the new army. A number of European soldiers came on their own to help, such as Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben, who taught the army Prussian tactics and organizational skills.

The army fought numerous pitched battles and in the South 1780–81 sometimes used the Fabian strategy and hit-and-run tactics, hitting where the enemy was weakest, to wear down the British forces. Washington led victories against the British at Trenton and Princeton, but lost a series of battles around New York City in 1776 and Philadelphia in 1777. With a decisive victory at Yorktown, and the help of the French, the Continental Army prevailed against the British.

After the war, though, the Continental Army was quickly given land certificates and disbanded in a reflection of the republican distrust of standing armies. State militias became the new nation's sole ground army, with the exception of a regiment to guard the Western Frontier and one battery of artillery guarding West Point's arsenal. However, because of continuing conflict with Native Americans, it was soon realized that it was necessary to field a trained standing army. The Regular Army was at first very small, and after General St. Clair's defeat at the Battle of the Wabash, the Regular Army was reorganized as the Legion of the United States, which was established in 1791 and renamed the "United States Army" in 1796.

Army components
The task of organizing the U.S. Army commenced in 1775. In the first one hundred years of its existence, the United States Army was maintained as a small peacetime force to man permanent forts and perform other non-war-time duties such as engineering and construction works. During times of war, the U.S. Army was augmented by the much larger United States Volunteers which were raised independently by various state governments. States also maintained full-time militias which could also be called into the service of the army.

By the twentieth century, the U.S. Army had mobilized the U.S. Volunteers on four separate occasions during each of the major wars of the nineteenth century. During World War I, the "National Army" was organized to fight the conflict, replacing the concept of U.S. Volunteers. It was demobilized at the end of World War I, and was replaced by the Regular Army, the Organized Reserve Corps, and the State Militias. In the 1920s and 1930s, the "career" soldiers were known as the "Regular Army" with the "Enlisted Reserve Corps" and "Officer Reserve Corps" augmented to fill vacancies when needed.

In 1941, the "Army of the United States" was founded to fight World War II. The Regular Army, Army of the United States, the National Guard, and Officer/Enlisted Reserve Corps (ORC and ERC) existed simultaneously. After World War II, the ORC and ERC were combined into the United States Army Reserve. The Army of the United States was re-established for the Korean War and Vietnam War and was

demobilized upon the suspension of the draft.

Currently, the army is divided into the Regular Army, the Army Reserve, and the Army National Guard. The army is also divided into major branches such as Air Defense Artillery, Infantry, Aviation, Signal Corps, Corps of Engineers, and Armor. Before 1903 members of the National Guard were considered state soldiers unless federalized (i.e., activated) by the President. Since the Militia Act of 1903 all National Guard soldiers have held dual status: as National Guardsmen under the authority of the governor of their state or territory and, when activated, as a reserve of the U.S. Army under the authority of the President.

Since the adoption of the total force policy, in the aftermath of the Vietnam War, reserve component soldiers have taken a more active role in U.S. military operations. For example, Reserve and Guard units took part in the Gulf War, peacekeeping in Kosovo, Afghanistan, and the 2003 invasion of Iraq.

The staff entire at Pineforest Jewelry salute all of our service men and women, from every branch of the military, stationed here in the USA and all over the world. You have our deep respect and our unending appreciation.

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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.

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Investors Can Learn Much from Workers

ASK THE EXPERT
By Edward Jones

Next week, we observe Labor Day, a celebration of the American worker. And there's a lot to celebrate, because our workers have accomplished great things and, in the process, demonstrated a variety of impressive character traits – many of which also can be useful to investors.

For example:

- **Perseverance** – Have you ever read about an inventor who failed dozens of times before finally hitting on a winner? Or a scientist who studied the same problem for decades before discovering a revolutionary solution? All kinds of workers display this type of perseverance, in one form or another. As an investor, you, too, will need this "stick-to-itiveness" because you will face challenges. Markets will drop, individual investments may disappoint, tax laws may change, and so on. But if you're patient, and you follow a long-term strategy that's based on your needs, risk tolerance and time horizon, you can overcome those obstacles that may be blocking progress toward your goals.
- **Inquisitiveness** – During your own work, you've probably found that you can improve your effectiveness simply by asking a few questions or otherwise learning a little more about your tasks at hand. As an investor, you'll also find that knowledge is power – because the more you know about investing and investments, the better prepared you can be when making decisions. Sometimes,


this knowledge can help you look past the so-called experts who are touting the "next hot stock." Other times, your curiosity may lead you to find new opportunities. In any case, learn as much as you can, and if you work with a financial professional, ask questions – as many as necessary. The investment world is fascinating, and it can be complex – but it is also understandable to those who make the effort.

- **Flexibility** – When something isn't working, you may need to try another approach. Successful workers know this – and so do successful investors. Suppose, for example, you have been trying to boost your overall return by buying and selling investments. After a while, you may realize that such behavior is costly – in more ways than one. You will likely rack up fees and commissions, you may incur the highest rate of capital gains taxes (assessed on investments held less than one year), and you will be disrupting any cohesive investment strategy you've established. Upon recognizing these problems, you could decide to "switch gears" and follow a long-term, "buy-and-hold" strategy. That's flexibility – and that's a great attribute for investors.
- **Vision** – Good workers have a clear picture of what they want to accomplish – and they know what they must do to reach their goal. As an investor, you also need to establish a vision of where you want to go and how you can get there. So when contemplating your retirement, try to foresee the lifestyle you hope to lead – will you travel the world or stay close to home, pursuing your hobbies? Then, use this vision to help guide your actions, such as increasing your contributions to your 401(k) or IRA, or changing the investment mix within these accounts.

Transferring what you learn from the working world to the investment arena can help make investing a less laborious – and potentially more enjoyable – process. So put that knowledge to good use.

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

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THE CITY OF GALENA PARK WILL BE HOLDING A PUBLIC HEARING ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2016 AT 5:30 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL, 2000 CLINTON DRIVE, GALENA PARK, TEXAS, 77547 CONCERNING THE 2016-2017 CITY BUDGET. ALL CITIZENS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

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BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED AT JACINTO CITY CITY HALL UNTIL 5:00 P.M. ON SEPTEMBER 22, 2016 AND WILL BE OPENED AND READ AT THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AT 10301 MARKET ST. AT 6:00 P.M. ON SAID DATE. ALL BIDS SUBMITTED TO JACINTO CITY MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A BID BOND IN THE AMOUNT OF 5% OF TOTAL BID.

A PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT JACINTO CITY CITY HALL, 1301 MERCURY DR. ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2016 AT 10:00 A.M.. VENDORS ARE ENCOURAGED TO BE PRESENT AT THIS MEETING.

THE CITY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY/OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY/OR ALL TECHNICALITIES AND TO ACCEPT ANY BID OR PART THEREOF, WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE CITY COUNCIL IS MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE CITY.

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LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

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LEGAL NOTICE


LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

The Mayor and City Council of Jacinto City will meet in Special Session on Thursday, September 8, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 10301 Market Street for the purpose of the second and final public hearing on the anticipated budget for the Fiscal Year 2016/2017. Public participation is encouraged.

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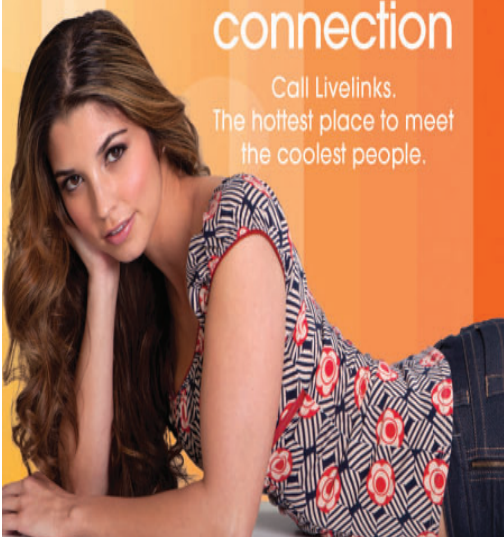
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SPORTS

2016 college football season starts off with a bang!

The first weekend of the 2016 college football season is going to be must-see TV!

The opening weekend, which falls on Labor Day Weekend, schedule is loaded with matchups featuring Top 25 teams nine of the nation's top 20 teams will square off beginning Saturday morning when the No. 3-ranked Oklahoma Sooners visit the No. 15 Houston Cougars at NRG Stadium. Saturday will also feature No. 1-ranked Alabama (the defending national champion) taking on No. 20-ranked USC at AT&T Stadium in Arlington. No. 5-ranked LSU visits Lambeau Stadium to take on Wisconsin Saturday afternoon, while up in College Station, Texas A&M hosts UCLA in what could be a season-shaping game for Kevin Sumlin's Aggies.

Also on Saturday, No. 18 Georgia takes on an underrated North Carolina squad and on Sunday, more attention will be focused on the Lone Star State when No. 10-ranked Notre Dame pays a visit to Austin to take on Charlie Strong's Texas squad.

The opening weekend concludes on Labor Day when No. 11-ranked Mississippi faces off against No. 5-ranked Florida State in Orlando.

This is definitely one of the best opening weekends in the history of college football. The top ranked teams are putting a lot on the line in Week 1, but a loss won't necessarily knock them out of the College Football Playoff (CFP) picture. Remember, Alabama suffered a home loss to Mississippi in Week three, then reeled off 12 straight victories en route to another national title for Nick Saban's team.

The Cougars are one of the teams that would have much to gain with an upset of OU in the season opener. Tom Herman's team finished 13-1 a year ago and upset Florida State in the Peach Bowl. The Cougars desperately want a shot at one of the four CFP spots and a win over the Sooners would provide plenty of momentum as they move forward with their 2016 season. UH has a favorable schedule. Their only pitfalls could come on Sept. 17 at Cincinnati, at home on Nov. 17 against Louisville and in the season finale on Nov. 25 at Memphis.

If Herman's team runs the table and wins a second straight American Athletic Conference title, UH just might crack the stranglehold the Top Five conferences have on the CFP.

Labor Day Weekend also marks the second week of the high school season and moves us one week closer to the start of the 2016 NFL season.

Let's take a look a closer look at this week's schedule and begin making picks for the 2016 season.

NCAA

Oklahoma vs. Houston: The big Labor Day Weekend of college football begins at 11 a.m. on Saturday when the Cougars and Sooners go after it in NRG Stadium in the Advocate Texas Kickoff Classic in what should be an offensive shootout. This game will feature two of the top quarterbacks in the nation as UH's Greg Ward Jr., and OU's Baker Mayfield put their talents on display. Ward led Houston to a 13-1 season in 2015 and is a dangerous runner and passer. Last season, he passed for 2,827 yards and 17 touchdowns and rushed for 1,114 yards and 21 touchdowns. Mayfield led the Sooners to the Big 12 title and a spot in the CFP semifinals with 3,700 yards passing and 36 touchdowns. OU has a solid backfield with two quality rushers in Samaje Perine (1,349 yards, 16 TDs) and Joe Mixon (753 yards, 11 TDs). Houston is counting on former Eisenhower star Donald Catalan to handle the rushing duties. Catalan sat out last year after he transferred from Texas. The key to this game will be how well the UH defense handles the OU running game. UH is inexperienced on defense, but Herman has had two strong recruiting classes. Look for plenty of points to be scored in this one, but the edge goes to OU and its more experienced defense. Sorry Cougar fans. My pick, Oklahoma 34, Houston 31

UCLA at Texas A&M: Texas A&M head coach Kevin Sumlin is hoping his team gets off to a



quick start in 2016 to not only build momentum for the rigorous SEC schedule, but to also quiet his critics who think his time is up in College Station. A signature win over one of the better teams from the Pac 12 would be a good start. The 16th-ranked UCLA Bruins pay a visit to Aggeland on Saturday and will bring with them one of the top quarterbacks in sophomore Josh Rosen. As a true freshman, Rosen accounted for 3,669 passing yards and 23 touchdowns. He will give an improved Aggie defense a real test right out of the box. The A&M defense made a vast improvement in 2015 under first-year defensive coordinator John Chavis and that unit might be the strength of this year's team. The Aggies have the best defensive end in the country in junior Myles Garrett (11.5 sacks in 2015) and a solid secondary. Garrett will give Rosen fits on Saturday and weather could also play a factor. The Texas heat should work in A&M's favor. Offensively, the Aggies are work in progress. Former OU quarterback Trevor Knight will start at quarterback and he has a lot of experience at wide receiver to throw to, but the running game is inexperience. Another OU transfer, running back Keith Ford will be called on to carry the load, along with James White. Look for the A&M defense to wear down the Bruins in the heat as Sumlin gets a much-needed early-season boost. My pick, Texas A&M 33, UCLA 28

LSU vs. Wisconsin: The Tigers and Badgers visit Green Bay to kick off their seasons in what should be a game dominated by two of the better defenses in the country. LSU might be without superstar running back Leonard Fournette (1,953 yards rushing, 23 TDs), who suffered a leg injury in summer camp. If he can't go, sophomore Derrius Guice (436 yards rushing, 3 TDs) will take his place. Guice is a capable backup, but he'll be facing a Wisconsin defense that was the No. 1 defense in the country in 2015. The Badgers aren't flashy. They play old-fashioned, hard-nosed football and playing in state should be a plus on their side. But LSU has a very good defense itself, one that is big up front and has speed all over. Look for LSU's overall athleticism to be the difference in this one as the Tigers earn a hard-fought, season-opening victory. My pick, LSU 20, Wisconsin 16

Georgia at North Carolina: This one should supply plenty of offense when the Bulldogs and Tar Heels hook up in Chapel Hill. This will be Kirby Smart's first game as a head coach. The former Alabama defensive coordinator took over the program in January with plans on instilling a toughness that has been lacking in Athens for the last few years. He inherited a wealth of talent, led by running back Nick Chubb (747 yards, 8 TDs in just six games). Chubb sustained a knee injury six games into the season, but the year before when healthy he rushed for more than 1,500 yards and scored 14 touchdowns. A healthy Chubb will give a suspect NC defense fits on Saturday. But the Tar Heels offense should also find the end zone as well. A year ago, the Tar Heels won their division in the ACC and too Clemson down to the wire in the ACC title game. North Carolina has a prolific offense, as does Georgia, so expect the scoreboard to light up on Saturday afternoon. Look for Chubb to be the difference maker in this one as the Smart Era gets off to a nice start. My pick, Georgia 36, North Carolina 33

USC vs. Alabama: Alabama opens defense of its national championship with a stern test against a talented USC squad. The game will be played in Arlington at AT&T Stadium in prime time on ABC (7 p.m. kickoff). Some schools might be in rebuilding mode after losing the amount of talent "Bama did from its 2015 title team, but they

just reload in Tuscaloosa. A plethora of talent on offense has to be replaced after running back Derrick Henry (2,219 yards, 28 TDs) took his talents to the NFL. Gone too is last year's starting quarterback, Jake Coker, who is going to be replaced at the moment by Cooper Bateman (291 yards passing, 1 TD in 2015). Bateman did see some game time last season, but after the loss at home to Mississippi, Saban gave the job to Coker. Damien Harris (157 yards, 1 TD) will replace Henry, but the strength of the Alabama offense will be its veteran receiving corps led by wide receivers Calvin Ridley (1,045 yards receiving, 7 TDs) and Adarius Stewart (700 yards receiving, 4 TDs) and talented tight end O.J. Howard (602 yards receiving, 2 TDs). Howard had a huge game in the national title tilt against Clemson, catching five passes for 208 yards and two scores. While the offense might struggle early, the defense is loaded with talent and will have to carry the load, especially the secondary. USC has a strong passing game, but look for the Alabama secondary to be up to the task come Saturday. Alabama might struggle early in this one, but once they get clicking, watch out. My pick, Alabama 24, USC 16

Notre Dame at Texas: Charlie Strong begins his third at the helm of the Texas program and just as Sumlin is feeling the heat in College Station, so too is Strong in Austin. Strong inherited a dilapidated program when he took over three years ago and has begun rebuilding in his style. Last year he brought in a Top 10 recruiting class and is building the program his way. Longhorn fans should see a much-improved team this year and one that does not fight to be a 500 team. Texas fans will learn quickly how far the Horns have come since last season when they open against No. 10-ranked Notre Dame on Sunday night (another prime time game, 6:30 p.m. on ABC). A year ago, the Irish embarrassed Texas in South Bend, 38-3, but this time around, Texas should make it a more competitive game. The offense is still a question mark, especially at quarterback where Strong will likely go with true freshman Shane Buechele, who enrolled in January and went through spring drills with his new teammates. Buechele has quickly picked up the new offense and appears ready for his debut against the Fighting Irish. Strong won't ask the freshman to carry the entire offensive load. Texas has two solid running backs in D'onta Freeman (672 yards rushing, 5 TDs) and Chris Warren III (470 yards rushing, 4 TDs) to carry the load and take pressure off of Buechele. UT will face a stern ND defense on Sunday night, but a defense that lost one of its starting safeties who was dismissed from the team for assaulting a police officer. Five other ND defenders were also disciplined for off field troubles two weeks ago. Their playing status for Sunday night was not known at the time this column was published. Offensively, the Irish will be strong with two solid QBs in DeShone Kizer (2,680 yards passing, 21 TDs, 525 yards rushing, 10 TDs) and Malik Zaire. Zaire was the starter in 2015 but suffered a season-ending broken ankle in the second game of the season. Kizer came on to lead ND to nine wins and a trip to the Fiesta Bowl. Notre Dame also has a strong running attack with the return of Tarean Folston who suffered a season-ending knee injury against UT last September. Also back is sophomore running back Josh Adams, who had a solid freshman season with 838 yards rushing and seven touchdowns. Look for Texas to be in this one into the fourth quarter, but ND's wealth of offensive talent will prove to be the difference maker. My pick, Notre Dame 32, Texas 26

Mississippi vs. Florida State: The first weekend of the 2016 college football season

CHANNELVIEW ISD

Lady Falcons Volleyball team competing to be at the playoffs

The Channelview High School Lady Falcons volleyball team is looking to keep their good fortunes going as they set their sights on a third consecutive playoff berth this season.

Channelview captured the fourth seed from District 21-6A in 2015 to advance to the Bi-District round of the postseason against state-ranked Pearland. With four key starters returning from last year's team, Head Coach Danielle James is optimistic about the team's chances for success in 2016.

"My focus is preparing this team for what lies ahead. We do have a young team compared to some of the other schools in our district, but we also have very strong senior leadership," she said. "Everyone's skills are starting to blend together and I am very excited to see what our players can accomplish as a group."

Waste Pits: Competing Opinions,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Jackie Young, director of the San Jacinto River Coalition, and THEA, two advocacy groups that favor complete removal, said "the report does not go into the problems to date with the current cap. In the five years that (the cap) has been in place, it's experienced a wealth of problems and caused EPA to do a multitude of repairs. We know that just one big storm, one barge strike, could be devastating for Galveston Bay."

The escalating controversy comes at a time when the EPA is preparing to announce their draft decision on how to remediate the waste pits. This is due in the next few weeks, then the public will have a 30 day comment period, and the EPA will make the final determination by the end of December, according to EPA representative Donn Walters.

In the meantime, it seems that everyone now has an opinion, and has voiced it. Congressmen Gene Green and Brian Babin have publicly called for complete removal as the only safe solution, and this was joined this week by Congressman Pete Olson. Green took to the floor of the House of Representatives last month, to urge the federal government to use the Superfund laws to hasten the removal.

The Houston Chronicle is only one of a number of publications that have called for the removal of

Senior All-District selections Lauren Konecny and Karson Ruiz, along with Regina Rivera and Jasmine Cruz are expected to guide the Lady Falcons this season. Konecny earned honorable mention All-District honors at her middle blocker position, while Ruiz was second team All-District as a setter last year.

"Our seniors will set the tone for us, especially during the preseason," James said. "Their experience will benefit us greatly since we now have some new and very competitive teams in this district."

North Shore and Baytown Sterling are expected to be tough district opponents. New teams joining 21-6A include Atascocita, Kingwood and Summer Creek from Humble ISD. Making the move up from Class 5A are C.E. King and Goose Creek Memorial.

"This year our district

has changed tremendously, which certainly brings new challenges," James said. "Going up against teams, like Kingwood, Goose Creek Memorial and Summer Creek will really test our strength as a team and mine as a coach."

The Lady Falcons will have some prime opportunities to tune up for district play, as they will compete in the George Ranch Tournament in Katy and the Goose Creek Tournament in Baytown. Channelview will then travel to Humble to face Summer Creek in their first district contest on Sept. 9.

"This team is willing to fight and give it everything they have until the very end and I love that about them," James said. "Each one of them brings a positive attitude to every game and every practice. My hope is that infectious spirit will translate to success on the court."

the waste pits, but it has also been printing OP-ED pieces on both sides of the issue. In July the paper ran an opinion piece by Scott Sherman, stating that the Federal Superfund program has been ineffective, and not appropriate for the problems in the San Jacinto River. Sherman was listed as an environmental consultant, having worked for the EPA, the state TCEQ, and now at the University of Houston Law Center.

This piece was followed recently by an OP-ED piece by Jackie Young, who has been the leader in the resistance effort to allowing the waste pits to stay in place, with or without an improved cap. Young is deeply involved because her family once lived in Highlands, and suffered multiple health problems that they blame on polluted ground water, possibly from the waste pits.

The issue of polluted well water, and the health problems related to that, was recently brought to the public's attention because the Harris County Pollution Control department sampled 100 wells in Highlands, Lynchburg, and Channelview, and due to alarming results sent letters to 28 homeowners advising them not to drink their water, or to bathe or cook in it. After a retest, however, it was determined that contaminates such as dioxin and other

contaminants were below the acceptable levels and the water was safe. No link was established between the wells and the waste pits in the river, it was noted, too.

Among the government voices having an educated opinion on the subject of removal, was Mike Talbott, the retiring head of the Harris County Flood Control District. Talbott's remarks included "the highly toxic waste at the site, in this major river's floodway, and subject to extreme force of flood flow, tides and storm surge, should not be allowed to remain there." These remarks, calling for complete removal of the toxic wastes, follows closely the position that advocate Young has taken.

In summary, the Corps of Engineers report seems to favor leaving the waste pits in place, but rebuilding them with an improved cap, and pilings to fend off barge strikes. They also would need a number of "Institutional Controls" to assure future compliance. Their detailed mathematical analysis indicates that complete removal would release much more of the toxins into the soil, the ground, and the water. However, the report optimistically indicates that removal could be safely accomplished, if the contractor followed Best Management Practices, proceeding with techniques that would minimize releases.

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