

NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City
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Mustangs headed to State

The North Shore Mustangs, against many odds, have journeyed a tough road to earn the right to play in the state championship game, most recently defeating Converse Judson 23-17 at NRG Stadium Saturday evening. Judson, a perennially tough opponent, has advanced to the state semifinals 18 times - a state record. But on this day, the Mustangs doused the Rockets fuse with a mighty defensive effort and the strength of their special teams.

The first score, and the only score of the first quarter, was a 23-yard field goal by North Shore's kicker Aaron Cuevas. The defense shut down the Converse offense, aided by a punishing defensive line and a perfectly timed interception by Eric Monroe. In the second quarter the Mustang offense got things rolling, capping a drive with a 32-yard touchdown

run by Eric Monroe, giving the Mustangs a 10-0 lead. But four minutes later the Rockets scored on a 58-yard pass. As tension mounted, Aaron Cuevas again answered the call, kicking a 46-yard field goal to give the Mustangs a little breathing room and a 13-7 lead at the half. But the cushion was not enough as the Rockets scored first in the second half and took the lead 13-14.

With the game in the balance and the Rockets holding on to their fragile lead, Cuevas was called upon one more time. He sent the ball through the uprights from 37 yards and helped the Mustangs regain the lead. The defense held firm, frustrating the Rockets attempts to move the ball and score. The linebackers were relentless in their pursuit of the quarterback and never gave him an opportunity to throw the ball cleanly.



Eric Monroe (#11) leads the charge in the second half, carrying the banner for the Mustangs. Monroe rushed for a 32-yard touchdown and had a key interception. He was also named the Houston Chronicle High School Athlete of the Week for December 15.

As critical as special teams was in scoring for the Mustangs, it was also key to keeping the Rockets from scoring. North Shore and Judson punted the ball 10 times each; however, North Shore punted for a total of 382 yards. With booming punts and outstanding coverage, the Rockets were pinned deep in their own territory often. Late in the game, leading by two points, the

Mustangs offense failed to get a first down. Aaron Cuevas booted a punt that buried the Rockets inside the 10-yard line. Two plays later the Mustangs forced a fumble and Abril Harrison picked it up at the two-yard line. One play later Carl Guillory punched it in for a touchdown, putting the Mustangs up 23-14. On their following drive, the Rockets moved the ball down the field, but the Mustangs held them to an inconsequential field goal since the Mustangs jumped on the ensuing on-side kick. As the seconds ticked off the clock, the message for the Mustangs was clear, "We're going to state!"

The North Shore Mustangs will take on the Austin Westlake Chaparrals at NRG Stadium Saturday, December 19 @ 4PM.

See SPONSORS PAGE, page 8

Turner elected new Houston Mayor

In a close race, Sylvester Turner defeated Bill King last Saturday to become the first Houston mayor to serve a four year term rather than a two year term. He will need to solve issues of pensions, pot-holes, and policing during his time in office.

Jubilant but conciliatory in his acceptance speech, Turner said "Let's everyone put the Election behind us and go to work for a better Houston." A final count put 108,389 votes for Turner, 104,307 for King.

Sylvester Turner is a native of Acres Homes in the Northeast, but promises to represent everyone in the city equally.

Other winners included Chris Brown for Controller, and Rhonda Skillern-Jones for school board.



Sylvester Turner with some of his supporters on stage at the Convention Center, including Steve Costello, John Whitmire, Adrian Garcia, and Congresspersons Sheila Jackson Lee and Al Green.



Sylvester Turner gives a Victory Wave to his supporters last Saturday night at the George R. Brown Convention Center.

GIVE AWAY:

San Jacinto Pilot Club Donates Bicycle Helmets



Wednesday, December 9, 2015, the San Jacinto Pilot Club joined the North Shore Rotary Club to donate 130 bicycles (from Rotary) and helmets (from Pilot), assembled by LyondellBasell, to elementary school students who had perfect attendance in the after school program sponsored by Harris County Precinct2Gether. Many thanks to Texas Medical Association's Hard Hats for Little Heads for partnering with us to help fund the helmets.



Helmets were sponsored by San Jacinto Pilot Club

SUBMITTED BY JULIE FALLIN/SAN JACINTO PILOT CLUB

COMMUNITY PROFILE:

Hurts named Fox Sports-Honda Player of the Year



Channelview Falcon quarterback Jalen Hurts was named the Fox Sports-Greater Houston Honda Dealers Player of the Year during a special ceremony at Channelview High School recently. Hurts led the Falcons to their first playoff berth in 22 years and he was also the District 21-6A Most Valuable Player for the second consecutive year. He has committed to the University of Alabama and will play for the Crimson Tide in the fall. Presenting the award to Hurts are KRIV Fox 26 anchor Chris Stipes and Rod Hall, president of the Greater Houston Honda Dealers.

Dear Santa,

I would want some legos so I can built a house fpr my toy cary.
Daniel Olvera, 7 years
Jacinto Elementary

Dear Santa,
I may be good or bad so no toys or yes toys. I may be mad, sad or happy but wene I go to 3 grade I am going to make my mom happy. Logos toys, mincraft plush, starh.
Alberto G.E., 7 years
Lyons Elementary

Dear Santa,
All I want for Christmas is Jewerly, new bed set, cable box, purse, docke toy set, stuf dogie with orbez cruch a little carpet and nail polish.
Lyana Rodriguez,
9 years old,
Lychs Elementary

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? Well I'm doing fine. I was wishing I could have an Ninja go Lego set for Christmas and Ninja go Book for Christmas to by Santa.
Adrian
Eight years old

Dear Santa,
I want a bay blade, hall palish, a lot of chap stick. Pens with the erasers on them.
Megan
age 8

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? How is Rudoph? I have been good. What I want for Christmas is a teddybear puppy, a pigybank, and my family around the tree.
Jewel
8 years old

Dear Santa,
I want a Jurassic Park 3, Spinosaur-ous toy, and a Fnaf Bonnie plush, and a Godzilla toy, and Lego's and Sonic toy, and a T-Rex, and a Dragon toy, and a Lavelu lamp.
Blue.
Logan
Age 8

Dear Santa,
I want a Lava Lamp OOO! and it has to be Hot Pink and a Hot Pink twister lamp, and Shopkins and a Vanity thats Hot Pink.
Honey
Age 9

Dear Santa,
How are you doing and how the reindeers? and the thing i want for christmas is a phone, iphone, Magic book, tablet, family joy, poster, and colors. Have a marry christmas.
Hannah
Age 8

Dear Santa,
I want a new four wheeler for Christmas. I what a new G.I.Joe movie. I want to see the new Starwars, the Force Awakes, a new toy Acion Finger. I want a real Starwars Light Saber, and a Tazer.
Samuel
Age 8

Dear Santa,
I want a Barbie doll with a curling iron And a lava lamp, and shopkin colleione, and an aamati-can girl doll.
Ooo a hot pink big barbie doll house with a elevater and a gargae and a cumputer that is hot pink. And a blanket for the homeless pepoles. And just dance 2016.
Alison
Age 9

Dear Santa,
I want a phone, brod games, books, Minecraft legacy. Laptop, spy copter, Monster jam.
I hope Santa give the homeless peole get presints on Christmas and they get a lot of mony. So they can have fun.
Seth
Age 8

Dear Santa,
How are you Doing Santa. I want a stake-boarding helmet, a lamp, and write gourd, elbow pads, and leg gaurds. I hope you have a great Christmas. Thank you!
Ethan
Age 8

SEASON'S GREETINGS

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Wishing our education partners, district staff, students and community members a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



Channelview ISD Education Foundation



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SCHOOL NEWS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

SATURDAY NIGHTS
The Buckshot Jamboree

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

MONDAYS
Galena Park Senior Dance

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

DECEMBER
North Channel Library events

-Sat., Dec. 19, Faithful Paws, 2 pm; Pokemon Club, 3 pm.
-Mon., Dec. 21, Deussen Park's Traveling Naturalist, 2:30 pm.
-Tue., Dec. 22, Toddler Time, 10:30 am; Preschool Story Time, 1:30 pm; Holiday Kids Craft, 4:30 pm.
-Closes Dec. 23 at 5 pm. Opens on Mon., Dec. 28.

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

DECEMBER
Galena Park Library events

-Tues., Dec. 22, Pictures with Santa, 6 pm.
-Wed., Dec. 23, Storytime, 11 am.
-Closing Dec., 23 at 5 pm, opens again on Monday, Dec. 28.
-Tue., Dec., 28, Family Movie Time, 9 pm.

Please call the library at 713-450-0982 for more details. The library is located at 1500 Keene St. Galena Park, TX. 77547.

DECEMBER
Jacinto City Library

-Sat., Dec. 19, Computer Basics, 10:30 am; Children's Movie Theater, 12:30 pm.
-Tue., Dec., 22, Word, 10:30 am; Word Básico, 4:30 pm.
-Wed., Dec., 23, Baby Time, 10:30 am; ESL Class, 12:30 pm; library closes at 5 pm.
-Library closed on Dec. 24, 25, 26.

Jacinto City Branch Library, 921 Akron, Jacinto City, TX. 77029. For more information on these and other programs at the library, please call 713-673-3237.

Galena Park ISD
Custodian nominated for National LifeChanger of the Year Award

December 3, 2015 - North Shore Senior High School Custodian Herman Joseph has been nominated for the 2015-2016 national LifeChanger of the Year award.

LifeChanger of the Year is a national program that annually recognizes and rewards K-12 educators and employees who are making a significant difference in the lives of students by exemplifying excellence, positive influence and leadership.

Mr. Joseph, who has been a custodian at the school for many years, assists with every student-related event such as dances and pep rallies. He helps students become connected with the school community by giving them opportunities to work in the athletic concession stand. Mr. Joseph's kindness is evident each day. He is often seen opening doors in for teachers and delivering heavy items to classrooms. He even gives students money when they cannot afford lunch.

"This is completely unexpected," Joseph said when asked about the nomination. "I do those things because I love my job. I love these students. I love this community. This is my extended family," he added. North Shore Senior High School Principal Dr. Joe Coleman is proud to have such a dedicated custodian and humanitarian on his campus. Coleman commented, "He's been here a while, since before I was here. But I'm glad he's on our campus. He is such a positive example to our kids... and our staff. He's a hard worker, but he does it with style and smile."



Herman Joseph

Each school year, the LifeChanger of the Year program receives hundreds of nominations. Fifteen winners are chosen by the selection committee to receive cash awards that are split between the individual winner and their school. The National Grand Prize Award is \$10,000. The top five Grand Prize Finalists will also be honored at a national awards ceremony.

Nominees must be full-time school or school district employees. Award winners are selected based on the following criteria:

- A proven ability to make a beneficial difference in the lives of students
 - An ability to positively add to the development of the school and/or district's atmosphere
 - A leader in his or her activities at the school and/or district level
 - A proven record of excellent performance at the professional level
 - A commitment to producing a nurturing atmosphere
 - Adherence to high moral and ethical standards
- Winners to be announced in spring 2016.

PORT BRIEFS
Port Commission approves 2016 budget

Solid financial performance is expected to continue in 2016 with projections by the Port Authority of revenue growth after a very strong fiscal 2015 in terms of cargo tonnage. Total revenues are projected to increase by 2 percent next year with a steady growth in container units.

Cash flow generated in 2016 will help support a capital improvement program of

\$314 million. Those capital improvements will include strategic projects to support new growth opportunities, along with recapitalization projects and channel

projects to benefit the entire Houston Ship Channel. The global economic outlook suggests 2016 will be slightly stronger than 2015, with most key economies either growing or remaining steady during the upcoming year.

SAN JACINTO COLLEGE
Donation from LyondellBasell enhances training for welding students

San Jacinto College welding students have enhanced training options, thanks to stainless steel pipes recently donated by LyondellBasell Channelview.

LyondellBasell donated stainless steel and standard carbon steel pipes valued at approximately \$15,000, which will be used in training San Jacinto College welding technology students.

"The carbon steel pipes will be used for training students at every level, and the donation of the stainless steel pipes is especially significant because it will be used in training advanced students, such as those learning Gas Tungsten Arc Welding," commented Eddie Foster, North Campus industrial technology department chair. "To my knowledge, it's the largest single donation of stainless steel pipes the North Campus has ever received."

Some of the donated carbon steel pipes have a thin layer of rust, which most steel acquires over time. "Rust on the carbon steel does not diminish the value of the pipe for training purposes," commented Foster. "Most things made of steel will develop a surface layer of rust over time, but the rust can be easily removed by surface grinding."



People on hand for the pipe donation included, from left: David Gosnay, LyondellBasell logistics and training manager; Dr. Bill Raffetto, San Jacinto College North Campus provost; Dr. Kerry Mix, San Jacinto College North Campus dean of business and technology; Eddie Foster, San Jacinto College North Campus industrial technology department chair; David Sirman, LyondellBasell maintenance coordinator; and Todd Monette, LyondellBasell Channelview plant manager.

Photo by: Jeannie Peng-Armas/San Jacinto College

Stainless steel is typically around four times more expensive than standard carbon steel and has a different alloy composition, requiring welders to use different techniques. "Having a large quantity of stainless steel pipe allows our students to gain valuable hands-on experience with different types of metal, and become more versatile," he commented. "It's an advantage for a graduate applying for a job to have experience welding with stainless steel. We really appreciate this donation from Lyondell, a valuable industry partner

with San Jacinto College." David Sirman, LyondellBasell Channelview maintenance coordinator, said the pipe donation is a way of giving back to the community. "We had pipe that was purchased for projects and turnarounds that over a period of time was not used," he said. "We were able to reach out to San Jacinto College and ask if they could use it. We wanted to give back and we were very happy the College could use it." To learn more about welding training at San Jacinto College, please visit sanjac.edu/career/welding-technology.

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OPINION PAGE

Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus

By FRANCIS P. CHURCH,
First published in The New York Sun in 1897

We take pleasure in answering thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

Dear Editor—

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in The Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?

Virginia
O'Hanlon

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Francis P. Church's editorial, "Yes Virginia, There is a Santa Claus" was an immediate sensation, and went on to become one of the most famous editorials ever written. It first appeared in the The New York Sun in 1897, almost a hundred years ago, and was reprinted annually until 1949 when the paper went out of business.

Virginia O'Hanlon went on to graduate from Hunter College with a Bachelor of Arts degree at age 21. The following year she received her Master's from Columbia, and in 1912 she began teaching in the New York City school system, later becoming a principal. After 47 years, she retired as an educator. Throughout her life she received a steady stream of mail about her Santa Claus letter, and to each reply she attached an attractive printed copy of the Church editorial. Virginia O'Hanlon Douglas died on May 13, 1971, at the age of 81, in a nursing home in Valatie, N.Y.



Have A Very Merry!

You deserve the merry best.

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Abbott backs Cruz's filing of legislation addressing refugees

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott was in Washington, D.C., on Dec. 8 to participate in a news conference with U.S. Senator and presidential candidate Ted Cruz, R-Texas, who rolled out his proposed State Refugee Security Act.

Abbott said in a Dec. 9 news release that Cruz's bill "gives states and governors the tools to reject the resettlement of a refugee in that state unless there is adequate assurance that the refugee does not present a security risk."

"America is a charitable nation, but we cannot allow charity for some to compromise security for all," Abbott said. "Congress intended to give states a substantial role in the refugee resettlement process. The federal government and resettlement agencies have sidestepped that role. My top priority as governor is to keep Texas citizens safe and this legislation helps me do that," he added.

Cruz's bill, S. 2363, directs the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement to notify the state agency responsible for coordinating the placement or resettlement of an alien refugee not later than 21 days before the alien's arrival in the state. The bill states that no alien refugee shall be placed or resettled in a state if the governor certifies to the Office of Refugee Resettlement that it has failed, in the sole determination of the governor, to provide adequate assurance that such person does not present a security risk to the state.

On Nov. 25, the Texas Catholic Conference, the public policy voice of Texas' Catholic bishops, published a statement, saying, "We firmly believe that it is possible to maintain security at home while also welcoming refugees."

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By Ed Sterling

TEA chief notes passage of act

Texas Education Commissioner Michael Williams issued a statement on Dec. 9, following Congress' final passage of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, legislation that succeeds the No Child Left Behind Act.

Williams said the act "represents a significant shift in education authority away from the federal government and a return of greater control to the state and local level. For Texas, this legislation brings an end to the ongoing requests for federal waivers made necessary by requirements few if any states could ever meet."

Sales tax revenue decreases

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on Dec. 9 announced sales tax revenue for the state in November was \$2.58 billion, down 3.3 percent compared to November 2014.

"Sales tax revenue declined again due to reduced spending in oil and gas-related sectors," Hegar said. "Remittances from other sectors, including construction, restaurants and retail trade, continued to grow. The net decrease in sales tax receipts is in line with the October Certification Revenue Estimate."

Furthermore, Hegar said, he will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts \$626.3 million in local sales tax allocations for December, 3 percent less than in December 2014. These allocations are based on sales made in October by businesses that report tax monthly.

lion in local sales tax allocations for December, 3 percent less than in December 2014. These allocations are based on sales made in October by businesses that report tax monthly.

DPS offers anti-theft tips

The Texas Department of Public Safety on Dec. 7 posted a reminder to Texans about the increased potential for vehicle thefts and burglaries during the holiday season and advised the public to take extra precautions, such as:

"Never leave your car running unattended, even for a quick visit to a business or store. Never leave keys in the car or ignition, inside a locked garage, or in hide-a-key boxes. Always roll up your windows and lock the car, even if it is parked at your home. When possible, always park in high-traffic, well-lighted areas."

Also: "Install an anti-theft device that locks the steering wheel, column or brakes, especially if your vehicle is considered to be at increased risk for theft. Never leave personal documents, vehicle ownership title or credit cards in your vehicle. Always keep valuables or property hidden out of sight or locked in the trunk" and more.

TxDOT calls for sober rides

Texas Department of Transportation's "Plan While You Can" campaign, launched Dec. 7, urges partygoers to plan for a sober ride now through Jan. 1.

The campaign, which runs in tandem with an increase in Texas DPS patrols and enforcement, includes a statewide tour featuring an interactive dodge ball game that uses custom gaming technology to replicate the effects of alcohol on a person's reflexes.

For more information, visit SoberRides.org.

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OPINION

Give the 'Write' Gift this Holiday Season

(NAPSI)—Many families have found that letting little ones write letters to Santa can end up as a big gift to their parents.

That's because it not only gets kids into the holiday spirit, but it's a great way to improve their writing skills, boost creativity and help them with their schoolwork for years to come.

Here are seven ways to get kids writing:

1. Use fun writing tools. Choose—or create—decorative writing paper and pick pens, pencils or highlighters, bright colors or clever designs.
2. If they're writing to Santa, encourage them to send more than just a list of toys. Have them tell Santa a bit about themselves—where they go to school and what they like to do. When they tell Santa how good they've been this year, have them include examples, such as tying a sibling's shoes or helping Mom and Dad clean the house.
3. Older children who'd rather not write to Santa can still create a Christmas list for themselves as well as a list of what they intend to get for others.

4. Write out holiday cards. Let family and friends know how you've been and that you're thinking about them. Children can even draw pictures on the card if there's room.

5. Create place cards for holiday dinner. Write out each guest's name and add a small drawing.

6. Write thank-you notes. This is an important time of year to be thankful for all the gifts your child receives. Thank-you notes are a way for your kids to show their appreciation.

7. Give the gift of writing. BIC Pencils and Pens make terrific presents and stocking stuffers.

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LIFESTYLE

OBITUARIES

Charles Lee Bederka

Charles Lee Bederka 84 of Crosby, Texas passed away December 7, 2015. Charles was born on May 18, 1931 in Dayton, Texas to Antone and Mary (Zavada) Bederka. Charles served his country and was honorably discharged from the United States Army.



Charles worked as a machinist in the petrochemical industry for many years and in his spare time he enjoyed hunting, fishing, working outdoors and spending time with his family and friends.

Charles was very strong and easy going man who will be missed by all who knew him. He is preceded in death by parents; wife, Doris Bederka and daughter, Liz Skrla.

Charles is survived by his brother, Curtis Bederka; brother, Jimmy Bederka; sister, Louise; grandsons, Wes Skrla and Kevin Skrla; son-in-law, Pat Skrla; nieces: Viola Stubbs, Mary Ackerman, Penny Ackerman, Mildred BeBee and Sandra Arsement; and many other relatives and friends.

A visitation for family and friends will be held on Friday, December 11, 2015 from 5pm-8pm with a rosary at 7pm. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, December 12, 2015 10am at Sterling-White Funeral Home with burial following at Sterling-White Cemetery.

Services have been entrusted to Sterling-White Funeral Home 11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd. Highlands, Texas 77562.

To send the family condolences please visit www.sterlingwhite.com

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Mt. Rose Church The City of Refuge, Inc. invites you to their Christmas Eve Candlelight service, Thursday, December 24, 2015 at 6pm at The City of Refuge Plaza-12028 Crosby Lynchburg, Crosby TX 77532.

Mt. Rose Church invites you to join us for hot chocolate and wassail as we celebrate the birth of Christ during an outdoor community candlelight service on Christmas Eve.

For more information, contact Mt. Rose Church at (phone) 281-328-1314, (email) mtrose@mtrosecogic.org or visit online at www.mtrosecogic.org.

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"For unto to you was born this day in the city of David, a Savior who is Christ, the Lord." (Luke 2:11)

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Letters to Santa



Kids asks Santa & Mrs. Clause for joy, gifts and peace last weekend in Crosby

Dear Santa,
How are you doing?
How is Misses Claus doing? How are your raindeer doing? I hope you are all doing good. Know I want to tell you want I want for Christmas. First I want a Barbie Dream house an aiset a new trampoline and that all. I LOVE Chrismass!!!!
Jozie
Age 8

Dear Santa,
What I want for Christmas is Beats, new phone, new tablet, a new colering boock. a new bike, forwiller, stuff animals, Electric scooter, trapoleen.
Mrs
Age 9

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I think this year I have been a good kid. This year all I want is a shopkin and a toy. I will leave a lot of cookies out for you and some apple slices for your raindeer and a full apple for Rudeoff. Please one more wish send my graet grandma and my graet grampa for Xmas.
Desiree
I'm 8

Dear Santa,
How are the raindeer's doing? and you? I want a phone but don't tell my mom please. I want a Wii with the new Mario game pleas. by pleas and thank you.
Hagen
Age 8

Dear Santa,
How is your year? I hope you are doing good. I hope I get what I want this is what I want xBox and computer if you do thank you.
Benjamin
Age 8

Dear Santa,
How are you? I missed you so much. I have been a little good but please can you get me a Areil Lego set for Christmas and help my dad to come home happy this month! Please.
Bryce
Age 8

Dear Santa,
How are you? I have ben rill good. the first thing I want to be togeter as a famley. And a dairway. And shopkins. And mocup. And a big monster hight big doll. Good bye.
Gauge-Lyn
Age 8

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I have been great this year. It's almost Christmas and I want a phone, scooter, pens and markers and most of all is to see everyone in my family.
Katelyn
Nine years old

Dear Santa,
How are you this year? I have been a good boy this year. I know that I can't have a hoverboard. I want flat bills, Nerf guns, playmation, and more. Have a safe trip here. Merry Christmas. Ho Ho Ho.
Callem
Age 8

Dear Santa,
How are you doing Santa? I am doing fine in school. I know that Christmas is coming up so I wish you can get me this for Christmas please. I would like a Wiuu, a Lego set, a pokeman plushies and more time with my whole family and last is spend time with all my cousins. I hope you can get that for me Santa?
Luis
8 years old

Dear Santa,
How are you? How is Roudolph is he weel? I'm doing good, I ben doing good. Wahte I wante for Christmas is a xbboxeh and Jarisstik World lego sets and star wars.
Collin
Age 8

Dear Santa,
How is Roudolph doing and how are you doing? I hope you are doing good. And I want a laremcy roualoston starter and I would like a boy elf on the shef and I Love You.
Jaylyn
Age 9

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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

What to look for from a financial advisor

There's a lot to know about investing, so it's a good idea to get some professional help. But with so many financial advisors out there, how can you choose one that's right for you?

You may have to interview several prospective financial advisors before deciding on one. When you talk to them, see if you can get a sense of how they might work with you. Specifically, try to answer the following questions:

Does this financial advisor ...

... Understand you? Perhaps above all else, you want a financial advisor who will take the time to get to know you and your family, your goals and what's important to you.

... Clearly explain investing? Once you enter the investment world, you will likely be curious about it. Why is diversification important? What's a market correction? How do interest rate movements affect different investments? You will want to work with someone who will make the effort to educate you on investment topics and answer all your questions.

... Know your investment style? Obviously, you'll want someone who will recommend only those investments that are in your best interest and that can help you make progress toward your goals. Therefore, the person you choose needs to

ASK THE EXPERT

By Edward Jones

understand your investment personality – that is, whether you are an aggressive, moderate or conservative investor.

... Have a certain investment philosophy? You may have your own investment style and preferences – and so do many financial advisors. In fact, some financial advisors have an overriding investment philosophy that governs many of their recommendations. You need to find this out before you start working with someone.

... Communicate frequently? The most knowledgeable financial advisor in the world won't be of much help to you if he or she is not a good communicator. You need someone who will regularly let you know if you're on track or make suggestions if you're not – even if you aren't scheduled to meet for a while. And, speaking of conferring with your financial advisor, you'll want someone who will meet with you when it's convenient for you, whether it's in person or over the phone.

... Avoid making big promises? You want a financial advisor with the expertise and experience necessary to help you

make the right moves. And you'll want someone committed to your success. But there's a big difference between someone who promises to do the best possible job for you and someone who promises big results. Be wary of financial advisors who claim they can consistently achieve high returns for you – there are very few guarantees in the investment world.

... Explain how he or she will be compensated? Financial advisors get paid in various ways, often in some combination of fees and commissions. Ask all potential financial advisors how they get compensated; any reputable professional will be upfront about his or her charges.

By finding the answers to these key questions, you should be able to find a financial advisor who is well-suited to work with you. So take the time you need to gather enough information to feel confident in your choice. After all, you're enlisting the help of someone who can have a big impact on your financial future.

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

Edward Jones
6830 E Sam Houston
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281-436-0396

Diamond Jim: "What is your favorite Christmas story?"



That is easy, ... it is "My Christmas Eve" by Bob Welsh...

My Christmas Eve
By Bob Welsh



The hour's late, should go to bed
Near midnight I believe
But memories keep me wide awake
This snowy Christmas Eve
Yes, memories of my kids moved on
Each has their separate life
And how the holidays have changed
Since angels took my wife
The toys, the food, the Christmas cheer
My wife would bear the load
Because I work most holidays
State Trooper on the road
Just sitting in my easy chair
So many years retired
I reminisce of times gone by
And all that has transpired
Of all the many happenings
That seem to come to light
A multitude of them occurred
Right on this very night
A drunken woman in a wreck
Died on Christmas eve
Leaves memories of a tragic case
Most people won't believe
I had to drive to where she lived
To tell her next of kin
And found the rundown mobile home
She had been living in
The person answering the door
I still recall today
A little girl about four years old
She said "I'm Sue McKay"
I asked her if her dad was home
And felt the longest pause
She said "My daddy ran away"
"You must be Santa Claus"

ASK DIAMOND JIM

"My mommy said you'd come tonight"
"If I just stayed in bed"
"And bring a pretty doll for me"
"That's what my mommy said"
I broke the law that Christmas Eve
Did not call child's care
They'd merely put her in a room
And that I could not bear
I picked her up and took her home
My wife tucked her in bed
And wrapped a pretty doll for her
Just like her mommy said
Adopted by a loving home
And soon they moved away
I won't forget that Christmas Eve
And little Sue McKay
Another bitter Christmas Eve
A blizzard to behold
Had left a family in a ditch
Just trapped there in the cold
By grace of God I spotted them
All cold and gaunt with fright
I drove them to a motel room... To safely spend the night
One Christmas Eve a homeless man
Shivering and wet
Was trying hard to get a ride
I'm sure he'd never get
I picked him up and drove him
To a diner on the hill
To warm his bones I left him with a five dollar bill
Strange how when you're all alone
What memories you recall
Your think of everything you've done
And was it worth it all
I think about my God, my job
My children and my wife
Would I do it all the same... Could I re-live my life
Then comes a knock upon my door
This late who could it be
A neighbor or has Santa Claus

Come to visit me
The figure standing in the cold
Gives me a sudden fright
A trooper with that solemn look
Dear God, who has died tonight
I'm flashing back to bygone years
How I'd often stood
On someone's porch to bring them news
And it was never good
Is this how life gets back at me
For misery I've induced
Where pain I've caused some other folk
Has now come home to roost
But looking in the troopers eyes
My mind is in a whirl
I see a pleasant countenance
The trooper is a girl
She reached and smiled to shake my hand
And silence wasn't broke
Until a tear rolled down her cheek
And then she softly spoke
"I'm sure you don't remember me"
"But thought I'd stop and say"
"God bless you on this Christmas Eve"
"I'm Trooper Sue McKay"

You can hear Bob Welsh tell this story... go to <http://www.pineforestjewelry.com/articles/my-christmas-eve-by-bob-welsh>.

Diamond Jim is a diamond dealer and precious metals broker of NTR Metals. See more at: www.pineforestjewelry.com. If you have questions pertaining to jewelry, watches, diamonds, precious stones, and other questions related to the jewelry industry, email jmills@pineforestjewelry.com.

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Aaron Cuevas (#86) scored nine critical points for the Mustangs on three field goals and pinned the Rockets deep in their own territory with his booming punts.



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The Mustang defense was relentless in its pursuit of the Rockets.

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