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VOLUME 3, NO. 47(#101)WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015www.northchannelstar.com

CHANNEL CHATTER

HydroChem's Northshore Hiring Fair

HydroChem will host a Hiring Fair on December 16, 2015 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm at Workforce Solutions - Northshore located at 14355 E. Wallisville Road, Houston, TX. 77049. Sign-On Bonus available for all new CDL Drivers, excellent benefits. On site interviews will be conducted, and job offers will be made. Apply in person.

For more information, please call Donna Sonnenburg at 713-393-5836. See ad, page 7 for details.

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Carter Funeral Home is having this event on which you can hang a Christmas ornament personalized with the name of your departed loved one. Thru January 1, 2016 at 13701 Corpus Christi Street. Call 713-455-5100 with questions.

North Shore 45, Dickinson 14

Mustangs move on to semi-finals

Next: Semi-finals game, Saturday 5:30 pm in NRG stadium

It was a beautiful day for football in Pasadena - clear skies and 60 degrees. The North Shore Mustangs took on Dickinson in the fourth round of playoffs on Saturday, December 5. The Mustangs took an early lead on an exciting 96-yard punt return for a touchdown. Dickinson followed up with a touchdown scoring drive to even the score at seven. An interception by Josh Sifuentes sparked a surge late in the first half. The Mustangs tacked on 10 more points - an Aaron Cuevas 22-yard field goal and a 13-yard touchdown pass from Bryant Badie to Eltroy Potts, giving them a 17-7 lead at half time.

The Mustangs struck first in the second half with a one-yard touchdown run by Guillory. Dickinson struck back on their ensuing drive with a touchdown of their own; however, it would be the last time they scored. The final three scores of the game came from the Mustangs offense,



The Mustang defense stuffed the running game, holding Dickinson to -13 yards on 31 rushes. The defense also forced four turnovers, three interceptions and one fumble. MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 2.

Photos courtesy of GPSID/Jonathan Frey

defense and special teams, starting with a 54-yard punt return by Jacory Nichols, his second of the day. Next the offense scored on a 2-yard run by Guillory. Next, the defense scored on a 45-yard interception return.

Next up: The Mustangs will take on Converse-Judson out of San Antonio Saturday, December 12 in NRG Stadium at 5:30 PM.

See Football Sponsors Page on page 2.



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Jacinto City holds Christmas celebration

Large parade, Santa, Tree Lighting, and Holiday Music

Hundreds of Jacinto City residents lined the streets for the Annual Christmas Parade. It started on Wiggins Street near the elementary school, proceeded down Market Street, and ended at the Town Center on Oates.

Mayor Ana Diaz led the city delegation of councilpersons, with other dignitaries present also, including Constable Chris Diaz, and Congresspersons Gene Green and Sheila Jackson Lee.

Mayor Diaz presided over the ceremonies at the Town Center, including visits with Santa, free food and drink (hot chocolate), music by the JC Elementary Honor Choir and Councilman Allen Lee and son, and awards to the best floats and parade units. Capital Bank was the sponsor of the Awards trophies, that went to:

Most Beautiful Float: JC Elementary School;
Most Original Float:



HO! HO! HO! Santa was happy to arrive in Jacinto City in a fire truck, instead of his usual sleigh, since there was no snow, just a beautiful sunny day.

North Channel Martial Arts;

Best Marching/Walking Unit: Lori's Dance Studio;

Mayor's Choice: Galena Park High School Jacketeers;

Honorable Mention: 1st Baptist Church of JC.

Judging the Parade were Blanca Perez of Blan-

quita's Mexican Restaurant, and Al Gutierrez and Debbie Gutierrez of Capital Bank.

Music was furnished by the Roger Matheny family. The day culminated with the lighting of the official Jacinto City Christmas tree.



THE GALENA PARK HIGH SCHOOL Jacketeers were just one of 39 parade units this year, that made it the largest parade in recent years. The Jacketeers won the Mayor's Choice prize in the judging of parade units and floats. SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 8.

NORTH CHANNEL STAR Photos/Hoffman

NORTH SHORE MUSTANGS STATE SEMIFINAL PLAYOFF vs CONVERSE JUDSON

Saturday, Dec. 12, 2015 NRG Stadium

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HERE ARE SOME EXCITING PHOTOS FROM OUR LAST GAME, WHICH RESULTED IN OUR TRIP TO THE SEMIFINALS.

**NORTH SHORE 45, DICKINSON 14
ON SATURDAY, DEC. 5 AT PASADENA**



Carl Guillory (#15) rushed 16 times for 112 yards and 2 touchdowns.

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Jacory Nichols (#4) returned two punts for touchdowns, one 96 yards and one for 54 yards.

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Josh Sifuentes (#57) intercepted the ball and set the Mustangs up in scoring position.

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GO MUSTANGS!

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SCHOOL NEWS

COMMUNITY
EVENTS

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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

-Mon., Dec., 14, Family Night at Santa's Workshop, 6pm
-Tues., Dec., 15, Toddler Time, 10:30 am; Preschool Story Time, 1:30 p.m.
-Wed., Dec. 16, North Channel Book Club, 10 am.
-Thurs., Dec. 17, Babytime, 10:30 am; MeeTeen Ornaments, 4:30 pm.
Library is located at 15741 Wallisville Rd., Houston, TX. 77049. Call 281-457-1631 for more information.

DECEMBER
Galena Park
Library events

-Monday, Dec. 14, Teen Time, 4:00 pm.
-Wed., Dec. 16, Storytime, 11 am.
-Thurs., Dec. 17, Babytime, 10 am; Christmas Craft, 4 pm.
-Tues., Dec. 22, Pictures with Santa, 6 pm.
-Wed., Dec. 23, Storytime, 11 am.
Please call the library at 713-450-0982 for more details. The library is located at 1500 Keene St. Galena Park, TX. 77547.

CHS inducts 78 new
National Honor
Society members



Candlelighting ceremony welcoming new National Honor Society members.

Channelview High School's National Honor Society welcomed 78 new members during a special induction ceremony. Newly installed NHS members include Adilenne Gisell Aguilar, Dulce Maria Aguilar, Gabriela Arredondo, Nidia Nohemy Baca, Citlali Batatz, Hunter Bell, Gildardo Bernal Jr., Krista Renee Byers, Karla Castañeda, Paola Karina Cavazos, Alejandra Chavez, Morgan Elizabeth Coker, Alejandro Cortina, Derrick Deshawn Curry, Desiree Celeste DeLaCruz, Gabriella Ann Diaz, Kirsten Dominy, Rafael Elorza, Alexandra Garcia, Karla Denisse Garcia, Gisselle Garza, Pablo De Jesus Garza Jr., Alicia Gonzalez, Berenice Gonzalez, Jacqueline Gonzalez, Karla Gonzalez, Alejandro Guerra, Andrea Giselle Hernandez, Oralia Lizeth Hernandez, Sara Eugenia Higueros, Clayton Holden Hutchins, Aldo Ibarra, Mariana Ibarra, Adrianna Jno-phillip, Lauren Konecny, Michael A. Lara, Catherine Marie Lopez and Chris Manuel Lagunes-Lopez. Also honored as new inductees were Jorge A. Martinez, Miguel Martinez, Sandra Montes de Oca, Aaron Anthony Moore, Alan Sheldon Moore, Tatiana Montgomery, Yazmin Adriana Muñoz, Cynthia Neri, Cindy Milagro Ortiz, Jonathan M. Paz, Sylvia A. Puente, Antelmo Reyes, Erick Rodriguez, Ulysses Rene Rodriguez, Karla M. Salgado, Angelica Nahay Sanchez Podlecki, Maria Sanchez, Melanie Sanchez, Melissa Sanchez, Victor Deangelo Sanchez, Vanessa Saucedo, Norma E. Sevilla, Kaylann Peralta Shiang, Jaqueline Yukari Sorto, Lafayette Anfernee Stephens Jr., Madison Stringer, Jenny Thuy Dinh, Hannah Amorette Torres, Cynthia Vaca, Yolanda Velasco, Alyssa Brianne Villarreal, Andrew Martin Villarreal, Laura Catalina Villegas, Monica Viramontes, Kaleilah Tarie Watson, Aolani Faith Williams, Christian Matthew Russell Ypma and Angel Zepeda. CHS National Honor Society sponsors are Carmen Taylor-Michaud and Erin Bowman.

CHANNELVIEW ISD:
Responsible pet partners



McMullan Elementary fifth grade students learned about responsible pet ownership and animal welfare issues as part of a presentation through the Harris County District Attorney's Office HOPE (Helping Our Pets through Education) program. The program educated students on proper pet care, age-appropriate information on animal cruelty laws, and what to do if the student encounters animal cruelty. The program's mascot "Hope" was also present during the presentation. At the conclusion of the program, students were awarded certificates reflecting what they had learned about being a trustworthy pet owner.

DeZavala students tour
UH-Clear Lake



Students from Channelview ISD's DeZavala Elementary School took a field trip to the University of Houston-Clear Lake as part of College Week activities. The students were able to visit lecture rooms on campus, as well as other areas. UHCL representatives answered a variety of questions from the students about college requirements and the importance of higher education.

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OPINION PAGE

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OPINION

TxDOT urges drivers to
'plan while you can' for sober
rides this holiday season

AUSTIN – The Texas Department of Transportation's "Plan While You Can" campaign urges party goers to plan for a sober ride this holiday season. The campaign runs through Jan. 1, 2016 and coincides with an increase in DUI patrols and enforcement.

"The holidays are a time of celebration and family, but they also require responsible decisions and planning if alcohol is involved," said TxDOT Executive Director LtGen Joe Weber, USMC (Ret). "Our goal is to save families from the heartbreak of losing a loved one. Finding a sober ride is easy and it can save you from being arrested, injured or killed. There is no excuse for drinking and driving."

During last year's holiday season (Dec. 1, 2014 - Jan. 1, 2015) there were 2,412 alcohol-related traffic crashes in Texas, resulting in 190 serious injuries and 110 fatalities. This was nearly an 8-percent increase in alcohol-related traffic fatalities over the previous holiday season.

Central to the "Plan While You Can" campaign is a statewide tour featuring an interactive dodgeball game that uses custom gaming technology to replicate the effects of alcohol on a person's

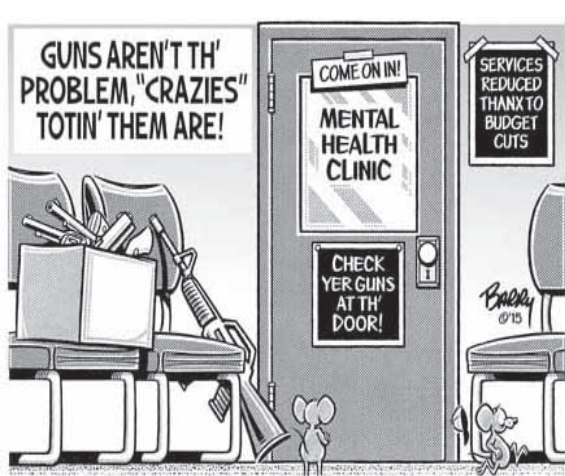
reflexes. As participants play, virtual drinks are added and the players' on-screen avatars become less able to dodge incoming "snowballs." The game demonstrates how even one drink can slow reaction times.

Additionally, TxDOT is hosting a contest on its Facebook, Twitter and Instagram social media accounts. Participants who tag up to three friends in a tweet or a post with the hashtag #PlanWhileYouCan will be entered into a giveaway for a donated gift card from a retailer, restaurant or entertainment venue. To enter and learn more, follow TxDOT on its social media accounts.

As always, TxDOT strongly encourages everyone to plan for a sober ride before going out. Visit SoberRides.org to find alternatives to drinking and driving, such as:

- Calling a taxi or using a transportation app on your smartphone.
- Using mass transit.
- Asking a sober friend or family member for a ride home.
- Spend the night.

For more information, contact TxDOT Media Relations at MediaRelations@txdot.gov or (512) 463-8700.



Paxton amends approach to
resettlement of refugees

AUSTIN — Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on Dec. 4 withdrew his request for a temporary restraining order to put a hold on the federal government's plan to relocate Syrian refugee families in Texas.

Paxton, as the state's chief law enforcement officer, initiated the court action on behalf of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, the state agency potentially most involved with the resettlement process. In an explanation of his reasoning, Paxton cited the U.S. Refugee Act of 1980, a law requiring that the federal government consult with state authorities in advance of such relocations.

Paxton said, in effect, that his request for the restraining order prompted the federal government to provide information that he said would help resolve security concerns about the first group of refugees set to arrive in Texas.

Still, however, Texas continues to seek a federal court injunction requiring the federal government to consult with state authorities before resettling refugees.

According to the state attorney general's office, Texas takes in roughly 10 percent of the refugees resettled in the United States, partnering with local volunteer agencies to help refugees transition to the state and pay associated costs.

"Texas shouldn't have to go to court to require Washington to comply with federal law regarding its duties to consult with Texas in advance," Paxton commented. "Our state will continue legal proceedings to ensure we get the information necessary to adequately protect the safety of Texas residents. While we remain con-

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STATE CAPITAL
HIGHLIGHTS
By Ed Sterling

cerned about the federal government's overall refugee vetting process, we must ensure that Texas has the seat at the table that the Refugee Act requires."

Border security panel meets

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick acknowledged "strong pleas for state assistance" after a Dec. 3 Senate interim committee hearing on border security.

Patrick said he is "committed to work with the Senate, both during this interim and the remainder of my term in office, to make sure that assistance is provided."

During the hearing, Texas Department of Public Safety Director Steven McCraw testified that over the last four years more than 174,000 undocumented individuals had been arrested and booked into Texas jails.

A.J. Louderback of Texas Sheriffs' Association also testified, saying PEP the Priority Enforcement Program of ICE, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency, "significantly weakens how we protect the state."

Under PEP, ICE seeks the transfer of a removable individual when that individual has been convicted of an offense listed under the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's civil immigration enforcement priorities, has intentionally participated in an organized criminal gang to further

the illegal activity of the gang, or poses a danger to national security.

Patrick, who presides over the Texas Senate, said, "While securing the border is a responsibility of Washington, D.C., it is still a Texas problem. That's why the Senate led the way during the last session to provide funding for border security at the highest levels in history."

Abbott takes group to Cuba

Gov. Greg Abbott and first lady Cecilia Abbott are back in Texas after leading a group of two dozen members of the governor's staff and economic development team and representatives of economic interests "with a stake in increased trade with and travel" to Cuba. The group included officials from the ports of Houston, Beaumont and Corpus Christi, plus Houston's airports.

News of the Nov. 30-Dec. 3 trip was posted by the governor's office in a series of press pool reports by the Austin American-Statesman.

In one of those reports, Cuba's minister of foreign trade and investment told Gov. Abbott that he believes "the normalization of relations between Cuba and the United States is an inexorable process that won't be reversed no matter who is elected president in 2016."

"This is an historic process," said Rodrigo Malmierca Diaz. "It's historic because it's been a long time and a lot of administrations and there weren't any changes, and now is when the changes are taking place. We think this process is irreversible, it's not going to be taken back."

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OPINION

DPS offers tips
to avoid vehicle
theft during the
Holidays

AUSTIN – The Texas Department of Public Safety is reminding Texans about the potential for vehicle thefts during the holiday season and is advising individuals to take extra precautions to guard against possible auto thefts. Vehicle burglaries are also a concern during the holiday season.

"The holiday season is a busy time for everyone – including criminals, and DPS is urging Texans to do what they can to keep vehicles and valuables safe from possible thieves," said DPS Director Steven McCraw.

"The months of December and January can be prime times for auto theft and burglaries. It is important to always lock car doors and store valuables out of sight."

In December 2014, 5,717 automobiles, pickups and motorcycles were recorded stolen, making it one of the highest months for vehicle thefts that year, outside of the summer months. In addition, more than 13,190 vehicle burglaries were reported and \$13.3 million in property stolen last December, also making it one of the highest months that year.

DPS offers the following tips that Texans can follow to help protect against vehicle theft:

- 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.
- 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.

If your vehicle is stolen, report it to the police immediately. DPS also encourages individuals to keep a copy of their license plate and vehicle identification number on hand in case of theft, since police will need this information to take a report.

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LIFESTYLE

OBITUARIES

Ronald Britt Whitehead

Ronald Britt Whitehead, 58, passed away Friday, December 4, 2015 surrounded by his family in Houston, Texas.

Ronald was born September 16, 1957 to parents John Randolph Whitehead, Sr. and Floyce Maxine (Henderson) in Pasadena, Texas. He was lovingly known as "Ronnie" by his family and the many friends he made along the way.

Ronnie worked hard during his life as a longshoreman and was a member of the ILA for 39 years. He was a dedicated and loving father. Ronnie was also a loyal Dallas Cowboys fan and stood by his team until his final days.

Ronnie's legacy will live on through the many lives he touched in his short life. He is preceded in death by his parents.

Left to cherish his memory are his children, Richard Clark and wife Jennifer, Amber Whitehead and boyfriend Keoshi Gardner, Ashley Jimerson and husband K.C.; the mother of his children, Rhonda Whitehead; brothers and sisters, J.R. White-



head, Jr. and wife Julie, Ray Whitehead and wife Tracy, Ramona Sowder and husband Adam, Belinda Honea; grandchildren, Ty Clark, Taylor Clark, Brody Jimerson, Kynlee Jimerson; many cousins, nieces, nephews, extended family members, and his dear friends that became his family from Sambo's Blackjack Bar.

A celebration of Ronnie's life will be held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, December 12, 2015 in the chapel of Carter Funeral Home.

Carter Funeral Home
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www.CarterFuneral-Houston.com

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

...A decree went out from Caesar Augustus; all went to be registered, everyone to his own city. Joseph also went up from Galilee to the city of Bethlehem, to be registered with Mary, who was with child. While there, she gave birth to her first-born Son, wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. LUKE 2:1-7

Something special happens at the Houston Symphony during holidays

-A Free Holiday Concert: December 10, 2015
-Very Merry Pops: December 11-13, 2015
-A Frosty & Frozen Christmas: December 12, 2015
-Handel's Messiah: December 18-20, 2015

HOUSTON (December 8, 2015) – The musicians of the Houston Symphony are spreading holiday cheer during this most wonderful – and busy – time of year. POPS, family and classical concerts will transpire on the Jones Hall stage in the name of holiday celebration from December 10-20, including the annual traditions Very Merry Pops and Handel's Messiah, as well as A Free Holiday Concert and a special presentation of A Frosty & Frozen Christmas for the little ones.

In its 15th year, the annual Very Merry Pops concert has become an audience favorite under the direction of Principal POPS Conductor Michael Krajewski, who will lead traditional yuletide tunes as well as classics with a twist, such as "Wassail, Wassail All Over the Tuba" and "Jingle Bells Forever," at 8 p.m. on December 11 and 12 and 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. on December 13. The Houston Symphony Chorus, under the leadership of Betsy Cook Weber, will also appear on the concert. The chorus and orchestra will be joined by guest vocalist Reginald Smith Jr., a recent graduate of the Houston Grand Opera Studio and Grand Finals winner of the 2015 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

Also on December 12, at



Houston Symphony

10 and 11:30 a.m., families are encouraged to attend A Frosty & Frozen Christmas. Guest conductor Ming Luke will lead the orchestra in a musical display of holiday magic with songs including "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer," "Frosty the Snowman," and everyone's Frozen favorite, "Let It Go." Santa Claus himself is also expected to travel from the North Pole to make a stage appearance.

Bringing audiences right up to the week of Christmas, Handel's Messiah will be performed at 8 p.m. on December 18 and 19 and at 2:30 p.m. on December 20. The timeless fixture of holiday music that tells the story of the first Christmas will be led by guest conductor Nicholas Kraemer. Guest soloists will be soprano Shannon Mercer, mezzo-

soprano Jennifer Rivera, tenor Matthew Plenk and bass Jonathan Lasch, the latter three of whom will be making their Houston Symphony debuts.

Two additional presentations of Handel's Messiah will be performed at 8 p.m. on December 17 at Sugar Land Baptist Church and 7:30 p.m. on December 20 at First Methodist Church.

All concerts will take place at Jones Hall for the Performing Arts, 615 Louisiana Street in Houston's Theater District, unless otherwise noted. For tickets and information, please call (713) 224-7575 or visit www.houstonsymphony.org. Tickets may also be purchased at the Houston Symphony Patron Services Center in Jones Hall (Monday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.). All programs and artists are subject to change.

LITTLE BIDDY BITS By Danny Biddy

He Will Answer

Uncle Joe was a man of few words. I was riding with him one day as we took the old city fire truck to the other side of our little town, to wet down the dirt infield at the baseball field. As we pulled out of the fire station, I asked my uncle a question. I knew he heard me since I was sitting right beside him, but he did not say a word. Driving that old vehicle took lots of muscle and concentration. Just before we got to the field, Uncle Joe said about three or four words. I had almost forgotten my question, but I did get my answer.

Has the Lord been silent? He heard you. Just wait. He will answer. "I waited patiently for the Lord to help me and He turned to me and He heard my cry." (Psalm 40:1)

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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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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

SPORTS

ASK THE EXPERT
By Edward Jones

Holiday spending -
Can help teach children
about money

During this holiday season, you'll likely be spending money, in various amounts and in various ways. And you can use this experience to teach your children about money management.

Here are a few ideas for doing just that:

- Stick to a budget. Tell your children you've set aside a certain amount of money for gifts and holiday events, such as hosting parties, and that you won't exceed it. And if you have saved money throughout the year in a special holiday fund, let your kids know about that, too. This information should help impress upon them the importance of sticking with a budget and saving for a goal.
- Discuss credit and debt. Ideally, you won't have to use your credit cards to an unusual degree during the holiday season. If you do, though, explain to your children that using a credit card is not the same thing as "free" money, and that your goal is to pay off the card as soon as possible, so that you won't have to pay even more for your purchases in the form of interest payments.
- Compare short- and long-term goals. Explain to your children that your holiday spending is the result of having saved for, and met, a short-term goal, but that you are also saving for long-term goals, such as retirement. Depending on the age of your kids, you might want to go into somewhat more detail, such as describing, in general terms, the different ways you save for the different goals. For example, for your holiday spending, you might be drawing on money from your checking account – or, as mentioned above, a holiday fund, possibly kept in a low-risk, liquid vehicle – while for your

long-term goals, you might be relying in part on your employer-sponsored retirement plan, such as a 401(k). The key point to get across is that you have various financial goals in life with various means of working toward achieving them.

- Introduce your children to investing. If you've already brought up the topic of saving for long-term goals, why not take it a step further and give your children a doorway into the investment world? Specifically, consider giving them a few shares of stock, possibly in companies with which they are already familiar, and help them follow these stocks. One way of giving stocks to children is through a custodial account, which can be opened under the Uniform Transfer to Minors Act (UTMA) or the Uniform Gifts to Minors Act (UGMA). Keep in mind, though, that once your child reaches the age of majority – usually 18 or 21 – he or she gets full control of the money in the account. Plus, your gift is irrevocable.
- Be generous. If you're going to make charitable gifts, let your kids know about it – or even let them help pick the charities. It will show them that one purpose of wealth accumulation is to give back to the world.

By providing some financial education to your kids this holiday season, you'll be giving them a gift that can last long after the festivities have ended.

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

Edward Jones
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Galena Park High School
receives NFL Golden Football

As part of the nationwide kickoff to the Super Bowl 50 celebration, the NFL launched a Super Bowl High School Honor Roll initiative recognizing schools and communities that contributed to Super Bowl history and positively impacted the game of football.

High schools across the nation, and around the world, receive a commemorative Wilson Golden Football for every player or head coach who graduated from their school and was on an active Super Bowl roster – a total of nearly 3,000 players and head coaches, and more than 2,000 high schools. Players and coaches will also have the opportunity to personally deliver golden footballs.

On Thursday, November 12, 2015, former Miami Dolphin and Super Bowl champion Howard Twilley delivered a Wilson Golden Football to his high school alma mater, Galena Park High School.

In 1960, Twilley was a defensive back on the junior varsity (JV) team coached by a "tough, old school, blood and guts type of coach," Jeff Sadler. On a hot day in August, the JV team was set to scrimmage the varsity team. As the more talented players were always on the varsity team, things never went well for the JV. However, through the course of the scrimmage, the JV starting tight end was injured. Coach Sadler asked for volunteers to take the injured player's spot. Twilley, a 141 pound kid, raised his hand. Against the varsity de-



Galena Park High School proud graduate and principal Tony Gardea (left) accepts the NFL Golden Football from Howard Twilley (right).

fense, he caught multiple passes, some for touchdowns, and thoroughly impressed everyone on the field. "That day, that moment would change my entire life. It was the defining moment for my football career," Twilley said.

After graduating from Galena Park High School, Twilley became a star receiver at the University of Tulsa. He was the runner up for the Heisman Trophy in 1965, the same year he held NCAA records for touchdowns (16), passes caught (134), and yards (1,779). He was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1992 and the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame in 1995.

Professionally Twilley played for the Miami Dolphins from 1966, the first year for the expansion team, through 1976. Twilley was the only player on the inaugural team who was also on the 1972 Super Bowl VII championship. In that fateful Super Bowl matchup, Twilley caught a 28-yard touchdown pass in their victory over the Redskins. That victory secured them a world championship and the NFL's only perfect season.

Concluding his speech to the crowd gathered to pay homage to Galena Park High School's most prolific athlete, Twilley said, "Faith and hard work are important keys to success. I began to learn that at Galena Park High School." Then with gusto he added, "Once a Yellow Jacket, always a Yellow Jacket!" That statement was met with uproarious applause.

Alabama's Saban
pays visit to
Channelview



University of Alabama Head Football Coach Nick Saban, left, travelled to Channelview to visit with Channelview High School quarterback and verbal commit Jalen Hurts. Saban was also welcomed to the district by Superintendent Greg Ollis.

University of Alabama Head Football Coach Nick Saban visited with the Crimson Tide's top quarterback commitment Jalen Hurts at the Channelview ISD Athletics Complex on Monday.

"He's a fine young man," Saban said. "We are excited to have a player of his caliber and we cannot wait to see what the future holds for him."

Hurts, who has verbally committed to play for the Crimson Tide guided the Channelview Falcons to their first playoff berth in 22 years this year. He led District 21-6A in passing with 2,371 yards and in scoring with 154 points. He also was second in rushing in the district with 1,393 yards. In his four-year varsity career, Hurts passed for 6,436 yards and 61 touchdowns and rushed for 2,654 yards and 51 touchdowns.

The 6-foot-2, 208-pound Hurts chose Alabama over Texas A&M and Mississippi State. Hurts will graduate early from CHS and will enroll at Alabama in January.

While in Channelview, Saban visited with Falcon Head Coach and Jalen's father, Averion Hurts and mother Pamela Hurts, who is a teacher at Aguirre Junior High. He also met Channelview High School Principal Cindi Ollis and district Superintendent Greg Ollis.

Academically, Hurts is planning to major in business at Alabama. He ranks among the top seniors at CHS and is a member of the school's National Honor Society.

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The Award for most Beautiful Float went to the Jacinto City Elementary School. Here Al Gutierrez of Capital Bank present the award to one of the students from JC Elementary.



Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee presents Mayor Ana Diaz with a proclamation honoring Jacinto City. Others are Councilpersons Carmela Garcia, Allen Lee, Gregg Robinson, and Mario Gonzales. At right, Congressman Gene Green.



Mayor Ana Diaz at right, and Al Gutierrez of Capital Bank at left, present the Award for Mayor's Choice to the Galena Park High School Jacketeers, with some of the students accepting for the group.



The Gingerbread House not only made us hungry, but won the Award for Most Beautiful for the Jacinto City Elementary School.



Best Marching/Walking Award went to Lori's Dance Studio, with this group clogging their way down Wiggins Street.



Honorable Mention Float Award went to the 1st Baptist Church of Jacinto City, for this Creche.



Santa Claus was busy for most of the afternoon, listening to the wish lists of children and adults alike. Here a happy little girl hangs onto her candy cane as she tells Santa about her Wish List.



Choir Director Jueretta Berry was given an Award for the contribution of Holiday Music from the Jacinto City Elementary School Honor Choir.



The Annual Tree Lighting of the Jacinto City Christmas Tree took place in the courtyard of the Town Center and Senior Center, at the end of the ceremonies.



Councilman Allen Lee and his son entertained with holiday songs, as Joyce Raines and Mayor Diaz listen.



Al Gutierrez of Capital Bank presents the Award for Most Original Float or Unit, to a North Channel Martial Arts member.



Marching units included many organizations, as seen here the GP/JC Rotary Club's Interact student members.

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