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CHANNEL CHATTER



Rep. Green hosts Town Hall meetings

HOUSTON— Congressman Gene Green invites residents of the 29th Congressional District to attend one of his town hall meetings or events in January and February. In addition to hosting five town hall meetings, Congressman Green will also host a Senior Citizens Issues Forum and a Paying for College Workshop with The Sallie Mae Fund.

"We're looking forward to seeing constituents and discussing policies that affect our District, as well as important issues and recently passed bills in Congress," Green said.

He added, "Our Paying for College Workshop equips students and parents with the tools they need to get started on a financial plan for college, and connects them with local colleges and universities, and military academies. We hope to see a lot of students and families there."

The event times and locations are listed below:

•Town Hall Meeting

Tuesday, January 19, 2016 - 7:00pm. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 7822 Northline Drive, Houston, TX 77049.

•Town Hall Meeting

Thursday, January 21, 2016 - 6:30pm, North Channel Branch Library, 15741 Wallisville Road, Houston, TX 77011.

Sheldon FFA Show Jan. 16

The Sheldon FFA Livestock Show and Sale is taking place from Thursday, January 14 thru Saturday, January 16, 2016. Sale of Livestock is Saturday, 12 noon at the Ag Center at 17522 Beaumont Highway.

SunEdison chemical plant planning on shut-down

GALENA PARK – At the CIP meeting held last week at the Baggett Center, attendees learned about Environmental Controls at a typical Gulf Coast refinery or plant.

They also heard from a representative of SunEdison Pasadena, Erik Pitoniak, that his company was "starting the process of de-inventorying the facility" with the goal of shutting down now, and able to re-start in the future. Pitoniak indicated that long term plans were being evaluated.



ERIK PITONIAK
SunEdison

Other speakers, who detailed steps in their environmental programs, included Roel Munoz of LyondellBasell, and Tony Bundick of Kinder Morgan.

A plant safety program was presented by a representative from Shell Lubricants. Shell has 180 employees at their facility on Clinton Drive in Galena Park.

Dog Park opens in City of Galena Park



The City of Galena Park Dog Park was officially opened this past Saturday morning, Jan. 9th. This was made possible by the city's Parks and Recreation department and volunteers from LyondellBasell. Pictured at the dedication are Parks & Recreation Director Ernesto Paredes, Olivia Paredes, Councilpersons Cruz Hinojosa, Marisela Serna, Juan Flores, and representatives of LyondellBasell. The dog park is open to the public daily, on Keene Street.

North Shore Rotary helps the VFW



AT THEIR RECENT luncheon meeting, the North Shore Rotary Club made a donation to the VFW of \$5000, to renovate their hall in Cloverleaf and bring it up to ADA handicap standard.

CLIP AND SAVE

Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo 2016

MARCH 1



The
Band
Perry

MARCH 2

Chris
Young



MARCH 3

Jason
Aldean



MARCH 4

Jason
Derulo



MARCH 5

Cole
Swindell



MARCH 6

Shawn
Mendes



MARCH 7

Miranda
Lambert



MARCH 8

Pitbull



MARCH 9

Brett
Eldredge



MARCH 10

Luke
Bryan



MARCH 11

Darius
Rucker



MARCH 12

Billy
Currington



MARCH 13



Los Huracanes del
Norte

MARCH 14

Kenny
Chesney



MARCH 15

Kid
Rock



MARCH 16

Jake
Owen



MARCH 17

Florida
Georgia
Line



MARCH 18

Little
Brown
Town



MARCH 19

Brad
Paisley



MARCH 20

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Urban



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Sheldon ISD presents Best of 2016 Rodeo Art Show

Every year, Sheldon I.S.D. participates in the Houston Livestock Show Rodeo Art Show. Students from across the district wrangle up their best artwork and compete with other artists across the state. But before the art heads to the rodeo, the students compete within the district as part of the 2016 Sheldon I.S.D. Rodeo Art Show. The artwork was up for display on Thursday, January 7, 2016 at Royalwood Elementary. Here's a list of the winners from the Sheldon Rodeo Art Show.

Best of Show: High School
"Winter Morning" by Joel R., 11th grade

C.E. King High School
Teacher: Ken Richardson

Gold Medal: High School
"El Viejo y El Ferruco de Alameda" by Yvonne C., 11th grade

C.E. King High School
Teacher: Leslie Roades

Gold Medal: High School

"Ready to Ride" by Elisandra G., 11th grade
C. E. King High School
Teacher: Leslie Roades

Best of Show: Junior High
"Horses" by Rodrigo D., 7th grade

C. E. King Middle School
Teacher: Diane Taylor

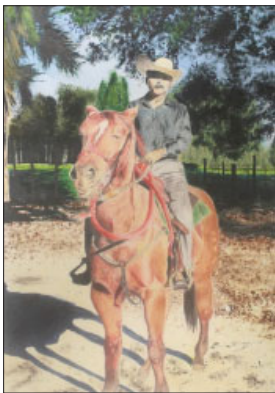
Gold Medal: Junior High
"The Girl" by Raul L., 8th grade

C. E. King Middle School
Teacher: Diane Taylor

Best of Show: Elementary
"Lone Horse on the Medina" by Joseph A., 5th grade
Carroll Elementary
Teacher: Natalie Leger

Gold Medal: Elementary
"The Cowboy" by Samantha H., 3rd grade
Carroll Elementary
Teacher: Natalie Leger

The winning artworks will go on display at the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo in the Hayloft Gallery at NRG Stadium from March 1 – 20, 2016.



Ready to Ride by Elisandra G. got Gold Medal.



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COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

2nd. THURSDAY
San Jacinto
Pilot Club

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

2nd. THURSDAY
North Shore
Senior Dance

North Shore Senior Citizens will have its monthly dance Thursday, January 14 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.

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.

JANUARY
North Channel
Library events

TWEEN Programs: Wed., Jan. 27, 4:30 p.m., Build robotic creations. -Adult Programs: Wed., Jan. 27, 10 am, North Channel Book Club. -All ages Program: Sat., Jan. 16, 10am-3pm, Scrapbooking with Mia; 2 pm, Faithful Paws. Library is located at 15741 Wallisville Rd., Houston, TX. 77049. Call 281-457-1631 for more information on other programs.

JANUARY
Galena Park
Library events

-Tues., Jan. 19, Family Movie Time. -Wed., Jan. 20, Baby Time, 10 am; Mecanografia, 10:15 am; StoryTime, 11 am; Typing Basics, 1:30 pm; Get Active, 4 pm. -Thur., Jan. 21, Chronicles of Yarnia, 10 am; Citizenship Classes, 11:30 am; Mindbenders, 3 pm. Please call the library at 713-450-0982 for more programs. The library is located at 1500 Keene St. Galena Park, TX. 77547.

JANUARY
Jacinto City Library
-Thur., Jan. 14, Power Point, 11 am; Children's Story Time, 3 pm. -Frid., Jan. 15, Clases de Inglés Usando Mango, 1pm. -Sat., Jan. 16, Computer Basics, 10:30 am; Children's Movie Theater, 12:30 pm. -Tue., Jan. 19, Word, 10:30 am, Word Básico, 4:30 pm. -Wed., Jan. 20, Baby Time, 10:30 am; ESL Class, 12:30 pm. 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.

Sheldon ISD students
participate at "Hour of Code"



Sheldon I.S.D. was lucky to be a part of the "Hour of Code" event last month to support the Community Science Education Week. It is the largest learning event in history; a global movement with more than 100 million learners in 180 countries worldwide. More than 198,473 Hour of Code Events were held around the world and Sheldon I.S.D. was one of them. In order to participate, the Sheldon Digital Learning team signed the district up and then worked closely with teachers on each elementary and middle school campus to organize and plan our both "plugged and un-plugged" activities. The team used many activities sponsored by Code.org.

With themes from Minecraft, Angry Birds, Frozen to Star Wars – the digital learning team had classes on each campus complete their individual hour of computer coding activities. These activities help nurture creativity and problem-solving skills and prepare our students for any future career. This year's Sheldon I.S.D. status: Carroll Elementary =667, Garrett Elementary =1,442, Monahan Elementary =339, Royalwood Elementary =460, Sheldon Elementary =1,389, King Middle = 1, 2 2 3 , Null Middle =513. Total Hours of Computer Coding for the district = Grades 1-8: 6,033.

School Board Recognition
Month honors efforts of
Channelview ISD Trustees



Pictured from left are Channelview ISD Superintendent Greg Ollis, Board Vice President Steven Dennis, Board Secretary Raquel Dobbins, Board President Kyle Campbell, Board Parliamentarian Patrick Lacy and Board Members Keith Liggett, Alex Ybarra and Greg Johnstone.

The month of January is School Board Recognition Month and the Channelview Independent School District is celebrating the countless contributions of these dedicated community leaders. "Our board members volunteer their time and energy to ensure that all children receive the best education possible," Channelview ISD Superintendent Greg Ollis said. "They are a vital link between the community and the classroom. We appreciate our board members for giving of

themselves and caring so much about every child enrolled in our schools." Channelview ISD board members include Board President J. Kyle Campbell, Vice President Steven Dennis, Secretary Raquel Dobbins, Parliamentarian Patrick Lacy and members Greg Johnstone, Keith Liggett and Alex Ybarra. The seven-member board is elected by Channelview ISD voters and serves the community without pay. Board members establish the policies and provide the

framework for the operations of the school district. As part of their leadership roles, Channelview board members are constantly broadening their knowledge by attending conferences and seminars focusing on issues in public education. "Setting aside time in January is one small way to celebrate the service of our board members and say 'thank you' for caring so much about the future of every child enrolled in our schools," Ollis said.

Sheldon ISD School Board Members recognized



Top Row, Left to Right: Fred Rivas, member, Devora Myles, member, Debbie Kolacny, member, Keith Norwood, member. Bottom row, Left to Right: Eileen Palmer, Secretary, Ken Coleman, President and Latricia Charlot, Vice President.

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OPINION PAGE

★
OPINION

Medical Insurance
is expensive

By Glenn Mollette

I felt like my insurance company wanted me out of healthcare when I received my new premium information for 2016. I paid over \$1,600 a month for my wife and I to have medical insurance in 2015. Last fall I learned my current policy would increase to over \$1,950 per month. I had the option to change policies, which would have lowered my premium to \$1,500 a month. The change would also have significantly reduced my coverage. In the process I learned that just going to the Emergency Room would be an automatic \$500 charge on my current policy and any other policy that I would change to. I chose to stick with my current policy and in 2016 my medical insurance will be \$23,600. That's a lot of money.

I can see what is coming this fall of 2016. I will receive my letter telling me that my current insurance will probably be increased to \$2,300 to \$2,500 per month. I can't pay that kind of premium and will be forced into a plan that will cost \$1,600 to \$1,800 per month and will pay less on medical expenses. The name of the game is the insurance company assuming less liability. They want you to buy the insurance and then pay as much of your medical expense as possible.

I hear too many reports of people opting out of surgeries because they can't afford to pay the deductible and the copay. Many Americans who still cannot afford to buy health insurance are now being penalized. Some are opting to pay the penalty instead of buying the insurance.

We have to simplify our current American health insurance

Keep poor Americans on Medicaid. Allow all Americans with preexisting conditions to be on Medicaid. If they make over \$40,000 then they should buy into Medicare. Lower income people should pay less than those with higher wages.

Make medical insurance competitive over state lines. Allow citizens to shop across the country for the best insurance deals. Encourage Insurance companies to advertise across the country. Give people a choice. Also, open the door to Canada's pharmacies. An approved list of pharmacies that Americans can do business with would give us another option.

Finally, we have to slow down government's involvement in our medical care. The job of the government is to keep us safe and provide an environment where we can conduct business and live our lives. The government is being bilked by billions of dollars by health care providers each year. Each year our national debt grows. This means our grandchildren will be paying our medical bills. Involving the government more and more into the health care industry only means a larger national debt and Uncle Sam telling you and your doctor how long you are allowed to stay in the hospital after an appendectomy.

America is in a healthcare crisis that is spiraling out of control. We must elect leadership with a real business plan or we are going to be out of the healthcare business.

Glenn Mollette is an American Syndicated Columnist and Author. He is the author of eleven books and read in all fifty states.

This column does not necessarily reflect the view of any organization, institution or this paper or media source.



Governor Abbott proposes
slate of amendments to
U.S. Constitution

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott on Jan. 8 unveiled his "Texas Plan," a document promoting the passage of nine constitutional amendments "to rein in the federal government and restore the balance of power between the States and the United States," he said.

The amendments Abbott is proposing include:
- Prohibit Congress from regulating activity that occurs wholly within one state.

- Require Congress to balance its budget;
- Prohibit administrative agencies, and the unelected bureaucrats that staff them, from creating federal law;
- Prohibit administrative agencies, and the unelected bureaucrats that staff them, from preempting state law.

- Allow a two-thirds majority of the states to override a U.S. Supreme Court decision;

- Require a seven-justice supermajority vote for U.S. Supreme Court decisions that invalidate a democratically enacted law;

- Restore the balance of power between the federal and state governments by limiting the federal government to the powers expressly delegated to it in the Constitution;

- Give state officials the power to sue in federal court when federal officials overstep their bounds; and

- Allow a two-thirds majority of the states to override a federal law or regulation.

Manny Garcia, executive director of the Texas Democratic Party, said Abbott's proposals would "tear apart the Constitution and take

★
STATE CAPITAL
HIGHLIGHTS
By Ed Sterling

America back to an equivalent of the Articles of Confederation."

Garcia added: "America added 292,000 new jobs in December. But under Abbott, Texas fell to sixth in job creation, remains the uninsured capitol of the nation, wages and incomes remain far too low for hardworking families, our neighborhood schools are still underfunded, and college education is slipping out of reach.

"Texas families deserve serious solutions, not Tea Party nonsense," Garcia said.

Gun plan draws reactions

In a Jan. 7 White House address, President Obama said he would take executive action to reduce gun violence in America, primarily by keeping guns "out of the wrong hands through background checks."

Gov. Abbott reacted, saying, "Despite the president's latest attempt to undermine our liberty, Texas will take every action to protect the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens."

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton also reacted, saying, "I stand ready to fight back against any overreach that will deny or infringe on (gun owners') rights."

Sales tax revenue drops

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on Jan. 6 announced that sales tax revenue for the state in December was \$2.33 billion, down 1.1 percent compared to December 2014.

"As with the previous two months, December sales tax revenue was down largely due to spending reductions in oil and gas-related sectors," Hegar said. "This was expected, given ongoing weakness in oil and natural gas prices. Remittances from other sectors, such as construction and information, continued to grow."

Also, Hegar said, the Office of the Comptroller is sending cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts \$617.2 million in local sales tax allocations for January, 0.1 percent less than in January 2015. The allocations are based on sales made in November by businesses that report tax monthly.

'Don't Mess' turns 30

The Texas Department of Transportation on Jan. 3 announced the "Don't Mess With Texas" anti-litter campaign had reached its 30th anniversary.

For more than 30 years, according to the announcement, the iconic Don't Mess With Texas campaign has reminded people to put litter in a trash can instead of tossing it out of their vehicles.

"Researchers estimate that nearly a half a billion (435 million) pieces of visible litter pile up along state-maintained highways annually. Small bits of trash can add up to one big litter problem, especially when napkins, wrappers and cigarette butts make up 70 percent of all litter found along Texas roads. In 2014 alone, the state spent \$35 million in highway cleanup costs," TxDOT said.

New TEA chief takes office

Mike Morath on Jan. 4 was administered the oath of office to become the new Texas commissioner of education.

Morath, who succeeds Texas Education Commissioner Michael Williams, was appointed to the position by Gov. Abbott on Dec. 14. The appointment is subject to Senate confirmation during the next legislative session in 2017.

"I am committed to ensuring that our education system provides all the children of Texas the opportunity to be successful in life," Morath said.

★
OPINION

How to really
cut down on
gun deaths

By Traci Patterson

"Instead of arguing at the margins, politicians on both sides should be addressing the funding, access, and quality of our mental health system..."

With the Presidential campaigns in full swing, it is little surprise that President Barack Obama's recent proposals on gun access have been met with political spin instead of objective analysis. Both sides are looking to make over generalizations without looking at the practical numbers behind the real issue that should address: our mental health crisis.

Any conversation on gun violence should start with a basic set of facts in order to see the complete picture. Looking at the number of gun deaths, then moving to gun violence and mental health connections, and finally to where real bipartisan progress can be made in expanding access to mental health care can give depth to the otherwise shallow arguments made in today's debate.

When looking at the actual occurrence of gun deaths in the United States, there is a very prominent role for those experiencing a mental illness, and it is not mass shooting settings. The point about gun access and suicide is clear in these statistics:

- More than 60 percent of people in this country who die from guns die by suicide.

- According to Harvard School of Public Health, in 2010 in the U.S., 19,392 people took their own lives with guns, compared with 11,078 who were killed by others.

- Over 90 suicides happen every hour, and 90% of these deaths are related to mental illness.

The Hogg Foundation for Mental Health recently hosted a forum about violence prevention and mental health at the Texas Capitol in February of 2015. Some interesting stats mentioned by Dr. Joel Dvoskin from the University of Arizona included:

- People suffering from a Severe and Persistent Mental Illness are 11 to 12 times more likely to be victims of a violent crime

- If all violence related to mental illness were to go away, the overall reduction in violent crime would be only 4%

- The odds of someone with schizophrenia killing someone is approximately 1 in 140,000

In mental health access, the media would be well served to remember Texas ranks 49th in the nation for public funding for mental health (Kaiser, 2013). In Harris County, even with massive increases in the state budget in the last two legislative sessions, there is a striking gap of mental health access for residents. According to the 2015 report of the Mental Health Needs Council of Harris County:

- 142,930 adults had a serious mental illness in Harris County

- 89,579 individuals with serious mental illness had no public (Medicaid or Medicare) or private health insurance and were exclusively dependent on the public mental health service system for treatment.

- The Harris Center is able to treat between 11,000 & 12,000 per month, covering only a fraction of that population

Like clockwork, whenever the debate over gun control happens there will be questions around the mental healthcare system with calls to improve it. When enough time passes for the debate over guns to die down, the bipartisan calls for mental health care also fades from the headlines.

Instead of arguing at the margins, politicians on both sides should be addressing the funding, access, and quality of our mental health system and not change the subject from the need for additional resources.

The biggest impact in reducing gun deaths in the United States is effective suicide prevention and improved mental healthcare, and that's not debatable.

Bill Kelly is Director of Public Policy & Government Affairs for Mental Health America of Greater Houston.

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LIFESTYLE

HUNTING TIME
with Charlie Farrar



8 point taken on the Wetz Ranch by Carson Loggins in Harper, Tx on January 1, 2016.

Elementary school
students recognized
for high attendance



Dr. Antonio Bañuelos Elementary was recognized at a recent meeting of the Goose Creek CISD Board of Trustees for earning a 97.54 percent attendance rate for the second six weeks of school. Pictured are (front, from left) Dylan Starr, Kayla Lacy, Elisse Sanchez, (back, from left) Board President Jenice Coffey, Principal Renee Meyer and Superintendent Randal O'Brien.

Leo Victor Rucka

Leo Victor Rucka 84, of Crosby, Texas went to be with Lord on Monday, January 4, 2016.

Leo was born on August 18, 1931 in Wooster, Texas to Rudolph and Mary (Buchta) Rucka.

Leo graduated from Crosby High School in 1950 and then attended Rice University on a football Scholarship and graduated from Rice in 1954. After graduating from Rice Leo played football in NFL for the San Francisco 49ers and also played in the Canadian Football League.

Leo served his country and was honorably discharged from the United States Army, was a member of the Knights of Columbus, a member of the Crosby American Legion and was inducted into the Rice Football Hall of Fame. Leo worked for Rohm & Haas for many years and in his free time he enjoyed gardening, raising cattle and most of all spending time with his grandchildren (especially Sarah) and family. Leo was a very quiet, humble and caring man who will be deeply missed by all who knew him. He is preceded in death by his parents; brother, Benny Rucka; brother, Rudy Rucka; son, Rodney Rucka; granddaughter, Madison Brown.

Leo is survived by his loving wife of 62 years, Lillian Rucka; son Philip Rucka and wife Cheryl; son Randy Rucka and wife Laura; daughter, Patricia



Sackett and husband John; daughter, Karen Brown and husband Mike; daughter-in-law, Candy Rucka; brother, Francis Rucka; brother, Albert Rucka; brother, Joseph Rucka; sister, Elizabeth Smith; sister, Mary Helen Hoelscher; 11 grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

A visitation for family and friends will be held on Thursday, January 7, 2016 from 5-8pm at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Crosby with a rosary being recited at 4pm. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Friday, January 8, 2016 11am at Sacred Heart Catholic Church 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

★
OBITUARIES

Mary Ann Brady

Mary Ann Brady 92, of Crosby, Texas went to be with the Lord on Monday, January 4, 2016.

Mary Ann was born on November 4, 1923 in Clarksville, Texas to Quarries and Brazzie (Crosby) Cooper.

Mary Ann graduated from Crosby High School 1941 and was a devoted member of the Crosby United Methodist Church. Mary Ann was a co-owner of Luther Brady Lumber Company where she served as the secretary and in her free time she enjoyed reading, playing canasta, singing in her church choir, volunteering at Churches United in Caring and most of all spending time with her family and friends.

Mary Ann was a very strong, helpful and loving woman who will be deeply missed by all who knew her. She is preceded in death by her parents; loving husband, Luther Brady Sr.; brother, John Cooper and brother, Lee Cooper.

Mary Ann is survived by her son, Luther Brady Jr. and wife Sandy of Crosby; grandson, Jason Brady and wife Michelle of Magnolia; granddaughter, Amy Killian and husband Jeb of San Antonio; grandson, Jonathan Brady and wife Tabatha; grandson, Jus-



tin Brady and wife Christi of Nacogdoches; brother, Raymond Cooper of Harlingen; great grandchildren, Taylor, Tristan, Addy, Kylie, Blake, Abby, Shelby, Allie, Cole, Connor, Cameron; and many other relatives and friends.

A visitation for family and friends will be held on Saturday, January 9, 2016 from 9:30am-10am at Crosby United Methodist Church.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, January 9, 2016 10am at Crosby United Methodist Church 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

Little Biddy Bits

The Head Bone Connected to the Jawbone

As I was going through the food line in the cafeteria my freshman year in college, I overheard a conversation between two ladies who were serving the

food. It concerned the son of one of them whose mouth was getting him into trouble. That mother told the other lady, "I said to him, 'You need to put your mind in gear before you put your mouth in motion!'"

"Teach me, and I will be quiet; show me where I have been wrong." (Job 6:24).

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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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and be strong.
1 Corinthians 16:13

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

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Administration for Docket No. 441,554; Estate of EARLINE LOFTIN FULTON, Deceased; In Probate Court No. 4, of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on December 21, 2015.

CHARLES LOFTIN FULTON

The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is:

c/o Weston Cotten
5223 Garth Rd.
Baytown, TX 77521

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this January 7, 2016

Robert F. Fivcoast

by WESTON COTTEN
Attorney for the Estate

LEGAL NOTICE

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LEGAL NOTICE

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES AND PUBLIC GROUPS:

As provided by the state environmental review process adopted in the permanent rules of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) 31 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 375, Subchapter E, for projects to be funded through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Equivalency Program, and consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S. Code §4321, et seq., the Executive Administrator of the Board has determined that the proposed action identified below may be exempted from formal environmental review requirements:

Harris County Municipal Utility District #50, Harris County, Texas
Sewer System Repair Project
Clean Water State Revolving Fund Equivalency Program (CWSRF), Project No. 73706
Texas Water Development Fund (DFund), Project No. 21731
Total TWDB Commitment: \$3, 810,000 (\$2,460,000, CWSRF; and \$1,350,000, DFund)

The Harris County Municipal Utility District #50 (District) is proposing to use approximately \$100,000 in residual funds from its DFund loan and a portion of its \$2,460,000 CWSRF loan to eliminate storm and sanitary sewer cross connections and rectify deterioration of the existing wastewater collection system in Barrett, Texas. Specifically, the District would replace or make point repairs at 50 locations on existing gravity sewer lines and 28 existing manholes, and reroute 3 storm-water pipelines currently connected to sanitary sewer lines. All work would occur within rights-of-way and easements in established suburban neighborhoods. In addition, the District would implement a Storm Water Pollution Prevention System and site restoration, grading, hydromulch seeding, landscaping, and irrigation. The CWSRF loan also provides funding for planning, design, and construction of a new wastewater treatment plant, but the current Categorical Exclusion does not pertain to that project element.

The District had previously used planning funds from the DFund loan to assess potential environmental impact of the proposed sewer system repair project and determined that the construction would have no adverse effect. The project was also reviewed by state and federal regulatory agencies. Staff of the Texas Historical Commission determined that the repairs are unlikely to affect any significant or potentially significant cultural resources. Construction practices would be consistent with terms and conditions of United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Nationwide Permit 12 for Utility Line Activities without preconstruction notification. The project would not adversely impact Wetlands or Waters of the United States under the jurisdiction of the USACE. Although sections of the pipelines proposed for repair may be in the 100-year floodplain, all work areas would be restored to their preconstruction contours. The District would implement a Storm Water Pollution Protection System, and construction methods would conform to all applicable federal, state, and local floodplain protection standards. Because construction would occur within existing rights-of-way and easements, no effects on threatened or endangered species or their habitats are anticipated or likely.

The staff of the TWDB concurred with these determinations. As a result, the Executive Administrator of the Board issued a Determination of No Effect (DNE) on November 19, 2013, with the conditions specified below. That finding was sent to state and federal regulatory agencies, which provided no adverse comments. The present Categorical Exclusion (CE) for the proposed sewer system repairs is consistent with the DNE issued previously.

Categorical Exclusion is allowed because the specified project elements should not entail significant adverse impacts to the quality of the human environment or natural resources. Documentation supporting this determination is on file at the TWDB.

This determination shall be revoked if it is found that:

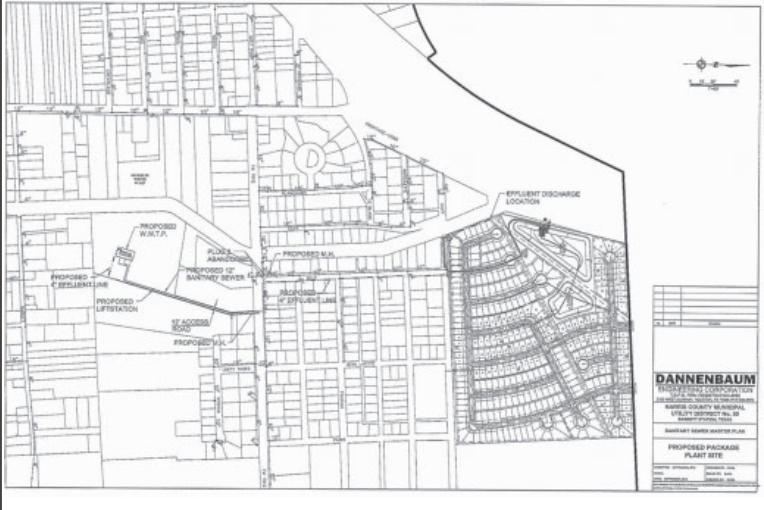
- (1) the project no longer meets the requirements for a CE as a result of changes in the project;
- (2) the project involves extraordinary circumstances as described in 31 TAC Chapter 375, Subchapter E; or
- (3) the project may violate or has violated federal, state, local, or tribal laws.

The project also must comply with the following conditions:

- Terms and conditions of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit 12 for Utility Line Activities;
- Standard emergency condition for the discovery of cultural resources; and
- Standard emergency condition for the discovery of threatened and endangered species.

Comments regarding this determination may be submitted to the Director of Regional Water Planning and Development, Texas Water Development Board, P.O. Box 13231, Austin, Texas 78711-3231.

Jessica Zuba, Director
Regional Water Planning and Development



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LEGAL NOTICE

Barbers Hill Independent School District
Invitation for Bids
Sale of a Parcel of Land containing
approximately 1.4292 Acres

The Barbers Hill Independent School District (BHISD) is soliciting sealed bids from interested parties for the sale of an unimproved parcel of land containing approximately 1.4292 acre tract in the Charles Tilton Survey, Abstract No. 242 Chambers County, Texas. The bid documents may be picked up weekdays between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the BHISD Administration Building at 9600 Eagle Drive, Mont Belvieu, Texas. Interested parties also may contact the BHISD Assistant Superintendent of Finance at 281-576-2221 to obtain a copy of the bid package.

All bids should be completed in accordance with the bid instructions, sealed and returned to the BHISD Administration Building on or before 3:00 p.m. (local time) on January 29, 2016. BHISD reserves the right to reject any or all bids for the above-described properties.

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Harris County ESD #60 is accepting proposals for a construction manager @ risk for the construction of Sheldon Community Fire & Rescue Station #4 and Training Facility on Thursday, January 28, 2016, until 10:00 A.M. Proposal will be received at Joiner Architects, Inc., 700 Rockmead Dr., #265, Kingwood, TX 77339 (281) 359-6401. Please email susies@joinerarchitects.com for Request for Proposal packet.

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CROSBY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE

Notice is hereby given that the Board of the Directors of Crosby Municipal Utility District at a meeting held on the 9th day of January, 2016 to adopt an Ordinance Adopting Amended Rates and Fees for Services and Rules and Regulations; Establishing Certain Other Policies and Providing Penalties and Violations Thereof. A copy of the Ordinance is on file at the principal office of the District, 103 W. Wahl Street, Crosby, Harris County, Texas, where it may be read in full.

/s/ Robert F. Fivcoast
President, Board of Directors

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Man dies after hitting moving car

A man died last Wednesday night, January 6, after throwing himself at a moving car in a parking lot in east Houston, authorities said.

The incident happened around 9:00 p.m. in the 900 block of Uvalde when a man threw a rock at passing car, hitting the windshield. The driver of the car stooped into the parking lot where the man was standing. As the driver drove through the parking lot, the man jumped into the front of the car. The man was transported to the hospital where he later died, and the driver remained at the scene and was not charged.

Two business catch fire

Investigators said a fire started at a commercial building in Market Street and spread to nearby shop.

Firefighters were called to assist with the fire located in the 15900 block of Market Street last Tuesday morning. When crews arrived they found smoke coming from a tire shop and a connected taco shop.


No injuries were reported and the cause of the fire is under investigation.

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