

# NORTH CHANNEL STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

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

### Legislators split on attending Inauguration

G. Green, K. Brady go; S. J. Lee, A. Green say "no"

#### North Channel Chamber Gala

Saturday, January 28th, 2017. Social: 6:00 pm. Past Chairmen GROUP PICTURE: 6:30 pm. (All past chairmen must report to the ballroom dancefloor). Dinner - 7:00 pm. Location: Houston Hobby Airport Marriott, 9100 Gulf Frwy, 77017. RSVP to Blanca@ncchamber.com for this special event.

WASHINGTON -- Last Friday, Jan. 20 the 45th president of the United States, Donald Trump, was sworn into office in a ceremony at noon at the U.S. Capital.

Trump's campaign, and his rhetoric since the election, have drawn criticism which continued into the inauguration itself.

Sixty Congressmen, all Democrats, declined to attend the ceremony, which is a traditional event they usually don't miss. Most cited disagreement with Trump's statements, or

GO - Gene Green



GO - Kevin Brady



NO GO - S. J. Lee



NO GO - Al Green



60 Congressmen, all Democrats, declined to attend the Inauguration Ceremonies as a protest, or for personal reasons. See story.

Inauguration Ceremony



DONALD J. TRUMP is sworn in as the 45th president of the U.S. on two bibles held by his wife, Friday January 20.

legislative agenda for his term, and by not attending they expressed their opposition. In addition, the day of the swearing in there were violent demonstrations through the city, and the next day, Saturday, massive crowds estimated at one-half million persons joined a demonstration termed the "Women's March" to show Trump they disagreed with his statements on women's rights, healthcare, immigration, reproductive

See INAUGURATION, p. 8

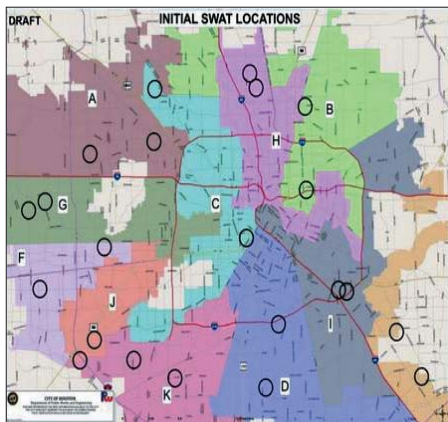
## Mayor Turner SWATS down flooding with new strike team

In a move that represents a major shift in the City's approach to improving drainage and mitigating flooding, Mayor Sylvester Turner announced formation of the Storm Water Action Team. The SWAT will work proactively to reduce drainage problems that are not directly attributed to overflow from the bayous that are under the control of the Harris County Flood Control District. Projects have been selected based on 311 calls and other data regarding frequency of flooding. The goal is to expand maintenance capabilities and improve the movement of water from day-to-day storm events through rehabilitation and upgrade of existing drainage infrastructure.

structure.

"No longer will we be reactive," said Mayor Turner. "This approach will allow us to anticipate when and where improvements are needed and then take care of them before we have a problem. Last year, we focused on repairing potholes and streets. In 2017, the emphasis will be on flooding and drainage. This is the next big step in improving Houston's infrastructure. There will be more announcements to come about additional work in this area later in the year."

Approximately 100 deferred maintenance projects spread throughout the city have been initially identified for inclusion in the SWAT program. City Council has approved an initial round of funding of \$10 million so that work can begin on 22 of these projects, two in each council district. The work encompasses everything from replacing sewer inlets and grates to regrading ditches and resizing culverts to minor erosion repairs and regular mowing. A map of the locations of the first 22 projects and a description of the work planned is available at SWAT Projects.



"I know a forecast of stormy weather causes anxiety and fear for many Houstonians," said Turner. "There is no reason why we can't help alleviate some of those concerns. These are practical improvements that can be completed quickly to provide the greatest amount of relief and reduce the possibility that water will enter homes and strand motorists."

The \$10 million set aside by City Council comes from the proceeds from City land sales and a higher than expected fund balance in the City's General Fund that is the result of conservative budgeting and careful management of expenses.

## Stephens to head national organization



Crosby's Scott Stephens, at left, was recently tapped to head a national organization dedicated to stopping Sudden Death in young athletes, [Parentheartwatch.org](http://Parentheartwatch.org). Here he is with supporters Roger Stauback (formerly a quarterback of the Dallas Cowboys) and Charlie Waters, who also played for the Cowboys for a dozen years as defensive back. Both the former Cowboys players have had first hand experiences with sudden death in young athletes.

## Postage rates increased January 22

First increase in 3 years for First-Class

WASHINGTON — The United States Postal Service has notified the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) of price changes for Mailing Services products to take effect on January 22, 2017, following the end of the holiday mailing season. The new prices include a two cent increase in the price of a First-Class Mail Forever stamp, returning the price to 49 cents, the price of a Forever stamp before the Postal Service was forced to reduce prices by the PRC as part of the exigent surcharge removal.

The last time stamp prices increased was in January 2014. This price change filing does not include any price change for Postcards, for letters being mailed to international destinations or for additional ounces for letters.

The First-Class Mail prices for these products are:

	Current	New
Letters (1 oz.)	47 cents	49 cents
Letters additional ounces	21 cents	21 cents
Letters to all international destinations	\$1.15	\$1.15
Postcards	34 cents	34 cents

Stamp prices have stayed consistent with the average annual rate of inflation since the Postal Service was formed in 1971.

Pricing for Standard Mail, Periodicals, Package Services and Extra Services will also be adjusted and can be found at [www.prc.gov](http://www.prc.gov). The prices are scheduled to become effective on Jan. 22, 2017. This filing does not affect Postal Service Shipping products and services.

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

## Highlands Rotary will hold 42nd Annual Chili Feast on Feb. 4th

HIGHLANDS -- Rotarians are busy preparing for their annual event, the 42nd Annual Chili Feast to be held in the St. Jude's Catholic Church social hall on Saturday, Feb. 4th.

Hundreds of area folks look for this special event, where not only can they eat the best chili in Houston, Chester's Famous Recipe, but they can also win a number of valuable prizes in the charity raffle.

Not only that, but many enjoy seeing their friends and neighbors, perhaps

not since last year's event. Chili lunches, served from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. are available for \$7.00.

Also available are raffle tickets for \$100. Only 700 of these are printed, and they offer a top prize of a new vehicle in a drawing. In addition, 15 other prizes are included in the raffle. There is also a live auction, and a silent auction. Proceeds from the Chili Feast are used by the club all year for scholarships and other programs benefitting the community.

This year's top prize is a choice of a 2017 Chevrolet Camaro or a 2017 Chevrolet 1500 Crew-Cab pick-up truck, from Turner Chevrolet in Crosby. Other prizes include gift cards of various denominations, a Fir Bit Activity tracker, Bose Bluetooth speaker, Kindle Fire HD, an X box game system, an Amazon Echo, Samsung Galaxy Tablet, Browning Game Camera, Go Pro Camera, shotgun, Yeti Cooler and a 42" television. Anyone who purchases

their raffle ticket early, by January 23 is also eligible for a special drawing, for an iPad mini.

Event chairman Steve Dobbs suggests you get your ticket early, from a Rotarian or a local business, as they always sell out and usually are not available the day of the Feast. Tickets are available at Foodtown, Dr. White's office, Rainbow Jewelry, Woodforest Bank, Charlie's Ice House and others. Call 281-426-3558 for more information.



Last year the Raffle was won by Dan & Mary Mims, seen here with Rotarian Weston Cotten, who sold them the ticket, and the two vehicles they could select, a GMC Terrain SUV or a GMC Sierra pick-up truck.

# CROSBY SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH



Newport Elementary School Steppers performed a step or two to show how they recognize their community spirit and dedication on the night of School Board Appreciation.



Agriculture Issues Team Advanced to Area competition featuring Erin Cassity, Leycie Baugh, Garret Welch, Gracie Schubert, Caitlyn Criddle, Lyza Camp and Dylan Ramsey.



The Agriculture Quiz Team also advanced to area competition featuring Duncan Morrison, Jesslee Salgado and Addison McCain and here depicted and all represented by Dennis 'Tripp' Young with Ag Teacher and Crosby ISD Trustee Cathi Hughes as well as Superintendent Dr. Keith Moore.



At the Harris County Fair, Tyler Thomas is shown here with two awards one for 2nd in Class Swine and Reserve Champion Lamb. Trustee John Swinney, the Ag teacher, Carla Mills Windfont and the Superintendent depicted. Also Hunter Eilers was Reserve Champion displayer of Swine, Orien Payne was 1st in Class, so was Peyton Turbitt, Kalie Owens took 6th Overall Goat, Austin Eilers had 8th Overall Turkey and Jodie Wilson.

## Get Free Tax help near you

The Tax-Aide program sponsored by the IRS and AARP Foundation is again providing free federal income tax assistance this year. The program is designed to assist taxpayers age 60 and over but will also assist low and moderate income filers.

There are three locations supported by the local volunteers:

- Sterling Municipal Library in Baytown, Tuesdays/Thursdays noon to 4 p.m.

- Stratford Library in Highlands, Tuesdays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- North Channel Branch of Harris County Public Library, Thursdays noon to 4 p.m.

Services will begin on Thursday, February 2nd and conclude on Tuesday, April 18th.

Taxpayers should bring the following items with them:

- Social Security cards for yourself and all dependents
- A copy of last year's tax

return

- W-2 forms from each employer
- Unemployment compensation statements
- SSA-1099 form if you were paid Social Security benefits
- All 1099 forms (1099-INT, 1099-DIV, etc.)
- 1099R forms if you received a pension or annuity
- All forms indicating federal income tax paid
- Child care provider information

- Receipts or cancelled checks if itemizing deductions
- NEW THIS YEAR...Info about health insurance coverage for you and any dependents.

If you purchased your insurance through the healthcare.gov site please bring any info and forms that they provided you.

Additional information can be obtained by calling 1-888-227-7669 or visiting the website at [www.aarp.org/taxaide](http://www.aarp.org/taxaide).

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

UTLX Manufacturing LLC has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an amendment to and renewal of Air Quality Permit Number 5566, which would authorize modifications to and continued operation of the Railroad Tank Car Coating Operations, located at 16923 Beaumont Highway, Houston, Harris County, Texas 77049. Additional information concerning these applications is contained in the public notice section of this newspaper.

# 2016 Blow Out!

## \$15,000 Off List Price!

CHEVY BONUS TAG

## \$12,000 Off Select Silverado 1500s

CHEVY BONUS TAG

## On Select New Lift Trucks

CHEVY BONUS TAG

## 2016 Chevy Suburbans

0% 72 Mo.

## 2016 Chevy Camaros

0% 60 Mo.

## GM Supplier Pricing Discounts For Everyone!

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## Crosby, TX 77532 Call 281-328-4377

Silverado Lift Truck List Price \$72,900 with Supplier for all discount less \$2,000 for Supertag, less \$2000 rebate, \$3,000 TAG Sale, \$1,000 Trade in Allowance, \$1,500 Bonus plus tax, tag & License extra. Silverado 1500 #HG216370 Supplier Discounts for All \$43,569.75 less \$1,000 rebate, \$2,000 GM Select Market Bonus Cash, \$1,000 Incremental Bonus Cash, \$500 Bonus Cash \$1,000 Down Pmt. Assistance (credit support GM Financial) \$1,000 tg Unit, plus \$2,000 Supertag. Tax, tag & License extra. Photos for representation purposes, actual model may appear differently. See dealer for complete details.

DAVID Mendez Gen.Sales Mgr

Anthony Jordan Sales Manager

JON Hershbarger Pre-Owned Mgr

PAUL Kleissling

JASON Lowry

DEBBIE Fannin

SCOTT Fannin

PAULA Stevenson

ROBBIE Turner

LEON Wilson

JOSE Umaña

MARC Sorelle

## Making Customers For Life!

# SCHOOL NEWS

## Galena Park ISD recognizes School Board Trustees

January is School Board Recognition Month, and Galena Park ISD joins other districts across the state in thanking these local leaders for their dedication and willingness to serve as advocates for our children and public schools. As elected officials, they are the voice of their communities, serving first and foremost in the best interest of Texas school children.

"Even though we are making a special effort in January to show appreciation to our board trustees, we realize their many contributions reflect a year-round commitment. They generously give of themselves to ensure decisions directly affecting our local schools are made by representatives of this community, people who are close to our schools and know our teachers, parents and students," said Dr. Angi Williams, Galena Park ISD Superintendent of Schools.

Board trustees shoulder critical responsibilities and often make difficult choices. Their ultimate goal is always focused on the future success of the children in our district. It's more important than ever before that the public supports our schools, so today's students are prepared to be productive citizens and the leaders of tomorrow. Our board trustees provide vision and leadership in their roles as advocates, and they will continue to stand up for public education and guard against anything that takes away from our children.

Our district benefits from the tireless work and countless hours contributed by these local citizens who work without pay. The board trustees serve as a crucial link between the community and classroom. Please help us thank the following dedicated volunteers for their efforts to make a difference and their unflinching commitment to the continued success of the GPISD students now and in the future:

Wanda Heath Johnson- Secretary; Wilfred J. Broussard, Jr.- President; Jeff Miller- Vice President

Ramon Garza- Board Trustee; Dawn Fisher- Trustee; Joe Stephens- Trustee; Ramon Johnson- Secretary; Dawn Fisher- Trustee; Minnie Rivera- Board Trustee; and Joe Stephens- Board Trustee.



First Row: Wanda Heath Johnson- Secretary; Wilfred J. Broussard, Jr.- President; Jeff Miller- Vice President  
Second Row: Ramon Garza- Board Trustee; Dawn Fisher- Board Trustee; Dr. Angi Williams- Superintendent of Schools; Minnie Rivera- Board Trustee; Joe Stephens- Board Trustee.

## SHELDON ISD School Board Recognition month

January is School Board Recognition Month, and Sheldon ISD joins other districts across the state to thank these local leaders for their dedication and willingness to serve as advocates for our children and public schools. As elected officials, they are the voice of their communities, serving first and foremost in the best interest of Texas school children.

"Even though we are making a special effort in January to show appreciation to our board members, we realize their many contributions reflect a year-round commitment," Sheldon ISD Superintendent King Davis said. "They generously give of themselves to ensure that decisions directly affecting our local schools are made by representatives of this community, people who are close to our schools and know our teachers, parents, and students."

Sheldon ISD School Board members include Fred Rivas, President; Patricia Charlot, Vice President; Ken Coleman, Secretary; Eileen Palmer,

Member; Debbie Kolacny, Member; Devora Miles, Member; and Angela Cormier, Member

Davis also praised his board for also placing students first in their decision-making processes.

"Board members shoulder critical responsibilities and often make difficult choices," he added. "Their ultimate goal is always focused on the future success of the children in our district. Our board members also provide vision and leadership in their roles as advocates, and they will continue to stand up for public education and guard against anything that takes away from our children."

Sheldon ISD's Board of Trustees are responsible for an annual budget of \$101 million, 8,900 students, 1,300 employees, and 11 campuses.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Family Fun Day

Community Festival & Pre-Super Bowl LI Celebration, Saturday, Jan. 28, 2017, 11:30 am - 4:00 pm at North Shore Community Fellowship of Faith, Herman Brown Park, 444 Maxey Rd., Houston, 77013. Food, games, free health screenings, education resources and door prizes.

### NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY MEETING

Monday, January 30, 2017, 8:30 A.M. at East Freeway HPD Storefront, 12001-A East Freeway (Next to Burlington)  
The speaker will be new Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez.

### Galena Park/Jacinto City CIP meeting

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2017. 5:45 pm – light dinner. 6:15 pm - business starts. Meeting adjourns by 8:15 p.m. at Alvin Baggett Recreation Building, 1302 Keene in Galena Park.

### Chamber Luncheon

Friday, February 3, 2017. San Jacinto College N. (inside the Monument Room of the Student Center) 5800 Uvalde Rd., 77049, 11:30 am. Speaker: Chris Daniel, Harris County District Clerk. For additional information you may contact Blanca at 713.450.1114.

### The Buckshot Jamboree

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

### Galena Park Senior Dance

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

### North Shore Senior Dance

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

### San Jacinto Pilot Club meeting

The Club meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at LyondellBasell on Sheldon Road at noon. For more information, please visit [www.SanJacintoPilot.com](http://www.SanJacintoPilot.com).

## Channelview ISD calendar approved for 2017-2018

The Channelview ISD Board of Trustees recently approved the calendar for the 2017-2018 School Year.

Under the adopted calendar, the first day of school for students will be August 16, while the last day of classes is May 25, 2018.

Labor Day Holiday – Sept. 4, 2017  
Thanksgiving Holidays – Nov. 20-24, 2017  
Christmas Holidays – Dec. 25, 2017-Jan. 5, 2018  
Martin Luther King Day – Jan. 15, 2018  
Spring Break – March 12-16, 2018

Employee Professional Development Days are as follows:  
Oct. 9, 2017  
Oct. 23, 2017  
Jan. 8, 2018  
Feb. 19, 2018  
March 23, 2018

To view the entire calendar, go to [www.cvisd.org](http://www.cvisd.org).

Other key dates include: Student Holidays/Em-

[www.facebook.com/NorthChannelStar](http://www.facebook.com/NorthChannelStar)

## Grand Opening Super Combo Chinese Express

2507 Clinton Dr., Galena Park, TX 77547  
832-991-8882

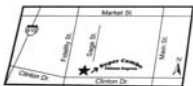
Over 18 items to choose from  
All entree's come with two sides

Pick one.....\$5.99  
Pick two.....\$6.99  
Pick three.....\$7.99

\*Soda \$1 Dollar

Great Food!!!

Nice Place • Dine In • Carry Out



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**Friday Brume**  
Realtor

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Cell: 281-439-3513  
Fax: 713-451-0447  
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**CONNIE STERLING, OWNER**  
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[www.northshorevacuum.net](http://www.northshorevacuum.net) [northshorevac@comcast.net](mailto:northshorevac@comcast.net)

OPINION PAGE

Millennials And Their Money

(NAPSI)—According to data from the IRS, millennials—those between 18 and 34—file one out of every three tax returns, earn one out of every six dollars in income and pay one out of every 13 dollars in taxes.

The Problem

For many of these young people, their tax filing is complicated by such things as high education loans and other debt and by the current “gig economy” in which many people are essentially self-employed, though they may not be aware of it.

Airbnb, DogVacay, TaskRabbit and Liquid are all examples of the trend toward using the Internet to generate revenue from assets people already own—such as houses, cars and bicycles—and provided services.

“There’s a real danger here that people engaged in the ‘gig economy’ won’t understand that all income has to be reported on their tax returns, even if they are paid in cash or the activity is only part-time or occasional,” explained Kerry Freeman, an enrolled agent and owner of Freeman Income Tax Service. “Estimated quarterly payments may be necessary, and when you’re selling cuff links on Etsy, for instance, the fact that you could be setting yourself up for a letter from the IRS is probably the last thing on your mind.”

According to Freeman, taxpayers may also be missing out on business deductions they are qualified to claim, such as mileage on leased cars. The rules on rental income can be particular-

ly tricky. In some circumstances, rental income does not need to be reported at all for federal tax purposes.

Who Can Help

To help young people—and everyone else—stay on top of all the tax aspects of the sharing economy and avoid a potential misstep, the IRS suggests speaking with a trusted tax professional such as an enrolled agent (EA). EAs are licensed by the U.S. Department of the Treasury and overseen by the IRS. In order to earn the credential, EAs must pass a stringent three-part exam on taxation. To maintain the credential, they must report annual continuing education on tax to the IRS.

Hiring an enrolled agent can save significant time and effort in tax preparation and its associated tasks. EAs are equipped to advise, represent, and prepare tax returns for individuals, partnerships, corporations, estates, trusts, and any entities with tax-reporting requirements. EAs’ continuing education requirements ensure that they have the knowledge to effectively represent taxpayers audited by the IRS despite the continually changing tax laws. Members of the National Association of Enrolled Agents (NAEA) must fulfill continuing professional education requirements that exceed the IRS’ required minimum. NAEA members also adhere to a stringent Code of Ethics and Rules of Professional Conduct.

Where to Get Help

To find an EA nearby, use the “Find a Tax Expert” directory on [www.eatax.org](http://www.eatax.org).

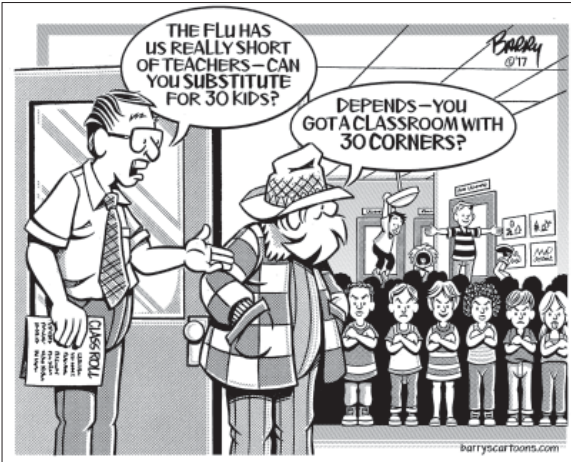
Money Transfer Service: It’s Good For Business

(NAPSI)—Many small businesses can increase their revenue by becoming money transfer agents. Often, immigrants and others will turn to a locally owned and operated business when they want to send money to family and friends in their native countries.

“It’s a win-win. Having a money transfer service at ethnic markets or mercados helps small businesses through transaction proceeds and increased sales of other items as more people frequent the shops,” said Guillermo (Bill) de la Viña, an immigrant himself who founded

Sigue. The family-owned company has established a strong network of locally owned businesses all over America to provide millions of immigrants—located in every state—a safe, reliable and fast way to send money home.

Using customer service as its competitive advantage, Sigue has grown into one of the largest and most respected money transfer companies, with a sizable share of the estimated \$131 billion transferred annually. Its network includes more than 10,000 agents in the U.S. alone who offer reliable and friendly ways to send money to over 145 countries.



Marches come one day after inauguration of new president

AUSTIN — Thousands of Texans were on hand to witness the inauguration of Donald J. Trump as the 45th president of the United States on Jan. 20 in Washington.

President Trump closed his 16-minute inaugural address by saying: “Together, we will make America strong again. We will make America wealthy again. We will make America proud again. We will make America safe again. And yes, together we will make America great again.”

Displays of patriotism took other forms the following day, when the Women’s March on Washington attracted a multitude ranging in size from 500,000 to more than one million people. Similar gatherings were held in Austin and other large cities around the country and the globe. Counters estimated that somewhere between 50,000 and 90,000 people took part in the Women’s March on Austin. The 12-block march up Congress Avenue from the city’s Ann W. Richards Bridge on Lady Bird Lake ended on the south side of the Texas Capitol grounds.

In Washington, Austin, and in many other cities, Women’s March participants spoke in favor of women’s rights and to protest racial inequities. Other prominent topics included “LGBTQ” rights, immigration reform, equal pay for equal work, minimum wage increase and environmental issues.

Most elected representatives were on hand for the inauguration, but 67 Democratic members of Congress refused to attend, following the example of civil rights champion Rep. John Lewis of Georgia. Among those who did not attend were Texas U.S. Reps. Joaquin Castro of San Antonio, Lloyd Doggett of Austin, Al Green of Houston and Filemon Vela of Brownsville.

Budget proposals are made

Earlier in January, Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar released a 2018-2019 biennial revenue estimate

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling



of just under \$105 billion in general revenue available for lawmakers to use in crafting a new state budget.

Hegar’s estimate set a benchmark for budgets to be written in the coming weeks by each house of the Texas Legislature.

Last week, the Senate Finance Committee released an initial budget that includes \$103.6 billion in general revenue spending. The House Appropriations Committee’s version tipped the scales at \$108.9 billion, signaling much work to be done before the two bodies can agree.

One of several key differences in the committees’ budget calculations comes from growth projections in public education. The Senate estimates an increase of 80,000 students in Texas public schools over the next two years. The House estimates an increase of 165,000 students over the period.

Paxton joins others in letter

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on Jan. 19 announced his decision to join 13 other state attorneys general in signing a letter to the Trump administration. Those states include: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Arizona, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, South Carolina, West

Virginia and Wyoming.

The joint letter urges the repeal of two new rules that signatories said would expand the definition of critical habitat for endangered species promulgated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

“The Obama administration abused the limits of its office when it expanded the power of unelected bureaucrats to kill economic development on private property,” Attorney General Paxton said. According to the letter, “Critical habitat designations, by their very nature, limit human activity. That limitation almost always results in a lost economic opportunity.”

Funding method is studied

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar, in the December 2016/January 2017 edition of Fiscal Notes, referred to certificates of obligation as a “controversial funding tool” for local projects.

Local governments, Hegar wrote, normally must seek voter approval before taking on new bond debt for the construction of projects such as hospitals, schools and water infrastructure. Instead of going that route, he pointed out, some local governments use certificates of obligation to fund such projects without voter approval.

Between fiscal 2006 and fiscal 2015, Hegar said, outstanding debt in the form of certificates of obligation issued by local governments rose by nearly 85 percent, compared to the 50-percent growth rate for total debt held by these entities.

“Fiscal Notes” can be found at [www.comptroller.texas.gov](http://www.comptroller.texas.gov).

DPS looks at safety threats

The Texas Department of Public Safety on Jan. 20 released the 2017 Texas Public Safety Threat Overview, an intelligence estimate drawing data from law enforcement and homeland security agencies.

“As terrorism has become more disaggregated, communities in Texas and across the nation are facing a heightened threat of terrorism and the continued potential for attacks against civilians and members of law enforcement is a serious ongoing concern,” said DPS Director Steven McCraw.

The report, in addition to terrorism, identifies threats such as organized crime and cartels, natural disasters and cyber attacks.



Rep. Babin announces 2017 Congressional Art Competition

Deer Park, TX – U.S. Rep. Brian Babin (TX-36) will once again be hosting a Congressional Art Competition in 2017, which is open to all high school students (Grades 9-12). Participating students must reside within geographical bounds the 36th Congressional District of Texas and all entries must follow the theme “The Great Outdoors of TX-36.” This may include national, state, and municipal parks or wildlife refuges, beaches, marshes, seashores, landscapes, and other scenes from across the 36th District of Texas. Teachers or home school students must submit an intent to apply application no later than February 17, 2017.

The first place entry will be displayed for one year in a national exhibit, representing the people of the 36th District, in the Cannon Tunnel of the United States Capitol building in Washington, D.C. Additionally, the first place recipient must be able to participate in the national awards reception in Washington, D.C. Round-trip airfare and accommodations for two to Washington will be provided. The second and third place entries will be displayed for one year in Congressman Babin’s Washington and District offices, respectively.

For more information or to sign-up, please visit [www.babin.house.gov](http://www.babin.house.gov) or contact Ms. Beverly Ferguson, Regional Director of Community Relations, at 832-780-0966 or by email [atx36artcompetition@gmail.com](mailto:atx36artcompetition@gmail.com).

Lt. Governor Patrick: Filing of Senate Bill 22 P-TECH

AUSTIN - Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick issued this statement today following the filing of Senate Bill 22, by Senate Education Chair Larry Taylor, (R - Friendswood):

“Senate Bill 22 is built on a partnership between school districts, higher education institutions and business employers. I am proud that Texas is going farther to meet our workforce needs, while enhancing our education system. I commend Sen. Taylor for his commitment to ensuring that students receive focused education and skills that will prepare them for high-demand jobs.”

LOOK WHAT'S COMING! DONKEY BASKETBALL

At Door Tickets \$10.00

Advanced Tickets \$10.00

Crosby Middle School Gym February 3, 2017 @ 6:30 p.m. Crosby Young Farmers

HIGHLANDS CROSBY

Star★Courier

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LIFESTYLE

School Board Recognition Month

January is School Board Recognition Month, and Goose Creek CISD will join other districts across the state to thank these local leaders for their dedication and willingness to serve as advocates for our children and public schools. As elected officials, they are the voice of their communities, serving first and foremost in the best interest of Texas schoolchildren.

"We are making a special effort in January to show appreciation to our board members, but we realize their many contributions reflect a year-round commitment. They generously give of themselves to ensure that decisions directly affecting our local schools are made by representatives of this community who are close to our schools and know our teachers, parents, and students," said Randal O'Brien, Goose Creek CISD superintendent.

Members of the Goose Creek CISD board of trustees willingly take on enormous responsibilities, and they are often called upon to make difficult decisions.

"Their ultimate goal is always focused on the future success of the children in our district," O'Brien said. "It's more important than ever before that the public supports our schools so that today's students are prepared to be productive citizens and the leaders of tomorrow. Our board members provide vision and leadership in their roles as advocates, and they will continue to stand up for public education and guard against anything that takes away from our children."

In the past year, with guidance and approval from the board of trustees, Goose Creek CISD has broken ground on a Transportation Center and opened the Career and Technical Educa-



Goose Creek CISD thanks members of the board of trustees for their dedication to the district's students, schools and community. Pictured are (front, from left) Pete Pape, vice president; Howard Sampson, member; GiGi Cockrell, member; Jenice Coffey, member; Al Richard, president; (back, from left) Agustin Loredto, III, assistant secretary and Jessica Woods, secretary.

tion expansion at Goose Creek Memorial High School. The board called for a Tax Ratification Election, passed by the community, to restructure the tax rate with no increase for taxpayers, helping to balance the budget and enhance core curriculum, co-curricular and extra-curricular programs for all grades, improve maintenance, operations and facilities and maintain competitive salaries and benefits for our employees. Recently, the board passed a resolution opposing the A-F grading system and school vouchers. Along with attending four graduation ceremonies and numerous awards presentations and student programs, board members helped Goose Creek CISD celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first football game between Robert E. Lee High School and Ross S. Sterling High School and the 50th anniversary of the opening of Sterling.

To honor the Goose Creek CISD board of trustees during School Board Recognition Month, students at all 28 campuses created posters, displayed in the Board Room at the Administration Building, thanking them for their hard work. Adam Truncale's AutoCAD students from Robert E. Lee High School produced GC keychains using the 3-D printer. Culinary Arts students from Stuart Career Center, under the direction of Tina Andrade, provided dinner for the board, including cakes and pies made from recipes they will take to the SkillsUSA competition.

Board members serving Goose Creek CISD include Al Richard, president, who has represented District 6 since May 2015. Pete Pape, vice president, representing District 7, began his term May 2015. Secretary Jessica Woods from District 3 also began her term May 2015. From District 2, Agustin Loredto, III serves as assistant secretary and has served on the board since May 2006. Gigi Cockrell, representing District 4, joined the board May 2015. Jenice Coffey from District 5 has served on the board since May 2009. Howard Sampson has represented District 1 since August 2009.

★

LITTLE BIDDY BITS

By Danny Biddy

Guitar and a Bible

When I was in my early teens and just learning to play a guitar, I had the opportunity to play with a rock and roll band some of my friends were starting. They needed someone to play the bass guitar. I tried that and it seemed to come naturally for me. I told my dad I wanted to use the money I was making in the hay fields and other odd jobs to buy a bass guitar and amplifier. Dad was not keen on that idea. The band found another bass player, eventually changed from rock and roll and became a famous blue grass band. I exchanged my dream of a bass guitar for a Bible and had the privilege of pastoring Old River Baptist from 1977 to 2017. It was the right trade for me.

"A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps." (Proverbs 16:9).

★

OBITUARY

Angela Montine Page Davidson

Angela Montine Page Davidson passed away peacefully, surrounded by her family on January 14, 2017, after a lengthy illness. She leaves behind her husband, Troy Davidson; mother and stepfather, Janet and Don McFadden; children, Amanda Alexander, Larry Bailey (wife, Kim), and Lacie Bailey; grandchildren, Christian Broaddus, Elijah, Emily and Kinsey Bailey; brothers, Don McFadden and Chris McFadden (wife, Meredith), and sisters, Cathy Couch (husband, Dave) and Karissa Nichols (husband, Curtis); many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father, Larry Page. Angie was kind-hearted and loving, and a friend to all who knew her. She will be greatly missed. Services are pending.

BIBLE TRIVIA

1. Is the book of Titus in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Hebrews 9 says that when Christ appears a second time, it will be to ...? Awake the Heavens, Start anew, Save those who look for Him, Cease all evil
3. Whose first chapter begins, "Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month"? Ezra, Ezekiel, Micah, Malachi

4. Which hour mentioned in the Bible means the last possible moment that something can be done? First, Second, Eleventh, Twelfth
5. From Revelation, the lion of the tribe of Judah will open which book? Life, Everlasting torment, Death, Seven Seals
6. What Philistine city was home to Goliath? Jericho, Bethel, Gaza, Gath

ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Save those who look for Him; 3) Ezekiel; 4) Eleventh; 5) Seven Seals; 6) Gath

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

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1 Corinthians 16:13

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

Leviticus 19:32

# ASK THE EXPERT

## Diamond Jim: "What's the history of Valentine's Day?"



### ASK DIAMOND JIM

**Valentine's Day**  
Valentine's Day, also called Saint Valentine's Day or the Feast of Saint Valentine, is an annual holiday celebrated on February 14. It originated as a Western Christian liturgical feast day honoring one or more early saints named Valentinus, and is recognized as a significant cultural and commercial celebration in many regions around the world, although it is not a public holiday in any country.

Several martyrdom stories associated with the various Valentines that were connected to February 14 were added to later martyrologies, including a popular hagiographical account of Saint Valentine of Rome which indicated he was imprisoned for performing weddings for soldiers who were forbidden to marry and for ministering to Christians, who were persecuted under the Roman Empire. According to legend, during his imprisonment, Saint Valentine healed the daughter of his jailer, Asterius, and before his execution, he wrote her a letter signed "Your Valentine" as a farewell.

The day first became associated with romantic love within the circle of Geoffrey Chaucer in the 14th century, when the tradition of courtly love flourished. In 18th-century England, it evolved into an occasion in which lovers expressed their love for each other by presenting flowers, offering confectionery, and sending greeting cards (known as "valentines"). In Europe, Saint Valentine's Keys are given to lovers "as a romantic symbol and an invitation to unlock the giver's heart", as well as to children, in order to ward off epilepsy (called Saint Valentine's Malady). Valentine's Day symbols that are used today include the heart-shaped outline, doves, and the figure of the winged Cupid. Since the 19th century, handwritten valentines have given way to mass-produced greeting cards.

Saint Valentine's Day is an official feast day in the Anglican Communion, as well as in the Lutheran Church. Many parts of the Eastern Orthodox Church also celebrate Saint Valentine's Day, albeit on July 6 and July 30, the former date in honor of the Roman presbyter Saint Valentine, and the latter date in honor of Hieromartyr Valentine, the Bishop of Interamna (modern Terni).

February 14 is celebrated as St. Valentine's Day in various Christian denominations; it has, for example, the rank of 'commemoration' in the calendar of saints in the Anglican Communion. In addition, the feast day of Saint Valentine is also given in the calendar of saints of the Lutheran Church. However, in the 1969 revision of the Roman Catholic Calendar of Saints, the feast day of Saint Valentine on February 14 was removed from the General Roman Calendar and relegated to particular (local or even national) calendars for the following reason: "Though the memorial of Saint Valentine is ancient, it is left to particular calendars, since, apart from his name, nothing is known of Saint Valentine except that he was buried on the Via Flaminia on February 14".

**Court of love**  
The earliest description of February 14 as an annual celebration of love appears in the Charter of the Court of Love. The charter, allegedly issued by Charles VI of France at Mantes-la-Jolie in 1400, describes lavish festivities to be attended by several members of the royal court, including a feast, amorous song and poetry competitions, jousting and dancing. Amid these festivities, the attending ladies would hear and rule on disputes from lovers. No other record of the court exists, and none of those named in the charter were present at Mantes except Charles's queen, Isabeau of Bavaria, who may well have imagined it all while waiting out a plague.

**Modern times**  
In the United States, the first mass-produced Valentines of embossed paper lace were produced and sold shortly after 1847 by Esther Howland (1828–1904) of Worcester, Massachusetts. Her father operated a large book and stationery store, but Howland took her inspiration from an English Valentine she had received from a business associate of her father. Intrigued with the idea of making similar Valentines, Howland began her business by importing paper lace and floral decorations from England.

The U.S. Greeting Card Association estimates that approximately 190 million valentines are sent each year in the US. Half of those valentines are given to family members other than husband or wife, usually to children. When the valentine-exchange cards made in school activities are included the figure goes up to 1 billion, and teachers become the people receiving the most valentines.

Jewelry is a great expression of love and a perfect gift for Valentine's Day. Gifts of gold, silver, diamonds and watches last far beyond the vase of cut flowers or the box of "sweet candies for your sweetheart". Fine jewelry offers her a lasting impression of just how deeply you love her, how much she means to you and that your life wouldn't be the same without her by your side.

Happy Valentine's Day my Friends!

If you have questions pertaining to jewelry, watches, diamonds, precious stones, precious metals, and other questions related to the jewelry industry, email [jmills@pineforestjewelry.com](mailto:jmills@pineforestjewelry.com).

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

## District 143 Ana Hernandez Legislative Update!

With the start of the 85th Legislative Session, lawmakers are already hard at work preparing to tackle many critical issues facing our state. The Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives will soon assign committees, beginning the chamber's work for the year.

As legislators face tighter budget constraints this year, it's important that leaders in Austin remain focused on providing for quality local schools, improved healthcare, and to look after children in Texas's foster care system. As your State Representative, it is my honor to fight for these priorities in the Texas House.

**Combating Human Trafficking**  
As a state, we must make every effort to send a clear message that buying and selling humans is not okay. Often, illicit businesses, operating without appropriate licenses, are

used by bad actors to house and exploit trafficking victims.

To fight this practice, I'm proud to work with local leaders in authoring House Bill 240, which will make it easier to shut down these criminal enterprises and hold traffickers accountable.

**Helping Veterans in the Workforce**  
As our service personnel return home after years of service to our nation, it is important that Texas make every effort to support these heroes as they enter the workforce.

I have authored House Bill 257 to help returning veterans with in-demand skill sets more easily connect with employers seeking to fill critical vacancies. This legislation will not only help our state keep its promise to our brave men and women in uniform, but also grow our economy and meet regional needs.



**Supporting our Retirees**  
After decades of service to our community, retirees expect lawmakers to uphold our promises to care for them in their retirement. One of the best ways to do that, of course, is to listen to our seniors!

This year, I have filed House Bill 265, which seeks to give state employee retirees a greater voice in their pension fund. By giving our seniors a seat at the table, we will ensure that they have proper representation in decisions affecting them.

Ana Hernandez  
State Representative,  
District 143

## San Jacinto College to participate in national credentialing program

PASADENA, Texas – The League for Innovation in the Community College has announced a \$2.9 million grant from the Walmart Foundation to develop a three-part credentialing program for retail workers. San Jacinto College is one of 12 community colleges across the country selected to participate in the program, Brighter Futures 3.0, which will build on the success of the Western Association of Food Chains' (WAFCC) Retail Management Certificate (RMC).

Over the 2.5-year period of the grant, the selected colleges, based in urban, suburban and rural areas, will work with retail employers who are committed to the RMC as the credential for the advancement of their existing workforce. It is anticipated that more

than 1,200 incumbent retail workers will be enrolled in the program, which seeks to break the RMC into three portable and stackable certificate programs, allowing workers a more flexible and manageable way to ultimately earn the full certificate. The League for Innovation and the WAFCC will disseminate the best practices from the project to other community colleges throughout the country.

In announcing the grants, League President and CEO Dr. Rufus Glasper expressed confidence that the Walmart Brighter Futures project will have a positive impact beyond the selected colleges. "The Walmart Brighter Futures 3.0 project will lead to best practices that will expand the capacity of community colleges to en-

hance job training opportunities for incumbent workers. The League will be delighted to share the work of the participating colleges with colleges around the country," said Glasper.

The project aims to scale the retail management certificate that is currently offered at more than 150 community colleges in cooperation with the Western Association of Food Chains. Participating colleges will offer the credit certificate to incumbent workers at local and regional retail employers.


In addition to San Jacinto College, nine other community colleges have been funded for the training program, and two more are expected to be named in the future. The other nine col-

See **NATIONAL PROGRAM**, page 8

SHE KNOWS YOU'RE GETTING HER CANDY FOR VALENTINE'S.



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GALENA PARK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS For the Year Ended August 31, 2016						
Data Control Codes	General Fund	Debt Service Fund	Child Nutrition Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds	
<b>Revenues</b>						
5700 Local, intermediate, and out-of-state	\$ 102,583,906	\$ 21,930,632	\$ 2,372,216	\$ 1,558,858	\$ 128,445,612	
5800 State program revenues	110,607,247	1,645,363	78,357	263,916	111,995,083	
5900 Federal program revenues	2,855,646	-	11,635,129	11,847,830	26,322,625	
<b>5920 Total revenues</b>	<b>215,446,799</b>	<b>23,575,995</b>	<b>14,069,902</b>	<b>13,670,624</b>	<b>266,763,320</b>	
<b>Expenditures</b>						
<b>Current:</b>						
0011 Instruction	112,544,711	-	-	7,397,579	119,942,290	
0012 Instructional resources and media services	2,432,634	-	-	42,245	2,474,879	
0013 Curriculum and instructional staff development	2,468,658	-	-	2,770,292	5,238,950	
0021 Instructional leadership	4,674,886	-	-	858,317	5,533,203	
0023 School leadership	13,065,837	-	-	185,442	13,251,279	
0031 Guidance, counseling and evaluation services	7,001,756	-	-	384,861	7,386,617	
0032 Social work services	745,692	-	-	75,213	820,905	
0033 Health services	1,619,028	-	-	124,437	1,743,465	
0034 Student transportation	6,811,920	-	-	151,938	6,963,858	
0035 Food services	-	-	14,151,542	-	14,151,542	
0036 Extracurricular activities	3,797,755	-	-	1,044,007	4,841,762	
0041 General administration	7,625,962	-	-	42,473	7,668,435	
0051 Facilities maintenance and operations	25,011,521	-	297,007	50,973	25,359,501	
0052 Security and monitoring services	2,588,012	-	-	2,891	2,590,903	
0053 Data processing services	3,294,312	-	-	274	3,294,586	
0061 Community services	744,733	-	-	620,914	1,365,647	
<b>Debt service:</b>						
0071 Principal on long-term debt	731,519	11,511,816	-	-	12,243,335	
0072 Interest on long-term debt	53,695	8,542,562	-	-	8,596,257	
0073 Bond insurance costs and fees	2,310	6,750	-	-	9,060	
<b>Capital outlay:</b>						
0081 Facilities acquisition and construction expenditures	3,817,722	-	-	-	3,817,722	
<b>Intergovernmental:</b>						
0099 Payments to appraisal district	908,466	-	-	-	908,466	
<b>6030 Total Expenditures</b>	<b>199,041,149</b>	<b>20,061,128</b>	<b>14,448,540</b>	<b>13,751,856</b>	<b>247,302,682</b>	
1100 Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	15,505,650	3,514,867	(778,647)	(81,232)	18,560,638	
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>						
7912 Sale of real or personal property	72,863	-	12,630	-	85,493	
7915 Transfers in	-	4	-	-	4	
8911 Transfers out	-	-	-	-	(4)	
<b>7980 Total other financing sources and uses</b>	<b>72,863</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12,630</b>	<b>(4)</b>	<b>85,493</b>	
1200 Net change in fund balances	15,578,513	3,514,871	(366,017)	(81,236)	18,646,131	
<b>0100 Fund Balance - beginning</b>	<b>122,741,313</b>	<b>4,024,630</b>	<b>3,813,410</b>	<b>1,206,280</b>	<b>131,785,633</b>	
<b>3000 Fund Balance - ending</b>	<b>\$ 138,319,826</b>	<b>\$ 7,539,501</b>	<b>\$ 3,447,393</b>	<b>\$ 1,125,044</b>	<b>\$ 150,431,764</b>	

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



AMENDED NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS AND INTENT TO OBTAIN AIR PERMIT AMENDMENT AND RENEWAL

AIR QUALITY PERMIT NUMBER 5566

APPLICATION UTLX Manufacturing LLC has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an amendment to and renewal of Air Quality Permit Number 5566, which would authorize modifications to and continued operation of the Railroad Tank Car Coating Operations, located at 16923 Beaumont Highway, Houston, Harris County, Texas 77049. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For the exact location, please refer to the application.  
<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=29.865833&lng=-95.137222&zoom=13&type=z> The existing facility and/or related facilities will emit the following air contaminants: carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen oxide, sulfur dioxide, organic compounds, hazardous air pollutants, and particulate matter including particulate matter with diameters of 10 microns or less and 2.5 microns or less.

The applications were submitted to the TCEQ on August 19, 2016. The permit renewal will be issued in conjunction with the amendment. This permitting action also includes the incorporation of the following previous authorizations or changes to authorized facilities related to this permit: alterations, amendments, permits by rule, and changes in emission factors. The reasons for any changes or incorporations, to the extent they are included in the renewed permit, may include the enhancement of operational control at the plant or enforceability of the permit. The applications will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ central office, the TCEQ Houston regional office, and the Sheldon Municipal Utility District Administrative Offices, 9419 Lamkin Road, Houston, Harris County, Texas, beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review in the Houston regional office of the TCEQ.

The executive director has determined the applications are administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the applications.

PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC MEETING You may submit public comments, a request for a public meeting, or request a contested case hearing to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. The TCEQ will consider all public comments in developing a final decision on the applications. The deadline to submit public comments is 30 days after newspaper notice is published.

The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or ask questions about the applications. A public meeting about the applications will be held if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the applications or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

If only comments are received on the applications, the response to comments, along with notice of the executive director's action on the applications, will be mailed to everyone who submitted comments or is on the mailing list for these applications.

The executive director will complete the technical review, issue a preliminary decision on the application and a Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the mailing list for these applications. That notice will contain the final deadline for submitting public comments. If a hearing request is timely filed in Response to this Notice of Receipt of Application and Intent to Obtain Air Permit, the time period for requesting a contested case hearing will be extended to thirty days after the mailing of the executive director's response to comments.

After the final deadline for public comments following the Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. If comments are received, the response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the applications, will then be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or is on a mailing list for these applications.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING You may request a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court. A contested case hearing will only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decisions on the applications. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues submitted by you or others during the public comment period and not withdrawn.

A person who may be affected by emissions of air contaminants from the facility is entitled to request a hearing. If requesting a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, daytime phone number; (2) applicant's name and permit number; (3) the statement "I [we] request a contested case hearing"; (4) a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the application and air emissions from the facility in a way not common to the general public; (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the facility; (6) a description of how you use the property which may be impacted by the facility; and (7) a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period. If the request is made by a group or an association, one or more members who have standing to request a hearing must be identified by name and physical address. The interests which the group or association seeks to protect must also be identified. You may also submit your proposed adjustments to the application/permit which would satisfy your concerns.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for contested case hearing to the Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law relating to relevant and material air quality concerns submitted during the comment period. Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the Commission's jurisdiction to address in this proceeding.

MAILING LIST In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices for this specific applications mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk by sending a written request to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

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

Further information may also be obtained from UTLX Manufacturing LLC, 16923 Beaumont Highway, Houston, Texas 77049-1050 or by calling Mr. James Norstrom, Senior Environmental Engineer at (281) 546-9455.

Amended Notice Issuance Date: September 27, 2016

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JANUARY 29, 2017 @ 10:30 A.M.

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# Sterling-White set for dynamic future



Jeff Moore, Managing Partner at Sterling-White Funeral Home and Cemetery welcomes Derek Palmer as the new Family Service Manager for the cemetery. Derek comes from East Lansing, Michigan and has practiced throughout the nation. He moves here with his wife, Elise. He looks forward to making his new home in the Crosby and Highlands area.

## Inauguration,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

rights, and more. This crowd of women, with some men, was estimated to exceed the crowd at the inauguration by twice the number.

Local legislators were split on their decision to attend the swearing in ceremonies, or not to attend. These included Gene Green, Kevin Brady, Ted Poe, and Brian Babin choosing to be at the ceremony, and Sheila Jackson Lee and Al Green choosing not to go. Brady, Poe, and Babin are Republicans, the others are Democrats.

In his statement on attending, Republican Brady said "Today is a hopeful and historic day for the American people. Our new President laid out a new vision for our country—one that values problem solving over party politics and the people's priorities over Washington's."

Brady continued, "I am confident that together, we will deliver what our workers, families, and job creators have waited eight years for: results."

Brady heads the influential Ways and Means Committee, making spending decisions, and will have a leading role in determining any new legislation for Healthcare.

Democrat Gene Green, in an interview with this newspaper, said he was attending "not to show my

support for the new president, but to honor our history. We have the peaceful transfer of leadership as our tradition."

Green is the ranking member on the Healthcare subcommittee of the Commerce committee, and will be in a position to help guide the writing of any new legislation to modify or replace Obamacare. He intends to fight to continue universal access, and to get the price of most drugs reduced for consumers.

Green characterized Trump as a narcissistic bully, who must learn that governing is about working with others.

Democrat Sheila Jackson Lee announced at the last minute that she would not attend, and issued a lengthy statement about the campaign, Trump's failures to date, and her hopes for improvement by the time he delivers the State of the Union speech, which she said she will attend.

Part of her statement was "The call for unity and the embracing of all Americans simply did not come. The moments of attack continued..."

Lee cited in her statement her disappointment in Trump's criticism of the intelligence community, and his divisive rhetoric. She also said she was disappointed that Trump

holds consistent positions against civil rights and against voting rights.

After considering all the attacks on laws, government agencies, and individuals, she concluded "I deliberated on my decision over a period of time. I am not boycotting this ceremonial inaugural event. I have decided in good conscience I cannot go."

Democrat Al Green voiced similar concerns and disappointments. In a prepared statement, he said "Today, we celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Friday, President-elect Trump will be sworn-in. For some time, I have been hearing from many constituents with varying points of view on the question of whether I will attend the inauguration. My response is Dr. King was right when he indicated: On some issues 'cowardice asks the question, is it safe? Expediency asks the question, is it popular? But, conscience asks the question, is it right? And there comes a time when we must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but one must take it because it is right.'"

"I will not attend the inauguration because conscience says it is the right thing to do."

## National Program,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

leges are:

- Alexandria Technical and Community College (Minnesota)
- Anne Arundel Community College (Maryland)
- Austin Community College (Texas)
- College of Lake County (Illinois)
- Nashville State Community College (Tennessee)
- Moraine Valley Community College (Illinois)
- Sinclair Community College (Ohio)

- Umpqua Community College (Oregon)

- Wayne County Community College District (Michigan)

The selected community colleges will receive up to \$100,000 over the duration of the grant to support the colleges' plans to provide services for retail employees. Additionally, the colleges will leverage instructional stipends to support participant enrollment in courses leading to the retail management certificate.

"We are excited to be selected to participate in this project," said Dr. Brenda Hellyer, San Jacinto College Chancellor. "We recognize and appreciate the generosity of the Walmart Foundation and the leadership of the League for Innovation in making this work possible. We look forward to working with our national partners and our local retail employers to offer a nationally-recognized credential to retail employees right here in our community."

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