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CHANNEL CHATTER

New Police Chief, New Judge in GP

City Council in Galena Park has made two recent hires, to continue their overhaul of city government.

Edward J. Mata was appointed Police Chief at a special called Council meeting, on Saturday, June 25. His salary was set at \$70,000 per year. He was encouraged to live within the City. Mata was previously an officer with the GP police department, retiring in 2014.

Colin B. Amann was appointed as Municipal Court Judge, succeeding Brooks Harrison and Jim DeFoyd. He starts on July 15.

CISD student registration being held during summer

Registration for students will be held throughout the summer at all Channelview ISD campuses.

Elementary and secondary campuses will register students from 8-11 a.m. and 1-4 p.m., Monday through Thursday. District and campus offices will be closed on Fridays during the summer.

Parents will need to have the following items when registering their child for school:

- Birth Certificate (original - no copies)
- Social Security Card (original - no copies)
- Immunization Record
- Last Report Card or Withdrawal Paper
- Two (2) Proofs of Residency - recent (within the last 30 days) light bill, water bill, gas bill, lease/rent agreement or purchase agreement – No Disconnect Notices
- Two emergency contact numbers other than your home or work

For more information, please call the school where you are enrolling your child.

COUNTY WARNS “DON’T DRINK THE WATER”

Possible Toxins from San Jac River; Congressman Green questions EPA

EAST HARRIS COUNTY – Some residents along the west and east banks of the San Jacinto River, near the Superfund Site, have had their well water tested by the Harris County Public Health Department. This is the first time that the county has been willing to participate in this type of general testing, although the San Jacinto River Coalition and others have been asking for tests for years, according to Jackie Young, president of the SJRC.

The county tests came up with surprising and serious concerns with the content of 24 wells, according to Brenda Cabaniss, of the Public Health department. Samples were collected by InControl Technologies for the county. The lab results showed 24 of these 100 wells had dioxin in them, a carcinogen known to cause some types of cancers.

As a result, the Public Health Department of the county sent letters to each of these 24 households, advising them to “use bottled water for drinking and cooking, and for your family pets. Please note, boiling the water will not remove these contaminants.”

“You may continue to shower, bathe, or use the water for other purposes. However, we ask that you refrain from ingesting your tap water.”

However, the letter also

states that “Due to a laboratory error, we will need to resample.” The type of error was not clear, either in the letter or in a conversation that this newspaper had with the Health Department.

The letter said that “results of the new samples are expected within three weeks of collection. Once the results are received and analyzed, a representative from Harris County will contact you to discuss the next steps.”

EPA TO TESTIFY AT CONGRESSIONAL HEARING

Late on Tuesday, the office of Congressman Gene Green announced that EPA Assistant Administrator Mathy Stanislaus,

would testify before his Energy and Commerce’s Environment subcommittee, regarding the status of the Waste Pits. Green said in his press release that he was concerned about the health risk to residents living near the Waste Pits, and increases the urgency for action.

Some residents in Channelview, that live over 2 miles from the toxic site, have reported contaminated well water, and deaths from cancer possibly linked to



This letter was sent to 24 households in Channelview and Highlands, advising them not to drink or cook with their well water until further tests could be conducted.

HOLIDAY DROWNINGS

TWO DIE IN SAN JACINTO RIVER;

1 child survives in Huffman

HIGHLANDS – The San Jacinto River claimed two lives over the 4th of July holiday weekend, and a young child in Huffman almost became the third victim.

The drowning victims included a 50 year old man who walked into deep water at Banana Bend on Saturday, July 2nd; a 7 year old child that went under water at Love’s Marina and Park on old 90 near Crosby; and the near drowning of a 3 year old in Huffman.

The 50 year old died about 1 p.m. on Saturday, as he was swimming at Banana Bend Beach. While swimming with



EMERGENCY PERSONNEL from the Sheriff’s office, Highlands Fire/EMS, and Houston Marine Unit search the San Jacinto River near Banana Bend for the 50 year old drowning victim last Sunday.

friends in shallow water, he went under water and didn’t resurface. Witnesses said they thought he stepped of a sand bar into deep water, and couldn’t swim.

At Love’s Marina, the drowning occurred at 10 a.m. Sunday morning. It was thought that the 7 year old did not know how to swim.

In Huffman, later in the week a 3 year old almost drowned in water near South Commons View Drive on Thursday afternoon. Houston Fire Department answered, and called LifeFlight to take the child to Hermann Memorial Hospital.

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Dr. Angi Williams named Superintendent of the Year

Dr. Angi Williams, Superintendent of Galena Park Independent School District, has been selected as the 2016 Region 4 Superintendent of the Year.

The Region 4 Education Service Center serves a seven-county area composed of 50 public school districts and 41 open-enrollment charter schools, representing more than 1.1 million students, 91,000 educators, and 1,500 campuses.

The Regional Superintendent of the Year award is sponsored by the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB), and honors public school district superintendents. This award



Dr. Angi Williams, Region 4 Superintendent of the Year.

program has recognized exemplary superintendents for excellence and achievement in educational leadership since 1984. Candidates are

chosen for their strong leadership skills, dedication to improving educational quality, ability to build effective employee relations, student performance, and commitment to public involvement in education.

Dr. Williams now advances as the Region 4 nominee for the 2016 Texas Superintendent of the Year Award, presented by the Texas Association of School Administrators/Texas Association of School Boards. The winner of the state award will be announced at the 2016 TASA/TASB Convention this fall.

NORTH CHANNEL AREA CHAMBER

Chamber hears Dr. Rozo, plans Casino night

The featured speaker at June’s Chamber luncheon was Dr. Jaun Carlos Rozo, of Cardiology Specialists of Houston.

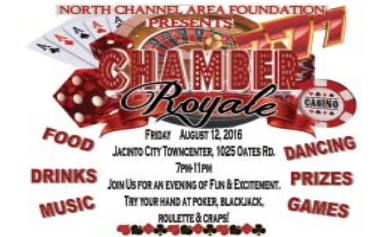
Dr. Rozo spoke about chronic venous insufficiency, which is about the lack of adequate blood flow in the lower legs, and problems that can lead to. He said that factors leading to this condition include family history, age over 50, and obesity. He uses ultrasound to diagnose the condition, and then treats it with one of four methods: laser therapy, sclerotherapy, RF procedure which is a catheter in the vein, or burning the vein, he said. The method depends upon the severity of the leg.

There will be no luncheon in July, according to president Margie Buentello. The next program is on August 5, the speaker is Darrell Pile, CEO of Southeast Texas Regional Advisory Council.

The chamber is also busy planning a Casino Night on August 12, from



Dr. Juan Carlos Rozo, second from left, was the featured speaker at June’s chamber luncheon. He spoke on chronic venous insufficiency, his specialty. Also participating in the program were (L to R) Pravin Sonthalia, Lucia Bates, and Margie Buentello.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Diamond Jim: "What are Pearls and how is one type different from the next?"



SOME FACTS ABOUT PEARLS

For centuries, pearls have been a symbol of beauty and purity. Today, they are regarded as both classic and contemporary, coming in many more fashionable styles than your grandmother's traditional strand of pearls.

Learning about types of pearls is important when adding items to your jewelry collection.

Pearl Education

Pearls, natural or cultured, are formed when a mollusk produces layers of nacre (pronounced NAY-kur) around some type of irritant inside its shell. In natural pearls, the irritant may be another organism from the water. In cultured pearls, a mother-of-pearl bead or a piece of tissue is inserted (by man) into the mollusk to start the process.

For both, the quality of the nacre dictates the quality of the luster, or shine of the pearl, which is very important to its beauty and its value. The surface of the pearl should be smooth and free of marks while the overall shape could be round, oval, pear-shaped, or even misshapen. Misshapen pearls are called baroque pearls.

ASK DIAMOND JIM

While shopping for pearls, there are various lengths available:

- A collar fits directly against the throat
- A choker rests at the base of the neck
- The princess length reaches near the collarbone
- A matinee length is usually 20-24 inches
- The Opera length is 30-36 inches
- The longest length, known as a rope, refers to all strands longer than 36 inches

Necklaces can also be classified as uniform (where all pearls are about the same size) or graduated (pearls change uniformly from ends to center).

Natural Pearls

Natural pearls are extremely rare. Historically, many were found in the Persian Gulf; unfortunately, today, most have already been harvested. You may be able to purchase small, natural pearls, but they will be costly.

Cultured Pearls

Cultured pearls are grown in pearl farms. The mollusks are raised until they are old enough to accept the mother-of-pearl

bead nucleus. Through a delicate surgical procedure, the technician implants the bead and then the mollusks are returned to the water and cared for while the pearl forms.

Not all produce a pearl; and not all the pearls are high quality. Over 10,000 pearls may be sorted before a 16" single strand of beautifully matched pearls is assembled.

Pearls can be found in saltwater and in freshwater. There are also different types of mollusks that produce very different looking pearls.

Saltwater Pearls

Saltwater pearls include the akoya cultured pearls grown in Japanese and Chinese waters. They range in size from 2mm (tiny) to 10mm (rare) and are usually white or cream in color and round in shape.

Australia, Indonesia, and the Philippines produce the South Sea pearl – the largest of all the pearls. They range in size from 9mm to 20mm and can be naturally white, cream, or golden in color.

Tahitian pearls are interestingly not exclusively

from Tahiti – they're grown in several of the islands of French Polynesia, including Tahiti. Their typical sizes range from 8mm to 16mm. These naturally colored pearls are collectively called black pearls, but their colors include gray, blue, green, and purple.

Freshwater Pearls

These pearls are grown in freshwater lakes, rivers, and ponds, predominately in China. Although many are white and resemble the akoya cultured pearls in shape and size, they can also be produced in various shapes and in an array of pastel colors.

Many freshwater pearls don't have a bead nucleus – only a piece of tissue – resulting in a pearl with thicker nacre than the akoya.

Imitation pearls

Imitation pearls are usually a coated glass bead. Most have a high luster, but not the depth of luster seen on high quality cultured pearls.

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.

Diamond Jim is a diamond dealer and precious metals broker of NTR Metals. See more at www.pineforestjewelry.com.

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Let's get out the cleaning supplies and tackle "spring cleaning." The number one piece of equipment is your vacuum cleaner, so don't overlook the maintenance.

- Change the bags frequently and the filters every 10 bags. Bagless vacuums need the filter checked and cleaned. Dirty filters bog the machine down and can cause damage to the circuit board and the motor.
- Check the beater bar/brush roller (the spinning brush underneath the vacuum that brushes dirt out of carpet). Use scissors or your hands to remove anything wrapped around or caught in the brush roller.
- Check the electric cord. Take time to rewind cord properly and remove gently from wall socket. This will save the cord from damage.
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SCHOOL NEWS

Follow Channelview ISD on Twitter!

In an ongoing effort to improve communication with parents and the general public, Channelview ISD can now be found on Twitter.

Channelview ISD uses this as a constant information source, posting latest news, events, accomplishments, notices and even athletic scores.

District officials encourage those who have a Twitter account to "follow" Channelview ISD at the Twitter handle @ChannelviewISD. If you do not have a Twitter account, go to www.twitter.com and follow the prompts to set up your account on your personal computer or mobile device.

You may also follow your campuses on Twitter, as they all have their own accounts. Their Twitter handles are listed below:

District: @ChannelviewISD

Aguirre Junior High: @AguirreBulldogs

Alice Johnson Junior High: @AliceJohnsonJrHi
Brown Elementary: @BrownBobcats

Barrett-Lee Early Childhood Center: @ECCFalconNest

Cobb Elementary: @CobbElem

Crenshaw Elementary: @crenshawcomets

Channelview High School: @ChannelviewHS

DeZavala Elementary: @CISDDeZavala

Endeavor (Campbell Learning Center): @EndeavorEagles

Hamblen Elementary @HamblenHawks

McMullan Elementary: @McMullanElem

Schochler Elementary: @SchochlerStars

If you have any questions, please call the district's Public Relations Office at 281-452-8080.

Parenting workshops to be held during July

A series of free parenting workshops will be held throughout the month of July at Viola Cobb Elementary School, 915 Dell Dale.

The workshops are open to all parents interested in improving communication with their children. A variety of topics will be addressed, including eliminating power struggles, how to discipline without yelling, building self-esteem and developing mutual respect.

The three-part, two hour sessions will be held on the following dates and times.

Session One
July 15 - 9-11 a.m., 12-2 p.m., 2:30-4:30 p.m. or 5-7 p.m.

Session Two
July 18 - 9-11 a.m., 12-2 p.m., 2:30-4:30 p.m. or 5-7 p.m.

Session Three
July 22 - 9-11 a.m., 12-2 p.m., 2:30-4:30 p.m. or 5-7 p.m.

July 25 - 9-11 a.m., 12-2 p.m., 2:30-4:30 p.m. or 5-7 p.m.

July 29 - 9-11 a.m., 12-2 p.m., 2:30-4:30 p.m. or 5-7 p.m.

Space is limited for the workshops, so please RSVP to Donelle Wright at donelle.wright@cvids.org or by text at 281-865-8408.

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OPINION PAGE

OPINION

Triple Threat: Save Money, Water and The Environment

(NAPSI)—If your home is like most in America, 27 percent of your water consumption comes from flushing it right down the toilet. And if that sounds like a money-sucking waste to you, it's because it is. A huge one, which may make you say WHAT THE FLUSH? Luckily, there's a solution. You can save up to 20,000 gallons of water a year—enough to fill an 18-foot by 40-foot inground swimming pool—and cut your water bills by up to 60 percent without having to change any of your bathroom behavior, just your toilet. Niagara Conservation created the Stealth Toilet, which uses less than one gallon of water per flush compared to the average toilet that uses 3.5 to five gallons per flush. Even homeowners who have installed so-called “high-efficiency” toilets can reduce water use by an additional 35 to 50 percent by switching to the Stealth Toilet. Plus, you may even get a rebate from the water supplier just for installing it. To find out if you're eligible, visit www3.epa.gov/watersense/rebate_finder_saving_money_water.html.

On top of that, the affordable price of \$149, coupled with the amount of money saved each month on your water bill, means that the Stealth Toilet pays for itself. With all these benefits, your next step is a no-brainer. As Jenni Pulos of Bravo's hit show “Flipping Out” explains, “As a California resident, I feel the gravity and importance of water conservation.

That's why I'm asking America to stop this invisible drain on our planet. With the Stealth Toilet, we can do our part to save water and money with every flush. So join the cause for water conservation.”

How It Works

A patented siphonic flush system uses vacuum-assisted technology to move air through an air transfer tube during each flush and refill, while strategically positioned rim wash holes add to the flushing power and make cleaning easier. And on top of everything, it gets the job done silently in one fell swoop, meaning your days of double flushing are over.

Save A Billion

Saving a billion gallons of water this year sounds ambitious, but it would only take 50,000 Stealth Toilets to do it. That means replacing 50,000 clunky, water-wasting toilets across the country. To that end, Niagara Conservation is inviting everyone to Like or follow it on Facebook or Twitter to get the word out and learn what you can do to be a money-saving, water-conserving superhero.

Learn More

Visit www.WhatTheFlush.com to learn more about the toilet and see Jenni Pulos in a cheeky “Potty Talk” video. For more on other water- and energy-saving devices, visit www.niagaracorp.com or call (800) 831-8383.



Governor Abbott reacts to downtown Dallas ambush

AUSTIN — A “Black Lives Matter” protest turned tragic when a sniper fired into a crowd estimated at 1,000 people in downtown Dallas at about 9 p.m. on July 7.

Dozens of shots were fired, reportedly from an assault rifle, leaving five police officers dead and seven police officers and two civilians wounded. Police pursued a suspect identified as Micah Xavier Johnson, 25, a former U.S. Army reservist, and killed him in a parking garage using a robot-propelled explosive device early on July 8.

Gov. Greg Abbott issued an open letter titled, “A Time To Come Together,” published in The Dallas Morning News on July 8. Among his comments, Abbott wrote: “Texas is an exceptional state with exceptional people. We’ve faced tough challenges in the past, but we have come together to overcome those challenges. In the coming days, there will be those who foment distrust and fan the flames of dissension. To come together—that would be the greatest rebuke to those who seek to tear us apart.”

Flags were ordered to half-staff in honor of the slain police officers.

Profs sue over ‘carry’ law

Three professors employed by the University of Texas at Austin on July 6 filed a lawsuit in federal court in Austin, seeking to stop the state’s 2015 “campus carry” law from taking effect on the UT campus.

In part, the plaintiffs asked the court to issue a preliminary injunction before the start of fall semester classes on Aug. 24, prohibiting any state statute, rule, regulation or policy from taking effect that would compel them to allow the concealed carrying of handguns in their classrooms, or which would authorize imposition of sanctions if they bar the carrying of concealed handguns in their classrooms.

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling



Policy moves states to act

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on July 6 filed a motion for a nationwide preliminary injunction against the U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of Justice and other federal agencies and officials.

Texas, Paxton’s office announced, is leading a 13-state coalition “against the Obama Administration’s directive requiring public schools and employers across the country to open up all intimate areas (restrooms, locker rooms, etc.) to both sexes.”

Paxton said schools face potential loss of funding for implementing policies to protect students. “Every employer is now being threatened for not bowing to anyone that identifies as the opposite sex,” he added.

Joining Texas in signing the motion are the states of Alabama, Arizona, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Utah, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Call for cuts is issued

Gov. Greg Abbott, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and House Speaker Joe Straus on July 1 directed all state agencies to cut their funding requests by 4 percent

for the 2018-2019 biennial budget.

Straus, R-San Antonio, said, “Due to the slowdown in parts of our economy, some difficult decisions will be required to balance the next state budget and the process of making those decisions begins now.”

The House Appropriations Committee is appointed by Straus and its counterpart, the Senate Finance Committee, is appointed by Patrick. In late August, the committees will review appropriations requests submitted by state agencies and use that information in crafting their respective versions of the next state budget.

Tax allocations are set

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on July 7 announced his office would send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts \$624 million in local sales tax allocations for July.

The allocations, based on sales made in May by businesses that report tax monthly, amount to 2.3 percent more than the comptroller’s office distributed in July 2015.

“The cities of Dallas, San Antonio, Austin and Fort Worth saw noticeable increases in sales tax allocations,” Hegar said. “Energy-centric cities such as Houston and Midland continue to see decreases in sales tax allocations.”

On July 5, Hegar said state sales tax revenue in June totaled \$2.2 billion, down 0.8 percent compared to June 2015. “Sales tax revenue growth continues to be hobbled by reduced spending in oil- and gas-related sectors. Despite the recent increase in oil prices, spending is below even the reduced levels seen a year ago,” he added.

Power is the priority with an at-home office

(NAPSI)—According to the US Census Bureau, a summary of trends indicates that 3.7 million employees now telecommute at least half of their work week. In fact, the number of work-at-home individuals who are not self-employed has grown by 103% since 2005. These work trends support an urgent need for uninterrupted electricity in the home to reduce lost work time and other avoidable disruptions.

Working from home has a number of employee benefits: the morning commute can’t be beat and every day is casual Friday. And one perk that benefits both employee and employer is that studies show individuals tend to work more productively from a quieter, well-connected environment. However, when threatening weather is in the forecast, the flow of work from home to corporate office may also be at-risk. Formulating a backup plan in the case of a power outage should be a significant part of a home office business model.

Every responsible home office business model should consider a continuous source of power. Home standby generators, like the Guardian series by Generac Power Systems, turn on automatically when utility power goes out and stay on until utility power is restored. The benefits of installing a backup power system include uninterrupted, continuous power; communications connectivity for all business and home needs; protection for expensive computer equipment; and overall peace of mind.

More than just an inconvenience, a power outage also means productivity losses that can ultimately result in lost income and missed opportunities. In Beaver Dams, New York, a Generac generator saved Deborah Purdue who shares, “I am a goldsmith and have my shop in my house. In the past I lost hundreds of dollars not being able to work because of an outage. I work at least 70 hours a week and when we lose power I just get further behind. This unit has given me tremendous peace of mind!”

It’s also important to prioritize those items the home office will need in order to stay up and running. Generac.com offers a generator sizing calculator that provides recommendations for options that accommodate the home’s electricity needs, as well as personal preferences.

“Ensuring the power is always on is the right decision for today’s telecommuters,” says Jodi Marose, Generac Power Systems, Inc. spokesperson. “A home standby generator will automatically keep your equipment running which allows you to focus on keeping your business running.”

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LIFESTYLE

OBITUARIES

Dimmitt "D.H." Hutchins Merrill

October 11, 1924 - June 20, 2016

Dimmitt "D.H." Hutchins Merrill, 91, went to be with the Lord on June 20, 2016 in Houston, TX. Dimmitt was born in Buffalo, TX on October 11, 1924.

Dimmitt was a long time resident of Crosby, TX since 1979 and also was a member of the First Baptist Church of Crosby. He was a recent resident of the Mountbatten House in Highlands, TX. He proudly served his country in the United States Army in the 4th Aircraft Repair Unit. After serving his country, he later worked for and retired from Arco Steel and Missouri Pacific Railroad.

Dimmitt was predeceased by his parents, Arthur and Mattie Smith Merrill, brother Edward, his loving wife and high school sweetheart, Charline Phillips Merrill, his son, David Merrill, and daughter, Diane Merrill Petrash. He is survived by his daughters Denise Dyer, husband Sam, Debra Parson, husband Michael, son-in-law, Daniel Petrash, Darla Merrill and Sue McClellan, and numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren. D.H. enjoyed his retirement and spent his free time outdoors, working on his land, gardening, working in his shop on tractors, lawn mowers, and other projects, picking up pecans from the numerous pecan trees that he planted, playing dominoes and cards, and spending time with family and



friends. He was also a member and former commander of the American Legion Post 658 of Crosby, TX. Dimmitt will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

A celebration of Dimmitt's life was held on June 24th at Second Baptist Church in Highlands. A graveside service will take place in Buffalo, TX at the Buffalo cemetery on July 18, 2016 at 11:00 am. Special thanks to all of Dimmitt's doctors, nurses, the Mountbatten House staff, and also the Houston Hospice staff for all of their compassion and care. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Houston Hospice, a non-profit hospice hospital that provides loving comfort and support to patients and their families.

To donate please visit, www.houstonhospice.org.

Staci Alece Harlan Criswell

Staci Alece Harlan Criswell, 41, of Crosby, Texas went to be with her Lord on Thursday, July 7, 2016 after fighting a difficult 3-year battle with cancer. Staci was in her home surrounded by family who loved her dearly. A Celebration of Life service will be held at her home church, Vine Life Christian Fellowship, located at 910 Old Atascocita Rd, Huffman, Texas on Wednesday, July 13, 2016 at 2pm. There will be no viewing, visitation or graveside services.

Staci was born in Houston, Texas on Oct 10, 1974. She was a devoted wife and mother, a precious daughter, loving sister, and wonderful Aunt Tootie to her nieces and nephews.

Staci was a homeschool mom to her three children and was involved in all their activities. She was active, as well, in community service projects and helped to feed the less fortunate. One of her favorite outings, even as a child, was the public library. She passed the love of books on to her children and anyone else who would listen. Staci had a special place in her heart for children and directed children's ministry for a number of years. She had a voice of an angel, singing in the church praise & worship team, drama productions and specials. She loved being a mother and aunt, and was generally addressed as Aunt Tootie by everyone.

Staci loved to travel but was just as happy staying at home surrounded by family playing games and having Sunday Dinners after church. Her friends were her Friends forever and she was loved by so many. Staci's quick contagious smile and generous nature will be missed by so many. She is survived by her husband of almost 20 years, Mike Criswell; her children, Symon Criswell, Grace Criswell, and Judah Criswell; her parents, Steve and Brenda Harlan; her sister, Shannon Nichols and spouse Wendell; her brother in law, Danny Criswell and spouse Ashley; her grandparents, Bobbie Harlan and Gene and Elsie Stoker; nieces, Ashley Crawford and spouse Brandon, Destiny Criswell and Desiree Criswell; nephews, Michael Fox, Danny Ray Criswell Jr.; great nephews, Carter, Levi and Fletcher Crawford, and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.



If anyone wishes to make monetary donations, it was Staci's desire that proceeds go to Vine Life Fellowship to fund a new children's play area with picnic tables. 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.

Alma Rosa Gonzales

Alma Rosa Gonzales, 61, went to be with the Lord on Sunday June 26th, 2016. She was born in Port Lavaca, Texas on February 17, 1955 to Brigado Ornelas and Mary Machado Ornelas. She was a sweet, caring, outspoken woman and you always knew what was on her mind. Alma loved her family and enjoyed spending time with them. She was a fan of George Strait, loved going on cruises and taking trips to the casino.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Mary and Brigado Ornelas. Alma is survived by her beloved husband Ricardo Gonzales; her sons, Shawn M. Gilbert, Jonathan Chapman and wife Brenda, Matthew Ornelas and wife Danielle, and Andrew R. Gonzales and wife Amanda; grandchildren, Jiselie A. Chapman, Marley M. Gonzales, Bryceon Gilbert, Benjamin K. Chapman, Nicholas Gilbert, and Emily Rose Gonzales and a host of other family and friends. Alma



will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

A visitation for family and friends will be held at Sterling-White Funeral Home 11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd. Highlands, Texas, on Friday morning July 8th, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Funeral services will follow immediately at 11:00 a.m.

LITTLE BIDDY BITS By Danny Biddy

I Want...

The great poet Kipling was sick and bed-ridden near the end of his life. The nurse caring for him asked him one day, "Mr. Kipling, do you want anything?" To which the weakened Kipling murmured three words, "I want God.

And what do you want? Right now you may want a lot of things. However, the day will come when nothing else will matter and you will want God. Why wait? He can be yours now. Here's a familiar verse, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

Danny R. Biddy, Pastor of the Church on Old River since 1977.

www.olderiverbaptist.com

CHURCH LISTINGS

Crosby, Highlands, Huffman, Baytown

ANGLICAN CHURCH

• Church of the Resurrection, meeting at Crosby Brethren Church, 5202 1st Street, Crosby, 832-681-9693.

APOSTOLIC CHURCH

• First Apostolic Church of Highlands, 1211 S. Main St. Highlands, 281-426-4133

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

• Crosby Gospel Assembly, 633 Kenning Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2516

• First Assembly of God, 406 N. Magnolia St., Highlands, 281-426-3170

GOSPEL LIGHTHOUSE

• 8218 John Martin Rd., Baytown, 281-421-1168

BAPTIST

• Calvary Baptist, 2217 Huffman Eastgate Rd., Huffman, 281-324-3409

• Highlands Baptist, 111 E. Canal Rd., Highlands, 281-426-2470

• Northeast Freeway Baptist, 1635 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2723

• Unity Baptist, 2625 Broad Dr., Highlands, 281-426-4223

• Iglesia Bautista Comunidad, 5323 Highway 90, Crosby, 281-421-9810. "Venid y te Haremos Bien"

BAPTIST-Missionary

• Antioch Missionary Baptist, 2500 Harris St., Highlands, 281-426-6565.

• First Missionary Baptist Church, 301 Cypress Avenue, Crosby, 281-462-7634.

• Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist, 315 Nod, Crosby, 281-328-4650

• True Vine Missionary Baptist, 404 Oak Ave., Crosby, 281-328-7637

• Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, 12418 Crosby Rd., Crosby, 281-328-1851

BAPTIST-Southern

• First Baptist- Crosby, 615 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2564

• First Baptist- Highlands, N. Magnolia at Wallisville, Highlands, 281-426-4551

• First Baptist- Huffman, 25503 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-1888

• Northside Baptist, 317 Barbers Hill Rd., Highlands, 281-426-5415

• Second Baptist, 400 E. Wallisville Rd., Highlands, 281-426-5557

• Crosby New Hope Baptist Church, 18319 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-6086

BRETHREN

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

CATHOLIC

• Holy Family, 7122 Whiting Rock, Baytown, 281-426-8448

• Sacred Heart, 915 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-4871

• St. Martin De Porres, 12606 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-4451

• St. Jude Thaddeus, 800 S. Main St., Highlands, 281-843-2422

• St. Phillip the Apostle, 2308 3rd St., Huffman, 281-324-1478

CHURCH OF CHRIST

• Church of Christ at Wallisville Rd., 1500 E. Wallisville Rd., 281-426-7557.

• Crosby Church of Christ, 3737 Hwy 90, Crosby, 281-328-3496

• Highlands Church of Christ, 214 Clear Lake Rd., Highlands, 281-426-2742

• Barrett Station Church of Christ, 281-328-7882

CHURCH OF GOD

• First Pentecostal Church of God, 1328 Old Atascocita, Huffman, 281-324-1518

• Harvest Time Church of God, 495 S. Diamondhead Blvd., Crosby, 281-462-8060

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

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

EPISCOPAL

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

INDEPENDENT

• Crosby Church, 5725 Hwy 90, Crosby, and 30679 Huffman Cleveland Rd., Huffman, 281-328-1310

• Huffman Church, 1707 Huffman Eastgate Rd., Huffman, 281-324-3705

• New Covenant of Faith, 12217 Holly Rd., Crosby, 281-328-1315

• Restoration House, 1609 Jones Rd., Highlands, 281-843-4000

• Son Harvest, 2027 FM 1942, Crosby, 281-543-2860.

LUTHERAN

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

METHODIST

• Crosby United Methodist, 1334 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2616

• Highlands United Methodist, 107 W. Houston St., Highlands, 281-426-3614

• Lake Houston United Methodist, 23606 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-1541

NON DENOMINATION

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

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Channelview, Jacinto City, Galena Park, Houston

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

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

BAPTIST

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

• Second Baptist Church, 1913 18th. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-672-9232.

• Second Baptist Church, 10501 Muscatine, Jacinto City, TX. 713-674-8463.

• St. Matthew Baptist Church, 119 Fidelity, Houston, TX. 713-674-0082.

• First Baptist Church, 1505 1st. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-455-1261.

BAPTIST-Southern

• Dell Dale Avenue Baptist Church, 402 Dell Dale Avenue, Channelview, TX. 281-452-3704.

• South Drive Baptist Church, 15229 South Drive, Channelview, TX. 77530. 281-452-4500.

• First Baptist Church of Jacinto City, 10701 Wiggins, Jacinto City, TX 77029. 713-672-2802.

• Beaumont Place Baptist Church, 13101 Ivydale Street, Houston, TX. 77049.

CATHOLIC

• St. Andrew Roman Catholic Church, 827 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, TX. 281-452-9865.

• Our Lady of Fatima, 1705 8th St., Galena Park, TX. 713-675-0981.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

• Channelview Church of Christ, 1301 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, TX. 281-452-7129.

• Galena Park Church of Christ, 301 Holland Ave, Galena Park, TX. 713-455-0826.

EPISCOPAL

• St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 13125 Indianapolis St., Houston, 713-451-2909.

HOLINESS

• Bible Missionary Church, 10246 Fairfax St., Jacinto City, 713-671-3600

METHODIST

• Old River Terrace United Methodist Church, 16102 East Freeway, Channelview, TX. 281-452-2861.

• Galena Park United Methodist, 1705 1st. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-672-0245.

• Holy Trinity United Methodist, 13207 Orleans St., Houston, Tx. 713-453-7203.

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BUSINESS

Act today to avoid financial regrets tomorrow

“Regrets? I’ve had a few.” – Frank Sinatra.

Mr. Sinatra, one of the most famous entertainers of the 20th century, did things his way, but he was also familiar with remorse. He’s not alone, of course. We all deal with regrets – and financial ones are among the most troublesome.

Here are the leading financial regrets, according to a recent survey by Bankrate.com, along with some suggestions for avoiding them:

- Not saving for retirement early enough – This was the top regret expressed by survey respondents. Saving and investing early for retirement offers you two key benefits. First, the more time you give growth-oriented investments, the greater their growth potential. And second, by saving and investing for retirement early in your career, you will likely need to put away less money each year than you would if you waited until, say, your 40s or 50s. So, if you aren’t already doing so, contribute as much as you can afford to your IRA and your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored plan. And increase your contributions every time your salary rises.

- Not saving enough for emergency expenses – You can’t plan for all expenses. Your furnace might die, your car may need a major repair, you may incur a sizable doctor’s bill – the list goes on and on. If you don’t have the money available to meet these costs, you might be forced to dip into your long-term investments. That’s why it’s important to maintain an emergency fund, containing three to six months’ worth of living expenses, in a liquid, low-risk account.

- Taking on too much credit card debt – If you don’t overuse your credit cards, they can be handy and helpful, in many ways. Try to keep a lid on your credit card debt, keeping in mind that your debt payments reduce the amount

ASK THE EXPERT
By Edward Jones

of money you have available to invest for your long-term goals, such as a comfortable retirement.

- Not saving enough for children’s education — This may be perhaps the most difficult regret to address – after all, it’s not easy to save for your own retirement and simultaneously put money away for your children’s college educations. However, if you can afford to save for college, try to do so in as advantageous a manner as possible.

- Buying a bigger house than you can afford – If you tie up too much money in mortgage payments, you will have less to contribute to your various retirement accounts. And while home equity certainly has some value, it generally does not provide you with the same liquidity – and probably not the same potential for growth and income – as an

investment portfolio that’s appropriate for your needs and risk tolerance. So, think carefully before purchasing that big house – you might be better served by scaling down your home ownership and ramping up your investments.

You can’t avoid all the doubts and misgivings you’ll encounter at various stages of your life. But if you can reduce those regrets associated with your finances, you could well increase your satisfaction during your retirement years.

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

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Loss Control and Property Conservation in Structural Fire Fighting

The term “ quality service ” probably means different things to different people and varies from profession to profession. If you take your vehicle to a mechanic you expect to have your vehicle repaired for a fair price and repaired correct the first time. The same thing applies to the fire service and the core values of Channelview Fire Department. However, in structural firefighting, one of the key elements that defines a fire department’s commitment to quality service is its approach the concept of loss control.

What is loss control? According to The International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA) the definition of loss control is the “ the practice of minimizing damage and providing customer service through effective mitigation and recovery efforts before, during, and after the incident. To simplify that definition Channelview Fire Department defines loss control as effectively mitigating the incident causing the least amount of property damage possible. We are able to this via adequate staffing, proper training and a timely response.

To a lot of citizens their idea of what the

ASK THE EXPERT
CHANNELVIEW FIRE DEPARTMENT

fire department only does is save lives and put the fire out. These things are of the utmost importance but of similar importance is loss control. The purpose of loss control is to reduce property damage experienced by the customer during one of the most trying and devastating times of their lives. Loss control is a customer based component that is intended to provide added value to the primary concept of what we offer the home owner. Even a small fire contained to one room can cause significant damage to a structure. This damage is caused from charring, structural damage, contents damage, and other damage associated with water and smoke. Loss control efforts evolve around minimizing damage and loss. Two types of damage occur at a structure fire: primary damage and secondary damage. Primary damage is caused by the fire and secondary

damage is caused by the fire fight. Not all secondary damage is avoidable. Many times the firefighters performing appropriate secondary damage such as forcible entry or vertical ventilation reduce the overall loss.

So at the end of the day we at Channelview Fire Department do our very best to protect lives as well as property on every call. If ever encountered with one of these dire incidents remember that all actions taken by the fire department are in an effort to limit the damage done to citizens overall profile. So if you see a hole in the roof or a damaged window to you that may seem unnecessary, remember these actions were taken with your best interest in mind.

If there are any questions or comments feel free to email at publicrelations@channelviewfire.com.

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C Shift District Chief

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26-2

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THE SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY is hiring for a Heavy Equipment Operator 2 for our Highlands Division. This individual will operate trucks, tractors, mechanized boom, backhoe, road grader or bull dozer to maintain canals, levees, roadways, and other SJRA property. Also will assist with preventative maintenance of hydraulic and mechanical equipment, buildings, structures, and other facilities. High school diploma or GED required, along with valid Texas driver's license, CDL is a plus. To view a full job description and apply: visit www.sjra.net/about/careers and follow the steps to apply online.

27-2

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25-2

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Administration for Docket No. 448,562; Estate of REYNOLDS, JERRY, Deceased; In Probate Court No. 2, of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on June 28, 2016.

LOUISE REYNOLDS

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 July 6, 2016.

by WESTON COTTEN Attorney for the Estate

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Administration for Docket No. 447,165; Estate of JOSEPH MAURY WILLIAMS, Deceased; In Probate Court No. 1, of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on May 5, 2016.

IMA VERNELL WILLIAMS

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 July 6, 2016.

by WESTON COTTEN Attorney for the Estate

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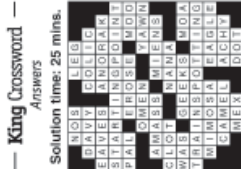
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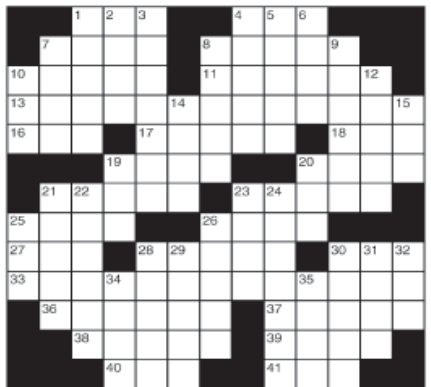
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COMMUNITY

Lyondellbasell – Galena Park I.S.D. Partnership

Galena Park Independent School District donated an award winning fire pit to Lyondellbasell in appreciation of the strong partnership commitment they have made to the Career & Technical Education (CTE) program. The fire pit (pictured below) was created by Advanced Welding students under the direction of Mr. Damon Starr. This specialty project earned multiple BLUE RIBBONS at the 2016 State SkillsUSA Competition in Corpus Christi, Texas. Lyondellbasell was honored to accept the donation from GPISD. Lyondellbasell plans to raffle the fire pit off to benefit their United Way campaign.



Pictured left to right are: Mr. Bruce Grissom, Maintenance Manager; Mrs. Laura Mann, CTE Director; Mr. Jerome Mauvigney, Houston Site Manager; Mr. Scott Lemoine, Maintenance, TA & IUP/Small PE Manager; Maria Jimenez, GPISD Advanced Welding student; Mr. Damon Starr, Advanced Welding Instructor; Jorge Campuzano, GPISD Advanced Welding student; Mr. Kevin Harris, Maintenance Project Coordinator; and Fabian Leyva, Machine Shop Maintenance Supervisor.



GPISD Advanced Welding student, Maria Jimenez, explains the importance of producing quality, uniform beads to Mr. Jerome Mauvigney, Lyondellbasell Houston Site Manager.

Chamber Casino Night,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

7 pm to 11 pm, at the Jacinto City Town Center. The Chamber Foundation is having a fundraiser on Friday, August 12th. Foundation Chairman Bill Palko said, "Our goal is to raise funds to put right back into the North Channel Community for needs such as education, health, youth welfare and housing." Please join us for a great evening of fun, music, Vegas style gambling and a chance at great prizes at "Chamber Royale" from 7-11pm on Friday, August 12th at the Jacinto City Towncenter. Corporate Sponsorships are

available for \$600 and individual tickets are \$75. A corporate sponsorship includes food and drinks for eight people plus \$40,000 in funny money. The individual tickets include food, drinks and \$5,000 in funny money. Title Sponsor is Ronny Dwairy and Bestway Oilfield. Thanks also go out to the City of Jacinto City for the free use of the Jacinto City Town Center and to the following Corporate Sponsors: Amegy Bank, East Houston Regional Medical Center, Joe Stephens Farmers Insurance, Woodforest National Bank, United Community

Credit Union, San Jacinto College Foundation and the Rotary Club of North Shore. Come try your hand at poker, blackjack, roulette and craps. There will be great food, drinks, prizes, music and dancing. Chef Jerry from the Holiday Inn Channelview is sure to please everyone's appetite. Of course there will be a selection of liquid spirits. All proceeds go to the North Channel Area Foundation, a 501 c 3. For more information, contact Blane Blane@nca-chamber.com or call 713-450-3600.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Galena Park Library Programs

-Thursday, July 14, I Scream, You Scream for ICE CREAM, 4 pm.
-Monday, July 18, Adult Program Coffee & Coloring, 4 pm.
-Tuesday, July 19, Family Movie, 4 pm
-Wednesday, July 20, Baby time, 10 am; Storytime Para los Niños, 11 am; Get Active, 4 pm.
-Thursday, July 21, Serving Up My Plate, 4 pm.
All children programs require tickets. Tickets are free and available the Monday before the program at the front desk.
Galena Park Branch Library, 1500 Keene St., Galena Park, TX. For information on other programs, please call 713-450-0982.

The Buckshot Jamboree

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

Galena Park Senior Dance

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

North Shore Senior Dance

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

San Jacinto Pilot Club meeting

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

Jacinto City Library programs

-Saturday, July 16, Family Movie Theater, 12:30 pm.
-Tuesday, July 19, Adult Craft, 2:30 pm.
-Wednesday, July 20, Baby Time, 10:30 am; Stupefix (Teens), 2 pm.
-Thursday, July 21, Healthy Hip Hop Dance, 2 pm; Children's Story Time, 3 pm.
Jacinto City Branch Library, 921 Akron, Jacinto City, TX. 77029. For more information please call 713-673-3237.

NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

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