

4TH OF JULY ISSUE

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**CHANNEL
CHATTER**

Galena Park & Jacinto City 4th of July Celebrations



CITY OF GALENA PARK will hold its 1st Annual 4th of July Festival, at 1600 16th Street from 4:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Sponsored by the Committee for a Better Galena Park, it will feature Activities, Food, Games, Music and Fireworks at 9:00 pm. Also a Rock Wall, Petting Zoo, 24 ft. Slide, 65 foot obstacle course, and 20 vendors. The pool will be open, and Free from 4 pm to 7 pm. Everyone welcome.

CITY OF JACINTO CITY will have its annual fireworks on "the High Road" between the cities. Begins at dark. Free parking is available at the Galena Park Ag Center on Holland.



Gene Green's Chemical Safety Act signed by Obama

TxDOT urges sober ride for this July 4th

AUSTIN – A prisoner in his own body. This is how Sean Carter describes his life following his fateful decision 11 years ago to get into a vehicle driven by a drunk driver. When the driver slammed into a tree, then-22-year-old Sean was left severely injured and unable to walk or talk.

"Don't drink and drive," Sean said, via the aid of an iPad. "And please, don't make my mistake of riding with someone who has been drinking. If I knew then that my decision would affect the rest of my life, you can bet I would not have gotten in that car."

Today, Sean continues his life's mission of warning others about the consequences of drinking and driving by sharing his story through the Texas Department of Transportation's "Plan While You Can" campaign. The campaign is intended to save lives and decrease alcohol-related crashes all year long, but with a particular emphasis during holidays such as the upcoming Fourth of July weekend. During the 2015 Fourth of July week-

See **SOBER DRIVE**, page 8

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, President Barack Obama signed into law the first overhaul of the Toxic Substances Control Act in 40 years - the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act. This landmark bill passed the House of Representatives on May 24 on a 403-12 vote and it was approved by the Senate on June 7 by voice vote.

"For nearly a decade, I have worked to overhaul the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) because it directly affects communities in and around East-side Houston and Harris County, home to one of the



REPRESENTATIVE GENE GREEN, standing behind President Obama with other Congressmen and women, watches as the Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act is signed into law at the beginning of June. The bill simplifies and updates standards and regulations for the chemical industry nationwide.

largest collection of chemical facilities in the country," said Rep. Green. "The reforms contained in the new law will enhance protections for the fence-line communities next to the plants and the workers in our chemical plants, and respond to the concerns of industry to provide regulatory certainty for job creators throughout our economy."

The legislation received strong bipartisan, bicameral support as well as support from industry,

manufacturers, and environmental and public health organizations. Rep. Green added, "President

Obama's signature of the act into law marks a tremendous accomplishment and represents what can be done when leaders in Washington work together."

The most notable improvements in the bill are:

Replacing current TSCA's burdensome safety See **CHEMICAL ACT**, page 8

This law protects fence-line communities, chemical plant workers, and responds to industry and environmental concerns.

\$10 million Waste Pits grants announced

San Jacinto Waste Pit Grant Program to fund Parks, Boat Ramps, Environmental Education

HARRIS COUNTY – As part of a long-term effort to assess and mitigate environmental impacts from toxic waste pits along the San Jacinto River near I-10 east of Houston, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Harris County are awarding \$10 million to provide new or expanded public recreation and access facilities along the river, plus fund environmental awareness and education efforts.

The 84th Texas Legislature appropriated \$10 million to the department to be transferred to Harris County, money that came as part of a lawsuit settle-



ment. The legislative appropriation was "for use along the San Jacinto River and in its watershed to mitigate the effects of en-

vironmental contamination and the effects of that contamination on natural resources and the public use of natural resources."

In the mid-1960s, waste ponds were impounded next to the lower San Jacinto River to dispose of wastes from a nearby pa-

per mill, including toxic dioxins. Since the 1970s, subsidence, erosion and storms caused the release of contaminants into the river several miles upstream from the San Jacinto Battleground. The waste ponds were designated a federal Superfund site in 2008. The Environmental Protection Agency installed a temporary cap over the ponds in 2011, and evaluation of the extent and impacts of the contamination continues.

In 2011, Harris County filed suit against the operators of the waste pits and the paper company that had generated the waste for environmental damages and reached a \$29.2 million

See **WASTE PITS**, page 8

NORTH SHORE

Man drowns at pond



HOUSTON – Harris County Deputies responded to a possible drowning of a man in a pond in Northeast Harris County.

The incident happened on Wednesday, June 22, around 3:30 pm on Melody Garden Lane and Cascade Pines.

The man was taken to East Houston Medical Center with CPR in progress but he did not survive. Police was confused about the gender of the victim and that is why initial reports stated it was a woman. No other information was available at press time regarding the circumstances of the drowning.

GO BIG OR GO HOME

Heart Screening of athletes finds surprise results

CROSBY – As the Cody Stephens Memorial, Go Big or Go Home Fundraiser approaches, examples of why heart screening of athletes is lifesaving are becoming abundant.

13-year-old Elise Cerrami, a swimmer, died suddenly in the Southlake Carroll area after she was pulled from a pool during a routine morning workout on June 19th. Another young man, Ethan Scott May, age 14, of Plano, Texas, a middle school hockey player died on June 14th. Ethan collapsed while running Sunday, June 13th and despite the efforts of his friends, family and medical personnel was not able to ultimately recover. Both of these deaths appear to be from undiagnosed heart issues and occurred within 2 weeks in Texas. Sudden Cardiac arrest seems like



SCOTT STEPHENS
Go Big or Go Home
Foundation

ly to be the cause, but post mortem tests have not yet been concluded. Sudden Cardiac arrest is the leading medical cause of death in young athletes.

Crosby's Scott Stephens is launching another round of providing ECGs to UIL Sports participants in Texas but needs the support of the eastside community to

get it done. Other organizations are catching on to the urgent needs for heart screenings with ECGs. Scott is now the chair elect of Parent Heart Watch a national advocacy group with the goal of preventing all preventable sudden cardiac deaths in youth by the year 2030.

One common objection to ECG screenings in general was that 10% or higher would be false positives, leading to much more costly and unnecessary exams, but that is not bearing true. This past school year the Go Big or Go Home Foundation funded the ECG heart screening of 7,407 students across Texas at a cost of \$15.00 each. About 2.66% of the students were flagged for follow-up because something on the ECG was ab-

See **HEART SCREENING**, page 6

COMMUNITY NEWS

San Jacinto College police officer shows it's never too late to follow your dreams

PASADENA, Texas – Ever since Eric Lister was a child he has wanted to go after the “bad guys.” After driving commercial vehicles for 19 years, he became restless.

“Driving trucks just did not give me the satisfaction I needed anymore,” said Lister. “I needed a more rewarding career, one filled with opportunities.” So he enrolled at the Lone Star College Law Enforcement

Academy at the age of 38. After graduating, Lister worked as a deputy at the Harris County Constable Precinct 2 office, but eventually grew tired of being a reserve officer. Once again he found himself wanting more.

In 2014 Lister discovered that San Jacinto College could give him what he was looking for: “San Jacinto College gave me the opportunity to work full time as a

police officer,” he said. That same year he enrolled in classes at the College and began pursuing an associate degree in social and behavioral science.

Lister’s success has not come without its struggles. “I have been chasing my degree for over two decades. Situations in life have made me stop and start,” he said. Lister got married and started a family early in his career. When he finally returned to the classroom in 2014 he was motivated by

the loss of a loved one.

In September 2012 Lister’s father passed away, leaving a big void in his life. Lister said that his father was always a big supporter of education, instilling in him the importance of a college education. In honor of his father, Lister worked harder than ever to earn his degree.

“This time I had more purpose; this time it was for my father,” he noted. Lister graduated from San Jacinto College in December 2015



PHOTO BY ANDREA VASQUEZ

believes that people on college campuses need to be more proactive. “You never know when you will be faced with a situation that requires these techniques.”

Lister believes that it is never too late to start your journey. In fact, he is not stopping at his associate degree. “I still have more work to do,” he added. Lister wants to teach criminal justice at the College and continue to encourage students to reach for their goals.

Lister is currently pursuing a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice at Midwestern State University. After completing his bachelor’s degree he hopes to earn his master’s in the same field.

“I can tell kids my story and inspire them to continue theirs,” he concluded. “Just because you reach a certain age doesn’t mean you can give up. When I went to the academy I was old enough to be the father of some of my classmates, but that didn’t stop me.”

Eric Lister inspires students to never give up on their dreams, no matter how old they get.

and decided to attend the commencement ceremony for a very special reason, his children. “I made the decision to walk across the stage to be a positive role model for my children. I wanted to teach them that you are never too old and quitting is not an option.”

Now an alumnus and police officer with San Jacinto College, Lister is dedicated to maintaining campus safety. In addition to working as an officer he also serves as an instructor for several of the Sexual Harassment and Rape Prevention (SHARP) courses that the College offers. He completed seven different SHARP courses in order to become certified to teach the course.

Lister feels that it is important for San Jacinto College to hold these courses to raise awareness of violence prevention. “We teach people the basics to ward off an attacker,” he said. Lister also

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SCHOOL NEWS



Galena Park High welding students receive donation from Advanced Welding Solutions

Galena Park ISD CTE Welding students and staff would like to thank Advanced Welding Solutions for their generous donation of new welding hoods. This year, due to the number of students testing for their American Welding Society (AWS) certification, the program ran short on welding hoods. When Tim Choate, VP of Operations for Advanced Welding Solutions heard about the dilemma, he and his colleague, Mr. Ronny Odom, delivered welding hoods to students in the program at Galena Park High School. Choate and Odom spoke to students about the great need for welders and pipe fitters in the Houston-Port Region. Choate emphasized the value of earning industry recognized credentials in high school by stating, "I am grateful there are CTE Welding programs at the high school level. All of you have an opportunity to capitalize on earning your AWS certification; there are jobs waiting on you after graduation if you are able to obtain this credential."

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OPINION PAGE

"What is the true meaning of Independence Day and the 4th of July?"



ASK DIAMOND JIM

Independence Day of the United States, also referred to as the Fourth of July or July Fourth in the U.S., is a federal holiday commemorating the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, by the Continental Congress declaring that the thirteen American colonies regarded themselves as a new nation, the United States of America, and no longer part of the British Empire. Independence Day is commonly associated with fireworks, parades, barbecues, carnivals, fairs, picnics, concerts, baseball games, family reunions, and political speeches and ceremonies, in addition to various other public and private events celebrating the history, government, and traditions of the United States. Independence Day is the National Day of the United States.

Background

During the American Revolution, the legal separation of the Thirteen Colonies from Great Britain occurred on July 2, 1776, when the Second Continental Congress voted to approve a resolution of independence that had been proposed in June by Richard Henry Lee of Virginia declaring the United States independent from Great Britain. After voting for independence, Congress turned its attention to the Declaration of Independence, a statement explaining this decision, which had been prepared by a Committee of Five, with Thomas Jefferson as its principal author. Congress debated and revised the wording of the Declaration, finally approving it on July 4. A day earlier, John Adams had written to his wife Abigail:

"The second day of July, 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more."

Adams's prediction was off by two days. From the outset, Americans celebrated independence on July 4, the date shown on the much-publicized Declaration of Independence, rather than on July 2, the date the resolution of independence was approved in a closed session of Congress.

Historians have long disputed whether Congress actually signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, even though Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and Benjamin Franklin all later wrote that they had signed it on that day. Most historians have concluded that the Declaration was signed nearly a month after its adoption, on August 2, 1776, and not on July 4 as is commonly believed.

Coincidentally, both John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, the only signers of the Declaration of Independence later to serve as Presidents of the United States, died on the same day: July 4, 1826, which was the 50th anniversary of the Declaration. Although not a signer of the Declaration of Independence, but another Founding Father who became a President,

James Monroe, died on July 4, 1831, thus becoming the third President in a row who died on the holiday. Calvin Coolidge, the 30th President, was born on July 4, 1872, and, so far, is the only U.S. President to have been born on Independence Day.

Observance

In 1777, thirteen gunshots were fired in salute, once at morning and once again as evening fell, on July 4 in Bristol, Rhode Island. Philadelphia celebrated the first anniversary in a manner a modern American would find quite familiar: an official dinner for the Continental Congress, toasts, 13-gun salutes, speeches, prayers, music, parades, troop reviews, and fireworks. Ships were decked with red, white, and blue bunting. In 1778, from his headquarters at Ross Hall, near New Brunswick, New Jersey, General George Washington marked July 4 with a double ration of rum for his soldiers and an artillery salute (feu de joie). Across the Atlantic Ocean, ambassadors John Adams and Benjamin Franklin held a dinner for their fellow Americans in Paris, France. In 1779, July 4 fell on a Sunday. The holiday was celebrated on Monday, July 5.

In 1781, the Massachusetts General Court became the first state legislature to recognize July 4 as a state celebration.

In 1783, Moravians in Salem, North Carolina, held a celebration of July 4 with a challenging music program assembled by Johann Friedrich Peter. This work was titled "The Psalm of Joy." This is recognized as the first recorded celebration and is still celebrated there today.

In 1791, the first recorded use of the name "Independence Day" occurred.

In 1870, the U.S. Congress made Independence Day an unpaid holiday for federal employees.

In 1938, Congress changed Independence Day to a paid federal holiday.

Customs

Independence Day is a national holiday marked by patriotic displays. Similar to other summer-themed events, Independence Day celebrations often take place outdoors. Independence Day is a federal holiday, so all non-essential federal institutions (like the postal service and federal courts) are closed on that day. Many politicians make it a point on this day to appear at a public event to praise the nation's heritage, laws, history, society, and people.

Families often celebrate Independence Day by hosting or attending a picnic or barbecue and take advantage of the day off and, in some years, long weekend to gather with relatives. Decorations (e.g., streamers, balloons, and clothing) are generally colored red, white, and blue, the colors of the American flag. Parades are often in the morning, while fireworks displays occur in the evening at such places as parks, fairgrounds, or town squares.

The night before the Fourth was once the focal point of celebrations, marked by raucous gatherings often incorporating bonfires as their centerpiece. In New England, towns competed to build towering pyramids, assembled from barrels and casks. They

were lit at nightfall, to usher in the celebration. The highest were in Salem, Massachusetts (on Gallows Hill, the famous site of the execution of 13 women and 6 men for witchcraft in 1692 during the Salem witch trials, where the tradition of bonfires in celebration had persisted), composed of as many as forty tiers of barrels; these are the tallest bonfires ever recorded. The custom flourished in the 19th and 20th centuries, and is still practiced in some New England towns.

Independence Day fireworks are often accompanied by patriotic songs such as the national anthem "The Star-Spangled Banner", "God Bless America", "America the Beautiful", "My Country, 'Tis of Thee", "This Land Is Your Land", "Stars and Stripes Forever", and, regionally, "Yankee Doodle" in northeastern states and "Dixie" in southern states. Some of the lyrics recall images of the Revolutionary War or the War of 1812.

Firework shows are held in many states, and many fireworks are sold for personal use or as an alternative to a public show. Safety concerns have led some states to ban fireworks or limit the sizes and types allowed. In addition to safety concerns local and regional weather conditions may dictate whether the sale or use of fireworks in an area will be allowed. Some local or regional firework sales may be limited or prohibited because of dry weather, drought conditions, or other specific concerns. On these occasions the public may be prohibited from purchasing or discharging fireworks, but professional displays (such as may be found at sport events) may still take place provided that certain safety precautions have been taken. Illicit traffic transfers many fireworks from less restrictive states.

A salute of one gun for each state in the United States, called a "salute to the union", is fired on Independence Day at noon by any capable military base.

In 2009, New York City had the largest fireworks display in the country, with over 22 tons of pyrotechnics exploded. Other major displays are in Chicago on Lake Michigan; in San Diego over Mission Bay; in Boston on the Charles River; in St. Louis on the Mississippi River; in San Francisco Bay; and on the National Mall in Washington, D.C..

During the annual Windsor-Detroit International Freedom Festival, Detroit, Michigan hosts one of the world's largest fireworks displays, over the Detroit River, to celebrate Independence Day in conjunction with Windsor, Ontario's celebration of Canada Day.

The first week of July is typically one of the busiest American travel periods of the year, as many people utilize the holiday for extended vacation trips.

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Supreme Court affirms 5th Circuit in immigration case

AUSTIN — The deadlocked U.S. Supreme Court on June 23 in effect affirmed a judgment that the Obama administration's use of deferred action in implementing immigration policy violates the United States Constitution.

The U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals earlier ruled it was a presidential overreach to implement an immigration policy not approved by Congress. The Supreme Court's 4-4 tie vote leaves that ruling in effect.

Gov. Greg Abbott welcomed the outcome. "The action taken by the president was an unauthorized abuse of presidential power that trampled the Constitution and the Supreme Court rightly denied the president the ability to grant amnesty contrary to immigration laws," Abbott said.

In his remarks to the press following the court's action, President Obama said, "I have pushed to the limits of my executive authority. We now have to have Congress act. And hopefully, we're going to have a vigorous debate during this election. This is how democracy is supposed to work and there will be a determination as to which direction we go in."

The main question before the court since January was whether the discretionary power exercised by Department of Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson violates the "take care clause" of the Constitution. The clause requires the president to take care that the laws of the nation be faithfully executed.

A "guidance" memorandum issued by Johnson on Nov. 20, 2014, lays out a process called "deferred action" by which he exercises discretion over whom to deport and whom not to deport. The process was to be used when considering undocumented residents who have lived in the United States for five years and either came here as children or already have children who are U.S. citizens

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling



or permanent residents. Other questions in the case included:

1. Whether a state that voluntarily provides a subsidy to all undocumented individuals with deferred action has constitutional standing and a court-worthy cause of action to challenge the guidance because it would lead to more undocumented individuals having deferred action;
2. Whether the guidance is arbitrary and capricious or otherwise not in accordance with the law; and
3. Whether the guidance was subject to the federal Administrative Procedure Act's notice-and-comment requirement.

Meanwhile, unless Congress takes action, the fate of millions of undocumented residents remains in question. Congress is on summer break until late July.

Court decides Fisher case

The U.S. Supreme Court has upheld the University of Texas' use of race as a factor in student admissions.

The high court voted 4-3 to affirm the judgment of the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in Fisher v. University of Texas at Austin. Petitioner Abigail Fisher filed suit after being denied admission to UT in 2008. Fisher alleged the university's consideration of race as part of its hollis-

tic-review process placed her and other Caucasian applicants at a disadvantage. She maintained that the policy amounted to a violation of the U.S. Constitution's equal protection clause.

An Austin federal district court ruled the university's admissions policy was in violation of the clause, but on appeal, the Fifth Circuit ruled the policy was legal.

According to Justice Anthony Kennedy's majority opinion, the component of UT's admissions policy that had the largest impact on Fisher's chances of admission was not the school's consideration of race but rather the Top Ten Percent Plan. That plan guarantees acceptance for students who graduate in the top 10 percent of their high school class.

"Because petitioner did not graduate in the top 10 percent of her high school class," wrote Kennedy, "she was categorically ineligible for more than three-fourths of the slots in the incoming freshman class."

Assistance request granted

The Obama administration on June 22 granted Gov. Abbott's federal disaster request for individual assistance for Bastrop, Burleson, Eastland, Lee, Liberty, Stephens and Tyler counties, amending the June 11 disaster declaration that was issued to address recent severe flooding.

Individual assistance, which must be applied for, may include help with temporary housing, lodging expenses, repairs to a primary residence, financial assistance to homeowners to replace their home destroyed in the disaster that is not covered by insurance and permanent or semi-permanent housing construction in FEMA-specified areas or locations.

According to the governor's office, more counties may be added to the list.

DPS: Don't leave kids in car

The Texas Department of Public Safety on June 22 posted a warning that warmer weather places children at greater risk of injury or death if left unattended in a vehicle.

Every year children die from heatstroke after being left in a vehicle or entering a vehicle unattended. DPS Director Steven McCraw said, "Members of the public can also do their part to keep kids safe by notifying emergency personnel if they witness a child alone or in distress inside a vehicle — regardless of the weather."

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LIFESTYLE

Manage Mosquitoes while enjoying the great outdoors

By Melinda Myers

Don't let disease-carrying mosquitoes keep you indoors this summer. Instead, employ these eight tips to protect yourself and manage these pests in your yard.

Do a bit of yard and garden clean up. Remove weeds, manage neglected gardens and keep the lawn properly mowed to reduce resting spaces for adult mosquitoes.

Eliminate standing water where mosquitoes breed. Drain water that collects in buckets, kids toys, tarps, pool covers, clogged gutters and downspouts. Clear the gutters and downspouts so water can drain freely. Store items that tend to collect water in a shed or garage.

Evaluate drainage patterns in your landscape. Improve drainage by amending the soil with organic matter. Install French drains, drain tiles and other drainage systems if needed. Or turn it into a water feature. Consult your municipality first for any

relevant guidelines and restrictions.

Manage water in birdbaths, fountains, ponds and rain barrels. Change water weekly in birdbaths and



Photo credit: courtesy of James Gathany CDC.

Eliminating standing water, improving drainage in the landscape, weeding and proper mowing are just a few of the ways to help manage the mosquito population.

wading pools. Add a pump to keep water moving and prevent breeding. Or use an organic mosquito control like Mosquito Dunks and Bits (SummitResponsibleSolutions.com) in rain barrels and water features. The Mosquito Bits quickly knock down the mosquito larval population, while the Mosquito Dunks provide 30 days of control. They are both safe for pets, fish, wildlife and children.

Add a fan to your outdoor décor. The gentle breeze keeps these weak flying insects away. Consider taking one to the

garden when weeding.

Provide short-term relief when entertaining outdoors with the help of citronella oil or scented candles. Scatter lots of these throughout the area and within a few feet of your guests.

Cover as much of your skin as possible with loose fitting, light colored clothing. Mosquitoes are less attracted to the lighter colors and can't readily reach your skin through loose clothing.

Further protect yourself from disease-carrying mosquitoes by using a personal repellent. For those looking to avoid DEET, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention has also approved products with the active ingredient picaridin, IR3535, and the synthetic oil of lemon and eucalyptus. Avoid products that contain both sunscreen and insect repellents as you need to apply the sunscreen more often than the repellent.

Implement some of these strategies and then get ready to enjoy the outdoors mosquito-free all season long.

DPS increases traffic enforcement for Fourth of July

Tips highlight importance of fire, driving safety

AUSTIN – The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is encouraging Texans to make safe driving practices a priority during the July Fourth holiday weekend. From July 1–July 4, DPS Troopers will join law enforcement from across the state in looking for drunk drivers, and speeding, seat belt and other traffic violators.

"DPS is calling on Texans to help keep our roadways and communities safe by celebrating responsibly and using extra caution during Independence Day festivities," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "During the holiday weekend, Troopers will be on the lookout for impaired and dangerous drivers; and anyone who plans to drink alcohol should also plan to take alternate transportation or designate a sober driver."

During the 2015 Fourth of July enforcement period, DPS Troopers made 496 DWI arrests, and issued 7,211 speeding citations,

1,156 seat belt/child safety seat citations and 1,007 no insurance citations. In addition, Troopers made 268 fugitive arrests and 187 felony arrests.

According to the Texas Department of Transportation, in 2015, 960 people were killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes where a driver was under the influence of alcohol, accounting for 27 percent of the total number of last year's traffic fatalities.

DPS offers the following tips for a safe July Fourth holiday:

- Do not drink and drive.
- Slow down – especially in bad weather, construction areas, traffic and unfamiliar areas.
- Monitor weather conditions. In the event of inclement weather, avoid high water and use extra caution on roadways.
- Eliminate distractions while driving, including the use of mobile devices.
- Buckle up everyone in the vehicle – it's the law ... "Click It or Ticket."

- Be careful when driving off road since hot catalytic converters can ignite dry vegetation.

- Do not use personal fireworks – attend sanctioned, professional displays instead.

- Never toss a cigarette out of a car window, and don't put cigarettes out on the ground.

- Keep a fire extinguisher and water handy if cooking outdoors or during a campfire.

- Slow down or move over for tow trucks and police, fire, EMS and Texas Department of Transportation vehicles stopped on the side of the road with emergency lights activated – it's the law.

- Also, move over a lane or slow down if you see a fellow motorist on the side of the road.

For more information on how to protect against wildfires, visit Texas A&M Forest Service at <http://texasforestservice.tamu.edu/default.aspx>.

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OBITUARY

Verna Mae Wolf

Verna Mae Wolf, 90, of Houston, TX, went to be with Our Lord on June 20, 2016. She is survived by Gordon Wolf and Pamela Hay. The service will be held on June 25, 2016 at St. Philip of Apostle Catholic Church in Huffman, TX at 11:00AM with visitation prior to service. Interment at the San Jacinto Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made to Space City Charities in Verna's honor.

BIBLE TRIVIA
by Wilson Casey

1. Is the Book of Colossians in the Old or New Testament or neither?
 2. Whose first chapter begins, "Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month? Ezra, Ezekiel, Micah, Malachi"
 3. In Exodus 10, what was blown out of Egypt by a strong west wind? Rivers, Locusts, Sinners, Nightness
 4. From 1 Chronicles, who killed a seven-and-a-half foot tall Egyptian giant? Beniah, Gideon, James, Baruch
 5. In Genesis 28, what city was the site of Jacob's famous dream? Lachish, Perga, Haran, Bethel
 6. From Colossians 4, what city was home to Philemon? Berea, Shechem, Beersheba, Colossae
- ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Ezekiel; 3) Locusts; 4) Beniah; 5) Bethel; 6) Colossae

LITTLE BIDDY BITS
By Danny Biddy

1st Place

I was visiting with a friend named Woodie. He was sharing with me how he wanted to be used by the Lord and he made a comment I will long remember.

He said, "Pastor, I don't have to have top-billing. In other words, I don't have to be first, but I do want to place for Him."

If you want to "place" for the Lord, remember that Jesus taught that the "last shall be first." Put others ahead of yourself and leave the ratings to God. You will not be disappointed.

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

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Be alert. Continue strong in the faith. Have courage and be strong.
1 Corinthians 16:13

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

BUSINESS

Be Aware of Challenges to Managing Retirement Income

When you retire, will your cost of living decline? Some of your expenses may indeed drop, but others won't. Plus, you may have some new ones to consider. So, all in all, it's a good idea to think about ways to boost your retirement savings now, before you're retired. And once you do retire, you'll need to be adept at managing your income. But whether saving today or planning for tomorrow, you should familiarize yourself with the key financial challenges you will face during your retirement years.

Specifically, consider these areas:

- **Longevity** – Obviously, the longer your retirement lasts, the more money you'll need. And you could be retired for quite some time. A 65-year-old man, on average, is expected to live another 17.9 years, while a 65-year-old woman can anticipate another 20.5 years, according to the National Center for Health Statistics. With this type of potential longevity in mind, you'll want to contribute as much as you can afford to your retirement plans, such as your IRA and 401(k), while you're working. Then, when you are retired and start tapping into your investment portfolio, you will need to create a sustainable withdrawal rate – one that doesn't push you into the "danger zone" of possibly outliving your resources.

- **Health care** – Once

ASK THE EXPERT By Edward Jones

you enter your retirement years, your health care costs are all but certain to rise, even with Medicare. In fact, the average annual out-of-pocket health care cost for a household between 65 and 74 years old is \$4,383 – about 11% of total household spending, according to the Employee Benefit Research Institute. And these costs rise substantially for those over 74. To help cope with these costs, you'll need a reasonable amount of liquidity in your portfolio.

- **Long-term care** – You may never need to stay in a nursing home

or receive services from a home health care worker. But you are taking somewhat of a gamble if you don't prepare for these long-term care costs – because they are high. In fact, the annual average cost for a private room in a nursing home is more than \$92,000, according to the 2016 Cost of Care Survey produced by Genworth, a financial services company. Medicare typically pays very little of these expenses, but a financial professional can help you find an appropriate way of coping with these types of costs.

- **Inflation** – We've had low inflation the past several years, but it hasn't gone away entirely, and it won't disappear when you're retired, either. Even a mild rate of inflation can, over time, seriously erode your purchasing power. To combat the effects of inflation, you'll need to own at least some growth-oriented investments.

- **Market volatility** – The financial markets will bounce up and down during your retirement years, just as they did when you were working. The big difference? You have less time to recover – and you don't want to withdraw from your investments when their price is down. However, you can help avoid this necessity by maintaining enough income-producing vehicles in your portfolio; these types of investments usually fluctuate much less in value than stocks and stock-based vehicles.

- **By being aware of these issues, both before and during your retirement, you can prepare for them – and preparation is key to managing your income, as it is in all walks of life.**

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

Edward Jones
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Houston, TX 77049
281-436-0396

HEART SCREENING,

Continued from page 1

normal. This year they found 9 students whose ECG was classified as high risk of possible Sudden Cardiac Arrest and required some sort of medical intervention. A total of 198 students of the 7,407 were flagged for a followup. These were typically found to have issues they would want to be aware of in their future and possible monitor as they grow older.

A cardiologist going to do mission work in Haiti with his son, discovered while checking the functionality of an old ECG machine that his 16 year old, athletic, basketball star son had the heart issues never detected before. Jack Cadigan Jr. was treated with open heart surgery and later returned to basketball.

The young Cadigan then hears of a young Haitian that had the same condition and he entreated the same surgeon to perform her surgery. Jack Cadigan Jr. is now a pre-med student at Boston College hoping to be a cardiologist, and will be the third generation in his family, following his dad and granddad. Stephens nominated him for the youth survivor advocacy award for Parent Heart Watch, which Jack won in January. "Jack is an amazing young man who will go on to save many lives in his lifetime. We hope he will be able to attend the fundraiser in August" Stephens said.

The UIL rejected the request to upgrade the sports physicals to include an ECG on numerous occasions by Stephens and others. This

year a request was made to the UIL that when finding that a student had answered "yes" (a positive) on the questionnaire used now to screen for medical problems to then send that student for an ECG screening before clearing the student, the UIL declined. Currently screening is done with a history and physical but when a group of cardiologists were asked at a medical seminar, on June 17-18, 2016 at the Westin Houston in Memorial City, Houston, Texas, "What is the best way to screen student athletes?" Only 18% of the cardiologists indicated a history and physical was good enough. Yet the American College of Cardiology leadership still indicates a history and physical is enough.

Saturday, August 27, 7:00 p.m. at the David H. McNerney American Legion Hall Post 658 the 4th annual benefit for the Cody Stephens Memorial Go Big Or Go Home Foundation will again be the valued social event of the area attracting people from throughout the country and local leaders to participate in an effort to save young lives. This year as before there will be music, food, victory stories, information and auctions. Seating tends to sell out early but tickets are still \$50 per person or \$400 for a table of 8. Bill Busby will be auctioneer again this year after a trail of successes in fundraising putting the fun back in buying. Those wishing a ticket should visit the www.codystephensfoundation.org.

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LEGAL NOTICE

Admission to CTE programs is based on student interest and grade level.

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"Proposals will be received by the Galena Park Independent School District for **RFQ 17-003 Architectural and Engineering Services for 2016 Bond Projects**. Proposals will be received at the Galena Park ISD Administration Building located at 14705 Woodforest Blvd., Houston, TX 77015 no later than July 19, 2016, at 10:00 am. Submission guidelines may be obtained at <http://galenaparkisd.com/purchasing-currentbids>. The Galena Park ISD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals."

LEGAL NOTICE

"Proposals will be received by the Galena Park Independent School District for **RFQ 17-004 Program and/or Project Management Services for 2016 Bond Projects**. Proposals will be received at the Galena Park ISD Administration Building located at 14705 Woodforest Blvd., Houston, TX 77015 no later than July 19, 2016, at 10:00 am. Submission guidelines may be obtained at <http://galenaparkisd.com/purchasing-currentbids>. The Galena Park ISD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals."

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS - SALE OF SURPLUS TRACTOR
Sealed bids for the purchase of a surplus John Deere tractor will be received by Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80. All bids shall be submitted in sealed envelopes. The envelopes shall be labeled on the outside as follows: **Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80, RE: Surplus tractor**. Bids will be received and accepted until 2:00 PM on Thursday, July 21, 2016. Bids received after this time will not be considered. The bids will be publicly opened at the District meeting to occur on July 25, 2016, at 6:30 PM. The District will take action on the bids at that time.

LEGAL NOTICE

The surplus tractor up for sale is a John Deere tractor Model 790 with two attachments: one (1) Mohawk Brave S mower and one (1) Frontier GM 1060R mower. The tractor and the mowing attachments will be sold as a single package. No trailer is included with the sale. The tractor has approximately 314 hours on the engine. Please be aware that the vehicle is offered for sale AS IS with **NO WARRANTIES** by the District.

LEGAL NOTICE

The bids may be mailed or delivered to the offices of Coveler & Katz, P.C., located at 820 Gessner, Suite 1710, Houston, Texas 77024. Harris County ESD No. 80 reserves the right to reject any and all offers to purchase surplus or salvage property if the Board determines the rejection to be in the best interests of the District.

LEGAL NOTICE

The tractor is located at Crosby Fire Station No. 4, 18524 Crosby East Gate Road, Crosby, Texas 77532. To make an appointment to inspect the tractor or to receive more information, contact District Counsel John Peeler or Adam Tabak at (713) 984-8222.

LEGAL NOTICE

"Proposals will be received by the Galena Park Independent School District for **RFQ 17-004 Program and/or Project Management Services for 2016 Bond Projects**. Proposals will be received at the Galena Park ISD Administration Building located at 14705 Woodforest Blvd., Houston, TX 77015 no later than July 19, 2016, at 10:00 am. Submission guidelines may be obtained at <http://galenaparkisd.com/purchasing-currentbids>. The Galena Park ISD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals."

LEGAL NOTICE

"Proposals will be received by the Galena Park Independent School District for **RFQ 17-004 Program and/or Project Management Services for 2016 Bond Projects**. Proposals will be received at the Galena Park ISD Administration Building located at 14705 Woodforest Blvd., Houston, TX 77015 no later than July 19, 2016, at 10:00 am. Submission guidelines may be obtained at <http://galenaparkisd.com/purchasing-currentbids>. The Galena Park ISD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals."

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