

NORTH CHANNEL STAR

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

CHAMBER LUNCHEON

Friday- June 5, 2015 at 11:30 a.m. San Jacinto College N. - 5800 Uvalde R (inside the Monument Room. COST: \$20 - RSVP by June 3rd. \$25 - NO RSVP/LATE RSVP. SPEAKER: Dr. Luis Camacho, Oncologist/Hematologist

Channelview HS graduation set for June 7

Graduation ceremonies for Channelview High School will be held at 1 p.m., Sunday, June 7 at the M.O. Campbell Center, 1865 Aldine Bender Road in Houston. The graduation will be video streamed live on the Web by Aldine ISD. For those who would like to view the video of this year's graduation, log on to <http://www.aldine.k12.tx.us/graduation/index.cfm>.

For more information, contact the high school at 281-452-1450.

Neighborhood Safety Meeting

The upcoming Neighborhood Safety Meeting is scheduled on Monday, June 8, 2015 at 8:30am at the HPD East Freeway Storefront, 12001-A East Freeway, Houston, Texas. Officers will be available to provide updates from HPD Northeast Division. Other discussion topics include the next Community Clean-up/Keep Houston Beautiful Project, TXDOT FM 526 Share Use Path Plan, Herman Brown Adopt-A-Park (North Shore Nature Walk on Maxey Rd) and Fall Job Fair.

GP/JC Rotary hosts Scholarship Award Ceremony

By Dr. Eileen Brightwell

The Galena Park/Jacinto City Rotary Club celebrated 28 Galena Park High School graduating seniors by presenting them with college scholarships ranging from \$500.00 to \$1,500.00.

Small Club President of the Year for Rotary District 5890, Maria D. Rodriguez, and Club Secretary Ibrahim Abou-Awdi were joined by District Governor Lisa Faith Massey, GPHS Principal Tony Gardea, and GPISD Superintendent Dr. Angie Williams in presenting each student with monetary recognition of their determination and hard work.

The Galena Park/Jacinto City Rotary Club is open to



Galena Park High School scholarship winners with school principal Tony Gardea, Superintendent Dr. Angie Williams, Assistant Director for Maintenance I.A. "Abby" Abou-Awdi, and Rotary President Maria Rodriguez.

See AWARDS, page 6

Controversial Galena Park contracts tabled without action by Council

GALENA PARK – A special Executive Session of the City Commission was called for Friday, May 29 at 3:00 p.m. for the purpose of "discussing personnel matters regarding an employment contract for the City Administrator and the Chief of Police."

The impetus for the employment contracts had been the result of a negative vote in May on these two provisions in the City Charter Amendment election.

City Administrator Robert Pruett, and Chief of Police Jonathan Rader, believed that they should have an employment contract with the city that detailed their duties and authorities, their pay scale, and other employment terms such as vacation, personal time off, and termination. To date, their employment had been only at the resolution



GALENA PARK COUNCIL MEMBERS decided to table the two contracts that were on the Agenda of the Special Meeting called for Friday, May 29 at 3 p.m.

of the City Commission, as acted on at previous meetings.

It was felt by the two men that in lieu of a Charter Amendment calling for codification of their positions, that a formal contract would be advisable.

However, this action was not without controversy. Mayor Moya immediately said that the parties involved did not

understand that the Charter election was a vote against their office holding, especially the articles referring to their positions. She noted that the public vote was 2 to 1 against establishing these positions in the City Charter. As she had said since her election last May, the

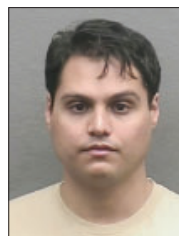
See **CONTRACTS TABLED**, Page 8

MAYOR'S SON ARRESTED FOR CHILD PORN

GALENA PARK – Early on the morning of Friday, May 29 a police task force from the Houston Police Department raided a house on 9th Street. They arrested the occupant, Sergio J. Moya, and confiscated several computers, according to authorities.

The Galena Park Mayor's son, Sergio J. Moya, age 26, was charged with three counts of possession of child pornography, and housed in the Harris County jail. His bail was set at \$70,000 for the three counts, and on Monday morning he had a hearing before Judge Brock Thomas in Criminal Court No. 338. At that time, represented by attorney Chip Lewis, he was released on bond and ordered to appear at the next hearing on Friday, July 17th.

Moya had been employed for about a month, as a dispatcher for the Precinct 2 Constable's office, and as an unpaid Reserve



SERGIO JESUS MOYA

Deputy Constable, but after the arrest he was fired by Pct. 2 Constable Chris Diaz. Ironically, Moya had completed police training at the Academy, where Diaz had presented him his certification.

No details of the charges have been made public at this time.

In an interview with the media on Friday, May 29, Mayor Esmeralda Moya

See **ARREST**, page 8

COMMUNITY PROFILE

K-9 patrol dog will honor memory of fallen deputy "Trey" Valdez III



Deputy Jesse "Trey" Valdez III was killed in a head-on crash in Highlands on Oct. 29, 2014.

Board members and the public viewed the new K-9 member of the Sheriff's patrol unit, a dog that was purchased by the East Aldine District for use by a sheriff's unit that at one time included fallen deputy Jesse "Trey" Valdez III.

Valdez worked with the East Aldine deputies at the storefront unit, and then was assigned to District 3 units working in East Harris County and the North Shore areas.

On the early morning hours of Oct. 29, 2014, Valdez patrol



EAST ALDINE BOARD MEMBERS pose with the K-9 that was purchased to honor the memory of fallen Deputy Jesse "Trey" Valdez III. Pictured in front are Valdez's mother, and HCSO Sgt. Chris Adolph with the dog Trey and Valdez's son, also Trey Valdez.

car was struck head-on by a car that allegedly crossed the centerline on westbound Wallisville Road, near Highlands. Valdez died in the accident, and the driver of the other car, Kelly Jo Ivey, has been charged with manslaughter and remains in jail.

Many benefits have been held since then for the family, including his son Trey. East Aldine paid \$10,000 for the dog and its training.

Deputies who worked with or knew Valdez want to keep his memory alive with the patrol work that the dog, named "Trey" will undertake.

GP/JC ROTARY CLUB

Maria Rodriguez awarded District 5890 "President of the Year"

At the Rotary District 5890 Convention, held in May in New Orleans, the district awarded Maria Rodriguez, president of the Galena Park/Jacinto City Rotary Club with the award for president of the "Small Club of the Year." She was nominated for the honor by Assistant District Governor Bill Parlo of the North Shore Rotary Club, who has worked with her on a number of community and Rotary projects. There are over 60 clubs in the district, so the competition was intense. Maria is seen here with the sculptural award, signifying the International Theme for the Year, "Light Up Rotary." Maria has been president for the 2014-2015 year, during which the club increased its membership, held community food fairs and health fairs, the annual Million Dollar Meal, a Gold Tournament, a Cake Auction, and a popular Country Fair, and awarded scholarships to 28 students. The Galena Park/Jacinto City Rotary Club



MARIA RODRIGUEZ WITH ROTARY PRESIDENT'S AWARD.

celebrated with the 28 Galena Park High School graduating seniors by presenting them with college scholarships ranging from \$500.00 to \$1,500.00 at the club luncheon on May 26 at Baggett Center. The club also

sponsors an Interact club for students at Galena Park High School. Maria is employed by the Galena Park ISD and works at Galena Park High School. Congratulations to her, and the club.

COMMUNITY NEWS

★

COMMUNITY
CALENDAR

May Community Center's Ongoing May Calendar

Cen-ters2Gether Special Event: Join us for a free fun-filled day of games and fellowship on Friday, June 5 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hot dogs with all the trimmings, chips, tea, coffee, brownies and ice cream will be served. Event will be held at Crosby Community Center, 409 Hare Road, Crosby. Please register at May Community Center by calling (713) 274-2434 or Crosby Community Center by calling (281) 462-0543.

Splash Day: Tuesday, June 9 at 10 a.m. -The Huffman Volunteer Fire Department helps kick off the Kids2Gether program with a firehose spray! Complete a craft and enjoy cool refreshments. Bring a towel and a camera to capture the memories.

Houston Museum of Natural Science Presents "Earths Wild Ride": Tuesday, June 16 at 10 a.m. Take an exciting journey exploring the wonders of earth inside the Houston Museum of Natural Science discovery dome! Soar over the lava flow of an erupting volcano, ride a river through a canyon, and visit the dinosaurs as an asteroid hits!

Houston Zoomobile: Tuesday, June 23 at 10 a.m. Spend a "zoo"pendous day at May Center when zoo animals and artifacts come to town! Visit with zoo animal handlers and discover what zoo life is all about.

Crocodile Encounters: Tuesday, July 7 at 10 a.m. Get up close and personal with crocs, lizards, and snakes! Bring your courage and your camera for a fun-filled show.

Mad Science presents "Spin, Pop, Boom!": Tuesday, July 14 at 10 a.m. Foaming cups and steaming chemical reactions introduce children to a world of exciting chemistry.

Trips:
Trip sign-up is on a first-come, first-served basis and must be paid for in advance. Contact information below:
•Hope Village, Friendswood. Tuesday, June 23 at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$3; Lunch is on your own at Village Café. Departing Crosby Center in Crosby; Contact center staff at 281-462-0543

•Sam Houston Boat Tour, Houston. Wednesday, July 22 at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$3; Lunch is on your own at Luby's Cafeteria. Departing Crosby Center in Crosby; Contact center staff at 281-462-0543.

May Community Center is located at 2100 Wolf Road, Huffman 77336. For more information regarding classes or other Center programs please call (713) 274-2434.

Quilt Guild meeting

The Crosby Quilt Guild meets the Second Monday of every month. Location is 5202 1st street behind the Brethren Church in Crosby in the gym. Social time is at 6:30PM and the meeting starts at 7:00PM. Everyone is welcome to visit us and enjoy our speaker and show and tell. For information call/text Mary Jo Terrell at 832-259-3410.

CROSBY Youth graduates from law school



Williams Lucas attended Atlanta and Linden schools until the 5th grade. He was baptized in New Colony Baptist Church in July, 2006. He is the son of Christina Palmer of Canyon, TX and Darren Williams, of Linden, TX. Grandson of Martha Williams of Linden, TX.

Lucas graduated from Crosby High School in 2010 and from Texas A&M University in 2012 at the age of 19.

Recently, Lucas graduated from Southern Methodist University School of Law, and was the youngest graduate in his class at the age of 22. He is currently working part-time for Texas Lawyers for Children while studying for the bar exam in July. Congratulations Williams Lucas!

Highlands and Crosby kids receive free prevent tooth decay kits

Highlands, TX—All first graders at Bonnie P. Hopper Primary School in Highlands and Crosby Elementary School were recently given free prevent tooth decay kits through the Fantastic Teeth Fan Club. Members of Sampson Masonic Lodge, led by Craig Sorrels, assembled and delivered kits to the schools.

The Fantastic Teeth Fan Club, sponsored by Masonic Home and School of Texas, strives to prevent suffering from toothaches, reduce missed school days due to dental problems, and cut costs for dental treatment.

Prevent tooth decay kits contain: a toothbrush,

toothpaste, dental floss, healthy teeth sticker, two-minute timer (optimal brushing time), Tips for Healthy Teeth educational info for parents in both Spanish and English, and a summary of MHS services.

According to Oral Health In America: A Report of the Surgeon General, tooth decay is the single most common chronic childhood disease—five times more common than asthma and seven times more common than hay fever. Poor children are affected by this epidemic more frequently than other children, with nearly 12 times more restricted-ac-

tivity days due to dental issues than children from higher-income families. With more than 1.5 million Texas children living in poverty, there is a great need for preventive dental care.

Dental problems also directly affect success for children, with more than 51 million school hours lost each year to dental-related illness. Teachers have judged both classroom performance and classroom behavior to be significantly poorer among children in need of dental care. Pain and suffering due to untreated dental disease can also lead to problems in eating and speaking.

DPS Urges Texans to prepare as hurricane season begins

AUSTIN, June 1, 2015 - The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is reminding residents that the hurricane season begins today and continues through Nov. 30. Texans should begin developing their emergency plans in advance of possible hurricanes or tropical storms.

"The recent severe weather and flooding across portions of Texas are important reminders that natural disasters can strike quickly and can have devastating impacts," said Texas Governor Greg Abbott. "I implore all Texans to stay informed about current threats and heed warnings, information and instructions provided by local officials and emergency management personnel as we enter the 2015 hurricane season."

"As Texas enters the 2015 hurricane season, DPS is reminding residents that adequate and advance preparation can mean the

difference between life and death," said DPS Director Steven McCraw. "Not only can hurricanes and tropical storms endanger Texans who live along the Gulf Coast, but powerful storms can also affect communities further inland. We urge Texans to take precautions now for possible storms and to always stay informed about weather condition in their area."

All Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico coastal areas are subject to hurricanes or tropical storms. Because the strongest winds in a hurricane are not located precisely at the center, it is possible for a storm to affect conditions over land even if landfall does not occur.

Hurricanes can cause catastrophic damage to coastlines and areas several hundred miles inland, and winds can exceed 155 miles per hour. Hurricanes and tropical storms can also

spawn tornadoes, create storm surges along the coast, cause extensive damage from flooding and create dangerous rip currents.

Here are several measures residents can take now to prepare for potential storms:

Assemble an emergency kit that includes essential documents, supplies and provisions.

Review hurricane evacuation maps, and select a route for you and your family.

Plan how all family members and pets will evacuate safely.

Consider any special needs for individuals with disabilities or the elderly.

Stay informed about changing weather conditions in and around your area.

For more information on these tips and other ways to prepare for the 2015 hurricane season, please visit: www.texasprepares.org.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Goose Creek CISD will hold a public meeting at 6:30 pm, June 15, 2015 in 4544 I-10 East Freeway, GCCISD Administration Building Board Room, Baytown, Texas 77521. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$1.04000/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	\$0.39189/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)
Approved by Local Voters	

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories.

Maintenance and operations	4.95 % increase
Debt Service	6.92 % increase
Total expenditures	5.26 % increase

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value

(as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$12,069,270,403	\$12,465,196,094
Total appraised value** of new property**	\$106,095,740	\$390,088,739
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$9,823,288,987	\$9,881,257,226
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$86,250,897	\$324,269,003

*Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(3), Tax Code.

** "New property" is defined by Section 26.01(2)(17), Tax Code.

*** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$502,049,536

*Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$1.04000	\$0.39189*	\$1.43189	\$6,322	\$3,126
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$1.08012	\$0.40422*	\$1.48434	\$6,515	\$3,480
Proposed Rate	\$1.04000	\$0.39189*	\$1.43189	\$6,311	\$3,364

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.

The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$105,790	\$111,424
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$80,556	\$84,725
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$1.43189	\$1.43189
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$1,153.47	\$1,213.17
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$59.70

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.44475. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of \$1.44475.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment.

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$68,263,582
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$22,914,238

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FRIDAY JUNE 12TH STONEY LARUE

SATURDAY JUNE 13TH KATHY FOWLER • GAIL COUNTRY JANE

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SCHOOL, COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY
EVENTS

2nd & 4th THURSDAY
San Jacinto Pilot Club meeting
San Jacinto Pilot Club meets 2nd and 4th Thursdays at noon at the Galena Park ISD Administration Building.

2nd THURSDAY
North Shore Senior Dance
North Shore Senior Citizens hold a monthly dance the second Thursday of every month 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.

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

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

JUNE
North Channel Library events
-Friday-Saturday, June 5 & 6, Library book sale.
-Monday, June 8, 2 pm, Summer Reading Kickoff; 2:30 pm, Monday Movie-Madness-Tickets required.
-Tuesday, June 9, 10:30 am, Toodler Time, 1:30 pm, Preschool Story; 4:30 pm, Teens-My Secret Identity.
-Wednesday, June 10, 2:30 pm, Marionette Playhouse.
-Thur., June 11, 10:30 a.m. Baby Time; 4:30 pm, Teens-Oh, My Archemery.
COMPUTER CLASSES:
-Basic Internet, Lecture, June 9, 10 am - 12 pm.
-Basic Internet, Practice, June 11, 10 am - 12 pm.
•Registration required.
CLASES DE COMPUTACION
-Lo Básico del Internet, Lectura, June 8, 1-3 pm.
-Lo Básico del Internet, Práctica, June 10, 1-3 pm.
-Introducción a Windows, Parte 2, June 10, 6-7:45 pm.
•Se requiere registraci3n.
Library is located at 15741 Wallisville Rd., Houston, TX. 77049. Call 281-457-1631 for more information.

JUNE
Galena Park Library events
-Friday, June 5, 3:00 p.m. Movie.
-Monday, June 8, 3 pm, Teen Time Comic Book Jewelry.
-Wednesday, June 10, 10:15 am, Rat3n y Teclado; 11 am, Childrens' Story Time; 1:30 pm, Mouse and Keyboard.
-Thursday, June 11, 11 am, Baby Time; 3 pm, Superhero Boot Camp.
-Friday, June 12, 3 pm, Movie Time.
-Monday, June 15, 3 pm, Teen Time Ninjas in Training.
-Wednesday, June 17, 10:15 am, Mecanograf3a; 11 am, Childrens' Story Time-Storybook Opera; 1:30 pm, Typing Basics.
-Thursday, June 18, 11 am, Baby Time; 3 pm, Happy the Clown.
-Friday, June 19, 3 pm, Movie Time.
Please call the library at 713-450-0982 for more details.
The library is located at 1500 Keene St. Galena Park, TX. 77547.

GALENA PARK ISD:
Teachers of the Year



Galena Park ISD Secondary and Elementary Teachers of the Year: Ra'Nesha Graham from Cunningham Middle School (left) and Diana Townner from Purple Sage Elementary (right).



Galena Park ISD Secondary and Elementary Rookie Teachers of the Year: Cynthia Alejandre from North Shore Senior High (left) and Bianca Arizpe from MacArthur Elementary.

CHANNELVIEW ISD:
Elementary and Secondary Teachers of the Year



Channelview ISD Teachers of the Year, pictured from left, are Katrina Terrell (Brown Elementary), Erin Bowman (Channelview High School), Fernando Venegas (Campbell Learning Center), Derrick Burton (Schochler Elementary), Amanda Kennington (Cobb Elementary), Erin Cox (McMullan Elementary), Maria Anaya (Barrett-Lee Early Childhood Center), Sharon Hines (Crenshaw Elementary), Dedrell Hobbs (Alice Johnson Junior High), Yoshoco Lewis (Aguirre Junior High), Amanda Montemayor (De Zavala Elementary), Priscilla Jones (Kolarik Ninth Grade Center) and Theda Aiken (Hamblen Elementary).



Channelview ISD's Rising Stars First Year Teachers of the Year, from left, are Irene Cavazos (Barrett-Lee Early Childhood Center), Maria Castro (Schochler Elementary), Jabari Lockett (Aguirre Junior High), Gladys Segura (Cobb Elementary), Malcolm Lockett (Channelview High School), Brent Adams (Campbell Learning Center), Amy Kennemer (Brown Elementary), Maria Waggoner (Alice Johnson Junior High), Jordan Dillon (De Zavala Elementary), Tyson Smith (Kolarik Ninth Grade Center) and Carolyn Mathis (McMullan Elementary).

Kids Day at HP connects afterschool programs to real-world professions

Nine teams of elementary and middle school students compete using LEGO Mindstorm robots during the Center for Afterschool, Summer and Expanded Learning for Kids, or CASE for Kids "Kids' Day at Hewlett-Packard." Over 100 students from nine Harris County schools used robots prepared in their afterschool programs to demonstrate programming, design and marketing skills. The event is held annually at the HP Houston campus and is made possible through donated equipment and prizes from HP. The company also assists with development of the robotics curriculum administered through CASE for Kids afterschool programs.



Over 100 students in Harris County Department of Education's CASE for Kids afterschool programs test their skills in inventing, programming and marketing with motorized robots at 14th annual Kids' Day at Hewlett-Packard.

Winners of the 2015 competition are:
Overall winners (average of all categories): 1st Place-Kennedy Elementary (Alief ISD); 2nd Place-Raymond Academy (Aldine

ISD); 3rd Place-Roberts Road Elementary (Waller ISD). Robotics winners: 1st place-Kennedy Elementary; 2nd place-Roberts Road Elementary; 3rd place-Stehlik Intermediate (Aldine ISD). Marketing winners: 1st place-Raymond Academy

my; 2nd place-Boone Elementary (Alief ISD); 3rd place-The Rhodes School (charter). Speed Demon winners: 1st place-Boone Elementary; 2nd place-Green Valley Elementary (Galena Park ISD); 3rd place-Kennedy Elementary.

Senator Garcia passes Elections Legislation

AUSTIN - This week, Senator Sylvia Garcia passed two bi-partisan bills to reform election laws in Texas. Senate Bill 142 will allow counties to use state approved training materials for deputy voter registrars that can be accessed online, and House Bill 1026 will allow a county employee to serve as a tabulation supervisor.
"From day one, my legislative priorities have included increasing transparency within, and reforming, Texas' election laws. Senate Bill 142 will modernize volunteer deputy training to allow for on-line training of voter registration laws, and House Bill 1026 will allow counties to cut costs by allowing expert county employees to serve as election tabulation supervisors."

"We need to reduce as many barriers to voting as possible, and I believe these bills take a good step in that direction. We have a long way to go in improving elections in the state, such as allowing for online and Election Day voter registration, but I believe these bills are a signal that Texas will be more proactive and progressive in changing election laws in the future."

Rep. Hernandez passes Bill to provide for the families of fallen Peace Officers

AUSTIN, TX- This week, the Texas Legislature passed House Bill 530, which allows for college scholarships to be awarded to children of fallen peace officers.

"I want to thank my colleagues for working with me to help our law enforcement families when peace officers pay the ultimate price for keeping our communities safe," Hernandez said.

Rep. Hernandez protects victims of Human Trafficking

AUSTIN, TX- June 2, 2015 - The Governor signed House Bill 968, which prevents human traffickers from hiding behind shell corporations.
Currently, victims of trafficking may sue a corporate entity that aided in their enslavement, but not shareholders directly. This can be problematic because traffickers place few, if any,

assets in the corporations that they utilize for the transfer and exploitation of trafficking victims. As a result, shareholders of these corporations face few obstacles from law enforcement.
"Until now, human traffickers could hide behind shell companies and avoid accountability to their victims," Hernandez said. "The signing of this bill

ensures that they can no longer avoid civil responsibility for their crimes through loopholes in state law."
Rep. Ana Hernandez represents District 143 in the Texas House of Representatives and is serving her fifth term. District 143 includes part of Houston, Channelview, Clover Leaf and the cities of Galena Park and Jacinto City.

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OPINION PAGE

CAPITAL UPDATE
By Sen. Brandon Creighton

Texas Legislature passes
Conservative Budget

The Texas Legislature approved a fiscally conservative 2016-17 state budget that provides almost \$4 billion in tax cuts, boosts border security funding, prioritizes education, and infuses \$1.2 billion toward improving roads. The budget passed this session will help meet our state's growing needs, keep our economy strong and is billions under the state spending limit.

The 2016-17 budget includes:

- No spending from the state's Rainy Day Fund
- \$3.8 billion in tax relief, including a 25% Franchise Tax rate reduction and a permanent increase in the homestead exemption to \$25,000 pending voter approval
- \$800 million in increased border security spending
- \$2.4 billion transfer to the State Highway Funding
- \$1.2 billion toward transportation infrastructure, made possible by ending diversions

- Full funding for education, plus \$1.5 billion more than current law requires
- \$40 million for math and reading training for K-3 teachers
- \$118 million for pre-kindergarten grant program
- 3% increase in formula funding for colleges and medical schools

Texas Becomes an
Open Carry State

Friday was a major victory for our 2nd Amendment rights in Texas. Both Republicans and Democrats came together for the landmark passage of HB 910 on open carry. Unfortunately, the amendment I supported that was added on by Senator Huffines to reaffirm the 4th Amendment was stripped off during conference committee negotiations. The passage of open carry overall is a win for gun rights in Texas. The bill is now on its way to Governor Abbott for signature.

Final Budget still
falls short of Funding
State Priorities

AUSTIN - Senator Sylvia Garcia voted against adoption of HB 1, the final state budget proposal. The budget failed to address billions of dollars of identified needs in areas such as education and healthcare, while leaving a significant balance inappropriate.

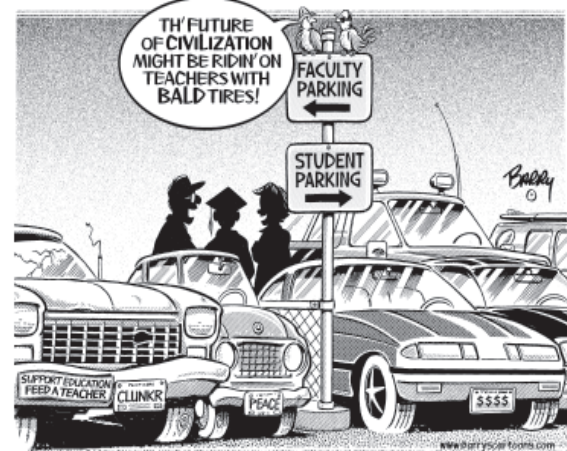
"While I wanted to join my colleagues in voting for this budget, I could not in good conscience support a budget that fails to adequately fund the priorities of working families in Texas while leaving roughly \$18 billion in state coffers. We have many unmet needs that could and should have been addressed in this budget. All Texans would benefit from investments in our infrastructure, our health, and our youth."

"This budget falls woefully short of adequately funding our public education system. Instead of being proactive and providing our schools with the resources they need, we chose to wait for the court to outline the minimum amount of funding that is required.

We should strive to excel in education, not be forced into acting by a judge."

"I am afraid that under this budget too many Texans will not have access to the health care and family planning services that they need. Again, we refused to expand Medicaid despite the overwhelming evidence that it would be a financial win for the state. Meanwhile, other Republican-led states have come to the unavoidable conclusion that having healthy citizens is a boon to their economy."

"Even more concerning is that the budget appropriates almost \$750 million from General Revenue to the Department of Public Safety for border security activities without requiring any specific performance measures be met. I believe this gross overreaction is the result of political posturing and not demonstrated need. South Texas would benefit significantly more from spending this money on schools and clinics than on weapons and planes."



Legislature passes budget
as session wraps up

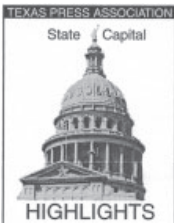
AUSTIN — Four days before the June 1 end of the 84th regular session of the Texas Legislature, both houses finally agreed after months of deliberation on a state budget for fiscal years 2016 and 2017.

A 10-member conference committee worked out differences between the House and Senate versions of the budget. The House vote on final adoption of House Bill 1 was 115 ayes to 33 nays; the Senate vote was 30-1. HB 1 awaits approval by Gov. Greg Abbott.

House Speaker Joe Straus called the \$209.4 billion budget "balanced and disciplined." Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who presides over the Senate, praised the budget and the \$3.8 billion tax cut the conservative budget affords. The two biggest funding areas in the budget are \$78 billion for education and \$77 billion for health and human services. Straus posted comments, paraphrased here, on priorities HB 1 addresses:

1. Education — The budget pays for the addition of roughly 80,000 new students per year in the state's overall public school enrollment. Also provided is an additional \$1.5 billion for public education. More resources will go toward higher education, graduate medical education and TEXAS Grants, the state's signature financial aid program.
2. Transportation — Reversing a decades-old practice, all of the money in the State Highway Fund must be used for transportation. Diversion of some of those dollars for other programs will not be allowed. The transportation budget is augmented by oil-and-gas tax revenues through a constitutional amendment approved by voters in November 2014.
3. Transparency — Taxes and fees must be used only for their intended purpose.
4. Border Security — Some \$840 million of the budget will be used for the implementation of HB 11, the border security bill, and to hire 250 new DPS troopers and allow a 50-hour work week for DPS troopers statewide.
5. Long-Term Obligations — Funding is provided to address a shortfall in retired teachers' health care and to address the solvency of the state employee pension system.
6. Mental Health — Funding for behavioral health and substance abuse services is increased by \$151 million, providing additional re-

STATE CAPITAL
HIGHLIGHTS
By Ed Sterling



sources for both inpatient and outpatient services.

Lawmakers explain
votes

One of 33 House members who voted against HB 1 was Rep. Donna Howard, D-Austin. Rep. Howard said the public school funding portion of the bill leaves 31 percent of school districts with less funding per pupil than was received prior to 2011 budget cuts; pre-K funding at some \$148 million is still below the \$200 million appropriated prior to the 2011 budget cuts; higher education funding is still less than the high-water mark of a decade ago; and TEXAS Grant recipients would receive smaller grants than previously offered.

Sen. Sylvia Garcia, D-Houston, the only senator who voted against final adoption of HB 1, said, "While I wanted to join my colleagues in voting for this budget, I could not in good conscience support a budget that fails to adequately fund the priorities of working families in Texas while leaving roughly \$18 billion in state coffers. We have many unmet needs that could and should have been addressed in this budget. All Texans would benefit from investments in our infrastructure, our health and our youth."

'Campus Carry' bill
passes

SB 11, allowing a concealed handgun license holder to carry a weapon "on or about their person" but not in plain view of another person on the campus of a college or university, was passed on party-line votes in both chambers of the Legislature on May 31.

The legislation, written primarily by Sen. Brian Birdwell, R-Granbury, and cosponsor, Rep. Allen Fletcher, R-Tomball, would take effect Aug. 1, 2016, for four-year institutions and on Aug. 1, 2017, for public junior colleges.

OPINION
By Sen. Sylvia
Garcia

Successes
of the 84th
Regular
Session

AUSTIN - The Texas Legislature completed the 84th Regular Session as both the House of Representatives and Senate adjourned sine die. Senator Sylvia Garcia released the following statement regarding the end of the session:



"My priorities going into the session included education, health care, civic engagement, transportation and LGBTQ rights. I am very pleased to have achieved successes in each of these areas."

"I was able to pass legislation that will help my constituents and a wide variety of Texans. These bills address important issues such as standardized testing, college credits, transportation, voting, human trafficking, internet privacy, and identifying missing loved ones."

"With the help of our allies, we stopped a number of bills that would have had negative consequences for Texans across the state. This included the prevention of several anti-immigrant and anti-gay measures from becoming law, including: sanctuary cities, the DREAM Killer Act, anti-gay marriage recognition, and the interstate border compact."

SENATOR SYLVIA
R. GARCIA

State Senator Sylvia R. Garcia was sworn into office on March 11, 2013. Senator Garcia represents District 6 and previously held office as Houston City Controller from 1998-2002 and County Commissioner from 2002 - 2010.

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LIFESTYLE

Mt. Rose Church holds “Missions Possible” 5K Fun Walk and Run

Mt. Rose Church The City of Refuge is nationally known for its prolific assistance in both home and foreign missionary work. The foreign mission team, City of Refuge Mission (CORM), will be revisiting the country of Malawi East Africa this coming June to continue projects they started in 2013.

In an effort to help raise funds for the trip, Mt. Rose hosted a 5k run on Saturday May 23, 2015. The 3.1 mile course took runners through Crosby Park as they showed their support for the Mt. Rose missionaries.

All proceeds went to the CORM team to help send them on their journey.

The team plans to help the impoverished community by feeding orphaned children, digging wells to give the villagers access to a clean water source, and following up on service projects that were started during the last visit, Dr. Regina L. Sims said, “I’d like those reading to know



Runners prepare for the “Missions Possible” fun race.

that we minister to both the physical and spiritual needs of the people when we travel. We feed the hungry, pray for and tend to the sick, and share the love of Christ and the message of salvation to those who don’t know about Jesus.”

Runners were a mixture of both supporters and

members of the missions’ team. Although everyone who participated won’t travel abroad, encouragers said they felt energized by their involvement in the event.

“I personally benefitted from participating. Knowing that doing something as simple as running could

help the mission’s team do what God wants us to do made me feel good.” - Vanessa Frank, a fun run participant, of Crosby, TX.

For more information on CORM, contact Mt. Rose Church at mtrose@mtrosecogic.org or call 281.328.1314.

★
OBITUARIES

Emogene Wood Manson

Emogene Wood Manson, age 83 went to be with the Lord on Wednesday May 27, 2015 at 4:09 p.m. She was born in Highlands, Texas on November 2, 1931 to Adeline Whitney Wood and James Perry Wood.

She enjoyed crocheting, reading, shopping and spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She could be strong willed and outspoken , but was a very beautiful loving and sincere person who will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her husband, C.E. Manson, four sisters and two brothers. Emogene is survived by her children, Sheila Benton; J.R. Burroughs; Rickey C. Burroughs; Rebecca Mills; James D. Burroughs; Melissa Latham and Marissa Owens.

Also survived by 10 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, other relatives and many friends. A visitation for family and friends will be held at Sterling-White Funeral Home



11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd. Highlands, on Sunday evening May 31, 2015, from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Services will be held in Sterling-White Chapel on Monday morning, June 1, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. Interment will be in Sterling-White Cemetery.

Arrangements entrusted to Sterling-White Funeral Home 11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd. Highlands, Texas 77562. To offer condolences to the family, please visit www.sterlingwhite.com.

BIBLE TRIVIA
by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Esarhaddon in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. In Esther 2, what was Hegai “the keeper of” regarding King Ahasuerus? Holy Grail, Weapons, The women, Grain of the fields

3. What New Testament person was the “voice of one crying in the wilderness”? Judas, Jude, Jehovah, John the Baptist

4. From Proverbs 22, what is bound up in the heart of a child? Foolishness, Mischief, Love, Rebellion

5. In biblical times, what were small copper coins called? Pennies, Shekels, Mites, Paschals

6. From Judges 10, who had 30 sons who rode 30 donkeys? Elijah, Jair, Ezekiel, Job

ANSWERS

1) Neither; 2) The women; 3) John the Baptist; 4) Foolishness; 5) Mites; 6) Jair

★
LITTLE BIDDY BITS
By Danny Biddy

Lending to the Lord

Something happened at our home when I was growing up, that will forever be in my mind and helped shape my soul. Often some of the poorest people in our small town would show up at our back

door. At times I would see my dad hand them money, or my mother give them food. They never turned people away though we were by no means wealthy people. Mother and Dad both knew what it was like to have very little when they were growing up, and they never forgot that when someone came to their door. We had a great life.

"He who gives to the poor will not lack, but whoever shuts his eyes to them will receive many curses." (Proverbs 28:27)

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come – sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly.

Mark 7:21-22

Detail of Group Portrait, Eden Bar (1923) by Max Beckman

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• 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 Comunitad, 5323 Highway 90, Crosby, 281-421-9810. "Venid y te Haremos Bien"
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• 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
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• 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
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• Crosby Brethren, 5202 1st St., Crosby, 281-328-2442

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• Crosby Church of Christ, 3737 Hwy 90, Crosby, 281-328-3496
• Highlands Church of Christ, 214 Clear Lake Rd., Highlands, 281-426-2742
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• Harvest Time Church of God, 495 S. Diamondhead Blvd., Crosby, 281-462-8080
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• DMt. Rose Church of God in Christ, 13000 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-1314
• Crosby Church, 5725 Hwy 90, Crosby, and 30673 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
UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
• Pentecostals of Crosby502 Pine at Hwy 90 Crosby, TX 077532(281) 328-5054. Sunday 10 AM. Wednesday 7 PM. Pastor Kerry D. Lee

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 16th. 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. 713-674-0062.
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• Dell Dale Avenue Baptist Church, 402 Dell Dale Avenue, Channelview, TX. 281-452-3704.
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• 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.
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• Our Lady of Fatima, 1705 8th St., Galena Park, TX. 713-675-0981.
CHURCH OF CHRIST
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• 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. 713-671-3500.
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.
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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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SPORTS, CLUBS

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Galena Park Swim Lessons

Galena Park will have swim lessons for 2015 for ages 5 and up. Classes are Tuesday through Saturday. Class 1: 9 am - 10 am Class 2: 10 am - 11 am Session 1: June 9 - July 20 Session 2: July 7 - July 18 Session 3: July 21 - Aug. 1 Cost per session: \$30 - child, \$40 - 2 children, \$50 - 3 children, \$60 - 4 children (Children must be siblings to receive discount.) Registration at Alvin Baggett Building, 1302 Keene St. Call 713-674-1741 for more information.

Summer Fun

Kids ages 5-12 are invited to join fun this summer at the Alvin D. Baggett Community Center in Galena Park.

The program consists of: arts/crafts, reading time, swimming, movies. Games and activities both inside and outside. Summer Fun begins June 8, 2015 and ends August 14, 2015. Cost is \$25 per week/per child. Time is Monday - Friday 10 am - 2 pm.

Register at Alvin D. Baggett Community Building, 1302 Keene St. Call 713-674-1741 for more information.

Galena Park Pool Time

Galena Park Swimming Pool opening day is June 9, 2015. \$4 per person. Open to the public 11 am - 9 pm Tuesday to Sunday. Senior Citizens: 8 am - 9 am. Swim Lessons: 9 am - 11 am. Pool will close on August 14 and will only open again for Labor Day Weekend, Sep. 5, 6 & 7.

Summer Meals For Kids

Summer meals for kids will start on June 15 at 12:00 noon at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church located at 13195 Indianapolis St., Houston, TX 77015. Children under the age of 18 and disabled students under the age of 21. The program ends on August 15th.

25 Galena Park ISD students signed letters of intent



Back row (l/r): Joseph Caldwell, Dillard University - Track; Kiera Nevels Washington, Texas Tech - Athletic Trainer; Monica Flores, McMurry - Swimming; Alejandro Diaz, Jr., Jarvis Christian College - Golf; Juliana Vaquez, Texas Southern - Soccer; Deyaris Perez, University of Arkansas Little Rock - Soccer; Narcedalia Yanez, St. Thomas - Soccer; Idalys Rea, Eastern Kentucky - Volleyball; Ashley McNeil, Eastfield College - Volleyball; Miyana Sherman, American International - Soccer; Brianna Esparza-Warren, Austin Peay - Volleyball; Camron Gray, Jarvis Christian College - Golf. Front row (l/r): Kayla Mack, Loyola New Orleans - Basketball; Shea Johnson, Southeastern Illinois - Basketball; Deja Hughes, Arkansas Baptist College - Basketball; Tiffany Arceneaux, Southeastern Christian - Basketball; Jose Gonzales, Labette Jr. College - Baseball; Michael Garcia, St. Gregory's - Baseball; Ivan Melendez, Richmond Jr. College - Baseball; Mark Lopez, University of Victoria. Not pictured: Logan Carger, Austin Peay - Volleyball; Jarrey Foster, Southern Methodist - Basketball; Adriana Jackson, Houston Baptist University - Basketball; Kerwin Roach, University of Texas - Basketball Claudia Santos, Oklahoma State, Cross Country.

San Jacinto Pilot Club awards scholarships



Scholarship winners are from different local high schools: Channelview HS, North Shore Senior HS, C.E. King HS and Crosby HS.

Thursday, May 21, 2015, the San Jacinto Pilot Club was honored to have given \$21,000 in scholarships to 19 graduating seniors and 4 students who were previous scholarship winners and are continuing their college studies. Six winners are graduating from C. E. King

High School, six from North Shore Senior High School, six from Channelview High School and one from Crosby High School.

San Jacinto Pilot Club is part of Pilot International, a service organization dedicated to youth development and leadership, brain safe-

ty and fitness, and caring for families in times of need. We meet once a month on the second Thursday of the month. More information about our club can be found at www.SanJacintoPilot.com or at www.PilotInternational.org.

ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim... What is the birthstone for June?



JUNE BIRTHSTONES

June counts two gems as birthstones: Pearl and Alexandrite.

Historically, pearls have been used as an adornment for centuries. They were one of the favorite gem materials of the Roman Empire; later in Tudor England, the 1500s were known as the pearl age. Pearls are unique as they are the only gems from living sea creatures and require no faceting or polishing to reveal their natural beauty. In the early 1900s, the first successful commercial culturing of round saltwater pearls began. Since the 1920s, cultured pearls have almost completely replaced natural pearls in the market.

A relatively modern gem, Alexandrite, was first discovered in Russia in 1831 during the reign of its namesake, Czar Alexander II, and is an extremely rare chrysoberyl with chameleon-like qualities. Its color is a lovely green in both daylight and fluorescent light; it changes color to a purplish red in incandescent light. Due to its rarity, some jewelers stock synthetic versions of this enchanting gemstone. (Synthetic gemstones are man-made alternatives to the natural material, possessing the same physical, optical, and chemical properties as the natural gemstone.)

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.

AWARDS,

Continued from page 1

membership from business owners and other interested community members. They meet weekly at 12

noon for lunch at the Alvin D. Baggett Community Building, 1302 Keene St., Galena Park TX 77547. Lunch is \$10.00. The fundraising work of the small club of Galena Park/Jacinto City is reflected in the awarding of these 28 scholarships. Congratulations to all involved.



Galena Park High School Rotary Scholarship recipients Astrid Cavazos, School principal Tony Gardea and Fabiola Villareal.



Galena Park High School winners going to Texas Tech University, Alexis McLeod, Jimmy Duenes and Merilyn Duarte.

GALENA PARK FOOD BANK TO BE ESTABLISHED

AARP local chapter 1160 is spearheading a fundraiser to establish a food bank in Galena Park. AARP is running this fundraiser in conjunction with the support of the Galena Park Parks and Recreation Department and the Galena Park and Jacinto City Rotary clubs. The fund raiser will be a garage sale and bazaar.

Tables can be reserved for \$20 each. Vendors and businesses are welcome to participate. Sponsor signs can be purchased for \$25. The fundraiser will take place on June 18, 2015 from 9:00 AM - 3 PM at Keene street Galena Park, TX., 77547. Contact Chuck Lewis to reserve tables and sponsor signs at 713-455-4698.

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Es norma del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Crosby el no discriminar basado en la raza, color, nacionalidad, origen, sexo o incapacidad en estos programas de Carrera y Educación en Tecnología, servicios o actividades como lo establecido por el Título VI del Acta de los Derechos Civiles de 1964, Enmendada; Título IX de la Educación de Enmiendas de 1972; y en la Sección 504 del Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973.

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Contact person: Dr. Robert Tatman
Phone: 281-328-9200
Fax: 281-328-9208
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SOCIAL & SCHOOL NEWS

Galena Park ISD Top Ten High School students

Future Leaders of America

For the past 13 years, students across America have been learning to read, write, problem solve, think and explore. Many of these students have done this in our public school systems. As each student prepares

to graduate, they are ranked in their graduating class according to GPA (grade point average) taken from their four years in high school. This is a highly competitive venture, and the difference between the top students is often hun-

dredths of a percentage point. Regardless of how it measures out, the top students have put in many hours of hard work to achieve such status. Here are the top 10 students from local high schools:



GALENA PARK HIGH SCHOOL
Front row (l/r): Fabiola Villarreal, Arturo Pena, Miguel Mendoza and Delmy Escobar. Back row (l/r): Miranda Gonzalez, Jose Torres, Marilyn Duarte and Genissa Ochoa. Not pictured: Kimberly Nunez and Ruby Diaz.



NORTH SHORE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
Front row (l/r): Zachary Potter, Senyo Ahadzje, Jose Guillen, Brianna Taylor-Warren and Stacey Padua. Back row (l/r): Katie Rowe, Anthony Rudd, Michelle Armenta, Adrianna Jones and Alan Martinez.

ARREST,

Continued from Page 1

emphasized that her son was cooperating with authorities, and that some details of the public charges were not correct. She claimed he did not own any computers and questioned the charges against her son. She pointed out that the raid was not at her house, contrary to some reports, and that her son lived in a house next to hers.

In the same interview, Moya's husband Sergio Sr. said that their son was a good boy, with no problems, and believed the charges may have stemmed from disputes with neighbors or other parties in the community. Mayor Esmeralda Moya was asked the same question by media, and answered "what do you think?" and then acknowledged that the charges may have been politically motivated.

However, some authorities contacted by the *North Channel Star* suggested that the Houston Police Department has an investigative unit that routinely monitors the internet for illegal child porn and predators, and that this unit may have picked up messages to Moya's computer address.

Until the facts come out in a court proceeding, the Galena Park community is talking about these many theories.

CONTRACTS TABLED BY COUNCIL,

Continued from Page 1

public wants a change in the administration of the city.

After reviewing a draft copy of the Employment Agreements, Moya pointed out that they were highly in favor of the employee, and not in the best interests of the city.

She specifically cited clauses in the contracts that called for a lengthy hearing process for terminations, a severance package of payments that start at almost a half-million dollars and reduce yearly over five years to a year's base pay, and other benefits to the employees including car allowances, retirement benefits, insurance, and business expense reimbursements, on top of the guaranteed yearly salaries of \$95,000 for the city administrator and \$83,000 for the police chief.

In their proposed contracts, Pruett and Rader stated that these benefits, severance packages, and salaries are in line with what other cities pay, and the contracts are formatted in line with guidelines from the Texas Local Government Code. They said

it was unreasonable to employee them in their capacities, without the guarantees included in these contracts.

The City Commission called their meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and retired to Executive Session with City Attorney Jim DeFoyd. Mayor Moya declined to join them, although she is part of the Commission and entitled to participate in closed sessions.

During their deliberations, the Commission called Pruett and Rader to answer some questions.

After about an hour, they returned to the Council room, and went into public session. At that point, they announced they had taken no action on the Contracts.

Queried afterward, some Commission members said that they simply needed more time to study the provisions, and give it some thought.

The next regular Commission meeting was held on Tuesday, June 2 and the Agenda did not call for any action on these contracts.

Happy 90th Birthday



Ward Cooper celebrates his 90th birthday on June 3, 2015. Mr. Cooper is a long time resident of the North Shore area and the owner of A-1 Fire Equipment Company on the East Freeway. His wife, children, extended family, & friends are honoring him with a crawfish boil and since he is from Louisiana, that is right up his bayou. Happy birthday, Wardy, we love you!



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