

CHANNEL CHATTER

CHANNELVIEW ISD

Summer hours set for student registration

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

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

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

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

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

Joe Stephens Golf Tourney

Monday, June 13 at River Terrace Golf Course, 16777 Wallisville Rd. Call 713-940-2886 for info. 12 noon registration. Followed by a Catfish & Shrimp Fry at the Rotary Pavilion from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. The Public is welcome. Proceeds benefit Stephens for J.P.

Juneteenth Prayer Breakfast

Comm. Jack Morman will host "A Juneteenth Prayer Breakfast" on Thursday, June 16, 2016 from 8 am - 9:30 am with Keynote Speaker Dr. Timothy W. Sloan at J.D. Walker Community Center, 7613 Wade Rd., Baytown, TX. 77521. Please reserve at 281-427-7311.

GALENA PARK

New Faces, New Attitude at City Hall

GALENA PARK – The new city council held its second regular meeting since taking office on May 17, and they had a full agenda.

But unlike the rancor and uncertainty that characterized last term's governing sessions, this meeting was conducted in an orderly and efficient manner.

Important business that was conducted included amending a city ordinance to eliminate the position of City Administrator; hiring a law firm to collect unpaid back taxes; approving the replacement of all 349 street lights in the city with new, more efficient LED bulbs; opening bids to demolish old units at the wastewater treatment plant; affirming a contract with LJA Engineering for waterline rehabilitation; and elimination of the city's Reserve Police Force.

Other business included the hiring of various posi-



GALENA PARK CITY COUNCIL MEETING last Tuesday night. L to R, Attorney John Hightower, Councilmen Rodney Chersky and Oscar Silva Jr., Mayor Esmeralda Moya, Councilmen Eric Broussard and Barry Ponder, and City Secretary Mayra Gonzales.

tions to fill vacancies in city personnel. Commissioner Ponder raised the question of whether police position candidates had been properly interviewed, and voted "No" when the issue went to vote.

The audience participated in an orderly fashion, pointing out to Council various problems within the city that needed maintenance.

Cheryl Ponder announced that the Committee for a Better Galena Park was planning a big 4th of July event at the baseball field.

Baytown Mayor Stephen DonCarlos, representing the Port of Houston Authority, presented a

plan for new sidewalks and lighting along Mercury and Holland from Galena Park to Jacinto City. They are to be paid for primarily by the Port, with the city contributing.

Attorney Owen Sonik reviewed the tax collection problems, and said there was as much as \$1.6 million owed from 889 properties that might be collected.

Most of the decisions presented for vote passed by a 5-0 margin, indicating a consensus that was missing for the last two years of city government.

A suggestion was made by Councilman Chersky that the Mayor be paid a

See CITY COUNCIL, page 2

NORTH SHORE

Rotary Club distributes books to elementary students

By Sheila Armstrong

When Rotarian Derrill Painter viewed the award-winning video, "Eradicating Illiteracy" he was inspired to help the students in the North Shore areas. Sheila Armstrong, a Rotarian-plus Chair of Houston Team First Book and Producer of the video, plus Jon King of Sharpstown Rotary, presented the video at a Rotary District Membership Meeting.

Immediately Derrill saw an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of children in the North Shore Rotary's service area. "Our club approved \$2,500 to purchase books for service projects



De Zavala Elementary School students received free books from North Shore Rotary Club.

at Cloverleaf and Dezavala Elementary Schools. Children are our future and one of Rotary International's areas of focus is literacy worldwide. The ability to read is the basis of all learning, so making books available to a child is the most wonderful gift that we could ever bestow upon them", said Derrill.

Jon King, a retired fire fighter of 37 years knows: "Commitment, Courage and Compassion" which is the motto of the Houston Fire Department.

Jon King says "I grew up in the East-end, spent my whole career there. I have worked with charities my

See DISTRIBUTION OF BOOKS, Page 2

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Galena Park ISD honors Teachers & Rookies of the Year

On Thursday, May 19, 2017, GPISD revealed the names of the 2017 Elementary and Secondary Teachers and Rookies of the Year at the district's annual Service Awards Reception and Ceremony. We would like to congratulate these outstanding educators.

**Elementary Teacher of the Year:** Noelia E. Vargas, Woodland Acres Elementary School and Secondary Teacher of the Year; and Shane Goforth, North Shore Senior High School

**Elementary Rookie Teacher of the Year:** Lourdes Fernandez - Flota, Normandy Crossing Elementary School; and Secondary Rookie Teacher of the Year, Yeri Villalobos, North Shore Senior High School

Elementary Teacher of the Year



Elementary Rookie Teacher of the Year



COMMUNITY SUCCESS

Former GPISD graduate hosts future Doctors week

Recently, former GPISD graduate and 2008 valedictorian of North Shore Senior High School, Jonathan Zalamea, returned to GPISD to give back. Zalamea, an upcoming graduate of University of Texas Medical School at Houston, had a vision to expose students in GPISD to career options in the medical field, and he has done just that. Last year, Zalamea worked with 9th and 10th grade students at North Shore Senior High School during the first two weeks in July to expose them to careers in the medical field. This was the beginning of his vision becoming a reality.

During the week of May 16-20, Zalamea returned to GPISD to visit the students at Havard Elementary School as part of his "Future Doctors" dream. During the week, Zalamea taught five different sessions about the human body to all fifth graders. Science Lab Teacher, Tiffany Benitez, oversaw the program at the campus level and several students from the Early College



Jonathan Zalamea gives back to Galena Park ISD.

High School also came to assist Zalamea with the lab activities throughout the program. The students learned about the human body through hands on investigations and discussions with the future doctor. This time of learning truly motivated and inspired students to start

thinking about their futures and career possibilities.

Jonathan's dream is to give back to GPISD by educating more of our students about future careers. We look forward to assisting him in making his dream a reality.





## SCHOOL NEWS

### GALENA PARK ISD

### Elementary Olympiad brings out the best in students



Galena Park ISD held its annual Fifth Grade Elementary Olympiad on Friday, May 20, 2016, which began in 2007 under the direction of Athletic Director Ed Warken. Since then, the tradition has continued and fifth grade students from each of the fifteen elementary campuses gather at GPISD's Athletic Stadium and Complex each May to compete for the coveted titles in numerous field events such as hula hoop, jump rope, softball throw, relays, and more. One of the most prestigious titles to win each year is that of the tug-o-war competition. This year's tug-o-war winners were the Jacinto City and Pyburn Elementary boys and the Harvard Elementary and Tice Elementary girls. It was a grueling battle as students tugged with all their might, pulling one another back and forth until the victors reigned.

### GPISD'S CTE Department hosts annual Law Enforcement Day



On Friday, May 20th, GPISD's CTE Department hosted its annual CTE Law Enforcement Day. This annual event, spearheaded by Law Enforcement instructor Ken Fisher and members of his Advisory Committee, is designed to expose students to a genre of law enforcement career opportunities. It also exposes students to positive interaction with law professionals as they take time to explain career tracks and share personal struggles, which inspire students to pursue their career interests. A big thank you to Harris County Sheriff's Office, Houston Police Department, Texas Dept of Public Safety, Texas Comptroller's Office and all of the speakers who made this year's event successful for our students.

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OPINION PAGE

Governor declares state of disaster in long list of counties

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott on June 1 declared a state of disaster in 31 counties that have been hit repeatedly with severe weather and flooding in recent days.

The counties named in the declaration include: Austin, Bandera, Bastrop, Brazoria, Brazos, Burleson, Coleman, Colorado, Erath, Fayette, Fort Bend, Grimes, Hidalgo, Hood, Jasper, Kleberg, Lee, Leon, Liberty, Lubbock, Montgomery, Palo Pinto, Parker, Polk, Robertson, San Jacinto, Tyler, Walker, Waller, Washington and Wharton.

Abbott on May 27 elevated the activation level of the state operations center in Austin and urged Texans to stay on high alert and to heed local officials' warnings.

State agencies responding included the Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas Military Department, Texas Department of State Health Services, Texas A&M Forest Service, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Texas General Land Office, Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service/Texas Task Force 1, Texas Department of Transportation, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, Texas Health and Human Services Commission and the Texas Animal Health Commission. The American Red Cross, the Salvation Army and other volunteer organizations also responded.

Straus issues assignments

Texas House Speaker Joe Straus on June 2 called on two House committees to jointly study key aspects of the state's school finance system and make recommendations before the 2017 legislative session.

Straus, R-San Antonio, gave two new interim charges to the House Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Public Education. The charges, he said, follow a recent Texas Supreme Court opinion that the state's education finance system, while constitutional, is "undeniably imperfect, with immense room for improvement." They also build on Speaker Straus' earlier calls for the Public Education Committee to study the Cost of Education Index and school districts' facility needs.

First charge: "Current law requires the elimination on September 1, 2017, of Additional State Aid for Tax Relief, which was intended to offset the cost of tax-rate compressions enacted in 2006. Review how this loss of funding would impact school districts."

"ASATR" is funding that the state provided to school districts in order to encourage them to reduce their tax rates to \$1.00 per \$100 in property valuation in 2006. State law calls for that extra state funding to disappear in 2017 unless the Legislature acts. In the current school year,

ASATR funding provides an estimated \$350 million to the state's public education system.

Second Charge: "Study the use of local property taxes to fund public education and its effects on educational quality and on Texas taxpayers. Specifically, recommend ways to reverse the increasing reliance on recapture payments to fund public education statewide."

As property values have increased, more school districts have become subject to recapture, meaning that some of their local property tax dollars are sent to the state and distributed to school districts with less property wealth. For example, the Houston Independent School District is now facing the prospect of sending a recapture payment of \$175 million to the state in 2017. Since 2006, the number of school districts paying recapture has increased from 142 to 238.

Sales tax revenue drops

State sales tax revenue in May totaled \$2.41 billion, down 7.1 percent compared to May 2015, the comptroller's office reported June 2.

But, Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar explained, "The comparison in sales tax revenue to the previous year is unfavorable because May 2015 collections were abnormally strong.

"In fact, May 2015 saw the second-highest monthly collections in Texas history. The decline is largely due to continued drops in collections from oil- and natural gas-related sectors, reflecting the continued contraction in drilling activity," Hegar said.

Hegar also said state franchise tax revenue for fiscal 2016 totaled \$3.7 billion through May, ahead of earlier projections included in the certification revenue estimate. This amount is lower than franchise tax revenues collected during the same period last fiscal year due to permanent tax rate cuts enacted during the 2015 session of the Texas Legislature.

Hurricane season arrives

Hurricane season began June 1 and continues through Nov. 30.

The Texas Department of Public Safety marked the season's official beginning with a recommendation that Texans develop emergency plans without delay.

The DPS suggested residents:

- Assemble an emergency kit;
- Review hurricane evacuation maps and select a route to safety;
- Plan how family members and pets will evacuate safely;
- Consider special needs for family members who are older or are disabled;
- Stay informed about changing weather conditions; and
- Visit [www.texasprepares.org](http://www.texasprepares.org).



Avoid Home Improvement Scams

(NAPSI)—While home repairs are a standard part of homeownership, they can open the door to scam artists seeking to prey on vulnerable older adults—but you can avoid being a target. That's a good thing, since recent research suggests older Americans lose over \$36 billion annually to a range of financial exploitation schemes, including home improvement scams.

Scammers use a variety of strategies to target seniors, from charging inflated prices and delivering substandard work, to using high-pressure tactics to sell services. Older adults are prime targets for this type of exploitation because they often own homes with equity, tend to be more trusting

and may be less likely to report an incident.

Home repair scams can jeopardize the independence of older adults by robbing them of money and equity in their home, as well as threatening their safety.

Fortunately, there are solutions. A new brochure, "Home Improvement Scams—Tools for Reducing Your Risk," has been released by the Eldercare Locator to provide detailed recommendations that seniors can use to safeguard their financial future.

The brochure provides information and resources that can help older adults avoid being targeted in the first place and guidance on what to do if you are a victim of this type of scam. It also features a handy checklist to help

homeowners select a reputable contractor.

This is an essential publication for any older adult interested in undertaking a home repair project armed with information that will help to ensure it is a success. To order a copy, visit the Eldercare Locator at [www.eldercare.gov](http://www.eldercare.gov).

The Eldercare Locator, a public service of the Administration for Community Living/Administration on Aging, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is a nationwide service that connects older adults and their caregivers with information and referrals to local providers and programs. The toll-free number is (800) 677-1116.

OPINION

Three ways to prepare your car for summer

(NAPSI)—Summer is an especially tough season on cars, as high temperatures can lead to stress on vehicles' parts and systems, causing breakdowns. Consider the following tips to ensure that your vehicle is prepared for the longer, warmer days that may include a few road trips.

Tune Up Your Air-Conditioning

Hot weather means you will use your car's air-conditioning frequently. To ensure that your car's system is working efficiently, have it examined annually by a qualified technician. If it isn't cooling properly, there may be a leak in the system. In addition, newer cars have cabin air filters that periodically need to be replaced, so check your owner's manual for reference.

Lubricate Door and Hood Hinges

Squeaky door or hood hinges can take the fun out of your summer road trip. Using a specialty product like the new WD-40® Specialist® Spray & Stay Gel Lubricant provides long-lasting lubrication, and it won't drip on your car's painted surfaces because it stays where you spray.

Prevent Sun Damage to Car Paint

The most effective way to keep your car's paint looking good is to seek covered parking whenever possible. If you must leave your car outdoors for extended periods of time, invest in a sunproof cover. Regularly washing your car to remove pollen, dust and other debris helps prevent scratches or damage, and applying a wax can protect paint from harmful ultraviolet rays.

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Arian's Market  
Kroger's  
Community Bank (2)

HUFFMAN  
Exxon Station  
Community Bank

# NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Barbers Hill Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:30pm, June 27, 2016 in CT Joseph Conference Center, 9600 Eagle Drive, Mont Belvieu, TX. 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	\$1.060000/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	\$0.269800/\$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	7.81 % increase
Debt Service	11.40 % increase
Total expenditures	8.53 % 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	\$7,729,281,525	\$7,925,379,810
Total appraised value** of new property**	\$1,148,590,257	\$470,433,336
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$5,341,413,146	\$4,305,670,390
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$1,131,943,867	\$468,254,836

\*Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(9), Tax Code.

\*\* "New property" is defined by Section 26.01(2)(7), Tax Code.

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

## Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness\* \$198,935,000

\*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	\$1.060000	\$0.269800*	\$1.329800	\$11,832	\$2,022
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$1.092660	\$0.260050*	\$1.352710	\$9,900	\$2,438
Proposed Rate	\$1.060000	\$0.269800*	\$1.329800	\$9,914	\$2,438

\*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	\$162,525	\$159,457
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$104,387	\$101,721
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$1.329800	\$1.329800
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$1,388.14	\$1,352.69
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$-35.45

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 \$1.329960. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of \$1.329960.

## 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)	\$32,000,000
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$8,000,000



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Sealed bids for the purchase of a surplus motor vehicle will be received by Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5. The proposals will be received until 2:00 PM on Thursday, June 23, 2016, and proposals will be publicly opened at the District meeting that evening at 6:30 PM. The District will take action on the bids at that time. Bids shall be submitted in sealed envelopes. The envelopes shall be labeled on the outside as follows: Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5, RE: Surplus motor vehicle. The bids may be delivered to the District offices at 5915 F.M. 2100, Crosby, Texas 77532 or mailed to the District at P.O. Box 1604, Crosby, Texas 77532. Harris County ESD No. 5 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. The surplus motor vehicle is a 2010 C-3500 Chevy (diesel) chassis with a Frazer mounted 16 ft. ambulance module (remounted from a 2006 chassis in 2010) formerly used as a 9-1-1 ambulance. The ambulance module features: a 5.5 Onan gasoline generator and Stryker Antler stretcher mounts. The vehicle has approximately 101,973 total miles. Please be aware that the vehicle is offered for sale AS IS with NO WARRANTIES by the District. To inspect the vehicle or to receive more information contact Christy Graves at (281) 328-6810. Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5

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BUSINESS

Don't Keep Family in the Dark About Your Plans

You might work diligently at building a financial roadmap for your retirement years and a comprehensive estate plan. But you can't just create these strategies – you also have to communicate them. Specifically, you need to inform your spouse and your grown children what you have in mind for the future – because the more they know, the fewer the surprises that await them down the road.

Let's start with your spouse. Ideally, of course, you and your spouse should have already communicated about your respective ideas for retirement and have come to an agreement on the big issues, such as when you both plan to retire, where you'll live during retirement, and what you want to do as retirees (volunteer, travel, work part time and so on).

But what you both might have let slip through the cracks are the important specifics related to financing your retirement. You'll need to answer several questions, including these:

- When will you each start taking Social Security?
- Are there strategies for maximizing both of your Social Security payments?
- When will you need to start tapping into your respective retirement accounts, such as your IRA and 401(k)? And, once you do start withdrawing from these accounts, how much should you take out each year?

You may want to work with a financial professional to address these issues, but however you proceed, you and your spouse need to be "on the same page" regarding the key financial components of your retirement.

Now, consider your grown children. You need to clearly communicate your estate plans to them, not only for the sake of openness and honesty, but also because they may well play active roles within those plans. So when talking to your children, make sure you cover these areas:

- Durable power of attorney – You may well decide to give one of your grown children the durable power of attorney to pay bills and

ASK THE EXPERT  
By Edward Jones

make financial choices on your behalf if you are unable to do so.

- Estate executor – An executor is the person or entity you name in your will to carry out your wishes. An executor has a variety of responsibilities, so you'll want to choose someone who is honest and capable of dealing with legal and financial matters. Again, you could ask a grown child to serve as your executor, but, to avoid potential conflict of interests among your children, you might want to go outside the family. Talk with an attorney about how best to name your executor.

Status of will and living trust – Assuming you have already drawn up a will, share it with your grown children. The same is true with a living trust, a popular estate-planning tool that may allow your survivors to avoid going through the time-consuming, public and expensive process of probate. A will and a living trust will obviously contain a great deal of information

your children should know about – so take the time to explain your thinking when you created these documents.

You want to enjoy a comfortable retirement, and you want to leave a meaningful legacy through your estate plans. To help accomplish both these goals, you need to include your loved ones in your arrangements – so open those lines of communication.

Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors are not estate planners and cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your estate-planning attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.

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

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Diamond Jim: "What is the history of Father's Day?"



ASK DIAMOND JIM



Though Father's Day wasn't made a national holiday until 1972, the efforts of one woman in Washington sparked a movement to celebrate dads long before then.

Sonora Dodd and the First Father's Day

In 1909, Sonora Smart Dodd of Spokane, Washington, was inspired to create a holiday honoring fathers. William Jackson Smart, her father, was a farmer and Civil War veteran that raised Sonora and her five younger brothers by himself after his wife, Ellen, died giving birth to their youngest child in 1898. While attending a Mother's Day church service in 1909, Sonora, then 27, came up with the idea.

Within a few months, Sonora had convinced the Spokane Ministerial Association and the YMCA to set aside a Sunday in June to celebrate fathers. She proposed June 5, her father's birthday, but the ministers chose the third Sunday in June so that they would have more time after Mother's Day (the second Sunday in May) to prepare their sermons. So it was that on June 19, 1910, Sonora delivered presents to handicapped fathers, boys from the YMCA decorated their lapels with fresh-cut roses (red for living fathers, white for the deceased), and the city's ministers devoted their homilies to fatherhood.

A National Holiday

The widely publicized events in Spokane struck a chord that reached all the way to Washington, D.C., and Sonora's celebration started its path to becoming a national holiday.

- In 1916, President

Woodrow Wilson and his family personally observed the day.

- Eight years later, President Calvin Coolidge signed a resolution in favor of Father's Day "to establish more intimate relations between fathers and their children and to impress upon fathers the full measure of their obligations."

- In 1966, President Lyndon Johnson signed an executive order that the holiday be celebrated on the third Sunday in June.

- Under President Richard Nixon, in 1972, Congress passed an act officially making Father's Day a national holiday. (Six years later, Sonora died at age 96.)

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

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

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SPORTS

GPISD Celebrates Spring Signing Day

Houston, Texas: On Tuesday, May 24, 2016, twenty-two students from the Galena Park Independent School District signed letters of intent to continue their athletic careers at the collegiate level. To celebrate their accomplishments, parents, coaches and district administrators gathered to honor the dedication and commitment by each student to their academic career and chosen sport.

Vince Sebo, Athletic Director for Galena Park ISD, inspired the students to make the most of this moment and cherish the memory. He stressed the importance of focusing on academics, reiterating that the ultimate goal of college is to walk across the stage with a degree. David Handal, GPHS Athletic Coordinator, advised students to continue using morals and values instilled by their parents and the educational system to continue making good decisions. As each student was announced, their coach shared examples of the student's accomplishments, statistics, hard work and dedication. The student-athletes were also encouraged to remember Galena Park ISD, and one day to return to the community to share their experiences and successes.

The district congratulates the following students on their academic and athletic accomplishments:  
Galena Park High School  
James Richey – Wiley College, baseball  
Sonia Morales – Southern Arkansas University, cross country  
Jasmine Castillo – Galveston College, softball

See **SPRING SIGNING DAY**, page 8



North Shore Senior High School: Pictured: (front) Mikayla Robinson; Courtnee Johnson; Victoria Olivares; Dr. Angi Williams, Superintendent of Schools; Daniela Pizano; Taja Vaughns; Taryn Surratt; Armani Watson, Alyssa Okoene; (back) Jason Battle; Ruth Ard; Enrique Gonzales; Dayon Thomas; Ivan Nevarez; Nicolas Castaneda; Aysha Anderson; Victoria Blankenship; Andre Shelby (not pictured: Carl Guillory)



Galena Park High School: Pictured: (front) Jasmine Castillo; Sonia Morales; Natalie Vasquez; James Richey; (back) Tony Gardea, GPHS Principal; David Handal, GPHS Athletics Coordinator; Kenneth Wallace, Deputy Superintendent for Educational Support.

San Jac punches ticket to World Series title game

GRAND JUNCTION, Colorado – The San Jacinto College baseball team punched its ticket to the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) World Series championship game by pounding top ranked Chattahoochee Valley Community College 8-1 Friday night 3 in Grand Junction, Colorado. With the win, San Jac faces Yavapai College in tonight's title match scheduled for 8 p.m. local time on MLB.com.

The highlight of the win over Chat Valley was the brilliant pitching performance by San Jac starting pitcher Devin Smeltzer (Voorhees, New Jersey / Florida Gulf Coast University), who pitched a complete game, striking out 20, just one shy of the JUCO record. He allowed 2 hits (both singles), 1 earned run and 1 walk. In the seventh inning, San Jac Head Coach Tom Arrington told Smeltzer he planned to bring in a reliever because his pitch count was a little high. Smeltzer looked the coach in the eye and told him he really wanted to finish the game.

"That's just like Devin," Arrington remarked. "All season long it was hard to pull him from any game. He always pleaded to go just one more inning. It's never easy to leave a pitcher in a game when you know his pitch count will be higher than 100, but I trust Devin and am confident that he knows how far to push himself. He just has a lot of heart and everyone on the team has a lot of trust in him." Smeltzer's final pitch count was 140, significantly high even by major league standards.

The big lefty baffled Chat Valley hitters by painting the corners with an electric fastball and getting them to swing through a late-breaking changeup. After the game he admitted he was sort of pushing

his luck to insist on staying in the game with a high pitch count. "I always hate to come out of a game and especially did not want to come out of this game," he commented. "With a lead in a World Series game, I wanted to give it everything. I wanted to leave it all out on the field."

On offense it was a veritable hit parade for San Jac. Seven batters had at least 1 hit and two batters had multiple hits. First baseman Caden Williams (Sugar Land / Dulles High School) went 2 for 3 with 1 RBI and scored 2 runs. Second baseman Nick Shumpert (Lone Tree, Colorado / Lone Tree High School) went 2 for 4 with 3 RBIs and scored a run. Center fielder Max Wood (Vancouver, British Columbia / West Vancouver Secondary High School) went 1 for 4 with 1 RBI and scored a run. Wood had a key leadoff

double that triggered a 3-run rally in the second inning. The championship match between San Jac and Yavapai will feature two national powerhouse programs. San Jac has won five national titles, has appeared in 13 national championship games and has qualified for the JUCO World Series 24 times, all of which are national records. Yavapai has qualified for the tournament nine times and has won three national championships. San Jac is the nation's top-ranked junior college team by Perfect Game and is ranked No. 2 in the nation by the NJCAA. Yavapai is ranked 14th by the NJCAA and 18th by Perfect Game. Neither team has brought home a national title since Yavapai in 1993 and San Jac in 1990 under legendary Head Coach Wayne Graham.

For more information about San Jacinto College baseball, visit sanjacsports.com.

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**San Jacinto-North (4-2) 2**

Summer camps return to San Jacinto College

A variety of camp offerings slated for kids of all ages

PASADENA, Texas – Parents who are looking for something fun and educational for their children this summer should look no further than San Jacinto College! The College plans to again host a variety of fun and enriching summer camps for kids of all ages at each of its four campuses. There is something for every interest from athletics and career exploration, to arts and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) and everything in between.

Camp prices vary and some offer scholarships to those who qualify to assist with camp tuition. More information and a link to register for camps can be found online at sanjac.edu/summer-camps.

**ATHLETICS**  
**Baseball Camp**  
The San Jac summer baseball camp will cover all aspects of the game of baseball including hitting, base running and defensive play at each position. Proper throwing will be emphasized as well during the four-day camp. Games will also be played to apply all phases of the game of baseball.

Dates: June 6-9  
Time: 9 a.m.–12 p.m.  
Location: North Campus  
Cost: \$75  
**Basketball Camp**  
San Jacinto College Basketball Camp is for girls and boys ages 8 to 14. Camp will be split into two sessions: Session I is 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., for ages 8-10. Session II is 1 p.m. – 4 p.m., for ages 11-14. Camp will stress the fundamentals of basketball: dribbling, passing and shooting, and will incorporate some basic basketball concepts.

Dates: June 13-16  
Time: 9 a.m.–12 p.m. and 1-4 p.m.  
Location: North Campus  
Cost: \$75  
**CAREER EXPLORATION**  
**EnergyVenture – Career in the Energy Industry**  
The camp is designed for 7th, 8th and 9th graders to learn about careers in energy while having fun. The students will perform lab experiments, win prizes for "best in class" team efforts, take a "behind the scenes" tour of a refinery or chemical products facility and hear from guest speakers.  
Dates: Weekly in June and July

Time: 8 a.m.–5 p.m. (Mon.–Thurs.), 8 a.m.–12 p.m. (Fri.)  
Location: Central, South and North Campuses  
Cost: Free to those who qualify

**Maritime Venture Camp**  
**This camp allows young** people, ages 14 to 17, opportunities to explore exciting careers available in the area's thriving maritime industry. The camp includes an entertaining and educational maritime adventure at the brand new San Jacinto College Maritime Campus. Students will take field trips on vessels to learn about the Houston Ship Channel and different aspects of the maritime industry.  
Dates: June 6-10 and June 20-24

Time: 9 a.m.–4 p.m.  
Location: Maritime Campus  
Cost: \$20  
**Guitar Camp**  
The Guitar Camp is open to aspiring guitarists ages 12 to 19 (middle school thru high school) and all experience levels are welcome. The camp focuses on basic guitar skills and fundamental performance techniques. There will be a recital on the last day of camp at 12 p.m. for families and friends. All students must have their own guitar (acoustic preferred) but electric is fine; amps provided. Snacks are provided; students are to bring a sack lunch each day except for Friday, when there will be a pizza party.

Dates: July 18-22  
Time: 9 a.m.–1 p.m.  
Location: North Campus  
Cost: \$95  
**Middle School Band Camp**  
The Middle School Band

Camp is open to any talent level band students ages 11-15. Musical activities will vary from large rehearsals to master classes to sectionals to solo competition. Students will perform under the batons of excellent band conductors and work with leading professional musicians from the Houston Area. Students will learn band works to perform a concert the last day of camp. Friday at 12 p.m. Snacks are provided; students are to bring a sack lunch each day except for Friday, when there will be a pizza party.  
Dates: June 13-17  
Time: 9 a.m.–1 p.m.  
Location: North Campus  
Cost: \$95 (school rate may apply)

**Piano Camp**  
Under the direction of Dr. Kingchi Au, the summer Piano Camp is designed for beginning level students ages 6 to 13. After being placed into either a beginner or intermediate category, the camp activities vary from fundamental skills and drills, master classes, piano ensemble in our state of the art piano lab, basic music theory, and musical enrichment. Snacks are provided; students are to bring a sack lunch each day except for Friday, when there will be a pizza party.

Dates: June 20-24  
Time: 9 a.m.–1 p.m.  
Location: North Campus  
Cost: \$95

**Saxophone and Jazz Camp**  
The Saxophone and Jazz Camp is open to high school- and college-level saxophonists. Daily musical activities will include ensemble playing, comprehensive master classes led by some of the finest saxophonists and jazz musicians in Houston. The camp is designed to provide saxophonists with the skill development to be more consistent performers. Snacks are provided; students are to bring a sack lunch each day except for Friday, when there will be a pizza party.

Dates: June 27-July 1  
Time: 9 a.m.–1 p.m.  
Location: North Campus  
Cost: \$95

**Woodwind and Brass Camp**  
The Woodwind and Brass Camp is open to high school-level woodwind players and brass players. Daily musical activities will include large rehearsals, comprehensive master classes, and sectionals all led by some of the finest woodwind and brass musicians in Houston. The camp is designed to provide teens with the insight and skill development to be more consistent performers through an intensive program of study. Snacks are provided; students are to bring a sack lunch each day except for Friday, when there will be a pizza party.  
Dates: July 11-15  
Time: 9 a.m.–1 p.m.  
Location: North Campus  
Cost: \$95 (school rate may apply)

The San Jacinto College North Campus is located at 5600 Uvalde Road in Houston, 77049.  
Camp dates, times and costs are subject to change.

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

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1 Corinthians 16:13

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Leviticus 19:32

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