

# 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

### Workforce Development Programs

As a followup to recent plant presentations on how to get a job in a chemical plant, refinery, or terminal, members of the Galena Park-Jacinto City Community-Industry Partnership (CIP) asked representatives of Galena Park Independent School District (GPISD) and San Jacinto College to explain what their institutions do to help prepare the future industry workforce.

Elizabeth Lalor, GPISD Executive Director of Educational Support, described partnerships with businesses and other groups that introduce students to industrial, construction, and maritime work. The district also partners with San Jacinto College to allow students to graduate with both a high school diploma and an associate's degree.

San Jacinto College Vice-Chancellor Allatia Harris said growth in the manufacturing industry means there is a greater need for engineers and other 4-year-degree careers. But there are now a great many jobs that require "middle skills," meaning education beyond high school but not a bachelor's degree. She strongly recommends that students look at www.houstonnaturalgas.com to see the jobs in highest demand, videos about them, wage ranges, etc. At www.sanjac.edu, students who click on "Apply and Register" will find a link to "Find Your Path." From there, they can read about many different career options, entry requirements, degree plans, and so on.

The CIP meets from 5:45 - 8:15 p.m. at Alvin Baggett Community Center, 1302 Keene in Galena Park 10 months a year. The Apr. 3 meeting offers three perspectives on air quality with speakers from Houston Regional Monitoring, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and Air Alliance Houston. Contact facilitator Diane Sheridan at 281-326-5253 for details or to sign up to attend. Visitors are welcome!

### "Keep Harris County Safe"

## Harris County Sheriff's Office calls Town Hall "Safety" meeting for April 8

NORTH CHANNEL – The Harris County Sheriff's Office will host a Town Hall meeting to talk about "Our County, Our Concerns and Our Future".

Save the date for this community town hall and attend on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 from 6 pm to 8 pm. The meeting will take place at the North Shore High School Auditorium located at 353 N. Castlegory, Houston, TX 77049.

Attend to ask questions, voice your concerns and learn



Sheriff Adrian Garcia



D.A. Devon Anderson



Comm. Jack Morman



Constable Phil Sandlin



Constable Ken Jones



Chief Bryan Clements

how county agencies are working together to keep Harris County a safe place.

Featuring local leaders and officials include Sheriff Adrian Garcia, District Attorney

Devon Anderson, Pct. 2 Commissioner Jack Morman, Constable Phil Sandlin, Constable

Ken Jones and Galena Park ISD Police Chief Bryan Clements.

### Greens Bayou Corridor Coalition Annual Meeting

## Emmett keynote stresses cooperation

HOUSTON – The Greens Bayou Corridor Coalition (GBCC) held its annual report to the public, with a keynote address from County Judge Ed Emmett, and remarks from Houston Mayor Annise Parker last Thursday, March 20.

Chairman Bill Franks acted as Master of Ceremonies, and Executive Director Jill Boullion presented an overview video on the state of the coalition and its accomplishments in the last year.

Boullion had a lot to present, as the Coalition currently has about 40 projects, taking place in four distinct areas or "reaches" around the North and East sections of the County. The Coalition partners with a number of other organizations to accomplish its work, and this idea led to Emmett's keynote theme, partnerships.

Boullion pointed out that the Coalition covers approxi-



JUDGE ED EMMETT delivers the Keynote Address and swearing in of the board, at the Annual Meeting of the Greens Bayou Corridor Coalition. Also speaking were Greens Bayou Corridor Coalition (GBCC) Exec. Dir. Jill Boullion, and GBCC chair Bill Franks.

mately 45 miles in length, and its goals are recreation, economic development, and enhanced quality of life. In addition, it works to remediate flooding and other threats to the bayous.

GBCC is concerned with Greens Bayou, Halls Bayou, Garners Bayou and Reinhardt Bayou.

GBCC is funded by memberships and grants. It works with the help of the National Park Service, Texas Parks & Wildlife, and a number of corporate and organizational sponsors.

*Keynote Speech on Cooperation*

In his keynote address, Emmett expanded on his State of the County theme of Coop

See **GREENS BAYOU CORRIDOR**, p.8

### APPEAL DENIED:

## Judge upholds enforcement of Game Room Regulations

State District Court Judge Al Bennett denied an attempt to further delay the enforcement of new regulations aiming to crack down on illegal game rooms. Following a hearing held this afternoon, Judge Bennett denied a request for a temporary injunction to prevent enforcement of the regulations.

The office of Harris County Attorney Vince Ryan defended the game room regulations citing the lawfulness, constitutionality and enforceability of the regulations passed by the Harris County Commissioners Court in December 2013.

"We are pleased with the ruling and look forward to working with Harris County Sheriff's Office, the Constables, and other in implementing and enforcing these game room regulations," Ryan said.

Under the new regulations, game room operators must obtain permits, pay a \$1,000 annual fee, shut down between 10 p.m. and 8 a.m., maintain transparent windows, and are banned from requiring a membership for entry. New game rooms must be located at least 1,500 feet from schools, churches and residential neighborhoods. Violators

could be charged with Class A misdemeanors and could face fines of up to \$10,000 and jail time.

A supplier of video poker machines sought the temporary restraining order and a permanent injunction against regulations relating to establishments that house six or more video poker machines. Such establishments are often known to be hotbeds for illegal gambling, armed robberies and other criminal activity. There are approximately 360 game rooms in Houston, and about 300 more in the unincorporated county.

### SURPRISE PATROL

## Channelview ISD Education Foundation gives grants to teachers

By Mark Kramer

The Spring Break holiday was not the only reason that some Channelview ISD teachers had huge smiles on their faces.

With the sounds of the Channelview High School

See **TEACHERS GRANT**, p.3

Pictured are Channelview High School science teacher Karen Hebert is presented with a \$5,000 Innovative Teaching Grant by Channelview ISD Education Foundation President Sholanda Dawkins during the Foundation's Surprise Patrol on March 7.





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★ COMMUNITY NEWS ★

## Lockdown at two local daycares

CROSBY- Two local child care centers went on lockdown March 19 when an armed man tried to enter one of them. Harris County sheriff's deputies say the 26-year-old man suffers from bipolar disorder. When he became agitated and combative at his home that day, his mother decided he needed hospitalization, according to reports. Just after 3 p.m. they left to go but he jumped from her moving car near 5700 FM 2100 and ran up to the door of Growing In Graces Child Care Center with a 9mm Glock pistol, according to reports. A daycare client saw him dashing for the daycare and yelled, "There's a guy with a gun." When he found the door locked, reports say the man threw the pistol in some bushes in front of the daycare center, and got back into the car with his mother, who was following him to the building. As they continued north on FM 2100 the man jumped from the car again, lacerating his head as he exited the car. He ran past the Crosby Christian Academy daycare near 5500 FM 2100, and on down Main Street, officials said. He was captured by deputies about a quarter mile from there. Both daycare operators performed admirably at the right time. The suspect was arrested but not charged. Instead a judge issued an emergency detention order. The man is now being treated at the Harris County Psychiatric Hospital. His observation lasts 90 days. Sheriff's deputies said he may still face criminal charges after that.

## Crosby MS jazz band takes prize at UH



CMS Jazz Wins Best Band at UH Jazz Fest. Pictured (l to r, front to back) are Abbie Culver, Angel Berlier, Brylee Lavoie, Martin Brown, Ryan Odom, Karla Guzman, Christiana Trejo, Darian Aulds, Mollie Potter, Adam Garcia, Kaylee Morales, Trey Gardner, Matthew Schneider, Director Don Heaslet, Richard Gardiner, Aiden Anderson, Fletcher Reid, Sarah Nelson, Rylee Finnis, Sabrina Sanders, and Joey Bush.

Crosby Middle School Band was awarded a trophy for Best Middle School Band of the Day and Best Middle School Band of the Festival at the recent University of Houston Moores School of Music Jazz Festival. This is the third consecutive award won by Crosby Middle School Jazz at the UH Jazz Festival. The band's program included *Funky Cha Cha* by Arturo Sandoval, arranged by Peter Blair, with solos by Corey Griffith and Brylee Lavoie; *God Bless' the Child* by Arthur Herzog, Jr. and Billie Holiday, arranged by Jerry Nowak, with vocal solo by Christiana Trejo; and *That's How We Roll* by Gordon Goodwin, arranged by Peter Blair, solos by Martin Brown and Sabrina Sanders. Crosby Middle School Jazz Band is under the direction of Don Heaslet. Founded in 1996, CMS Jazz is celebrating 18 years of excellence in jazz instruction and performance.



Martin Brown and Christiana Trejo were honored as Outstanding Soloists.

## Planter retires from Huffman P.O.

Ms. Kathryn H. Planter, who is retiring after 37 years of service with the United States Postal Service has served as a Rural Letter Carrier, she delivered mail on Rural Route 2 in Huffman TX for over 30 years. A dedicated employee, she was awarded the Postal Service Million Mile



Award Driving Club and maintained an accident free record during her postal tenure. Ms. Planter's dedicated commitment is an example to all, and we would like to commend her on this remarkable achievement. Thank you Kathy and enjoy your retirement! From the Huffman Post Office

### Celebrating Spring

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- Homemade Flour Tortilla Tacos - Fajita, Chicken, Ground Beef Or Pork Skins W/Green Salsa. Served W/Lettuce & Tomato Or Cilantro & Onions \$2.00 ea.
- Homemade Corn Tortilla Tacos - Fajita, Chicken, Ground Beef, Or Pork Skins W/Green Salsa. Served W/Lettuce & Tomato Or Cilantro & Onions \$1.75 ea.
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- Hot Wings W/Ranch (6) \$6.00
- Chili & Cheese Hot Dog W/Fries \$5.00
- Chesseburger W/Fries \$6.00
- Chicken Tenders W/Fries (3) \$5.00
- Pizza Slice \$3.00

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# SCHOOLS, CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS

## LETTER To The Editor

Dear Editor,  
Thank you so much for giving us old timers in North Shore a newspaper again. I have really missed the Sentinel. The only other local paper thrown in is Spanish, which I cannot read, and have missed local news and ads. I moved to North Shore in 1959. I'm hoping our almost defunct civic association can inspire activity through your paper.  
Again thanks for the local news.  
Dottie Woods

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**APRIL**  
**North Channel Library events**  
-Saturday, March 29, 10-3:30 pm Literacy Tutor Training.  
-Monday, March 31, 6 pm Family Night "Loving Limits" 15741 Wallisville Rd., Houston, TX. 77049. Call 281-457-1631 for more information on other programs/classes.

**APRIL**  
**Galena Park Library events**  
-Tuesday, April 1, 1 pm Internet Basics I.  
-Wednesday, April 2, 11 am Children's Story Time.  
-Thursday, April 3, 11 am Baby Time.  
1500 Keene St. Galena Park, TX. 77547. Call 713-450-0982 for more information on other programs.

**San Jacinto College: Calendar brief**  
•Expo Concert: On Friday, March 28 at 7 p.m., all Central Campus (8060 Spencer Highway, Pasadena, Texas 77505) music programs will be showcased in an Expo concert, which will take place at Slocumb Auditorium.  
•Baseball vs. Galveston College. The San Jacinto College baseball team will host conference foe Galveston College in a double-header on Saturday, March 29, with the first game starting at 4 p.m. Baseball games free, and open to the public, and played at John Ray Harrison field, located on the North Campus. (5800 Uvalde Road, Huston, Texas 77049)  
•Women's History Month Event: On Monday, March 31, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., a Women's History Month panel discussion, "San Jacinto College Women of Character, Courage, and Commitment," will be held in the South Campus Interactive Learning Center Kaleidoscope Room.

**FEBRUARY- APRIL**  
**Free tax help for seniors**  
The Tax-Aide program sponsored by the IRS and AARP Foundation. The program is designed to assist taxpayers age 60 and over but will also assist low and moderate income filers.  
-North Channel Branch of Harris, County Public Library, Thursdays noon to 4 p.m.  
Services are ongoing until Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>.  
Taxpayers should bring the following items with them:  
-Social Security cards for yourself and all dependents  
-A copy of last year's tax return  
-W-2 forms from each employer  
-Unemployment compensation statements  
-All 1099 forms (1099-INT, 1099-DIV, etc.)  
-Child care provider information  
-Receipts or cancelled checks if itemizing deductions  
-Some type of picture ID  
For more information, call 1-888-227-7669 or visit [www.arp.org/taxaide](http://www.arp.org/taxaide).

## Channelview FFA Livestock Show set to kick-off

The Channelview FFA will hold its 51st annual Livestock Show April 1-5 at the Allen Hall Fairgrounds, located on Wood Drive in Channelview. Preparations and enthusiasm are both in high-gear, as Channelview ISD prepares to welcome the community event, which invites members of Future Farmers of America and the 4-H Club to compete for scholarship dollars through the show and auction of livestock projects.  
The FFA has been a part of the Channelview ISD educational landscape since the mid 1960s. Over the last 50 years, the FFA's livestock show has grown in both size and scope. Livestock Show activities begin April 3 with the move-in and weighing of all the market animals, followed by the sheep and meat goat shows starting at 6:30 p.m., and continues through the April 5 with The Mighty Thomas Carnival open daily at 6 p.m.  
The carnival offers a special preview price, Wednesday, of \$15 to ride all rides from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Passes to ride all the rides will be \$20 the rest of the week.  
Event festivities wrap up on Saturday, April 6 with a chili cook-off (8 a.m.), parade (10 a.m.), and event award ceremony at 1 p.m. directly followed by the livestock auction, with carnival operations open from 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.  
Anyone interested in participating in the parade should contact Suzanne Hutchins at 281-457-7310. To learn more about competing in the chili cook-off, contact Dwayne Davis at 713-367-9277. To learn more about running a food booth (for non-profit organizations), call Kaye Rawlings at (713-553-4565).

## GPISD students navigate their way to the State Geography Bee

Congratulations to Jacob Baguio of Woodland Acres Elementary and Azi Weaver of North Shore Middle School. Both students have qualified to represent their respective schools at the state level of the National Geographic Bee. The state Bee will be held on Friday, April 4, 2014 in Bedford, TX.  
To qualify for the state level of the Bee, students must win the local geography bee and earn a qualifying score on the state issued written exam. Baguio won the District elementary bee, and Weaver won the middle school bee.  
At the state level, grades four through eight compete against each other. One winner from each state will advance to the national competition, which will be held May 19 - 21 at the National Geographic Society headquarters in Washington, D.C.  
"This is the first time we had two students qualify for the state bee. This is a testament to their dedication and hard work. We are proud to have them represent Galena Park ISD at the state level and beyond," said Laurie Patterson, Social Studies Program Director K-12.



Azi Weaver



Jacob Baguio

## ASK DIAMOND JIM



*I want to buy an anniversary gift. How do I know what to purchase?*

You might be wondering who came up with the idea of assigning each year of marriage with the gift of a particular material. If so, join the club! Plenty of theories abound, but they're difficult to verify with any certainty. The most likely guess is that the gift list made its debut during the Victorian era in the United Kingdom during the 1800s, and then jumped across the pond to the United States in the early 20th century. Elaborate anniversary celebrations were fashionable back then, so gift-giving thrived as a result.  
To this day, both regions have their own list, although they're almost identical in content. For example, cotton is the material of choice for revelers in the United Kingdom following the first year of marriage, whereas the American list saves this material for couples' second anniversary. The traditional list covers anniversary gift needs each year up until the 15th, after which it acknowledges only every fifth anniversary, up to the 60th celebration.  
In 1937, a jeweler's association realized that the list was neglecting major sales opportunities by slighting so many perfectly good anniversary years (people celebrating their 16th anniversary still need presents, right?). To remedy the problem, they established a modern list of annual gifts for 75 years' worth of marriage. Some of the old-fashioned gifts were replaced with more practical items, like silverware, desk sets and clocks. Although these new gifts were assumedly created with the best intentions, we can't imagine there are many modern brides who will be thrilled with the gift of a desk set -- unless it also happens to be diamond-encrusted or made of chocolate. The traditional list allows more room for interpretation (it's pretty difficult to re-interpret the aforementioned desk set), so that could be one of the reasons why the modern version is less well-known than the classic list.  
Our Anniversary Guide can help you find that perfect piece of jewelry for your loved one. Our list contains both traditional and modern gifts for each year of your anniversary. But it doesn't always have to be a special occasion to give the gift of jewelry. Not sure what to get? Below you will find the list for "Newlyweds... 1-5 years".  
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).

Newlyweds: 1-5 years		Truly Devoted: 6-25 years		Golden Years: 26-50 years		Soulmates: 51-75 years		
Year	Traditional Gift				Modern Gift			
1st	Paper				Clocks			
2nd	Cotton				China			
3rd	Leather				Crystal or Glass			
4th	Fruit or Flowers				Appliances			
5th	Wood				Silverware			

## TEACHERS GRANT,

Continued from page 1

band vibrating through the hallways and a crowd of people with noisemakers leading the way, the Channelview ISD Education Foundation's "Surprise Patrol" presented Innovative Teaching Grants to educators on several campuses on Friday, March 7.  
Foundation board members and donors, school administrators, CHS band members, Channelettes and cheerleaders traveled by bus to campuses, presenting more than \$16,000 in grants to teachers throughout the district.  
Funds for the grants came from private donations from business and community members, as well as various individuals. The Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit organization that benefits Channelview ISD students and staff by supporting activities not funded by tax dollars through the regular school budget. In the past two years, the Foundation has given over \$38,000 in grant funding to educators in the district.  
"I would like to thank the donors who so generously contributed to the Foundation," said Greg Ollis, Channelview ISD superintendent. "They are helping dreams to come true for students and teachers by providing grant funding and resources that will bring learning to life in our classrooms."  
"We are excited and proud to be able to provide learning opportunities for the teachers and students of Channelview ISD through these grants," said Education Foundation President Sholanda Dawkins.  
The grant recipients included:  
-Karen Hebert, Channelview High School, \$5,000, Grant Title: Anatomy In Clay  
-Josh McDonald, Aguirre Junior High, \$2,785, Grant Title: Learning with LEGOs  
-Cheryl Childs, Hamblen Elementary, \$2,240.25, Grant Title: Mrs C's Triple T's - Teaching through Technology  
-Justin Jackson, De Zavala Elementary, \$2,225, Grant Title: Wireless Literature Circles  
-Nacha Griffin, Brown Elementary, \$2,000, Grant Title: Healthy All-Around Kits  
-Alan Stone, Channelview High School, \$1,387, Grant Title: High Power Rocketry  
-Christina Castillo, Pre-Kindergarten, \$1,228, Grant Title: I-Pad Learning Experiences  
Teachers who received these grants will use it towards their program [grant title] for students to put their knowledge in mathematics, engineering, chemistry, technology and physics to work as well as enhancing students' reading skills, learning concepts, applications of robotics, better understanding of healthy living, moving and being active.  
For more information on the Channelview ISD Education Foundation, log on to [www.cvisd.org](http://www.cvisd.org).

## San Jacinto College named one of nation's top community colleges

PASADENA, Texas - Highlighting the critical importance of improving student success in America's community colleges, the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program has named San Jacinto College as one of the nation's top 150 community colleges eligible to compete for the 2015 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence and \$1 million in prize funds.  
"It's an incredible honor to be selected for a second year as one of the top community colleges in the country," said San Jacinto College Chancellor Dr. Brenda Hellyer. "This recognition is due to the vision and leadership of our Board of Trustees, and our dedicated faculty and staff that work diligently each and every day to ensure that our students are completing their goals, graduating with a certificate or degree, and moving on to the next phase - either transferring to further pursue their education, or entering the workforce with the skills they need to succeed."  
The Prize, awarded every two years, is the nation's signature recognition of high achievement and performance among America's community colleges, and recognizes institutions for exceptional student outcomes in four areas: student learning, certificate and degree completion, employment and earnings, and high levels of access and success for minority and low-income students.  
The Aspen Institute identified the top 150 community colleges through an assessment of institutional performance, improvement, and equity on student retention and completion measures. Together, the 150 community colleges eligible to compete for the Prize represent the diversity and richness of the entire sector. The colleges represent 37 states; urban, rural, and suburban markets; and they encompass large and small community colleges alike.  
"This competition is designed to spotlight the excellent work being done in the most effective community colleges, those that best help students obtain meaningful, high-quality education and training for competitive-wage jobs after college," said Josh Wyner, executive director of the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program.  
Nearly half of America's college students attend community college, with more than seven million students - youth and adult learners - working towards certificates and degrees in these institutions across the country.  
Ten finalists will be named in this Fall. Prize winners will be announced in early 2015.

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OPINION

By Sen. Sylvia Garcia



# Why the affordable care act benefits latinos

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) is benefiting Latinos in Houston and across Texas.

Far into this enrollment process, I am hearing multiple success stories from people who have enrolled for affordable coverage and who are already using it to strengthen their families' health. Anyone who says differently has to be completely out of touch with the Latino population.

Latinos are disproportionately uninsured in this state. We are 40 percent of the total Texas population, yet we are 60 percent of the uninsured population. Those of us in the Houston area should be especially aware that we have 22 percent of the uninsured Latino population in Texas.

The ACA and other programs like Medicaid and CHIP greatly benefit Latinos, and are critical to our community's health. They make health care not only affordable, but also easily accessible. And, they benefit our State's economy.

We need to support these programs and encourage our family, friends, and neighbors who are uninsured to enroll at the Health Insurance Marketplace at [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov) through the March 31 deadline. Already, statewide we have about 300,000 Texans who have found private insurance as of March 1.

A health insurance plan will cost about the same as a monthly mobile phone bill. A Bronze plan for a 27-year-old in Houston who makes \$25,000 could be \$89 per month after a tax credit or \$94 after a tax credit for a family of four with an income of \$50,000. Plans vary based on income and the types of coverage selected, and about 80% of Texans who enroll through the Health Insurance Marketplace are receiving some type of financial assistance to ensure coverage fits their budgets.

For example, 24 year old Benito Balderas, who works at a bail bond company in Houston, enrolled in January and happily came out of the process with a Bronze plan that costs him \$44 each month. When asked about his experience, he gratefully says that it was easy for him to enroll with a health care navigator, and it only took about 45 minutes. While he hasn't used his plan yet, Benito says that he signed up because he thinks it's worth it, as he will need it sooner or later.

As designed, the Affordable Care Act had coverage for every budget, but decisions made in Texas mean that many will fall through the health care coverage cracks. The inaction of our Governor and statewide leaders to accept available federal funding to expand Medicaid in Texas to adults living under the federal poverty level has hurt our state.

Subsidies in the new Health Insurance Marketplace are only available to families above the poverty line (\$23,850 for a family of four). However, Medicaid expansion would have covered those making less than that. Over one million uninsured Texas adults will be unable to find coverage because of this lack of action on Medicaid expansion, and 56% of those one million uninsured are Latinos.

By not expanding Medicaid under the ACA, Texas left federal dollars on the table. On average, Texas would have received a \$9 federal match for every \$1 invested by the State. Expansion would have also provided economic benefits that would have included growth in direct and indirect business activity, job gains and a reduction in uncompensated care costs that are currently paid by local governments. Texas economist Ray Perryman estimates that Texas could have realized about \$300 billion in output and 350,000 jobs per year over 10 years from Medicaid expansion.

When we don't adequately provide health coverage, everyone is impacted: Latinos and non-Latinos, the uninsured, the insured, healthcare providers, businesses, local governments and tax payers. The bottom line is that we need to support more access to health coverage for everyone. We can do this by enrolling ourselves, our family and our friends at the Health Insurance Marketplace and urging our statewide leaders to support Medicaid expansion.

For questions about the ACA, you can call 832-393-5423 (Houston area) to set up an appointment with a health care navigator. Enrollment events and workshops in the Houston area are listed at [www.getcoveredamerica.org](http://www.getcoveredamerica.org) and at [www.organizetexas.org/calendar](http://www.organizetexas.org/calendar).



# DPS creates center to protect children

★

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

to 143 or Texas' 254 counties, and suspends "all rules and regulations that may inhibit or prevent prompt response to this threat."

## Actor speaks for vets program

Barry Corbin is front and center in a new 30-second Texas Veterans Land Board public service announcement that began airing March 17 in targeted broadcasts, announced Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson, who oversees the Veterans Land Board.

Corbin, a Lamesa native who served in the U.S. Marine Corps, played roles in such films as "War Games," "Urban Cowboy" and "No Country for Old Men," in television shows such as "Northern Exposure" and in the 1989 TV mini-series "Lonesome Dove."

In the part of the announcement, Corbin says, "Right now, if you're a Texas veteran or a member of the military, the VLB has low-interest loans up to \$100,000 with only 5 percent down. This is a great deal, just for veterans."

## Interim charges are made

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, who presides over the Senate, announced items for four standing committees to study and report on before the 2015 Legislature.

The Senate Committee on Health and Human Services is to: Evaluate prescription drug abuse and strategies for reducing it; monitor initiatives to improve the quality and efficiency of Medicaid; monitor fraud, waste and abuse in Medicaid and other health and human services programs; monitor the State Board of Dental Examiners' ability to respond to complaints and reports of potential fraudulent activity; and monitor efforts to

increase the transparency of the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas.

For the Senate Committee on Jurisprudence, charges include monitoring: (a) the implementation of laws passed in 2013 regarding criminal procedures related to children who commit certain Class C misdemeanors; (b) the prosecution of certain misdemeanor or offenses committed by children and to school district law enforcement; and (c) the state's new electronic, digitized court filing system.


The Senate Committee on Open Government is to "review the Texas Public Information Act to ensure that access to public records and information by the public remains fully transparent, but that governmental entities have the authority to protect the privacy interests of citizens, including primary and higher education students, from improper public disclosure." The committee also will review and make recommendations on improving the transparency of information available on state websites regarding state expenditures, reports and contracts, including a comparison of how similar information is provided by other states.

The Senate Committee on Transportation is to evaluate comprehensive development agreements and design/build project delivery methods and make recommendations. The panel also is to examine the implementation of law passed in 2013 to provide "remedies for habitual violators of non-payment of tolls" and "make recommendations for any legislation needed to improve, enhance, and/or complete implementation."

★

TOUCH OF LIFE

By Don Springer



# Time to return home

It is getting close to April and time for me to think about ending my 14<sup>th</sup> year as a snowbird-to-Crosby. Time to head home.

These last couple of weeks I have enjoyed spring's arrival. This has been one, if not the coldest winter I have experienced as a snowbird. I believe we have had colder single days in the past but not as many, nor as long. I brought several short-sleeve shirts and I think I have worn two. Not like many past winter's here.

I'm writing this on March 25 and heard from my daughter in West Virginia this morning. It was snowing there yesterday and was expected to continue through today. That is too much. I'm not anxious to return to that.

Neighbors here have been working on their lawns and some are beautiful now. One of the neighbors has a contractor work on her yard and it is already complete with azaleas of various colors, some roses and other flowers which I know not their name. Another neighbor has been gone on business several days and is working feverously each day now to "catch up." His yard is all greenery and he has mulched them well. It also looks good and he is still working.

Went up to Atascocita yesterday and saw many flowers already in bloom along 1960 through town. Spring is great and is a beautiful season. The drive on 1960 was enjoyable with the new colors.

I'll be working away on my yard shortly and will have a lot of "catching up" myself with others in my subdivision. I have one flower garden that Linda used to keep that I have continued, also a small one at the entry drive. The rest is all greenery, including many trees that I have to mulch and trim. After a few weeks I hope I can relax a little and enjoy the growth.

The drive home will be enjoyable with many of the trees and flowers in bloom. It will start out with many in full-bloom as I head east and north. The color will become less and less until I get home and only a few early trees will have leaves. Will get to watch the blooms spring out once again.

Here's hoping your lawn and garden are looking well!

*Such are the people, places and things that have touched my life in my home!*

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2014-2015

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Este año los estudiantes nuevos podrán ser inscritos por internet en la página de Crosby ISD [www.crosbyisd.org](http://www.crosbyisd.org) o en la oficina de registraci3n localizada en el centro de administraci3n. Se requiere un correo electr3nico para registrar a su hijo/a.

FECHA: 1 y 2 de abril 2014  
HORA: 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. y de 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

FECHA: 3 de abril 2014  
HORA: 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. y de 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.


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3. TARJETA CON LAS VACUNAS AL CORRIENTE  
4. PRUEBA DE QUE VIVE EN CROSBY.  
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2014-2015

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DATE: April 3, 2014  
TIME: 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: CROSBY ISD ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
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BY SEPTEMBER 1, 2014

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3. IMMUNIZATION RECORDS  
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2 MMR  
1 Hib, 3 Hep B  
2 VARICELLA (CHICKEN POX)  
2 Hep A  
4. PROOF OF RESIDENCE (ONLY CURRENT GAS, ELECTRIC OR WATER BILL WITH SERVICE ADDRESS WILL BE ACCEPTED). IF YOU LIVE WITH ANOTHER FAMILY, YOU AND THE HOMEOWNER WILL BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE A NOTORIZED AFFADAVIT ATTESTING TO THE INFORMATION GIVEN TO CISD. THE HOMEOWNER MUST BRING HIS/HER PHOTO ID AND CURRENT GAS, ELECTRIC OR WATER BILL WITH SERVICE ADDRESS LISTED.  
5. PHOTO ID OF PARENT/GUARDIAN

AFTER COMPLETING FORMS ONLINE, PLEASE BRING DOCUMENTS TO THE CENTRAL REGISTRATION OFFICE TO COMPLETE YOUR CHILD'S ENROLLMENT.





★  
**OBITUARIES**

**John Milton Thompson**



John Milton Thompson was born September 12, 1937 in Malakoff, Texas. His parents were: Milton Charles Thompson and Sadie Mae Hopkins. He had three children: Vickie Lynn Fancy and her husband, William; Carla Thompson Woodard, and her husband, Gabe Bitolas, M. Keith Thompson. Grandchildren: Ashley Fancy, Jake Woodard, Blake Fancy, and Coby Bitolas. One great granddaughter, Riley Jane Woodard.

John joined the Army while in high school. He worked for Hydril corporation 26 years until retirement. John loved

the outdoors, especially bird hunting with his favorite dog Sarge. He loved listening to old country music. A pair of starched jeans, cowboy boots and a pearl snap shirt was his favorite outfit. Above all, he loved his family. He always had a smile on his face and a twinkle in his eye. His sense of humor and quick wit will always be remembered. We will always love and miss him.

He is also survived by sister, Dorothy Durant, brother, Donald Thompson and wife Thelma, brother, Carroll Thompson and wife Linda, brother Jack Lakey and wife Darlene.

The family received visitors on Monday March 24, 2014 from 6-8 at Darst Funeral Home. Funeral Services were 10:30 am Tuesday March 25, 2014 at Triumph Christian Church, 21758 E. Hammond Drive, Porter, Texas 77365. Interment followed in Grandview Cemetery, Pasadena, Texas. For more information about the life of Mr. Thompson, or to sign the online guest book, please visit [www.darstfuneralhome.com](http://www.darstfuneralhome.com)

*Darst Funeral Home  
796 Russell Palmer Road  
Kingwood, TX 77339  
281-312-5656*

★  
**LITTLE BIDDY BITS**  
By Danny Biddy

**The Real Enemy**

The Bible tells of a man who was so full of the devil that he would tear off his clothes and run naked through his community,

hide in the hills and screen while mutilating his body, and had the strength to break chains when bound with them. Or as the late preacher Earl Dousay said about him, "He was a nude dude in a rude mood!"

However, the Bible goes on to tell us that one day this man meet Jesus and He freed him of that which had held him captive for so long. Let us never forget, people are not our enemy; they are prisoners of the enemy.

**Gospel Concert**

The Greene's in Concert Southern Gospel at Harvest Time Church of God located at 495 S. Diamondhead in Crosby, Texas. Concert to take place on Saturday, April 5, 2014 at 6:00 pm.

Admission is free. For more information, please call 281-462-8060.

**BIBLE TRIVIA**  
by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Deuteronomy in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. In which book's 10:30

does it say that God keeps numbered the very hairs of your head? Genesis, Exodus, Matthew, Mark?

3. From Leviticus 11, which of these were Israelites permitted to eat? Camel, Hare, Swine, Cow?

4. Who tried to take a Beer-sheba well away from Abraham? Abimelech, Samson, Ezekiel, Pekahiah?

5. From biblical and current times, what type of creature is a coney? Donkey, Rabbit, Viper, Locust

6. According to Proverbs 16, what is it better to get than gold? Mate, Health, Wisdom, Saved

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Matthew; 3) Cow; 4) Abimelech; 5) Rabbit; 6) Wisdom

**Miss Kamille Kay Aran  
Weds  
Mr. Patrick Ryan McGriff**

Miss Kamille Kay Aran and Mr. Patrick Ryan McGriff were united in marriage Saturday, March 8 at half past five o'clock in the evening at The Beaumont Botanical Gardens. The double ring ceremony was officiated by Mr. Chet Deaver. Music for the ceremony was presented by Keys and Strings. Following the ceremony, the bride's family hosted a reception with dining and dancing. Food was provided by Two Magnolia's and music by JPL Entertainment Group. The wedding planner was K & K Designs of Beaumont. On the eve of the wedding the parents of the groom hosted a rehearsal dinner at the MCM Elegante. A bridesmaids luncheon was hosted by Ann Golias, Judy Aran, and Paige Aran on Friday at the Golias home.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Aran, Jr. of Lumberton, Texas. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Hall of Lumberton and Mrs. Judy Aran of Woodville, Texas and the late Dan Aran, Sr. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard McGriff of Crosby, Texas. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Garcia of Crosby, Texas and Gary Key of New Caney, Texas, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Fred R. McGriff.

Presented in marriage by her parents, and escorted by her father, the bride wore an elegant ivory fit and flare Stefan Alexander gown with Swarovski crystal embellishments and a sweetheart neckline. The tulle veil

was also trimmed in Swarovski crystals. She carried an elegant bouquet of white roses. The bridesmaids wore one-shoulder chiffon tea rose floor length gowns accompanied by custom designed earrings of pearls and pink crystals designed by Monica's Mark, and carried bouquets of baby pink roses and white hydrangeas and roses.

Serving as matron of honor was Alexandra Fairchild Bacon, cousin of the bride, from McQueeney, Tx; The maid of honor was Tamara Gutierrez of Sugarland, Tx. Bridesmaids were Ashlain McGriff, sister of the groom, of Crosby, Tx; McKenzie Maxwell, cousin of the bride, of Lafayette, Louisiana; Kara Szembo-rski of Newton, Tx; Lauren Deaver of Kountze, Tx; Destini Ray of Beaumont, Tx; Whitney Poe of Lumberton, Tx; Megan Ogden of Fannett, Tx; Sofia Mendez of Boston, Ma; and Megan Railey of Deer Park, Tx.

Serving as best man was Justin Boyette, of Crosby, Tx. Groomsman were Christopher Maikranz of Sugarland, Tx; J.T. Roe, Kyle Miller, Kevin Humphery, Seph Sebastian, Devin Opiela, and Cody Ressler all of Crosby, Tx; Payton Ploch of Dayton, Tx, and Caleb Harmon of Pt. Neches, Tx. The ushers were Wade Aran and Drue Aran, cousins of the bride, of Beaumont, Tx; Holden Aran, cousin of the bride, of Mobile, Al; KC Key and Keeton Key of Cros-



by, Tx. The ringbearer was Luke Aran, and the flower girl was Amelia Aran, cousins of the bride, both from Mobile, AL.

Kamille is a 2009 graduate of Lumberton High School and currently attends Lamar University studying communications. She is employed with The Learning Center in Lumberton.

Patrick is a 2008 graduate of Crosby High School and graduated from Lamar University in 2013 with a degree in Exercise Sport Science. He is employed with The Medical Center of Southeast Texas in Pt. Arthur, Tx.

Following a honeymoon to Jamaica, the couple will reside in Lumberton with their dog, Coco.

**WESTON COTTEN, ATTORNEY**

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1 Corinthians 16:13

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**Gilbert Andrew Reidland**



Gilbert Andrew Reidland was born on March 21st, 1919 in Crosby, Texas and passed from this life on March 12th, 2014 in El Paso, Texas. He was 94 years old.

He is preceded in death by his wife of 66 years, Billie Reidland; his father, Theodore (Mike) Reidland and mother, Emma Reidland; brother, Leslie Reidland and his wife, Maudice.

He is survived by sons, Mike and Jim Reidland, daughter Donna Reidland; brothers Kenneth Reidland and his wife Peggy and Alan Reidland and his wife Mary Sue. Also, 8 grandchildren: Michael Alan Reidland, Kari Magallanez, Linda Ruth Rosemond, James Michael Reidland, Joey Bourret, Monica Bourret, Robert Andrew Reidland and Jason Bivens. 16 great-grandchildren, 1 great-great grandson and nieces and nephews too numerous to mention.

He graduated from Crosby High School and earned two Bachelor's Degrees from the University of Texas at Austin where he also competed on the swimming team. He proudly served his country for three years during World War II as a B-25 Bomber flight instructor in the Army Air Corp, later to be called the United States Air

Force. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him!

A visiting and sharing time for family and friends will be held on Friday, March 28, 2014 from 5-8pm at Sterling-White. A Celebration of Gilberts life will be held on Saturday, March 29th 1pm at Sterling-White. Services have been entrusted to Sterling-White Funeral Home 11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd. Highlands, Texas 77562. To send the family condolences please visit [www.sterlingwhite.com](http://www.sterlingwhite.com)

*Sterling-White Funeral Home  
11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd.,  
Highlands, TX 7762*

**Exie Atkins King**



Exie Atkins King 88, of Crosby, Texas went to be with the Lord on March 19, 2014. Exie was born on October 8, 1925 in Georgiana, Alabama to Doc and Lela (Marlow) Atkins.

Exie worked as a meat wrapper at a local meat market and was a member of Community Baptist Church. In her free time Exie enjoyed fishing, cooking, gardening and she especially loved family get togethers. Exie was a very sweet lady who had a good sense of humor and she was always willing to help anyone in need.

Exie will be deeply missed by all who knew her. She is preceded in death by her parents; and son, Don Blair. Exie is survived by her daughter, Caroline Eason of Cold Spring, TX; daughter, Elaine Rogers of Point Blank, TX; daughter, Susan Davis of Crosby, TX; daughter, Janice Russell of Gatesville, TX; daughter, Donna Sillars of Vancouver, WA; 8 grandchildren, 9 great grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends. A

visitation for family and friends will be held on Saturday, March 22, 2014 from 1pm-2pm at Sterling-White Funeral Home with funeral services following at 2pm. Burial will follow at Sterling-White Cemetery. Services have been entrusted to Sterling-White Funeral Home 11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd. Highlands, Texas 77562. To send the family condolences please visit [www.sterlingwhite.com](http://www.sterlingwhite.com)

*Sterling-White Funeral Home  
11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd.,  
Highlands, TX 7762*

**Cynthia Ann Mata**



Cynthia Ann Mata, 52, passed away Friday, March 21, 2014 in Houston, Texas. Cynthia was born May 20, 1961 in San Antonio, Texas to parents Sadrach and Eleanor Perez.

She is preceded in death by her parents; sister, Elaine Perez; mother-in-law, Sofia Mata; brothers-in-law, Martin Valenzuela, Dario Mata; and niece, Angelita Carrasco.

Left to cherish her memory are her loving husband of 23 years, Jose Luis Mata; children, Robert Todd Barrett, Samantha Jaunice Barrett, Victoria Ann Mata; step-children, Guillermo and Jessica Mata; sisters, Janie Valenzuela, Yolanda Sierra and husband Indalesio Jr., Yvette Carrasco and husband Antonio, Pearl Perez; four grandchildren; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, family members and friends.

Friends are welcome to join Cynthia's family for visitation from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 25, 2014 in the chapel of Carter Funeral Home. The Rosary will be recited at 5:00 p.m. and the Wake service will follow at 5:30 p.m. during the visitation on Tuesday. A Funeral Mass will be held at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 26, 2014 at St. Andrew's Catholic Church, 827 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, Texas 77530, officiated by Father Christopher Shackelford. Graveside services will immediately follow at Sterling White Cemetery in Highlands, Texas under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

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in the Lord; the needy will rejoice  
in the Holy One of Israel  
Isaiah 29: 10

I can do everything through him  
who gives me strength.

Phillipians 4:13

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# SPORTS NEWS

## Galena Park ISD names new head football coach for the Mighty Mustangs!

As long-time veteran David Aymond steps into his new role as GPISD's Boys' Athletic Coordinator, Jon Kay, eighteen year veteran of the District, takes the helm of the North Shore Senior High School Mustang football program.

Kay began his career as a science teacher and assistant coach at Cunningham Middle School in 1996. That was the beginning of a long, successful career which has landed Kay the job of his dreams - North Shore Senior High School Head Football Coach.

Kay has served in many roles over the span of his career: head freshman coach, defensive assistant, varsity secondary coach, recruiting coordinator, strength and conditioning coordinator, defensive coordinator, assistant head coach and athletic campus coordinator.

Kay has been honored as the 2010 Greater Houston Coaches' Association Assistant Coach of the Year. Also, he has been invited to speak at numerous Texas coaching clinics.

Although Kay has no easy task ahead of him as he accepts the new challenge and sets his sights on yet another coveted state championship for the team's trophy case, there is no doubt he has the experience required for such a challenge. He has devoted countless hours as a member of the Mustang program for the past sixteen years, and he knows what it takes to get to the next level.

Dr. Angi Williams, Superintendent of Schools, stated, "We have phenomenally talented young men at North Shore Senior High School. With this transition, our expectations remain unchanged as we continue to focus on the development of young adults with an emphasis on academic excellence, exceptional sportsmanship and character development. The lives of these students are successfully molded by strong role models, and Jon Kay is, without a doubt, one who will serve our students well. I am proud and



Jon Jay, new North Shore Senior High School Head Football Coach.

honored to have him serve in that capacity for our entire Mustang program."

Galena Park Independent School District  
2014-2015 Football Leadership Staff  
-Vince Sebo, Director of Athletics  
-Vivian Dancy, Girls Athletic Coordinator  
-David Aymond, Boys Athletic Coordinator  
-Jon Kay, North Shore Senior High School Head Football Coach and Campus Coordinator  
-Dave Handal, Galena Park High School Head Football Coach and Campus Coordinator

## GALEPA PARK ISD Yellow Jackets soccer district champions

Congratulations to the Galena Park High School Fighting Yellow Jackets Boys Soccer team who are the District 41-4A Champions! The Yellow Jackets take a 6-3-1 regular season record into the playoffs, which began Tuesday, March 25, 2014 at 7:30 PM, hosting the Summer Creek Bulldogs at Dement Field.

Head Coach Jose Treviño is proud of these young men, their talent and work ethic, but he is equally impressed with their intelligence. "This is possibly the smartest group of guys I have ever coached. They have learned to work together. It's a genuine pleasure to coach them, and they represent Galena Park High School very well," he commented. Two of the starters, Omar Mondragon and Cristian Garcia, are in the top ten in the 2014 graduating class and both are headed to Texas A&M University. Two other



Photo (Top Row L/R): Jose Torres, Luis Villela, Jose Mendez, Oscar Teran, Brian Alvarez, Luis Montes, Luis Herrera, Jose Davilla, Samuel Martinez, Jerson Ibarra. (Bottom Row L/R): David Teran, Jesus Estupinan, Martin Ramos, Omar Mondragon, Cesar Cebrian, Alan Sierra, Cristian Garcia, Armando Benavides.

er starters, Luis Montes and Jose Mendez, are being recruited for athletic scholarships. "Academics is al-

ways the priority. My number one goal is to get these athletes to go to college. If

soccer can be part of that journey, so much the better," added Treviño.

## Sheldon ISD Shaquarius Berry: All Greater Houston Team

Adding to one of the best seasons in C.E. King basketball history, Shaquarius Berry who guided his young team to the second round of this year's playoffs and was named district 19-4A MVP has added another accolade. Shaq was named to the All-Greater Houston 3rd team.

He currently is playing summer ball with Prep-Star Elite Gross. This kid will be as good or better than Desmond Haymon at SFA.



Shaquarius Berry named to All Greater Houston Team.

## Channelview ISD Lady Falcon Taeler Deer named to Greater Houston team

Lady Falcon basketball standout Taeler Deer can add another achievement to her list of honors after being named to the Greater Houston All-Area team.

The Greater Houston All-Area teams were announced in Monday, March 24, 2014 Houston Chronicle.

The four-year letterwinner was named to the All-Area second team after earning a first-team District 21-5A spot. She was among the top-10 in the Houston area in scoring with a 25-point per game average.

In addition, she signed a letter of intent to play women's basketball at Texas State University this fall.

Deer was one of the leaders of the Channelview High School team that went 18-5 on



Taeler Deer named to Greater Houston All-Area Team.

the season and advanced to the Area round of the Class 5A playoffs.

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13-3

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12-2

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 428169; Estate of HENRY TORRES Deceased; In Probate Court No. 2, of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on March 18, 2014.

**CHARLES YOUNG**

The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is:

c/o Weston Cotten  
5223 Garth Rd.  
Baytown, TX 77521

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this March 20, 2014

*Weston Cotten*  
by WESTON COTTEN  
Attorney for the Estate

**LEGAL NOTICE**

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The Chambers County Mosquitos Control Department will begin preparing for its aerial and ground insecticide applications for the control of mosquitos. Individuals who suffer with allergies or other interested parties with questions regarding operating procedures, or the chemical used, are to contact: Lawrence Lewis, Mosquito Control Director, 409-267-2720, 409-267-3265 (fax) or e-mail to llewis@co.chambers.tx.us.

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King Crossword

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9 Fine-grain leather

10 \$ dispenser

11 Tarzan's son

19 Greek consonants

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23 Shell out

24 Starch-yielding palm

25 Luminary

26 Secular

27 — Domini

28 Historically

significant building

32 Spacecraft statistic

33 Any of 100 in Washington

35 School org.

36 Pair

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39 Last letter

42 Hub

43 Former partners

44 Gossip

45 Cleopatra's slayer

46 Mainlander's memento

48 Sister



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Memorial for 3 victims killed in Westmont house fire



Picture shows a pile of burned wood and metal, the only thing left after the house fire at Westmont Dr.

On Thursday March 6, 2014 Gina Mims and 2 other family members passed away in tragic massive house fire in Houston at 516 Westmont Dr. The house fire took the lives of 25-year-old Slade Feige, his mother, 63-year-old Gwen Feige and Slade's mother-in-law, Gina Mims. Firefighters were dispatched around 4 pm to a house located in the 500 block of Westmont at Redondo. According to the Houston fire department, when firemen arrived, the flames had covered the house completely. It took firefighters about two

hours to extinguish the flames; the damage to the house made it difficult for arson investigators and firefighters to go inside the house and search for the victims. Emily Mims, lost her fiancé, her mother, Gina Mims, and her mother-in-law on the fire, she said all lived in the home together. At the time of the fire, she was at work. Investigators searching for a cause said the fire was not intentionally set and there are no signs of foul play. Gina's husband Lamar and their daughter Emily were the only survivors, they had no

insurance and have lost everything they own including their 3 pets. We are asking for your help. Gina Mims friend's have established a Memorial Fund to help the surviving members of her family to help cover unexpected expenses and to rebuild their home and lives. We are asking for donations for the memorial fund. Donations can be deposited at any Community Bank of Texas in the name of: "Lamar Mims / The Gina Kelley Mims Memorial Fund" For more information please contact Red Ross at 832-675-0678.

## Channelview Student competing in Houston PBS Spelling Bee

Alice Johnson Junior High student Chloe Munoz will be among the area's top spellers competing in the Houston PBS Spelling Bee. The spelling bee will air at 2 p.m., March 29 on KUHT Channel 8. Munoz is among the top 50 spellers from 1,070 schools in 42 counties statewide that are competing for a chance to participate in the Scripps National Spelling Bee, the nation's highest-profile academic event. The winner of the 2013 Houston PBS Spelling Bee will receive an all-expenses-paid trip for two to Washington, D.C. to represent the Houston area at the Scripps National Spelling Bee. Last year's national champion won over \$35,000 in cash and prizes. The pur-



Channelview ISD Spelling Bee Champion Chloe Munoz from Alice Johnson Junior High receives a certificate from Steven Dennis, President of the Channelview ISD Board of Trustees for her accomplishments.

pose of the Spelling Bee is to help students improve spelling, increase vocabularies and develop correct English usage that will help them all of their lives. Bee participation also provides valuable experience in developing poise, a necessary skill for public speaking, performing arts, and athletics.

### Channelview ISD High School bands sweep region contest

Alice Johnson and Aguirre junior high's bands swept the competition at the Region 19 University Interscholastic League contest. The Alice Johnson varsity band earned sweepstakes honors in the large school division, while Aguirre's varsity and non-varsity bands captured

the same awards in the small school division. In addition, Alice Johnson's non-varsity band had first-division ratings and second-division ratings in sight-reading. The large and small school divisions are determined by the enrollment at the campuses. "We are extremely proud of

these programs," said Ken Wright, Channelview ISD's director of fine arts. "They surely represented Channelview well." Alice Johnson's bands are directed by Mark Santos and Amanda Tieman. The Aguirre bands are led by Robert Sturdy and Jennifer Tunink.

## GREENS BAYOU COALITION,

Continued from page 1

eration and Consolidation with other governmental or corporate entities, to create controlling groups that can accomplish more than working alone. Emmett said that because of the extreme population and economic growth of the county, and the region, we must have governments that can respond and control in a more regional basis. Priorities for these will be infrastructure, including transportation, parks, and

waterways. He championed the idea of joint government entities, for city + county + subdivisions. He said that current coalition government bodies, such as the flood control district and Metro, could be expanded and more coordinated, to help meet the region's needs. He acknowledged that some consolidation ideas would be difficult, such as law enforcement, but were needed. Other regional issues, he offered, were Healthcare and county boundaries.

His final challenge: "Play to Win—don't Play not to lose." Mayor Parker echoed many of the same thoughts on joint projects, noting that the city and county already have parks, libraries, and soon an inmate processing center together. With a nod to the GBCC, she said "My passion is parks and trails."

✂

READER OPINION!

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MARCH 26, 2014

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Pineforest Jewelry, Uvalde Rd

San Jacinto College North, Student Center & Library

Fonteno Court House, Wallisville Rd

East Houston Hospital, I-10

Foodtown, Uvalde Rd

Sellers Brothers Market, Uvalde Rd

YMCA, Wallisville Rd

Fiesta Market, I-10

HPD Substation, I-10

Federal Road Barber Shop, Uvalde @ Halifax

Panera Restaurant, Beltway 8 @ Wallisville

Cici's Pizza, Uvalde @ Woodforest

Shipley's Donuts, Uvalde @ I-10 E

Post Office, Mesa Road

Kroger's, Woodforest @ Beltway 8

Fuddruckers, Normandy Rd

Walgreens, Maxey Rd @ Woodforest

Senator Sylvia Garcia office, in Woodforest Bank Bldg

North Channel Library, Wallisville Rd

North Shore High School, at Wallisville Rd

Walgreens, 15511 Wallisville Rd

CHANNELVIEW

K&T Western Wear, Sheldon Rd

Post Office, Sheldon Rd

Channelview High School, Sheldon Rd

Woodforest Bank, Sheldon Rd

Channelview Admin Bldg, Sheldon Rd

Food Fair, Sheldon Rd @ I-10

Flukinger Comm Ctr, Lorenzo St

HOLIDAY INN, I-10 E

SHELDON

Sheldon ISD Admin Bldg.

C. E. King High School, Tidwell Rd

Kroger's, Normandy at Woodforest

Parkway Feed, CE King Blvd

Community Bank of Texas, Tidwell Road

CLOVERLEAF

HC WCID #36, Hollywood St

Grayson Community Center, Corpus Christi St

Galena Park Admin Building, Beltway 8 at Woodforest

CommunityBank of Texas, I-10 E @ Freeport

Gatti's Pizza, Uvalde

North Channel Assistance Ministries, Bonham @ Freeport

JACINTO CITY

City Hall, Main Street

El Ahorro Market, Main Street

Community Center/Senior Center, Oates Rd

Capital Bank, I-10 E

Jacinto City Branch Library, Akron St

State Rep Ana Hernandez office,Mercury Drive

Sellers Brothers Market, Market St

JC Police Dept., Market St

Market Street Feed Store, Market St

GALENA PARK

Baggett Community Center, Keene St

Post Office, Clinton Drive

Galena Park High School, Keene St

Galena Park City Hall, Clinton Drive

Galena Park Library, Keene St

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281-328-9605 or northchannelstar@gmail.com.