

NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

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

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CHANNEL CHATTER

North Shore Annual Fish Fry - May 16

The 40th Annual North Shore Rotary Catfish Fry, Crawfish Boil & Auction will be held Saturday May 16th at the North Shore Rotary Pavilion on Wallisville Road (behind the Fonteno Courthouse Annex) from 11 to 3. Live auction begins at 12:30pm.

North Channel Golf tournament

North Channel Chamber will hold their Golf Tournament, May 21, 2015. 8 am Shotgun start. At TOUR !8, 2102 FM 1960 East, Humble, TX. Call the Chamber at 713-450-3600 to participate.

Rep. Green to host Veterans forum

HOUSTON – Congressman Gene Green invites veterans and families to his Veterans Forum on Thursday, May 21st from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the American Legion, Post 499 located at 1601 16th Street, Galena Park, Texas 77547.

The forum will feature an update on current issues and legislation, as well as the opportunity for veterans to ask Congressman Green questions and voice concerns in person.

"We're working hard to ensure that veterans have access to the medical care and benefits they need," Green said. "Last year, Congress passed major legislation to improve deficiencies and corruption in the VA system. We will keep working to make sure that new policies effect real, positive change for our veterans."

Representatives from various government agencies will also be present to answer individual questions. Confirmed attendees include the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Regional Office, Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center, Texas Veterans Commission, and VA National Cemetery.

Sheriff holds Community Crime Watch meeting

NORTH SHORE – Concerned about the incidents of crime in their neighborhood, and wanting more interaction with the local Sheriff's office, two private citizens took it upon themselves to organize a night of talks and exhibits with the Deputies of the Sheriff's office, last Monday night at the North Shore Rotary Pavilion on Wallisville, beside the Courthouse Annex.

Julie and David Baer, and over 100 residents of various neighborhoods, from Highlands to North Shore to Galena Park showed up at the meeting, and the Sheriff provided about 50 officers, 15 Explorers, and major equipment displays to help explain the department's capabilities.

Deputy Hall started the series of talks, outlining various techniques to improve security and safety from crime, including a Home Security Review, a Coffee with the Cops program, and free Gun Locks that were distributed that evening. Hall explained that



SGT. HALL of the Sheriff's office presents the main talk to the audience, about a Home Security Review to deter crimes in the neighborhood. Seated behind Hall are the organizers of the Crime Watch event, Julie Baer and David Baer.

the department will visit your home on request, and conduct the safety review, which will include lighting, shrubbery, alarms, and door and window locks. He explained these are the first line of defense against being a crime victim. He explained that he knows the North Shore area very well, growing up there and always being assigned to the area. When not pursuing crimes, he is also busy with nuisance abatement assignments, but he cautioned that these cases take time to prosecute and see areas cleaned up.

The next speaker was Capt. Joel Inocencio, the patrol captain for District 3. He explained that he has 120 deputies on his staff, and



See CRIME WATCH, page 6

GP CHARTER VOTE DEFEATS AMENDMENTS

GALENA PARK – Over 750 voters went to the polls last Saturday, to express their opinion on whether the City Charter should be amended, and how it should read.

In a stunning defeat of the propositions, all were defeated by a margin averaging 540 AGAINST, and only 220 FOR.

After months of wrangling and arguing over who has authority to run the city, the Mayor, the Council, or the City Manager, the voters chose two amendments, #10 and #14, to focus the most



YARD SIGNS were prominently displayed throughout Galena Park, and Galena Manor, against all of the 18 Proposed Charter Amendments.

negative votes against allowing the city manager and the council to have more authority.

Amendment #10, defeated 558 to 187, would have permanently established a city manager style of government.

Amendment #14, defeated 557 to 185, would have required two councilpersons to agree with the mayor to veto any city actions.

City leaders, including a Charter Committee of 16 citizens, headed by former

See City Charter, page 8

Garcia now Candidate for Houston Mayor

HOUSTON, TX – May 6, 2015 – Adrian Garcia, a long time Harris County Sheriff, announced last Wednesday, he is running for Houston mayor.

The same day of his announcement, Garcia sent his resignation letter to members of Commissioner Court.

Along Garcia, there are six other candidates who have announced their candidacy State Rep. Sylveter Turner, businessman Marty McVey, former Kemah Mayor Bill King, former Congressman Chris Bell, former City Attorney Ben Hall and Houston City Council Member Stephen Costello.

Harris County Precinct 4 Constable Ron Hickman has been named interim Harris County Sheriff by Commission-



Adrian Garcia

ers Court. Some of the prospects were Harris County Sheriff's Deputy Carl Pittman, Harris County Precinct 4 Constable Ron Hickman and Rep. Allen Fletcher, R-Tomball.

See NEW CANDIDATE, page 8

NORTH SHORE ROTARY Annual Catfish Fry & Crawfish Boil with Car Raffle this Saturday

NORTH SHORE – Rotary club president Allatia Harris is busy this week, making final arrangements with her event chairman, Mike Williams, for the 40th Annual Catfish Fry & Crawfish Boil that will be held this Saturday at the North Shore Rotary Pavilion, beside the Courthouse Annex at 14350 Wallisville Road from 11am to 3pm.

Every year almost a thousand people turn out for this event, which is a fund raiser benefitting the entire community. A major incentive to attend is the raffle, where for a \$100 donation you could win a new Toyota car or truck. A limited number of tickets are sold, increasing your chances to win this vehicle, according to Harris.

You can also participate in the live and silent auctions, where exotic and unusual items often go for bargain prices, and some trips and vacations are not available otherwise. Some recent auction items have included far-away vacation packages, jerseys for Texans' J. J. Watt, and golf foursomes.

The raffle also includes 20 other prizes, worth more than the price of the ticket itself.

Tickets are available from



NORTH SHORE ROTARIANS have been busy preparing for Saturday's big Fish Fry at the Rotary Pavilion next to the Courthouse Annex on Wallisville Road. Besides a great fresh dinner, you can also win a new vehicle by attending and donating \$100 for a raffle ticket. Proceeds go back into the community in projects and scholarships. The vehicle will be the choice of the lucky ticket holder, either a Toyota Tundra or a Toyota Avalon from Community Toyota in Baytown. Pictured with the car are Rotarians Shawn Silman, Fish Fry chairman Mike Williams, and ADG Derrill Painter. Tickets are available from any Rotarian or at the pavilion on Saturday. Meal tickets are also available for only \$10 donation.

any Rotarian, or at the pavilion the day of the event. However, come early for the best chance to bid and win. Oh, and get some of that fresh fish.

Title Sponsor for the event is the Holiday Inn Houston

East, with other major sponsors Basic Equipment, Bestway Oilfield, Blue Northern A/C, Community Toyota, Galena Park ISD Education Foundation, and San Jacinto College Foundation.

COMMUNITY PROFILE WWII Vet receives high school diploma at age 89

As a senior at Galena Park High School in 1944, Billy Mills was set to graduate and receive his diploma. He had 1.5 credits to make up, but that would not be a problem except for one thing - Uncle Sam called upon him to serve in the U. S. Army. He had no choice but to leave his family, friends and his education. He served our country in World War II as an Army heavy machine gunner and a telegraph operator, but his heart remained in Galena Park.

Upon returning home two years later, he married his high school sweetheart, Wanda, and began a career in the oil industry. With a successful career, five children and a loving wife at his side, he lived a fulfilling life; yet, he always had disappointment gnawing at him. He regretted not getting his high school diploma.

Fortunately his daughter, Denise, contacted Galena Park ISD to inquire about getting her father a diploma. GPISD was more than hap-



Billy Mills (right), 89-year-old graduate, stands with Martha, his wife of 69 years (far right), and the principal of Galena Park High School, Tony Gardea (left). Norma Hernandez (far left), the school registrar, was instrumental in assisting Mr. Mills receive his diploma.

py to oblige this request. On Monday evening, May 11, 2015, 71 years after he was called to serve his country, Billy Mills put on a Galena Park High School cap and gown during the GPISD

board meeting. Dr. Williams, superintendent of schools, called him forward and Galena Park High School principal, Tony Gardea, awarded Mr. Mills with his long awaited diploma.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Ronnie Kluch honored with plaque and dedication of field



At the April 2 dedication of an archway and plaque to Ronnie Kluch former Ross S. Sterling Baseball Coach at Kluch field against Channelview’s baseball contenders. The dedication was presented by Superintendent O’Brien, a proclamation was done by Mayor Stephen Don Carlos. Opel Handley, Jack Baker, Clayton Baker, Fredlyn Kluch, Ronnie Kluch, Kim Baker, Betty Michalsky Jonell Handley.

BAYTOWN – Ross S. Sterling’s retired Head Baseball Coach Ronnie Kluch was honored with a plaque for his service from 1971 through 1980. He was 4 times Coach of the Year for exas High School Baseball Coaches’ Association , All-Star Coach, All American Baseball Player for Kansas City Athletics. During his ten years as coach His teams won four district championships, tied for the title three years, and finished second in the state twice, his team made state finalist. He is quoted as having said, “Play it like a man, enjoy it like a boy.”

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Crosby CC Trips

- Hemi Hideout, Brookshire: Wednesday, May 20 at 10 a.m. Cost is \$3 per person; Lunch is on your own at Alicia’s Mexican Grille.
- Kemah Boardwalk and Seabrook Seafood Market, Seabrook. Thursday, May 21 at 9:30 a.m. Cost is \$3 per person; Lunch is on your own at the Boardwalk.
- Blue Bell Creamery, Brenham: Tuesday, May 26 at 9 a.m. Cost is \$7 per person; Lunch is on your own at Los Cabos Mexican Grille Crosby Community Center, 409 Hare Road, Crosby 77532. (281) 462-0543.

Harris County Precinct 2 Trips

- Sam Houston Boat Tour: Wednesday, May 20 at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$3 per person; Lunch is on your own at the Dinner Bell Café. Departing May Center in Huffman; Contact Maria Anderson at 713-274-2434
 - Hemi Hideout, Brookshire: Wednesday, May 20 at 10 a.m. Cost is \$3 per person; Lunch is on your own at Alicia’s Mexican Grille. Departing Crosby Center in Crosby; Contact Thresa Hester at 281-462-0543.
- May Community Center is located at 2100 Wolf Road, Huffman 77336. (713) 274-2434.

Crosby Comm. Center events

MeCoupon Cutting and Exchange – Military Program: Thursdays at 11 a.m. Share money saving tips and coupons at this exchange class. Also, all expired coupons can be sent to the military overseas.

Quilting Classes: Thursdays at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Take this opportunity to quilt, share ideas, and enjoy the fellowship of other quilters. Quilters of all experience levels can attend these sessions.

Salad and Spud Featuring Jerry Locke and Booger Lee: Friday, May 22 at 11:30 a.m. The Center’s salad luncheon serves up generous-sized, oven baked potato with all the trimmings, fresh green salad, dessert, iced tea, and coffee. Cost is \$5 per person and helps defray the cost of the food. Advance registration is necessary by Tuesday, May 19. Call (281) 462-0543 or stop by the Center to sign up. The Center is located at 409 Hare Road, Crosby, TX. 77532.

May Community Center’s ongoing May calendar

Rhythm Walking: Weekday mornings from 8:10 a.m. to 8:55 a.m. Tuesdays, Thursday, and Fridays from 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. Come rain or shine for a 2-mile walk to music in the comfort of the Center.

Body Toning Chair Exercise: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Boost your energy, stamina, and flexibility with other individuals at the center.

Decorative Painting: Mondays at 9 a.m. Master decorative artist teaches the art of decorative painting.

Pickleball: Mondays at 11 a.m. Pickleball is all the craze in the US and now it’s coming to May Community Center! Played on a court similar to tennis and with a paddle similar to ping pong – Pickleball! Dress in comfortable attire; no experience necessary. Equipment is provided.

May Community Center is located at 2100 Wolf Road, Huffman 77336. For more information call (713) 274-2434.



Crosby HS Symphonic Band performs at UH

The Crosby High School Symphonic Band performed at the University of Houston’s "Band Invitational." This is the first time Crosby has played at UH! They were professionally recorded performing their UIL Contest music that recently earned all Division 1 ratings: Inglesina March by Delle Cese, Sheltering Sky by Mackey and La Tregenda by Puccini. Proud Director of the Symphonic Band is Kevin Knight.

St Jude Thaddeus Catholic Church
800 South Main
Highlands, TX 77562

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COMPLETE CARE

COMMUNITY, SCHOOL NEWS

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Fiesta Dance

North Shore Seniors will hold a Fiesta Dance Thursday, May 14 from 1 - 4 pm at Grayson/Baldree Bldg., Corpus Christi. Live band and refreshments. Only \$ 5/per person. For more information, call 713-455-3660.

MAY

North Channel Library events

-Saturday, May 16, 10 am - 3 pm, Scrapbooking with Mia; 2 pm, Faithful Paws.
-Monday, May 18, 6 pm, STEAM Camp: Math.
-Tuesday, May 19, 10:30 am, Toddler Time; 1:30 pm, Preschool Story Time.
-Wed., May 20, 10 am, Book Club; 4:30 pm, Asian Pacific Heritage Month: Chinese craft mask.
-Thu., May 21, 10:30 am, Baby Time.

COMPUTER CLASSES:

-Basic Power Point, Lecture, May 18, 1-3 pm.
-Basic Power Point, Practice, May 20, 1-3 pm
•Registration required.
CLASES DE COMPUTACION
-Power Point Básico, Lectura, Mayo 19, 10-12 pm.
-Power Point Básico, Práctica, Mayo 21, 10-12 pm.
-Introducción a Email, Parte 1, Mayo 6, 6-7:45 p.m.
•Se requiere registraci3n.

Library is located at 15741 Wallisville Rd., Houston, TX. 77049. Call 281-457-1631 for more information

MAY

Galena Park Library events

-Wednesday, May 20, 11:00 am, Story Time; 1:00 pm, Mecanografía; 3:30 pm, Typing Basics.
-Thursday, May 21, 11:00 a.m. Baby Time; 3:30 pm, Family Movie Time.
-Monday, May 25, Memorial Day, Library CLOSED.
Please call the library at 713-450-0982 for more details.
The library is located at 1500 Keene St. Galena Park, TX. 77547.

SATURDAY NIGHTS

The Buckshot Jamboree

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

Sheldon ISD Will Have Full Day Prekindergarten

Sheldon ISD has made the commitment to implement a full day prekindergarten program in the 2015-2016 school year. Children who will turn four on or before September 1, 2015 and live in the Sheldon ISD school zone will be eligible to enroll.

Parents need to complete registration before June 5 as space is limited.

Start the registration process on-line at: www.sheldonisd.com then come into the NOC administration building at 11411 C.E. King Parkway to bring your documents and complete the process.

See the complete list of documents needed at www.sheldonisd.com

Registration Office: 281-727-1300

Two Galena Park ISD athletes compete in State Meet

Kerwin Roach of North Shore Sr. High and Fletcher Sherrard of Galena Park High School, will be competing in the upcoming state track meet held in Austin on May 14-16. Roach, the defending 6A triple jump state champion will defend his title and also compete in the long jump - an event he added to his repertoire this year. At the regional meet he finished first in the triple jump and second in the long jump. Sherrard will also compete in two events at the state meet. At the regional meet he finished first in the triple jump and the 300M hurdles in division 5A.



Kerwin Roach

Kerwin Roach - Kerwin "Snoop" Roach will defend his title as 6A Triple Jump State Champion.



Fletcher Sherrard

Fletcher Sherrard - Fletcher Sherrard will compete to become state champion in the 5A Triple Jump and 300M Hurdles.

McMullan's Schoolwide Art Gallery turns heads

By Mark Kramer

It's safe to say that all of McMullan Elementary's students were a bit excited about their art projects this year.

Yes, every single student. When this school year began, Art teacher Alicia Gray came up with the idea to create a Schoolwide Art Gallery as a way to inspire the students' creativity. She wanted to assemble the artwork of all McMullan students during the school's Art Show in the spring.

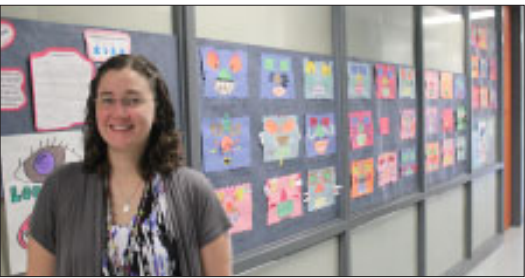
The results certainly turned a few heads.

"It was very impressive," said Gina Ervin, McMullan principal. "Having the work of every student in the school displayed is quite an undertaking. You can tell that Ms. Gray sparked the student's enthusiasm and involvement through this project. Everyone from visitors to former teachers that have walked through the hallways have been amazed."

From student drawn portraits of themselves to cut-out creations of hot air balloons and other subjects - the artwork lined through the grade-level hallways and down the main hallways of the campus.

"Through this project, I wanted to be able to give students a reason to be proud and show off their awesome work," Gray said.

Gray began the year by



McMullan art teacher Alicia Gray stands in front of some of the student artwork displayed in her hallway as part of the school's Schoolwide Art Gallery, which includes art from every student on campus.

talking with students about why an artist keeps a portfolio and each student created their own portfolio adding each work they did over the course of the school year. As the date to the school art show drew closer, the classes had a "Portfolio Day" where students got to go through their portfolio and pick the artwork they wanted to be featured at the event.

As part of the critical thinking aspect of the class, Gray had the students come up with two specific reasons they picked the piece over the others in their portfolio and name one thing they could do to improve their artwork if they participated in an art show again.

"The students really

thought about and were involved in the process of choosing and submitting the artworks for the show and it helped them to be excited about showing off what they thought was their best work." Gray said. "By allowing the students to choose their piece it gave each student something that they could be proud to display."

This year's schoolwide art project might have just sparked a new tradition at McMullan.

"I'm thinking a school wide theme for a project could be wonderful," Gray said. "It could be some sort of collaborative work, where each grade makes parts of the whole. It will be exciting to see what we can come up with for next year."

Channelview's Jose Aguirre finishes in nation's top 10 at BPA competition

Channelview High School's Jose Aguirre placed in the top 10 against students from 22 states and Puerto Rico in the Computer Modeling category at the Business Professionals of America's National Competition in Anaheim, Calif.

Aguirre finished eighth in the national competition and was presented with a medal during the award ceremonies at the event.

"We cannot express how proud we are of Jose's hard work during this competition," said Erin Bowman, Channelview High School's BPA sponsor. "He represented Channelview ISD very well. Jose is going to graduate in June and move on to great things."

Aguirre advanced to the national competition by taking the top spots in Computer Modeling at the regional and state contests. His award-win-



Jose Aguirre, center, is congratulated for his top 10 finish at the National Business Professionals of America competition by Channelview High School BPA sponsors Karen Neal and Erin Bowman.

ning project was a 3-D model for a fictional minor league baseball team and its mascot, a bear named Neo.

At the present time, Aguirre

is not only busy completing his senior year, he also plans to receive his Associate's Degree from San Jacinto College North during CHS graduation ceremonies on June 7.

COMMUNITY WATCH

Woman's body found between 2 chemical plants in Channelview

CHANNELVIEW, Texas - A security guard found the body of a woman near a retention pond between two chemical plants last Friday, May 8, 2015.

According to Harris County Sheriff's Office, the body was found around 8:30 a.m. on Sheldon Rd. near Wallisville Road in the Channelview area.

The security guard spotted the woman's body lying on the ground. Investigators are trying to identify the woman and do not know how or when she died. The investigation continues. Anyone with information should contact Harris County Homicide, 713-274-9100 or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS (8477).

GALENA PARK

Two people shot outside their house

GALENA PARK, Texas - Two people were shot on their front porch last Sunday morning.

According to Houston Police, the shooting happened around 6:00 a.m. last Mother's day at a home on Armstrong and Rhode Island.

When police arrived, they found a man with a gunshot wound in his face.

The second man ran to his aunt's nearby house where paramedics picked him up. He had a gunshot wound on his shoulder.

Police are trying to determine who was the shooter and how it happened, people at the house did not want to cooperate with the police in the investigation.

Suspect wanted for armed robbery of drug store

Harris County, TX - Crime Stoppers and Robbery Investigators with the Harris County Sheriff's Office need the public's help in identifying one male suspect responsible for an aggravated robbery at a drug store in Harris County, Texas.

On March 6, 2015, Harris County Deputies responded to a call at a drug store, located in the 14800 block of Woodforest Blvd, in reference to an aggravated robbery. Deputies arrived an employee reported that at approximately 10:45 p.m. the suspect entered the store and purchased an item with cash, then left the store. About 15 minutes later he entered the store again and walked up to the service

counter. The employee said that is when he pulled out a handgun from his waistband and pointed it at her stomach demanding cash out of the register. She complied with the suspects demands and handed him all the cash in the register. The suspect fled the scene in an unknown direction.

The suspect is described as a black male, approximately 20 to 24 years of age, standing approximately 5'8" to 6'0" tall and weighing between 160 to 180 lbs. Suspect was wearing a tan baseball cap, white sweatshirt and tan pants during the crime. The suspect also had an unknown tattoo on his left forearm.

Channelview ISD launches Summer food program

Channelview ISD's Nutrition Services Department will provide free breakfast and lunch to those 18-years-old and younger as part of its Summer Food Program.

The program will be held at several locations throughout the Channelview area in June and July. Locations and serving times are as follows:

•Kolarik Ninth Grade Campus, 1120 Sheldon Road, June 9-July 30. Breakfast: 6:45-8:30 a.m., Lunch: 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday
•McMullan Elementary, 1290 Dell Dale, June 9-June

23. Breakfast: 7:15-8:05 a.m., Lunch: 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.. Monday through Thursday

•Early Childhood Center, 911 Sheldon Road, June 9-July 9. Breakfast: 7-8:15 a.m., Lunch: 11 a.m.-12:20 p.m. Monday through Thursday

•De Zavala Elementary, 16150 Second Street, June 9-June 25. Breakfast: 7:30-8 a.m., Lunch: 11 a.m.-11:45 a.m. Monday through Thursday.

For more information, please call the district's Nutrition Services Department at 281-860-3807.

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OPINION PAGE

★
OPINION

Babin reflects on the 64th annual National Day of Prayer

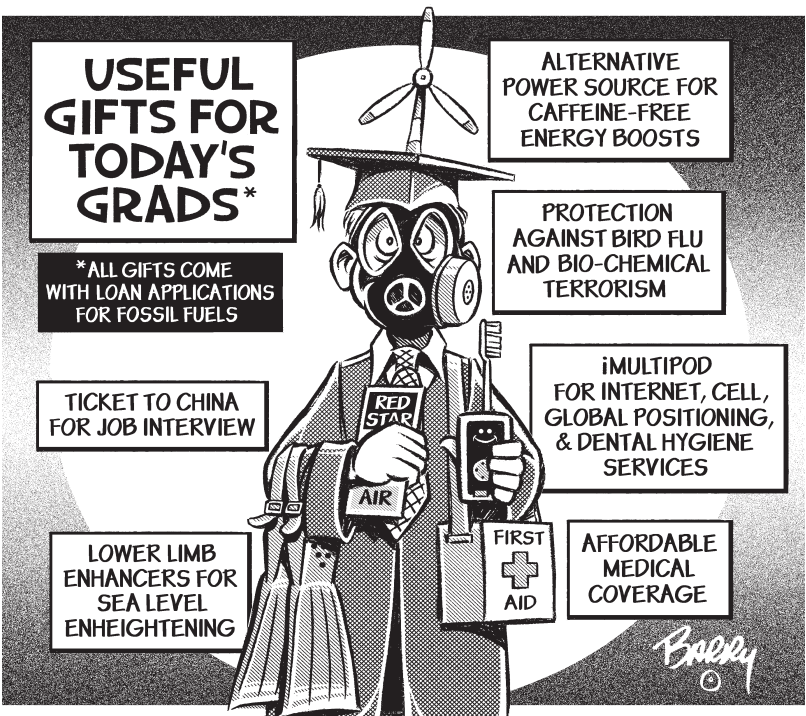
Washington, DC – U.S. Representative Brian Babin (TX-36) today marked the 64th annual National Day of Prayer by sharing his personal reflections and prayers for our nation. The transcript is as follows:

“Today is a special day – as millions of Americans join together in prayer for our nation and its leaders. Since the first call to prayer in 1775, when the Continental Congress asked the colonies to pray for wisdom in forming a nation, the call to prayer has continued through our history – including President Lincoln’s designation of April 30, 1863, as a “Day of National Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer. Then in 1952, President Truman signed a resolution officially declaring an annual National Day of Prayer. It was later amended by President Reagan to permanently set our National Day of Prayer on the first Thursday of every May.

“On this day each year we pause and put ourselves humbly before God, seeking His guidance for our nation and His grace and mercy upon us as a people. This year’s theme – ‘Lord Hear Our Cry’ – speaks to us all. I believe Scripture reminds us of the manner in which we are to come before our Lord in prayer. We are to do so in humility. 2 Chronicles 7:14, reminds us, ‘If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.’

“It is in that spirit of humility, that we join together today. Seeking the mercy and grace of our Lord, knowing that what we really deserve is judgment. We should be thankful, now more than ever, that our God is a God of mercy and grace, and we come before him today asking for his blessing. We live in trying times here at home and abroad, but in many respects we always have since the birth of the United States. I implore you to remember that we serve a God that is all-powerful and is beyond the limits of humankind. With these challenges there may be a temptation to despair, recognizing what is beyond our abilities to fix. And, that may be the case. But rather than despair, we should turn to prayer. That is what we are doing today.

“None of us are perfect; we all have limitations and shortcomings. To those of us who are Christians, the Bible reminds us that we serve a God of mercy, a God of grace and a God of immeasurable compassion. Today, we come humbly before him in prayer. The National Prayer Day is an annual reminder for us to be in prayer for our nation, our leaders and our military members. It gives us the opportunity in this season of uncertainty to be reminded that the Lord hears our cries. So today I join you in solemn prayer for our nation which has been blessed beyond measure. I also humbly ask for your prayers as I seek to serve you with integrity in the U.S. Congress. God Bless Texas and God Bless the United States of America.”



Conferees struggle toward budget compromise

AUSTIN — For the Texas Legislature to accomplish its main purpose, the passage of a state budget for fiscal years 2016 and 2017 must be achieved.

The five House and five Senate members of the Conference Committee on the budget, House Bill 1, have been working together since late April. They must angle their philosophical pathways to something mutually acceptable to take back to their respective chambers for consideration.

Last week, however, no results-showing HB 1 conference committee report was published, so as yet, there is no document revealing state-mate-breaking agreements on the \$211 billion budget.

Movement on other items, in a bulk sense, has been slow. As of Friday, May 8, only four Senate bills and zero House bills had reached the governor’s desk. House and Senate members filed a total of 6,274 bills in the current session.

This week, May 11 to 15, constitutionally imposed deadlines take effect, setting the stage for a massive die-off of bills that have not moved well into the process. So far, 1,315 House and Senate bills have progressed beyond the committees in which they originated.

Comptroller pinpoints concerns

With the June 1 end date for the legislative session only weeks away, Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar, the state’s chief bookkeeper and a former member of the House and the Senate, on May 4 sent a written reminder of his budgetary concerns to Gov. Greg Abbott, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and House Speaker Joe Straus.

While the focus of budget disagreements between the House and Senate is taxes and where to cut them, Hegar urged attention to a list of long-term balance sheet issues affecting the state’s credit rating and thus the cost of borrowing. Here’s a shortened version of the list:

1. Roads and infrastructure. Additional funds are needed to meet the state’s rapid population growth.
2. Texas Employees Retirement System pension. The state’s contribution rate is insufficient to amortize the liability in a timely manner.
3. Long-term debt. The state’s general obligation debt has more than doubled from \$7 billion in 2010 to \$15 billion currently. It must be paid down.
4. Other post-employment benefits. Accrued liabilities to the Teachers Retirement

Senate passes fracking bill

A bill approved by the Senate on May 4 would limit municipalities’ power to ban the hydraulic fracturing of sub-strata in oil and gas exploration.

Dubbed the “Denton fracking bill,” HB 40 by Sen. Troy Fraser, R-Horseshoe Bay, was filed in response to an ordinance passed by the city of Denton last fall. Fraser, who chairs the Senate Natural Resources and Economic Development Committee, said his bill “would clarify that the state is the ultimate authority when setting policies related to oil and gas exploration.” Fraser added that “cities would still exercise limited regulatory authority on above-ground oil and gas exploration activities, including things like fire and emergency response, noise and light pollution or traffic concerns.”

Sales tax revenue goes up

Comptroller Hegar on May 6 announced state sales tax revenue in April was \$2.3 billion, up 1.1 percent compared to April 2014, and April 2015 was the 61st consecutive month of growth in state sales tax collections.

★
STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By Ed Sterling



April was “the second consecutive month of relatively slow growth” in sales tax revenue, Hegar said, and the 1.1 percent growth was “muted by the significant slowdown in the oil and gas mining sector.” However, he added, state sales tax collections from retail, wholesale trade, restaurants, construction and manufacturing continue to grow.

Cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts will receive May local sales tax allocations totaling \$759.8 million, up 6.1 percent compared to May 2014, Hegar said.

Drought conditions persist

Gov. Abbott on May 8 renewed an emergency disaster proclamation certifying that exceptional drought conditions pose a threat of imminent disaster in some 81 specified counties in Texas.

Abbott’s proclamation directs that requests to suspend any rule or regulation that may inhibit or prevent prompt response to the drought be submitted to his office for approval.

★
LETTERS
To the Editor

Dear Editor:

Many educators have contacted our office about Senate Bill 893. Your concerns are understandable, as the legislation addresses the evaluations and pay scales used in the teaching profession.

It is disappointing that so much misinformation is being circulated about this bill and hopefully our office can be of service in clarifying the facts.

First of all, SB 893 does not reduce teacher pay and will not tie teachers’ evaluations to STARR testing.

One of the concerns brought to my attention is that this bill decreases teachers’ salaries to \$27,000. This could not be further from the truth. It maintains the previous minimum of \$2,754 per month. This is not what teachers will be paid per month, but more so a protection to ensure teachers cannot receive less than that.

SB 893 gives local schools districts the freedom to recruit, support, and financially reward hardworking teachers as they see fit.

SB 893 preserves local control by allowing school districts to either maintain the current state-designed or adopt a locally-designed teacher salary schedule.

SB 893 ensures teachers are evaluated annually based on multiple measures and are provided meaningful feedback. A teacher assessment evaluation can still be developed by a school district and may include peer-to-peer review and other teacher participation. There is explicit language in the bill to limit the use of student scores on a standardized test to measure a teacher’s performance.

SB 893 lets teachers customize their professional development based on their individual needs, ending the one-size-fits-all method that is currently in place.

With many public educators in my family, I remain committed to improving public education in Texas. The current state budget I supported on the Senate Floor appropriates \$55 billion to public education for the 2016-17 biennium. This is an increase of \$3.4 billion from last session.

These numbers will likely continue to evolve as the bill moves through the legislative process, but it is a good starting point to ensure that public education is given the funding it needs to educate our state’s children and support our teachers.

Respectfully,
Brandon Creighton
State Senator, District 4

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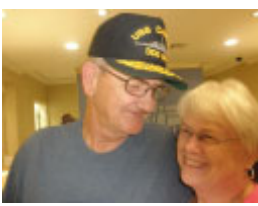
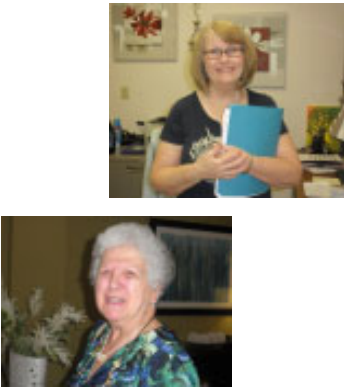
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LIFESTYLE

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★
WHO DAT?
Charlie Farrar's Candid Camera



Church news & events

Eastgate Church will host Twogether In Texas “BEFORE YOU SAY I DO” premarital classes for couples desiring to be married. The classes (\$20 per couple) will be Saturday, May 30 and Saturday, June 6 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Marriage licenses in Liberty County cost \$72. Upon completion of these two certified 4-hour classes, the license will only cost \$7.

Have you been saving for a Church wedding? Then on Saturday, June 27, we will have a **FREE** wedding for 8 couples who have gone through these classes which will include church, pastor and simple reception. If you know a young couple who would like to save money and be a part of this “first ever” group wedding, please have them register online at www.eastgate-church.com. Each couple will say their vows individually and their reception area will belong to them. Maybe you would like a “Remarriage” for a special anniversary, you may if there are fewer than 8 couples signed up. Further details are on our website.

Holy Family Catholic Church McNair, KNIGHTS OF PETER CLAVER and LADIES AUXILIARY council and court #341 will be hosting their third annual crawfish boil and festival, on May 16, 2015 starting at 11am until 6pm. The proceeds fund their scholarships. The event will be free and open to the public, held under the protection their pavilion, rain or shine. Plates will contain crawfish, corn and potato for \$10.00, sausage is extra. We will have a variety of zydeco, country and other music throughout the day. Holy Family Church is located on I-10 east at 7122 Whiting Rock Baytown, Texas.

BIBLE TRIVIA
by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Galatians in the Old or New Testament or neither?
 2. From Joshua 6, on the seventh day, how many times did the men of war march around Jericho? 1, 3, 5, 7
 3. In His first recorded miracle, what did Jesus turn into wine? Goat's milk, Grape juice, Fig cider, Water
 4. From 1 Chronicles, what king was buried with his sons under an oak tree? Neco, Jehoash, Saul, Rezin
 5. How many New Testament (KJV) books are named for a woman? 0, 1, 2, 3
 6. In the story of creation, what did God call the darkness? Blackness, Night, Four-score, Trinity
- ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) 7; 3) Water; 4) Saul; 5) 0; 6) Night

★
LITTLE BIDDY BITS
By Danny Biddy

Clean Inside and Out

My wife had forgotten to run the dishwasher the night before. The next morning it was her turn to bring us coffee. She brought mine in a cup labeled "World's Best Mom." I said, "You gave me a MOM'S cup?" She smiled and replied, "I gave you a CLEAN cup!" Jesus taught the importance of serving God with a clean heart. In Matthew 23:26 He told the Pharisees, "First clean the inside of the cup and the plate, that the outside may be clean also."

Highlands' Stratford Library gets new librarian



ROTARY PRESIDENT RAYMOND GONZALEZ presents a check for the summer reading program to the new Stratford Librarian, Mandy Sheffield, as the outgoing librarian Jen Crouse helps.

HIGHLANDS – After more than 6 years serving the children and families in this area, our librarian Jen Crouse has been reassigned to another Harris County branch, at the Lone Star College in Cy-Fair.

Our new librarian, starting in the children's department before taking over, is Mandy Sheffield.

Mandy is a native of the area, having gone to Lee High School in Baytown. Her mother was a teacher, including the Highlands Junior School, and Sterling and Lee.

Mandy has been a Harris County librarian for over 12 years, starting at the La Porte library before coming to Highlands.

She is married, and has a son 11 years old, and lives in Baytown with her husband. She was educated at Midwestern University in Wichita Falls, and a Masters of Library Science at Texas Womens University in Denton. She notes that with the advent of computers, she was

able to do most of her college work from a distant learning environment.

Every year the Rotary Club helps fund the Summer Reading Program at Stratford, which will start June 1. Mandy emphasized that it is for Adults and Teens, as well as children, with an emphasis on crafts and arts.

The Theme this year is "Every Hero Has A Story" and programs will involve different types of heroes, such as firemen and so on.

Mandy said that she will be emphasizing the breadth of resources in the collection, including computers, CD and DVD collections, newspapers and magazines, and if you can't find it, she can get it through inter-library loan.

There is also a section of books and publications in Spanish, set aside in a special area which is easy to find.

Other languages are also available, so there is something for everyone at the library.

Highlands Rotary Club receives citation from District



ROTARY ASSISTANT DISTRICT 5890 GOVERNOR DERRILL PAINTER presents a certificate of Achievement to Highlands Rotary Club President-Elect Larry White, for the donations that the club has made to the Rotary Foundation this year. The Club has consistently had the highest, or next to highest, per capita donation in the district, and one year in the country, amounting to about \$584 per member this year. The District 5890 has donated \$457,000 to the Rotary Foundation this year, which is used for international projects such as Polio Plus, and others. Half of the money comes back to the district after 3 years, for use in local projects. Highlands Rotary Club raises money through the Chili Feast, and the Washer Tournament, and individual donations, known as Paul Harris Fellows. Major donors recognized this year were Charlie Ward, Tricia Scott, and Chuck Radney. New Paul Harris Fellows or upgraded status were Aaron Cole, Denise Smith, Dane Listi, Carol Radney, and Chuck Radney.

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CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS

Sheriff's Crime Watch,

Continued from page 1



EXPLORERS POST 43 MEMBER:

a very effective ProActive Task Force patrol unit. Since formed in 2012, they have filed 924 charges, and put 682 felons in jail, he noted.

Inocencio told of the work on preventing and solving business robberies, with 72 arrests since the beginning of the year. He also noted that in the next two weeks the department will open a Store-front Sheriff's office in Highlands, in the Woodforest Bank building, that will be open 5 days a week for citizens to come in for information and reports.

Inocencio noted that he has two "ghost" police cruisers working on traffic arrests, and they wrote over \$250,000 traffic tickets last year.

He also mentioned the work of the Explorer's Post 43, under the supervision of Deputy Brian Goldstein, a program to prepare youth for careers in law enforcement.

He also recommended that residents consider signing up for the Police Citizens Academy to learn more about the department.

Sgt. Eddie Rivera, head of the Joint Task Force, with the Constable's department, talked about their effort to be proactive rather than reactive. He said that cell phone stores have become a favorite target of robbers, but that his unit has captured 13 so far this year. Other targets that they watch are Ford trucks, and ATM machines.

Becky Moon, a citizen affiliated with CAP, or Citizens Police Academy, urged the public to sign up for this worthwhile learning experience.

Other crime fighting programs that citizens can take advantage of are "IWATCH HARRISCOOUNTY.COM" and a Ride-Along program.

Deputy Brian Goldstein introduced his Explorer Post 43 troop, and explained the rigorous training and experiences they get in real police events. When these young men and women are 21



GUN LOCKS were given out as a safety measure.



HELICOPTER, SWAT truck, and horses were shown.

years old, they can go on to the Police Training Academy to prepare for a law enforcement job.

Capt. Ken Melancon, head of the HCSO investigation unit, explained the work of his department, and how the public can help solve crimes by reporting what they see, "SEE SOMETHING SAY SOMETHING."

Melancon noted that the robbery rate in Harris County is higher than anywhere else in the U. S., due to the activities of the cartels in the drug trade. But a new computer program, called Eyewatch, is expected to help keep neighborhoods safer by letting residents talk to each other about suspicious activities.

Three GPISD Board of Trustees Members Re-elected

On May 12, 2014, the Gale-na Park ISD Board of Trustees certified that Wanda Heath Johnson, Joe Stephens and Minnie Rivera were duly elected as Trustees of the Gale-na Park Independent School District for the purposes of the May 9, 2015 election. The election was canceled on April 13 because there were no individuals registered to oppose any of the incumbents.

PICTURED: First Row: Joe Stephens, Vice President; Wanda Heath Johnson, President; Wilfred J. Broussard, Jr., Secretary
Second Row: Dr. Angi Williams, Superintendent of Schools; Ramon Garza, Board Member; Dawn Fisher, Board Member; Jeff Miller, Board Member; Minnie Rivera, Board Member; Kathy Bundy, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Trustees



Channelview HS receives accreditation from National Center

Channelview High School was recently named an accredited training and education facility through the National Center for Construction Education and Research.

The NCCER and Dr. Steven Horton were honored as one of Channelview ISD's Distinguished Career and Technical Education Partners during the district's annual CTE Awards held recently at Channelview High School. The organization began partnering with the district's Career and Technical Education programs this school year.

"We've been very impressed during our site visits and the programs offered here at Channelview High School," Horton said. "The Houston area is a prime market for students to become certified in construction careers – and then immediately put those skills to work."

NCCER is a not-for-profit 501c3 education founda-



Dr. Steven Horton of the National Center for Construction Education and Research, left, Wesley Hutchins, Agriculture Science teacher and Mia Young, Channelview ISD's Career and Technical Education Director are all smiles after Horton's announcement of Channelview High School becoming an accredited campus for training and education through the National Center for Construction Education and Research.

tion created in 1996 as The National Center for Construction Education and Research. It was developed with the support of more than 125 construction CEOs and various association and academic leaders who united to revolutionize training for the construction industry. Sharing the common goal of developing a safe and productive workforce, these companies created a standardized training and credentialing program for the industry.

"We are very excited about this accreditation," said Mia Young, Channelview ISD's Career and Technical Education director. "With all of the growth in our area, there is going to be an ever-growing need in construction careers for years to come. If our students are certified in their chosen field when they leave our (CTE) programs, it will make them more marketable in the workplace."

CHS students have been able to become certified through their involvement with SkillsUSA. The SkillsUSA program is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce.

Students to become NC-CER certified during the

2014-2015 school year were Joe Barboz, Chase Caldwell, Eduardo Columa, Alexis Delgado, Juan Garcia, Diego Gonzalez, Noe Guerra, Endy Lara, Javier Morales, Mario Nunez, Juan Ortiz, Gerardo Perez, Alberto Romero, Juan De Dios Vazquez, Ryan Davis, Elmer Garcia, Esai Garcia, German Martinez, Michael Mayes, Juan Moody, Marcos Oviedo, Melissa Ramirez, Elias Reyes, Richardo Sanchez, Chris Amaya, Edward Cordova, Jaqueline Gavino, Patrick Greene, Jose Hernandez, David Hidalgo, Tison Jackson, Carlos Leyva and Michael Rios.

Additional students that received certification included Raul Trujillo, Alejandro Zuniga, Juan Acevedo, Lizbeth Galvan, Gabriel Garcia, Braylon Jackson, Samuel Maldonado, Christian Marroquin, Jesus Montoya, Jonathan Paz, Luis Pena, Jordan Zepeda, Adriel Arias, Koral Fisher, Hario Juarez, Marcus Lopez, Fidencio Macorro, Alexabder Muniz, Juan Ornelas, Miguel Rodriguez, Marco Arreaga, Emily Arredondo, Judy Beltran, Daneli Briones, Jeremiah Diaz, Christian Leja, Isai Ball, Jesus Galvan, Cristo Garcia, Gustavo Lara, Michael Aguilar and Jose Salinas.

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For more information phone: (281) 576-2221, extension 1200.

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MCL Coliform Violation (TCR 22)

The City of Galena Park / PWS ID 1010009 water system collected < 3 > water samples during April / 2015, that contained coliform bacteria. This water system is required to submit a minimum of < 10 > routine water samples each month for bacteriological analysis. < 3 > routine samples were coliform-found and < 0 > repeat samples were coliform-found for the month and year indicated above.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) sets drinking water standards in Texas and has determined that the presence of total coliform is a possible health concern. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

For water systems analyzing at least 40 samples per month, no more than five (5) percent of the monthly samples may be positive for total coliform. For systems analyzing fewer than 40 samples per month, no more than one (1) sample per month may be positive for total coliform.

If you have questions regarding this matter, you may contact City of Galena Park at (713) 672-2556

Obligatorio Idioma de Notificación Pública

MCL de Coliformes Violación (TCR 22)

<Ciudad de Galena Park / PWS ID1010009> sistema de agua < 3 > durante <Abril/2015>, que contenía bacterias coliformes. Se requiere este sistema de agua que presente un mínimo de < 10 > cada mes para el análisis bacteriológico. < 3 > fueron se encontraron coliformes coliformes encontrados y < 0 > repetidas para el mes y año indicado anteriormente.

La Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) establece los estándares de agua potable en Texas y se ha determinado que la presencia de coliformes totales es un posible problema de salud. Coliformes son bacterias que están naturalmente presentes en el medio ambiente y se utilizan como un indicador de que otros, potencialmente dañinos, bacterias pueden estar presentes. Coliformes fueron encontrados en más muestras de las permitidas y esto fue una advertencia de problemas potenciales.

Para analizar los sistemas de agua de al menos 40 muestras por mes, no más de cinco (5) por ciento de las muestras mensuales pueden ser positivos para coliformes totales. Para los sistemas de análisis de menos de 40 muestras al mes, no más de una (1) muestra al mes puede ser positiva para coliformes totales.

Si usted tiene preguntas con respecto a este asunto, puede comunicarse con Ciudad de Galena Park, 713-672-2556.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BRADLEY COUNTY, TENNESSEE

IN RE: JONATHAN DAVID METZNER, d.o.b. 11/04/08
A minor child under the age of eighteen years old

JAMES MADDOX and wife
MARGARET MADDOX,
Petitioners

vs.

Docket No. V-15-084_

LESLIE METZNER,
Responder/Mother
AND
JONATHAN BLAKE,
Responder/Father

ORDER OF PUBLICATION and
NOTICE OF HEARING

It appearing from the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights in this cause that the address and domicile of the Respondents, LESLIE METZNER and JONATHAN BLAKE, is unknown and cannot be ascertained so that ordinary process cannot be served upon the Respondent.

It is therefore ordered that the Respondent, LESLIE METZNER and JONATHAN BLAKE, will appear and make defense within thirty (30) days to the Petition, or the same will be taken for confessed as to default and set for hearing ex parte. If there is no answer, a hearing will be held on the 22nd day of July, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. Failure to answer or appear may result in termination of the Respondents' parental rights to the child referenced above.

A copy of this order and notice of hearing shall be published for four consecutive weeks in the Highlands Star, a newspaper published in Huffman, Texas, the last known residence for the Respondents, LESLIE METZNER and JONATHAN BLAKE.

Within that time Respondents are required to serve a copy of their pleadings upon Philip M. Jacobs, Petitioners' Attorney whose address is P.O. BOX 191, 30 Second Street, NW, Cleveland, TN 37364-0191.

Dated May 13, 2015

LOGAN THOMPSON, P.C.

PHILIP M. JACOBS (615) 992-4996
Attorney for Petitioners
30 Second Street, P.O. Box 191
Cleveland, TN 37364-0191
(615) 476-2221

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LEGAL NOTICE

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SECTION 1
NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals for Repairs of the Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 50 Sanitary Sewer System in Harris County, Texas will be received at the office of Harris County M.U.D. No. 50 Office, 12900 Crosby-Lynchburg Road, Crosby, Texas 77532, until 10:00 A.M. local time, June 16, 2015 and then publicly opened. A NON-MANDATORY BUT HIGHLY RECOMMENDED PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT THE OFFICE OF HARRIS COUNTY M.U.D. No. 50 on June 1, 2015 at 10:00 A.M. Each bid must be submitted in a 9" x 12" envelope and accompanied by Cashier's Check or Bid Bond, duly executed, in the amount of not less than five (5%) percent of the bid.

The Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 50 is proposing to replace and/or rehabilitate deteriorated sanitary sewer lines and manholes throughout the District. The District recently completed a Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) Initiative Program which identified high-need areas within the Barrett, TX collection system that will require significant rehabilitation. The first phase of the project will be to clean and televise all the 15-inch, 12-inch, 10-inch and selected main line 8-inch sanitary sewers throughout the District. This will confirm repairs that already have been identified during smoke testing and indicate any new or enlarged leaks which have occurred since the initial smoke testing was completed. This project will repair problem in all the locations identified. All work will occur in existing right-of-ways and easements. Various types of improvements will be made to eliminate infiltration, inflow and any discovered cross connections. Manholes that are in need of repair will either be repaired or replaced.

This project is eligible for CWSRF funding, therefore, the following requirements apply:

This contract is contingent upon release of funds from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). "Any contract or contracts awarded under this Invitation for Bid (IFB) or Request for Qualifications (RFQ) are expected to be funded in part by financial assistance from the TWDB. Neither the State of Texas nor any of its departments, agencies, or employees are or will be a party to this IFB, RFQ, or any resulting contract.

This project is subject to the American Iron and Steel (AIS) requirements of P.L. 113-76 Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014. All iron and steel products for construction, alteration, maintenance, or repairs incorporated in these plans must be produced in the United States.

"Equal Opportunity in Employment - All qualified Applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap or national origin. Bidders on this work will be required to comply with the President's Executive Order No. 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375, and as supplemented in Department of Labor regulations 41 CFR Part 60."

This contract is subject to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) "fair share policy", which includes EPA-approved "fair share goals" for Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women Business Enterprise (WBE) firms in the Construction, Supplies, Equipment, and Services procurement categories. EPA's policy requires that applicants and prime contractors make a good faith effort to award a fair share of contracts, subcontracts, and procurements to Minority Business Enterprise and Women-Owned Business Enterprise firms. Although EPA's policy does not mandate that the fair share goals be achieved, it does require applicants and prime contractors to demonstrate use of the six affirmative steps. The current fair share goals for the State of Texas are as follows:

CATEGORY	MBE	WBE
CONSTRUCTION	12.94%	8.72%
SUPPLIES	9.68%	9.34%
EQUIPMENT	7.12%	5.39%
SERVICES	10.84%	5.72%

Equal Opportunity in Employment – All qualified Applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or handicap. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 40 CFR Part 33 in the award and administration of contracts awarded under TWDB financial assistance agreements. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach, which may result in the termination of the awarded financial assistance.

Right to reject any and all bids.
All laborers and mechanics working on the work site and employed by contractors and subcontractors on projects funded directly by or assisted in whole or in part by and through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund shall be paid wages as described in the section, Mandatory David-Bacon Act Contract Conditions.

Any contracts in excess of \$2,000 for construction, alteration or repair (including painting and decorating and funded under the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund programs shall include the Mandatory David-Bacon Act Contract Conditions.

Copies of the bidding documents may be obtained from www.CivCastUSA.com: Search Harris County MUD No. 50 Sanitary Sewer Repairs. Questions deadline is June 5, 2015 at 5:00 PM. Bidders must register on this website in order to view and/or download specifications, and plans for this project. There is NO charge to view or download documents.

END OF SECTION

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

Harris County ESD #80 is accepting competitive sealed proposals from proposers for Crosby VFD Security Project on Thursday, May 21, 2015, until 2:00 P.M. Proposals will be received at Joiner Partnership, Inc., 700 Rockmead Dr. #265, Kingwood, TX 77339 (281) 359-6401, email susies@joinerarchitects.com. Documents will be available at the offices of Joiner Partnership, Inc.

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Carnival of Hope

Dow Emergency got into the Relay for Life theme, Carnival of Hope, with their circus carnival tent and games. Dow was a Silver Sponsor for the annual event which took place the first Saturday of May.

Galena Park Amendments defeated,

Continued from page 1

councilman Joe Thibodeaux, had written and favored all 18 amendments, and had excluded 4 others they felt were not required.

The impetus to amend the charter, ironically, had started with Mayor Esmeralda Moya soon after her election last year, when it became clear that she did not have the authority to run council meetings and hire and fire city personnel in a manner that she wished, and that she often said was "what the people want."

However, as the Charter Amendments were promulgated by the committee, and prepared for the election process, she and others spoke out against the amendment package. As she told the *North Channel Star* in an interview previously, she thought the way the amendments were written did not accomplish what she intended, and advised voters to reject them. She has actually filed a lawsuit against the city manager and council, charging them with violating the original charter, the Texas Open Meetings Act, and interfering with her ability to run the city as authorized by the original charter. This lawsuit is pending at

the present time, along with a countersuit and several others similar in context.

Others, including activist Barry Ponder, formed a committee known as the "Committee for a Better Galena Park" and posted the yard signs and flyers outlining their objections to the amendments.

Without a revised charter, or a court ordered decision, it appears that Galena Park will continue to operate the way it has for a number of years. City Administrator Robert Pruett told the *North Channel Star* that most of the charter provisions had already been adopted as ordinances previously.

NEW CANDIDATE,

Continued from page 1

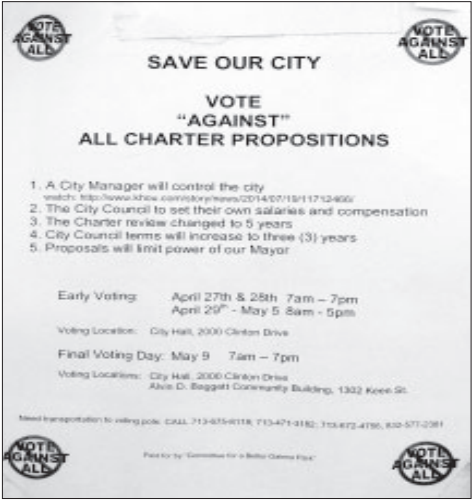
Adrian Garcia expressed his thoughts in a letter:

Friends:
For the past several months, I've done something that leaders should do a lot more of: I've been listening. I've been listening to people all over Houston - from fellow churchgoers, to large and small business owners, to friendly seniors at the local breakfast spot. Like me, they all love our city. But they're also concerned about our future. They want the roads to be repaired and to spend less time in traffic, they want to keep our families and children safe, they want to improve our schools, and they want to make sure the city doesn't spend more than it takes in. I share those concerns.

And as I've listened, people have urged me to run for Mayor.

Today, I'm announcing my candidacy for Mayor of Houston because Houston needs a mayor who knows how to balance a budget, save taxpayers millions, and protect our children and families. I've done that as sheriff. And I'll do that as mayor.

Respectfully,
Adrian Garcia



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Average response times are 5 minutes, as the trucks are staffed full-time 24/7, with 15 persons always on duty. The department runs 2 fire trucks, and 3 ambulances, as well as a District Chief and EMS supervisor.

Emergency Service District #50 is responsible for the finances of the department. Expenses for the department are paid with tax funding and EMS billing.

Equipment includes two active pumpers, a ladder truck, a back-up pumper, a brush truck, and four ambulances. Back-up equipment includes another pumper, and an ambulance.

The department was founded in 1949, chartered in 1953, and in 2012 transitioned into a full paid department regulated by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection. ESD#50 was established in 2003.

Channelview Fire Department serves about 38,000 people in a 16+ square mile area. It's success is built on its long history, the work of its predecessors, support of the community, and the commitment of the present men and women.

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Commissioner Jim Owens Commissioner Ben Ballew Commissioner Brenda Biggers Commissioner Eric Stricklin Commissioner Judy Brannon	B Shift District Chief Stephen Roane Captain Nathan Mathews Captain Ernest Watson EMS Captain Steven Adams	D Shift District Chief Chad Mikush Captain Edward Escamilla Captain Jeremy Watson EMS Captain Chase McKey

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