

NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

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

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THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2017

www.northchannelstar.com

CHANNEL CHATTER

North Shore Rotary Fish Fry Saturday May 20

"KEEP CALM AND FISH FRY ON" was the mantra of local Rotarians as they prepared for this Saturday's 42nd annual Cat-fish Fry and Crawfish Boil.

The event will be held at the Rotary Pavilion behind the courthouse on Wallisville, from 11am to 3pm. Raffle tickets to win a new Toyota pick-up or 20 other prizes, are only \$100 and include two dinners. Meal tickets only are \$10.

Tickets are available from all Rotarians, and select local stores such as PineForest Jewelry and at the door.

Come early to participate in the live and silent auctions, with a large quantity of items not available anywhere else.

Woodland Acres Middle School 70 year reunion

Alumni of the Woodland Acres Middle School will gather on Thursday, May 25 from 5pm to 7pm for a class reunion. There will be speakers, a band, and refreshments.

An informal lunch social will precede the reunion, at Golden Corral on I-10 at 2pm.

For additional information, contact Helen Spiers Blomstrom at 325-243-5295.

Galena Park FFA livestock show pictures

On November 17 of last year, the Galena Park FFA students held their annual Livestock Show and Sale at the Ag Center on Holland Avenue.

They raised \$46,316 for scholarships and expenses. There were 26 exhibitors with animals, and the Grand Champion Steer, shown by Valena Moya, was sold for \$7,400. The buyer was GPISD middle school and high school principals.

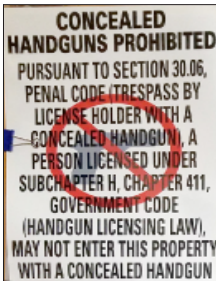
All 26 exhibitors and their photos are in this issue of the **North Channel Star**. See pages 8 and 9.

Business-like Council Meeting, and Progress made towards re-opening Galena Manor Community Center

By Allan Jamail
Galena Park, TX. - May 16, 2017 at 6 PM: Mayor Esmeralda Moya called the meeting to order. After a prayer and pledges to the flags the Commissioners unanimously approved minutes for the April 18, 2017 and May 2, 2017 meetings and the Accounts Payable through May 16, 2017.

The Commissioners unanimously approved the engagement letter between Belt, Harris, Pechacek, LLP and the city for the single audit year ending September 30, 2017.

The Commissioners unanimously approved an



"NO GUNS ALLOWED." This notice, in English and Spanish, was posted at City Hall prior to the Council meeting.

agreement between the city and Civicplus, Inc. for the amount of \$5,500 for website services.

The Commissioners unanimously approved an agreement between the city and JC's Digital Office Equipment for a color Kyocera copier in the amount

of \$391.14 for 48 months.

The Commissioners unanimously approved the advertising for sealed bids for Phase 2 of the water line and fire protection project.

The Commissioners unanimously approved Ordinance 2017-02 establishing the police reserve force and its passage on the first reading as provided in Article IX, Section 21 of the city charter.

The Commissioners unanimously approved Resolution RO7-2017 giving the City Secretary discretion in determining admission fees, swim class fees and hours the city's swimming pool will be open to the public.

The Commissioners unanimously approved the amended agreement between the city and Ford Motor Credit Company for the city to enter into a

SEE COUNCIL, PAGE 6



PAUL WINFIELD, vice president of the Galena Manor Civic Club, makes a point while talking to the Council. "The chief of police... wants to censor the citizens of Galena Park."

PHOTO ALLAN JAMAIL/NC STAR

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Comments from the public were a mix of supporters of Mayor Moya and with those who spoke against her and the commissioners for the failure to make progress for the reopening of the community center.

Rosemary Careathers: "I would like to comment on Mr. Collins about the information he gave the reporter last time. I was concerned that he would even think that the information we were trying to get to open the recre-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6, SEE COMMENTS

Legislature: Mothers Day Massacre kills 120 local bills

By Lewis Spearman

AUSTIN – In the 140 day law passing session known as the the 85th legislative session in the Texas House, the Texas Freedom Caucus has found a way to cut back on all the arguing by stalling to kill local and consent bills.

The Legislature is running a little behind, in fact last May 11, they were still going through May 6's calendar. Then the Freedom Caucus began to delay legislation. The single exception was that following a tearful begging by State Rep. Drew Springer, R., a bill dealing with stem cell

treatment got hustled through. The representative's wife has a spinal injury and the bill passed with seconds left that might be able to treat her ailment.

"The Mother's Day Massacre," pitted factions of the House Republicans as major deadlines closed in to kill other legislation.

House Bill 3476 to ensure echocardiograms for first year athletes before playing sports was dead on the floor without a trial. This was the bill that Crosby resident, Scott Stephens had sought for eight years. Since the death of his son

that bill had been unanimously passed by the House Committee.

In fact most of the bills killed are fairly no issue, consented to without much fanfare, sometimes called local and consent calendar items, so they are passed easily. But they can be filibustered to death just by mumbling words at the podium or finding five signatures in opposition.

State Rep. Matt Rinaldi, R. – Irving Texas summed up the Freedom Caucus reaction, "When you give people nothing, they have nothing to lose and they're going to fight

for their constituents and if they can't do it within the system, they're going to do it without the system."

Certainly the similarity to Marx's Communist Manifesto is just coincidental. The Freedom Caucus labelled House Speaker Straus' followers "Not Conservative Enough," and have been at odds since he became the Speaker in 2009. The conservative group cites that many of their bills were not passed by the House Leadership.

Some concern has been expressed that if the caucus delays the budget and

the Sunset Bill (a law-maker review of state agencies and their improvement) could shutter the Texas Department of Transportation if recommendations are not passed.

Thirty seven of 295 bills on the agenda got passed, after getting stuck on an abortion-related bill and then being held up by overt obstruction in the evening by the Freedom Caucus members, who slowed progress on the floor by proposing amendments, debating no issue measures at length and frequently asking questions.

ACADEMIC STUDIES

"New" Sheldon ISD STEM Academy begins next school year



Students from STEM academy attended a field trip that was to a GIRLS (Girls Influencing Real Lives in STEM) Conference at Olle Middle.

Becky Zalesnik

Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, Sheldon ISD will be opening its first ever STEM Academy (Science, Technology, Engineering, and

Math) at each of their middle schools.

What is STEM? STEM education is an approach to teaching and learning that integrates the content and skills of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Both C. E.

King Middle School and Null Middle School will host a cohort group of (60) 7th graders each to start the academy. Students and their parents completed an

See **New STEM Program**, p. 5

COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

Jacinto City's "Day of Good Works"



Saturday, May 13, 2017 - City Manager Lon Squyres and family teamed up with volunteers of the Keep Jacinto City Clean Committee members (KJCCC) to remove weeds at the city hall annex monument. Annually the city and KJCCC select a project(s) to work on together. L to R: City Manager Lon Squyres, wife Glenda, daughters Piper & Scarlett, KJCCC members Miguel Pena, Erick Pena, Secretary Linda Jamail, Vice-Pres. Irasema Salinas, back ground and standing President Teresa Arzapala & Jose Pena.



Saturday, May 13, 2017 - Jacinto City workers, after combing the city picked up over 517 old tires. City Manager Lon Squyres said, "In addition to our yearly tire round up day we will also pickup tires throughout the year. It is in everybody's interest that we remove old tires to prevent neighborhood blight and eliminate breeding places for mosquitoes." Citizens can place their old tires at curbside for pickup because city workers cannot enter private property. Resident's can call Public Works at 713-453-7411 for tire pick up at their address. Anyone caught bringing tires into the city that doesn't belong to a resident can be fined.



Saturday, May 13, 2017 – (center standing L – R) Maria Espinoza & Heritage Hall Director Elizabeth Flores with seniors offering garage sale items to raise funds to support activities not funded by the city.

photos by Allan Jamail

COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Library Computer Class

Stratford Library - Highlands offers beginning computer classes every Monday night at 6:30 PM. The classes include Computer Basics, Email & Internet, Word, Library Apps, and Resume Help. No experience necessary! Space is limited and registration is required. Please call 832-927-5400 to sign up or with any questions. The Stratford Library is located at 509 Stratford Highlands, TX 77562, 2 blocks behind Food Town.

Crosby Alumni Asssoc. Mtg.

“The Crosby Alumni Association has announced the dates of the 4 meetings for planning the annual All-Classes CHS Alumni Reunion to be held on August 5, 2017 at the American Legion Hall. The meetings will be held at the Crosby Community Center on Hare Road beginning at 6 pm. The dates are: May 16, June 20 and July 18. All graduates of Crosby High School are invited to attend these meetings regardless of year graduated.”

Support Ministry Group

First Responder Peer Support Group meets every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at Crosby Church, 5725 Hwy. 90, Crosby, TX. 77532. This is a safe venue within fire, law enforcement & EMS to discuss openly the realities of what you have experienced on the streets or over the phone or radio. For questions, please call 281-328-1310.

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Students recognized at Choice Awards

By Susan Passmore

Fifteen Goose Creek CISD teachers were honored at the recent Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation Students Choice Awards Banquet at Royal Purple Raceway Park's Tower Club. This is the eighth year seniors at the four high schools have nominated teachers who have had positive impacts on their lives for this honor.

More than 600 student letters were screened by a committee, and 15 were selected. The students and their teachers were invited to the event, which began with music by Reuben Chance and the Goose Creek Memorial High School Orchestra. Laurie Terry, president-elect of the Education Foundation, welcomed guests. Ronnie Hotchkiss, Foundation member, led the pledge, and Gilbert Santana, past president, gave the invocation. Dinner was provided by Texas Roadhouse.

After dinner, Terry presented information about the Education Foundation's goals and achievements as well as thanked business and community donors along with Goose Creek CISD employees, who contribute by payroll deduction through the Get On the Bus campaign, for their generosity. Besides honoring teaching excellence at the Students Choice Awards, the Foundation awards innovative teaching grants to educators annually.

“Thanks to all of you for being a friend to the Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation,” Terry said. “At the end of last month, the Education Foundation awarded approximately \$120,000 in innovative teaching grants to some deserving teachers. Over the past eight years, this organization has awarded more than \$830,000 in grants to teachers throughout the district. That’s almost a mil-



Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation Students Choice Awards honorees are teachers (back, from left) Eleska Aubespín, Clark Haney, Reuben Chance, Levi Duncan and Keith Brown and their students (front, from left) Chris Rodríguez, Annalie Perez, D'Ozlynn Ortuno, Zoey Henderson and Brandon Galvan.



Teachers honored at the Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation Students Choice Awards Banquet are (back, from left) Chase Kruger, Tracy Haywood, Arlene Hastings-Hill, Larissa Newport and John Membreno along with their students (front, from left) Gerardo Horta, Sha'mariah Washington, Alyson Dalcour, Krista Motley and Edwin Figueroa.



Honorees at the Students Choice Awards Banquet, hosted by the Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation, are teachers (back, from left) Lauren Siple, Michael Walters, Joy Powers, Jennifer Wade and Janie Rivera with their students (front, from left) Victoria Jaramillo, Joseph McRae, Alejandra Gonzalez and Sarah Hix. Not pictured is Angelica Duran.

lion dollars!”

Randal O'Brien, Goose Creek CISD superintendent, recognized special guests and thanked the Education Foundation for hosting the Students Choice Awards as well as helping teachers provide innovative educational experiences for their students through the GCCISD Education Foundation Grant program.

The highlight of the

event was a video by Carrie Pryor-Newman and the Goose Creek CISD Communications Department featuring the students reading their letters about their teachers.

Candy Ochoa, Foundation member, introduced the teachers and students, and Jim Wadzinski, vice president of development, and O'Brien presented them with a gift card and a copy

of the video. Teachers received a commemorative plaque.

Honorees were Eleska Aubespín, Ross S. Sterling High School, and her student Chris Rodríguez; Keith Brown, IMPACT Early College High School, and his student Brandon Galvan; Reuben Chance, Goose Creek Memorial High School, formerly at Highlands Junior, and his student D'Ozlynn Ortuno from IMPACT; Levi Duncan, RSS, and his student Zoey Henderson; Clark Haney, Stephen F. Austin Elementary, and her student Annalie Perez from RSS; Arlene Hastings-Hill, RSS, and her student Alyson Dalcour; Tracy Haywood, Crockett Elementary and her student Sha'mariah Washington from RSS; Chase Kruger, RSS, and his student Gerardo (Jerry) Horta; John Membreno, Stuart Career Center, and his student Edwin Figueroa from the Peter E. Hyland Center; Larissa Newport, RSS, and her student Krista Motley; Joy Powers, Lamar Elementary, formerly at Carver, and her student Alejandra Gonzalez from RSS; Janie Rivera from PEH and her student Angelica Duran; Lauren Siple, GCM, formerly from REL, and her student Victoria Jaramillo from Robert E. Lee High School; Jennifer Wade, Baytown Junior, formerly from De Zavala Elementary, and her student Sarah Hix from RSS and Michael Walters, RSS, and his student Joseph McRae.

Terry concluded the program, thanking Sandra Bell, vice president of marketing and events, and her committee for their work on the event. Sponsors for the Students Choice Awards Banquet were Andrews Kurth, LLP; Aramark; Awards and Engraving; Beehive Florist; Hutchinson, Shockey, Erley and Co.; Texas Roadhouse and Royal Purple Raceway Park.

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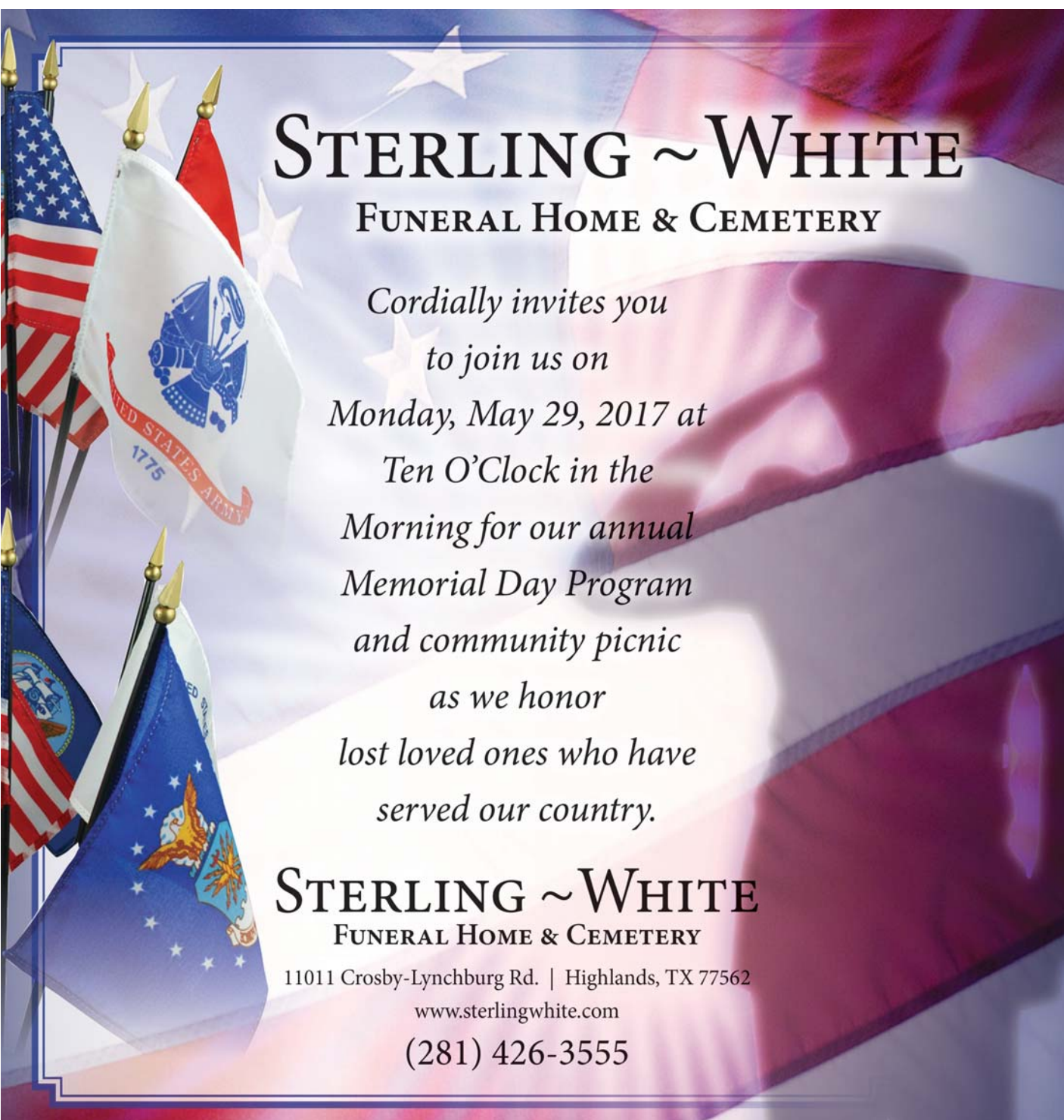
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OPINION PAGE

When Free Trade Agreements are not so free

(NAPSI)—As a successful businessman and negotiator, President Trump ran much of his campaign on promises of updating established international trade agreements to benefit American businesses and their workforces. Needless to say, he has taken on a challenge that many of his predecessors, with their focus on diplomatic relations, were unable to achieve. Time will show whether this 45th president will be able to fulfill this challenge, but many American businesses are relying on him to not only improve their freedom to trade internationally but to protect their assets from loopholes that continue to hurt their business.

Omissions and oversights in international agreements can cost millions of dollars and American jobs.

One particular example of what many consider an unfair trade agreement is the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement (AUSFTA), which lets Australia claim it does not have to resolve any investment disputes with U.S. companies in a neutral forum. This is counter to the majority of the 30 trade agreements between Australia and other nations that do contain investor-state dispute settlement provisions. The only countries that don't have a specific procedure for investor-state arbitration are Japan and the United States.

One Firm's Story

Closing this loophole would offer a heavy financial respite for business executives such as John Campion, CEO of APR Energy, a privately owned company that provides emergency electricity to industries and countries around the world.

In late 2013, APR leased \$70 million worth of generators and other facilities to the Forge Group Power Pty Ltd, an Australian company that had contracted with Horizon Power, a state-owned public utility in Western Australia. The project was designed to

address a severe power shortage in that state.

In February 2014, the Forge Group was placed under voluntary administration liquidation and all assets were seized by receivers appointed by their largest creditor, the Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd. These assets included the leased property belonging to APR. The receivers claimed title to APR's property based on Australia's Personal Property Securities Act of 2009, under which all leased personal property becomes "owned" by the bankrupt company's estate to the exclusion of the lessor if the lessor does not file a registration statement. The legal claim prevented APR from using its own facility to produce electricity and caused significant financial injury to APR. This injury includes significant amounts of money simply to buy back the facility to use it, tens of millions of dollars of revenue, a substantial loss of value to the company, and layoffs. Moreover, the total economic loss from this specific action exceeds \$260 million for APR.

The recourse APR currently has for this financial loss is uncertain because Australia has rejected APR's demands to submit the dispute to arbitration.

As this suggests, the lack of a defined procedure under the AUSFTA appears to be prejudicial to U.S. companies and banks.

What Can Be Done

It is hoped by many American businesses and financial institutions that the recent meeting between President Trump and the Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull will mean the start of a renegotiation of what may look like a minor detail in a large trade agreement but that has the potential to cost company's revenue and American workers their jobs.

Many people are asking their legislators what they think of this issue. Senators can be reached at www.senate.gov and members of the House at www.house.gov.



Legislature grinds toward May 29 close with much still to accomplish

AUSTIN — With a mere two weeks remaining until the end of the 85th regular session of the Texas Legislature, lawmakers have not yet finalized a state budget for fiscal years 2018 and 2019.

The Legislature's 150 House members and 31 Senate members can work around the clock, if need be. Their only absolutely required accomplishment in the 140-day-long session is to produce that budget and put it on the governor's desk. If they don't, the governor will call them back for a special session.

House floor debates, protracted by Republican intra-party bickering, ate up the clock last week. Sheaves of mostly noncontroversial local and consent bills accumulated and died as deadlines took effect, and chances were reduced for hundreds of other bills to earn a spot on a floor-debate calendar.

Despite the atmosphere in the House, the body tentatively passed House Bill 39, the Child and Family Protective Services and Health and Human Services reform bill authored by Gene Wu, D-Houston; Richard Raymond, D-Laredo; Sarah Davis, R-Houston; Toni Rose, D-Dallas; James White, R-Hillister; and coauthored by Jason Isaac, R-Dripping Springs; and Ina Minjarez and Tomas Uresti, both D-San Antonio. The bipartisan bill seeks to support the existing child protective services system by creating programs and procedures that respond to service gaps, provide resources for parties involved in child welfare and the foster care system, and establish a more efficient case management system. HB 39 still must gain Senate approval before advancing to the governor's desk.

"After more than a year of work, we were able to ac-

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling



John Whitmire, D-Houston, dean of the Senate and chair of the Senate Criminal Justice Committee, would require training for jail officers to teach them to recognize signs of mental illness in newly incarcerated individuals and take appropriate action, such as notifying a judge in a timely fashion. The bill also would require county jails to install surveillance cameras, if funding allows. On May 11, the bill moved to the House for consideration.

AG files preemptive suit

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on May 8 filed a lawsuit asking the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas to uphold Senate Bill 4, legislation finally passed on May 4 and signed into law by Gov. Greg Abbott on May 7.

SB 4, which takes effect Sept. 1, bans sanctuary cities in Texas and requires all governments throughout the state to comply with immigration law and detainer requests. The law is expected to trigger lawsuits challenging its constitutionality.

"Texas possesses an independent sovereign responsibility to protect the health, welfare and safety of its residents," Paxton wrote, explaining why he filed the lawsuit. "Texas, cognizant of this duty, recently enacted SB 4 to set a statewide policy of cooperation with federal immigration authorities," he added.

Sales tax checks increase

State Comptroller Glenn Hegar on May 10 announced his office would send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts \$787.8 million in local sales tax allocations for May, an amount 2.6 percent more than in May 2016.

These allocations are based on sales made in March by businesses that report tax monthly and sales made in January, February and March by quarterly filers.

The cities of Irving, Round Rock, Dallas, San Antonio and Odessa saw noticeable increases in sales tax allocations and the cities of McAllen and Sugar Land saw noticeable decreases, Hegar said.

Slide into safety: Tips for a fun, safe season

(NAPSI)—While the warmer months and longer days are often a time for outdoor fun and more physical activity—camping, boating, swimming, biking and the like—they can also mean an increased potential for injuries. Playground falls, lawn mower accidents, campfire and fire pit burns are common childhood injuries—but they don't have to happen to your family.

These tips from Shriners Hospitals for Children can help.

Go Outside and Play

Outdoor play provides physical and mental health benefits, including opportunities for exercise, creative expression, stress reduction and access to a natural source of vitamin D—sunlight. Before sending kids out to play, however, make sure they're wearing shoes to protect from cuts, scrapes and splinters, and sunscreen to protect against sunburns and harmful ultraviolet rays.

Playground 101

- Teach children that pushing and shoving on the playground can result in accidents and injuries.

- Remind kids to go down the slide one at a time and to wait until the slide is completely clear before taking their turn. Teach them to always sit facing forward with their legs straight in front of them and to never slide down headfirst.

- Remind children to swing sitting down, to wait until the swing stops before getting off and to be careful when walking in front of moving swings.

Make a Safe Splash

- Instruct children to never swim alone or go near water without an adult present.

- Always jump in feet first to check the depth before diving into any body of water.

- Never dive in the shallow end of the pool or into aboveground pools.

Fun on the Water

- Have children wear a Coast Guard-approved, properly fitted life jacket while on a boat or when participating in water sports.

- Educate yourself. According to the U.S. Coast Guard, 86 percent of boating accident deaths involve boaters who have not completed a safety course.

- Check water conditions and forecasts before going out on the water.

Fire Safety Simplified

- Teach kids to never play with matches, gasoline, lighter fluid or lighters. Make a habit of placing these items out of the reach of young children.

- Do not leave children unattended near grills, campfires, fire pits or bonfires.

- Leave fireworks to the professionals.

Learn More

To see other tips, find activity pages and learn how to become a "Superhero of Summer Safety," visit www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org/safesummer.

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LIFESTYLE

Alice Johnson cadets participate in NHRA program



Alice Johnson Junior High LOTC cadets visited the National Hot Rod Association (NHRA) Youth and Education Services (YES) Program presented by the U.S. Army at the Royal Purple Raceway in Baytown. This is a free program that focuses on the importance of goals and continued education. In addition, it allows students to learn about and explore various career opportunities. The NHRA Youth and Education Services Department was founded in 1989 and is the only full-time education program in motorsports that provides quality programs and activities for schools and youth organizations nationwide. The Alice Johnson students enjoyed thought provoking presentations from business, racing, and educational professionals, interactive vendors, a free U.S. Army backpack, and race ticket. They are pictured with the U.S. Army's NHRA champion driver, Tony "The Sarge" Schumacher who also made a presentation at the event.

Cynthia Cisneros from ABC13 lends advice to San Jacinto College students



Cynthia Cisneros



San Jacinto College students at ACB 13.

PASADENA, Texas – Cynthia Cisneros, ABC13's vice president of Community Affairs, recently visited San Jacinto College to give students tips to success and discuss the importance of academic and soft skills.

Approximately 100 students, faculty and staff members were in attendance from the areas of college prep and the Women of Integrity and Men of

Honor programs. The event concluded with a Q&A session.

As a follow-up to her visit, Cisneros treated the Women of Integrity and Men of Honor students to a tour of the ABC13 studio, where they were greeted by some familiar faces from the ABC13 news team.

New STEM Program,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

application and were drawn from a lottery to be accepted. The school district plans on adding one more grade level a year to complete the middle school academy and progress into the high school academy in the future.

Students in this STEM academy will be given a challenging schedule next year that focuses on Project Based Learning in all of its core classes as well as an AVID (Advancement Via Individual De-

termination) class, a STEM Lab class, and two other elective classes that they choose. This challenging, yet supportive schedule is designed to not only prepare the students by supporting them with college readiness standards daily, but it will allow them to learn through experiences with hands-on projects, field trips, STEM career guest speakers and after school STEM activities.

Another focus of this program is on teaching the "soft skills" such as commu-

nication, teamwork, problem-solving, critical thinking and creativity that are required for success in the modern workforce. A STEM committee was organized a year ago to begin making site visits to successful STEM programs around the state to ask questions and conduct research to make sure the program starts small and grows into a successful program for the entire district. This STEM committee was made up of district

administrators, curriculum personnel, personnel from San Jac College and business partners that are invested in the success of this program and truly understand the opportunities that it offers for the students of Sheldon ISD.

The ultimate goal is to offer a quality STEM program K-12 in the district within the next 3-5 years to be a model for others who want to start a program and so that students will be ready to enter the "future workforce" prepared for success.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, careers in STEM fields are the fastest growing and highest paying positions in the 21st century global economy and account for over 10% of all jobs in the United States.

The decision to start small with a cohort group of 120 students in the 7th grade next school year is part of the 5-year plan for STEM. Sheldon ISD is opening a brand new high school in the fall of 2019 and they would like to have an approved blueprint for a T-STEM designated Academy in place that will allow students an opportunity to be on a STEM career path. This path will lead the students to take courses that will prepare them for careers in the fields of Computer Science, Engineering, Medical, and more.

One of the most important tasks to implement this STEM academy was to hire the right teachers. After many interviews they have chosen the 10 educa-

tors that they believe are perfect to lead this endeavor and provide the leadership and guidance the students need to be successful.

The first order of business is to provide quality project based learning professional development for these teachers from the University of Texas-Tyler in June, and then follow it up with the summer STEM camp for the academy students from July 31-August 3. This camp is where students will begin to transition from learning in a traditional learning environment to one that challenges them to work within groups to communicate and collaborate to solve problems.

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John 7:38

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

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

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

ASK THE EXPERT

Diamond Jim: "Have you ever read an article entitled 'Pass the Butter'?"



ASK DIAMOND JIM

Pass The Butter ... Please.

Margarine was originally manufactured to fatten turkeys. When it killed the turkeys, the people who had put all the money into the research wanted a payback so they put their heads together to figure out what to do with this product to get their money back.

It was a white substance with no food appeal so they added the yellow colouring and sold it to people to use in place of butter. How do you like it? They have come out with some clever new flavourings....

DO YOU KNOW. The difference between margarine and butter?

Read on to the end...gets very interesting!

Both have the same amount of calories.

Butter is slightly higher in saturated fats at 8 grams; compared to 5 grams for margarine.

Eating margarine can increase heart disease in women by 53% over eating the same amount of butter, according to a recent Harvard Medical Study.

Eating butter increases the absorption of many other nutrients in other foods.

Butter has many nutritional benefits where margarine has a few and only because they are added!

Butter tastes much better than margarine and it can enhance the flavours of other foods.

Butter has been around for centuries where margarine has been around for less than 100 years .

And now, for Margarine..

Very High in Trans fatty acids.

Triples risk of coronary heart disease ...

Increases total cholesterol and LDL (this is the bad cholesterol) and low-

ers HDL cholesterol, (the good cholesterol)

Increases the risk of cancers up to five times..

Lowers quality of breast milk

Decreases immune response.

Decreases insulin response.

And here's the most disturbing fact... HERE IS THE PART THAT IS VERY INTERESTING!

Margarine is but ONE MOLECULE away from being PLASTIC... and shares 27 ingredients with PAINT.

These facts alone were enough to have me avoiding margarine for life and anything else that is hydrogenated (this means hydrogen is added, changing the molecular structure of the substance).

Open a tub of margarine and leave it open in your garage or shaded area. Within a couple of days you will notice a couple of things:

* no flies, not even those pesky fruit flies will go near it (that should tell you something)

* it does not rot or smell differently because it has no nutritional value ; nothing will grow on it. Even those teeny weeny microorganisms will not find a home to grow.

Why? Because it is nearly plastic. Would you melt your Tupperware and spread that on your toast?

Share This With Your Friends.....(If you want to butter them up'!)

Chinese Proverb:
When someone shares something of value with you and you benefit from it, you have a moral obligation to share it with others. And so, my friends, I have shared.

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

Diamond Jim is a diamond dealer and precious metals broker of NTR Metals. See more at:

www.pineforestjewelry.com.

Galena Park Council Meeting,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

lease agreement for six vehicles for the police department with a total cost of \$212,143.35 with an annual payment of \$57,134.23.

The Commissioners unanimously approved the memorandum of understanding between the city and Dr. Tiffany Osborn, UT Department of Emergency Medicine and Division of Emergency Medical Services for Medical Director and Medical direction.

The Commissioners unanimously approved Jahbari Raggette as a volunteer firefighter and Nicholas Meekins as a part time fire fighter.

The Commissioners unanimously approved part time summer employment of the following twenty-seven individuals: Julio Bizarro, Jr., Galilea Ibarra, Maria Espinosa, Natalia Vasquez, Mauricio Martinez, Arturo Gonzales, April Chavez, Jose L. Sanchez, Maria E. Sorto, Teresa Guzman, Vincente Cuellar, Esmeralda Martinez, Omar Humphries, Shelby Rundle, Eduardo Sanchez, Adrian Guzman, Ariel Ibarra, Trystan Puente, Rocio Chavez, Alberto Rodriguez, Cindy Flores, Zuriel Espinosa, Jr., Jeffery McCue, Marisela Martinez, Isaac Torres, Stephanie Espinosa, Aaron Rodriguez.

The public was given information as to what will be needed before the Evelyn Churchill Community Center can be reopened. The community center located in Galena Manor has been closed for nine months; citizens have been coming for months to the council meetings in large numbers requesting information about its reopening.

They've said the city hasn't told them why it was closed or what are the plans to reopen it.

City Attorney Robert Collins however says that's not true, he and others including a mold expert have explained to them that the center has dangerous mold in it. Collins says only until a thorough inspection is made to determine the extent as to where the mold is located can a cost be determined and a time to eliminate it can be made. Collins said it's going to be a significant cost and there's nothing in this year's budget to do the needed work.

Kevin Marler of MC Consultants from California, considered an expert in determining costs associated with mold remediation, provided photos from a preliminary inspection of the center. The photos showed mold, termites and locations where rain and moisture are entering the facility. Collins said the city is looking at three separate phases to get the center opened again.

Phase one will cost about \$65,000 for an extensive inspection to determine the actual cost for reopening the center. Interior walls must be removed and special moisture meters used to determine how much of the interior structure has to be taken out and replaced with new materials. Rain water is entering from the roof and along the outside at ground level.

A roofing contractor inspected the roof and found signs of hail damage as a cause for some of the rain water to enter. The city is filing a claim with the Texas Municipal League where the city is in a risk pool

with other Texas cities for claims for property damage. This can take 3 or 4 weeks to get a decision on the city's claim.

CHANNEL CHATTER

Channelview HS graduation set for May 27

Graduation ceremonies for Channelview High School will be held at 7 p.m., Saturday, May 27 at the M.O. Campbell Center, 1865 Aldine Bender Road in Houston.

The graduation will be video streamed live on the Web by Aldine ISD. For those who would like to view the video of this year's graduation, log on to the Aldine ISD website at www.aldineisd.org, go to the Community link at the top of the home page, then click on the Graduation Video Feeds link.

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

Galena Park - Jacinto City CIP meeting

Thursday, June 1, 2017. Tour of US Coast Guard Station at Ellington Field with USCG explaining its mission. Plus review of what Customs and Border Patrol does

•5:00 p.m. - van leaves Alvin Baggett Recreation Building. The first 14 people who sign up now may ride Jacinto City van. Otherwise, leave from home/work and drive self or carpool with friends. To sign up call 281-326-5253.

Comments from Galena Park Citizens,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ation center was hogwash. We know that there is damage and we are asking to get it fixed."

Patricia Joseph: "From this meeting tonight, that information we have gotten from the gentleman should have been giving to us months ago, this is all we wanted to know why the building is taking so long. We want to be respected as taxpaying citizens and I want to thank you for bringing this information forward. Now let's expedite this either fix it or do something. For we feel this is a historical staple in our community."

Hector Torres: "This lady (Moya) has been here two years and this lady has done more than the last three mayors we have had here. This lady has done something in one year that the last 3 mayors have done. All this arguing about some community building, I didn't see anyone complaining about it to the last three mayors."

Paul Winfield said: "I want to thank


first the chief of police for telling us how we are being censored on what we can or cannot say. But then when a councilman uses words like racist, he doesn't run over there and censor him, but he wants to censor the citizens of Galena Park. Also I want to thank Mr. Robert Collins. Oh I'm so thankful he said hogwash, like it's nothing. I'm glad it was in print. I'm glad he said there is \$2.25 million to fix the building, now fix it."

NOTE: Collins actually said a quarter of a million dollars (\$250,000) but the article's writer, Allan Jamail, incorrectly wrote \$2.25 million dollars.

"If the council knew how to run the city they would have gotten this report first before doing anything. We came to you and told you that there were problems with the building and then you shut us out. You keep treating us this way and we will continue to say and do what we are doing. I'm so thankful all this is getting in the paper."

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SEALED BIDS ADDRESSED TO THE CITY SECRETARY OF THE CITY OF JACINTO City, Texas and Marked "SEALED BID VEHICLE" will be received at Jacinto City City Hall, 1301 Mercury Dr., Jacinto City, Texas 77029 until 5:00 P.M. on June 8, 2017 for the sale of a 2013 Dodge Charger (Vehicle Sold As Is). MINIMUM BID APPLIES. Vehicle may be viewed at Jacinto City Public Works Facility, 12202 ½ Market St.

The bids will be opened and publicly read in the Council Chamber, 10301 Market Street at the Regular Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on June 8, 2017.

The city reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids, to waive any/or all technicalities and to Accept any bid or part thereof which in the opinion of the City Council is most advantageous to The city.

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LEGAL NOTICES APPEAR IN THE HIGHLANDS STAR CROSBY COURIER, AND THE NORTH CHANNEL STAR. CALL 281-328-9605 FOR MORE INFO.

Harris County Water Control and Improvement District No. 21

Notice of Adoption of Ordinance

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of Harris County Water Control and Improvement District No. 21 at a meeting held on May 1, 2017, passed and approved an Ordinance regulating certain plumbing work within the boundaries of Harris County Water Control and Improvement District No. 21, and outside of said District if such work be connected to either the District's water or sewage systems; providing for the issuance of permits and a method of establishing certain fees; providing for the enforcement of this Ordinance; providing penalties for violations of this Ordinance and providing a severability clause. A copy of this Ordinance is on file at the principal office of the District, 15808 Avenue C, Channelview, TX 77530 where it may be read in full.

/s/R.L. McRae
President, Board of Directors

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ACROSS

1 Listen to

5 Aries symbol

8 Clenched hand

12 Part of the foot

13 Clean air org.

14 Division word

15 Stead

16 One walking proudly

18 Mathematician famed for his "last theorem"

20 Lacking vigor

21 Pesky kid

23 "— Town"

24 Criminal in tent?

28 Jump

31 Huge star

32 Mideast nation

34 Hot tub

35 Candle string

37 Go everywhere, as spilled liquid

39 Mouth part

41 Droplet of sorrow

42 Sun-dried brick structures

45 Beast

49 Furry Pacific denizen

51 Corpse

52 Sorts

53 Nightfall, in verse

54 Lotion additive

55 Carp or cod

56 "— Doubtfire"

57 Not as much

DOWN

1 50 percent

2 Great Lake

3 Computer brand

4 Ballroom dance (Var.)

5 Paraphrases

6 Suitable

7 Filly's mom

8 Irregular

9 Account extra

10 Don't dele

11 Ripped

17 Venusian vessel?

19 Bohemian

22 Dangle a car-rot

24 Away from NNE

25 On the —

26 Removes the cover

27 Brushes up on

29 Gorilla

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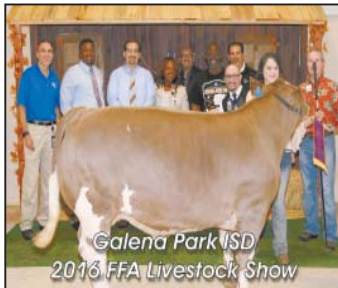
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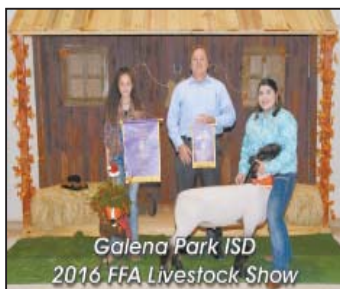
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GRAND CHAMPION STEER
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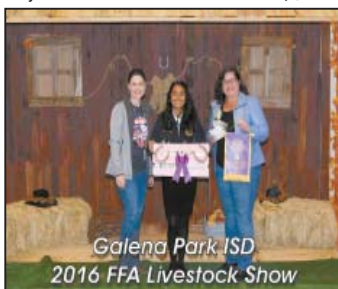
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GRAND CHAMPION SWINE
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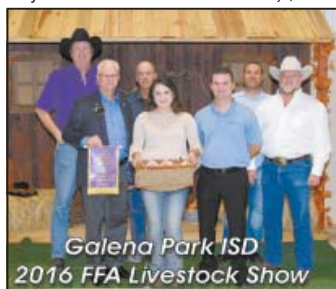
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GRAND CHAMPION GOAT
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Buyer: PBK ARCHITECTS, \$2300



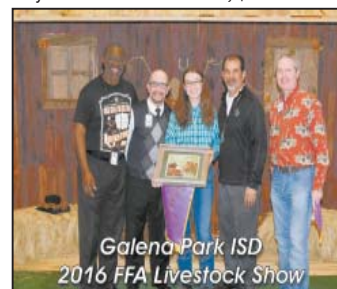
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2016 FFA Livestock Show
GRAND CHAMPION LAMB
Exhibitor: EMILY PEREZ
Buyer: RICE & GARDNER, \$1900



Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
GRAND CHAMPION RABBIT
Exhibitor: JESSICA DIAZ
Buyer: DEPT OF ED SERVICES, \$1150



Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
GRAND CHAMPION BROILER
Exhibitor: VALERIE MOYA
Buyer: NORTH SHORE ROTARY, \$700



Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
GRAND CHAMPION PHOTOGRAPHY
Exhibitor: SARAH FAUGHTENBERY
Buyer: MS & HS PRINCIPALS, \$600



Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
GRAND CHAMPION HORTICULTURE
Exhibitor: KAYLYN GUILLORY
Buyer: DEPT OF ED SERVICES, \$500



Galena Park ISD
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GRAND CHAMPION ART
Exhibitor: JOSUE ARTEAGA
Buyer: SAVANNAH LATHAM, \$300



Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
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Buyer: GPISD MS & HS PRINCIPALS, \$325

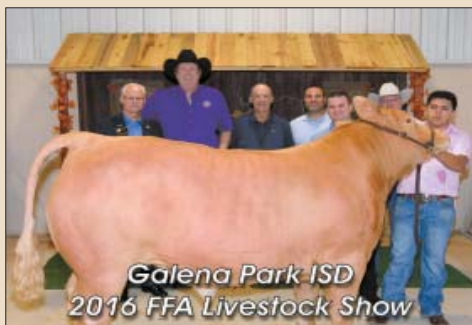


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RESERVE CHAMPION HORTICULTURE
Exhibitor: JESSICA DIAZ
Buyer: GALENA PARK ELEM PRINCIPALS, \$400



Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
RESERVE CHAMPION ART
Exhibitor: FRANCOIS EUGENE
Buyer: GPISD MS & HS PRINCIPALS, \$475

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Exhibitors



Ana E. Hernandez

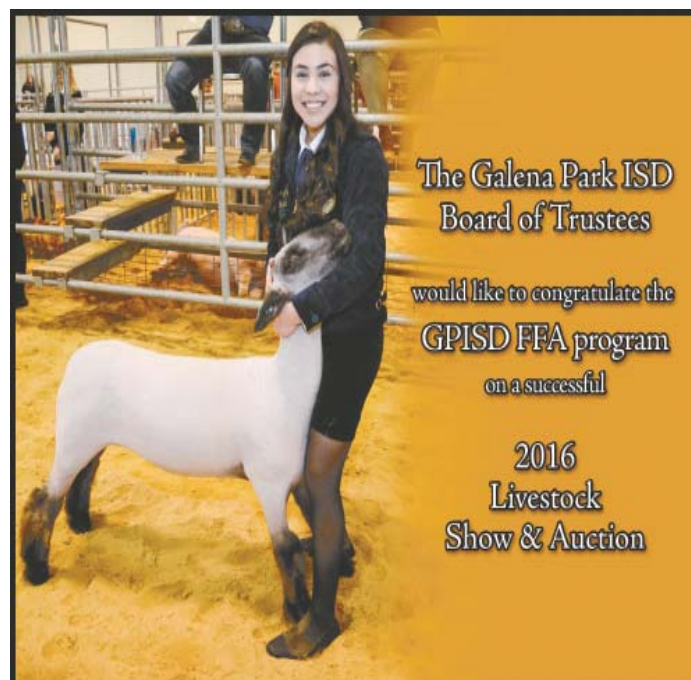
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on a successful

2016
Livestock
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on a job well done.**

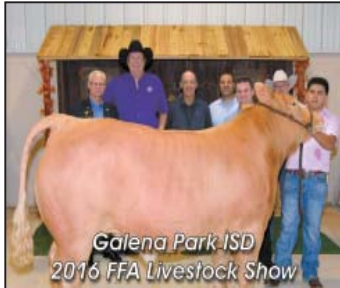
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GP ISD FFA Livestock Show 2016

2000 HOLLAND AVE., GALENA PARK, TEXAS
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2016

RESERVE CHAMPIONS



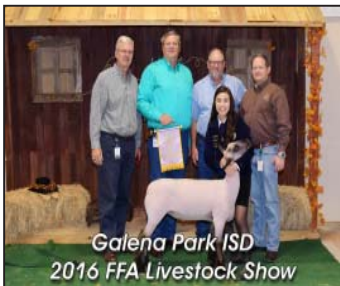
Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
RESERVE CHAMPION STEER
Exhibitor: ADRIAN LUNA
Buyer: NORTH SHORE ROTARY, \$5000



Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
RESERVE CHAMPION SWINE
Exhibitor: AMARIS MOYA
Buyer: PENNZOIL-QUAKER STATE, \$2000



Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
RESERVE CHAMPION GOAT
Exhibitor: ALEXA MOYA
Buyer: GPISD MS & HS PRINCIPALS, \$1500



Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
RESERVE CHAMPION LAMB
Exhibitor: REBECCA GONZALEZ
Buyer: GPISD OPERATIONS, \$1900



Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
RESERVE CHAMPION RABBIT
Exhibitor: CASEY WENNER
Buyer: GP ELEM PRINCIPALS, \$2300



Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
RESERVE CHAMPION BROILER
Exhibitor: FAITH BRITTON
Buyer: GPISD MS & HS PRINCIPALS, \$1200



Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
RESERVE CHAMPION PHOTOGRAPHY
Exhibitor: ROCIO REQUENA
Buyer: GPISD MS & HS PRINCIPALS, \$325



Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
3RD PLACE SWINE
Exhibitor: KAITLYN MCMILLIAN
Buyer: PENNZOIL-QUAKER STATE, \$2000



Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
3RD PLACE GOAT
Exhibitor: RAUL GONZALEZ
Buyer: GP ELEM PRINCIPALS, \$1500



Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
3RD PLACE LAMB
Exhibitor: KAYLYN GUILLORY
Buyer: GPISD SCHOOL BOARD, \$1600



Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
3RD PLACE BROILER
Exhibitor: JOSUE ARTEAGA
Buyer: GPISD MS & HS PRINCIPALS, \$900



Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
4TH PLACE GOAT
Exhibitor: JESSICA DIAZ
Buyer: GP ED. FOUNDATION, \$1700



Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
5TH PLACE SWINE
Exhibitor: REBECA GONZALEZ
Buyer: BROOKS CONC/NORTH SHORE ROTARY, \$1900



Galena Park ISD
2016 FFA Livestock Show
6TH PLACE SWINE
Exhibitor: ZURIEL ESPINOSA
Buyer: GP ELEM PRINCIPALS, \$2300

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**CONGRATULATIONS
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COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

East Houston Democrats monthly meeting

East Houston Democrats will hold their monthly membership meeting on Thursday, May 18 at 6:30 p.m. Our special guest speaker this month will be Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez. Our club has a new meeting location of the Milton Lusk Youth Activity Center which is located at 1022 Mercury Drive, Jacinto City, TX 77029. Membership is open to any Democrats in our community who are interested in uniting to educate others on the importance of not only voting but of being engaged in politics. Membership dues are \$40 for a household, \$30 for an individual and \$20 for a currently enrolled student. Should you have any questions, please contact Charlotte Jackson at 832-896-1633.

North Shore Rotary's Annual Fish Fry Fundraiser

Saturday May 20th. Meal Tickets: \$10 | Serving Time: 11 AM - 3 PM . Raffle Tickets (20 Prizes in Raffle Drawing): \$100 | Includes 2 Meals. You can get tickets from any rotarian or at the Chamber Office. Please contact Margie Buentello at margie@ncachamber.com for more information.

Fidelity HS Historical Committee

The Fidelity High School Historical Committee is hosting a Zydeco and Crawfish Festival on May 20th from 2:00 pm until 6:00 pm. The festival will take place at the Evelyn Churchill Center, 1505 Hunter Street in Galena Manor. All Fidelity graduates, non-graduates and their families are encouraged to attend. For additional details call (832-444-1622) or (832-755-6294).

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School at Old River Terrace UMC in Channelview. Information as follows:
VBS Hero Central: Discover Your Strength in God
June 21-23 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
16102 East Freeway, Channelview, TX 77530
Ages/Edades : Pre-Kinder - 5th Grade.
Register at/Registrate en: 2017.CokesburyVBS.com
Or call: 281-452-2861

Evening San Jacinto Pilot Club Meeting

This newly chartered club meets on on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7 pm at the Woodforest Presbyterian Church. For more information, see the Facebook page entitled Evening San Jacinto Pilot Club or call 832-264-1565 / 832-289-4762.

Galena Park Senior Dance

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

North Shore Senior Dance

North Shore Seniors holds a dance every Thursday from 1 - 4 pm at the Grayson/Baldree Building, Corpus Christi street. Live bands and refreshments. Cost is \$ 5/per person. For more information call 713-455-3660.

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.

San Jacinto Pilot Club meeting

The Club meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at LyondellBasell on Sheldon Road at noon. For more information, please visit www.SanJacintoPilot.com.

Click it or Ticket campaign saves more than 5,000 lives

AUSTIN, May 2, 2017 – This month marks the 15th anniversary of the “Click It or Ticket” campaign urging Texans to buckle up. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) estimates that since its inception 15 years ago, our life-saving campaign has resulted in 5,068 fewer traffic fatalities. However, from 2015 to 2016, deaths among people not wearing seat belts increased 9 percent.

“Wearing a seat belt is the single most important step you can take to protect yourself in a crash, and in Texas it’s the law,” said Texas Department of Transportation Executive Director James Bass. “People make a lot of excuses for not buckling up,

but those excuses will not save your life or prevent you from getting a ticket. The fact is, it only takes a few seconds to buckle up and it could mean the difference between life and death.”

According to NHTSA, since its inception 15 years ago, the Texas “Click It or Ticket” campaign has not only saved thousands of lives but also prevented more than 86,000 serious injuries and saved Texas more than \$19.3 billion in related economic costs. When the “Click It or Ticket” campaign launched in 2002, only 76 percent of Texans used their seat belts. Today, nearly 92 percent buckle up, but 8 percent still don’t and the number of

people who don’t buckle up doubles to 16 percent at night.

In 2016, 994 people died because they weren’t wearing seat belts – an increase of 9 percent over the 908 unbelted fatalities recorded in 2015.

Wearing a seat belt helps keep occupants from being ejected in a crash and increases the chances of surviving by 45 percent in a car, and up to 60 percent in a truck. In Texas, the law requires everyone in a vehicle to buckle up or face fines and court costs up to \$200. Children younger than 8 years must be in a child safety seat or booster seat unless they’re taller than 4 feet 9 inches. If they aren’t properly restrained, the driver faces

fines up to \$250 plus court costs.

Along with TxDOT’s annual “Click It or Ticket” campaign effort, police departments in Texas and across the nation will step up their enforcement efforts from May 22 to June 4.

To learn more about “Click It or Ticket,” visit texasclickitorticket.com.

For media inquiries, contact TxDOT Media Relations at MediaRelations@txdot.gov or (512) 463-8700.

The information contained in this report represents reportable data collected from the Texas Peace Officer’s Crash Report (CR-3). This information was received and processed by the department as of March 14, 2017.

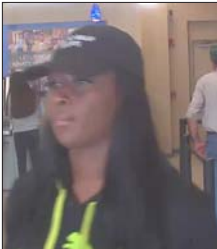
Female bank bandits connected to 5 Chase bank robberies

(HOUSTON, TX) - The FBI Violent Crime Task Force needs the public’s help identifying two young female bank robbers with an affinity for targeting Chase banks. Investigators believe the duo is responsible for at least five Chase bank robberies this month. The latest three robberies occurred earlier today. Crime Stoppers of Houston is offering a reward of up to \$5,000 for information that leads to the identification and arrest of the female felons. Bank surveillance photographs from one of today’s robberies are attached at the end of the press release and can also be found on Twitter @FBHouston and @miFBIHouston.

At about 2:00 p.m., the female bank robbers entered the J.P. Morgan Chase Bank located at 19507 North Freeway in Houston, Texas. They handed a teller a threatening note demanding

cash. The women left that location empty-handed. Approximately 30 minutes later, the same women entered the J.P. Morgan Bank located at 929 East Little York Road in Houston, Texas. The female robbers presented a threatening demand note, then verbally threatened they had a gun. No weapon was observed by witnesses and no one was physically hurt. The women left with an undisclosed amount of cash. Investigators believe the same women robbed the J.P. Morgan Chase Bank located at 13706 East Freeway in Houston, Texas in a similar manner a couple of hours later. After presenting a threatening demand note, the women left with an undisclosed amount of cash. No one was physically hurt.

Investigators believe the same two women are also connected to two other Chase bank robberies earlier this month, the



Suspect women wanted in bank robberies.

robbery of the Chase branch located at 10611 Broadway in Pearland, Texas on May 8, 2017 and the robbery of the Chase branch located at 1102 Silber in Houston, Texas on May 1, 2017. In each of these robberies the women got away with an undisclosed amount of cash. No one was physically hurt during either robbery.

The women are described as young, black females, 18 – 24 years old with skinny builds, one is about 5’4” tall and the

other about 5’8” tall. The women were last seen leaving the area in a newer model silver Volkswagen Jetta occupied by two unknown black males.

Crime Stoppers of Houston is offering up to \$5,000 for information leading to the identification and arrest of these bank robbers. If you have any information, please call the Crime Stoppers tip line at 713-222-TIPS (8477). All tipsters remain anonymous.

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