

NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

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

VOLUME 3, NO. 21(#74)WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2015www.northchannelstar.com

CHANNEL CHATTER

HELP ESTABLISH A GP FOOD BANK

AARP local chapter 1160 is spearheading a fundraiser to establish a food bank in Galena Park. AARP is running this fundraiser in conjunction with the support of the Galena Park Parks and Recreation Department and the Galena Park and Jacinto City Rotary clubs. The fund raiser will be a garage sale and bazaar. Tables can be reserved for \$20 each. Vendors and business are welcome to participate. Sponsor signs can be purchased for \$25. The fundraiser will take place on June 18, 2015 from 9:00 AM – 3 PM at Keene street Galena Park, TX., 77547.

Contact Chuck Lewis to reserve tables and sponsor signs at 713-455-4698.

Neighborhood Safety Meeting

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

Galena Park Pool Time

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

MASSIVE FLOODING PARALYZES REGION

Highways, Schools, METRO closed Tuesday

HOUSTON – A massive rainstorm inundated the city and surrounding counties to the west, dropping as much as 11 inches of rain on West Houston in 8 hours, according to the National Weather Service.

The storm started Monday evening, Memorial Day, and caught many drivers by surprise. Freeways were quickly flooded and impassable due to the heavy rainfall in such a short time.

Other areas had similar inundation: North Houston had over 4 inches, and Channelview and East Harris County had 7+ inches in that short time.

Harris County Office of

See FLOODING, page 3



Monday evening these cars had come to a standstill on the North Freeway, near North Main. Water was too high for any vehicle to drive through, as seen in the empty travel lanes. Many roads, including this one, were not passable to late on Tuesday morning. These vehicles had made a u-turn in the Southbound lanes, but rapidly rising water caught them anyway.



A HOUSTON FIRE TRUCK makes its way through high water Monday night, passing stranded cars parked on high ground. At top, flood waters reach parked cars at residences, and eventually entered the homes.

PHOTOS COURTESY KPRC

COLLEGE PURCHASES LAND FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

San Jacinto College plans branch at Generation Park

HOUSTON – San Jacinto College has closed on 57 acres at Generation Park, just across Lockwood Road from the 173-acre FMC Technologies Corporate Headquarters currently under construction. As a reflection of McCord Development's commitment to education and desire to show this by providing San Jacinto College with a prominent location to further their mission, the developer donated 3.8 acres situated at the intersection of West Lake Houston Parkway and Lockwood Road.

"We could not be more excited to be a part of what's going on at Generation Park, San Jacinto College and even more broadly, in northeast Houston," said Dr. Brenda Hellyer, Chancellor of San

Jacinto College. "Now more than ever, students are looking for the kind of practical, real-world education that can open doors for them, wherever their life goals take them."

The rapid growth of new homes and new businesses in and around Generation Park is creating demand for educational opportunities. San Jacinto College graduates truly go everywhere, whether that's major universities including Harvard, MIT and Georgetown, or thousands of companies throughout Texas.

"San Jacinto College recognized the value of not just our location, but also the benefits of being part of a truly master-planned enterprise park," said Ryan McCord, President of McCord Development. "We

can offer them something nobody else can: direct relationships with world-leading companies who want to work together to develop Houston's next generation high-tech workforce – particularly in the subsea and downstream energy industries."

"Generation Park is at the center of a new commercial and residential boom that is happening on the North side of our district," said Dr. Hellyer. "When you consider what is happening in Houston with the workforce, specifically in oil and gas, we knew we needed to think about the future and how we serve the citizens on the North side of the San Jacinto College District."

See FUTURE DEVELOPMENT, page 3

Stephens bill stopped in Senate

AUSTIN – The Cody Stephens Bill, House Bill 767 effectively was done in (for now) by the Senate Committee of Education vote of 6 to 5 last Thursday.

Most of the testimony was in favor of the bill, that featured offering E.K.G. testing by portable machine for first time athletes participating in U.I.L. sports activities at low cost.

The legislation was an update to the stethoscope and questions of the 14 point screening process performed on athletes now. Sudden Cardiac Arrest is the leading cause of young athletes to die on the field. It took the life of Cody Stephens on May 6, 2012

as he sat in his father's recliner following football practice.

His father, Scott Stephens, worked with Rep. Wayne Smith of Crosby, Dan Huberty of Huffman and many others to get a bill passed and in the House Committee on Public Education, HB 767 was approved 11 to 0. It was approved by the House 86 to 57.

"The U.I.L. told me that without their Medical Advisory Commission agreeing to it, their hands were tied," Scott Stephens told the *North Channel Star*, "We found 17 of 15, 000 so far that had sufficient problems to merit further

See STEPHENS' BILL, p. 6

NORTH SHORE ROTARY

Clendenens win North Shore Rotary raffle top prize



Mike Williams, incoming President of the North Shore Rotary Club, presents the keys to a 2015 Toyota Tundra to raffle winners Mr. and Mrs. Matt Clendenan of Deer Park.

NORTH SHORE – The Rotary Club of North Shore held its 40th Annual Fish Fry on May 16 at the Rotary Pavilion on Wallisville Road where about a thousand people attended.

A donation of \$100 gave you a chance to win a new vehicle, your choice of a Toyota

Tundra truck, or a Avalon sedan. Nineteen other prizes were also awarded.

Fish Fry chairman Mike Williams reported that the event raised over \$150,000 in the live auction, another \$160,000 on ticket sales. This money is returned to the community throughout

the year, in scholarships, support of youth projects.

The vehicle for the winner was provided by Community Toyota of Baytown. The winner, Matt Clendenin, said that he chose the Tundra pick-up truck of the two choices he had.

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Channelview ISD honors Teachers of the Year

The Channelview Independent School District's top educators were honored at the 2015 Teachers of the Year and Rising Stars Banquet at Landry's Restaurant in Kemah on May 28.

Amanda Montemayor from De Zavala Elementary School was named the district's Elementary Teacher of the Year, while Priscilla Jones from Kolarik Ninth Grade Center was honored as Secondary Teacher of the Year. Both teachers now are in the running to become Region 4 Teacher of the Year and will be recognized at a reception later this summer.

"We are proud to honor these teachers and recognize their creativity and ability to reach students' minds in a special way," said Greg Ollis, Channelview ISD superintendent.

The event was sponsored by Tubular Services, LLC, Woodforest National Bank, Gulf Coast Educators Federal Credit Union and Perdue Brandon Field-



Channelview ISD Superintendent Greg Ollis congratulates Elementary Teacher of the Year Amanda Montemayor and Secondary Teacher of the Year Priscilla Jones on their recent honors at the Teacher of the Year Banquet. Montemayor is a Kindergarten teacher at De Zavala Elementary and Jones is an Algebra teacher at Kolarik Ninth Grade Center.

er Collins and Mott LLP, Attorneys at Law.

The event sponsors rewarded the teachers' efforts at the banquet as Montemayor and Jones both received \$500, a large

inscribed plaque and an iPad Air with cases, donated by the Channelview ISD Education Foundation. In

See TEACHERS OF THE YEAR, p. 6

COMMUNITY NEWS



Gold Star Mother

Donna Slay, mother of Russell Slay, is the Golden Star Mother recognized by the Ladies Auxiliary of the David H. Mc Nerney American Legion Post 658. This recognition was bestowed at the VFW Building last Saturday at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Fish Fry in Crosby. Russell Slay was 28 years old from Humble in the 2nd Assault Division when he died in combat on Nov. 9, 2004 at Anbar Province, Iraq. Golden Star Mothers have been recognized since World War One. The American Legion Post 658 Ladies Auxiliary has been very busy educating kids about Memorial Day.

Lt. Governor Dan Patrick on historic passage of "Open Carry" Bill

AUSTIN –May 22, 2015 – Lt. Governor Dan Patrick congratulated the Texas Senate for the final passage of Committee Substitute for House Bill 910 (CSHB 910) with a vote of 20 - 11. "More than two months ago, the Texas Senate approved similar legislation enhancing Second Amendment freedoms on a vote of 20-10," said Patrick. "With time running out on this legislative session, the Senate has once again stood up for the Second

Amendment to ensure law-abiding licensed Texans have the right to open carry. "While the Senate considered attaching 'campus carry' to this bill, Speaker Joe Straus has assured the Texas Senate that the House will approve a 'campus carry' bill in time to be approved by the Senate and sent to the Governor to become law before time runs out on the 84th Legislative Session," concluded Patrick.

Goose Creek CISD outgoing members - New board members are sworn in



Randal O'Brien (right), Goose Creek CISD superintendent, presents plaques of appreciation to outgoing members of the Goose Creek CISD Board of Trustees (from left) Jimmy Smith, president; Vicky Melo, secretary and Daniel Blackford for their service to the district.



New Goose Creek CISD Board members (from left) Gigi Cockrell (District 4), Jessica Woods (District 3), Pete Pape (District 7) and Al Richard (District 6) are sworn in by Rick Peebles, attorney for Goose Creek CISD, while Randal O'Brien, superintendent, waits to congratulate them.

Businesses required to configure phones to provide direct access to 9-1-1

Businesses with a multi-line phone system in the state of Texas will soon be required to provide direct access to 9-1-1 service without having to dial an additional digit or code first. Senate Bill 788, also known as Kari's Law and was signed by Governor Greg Abbott on Friday, May 15, 2015 signifies an important day for the 9-1-1 industry and Texas citizens: requiring direct dial 9-1-1 without the need for dialing an extra number or code to access an outside line. The new law takes effect immediately, however, businesses have until September 1, 2016 to update their phone systems or file for a waiver as required by the new law. This law is the result of an incident in late 2013 in Marshall, Texas when a

nine-year old girl tried to call 9-1-1 from a hotel room because her mother, Kari Hunt, was being attacked by her estranged husband. Tragically, she was unable to reach the 9-1-1 call center because she did not know to dial '9' first to get an outside line and her mother died. Since his daughter's death, Hank Hunt and his family have made it their mission to educate the public and elected officials across the country about the need to change phone systems at hotels and other businesses. Greater Harris County 9-1-1 Emergency Network (GHC 9-1-1) and Montgomery County Emergency Communication District (MCECD) are proud to have played an active role in working with other 9-1-

1 entities across the state of Texas and the Texas Legislature to see this law become a reality, so that something like the tragedy in Marshall, Texas never happens again. "We teach our children to dial three simple numbers in an emergency and that is all that they should have to remember," said Russell Rau, Chairman of GHC 9-1-1 Board of Managers. Realizing that this situation could have happened anywhere, the GHC 9-1-1 Board of Managers took interest in Mr. Hunt's mission and joined him to work closely with stakeholders to craft legislation and to educate Texas legislators about this tragedy and urged passage of the bill. There are now four governmental bodies that require direct dial 9-1-1. The very first time Kari's Law was enacted was in Suffolk Co., New York. Texas is now the third state to pass Kari's Law. The states of Illinois and Maryland have also passed legislations to enact Kari's Law. In many cases, this change to phone systems can be done by reprogramming the phone system. Locally, GHC 9-1-1 and MCECD have both worked with the Texas Hotel and Lodging Association and directly with local area hotels in the Harris, Fort Bend and Montgomery counties to encourage them to ensure their phone systems can directly access 9-1-1. The 9-1-1 entities across the state of Texas will be monitoring the implementation of Kari's law.

### CHEVY MEMORIAL DAY SALE

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<b>2015 Equinox 1LT</b>  Stk# FZ106579, FWD, 1.4 L 4 Cyl. M.S.R.P. \$27,805 Sale Price \$22,970	<b>2015 Traverse</b>  Stk# FJ184999 M.S.R.P. \$34,420 Sale Price \$26,993	<b>2015 Malibu LS</b>  Stk# FJ184999 M.S.R.P. \$23,515 Sale Price \$19,938

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# SCHOOL, COMMUNITY NEWS

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### JUNE North Channel Library events

-Tuesday, June 2, 10:30 a.m. Toddler Time; 1:30 p.m. Preschool Story Time; 4:30 p.m. Teens-TeenScene.  
-Wed., June 3, 4:30 p.m. Wii Game Day.  
-Thurs., June 4, 10:30 a.m. Baby Time; 4:30 p.m. Teens-Mission Patches.  
-Friday, June 5 & Saturday June 6 Library Book Sale.  
**COMPUTER CLASSES:**  
-Introduction to Windows, Lecture, June 2, 10 am - 12 pm.  
-Introduction to Windows, Practice, June 4, 10 am - 12 pm.  
•Registration required.  
**CLASES DE COMPUTACION**  
-Introducción a Windows, Lectura, June 1, 1-3 p.m.  
-Introducción a Word, Práctica, June 3, 1-3 p.m.  
•Se requiere registraci3n.  
Library is located at 15741 Wallisville Rd., Houston, TX. 77049. Call 281-457-1631 for more information

### JUNE Galena Park Library events

-Monday, June 1, Beginning of Summer Reading Program.  
-Wednesday, June 3, 10:15 am Computaci3n B3sica; 11:00 a.m. Children's Story Time; 1:30 p.m. Computer Basics.  
-Thursday, June 4, 11:00 a.m. Baby Time; 3:00 p.m. Captain America.  
-Friday, June 5, 3:00 p.m. Movie.  
Please call the library at 713-450-0989 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.

### FUTURE DEVELOPMENT,

Continued from page 1  
"As Fortune 500 companies continue to look to attract and retain the best employees, workforce training is no longer something that happens in a silo," said Dr. Hellyer. "We want to be in a place where we can partner with leading companies to offer them graduates with the credentials they need to hit the ground running on day one. It's a symbiotic relationship that we have cultivated throughout our region, and one that we plan on continuing with the companies at Generation Park."  
"What's happening at Generation Park with San Jacinto College is a great example of how Harris County encourages public and private collaboration," said Harris County Judge, Ed Emmett. "The workforce training at San Jacinto College is going to be a tremendous asset to companies that locate at Generation Park."  
About Generation Park  
Generation Park is a 4,000-acre mixed-use master planned enterprise park in Houston, Texas. Located on the northeast corner of Beltway 8/Sam Houston Tollway, the park will be an entirely new business destination with more than 37 million square feet to be developed. The park features more than 2.5 miles of beltway frontage, four beltway interchanges, over 21 miles of major thoroughfares and easy access to all main transportation corridors in Houston.  
Visit generationpark.com for more information.

## Congressman Green hosts Veterans Forum

HOUSTON – Congressman Gene Green hosted a Veterans Forum last Thursday in Galena Park.  
Between 30 and 40 Veterans attended to get information about Legislature and talk personally to Congressman Gene Green.  
Representatives from various government agencies such as the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Regional Office, Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center, Texas Veterans Commission, and VA National Cemetery were present to answer individual questions.



Rep. Green presents a flag to Post Commander David Brown during the Veterans Forum last Thursday, May 21, in Galena Park.



Rep. Gene Green addresses attendees at the Veterans Forum last Thursday, May 21, in Galena Park.

## Galena Park Swim Lessons

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

## Summer Fun

Kids ages 5-12 are invited to join fun this summer at the Alvin D. Baggett Community Center in Galena Park.  
The program consists of: arts/crafts, reading time, swimming, movies. Games and activities both inside and outside. Summer Fun begins June 8, 2015 and ends August 14, 2015. Cost is \$25 per week/per child. Time is Monday - Friday 10 am - 2 pm.  
Register at Alvin D. Baggett Community Building, 1302 Keene St. Call 713-674-1741 for more information.

## FLOODING,

Continued from page 1  
Emergency Management issued a Level 1 alert, the first time it has been this high since Hurricane Ike in 2008. This level indicates a threat to life.  
The amount of rain that fell is close to the 50 year storm, and has been compared to the devastating flood Allison in 2004.  
Flash Flood warnings were issued for Fort Bend, Harris, Brazoria, Matagorda, and Wharton counties all Monday evening and Tuesday morning, as the rains continued.  
Besides highways and city streets that were impassable, a number of homes throughout the western and northern areas of the city reported water inside their houses.  
Richmond, Fountainview, and Chimney Rock reportedly have areas of water as deep as 4 feet, and were impassable to autos.  
Five deaths were reported by Tuesday afternoon. These included one person who drove into high water

on Rancheater, where it dips at an underpass at the Westpark Tollway. Other fatalities included a body found in Brays Bayou, believed to have originally been rescued by HFD and then lost in a boating accident, a body in Southeast Houston, a body in a car on I-45 at Tellepsen, and a body in a car in the Galleria area parking garage, where rapidly rising water had surprised and trapped many people. In addition, two persons are missing that were in the HFD rescue boat that overturned in Brays Bayou near Meyerland. To date they have not been located, but HFD said they did have life jackets.  
Power outages were common, with Centerpoint reporting that 75,000 customers lost power sometime during the storm.  
The two freeways most affected by the flooding were I-10 eastbound and westbound, near the intersection with I-45, and also I-45 near its intersection with North Main Street.  
As the storm continued without letup through the night, most businesses, school districts, and even METRO decided to stay closed Tuesday. No buses

## Galena Park/North Channel Librarian retires



Last week, Rep. Green presented a flag to Ms. Carolyn Dial, retiring Harris County Public Library branch librarian for Galena Park and North Channel.

Carolyn Dial received her Master's degree in Library Science from Emporia State University in Kansas. Her career includes work in academic, public and medical libraries in roles as various as Reference Librarian, Cataloger, Acquisitions Coordinator and Youth Specialist. "Miss Carolyn," as the children call her, also enjoys sharing stories about the lives of her parents and grandparents in the "tall, piney woods" of East Texas. Ms. Dial is retiring with 10 years of service to the Harris County Public Libraries, managing both the North Channel and Galena Park Branch Libraries.

## CHANNELVIEW ISD: Career and Technical Education students honored at awards ceremony

The Channelview High School Career and Technical Education (CTE) students were in the spotlight at an awards ceremony held in their honor at the CHS Auditorium.  
One of the highlights of the evening was the presentation of the James Hugh Long Memorial Scholarship. Long was a CTE teacher for 20 years before his retirement. He passed away in 2008 and teachers in the CTE department started a scholarship fund in his memory in 2009. Recipients of the scholarship were Malcolm Roach, Katelyn Sowell, Courtney Williams, Matthew Yates, Christian Metz, Ashlyn Berry, Luis Anchondo.  
Many other awards from a variety of career and technical specialties were presented by the CHS Career and Technical Education teachers, along with the district's CTE Director Mia Young.

## CHANNELVIEW ISD: Schochler Honor Choir earns 'superior' ratings



Channelview ISD's Schochler Elementary Honor Choir participated in the Splash Town Choral Festival recently. They received superior ratings from all three judges and finished as runner up in the 4th/5th grade category out of several Houston-area schools.

### Wife insurance premiums are due

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OPINION PAGE

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MESSAGE FROM

REP. BRIAN BABIN



Let’s propel the American Entrepreneurial Spirit

Washington, DC – U.S. Representative Brian Babin (TX-36) voted for House passage of the SPACE Act (H.R. 2262), legislation he cosponsored that advances commercial space through encouraging private sector investment, creating more stable and predictable regulatory conditions, and improving safety. The SPACE ACT, which is widely supported in the space industry, will advance U.S. leadership in space and foster new technologies through commercial development.

Babin spoke on the House floor in support of the SPACE Act and urged his colleagues to join him in voting to secure America’s standing as the home of commercial space exploration.

“Let’s face it, in any field, no American

entrepreneur is going to invest billions of dollars of their own money where there is regulatory uncertainty. The SPACE Act of 2015 creates a regulatory framework and provides certainty for these privately financed endeavors to take the next steps.

“This legislation will bolster thousands of high-tech American jobs -- building a stronger economy, advancing technological leadership, and strengthening our nation’s industrial base. America has always prospered because we have not stood in the way of visionaries but rather found a way to enable them to take a chance and succeed on their own.

“A vote for this bill is a vote to ignite the flame of commercial space and propel the

CAPITAL UPDATE

By Sen. Brandon Creighton

Tax Relief for Texans announced

**BREAKING NEWS - Tax Relief for Texans Announced:** I am pleased to announce that the real winners are Texas Taxpayers. Yesterday, Governor Greg Abbott, Lt. Governor Dan Patrick and Speaker Joe Straus announced a \$3.8 billion tax relief package for Texas businesses and homeowners.

The agreement reached includes:

- 25% permanent Franchise Tax reduction;
- \$10,000 increase in the Homestead Exemption, beginning in 2015, subject to passage of a Constitutional Amendment adopted in the November election; and,
- SB 1760, requiring a 60% vote of the governing body of any taxing entity wishing to adopt an increase in property taxes that exceeds the effective tax rate.

Upon passage, my property tax relief legislation (SB 1760) will be a major catalyst in ensuring property owners benefit and realize the savings this session. Texans expect us to remain good stewards of their tax dollars and it is a privilege that we are able to return \$3.8 billion to them with this comprehensive plan. Thank you to Lt. Governor Dan Patrick for asking me to serve on this session's tax negotiation team.



Abbott, Patrick, Straus announce tax relief compromise

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and House Speaker Joe Straus on May 21 jointly announced a \$3.8 billion tax relief package for Texas businesses and homeowners.

According to the announcement, the agreement reached by Patrick and Straus on a tax proposal, along with additional legislation, includes:

1. A 25 percent permanent reduction in the business margins tax;
2. A \$10,000 increase in the homestead exemption, beginning in 2015, subject to passage of a constitutional amendment adopted in the November election; and
3. SB 1760, legislation requiring a 60 percent vote of the governing body of any taxing unit wishing to adopt an increase in property taxes that exceeds the effective tax rate.

“Texas leaders have come together to advance conservative principles that will improve the lives of Texans and continue to make Texas the model for doing business,” Abbott said. “Every dollar businesses and homeowners pay in taxes is a dollar that could be invested in new jobs, higher wages and stimulating the Texas economy.”

Meanwhile, the passage of a state budget for fiscal years 2016 and 2017, the Legislature’s primary task, is in its final stages. The buzz around the Capitol before Memorial Day weekend was that with tax relief resolved, an agreement on the budget that will satisfy the governor’s expectations will soon follow.

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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling



mission on May 22 reported Texas has added an estimated 287,000 seasonally adjusted jobs over the past year including a modest gain in April with the addition of 1,200 positions during the month.

The state unemployment rate remained steady at 4.2 percent in April, down a full percentage point from 5.2 percent a year ago. Texas continues to trend well below the national unemployment rate of 5.4 percent.

Job gains for April were led by the Leisure and Hospitality industry, which added 6,900 positions. The Information industry enjoyed its largest monthly gain for the industry since June 2000 with the addition of 3,400 jobs in April. Other Services gained 2,800 jobs during the month followed by Trade, Transportation and Utilities, which expanded by 2,100 positions.

“We know that there are still folks who are looking for good-paying jobs in our state and we encourage them to take advantage of the many resources made available through Texas Workforce Solutions,” said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Ronny Congleton. “Through our Workforce Solutions offices around the state, staff that can help steer job seekers to employment and training opportunities. With more than 260,000 available jobs currently posted on WorkInTexas.com, job seekers have good options here in Texas.”

**Legislators agree on e-cig bill**

SB 97 by Sen. Juan “Chuy” Hinojosa, D-McAllen, would ban the sale of e-cigarettes to minors. The Senate concurred with House amendments on May 18, allowing the legislation to proceed to the governor’s office for a final signature.

According to the Senate news service, House provisions added to the bill would strengthen on-line sales restrictions and the penalty for selling e-cigarettes to minors would be a fine of up to \$500, the same as selling tobacco products to a minor. If Gov. Abbott signs the bill into law, it will take effect on Oct. 1.

E-cigarettes vaporize a liquid containing nicotine that is inhaled by the user. Hinojosa expressed concern that use of “vaping” products is growing among younger Texans, saying, “We now have many minors using e-cigs in school because they think that it is a way to avoid smoking tobacco cigarettes.”

A 2014 survey by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Federal Drug Administration shows e-cigarette use increasing from 4.5 percent to 13.4 percent of high school students and 1.1 percent to 3.9 percent of middle school students in a single year.

**Weekend patrols to increase**

Texas Department of Public Safety on May 20 announced a plan to increase trooper patrols this Memorial Day weekend on Texas roadways. Troopers will be looking for drunk drivers, speeding, and seat belt and other traffic violators statewide.

Last year during the Memorial Day weekend, DPS troopers arrested 413 drunk drivers and issued 5,439 speeding citations, 1,053 seat belt and child safety restraint tickets, and cited 684 drivers for driving without insurance. Additionally, troopers made 182 fugitive arrests and 168 felony arrests.

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OPINION

By Sen. Brandon Creighton

Private school credit card Bill passes Texas Legislature

AUSTIN — House Bill 1881 passed the Texas Senate and is headed to the governor’s desk for signature. This bill allows pre-K-12 private schools to allow parents to pay for their children’s tuition through a credit or debit card instead of absorbing the fees in their school budget. Representative Giovanni Capriglione (R-Southlake) is the bill’s author and Senator Brandon Creighton (R-Conroe) is the senate sponsor.

Currently, private schools are not allowed to charge these fees as a way to offset some of their expenses and their counterparts - public schools, public and private colleges and universities, are allowed to pass along the fee.

“H.B. 1881 provides a new avenue for parents and guardians to pay for their child’s tuition at private and parochial schools,” said Senator Creighton. “This means private schools can use every dollar they can in the classroom and no longer absorb the cost incurred by processing fees. State government should always look for opportunities to remove road blocks in the day-to-day lives of our citizens.”

“This is an issue brought to me by several constituents,” remarked Representative Capriglione. “This bill will give parents flexible payment options, as well as help private schools cover their costs, which is important for large and small schools alike. H.B. 1881 is mutually beneficial for parents and schools, and I’m pleased it has passed the Legislature.”

House Bill 1881 is strongly supported by the Texas Private Schools Association, representing more than 800 accredited private schools and 250,000 students throughout the state.

**SENATOR BRANDON CREIGHTON represents District 4, which encompasses Chambers, Jefferson and parts of Montgomery, Harris, and Galveston Counties. He currently serves on the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Water and Rural Affairs, the Senate Committee on Criminal Justice, the Senate Committee on State Affairs, and as the Vice-Chairman of the Senate Committee on Business and Commerce.**

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Production Manager.....Luis Hernandez  
IT Technical Manager.....Pedro Hernandez

Entered as Periodicals Class at Highlands Post Office, Highlands, TX 77562. Under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. Published 50 weeks per year, on Thursday, by Grafikpress Corp., 5906 Star Lane, Houston, TX 77057. Opinions in this paper are those of the authors, and not necessarily this newspaper's. Any erroneous statement which may appear will be corrected when brought to the attention of the publisher. Liability for errors is limited to the reprinting of the corrected version. Submissions are encouraged, in person, by mail, by fax, or by email, to grafikstar@aol.com.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES: In-county, \$25.00 per year. Out of county, \$35.00 per year. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Star-Courier, P. O. Box 405, Highlands, TX 77562

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LIFESTYLE

OBITUARIES

Annie Joyce Morgan

Annie Joyce Morgan, 83, of Channelview, went home to be with her Lord on May 21, 2015. Known as Joyce to family and friends, she was born July 11, 1931 in Bowden, Alabama to parents, John Sheridan & Amie Amanda Horton.

She had worked and retired from Gerland Food's in Channelview and had been an active and devoted Avon representative for many years to support her family.

She is preceded in death by her parents and by brothers, Elkins Horton, & Curtis Horton and by sisters, Odessa Waldrep, Josie Horton and Cleo Horton.

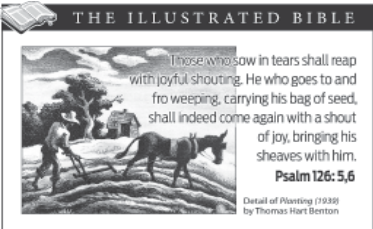
She is survived by her children, Michael Wheeler, and his wife Donna Sue, Chris Morgan, and his wife Ann and Lynne Jaynes; and by grandchildren, Casie Rodriguez, and husband Ryan, Seth Larkin, Ian & Patrick Morgan, Michael Rabson, and husband Rich, Susie Ringo and Rene O'deal; by great-grandchildren, Kiersten Varnado, Kristiana Barras, Lizet & Emery Rodriguez, Tina Knight, Colton McClendon, Connie McClendon, Cheltzie Rabson, Daniel Ringo, Keiren Rabson and Whisper



Lindquist; and by one great-great-grandson, Justin Knight.

A visitation and service were Tuesday, May 26, 2015 at South Drive Baptist Church, 15229 South Drive, Channelview, Texas with the visitation starting at 5:00 p.m and services to celebrate her homegoing to started at 7:00 p.m. She was laid to rest in San Jacinto Memorial Park on Wednesday morning May 27, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

Carter Funeral Home  
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www.CarterFuneral-Houston.com



Howard Lindsey Phillips

Howard Lindsey Phillips, 93, of Houston, passed away May 22, 2015. He was born June 26, 1921 in Marquez, Texas, a son of Lindsey and Alter Phillips.

Howard worked at Armco Steel for 35 years. He is preceded in death by his wife of 67 years, Jewell Phillips; sisters Winnie Wilson, and Velma Phillips.

Survivors include his sisters, Irene Green, and Nelda Fay Johnston; sons, Royce Phillips, Dick Phillips & wife Babs, Cecil Phillips & Jan Barlow; grandchildren, Keith & Penny Phillips, Kevin & Lisa Phillips, Tessa & Todd Ward, Lacy Phillips, Tucker & Shanan Phillips, Jarred Phillips and Abigail Phillips; nine great grandchildren; numerous nieces & nephews.

Visitation was held May 27th at 10:00 am prior to the funeral at Uvalde Baptist Church, 901 Uvalde



Road, Houston, 77015, the funeral service was held, May 27th at 11:00 am, Rev. Joey Galloway officiated. Interment followed at San Jacinto Memorial Park under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

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Mildred Louise McClelland

Mildred Louise McClelland, 86, of Houston, passed away Saturday, May 23, 2015. She was born December 21, 1928 in Sabine County, Texas, daughter of John Henry and Hessie Williams.

After graduating from Brookeland High School valedictorian, Mildred was a telephone operator for Southwestern Bell until she started her family. She professed her faith during the early years of her home church, BPBC. She was a VBS teacher, a Sunday school teacher for the Golden Circle Class for many years, and she volunteered to drive the elderly to their doctor's appointments.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Edward Earl "Babe" McClelland.

She is lovingly survived by her children, Ennis Earl "Mack" McClelland and his wife, Freda, Johnnie Hubert "Pat" McClelland and his wife, Janet, Catherine Gail "Cathy" Hopkins, Cynthia Lynn "Cindy" Langdon and her husband, Dale; brothers, Kermit Williams, Randall Williams and sister, Pauline "Polly" Gilbert; grandchildren, Tina, Toni, Chris and



Clarissa, John Eric and wife, Jayme, Johnnie and wife, Kristy, Ronnie and wife, Lisa, Bradley, April and husband, Bruce, Scott and wife, Amy; great-grandchildren, Brittney, Blaine, Daniel, Crislyn, Hanna, Hailey, Colt, Case, LeAnn, Dylan, Meagan, Kyle, Daniel, Angel, Kaitlyn, Trevor, Justin, Trinity, Ella, Paige, and BJ.

On Tuesday, May 26, 2015, funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. at Beaumont Place Baptist Church, 13101 Ivydale, Houston, Texas 77049. Interment followed at 3:00 p.m. at Brookeland Cemetery in Brookeland, Texas.

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BIBLE TRIVIA  
by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Luke in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. What just and devout man held the baby Jesus when Mary and Joseph presented Him at the temple? Cyrenius, Ham, Simeon, Zara
3. Which of these books comes before the other three in the Old Testament (KJV)?

Nahum, Ecclesiastes, Lamentations, Daniel

4. What sign sealed God's promise not to destroy the earth ever again by a flood? Solar eclipse, Rainbow, Full moon, Ocean wave
5. From Proverbs 29, what does the fear of man bring? A snare, Redemption, Love of life, Death
6. Whose daughter found the infant Moses in the river? David, Pharaoh, Solomon, Timothy

ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Simeon; 3) Ecclesiastes; 4) Rainbow; 5) A snare; 6) Pharaoh

LITTLE BIDDY BITS  
By Danny Biddy

Good Call

An elderly, well-dressed man and I entered the parking garage elevator on the ninth floor of Methodist Hospital in downtown Houston. We exchanged greetings and started down.

The elevator stopped again, and three older teens got on.

One of teens very confidently said, "Let's take the crosswalk. It's on two."

The older gentleman politely said, "The crosswalk is on three," which was already selected.

When the doors opened on three, we could see the crosswalk ahead of us. The corrected teen then said, "Good call!"

1 Peter 5:5 reads, "You younger men follow the leadership of those who are older." Good call, indeed.

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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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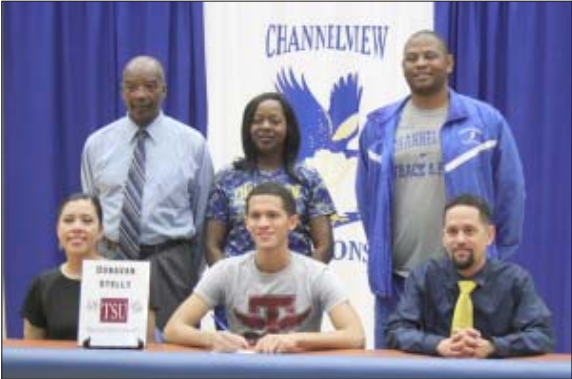
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# SPORTS, CLUBS



**CHANNELVIEW**  
**Falcons track standout signs with TSU**

Channelview High School track standout Donovan Stelly recently accepted a full scholarship to run cross country and track for Texas Southern University. He will also major in Biology. Head Track Coach Alva Brown said Stelly is not only an exceptional athlete, but an exceptional student as well.

**GALENA PARK ISD**  
**Swimmer signs scholarship**

North Shore Senior High School distance swimming specialist Monica Flores has signed a letter of intent to swim for McMurry University in the fall. Her work ethic and leadership skills will help her be a welcome addition to her new teammates. In her time as a Mustang she was a district champion in the 200 IM and 500 Free, and All Region medalist in the 500 Free. She was also an integral member of multiple school relay records this year. Flores is a top 10% student and will be studying Accounting at McMurry.



## San Jacinto College upcoming events

**Registration for Summer and Fall**  
Registration is open for the Summer and Fall terms. The first Summer session begins Monday, June 8. The Fall term begins Monday, August 24. Register at [sanjac.edu/apply-register/overview/registration](http://sanjac.edu/apply-register/overview/registration).  
**Softball tryouts**  
The San Jacinto College softball team will host tryouts for the 2015-2016 season on Saturday, May 30. High school freshman through seniors are invited to attend. Pitchers and

catchers will try out from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., and infield and outfield prospects will try out beginning at 2 p.m. All tryouts will take place at the South Campus softball field located at 13735 Beamers Road. Participants are asked to register with assistant softball coach Kelsey Walters, at [kelsey.mclain@sjcd.edu](mailto:kelsey.mclain@sjcd.edu) or at 281-998-6150 ext. 3524.  
**Summer Camps**  
Summer fun is back at San Jacinto College. The College again plans to host a variety of fun and enrich-

ing Summer camps for kids of all ages at each of its three campuses. There is something for every interest from athletics and career exploration, to arts and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), and everything in between. Camp prices vary, and some offer scholarships to those who qualify to assist with camp tuition. More information, and a link to register for camps, can be found online on the San Jacinto College Summer Camp website. Camps begin Monday, June 8, 2015.

## San Jacinto Pilot Club makes donation to Institute for Civility in Government

San Jacinto Pilot Club was honored to make a donation to the Institute for Civility in Government. Reverend Cassandra Dahnke is pictured receiving the donation from Julie Fallin, President, San Jacinto Pilot Club.  
San Jacinto Pilot Club is part of Pilot International, a 501(c)(3) service organization dedicated to youth development and leadership, brain safety and fitness, and caring for families in times of need. The club meets once a month on the second Thursday. Funds for scholarships and other community donations are raised by the San Jacinto Pilot Club primarily at their annual spaghetti dinner. This year's event will be held Saturday, October 10, 2015. More information about our club can be found at [www.SanJacintoPilot.com](http://www.SanJacintoPilot.com) or at [www.PilotInternational.org](http://www.PilotInternational.org).



## TEACHERS OF THE YEAR,

Continued from page 1

addition, the sponsors help provide all of the Campus Teachers of the Year and first-year Rising Star Teachers of the Year \$100 and star-shaped trophies for their outstanding efforts.  
“Our sponsors are some very special people,” Ollis said. “We appreciate the generosity they have shown by recognizing the efforts of our teachers as they shape tomorrow’s leaders.”  
Montemayor has taught for the district for eight years at De Zavala, where she serves as a bilingual Kindergarten teacher at De Zavala. She earned her bachelor’s degree from the University of Houston-Clear Lake. Before she became a teacher, she served as a Reading Lab aide at Crenshaw Elementary from 2002-2007.  
Jones, a 16-year teaching veteran, is completing her third year as an Alge-

bra teacher at Kolarik. She received her bachelor’s degree from the University of Houston-Central Campus and her master’s in Education from Houston Baptist University.  
Campus Teachers of the Year that were recognized included Yoshico Lewis (Aguirre Junior High), Dorell Hobbs (Alice Johnson Junior High), Maria Anaya (Early Childhood Center), Katrina Terrell (Brown Elementary), Fernando Venegas (Campbell Learning Center), Erin Bowman (Channelview High School), Amanda Kennington (Cobb Elementary), Sharon Hines (Crenshaw Elementary), Amanda Montemayor (De Zavala Elementary), Theda Aiken (Hamblen Elementary), Priscilla Jones (Kolarik Ninth Grade Center), Erin Cox (McMullan Elementary) and Derrick Burton (Schochler Elementary).  
As a local honor, the district and campuses recog-

nize the “Rising Stars” first-year Teachers of the Year. This year’s “Rising Stars” are Jabari Lockett (Aguirre Junior High), Nathan Cassidy (Alice Johnson Junior High), Irene Cavazos (Early Childhood Center), Amy Kennemer (Brown Elementary), Brent Adams (Campbell Learning Center), Malcolm Lockett (Channelview High School), Gladys Segura (Cobb Elementary), Cinthya Banta (Crenshaw Elementary), Jordan Dillon (De Zavala Elementary), Tyson Smith (Kolarik Ninth Grade Center), Carolyn Mathis (McMullan Elementary) and Maria Castro (Schochler Elementary).  
“I am extremely proud of the work our teachers are doing in the classrooms every day,” Ollis. “All of our teachers can take pride in celebrating the successes of the students that pass through their doors.”

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## STEPHENS' BILL

Continued from page 1

review, that tells me that for every million students in Texas 1,000 young lives could be at risk.”  
The stethoscope was invented in 1816 when a young French physician named Rene Theophile Laennec invented it to use examining a young female patient. It was a leap forward in medicine because it gave clearer audio to the heart. In the last century technology has moved on but legislation has seemingly stagnated.  
Israel, Italy and Japan have now adopted using E.K.G. screenings on a large scale basis, with Italy reporting a 90% drop in sudden cardiac arrest following a study in 2006.  
Medical evaluations of the E.K.G. procedure say there is a false positive rate of 3% to 5%. Opponents of the bill say that false positives would incur undue financial stress on families with athletes that had nothing wrong with them.  
Ninety-two percent of American professional athletes get screening EKGs. Following the death of Atlanta Hawks center Jason Collier in 2005, all NBA players get a cardiac ultrasound—an even more

reliable, if expensive, test than an EKG—to exclude causes of sudden death. Several college sports programs, such as those at Purdue, Ohio State University, and Georgia Tech, also perform echocardiograms. Huffman ISD initiated EKG screenings for student athletes prior to the death of Cody Stephens. Effectively, the charge for the EKG would drop dramatically if routinely done on all students. Medicare reimbursements grant about \$50 though it takes only minutes to obtain and a minute to read. The Cody Stephens Go Big or Go Home Memorial Foundation is providing EKG screenings for about \$15 and that is far less of a pay-off than \$400 per screening. August 29 of this year, the Cody Stephens Memorial Foundation Go Big Or Go Home will have its annual fundraiser to provide funds to EKG Screen student athletes at the American Legion in Crosby.  
“One thing to understand is that Medical Commissions don't represent patients, they represent doctors,” concluded Stephens about the legislative process. “It was a good run, but unfortunately it came up short.”

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ACROSS

1 Gladiatorial venue

6 Agent

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12 Wears a rut in the rug

13 -tzu

14 Ultra-modern

15 Group character

16 Quito's land

18 Miffed

20 Abundant source

21 Conclusion

23 Miff

24 Man-handled

25 Loud bird

27 Fools

29 Fearful

31 Staples

35 Viticulturist's morsel

37 Teen's woe

38 "Great!"

41 Roulette bet

43 Feedbag tidbit

44 Blueprint

45 Allotment

47 Bliss

49 Overact

52 Trawler need

53 Rd.

54 Stopwatch, e.g.

55 Parched

6 Calendar abbr.

57 "Gypsy" composer

DOWN

1 Mimic

2 Scoundrel

3 Spiny anteater

4 Night light?

5 Very, to

6 Vivaldi

6 Makes smooth

7 Treaty

8 Thee

9 Be philan-

10 thropic

10 Crystal-lined stone

11 Impaled

17 Iditarod site

19 Gucci alternative

21 Type

22 measures

22 Big Apple letters

24 Shell game need

26 Heraldic silver

28 Winter forecast

30 Mess up

32 Thrift

33 Genetic abbr.

34 Prepared

36 Orion

38 Shell out

39 Stomach malady

40 Wan

42 Regimens

45 Answer an invite

46 Leave out

48 Motorists' org.

50 X rating?

51 Before

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# Diamond Jim... How should I store my precious metals?

## 6 Tips for Securely Storing Your Precious Metals

If you've made an investment in physical precious metals, or even considered taking that step, the question of where to securely store it has surely come up. It's an important question. Physical gold and silver comes without the counter-party risk associated with paper assets, but investors must still manage the risk of loss or theft. Before sharing our list of hiding places, we want to impress upon you the importance of installing a security system at your house. Burglaries are on the rise, and you have a lot more to lose from a home break-in than just your precious metals. That said, here's one important rule and a few simple strategies that can dramatically reduce the risk your stash is stolen. Rule #1: Don't Talk about Your Holding. A huge percentage of thefts involve inside knowledge. The larger the circle of people who know you have valuables, or worse – exactly where those valuables are hidden.

the greater the chance that information will be shared with a crook. The best policy is to share the details on where to find your stash with 1-2 people you trust and impress upon them the need for privacy. If thieves don't know you have a precious metals stash, they are less likely to risk life and limb targeting your home at random. In addition to Rule #1, consider employing one or more of the following: A Quality Home Safe. Tried and true, a well-built home safe is always a good idea. Bolting it to the floor in a spot where it will be awkward

for thieves to employ a pry-bar further improves security. Floor safes and wall safes hidden under a rug or behind a family photo are also very effective. Decoy Stash. Put a modest, but believable, portion of your holding in a more obvious location to throw crooks off the scent of your primary cache. Consider storing a few coins in your gun-safe or a cheap fire-safe. If those are found, criminals are likely to stop their search. And, if your home is invaded, you and your loved ones will have something ready to hand over. Choose the Unlikely. Unless it is a decoy stash, don't choose clichéd hiding locations. Under mattresses, sock drawers and master bedroom closets will be the first places searched. Here is a list of not-so-obvious hiding spots that work well:

- Paint cans in a garage cabinet – It's a good idea to leave some paint in the can and package your metals to avoid rattling.
- Buried at least two feet in the ground inside a waterproof container.

## ASK DIAMOND JIM

- Your freezer – perhaps inside an emptied-out box of frozen food product.
- A stuffed animal in a box of old toys tucked away somewhere.
- Behind some insulation in your attic.
- On a bookshelf inside a Pineforest Jewelry book-safe or cansafe.

False Pipes/Electrical Boxes. Install plumbing or an electrical junction box that appears functional. These pipes and boxes make ideal hiding spots – never garnering a second look from anyone. Just be sure to invest the time and care to make them look genuine.

Safe Deposit Box/Commercial Vault. We recommend everyone keep at least a portion of their holding under direct personal control. Storage at home is the best way to ensure 24-hour access and guarantee privacy. However, third-party storage in a safe deposit box or commercial vault can make

sense for anyone who simply won't be able to sleep at night with all their valuables at home.

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

Diamond Jim is a diamond dealer and precious metals broker of NTR metals.

See more at [www.pineforestjewelry.com](http://www.pineforestjewelry.com).

## CAPITOL UPDATE

### Sen. Garcia passes Relationship Privacy Act

(Austin, TX) May 26, 2015 – Senator Sylvia Garcia passed Senate Bill 1135 to stop the disturbing trend of nonconsensual disclosure of sexually explicit images on the internet. This is usually done with the specific intent to gain revenge and harm the depicted person and without the consent of the depicted person. This practice has been commonly referred to as "revenge pornography." Victims' images are commonly posted along with information such as their name, contact information, and links to their social media profiles. To add insult to injury, "revenge porn websites" are further preying on victims by charging fees to remove the sexually explicit images from the internet. SB

1135 establishes criminal penalties and civil remedies for this reprehensible practice. The bill is now headed to the Governor's office for signing.

"I am thrilled to have passed this legislation to help victims get justice for the horrific practice of posting a nude or sexually explicit photo of the victims on the internet without their permission. The disclosure of these types of images without consent can lead to harassment, stalking, threats, harm to reputation and job loss. Like other forms of sexual violence, this intolerable act of control can make victims feel powerless. I hope that this legislation can empower those that have been victimized and deter those that would victimize."

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Published each Wednesday by GrafikPress Corp. Any erroneous statement which may appear will be corrected when brought to the attention of the publisher. Liability for errors is limited to the reprinting of the corrected version. Submissions are encouraged, in person, by mail, by Fax, or by email, to: [northchannelstar@gmail.com](mailto:northchannelstar@gmail.com)

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 <b>2011 KIA SPORTAGE</b> STK# 12279 - Techno Orange, 4 cyl, turbo, sunroof, leather, 27 MPG <b>\$19,980</b>	 <b>2014 DODGE GR. CARAVAN</b> STK# 12235 - Red, 6 Cyl, 6 spd, auto, 25 MPG <b>\$18,380</b>	 <b>2014 JEEP PATRIOT</b> SPORT STK# 12317 - White, 4 cyl, auto, 28 MPG, low miles <b>\$16,900</b>

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