HEALTH DANGER TO NORTH CHANNEL
Jackie Young urges action on waste pits

The Galena Park-Jacinto City Chamber of Commerce monthly luncheon is set for Friday, October 3, 2014 at 11:30 a.m. at the San Jacinto College N., 5800 Telegraph Rd. Speaker is Roger D. Duro, Galena Park-Dublin, Port of Houston Authority. RSVP: 713-753-3650.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVIST JACKIE YOUNG leads a discussion about the current status of the San Jacinto River Waste Pits, and remediation schemes. She is shown with a slide of Houston Chronicle Cartoonist Nick Anderson, illustrating the idea that the proprietors of the dump site are protecting themselves, not the public. Young is a resident of Highlands who suffered serious health problems from toxic waste. She took the waste pits in the river as a serious health threat to the public, and has joined two organizations that are working to eliminate the site and its toxins from the river.

JACINTO CITY CIP
The event will take place at 1407 Holman, Arthur Memorial. The Falcons posted 771 total yards of offense during the game.

San Jacinto Pilot Spaghetti Dinner
The 37th annual SPC spaghettiedinner is set for Saturday, October 11, 2014 from 11 am to 3 pm at Belvedere Building, 3383 Corinth Christus Dinner tickets $10, raffle tickets $25. Visit www.SanJacintoPilot.com for more information and details.

San Jacinto College North
A WELL ATTENDED JOB FAIR was held Wednesday in the Monument Room of the Student Center at San Jacinto College North. Students looking for information or opportunities had about 50 exhibitor companies to choose from. There were also several representatives of the community on hand to discuss the potential of a trial that Harris County is pursuing against the company responsible for the toxic waste pits in the San Jacinto River. Jackie Young, illustrating the idea that the perpetrators of the dumping schemes. Young explained that the lead agency was the EPA, and that the lead agency was the EPA, and that the lead agency was the EPA, and that the lead agency was the EPA, and that the lead agency was the EPA.

CHANELVIEW FOOTBALL: Offensive explosion leads Falcons to 70-49 district win over Port Arthur

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JROTC CADETS RAISE FLAG: Flag ceremony marks opening of new bank

JROTC CADETS from Channelview High School helped mark the Opening Ceremony for the new Ameriabank branch on i-10 near Federal Road. The ceremony took place on Wednesday morning of this week. Community leaders, Chamber members, and others from around the area were on hand to join in the occasion. The bank took the opportunity to donate to local Non for Profit charity organizations, Harry’s Food Bank, Youth Reach, and Channelview JROTC.

Career Fair held at San Jacinto College North
A 100-150 people to be in attendance. Police department, fire department, pharmaceuticals, computer programmers, and healthcare fields were all present to meet with prospective students and answer questions about their companies.

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Craft Fair and Booths open at 11 a.m. SPACES STILL AVAILABLE. For more information about the events and entry forms, please visit www.highlandslynchburgCC.org or call 281-426-7227

GOLD SPONSORS
- Awards & Engraving
- Baytown GMC * Buick
- Community Resource Credit Union
- East Houston Regional Medical Center
- It's A Girl Thing Wholesale Outlet
- United Community Credit Union

SILVER SPONSORS
- Earthman Funeral Home
- Community Toyota * Honda * Kia
- San Jacinto River Authority
- MegaSand
- Randy Casey State Farm Insurance
- Shine Dental
- Sterling White Funeral Home
- Spark’s Insurance

PLATINUM SPONSOR
- Houston Methodist
- San Jacinto Hospital

JAMBOREEE 2014

Join Us Sat. October 4th
For the 58th Annual Highlands Jamboree!

5K Fun Run begins at 7 a.m.
benefitting Baytown Habitat for Humanity
Sponsored by Awards & Engravings

Main Street Parade begins at 10 a.m.

Annual Show-Car Show
Sign-In from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Sponsored by Baytown GMC

Lil’ Miss and Mister Jamboree
Children’s Pageant
Sponsored by It’s A Girl Thing
Fashion Wholesale Outlet
School News

OCTOBER
North Channel Library events
- Thursday, Oct. 1, 6 p.m., Toddler Time, 10:30 a.m., Prechool Story Time
- Thursday, Oct. 8, 6:30 p.m., stories, 7:30 p.m., Harry Potter
- Thursday, Oct. 15, 10:30 a.m., Baby Time, 10:30 a.m., Craft Sundays

COMPETITIVE COLUMNS
- Introduction to a Word, Practice, Oct. 3, 6:30 p.m.
- Intermediate Word, October, Oct. 6, 6:30 p.m.
- Intermediate Word, Practice, Oct. 16, 10 a.m.

Registration required.

Library is located at 13141 Wallisville Rd., Houston, TX 77041. Call 281-471-7681 for more information on other classes.

GALENA PARK ISD
District continues commitment to safe and secure Schools

As part of Galena Park ISD's continued focus on school safety, the district recently honored a member of the Center for Safe and Secure Schools (CSSS) for the past three years. The Center is a collaboration of 25 local school districts led by the Harris County Department of Education and was founded in 1999 to address issues such as school violence, drug abuse, and.test anxiety. Students are exposed to crisis management training and are evaluated based on established criteria for standards and best practices in the field. The Center also represents local school districts at the Harris County Emergency Operations Center during times of emergency. The CSSS at the Harris County Department of Education continues to strive to provide valuable information and resources to school officials across the county.

Galena Park ISD has been honored by the CSSS at the Harris County Department of Education with the Honor Roll Award for the past three years. This award is given to school districts that have demonstrated consistency in providing safe and secure environments for students.

This year, Galena Park ISD was selected for the award due to its continued commitment to the safety and well-being of students. The district has implemented various initiatives to enhance school safety, including enhanced security measures, technology support, and partnerships with community organizations.

The Galena Park ISD’s commitment to school safety has been recognized by the Harris County Department of Education, which is responsible for overseeing the CSSS. The CSSS is an initiative aimed at improving school safety and security by providing resources and training to school districts.

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Galena Park ISD received financial recognition

Each year, Galena Park ISD produces a Comprehensive Financial Report (CFR). The most recent report was released on July 31, 2014, and it received a perfect 100 score from the Texas Education Agency (TEA). This achievement is a reflection of the district's strong fiscal practices and commitment to financial integrity.

The district has consistently received high ratings in previous years, which is testament to their dedication to maintaining strong fiscal practices. This recognition also serves as a testament to the efforts of the district's financial staff, who work diligently to ensure that the financial resources of the district are utilized in an efficient and effective manner.

The Galena Park ISD’s commitment to fiscal responsibility and transparency has been recognized by the Texas Education Agency, which is responsible for overseeing the financial operations of public school districts. The CSSS is an initiative aimed at improving school safety and security by providing resources and training to school districts.

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Wrong Medicare Decision Cost Me $5000 a Year!!

Hi Toni:
I attended one of your seminars and now I need help with my Medicare/Educational Security issue. I am 65 almost 66, "still working" and covered entirely by my company with an ESA insurance plan. I pay about $5,000 per year into a tax-sheltered account for medical expenses. When I went to the SS office to tell them this, they convinced me to sign up for Medicare Part A (hospital) although, I really did not need it. Now I find out that since my insurance is an ESA, signing up for Part A may disqualify me for the tax-free savings plan.

1. Does having Part A really disqualify me from contributing the $5000 to my ESA plan?
2. Should I go to the SS office and stop Medicare Part A?
3. Will this hurt me in any way? I can get back into Part A when I retire?
Thanks, John from West Texas

MeditCare Column
By Toni King

Hello John:
Here is the rule about Medicare Part A and making contribution to a ESA. Federal Social Security informed me that . . . Medicare Part A begins when Social Security benefits have been turned on. You may have received a letter from Social Security stating you were enrolled in Medicare.

1. When you call Social Security, ask if you were enrolled for Medicare Part A.
2. If you were enrolled, you must contact your insurance company when you are filing your tax return to stop Medicare Part A, if you have been enrolled in Medicare for under 65 and now you cannot contribute to the plan. Ask if you can appeal the decision.
3. If you are enrolled in Medicare Part A you may disqualify from contributing the 5000 a year. I always talk to your HR department, contact your insurance company when you are filing your tax return for Medicare coverage it is different from the seminar you can always contact me at www.tonisays.com/asktoni and together we can explore all of your options.

Answering question #2 about dropping your Medicare Part A.

I would call Social Security at 1-877-722-1233 explain to the agent how you were misinformed once you have been enrolled in your ESA and how you want to stop Part A. Your insurance ESA may have been contributed to the plan based on current employment and thus can not be transferred to another individual even if you no longer work for the same company.

I can say that it makes sense to retire 59.5 or 60 when you are not enrolled in Medi- care Part A and turning 65, but I understand wanting to maximize your retire- ment income with a ESA. Talk to the new Medicare Survival Guide, which is a simple guide explaining Medicare.
OBITUARIES

Mary Lucille Swor Ballard

LIFESTYLE

NORTH CHANNEL STAR

Mary Lucille Swor Ballard, 85, passed away Friday, Sep- tember 26, 2014 in Houston, Texas. She was born on No- vember 8, 1928 in Varelia, Texas to parents Allen and Willie Ballard.

Mary went to high school in Houston and continued her education at the University of Houston where she graduated in 1949.

Mary attended the Full Gospel Church and was a member of the women’s group. She was active in the community and volunteered at the local food bank. She enjoyed reading, traveling, and spending time with her family.

Mary Lucille is preceded in death by her brother, A.J. Ballard and her sister, Peggy Swor Olson; son, Robert Edward Ballard; granddaughters, Sherri Farman and Patricia Ballard; great-grandchildren, Whitney and Trash); and great-great-grandchildren, Autumn and Summer.

She is survived by her husband, Earl Hulsey; daughter, Mary Lucille Ballard; son, Robert Daniel Ballard; daughter, Margaret Pelfrey; and son, Kevin Allen Bullard and wife, Nancy; son, John Bullard and wife, Gina, Stacey Lynne Bullard; and son, Kevin Allen Bullard and wife, Mindi; Tim Palfrey and wife, Kenda; Michael Bullard; daughter, Tricia; son, John Bullard and wife, Nancy; son, John Bullard; grandchildren, Thurman Kirkland and wife, Jill; and numerous nieces, nephews, extended family members, and friends.

Services will be held Friday, October 3, 2014 at 10:00a.m. at Carter Funeral Home, 13701 Corpus Christi St. Houston, Texas 77015.

To send the family conduc- tions please visit www.stargatefuneral.com.

Crosby Brethren Church held a service of comfort and celebration for Elizabeth Ann Skrla, 52, who passed away on September 11, 2014. Liz was born on December 14, 1961 in Houston, Texas to Charles and Diane Skrla.

Liz worked as a assistant computer consultant for Darton Systems. In her spare time she enjoyed spending time with friends and family. Liz was a very loving mother and wife, who will be greatly missed by those who knew and loved her. She is survived by her husband, Pot, net, Wes- ter and Kimberly; and numerous relatives and friends.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Carter Funeral Homes.

On September 27th, 2014 Chris Harper was finally laid to rest at Arnold’s Cemetery in Crosby, Texas. It was her wish. All who were present were the members of the family who related to the family of those whom their loved ones are buried. Also present were the family, Aunt Martha Crowder of Highlands, Husband Thomas Harper, Tanya Harper, and numerous relatives and friends. Full- honors at Phil Skrla, Mike Skrla, Phil- lis and Michael, Joey Kravoc- kie and Chris Harper.

A visitation for family and friends was held at the home, September 14, 2014 from 5pm to 8pm at the Crosby Chamber of Commerce.

Funeral services were held on Monday, September 15, 2014 at 2pm at the Crosby Chamber of Commerce.

Burial services have been arranged in St. Augustine Cemetery. Please contact St. Augustine Cemetery for more information.

The family will receive friends at 10am prior to the funeral service. To send the family conduc- tions please visit www.stargatefuneral.com.

Elizabeth Ann Skrla, 52, passed away on September 11, 2014. Liz was born on December 14, 2014 in Houston, Texas. She was the mother of two children, Thurman Kirkland and wife, Jill; and numerous nieces, nephews, extended family members, and friends.

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Relay for Life of Houston North Channel seeks volunteers to serve on event leadership team.

Survivors and to raise funds

The Relay For Life of Houston North Channel is holding at the beginning of every May and requires the help of many volunteers in a variety of different areas for the large scale event. The group is seeking volunteers to assist with the coordination of the 2015 event.

FALCONS,
Continued from page 1

By MIKE KEENEY

- 706-285-9490

The Sooners hit the road for the second time in three weeks to take on DeMarco Murray, who has been one of the league's top rushers through four weeks. TCU's defense is expected to be tougher this week when they take on the Sooners. The Horned Frogs have allowed just 13.8 points per game so far this season, while Oklahoma has scored an average of 41.8 points per game.

Players, sponsors sought for Channelview scholarship tournament

It is time to pull out your golf clubs for a good cause. The Channelview Independent School District's Education Scholarship Foundation will host the first annual Channelview Golf Scholarship Tournament on Oct. 16.

The Foundation is seeking volunteers to participate in this year’s tournament. Registration and lunch will be held from 10:45 a.m. to 11 a.m. The prize patrol will begin at 11 a.m. and awards will be presented at 3:30 p.m.

The Foundation is hosting the tournament to help pay for scholarships. The proceeds will go to the foundation and will be used to fund scholarships for students at the school.

The tournament will be held on Monday, Oct. 16, at the NRG Golf Club in Houston.

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**Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate**

Harris County Fresh Water Supply District No. 47 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2014 on October 9, 2014 at 4 p.m., at 210 Brookview, Channelview, Texas. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

**For the proposal:**

- **For:** Dennis Hamula, Jack Andrus, W Guetter, Jack Ducaut
- **Against:** None
- **Not voting:** None

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Last Year</th>
<th>This Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total tax rate ($100 of value)</td>
<td>$0.96/$100</td>
<td>$0.96/$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage increase/decrease in rates</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average appraisal value</td>
<td>$61,660</td>
<td>$66,587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General exemptions available (excluding senior citizens or disabled)</td>
<td>$6,166</td>
<td>$6,659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average taxable value</td>
<td>$57,494</td>
<td>$59,928</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax on average residence homestead</td>
<td>$352.74</td>
<td>$382.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)</td>
<td>$42.57</td>
<td>$7,999</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS’ RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION**

If taxes on the average residence homestead increase by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require an election to be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the rollback tax rate under Section 49.236(d), Water Code.

Call 281-328-9605
Your AD will reach up to 120,000 readers in our FIVE newspapers, with a combined circulation of 50,000 copies. Get ACTION on your AD. Rates start at only $16 for 20 words. A bargain!
Rotary holds successful “Community Rally” in Galena Park

GALENA PARK — A successful “Community Rally” was held at Baggott Center last Saturday, Sept. 27. Hundreds of area residents attended for fun, health screenings, food, entertainment, and more.

Maria Rodriguez, president of the Galena Park-Jacinto City Rotary Club, thanked all the supporters, including Galena Park ISD, Community Health Choices, Galena Park, Jacinto City, and Constable Chris Diaz for their partnership in this event.

The Rally included health screenings by several organizations, applications help for CHIP and Medicaid, a Job Fair, food distributions by the North Channel Ministries, Entertainment including a GPISD performer, a drum line, a mariachi band, live DJs, and more.

Also included were displays by local law enforcement groups and a fingerprinting booth for kids’ safety. The Coast Guard had a large Patrol Boat on display.

Rotaract assisting in the Rally included past president Ernests Paredes, Ofiza Pardo, Paula Henney, and many others from the club and the community.

Costable Chris Diaz checks out the Coast Guard’s river Patrol boat, along with several coast guard personnel.

Galena Park/Jacinto City LULAC Council 4703 hosts annual scholarship banquet

LULAC Council 4703 awarded scholarships to 13 students at their Annual LULAC Scholarship Banquet. Students and their parents were treated to dinner at Don Chile tex-mex Restaurant hosted by Owner LULAC member Ernesto Cantu. Since 2001, LULAC 4703 has awarded over $80,000 to over 130 students.

Their next fundraising event will be a Roast & Toast honoring Constable Chris Diaz & Jacinto City Mayor Ana Diaz on November sixth at Zonk Center in Jacinto City. Individual tickets are $50.00 and tables of 8 are $500.00. ARC 13’s Darren Helton will be the Mistress of Ceremonies.