

CHANNEL CHATTER

LAWUIT VS. CITY DISMISSED

The former City Manager of Galena Park, Robert Pruett, and the former Police Chief Jonathan Rader, sued the city and Mayor Moya and others to retain their pensions and other benefits.

City Attorney Robert Collins informed the North Channel Star that these lawsuits had been dismissed by Federal Judge Ewing Werlein Jr. of the U.S. District Court.

FREE COFFEE NETWORKING

This is a GREAT opportunity to meet community leaders and BUILD strong business relations. Open to members & non-members. Everyone gets 30 seconds to talk about themselves or their organizations. Tuesday September 27, 2016 from 9:30 am to 10:45 am at La Quinta Inns & Suites, 5520 E. Sam Houston Pkwy N., Houston, TX 77015.

NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY MEETING

Monday, September 26, 2016, 8:30 a.m. at East Freeway HPD Storefront, 12001-A East Freeway (Next to Burlington).

FOCUS 2016 FESTIVAL

Celebrating Our Community. Highlighting Business, Organizations, Ministries and Families. Enjoy food, fun, entertainment, games, meet new friends and discover community resources! Saturday, Sep., 24, 2016, 10 am - 3 pm at North Shore Rotary Pavilion, 14350 Wallisville, Houston, TX 77049. •Talent Show •Contests •Moonwalk •Musical Chairs •Wood Craft Painting. FUN FOR ALL AGES!

Police seek shooters at EH Hospital

NORTH CHANNEL – Houston police are searching for a red SUV that was seen leaving the scene of the East Houston Hospital, after firing shots at a white Ford Explorer that was dropping off a wounded boy at the Emergency Room entrance.

Police investigators said that apparently the 17 year old boy that was taken to the emergency room, had been shot at a different location. He told them he entered the white car even though he did not know them, and asked for help to be taken to the hospital.

They were apparently followed by another vehicle, a red SUV perhaps another Ford Explorer, and possibly a third car, a black Chevy Trailblazer.



Houston Police cars surround the entrance to East Houston Hospital on Monday, after shots were fired at a car delivering a wounded boy to the Emergency Room. Police are looking for a red SUV that followed the white SUV to the hospital, and fired additional shots at the SUV but failed to inflict additional injuries.

Witnesses described the mayhem, as at least 10 shots were fired at the white SUV and other cars and people in the parking lot in front of the hospital. As far as can be determined, no one was hit by the shots, but bullet holes were in several cars, including the first white Explorer, that left the scene in a hurry.

Blake Taylor, a witness in the parking lot, said "Scary. I thought I was going to die. I really did. Because he was right beside me. And the dude in the middle of the street was shooting at him. It's just crazy."

East Houston Regional Medical Center released the following statement regarding the incident:

"The gunshot victim that

arrived in our Emergency Room at 2:00 p.m. today is in stable condition. The first concern of hospital staff was to provide for the continued care and safety of the patients and visitors including temporarily restricting access to the facility as a precaution to help ensure the safety of patients, visitors and employees. Thanks to the quick response and professionalism by the Houston Police Department, the hospital was able to lift restrictions and return to normal operation at approximately 3:30 p.m.

At this time, the police have no suspects, and are searching for more information. If you know anything about this incident, you should call 713-222-TIPS.

Jacinto City Police Officer Sgt. Castañeda receives Star of Texas Award from Governor

By Allan Jamail

AUSTIN, TX, Sept. 12, 2016 – Governor Abbott awarded the Star of Texas Award to 57 Texans, including Jacinto City's recipient Sgt. Jennifer Simpson-Castañeda.

The Star of Texas Award created by the 2003 Legislature go to first responders, peace officers and firefighters who have demonstrated remarkable courage and heroism in serving and protecting their communities and who have been seriously injured or killed in the line of duty.

Following is Sgt. Castaneda recollection of the March 20, 2013 shooting where she and Lt. Dennis Walker was shot.



Texas Governor Greg Abbott presenting recipient Sgt. Jennifer Castaneda with Texas First Lady Cecilia Abbott & Senator Sylvia Garcia.

"I and another police unit were going to a resident to interview the suspect on an un-related case but it evolved into a domestic disturbance and the shooting. A family member who had earlier called the police prior to my arrival said there wasn't any weapons present.

I arrived at the location first and upon doing so I observed two females and a male at the doorway, they were screaming and pushing each other. As I ran to the house, they went back inside and out of my sight. Upon immediately entering the doorway of the house, I was shot without warning; I never had a

See Texas Award, Page 8

COMMUNITY PROFILE

'Helping a Hero' honors John Painter

HOUSTON, Texas (September 8, 2016) – Helping A Hero presented a collection of honors to express their gratitude to a multitude of volunteers including Roger Clemens, the Honorable David Dewhurst, Deborah Duncan, David Elliott, Kevin Mathews, John Painter, Kelley Paul and the Honorable Bill White. The luncheon was held September 8 at the Hyatt Regency Houston.

"Volunteers and donors are the backbone of Helping A Hero. Without these amazing individuals, the organization would not operate as effectively as it does. Thanks to them and many others, we have been able to improve hundreds of lives through the work HAH has done for our heroes and their families," said Rex King, Chairman of the Board.

John Painter, Service Above Self Award

John is originally from the state of South Carolina and came to Houston, Texas in 1957, after graduating from high school John continued his study at Robert E. Lee Jr. Col-

lege. He served in the Texas National Guard where he was Staff Sergeant. John was the founder and owner of Enpro Systems, LLC a manufacturer of chemical, refinery, steel and paper industry equipment with sales worldwide. He was a member of Houston Plate Fabrication Assoc. He sold and retired from the business in 2006. Rotary is John's heartbeat! He has been a Rotarian since 1984. He has served Rotary in many roles such as Treasurer, Secretary, President, chaired district committees, host to GSE team members and exchange students, world community service, Assistant District Governor 1997-98, District Governor 1999-00, and Zone



John Painter

Major Gifts Advisor. John has been Rotarian of the Year twice and a recipient of the Four Avenues of Service Award, the Meritorious Service Award, the Distinctive Service Award and the Service Above Self Award. He is proudly a multiple Paul Harris Fellow, Benefactor, Bequest Society member, and a Major Donor to the Foundation.

HOUSTON ISD

Furr High School awarded \$10 million grant

September 14, 2016 – HISD's Furr High School has won a \$10 million Super School Project grant, beating out thousands of other schools who applied from across the nation.

The five-year grant, awarded by the XQ Institute, began with a call for innovative ideas for re-designing traditional American high schools to prepare students for college and the workforce. Only 10 schools were awarded grants.

Accepting the award at a ceremony in Washington D.C., Principal Bertie Simmons said the grant will help elevate Furr to a new level of achievement.

"Pretty good is not enough for us," Dr. Simmons said. "We want to be a Super School. Just wait and watch and see what we do. It's going to be amazing."

HISD Trustee Diana Dávila, who represents the Furr community, said the grant will further strengthen the neighborhood high school.

"I want to commend Dr. Simmons and her team for taking the initiative to go after this highly competitive grant," Dávila said. "HISD is a district of



Principal Bertie Simmons, right, receives the award at a QX Institute award ceremony in Washington DC, along with nine other schools nationwide.

choice, and strong neighborhood schools such as Furr are the foundation."

HISD has a strong record of winning competitive grants to benefit schools. In 2013, HISD was awarded a \$30 million federal Race to the Top grant. That grant is funding HISD's Linked Learning initiative that enables students to begin early college and career readiness through project-based learning. That same year, HISD won a \$12 million grant to start six magnet schools emphasizing science, technology, engineering and math instruction.

The youthful, energetic 82-year-old principal Bertie Simmons reflects, "We

were referred to as a throwaway school. I came out of retirement and went there on a mission." She is determined to transform this school, and says, "Pretty good is not for us. We want an amazing school. We want to be one of the best schools in the nation." Furr will focus on project-based learning and environmental sustainability.

The XQ grants are really big compared to anything prior. Their expectations for innovation are really high as well. Unlike other grant programs requiring matching and lots of fundraising, the winners can get to work knowing they'll have multi-year support.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

CITY OF JACINTO CITY BUDGET
SUMMARY GENERAL & WATER FUNDS

	2016-2017
Income From General Fund	11,594,707
Tax Income Dedicated to Debt (I&S Fund)	\$ 485,400
Total Income (Includes Operating & Debt)	\$ 12,080,107
Expenditures - General Fund	
Department 11 - General Administration	\$ 673,978
Department 12 - Emergency Management	\$ 53,360
Department 13 - Code Enforcement - Health	\$ 87,327
Department 14 - Fire Department	\$ 75,747
Department 15 - Parks & Recreation	\$ 784,732
Department 16 - Police Department	\$ 2,119,533
Department 17 - Municipal Court	\$ 434,936
Department 18 - Traffic	\$ 16,500
Department 19 - Street Department	\$ 753,062
Department 20 - Garage Department	\$ 61,507
Department 21 - Sanitation	\$ 606,702
Department 22 - Heritage Hall	\$ 176,857
Department 23 - Mayor and City Council	\$ 37,520
Department 24 - Emergency Medical Service	\$ 613,633
Capital Improvements From Cash Reserves	\$ 4,900,000
Total Expenditures - General Fund	\$11,396,383
Income Less Expenditures - General Fund	\$ 199,324
Income From Water Fund	2,531,321
Expenditures - Water Fund	
Department 31 - General Administration	\$ 377,897
Department 32 - Water Systems Department	\$ 1,323,140
Department 33 - Waste Water Systems Department	\$ 811,063
Department 34 - Mayor and City Council	\$ 11,540
Total Expenditures - Water Fund	\$ 2,523,640
Income Less Expenditures - Water Fund	\$ 7,681

CITY OF JACINTO CITY
BUDGET SUMMARY - DEBT SERVICE
2016-2017

Income	
Current Taxes	\$ 485,400
Transfer from Water Fund	0
Total Income	\$ 485,400
Expenditures	
2014 General Obligation Refunding Bonds	\$ 485,100
Bond Agent Fees	\$ 300
Total Debt Expenditures	\$ 485,400
Income Less Expenditures	

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

Water District

Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The **Harris County Fresh Water Supply District #6** will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2016 on Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at 7:00 PM at 15902 Market Street, Channelview, Texas 77530. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

FOR the proposal: Carl Green, Ronald Rushing, Gary O'Brian, Jerry Davila and Paul Pendergrass

AGAINST the proposal: None

PRESENT and not voting: None

ABSENT: None

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

Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	Last Year	This Year
	<u>\$0.23/\$100</u> Adopted	<u>\$0.23/\$100</u> Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	<u>\$0.00/\$100</u>	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	<u>0.00 %</u>	
Average appraised Value	<u>\$ 69,426</u>	<u>\$ 73,326</u>
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	<u>\$ 10,414</u>	<u>\$ 10,999</u>
Average taxable Value	<u>\$ 59,012</u>	<u>\$ 62,327</u>
Tax on average residence homestead	<u>\$ 135.73</u>	<u>\$ 143.35</u>
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if Proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)	<u>+\$ 7.62</u>	
And percentage of increase (+/-)	<u>+4.61408%</u>	

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 water district by petition may require that an election 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

Question regarding this notice should be directed to June Muth (281) 426-8156

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Public Hearing
on Tax Increase

The Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12 will hold two public hearings on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 68.92 percent (percentage by which proposed tax rate exceeds lower of rollback tax rate or effective tax calculated under Chapter 26, Tax Code). Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even 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.

The first public hearing will be held on September 29, 2016 at 06:00 PM at Cloverleaf Fire Station No. 1, 911 Hollywood Street, Houston, Texas.

The second public hearing will be held on October 4, 2016 at 06:00 PM at Cloverleaf Fire Station No. 1, 911 Hollywood Street, Houston, Texas.

The members of the governing body voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase as follows:

FOR:	William B. Anders Larry Helgesen William Darling	David W. Proctor Frank M. Staley
AGAINST:		
PRESENT and not voting:		
ABSENT:		

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12 last year was \$102,363. Based on last year's tax rate of \$0.0300 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed last year on the average home was \$30.71.

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12 this year is \$111,603. If the governing body adopts the effective tax rate for this year of \$0.0296 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$33.03.

If the governing body adopts the proposed tax rate of \$0.0500 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$55.80.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend the hearings and express their views.

LEGAL NOTICE

Harris County Water Control
Improvement District No. 21 Notice
of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The **Harris County Water Control Improvement District No. 21** will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2016 on October 3, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at 15808 Avenue C, Channelview, TX 77530 .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: Bill Hamblen, Jimmy Smith, R.L. McRae & Pete Brady
AGAINST the proposal: None
PRESENT and not voting: None
ABSENT: B.D. Neal

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.

Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	2015	2016
	Last Year \$0.366/\$100 Adopted	This Year \$0.366/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$0.00/\$100	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	0.00%	
Average appraised value	\$ 85,370	\$ 88,991
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ -	\$ -
Average taxable value	\$ 85,370	\$ 88,991
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 312.46	\$ 325.71
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)	\$13.25	
and percentage of increase (+/-)	4.24%	

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 that an election 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.

Mike Arterburn, Tax Assessor-Collector
(713) 688-3855

LEGAL NOTICE

SCHOOL NEWS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Galena Park/Jacinto City CIP

Thursday, October 6, 2016. Need to arrive by 5:30 p.m. Boat leaves dock at 5:45 p.m. Meet at Port of Houston, Gate 8 off Clinton Drive. Enter Gate 8 and stay right.Tour of Houston Ship Channel on MV Sam Houston. Delicious dinner and great door prizes.

Pilot Club Spaghetti Dinner

The San Jacinto Pilot Club will hold their 29th Annual Spaghetti Dinner & Auction on Saturday, October 8, 2016 at the Bal-dree Building on Corpus Christi Street, off Freepport Street. Dinner is \$10, and a raffle ticket is \$25. Top prize for the raffle is a one week stay for 8 in a beach house on Crystal Beach. Call 281-221-1616 to join the fun.

Cruisin' for the Cause

Benefitting the North Channel Assistance Ministries Food Pan-try. October 8, 2016, 7 am - 3 pm, 6603 Uvalde Road, Houston. Classic cars, awards, live DJ, door prizes, kids games, food & drinks. To register your car, call 713-899-4601.

Annual B.H. Hamblen Scholarship Golf Tournament

Presented by Channelview ISD Education Foundation, Mon-day, October 10, 2016 at River Terrace Golf Club, 16777 Wallis-ville, Houston, TX. 77049. 10:45 am: Registration, Practice & Lunch. Call 281-960-3714 for more information.

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.

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.

San Jacinto Pilot Club meeting

The Club meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at LyondellBasell on Sheldon Road at noon.

Jacinto City Library programs

-Friday, Sep. 23, Clases de Inglés Usando Mango, 1 pm.
-Saturday, Sep. 24, Family Movie Theater, 12:30 pm.
-Monday, Sep. 26, ESL Discussion Class, 4 pm.
-Tuesday, Sep. 27, Toddler Time, 10:30 am; Children's Storytime, 11:30 am.
-Wednesday, Sep. 28, ESL Class, 12:30 pm.
-Thur., Sep. 29, Free Flu Shots, 1 pm.
-Friday, Sep. 30, Clases de Inglés Usando Mango, 1 pm.
NOTE: Will be suspending COMPUTER CLASSES at this location until further notice. There are free computer classes at the Galena Park Library, 713-450-0982 and North Channel Library, 281-457-1631.
Jacinto City Branch Library, 921 Akron, Jacinto City, TX. 77029. For more information on other programs, call 713-673-3237.

Galena Park Library Programs

-Sat., Sep. 24, Family Time Movie, 3 pm.
-Mon., Sep. 26, Beyond the Book, 4 pm.
-Wed., Sep. 28, Toddler Time, 10:30 am; Story Time, 11:30 am.
-Wed., Sep. 28, Microsoft Word Básico IV, 10:15 am; Microsoft Word Basics IV, 1 pm; Get Active/Activate, 4 pm.
-Thur., Sep. 29, Chronicles of Yarnia Knit & Crochet Class.
-Thur., Sep. 29, Kid's Creations, 4 pm.

Galena Park Library's Nutrition Class

Nutrition Classes for Adults every Friday afternoon from 4-5 pm starting October 7th through December 2nd. These classes are completely free and participants will receive a certificate of completion at the end of the program if they attend at least six sessions.
Walgreen will come to the library on October 10th from 1-4 pm and give free flu shots to customers 7 years and older.
If you have any questions please call 713-450-0982.
All children programs require tickets. Tickets are free and available the Monday before the program at the front desk.
Galena Park Branch Library, 1500 Keene St., Galena Park, TX.

CHANNELVIEW ISD

Alice Johnson JH hosts
Hornet Night



Parents were able to meet with Alice Johnson Junior High teachers and administrators during the school's annual Hornet Night. Teachers shared information about what their child will be learning this school year and answered questions from parents. Principals also shared information about programs offered during the year.

GALENA PARK

Get Connected with Galena Park on Twitter and Facebook

Social media has become the platform of communication to the world and we want to make sure everyone is connected to Galena Park ISD. Through our Twitter and Facebook account(s), the GPISD community and parents will be able to see the great things happening at our 25 schools! On each of our social media sites, you will find information regarding news, events, ac-

complishments, campus activities, daily campus life and notices.

If you don't have a social media account, you can go to the Galena Park website, www.galenaparkisd.com, to see a running feed of Twitter post on the right side of the page.

To get connected with us, find us on Twitter @Galena-ParkISD and Facebook at www.facebook.com/GPISD.

Texas Award,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

chance to talk to him or pull my gun out. I struck my head and was dazed briefly. I felt as if I was going to die and be shot in my head as I lay on the floor. My feelings was correct because Lt. Dennis Walker said afterwards when he arrived and heard gun shots he entered the doorway and he saw the suspect standing over me with his gun pointed at my head. The suspect then turned his gun at Lt. Walker, they both exchanged gunfire over me. Lt. Walker sustained several life threatening gun shots to his upper chest area. The shooting stopped. I then gained full awareness of the situation. The suspect had run into an adjoining room and was screaming something I couldn't understand. I could not see or feel my right arm; I

thought it was shot off. But I then realized I was laying on it. I suffered a severe radial nerve and my right humorous bone was shattered extensively. I tried but could not reach my gun with my left hand at the time. I realized he was going kill me if I stayed in the house, so I got up and ran out of the house."

Lt. Walker last year received the same award for his bravery and actions after his receiving serious gun fire injuries as he returned gun fire to distract the suspect from shooting Sgt. Castaneda in the head.

Police Chief Joey Ayala said, "the gunman, Edgar Omar Cuellar in 2015 pled guilty and received a 50

See Texas Award-Part II, page 8

Channelview campuses receive "distinction" honors from state

Seven Channelview ISD schools received Distinction Designation honors from the Texas Education Agency for exemplary academic performance on specific areas of the State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR) exams.

District officials were excited to see that the total number of distinctions showed a significant overall increase. According to state results, the district was awarded 18 distinctions this year, as compared to six the previous academic year.

Channelview High School earned designations in Mathematics, Social Studies and Student Progress, while Alice Johnson Junior High was recognized for excellence in Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. In addition, Aguirre Junior High received recognition in Science, Social Studies and for closing of achievement gaps.

McMullan Elementary received distinctions for increases in Reading/English Language Arts, Mathematics, Student Progress and closing of achievement gaps, with Hamblen Elementary being honored in

Mathematics, Student Progress and Postsecondary Readiness. Cobb Elementary and Crenshaw Elementary were also commended for Student Progress.

"It is exciting to see such outstanding results from our students," CISD Superintendent Greg Ollis said. "I am proud of all of our campuses and the continued progress they've shown. Our teachers, principals and staff do a great job of working together to ensure the success of all students."

The announcement of the distinctions was more good news for the district as CISD and all campuses recently earned the approval rating of "Met Standard" under the state's accountability system for the third consecutive year.

Campuses that earned the Met Standard designation were Aguirre Junior High, Alice Johnson Junior High, Brown Elementary, Campbell Learning Center, Channelview High School, Cobb Elementary, Crenshaw Elementary, De Zavala Elementary, Hamblen Elementary, McMullan Elementary, Schochler Elementary and the Early Childhood Center.

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OPINION PAGE

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TEXAS TIMES

By SEN. JOHN CORNYN



Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month in Texas

If you've spent any time in Texas, you know that we share so much more with our neighbors south of the border than just the waters of the Rio Grande.

For one, we share a long and elaborate history. The first sovereign flag planted into Texas soil was Spanish – and that sprawling Spanish colony extended all the way to modern-day Chile. When Mexico won independence from Spain in 1821, it won all of Texas as well. And when Texas fought Mexico for independence, on the Texas side stood soldiers of Mexican and European descent alongside each other in support of a strong Republic of Texas.

For lasting evidence of our entwined roots, look no further than the city of San Antonio, so-named because Spanish settlers arrived on the feast day of St. Anthony of Padua, or the city of El Paso, originally named El Paso del Norte because of its strategic location through what we now call the Franklin Mountains. The city of Amarillo, which translates in Spanish to 'yellow,' became the Panhandle city's name because of the color of the mud there.

Of course, the exchange of people, culture, and values extends beyond borders, city names, and flags.

Texans have developed an affinity for Hispanic cuisine – one of my family's personal favorites is Mi Tierra in San Antonio, which the Cortez family has proudly owned for the past 75 years. And I never leave the Rio Grande Valley without the famously delicious tamales from Delia's.

Hispanic singers like Selena and Demi Lovato got their start here in Texas before they brought their bilingual hits to the national – and global -- stage.

Texas is also blessed to have exceptional Hispanic jurists on the bench, like Judge Diana Saldaña of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas. Diana grew up with modest means in Carrizo Springs before she went on to become the first federal judge nominated by President Obama for Texas. And Eva Guzman, who is not only the first Hispanic woman to sit as a justice for the Supreme Court of Texas, but also the first Hispanic woman elected to any statewide office in Texas.

All across the state, Hispanics are giving back to their communities. Cecilia Abbott, the granddaughter of immigrants from Mexico and our first Hispanic First Lady of Texas, recently launched her "Texanthropy" initiative to promote volunteerism across Texas. And Teach for America, which has expanded education and opportunity for underserved students across the nation, takes its lead from CEO Elisa Villanueva Beard, raised in the Rio Grande Valley and now based in Houston.

More stories of the strength, success, and struggles of the Hispanic community are being recorded and shared every day, and for that we have, in part, Nicolás Kanellos to thank. As Director of the nation's oldest and largest publisher of U.S. Hispanic literature in the country, the Arte Público Press in Houston, Kanellos has focused on recovering and telling the forgotten tales of Hispanic-Americans.

We all benefit from a shared history, culture, and set of values. And with more than one in every three Texans identifying as Hispanic, the ties between our cultures are tightly bound.

So as we come around to mid-September - and the anniversaries of the independence of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico, Chile, and Belize - I am proud to introduce a resolution in the United States Senate to recognize and celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. We have much to celebrate.

Senator John Cornyn, a Republican from Texas, is a member of the Senate Judiciary and Finance Committees.



Defense secretary promotes new hub to partner with tech startups

★

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

AUSTIN — U.S. Secretary of Defense Ash Carter on Sept. 14 announced the opening of a "Defense Innovation Unit Experimental" hub at the Capital Factory in downtown Austin.

Carter and University of Texas System Chancellor William McRaven said the hub would provide opportunities for innovators to partner with the Department of Defense to develop technologies to address the nation's security challenges.

"Austin's commitment to innovation, access to talent and academia, as well as the department's long-standing ties to Texas, make this an ideal next location for DIUX," Carter said.

Gov. Greg Abbott added, "Texas is the new frontier in innovation, and with the arrival of DIUX, the Department of Defense's best technologists will be right here in Austin."

According to the DIUX mission statement, "As our name implies, DIUX is just that: an 'experiment.' We continuously iterate on how best to identify, contract, and prototype novel innovations through sources traditionally not available to the Department of Defense, with the ultimate goal of accelerating technology into the hands of the men and women in uniform."

The Capital Factory, an incubator for start-up technology companies founded in 2008 by Joshua Baer, occupies the fifth and 16th floors of the Omni Austin Hotel.

Other DIUX hubs have been launched in Northern California's Silicon Valley and in Boston.

Texas economy adds jobs

The Texas Workforce Commission on Sept. 16 reported the increase of an estimated 21,400 nonfarm jobs in August and noted that the state has added jobs in 16 of the last 17 months.

Despite that increase, Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 4.7 percent in August, up slightly from 4.6 percent in July. The national unemployment rate for August was 4.9 percent.

Some students may register

Texas Secretary of State Carlos Cascos on Sept. 13 posted a reminder that qualified students have a variety of options to register to vote, including through their high school principal.

"Texas law has a unique provision that requires high school principals, or their designees, to serve as a voter registrar. I encourage all high school principals to offer this opportunity before the Oct. 11 registration deadline for the November election," Cascos said.

Students may register if they are a U.S. citizen and have reached the age of 17 years and 10 months. To vote in an election, a Texan must be 18 years old by Election Day. In addition to students, high school principals or their designees also may register employees of their schools.

For more information visit VoteTexas.gov or call 1-800-252-VOTE.

Sabre home offices grow

Gov. Abbott on Sept. 14 announced Southlake, Texas-based Sabre GBL Inc. would expand its headquarters at the Solana development in nearby Westlake.

The expansion, made possible in part by a \$5 million Texas Enterprise Fund grant issued by the governor's office, is expected to create 500 new jobs and bring more than \$37 million in capital investment, Abbott said.

Sabre provides software, data, mobile and distribution solutions to airlines and hotel properties to manage critical operations, including passenger and guest reservations, revenue management, flight, network and crew management. Sabre serves customers in more than 160 countries.

Free inspections offered

To coincide with national Child Passenger Safety Week, Sept. 18-24, the Texas Department of Transportation on Sept. 13 encouraged caregivers to make an appointment for a free inspection at the agency's 25 statewide district offices.

TxDOT noted that nationwide, three out of four car seats are improperly installed. The agency reminded Texans that properly restraining their children while riding in vehicles is the law, and is an everyday, year-round responsibility.

"We are determined to educate parents and caregivers in Texas about the importance of buckling their child into the correct car seat for their age and size," said TxDOT Executive Director James Bass. "It's not only the law, but we're also trying to save lives through proper use of safety seats."

Texas law requires all children under 8, unless they are taller than 4 feet 9 inches, to be in a car seat whenever they ride in a passenger vehicle. Failure to properly restrain a child can result in a ticket of up to \$250. In 2015, 83 children younger than 8 years old were killed in crashes in Texas.

Be prepared for whatever nature throws at you

(NAPSI)—You have a better chance of keeping yourself, your vehicle and your passengers on the road to safety even when the weather is bad if you prepare in advance so your vehicle can be your refuge. These seven tips can help.

Take Inventory Inside

Make sure you know what's inside your vehicle. See that you have a blanket, first aid kit, current snacks and an inflated spare tire; also, a cell phone charger and some basic tools. All those can be useful if your vehicle leaves you stranded.

Clean and Coat

Your windshield allows you to see what's coming. Clean the inside thoroughly to remove buildup, smoke and haze. On the outside, use a product such as Invisible Glass Clean & Repeel to add a protective coating to help shed rain, snow and ice while increasing visibility.

Inspect the Outside

See that all your lights work, front and rear. Working lights are key to seeing and being seen. They're not just for looks. Plus, driving with burned-out bulbs can result in a hefty fine.

Checkups Count

Perform regular maintenance, including checking that little oil change sticker on the windshield. Regular maintenance is similar to a checkup. Metal shards in your oil, discolored coolant or an irregular noise can help diagnose something that could go wrong with your ride.

Keep Your Wheels Turning

Your vehicle's tires and wheels take a beating every time you drive. Brake dust, grease, oil, and road grime can cause permanent damage over time. A simple cleaning can help protect your tires and wheels, prolonging their life. For example, Stoner Wheel Cleaner quickly penetrates deep into hard-to-reach areas, making cleanup fast and easy.

Don't Pass Gas

If you have the chance to fuel up, take it. On any trip, never let your tank drop below half full. Doing that means you should always have enough gas to get back to where you were.

Charge Your AC

The air conditioner system does more than cool your vehicle. It also removes excess moisture. Fogged windows are a sign that your defrosters may not be able to keep up the pace. Have your mechanic top off your refrigerant.

Learn More

There are many ways to make sure your vehicle is ready for any season. For further tips, visit www.Facebook.com/StonerCarCare and www.stonercarcare.com.

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LIFESTYLE

OBITUARIES

Virginia Sue Berry

Virginia Sue Berry, 86, of Houston, Texas, passed from this life on September 19, 2016.

Known to her family and friends as Sue, she was born January 17, 1930 in Justin, Texas to parents, Samuel David & May Etta Moore. She grew up in Justin, Texas, later moving to Houston, Texas after her marriage to Roy Berry. She was a lifelong member of the Galena Park Church of Christ until they closed, then attended Pasadena Central Church of Christ, Deer Park Church of Christ and most recently Channelview Church of Christ.

She is preceded in death by her parents, and by her husband, Roy O. Berry and by brother, Jesse Kittrell. She is lovingly survived by her son, Hershel Berry and daughter, Shirley Damuth; by grandchildren, Ricky J. Damuth; JoAnn Dodson, Donnie Damuth; Rachael Allen; Dennis Berry, and Sarah Green; and by 14 great-grandchildren; by



other family and dear friends.

A visitation and service will be held at the Channelview Church of Christ, 1301 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, Texas. The visitation will be from 6-8:00 p.m. Thursday, September 22, 2016 and services celebrating her life will be 10:00 a.m. Friday, September 23, 2016. She will be laid to rest in Brookside Memorial Cemetery at 1:30 p.m. Friday under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

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13701 Corpus Christi St.
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LITTLE BIDDY BITS
By Danny Biddy

Tailgate Theology

The bed of my father's pickup truck stayed cleaned out most of the year, because we used it from May until October in the hay fields. You would think after unloading the bales of hay, you could leave the tailgate open, drive down the road and all the straw would blow out the back, right? Wrong! It ends up next to the cab of the truck. From time to time we had to get a broom and sweep it out. Clean just does not happen on its own, does it?

"Create in me a clean heart, Oh God, filled with clean thoughts and right desires." (Psalm 51:10)

GALENA PARK ISD
Surprise Homecoming



On Friday, September 9, three Galena Park Elementary students got a surprise they had been waiting nine long months for from their loved one serving our country. Danielle Torres, 2015 Galena Park High School graduate, is training to become a generator specialist in the United States Army and had been training in North Carolina for the past nine months. Her siblings and nephew had no idea she was back from training and would be surprising them at school. The GPE students were in their class when Torres walked in to surprise them, the look on their faces was priceless when they saw her. GPISD would like to thank Ms. Torres for her service to our country.

Community members, Galena Park ISD new administrators recognized



Dr. Williams and Mr. Joe Stephens with Angie Eason and Mileen Anderson.

The September Galena Park ISD Board of Trustees meeting took place on September 13, during the board meeting, Dr. Williams and Mr. Joe Stephens made special recognitions to the recipients of the family of Riny Pieter-nelle and new GPISD admin-istrators.

The family of Riny Pieter-nelle, a devoted community member, was recognized for donating \$4,000 to the Team Riny Memorial Scholarship Fund. Seven North Shore Senior graduates benefited from the Riny Scholarship.

Riny Pieter-nelle believed in giving back and offering a helping hand to those in need. In honor of her life and belief, her family and friends wanted to build on her legacy by helping graduating seniors in GPISD fulfill their dreams by continuing their education.

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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

BUSINESS

Diamond Jim: "What can you tell us about the United States Navy?"



United States Navy
The United States Navy (USN) is the naval warfare service branch of the United States Armed Forces and one of the seven uniformed services of the United States. The U.S. Navy is the largest, most capable navy in the world, with the highest combined battle fleet tonnage. The U.S. Navy has the world's largest aircraft carrier fleet, with ten in service, two in the reserve fleet and three new carriers under construction. The service has 328,194 personnel on active duty and 101,199 in the Navy Reserve. It has 272 deployable combat vessels and more than 3,700 aircraft in active service as of February 2016.

The U.S. Navy traces its origins to the Continental Navy, which was established during the American Revolutionary War and was effectively disbanded as a separate entity shortly thereafter. It played a major role in the American Civil War by blockading the Confederacy and seizing control of its rivers. It played the central role in the World War II defeat of Japan. The 21st century U.S. Navy maintains a sizable global presence, deploying in such areas as East Asia, the Mediterranean, and the Middle East. The Navy has the ability to project force onto the littoral regions of the world, engage in forward areas during peacetime, and rapidly respond to regional crises, making it an active player in U.S. foreign and defense policy. The Navy is administratively managed by the Department of the Navy, which is headed by the civilian Secretary of the Navy. The Department of the Navy is itself a division of the Department of Defense, which is headed by the Secretary of Defense. The Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) is a four-star admiral and the senior naval officer of the Department of the Navy. However, the CNO may not be the highest ranking naval officer in the armed forces; the Chairman or the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff are Navy officers, who by law, outrank the CNO.

The Navy's three primary areas of responsibility are:

- The preparation of naval forces necessary for the effective prosecution of war.

- The maintenance of naval aviation, including land-based naval aviation, air transport essential for naval operations, and all air weapons and air techniques involved in the operations and activities of the Navy.
- The development of aircraft, weapons, tactics, technique, organization, and equipment of naval combat and service elements.

History
"It follows then as certain as that night succeeds the day, that without a decisive naval force we can do nothing definitive, and with it, everything honorable and glorious."
—George Washington

The Navy was rooted in the American seafaring tradition, which produced a large community of sailors, captains, and shipbuilders in the colonial era. In the early stages of

the American Revolutionary War, Massachusetts had its own navy. The establishment of a national navy was an issue of debate among the members of the Second Continental Congress. Supporters argued that a navy would protect shipping, defend the coast, and make it easier to seek out support from foreign countries. Detractors countered that challenging the British Royal Navy, then the world's preeminent naval power, was a foolish undertaking. Commander in Chief George Washington resolved the debate when he commissioned seven ocean-going cruisers, starting with the schooner USS Hannah, to interdict British supply ships, and reported the captures to the Congress.

The Continental Navy achieved mixed results: it was successful in a number of engagements and raided many British merchant vessels, but it lost twenty four of its vessels and at one point was reduced to two in active service. The Continental Navy was disbanded at war's end.

From reestablishment to the Civil War

The United States was without a navy for nearly a decade—a state of affairs that exposed its merchant ships to a series of attacks by Barbary pirates. The sole armed maritime presence between 1790 and the launching of the U.S. Navy's first warships in 1797 was the U.S. Revenue Cutter Service (USRCs), the primary predecessor of the U.S. Coast Guard. Although USRCs Cutters conducted operations against these pirates, the depredations far outstripped the abilities of the USRCs and Congress passed the Naval Act of 1794 which established a permanent standing navy. The Naval Act ordered the construction and manning of six frigates and, by October 1797, three years later, the first three were welcomed into service: USS United States, USS Constellation, and USS Constitution. In 1798–99 the Navy was

involved in an undeclared Quasi-War with France.

The U.S. Navy saw substantial action in the War of 1812, where it was victorious in eleven single-ship duels with the Royal Navy. The navy drove all significant British forces off Lake Erie and Lake Champlain and prevented them from becoming British controlled zones of conflict. The result was a major defeat for the British invasion of New York state, and the defeat of the military threat from the Indian allies of the British. Despite this, the U.S. Navy was unable to prevent the British from blockading American ports and landing troops on American soil. After the war, the U.S. Navy again focused its attention on protecting American shipping assets, sending squadrons to the Caribbean, the Mediterranean, South America, Africa, and the Pacific.

21st century
When a crisis confronts the nation, the first question often asked by policymakers is: "What naval forces are available and how fast can they be on station?"

—Admiral Carlisle A. H. Trost

The United States Navy continues to be a major support to U.S. interests in the 21st century. Since the end of the Cold War, it has shifted its focus from preparations for large-scale war with the Soviet Union to special operations and strike missions in regional conflicts. The navy participated in Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and is a major participant in the ongoing War on Terror, largely in this capacity. Development continues on new ships and weapons, including the Gerald R. Ford-class aircraft carrier and the Littoral combat ship. Because of its size, weapons technology, and ability to project force far from U.S. shores, the current U.S. Navy remains a potent asset for the United States.

Notable sailors
Many past and present United States historical figures have served in the navy. Notable officers include John Paul Jones, John Barry (Continental Navy officer and first flag officer of the United States Navy), Edward Preble, James Lawrence (whose last words "don't give up the ship" are memorialized in Bancroft Hall at the United States Naval Academy), Stephen Decatur, Jr., David Farragut, David Dixon Porter, Oliver Hazard Perry, Commodore Matthew Perry (whose Black Ships forced the opening of Japan), George Dewey (the only person in the history of the United States to have attained the rank of Admiral of the Navy), and the officers who attained the rank of Fleet Admiral during World War II: William D. Leahy, Ernest J. King, Chester W. Nimitz, and William F. Halsey, Jr.

The first American president who served in the navy was John F. Kennedy (who commanded the famous PT-109). Others included Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, and George H. W. Bush. Both Theodore Roosevelt and Franklin D. Roosevelt were the assistant secretary of the navy prior to their presidencies. Many members of Congress served in the navy, notably U.S. Senators Bob Kerrey, John McCain, and John Kerry. Other notable former members of the U.S. Navy include astronauts, entertainers, authors and professional athletes.

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Want to Retire Early? Start Planning Now

ASK THE EXPERT

By Edward Jones

The average American retires at about age 63, according to data from the U.S. Census Bureau. If you enjoy your work, of course, you may want to go well beyond that age. But what if you don't want to wait until 63 or so? Can you afford to retire early?

Possibly – if you follow these suggestions:

- Research the costs involved. What will you do during your retirement years? Will you travel the world or stay close to home, pursuing your hobbies? Will you downsize from your current home? How will you pay for health care until you're old enough for Medicare? You will need to answer these and other questions to determine how much you will need to sustain a comfortable lifestyle as an early retiree.

- Invest more – and invest for growth. One big advantage in retiring at the usual age, or even later, is that it gives you more time to invest. But if you're determined to retire early, you will almost certainly need to accelerate your investment rate – which, in practical terms, means you'll likely have to contribute more each year to your IRA and 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan than if you were going to retire later on. Plus, you may have to "ratchet up" the growth potential of your investment portfolio. However,

ever, because growth-oriented investments typically are more volatile than other investments, you will be taking on more risk than you might otherwise. If you are truly uncomfortable with this risk level, you may need to re-evaluate your plans for retiring early.

- Cut down your debt load. It's always a good idea to enter retirement with as few debts as possible – but if you want to retire early, you may need to be even more diligent in controlling your debt load.


- Know the rules governing retirement plan withdrawals. If you want to retire before age 59, and begin taking distributions from your IRA or 401(k) plan, you will generally be subject to a 10% early distribution penalty, plus normal income taxes. (To withdraw your earnings from a Roth IRA tax and penalty free, you generally must have owned the account for at least five years and have reached age 59. You can withdraw your contributions at any time tax and penalty free.) However, you may be able to avoid the 10% penalty if you take "substantially equal periodic payments," which are calculated based upon your age and other factors. Once these distributions begin, they must continue for five years or until you reach age 59, whichever is longer. Other rules apply to these distributions, so before taking any, you will want to consult with your tax and financial professionals. And keep in mind that if your withdrawal rate is too high, you risk seriously depleting your retirement accounts, especially if your investments decline in value during the years you're taking these payments.

Most importantly, do everything early: Plan early, invest early (and don't stop), and lower your debt load early. Getting a jump on all these activities can go a long way toward turning your early retirement dreams into reality.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

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HARRIS COUNTY WATER CONTROL AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NUMBER ONE

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE

Notice is hereby given that the Board of the Directors of Harris County Water Control and Improvement District Number One at a meeting held on the 13th day of September, 2016 adopted an Ordinance providing for amended rates and fees for service; providing for the enforcement of the Ordinance, providing for penalties for violations of the Ordinance and providing a severability clause. A copy of the Ordinance is on file at the principal office of the District, 125 San Jacinto Avenue, Highlands, Harris County, Texas, where it may be read in full.

/s/ Ray Mullins
President, Board of Directors

HARRIS COUNTY WATER CONTROL AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NUMBER ONE

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE

Notice is hereby given that the Board of the Directors of Harris County Water Control and Improvement District Number One at a meeting held on the 13th day of September, 2016 adopted an ordinance regulating certain plumbing work within the boundaries of Harris County Water Control and Improvement District Number One, 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 the Ordinance is on file at the principal office of the District, 125 San Jacinto Avenue, Highlands, Harris County, Texas, where it may be read in full.

/s/ Ray Mullins
President, Board of Directors

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The Greens Bayou Corridor Coalition (the "Coalition") will receive sealed bids at the office of RVi Planning + Landscape Architecture, 19 Briar Hollow Lane, Ste. 145, Houston, Texas 77027 for the construction of a park. Each bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a Cashier's Check (the "bid security") drawn for at least two percent (2%) of the total amount of the bid and made payable to the Coalition only. The successful bidder shall forfeit bid security to the Coalition as liquidated damages if it shall fail or refuse to enter into a proper contract for the project, including failure or refusal to furnish the Performance and Payment Bond required by the Contract. Bid security will be returned to all but the three (3) most qualified, lowest responsible bidders within five (5) days after the Bid Opening Time set forth below. Remaining bid security will be returned after execution of the Contract. The BIDS are due in duplicate at 2:00 P.M. (CST) on **Wednesday, September 28, 2016. NO BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER 2:00 P.M.** The Coalition is exempt from sales and use taxes, so such taxes should be excluded from BIDS.

A **MANDATORY PRE-BID** Conference will be held at 2:00 P.M. (CST) on Wednesday, September 14, 2016 at the site of the park at 641 Bradfield Road, Houston, Texas 77060. In case of inclement weather, the alternate location will be at indoor facilities at 16945 Northchase, Suite 1900, Houston, Texas 77060.

Bid Documents are available at RVi Planning + Landscape Architecture, 19 Briar Hollow Lane, Ste. 145, Houston, Texas 77027 during normal working hours Monday through Friday. Alternately, Bidders may obtain online access by contacting RVi Planning + Landscape Architecture, Robert Whittemore, rwhittemore@rviplanning.com. Online access will be provided to prime bidders only. All questions pertaining to this bid shall be directed to Robert Whittemore in writing at rwhittemore@rviplanning.com.

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NOTICE OF TAX RATE INCREASE AND SETTING

Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5 will hold a meeting at 6:30 PM on September 29, 2016 at 5915 FM 2100, Crosby, Texas, 77532 to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for tax year 2016. The proposed tax rate is \$0.0200 per \$100 of value.

The proposed tax rate would increase total taxes in Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5 by 0.45%.

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THE CITY OF GALENA PARK WILL RECEIVE SEALED BIDS FOR THE CITY OF GALENA PARK MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND TRANSPORTATION. SEALED BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED BY MAYRA GONZALES, CITY SECRETARY, AT THE CITY OF GALENA PARK, CITY HALL, 2000 CLINTON DRIVE, GALENA PARK, TEXAS 77547 UNTIL 4:00 P.M. ON OCTOBER 11, 2016. NO BID WILL BE CONSIDERED IF RECEIVED AFTER THIS TIME. ALL BIDS MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED: "SEAL BID- CITY OF GALENA PARK-MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND TRANSPORTATION". THE BIDS WILL BE OPENED AND READ ALOUD AT A SPECIAL OPEN MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL AT 5:00 P.M. AT CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 2000 CLINTON DRIVE, GALENA PARK, TEXAS, 77547 ON OCTOBER 11, 2016.

BID SPECIFICATIONS ARE ON FILE AND MAY BE VIEWED AND OBTAINED WITHOUT CHARGE IN THE OFFICES OF THE CITY OF GALENA PARK 2000 CLINTON DR. GALENA PARK, TX 77547.

THE CITY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND/OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY AND 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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NOTICE OF 2016 TAX YEAR PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX RATE FOR CITY OF GALENA PARK

A tax rate of \$1.03745 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of City Of Galena Park.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$1.03745 per \$100
PRECEDING YEAR'S TAX RATE	\$1.03745 per \$100
EFFECTIVE TAX RATE	\$1.76393 per \$100

The effective tax rate is the total tax rate needed to raise the same amount of property tax revenue for City Of Galena Park from the same properties in both the 2015 tax year and the 2016 tax year.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE ABOVE RATES CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

property tax amount= (rate) x (taxable value of your property)/100

For assistance or detailed information about tax calculations, please contact:

Sheila Hilton
City Of Galena Park tax assessor-collector
2000 Clinton Dr
713-672-2556
sheilah@cityofgalenapark-tx.gov
www.cityofgalenapark-tx.gov

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2016 Property Tax Rates in Harris County
Emergency Service District No. 12

This notice concerns the 2016 property tax rates for Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual tax rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers start rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:

Last year's operating taxes	\$838,922
Last year's debt taxes	\$0
Last year's total taxes	\$838,922
Last year's tax base	\$2,796,406,667
Last year's total tax rate	\$0.0300/\$100

This year's effective tax rate:

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$838,111
-This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$2,823,338,939
=This year's effective tax rate	\$0.0296/\$100
(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings.)	

This year's rollback tax rate:

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent healthcare expenditures)	\$838,111
-This year's adjusted tax base	\$2,823,338,939
=This year's effective operating rate	\$0.0296/\$100
x 1.08=this year's maximum operating rate	\$0.0319/\$100
+ This year's debt rate	\$0/\$100
= This year's total rollback rate	\$0.0319/\$100

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If Harris County Emergency Service District No. 12 adopts a 2016 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.0296 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2015 taxes by \$4,841.

Schedule A - Unencumbered Fund Balance

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
Unencumbered Fund	4,300,000

Schedule B - 2016 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
	0	0	0	0
Total required for 2016 debt service		\$0		
- Amount (if any) paid from Schedule A		\$0		
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources		\$0		
- Excess collections last year		\$0		
= Total to be paid from taxes in 2016		\$0		
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 99.03% of its taxes in 2016		\$0		
= Total debt levy		\$0		

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at 1001 Preston, Houston, TX 77002.

Name of person preparing this notice: Mike Sullivan
Title: Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector
Date Prepared: 09/12/2016

CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS

Channelview displays strong show of support at Walk for Autism event



More than 175 Channelview ISD employees, students and other district supporters participated on Team CISD as part of the Walk for Autism Speaks event at Minute Maid Park recently. The annual event focuses on raising awareness of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Channelview ISD was well-represented by a large group of district educators, support staff, administrators and students participating in the Walk for Autism Speaks event on September 18 at Minute Maid Park.

"Team CISD" had more than 175 walkers participating in the event and they are still raising funds through the end of December to go toward research of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

"The level of support we have had among our district staff and especially the students is amazing," said Nan Meharg, CISD's Coordinator of Special Services. "We hope to increase awareness of Autism and advocate for individuals and their families through events such as this."

The Channelview team was comprised of members of the Special Services department, district teachers and student groups from Channelview High School and other individuals. CHS organizations participating in the walk included the Channelettes dance team, Interact Club, Math Club, ROTC, Christian Club and Student Council. Local company Stronghold, Ltd. donated hats and a banner to the group.

For more information on Autism, you may log on to the Autism Speaks website at www.autismspeaks.org or contact CISD's Special Services Department at 281-860-8006.

Texas Renaissance Festival

Saturdays, Sundays, and Thanksgiving Friday

October 8th through November 27th

Kids get in Free on Sundays!

Tickets available at Walgreens

or at TexRenFest.com

San Jac to play nation's best 18U team

National Trials to feature top young baseball players

HOUSTON – The San Jacinto College baseball team will play two exhibition games against the USA Baseball 18 and Under National Team at the North Campus in late September as part of the 18U National Team Trials.

The first game will be played on Sunday, Sept. 25 at 6 p.m., and the second game will be played on Tuesday, Sept. 27 at 4 p.m. Both games are free and open to the public and will be played at John Ray Harrison Field at Andy Pettitte Park, located at 5800 Uvalde in Houston.

Following the National Team Trials, the USA 18U National Team will participate in the Pan American Baseball Confederation Championships in Monterrey, Mexico to compete against 18U teams from all over the world.

Kory Koehler, San Jacinto College volunteer assistant baseball coach, says people who come out to see the exhibition games will see some exciting and competitive baseball. "Every Major League Baseball organization and many National Collegiate Athletic Association programs will have representatives at the games," Koehler commented. "The players on the national 18U team are the best 40 high school seniors from across the country. Most of them will sign six-figure contracts next June and many of them will one day play in professional baseball at the highest level. It will be an honor to compete against them."

The San Jacinto College baseball team will compete in scrimmages through the fall semester. The 2017 season gets underway in late January. To find out more about the College's baseball program, visit sanjacsports.com.

Texas Award-Part II,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

year prison sentence. It was a privilege and honor to witness both Sgt. Castaneda and Lt. Walker receive the awards from the Governor which they surely deserved."

Senator Sylvia Garcia said, "It was a honor to represent Senate District 6 at the ceremony and be there with the families who've made such a sacrifice for our safety. I was moved by all of the stories of our brave first responders across Texas." Senator Garcia's district includes the city of Jacinto City.

Governor Greg Abbott said, "Today, Texas honors the extraordinary few – those who have demonstrated the character and the courage to repeatedly put their lives on the line to serve and protect their communities." "Today we recognize acts of uncommon valor – by first responders, firefighters and law enforcement officers – willing to put everything on the line to keep us safe. All of the men and women who protect and serve, and the families who stand by their sides, deserve our deepest respect. They represent the very best of Texas."

Jacinto City's City Manager Lon Squyres said, "It was great to see Sgt. Castaneda being recognized for her service to the citizens of Jacinto City. It stands in stark contrast to the lack of respect for law enforcement officials that has become so popular in today's world. In addition to the event in Austin we have seen a large outcry of local support for the entire Police Department. Having a close relationship with our police is just another benefit of living in a small town like Jacinto City."

After the ceremony Castaneda said, "I am so honored to have received the award. Although it was because I was shot in the line of duty, receiving the Star of Texas was a humble experience. I am grateful for the support and out pouring of love from all." She misses the honorable profession of police work; after numerous surgeries she has permanent impairments to her arm and hand which prevents her from ever returning to the duties of a police officer.

State Representative Ana Hernandez and Senator Sylvia Garcia will recognize and honor Sgt. Castaneda at the October 13th 6 PM Jacinto City Council meeting.

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