

# NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

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

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www.northchannelstar.com

## CHANNEL CHATTER

### Galena Park-Jacinto City CIP meeting

GALENA PARK-JACINTO CITY COMMUNITY-INDUSTRY PARTNER-SHIP (CIP) meeting is THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2014. 5:45 p.m. – light dinner; 6:15—business starts and adjourn by 8:15 p.m. At Alvin Baggett Recreation Building, 1302 Keene in Galena Park. Host plant: SunEdison

Annual Report on CIP Plant Emissions will be presented:

- CIP plants subject to reporting emissions to state and/or federal regulatory agencies have provided data on their 2013 emissions, which have been compiled to show totals as well as trends since 2008 as well as explanations for change from 2012 to 2013.Contact Diane Sheridan at 281-326-5253 for reservations by Friday, Aug. 29 at noon.

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are on 1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays at Alvin Baggett Community Center. Dinner at 5:45. Business 6:15 – 8:15 p.m.

### East Houston Medical Center: Men's Health Series

East Houston Regional Medical Center (an HCA Affiliated Hospital) will held a series of classes:

- Sept. 9, 2014: Serum Testosterone, Prostate Health & sexuality.
- Sept. 16, 2014: Men's Cardiovascular Health and prevention.
- Sept. 23, 2014: Vitamins & Supplements.
- Sept. 30, 2014: Healty Aging.

Classes will be held in the large conference room near the gift shop, 1311 East Freeway, Houston, TX., 77015. To register please call 713-393-2622.

### CHANNELVIEW:

## Congressman Gene Green tours TransCanada Houston Tank Farm



Congressman Green listens to a project overview at the TransCanada Houston Tank Terminal to Channelview. The Houston Terminal will become an integrated component of the Keystone Pipeline System to supply our East Harris County Refinery Complex.

See more pictures, page 8

### San Jacinto College & Port of Houston:

## Maritime and Logistics Youth Expo this saturday

PASADENA, Texas – San Jacinto College will sponsor the 2014 Maritime and Logistics Youth Expo on Saturday, Sept. 6, at the Port of Houston Authority's Bayport Cruise Terminal.

This annual event for high school students will feature presentations by mariners on the topics of towboats, harbor tugs, and barges. Students will learn about maritime salvage and watch the use of equipment. They will learn how to tie knots, throw heaving line, and about firefight-

ing. U.S. Coast Guard helicopters and small boats will give demonstrations.

Representatives from the U.S. Coast Guard, Texas Parks & Wildlife, Texas General Land Office, Port of Houston Authority, Texas Southern University, Texas A&M University at Galveston, San Jacinto College, and Houston Community College Southeast will talk to participants about maritime training and career opportunities. Event sponsors include the U.S. Coast Guard

Auxiliary, Harris County Precinct 2, San Jacinto College, Houston Pilots, and the Port of Houston Authority.

The 2014 Maritime and Logistics Youth Expo will take place from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Educators interested in having their school participate may call 713-670-2837. Industry representatives interested in sponsorship may call 281-476-8230. For information about the San Jacinto College maritime program, visit [www.sanjac.edu/maritime](http://www.sanjac.edu/maritime).

### 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF SHIP CHANNEL

## Centennial celebration is a Family Festival

An outdoor family festival will take place this Saturday, September 6, 2014 to highlight the 100th anniversary of the official opening of the deep-water channel. The festival is to honor the East Side and surrounding ship channel communities. The hands-on celebration will feature special maritime exhibits, interactive elements, hands-on demonstrations and art and entertainment provided by local schools and community organizations.

Educational activities and attractions will range from tours of the M/V Sam Houston, the Port Authority's tour boat, to a tug boat tug-of-war. Additionally, toy sailboat

games, face painting, treasure hunts and a variety of food will be featured. An interactive antique fire boat also will be on hand.

The Centennial Family Festival is free and open to the community, but attendees must pre-register to obtain tickets, which will include a pre-determined timeslot for arrival. The festival will be held at the Bayport Cruise Terminal loacted at 4700 Cruise Road in Pasadena from 2 pm to 6 pm. To register go to: <http://promotehoustonshipchannel2014.org/events/get-on-board>.

You may call the Community Information Line at 713-670-1000 with any questions.

## Two persons found shot to death



Neighboring apartments where two friends were found shot and killed.

NORTH SHORE – Harris County deputies are investigation the death of two friends who were shot and killed inside their apartments.

According to deputies, the two bodies were found inside

neighboring units on Alderson St. near Barbarea Mae.

Investigative reports show that a man returning from work around 4 p.m. last Tuesday, September 2, found his

See DEATHS, page 8

### TRAFFIC DELAYED on US90:

## Truck flips at San Jacinto River



Traffic was diverted to County Road from U.S. 90 at about noon on Tuesday when a 18 wheeler overturned on the bridge over County Road that leads to the San Jacinto River. According to Harris County Sheriff's Office's Media Relations Department the HCSO's Traffic Investigators determined that the single vehicle accident possibly happened when the driver lost control crossing the bridge and struck an embankment. Crosby VFD was first on the scene followed by multiple other departments.

### NORTH SHORE FOOTBALL:

## Mustangs charge to first victory

In a tale of two halves as the North Shore Mustangs won their game against the Clear Springs Chargers Friday night, August 29, 2014.

The Mustangs went in the locker room trailing 0-13 at half time, but came galloping back in the second half. The Mustangs overtook the Chargers by scoring 10 points in the 3rd quarter and 26 points in the 4th while holding the Chargers to a field goal.

The final score was 36-16, marking a resounding victory for Coach Kay's first game as head coach. What a fantastic way to start the season!



WR Darius Mouton catches a touchdown pass to continue the Mustangs second half domination.

GPSID Photos/Jonathan Frey

Coach Kay directs his first victory as head coach of the North Shore Mustangs.



# COMMUNITY NEWS



## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Crosby Library book sale

Friends of the Crosby Library will hold their Book Sale on: Friday, September 5th from 1pm - 6pm; and Saturday, September 6th from 10am - 5pm. Books at bargain prices and many in mint condition. For more information, call the Library at 281-328-3535.

### Crosby Community Center events

- TRIPS**
- Penzey's Spices, Height's & Goodwill Shopping. Thursday, September 11 at 9 a.m. Cost is \$2 per person; lunch is on your own at local restaurants
  - Liberty Opry Dance, Dayton. Saturday, September 13 at 5 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person; Dinner is on your own at concessions
  - Premier Outlet Mall, Cypress. Friday, September 19 at 8:45 a.m. Cost is \$2 per person; Lunch is on your own at Food Court.

- Decorative Painting With Cindy:** Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Master decorative artist Cindy Forsythe teaches the art of decorative painting.
- TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Meetings:** Wednesdays at 10 a.m. TOPS provides weekly educational and nutritional facts necessary to control weight.
- Beginning Spanish:** Thursdays at 10 a.m. Volunteer instructor Maria Rojas leads this class that focuses on basic language skills required to function in a Spanish-speaking environment.
- Crazy for Canasta!** Thursdays at 10 a.m. Bring a sack lunch and stay for an enjoyable afternoon of cards.
- Train Dominoes:** Thursdays at 10 a.m. Join in the fun of playing Train with fellow domino players.
- Pickleball:** Thursdays at 10 a.m. Played with a paddle, wiffle-style ball, and net, pickleball is the latest craze to sweep the nation. Open to participants of all fitness levels ages 50 and better.
- Crosby Community Center is located at 409 Hare Road, Crosby 77532. For more information please call (281) 462-0543.

### Highlands Little League meeting

The annual HLL Community meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 9, 2014 at 6:30 pm at the Highlands Community Center. This meeting is for the purpose of electing the HLL Board of Directors for 2014-2015, the BOD to present a report of the past season, and discussion of other important information. Please consider giving of your time and running for a position on the HLL BOD. So, mark your calendars and we will see you there.



## Summer Reading Program winners

*Final drawing for Summer Reading at the Crosby Branch Library. This drawing was special because in order to qualify, children had to read (or be read to) at least 50 books. Celine Adams and her brothers and sisters logged over 100 books this summer. Emmett Adams, Trevor Adams (above) and Olivia and Celine Adams (below).*

## Chance Casey signs with 49ers

SAN FRANCISCO—A Crosby Cougar Football Star from 2008 has signed with the San Francisco 49ers. Chance Casey, 23, a Crosby native and cornerback has signed with the professional practice squad on August 31. Casey had gone to Baylor University and played in 39 games, recording 161 tackles and landing three interceptions. Casey earned All-Big Freshman Casey brought the

49ers roster to 53 on Monday. Casey (five feet 11 inches, 190 lbs.) entered the NFL on May 13, 2013, as an undrafted free agent with the Oakland Raiders. He went to the Raiders' training camp then signed to the practice squad a year ago. He spent the remainder of the season on that practice squad. Casey was released by Oakland on August 30, 2014.

## Crosby man flees Dayton theft

DAYTON – A Crosby man has been charged with multiple crimes after allegedly stealing a camper with someone still in it. The Liberty County Sheriff's Office says James Brown, 75, was jostled from his sleep by someone hooking up his camper July 30. Once on his feet, Brown attempted to turn on a light but his power was disconnected from the County Road 2279 circuit he had been using. Brown then resorted to his cell phone and dialed 911 and conveyed his northbound trek being towed by someone unknown in the direction of Cleveland from near Indian Gully. Brown while being towed took up his firearm and blasted a few rounds to the north where the truck's cab was. That set in motion a weaving action that knocked Brown's phone from his hand. It is unknown if the weaving was from fright at being fired upon or to toss the inhabitant of the camper. By now the Liberty County Sheriff's Office was scrambling to catch the hitched up camper. So, when deputies spotted the truck and camper they chased it about 5 miles. The driver, of course, bailed out of the vehicle and fled into some woods. He had however left items behind inside the truck, one of them was a woman. The investigaiton is concluded now and Ted Wilson, 43, of Crosby, has been charged with theft and evading. Wilson has a previous conviction, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. He however remains on the lamb with authorities checking into his old haunts. The woman found inside the truck, Stephanie Nicole Palmer, 38, is not charged in the incident but she has been remanded to the grand jury to review her involvement. Sgt. Knox of the Liberty County Sheriff's Office asks that anyone with information about Ted Wilson or his location call (936) 336-4500.

## 16th Annual Jared date set

CROSBY - 16th Annual Jared Jamail Memorial Golf Classic is to be held Saturday, Oct. 4, 2014 at Newport Golf Club scholarships for Crosby ISD students are derived from the funds raised. Mail forms and checks to Pam Johnson, 1212 Foley Rd., Crosby, TX 77532 or Email: pamji99@aol.com. Sponsorships Available are: EAGLE \$750 includes 4 person team, lunch, cart, company banner displayed at the tournament, 3 hole sponsorship, 4 caps, advertisement in our program, and on entry forms. BIRDIE \$500 includes 4 person team, lunch, cart, 2 hole sponsorship, 4 caps, advertisement in our program and our entry form, PAR \$300 includes 2 players fee, lunch, cart, 2 hole sponsorship, 2 caps, advertisement in our program and on our entry forms. The event also thrives on donations. Prizes will be awarded for: 1st, 2nd & 3rd place teams, closest to the pin, longest drive. Registration begins at 7:00a.m., Tee Time 8:00a.m. Lunch & Awards follow the tournament. Fees are \$75 for individuals, 4 Person Team: \$260. Prices include green fee, lunch and cart. American Express, Visa and MasterCard accepted. Donations may be tax deductible: 501(C) 26-2878379. For more information call 281.328.3984 or visit JaredJamailScholarship.com and register at <http://tinyurl.com/JaredJamailGolf-Registration>.



281-328-5869



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## Campuses receive “Met Standard” ratings

Randal O'Brien, acting superintendent for Goose Creek CISD, presents Susan Griffin, principal of Johnny T. Clark, Jr. Elementary School and former principal of Crockett Elementary, with a cake showing that the district and all campuses received “Met Standard” ratings from the Texas Education Agency. Eighteen GCCISD schools earned one or more Distinction Designations. District administrators visited all campuses to take cakes to the schools' faculty and staff members.

Photo by Carrie Pryor-Newman

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# CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

COMMUNITY  
CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

North Channel  
Library events

-Friday & Saturday, Sep. 5 & 6  
Library Book Sale.  
-Monday, Sep. 8, 4:30 p.m.  
Monday Movie Madness.  
-Tuesday, Sep. 9, 10:30 a.m.  
Toddler Time; 1:30 p.m.  
Storybook Opera.  
-Wednesday, Sep. 10, 4:40 p.m.  
Strings Attached.  
-Thursday, Sep. 11, 10:30 a.m.,  
Baby Time; 4:30 p.m. Teens-  
Morse Code Necklace.  
**COMPUTER CLASSES**  
-Introduction to Windows,  
Lecture, Sep. 9, 10-12 pm.  
-Introduction to Windows,  
Practice, Sep. 11, 10-12 pm.  
Registration required.  
**CLASES DE COMPUTACION**  
-Introducción a Windows,  
Lectura, Sep. 8, 1-3 pm.  
-Introducción a Windows,  
Practica, Sep. 10, 1-3 pm.  
Se require registraci3n.  
Library is located at 15741  
Wallisville Rd., Houston, TX.  
77049. Call 281-457-1631 for  
more information.

SEPTEMBER

Galena Park  
Library events

-Tuesday, Sep. 9, 1 p.m. Raton y  
Teclado; 4 p.m. Mouse 7  
Keyboard.  
-Wednesday, Sep. 10, 11 a.m.  
Children's Story Time.  
-Thursday, Sep. 11, 11 a.m. Baby  
Time.  
Please call the library at 713-  
450-0982 for more details.  
The library is located at 1500  
Keene St. Galena Park, TX.  
77547.

SATURDAY NIGHTS

The Buckshot  
Jamboree

Enjoy Classic Country music  
every Satutday 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.

2nd & 4th THURSDAY

San Jacinto Pilot  
Club meeting

San Jacinto Pilot Club meets  
2nd and 4th Thursdays at  
noon at the Galena Park ISD  
Administration Building.

## Highlands Rotary prepares for Washer Tournament

Highlands Rotary Club in-  
vites you to the 8th Annual 3-  
Hole Washer Board Charity  
Tournament. The event will  
take place on  
Saturday,  
September  
13, 2014 from  
12 pm - 4 pm.  
The tour-  
nament starts  
at 12 pm  
sharp at  
Charlie's Ice  
House, 906 N.  
Main Street,  
Highlands,  
TX. 77562.

The public  
is welcome to  
participate,  
according to Rotary president  
Raymond Gonzalez. The tour-  
nament is set up for 50 teams,  
and is a double elimination  
style. Entry fee is \$50 for 2-  
man teams, and prizes and  
trophies are awarded at the  
end.

This event has become a  
city-wide tradition, with two

person teams coming from  
various clubs around the Ro-  
tary 5890 District, as well as  
local Highlands folks, to com-  
pete for brag-  
ging rights  
and the three  
top positions  
in the double  
elimination  
tournament.  
Teams are  
also expected  
from North  
Shore and  
Baytown clubs. The  
public is in-  
vited to field  
a team, also.  
You are wel-

come to come and watch if you  
don't play, and there will be re-  
freshments, and live and si-  
lent auctions.

All proceeds go to the Rota-  
ry Foundation, for worldwide  
projects and also local projects.

Questions or to register,  
please contact Raymond  
Gonzalez at 281-413-5453.



## South Texas Dental delivers smiles



(L/R) Josh Moreno, STxD Community Relations Director, [athlete], and  
Dr. Angi Williams, Superintendent of Schools, are all smiles as the  
custom mouth guards are distributed to all the football players.

Just in time for the Galena  
Park Yellow Jackets' first  
game of the season, South Tex-  
as Dental delivered custom  
made mouth-guards to each  
football player, freshman, jun-  
ior varsity and varsity. Stem-  
ming from a joint effort of  
South Texas Dental, Stern  
Empire Dental Laboratory and  
the GP/JC Rotary Club, these  
mouth guards offer signifi-  
cantly improved protection  
over typical over the counter  
mouth guards. "This is great  
for our kids. They will be able  
to utilize top notch mouth pro-  
tection at no cost to them,"

said Dave Handal, head coach  
and athletic coordinator for  
Galena Park High School. "Josh  
[Moreno, South Texas  
Dental Community Relations  
Director] has been great. They  
came to us with this idea. It's  
heart-warming to know their  
generosity is helping our ath-  
letes stay safe," Handal add-  
ed.

GPISD and the football  
players, coaches and parents  
are all grateful for the gener-  
osity of South Texas Dental,  
Stern Empire Dental Labora-  
tory and the GP/JC Rotary  
Club.

### GALENA PARK ISD:

## Teachers receive well-deserved update



Cloverleaf Elementary sent a group to pick out furniture Wednesday evening. Gallery Furniture delivered and set up the furniture Thursday afternoon. That is SERVICE!

Gallery Furniture and  
KPRC Local 2 teamed up to  
hold a friendly competition.  
The school that received the  
most votes would receive a  
shopping spree to redecorate  
the teachers' lounge. Three  
schools were on the ballot.  
Each school submitted photos  
of their lounge and a reason  
they should have their lounge  
updated. Lee Brown, principal  
at Cloverleaf Elementary, sug-  
gested that, at his school, the

teachers' lounge hasn't been  
updated, not because it wasn't  
needed, but because there is a  
motto they live by at Clover-  
leaf Elementary - "students  
come first." So while the teach-  
ers certainly were deserving of  
a nicer area to eat, plan, and  
relax, the students always  
took priority.

As the voting closed at noon  
on Wednesday, August 27, it

was clear the community re-  
lated to the sentiments of Mr.  
Brown. Cloverleaf Elementa-  
ry was declared the winner,  
holding 41% of the vote. "This  
is a celebration of the teach-  
ers' hard work. They deserve  
this!" said Mr. Brown. He add-  
ed, "Thanks to Mattress Mack  
and Channel 2 for making our  
hard working teachers feel  
appreciated."

## Victory on funding of public schools & women's health rights

### Court decision in favor of Texas schools

(Austin, TX) – August 28,  
2014 – Judge Dietz ruled in  
favor of the more than 600  
school districts who sued the  
state over its inadequate and  
inequitable school finance sys-  
tem. This is the seventh time  
the state has been sued for  
improperly funding public  
schools.

"Today is a victory for the  
school children of Texas.  
Judge Dietz simply confirmed  
what we've all known for  
years; that the state refuses  
time and time again to do  
what's right for our children  
and the future of our state."

"Today's ruling reaffirms  
that Republican leadership  
has created an unconstitution-  
al system which values some  
children more than others, yet  
short-changes them all."



### Senator Garcia praises decision to uphold women's health rights

(Austin, TX) — August 29,  
2014. U.S. District Judge Lee  
Yeakel struck down a portion  
of House Bill 2 requiring abor-  
tion clinics to become ambu-  
latory surgical centers  
because the provision places  
an unconstitutional undue  
burden on women's access to  
an important health care op-

tion. The requirement would  
have gone into effect on Sep-  
tember 1, 2014. Other require-  
ments that have gone into  
effect as a result of House Bill  
2 include a twenty week ban  
on abortions and local hospi-  
tal admitting privileges for  
abortion doctors.

"Judge Yeakel's decision is  
a victory for Texas women in  
the ongoing battle to protect  
their constitutional reproduc-  
tive rights. This onerous and  
unnecessary requirement is  
another attempt by the anti-  
women's health advocates to  
erode women's access to repro-  
ductive health services, and  
would effectively force all but  
a handful of the state's re-  
maining clinics to close. Too  
many women across Texas are  
already suffering from the  
devastating effects of clinic  
closures due to other ill-con-  
ceived requirements in House  
Bill 2."

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## PICK-UP LOCATIONS FOR THE NORTH CHANNEL STAR

### NORTH SHORE

North Channel Chamber Office, I-10 in  
Woodforest Bank Bldg  
Pineforest Jewelry, Uvalde Rd  
San Jacinto College North, Student Center &  
Library  
Fonteno Court House, Wallisville Rd  
East Houston Hospital, I-10  
Foodtown, Uvalde Rd  
Sellers Brothers Market, Uvalde Rd  
YMCA, Wallisville Rd  
Fiesta Market, I-10  
HPD Substation, I-10  
Federal Road Barber Shop, Uvalde @ Halifax  
Panera Restaurant, Beltway 8 @ Wallisville  
CiCi's Pizza, Uvalde @ Woodforest  
Kroger's, Woodforest @ Beltway 8  
Fuddruckers, Normandy Rd  
Walgreens, Maxey Rd @ Woodforest  
Senator Sylvia Garcia office, in Woodforest Bank  
Bldg  
North Channel Library, Wallisville Rd  
North Shore High School, at Wallisville Rd  
Walgreens, 155111 Wallisville Rd  
United Comm. Credit Union, Normandy  
United Comm. Credit Union, Wallisville

### CHANNELVIEW

K&T Western Wear, Sheldon Rd  
Channelview High School, Sheldon Rd  
Woodforest Bank, Sheldon Rd  
Channelview Admin Bldg, Sheldon Rd  
Food Fair, Sheldon Rd @ I-10  
Flukinger Comm Ctr, Lorenzo St  
Holiday Inn, I-10 E

### SHELDON

Sheldon ISD Admin Bldg.  
C. E. King High School, Tidwell Rd  
Kroger's, Normandy at Woodforest  
Parkway Feed, CE King Blvd  
Community Bank of Texas, Tidwell Road

### CLOVERLEAF

HC WCID #36, Hollywood St  
Grayson Community Center, Corpus Christi St  
Galena Park Admin Building, Beltway 8 at  
Woodforest  
CommunityBank of Texas, I-10 E @ Freeport  
Gatti's Pizza, Uvalde  
North Channel Assistance Ministries, Bonham @  
Freeport

### JACINTO CITY

City Hall, Main Street  
El Ahorro Market, Main Street  
Community Center/Senior Center, Oates Rd  
Capital Bank, I-10 E  
Jacinto City Branch Library, Akron St  
State Rep Ana Hernandez office, Mercury Drive  
Sellers Brothers Market, Market St  
JC Police Dept., Market St  
Market Street Feed Store, Market St

### GALENA PARK

Baggett Community Center, Keene St  
Galena Park High School, Keene St  
Galena Park City Hall, Clinton Drive  
Galena Park Library, Keene St  
United Comm. Credit Union, 16th St.

If you would like to be a PICK-UP LOCATION, let us know.  
281-328-9605 or northchannelstar@gmail.com.

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OPINION PAGE

★

TOUCH OF LIFE

By Don Springer



Met an Angel at the Emergency Room

Sunday, August 24 began as a bright, sunny day for me but it all fell apart a couple of hours later. Several people came to my rescue that day and one was an angel that I wish to tell you about in these next few words.

I had just completed a good breakfast at a local restaurant and was standing in line with my guest, Barbara Jones. Suddenly I was sick at my stomach, went to a bench to sit while Barbara stayed in line to pay the bill. Yes, that was the first time I ever used that excuse to have someone else pay a bill.

Next thing I knew I was in the restroom disposing of the good breakfast I had just eaten and some other items in my stomach as well. Then it was into the car and she was driving back to her home, I thought. Not so, she stopped at the fire-house between the restaurant and her home, some EMT's examined me and then it was off to the hospital emergency room. I protested some, to no avail, and then I was on a gurney in the ER.

After the usual check-in, questions, form completions and a few other things, I was taken further back into the ER and put in a bed. There I met an angel, a real Angel as that was her name. Angel was a sweet, lovely, young nurse who would be my caretaker, along with Barbara, for the rest of the day. She was every bit a nurse, knew what she was doing, and was looking after a full-house that morning as every bed in her area was filled—some with patients far worse off than I.

One can hear most everything said between patients, doctors and nurses in this area and we could hear Angel talking to and working on other

patients. Some she was assisting with problems, cleaning them up, or maybe just discussing what brought them there and how they were felling at present. She always had that cool, friendly sound to her voice as she moved from patient to patient. As the day worn on I was feeling much better and began to enjoy the few minutes Angel would have when she would stop to talk to Barbara or me, check my vitals, or just provide a big friendly smile and words of encouragement. She was the same with every patient.

Angel, in name and in action has surely found her calling. Like many nurses these days she was working a 12-hour shift and never lost that loving smile and friendly attitude that is so important in the health-care field. I'm sure Angel has her bad days when she would just as soon someone provide a smile and good word for her but I doubt she ever shows it. Barb and I talked about her approach and tried to return it in kind.

To my knowledge I never met Angel previously and my guess is I may never have the honor of meeting her again. That will be my loss. Those around her frequently are better off for the experience I am sure. Because of her effort and of course some others, my day ended as bright and sunny as it began.

I have been in ER's and in-patient care several times in my 84 years and always find good, friendly care, probably more than I deserve, and Angel is one of the best.

*Such are the people, places and things that have touched my life in my West Virginia home!*



Court rules school finance system unconstitutional

AUSTIN — When the Texas Legislature convenes on Jan. 13, 2015, lawmakers will have the job of revising the state's school finance system, again.

This task was made necessary on Aug. 28, when state District Judge John Dietz ruled the current finance system violates these four state constitutional standards: the



state property tax prohibition and the education clause requirements of adequacy, suitability, and financial efficiency.

In his 400-page ruling, Dietz pointed out that the Legislature is constitutionally required to “structure, operate and fund” a public school system that achieves a “general diffusion of knowledge” and that “children who live in poor districts and children who live in rich districts must have a substantially equal opportunity to have access to educational funds.”

The case was brought in October 2012. Plaintiffs, to whom the court granted relief, are: The Texas Taxpayer & Student Fairness Coalition, et al.; Calhoun County ISD, et al.; Edgewood ISD, et al.; Fort Bend ISD et al.; and Texas Charter School Association, et al.; and intervenors Joyce Coleman, et al. Defendants are Michael Williams, Commissioner of Education, in his of-

★

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

ficial capacity; Susan Combs, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, in her official capacity; and Texas Board of Education.

Williams reacted, saying, “Regardless of the ruling at the district court level, all sides have known this is an issue that will again be resolved by the Texas Supreme Court.”

**Dismissal order is sought**

Gov. Rick Perry's legal team on Aug. 26 submitted a 60-page document seeking dismissal of a Travis County grand jury's Aug. 15 two-count indictment of the governor on felony charges of abuse of office and coercion of a public servant.

The document, an application to the 390th Travis County Judicial Court for a pre-trial writ of habeas corpus, contains arguments in support of the governor's veto of the 2014-2015 budget of the state's Public Integrity Unit, a division of the Travis County District Attorney's Office. Perry said he would veto the division's budget unless District Attorney Rosemary Lehmberg, a Democrat, resigned from office after she was arrested for drunken driving in April 2013. Lehmberg refused to resign and Perry carried out the veto, prompting the grand jury indictment.

The conclusion portion of the application for a pre-trial writ of habeas corpus asserts, “continued prosecution of Governor Perry on the current in-

dictment is unprecedented, insupportable, and simply impermissible” and suggests the court “should not hesitate to dismiss both counts of the indictment and bar the prosecution immediately, if not sooner.” Also, the conclusion portion states “it is not fault of the court that it has been asked to intrude on a political dispute.”

**Panel to study ethics laws**

Texas House Speaker Joe Straus and Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst on Aug. 22 announced appointees to a new Select Interim Committee to Study Ethics Laws, in accordance with Senate Bill 1773 passed by the Legislature in 2013.

The committee will study “the effectiveness of laws and regulations related to ethics, including campaign finance, lobby laws and personal financial disclosure laws,” Dewhurst said.

Straus said, “Sound ethics laws can help build and maintain public confidence in government. I trust the members of this committee to give those laws a thorough review and recommend ways to make our system more transparent and accountable to citizens.”

Sen. Joan Huffman and Rep. Sarah Davis, both Houston Republicans, will co-chair the committee.

**Lowest-yet interest rate**

State Comptroller Susan Combs on Aug. 26 announced the sale of \$5.4 billion in one-year Texas Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes, and those notes received a record-low interest rate of 0.1326 percent. The previous low was 0.2008 percent in 2013.

“The best ratings from Wall Street ratings firms and strong demand for Texas notes helped drive down the borrowing cost,” Combs explained. Money from TRAN sales is used to help fund expenditures such as public school payments early in the fiscal year and manage cash flow between the start of the fiscal year and the arrival of tax revenues later in the year.

**Extra caution is advised**

Texas Department of Public Safety on Aug. 22 reminded drivers to watch out for children walking to and from school or waiting for school buses.

Also, drivers who illegally pass school buses face fines up to \$1,250 for a first offense. A ticket for illegally passing a school bus cannot be dismissed through defensive driving.

DPS Director Steven McCraw said, “Individuals who illegally pass stopped school buses endanger our children, and DPS officers will not tolerate drivers who break the law and put others in harm's way.”

TEXAS

With Russell A. Graves

The Swift Fox - Part 3

While family units establish their own territories, they often overlap with other fox family units. Males often change territories while female territories are often established and unchanged - centered around a series of



The Swift Fox in Texas

burrows they use as shelter.

Since the canines are small, their burrows aren't all that big. In fact, they often adopt the abandoned burrows of other animals and rely heavily upon them for protection from other predators and from the elements. The dens have a keyhole shaped entrance that's about eight inches in diameter and the dirt is typically spread away from the entrance and not raked in a pile. Their hole extends some six to twelve feet into the ground and during the year, may use multiple burrows within their home range as they move around in search of more prey.

The daytime sighting was especially unusual as swift foxes are primarily nocturnal. They spend their days in their underground dens and emerge at night to hunt for small animals and bugs.

From a dietary standpoint, swift foxes are purely opportunistic - relying on seasonal foods. Summer finds them eating a large amount of insects like grasshoppers. In winter, their diet shifts to rodents, small birds, and carrion.

Biologist W.L. Cutter surveyed the swift fox extensively in the 1950 and documented the variability of their diet. He discovered after examining 12 stomachs and 250 dropping samples that their primary diet consists of cottontails and jackrabbits while other rodents, lizards, and small birds made up the balance. He found no evidence of game birds or poultry in their diet. In all vertebrates made up about eighty percent of the foods found. The remaining twenty percent of their diet consisted of bugs and grass.

From where we found the den of foxes, there is no doubt that they dined on a steady diet of prairie dogs. Their den is smack in the middle of the town. By all accounts the fox are doing well because they look well fed and their coats are sleek. Being a predator, I suspect my squeaking sounded enough like a small rodent that they male couldn't pass up the possibility of an easy meal.

What I can't explain is why he came so close to the truck. Perhaps he'd never seen a vehicle before. After all, people are scarce in this part of Texas and the swift fox are even more rare. Considering their three to five year life span, chances are that he came over as much out of curiosity as he did out of hunger.

While I'll never know the exact reason, I do know that I'm glad he paid me a visit.

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# LIFESTYLE

## CHURCH LISTINGS

### CROSBY, HIGHLANDS, HUFFMAN, BAYTOWN

**ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
• Church of the Resurrection, meeting at Crosby Brethren Church, 5202 1st Street, Crosby. 832-661-9693.

**APOSTOLIC CHURCH**  
• First Apostolic Church of Highlands, 1211 S. Main St. Highlands. 281-426-4133

**ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
• Crosby Gospel Assembly, 633 Kenning Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2516  
• First Assembly of God, 406 N. Magnolia St., Highlands, 281-426-3170  
• Gospel Lighthouse, 8218 John Martin Rd., Baytown, 281-421-1168

**BAPTIST**  
• Calvary Baptist, 2217 Huffman Eastgate Rd., Huffman, 281-324-3409  
• Highlands Baptist, 111 E. Canal Rd., Highlands, 281-426-2470  
• Northeast Freeway Baptist, 1635 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2723  
• Unity Baptist, 2625 Broad Dr., Highlands, 281-426-4223  
• Iglesia Bautista Comunidad, 5323 Highway 90, Crosby, 281-421-9810. "Venid y te Haremos Bien"

**BAPTIST-Missionary**  
• Antioch Missionary Baptist, 2500 Harris St., Highlands, 281-426-6565.  
• First Missionary Baptist Church, 301 Cypress Avenue, Crosby, 281-462-7634.  
• Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist, 315 Nod, Crosby, 281-328-4650  
• True Vine Missionary Baptist, 404 Oak Ave., Crosby, 281-328-7637  
• Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, 12418 Crosby Rd., Crosby, 281-328-1851

**BAPTIST-Southern**  
• First Baptist- Crosby, 615 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2564  
• First Baptist- Highlands, N. Magnolia at Wallisville, Highlands, 281-426-4551  
• First Baptist- Huffman, 25503 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-1888  
• Northside Baptist, 317 Barbers Hill Rd., Highlands, 281-426-5415  
• Second Baptist, 400 E. Wallisville Rd., Highlands, 281-426-5557  
• Crosby New Hope Baptist Church, 18319 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-6086

**BRETHREN**  
• Crosby Brethren, 5202 1st St., Crosby, 281-328-2442

### CATHOLIC

• Holy Family, 7122 Whiting Rock, Baytown, 281-426-8448  
• Sacred Heart, 915 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-4871  
• St. Martin De Porres, 12606 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-4451  
• St. Jude Thaddeus, 800 S. Main St., Highlands, 281-843-2422  
• St. Phillip the Apostle, 2308 3rd St., Huffman, 281-324-1478

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
• Church of Christ at Wallisville Rd., 1500 E. Wallisville Rd., 281-426-7557.

• Crosby Church of Christ, 3737 Hwy 90, Crosby, 281-328-3496  
• Highlands Church of Christ, 214 Clear Lake Rd., Highlands, 281-426-2742  
• Barrett Station Church of Christ, 281-328-7882

### CHURCH OF GOD

• First Pentecostal Church of God, 1328 Old Atascocita, Huffman, 281-324-1518  
• Harvest Time Church of God, 495 S. Diamondhead Blvd., Crosby, 281-462-8060

**CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**  
• Mt. Rose Church of God in Christ, 13000 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-1314

**INDEPENDENT**  
• Crosby Church, 5725 Hwy 90, Crosby and 30673 Huffman Cleveland Rd., Huffman, 281-328-1310

• Huffman Church, 1707 Huffman Eastgate Rd., Huffman, 281-324-3705  
• New Covenant of Faith, 12217 Holy Rd., Crosby, 281-328-1315  
• Restoration House, 1609 Jones Rd., Highlands, 281-843-4000  
• Son Harvest, 2027 FM 1942, Crosby, 281-543-2860.

**LUTHERAN**  
• Our Shepherd, 19704 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-2422

**METHODIST**  
• Crosby United Methodist, 1334 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2616  
• Highlands United Methodist, 107 W. Houston St., Highlands, 281-426-3614  
• Lake Houston United Methodist, 23606 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-1541

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### CHANNELVIEW, JACINTO CITY, HOUSTON

• Second Street Church of Christ, 15821 2nd. Street, Channelview, TX. 77530.  
www.2ndstreetchurchofchrist.com

### BAPTIST

• South Drive Baptist Church, 15229 South Drive, Channelview, TX. 77530. 281-452-4500.  
• New Life Baptist Church of East Houston, 18570 Van Road, Houston, 77049. 281-456-0082

### CATHOLIC

• St. Andrew Roman Catholic Church, 827 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, TX. 281-452-9865.

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

• Channelview Church of Christ, 1301 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, Tx. 281-452-7129.

### EPISCOPAL

• St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 13125 Indianapolis St., Houston, 713-451-2909

### METHODIST

• Old River Terrace United Methodist Church, 16102 East Freeway, Channelview, TX. 281-452-2861.

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• Bible Missionary Church, 10246 Fairfax St., Jacinto City. 713-674-4061

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## BIBLE TRIVIA

1. Is the book of Acts in the Old or New Testament or neither?
  2. What companion of Paul was commended for his holy-scripture knowledge since childhood? Timothy, Linus, Trophimus, Jude
  3. From 1 John 4, "He that loveth not, knowest not God; for God is..."? Honor, Love, Everlasting, Comfort
  4. What king unwittingly signed a decree causing Daniel to be thrown into the lions' den? Elah, Jabin, Darius, Agag
  5. Because he was standing on holy ground, what did God tell Moses to remove? Cloak, Hat, Shoes, Armor
  6. In Judges 16, who said, "Let me die with the Philistines"? Samson, Micah, Delilah, Manoa
- ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Timothy; 3) Love; 4) Darius; 5) Shoes; 6) Samson



## Piano Students succeed

The piano students from the studio of Mrs. Etta Jean Wright of Crosby presented a beautiful annual spring recital at the J.D. Walker Community Center in Baytown. It was a very memorable day as the students performed their beautifully prepared selections. The most advanced students had the honor of performing on the "All Star Festival Recital and the Digital Keyboard" at the TMTA (Texas Music Teacher's Association) convention in June at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Houston. Pictured l-r first row: Rondashia Gillum, Jaeci Booker; second row: Mrs. Etta Wright (teacher), Kendall Hargraves, Cederick Godfrey, Izalah Outley, Leah Jacobs, Mya Joseph, Mykael Outley, and Jalissia Gillum; not pictured Micah Dailey.



### LITTLE BIDDY BITS

By Danny Biddy

## Thankful, Thankful,

Dana and I visited a ministry to teenage boys and were excited about the possibility of our church partnering with them. I was thinking more about that than my driving. We were on an unfamiliar country road that came to a sudden stop. We did not. I found out later several wrecks had occurred at that same spot. Dana suffered a compression fracture on her spine, but the doctor said she would be fine with time. We are very sore and getting around slowly. However, as we started to move about this morning, every pain was a reminder of how thankful we were to wake up in our on bed together.

"Bless the Lord, I tell myself! Bless the Lord and forget not all His benefits." (Psalms 103:1-2)



## Crosby library reading program

The final presenter for the Crosby Library Summer Reading Program was Crissy Butcher with the Eddie V. Gray Wetlands Center. Crissy brought three live animals with her: a box turtle, a snake, and a baby alligator. She also brought pelts of various wetlands mammals. Jamie Dailey took some wonderful photos of her children, Easton and Elin Dailey.

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1 Corinthians 16:13

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## OBITUARIES

### Dolores Margaret Deboard

Dolores Margaret Deboard, 79, of Channelview, passed away Friday, August 29, 2014 in Houston, Texas. Dolores was born March 24, 1935 in Chicago, Illinois to Frederick and Ethel Dauble. She is lovingly survived by her husband, Bobby Deboard; children, Debra Hickey and fiancé Richard Smith, Cynthia Smith and husband Dave, Paul Loewenbein; grandchildren, Matt, Savannah, Kayla, Ann Marie, John, Sarah; great-grandchildren, Collin, Braxton, Ava, Carter, Talayaia, and Abigail. Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 2, 2014 in the chapel of Carter Funeral Home. Friends joined Dolores' family at 12



noon before the funeral service for a time of visitation and remembrances.

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## Church News

Dr. (Bro.) Sam Purkhiser will be recognized on Sunday September 14th is having bben pastor of the Northeast Freeway Baptist Church for 49 years. there will be a fellowship and luncheon following morning church service. Public is invited.

### Church Revival

The Northeast Freeway Baptist Church, 1835 Runneburg Road, in Crosby Texas will be holding a revival September 17th thru the 21st. Evangelist Dr. Andy Tully will be officiating at each service, 7pm nightly.

Dr. (Bro.) Sam Purkhiser is the pastor of the church. The public is invited.

### Wedding Anniversary

Dr. (Bro.) Sam Purkhiser and sister Jewel Purkhiser will celebrate their 68th wedding anniversary on Sunday September 14th 2014. They were married September 28, 1946 in Healdon, Oklahoma.

There will be a fellowship and luncheon after morning church service on the 14th of September 2014. Friends are invited.

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Isaiah 29: 10

I can do everything through him  
who gives me strength.  
Phillipians 4:13

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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SPORTS PAGE & BUSINESS

Texans began O'Brien era against Washington: Texas looks to extract revenge against BYU

The Texans begin the Bill O'Brien era on Sunday when they host the Washington Redskins in the season opener for both teams. O'Brien will be the third head coach in the history of the 13-year-old franchise after former head coach Gary Kubiak was dismissed last December after a Thursday night loss at Jacksonville.

Not only do the Texans and Redskins open their seasons on Sunday, but so does the rest of the NFL, which begins things on Thursday night on NBC when defending Super Bowl champion Seattle hosts Green Bay in prime time.

The 2013 season was a disaster for the Texans and their fans. The season began with great optimism and visions of a Super Bowl berth dancing in their heads, but after winning their first two games of the season, the Texans lost 14 straight games and it was time for a new head coach and coaching staff.

Out went Kubiak and in came O'Brien, a disciple of Bill Belichick who came to H-town after serving as the head coach at Penn State for the last two years. O'Brien inherited a difficult situation at PSU with the football program embroiled in the Jerry Sandusky scandal, but his no nonsense approach worked as he produced a 15-9 record with reduced scholarships.

O'Brien and his staff have had an entire off-season, training camp and pre-season to work with their team, but there are still some question marks entering the season. Will Ryan Fitzpatrick be an adequate quarterback? Is Arian Foster fully recovered from an injury-plagued 2013 season and ready to regain the form that made him one of the most productive running backs in the league two years ago? Is Brian Cushing going to be healthy for an entire season (he suffered knee/leg injuries in both the 2012 and 2013 seasons)? And will rookie linebacker Jadeveon Clowney make the impact on defense the Texans are hoping for?

While all of these questions will be answered as the season goes along, there is hope for a rebound season. This is still a pretty talented roster, but the key will be its health. It will also help playing in the AFC, which has two dominant teams in Denver and New England, but is very average everywhere else. Indianapolis is perhaps the third best team in the AFC, but they have issues on both lines and a defense that isn't going to be confused with the '85 Bears.

The Texans schedule is also favorable, especially early. After opening with the Redskins at home, they play at Oakland and at the Giants before returning home to NRG Stadium to take on Buffalo. Week 4 has the Texans playing at Dallas, which had the league's worst defense a year ago. The Texans could realistically win four of their first five, which would have them at 4-1 heading into a nationally televised meeting on CBS on Oct. 9 with Indianapolis at home on Thursday night. Even a 3-2 start would have them in the thick of the AFC South race.

So while last year was a year to forget for Texan fans, should have reason to be optimistic about the 2014 season and the future. It would help to begin things with a win and then move on from there!

The opening of the NFL season takes center stage this weekend, but there is also plenty of action at the high school and collegiate schedules this weekend. So, without further ado, let's take a look at what the weekend has to offer!


NCAA

**BYU at Texas:** The Longhorns will have payback on their minds when BYU pays a visit to Austin on Saturday evening. A year ago, UT was run over, around and basically pushed around by the Cougars en route to a 40-21 embarrassment of a loss. That defeat may very well have been the beginning of the end of Mack Brown's tenure in Austin. The team never really recovered from the spanking they received that night and Brown

★

KEENEY'S KORNER

By MIKE KEENEY



stepped down at the end of the season and Charlie Strong was hired away from Louisville. Quarterback David Ash also suffered a concussion in that game, so like the rest of his teammates, he has something to prove to the Cougars this time around. Texas should be able to run the ball against a BYU defense that lost a lot of talent to the NFL/graduation. I have a feeling Strong, even though he wasn't around, won't let his team forget how they were pushed around by the Cougars a year ago. It's time for Texas to do the pushing this time around! My pick, Texas 34, BYU 16

**Michigan at Notre Dame:** After Saturday's game in Notre Dame Stadium, these two traditional rivals will not meet on the field in the forcible future, so if you want to catch these two stories programs go at one another, you need to watch the game on NBC, because you might not have the chance to see them play one another for a long, long time. Notre Dame has opted out of its contract with Michigan due to its new commitments with the ACC. Two of the most successful programs in college football have been meeting since 1887 and have played some gems over the years. Both teams enter with question marks this season. Michigan is coming off a disappointing 7-6 season that saw Brady Hoke's team lose six of their final eight games. Hoke is on the hot seat and probably needs a nine or 10-win season to keep his job. Good luck with that! After playing for the national championship following the 2012 season, the Irish came back down to earth with a 9-4 season in 2013. Before they had played a game, ND lost four starters due to an academic scandal, but all the news isn't bad coming out of South Bend. The Irish will have quarterback Everett Golson back under center, after the talented signal caller had to sit out the 2013 season due to academic issues. Golson should be a year wiser and stronger and should make all the difference for Brian Kelley's team this year, beginning Saturday against Michigan. My pick, Notre Dame 34, Michigan 26

**Michigan State at Oregon:** The game of the weekend pits two Top 10 teams as the defensive-minded Spartans take on Marcus Mariotta and the high-scoring Oregon offense. The Spartans finished 12-1 a year ago, won the Big 10 title and the Rose Bowl by upsetting Stanford, 24-20. While Mariotta is considered the top quarterback prospect in the college game, the Spartans have a capable quarterback leading them in junior Conner Cook. Cook was an unproved sophomore last year who responded with 2,755 yards passing and 22 touchdowns. He also has a top-flight running back to call on in tailback Jeremy Langford (1,445 yards rushing, 18 touchdowns). MSU should be able to move the ball against Oregon and while the Spartans will once again field a top 10 defense, that bunch will have its hands full with Mariotta and the host of speedy talent he has at his command. This once should go down to the wire, but the edge goes to the Ducks because of home field advantage. My pick, Oregon 34, Michigan State 31

NFL

**Green Bay at Seattle:** The 2014 NFL season kicks off on Thursday night on NBC when the Super Bowl champs host the Packers in what should be an entertaining contest. The Seahawks are looking to become the first team since the 2004 New England Patriots to win back-to-back Super Bowls and the odds are pretty good that they will accomplish that goal. The

team returns the brunt of the best defense in the league and quarterback Russell Wilson should have the speedy Percy Harvin on hand all season (Harvin missed most of the 2013 season recovering from hip surgery). They have a strong running game led by Marshon Lynch and plenty of other weapons on offense for Wilson to turn to. They'll get a good test right out of the box from a Green Bay team that would like to unseat them as the lead dog in the NFL. Quarterback Aaron Rodgers is completely healed from a collarbone injury that forced him to miss seven games a year ago and he has a host of dependable targets to throw to. It also helps that he has one of the league's best young running backs in second-year man Eddie Lacy to keep defenses honest. The GB defense should also be improved this year as well. I think the Packers give the Seahawks all they can handle on opening night, but look for Wilson and that defense to make the plays down the stretch which allows them to open the season with a win. My pick, Seattle 23, Green Bay 22

**Washington at Houston:** As stated earlier, the Texans begin a new era with a new head coach and a different attitude when they host the Redskins on Sunday at NRG Stadium. The Houston defense will have its hands full containing Washington QB Robert Griffin III and his host of speedy wide receivers, which means J.J. Watt and Jadeveon Clowney will need to apply pressure early and often to disrupt RGIII and force him out of his comfort zone. The Texans will also need to keep on eye on running back Alfred Morris, who is com-

ing off a second straight season of more than 1,300 yards rushing. When the Texans have the ball, they should be able to move it against a Washington defense that was one of the worst in the NFL a year ago. Look for O'Brien to give them a steady diet of Arian Foster to chew up clock and to set up the play-action passing game. A lot of folks are going to write off the Texans in this one, but something tells me O'Brien will enjoy the results of his first official game as a head coach in the NFL. My pick, Houston 23, Washington 20

**San Francisco at Dallas:** Tough opener for the Cowboys, who enter the season with a load of question marks on defense, which is bad news considering they had the worst defense statistically in the history of the NFL in 2013. Owner Jerry Jones didn't do much to address that side of the ball in the offseason, but he did shore up the offensive line by drafting Zack Martin with the team's first-round pick. Martin, out of Notre Dame, appears to be the real deal and should make the Dallas offensive line one of the best in the NFC this year. That better be the case because Tony Romo can't afford to be sitting duck after coming off back surgery. The o-line will get a real test against a 49ers defense that is one of the best around. They did suffer some losses and injuries during the off-season and in the pre-season, but I expect them to be hitting on all cylinders come Sunday at AT&T Stadium. The key to a Dallas win will be how well Dallas is able to run the football, and if last year was any indication, DeMarco Murray appears to a star in the making. I think Dallas is in this one, but the defense will crack in the fourth quarter as Colin Kaepernick makes the key plays down the stretch to lead his team to a hard-fought victory. My pick, San Francisco 31, Dallas 27

**Indianapolis at Denver:** A good one for the first Sunday night of the season has Peyton Manning's

former team paying him a visit in Denver. A year ago, the Broncos fell behind the Colts in Indy, 33-14, before rallying to make it close, 39-33. I don't expect the Colts to get off to that sort of start this time around as Manning will have his mates in pay-back mood. Offensively, the Broncos should be as potent as they were a year ago. Sure, they lost Eric Decker to free agency, but they added Emanuel Sanders from the Steelers to replace him. Sanders is faster and will allow Manning to stretch the field even more with Demaryius Thomas on the other side. Montae Ball, who served as a backup a year ago, gets the starting running back job and is a good receiver out of the backfield, so look for him to be one more weapon for Manning to have in his arsenal. While the Broncos will be their old selves on offense, it's their defense that could be the real key this season. After getting pushed all over the field by Seattle in the Super Bowl, the Broncos revamped that side of the ball, bringing in DeMarcus Ware at defensive end, cover corner Aqib Talib from New England and hard-hitting safety T.J. Ward from Cleveland. Look for them to make their mark early against Andrew Luck as Manning has the last laugh this time around. My pick, Denver 38, Indianapolis 20

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# Environmentalist Jackie Young tells Rotary about San Jacinto waste pits

HIGHLANDS – Jackie Young and her parents lived in Highlands for many years, from 2003 to 2011, until they determined that their health was at risk from toxins in their well water. Their house was previously owned by the Smitherman family, at the north end of Main Street.

As a result, Jackie is now working for TexansTogether, an activist group headquartered in Austin, dealing with

types of cancers and other diseases, she said.

Working with TexansTogether and the San Jacinto River Coalition, she wants to have the toxic wastes removed from the site permanently. She said this is one of six solutions now being studied by the federal EPA and the Corps of Engineers. A final decision is due in 2015.

Other actions EPA is considering:

1. No Action
2. Control & Monitoring
3. Cap with upgrade
4. Partial solidification in place.
5. Partial removal (25%)
6. Full removal. This would require 16 months, and cost \$100 to \$635 million to remove 208,000 cubic yards.

Although the Final Report from EPA and a decision on one of the six actions was to be announced in September of this year, EPA now has referred the matter to the Army Corps of Engineers for further study. This was due to additional concerns about how hurricanes and backwaters from floods would affect the site.

In 2011 EPA required the “responsible parties” to construct a temporary cap, made of a geomembrane covered with stones to be constructed over the site, to contain the wastes. However, it has already been disturbed by storms and needed repairs.

A study made by Professor Sam Brody of Texas A & M identified surge inundation zones that would be covered with waste in a hurricane such as Ike. The study was done for the Galveston Bay Foundation. It hypothesized that during such a storm, dioxins would be carried into homes in Highlands and Channelview.

Young noted that the County has posted signs advising Not to Fish or Eat the Fish in several local waterways near the waste pits. She said that children under 5 are especially vulnerable to the poisons.

She said that the public needs to be involved in the debate, and homeowners near the river should have their wells tested, especially after a storm. If done by a private lab, such as ALS Local, which she has used, the cost is less than \$1000 and may save lives.



Jackie Young of TexansTogether

public issues such as the environment, education, and voters’ rights.

Jackie told her story, and an update on activities around the Waste Pits in the San Jacinto River, to the Highlands Rotary Club at their luncheon on August 19th.

She told how her family, especially her father and herself, became sick with seizures and lesions. Even the pets were sick, she said. The family was forced to quit using well water, and import a fresh supply. When they did that, their health improved.

Her plight was recently told in a full page editorial cartoon by Houston Chronicle artist Nick Anderson, who has championed her story and cause.

Jackie went on to get an environmental geology degree from the University of Houston. Her focus since then has been on the toxic waste pits in the San Jacinto River, and their potential danger to the public’s health.

Although the waste pits may not have affected her well water (she says the source is “problematic”), she says the Highlands area has 4 Superfund sites nearby, and there is a high rate of illness in areas such as Highlands, Channelview, and Baytown.

It is known that the waste pits contain dioxin and furans, which can enter the body through breathing, absorption, and eating and drinking. The are known to cause various

## Photos of the San Jacinto Waste Pits presented by Jackie Young:



Paper mill waste being loaded into the pits in 1965.



Toxic waste oozing out of the ground in 2005.

## TWO DEATHS,

Continued from page 1

girlfriend, Kathrine Gingrich, 26, dead inside their apartment. The boyfriend then went to his aunt’s house, nearby, to tell his aunt; both returned to the scene and called 911.

During the investigation deputies found out Johnny Holcomb, 33, who also lives in the neighboring apartment, was a good friend of Ms. Gingrich. When investigators were looking for him, he was not answering the door. Looking through a window, deputies discovered Mr. Holcomb had also been shot.

Holcomb was a good friend of Ms. Gingrich for years, according to Mrs. Vilma Holcomb. And Ms. Gingrich had helped him to get the apartment after separating from his wife about a week ago. Mrs. Holcomb said they were trying to work things out.

The investigation is continuing.

## Green tours tank farm,

Continued from page 1



Congressman Green inspects the construction of a storage tank. The project is expected to have initial storage capacity for 700,000 barrels of crude oil.

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