

NORTH CHANNEL STAR

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

WOMAN CHARGED IN KILLING AFTER BODY FOUND IN CHANNELVIEW

HOUSTON - A woman has been charged with the killing of a woman whose body was found near a retention pond in Channelview last May.



Lindapone Phanprasa has been charged with capital murder.

The body of Sara Nelson was found around 8:47 a.m. on May 8, 2015 by two fishermen in the 15800 block of Wallisville Road, according to Harris County Sheriff's deputies.

After the body was found, the fishermen notified a security guard who then called authorities.

Investigators have not released details on Nelson's death but have confirmed that Phanprasa is being held without bond.

CONFERENCE TO EMPOWER EAST HARRIS COUNTY WOMEN & GIRLS, SEPT. 25 & 26

HOUSTON - 9/8/2015 - East Harris County Empowerment Council is proud to announce the 2015 MpowerMe! Women's & Girl Power Conference on September 25th & 26th at San Jacinto College located at 5800 Uvalde Rd, Houston, TX 77049.

The 2015 MPowerMe! Annual Women's Conference theme is "Moving Forward: The Next Chapter."

This two day, women & girl's experience includes: passionate presenters, mind-shifting exercises, breakfast and lunch, a networking hour, door prizes, and so much more. The outcome of the conference is to engage, enlighten and empower women and girls to lead their best lives yet! "It is our goal to provide practical tools, tips, attitudes and habits that will make a lasting impact on the lives of women and girls across our community."

This is truly the premiere women and girls event of the year," said Terence Narcisse, Executive Director of EHCEC.

"I am very excited to be afforded the opportunity to take part in the lives of women and girls. I truly believe they will excel if and when given the opportunity to do so," states Australia Edinborough, 2015 Conference Co Chair.

Registration is now open at www.mpowerme2015.eventbrite.com.

Vendor opportunities are available, for more information please call Bobby Durst at 832-721-8275.

NORTH CHANNEL CHAMBER LUNCHEON TALK:

Morman: Waste Pits must go; major expansion of Beltway 8

By GILBERT HOFFMAN
North Channel Star

Precinct 2 county commissioner Jack Morman was in good form last Friday, as he addressed a friendly crowd and brought them up to date on activities in East Harris County. Morman started by noting the death of Deputy Darren Goforth that week with a moment of silence.

Then he moved on to some lighter fare, chiding NC Star publisher Gil Hoffman for commenting on his "East Harris County" attire at a recent meeting with a lack of tie and



COMMISSIONER MORMAN poses after his talk, with Chamber board members and staff. L to R, Christie Gates, Shalonda Dawkins, Commissioner Morman, Kim Gonzalez, Adam Lund, and Margie Buentello.

suitcoat.

But Morman's talk contained some serious business, stating that despite the state's reluctance to remove toxic material stored in waste pits in the San Jacinto River, his opinion was that the pollution had to be completely removed, and he felt the county and his own position would support that. He said that the TDEC studies did not adequately account for catastrophic events such as Hurricanes and storm surges, that could dislodge pollutants and further endanger res-

See MORMAN, page 6

STATE SAYS "NO" TO MORE CANCER STUDIES

Residents along the San Jacinto River, in Channelview and Highlands, and who live near the Toxic Waste Pits, were disappointed this week to learn that the Texas Department of State Health Services had decided that they would not conduct an in-depth study of clusters of rare childhood cancers that have been documented near the polluted river.

A panel of health experts from the state has been studying the request since an earlier study released in June revealed pockets of "greater-than-expected" incidences of several cancers in the areas surrounding the river.

The panel included See CANCER STUDY, p. 6

HS football: one rout, one close

Falcons soar past South Houston in 56-15 rout



Channelview Falcons wide receiver Etterious Giles makes a leaping touchdown catch on a 20-yard pass from quarterback Jalen Hurts in their 56-15 win over South Houston. Giles was the leading receiver in a Falcon offense that piled up 599 yards. The Falcons host Vidor on Friday at 7 p.m. at Ray Maddry Memorial Stadium.

(Photo by Mark Kramer, Channelview ISD)

The Channelview Falcons' high-powered offense was true to form as they easily defeated South Houston 56-15 last Friday, Sept. 4 at Ray Maddry Memorial Stadium.

Channelview improved

its record to 2-0 on the season and will host Vidor at 7 p.m. on Friday.

The Falcons turned out 529 yards of total offense with a balanced run-

See FALCONS, page 8

Mustangs Fall short against Mavericks



North Shore QB Maciah Long breaks and evades numerous tackles en route to a potentially game winning touchdown. Final score, however, was 40-43 in favor of Manvel.

(Photo courtesy Jonathan Frey, Galena Park ISD)

By any standard, it was a good football game. In some high school football circles, it was the game of the week. The North Shore Mustangs, ranked number three in the area vs. the Manvel Mavericks, ranked number four. The Mustangs got off to a com-

manding start, forcing turnovers and a punt on the Mavericks first three possessions.

However, as both teams' offenses got into a rhythm, the defenses had their hands full stopping the potent passing attacks of the opponent. The Mustangs

led most of the game, but a fateful interception returned for a touchdown, putting the Mavericks ahead by seven.

The Mustangs had time on the clock and a Manvel defense that was growing

See MUSTANGS, page 8

SCHOOL HISTORY

Historical Scrapbook Donated to Woodland Acres Middle School

Galena Park ISD's Woodland Acres Middle School (WAMS) welcomed a group of historical visitors on Friday. Pat (Bowles) Cooper and her entourage, all students at Woodland Acres Junior High as it was known back in the 1940s when they attended, kept a scrapbook chronicling news articles and other goings on at the school and community. "There's just a lot of history here," Cooper said. "I can't think of a better place for the book than right here where it all started," she added. The book consists of numerous photos and news articles, including the first teachers and principal, various extracurricular groups such as football, band and track, and student photos.



Woodland Acres Middle School Principal Lee Ramirez (right) enthusiastically accepts a scrapbook of the school from the 1940's from Pat (Bowles) Cooper (left).

Lee Ramirez, principal of WAMS, was grateful for the historical document. "This is a treasure. We couldn't buy the history

that's in this scrapbook. That makes it priceless.

See HISTORICAL SCRAPBOOK, page 6

TRADITION BACK IN TOWN

Blue Bell Ice Cream fans come to Highlands



Michelle and Larissa Theriac came from Orange, Texas to purchase Blue Bell Ice Cream at the Foodtown in Highlands. Gallery Furniture and other stores also had special promotions. Photo courtesy of Raymond Gonzalez.

COMMUNITY NEWS



Bench project

David Mendez and Eddie Foster load Mendez's new bench made by Eddie Foster to go into Mendez's hunting grounds later this month. The pair intend to make more of the tailgate and bumper project.

Annual Jared Jamail Memorial Golf Tournament set for Oct. 10



The 17th Annual Jared Jamail Memorial Golf Classic will be held at the Newport Golf Club on October 10, 2015.

This year registration is at 7:00 a.m. Tee time is 8:00 a.m. Lunch & Awards to follow the tournament.

Jared's death was a sudden, devastating shock for his family and friends: they didn't want Jared's memory to be about his death, but about his life. The Jared Jamail Memorial Fund was established to celebrate his life by helping others. As a result, family and friends of Jared have been able to help others by providing scholarships to graduating Crosby High School students. Kelsey Fuchs, Amari Miller, Tristan Lyons, Victor Villafuerta, Matt Lalor and Ally Will-



iams received the Jared Jamail Scholarship last May.

The jaredjamail.com website has most information others may need.

Sponsorships 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, advertise-

ment in our program and our entry forms. Par \$300, includes 2 players fee, lunch, cart, 2 hole sponsorship, 2 caps, advertisement in our program and on our entry forms.

Prizes will be awarded for: 1st, 2nd & 3rd place teams, closest to the pin, and longest drive. Tournament fees will be Individual: \$75, 4 Person Team: \$260. Prices include green fee, lunch and cart. Credit Card accepted. Donations may be tax deductible: 501(C) 26-2878379

Please make checks payable to: JARED JAMAIL MEMORIAL FUND. Mail forms and checks to:

Pam Johnson, 1212 Foley Rd., Crosby, TX, 77532.

Call 281.328.3984 for information.

Student who protected deputy's back appears in Crosby



Captain Jasen Rabalais commends McKinley Zoellner for rendering back-up for Precinct 3 Constable Deputy Tommi Jones Kelley as she pumped gas in North Shore. The North Shore student had asked "Is it okay if I stand here while you pump gas?" The incident was after Darren Goforth was murdered on West Rd. on the other side of the county.



Both Zoellner and Deputy Kelley were interviewed inside The Crawfish Shack in Crosby at the prayer vigil held for fallen officers last Sunday, Sept. 6. Officer Kelley wrote on her Facebook page that "With all the terror going on nationwide, this reassured me there are still some pretty awesome individuals out there."

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SCHOOL NEWS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

SATURDAY NIGHTS

The Buckshot Jamboree

Enjoy Classic Country music every Saturday night from 7 pm - 10 pm with The Buckshot Jamboree at 7414 Hartman near Old Beaumont Highway. More info, call 281-458-0799 or 832-444-5000.

First Responders Appreciation Day

Saturday, September 12, Community First Responders Appreciation Day, 10:00AM - 2:00PM, Barrett-Lee Early Childhood Center, 911 Sheldon Rd, Channelview, 77530.

Rep. Hernandez Town Hall

Join State Representative Ana Hernandez on:

•Tuesday, September 15, 2015 from 6:45 pm - 8:30 pm at Neighborhood Centers, Inc. Ripley House, 4410 Navigation, Houston, TX. 77011.

Come get an update on new laws passed during the 84th Legislative Session.

For more information call 713-675-8596.

Preserving Hispanic Culture

Come learn about Mexican Culture through its music. Thursday, Sep. 17, 2015. 6 pm - 7:30 pm at Jacinto City Branch Library, 921 Akron, Jacinto City, TX. 77029. Refreshments will be served. For more information, please call 713-673-3237.

MONDAYS

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.

SEPTEMBER

Jacinto City Library

-Sep. 12, Sat., 12:30-2:30 pm, Children's Movie Theater.

-Sep. 15, Tue., 10:30-11:30 am, Power Point; 2 pm, Indoor exercise; 4:30 pm, Power Point Básico.

-Sep. 16, Wed., 12:30 pm, ESL Class; 3:30 pm, Aztec Masks.

-Sep. 17, Thur., 11 am, Word; 1 pm, Children's Story Time; 5 pm, Ebook devices.

Jacinto City Branch Library, 921 Akron, Jacinto City, TX. 77029. For more information on these and other programs at the library, please call 713-673-3237.

SEPTEMBER

Galena Park Library events

-Sep. 16, Wed., 10:15 am, Ratón y Teclado; 11 am, Children's Story Time; 1:30 pm, Mouse & Keyboard; 4 pm, Get Active.

-Sep. 17, Thur., 10 am, Baby Time; 3:30 pm, Family Movie Time.

Please call the library at 713-450-0982 for more details.

The library is located at 1500 Keene St. Galena Park, TX. 77547.

SEPTEMBER

North Channel Library events

-Sep. 12, Saturday, 11-12:30 pm, Ask a Lawyer.

-Sep. 14, Monday, 4:30 pm, Monday Movie Madness.

-Sep. 15, Tue., 10:30 am & 1:30 pm, For the Children/Para los Niños "Loving Limits".

-Sep. 16, Wed., 4:30 pm, Hispanic Heritage Celebration.

-Sep. 17, Thur., 10:30 am, Baby Time; 4:30 pm, Teens: Blanket Program.

Library is located at 15741 Wallisville Rd., Houston, TX. 77049. Call 281-457-1631 for more information.

Companies seeking industrial technology graduates for jobs across oil and gas industry

PASADENA, Texas – What is happening with oil and gas prices and employment on the upstream side of the industry means a very different situation for those working downstream. The industry may have made headlines in recent months but companies continue to experience a workforce shortage.

"Technicians and operators are in short supply today," said Dan Odle, commercial development director for Monument Chemical and Houston Chemical Association's Board of Directors vice president. "It's been this way for several years, and there doesn't appear to be any relief of this in the near future."

Shaquille Anderson of Liberty, Texas, is about to start his paid internship with Chevron Phillips, following his recent graduation from the San Jacinto College process technology program and several interviews and job offers from other refineries. He will work as a process technician intern for three months, shadowing operators on the job before his evaluation to become hired as an employee.

"What is happening on the upstream side doesn't really affect what I'll be doing," said Anderson. "There's a big demand for new people, like myself, to enter the workforce."

As oil prices decline, the petrochemical industry benefits from the low prices of raw materials. Odle also noted that expansions and projects that are under way will continue, and that means a greater need for a robust workforce. The East Harris County Manufacturers Association (EHCA) reports that industry has more than \$40 billion in projects in the works across the



Mike Magnotta, recruiting manager at Konecranes, visits students in the San Jacinto College industrial technology programs to discuss career opportunities with the company. More than half of Konecranes' business is with the petrochemical industry.

Photo by Jeannie Peng-Armaso, San Jacinto College.

region but is facing the reality of more than 50 percent of its current employee base approaching retirement over the next few years. In fact, just six months ago, Anderson's uncle retired from his job as a Chevron Phillips operator.

In looking for workforce recruits, representatives from Konecranes recently visited San Jacinto College to interview students training in the electrical, nondestructive testing, welding, and instrumentation programs. The company specializes in the repair of electric overhead cranes, which can require vast knowledge of a variety of craft trades.

More than half of the company's business is conducted within the petrochemical industry.

"We will look at a technician to see if there is a need at one of our locations for whichever program they graduated from, but they have to be willing to learn the rest of the craft for what is needed," said James Terry, Konecranes project manager and a San Jacinto College graduate and former adjunct professor. Technicians can start working for the company at the \$22-\$24 per hour range. "Any technicians who understand welding and electrical have an advantage. We're seeing more cranes automated or semiautomated, so someone with PLC (programmable logic controller) and electronics training could find a place for work with us as well."

Terry noted that during his 15 plus years with the company, he has never experienced any layoffs.

"Working on overhead cranes is not something people think of when thinking about a career," said White. "We're a supporting company to industries like petrochemical, automotive, manufacturing – wherever product is being moved. I need about 25 people working in the field, and I need 15 people immediately. People just don't know about these jobs."

vidual are limited to 25% of compensation minus one-half of self-employment taxes.) And you can fund your SEP IRA with many different types of investments. Plus, you can establish a SEP IRA for 2015 until April 15, 2016.

Defined benefit plan — Pension plans, also known as defined benefit plans, are still around — and you can set one up for yourself if you are self-employed or own your own business. This plan has high contribution limits, which are determined by an actuarial calculation, and as is the case with other retirement plans, your contributions are typically tax-deductible.

SIMPLE IRA — A SIMPLE IRA, as its name suggests, is easy to set up and maintain, and it can be a good plan if your business has fewer than 10 employees. Still, while a SIMPLE IRA may be advantageous for your employees, it's less generous to you, as far as allowable contributions, than an owner-only 401(k), a SEP IRA or a defined benefit plan. For 2015, your annual contributions are generally limited to \$12,500 or \$13,500 if you're 50 or older by the end of the year. You can also make a matching contribution of up to 3% of your compensation.

A SIMPLE IRA must be set up between Jan. 1 and Oct. 1 of any year, so if you're interested in this plan, you may have to wait until 2016 to get started. But if you'd like to set up any of the other retirement plans we've looked at, don't delay. The sooner you put your plan into place, the quicker it can start working for you to help you reach that day when you no longer have to work at all.

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Active military, first responders invited to special halftime ceremony

The Channelview Independent School District will honor the services of area veterans, active military and first responders in a special halftime ceremony during the Channelview vs. Vidor football game at 7 p.m., Friday Sept. 11 at Ray Maddy Memorial Stadium, 828

Sheldon Road.

All veterans, active members of the military and first responders will receive free admission into the game that evening.

If you have any questions, please call the district's Public Relations Office at 281-452-8080.

Youth Ambassadors from Taiwan to perform at North Shore Senior High School

The International Youth Ambassadors from the Republic of China (Taiwan) will perform on stage to demonstrate the authenticity, benevolence, and sophistication of their country, and present its natural environment and cultural heritage. This will allow international audiences to gain a better appreciation of the spirit conveyed by the theme of the delegation – "Youth from Taiwan, Compassion for All" – as well as the vitality of modern Taiwan.

The performance, entitled Energetic New Taiwan, is divided into 12 acts and focuses on six main aspects: natural environment, Lifestyle of Health and Sustainability, cultural heritage, cuisine, cultural creativity, and warmth.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China (Taiwan) has conducted the International Youth Ambassadors Exchange Program since

2009. This program allows talented Taiwanese youth to participate in international affairs and broaden their horizons while increasing understanding of their country's development among various sectors of the host countries. On the tour, the ambassadors will visit 41 cities in 35 countries where they will attend meetings and seminars and give performances that combine dance and music. With a spirit of professionalism and teamwork, they aim to introduce Taiwan to friends from around the world, convey the essence of this year's theme, and represent all that Taiwan has to offer.

Date: Tuesday, September 15, 2015

Time: 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Location: North Shore Senior High School Auditorium, 353 North Castle-grove, Houston, TX 77049.

Admission is FREE.

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OPINION PAGE

TEXAS
With Russell A. Graves

Lineage

Heavy spring rains did their number on the red clay backroads in Milam County. Driving the pickup down the rough road, we've straddled deep erosion gullies when we could but now we are as far as we can go. The road is impassable.

For the final half mile of the trek, me, my brother, and my eleven year old son make the final walk through the oak overstory and yaupon brush that flanks the road until we reach the Sand Point Cemetery.

The cemetery is remote but, considering the amount of rain that fell over Texas in the spring, is fairly tidy. We are here to connect with the past in order to understand from whence we came and, hopefully, gain some insight as to where we're headed. I open the gate and we wade through the rough grass and search for the gravesite of my great grandparents and my son's great, great grandparents.

This trip is the culmination of detective work set forth by my brother back in the spring. With the help of ancestry.com, he's been researching our paternal lineage. We both, of course, knew our grandfather before he died in 1993 but after that, we hadn't much of a clue. Therefore, Bubba sought answers.

Standing behind a makeshift chain link fence, we find the graves of John and Mary Graves - my grandfather's parents. We stand for a minute while I explain to my eleven year old that he is here because they (pointing at the graves) were here. I can tell by the look on his face that he sort of understands but the gravity of the moment escapes him. One day, he'll understand why this trip is important.

Being the last male of our line of Graves, he is the lone bearer of a name whose family's been a part of Texas since 1830.

While we stand there, Bubba tells me that John was born in 1866 and lived until 1935. His wife, Mary however, died a week shy of a year after our grandfather was born. Our cell signals are scant so we can't call our father or any of our aunts or our lone uncle to find out how their grandmother died. Unless they were told, they probably don't know either as she died long before any of them were born.

Before John, there was his father James. and HIS father James who came to Texas before there was a Texas - back around 1830. Thanks to Bubba, we found our lineage passing through Kentucky from Virginia - the point from which our ancestors first came to the continent during the pre-revolutionary times. From his research, we know we have direct descendants who fought in the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, and we think the battle for Texas Independence although we haven't been able to definitely prove that.

Before our people came to North America, the lived on the British Isle and our name started as De la Grevis but eventually morphed to Graves. In all, he traced our paternal lineage to the 1400's England.

It's humbling to think that one slip up in that entire, unbroken chain of human history, we don't exist. Bubba and I talk about it for a bit but don't burden Ryan with the complexity of the thought. He's just happy exploring the woods around the cemetery and being the next of a long line of Graves boys.



Abbott orders flags to half-staff to honor slain officer

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott ordered Texas flags across the state be lowered to half-staff in honor of slain Harris County Deputy Sheriff Darren Goforth on Sept. 4.

Abbott also asked that law enforcement officers turn on their patrol vehicles' red and blue flashing lights for one minute at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 4, the start time for Deputy Goforth's funeral.

Goforth, 47, reportedly was targeted for wearing a uniform. He was gunned down on Aug. 28 while refueling his vehicle at a convenience store in the Houston suburb of Cypress. Surveillance video helped law enforcement trace, capture and arrest a suspect, Shannon J. Miles, 30. Investigators retrieved a .40 caliber handgun at the suspect's residence. Ballistics testing matched the handgun to ammunition used in the shooting. The suspect has been charged with capital murder.

2 honored posthumously

Gov. Abbott in an Aug. 26 ceremony at the Governor's Mansion posthumously awarded the Texas Legislative Medal of Honor, the highest military decoration that can be awarded to a member of the state or federal military forces by the State of Texas, to two Texans: U.S. Navy Chief Petty Officer Chris Kyle and Lt. Col. William Edwin Dyess.

Kyle's medal was presented to his wife, Taya Kyle. Dyess's medal was presented to his sister, Elizabeth Denman.

Kyle, a U.S. Navy SEAL from 1999 to 2009, served four tours in Iraq and earned many prestigious medals for his service as an elite sniper. After returning to civilian life, Kyle wrote a best-selling book, American Sniper, recounting his service experience.

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By Ed Sterling



es. A fellow military veteran shot and killed Kyle and a friend, Chad Littlefield, at a shooting range in Erath County on Feb. 2, 2013. Kyle, 38, was buried with honors and ceremonies in the Texas State Cemetery in Austin on Feb. 12, 2013.

Dyess was a fighter pilot and later an infantry officer in the Pacific Theater of World War II. He was captured by Japanese forces in the Philippines in 1942 and survived the Bataan Death March. He and other prisoners escaped a penal colony on the island of Mindanao and aided by Filipino guerrillas boarded a U.S. submarine in mid-1943. He was returned to the states. He resumed flying and in December 1943 died attempting an emergency landing in a P-38 Lockheed Lightning fighter plane in California. He was 27. Dyess Air Force Base near Abilene is named in his honor.

DPS releases gang report

A Texas law requires an annual report bringing together information from multiple law enforcement and criminal justice agencies to be submitted to the governor and the state Legislature assessing the threat posed by statewide criminal gangs.

The Texas Department of Public Safety on Aug. 31 announced the release of its 2015 Texas Gang Threat Assessment, an overview of gang activity in this state.

DPS Director Steven McCraw said the document, 57 pages in length and posted online at txdps.state.tx.us, "delivers valuable information about the gangs operating in our state and is a proven tool in law enforcement's fight against these dangerous groups."

According to the report, current gang membership across the state may exceed 100,000 individuals.

"These organizations were involved in and profited from the recent influx of illegal aliens crossing the border in the Rio Grande Valley in 2014. Gang members involved in human trafficking, including commercial sex trafficking and compelling prostitution of adults and minors, exploit their victims through force, fraud or coercion, including recruiting and grooming them with false promises of affection, employment, or a better life," according to McCraw's news release.

Energy agency goes social

Texas Railroad Commission on Sept. 1 announced its launch of social media accounts "to increase transparency and more effectively communicate with the public and stakeholders about the activities and responsibilities" of the agency.

Those social media accounts include Twitter (@TxRCC) and Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.

Blue Bell returns to Capitol

Gov. Abbott on Aug. 31 announced the return of Blue Bell ice cream at the state Capitol, the day the popular, Brenham-based brand was made available in select markets after a multi-month shutdown. "On behalf of all Texans, I want to welcome Blue Bell back and wish them luck as they continue to ramp up production," Abbott said.

Blue Bell stopped operations in the spring, after four deaths in Kansas were attributed to listeria-contaminated ice cream.

OPINION

Eight ways to increase the value of Your Home

(NAPSI)—Making your home more attractive to prospective buyers can be easier and less expensive than many realize—if you heed these eight suggestions from the real estate listings experts at Trulia:

1. Look to your landscaping. Just a few hundred dollars on grass seed or replacement sod, new flowers, bushes or trees, a weekend and a little effort can improve a house's curb appeal.

2. Help your home clean up nicely. Give the exterior a thorough scrubdown, including screens, windows and gutters. Pressure wash the walks and driveway. Inside, steam clean the carpets, wash or wax laminate, hardwood or linoleum, and clean the grout on tile walls and floors.

3. Give the trim a treat. Paint just the trim and front door, two items that buyers' eyes are naturally drawn to when driving by your places.

4. Change the caulk around the plumbing fixtures. Over time, caulk, the silicone that protects surfaces from water seepage, can discolor, tear or degrade. Stripping this material out and replacing it with a fresh bead of silicone can improve both bathrooms and kitchens.

5. Be clever: declutter. A house full of furniture, clothing, collections, exercise equipment and memorabilia can look much smaller than its actual size. Have a garage sale, rent a storage unit, or start making trips to the landfill to whittle down your home's contents.

6. Fix the small things. Replace burnt-out lightbulbs, fix holes in doors or walls, grease squeaky cabinets or doors, fix leaks and change the air filters.

7. Update lighting fixtures. It's a bright idea that doesn't have to cost a fortune. Just change a few, especially if they look dated. See if the exterior garage lights, bathroom lights or bedroom lights in particular are good candidates for a change.

8. Refresh your kitchen and bath. Consumer Reports estimates you can increase your home's value by as much as 7 percent by renovating these rooms. Choose a neutral palette to increase the appeal to as many tastes as possible.

Learn More

For further facts and tips on selling your house, visit www.trulia.com.

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LIFESTYLE

★
OBITUARIES

Gail Ann (O'Brien) Franks

Gail Ann (O'Brien) Franks, 52, of Highlands, Texas passed Friday August 28, 2015 at San Jacinto Methodist Hospital. Wife of the late Bud Franks.

She is survived by three sons: David Rose, Douglas Frasier and Dwight Franks; brothers William O'Brien, Leo R. O'Brien, Michael O'Brien and Richard O'Brien and sisters Rosemarie O'Brien, Mary Louise O'Brien, Catherine Vanluven and Linda Hansen.

She is also survived by John Hagen-sick, and her kitties. She was the daughter of the late Louise (Newcomb) O'Brien. Gail and John were planning on getting married in October of this year.

Memorial Service for close friends and family will be at Second Baptist Church in Highlands on Saturday, September 12, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.



Highlands United Methodist prepares for Fish Fry and auction



Greeter Diane Walters, head cook Denny Roberts, and chairperson Bill O'Neal stand by the church sign announcing the Fish Fry, to be on Sat. Sept 12 from 11 am to 2 pm. Highlands UMC is located at 107 W. Houston in Highlands. For more info, call 281-426-3614.

Plans are being completed for Highlands United Methodist's 25th Annual Fish Fry and Auction, to be held on Saturday, Sept 12. The public is invited to come and enjoy the catfish dinner for \$10 a plate, the desserts at the Sweet Shop, and bid on the unique items in the Silent Auction and Live Auction. Chairperson Bill O'Neal, head cook Denny Roberts, head kitchen

Shirley Barnes, head auctions Linda Sonnier and Thresa Hester, head Sweet Shop Sarah Stanley, head take-out Sandra Wingate, and many others are getting ready for the crowds. Food will be served from 11am to 2pm, with eat-in or drive-thru available. The live auction will be at 12:30pm. The church is located at 107 W.

Houston in Highlands, Tx. Also this year, on "Corporate Friday" Sept. 11, the cooks and kitchen crew will be delivering meals for orders of 10 meals or more, to local businesses in the Highlands or Baytown area. To order meals for Corporate Friday, you must call the church office before Friday, Sept 11 at 281-426-3614.



GOOSE CREEK CISD
Staff recognized with awards

Goose Creek CISD employees (from left) Brigitte Clark, director of finance; Margie Grimes, chief financial officer; and LeAna Dixon (right), controller, receive the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the district as well as the Award of Financial Reporting Achievement, presented to the Business Services Department, both from the Government Finance Officers Association. Also pictured is Albert Garcia from Start, Garcia and Stanley, independent auditors for Goose Creek CISD.

★
LITTLE
BIDDY BITS
By Danny Biddy

Uh Oh!

It seems one of the first phrases a child learns is, "Uh, oh." My youngest granddaughter is no different. My wife was holding her while

she was playing with a small toy. Alexa was about 10 months old at the time. She would drop the toy and say, "Uh, oh" over and over. Of course, it's not an "Uh, oh" if it's done on purpose.

Is there an "Uh, oh" in your life that has become an "Oh, no?" Do phrases like "I didn't mean to," "It was just an accident," etc., find

their way into your vocabulary all too often? "Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxious thoughts; and see if there be any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the everlasting way." (Psalms 139:23-24)

Danny R. Biddy,
Pastor of the Church on Old River since 1977.
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Sunday, October 4, 2015 at the Crosby
Fairgrounds.

Barbecue & Sausage dinners will be
served beginning at 11:00 am, as well
as Kolaches & other homemade
pastries.

Entertainment includes Czech music &
dance performance by local talent.

Giant Auction featuring Handmade
Quilts & much more beginning at 1:00
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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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A Public Service Message by Harris County
Constable Chris Diaz & International Community Builders

ASK DIAMOND JIM

 Diamond Jim...
“What is the birthstone for September?”

Sapphire
Sapphire, the September birthstone, has been popular since the Middle Ages and, according to folklore, will protect your loved ones from envy and harm. Medieval clergy wore sapphires to symbolize heaven, while commoners thought the gem attracted heavenly blessings. Blue sapphires range from very light to very dark greenish or violetish blue, as well as various shades of pure blue. The most prized colors are a medium to medium dark blue or slightly violetish blue. Sapphire is a variety of the gem species corundum and occurs in all colors of the rain-



bow. Pink, purple, green, orange, or yellow corundum are known by their color (pink sapphire, green sapphire). Ruby is the red variety of corundum. If you have questions pertaining to jewelry, watches, diamonds, precious stones, precious metals, and other questions related to the jewelry industry, email jmills@pineforestjewelry.com.
Diamond Jim is a diamond dealer and precious metals broker of NTR Metals. See more at: www.pineforestjewelry.com.

MUSTANGS,

Continued from page 1

more fatigued with each play. QB Maciah Long, who ended the night with three passing and two rushing touchdowns, led the offense down the field quickly and into scoring position. On a passing play, with all receivers covered and pressure coming, Long broke away from tackles and powered into the end zone. Instead of tying the game and going to overtime, Coach Kay, in his second year as the Mustang's head coach, opted to go for two against the weary defense. It was certainly a gutsy call, yet most would not argue against it. However, as the play unfolded and pressure was building on Long, he threw an interception that was returned the distance for a score, adding two more points for the Mavs and giving them a three point lead... and the ball. Seeing victory in hand, the Mavericks ran out the clock and won the game 40-43. As bitter as the loss was, there was no time to lament. In a short week, the Mustangs take on the Spring Westfield Mustangs at home on Thursday night.

National FATHERS take your children to school DAY

September 15, 2015

Dads are Important! Why? Research shows father involvement in schools is associated with improvements by students in academics, behavior, and social skills.

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- Receive more A's
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- Continue their education

All Galena Park ISD campuses invite dads to bring their children to school!



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FALCONS,

Continued from page 1

ning and passing attack. Quarterback Jalen Hurts threw for 236 yards and two touchdowns and also ran for two scores. Andrew Baker was Channelview's leading rusher with 90 yards and a touchdown, while Demontre Tuggle, Cristian Ramirez, Ashton Turner and Hurts helped account for the Falcons' 247 yards on the ground. Etterious Giles was the Falcons' leading receiver with seven catches for 93 yards and a touchdown. Anthony Means snagged two touchdown catches on the night and Bishop Ozan caught a touchdown pass. Overall, the passing game was spread out among seven different receivers on the night.



Channelview running back Demontre Tuggle breaks loose for a 20-yard run during the first half of the Falcons' game against South Houston on Sept. 4.
(Photo by Mark Kramer, Channelview ISD)

HISTORICAL SCRAPBOOK,

Continued from page 1

This will be proudly displayed for all to see, so our Hornets can learn what made this school what it is today," said Ramirez. Through the years, to account for growth, safety and various repairs, the building has gone through a number of upgrades and additions; however, upon receiving a tour by Ramirez, Cooper said, "Glad to know the old building is still here... if the walls could talk." Well, the walls can't talk, but fortunately for the Hornets, they now have a book saying plenty about the rich history of their school.

Re-Elect Judge Don Coffey

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

6th Annual Golf Tournament & Catfish / Shrimp Fry
October 5, 2015 - Evergreen Point Golf Course / Bridge Water Events

Golf Tournament


Evergreen Point Golf Course
1530 Evergreen Road
Baytown, TX 77523

11:30 am Registration
12:30 pm Shotgun Start

Catfish / Shrimp Fry & Auction


Bridge Water Events
2651 S. Hwy 146
Baytown, TX 77520

4:30 pm - 6:30pm
catered by Catfish on Wheels

Individual Entry \$125**Team Entry \$500****Hole Sponsorships \$100**
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Tournament limited to the first 36 teams.

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Catfish / Shrimp Fry

Tickets are available in advance by using the order form. Tickets ordered after September 25th will be held in your name at the door.

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