

NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

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

Channelview ISD to host holiday Open House

The Channelview Independent School District will host its annual Christmas Open House and Wassail from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 14 at the Joyce Hendrix Educational Support Center, 828 Sheldon Road. The public is invited to this holiday event.

Musical entertainment will be provided during the day by elementary, junior high and high school students. Santa and Mrs. Claus will also be in attendance at the event.

Galena Park ISD Chosen to Participate in Feeding Hungry Minds Breakfast Initiative

Galena Park ISD was recently selected as the only Texas school district to participate in the AASA, The School Superintendent Association, latest school breakfast initiative, Feeding Hungry Minds: Superintendent Leadership for Alternative School Breakfast Programs. This program will reach more than 90,000 students in eight school districts around the country. The Walmart Foundation has donated more \$1 million to support this initiative.

Through the Feeding Hungry Minds initiative, GPISD students will enjoy free breakfast all year using an alternative model—either breaking in the classroom or a grab-and-go model using kiosks or vending machines in the hallway, so that more children have the opportunity to eat.

Galena Park hosts 2nd annual Christmas Parade



Children, parents and teachers of Communities In Schools at the 2nd Annual Galena Park Christmas Parade.

By Allan Jamail

Galena Park, TX. – Saturday, December 9, 2017 - Galena Park Mayor Esmeralda Moya partnered

with the Committee for a Better Galena Park to give the community its 2nd annual Christmas Parade.

The parade led by a police car with sirens blaring began on Clinton Drive as

it worked its way through the heart of the city on Main Street. The parade ended at the city's basketball pavilion in the park, food and refreshments were available along with

arts and crafts vendors.

The city's float, "CANDY LAND" was decorated with gingerbread men, peppermint candy canes and lollipops. The American Legion Post 499 had a float

with patriotic flags of the Armed Forces. Judging the floats was Dorothea Harding, John Huff and Gina Gheller.

See Christmas Parade, page 8

Rep. Ana Hernandez Holiday Open House



PHOTO BY ALLAN JAMAIL

"Open house guests with House District 143 State Representative Ana Hernandez"

By Allan Jamail

Thursday, December 7, 2017 - Jacinto City, TX. – Each holiday season State Representative Ana Hernandez of House District 143 invites her constituents to an open house at the district office. The joy-

ous and cheerful event provides festive food and refreshments for her guests.

Hernandez also uses this opportunity to visit and to learn of any issues or concerns anyone may have in which she can be of help. Each month Hernandez and her staff visits

civic and neighborhood clubs keeping members informed on important issues and to provide help with issues they may have.

Representative Hernandez said, "I've always believed that the best policy is an open door policy. Each year, we take the holiday

season as an opportunity to welcome the community to the district office and remind them that it is their office. If ever someone finds themselves in need of assistance with a state agency, has an idea they'd like to share on a possible new law, or would

simply like to order a state flag, please come by!"

The 143rd State District covers part of Houston, Channelview and the cities of Galena Park and Jacinto City. The district office is located at 1233 Mercury Drive in Jacinto City.

Tigers feast on Mustangs

By Allan Jamail

Saturday, December 9, 2017 at NRG Stadium the Katy Tigers seemed very hungry to deliver a 31-3 pay-back to the Northshore Mustangs for having knocked the Tigers out of last year's 20-17 thriller in the regional final showdown.

Capturing the Class 6A Division I Region III crown undefeated 12-0 Katy will move ahead to the State Semifinals against Austin's Lake Travis in San Antonio December 14th, the winner playing for the state championship. This will be Katy's sixteenth semifinal appearance since 1994 with 6 state championships.

Northshore's lone score came off of sophomore kicker John Villalobos's 27 yard field goal in the second quarter. As the half came to a close Katy led 17-3.



PHOTO BY ALLAN JAMAIL

Mustang's Demetrius Davis' pass to Shadrach Banks knocked down in Katy's end zone.

Katy's offense led by senior quarterback Austin Marshall and junior running back Deondrick Glass proved too much for the Mustangs. Marshall passed for two touchdowns and Glass rushed for two touchdowns. Marshall had his first interception of the season by Northshore's junior defensive lineman Jordan Revels on a tipped pass.

Glass 5 foot 11 inches, 200 pounds one of the state's premier running backs is heavily recruited by 18 of the Nation's top colleges including Alabama, Florida Texas and Texas A & M.

Northshore had 9 first downs, 46 rushing yards and 159 passing yards, 2

See Mustangs Lost, page 6

North Channel awakens to snow

By Allan Jamail

Thursday, December 7, 2017 if you were up late you may have been one of the thousands of Houstonians seeing the first bits of snowflakes falling.

I was one of those up late because my wife Linda was baking cookies and Baklava (a Lebanese pastry) for the holiday party the next day. It was a little before midnight when I glanced at the security camera monitor and saw the first snowflakes fall.

As dawn came the snow continued to fall at my Jacinto City home. At 73 I'm not ashamed to say I still get excited to see this rarity in Harris County. Measuring the depth on my car hood I was surprised to see 2 inches of snow fell since midnight.

As parents awakened their kids for school I saw them coming outside to play in the snow before leaving for school. Since the last snow fall was eight years ago many of those kids

See Snow Day, page 8

Jacinto City's snow covered entrance



Dear Santa,
I have been trying to have a great year But it's a little hard. I have no brothers or sisters so im a little lonely. I wish I had a Dog or pet and Santa that's all I really want for Christmas.
Kinsey, 8

Dear Santa,
I have been very good this year. This year I want a ps4. Lots and Lots of Legos, world peace, and 100 Dollars. Thank you for all you have done and tell my eld named sart I told him hi. Love always, bye bye.
Carson Hendry, 8

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year I want a pupey, zipline, Astros hat, dirtbike and Some toys for other kids that have been good this year.
Coy Paine, 8

Dear Santa,
I've been good this year. What I want for Christmas is my mom Back from the hospital.
Tyley, 9

Dear Santa,
I have ben good this year. I want a Nintendo switch, the game arms, 3DS and Battle ships. And Merry Christmas to you.
Hyrum Jerrold
Leiser, 9

Dear Santa,
I've tried my hardest to be good and if I'm on the nice list I would like pretty much anything eevee, a ninetindo 3ds pokemon game and anything you think I would like.
Alexis McCloud, 9

Dear Santa,
I've been very kind to others so I would get a trampolin, a play station. The last two things are games for the playstation four and new cowboy hat. Last but not least a new basketball goal.
Parker
Chapman, 8

Dear Santa,
I've been good and bad but I want a nintendi switch with the charger for Christmas.
Kevin, 9

Dear Santa,
All I want for Christmas is for god to bless my family and puppy.
Jaclyn Verdin, 8

Dear Santa,
I have been a little nauty, and a little nice but all I want for Christ-mas is For people to be happy and I want only one thing for Christmas and that's a computer so I can study lots of things.
Ruth Scott, 8

Dear Santa,
This year I have ben very good. This year so I was hoping that I Could have A toy train that realy moves and to be able to see my mom on Christmas.
Lylah Ann, 9

Dear Santa,
I have been very good this year. This is what I want for Christmas. I want a nintendo switch please. I think I deserve it because I have done very good during thunder storms.
Ethan Lucas, 8

Dear Santa,
I have worked hard this year this is what I want for Christmas. Tap shoes, Kids electronic watch, Pink heverbord and anything else you would like me to have.
Hailey Parker, 8

Dear Santa,
I know I haven't Been That good This year. and I probably won't end up on the nice List. So I wanted To say sorry. and Maby you could put me on the Nice List. So thnak you and P.S. I want a art board please.
Mackenzie F., 8

Dear Santa,
I have been the best I could ever be. What I want for Christmas is a phone, a LOL doll for Evelyn and a bat for Patyn. I want those things because they will make us all happy.
Lily Calder, 8

SEASON'S GREETINGS

HOLIDAY GREETINGS!

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Joe Stephens and family

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from Congressman Gene Green & Family



Alex, Angela, Lauren, Braden, Gene, Helen,
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Wishing our education
partners, district staff,
students and community
members a
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Education Foundation

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and a
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for making Christmas brighter for our students through their contribution
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for the
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SCHOOL NEWS

Learning takes on some interesting notes in Crenshaw's Piano Lab



Crenshaw Elementary music teacher Rosalyn Carter leads students in learning musical composition in the school's Piano Lab. The program was made possible through an Innovative Teaching Grant provided by the Channelview ISD Education Foundation.

By Mark Kramer
CISD Public Relations

The students of today are working their way toward being the great musicians of tomorrow with the skills they are learning in the Piano Lab at Crenshaw Elementary School.

Throughout the year, music teacher Rosalyn Carter transforms her classroom into a space filled with eight digital piano keyboards and technology programs where learning music composition is literally at the students' fingertips. Carter received an Innovative Teaching Grant from the Channelview ISD Education Foundation that helped the Piano Lab to become a reality. The funding provided for all of the musical equipment, along with desktop computers and software for composing and support programs.

"I wanted to develop an activity for students to understand how music works as a whole," Carter said. "Learning basic piano and composing allows students to create a composition of their own, therefore having to put all musical knowledge and skills into place. Through this experience, students are receiving a good foundation and preparation for musical experiences in middle school and high school."

Carter guides third, fourth and fifth grade students in learning introductory piano skills through the use of technology and instrumental instruction. Each piano keyboard in the classroom has two individual earphones and pedals. The lab has 16 piano benches so that two students are placed per keyboard, where they have the capability to share and hear their partner play along with them through a dual headphone connection.

The introductory phase of the Piano Lab teaches students to read music and place their fingers on the keyboard with correct finger positions to beginner piano songs such as "Hot Cross Buns" and "Jolly Old St. Nicholas." As the students improve in their skills, they advance to more challenging songs and progress from playing with one hand to reading notes and playing songs with two hands.

"Because this is a group piano class, students must learn to play to a steady beat, work together, listen

and play together," Carter said. "Students are constantly working on skill and song progression. As they are able to perform three songs independently and improve their piano skills, they will move toward advanced levels of music compositions."

Carter also said learning piano skills can help students in academics. For example, many of the music compositions have words that students sing along while playing the notes, which helps strengthen reading skills. In addition, students put their math skills to work as they count beats between rhythms as they play pieces of music.

"Students must use their higher-level thinking skills to compose, improvise, and problem solve," she said. "They use their left brain for understanding concepts and logical thinking and use their right brain for creativity. It takes a lot of concentration and focus."

Carter believes that learning to play music has built confidence and determination in her students. "I have seen students struggle from frustration while learning a new piece, to excitement when they are successful upon playing the piece by themselves," she said.

Channelview ISD Education Foundation President B. R. Hendrix said, "The incorporation of new technology will continue to enhance the classroom experience for these students. The Foundation is very honored to be able to provide funding that expands student development."

"I will continue to add supplemental apps and programs for students that use the computer and tablets," Carter said. "There are many apps and games that students can use to help them such as Piano Maestro and Piano Buster that are fun and similar to playing games, only using a piano keyboard that streams the notes."

Carter added that in the near future, students will also be able to use Quaver Music's Q-Composer program to formally write songs and eventually add technology where students can play, record songs and burn them onto a compact disc. "The key is to help the students to become successful and creative musicians," she said.

Channelview displays strong show of support at Walk for Autism event



More than 150 Channelview ISD employees, students and other district supporters participated on Team CISD as part of the Walk for Autism Speaks event at the University of Houston's Lynn Eusan Park recently. The annual event focuses on raising awareness of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Channelview ISD educators, students and support staff put on their walking shoes for a good cause as they participated in the Walk for Autism Speaks event on Dec. 3 at the University of Houston's Lynn Eusan Park. More than 150 Channelview High School students, members of the Falcon baseball team, the Chan-
nelettes dance team, the

Math Club, ROTC and Student Council joined with district teachers and para-professionals in walking the 5K course. The CISD Special Services Team donated \$1,000 to promote continued research and provide resources to children with Autism and their parents.

Local industrial company Stronghold, Ltd. also supported the Channel-

view ISD team and donated visors and a banner to the group.

This is the third year Channelview educators and students have supported this event. CISD Coordinator of Special Services Nan Meharg said the level of involvement has increased every year.

"The support from the students and staff is amaz-

ing," Meharg said. "Their involvement plays a vital role in increasing awareness of Autism and advocating for individuals and families.

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

North Shore Senior High Wind Ensemble Host Preview Concerts for Community



The members and directors of the North Shore Senior High School Wind Ensemble would like to invite all of the GPISD community members to their Midwest Preview Concerts this Friday and Saturday! All concerts will be free! On Friday, December 15, the Wind Ensemble will perform at Spring High School Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. with guest conductor, Ben Gollehon. On Sunday, December 17, the Wind Ensemble will perform at the North Shore Senior High Auditorium at 3 p.m. with guest conductors, Ferd Vollmar and Ben Gollehon. Next week, the NSSHS Wind Ensemble will be traveling to Chicago to perform at the Midwest Clinic on December 22.

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OPINION PAGE

Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus

By FRANCIS P. CHURCH,
First published in The New York Sun in 1897

We take pleasure in answering thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

Dear Editor—
I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in The Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?
Virginia O'Hanlon

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Francis P. Church's editorial, "Yes Virginia, There is a Santa Claus" was an immediate sensation, and went on to become one of the most famous editorials ever written. It first appeared in the The New York Sun in 1897, almost a hundred years ago, and was reprinted annually until 1949 when the paper went out of business.

Virginia O'Hanlon went on to graduate from Hunter College with a Bachelor of Arts degree at age 21. The following year she received her Master's from Columbia, and in 1912 she began teaching in the New York City school system, later becoming a principal. After 47 years, she retired as an educator. Throughout her life she received a steady stream of mail about her Santa Claus letter, and to each reply she attached an attractive printed copy of the Church editorial. Virginia O'Hanlon Douglas died on May 13, 1971, at the age of 81, in a nursing home in Valatie, N.Y.



Abbott picks TCEQ to manage Clean Air settlement funds

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott on Dec. 4 announced his selection of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality as the lead agency for Texas' participation in the Environmental Mitigation Trust.

The trust was established in 2016 and early 2017 by the settlement of certain federal Clean Air Act claims against Volkswagen, Audi and Porsche related to the car companies' use of "defeat devices" to pass emission standard tests. As a participating state, Texas must develop a draft mitigation plan outlining how it would spend its \$209 million share of the settlement funds in efforts to reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides.

"Our agency looks forward to developing a plan to efficiently administer these funds to help address issues associated with the emission of nitrogen oxides, which leads to ozone formation," said TCEQ Commissioner Jon Niermann. "We look forward to working with all stakeholders to develop a plan that effectively mitigates the emissions from vehicles that did not meet the emission standards."

Comments on the use of the settlement funds may be submitted by email to VWsettle@tceq.texas.gov.

Hurricane help is offered

Many citizens who live in "Presidentially Declared Major Disaster Areas" — like the nearly 50,000 square miles of Texas hit by Hurricane Harvey — have home loans insured by the Federal Housing Administration.

And of them, those who are having trouble making mortgage payments were encouraged, in a Dec. 4 announcement by Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Ben Carson and Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush, to contact their service

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By Ed Sterling

providers to learn about available resources or call the FHA Resource Center at (800) CALL-FHA.

"While we rebuild, many Texas homeowners are facing a second struggle of returning to work and making mortgage payments. To help these Texans, the General Land Office is proud to team with our disaster recovery partners at HUD to help those who need help avoiding foreclosure or assistance in financing repairs to damaged homes," Bush said.

The Federal Housing Administration, an agency within the Department of Housing and Urban Development, insures more than one quarter of home loans in Texas.

Report cards are posted

State Education Commissioner Mike Morath on Dec. 7 announced Texas' 2016–2017 School Report Cards are available on the Texas Education Agency website, at <http://tea.texas.gov/perfreport/src/index.html>.

The purpose of the report cards is to inform parents and guardians about a school's characteristics and achievements, combining parts of other recently released accountability reports to provide campus-level information detailing student and campus performance.

The School Report Card includes the following information for each campus in Texas:

- 2017 state academic accountability rating;
- Campus distinction designations;
- Attendance rates;

- Enrollment figures;
- Dropout rates;
- Class size averages;
- State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness results;
- ACT/

SAT results; and

- Per-student financial expenditures.

These campus reports, required by the Texas Legislature and prepared by the Texas Education Agency, will be sent to the parent or guardian of every child enrolled in a Texas public school by local school districts.

State revenue total is up

State Comptroller Glenn Hegar on Dec. 4 said state sales tax revenue totaled \$2.78 billion in November, 11.1 percent more than in November 2016.

"The double-digit growth in sales tax revenue compared to last year was fueled, in part, by increased collections from oil- and natural gas-related sectors. Recent higher oil prices have spurred increased well drilling and completion. Collections from retail trade and restaurants were also up, reflecting growth in consumer spending," Hegar said.

Total sales tax revenue for the three months ending in November 2017 was up 9.5 percent compared to the same period a year ago. Sales tax revenue is the largest source of state funding for the state budget, accounting for 58 percent of all tax collections. Motor vehicle sales and rental taxes, motor fuel taxes and oil and natural gas production taxes also are large revenue sources for the state.

Hegar distributes revenue

Comptroller Hegar on Dec. 6 announced he would send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts \$695.2 million in local sales tax allocations for December, an amount 10.8 percent more than in December 2016. Allocations were based on sales made in October by businesses that report tax monthly, according to the Office of the Comptroller.

How to eat, drink and Be Merry (Responsibly)

(NAPSI)—The holiday season is a time for celebration, renewals of faith, and setting goals for the year ahead. During family and social gatherings, champagne corks may be popped and wine passed as family and friends gather. While holiday parties invoke the spirit of the season, unhealthy alcohol use—drinking over the recommended limit of three drinks for women and four drinks for men per day—can lead to dangerous consequences for yourself and those around you.

Many of us like to celebrate during the holidays. But the truth is, more people are likely to drink beyond their limits during this season than at other times of the year. Consequences of unhealthy drinking can range from the harmless (but potentially embarrassing) to the destructive, including driving while intoxicated and risky sexual behaviors.

Despite the potential dangers, drinking during the holidays can be done responsibly. Here are six steps you can take to prevent and reduce the risks associated with overindulgence of holiday drinking:

1. Abstain. You don't need alcohol to be the life of the party. Bring a fun, nonalcoholic beverage of your choice to celebrations where you know there will be alcohol so you don't deviate from your plan.
 2. Pace yourself. Know what constitutes a standard drink and have no more than one per hour.
 3. Have "drink spacers." Make every other drink a nonalcoholic one. Water is a great choice.
 4. Do not make alcohol the central focus of the gathering or party. In place, engage in other healthier food, drink and entertainment activities.
 5. Make plans to get home safely. Remember that a designated driver is someone who hasn't had any alcohol, not simply the person in your group who drank the least.
 6. Make the holiday season a time for wellness. Help alleviate the stress that holidays can bring by focusing on self-care. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Eight Dimensions of Wellness can help you identify healthy habits and avoid alcohol misuse during the holiday season: www.samhsa.gov/wellness-initiative/eight-dimensions-wellness.
- It may surprise you, but during the holidays, those who do not normally drink alcohol need to be as cautious as people who drink more often. Low tolerance and unfamiliarity with alcoholic drinks are two chief contributors to drinking too much, too quickly. Occasional and heavy drinkers also need to be on alert since they may feel their increased drinking levels are appropriate and normal, because their peers, who drink infrequently, have increased their level of drinking.

Holidays are a great time to let loose—just remember not to lose track of what and how much alcohol you are drinking. Stay mindful by drinking responsibly and safely. If you have a drinking problem, are concerned with your alcohol use or suspect a loved one needs help, you can find treatment securely and anonymously by using the Behavioral Health Treatment Services Locator at <https://findtreatment.samhsa.gov> by calling the National Helpline: 1-800-662-HELP (4357).



Have A Very Merry!

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John 7:38

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Psalm: 46:1

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ROMANS 8:18

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Acts 2:4

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Be alert. Continue strong in the faith. Have courage and be strong.

1 Corinthians 16:13

Rise in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God.

Leviticus 19:32

ASK THE EXPERT

ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim... "How often should I have my jewelry inspected?"



Jewelry Inspection
When you wear a piece of jewelry nearly every day, it's a good idea to get it inspected, cleaned and (when needed) repaired as soon as possible. Damaged jewelry will become even more damaged by neglecting it, even for a short time. Worn bracelet links, ring tips and prongs, or other elements of your jewelry require maintenance to keep your jewelry looking great and lasting a lifetime. When you do have a piece of jewelry that needs the attention of a professional jewelry repair specialist, be sure to collect any loose pieces you can, as the jeweler may be able to use them in the repair.

What can jewelers fix? Just about anything...the most common repairs include:

- Ring sizing
- Ring prong re-tipping or replacement
- Ring head/setting replacement
- Ring setting/stone tightening
- Chain repair
- Clasp replacement
- Stone replacement
- Polishing and cleaning
- Pearl restringing

Costs
The cost of a repair depends on several factors. First, costs may be offset if your jewelry is under warranty. Otherwise, cost is affected by factors such as the level of difficulty of the repair, the cost of the parts (for example, a new gemstone versus a new

clasp), and how quickly you need the repair made.

Preventive jewelry care
Jewelry you wear regularly, especially rings, can benefit from a cleaning and inspection twice a year (every 6 months or so) to help prevent damage that occurs over time from normal wear and tear. In addition to cleaning and polishing, a jeweler can check on the overall condition of your jewelry to make sure stones are not coming loose or clasps are not bent.

Finding a jeweler
Not all jewelry repairs are of the same quality and some repairs are more difficult than others, so it's important to go to a jeweler you trust with many years of experience. Having your jewelry inspected at Pineforest Jewelry is always free! If your jewelry is under warranty, you'll may want to go back to the jeweler you purchased from. If not under warranty, Pineforest Jewelry is a great option in the greater Houston area.
Diamond Jim is a diamond dealer and precious metals broker of NTR Metals. See more at: www.pineforestjewelry.com.
If you have questions pertaining to jewelry, watches, diamonds, precious stones, precious metals, and other questions related to the jewelry industry, emailmills@pineforestjewelry.com.



"Oh my Santa!"



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713.451.1321

Dear Santa,
What I want for crespies is I want a Grase American Doll and I also want the shopkins do not set one the shopkins shopping mall and I want the Donuttena shoppy Don that I want for Cresmies.
Hailey Wilson, 8

Dear Santa,
I want a Xbox one, one wit U, a Samsung galaxy s8, and a r.a.c car so I can play and my family together to not fite or argue, and self dord, and car that I can get on and drive it that is it have a good day.
Hancel J. Corrales, 8

Dear Santa,
I want the toy of rudaf the red nous reindir, let is pet shop, lala pulses, Miny macus, Miche maus, Jrafe, book, penguens and dats all.
Alina Lopez, 8

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want neils and I tablet and bord games And I want a little kichen to play And expo markers for Mrs. Torres.
Sinsirly, Jaqueline Hernandez, 8

Dear Santa,
I don't want my presents because my mom and sister alredy game me my presents For Christmas because they already give me my presents.
Jacob Figueroa, 8

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a tablet. I also want for Christmas that all my family to be together for this Christmas.
Stephanie Garamillo, 8

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a drone, race cars, ipad to hear songs, board games, money, chapter book.
Angel Gonzalez, 8

Dear Santa,
I want some pencils for my classroom and students and some earsers and paper and sharpeners pleased Santa we need that for my classroom pleased.
Julissa Sanchez, 8

Mustangs Lost,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

fumbles lost and 1 interception while Katy had 12 first downs, 158 rushing yards and 92 passing yards and 1 interception.

The Mustang's a young team with freshman De-matrius Davis a promising quarterback, junior run-

ning back Katreyvion Smith, sophomore tailback Zach Evans and a squad full of young talent if kept healthy could reach the playoffs again next year. Should there be a rematch the Mustangs will have a year to try to come up with

a way to stop Deondrick Glass.


Coach Jon Kay was glad to have his young team go deep into the playoffs because of the extra practice that goes with it; he plans to take advantage of the extra practice to make the team better.



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NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

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Posting Date December 11, 2017

Puzzles4Kids

by Helene Hovanec

RIDDLE SEARCH – MAKE YOUR OWN SANDWICH!

Look up, down, and diagonally, both forward and backward to find every word on the list. Circle each one as you find it. When all the words are circled, take the UNUSED letters and write them on the lines below. Go from left to right and top to bottom to find the answer to this riddle: What is Santa's favorite sandwich?

BRISKET CATFISH CHEESE CRAB EMU LETTUCE LOBSTER LOK PASTRAMI PESTO PIMENTO SAUCE SHRIMP TAPIO TOFU TOMATO TUNA ZUCCHINI

H S I F T A C X O L O P E T O M A T O P P R E C F N S B A I A N A U E S T B M S B U T P T T U T E T E A R E A T M S N R N B R I S K E T T A S A U C E E D L O M J O L S H R I M P I N I H C C U Z L Y

Riddle answer: _____

Even Exchange

by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

1. Viennese dance _____ Z _____ Disney and Whitman _____ S
2. Splinter _____ L _____ Shake from the cold _____ H _____
3. Trailblazer _____ A _____ Banker _____ N _____
4. Courtroom boss J _____ Poke with the elbow N _____
5. Customer _____ N _____ Police guard _____ L
6. Robbery _____ E _____ Raise _____ O _____
7. Harriet Beecher _____ W _____ Cooking appliance _____ V _____
8. Speak unclearly M _____ Drop the football F _____
9. Fern leaf _____ D _____ Facade _____ T
10. Renounce _____ A _____ Of late _____ E _____

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTHOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

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FRUIT MARKET

OUR CIRCUS MONKEY finds gold at the fruit market! Can you correctly count all of the bananas pictured above? You have 30 seconds.

Answer: 58 bananas (did you count the one in his hand?)

FIND THE HIDDEN CITY in this man's sentence! (You'll also find it in Spain and Ohio.)

Answer: Toledo ... Toledo had a fly ...

THEY WORK ONE DAY A YEAR FOR SANTA! To the right are two puzzle grids for you to fill in. Hints are given for each word. The words in grid A contain the same letters as the corresponding words in grid B.

1. Get data from disk. 1. To confront boldly.
2. Animal homes. 2. To dispatch.
3. To eliminate, delete. 3. Your usual food and drink.
4. To gain from work. 4. Just barely avoided.

GRID A GRID B

R E I N D E R

Answers: 1. Read-disk 2. Dis-bards 3. Ed-det 4. Earn-near

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

FIND THE BIG WORDS!

Using the definitions and the anagrams below, you must find the eight eight-letter words that fit into the framework picture on the left. For each definition, the letters in the two anagram words must be unscrambled and used to form the word asked for.

DEFINITION:
1. Where the gunfighters hide.
2. Modern jazz devotees
3. A quarrel or dispute
4. Without imperfection.
5. Loudly proclaimed
6. North American vultures
7. Awning or billed cap
8. Handy paint holders

ANAGRAM:
sand + bald
rest + ship
gram + lute
saws+ fell
laze + bond
razz + buds
dune + sash
lest + tape

Answers: 1. Badlands 2. Hipsters 3. Argument 4. Flawless 5. Blazards 6. Buzzards 7. Sunshade 8. Palmettes.

Puzzles4Kids

Answer

Kids' Maze Solution

Answers

1. Waltz, Waltz
2. Silver, Shiver
3. Leader, Lender
4. Judge, Judge
5. Patron, Patrol
6. Recent, Recent

Kids' Maze

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The North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce wishes you and your family Happy Holidays

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Snow Day,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



PHOTO BY ALLAN JAMAIL
North Channel Star writer Allan Jamail's snow covered car.

were seeing their first snow. Snowmen and snow angels were made, and rooftops and the hoods of vehicles were blanketed with snow.
I researched the last snowfall in Houston to learn it was December 4, 2009, and one inch

fell then. One year prior on December 10, Houston saw 1.4 inches. Since 1895, it has snowed 35 times in Houston—the worst of those being in 1895 on Valentine's Day when the city was hit with 20 inches of snow.

You Are Invited

Carter-Conley Funeral Home cordially invites the families we have served, as well as the general public to celebrate the Christmas holidays with a time of remembrance.

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on which you can hang a Christmas ornament personalized with the name of your departed loved one, which will be yours to keep after the holidays.

It is our hope to make the holiday a little easier to bear as we remember the reason for the season, as well as our loved ones. For any additional information please call 713-455-5100

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Christmas Parade,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Communities In Schools (CIS) a non-profit organization had a beautiful decorated holiday season float and they had their kids dressed in the school's tee shirts. The organization provides dropout prevention programs and works with at-risk students providing them with available community resources. By surrounding them with a community of support CIS empowers students to stay in school and to achieve in life.

Marching in the parade was the Galena Park High School Band, the Jack-teers and the Northshore High School JROTC.

Moya thanked the fire and police department personnel who kept the parade route safe for those coming out to enjoy the parade.



L – R ~ Galena Park Mayor Esmeralda Moya, Senator Sylvia Garcia and Pasadena Mayor Jeff Wagner.

Mayor Moya said, "It's all about the people. I would like to extend my appreciation to Commissioner Barry Ponder and the Committee for a Better Galena Park and all others involved in making the 2nd Annual Christmas Parade a success."



Communities In Schools float.



Candy Land city administration float.

Mayor Ana Diaz and Constable Chris Diaz wish everyone a Safe and Happy Holiday Season

Constable Chris Diaz, Christopher Jr., Nicholas and Jacinto City Mayor Ana Diaz