



NORTH CHANNEL ★STAR

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VOLUME 6, NO. 14 (#218) THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2018 www.northchannelstar.com

CHANNEL CURRENTS

Channelview FFA Livestock Show

The Channelview FFA will hold its 55th annual Livestock Show April 3-6 at the Allen Hall Fairgrounds, located on Wood Drive in Channelview.

The annual Channelview FFA Parade will start at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 7, 2018. The parade route will leave from Schochler Elementary, proceed east down Woodforest and north on Sheldon Road into the stadium parking area. The auction sale of placing market animals will begin at 1:30 p.m. at the fairgrounds. Please visit cvisd.org for more details.

North Channel Area Chamber Luncheon

Friday, April 6, 2018, 11:30 am at San Jacinto College North, 5800 Uvalde Rd., Houston, TX 77049.

Questions? Please call 713-450-1114.

Other districts, community help CISD band's bus crash victims



A fundraiser sponsored by the Channelview Band Boosters for those affected by a major charter bus crash involving Channelview Falcon Band members and chaperones was one of many activities held recently to support the group.

By Mark Kramer
Channelview ISD Public Relations

After the Channelview High School Falcon Marching Band was involved in a major bus accident while returning home from Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla. on March 13, they are receiving some help from many friends.

Goose Creek CISD, La Porte ISD, Pasadena ISD, Sheldon ISD and Texas City ISD are all lending equipment to the Channelview Band until they are able to replace the instruments that were destroyed in the crash. The instruments will quickly be put to good use as Falcon Band members are scheduled to participate in the University Interscholastic League

Wind Ensemble contest April 25-27.


In addition, North Shore Senior High School Band Director Shane Gorforth and Crosby High School Band Director Kevin Knight are working together with the Channelview Band to prepare them for the UIL Wind Ensemble

See Helping Bus Crash Victims, page 3

Jacinto City Police arrest armed robbery suspect

By Allan Jamail

Jacinto City, TX – Monday, March 26, 2018 at midnight the police responded to a call at the service station in the 10200 block of I-10 East Freeway of a suspect attempting to shoot someone. Upon arrival officers observed a suspect breaking out the locked glass door with a gun to gain



See Robbery Suspect, Page 3 Gregory T. Cromwell Jr.

KILLER SOUGHT IN GALENA PARK

By Allan Jamail

GALENA PARK - Monday April 2, 2018 the Galena Park police dispatcher received a 9-1-1 call at 10 pm of a shooting in the 1500 block of 3rd Street.

According to Detective Jessica Bolanos, when the police arrived they discovered inside a home two shooting victims. Detective Bolanos said a 42 year old male identified as John

Meyers had been shot multiple times and was dead at the scene. Another male victim shot multiple times was identified as Justin Boon, age 27. He was taken to Ben Taub Hospital and is listed in critical condition. The victims are father-in-law and son-in-law related.

The Harris County Sheriff Department's

See Shooting, page 3

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COMMUNITY NEWS

April is Tax Time; Rotary hears about new rules

HIGHLANDS – Rotarians heard from Baytown Tax Consultant Theresa Badgett, about changes in the tax laws after Congress passed a tax reform bill this year.

Badgett indicated that filling tax forms this year might be easier, especially if you are taking advantage of the standard deduction, which has been raised to \$25,000, instead of itemizing deductions.

And the good news is that you may pay less in taxes after you get through with all that paperwork. She said that if your company uses the standard withholding tables, you will already have noticed an increase in the size of your check. This is because tax brackets, the rate you pay depending upon your income, has been reduced to 10-12-22 per cent. In previous years they were higher.

Badgett offered a number of ways to save on your taxes. Three major changes she noted for this tax year are:

Energy Efficient Credit has been eliminated, but in its place is a Solar tax credit. The reason this is good, is because you can deduct 100% of your tax obligation, i.e. Dollar for Dollar;

Sale of your permanent home has been increased, and capital gains are now tax free up to \$250,000. You must have lived in your home for at least two years, but Badgett said that some people move just for the savings, especially if they have a second home that they can designate as their new homestead;

Buy an electric car, or a hybrid for some models. When you buy an electric car, you immediately get a \$7300 “coupon” or savings of that amount on the purchase price. Again, this is

a Dollar for Dollar savings.

Badgett said that most of these new tax rules would be good until the year 2025, although a new administration and Congress could always change them.

Another favorable new rule is that small businesses can take 20 per cent off their reported income, before their tax is figured. This is a new benefit, available to any small business.

One change that may affect many people is how Alimony payments are handled. This time, these payments are not deductible as an expense.

Another change is the elimination of a Personal Exemption for each member of your household. This had been \$4050 per person, and very beneficial for larger families. Now the new Standard Deduction of \$25,000 is to take care of this instead.

Anyone with a large Estate would be interested in the increased limits to avoid federal Estate taxes. The threshold up until this year had been \$5 million dollars. If your estate was less than that, you

were not obligated for any federal estate tax. Now the limit has been raised to \$11 million, not a factor for most persons.

Other highlights that Badgett mentioned, included the deduction available for student tuition, and donations to a so-called college fund, known as a 529 Plan, have been expanded as to how this money must be used. It can now cover some expenses prior to college costs, she said.

Gifts to children or grandchildren have been raised to \$14,000 as a non-taxable transfer.

Hurricane losses that are unreimbursed by insurance are deductible this year, but next year there will not be any deductions allowed for casualty losses, she said. For some, this might be a major change. Loss of income in these situations is not deductible, since it was not declared as income anyway.

She advised everyone to take pictures: of donations, odometers, and so on to help your memory, and document your information for the IRS.



Theresa Badgett, Tax Consultant

Greenwood Memorial



The Memorial as dedicated by Constable Eagleton, with dignitaries after the ceremony paying their respects.

Maximum Tax Savings



Jenny Hinson, Theresa McDermott, Donna Haynes, Jodie Roane Jack Noonan

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CROSBY'S HOME TOWN HOME CARE

SCHOOL / SPORTS

Galena Park ISD participates in “Feeding Hungry Minds”

In September 2017, Galena Park ISD was selected by the American Association of School Administrators (AASA) to participate in the Feeding Hungry Minds: Superintendent Leadership to Expand School Breakfast Grant funded by the Walmart Foundation.

Through this grant, North Shore Senior High School, North Shore 9th Grade Center, Cobb 6th Grade Campus, Galena Park High School and Galena Park Middle School were selected to benefit from Grab’n’Go Breakfast Carts and Second Chance Breakfast.

The Grab’n’Go Breakfast Carts provide students with the opportunity to grab a packaged breakfast on their way to class. The Second Chance Breakfast gives students the chance to have breakfast after class has started.

“If kids are eating breakfast, they are better behaved and perform better on tests,” said Mr. Ramirez, principal.



Jacinto City Elementary

Since the start of the breakfast initiative, Galena Park ISD has seen a 43-percent increase in breakfast participation.

“Here at North Shore 9th Grade Center, we have over 700 students eat breakfast in the mornings,” said Mr. Pierson, principal.

Galena Park appreciates the Student Nutrition Department, campuses and cafeteria staff for making the breakfast grant a huge success. We would also like to thank the Walmart Foundation and AASA for helping us provide more opportunities for students to eat breakfast.

Robbery Suspect,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

entry. The suspect saw the officers, dropped his gun inside the shattered glass door and fled on foot, after a foot chase officers apprehended the suspect identified as Gregory T. Cromwell Jr.

Cromwell earlier was trying to extort money at gunpoint from a person outside the station. The robbery victim (complainant) went inside the station under the pretext to get the money the robber demanded from the ATM machine. The complainant once inside told the store clerk of the robbery who then placed the store in lockdown mode and called the police.

Police transferred Cromwell to the Harris County Jail where’s he’s being held with no bond after he was charged with Aggravated Robbery with a Deadly Weapon and Unlawful Possession of a Weapon by a Felon. He has a prior felony conviction record of Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon.

Shooting,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

crime scene investigation unit arrived at the scene and gathered evidence.

Sheriff’s Department Investigators will pursue the case seeking the murderer. At this time, a motive and an ID are not known. Police Chief Rick Gonzales and Detective Jessica Bolanos are asking for anyone with information to call them at 713-675-3471.

GALENA PARK ISD SPORTS

North Shore Senior High soccer team headed to regional quarterfinal Playoff game



The North Shore Mustang Boys’ Soccer team will face Dobie High School in the Regional Quarterfinal playoff game on Friday, April 6. The playoff game kicks off at 7:00 P.M. at the Galena Park ISD Stadium! Good luck, Mustangs!

Galena Park High School Boys’ soccer team advances to regional quaterfinal Playoff game



The Galena Park High School Boys’ Soccer team will face Wisdom High School in the Regional Quarterfinal playoff game on Friday, April 6. The playoff game kicks off at 7:00 P.M. at Butler Stadium! Good luck, Yellow Jackets!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

San Jacinto Pilot Club meeting

The Club meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at Amegy Bank on I-10, at noon. For more information, please visit www.SanJacintoPilot.com.

Evening San Jacinto Pilot Club

This newly chartered club meets on on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7 pm at the Woodforest Presbyterian Church. For more information, see the Facebook page entitled Evening San Jacinto Pilot Club or call 832-264-1565 / 832-289-4762.

New Hours at the Buckshot Jamboree

Enjoy Classic Country music every Saturday night from 6 pm - 9 pm with The Buckshot Jamboree at 7414 Hartman near Old Beaumont Highway. More info, call 281-458-0729 or 832-444-5000.

Galena Park Senior Dance

Senior Dance is every Monday at the Alvin D. Building, 1302 Keene St., Galena Park. 7 pm - 9 pm. No cover charge. Live band Country music. Call for more information: 713-455-7335.

North Shore Senior Dance

North Shore Seniors holds a dance every Thursday from 1 - 4 pm at the Grayson/Baldree Building, Corpus Christi street. Live bands and refreshments. Cost is \$ 5/per person. For more information call 713-455-3660.

Helping Bus Crash Victims,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ble event. Falcon Band Director Aaron suffered major injuries in the bus accident and is recovering at an area rehabilitation facility.

“We are very appreciative of everyone’s willingness to help out,” said Jennifer Tunink, Channelview ISD’s fine arts director. “The outpouring of support from so many districts, businesses and the community has truly been a blessing to all of us.”

Several local restaurants held fundraisers during the week of March 19-24 to provide assistance to the Channelview band. The local Chic-Fil-A stores raised over \$8,000 that will provide extra financial support during this time. The Buffalo Wild Wings restaurant is providing 20 percent of its sales toward

assisting the band. Las Palomas Mexican Restaurant is donating 20 percent of its profits from its lunch and dinner sales on March 28 to the Channelview Band Boosters.

On Saturday, March 24, the Band Boosters held a Barbecue Benefit and Silent Action at Sterling-Wood Church. All proceeds from the event will go toward assisting band families affected by the accident.

“Our district extends a heartfelt ‘thank you’ to all of the people that have reached out to help over the past couple of weeks,” said Greg Ollis, Channelview ISD Superintendent. “The caring nature of all of those in our district and our community has really shined through during this time of need.”

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OPINION PAGE

AG Paxton urges HHS to implement rules restoring Religious Freedom and Conscience Rights for Americans

Attorney General Ken Paxton sent a letter to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Alex Azar supporting proposed rules that would assure the principles of federalism, religious freedom and freedom of conscience are restored to their proper place in our constitutional system of government. Texas and Arizona co-led the comment letter, which was signed by 17 state attorneys general.

In January, HHS said it intended to rescind Obama-era guidance that sought to protect government funding for abortion providers by excluding states and health care providers from federally funded programs based on their respect for the sanctity of human life. HHS also announced a new proposed rule that would designate its Office for Civil Rights to enforce 25 existing statutory conscience protections for Americans involved in HHS-funded programs. Those laws protect people from being coerced into participating in activities – such as abortion – that violate their religious and moral beliefs.

“It is encouraging to see HHS taking concrete steps to restore the rule of law and respect for our Constitution,” Attorney General Paxton said. “All

of us must be able to abide by our religious, moral and ethical beliefs without fear that our government will intimidate and discriminate against us for doing so.”

In the letter, the attorneys general expressed concern that HHS in the past excluded the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops from a grant program to help victims of human trafficking because the charity did not refer individuals for abortion services. They also reminded the department that Texas was excluded from the Title X grant program in 2012 “because of actions taken by the Legislature to protect the widely-held religious and moral convictions of Texas taxpayers concerning abortion.”

“These types of actions undermine the constitutional and statutory protections for religious freedom and conscience rights, and the department’s proposal would put in place a check to ensure such actions do not occur in the future,” the attorneys general wrote.

Texas and Arizona are joined in the letter by Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

What to know about seasonal allergies and your eyes

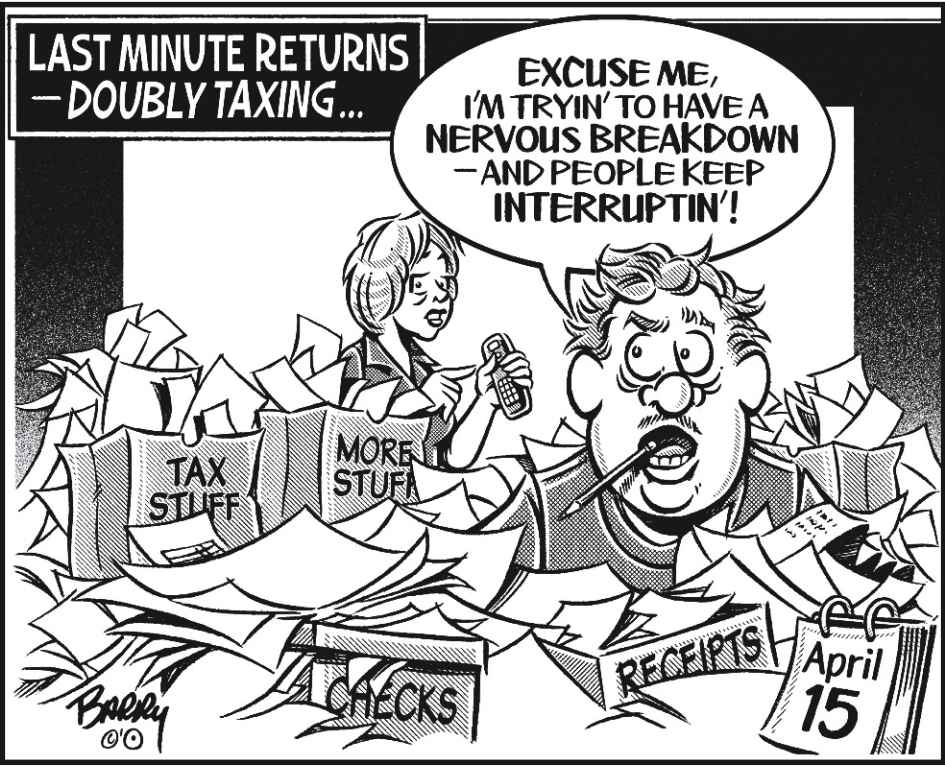
(StatePoint) Suffering from itchy, watery eyes? You may have ocular allergies or you could have another issue entirely, such as chronic dry eyes. Experts say that getting the correct diagnosis is the only way to treat symptoms properly.

“Chronic dry eye often mimics the symptoms of seasonal allergies and must be approached entirely differently,” says Arian Fartash, VSP network optometrist. “Many over-the-counter allergy treatments can actually make dry eyes worse, so make an appointment with your eye doctor to determine the exact cause of your discomfort.”

If your itchy and watery eyes are diagnosed as ocular allergies, Dr. Fartash recommends taking the following steps.

- Limit your exposure to pollen on high pollen count days.
- Wash your face after being outside to reduce the amount of pollen on the skin.
- Use cold compresses for some added relief.
- Don’t rub your eyes, as this will increase your body’s overreaction to the irritants.
- Remove contact lenses, which can attract allergens that accumulate throughout the day. Consider wearing your glasses or switching to daily disposable contacts during allergy season.
- Try over-the-counter eye drops. There are a number of allergy drops that are formulated to relieve itchiness, redness, and watery eyes. But consult your optometrist to find out which are the best recommended.
- Consider prescription medications. If the symptoms won’t go away, you might need something stronger. Go see your eye doctor to discuss if a prescription medication is right for you. You can find a doctor local to you by consulting the VSP-network at vsp.com/find-eye-doctors.

Don’t suffer this season. See your best and feel your best by getting your eye symptoms properly diagnosed and treated.



Question to appear on upcoming census stirs opposing viewpoints

AUSTIN — Ted Cruz of Texas was one of three United States senators who requested that respondents to the 2020 decennial census be asked if they are citizens of the United States.

When Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross responded in the affirmative last week, Cruz said, “I applaud Secretary Ross for honoring this request by my colleagues and me. It is imperative that the data gathered in the census is reliable, given the wide-ranging impacts it will have on U.S. policy. A question on citizenship is a reasonable, common-sense addition to the census.”

On March 28, state Sen. Sylvia R. Garcia, D-Houston, who chairs the Texas Senate Hispanic Caucus, took issue with the question. “Adding a question on citizenship at this time would only seek to fan the flames of fear and distrust in the Census, further risking depressed response rates,” Garcia said.

She added that the Census Bureau would “have to expend more resources in the field for those fearful of an initial response.”

“Even with additional resources, an undercount could result in less representation for Texas in Congress, inaccurate data for redistricting, unreliable numbers for business seeking to move to Texas, and a loss of federal funding for communities across the state. In a word, this could be disastrous. I implore our state leaders to support the litigation to remove this question and fight for an accurate Census count nationwide,” Garcia added.

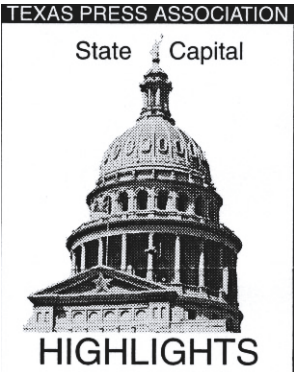
State Rep. Cesar Blanco, D-El Paso, on March 26 held a Capitol news conference detailing concerns similar to those expressed by Garcia.

Citizenship questions have been included on prior censuses: “Between 1820 and 1950, almost every decennial census asked a question on citizenship in some form,” according to a Commerce Department news release.

AGs file court brief
Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on March 26 announced the filing of a friend-of-the-court brief supporting the Trump administration’s lawsuit against California over state laws that signatories of the brief say inten-

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling



tionally obstruct the federal government’s ability to enforce the nation’s immigration law.

Paxton, the state’s chief litigator, was joined in the brief by a coalition of 17 state officials, including the attorneys general of Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina and West Virginia; and Mississippi Gov. Phil Bryant and Maine Gov. Paul LePage.

In the brief, Attorney General Paxton and his fellow attorneys general highlight a 2012 case where the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that states couldn’t stand in the way of federal agents following federal immigration law.

“Dangerous sanctuary policies like California’s undermine the rule of law and endanger good law enforcement officers and the communities that need their protection the most. It is incomprehensible that California finds criminal illegal aliens dangerous enough to detain, but then insists on releasing them back into the community to offend again instead of turning them over to federal immigration authorities for removal. If California prefers different immigration policies, it is free to take them up with the appropriate authority: Congress,” Paxton said.

DeVos approves plan

Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos on March 26 announced her approval of Texas’ consolidated state plan under the Every Student Succeeds Act.

The Every Student Succeeds Act became law in 2015, replacing the No

Child Left Behind Act, which was signed into law by then-President George W. Bush in 2002. The new act retains annual standardized testing requirements and tasks each state with developing a revised plan subject to federal approval.

“Texas’ plan met the requirements of the law, therefore I have approved it,” said DeVos. “I look forward to seeing how Texas embraces the flexibility afforded by ESSA to innovate on behalf of the Lone Star State’s students.”

DeVos pointed out three elements of Texas’ approved plan:

— Rigorous, yet achievable goals for all student groups in Texas, while creating stronger alignment between all state and federal program areas;

— Strong support and interventions to assist low-performing schools; and

— Alignment of federal funding with priorities within the Texas Education Agency’s strategic plan.

Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath welcomed the announcement by DeVos, saying, “In Texas, we are committed to ensuring every child is prepared for success in college, a career or the military. Our state plan reflects a commitment to reinforcing public education outcomes for more than five million schoolchildren while continuing to strengthen the economic future of Texas.”

Guv returns from India

Gov. Greg Abbott on March 30 returned from a nine-day business development trip to India, where he visited with government officials and business leaders in several cities to promote economic and trade relationships between India and Texas.

Abbott met with Reliance Industries, Infosys Limited, JSW Steel and Wipro Limited and with India Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the nation’s ministers of petroleum and natural gas, commerce and industry and civil aviation.

Fire Prevention Tips And Technology

(NAPSI)—They look like small, plastic boxes, round or square, stuck up on the wall or the ceiling—but they could save your life. They’re smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.

Facts And Figures

On average, eight people die in a home fire each day in the U.S.—almost 3,000 people every year. While working smoke alarms cut the chance of dying in a fire nearly in half, roughly two-thirds of all home fire deaths occur in homes without working smoke alarms, according to the National Fire Protection Association.

As for carbon monoxide detectors, more than 200 people die from carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning in the U.S. annually. Several thousand more are treated in hospital emergency rooms for CO poisoning. Yet an estimated 70 percent of U.S. homes are not protected by a working CO alarm. CO is created when common fuels such as natural gas, oil, wood or coal burn incompletely. This odorless, colorless, tasteless gas is often called the “silent killer” because it is virtually undetectable without the use of proper technology. You can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a longer time as well as by a large amount over a shorter time.

What You Need To Know

For the best protection, smoke alarms should be interconnected, so that they all sound if one sounds. Manufacturers are now producing battery-operated alarms that are interconnected by wireless technology.

Combination smoke alarms that include both ionization and photoelectric alarms offer the most comprehensive protection. An ionization alarm is more responsive to flames, while a photoelectric alarm is more responsive to a smoldering fire.

Hardwired smoke alarms with battery backups are considered to be more reliable than those operated solely by batteries.

What You Need To Do

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home including in hallways and the basement.
- Choose alarms that bear the label of a nationally recognized testing laboratory.
- Install smoke alarms at least 10 feet from cooking appliances to reduce the possibility of false alarms.
- If possible, alarms should be mounted in the center of a ceiling. If mounted on a wall, they should be six to 12 inches below the ceiling.
- Avoid locating alarms near bathrooms, heating appliances, windows or ceiling fans.
- Test your alarms every month by pressing the TEST button.
- Replace the batteries at least once a year. If an alarm “chirps” or “beeps” to indicate low batteries, replace them immediately.
- Occasionally dust or lightly vacuum the exterior of the alarm.
- Replace the alarms in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions, but at least every 10 years.
- Never paint over an alarm.
- If you have difficulty hearing, you can get alarms with low-pitched sounds or vibrations.

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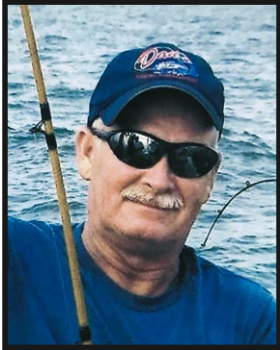
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LIFESTYLE

OBITUARY

Burley Matthew Francis



Burley Matthew Francis 64, of Crosby, Texas passed away on March 16, 208.

Burley was born on February 25, 1954 in Poplar Bluff, Missouri to Ben Chester and Margaret (Talley) Francis. Burley worked as an animal control officer for Jacinto City and in his free time he enjoyed fishing, hunting, playing pool, going out on the boat and spending time with his family and friends. Burley was a very hardworking, fun loving, and helpful man who never met a stranger and he will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

A visitation for family and friends will be held on Wednesday, March 21, 2018 from 12pm-2pm at Sterling-White Funeral Home with a 3pm graveside service following at Hardin Chapel Cemetery in Hardin, TX.

THOUGHTS FROM MARANATHA CHURCH

If I'd Only Known

Dr. Mark Trice

How often, in life, do you realize that you would have done things differently if you'd known the outcome ahead of time? How many opportunities have you missed? In the Bible we see many people who missed their opportunities, and others who did not. One person who got it right was Ruth.

Ruth wasn't an Israelite, but she had married an Israelite and come to love his mother Naomi. When both women were left without their husbands, and Naomi learned that Israel was a prosperous place again, they traveled to Naomi's home. Once there, Ruth decided she was going to care for her mother-in-law.

She had no way of knowing the plan God had for her life. She simply went out to the fields to find some grain for dinner. As it happened, as if anything only "happens" with God, she ended up in the field of the one man best positioned to change her life forever, the one man who could help her become more than she ever imagined.

tioned to change her life forever, the one man who could help her become more than she ever imagined.

If you've read the book of Ruth, you know the full story. The man was Boaz, the son of another non-Jew, Rahab, who had greatly aided the Israelite army at Jericho. Another Jewish man might have respected Ruth for her actions but turned aside because of her bloodline. Boaz's attitude was different, and God gave Ruth great favor with him - so much favor that he eventually married her.

Again, if you've read the story of Ruth, you know that Ruth and Boaz aren't just any Bible couple. They are in the lineage of David and, consequently, of Jesus. Truly, this whole chain of events is nothing short of supernatural.

But Ruth could have chosen to stay home, and if she had she might easily have missed out on God's plans. Instead, she went

into the fields to do her part to help provide for the family. She was only expecting a supply of grain, but God's vision was much greater: He wanted to give her the whole field. She intended to provide for her mother-in-law and herself, but God positioned her to help bring salvation to the whole world through Jesus Christ.

We don't know what plans God has in the works for us, and we don't have to. Proverbs 3:5-6 tells us not to rely on logic or reason - on our own understanding - but rather to entrust our lives to Him and live faithful to His call. For those of us who have an innate need to be in control, this can be a challenge. Even so, if we do follow God step by step, as He tells to, we'll never be left thinking, "If I'd only known."

Maranatha!: "Rejoice, the Lord is coming soon!" #MaranathaChurch #IglesiaMaranatha

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

- 1. Is the book of Samaria in the Old or New Testament or neither?
- 2. When he had a vision, who said, "Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean"? Adam, Reuben, Samson, Peter

- 3. From Acts 7, who was the first person martyred for his belief in Jesus Christ? Apollos, John the Baptist, Jehu, Stephen
- 4. What is the fourth book of the Old Testament (KJV)? Deuteronomy, Numbers, Leviticus, Joshua
- 5. Besides Jonah, what other prophet ministered in Nineveh? Nathan, Paul, Nahum, Philip
- 6. From 1 Kings 11, what was the number of wives of King Solomon? 3, 50, 100, 700

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Peter; 3) Stephen; 4) Numbers; 5) Nahum; 5) 700

CHURCH LISTINGS

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

3D Printing Opportunities: Stratford Library Highlands

Have you ever wanted to get your hands on a 3D printer? Stratford Library in Highlands will have a 3D printer on-site April 4th - April 9th. Gather your friends, your troop, or your class and sign up for a session to see how a design comes to life. Free for all ages! Reservations are limited. Give us a call for more info! 832-927-5400. Stratford Library is located 2 blocks behind Foodtown at 509 Stratford St. in Highlands, TX 77562.

Annual Czech SpringFest

Sunday, April 8, 2018 - 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. SPJST Lodge #88, 1435 Beall St at 15th St in the Heights.

Kovanda's Czech Band (11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.) Texas Legacy Czech Band - (3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.) Guest Artist, Marcela Hrabovska, demonstrating the art of Decorating Eggs with Straw and Other Materials. She will have many items for sale.

Traditional Czech Sunday Dinner - 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Adults - \$10.00 - Children under 11 - \$7.00 Soup & Sausage with Sauerkraut served at 1:00 p.m.

Kolache Eating Contest. Cultural Exhibits, Silent Auction, Country Store & Vendors.

Admission - \$8.00 - Children under 11 Free Sponsor: Czech Heritage Society of Texas, Harris County Chapter. Benefiting the CHSHCC Library & Archives. For more info, call 713-349-0500 or e-mail chsheritage20@att.net

Highlands Chamber monthly luncheon

Highlands-Lynchburg Chamber of Commerce Monthly Luncheon, Thursday, April 12, 11:30 a.m., San Jacinto Community Center, 604 Highlands Wood Drive. Reserve at 281-426-7227 by the 9th.

Blood Pressure / Sugar Check

Tuesday, April 17 at 9 a.m. Keeping a healthy lifestyle means keeping blood pressure and blood sugar check in at May Community Center, 2100 Wolf Roaf, Huffman 77336. For more information regarding classes or other Center programs please call 713-274-2434.

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PHILIPPIANS 4:13

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Psalm: 46:1

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ROMANS 8:18

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the Holy Spirit and began to
speak in other tongues as the
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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

It Is the Little Things

Have you ever had a really rough start to the morning and then after you waited in line at a fast-food restaurant, the cashier made your day? Perhaps you have called what you thought was a local business only to discover you had the wrong number. Yet, the person on the other end of the phone assured you that you are not the first person to get it wrong and they gave you the correct number. Maybe you stopped for an oil change and the care attendant took the time to ask about your elderly parent.

I am the first to admit that I have stopped at the McDonald's on Uvalde Road more than my fair share over the years. Yet, I think one of the reasons that I do, is Mrs. Irene. She is an older Hispanic woman who works the first window of the drive-thru. She is always pleasant, always smiling and always reminds customers to "have a blessed

CHARLOTTE'S WEB

By Charlotte Jackson



day". I think I first noticed her when my daughter was serving in the US Army. I do not remember how the conversation came up but I learned her daughter was just about to get out of the military. Her daughter had served several tours and had even been deployed to war. Yet, she never let that show. She has kept her kind disposition and smile all of these years.

Many people in our area call the North Channel Area Chamber throughout the day. The staff answers many questions and by the end of the day, it would be easy to understand if their

voice was tired. Yet, I was talking to someone last week who told me that he called their number in error and ended up being blessed by the kindness of Blanca Lerma. As the man apologized for the wrong number, he mentioned he was trying to call a local child care facility and must have misdialled. Blanca being her naturally helpful self, laughed and let him know he was only one digit off. As he told me this, I smiled. I am very fortunate to not only know Blanca but to be able to share that she is a product of San Jacinto College.

Recently, I was getting some repair work done on


my car when the young man behind the counter asked the next customer about her mom. Joe Gonzalez of Muffler King, was going that extra mile with customer service. As he walked away from the counter, the lady started telling me that her mom no longer drives but she had used Muffler King for years and just the fact that Joe remembered this, meant more to her than saving a few dollars elsewhere.

Life is hard. There are lots of unexpected events and many reasons to complain. Yet, in spite of all that is going on, it is the little things. And being nice does not cost us anything. Take a moment today to check on someone you have not seen in a while. Drop a simple note in the mail or even an email. Trust me, people notice. And people care.

ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim:

"What is the birthstone for April?"



APRIL BIRTHSTONE - Diamond

HISTORY OF THE DIAMOND AS THE APRIL BIRTHSTONE

other theories asserted that diamonds were the tears of God.

The Healing Powers of Diamonds

During the Middle Ages, diamonds were thought to hold healing powers and to cure ailments stemming from the pituitary gland and brain. By heating the crystal and taking it to bed, it was thought to draw out the harmful toxins that were crippling the body. It was also believed that diamonds could have an effect on an individual's balance and clarity and could boost their energy when combined with other crystals like amethyst.

The diamond as the April gemstone has garnered the hearts of many and is the most coveted crystal to date. Deemed as the "King of all Birthstones," diamonds make the ideal choice for an April birthday gift. (She'll love you for it!)

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, email jmills@pineforestjewelry.com.

Diamond Gemstones

Adopted from the Greek word adamas, meaning "invincible," diamonds come in a wide range of colors such as black, blue, green, pink, red, purple, orange and yellow. The color is dependent upon the type of impurities that are present in the stone. For instance, yellow stones have minuscule traces of nitrogen while blue ones contain boron.

During ancient times, theories touting the magical powers of diamonds were prevalent: some thought lightning bolts formed diamonds, while

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~Zig Ziglar

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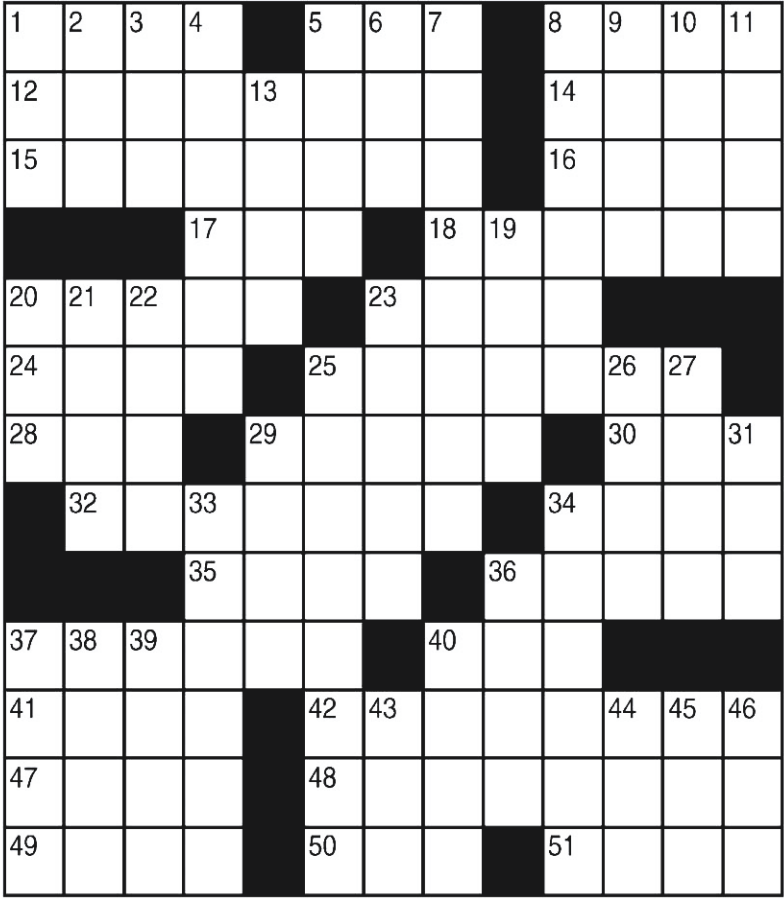
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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Dillon or Damon
5 Greek vowel
8 Heap
12 Cooling drink
14 Smell
15 Execrate
16 Island garlands
17 Sch. org.
18 Not quite upright
20 Big name in California wines
23 Soreness
24 Do as you're told
25 Wide ruffle
28 Conk out
29 Lead the way
30 Playwright
31 Beer cousin



- 32 Beat decisively
34 Follow closely
35 Manitoba native
36 Tending (to)
37 Lecherous observer
40 — carte
41 Off the base, for short
42 Proclaim
47 Toy block name
48 Washington Monument,
49 Rewrite, maybe
50 Hot tub
51 Chills and fever
9 Concept
10 Pork cut
11 Formerly, formerly
13 Car
19 Actress Elisabeth
20 Deity
21 Somewhat
22 Sly look
23 Carroll heroine
25 Solemn occasions
26 "Arrivederci"
27 Ireland
29 Mentor
33 Spotted wild-cat
34 Emotional upset
36 Trudge on
37 Crooner Jerry
38 As yet unpaid
39 Boo-Boo's companion
40 "— Karenina"
43 Siesta
44 Run-down horse
45 French vineyard
46 — out a living

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From the bottom of our hearts, thank you.

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