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VOLUME 6, NO. 19 (#223)THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2018www.northchannelstar.com

CHANNEL CURRENTS

HUNDREDS FIND ELECTION INFO ON STAR WEBSITE

Voters were able to get the results of the Galena Park election shortly after the poles closed, when no other news source seemed to carry the information. Saturday over 210 viewed, Sunday over 330, and Monday over 210. Latest news is updated each week, or daily, at www.northchannelstar.com.

ROTARY FISH FRY IS SAT. MAY 19



Fish Fry chairman Bill Bowes, seen above with crawfish hanging from his pocket and hat, reminds everyone that time is running short to buy your Ticket for the big Catfish Fry & Crawfish Boil, and to have a chance to win a new Toyota sedan or pickup plus 20 other prizes. Tickets are only \$100, and available from all North Shore Rotarians, and many local businesses, such as PineForest Jewelry, Frost Bank, Capital Bank, and many more.

MARKET DAYS

Jacinto City, Saturday, May 12, 2018 from 8 am – 1 pm @ 1025 Oates Rd. / WWW.JACINTOCITY-TX.GOV

FURR HIGH SCHOOL RIBBON CUTTING

Friday, May 18, 10:00 am, 500 Mercury Drive, Houston, TX 77013.

FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Saturday, May 19, 2018 at 9 AM, 10346 Fairfax, Calvary Baptist Church of Jacinto City, everyone welcome.

SAN JACINTO RIVER WASTE PITS EPA sets next Community Meeting for June 5th

HIGHLANDS – SJRC/ THEA Executive Director Jackie Young announced Tuesday night, at the group's regular monthly meeting, that the EPA has scheduled a public meeting on Tuesday, June 5th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm, at the Highlands Community Center, for the purpose of informing the public of the status of the Waste Pits Superfund site, and the Settlement Agreement, and to answer questions and hear comments. Young revealed that she had met with the EPA and

See WASTE PITS, p. 3

Moya slate posts strong victory in GP Election

May 5, 2018 – Incumbent Mayor Esmeralda Moya, and her slate of candidates, in unofficial results, received a strong majority of the votes in Saturday's municipal election. In the Mayor's race there were four candidates, but none showed a strong following com-

pared with Moya, who received 747 votes out of a total of 1221, for a percentage of 61%. The next closest was Juan Flores, with 267 votes.

Elected for Commissioner Position 1 was Zenaida Granados with 740 votes. Elected for Commissioner Position 2 was Rodney Chersky with 746 votes. Elected

for Commissioner Position 3 was Veronica Garcia with 713 votes. Elected for Commissioner Position 4 was Barry Ponder with 747 votes.

Of the losing candidates, it was noteworthy that former Mayor Bobby Barrett only received 163 votes for a 3rd of 4 candidates for the position. Incumbent Commissioner Rodney Chersky moved from Position 1 to Position 2, and incumbent Commissioner Broussard was defeated for Position 3. Incumbent Commissioner Ponder had 747 total votes, the same as the Mayor. For Position 4, Maria Rodriguez had the highest vote total of any of the losing candidates, with 441 total.

Election Data shows that Early Voting was decisive in determining the results, with about 80% of the vote tally coming in the Early Voting in person or by mail. The complete Unofficial Election Results are as seen to the right.

City of Galena Park City Unofficial Election Results					
May 5, 2018					
Mayor	Early Voting	Early Voting Mail	Election Day Precinct 208	Election Day Precinct 81	Total
Paul Winfield	30	4	9	1	44
R.P. Bobby Barrett	47	27	22	17	113
Esmeralda Moya	593	7	22	16	747
Juan Flores	143	10	36	56	245
Total					
Commissioner 1 (Water and Sewer)	Early Voting	Early Voting Mail	Election Day Precinct 208	Election Day Precinct 81	Total
Zenaida Granados	582	6	65	65	740
Nicholas Alvarez	256	35	52	69	412
Total					
Commissioner 2 (Police and Fire)	Early Voting	Early Voting Mail	Election Day Precinct 208	Election Day Precinct 81	Total
Jamal Humphries	252	32	60	66	410
Rodney V. Chersky	594	7	79	66	746
Total					
Commissioner 3 (Parks and Recreation)	Early Voting	Early Voting Mail	Election Day Precinct 208	Election Day Precinct 81	Total
Eric Broussard	176	22	45	42	285
Veronica Garcia	570	5	71	61	713
Shella Hilton	180	20	24	29	243
Total					
Commissioner 4 (Streets and Bridge)	Early Voting	Early Voting Mail	Election Day Precinct 208	Election Day Precinct 81	Total
Barry Ponder	605	10	70	62	747
Maria D. Rodriguez	255	34	75	77	441
Total					

UNOFFICIAL RESULTS AS POSTED BY THE CITY, AS SEEN ON THE NC STAR WEBSITE.



WINNING CANDIDATES include Zenaida Granados, Rodney Chersky, Esmeralda Moya, Vernica Garcia, and Barry Ponder.

Hernandez hosts Regional Public Education Roundtable



Representative Ana Hernandez discussing educational issues with some of the region's school board members and superintendents that'll prepare her to better address their needs. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

By Allan Jamail

Galena Park, TX. – April 23, 2018 State Representative Ana Hernandez (D-

Houston) hosted school board members and superintendents from school districts of Houston, Galena Park, Spring, Pasadena,

and Goose Creek for a roundtable education policy discussion at the Galena Park ISD Administration Building. Also in attendance

was Dr. Ray Freeman, Executive Director for the Equity Center, a nonprofit that serves as the largest education-specific finance re-

search and advocacy organization in the nation.

See Public Education, page 3

Grand Texas Theme Park opens June 30 Tickets now on sale

NEW CANEY – The new theme park is set to open two more sections, on June 29th. When all seven activity areas are open, the theme park will be comparable to Astroworld, according to publicity sources.

Big Rivers waterpark, and Gator Bayou Adventure Park are the next two sections scheduled to open in June.

Currently daily passes for future attendance are selling for \$29.99, and an

annual pass is available for \$59.95. Tickets are on sale at bigriverswaterpark.com/admission/#prices, or at the RV resort.

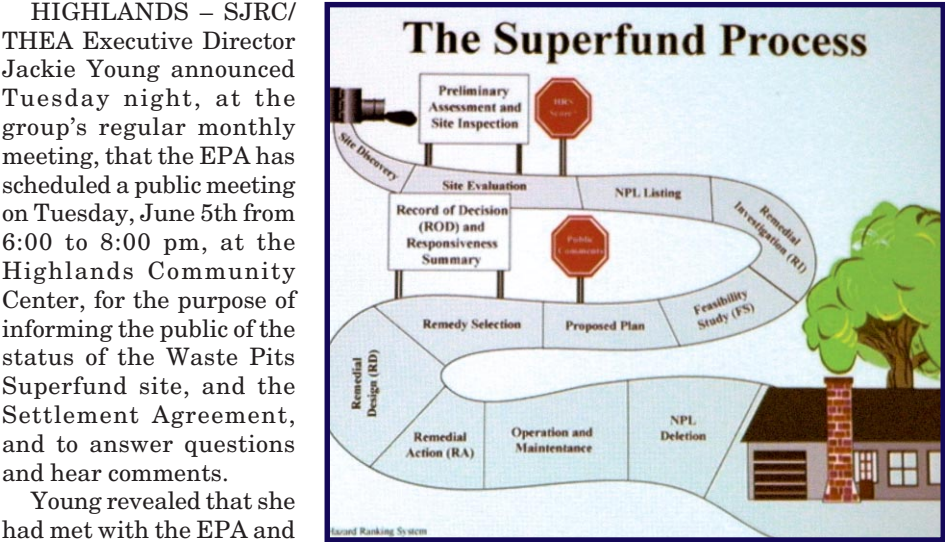
Big Rivers area will include a lazy river, a wave pool, water slides, and a large interactive play structure.

Gator Bayou will include Wild Isle, an Alligator Exhibit, and Big Al's Fishing hole. It will also have zip lines, nature

See THEME PARK, p. 3



The BIG RIVERS WATERPARK, and the GATOR BAYOU ADVENTURE PARK are two of the seven activity areas that will open in June. ABOVE: The RV Resort and SpeedSportz Racing Park are now open.



This Superfund Progress Chart (the Snake) shows that the remediation process has reached the RD or Remedial Design phase.

GALENA PARK/JACINTO CITY ROTARY Rotary member cuts hair to raise \$130,000 for Polio Plus

By Ernesto Paredes

At the Rotary District 5890 (Houston) Conference held in San Antonio last Saturday, April 28, 2018, one of the participants made a personal sacrifice to raise a large sum of money for Rotary's major project, Polio Plus.

The conference was called On the River, A Fiesta Of Service. During the Governors Banquet, Galena Park/Jacinto City Rotarian Maria Rodriguez took the initiative of "Service above Self" and asked one of the members if he would donate \$10,000 to help rededicate the fight against Polio. If so, she



Maria Rodriguez with her normal look.

would shave her hair. He took the challenge and so did others present and



Maria after a \$130,000 haircut.

within 30 minutes she raised \$130,000.00 for the Polio Plus Foundation.

COMMUNITY

Crosby High School Top Ten



- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1- Skylar Thomas
Texas A&M | 5- Abigail Culver
University of Texas | 8- Travis Hyman
Texas Tech University |
| 2- Brylee Lavole
Trinity University | 6- Jose Lira
University of Texas | 9- Darian Aulds
University of Houston |
| 3- Haiden Jordal
Baylor University | 7- Angel Berller
Angelo State University | 10- Veraly Fernandez
Sam Houston State University |
| 4- Antonio Villafuerte
University of Texas | | |

Local dealership supports Baytown Youth Fair & Rodeo



David Mendez of Turner Chevrolet brought a smile to Cody Davis with the purchase of his Swine.



Robbie Turner, son of Robert Turner, purchased Morgan Birdsong's Grand Champion Broilers



David Mendez and Robbie Turner back Hayden Nugent seen here with her with her Swine.

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 2 Year old home, move in ready. Spacious, beautiful clean 5 bed, 3 bath and game room. The Back Yard is larger than most lots. It will be amazing for Family get togethers, front yard landscaping is appealing. If your looking for great neighbors this is the home for you. \$233,900 MLS# 62500641	 Ready for you to make this your new home!!! A beautiful 3 bedroom 2 1/2 Bath home with a 2 car attached garage. Open living area with a formal dining area and even extra space to make that Home Office! Upstairs is a large Game Room and all 3 bedrooms. The backyard is huge! \$185,000 MLS# 84579679	 STUNNING WATERFRONT CUSTOM BUILT home recently remodeled with updated cabinets and granite countertops, flooring, interior and exterior doors and many more. This multi-level floor plan has an enormous living room for entertaining. \$575,000 MLS #46277114
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COMMUNITY NEWS

GALENA PARK ISD

Normandy Crossing Elementary Robotics Team Attends Houston Area Ecobot Challenge



On April 21, the Normandy Crossing Elementary (NCE) Robotics Team competed against 97 elementary teams at the 2018 Houston Area All-Earth EcoBot Challenge. The NCE Eagles came in 9th place overall and received a patch for having a creative DNA model! Normandy Crossing Elementary's Robotics Team: Jade Tran (team captain), Journey Foreman, Hector Chavez, David Martinez, Kevyn Arellano, Sophia Ramirez and Alan Barboza. Coaches: Diwana Pinales, Terri Walding and Trish Tran (parent) and former NCE Robotics student, Asia Tran, and principal, Irene Benzor. Congratulations to the Normandy Crossing Elementary Robotics Team!

Public Education,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Attendees discussed current updates on the School Finance Commission's efforts to seek out new revenue for public schools, the effect of Hurricane Harvey on local campuses, the need for increased support in the recruitment, training and retention of quality educators, determining fair standardized testing standards, ongoing efforts to improve school safety, and the need for more regional cooperation in advocating for resources for local districts.

"We are much stronger when we speak together with one voice than when we operate individually. Today's roundtable emphasized the need for our regional leadership to work together and, unified, advocate for the state to carry its fair share of the cost of supporting our neighborhood campuses, fight for safer schools, push for reasonable accountability standards, and secure every tool necessary to give our children the opportunities they need to pursue their dreams," Hernandez said.

Representative Hernandez has worked aggressively to support public education. Over the last two legislative sessions, she passed bills to help students and parents select the high school classes that best match with a student's career plans and help meet state financial aid requirements.

Grand Texas Theme Park,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

trails, a seven story free fall tower, pony rides, and a petting zoo. The theme park is located on 630 acres at US59 and Highway 292. The development has had a difficult past, first announced in 2013, with

several attempts at funding the park. The most recent is 3 loans from the federal USDA rural development fund, totalling \$20 million. In the next phase, which will take about two years to construct, the Theme Park

and the Sportsplex will be built. When finished, the theme park will have five roller coasters. A new Best Western hotel is nearing completion. The new park, when complete, is expected to provide 300 jobs.



Galena Park Police seek suspect in shooting, warrant issued

By Allan Jamail
Galena Park, TX. - Monday May 7, 2018 - Detective Jessica Bolanos, Galena Park's Criminal Investigator said, "32 year old Homero Solis has been identified as the alleged murder suspect in the shooting death of 42 year old John Meyers and critically wounding 27 year old Justin Boon. "It's been alleged fugitive Solis entered the home

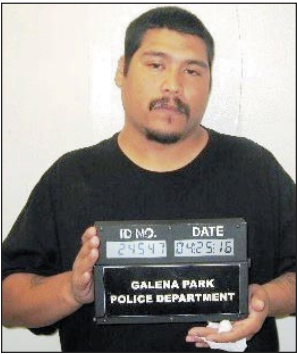


Photo provided by GP Police SOLIS

in the 1500 block of 3rd Street at about 10 PM on April 2, 2018 and shot both victims. We don't have a motive at this time," Detective Bolanos said. Solis has been arrested numerous times according to police records. Police Chief Rick Gonzales and Detective Jessica Bolanos are asking for anyone with information on Solis' whereabouts to call them at 713-675-3471.

Waste Pits Superfund,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

others Tuesday, to get an update on EPA plans for the Waste Pits. The venue was an ad hoc group known as the Community Advisory Committee, which according to the EPA is supposed to meet regularly with a select local group interested in the Superfund Site. In fact, it has been several years since the group last met with its members.

Invited to this meeting were EPA representatives, Harris County Pollution Control, HC Attorney's Office, MIMC (McGinnes), Galveston Bay Foundation, THEA, Texas Department of State Health Services, and Pct. 2 HC Commissioner's office.

There were no public or media representatives invited.

Young said that at the CAC meeting, she learned that a substantial stockpile of rocks or crushed concrete, 1000 tons, used to repair damage to the cap on the waste pits, has been stored offsite but within 14 miles of the location.

Also she said that EPA announced that a key administrator, Albert Kelly, had resigned today. Kelly was the person that first visited the San Jacinto River site, and recommended to EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt that he visit the site and put it on the Priority list. No reason was given for his resignation, she said.

Young emphasized that despite concerns about removing the San Jacinto River site from the Priority list, which was announced several weeks ago, she was assured by EPA that this was only procedural, and due to the Settlement Agreement, the Waste Pits remediation would continue to be a top priority and move ahead. She said that EPA told her "Political Changes should NOT impact the Clean-up."

At the CAC meeting Tuesday, Young was able to present some of the community's concern about the clean-up. These included: -- Noise from cofferdam construction -- Length of time to build cofferdam

-- Need for a decontamination area, for equipment coming off the site -- Quarterly inspections of cap should continue -- Groundwater sampling should continue through the clean-up. Young was assured that these would be considered and implemented. In addition, the EPA said their dive team would make inspections this summer, probably in June, and that results of a bathymetric survey would soon be available.

She was told that the cofferdam would take 1 to 1-1/2 years to build, then dewatering would take place, and the cap would be removed in sections for removal of the toxic soil.

The Settlement Agreement has milestones, and penalties if they are not met. It only covers design work. The next step is a Consent Decree, which means the PRP agree to waste removal.

The schedule calls for the whole site to be remediated by Sept. 1, 2020.

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OPINION PAGE

DPS reminds Texans to prepare for hurricane season now

AUSTIN – With the hurricane season less than one month away, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) urges all Texans to use Hurricane Preparedness Week to learn how to protect themselves and their families from hurricanes and tropical storms. Hurricane season starts June 1 and continues through Nov. 30.

“Hurricane season is unpredictable, and as we saw last year with Hurricane Harvey, these powerful storms can cause dangerous conditions and leave behind major devastation,” said Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, who proclaimed this week as Hurricane Preparedness Week in Texas. “By preparing ahead of time, we can help ensure our state is ready when natural disasters strike. I encourage all of my fellow Texans to plan now in advance of hurricane season, and to closely monitor any weather warnings and evacuation orders in the coming months.”

- Assemble an emergency kit that includes essential documents, supplies and provisions.
- Review hurricane evacuation maps, and select a route for you and your family.
- Plan how all family members and pets will evacuate safely.
- Consider any special needs for individuals with disabilities or the elderly.
- Stay informed about changing weather conditions in and around your area.
- Follow the instructions of local officials if a storm develops.

All Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico coastal areas are subject to hurricanes and tropical storms. It is possible for a storm to severely impact our state, even prior to or without making direct landfall in Texas. Hurricanes can cause catastrophic damage to coastlines, and winds can vary from 74 to 157 miles per hour (or higher). In addition, hurricanes and tropical storms can also spawn tornadoes, create dangerous coastal water conditions, including storm surges, and cause extensive flooding damage. Also, the rainfall associated with a tropical system can have an extremely wide reach, so monitoring changing weather conditions during hurricane season is critically important for all Texans.

“As Texans know all too well, the damage caused by a hurricane can be catastrophic, and the impact these storms have on our lives does not go away when the storm warning expires,” said DPS Director Steven McCraw. “Our neighbors along the coast are still recovering from Hurricane Harvey. Hurricane Preparedness Week offers an important reminder for

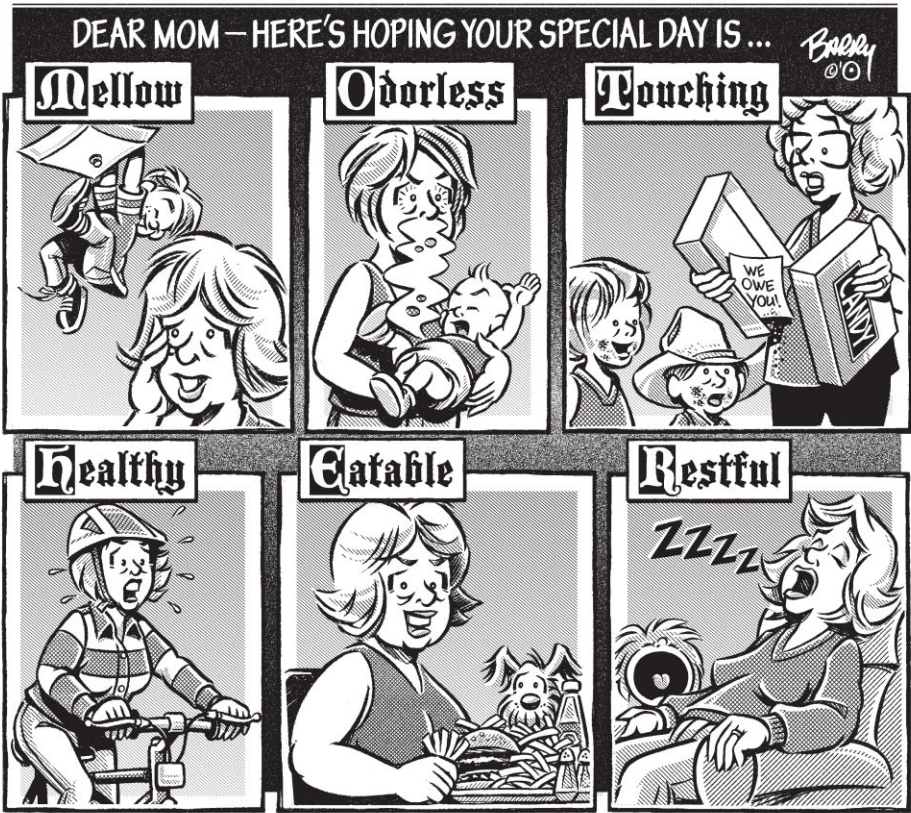
everyone to be diligent, and by taking a few simple steps — like developing a hurricane plan and assembling an emergency disaster kit — we can ensure we are ready when a storm hits. It can mean the difference between life and death.”

Here are several measures residents can take now to prepare for potential storms:

Residents are also encouraged to review their property’s flood risk and current insurance coverage, and to consider whether a separate flood policy should be part of their home protection plan. (Remember most flood policies have a 30-day waiting period before taking effect.) For more information, visit the Texas Department of Insurance website.

If you or someone you know might need assistance during a disaster, register now with the State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR) — a free registry that provides local emergency planners and responders with additional information about the needs in their communities. To register, contact 2-1-1 Texas, the state’s free 24-hour helpline. No matter where you live in Texas, you can dial 2-1-1 or 877-541-7905 for community resources.

For more information about hurricanes and how to prepare for the 2018 hurricane season, visit the DPS website and www.texasprepares.org.



Paxton leads multi-state lawsuit challenging DACA program

AUSTIN — Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on May 1 filed a lawsuit against the federal government to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

The attorneys general of Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Nebraska, South Carolina and West Virginia joined Paxton in the lawsuit.

Paxton and the other attorneys general urged the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas to declare DACA unlawful and to stop the federal government from issuing or renewing any DACA permits in the future.

Paxton noted the suit does not ask the federal government to remove any alien currently covered by DACA, nor does it ask the Trump administration to rescind DACA permits that have already been issued.

“Our lawsuit is about the rule of law, not the wisdom of any particular immigration policy,” Paxton said. “Texas has argued for years that the federal executive branch lacks the power to unilaterally grant unlawfully present aliens lawful presence and work authorization. Left intact, DACA sets a dangerous precedent by giving the executive branch sweeping authority to ignore the laws enacted by Congress and change our nation’s immigration laws to suit a president’s own policy preferences.”

U.S. District Judge John D. Bates of the District of Columbia on April 24 ordered the Trump administration to accept DACA applications, but stayed the order for 90 days to give the Department of Homeland Security an opportunity to make its arguments contesting the legality of the DACA program.

Revenue totals higher

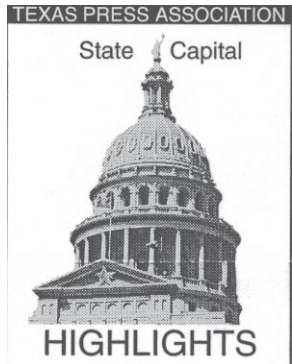
Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on May 2 announced that state sales tax revenue totaled \$2.7 billion in April.

The amount is 13.4 percent more than reported in April 2017.

April state sales tax collections grew significantly across all major economic sectors, Hegar said. “While the strongest growth was in remittances from oil and gas-related sectors, tax receipts from retail trade and restaurants

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling



also grew briskly,” Hegar added.

Total sales tax revenue for the three months ending in April 2018 was up 9.8 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. Revenue from other major taxes on motor vehicle sales and rentals, motor fuel and oil and natural gas production also rose in April 2018.

Amnesty program starts

Comptroller Hegar on April 30 reminded Texans about the temporary tax amnesty program giving certain delinquent taxpayers a chance to make their accounts compliant with state tax law without incurring penalties and interest on tax due.

The Texas Tax Amnesty Program began May 1 and runs until June 29. The program applies to periods prior to Jan. 1, 2018, and only includes liabilities that have not been previously reported to the Comptroller.

Passed by the Texas Legislature in 2017, Senate Bill 1 requires the Comptroller of Public Accounts to establish a tax amnesty program to encourage voluntary reporting by:

- Delinquent taxpayers who do not have a Texas Sales and Use Tax Permit or are not registered for a tax or fee administered by the Comptroller’s office; and

- Taxpayers who have a permit but may have underreported or owe additional taxes or fees.

Engineers list projects

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on May 1 released an initial list of projects to address high-priority needs in states recently impacted by natural disasters, including several in Texas in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey.

According to the Corps of Engineers, an allocation of some \$360 million will be used to address 32 projects in 12 states. The funding is included in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, which was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Trump in February.

“As Texas continues on the road to recovery, our shipping channels and bayous are among the highest priorities for investment and repair,” said Gov. Greg Abbott. “These projects and improvements will address concerns in a number of local communities affected by Harvey and help combat future flood events. I thank the Army Corps of Engineers for their commitment to these initial projects and look forward to expanding upon this list as Texas continues to recover and rebuild.”

Among plans on the list of Texas repair projects are:

- Buffalo Bayou and tributaries;
- Corpus Christi Ship Channel;
- Galveston Harbor and Channel;
- Gulf Intracoastal Waterway;
- Houston Ship Channel;
- Matagorda Ship Channel;
- Sabine Neches Waterway; and
- Wallisville Lake.

Gov. Abbott authorizes Harris County Emergency Special Election For Flood-Control Projects

AUSTIN - Governor Greg Abbott today sent a letter approving a request by the Harris County Commissioners Court to hold an emergency special election for a bond referendum on Saturday, August 25th.

“As you know, I consider responding to matters concerning Hurricane Harvey to qualify as an emergency,” writes Governor Abbott. “As this request for an emergency special election was duly passed by a unanimous vote of the Harris County Commissioners Court, I hereby grant approval as Governor of Texas for this emergency special election to be called for bonds to fund flood-related mitigation projects that respond to Hurricane Harvey.”

The Governor’s letter details the billions in federal funding sources currently available to Harris County for flood and hazard mitigation projects, including: funds for buyouts and elevations of flood prone properties; drainage and reservoir projects that reduce future flooding; other projects that lessen the frequency or severity of flooding; flood risk reduction projects such as dams, retention basins, levees, floodwalls, seawalls, jetties, sand dunes, and large-scale channeling of waterways; and countless other projects.

Importantly, the Governor points out that Congress “purposefully provided much of those matching dollars through Community Development Block Grant funds so that local governments would not need to match the federal grants.” For example, funds are available today for Harris County to draw from the \$500 million in FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP); and Harris County may choose to use Community Development Block Grant–Disaster Recovery (CDBG–DR) funds for the HMGP cost-share match for eligible projects.

Additionally, Harris County and the City of Houston, together, have already been allocated \$2.27 billion in CDBG–DR funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

UTLX Manufacturing LLC, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an amendment to Air Quality Permit Number 5566, which would authorize modification to existing Railroad Tank Car Manufacturing and Coating Operations at 16923 Beaumont Highway, Houston, Harris County, Texas 77049. Additional information concerning this application is contained in the public notice section of this newspaper.

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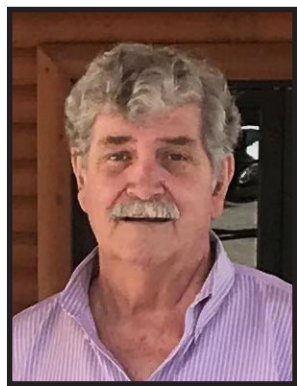
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OBITUARIES

LENNY McCLOSKY



Lenny McClosky, age 64, left for his biggest fishing trip on May 7, 2018. He was born James Leonard McClosky Jr., on January 17, 1954 to James McClosky and Joy Fay Sanford who preceded him in death. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Wynn (Susie) Stutte McClosky. His children Stephanie Davis and husband Jason, Patrick Scott McClosky and wife Sheri, Danny Ray McClosky and wife Vanessa, his sister Patricia Brown and husband Steve, 6 grandchildren, numerous nieces, nephews, and many friends.

He was a man of few

words, except for his closest friends and family, and paved his own path in his own special way. He grew up fishing, deer hunting, water skiing, barbequeing and continued that through the rest of his life. He had an amazing work ethic, and any new task he tried to do he always accomplished as if he'd been doing it his whole life. He was a good friend who would be there if anyone ever needed help, and he had numerous friends who never hesitated to return the favor. He lived life on his own terms and was admired and respected by many. He will be greatly missed and leaves a hole in the hearts of the many who knew and loved him.

A visitation for family and friends will be held on Thursday, May 10, 2018 from 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm, at Sterling-White Funeral Home. A Celebration of Life will follow at 3:00 pm. Interment will be in private. Arrangements have been entrusted to Sterling White Funeral Home, 11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd., Highlands, Texas 77562. To send the family condolences please visit www.sterlingwhite.com.

STEVEN SLOAN



Steve Sloan, 66, went to be with the Lord on Saturday, April 28, 2018. He was born on September 11, 1951 in Huntington, West Virginia to Luther Sloan, Sr. and Lockie Pim Cook Sloan. Steve had a great sense of humor and was the Life of The Party. He loved karaoke, playing golf, and going fishing. Steve will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Lockie and Luther Sloan, Sr.; brothers, James Sloan and Henry Sloan; and sisters, Thelma Lucas, Sara "Belle" Lucas, Mana Colgrove, Martha Herford, and Avis McClellan.

Steve is survived by his beloved wife, Nita Sloan; son, Randall Sloan; sister, Francis Bowers; brothers, Luther Sloan, Austin Sloan, and John Sloan; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A visitation will be held from 9:00am to 11:00am on Saturday, May 12, 2018 at Sterling White Funeral Home. Funeral services will follow at 11:00am. Interment will be in Sterling White Cemetery. Arrangements have been entrusted to Sterling-White Funeral Home, 11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd., Highlands, Texas 77562. To offer condolences to the family, please visit www.sterlingwhite.com.

DR. SAM C. PURKHISER



Dr. Sam C. Purkhiser, 92, of Crosby was born April 26, 1926, in Healdton, OK and passed away Saturday, April 30, 2018, in a Baytown healthcare facility. He was a U. S. Navy WWII veteran and a member of the American Legion and the Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce. He owned the Crosby Lawnmower Service from 1986 until 2010 and retired from the Northeast Freeway Baptist Church, where he enjoyed preaching. He loved his church family and the entire Crosby Community.

He was preceded in death by his parents, George and Janie Purkhiser and wife of 68 years, Lillian J. Purkhiser. He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, David and Heidi Purkhiser and grandsons, D. J., Matthew, Jonathan, and Jacob Purkhiser.

His family will receive friends at Navarre Funeral Home on Monday, May 7, 2018, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Funeral services will be Tuesday, May 8, 2018, at 10:30 a.m. at Crosby Church, 5725 Highway 90, Crosby, TX 77532, with Rev. Mark Thrift and Rev. Mark Bailey officiating. Burial with military honors will follow at Evergreen Cemetery in Crosby.

Rotary talk:
Barbed wire
in the West

Rotarians heard about the development of the Western United States, and how the invention and use of barbed wire helped promote this expansion.

The speaker was Denise Kurt, a member of the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo Speakers Committee. She is also a licensed attorney, who works for the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. She also volunteers for other projects, and helped distribute needed supplies after Hurricane Harvey.

Barbed Wire was invented in 1867 and a Mr. Glidden became known as the "father" of barbed wire. His company was the leading manufacturer, and it eventually changed into American Steel and then U. S. Steel. He became one of the richest men in the country.

In 1862 Congress passed the Homestead Act, and families moved west to settle. They got 160 acres free, if they stayed five years.


At this time, a conflict developed between the farmer settlers and the ranchers, who preferred "open range" for their animals. Barbed Wire helped end cattle drives in the late 1880s, and contributed to the demise of the buffalo. It's nickname was "The Devil's Rope."

Serving as pallbearers will be his grandsons and David Wurts and Tristen Reeves.

To view the online obituary or to post a tribute for the family, go to www.navarrefuneralhome.com

Arrangements are under the direction and personal care of Navarre Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 2444 Rollingbrook Dr., Baytown, TX, 77521 (281) 422-8111.

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



In their streets they have girded themselves with sackcloth; on their housetops and in their squares everyone is weeping, dissolved in tears. Heshbon and Elealeh also cry out, their voice is heard all the way to Jahaz; therefore the armed men of Moab cry aloud; his soul trembles within him. ISAIAH 15:3,4

HMJ Students Thank J. J. Watt
for Donation from the Justin J.
Watt Foundation



Photos by Carrie Pryor-Newman

J. J. Watt high-fives a Horace Mann Junior School basketball player after shooting some hoops with the team. The Justin J. Watt Foundation donated some athletic equipment to HMJ, and the students were excited to have the opportunity to thank J. J. in person.



Horace Mann Junior School athletes gather around J. J. Watt as they get ready to shoot some hoops with him. Watt's Foundation generously donated athletic equipment to the school.

WESTON COTTEN, ATTORNEY
BAYTOWN
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FAITH
can move
MOUNTAINS
Matthew 17:20

Attorney at Law
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I Corinthians 13:8

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PHILIPPIANS 4:13

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Psalm: 46:1

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to the glory He will
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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

San Jac College recognizes outstanding students at annual award ceremonies

PASADENA, Texas – The San Jacinto College student engagement and activities offices recently held their annual student award ceremonies to recognize outstanding students, student organizations and student leaders.

Elisandra Garcia was named the 2018 San Jacinto College North Campus Outstanding Student Organization Leader of the Year as the vice president of the North Campus Student Government Association.



Photo by Melissa Trevizo/San Jacinto College



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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of public sale of property to satisfy a landlord's lien.

Sale to be held at Sierra Ranch Storage at 8720 Sierra Ranch Dr., Houston, TX 77044 on May 18 at 10:00 AM. Clean up deposit is required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale. Unit items sold as-is to the highest bidder. Property includes the contents of space of the following tenant Skyy Walker: miscellaneous household items and clothing.

CAPITOL UPDATE

Rep. Hernandez responds to AG Paxton's suit to end DACA

HOUSTON, TX. May 1, 2018 – Following Attorney General Paxton's announcement that he will file suit to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program, State Representative Ana Hernandez (D-Houston), issued the following statement.

"It is unfortunate that, on International Worker's Day, Attorney General Paxton has decided to file

yet another frivolous lawsuit despite the numerous times that DACA has been upheld in federal court," Hernandez said. "Ending this program would be catastrophic for Texas, costing the state \$6 billion in annual GDP* and thousands of jobs. The state would stand to lose up to 2,000 DACA-recipient classroom teachers, denying our kids quality educators."

Rep. Hernandez to draft Legislation Cracking Down on Revenge Porn

AUSTIN, TX., April 25, 2018 – The 12th Court of Appeals struck down Senate Bill 1135, which established penalties for the distribution of revenge pornography, the distribution of intimate photos of an individual without their consent with the intent to harm them.

The Court's ruling rested on its opinion that the law violated the First Amendment by restricting expression based on the content of the intimate media shared online. The Court also argued that the alleged vagueness of the law infringed on third parties who might unknowingly share personal images.


Today, State Representative Ana Hernandez (D-Houston), officially submitted a legislative drafting request for a bill to restore the state's revenge

porn penalties.

"Victims of these crimes can't wait on courts to get it right. We need to prepare the groundwork right now to make sure that, come next session, we have laws on the books to hold predators who exploit access to personal images accountable," Hernandez said. "Senator Sylvia Garcia and my colleague, Representative Mary Gonzalez, have been fierce champions on this issue, fighting for and passing our current revenge porn penalties. I am committed to following their lead and continuing the fight in the Texas Legislature."

Over previous legislative sessions, Representative Hernandez has passed numerous bills to crack down on sexual predators, from expanding the state's criminal DNA database to shutting down sex trafficking rings.

ASK DIAMOND JIM



Diamond Jim: "What is the birthstone for May?"

MAY BIRTHSTONE IS EMERALD

May birthdays fall right in the heart of spring, and the emerald is the perfect gem to symbolize and celebrate this month. Prized for its brilliant and beautiful green color, the emerald is often favored by the rich and famous to wear as statement pieces for big events.

But this beautiful gem is just at home in an unassuming pendant as it is in an ornate tiara.

As the birthstone for May, the emerald, a symbol of rebirth, is believed to grant the owner foresight, good fortune, and youth. Emerald, derived from the word "smaragdus," means, quite literally, "green" in Greek.

Like aquamarine, emerald is a variety of beryl, a mineral that grows with six sides and up to a foot in length. Emerald color can range from light green (though there is some argument whether these very light beryls are truly emeralds) to a deep, rich green. Emeralds are also like aquamarine in that the way the color is presents itself in jewelry depends on a good cut by a skilled gemologist.

The deeper or more green an emerald, the more valuable it is. The rarest emeralds will appear to be an intense green-blue. Emeralds are found all over the world, including Colombia, Brazil, Afghanistan and Zambia. The availability of high-quality emerald is limited; consequently, treatments to improve clarity are performed regularly.

The emerald was mined in Egypt as early as 330 BC, but some estimate that the oldest emeralds are 2.97 billion years old. Cleopatra is perhaps the most famous historical figure to cherish emeralds. She even claimed ownership of all emerald mines in Egypt during her reign. The Egyptians used emeralds both in jewelry, and in their elaborate burials, often burying emeralds with monarchs as symbols of protection.

Like other gemstones, the emerald was believed to have many mystical powers that accompanied its beauty. There were those who thought the emerald could cure stomach problems, control epilepsy and stop bleeding. Maybe due to its soothing green color, it was also thought to be able to ward off panic and keep the wearer relaxed and serene.

Today, emerald is a symbol of loyalty, new beginnings, peace and security, making it not only a beautiful gem to wear, but also a meaningful gift to be treasured by the receiver. It is still widely prized by the rich and famous, with Elizabeth Taylor's famous emerald pendant selling for \$6.5 million in 2011.

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 emailjims@pineforestjewelry.com.

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CITY OF JACINTO CITY

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS, THE CITY OF JACINTO CITY HAS RECEIVED A VARIANCE HEARING APPLICATION. MR. HECTOR E. SALINAS AT 1713 HOLLAND AVENUE IS REQUESTING A VARIANCE FOR A MACHINE SHOP AND TO CHANGE THE REAR SETBACK LINE AT THAT ADDRESS.

THE BOARD WILL HEAR THE PETITION ON MAY 22ND, 2018 AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE CITY HALL ANNEX, 10301 MARKET STREET. ANY INTERESTED PERSON MAY ATTEND.

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION FOR AN AIR QUALITY PERMIT

PERMIT NUMBER: 5566

APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION.

UTLX Manufacturing LLC, 16923 Beaumont Highway, Houston, Texas 77049-1050, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an amendment to Air Quality Permit Number 5566, which would authorize modification to Railroad Tank Car Manufacturing and Coating Operations at 16923 Beaumont Highway, Houston, Harris County, Texas 77049. This application was submitted to the TCEQ on September 12, 2016. The existing facility will emit the following contaminants: carbon monoxide, exempt solvents, nitrogen oxides, organic compounds, hazardous air pollutants, particulate matter including particulate matter with diameters of 10 microns or less and 2.5 microns or less and sulfur dioxide.

The executive director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit which, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The executive director has made a preliminary decision to issue the permit because it meets all rules and regulations. The permit application, executive director's preliminary decision, and draft permit will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ central office, the TCEQ Houston regional office, and at the Sheldon Municipal Utility District Administrative Offices, 9419 Lamkin Road, Houston, Harris County, Texas, beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review at the TCEQ Houston Regional Office, 5425 Polk Street Suite H, Houston, Texas.

PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comment or to ask questions about the application. The TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing. **You may submit additional written public comments within 30 days of the date of newspaper publication of this notice in the manner set forth in the AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION paragraph below.**

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION. After the deadline for public comments, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material or significant public comments. Because no timely hearing requests have been received, after preparing the response to comments, the executive director may then issue final approval of the application. **The response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or is on a mailing list for this application, and will be posted electronically to the Commissioners' Integrated Database (CID).**

INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE. When they become available, the executive director's response to comments and the final decision on this application will be accessible through the Commission's Web site at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid. Once you have access to the CID using the above link, enter the permit number for this application which is provided at the top of this notice. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to application.
<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=29.8653&lng=-95.1383&zoom=13&type=r>.

MAILING LIST. You may ask to be placed on a mailing list to obtain additional information on this application by sending a request to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION. Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html, or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address and physical address will become part of the agency's public record. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the Public Education Program toll free at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from UTLX Manufacturing LLC at the address stated above or by calling Kathy Winkler, Senior Environmental Engineer at (281) 847-8200.

Notice Issuance Date: April 11, 2018

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Notice of Draft Federal Operating Permit

Draft Permit No.: O1729

Application and Draft Permit.

UTLX Manufacturing LLC, 16923 Old Beaumont Hwy 90, Houston, TX 77049, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a renewal and revision of Federal Operating Permit (herein referred to as Permit) No. O1729, Application No. 25235, to authorize operation of the Sheldon Manufacturing, a Railroad Rolling Stock Manufacturing facility. The area addressed by the application is located at 16923 Old Beaumont Highway 90 in Houston, Harris County, Texas 77049. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to the application. You can find an electronic map of the facility at: <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=29.86583&lng=-95.13722&zoom=13&type=r>. This application was received by the TCEQ on September 6, 2016.

The purpose of a federal operating permit is to improve overall compliance with the rules governing air pollution control by clearly listing all applicable requirements, as defined in Title 30 Texas Administrative Code § 122.10 (30 TAC § 122.10). The draft permit, if approved, will codify the conditions under which the area must operate. The permit will not authorize new construction. The executive director has completed the technical review of the application and has made a preliminary decision to prepare a draft permit for public comment and review. The executive director recommends issuance of this draft permit. The permit application, statement of basis, and draft permit will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ Central Office, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Building E, First Floor, Austin, Texas 78753; the TCEQ Houston Regional Office, 5425 Polk Street, Suite H, Houston, Texas 77023-1452; and the Sheldon Municipal Utility District Admin. Office, 9419 Lamkin Road, Houston, Texas 77049-1026, beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The draft permit and statement of basis are available at the TCEQ Website:

www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/tvnotice

At the TCEQ central and regional offices, relevant supporting materials for the draft permit, as well as the New Source Review permits which have been incorporated by reference, may be reviewed and copied. Any person with difficulties obtaining these materials due to travel constraints may contact the TCEQ central office file room at (512) 239-1540.

Public Comment/Notice and Comment Hearing. Any person may submit written comments on the draft permit. Comments relating to the accuracy, completeness, and appropriateness of the permit conditions may result in changes to the draft permit.

A person who may be affected by the emission of air pollutants from the permitted area may request a notice and comment hearing. The purpose of the notice and comment hearing is to provide an additional opportunity to submit comments on the draft permit. The permit may be changed based on comments pertaining to whether the permit provides for compliance with 30 TAC Chapter 122 (examples may include that the permit

does not contain all applicable requirements or the public notice procedures were not satisfied). The TCEQ may grant a notice and comment hearing on the application if a written hearing request is received within 30 days after publication of the newspaper notice. The hearing request must include the basis for the request, including a description of how the person may be affected by the emission of air pollutants from the application area. The request should also specify the conditions of the draft permit that are inappropriate or specify how the preliminary decision to issue or deny the permit is inappropriate. All reasonably ascertainable issues must be raised and all reasonably available arguments must be submitted by the end of the public comment period. If a notice and comment hearing is granted, all individuals that submitted written comments or a hearing request will receive written notice of the hearing. This notice will identify the date, time, and location for the hearing.

Written public comments and/or requests for a notice and comment hearing should be submitted to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087, or electronically at www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html and be received within 30 days after the date of newspaper publication of this notice. Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address and physical address will become part of the agency's public record.

A notice of proposed final action that includes a response to comments and identification of any changes to the draft permit will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments, a hearing request, or requested to be on the mailing list for this application. This mailing will also provide instructions for public petitions to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to request that the EPA object to the issuance of the proposed permit. After receiving a petition, the EPA may only object to the issuance of a permit which is not in compliance with the applicable requirements or the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 122.


Mailing List. In addition to submitting public comments, a person may ask to be placed on a mailing list for this application by sending a request to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address above. Those on the mailing list will receive copies of future public notices (if any) mailed by the Chief Clerk for this application.

Information. For additional information about this permit application or the permitting process, please contact the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Public Education Program, MC-108, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087 or toll free at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained for UTLX Manufacturing LLC by calling Mr. Randall S. McDougal at (281) 591-3621.

Notice Issuance Date: April 24, 2018

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Crosby TX 77532

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Robert Turner
Owner