

NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

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

SUNDAY

Father's Day

June 17

Town Hall

Open to public to learn about flood protection alternatives and action. Wednesday, June 20, 7 p.m. at Denver Harbor Multi-Service Center, 6402 Market Street, Houston, 77020. For more information visit www.AdrianGarcia.org

Commissioners Court puts \$2.5b flood bond on Aug. 25 ballot

If approved by voters, Flood Protection Bond issue would finance major flood protection projects

HOUSTON, June 12, 2018 - Harris County Commissioners Court voted today to place a \$2.5 billion bond proposal on the Aug. 25 ballot, asking voters to finance a 10- to 15-year program of flood mitigation projects that include drainage improvements, upgraded warning systems, infrastructure repairs, home buyouts, and construction of more detention basins. County Judge Ed Emmett said today that the goal of the bond issue is to speed up a host of projects that ultimately will provide greater protection for county residents and their property.

"After a series of catastrophic floods in recent years, Harris County residents rightly expect major improvements in the way we protect our homes and residents from disaster," Emmett said. "We must take steps now to make our county more resilient. We all saw the way that Texans helped Texans during the Memorial Day floods of 2015, the Tax Day floods of 2016 and Hurricane Harvey last year. Now is our chance to

See Flood Bond, page 6

East Harris County Emergency Service names Rep. Hernandez Legislator of the Year

Supporting First Responders

East Harris County Emergency Service recognized Rep. Ana Hernandez as Legislator of the Year during the North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce June Luncheon.

"When minutes count, our first responders go into harm's way to get the job done. From tackling wildfires to providing on-site medical care when the unthinkable happens, their services can often mean the difference between life and death," said Rep. Hernandez. "Supporting firefighters, peace officers, and ambulatory personnel



Rep. Hernandez, middle, joined by North Channel Area Chamber staff and local emergency service district leadership during her recognition as Legislator of the Year. L to R, Jimmy Sumner, Administrator, East Harris County ESD#50, Margie Buentello, president/CEO North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce, State Representative Ana Hernandez, Brenda Biggers, Commissioner ESD#50, William Anders, Commissioner ESD#12. (Photo by Allan Jamail for the NC Star)

in their mission to keep our communities safe is one of the most solemn responsibilities we have as state lawmakers."

"I was incredibly humbled to have been honored as Legislator of the Year by the East Harris County emergency service districts while recognizing first responders," Rep. Hernandez said.

"Supporting the men and women who provide emergency services to our neighborhoods has been a priority throughout my work in Austin. I'm proud of my record of working to pass the following impor-

See Legislator of the Year, Page 8

Sergeant James Knox new Galena Park Police Chief

By Allan Jamail

Galena Park, TX. - June 12, 2018 The City of Galena Park has hired their 3rd Chief of Police in two years. Hiring a 30 year Galena Park police veteran, Sergeant James Michael Knox was sworn in Friday, June 8th.

After serving only 4 months retired 30 year Houston Police Officer Richard "Rick" Gonzales was asked to resign. Gonzales said, "in February I got a call from former Sheriff Adrian Garcia who asked me for my resume, when I asked him what for, he replied, the mayor of Galena Park is looking for a Police Chief and I need your resume immediately." Mayor Esmeralda Moya called me on February 22, 2018 and asked me to come to city hall the next day so she could swear me in as Interim Chief.

"I wasted no time meeting citizens, school administrators, heads of different departments, and business owners. The mayor said she was receiving good responses from the citizens regarding my presence in the community, and asked me to be the Chief as long as she was Mayor," Gonzales said.

"I was under the impression I was to reduce crime and enhance the quality of life in the neighborhoods, I was doing that until the Mayor said for me to stop. I



Galena Park's Interim Police Chief James Knox holding a new protective vest from armor-piercing rifle bullets to be issued to every officer in the department.

found the community tremendously divided and my addressing issues of the community are not what the Mayor seems to want," Gonzales said. Gonzales posted his resignation letter on his Facebook page.

See Police Chief, Page 8

Jacinto City to offer free dog neutering and cat spaying

By Allan Jamail

Jacinto City Mayor Ana Diaz presented K-9 Angels Rescue President R. D. Kissling and others an appreciation award for providing citizens with free dog neutering and cat spaying services.

President Kissling accepted the award that recognized volunteers serving The Empty Shelter Project, K-9 Angels Rescue, SAVE Rescue, Memorial Vet Clinic, Petset and Friends of County Pets.

The first event in Jacinto City was in July of 2017 and it set a record for having performed 374 dog neutering and cat spaying



Jacinto City Mayor Ana Diaz presenting an award to President R. D. Kissling of K-9 Angels Rescue.

on pets.

The free service is made possible from donations and grants with cost of twenty thousand dollars per event, they've had 6

See Free Neutering & Spaying, page 8

San Jacinto Pilot Club installs new leadership



San Jacinto Pilot Club new officers with District Governor-Elect Gail Wilson, left. Next to her, new president Julie Fallin, Karen Westbrooks, Carolyn Roberts, and Joan Van Fleet.

Wednesday, June 6, 2018, the San Jacinto Pilot Club installed their new officers for the 2018-2019 Pilot year. Pilot International's Texas District Governor-Elect Gail Wilson was the installing officer for the

evening's banquet, held at the home of Jerry and Julie Fallin. Guests enjoyed a steak dinner while watching the sun set on Burnet Bay overlooking the historic San Jacinto Monument. Officers for the 2018-2019 year, which begins

July 1 are: Julie Fallin, President; Joan Van Fleet and Carolyn Roberts, Co-Secretary; and Karen Westbrooks, Treasurer. We wish all these officers the

See PILOT CLUB, page 6

NC Chamber honors "Hometown Heroes"

First Responders were honored, and thanked for their service, at a North Channel Chamber luncheon last Friday, June 1st.

Mike Williams gave an emotional talk about his experiences with First Responders, and then William Anders, commissioner of ESD12, made presentation to each First Responder that was present.

First Responders are firemen, EMT personnel, constable, sheriff's deputies, and policemen.

Representatives from most of the local departments were present to receive a certificate of appreciation.

Also honored was State Representative Ana Hernandez, recognized as "Legislator of the Year" by the Emergency Services District. CEO of Bayshore Medical Center welcomed the guests. The hospital was the host and paid for all meals for the participants. She also announced that BMC would open an Emergency Center on Beltway 8 in July.



Dr. ALAN LO and CEO JEANNA BAMBURG of the Bayshore Medical Center, with JIMMIE SUMNER of Channelview Fire Department.



MIKE WILLIAMS, left, was the keynote speaker. Center, WILLIAM ANDERS was the award presenter, and right, ANA HERNANDEZ.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Rodeo recognizes working youth



Sony Armstrong, Rick Larkin, "Tandy" Gillespie and Rick Loggins executive Crosby Fair & Rodeo Board members present the Top Hand Award to Blake Larkin, Senior Top Hand and Tristan Fuchs, Junior Top Hand for the 2018 Crosby Fair & Rodeo.

Hopper Primary educates children on sun safety



Hopper Primary kindergarten students sing about sun safety, modeling their sunglasses, their hats and the shirts they made as they participate in the "Ray and the Sunbeatables®" program, part of Be Well Baytown, an initiative of MD Anderson sponsored by ExxonMobil.

SAN JACINTO WASTE PITS

Post Harvey Meeting

Researchers and a local geologist to will present Post-Harvey findings.

Two important presentations in one meeting.

Wednesday, June 20
6:00 p.m.,
Highlands/San Jacinto
Community Center
604 Highland Woods Dr.,
Highlands, TX 77562.

Almost one year ago, Hurricane Harvey devastated our region. In Harvey's path were over 20 toxic waste sites. The site we focus on? The San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site. Join the community next Wednesday, June 20 to hear two different sets of research related to Harvey's after-

 \mathbf{math}

Both presenters will provide new post-Hurricane Harvey findings. The geologist will provide independent insight for the Waste Pits post-Harvey. This meeting is an incredible unique opportunity for you to hear what chemicals were found in the wristbands worn by local community members as they rebuilt their lives after Harvey.

Guest 1: Local Geologist and Professor of Environmental Management, Dr. Kathleen Garland. Dr. Garland examined the chronology of investigations and sampling events for the Waste Pits following Harvey. She will

present her interpretation of findings and summary of testing results.

Guest 2: Oregon State University and Texas A&M Researchers will provide findings from their post-Harvey wristband study. In September of 2017 a collaboration of Universities from across the country came together looking for volunteers to wear bracelets that could then be tested for over 1,500 chemicals. The results of the study are in.

Can't make it?
Join the San Jacinto River Coalition Tuesday, July 10 and August 7. Both meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Highlands Community Center.


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Moonwalk
for Kids

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11. Taurus "The Judge" SST 10th Anniv. Revolver
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COMMUNITY NEWS

San Jacinto College students attend prestigious NEW Leadership Texas program

HOUSTON, Texas – San Jacinto College North Campus students Anthonia Okolie and Fernanda Olvera were chosen to attend the University of Texas (UT) at Austin's NEW Leadership Texas program this summer.

NEW Leadership is a national nonpartisan program developed by the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University to address the underrepresentation of women in American politics. There are NEW Leadership programs in 25 states, and the program has been at UT since 2012.

"I applied late, not expecting to actually be chosen," Okolie said. "I'm truly honored to attend the program amongst other young women who are interested in public policy."

Both students applied for the program at the urging of their speech/communications professor, Monica Yancey.

"Professor Yancey made an announcement in class about the program, and it piqued my interest," said Olvera. "I had almost forgotten about it when she emailed me, Anthonia and a couple of other students encouraging us to apply.



Photo by Melissa Trevizo/San Jacinto College
San Jacinto College North Campus students Fernanda Olvera and Anthonia Okolie have been chosen to attend the University of Texas at Austin's NEW Leadership Texas program this summer.

She even wrote us letters of recommendation. Without her, this wouldn't be happening."

Okolie, a life science major with goals to become a pharmacist, doesn't necessary plan to run for office later in life, but intends to be involved in other ways.

"Where I'm from in Nigeria, as well as other parts of Africa, the democracies aren't really functional," Okolie said. "Coming to the U.S. with preconceived expectations, it's not really how I thought it would be. I think

if I can get involved and effect change, I would love to do that in the future."

Olvera, a business administration major, shares similar sentiments.

"I just turned 18, and I haven't had a chance to vote yet," Olvera said. "I feel like there are so many things going on in politics today that I don't agree with. If I can have even a small part in changing things, it will feel great."

The two San Jacinto College students will join 28 other women from across the state this month at UT.

Commissioner Rodney Ellis and Harris County Street Olympics Officials Kick-off Exciting Summer Games



Harris County Commissioner Rodney Ellis and State Rep. Ana Hernandez get Hula Hoop tips from youth who participated in the Harris County Street Olympics Summer Games kickoff on Tuesday.

Young Athletes Light Olympic Flame and Demonstrate "Street Games" that will Keep them Engaged in Positive Activities this Summer

Harris County Commissioner Rodney Ellis, joined by about 80 young athletes demonstrating "street games," on Tuesday kicked off the 32nd annual Street Olympics Summer Games.

Street Olympics officials and sponsors assisted Commissioner Ellis at Mickey Leland Memorial Park to highlight the exciting Olympic-style competition that begins June 9 at 90 Houston-area youth agencies, including three operated by Precinct One. Three youth also lit the Olympic flame.

About 5,000 Houston-area youth, ages 6-17, are expected to participate in the Summer Games, Discovery Camp, 3-on-3 Basketball, and Harris County Aquatics Program's Learn-to-Swim classes over an eight-week period. The Summer Games culminate in the Final Event, Bright Futures Fair and the closing ceremonies' "Parade of Champions" on Aug. 3 at NRG Arena.

"I want to let you know that Street Olympics programs are about more than just games," Commissioner Ellis said. "We are using sporting games to teach our youth about life, which involves teamwork, competition, self-esteem, discipline and confidence."

Before and after the announcement, youth from Precinct One's Finnigan Youth Education Town (YET) and Lincoln Park Community Center displayed their skills in basketball dribble, Hula Hoop, jump rope, kickball and football passing accuracy – just some of the 12 sports that aspiring young athletes will compete in over the summer.

"It felt good when I was walking (with the torch)," said Jackeline Hernandez, 11, of Lincoln Park, one of the torchbearers. "I had fun playing jump rope, Hula Hoop and kickball."

The event also featured live animals displayed by trained handlers from Precinct One's Environmental Education Program, which teaches children about animals and nature as part of the Street Olympics' Discovery Camps hosted each summer at Deussen

Park and Challenger Seven Learning Center in Precinct One.

"I learned about kickball, football and I touched the animals," said Taneyah Capers, 9, also a torchbearer who attends YET.

Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez, whose department is a Street Olympics' sponsor, thanked the nonprofit agency's Board of Directors, youth agencies, sponsors and the youth.

"We believe in you," Sheriff Gonzalez said to the children. "We support you. And we want to help make things better. We know that things aren't always in a good place, especially now."

The nonprofit Street Olympics mission is to implement and sustain programs that provide training, support and resources that lead to healthy and productive lives for youth.

"During the summer months," Commissioner Ellis said, "we use sports as the carrot to bring our youth to positive, structured activities. And we also engage their minds and build character in these young people."

U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers allocates \$500 Million for Texas projects

AUSTIN – June 12, 2018 – The U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers (USACE) has announced more than \$509 million in funding for multiple projects in Texas, including flood mitigation and critical work for the Brays and Buffalo Bayous, as well as the Matagorda and Corpus Christi Ship Channels. The funding will also provide resources for extensive studies of the Texas coastline to help make the state more resilient to future storms. This funding allocation is in addition to the disaster relief funding for Texas previously announced by the USACE.

"With Hurricane Harvey's devastation still fresh in our minds, and the next hurricane season upon us, the State of Texas is urgently focused on making our infrastructure more

resilient to future storms," said Governor Abbott. "This funding is essential to those efforts and to help minimize the loss of human lives and damage to infrastructure and property. I thank the USACE, Texas congressional delegation and the Office of Management and Budget for recognizing the critical importance of these projects, and I look forward to their completion."

Other projects that the USACE announced they will allocate funding to include:

Feasibility Studies Funded:

- Brazos Island Harbor
- Corpus Christi Ship Channel
- Brazos River Floodgates and Colorado River Lock
- Galveston Harbor Channel Extension

- Houston Ship Channel
 - Matagorda Ship Channel
 - Sabine Neches Waterway
- Construction Projects Funded:
- Corpus Christi Ship Channel
- See a full list of construction projects funded from the USACE.
- Operations & Maintenance Construction Projects Funded:
- Brazos Island Harbor
 - Channel to Harlingen
 - Channel to Port Bolivar
 - Corpus Christi Ship Channel
 - Freeport Harbor
 - Galveston Harbor And Channel
 - Channel To Victoria
 - Gulf Intracoastal Waterway

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OPINION PAGE

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling

Top officials join in briefing about hurricane preparedness

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott on June 6 joined President Donald Trump, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen, FEMA Administrator Brock Long, White House cabinet members and governors from across the country for a video teleconference briefing on hurricane preparedness.

Along with Abbott in Austin were officials from various state agencies that oversee emergency response. The briefing was held to review lessons learned after the 2017 hurricane season. FEMA provided an overview of evacuation zones, clearance times, decision timelines, forecast uncertainty, responsible decision makers and public messaging.

Following the briefing, Abbott said Texas is getting resources ready and communication and response strategies together to protect families and property in the event of another hurricane. Abbott is encouraging Texans to prepare emergency supply kits, create communication plans, prepare homes for storms and heed warnings from local officials.

The 2018 Atlantic hurricane season began on June 1 and will end on Nov. 30.

Unit reaches milestone

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on June 6 announced his office's Fugitive Apprehension Unit achieved its 10,000th arrest.

The unit works jointly with the U.S. Marshals Lone Star Fugitive Task Force.

"This major milestone is a testament to our Fugitive Apprehension Unit's hard work and dedication. These courageous law enforcement officers have successfully arrested 10,000 fugitives and provided invaluable protection for Texans," Paxton said.

The unit includes 22 investigators, three criminal analysts, two administrative assistants and a five-person command staff who operate in regional offices in Austin, Houston and Arlington. The unit's mission is to locate and arrest violent fugitives and convicted child sex offenders who violate conditions of their parole, as well as sex offenders who fail to comply with the state's mandated sex offender registration requirements. It also assists in locating missing and endangered runaway children reported by local law enforcement agencies to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Tax revenue reported

Texas Comptroller Hegar on June 4 said state sales tax revenue totaled \$2.76 billion in May, an amount 10.2 percent higher than the amount reported in May 2017.

Strong growth in sales tax revenue was apparent across all major economic sectors, Hegar

said. "While the most rapid growth was in remittances from the construction and oil and gas-related sectors, significant gains also came from information services, restaurants and retail trade," he added.

Hegar also said state franchise tax revenue for May was \$3.23 billion, 1.4 percent more than in May 2017. Year-to-date franchise tax revenue is up 11.3 percent, he noted.

Tax revenue distributed

Comptroller Hegar on June 6 announced his office would send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts some \$710.4 million in local sales tax allocations for the month of June.

The amount is 11 percent more than the Office of the Comptroller distributed a year earlier, in June 2017.

The allocations are based on sales made in April by businesses that report tax monthly.

Depository is operating

Comptroller Hegar on June 6 announced the opening of the Texas Bullion Depository in Austin. It is the first state-administered, precious-metals depository in the United States.

The Texas Legislature in 2017 passed a law opening the door for the creation of the depository, which will accept deposits of gold, silver, platinum, palladium and rhodium.

"I can't think of any place else in the world that could create a bullion depository this way and I've heard from legislators across the country who want to do what we are doing, from Tennessee to Utah," said state Rep. Giovanni Capriglione, R-Southlake, author of the legislation that created the depository as a state agency under the Comptroller's purview. "We will see a lot of financial interest in this depository, with gold, silver and other commodities coming here."

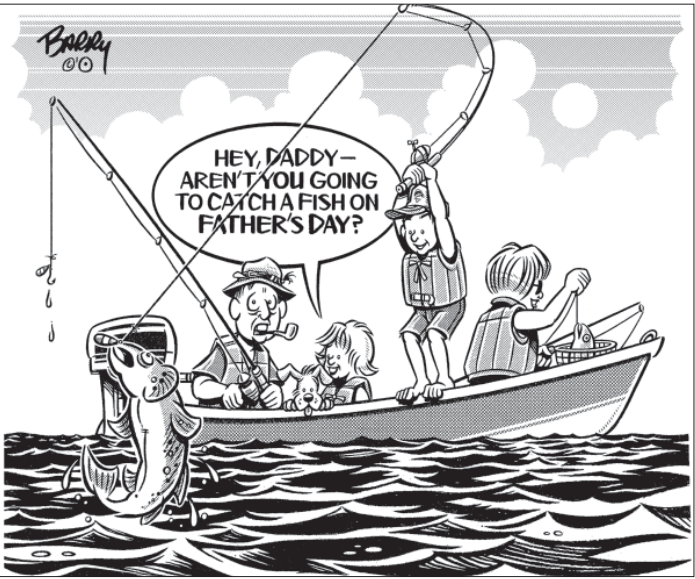
Plans call for the depository to be relocated to a site in Leander, a city just north of Austin, in 2019. Austin-based Lone Star Tangible Assets operates the facility.

TEA: Special evaluations

Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath on June 6 announced school districts, campuses and open-enrollment charter schools directly affected by Hurricane Harvey would be eligible for special evaluation in this year's state accountability system if they meet a specific criterion.

Under the agency's Hurricane Harvey Provision, 2018 accountability ratings would be generated for eligible districts, charter schools and campuses using available data.

If a campus meeting at least one of the Hurricane Harvey criteria receives an "Improvement Required" rating, the campus would be labeled "Not Rated."



Tell Congress newsprint tariffs threaten your paper... and you

Do you rely on your local newspaper to keep up with how your tax dollars are being spent? If so, tell your congressman you don't want a tariff to put the paper out of business.

A new study shows communities that lose their newspapers suffer an alarming increase in the cost of local government because there's no watchdog reporting on how your hard-earned

money is spent.

A new "temporary" tariff on Canadian newsprint — the paper used to print 75 percent of American newspaper pages — poses a dire threat if it becomes permanent. Simply put, your hometown paper can't exist if it costs more to print than it earns in revenue. The accompanying article by David Chavern, president of the News Media

Alliance, details this dangerous situation.

Under the arcane and almost unfathomable rules of U.S. trade policy, the newspaper industry isn't allowed to formally make its case to the administration, which will decide soon whether to make the tariff permanent. Members of Congress, on the other hand, may submit official comments to be considered.

The Texas newspaper industry has urged our 36 House members and both members of the Senate to help fight the tariff. So far, only a handful have agreed to so. Signing on as co-sponsors of HR 6031, a bill that would put the brakes on the tariff, are Reps. Bill Flores, R, Bryan; Rep. Louie Gohmert, R-Tyler, and Rep. Randy Weber, R-Friendswood. Providing letters of support for newspapers are Reps. Lamar Smith, R-San Antonio, and Mac Thornberry, R-Amarillo. Sen. John Cornyn has verbally stated that he opposes the tariff, and a spokesman for Rep. Roger Williams, R-Austin, said he plans a letter of support for newspapers.

That's only seven members of a total Texas delegation of 38 who are fighting for Texas' newspapers. Perhaps the others don't think taxpayers care. It's time for them to hear from you, the voter. Call. Write. Tell them you oppose the tariff because you depend on your local newspaper to serve as a watchdog.

Urge them take up this fight...not on newspapers' behalf, but on yours. And tell them you'll be watching to see what they do.

Texas Press

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LIFESTYLE

*Happy Anniversary
to a wonderful Couple!*



Jerry and Ellie Mc Donald of Sheldon Texas will be celebrating their wedding anniversary this month on June 21st 2018. They have been happily married for 55 years. They are blessed with two sons, 7 grandchildren and one great grand daughter.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School "LEGO Kingdom Builders" at Eastgate Church will be Monday through Friday evenings, June 25 - 29 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Eastgate VBS is for children ages 4-10 years old. Bring your children to be a part


of this really fun time. Eastgate Church is located at 1707 CR 611 - 6 miles east of Huffman on FM 1960 then south 1/4 mile at the Shell Station. For more information: <http://www.eastgate-church.com>

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

So he got up and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion for him, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

LUKE 15:20

Detail of "The Return of the Prodigal Son" by Rembrandt, 1642



Mutton Busters steal the show



Thursday night Sadie Linee Genseal won the mutton bustin' contest when she "Did like my Maw said," and hung on for a belt buckle. At right with Sponsor James Motley and Kaysin Marek, she shows her T-shirt from TB Jones.



Friday night Dacie Murray clung gracefully for an 8.9. At right with James Motley and Kaysin Bellyflop Marek. Not shown is T-shirt sponsor T.B. Jones.



Saturday above Melaina Maldonado rides for near 9 points. At right with James Motley and Kaysin "BellyFloP" Marek she holds aloft her belt buckle.



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can move
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Matthew 17:20

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PHILIPPIANS 4:13

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in trouble
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
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

Diamond Jim: "Do you know the story of the 'Wooden Bowl'?"



The Wooden Bowl

A frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law, and four-year-old grandson. The old man's hands trembled, his eyesight was blurred, and his step faltered. The family ate together at the table. But the elderly grandfather's shaky hands and failing sight made eating difficult. Peas rolled off his spoon onto the floor. When he grasped the glass, milk spilled on the tablecloth. The son and daughter-in-law became irritated with the mess. "We must do something about father," said the son. "I've had enough of his spilled milk, noisy eating, and food on the floor."

So the husband and wife set a small table in the corner. There, Grandfather ate alone while the rest of the family enjoyed dinner. Since Grandfather had broken a dish or two, his food was served in a wooden bowl. When the family glanced in

ASK DIAMOND JIM

Grandfather's direction, sometimes he had a tear in his eye as he sat alone. Still, the only words the couple had for him were sharp admonitions when he dropped a fork or spilled food. The four-year-old watched it all in silence.

One evening before supper, the father noticed his son playing with wood scraps on the floor. He asked the child sweetly, "What are you making?" Just as sweetly, the boy responded, "Oh, I am making a little bowl for you and Mama to eat your food in when I grow up." The four-year-old smiled and went back to work..

The words so struck the parents so that they were speechless. Then tears started to stream down their cheeks. Though no word was spoken, both knew what must be done. That evening the

husband took Grandfather's hand and gently led him back to the family table. For the remainder of his days he ate every meal with the family. And for some reason, neither husband nor wife seemed to care any longer when a fork was dropped, milk spilled, or the tablecloth soiled.

On a positive note, I've learned that, no matter what happens, how bad it seems today, life does go on, and it will be better tomorrow.

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.

History Makers

While attending the high school graduation celebration for Christopher Diaz, son of Harris County Precinct 2 Constable and Jacinto City Mayor Ana Diaz, I looked around the room and saw so much history. While Ana's father, Javier Gonzalez, was out on the dance floor with his sister, I smiled thinking how 18 years ago, he was a coworker of mine at San Jacinto College. I will never forget the day he came into my office to share that first picture of his grandson. He was beaming ear to ear with joy. Over the years, he has retired, yet stayed active in the community and certainly in the lives of his now six grandchildren.

I watched neighbors, coworkers, classmates and so many supporters gather at the reception. I could not help but count the blessings of living on the east side of Harris County. There were older couples who had been a part of Christopher's parents' lives. There were former Little League parents as well as parents of classmates. As I scanned the room, I saw employees from Galena Park High School as well as some local Precinct Chairs, State Representatives and plenty of little children who will contin-

CHARLOTTE'S WEB

By Charlotte Jackson

ue to look up to Christopher as a role model.

Local author, swim instructor and longtime environmental activist, Dee Maner was there trying to help identify anyone who I might not have known. My oldest son is now 31, but was probably five when he took his first swim lessons from her. Continuing to scan the room and I thought about how both Chris and Ana have proudly served Jacinto City as Councilmembers and as Mayor. They are true servant leaders. Always with an open mind and a ready ear, they are there to help.

Across the room, I saw Amir Khan, owner of many Holiday Inn locations in our city. In particular, he owns the Holiday Inn just east of Sheldon Road where North Shore Rotary has been meeting for several years. After seeing the many values of Rotary International, he took it upon himself to start a new Rotary Club out on the west side of town. The Rotary Club of the

Energy Corridor is one of the fast growing clubs in Rotary District 5890. Ask him why, and he will tell you that he learned quickly about Rotary through the individuals in our area who gave from the heart when a need arose.

Later in the evening as I was leaving, I was stopped by someone who asked me if I remembered when this "strip center" was home to a shoe store as well as an employment agency. As we stood outside talking about the ever evolving North Channel Community, we glanced across Federal Road and talked about how years ago, Armco Steel was the foundation of many families in our area. Two things for sure, time does not stand still for anyone and our community will continue to impact lives.

As always, I encourage YOU to get out and meet some new people. Learn what has made this community great and see how you can get involved in keeping it great. Be a life changer. Be a history maker.

Pilot Club,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

very best of luck this Pilot year.

San Jacinto Pilot Club also installed two new members: Lori Conger and Kamryn Koronka. The San Jacinto Pilot Club meets on the second Tuesday of each month at noon at the Amegy Bank building on I-10 (near Federal

Rd.). Membership is open to men and women in the community.

San Jacinto Pilot Club is a part of Pilot International, a 501(c)3 organization whose primary focuses are on youth development and leadership, brain safety and fitness, and caring for families in times of need.

Founded in 1921 in Macon, GA, the name of Pilot was inspired by the riverboat pilots who would steer a true course through calm or troubled water. Pilots serve under the motto "True Course Ever", and today they are charged to Do More, Care More and Be More.

For more information: www.SanJacintoPilot.com www.PilotInternational.org.

Flood Bond,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

work together to protect each other proactively."

The county's Budget Management Department has estimated that, if passed, the bond issue would result in an overall tax rate increase of 2-3 cents per \$100 assessed valuation - meaning that most homeowners would see an increase of no

more than 1.4 percent in their property tax after all bonds were sold. (Homeowners with an over-65 or disabled exemption and a home assessed at \$200,000 or less would pay no additional taxes.)

The Harris County Flood Control District has begun planning and scheduling a series of

23 "community engagement" meetings - one in each county watershed - to present proposed projects and to solicit public input on other potential flooding solutions in each area. The proposed project list, information about community engagement meetings and an online comment form are all available on the "Bond Program" website at www.hcfdc.org/bondprogram.

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FREE SUMMER MEALS FOR CHILDREN
PUBLIC RELEASE

This summer, the Galena Park Independent School District will be sponsoring the TDA Summer Food Service Program which will provide Free Breakfasts and Free Lunches to all children 18 years of age and younger. Serving sites and serving times are listed below.

This program is scheduled to run from June 4 until July 26, 2018. Program dates for each site will vary as well as serving hours. (See information listed below.) Children do not have to sign up for meals; they simply need to come to the school site during serving hours. Regulations require that meals must be eaten at the feeding site.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

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To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
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fax: (202) 896-7442; or
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This institution is an equal opportunity provider:

Site	Dates of Service	Breakfast Serving Time	Lunch Serving Time
Sam Houston Elementary	June 4 to July 12, 2018	7:20 – 8:30	10:45 - 12:45
4101 E. Sam Houston Pkwy, N., Houston 77015	Monday – Friday	(Site will be closed on July 4, 2018)	
Shirley J. Williamson Elementary	June 4 to July 12, 2018	7:20 – 8:30	10:45 –12:30
6720 New Forest Pkwy., Houston 77049	Monday – Friday	(Site will be closed on July 4, 2018)	
Galena Park Middle School	June 4 to 29, 2018	7:00 - 8:45	10:45 - 12:45
400 Keene St., Galena Park 77547	Monday – Friday		
MacArthur Elementary	June 4 to July 12, 2018	7:20 – 8:30	10:45 - 12:45
1801 N. Main, Galena Park 77547	Monday – Friday	(Site will be closed on July 4, 2018)	
North Shore Senior High	June 4 to 29, 2018	7:00 – 8:45	10:45 - 12:45
353 North Castlegory, Houston 77015	Monday – Friday		
Jacinto City Elementary	June 4 to July 12, 2018	7:20 – 8:30	10:45 – 12:30
10190 Wiggins, Houston 77029	Monday – Friday	(Site will be closed on July 4, 2018)	
Green Valley Elementary	June 7 to 29, 2018	7:20 – 8:30	10:45 – 12:30
13350 Woodforest Blvd, Houston 77015	Monday – Friday		
Normandy Crossing Elementary	June 4 – July 26, 2018	7:20 – 8:30	10:45 – 12:30
12500 Normandy Crossing Dr., Houston 77015	Monday – Thursday	(Site will be closed on July 4, 2018)	

For more information about the program contact the Galena Park I.S.D. Student Nutrition Dept. at 832-386-1211

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS CROSBY ISD'S Optional Flexible School Day Program
Crosby ISD will hold a public meeting at 7:00 pm, Monday, June 18, 2018 at the Crosby ISD Operations Center, 14670 FM 2100, Crosby, Texas 77532.
The purpose of this meeting is to review the performance of Crosby ISD's Optional Flexible School Day Program for Crosby Crossroads Academy and consider the proposed application for Crosby ISD's Optional Flexible School Day Program for the 2018-19 school year.

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NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

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Police Chief,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mayor Moya when asked about Gonzales' short 4 month stint as chief, she said, "I was getting lots of complaints from officers in the police department about the way Gonzales was supervising and other issues we heard were going on, if true this wasn't what we wanted. I had to make a change for the betterment of the department and the city, I was going to ask him to resign because I didn't want to fire him, and I think its best he resigned. I wish it hadn't come to this but it did and we must learn from it and move on."

New Interim Chief
James Michael Knox is 57 years old; this will be his third time to serve as Interim Chief, having previously served as Interim Chief under Mayors James

Havard and Bobby Barrett.

Knox has been a Sergeant for the past 25 years and holds a Master Peace Officers certification with the state. "For the time being I'm not going to make any big changes, I need to first get my feet on the ground and evaluate things. I know I want more police presence to cut down on crime which will require hiring additional officers," Knox said. Last month Gonzales awarded Knox as his Officer of the Year, calling him his Most Valuable Officer in the department.

Newly elected Police Commissioner Rodney Chersky said, "It was proven to be a necessary change. Chief Knox is a very well known, respected, highly capable and experienced police supervisor

who will, without a doubt, perform an outstanding job as the Galena Park Police Chief as he is a proven leader in our community. He and I have an excellent professional working relationship and together we will move the police department in a positive direction while bringing the necessary changes needed to enhance visibility, police services and response times for our citizens and to our community."

In June of 2016 Officer Edward Mata was hired as Interim Chief, serving only 8 months Mayor Moya asked him to resign. Officer Reese Martin a newcomer in the department was hired as Interim Chief in February of 2017; he resigned a year later in February 2018.

***Free Neutering &
Cat Spaying,***

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

events in Harris County since February 2017. The cost includes but is not limited to veterinary fees, vaccines, micro chips, the renting large trucks to transport tables, cages, and medical supplies. Many of the services and

work is performed by volunteers when possible to keep the cost down.

Every pet is implanted with a free micro chip with the identity and contact information of its owner should it get lost.

The next event in Jacin-

to City will be Saturday, June 23, at the city's gym, 1022 Mercury Drive. For information call 713-674-8424. Pets can be rabies vaccinated, get heart worm prevention and other disease preventing treatments at a discounted cost.

Legislator of the Year,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tant pieces of legislation-

- House Bill 2504, allowing local emergency services greater authority to utilize their resources to improve their services;
- House Bill 238, expanding the state's criminal DNA database to help peace officers solve cold cases, bring criminals to

- House Bill 238, expanding the state's criminal DNA database to help peace officers solve cold cases, bring criminals to

justice, and exonerate innocent persons;

- House Bill 834, fixing the state's broken Silver Alert system so local peace officers can find missing senior citizens;

- House Bill 530, creating scholarships for the children of fallen peace officers.

"Passing meaningful public safety laws is never easy, but with hard work and a willingness to take the lead on these important issues, progress can and does happen. Thank you for all you do for our community," Rep. Hernandez concluded.



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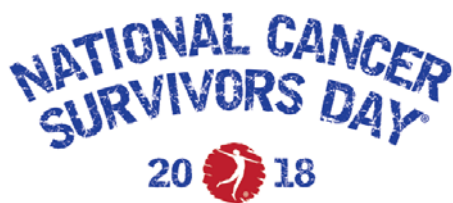


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