

NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

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Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City
VOLUME 6, NO. 28 (#232) THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2018 www.northchannelstar.com

CHANNEL CURRENTS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

You're Invited to Vacation Bible School!
Shipwrecked: Rescued By Jesus
Old River Terrace United Methodist Church and Iglesia Revive
July 23-26, 5:30 - 9:00 p.m.
4 yr olds - 11 yr olds
16102 East Freeway
Channelview, TX 77530
Call 281-452-2861 for more info.

Gene Green announces TxDOT Community workshop with ADA info

On Tuesday, July 24, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. the Texas Department of Transportation's will hold a Community Outreach Workshop & 28th Anniversary Celebration of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Hosted by TxDOT Houston District, Congressman Gene Green and North East Partners In Power, Inc.

North Shore Community Fellowship of Faith Church
444 Maxey Rd.
Houston, TX 77013

*Presentation and updates on TxDOT Projects including FM 526/Maxey Road Sidewalk, Federal Road Grade Separation and an opportunity to learn about ongoing and upcoming TxDOT construction projects that affect the ADA community, explore opportunities for improvement in the daily lives of individuals with disabilities, and celebrate the 28th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) movement in America.

Gubernatorial candidate visits in Jacinto City



Photo by Allan Jamail

Seated L – R seated: Lolyta Guerrero, Dr. Viola Garcia, Ximena Magana, Insulators Local Union Business Agent shaking hands with gubernatorial candidate Lupe Valdez (standing) and Lacy Wolf, Jr. Business Manager of the Insulators Local 22.

By Allan Jamail

JACINTO CITY, TX. - Tuesday, July 10, 2018, about 100 patrons at the 60 year old Jacinto City Café were surprised when Lupe Valdez, Democratic

Party Gubernatorial candidate dropped in for lunch along with State Senator Sylvia Garcia.

The locals crowd in for breakfast and lunch daily, except for Sundays, ordering off the full menu. The café is well known for its

good prices and home-style cooked food served from the steam table, bringing in daily about 200 people from the Jacinto City, Galena Park and North

See Candidate visits Jacinto City, Page 3

Jacinto City/Sheldon

Father kidnaps and kills kids, self

JACINTO CITY – Police were called to a home in the 11000 block of Verano Street last Thursday, June 12th at about 1:30 pm. What at first seemed like a missing child report on two grandchildren, called in by a frantic grandmother, developed soon into a much more horrendous crime.

At 2:20 pm a shooting was heard in the 14000 block of Edgemoor Street in the Sheldon area, near the intersection of old US90 and Beltway 8.

At that location, authorities discovered the bodies of the two missing children, Phillip Bernal, 12, and Sarah Wolfe, 8. They were in the back yard of a family home. Also in the yard was the body of the father, Cimarron Wolfe, 38, who was dead of a self-inflicted gunshot.

Harris County Sheriff's investigators reported that the father had shot and

killed the two children before killing himself. They said that the apparent motive was a domestic argu-



PHILLIP BERNAL, 12 & SARAH WOLFE 8

ment in the family. Sheriff Ed Gonzalez said "It's defi-



CIMARRON WOLFE

nitely a dark day here in Harris County, another situation of family violence. This happens too often and it's very sad and unfortunate."

New Emergency Facility opens

A new Emergency Treatment facility has opened on Beltway 8 East, near Wallisville Road.

A ribbon cutting was held on Monday of this week, to officially open the facility known as "HCA Houston ER-24/7." The Emergency Room is part of the Bayshore Medical Center, an HCA affiliated hospital.

HCA decided not to reopen their full service hospital, East Houston Medical Center on I-10, after it flooded last year with several feet of water over the first floor. This ruined all the medical equipment, making it too expensive to reopen, and with no guarantee it wouldn't flood



THE NORTH CHANNEL CHAMBER participated in the Ribbon Cutting, as well as members of the Bayshore and HCA staffs, and community members. Seen above, Bayshore CEO Jeanna Bamburg (in pink) cuts the ribbon, with the help of Dr. Alan Lo, Administrator Rachel Rivera, Judge Mike Parrott, who is head of the advisory board, Dr. Donald Nino, and Denise Smith, Rotary president.

again, according to Jeanna Bamburg, CEO of Bayshore Medical Center.

The new ER is for minor emergencies, with lab, radiology, and treatment rooms. It is staffed 24 hours, 7 days a week, with doctors and nurses. Major problems can be transferred to Bayshore Hospital. The ER-24/7 is located on the frontage road southbound, and can be reached from the Beltway or Wallisville Road. The official opening was Monday, and the staff is now treating all types of medical problems.

See page 2 for more details on the facility.

See New ER FACILITY, page 2

North Shore Rotary installs new officers and board

North Shore Rotarians held their 61st annual swearing-in ceremony for new officers and board of directors, on Friday, June 8th at the Monument Inn.

The emcee for the evening was Rotarian Wayne Oquin, who entertained the club with light-hearted stories and jokes.

The evening also included presentations of Paul Harris Fellows by Dr. Donald Nino.

Judge Joe Stephens presided over the swearing-in of the new president, Bill Bowes, and his officers and board. These included Ryan Dagley, president-elect; Lowell Everitt, Secretary; Shawn Silman, Treasurer; and Kenneth Wimbley, Sgt. at Arms.

Directors for 2017-19 are David Gray, Terri Denny, Norman Giles, Dan Mims, and Danna Lemmon. Directors for 2018-20 are Robert Boaz, Margie Buentello, Lee Brown, Shalonda Dawkins, and Jerry Dominy.

Service Directors are Danna Lemmon, Club Service; Dr. Donald Nino, International Service; Danna Lemmon, Vocational Service; Matt Davis, Community Service; and Derrick Painter, New Generations.



Judge Joe Stephens swears in the new North Shore Rotary president, Bill Bowes, at a ceremony June 8th at Monument Inn. (Contributed photos)



New North Shore Rotary President Bill Bowes addresses the club at the installation, talking about his program for the coming year. On display in front is the new Rotary International symbol for the year, "BE THE INSPIRATION."

Emmett, Culberson announce \$5 billion more for flood work

Funding will Complete all Federally Authorized Flood Control Projects in Houston and Harris County

HOUSTON, TX – Congressman John Culberson (TX-07) and Harris County Judge Ed Emmett last week announced the influx of more than \$4.5 billion in federal aid headed to Texas for flood prevention and mitigation efforts.

"This funding was secured as part of the hurricane relief bills I helped shepherd through Congress and, as promised, allows the Harris County Flood Control District to finish every federally authorized flood control project," Congressman Culberson said. "We know this money is vitally important, but it is only part of the solution. I will continue to fight for legislation that will help protect families, homes and businesses in the future."



Congressman John Culberson, Harris County Flood Control District Executive Director Russell Poppe, and Harris County Judge Ed Emmett (photo courtesy HPM)

Judge Emmett joined Congressman Culberson at the Jewish Community Center, which is located close to Brays Bayou. It suffered extensive damage because of flooding during Harvey. The current project underway by the Harris County Flood Control District is purposed to reduce flooding along the Brays Bayou and will receive \$75 million. The other projects receiving money are:

--Buffalo Bayou and Tributaries - \$1.4 million

--Clear Creek - \$295 million
--Hunting Bayou - \$65 million

--Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Coastal Storm Risk Management and Ecosystem Restoration Project - approximately \$4 billion

--White Oak Bayou - \$45 million

"If we truly hope to make our county and our region safer and more

See Flood Funds, Page 3

COMMUNITY NEWS

H.C.S.O. May Deputies of the month

On Friday June 29th; C.P.A.A.A. District III Honored 3 Deputies with Deputy of the month for their heroic duty in saving a life in May. Deputy Goins, Deputy Romero and Deputy Daniels; thank you for your service to Harris County!



Precinct 2 begins road improvements in Crosby Area

CROSBY, Texas – Commissioner Jack Morman announced the start of construction on a new BetterStreets2Neighborhoods (BS2N) project for Monday, July 16th along various roadways throughout the Crosby area. BS2N is a Precinct 2 program dedicated to preserving asphalt roadways by conducting base repairs, asphalt milling and overlay, as well as roadway button and striping replacement.

This \$2.8 million project will repair nearly 14 miles of roadway, including Runneburg Road, Kennings Road, and Reidland Road, among many others. Construction is expected to be complete in the fourth quarter of this year. Roadwork will require single-lane closures, so drivers are encouraged to plan their commutes accordingly and drive with caution through the construction

zones. Over the last year, Commissioner Morman's BS2N program repaired nearly 70 miles of roadway throughout East Harris County. He currently has plans to repair more than 60 additional miles by the end of the year. Be sure to visit www.hcp2.com or like the "Harris County Precinct 2" Facebook page for updates on the Precinct.

New ER Facility offers Medical services

Pictured on this page is some of the medical equipment and treatment facilities that is found in the new ER-24/7 Emergency Room that was just opened by Bayshore Medical Center. The ER facility is located on Beltway 8 East near Wallisville Road, and can be accessed from either roadway.



Seen at right is a CT scanner, used to examine internal injuries from falls and other causes. It has other diagnostic uses as well, and is the major piece of equipment in the new ER.

At right in the second photo is a typical treatment room, used by the doctors and nurses for medical procedures after a patient has been diagnosed in what is known as a "triage" procedure. The new ER has five of these treatment rooms, and then a patient is located in an adjacent recovery or waiting room until they are judged well enough to be released.



Also housed in the ER building are lab facilities, blood draw room, nursing station, and staff offices and lounges. The ER functions much as a hospital, except it does not have equipment for extreme situations that might require surgery, and recovery, with no overnight beds.

Patients can arrive by private auto, or there is an ambulance emergency entrance. Also possible is arrival or transfer by medical helicopter, as shown by this PHI LifeFlight in the landing area behind the ER that was present at the opening.



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

FM 2100

FM 2100 from Huffman-Cleveland Road (North) to FM 1960

CSJ: 1062-02-009

Harris County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), as the lead agency, is proposing improvements to Farm-to-Market (FM) 2100 from Huffman-Cleveland Road (North) to FM 1960 in Harris County, Texas. This notice advises the public that TxDOT will be conducting a Public Hearing on the proposed project. The hearing will be held on Thursday, August 2, 2018, at Hargrave High School, 25400 Willy Lane, Houston, Texas 77336. Displays will be available for viewing at 5:30 p.m. with the formal hearing starting at 6:30 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to present the planned improvements and to receive public comment on the proposed project.

The proposed project area includes 4.5 miles of existing roadway and proposes to reconstruct and widen the existing facility from a two-lane roadway to a four-lane divided roadway with a raised median. The proposed improvements would accommodate expected traffic demand and growth in the region, while enhancing safety by providing a divided highway with raised medians and dedicated left turn lanes at select intersections and cross-streets. The proposed roadway design would include one 12-foot travel lane and one 15-foot outside shared-use lane in each direction, as well as sidewalks in each direction. Additional design features would include a storm sewer drainage system and detention ponds.

The proposed roadway improvements would be constructed primarily within the existing 150-foot right-of-way (ROW). Approximately 34 acres of additional ROW would be required for drainage, corner clips, and accommodation of the approaches to the bridge crossing at Luce Bayou. Although additional ROW is required, no residential or commercial structures would be displaced. Information concerning services and benefits available to affected property owners and information about the tentative schedule for ROW acquisition may be obtained from the district office at the address listed below.

The proposed project would impact wetlands and would require an Individual Permit from the US Army Corps of Engineers under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The proposed project would encroach upon the floodplain, however, the base flood elevation would not increase.

Any environmental documentation or studies, maps showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the proposed project are on file and available for inspection Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at the TxDOT Houston District Office, 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas 77007. To schedule an appointment at the Houston District, please contact Ms. Wahida Wakil at (713) 802-5513. Information will also be made available for viewing at the North Harris County Area Office, 16803 Eastex Freeway (US 59), Humble, Texas 77396. To schedule an appointment at the North Harris County Area Office, please call (281) 319-6400. This information also will be available for review at the hearing. Verbal and written comments from the public regarding the proposed project are requested and may be presented at the hearing, or submitted in person or by mail to the TxDOT Houston District Office, Attention: Director of Project Development, P.O. Box 1386, Houston, Texas 77251-1386. Comments must be received on or before Friday, August 17, 2018, to be part of the official hearing record. Comments may also be submitted electronically to hou-piowebmail@txdot.gov or <https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/get-involved/about/hearings-meetings/houston/080218.html>.

The hearing will be conducted in English. Persons interested in attending who have special communications or accommodation needs, such as the need for an interpreter, are encouraged to contact the TxDOT Houston District Public Information Office at (713) 802-5076. Requests should be made at least two days prior to the hearing. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate these needs.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the hearing, please contact the TxDOT Houston District Public Information Office at (713) 802-5076.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and TxDOT.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Gubernatorial Candidate visits Jacinto City,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



L – R seated: Lillie Schechter, Harris County Democratic Party Chairwoman, Ramiro Ojeda, Aracely Garcia, Dylan Allen, standing gubernatorial candidate Lupe Valdez and Maya Arapoglou, owner of the Jacinto City Café.

Channel area.

The 2018 Texas gubernatorial election will take place on November 6, 2018 to elect the Governor of Texas, concurrently with the election of one Texas's U.S. Senate seat, as well as other congressional, state and local elections throughout the United States and Texas. Incumbent Republican Governor Greg Abbott is running for re-election to a second term in office and will face Democrat Lupe Valdez, the former Sheriff of Dal-

las County, as well as Libertarian Mark Tippetts, a former member of the Lago Vista city council.

"The warm reception from Senator Sylvia Garcia and our supporters this afternoon proved that North Shore area Democrats are excited to elect change this November. At the state and federal level, it is candidates like us who are ready to fight for the progress these hard-working, everyday Texans deserve," Valdez said.

State Senator Sylvia

Garcia said, "When Sheriff Valdez informed me that she wanted to visit East Harris County I could think of no better place than Jacinto City, where folks still value a handshake and a conversation with their elected leaders above all else. I know that the good people of Jacinto City and the North Channel area folks came away feeling that not only does Lupe have the right ideas for Texas, but that she understands the values of working class families."

San Jacinto College selected to Rice University's OpenStax Institutional Partnership Program

San Jacinto College joins one of the nation's leading open educational resource platforms

HOUSTON – San Jacinto College is one of nine schools selected to participate in Rice University's 2018-2019 OpenStax Institutional Partnership Program to further the College's efforts in providing free to low cost, peer-reviewed digital textbooks and course resources through open educational resources (OER).

OER are openly-licensed, peer-reviewed digital classroom materi-

See Partnership Program, Page 8



Photo courtesy of San Jacinto College

San Jacinto College is one of nine schools selected to participate in Rice University's 2018-2019 OpenStax Institutional Partnership Program to further the College's efforts in providing free to low cost, peer-reviewed digital textbooks and course resources through open educational resources (OER).

Beaumont Highway reopens to traffic

CROSBY – Local commuters are relieved now that the Beaumont Highway, known also as old US 90, again provides a relief route to Houston and back, and is now reopened.

Local traffic and industrial trucking puts about 12,000 to 13,000 vehicles on the roadway daily between FM 2100 and Beltway 8.

TxDOT closed the road for repairs in early May on an emergency basis. It was feared that

possible collapse of the roadway might occur. The closure was at Sheldon Road to drivers travelling east and originally at the San Jacinto River Bridge for those westbound, later moving nearer to C.E. King and then to Beltway 8.

Causes for the action were many. Normal wear and tear from erosion under the bridge was one factor. Varied floods last year including Hurricane Harvey

compromised the integrity of the roadway.

Hurricane Harvey added insult to injury with an eroding pounding and a thorough soaking. Parts of the highway was under water from the hurricane until Sept. 2, 2017.

Projections were that it would take until August to open the roadway but construction crews finished ahead of schedule on incentives and a relative dry spell.

Flood Funds,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

silient, we will need a genuinely united effort – by our federal, state and local officials and from our residents themselves," said Harris County Judge Ed Emmett. "I believe we are now seeing that united effort. Thanks to Congressman Culberson and the rest of our congressional delegation, this investment from the federal government will help us move forward with some of the key projects we need to protect ourselves and our neighbors."

In February, Congress passed the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 that provided \$89.3 billion in emergency federal assistance to recover from disasters. This brought the total provided in the three emergency supplemental bills for disaster recovery to over \$141 billion. The bill included \$17.39 billion for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to reduce the risk of future flood damage from flood and storm events.

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OPINION PAGE

2017
Hurricane
Season FEMA
After-Action
Report

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 12, 2018 – The Federal Emergency Management Agency released today the 2017 Hurricane Season FEMA After-Action Report. The report examines the agency's performance during the record breaking season. Last year, hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria devastated the nation at a time when FEMA was already supporting 692 federally declared disasters. During response to the three catastrophic hurricanes, FEMA also responded to the historic wildfires in California. The report captures transformative insights from a historic hurricane season that will help FEMA, the emergency management community, and the nation chart the path into the future. The report identified 18 key findings across five focus areas and offered targeted recommendations for FEMA improvements, as well as broader lessons for partners throughout the emergency management community.

As a cornerstone of the discipline, emergency managers use lessons learned in order to improve outcomes, minimize errors, and better serve survivors. The agency has already taken immediate actions based on the findings from the After-Action Report including updated hurricane plans, annexes, and procedures for states and territories; increased planning factors for the Caribbean and disaster supplies; and updated high priority national-level contracts, including the National Evacuation Contract, Caribbean Transportation Contract, and National Ambulance Contract. FEMA has also tested its response and initial recovery capabilities in the National Level Exercise (NLE) 2018, which occurred in May and focused on areas identified from real-world continuous improvement findings in this report.

Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria caused a combined \$265 billion in damage and each ranked among the top five costliest hurricanes on record. As a result, FEMA coordinated large deployments of federal personnel, both before and after the storms' landfalls, to support response and initial recovery efforts across 270,000 square miles. FEMA facilitated logistics missions that involved more than \$2 billion worth of commodities moving across several states and territories using multiple modes of transportation. FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces, composed of state and local emergency responders, saved or assisted nearly 9,500 people across the three hurricanes. In total, the hurricanes and wildfires affected more than 47 million people—almost 15 percent of the nation's population. FEMA registered nearly 4.8 million households for assistance.

FEMA has incorporated many of the findings from this report into its 2018-2022 Strategic Plan, which will guide implementation of long-term goals to build a more prepared and resilient nation.



Governor welcomes establishment
of Futures Command in Austin

AUSTIN — The U.S. Army on July 12 announced its new Futures Command would be headquartered in Austin “to better partner with academia, industry and innovators in the private sector, while providing a good and affordable quality of life for Futures Command personnel.”

After the announcement, Gov. Greg Abbott said the state of Texas “is proud to partner with the U.S. Army in establishing the Futures Command to harness the cutting-edge technologies needed to build an innovative, research-based foundation for our national defense.”

“This sweeping reorganization of the Army’s military efforts adds to the historic connection between Texas and the U.S. military, and I am proud of their presence in the Lone Star State,” Abbott added.

As stated in the Army’s official news release, the command, which began operations on July 1, will lead the Army’s future force modernization enterprise and is expected “to assess the future operational environment, emerging threats and new technologies in order to develop and deliver concepts, requirements, future force designs and modern materiel solutions to meet our soldiers’ wartime needs.”

The establishment of the command marks the most significant reorganization of the institutional Army since 1973. At full operating capacity in summer 2019, some 500 personnel will be attached to the command.

★
STATE CAPITAL
HIGHLIGHTS
By Ed Sterling

Paxton supports
nominee

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on July 12 announced that he had joined the attorneys general of 25 other states in a letter urging U.S. Senate leaders to confirm President Trump’s nomination of Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Kavanaugh, 53, currently is a member of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

“Throughout his career,” wrote Paxton, “Judge Kavanaugh has demonstrated an abiding commitment to the principles and freedoms on which our country was founded, and an unshakable respect for the proper role of the courts within our constitutional structure. The Senate should confirm President Trump’s choice without delay.”

Joining Paxton in signing the letter were the attorneys general of Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma,

South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Meanwhile, Texas Democratic Party Chair Gilberto Hinojosa issued a statement referring to Kavanaugh as “a judicial extremist who has no business on our highest court.”

“Let’s be clear,” wrote Hinojosa, “a vote for Kavanaugh is a vote to gut the Affordable Care Act, overturn Roe v. Wade and turn back the clock on our fundamental rights. Judge Kavanaugh has a record of siding with powerful interests over consumers and workers and would fail to be an independent check on Trump.”

Revenue
exceeds estimate

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on July 11 revised his official state revenue estimate, announcing better-than-expected revenue growth in fiscal 2018 and an improved economic outlook for fiscal 2019.

In a letter to state leaders, Hegar said Texas would have \$110.17 billion in general revenue-related

funds available for general-purpose spending for the 2018-19 biennium, resulting in a projected ending balance of \$2.67 billion. In the fall of 2017, Hegar projected an ending balance of \$94 million.

Hegar attributed much of the improved revenue estimate to an economic boost related to rising oil prices and production. Additionally, Texas added more than 350,000 new jobs in the 12 months ending in May 2018 and the state’s unemployment rate in recent months has been at or near historic lows.

“Though nearly all current economic indicators remain positive and revenue collections have exceeded our previous expectations, there are significant risks to the forecast,” Hegar said. “A trade war, a withdrawal from the North American Free Trade Agreement or a significant downturn in the price of oil would reduce our potential economic growth. The current outlook, however, is for continued growth through fiscal 2019 for both the economy and state revenue.”

Revenue is
distributed

In other economic news, Comptroller Hegar announced July 11 that he would send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts \$759 million in local sales tax allocations for July.

The amount is 11.6 percent more than the amount reported in July 2017.

Allocations are based on sales made in May by businesses that report tax monthly.

TxDOT
announces grants

The Texas Department of Transportation on July 3 announced the awarding of some \$82 million in state and federal grants to fund public transportation providers in rural, small urban and large urban areas of Texas.

Overall, the grants are intended to help pay for maintenance of vehicles and facilities, vehicle purchases and transit facility improvements and regionally coordinated public transportation planning efforts.

A TxDOT statement added that the funding “ultimately pays for resources that give Texans access to transportation so they can get to and from school, job training, health care appointments, businesses and recreational activities.”

Safety
Concerns in
Summer Heat

AUSTIN – The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is reminding Texans to take extra safety precautions as temperatures and heat indices continue to reach 100 degrees and above in many parts of the state.

“We have already experienced extreme heat in most parts of the state this summer, and DPS wants to remind all Texans that the dangers from sustained high temperatures should not be taken lightly,” said DPS Director Steven McCraw. “Heat-related injuries and deaths are often preventable if we take the necessary steps to protect ourselves and others.”

Extreme temperatures place children at greater risk of injury or death if left unattended in a vehicle. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, temperatures inside a car can rise more than 20 degrees in only 10 minutes. Even with an outside temperature of 60 degrees, the temperature inside a car can reach 110 degrees.

Heatstroke is one of the leading causes of non-crash-related fatalities among children, and every year, children die from heat-related injuries after being left in a vehicle or by entering a vehicle unnoticed. Leaving windows partially rolled down does not help. A child should never be left unattended in a vehicle.

Additionally, extreme heat events or heat waves are one of the leading causes of weather-related deaths in the United States, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Periods of severe heat and high humidity tax the body’s ability to cool itself and can lead to heat exhaustion and heat stroke, which can be fatal.

DPS offers the following tips for staying safe and managing the heat:

- Drink plenty of water throughout the day even if you do not feel thirsty; you may not realize you’re dehydrated until it’s too late. Also avoid alcohol and beverages high in caffeine or sugar during periods of prolonged outdoor exposure.

- Pay attention to your body. Heat-related illnesses such as heat exhaustion and heat stroke can develop quickly. Know the warning signs and seek medical attention if necessary.

- Check on others, especially the elderly, sick, very young and those without air conditioning.

- Don’t forget pet safety. Animals are also susceptible to heat-related injury or death – don’t put your pets in these dangerous conditions.

- Monitor local weather updates and stay aware of any upcoming changes in weather.


- Limit exposure to the sun and stay indoors as much as possible. If possible, avoid strenuous outdoor activity during the hottest part of the day.

- Light-colored, loose-fitting clothing and a hat are recommended while spending time outdoors.

- Wear sunscreen. Sunburns can affect your body’s ability to cool down. Protect yourself during periods of sun exposure by putting on sunscreen SPF 15 or higher 30 minutes prior to going outside.

- Be extra careful when cooking outdoors, building campfires or driving off-road to avoid igniting dry vegetation. Also, stay aware of burn bans in your area and always abide by restrictions on outside burning.

For more information on how to prepare for extreme heat, visit [ready.gov](#).



**Highlands Acid Pit Superfund Site
Public Notice**

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6

July 2018

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 6, in cooperation with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, has completed the fifth five-year review of remedy implementation and performance at the Highlands Acid Pit Superfund site (Site) in Highlands, Texas. In the 1950s, the area was used for the disposal of industrial waste sludge, believed to be spent sulfuric acid from oil and gas refining processes. Waste disposal activities contaminated soil and groundwater with hazardous chemicals.

Cleanup included excavation and off-site disposal of waste and contaminated soil, and backfilling of the excavated areas with clean soil. The long-term remedy for groundwater included installation of groundwater monitoring wells and a 30-year monitoring program for groundwater, surface water and sediments. Monitoring is ongoing.

The five-year review concluded that the remedy for the Site is protective of human health and the environment in the short term. It will be protective in the long term once the following actions are performed: 1) collect additional surface water and sediment samples to determine if the contaminated upper aquifer is

impacting areas beyond the Site, and take appropriate measures to ensure protectiveness; 2) revisit and update the draft institutional control instrument to ensure long-term protectiveness; 3) continue to monitor and evaluate contaminants of concern being detected more frequently in the middle and deep aquifers and determine impacts to long term protectiveness; and 4) compare surface water and sediment sample data to ecological benchmarks and to appropriate human health screening values to determine if further study is needed.

EPA completed the fifth five-year review for the Site in May 2018. The next five-year review is required by May 2023. A copy of the 2018 Five-Year Review Report can be viewed at the following document repository:

Highlands Public Library, Stratford Branch
509 Stratford Street
Highlands, Texas 77562

Site status updates are available on the Internet at www.epa.gov/superfund/highlands-acid-pit

All media inquiries should be directed to the EPA Press Office at (214) 665-2200

For more information about the Site, contact:

Stephen Pereira/Remedial Project Manager
(214) 665-3137
or 1-800-533-3508 (toll-free)
or by email at pereira.stephen@epa.gov

Edward Mekeel/Community Involvement Coordinator
(214) 665-2252
or 1-800-533-3508 (toll-free)
or by email at mekeel.edward@epa.gov

LIFESTYLE

Dredging of west branch
of San Jacinto to cost \$70M

LAKE HOUSTON– A meeting at Kingwood High School of residents and grass roots organizations from throughout Lake Houston met July 10 to welcome the beginning of dredging and state that there is much more needed to be done.

Dredging of The West Fork of the San Jacinto River has now been awarded after Harris County reconsidered the project back in May due to a wide discrepancy in bids to do the project.

That discrepancy concerned the amount of debris expected to be removed and the time required to move it as basis

for the funds to be awarded.

On June 22, Great Laketo s Dredge & Dock was awarded \$69.8 Million the first major Greater Houston Area Flood Control Project after Hurricane Harvey.

The US Army Corps of Engineers–Galveston District awarded the contract to Great Lakes Dredge and Dock to remove sediment and debris from a stretch of the west fork of the San Jacinto River.

That project will feature multiple portable dredges and booster pumps as well as 10 miles of slurry pipelines.

Local residents includ-

ing Plea For Three, the Lake Houston Area Grass-roots Flood Prevention Initiative and other landowners called for the project, detention adjustment and regulation of the flood gates.

Specifications include that 1.8 million cubic feet of material be removed over about 270 days.

The series of projects called for by the varied grass roots organizations are to be funded by the \$2.5 billion dollar bond program the Harris County Flood Control District has been compiling including a possible third reservoir in northwest Houston.

★

THOUGHTS FROM
MARANATHA CHURCH

By Dr. Mark Trice



You’re Part of His Plan

A few months ago, we had an auction to raise money for Operation BAM, which encompasses our monthly & special missions giving, emergency response team plans, and special projects. Every year, we seem to have an abundance of one or two specific items, and this was the year of the saddle. We had no less than four saddles, including one style I’ve never seen before, available to a room full of people who, for the most part, did not ride.

You kind of have to wonder what non-riders see when they look at a saddle. I mean, those in attendance obviously saw some incredible tooling and, for the most part, all the trap-pings they generally expect to come with a western saddle. Some of them likely saw their own dreams sitting there, a desire to learn to ride, to own a horse, to compete in a rodeo...

Cowboys and others who ride regularly look at a saddle and see it differently. We judge it by how it will fit our horse and ourselves, how it will perform, how much life it has left in it... We look at a saddle with its purpose in mind.

It’s the same way with God. In Jeremiah 1:5, God tells the prophet, “Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee.” He knew us before we were even in our mothers’ wombs. Just as the saddle’s design was firmly in the artisan’s head, so was your design in God’s. He planned carefully, with deliberation, before He created you. Why? Because He had a purpose for you, a plan for you to fulfill. This is what He was telling Jeremiah, and it’s what He’s telling us.

One commonly quoted verse is Romans 8:28. Most

people say, “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God,” but we’ve got to keep reading. We’ve got to understand it’s not just about loving God; He is talking to “them who are the called according to his purpose.” Our being here on this planet is not about us, it’s about Him and what He wants to accomplish now and in eternity. Others may look at you and see a parent, employee, coach, teacher... What really counts is what God sees.

God doesn’t do anything mindlessly. Each and every one of us was created by the Master for a purpose, to fulfill part of His plan. YOU were created with a purpose. YOU are important to God’s plan.

Maranatha!: “*Rejoice, the Lord is coming soon!*”
#MaranathaChurch
#IglesiaMaranatha

Go Big or Go Home
fundraiser set

The Cody Stephens Go Big or Go Home Memorial Foundation fundraising event will be August 25, 2018. The event will include dinner, victory stories, a live and silent auction, and end with live music by Cody Kuba. The past 5 events have sold out, so please let the foundation know if you need a table or ticket soon.

Various levels of corporate donations are also available and sponsors are needed. For more information on sponsorship, please see the website

codystephensfoundation.org or search “Go big or go home foundation” on Facebook.

The administration takes no salary from the foundation and at this point, and Dr Thomas DeBauche reads the ECGs at no cost. Stephens’ own company, Scott Stephens and Associates, Inc., is a platinum sponsor of the fundraiser. It’s passion, not profit that motivates the Stephens.

Each level will come with recognition at the banquet including the now popular foundation belt

buckle and knowledge that you are helping to find those that may need life-saving intervention. If the percentages are correct, based on what has been seen so far, there are 1,000 students in Texas that need heart surgery TODAY. Says Stephens, “Let’s find them! Go BIG or Go Home AND “screen ‘em all”.

Scott may be contacted at 713-451-3600 or scottstephens@gmail.com. Your donations and attendance are greatly appreciated.

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Haggai in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. What is the middle chapter of the New Testament (KJV)? Romans 13, Galatians 2, Ephesians 5, Titus 1
3. At Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha, whose name was translated as ...? Ruth, Dorcas, Sarah, Esther
4. What young man went to sleep and fell out of a window while listening to Paul speak? Eutychus, Goliath, Peter, Stephen
5. From John 12, which disciple

stole from the treasury? Thomas, Judas, James, John

6. Who took the place of Judas as one of the apostles? Malachi, Matthias, Joel, Paul

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Romans 13; 3) Dorcas; 4) Eutychus; 5) Judas; 6) Matthias

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strengthens me.
PHILIPPIANS 4:13

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those who take advice.

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Psalm: 46:1



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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. \$497,000 MLS #48277114



Don't miss out on this gorgeous home in Seven Oaks North Section in Newport. Security system, natural gas appliances, Nest thermostat, media/game room upstairs, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, upstairs, master bedroom and bath downstairs, half bath downstairs. This no backyard neighbor! \$217,500 MLS#84409711



This fabulous custom built home has an open floor plan with a spacious living room, soaring ceilings and a family room that is perfect for entertaining. There is a formal dining room, an office and the gourmet kitchen has gorgeous granite counter tops, island, breakfast bar, butler pantry and plenty of cabinets for storage. \$995,000 MSLR 09191892



This home is SO SPACIOUS! All rooms are oversized! The huge family room with high ceilings has a fireplace, lots of light, cedar accent wall and is open to the breakfast/dining area. Kitchen has a large breakfast bar, LOTS of cabinets, pantry & double ovens. The formal dining has a built in buffet across the whole back wall. Large master with sitting area & patio doors to backyard deck. Built in cabinets, closet & sink in laundry room. \$199,900 MSLR 15491788

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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: "Why is it important to get an appraisal on my jewelry?"

An official appraisal is necessary for insurance and estate planning. Fair market value appraisals indicate the amount a piece would be sold for between a willing buyer and seller. This appraisal can be used for estate tax determination and division of property in a divorce. A fair market value can be helpful to fair division of jewelry assets among loved ones.

Insurance replacement appraisals provide you protection for reimbursement in case of loss. This appraisal will give you a document that describes your item exactly (stone clarity, size, color, quality and value). By having a relatively recent appraisal, you will be better able to get the lost item replaced with a similar item or receive a settlement from your insurance company. Gems of the same size can have significantly different values so you need an appraisal to ensure your replacement is comparable to the original.

Listed below are the most common reasons to have your jewelry appraised by a professional.

- Insurance coverage is the most common reason for getting an appraisal. A full appraisal is a detailed document that will assure you of a comparable replacement in case of loss.

ASK DIAMOND JIM

- With the popularity of purchasing jewelry over the internet, an appraisal from an independent appraiser can verify that diamonds and other jewelry match the certification or appraisal that accompany the item. Schedule an appointment to give you an idea of the value and peace of mind.

- A detailed appraisal is a valuable document to have whenever you choose to dispose of (sell, trade or bequeath) your jewelry.

- An appraisal is necessary in the event of Estate Settlement, forming a Trust, or Equitable Distribution.

- You will need an appraisal to claim a casualty loss for your insurance company or uninsured loss for the IRS.

- You should have an appraisal for division of property in a divorce.

- You will need an appraisal for tax deduction of a charitable contribution.

Is there a cost to have my jewelry appraised?

Yes. When asking any professional for their appraised value of an

item, you should usually expect to pay a reasonable amount for their expert opinion. How much that amount is can vary from professional to professional. It's safe to say that the most important factor to consider when selecting someone to appraise your fine jewelry, is trust. Work with a professional that you trust to appraise your jewelry.

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 jim@pineforestjewelry.com.

Collaborate not Duplicate

What is the point in ten similar events that compete for the same audience? You end up with vendors having to choose between events as well as many attendees showing up for multiple events and then others cannot make it to any.

Just this past week, Mayor Turner and City Council decided to identify one parade to celebrate the accomplishments of Dr Martin Luther King, Jr. This move will eliminate multiple parades and make the best use of the venue as well as the funds of those who participate in the annual event.

Can you imagine if all of the various groups in our area collaborated and held one Back to School event? Or even if the various groups who work with children and youth would work together to organize a community calendar for the year? Instead of five or six groups having a low-attended weekly event, why not collaborate and rotate the event location? An example would be for all of the churches who host youth events to meet and plan one calendar for the community. If there were 10 churches, each one

CHARLOTTE'S WEB

By Charlotte Jackson



could host every 10 weeks and the events would teach our youth to accept one another and to live in unity. The same applies for the activities for senior adults, single parent families, groups that specifically reach out to those with a loved one with a disability or special need.

One way to bring unity to a community is by talking with one another. We all need to listen and to be heard. Together we would all be able to make a larger impact if we took the time to understand each other.

There is a local group on facebook concerned about crime. In the recent days, they have been talking about the dangers of abandoned houses. One home has been abandoned for quite a while and has a major bee infestation. The house now has boards on most of the windows only after several homeless peo-

ple were arrested there. Not only is the house an eyesore but it is dangerous. From the group, we have learned that several people have reached out to the homeowner to no avail. Someone suggested filing paperwork to force the owner to clean up or sell the property. Many people in the group are concerned and instead of just complaining, there are those who are working to see the proper way to see something happen.

We all know that there has been an increase in crime in our community. It is time to collaborate and see what we can do to help. It is time for one meeting for the community to make a list of what is needed and then break into smaller work groups and get busy. If you are interested, contact me at charlotte.jackson@yahoo.com and let's plan a meeting and do what we can to help each other.

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NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code that CROSBY BOAT, RV & MINI STORAGE, located at 15118A FM 2100, Crosby Texas 77532, will hold a public sale at 10:00 a.m. on the 25th day of July 2018, at the above address to sell for cash only the contents of Unit A-4, Lisa Montemayor, Tenant, in order to satisfy a Landlord's Lien. The property to be sold is house hold items, etc.....

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals for Construction of a Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 2 to serve the Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 50 in Harris County, Texas will be received at the office of Cobb, Fendley & Associates, Inc., 13430 Northwest Fwy, Suite 1100, Houston, Texas 77040, until 2:00 P.M. local time, July 31, 2018 and then publicly opened. A NON-MANDATORY BUT HIGHLY RECOMMENDED PRE-BID CONFERENCE will be held at the office of Cobb, Fendley & Associates, Inc. on July 24, 2018 at 2:00 P.M. Each bid must be submitted in a 9" x 12" envelope and accompanied by Cashier's Check or Bid Bond, duly executed, in the amount of not less than five (5%) percent of the bid.

The Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 50 is proposing to construct a new Package Wastewater Treatment Plant to serve existing portions of the District as well as new development. The project includes a new 90,000 gallon a day package wastewater treatment plant, influent and effluent lift stations, force mains, and gravity sewer work.

This project is eligible for CWSRF funding; therefore, the following requirements apply:

- This contract is contingent upon release of funds from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)."
- "Any contract or contracts awarded under this Invitation for Bid (IFB) or Request for Qualifications (RFQ) are expected to be funded in part by financial assistance from the TWDB. Neither the State of Texas nor any of its departments, agencies, or employees are or will be a party to this IFB, RFQ, or any resulting contract.
- This project is subject to the American Iron and Steel (AIS) requirements of P.L. 113-76 Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014. All iron and steel products for construction, alteration, maintenance, or repairs incorporated in these plans must be produced in the United States.
- "Equal Opportunity in Employment - All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap or national origin. Bidders on this work will be required to comply with the President's Executive Order No. 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375, and as supplemented in Department of Labor regulations 41 CFR Part 60."
- This contract is subject to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) "fair share policy", which includes EPA-approved "fair share goals" for Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women Business Enterprise (WBE) firms in the Construction, Supplies, Equipment, and Services procurement categories. EPA's policy requires that applicants and prime contractors make a good faith effort to award a fair share of contracts, subcontracts, and procurements to Minority Business Enterprise and Women-Owned Business Enterprise firms. Although EPA's policy does not mandate that the fair share goals be achieved, it does require applicants and prime contractors to demonstrate use of the six affirmative steps. The current fair share goals for the State of Texas are as follows:

CATEGORY	MBE	WBE
CONSTRUCTION	12.94%	8.72%
SUPPLIES	9.68%	9.34%
EQUIPMENT	7.12%	5.39%
SERVICES	10.84%	5.72%

- Equal Opportunity in Employment – All qualified Applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or handicap. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 40 CFR Part 33 in the award and administration of contracts awarded under TWDB financial assistance agreements. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach, which may result in the termination of the awarded financial assistance.
- Right to reject any and all bids.
- All laborers and mechanics working on the work site and employed by contractors and subcontractors on projects funded directly by or assisted in whole or in part by and through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund shall be paid wages as described in the section, Mandatory David-Bacon Act Contract Conditions.
- Any contracts in excess of \$2,000 for construction, alteration or repair (including painting and decorating and funded under the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund programs shall include the Mandatory David-Bacon Act Contract Conditions.

Copies of the bidding documents may be obtained from www.CivCastUSA.com: Search Harris County MUD No. 50 Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 2. **Questions deadline is July 27th at 10:00 AM.** Bidders must register on this website in order to view and/or download specifications, and plans for this project. There is NQ charge to view or download documents.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Administration for Docket No. 464,679; Estate of IGNACIO CRUZ, SR., Deceased; In Probate Court No. 1 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on July 3, 2018.

IGNACIO CRUZ, SR.

The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is:

c/o Weston Cotten
5223 Garth Rd.
Baytown, TX
77521

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated this July 10, 2018.

by WESTON COTTEN
Attorney for the Estate

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als and textbooks that faculty can use and adapt to fit their course's student learning outcomes. These materials are free or low-cost alternatives to traditional textbooks. According to the College Board, for the 2017 – 2018 academic year, the average student was budgeting between \$1,220 and \$1,420 for textbooks and course supplies, making textbooks one of the largest barriers to student success and credential completion.

"San Jacinto College has taken instrumental strides to break down barriers to student success, textbook costs being one of them," said Tonja Conerly, San Jacinto College OER project director and sociology professor. "From day one OER has resonated with our students. They are thrilled to be saving money with OER materials, and our faculty are continuing to enhance their courses, partner with their peers and develop their own materials through the variety of unique sources OER has to offer them."

The 2018-2019 participating OpenStax institutions are: Arkansas State University, Louisiana Community and Technical College System, Palomar College, San Diego City College, San Jacinto College, Santa Monica College, Thomas Nelson Community College, University of Missouri System and William Rainey Harper College. These institutions, chosen from among 31 applicants,

will begin working with OpenStax to develop institution-specific strategic plans to encourage the use of OER on their campuses. These colleges and universities will join 37 other institutions, representing 200 colleges and universities and more than 2.6 million students, in taking part in the effort to expand the use of OER at their institutions.

"We're very excited to work with a fellow Houston area higher education institution to drive awareness of alternatives to high textbook costs and solutions to limited resource access for both students and faculty," said Nicole Finkbeiner, OpenStax associate director of institutional relations. "San Jacinto College is an integral part of helping Houston residents be successful in their educational goals, and this joint effort will encourage even more student success."

In spring 2017 San Jacinto College piloted 30 sections of OER courses, branded as "Open Books" courses, with 768 students enrolled. To date, the College has saved students more than \$1.5 million in textbook costs, and Open Books course offerings have increased to 676 course sections College-wide taught by 130 faculty members with more than 15,879 students enrolled in Open Books courses- a 1,920 percent increase since the College's OER initiative began.

For more information about OER at San Jacinto College, visit sanjac.edu/open-books.

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