

# NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

*Your News, Your Newspaper*

Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City  
VOLUME 6, NO. 34 (#238) THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 2018 www.northchannelstar.com

## CHANNEL CURRENTS



### Gospel Singing

August 30, 6:30 p.m. at Market Street Baptist Church, 12964 Market St., 77015. Salad, sandwich supper. Hearts of Grace will be the inspirational singers. Questions? Please call 713-453-5584.

### Galena Park-Jacinto City CIP Meeting

Community-Industry Partnership (CIP) Meeting, Thursday, Sep. 6, 2018  
5:45 p.m. - light dinner.  
6:15- business starts. Meeting adjourns by 8:15 p.m. at Alvin Baggett Recreation Building in the conference room by the south door, 1302 Keene in Galena Park.

### Jacinto City Market Night

Jacinto City Market by Night schedule, the 2nd Saturday of the following months. September 8th, October 13th, November 10th, and December 8th. from 6 pm to 10 pm. Jacinto City Town Center Plaza, 1025 Oates Rd. Facebook: @jc-marketdays

### 2nd Boys Rock 2 Life Skills Camp

On Saturday, September 15, 2018, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. the 2nd Boys Rock 2 Life Skills Camp event will be held on the east side of Houston at the Channelview High School, located at 1100 Sheldon Road. This one-day fun packed workshop for young men grades 7th thru 12th will address topics such as appearance, handling money, interacting with law enforcement, hygiene, and all participants will be given a tie and instructed on how to tie a tie and much more.

Register and get free tickets at boysrock092018.planningpod.com/ Please call 832-388-7155 for more details. Hosted by Judge Joe Stephens.

### New Hours at the Buckshot Jamboree

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

### Galena Park Seniors Dance

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

### Northside Job Fair

Congressman Gene Green Northside Job Fair, Monday, September 17th - 9 am to 12 pm. M. O. Campbell Center, 1865 Aldine Bender Rd. Houston, TX. 77032.

### Senior Citizens Forum

Congressman Gene Green's Senior Citizens Issues Forum, Friday, September 21st at 10 am. Galena Park Baggett Community Center, 1302 Keene St. Galena Park, TX. 77547

## GENE GREEN'S SAFETY MEETING

# Houston Police Officers report crime stats

By Allan Jamail

Houston, TX. August 20, 2018 at Congressman Gene Green's monthly safety meeting Houston Patrolman Officer Kenneth Miles gave the July Crime Report for the Houston North Channel and IH 10 East corridor area.

*See Crime Report, Page 8*



Photo by Allan Jamail

Houston Police North Channel Command Staff and Officers L - R: A. Waddy, Lt. A. Rodriguez, Congressman Gene Green, Sgt. Gannon, Assistant Chief P. Lopez, Jr., Lt. Parker and K. Miles

# Voters Approve Flood Bond

HARRIS COUNTY - Voters overwhelmingly approved a \$2.5 Billion dollar bond proposal, that will result in 237 projects to mitigate future flood dangers in the county.

With 98% of the votes counted, District Clerk

Stan Stanart reported that the bond issue passed with 85% approval, or about 129,000 votes. Opposing the proposal were 15% of the voters who turned out, about 21,000. Votes were almost evenly split between Absentee, Early,

and Election Day votes.

Election Day was August 25th, the one year anniversary of the landfall of Hurricane Harvey onto the Texas coast.

The bond issue includes 237 projects, \$1.2 Billion for channel improvements,

\$12.5 Million for floodplain mapping, and \$1.25 Million for an early warning system.

Flood Control Executive Director Russ Poppe said he will make immediate use of the money, and propose 14 flood risk reduc-

tion projects at the next Commissioners meeting.

Judge Emmett praised the result and thanked voters, noting that the bond will result in up to \$900 Million of matching federal funds.

# LyondellBasell begins construction of the world's largest PO/TBA Plant

## \$453 million in economic impact for the Greater Houston Area

HOUSTON August 22, 2018 /PRNewswire/ -- LyondellBasell (NYSE: LYB), one of the world's largest plastics, chemicals and refining companies, today officially broke ground on what will be the largest propylene oxide (PO) and tertiary butyl alcohol (TBA) plant ever built.

The Houston area project is estimated to cost \$2.4 billion, representing the single-largest capital investment in the company's history. Once in operation, the plant will produce 1 billion pounds (470,000 metric tons) of PO and 2.2 billion pounds (1 million metric tons) of TBA annually. Startup of the

*See Construction of Largest Plant, page 8*



LyondellBasell team members along with Harris County and industry leaders officially break ground on the world's largest PO/TBA plant. Groundbreaking crew in front of backdrop and sand pit L-R: (Mike VanDerSnick, Jean Gadbois, Stephen Goff, Hector Rivero, Kim Foley, Judge Ed Emmett, Bob Patel, Commissioner Jack Morman, Dale Friedrichs, Pat Ficara, Dan Coombs, Jim Guilfoyle)

# Congressman Gene Green tours immigrant kids shelter in North Shore

NORTH SHORE - Sitting anonymously along the feeder road at I-10 near Beltway 8, a three story building that was once a hospital now houses over 200 children that are unaccompanied immigrants. In most cases, these young people were apprehended at the Mexican border, and detained by U.S. authorities until their disposition. This could be sending them back to their own country, or finding adult sponsors in the U.S.

On Monday, August 20 Congressman Gene Green, accompanied by State Senator Sylvia Garcia and State Representative Ana Hernandez, made an inspection tour of the facility. Green told this newspaper that he had a difficult time getting access, even though the federal government is paying



This building at 15101 I-10 East Frontage Road, now houses about 200 immigrant children most of whom crossed into the U.S. without their parents. The building was formerly the Kindred Hospital, and before that the East Department of the East Houston Hospital. It has been run by Southwest Key Programs as a shelter for undocumented children for several years. Last week Congressman Gene Green toured the facility, to learn how the children are being cared for, and how federal dollars are being spent.

for the program that supervises the children. In an earlier foray, Garcia and

Hernandez had been refused admission, and blocked by armed guards

from entry, as reported in this newspaper. Green said that the Southwest Key

Program group, that runs the shelter, required two weeks notice and vetted those who wanted to go on the tour.

All three legislators wanted to see the facility and talked with the children, because the building is in their district, and they are ultimately responsible for its financing.

Green explained to this newspaper that the program is administered by the U. S. HHS, or Housing and Human Services administration, and Southwest Key and other groups contract with the government to care for the children until their situation can be resolved.

Green said that presently there are 206 children in the facility, boys and girls ages 12 to 16. He said they

See GREEN, page 8



★

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

★



Photo by Mima Trujillo

Twins Alylin and Malillany Navarro get ready to go to pre-kindergarten at Carver Elementary on the first day of school.

Goose Creek Memorial HS



Photo by Carrie Pryor-Newman

Chance Brasuel, 11th grade, and Felicity Brasuel, ninth grade, wait to register on the first day of school at Goose Creek Memorial High School.



Photo by Mima Trujillo

Haylee Cobb (left) and Quessia Trujillo, freshmen at Robert E. Lee High School, wait in the Band Hall for the bell to ring on the first day of school.

Hopper 1st Day of Kindergarten



Photo Carrie Pryor-Newman

Students from Rashida Bellard-Frank's kindergarten class at B.P. Hopper Primary School proudly show that they are the Class of 2031. Pictured are (front, from left) Dominic Poitras, Deaven Kambitsch, Aiden Ibarra, (back from left) Lexi Newton, Brooklyn Griffith and Luke Grubbs.



Photo by Susan Passmore

Katherine Cruz (in back), new principal at Ashbel Smith Elementary, and (from left) Nayeli Sierra, third grade; Nevaeh Garcia, fourth grade; and Adalynn Arredondo, kindergarten, plan to have a good first day of school.

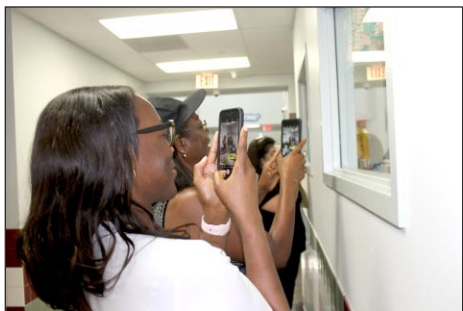


Photo by Beth Dombrowa

Parents at Victoria Walker Elementary, through smiles and tears, are caught in the act of videoing their students after dropping them off at their classrooms on the first day of school.



Photo by Kelly Anthony

Alyssia Williams (left) and Harley Donaldson, eighth-grade cheerleaders at Baytown Junior School, are ready for the first day of school.



Photo by Susan Passmore

Cedar Bayou Junior School Bears Nancy Barcenas, Edgar Chavez and Megan Templos, all eighth-graders, prepare to go to their first class of the 2018-19 school year.

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# SCHOOL NEWS

## Channelview HS Band entertains at LyondellBasell groundbreaking



CHS band plays musical selections for guests attending the groundbreaking of the new PO/TBA plant in Channelview

Channelview High School's Pep Band provided entertainment during LyondellBasell's groundbreaking of the world's largest PO/TBA plant, on August 22, 2018. Experts from Lyondell-Basell provided a question and answer session for students, explored operations management, and discussed the importance of safety in and around the Channelview Complex. Band members also received an opportunity to reflect on their goals for the 2018-2019 school year. "LyondellBasell has supported Channelview Independent School District campuses and departments for many years," said Jennifer Tunink, Fine Arts Director, "We are honored to serve as entertainment for today's monumental occasion."

## CHANNELVIEW ISD Cobb Elementary welcomes new principal

Ms. Lizette Castelline has been named principal of Cobb Elementary School for the 2018-2019 school year. Ms. Castelline earned her Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from Texas Southern University and her Master of Science in Educational Management from the University of Houston-Clear Lake. Ms. Castelline began her teaching career in 2007 at Patrick Henry



Castelline

Middle School in Houston ISD, as a mathematics teacher. "I look forward to working collaboratively with everyone associated with Cobb Elementary, I am confident we will continue to be a special place where our students will learn and grow. I firmly believe that every child can excel and that the partnership between home and school, builds student confidence."

## Channelview ISD reflects on Hurricane Harvey



Channelview ISD transported residents to shelters throughout the city

It's been one year since Hurricane Harvey devastated the Greater Houston Area. Today we recall the heroic efforts of our community, and we reflect on the events that led Channelview ISD Superintendent Mr. Greg Ollis to open Channelview High School as a shelter. As the flood waters pushed residents from their homes and onto underpasses of bridges along Beltway 8, Precinct 3 deputies required a safe haven. Without hesitation, Mr. Ollis rallied the troops, and within hours, the Channelview shelter was opened. Residents of communities including Channelview, Galena Park, Sheldon, and Crosby were welcomed to the Channelview shelter. It is reported 600 people received aid and over 200 volunteers including students, administrators, employees, school board members and community members were present to assist with shelter operations. Channelview ISD Nutrition Department reported 2,141 meals were served and additional meals were provided by contributions from local restaurants. In addition to local efforts, Channelview ISD bus drivers shuttled residents from the local Walmart parking lot to NRG and the George R. Brown Convention Center. "The Channelview shelter was a community effort. When the decision was made to open Channelview High School as a shelter, we received numerous donations of baby items, food, clothing, and toiletries," said, Mr. Ollis. "As we worked to assist residents, volunteers came without hesitation, and we received stories of housing arrangements made in the area and family reunification plans. We are appreciative of our Channelview community for their outpouring of support during Hurricane Harvey."

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OPINION PAGE

How many Americans are finding affordable housing

(StatePoint) With the cost of housing continuing to rise faster than wages, it's no wonder that many Americans nationwide are struggling to make ends meet. Luckily, solutions already exist to address the affordable housing shortage, say experts.

For example, more than 22 million people in the U.S. now live in manufactured housing -- homes built to a federal standard in factories and placed on a homeowner's land or on rented lots in manufactured home communities, according to the Manufactured Housing Institute (MHI). In many parts of the country, homes like these are the least expensive kind of housing available without a government subsidy. The cost to buy a manufactured home averages about \$70,600, compared with \$286,000 for a single-family site-built home, not including land costs.

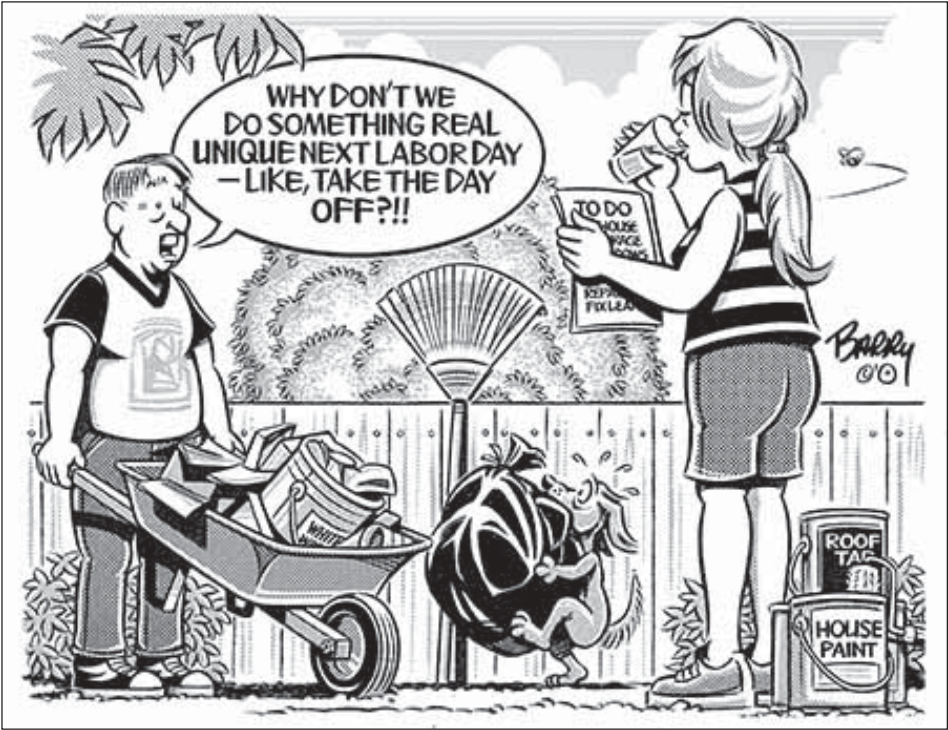
In response to growing market demand, almost 93,000 new manufactured homes were built in the U.S. in 2017, an approximate 15 percent increase over 2016, according to MHI, but this is still not nearly enough to meet the nation's affordable housing needs, according to experts. Advocates say that zoning restrictions and other rules and

regulations in many areas are preventing manufactured housing from closing the gap -- as certain jurisdictions only allow manufactured housing in locations far from town centers and other jurisdictions have considered banning them altogether.

"Part of this bias may be based on the negative stereotype of earlier generations of manufactured housing, however, today, our homes are built with quality construction materials to meet rigorous federal standards for safety, installation and construction," says Richard Jennison, president and CEO of MHI.

What's more, today's manufactured housing includes features that today's homebuyers want, such as luxury bathrooms, vaulted ceilings and state-of-the-art kitchens with energy-efficient appliances. Often situated in communities with swimming pools, playgrounds and clubhouses, they can be a very attractive option for families and retirees seeking affordability. To learn more visit, [manufacturedhousing.org](http://manufacturedhousing.org).

"At a time when there is a great need for high-quality, affordable housing, today's manufactured homes are an effective solution for many American families and communities," says Jennison.



Officials observe anniversary of Hurricane Harvey at Rockport church

AUSTIN — August 25 marked one year since Hurricane Harvey's battering winds and torrential rains brought death and destruction to coastal and inland counties of Texas.

Repairs and rebuilding in the region continue to this day, and the U.S. Office of Coastal Management has estimated the cost of the storm at \$125 billion.

Gov. Greg Abbott and a host of other government officials spoke on Aug. 22 at the First Baptist Church in the hard-hit city of Rockport on the Coastal Bend. "I know there are miles to go before this race is finished. Our goal is to do far more than just rebuild. Our goal is to ensure that we rebuild all of these communities even better than they were before Hurricane Harvey hit," Abbott said.

Vice President Mike Pence said he had come on President Trump's behalf "to reaffirm to all of the people — not just to Rockport, but to all across this region — that this administration is going to work with this governor, with all of the wonderful, outstanding volunteers and faith communities across this region until we rebuild Rockport and all of Texas bigger and better than ever before."

Also at the church to deliver their perspectives and words of encouragement were Commissioner John Sharp of the governor's Commission to Rebuild Texas, Texas Department of Public Safety Director Steve McCraw, Texas Division of Emergency Management Director Nim Kidd, and Land Commissioner George P. Bush.

**Schools rated for readiness**

State Education Commissioner Mike Morath on Aug. 21 announced 61 Texas school districts and district charters received a distinction designation for postsecondary readiness as part of their 2018 state accountability rating.

Postsecondary readiness is the only distinction designation at the district level under the state accountability system.

The distinction takes into account factors such as graduation rates, ACT/SAT participation and per-

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS  
By Ed Sterling

formance, Career and Technical Education graduates and dual-credit course completion rates.

Earlier in August, all multi-campus school districts and charters — for the first time ever — received an accountability rating based on an A–F scale.

**Mortality, morbidity studied**

The Texas Department of State Health Services on Aug. 21 announced the release of case reviews by its Texas Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Task Force.

The task force recently completed its first full year of case reviews by studying medical, autopsy and other confidential records for 89 maternal deaths that occurred in 2012, DSHS reported. Four out of five pregnancy-related deaths in 2012 would have had at least some chance of being prevented with the proper intervention, DSHS said.

"The report provides us with more evidence to guide our activities to address maternal mortality and morbidity in Texas," said DSHS Commissioner Dr. John Hellerstedt. "It shows where interventions like TexasAIM can have the greatest impact."

Launched earlier this year, TexasAIM is a partnership with more than 180 hospitals to implement maternal safety "bundles" — sets of practices that help hospital staff prevent and respond to pregnancy complications. Hospitals are first implementing the bundle on maternal hemorrhage. Future will address opioid use and high blood pressure, the DSHS said.

**Demand for notes is high**

State Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced the Aug. 22 sale of \$7.2 billion in Texas Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes received a net interest rate of 1.84 percent.

Hegar said his office received 65 bids worth \$27.4

billion, or 3.8 times the amount offered for sale. The state of Texas uses money from the sale of the notes to help fund expenditures such as public-school payments made early in the fiscal year before the arrival of tax revenues later in the year.

Hegar said the fact that bids totaled nearly four times the amount offered demonstrates "the market is confident that Texas remains a solid investment."

Notes sold on Aug. 22 will be repaid on Aug. 29, 2019, Hegar added.

**Jobless rate stays same**

Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained at 4.0 percent in July, unchanged from June 2018, the Texas Workforce Commission announced.

Even though the June and July percentages were the same, the state economy added 23,500 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs in July and marked 25 consecutive months of employment growth.

Counting July's figures, Texas has added 377,100 jobs for an annual employment growth rate of 3.1 percent.

The Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area recorded the month's lowest unemployment rate among Texas metropolitan statistical areas with a not-seasonally adjusted rate of 2.2 percent, followed by the Amarillo and Odessa MSAs with rates of 2.9 percent. The Austin-Round Rock MSA recorded the fourth-lowest rate of 3.1 percent for July.

EDUCATION  
New classroom technologies can make learning easier and more fun

(StatePoint) Technology is changing the face of education. Check out the newest ways teachers are modernizing their lesson plans in order to make learning easier and more fun.

1. Virtual Reality. Whether it's a tour through an ancient Roman archaeological site or a deep-sea look at ocean creatures, VR can enhance educational experiences and create new immersive opportunities, allowing students to see the world without leaving the classroom.
2. Math Anywhere, Anytime. Technology advancements are enabling students of all learning styles to absorb mathematical concepts at their own pace without buying expensive calculators. Check out ClassPad.net, digital scratch paper with a range of functions that's web accessible and free for students and teachers.
3. Modernized Music. Learning music is now easier than ever with new apps and next generation digital keyboards that have such features as lighted keys to help students learn notes intuitively. One such keyboard, Casio's LK-265, connects to iOS and Android devices via a free app, so students can learn to play their favorite songs. Access to an endless library of music will give students constant motivation to keep at it.
4. Language Learning in the Palm of Your Hand. Today, you don't need a stack of books or tapes to learn a new language. A variety of apps can introduce language learners to correct pronunciations, proper grammar and vocabulary, giving students opportunities to hone their reading, writing and speaking skills at their own pace in the classroom and on-the-go.
5. Classroom Updates. There's less downtime for teachers and students these days, thanks to certain projectors today that reach maximum brightness in seconds, and are safer and more energy efficient to boot. For example, Casio's LampFree technology provides high brightness and connectivity, so lesson plans stay in sharp focus.

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# PUBLIC NOTICE

## Highlands Little League

will be holding elections for their  
**2018-2019 Board of Directors**  
at 6:30pm on  
**Wednesday, September 12, 2018** at the  
**San Jacinto Community Center**  
604 Highland Woods Drive

*The board election meeting is open to the public and anyone who lives within the HLL boundaries and wants to help make a difference in the lives of our youth can be elected to serve.*

The following proposed HLL Constitution changes will also be voted on at this meeting:

- Section 5 – Annual Meeting
- Subsection 7: K – Asst. Player Agent

Text currently reads "Assistant Player Agent", vote is to drop "Assistant" and just read "Player Agent"

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LIFESTYLE

OBITUARIES

Kimberly May Holden Rollins

Kimberly May Holden Rollins, 58, earned her angel wings on Friday, August 24, 2018. She was born in Port Aransas, Texas on April 29, 1960 to Elsie Farmer Holden and Jimmy Lee Holden. Kimberly was a loving mother and wife. She had a passion for people and Jesus, and it was felt by all who knew her. She enjoyed cooking, gardening, crafts, and spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren. When she passed over she took a part of all of those who were close to her. She was not alone. Kimberly may have left in body, but her spirit will always be.

She is preceded in death by her father, Jimmy Lee Holden; and step-fathers, Bud Martin and Johnny Clausen.

Kimberly is survived by her beloved husband, Michael Rollins; son, Charles “Tony” Guidry; daughters, Latasha M. and Trisha Sultan; mother, Elsie Clausen; brother,



Jimmy Holden; and a host of extended family and friends.

In lieu of flowers and plants, donations can be made in her memory to the American Cancer Society, [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

A visitation for family and friends was held from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on Wednesday, August 29, 2018 at Sterling White Funeral Home. A Celebration of Life followed at 7:00pm. Interment is private. Arrangements were entrusted to Sterling-White Funeral Home, 11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd., Highlands, Texas 77562. To offer condolences to the family, please visit [www.sterlingwhite.com](http://www.sterlingwhite.com).

Do you have enough savings for planned and unplanned expenses?

(StatePoint) Nearly half of consumers have encountered an emergency expense in the past year, but when it comes to financially preparing for the unexpected, many fall short, according to CIT Bank’s new Summer Savings Survey conducted by The Harris Poll. What’s more, the survey also found that many consumers don’t have the savings to afford the planned expense of the vacations they take.

“More than one in four consumers don’t save anything for unexpected events such as a home repair or health expense,” says Ravi Kumar, head of Internet Banking for CIT Bank. “Over another quarter report saving less than 5 percent of their monthly household income for emergencies.”

How are consumers making ends meet? Family and credit cards top the list of resources Americans rely on for financial support during emergencies. As for the planned expense of a vacation, approximately one in three (29 percent) report taking extreme actions to pay their way, including taking out a bank loan, going into debt, cleaning out a savings account, borrowing

money or maxing out a credit card.

“Americans can do more to ensure their lifestyles and savings priorities are aligned,” says Kumar. “But saving wisely is key.”

To plan the monthly amount that you’ll need to save for peace of mind, utilize free resources, such as CIT Bank’s online calculators at [bankoncit.com/calculators](http://bankoncit.com/calculators). Then, consider looking for an account that will make your savings work harder and offer some flexibility. For example, with a Money Market Account from CIT Bank, consumers can earn interest on their savings while maintaining the option to make withdrawals at any time. With no monthly maintenance fees, a minimum account balance requirement, and transaction capabilities, consumers can save without sacrificing their earnings throughout the process.

Do you have enough savings for planned and unplanned expenses? When it comes to happy occasions, like vacations, as well as the unexpected, being prepared can safeguard you against zeroing out your account or going into debt.

Small moments make a big difference

(NAPSI)—There are about 74 million children in America today and if you’re a parent, here’s something you should know: involved fathers—whether they live with their kids or not—can help their children lead happier, healthier and more successful lives. Children who feel close to their fathers are two times more likely to go to college or find a job after high school, 80 percent less likely to end up in jail and 50 percent less likely to experience depression.<sup>1</sup> The small moments kids enjoy spending with their fathers can make a big difference in their lives. If you’re like most fathers, you’re already doing what you can to be a great dad. Here’s a look at five easy ways to keep it up.

- What You Can Do
1. Spend time with your children.
  2. Be a positive role model.
  3. Send a text to stay connected when far away.
  4. Read to your children.
  5. Remember #DadJokes-Rule!

There has been a massive growth in fatherhood involvement over decades—fathers now spend nearly triple the amount of time with their children than fathers did in the 1960s.<sup>2</sup>

What Dads are Already Doing

Recent research suggests fathers are already very involved:

- 90 percent consider their role as a dad to be rewarding day in and day out.<sup>3</sup>
- 78 percent have talked to their child’s teacher about progress in school.<sup>4</sup>
- 61 percent have attended a PTA or other school meeting.<sup>5</sup>
- Over half have helped with a class trip, special

project or activity.<sup>6</sup>

• Over a third of fathers have helped with coaching their children’s sports teams.<sup>7</sup>

Even though fathers are largely more involved than in previous generations, dads today still want to be more engaged. Nearly half say they don’t spend enough time with their kids and want to do a better job at parenting.<sup>8</sup>

To help more fathers understand the importance of their role in their children’s lives, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Administration for Children and Families, the National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse (@fatherhoodgov), and the Ad Council (@adcouncil) have partnered on a national Responsible Fatherhood Campaign.

“All dads should be supported and celebrated for their efforts on Father’s Day and year-round because we know how the story ends for the kids whose fathers show up for them consistently—these children and families thrive,” says Kenneth Braswell (@braswellkeneth), Director, National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse and Fathers Incorporated.

The campaign drives to Fatherhood.gov a free resource that offers information, tools and more. Dads can visit the website for ideas to get involved and stay involved in their children’s lives. Other resources include activity suggestions, homework help, online games and a long list of dad jokes! No matter how busy you may be, make time for your children. It only takes a moment to make a moment.

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?

MATTHEW 6:26

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey--

1. Is the book of Labour in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Ecclesiastes 4, how many are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor? Two, Three, Five, Seven
3. In 1 Kings 5, how many thousand men comprised the labor force that King Solomon raised? 1, 5, 10, 30

4. What son of Abda was in charge of the forced labor in David’s kingdom? Baal, Adoniram, Cyrenius, Phaneul
5. From Exodus 20, how many days shalt thou labor and do all thy work? Two, Four, Six, Seven
6. Proverbs 14:23 states, "In all labor there is" ...? Love, Hope, Light, Profit

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Two; 3) 30; 4) Adoniram; 5) Six; 6) Profit

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**PHILIPPIANS 4:13**

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Psalm: 46:1

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ROMANS 8:18

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

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Be alert. Continue strong in  
the faith. Have courage  
and be strong.  
1 Corinthians 16:13

Rise in the presence of the  
aged, show respect for the  
elderly and revere your God.  
Leviticus 19:32



# Ask The Expert

## Wrist Band studies check exposure to toxins after Hurricane Harvey

After Hurricane Harvey, Oregon State University's Department of Environmental and Molecular Toxicology send a research team to Houston, to ascertain the threat to human health from exposure to toxins in the water, soil and air. They worked with Texas A&M, and THEA to gather the results.

Data was collected by using passive wristband samplers to determine personal chemical exposure after the flooding.

These wristbands can measure up to 1,530 different chemicals. 41 Superfund sites in Houston were affected by the hurricane, and 13 of these were flooded.

Although the study was conducted throughout the Houston area, a subset of 32 people were recruited from the Highlands area, and of these 27 returned their wristbands and had them analyzed.

Researchers looked for 1,530 chemicals found in several different chemical classes. Some chemicals are included in more than one class. For example, triclosan is found in both personal care products and is considered a pesticide. On average, each person had 28 chemicals in their wristband.

They measured chemicals at the nanogram level, which is a very small amount. However, they are still learning how much of a chemical is needed to cause a negative health effect.

Of the Highlands sample group, 119 chemicals



Silicone Wristbands were worn by participants for one week, to register any toxins they were exposed to.

were found across all 27 wristbands. 1411 chemicals were not detected.

Of the chemical types, Endocrine disruptors are found in many groups, including pesticides, flame retardants and personal care products.

Industrial chemicals include phthalates, commonly found in plastics.

An average of 28 chemicals were detected in each wristband. The lowest was 12 chemicals in a wristband and the highest was 43 chemicals in a wristband.

People were mostly exposed to endocrine disruptors, followed by industrial chemicals and chemicals found in personal care products.

NO Dioxins, Furans or PCBs (Polychlorinated biphenyls) were detected in any of the samples.

However, the researchers cautioned that that

might only mean that residents in the Highlands group were not directly in contact with toxins.

Future work by the team will track chemical exposures over time. They are expected back in the next month, one year after Hurricane Harvey.



Peter Hoffman of Oregon State University presented the study results to the San Jacinto River Coalition.



Oregon State University sent a team of researchers to Houston after Hurricane Harvey, to test for exposure to 1530 known chemicals. Lane Tidwell, left, and Diana Rohlman, right, were two of the Oregon State team.

Pam Bonta suggested that after the hurricane, many people spent time cleaning sediment, and wading in flood water. Therefore they might have been exposed to toxins after the period they wore their wristbands.

The research team cautioned that currently there are no regulations for many of these chemicals in the air. As a result it is difficult to know how much of a chemical is needed to cause health effects.

CHARLOTTE'S WEB

By Charlotte Jackson

## Excitement in the Air

For the past several weeks, as I have arrived at work, I have heard sounds of shoulder pads slamming against each other, whistles blowing, laughter and the sound of the local high school marching band. In the afternoons, I have seen many high school students out and about, some already participating in fundraisers for the programs they are involved with. I have seen younger students in the department stores begging for colorful school supplies as I have heard parents explaining that new rules mean they have to have mesh or clear backpacks.

While at the grocery store over the weekend, I heard children begging to take their lunch to school so they could pick the snacks and chips, yet I heard parents telling them that the school district has a free breakfast and lunch program this year. I saw parents compromising and letting them pick out afternoon snacks. As a grandmother, I watched with excitement as my now Kindergarten granddaughter tell me all about the first day of class. I heard my 10-year-old granddaughter tell me that it was not fair that she could not have a pretty backpack. Amazing how quickly she forgot about that when she realized she would have many friends in her class who she had feared would be in another class. My grandson attends a charter school and he started even earlier than his cousins. When I checked with his mom to see how he was liking school, he was already

wondering when the first holiday was going to be. I had to smile. It seems like just yesterday that my three children were acting the same way.

With the start of local schools, we had 500 high school students arrive on August 22 to our campus. The Galena Park Early College High School is now at capacity and to hear the laughter and see the hugs brought smiles to many faces of my coworkers.

On Monday as college classes began, we received word that we were near a record breaking enrollment of 10,000 students at San Jacinto College North. Several of us reflected how back in 2000, our dream was to reach 5,000 students. Our week has been filled with a variety of Welcome Back events ranging for lost students to location changes and lots of smiles, hugs and more laughter. I have seen my fair share of doughnuts, coffee, cookies and give-away items. It is always a blessing to see returning faculty as well as students but this week has been very special as I think I have seen over 200 new students who I was invited to their baby showers years ago. It is great to see older siblings stop by and introduce the new students to me and I cannot help for feel the excitement in the air. There will always be challenges of the start of the semester for all of us, but the weekend will bring an extra day as we celebrate Labor Day. Get out and spend some time in the community, check out a high school football game, visit with your neighbors and enjoy our community.

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email: northchannelstar@gmail.com

website: www.northchannelstar.com

Gilbert Hoffman.....Editor & Publisher

Mei-Ing Hoffman.....Associate Publisher

Julietta Paita.....Assistant Editor

Willie Glasgow.....Marketing Director

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# Construction of Largest PO/TBA Plant,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



PO/TBA Channelview Aerial view

plant is planned for 2021.

“Today’s groundbreaking is an historic moment for our company,” said Bob Patel, CEO of LyondellBasell. “This plant will be the largest of its kind, built to meet the rising global demand for urethanes used by billions of consumers each day and clean-burning oxyfuels that will help improve air quality around the world. The construction of this project will provide jobs for our neighbors, support local businesses and strengthen our communities with increased tax revenues across the Greater Houston region. As one of the cornerstones of our global growth strategy, the new plant will strengthen our ties in Houston and generate long-term value for our shareholders.”

To optimize product balances and realize synergies between LyondellBasell sites, two facilities will be constructed on existing manufacturing sites. The 140-acre PO/TBA plant will be built at the LyondellBasell Channelview Complex located in Channelview, Texas while

an associated 34-acre ethers unit, which will convert TBA to oxyfuels, will be built at the company’s Bayport Complex in Pasadena, Texas.

The company chose to build the new plant at these existing locations along the Texas Gulf Coast because of their proximity to low-cost feedstocks and the transportation infrastructure needed to ship products to markets around the globe.

“As the Congressman representing the largest petrochemical and refining complex in North America, I welcome the news about the construction of these new PO/TBA facilities at LyondellBasell’s Channelview and Bayport plants. These \$2.4 billion facilities are not only an expansion of LyondellBasell, but an investment in the future of our communities along the Texas Gulf Coast,” said U.S. Representative Brian Babin (TX-36). “The several billion pounds of PO and TBA products that will be produced will make the way for more local jobs, economic growth and re-

gional expansion over the coming decade and beyond.”

The project will create more than 2,200 construction jobs at the peak of construction and 160 permanent positions. Based on an analysis by the Greater Houston Partnership, LyondellBasell’s PO/TBA project is estimated to generate more than \$453 million in tax benefits for the county, school district, community college and other local taxing districts over a 10-year period. The Channelview site is expected to deliver \$349 million in tax benefits and the Pasadena site is expected to create \$104 million in benefits.

“We value our relationships with industry and are pleased LyondellBasell has chosen to continue to invest in our region with this project, which will bring tremendous benefit to our local economy and workforce,” said Harris County Judge Ed Emmett. “The construction of this world-scale facility in Harris County is a testament to LyondellBasell’s com-

mitment to this area and further solidifies our position as a global petrochemical and manufacturing hub.”

## Built to meet global demand

PO is used to make bedding, furniture, carpeting, coatings, building materials and adhesives, while TBA will be converted to two ether-based oxyfuels, methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) and ethyl tertiary butyl ether (ETBE). Both MTBE and ETBE are high-octane gasoline components that help gasoline burn cleaner and reduce emissions from automobiles.

LyondellBasell plans to sell the PO and derivative products to both domestic and global customers, while the oxyfuels will be primarily sold into Latin America and Asia. A portion of the TBA will remain in the domestic market in the form of high purity isobutylene which is used in tires and lubricants. The majority of the products will be exported via the Houston Ship Channel.

# HPD Crime Report,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Photo by Allan Jamail

Houston Police Officer Kenneth Miles giving the July Crime Report at Congressman Gene Green’s monthly safety meeting.



Photo by Allan Jamail

Houston’s Assistant Chief of Police P. Lopez, Jr. stated overall crime is down from previous months in the North Channel area, but he said citizens must use caution to not let their guard down and to remain vigilant at home and away from home when shopping.

## New Walk/Bike Trail Planned

Melody Galland and Maria Pilar Aponte, P. E. engineers with the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) gave an update on the plans for the FM 526 (Maxey Road) pedestrian-bicycle sidewalk plans which will connect Woodforest Boulevard south to IH 10.

# Green tours immigrant kids facility on I-10,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

live in dormitories, one gender per floor, and occupy their time with classroom work, recreation, and relaxation. Green said that he did not observe any conditions that alarmed him, and the children seemed well taken care of.

In addition to recreation on the property, the kids are also taken to a nearby county park named Gene Green Park. This was dedicated in that name by the County Commissioner at that time, Sylvia Garcia. They also have a soccer field, and basketball court on the property, he said.

Green said that most of the children he spoke with said they came from Central American countries, namely Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras. Only a few were from Mexico or other countries.

Asked what he would change or improve, Green indicated the facility was acceptable as is, but the real problem was federal policy that was separating children from their parents at the border, or like these children at the North Shore shelter, incarcerating them until their cases can be heard by a federal agency in charge of their

future.

Senator Garcia said, “If there is one positive to come out of President Trump’s disastrous family separation policy, it’s that it has helped shine a bright light on the treatment of immigrant children in the custody of the federal government. No longer will institutions like the Southwest Key Programs facility in Channelview operate in the shadows. While they may have blocked us from observing their operations today, we will be back again and again until we can be certain that the children in their care are being treated humanely. They may try to shut us out, but they won’t shut us up. Our voices will be heard. We demand full transparency of this operation and others like it, and insist that any child in here that has been forcibly removed from their parents be reunited with their family immediately.”

State Representative Ana Hernandez said, “The Channelview facility’s refusal to work with lawmakers and allow us entrance is a red flag and

a clear signal that the safety of the children in its care is secondary to protecting the Trump Administration and its enablers from the sunlight of scrutiny. This behavior will only strengthen our commitment to the strict regulation and closure of these operations.”

“The Trump Administration’s executive actions have done nothing to end the spread of detention centers like this facility. They have only replaced baby jails with family internment camps,” Hernandez said. “These facilities are an insult to the basic principles upon which our nation was founded. The time for words ended a long time ago. Direct action is the only answer to stop the imprisoning of entire families seeking asylum from violence.”

Representative Hernandez has worked to aggressively push back against the spread of detention centers, recently writing to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission to halt the licensing of such facilities under state oversight.



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