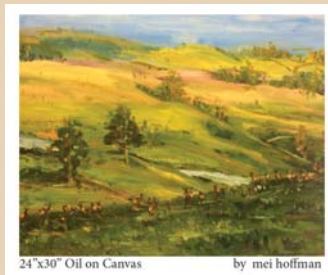


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VOLUME 6, NO. 49 (#253) THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2018 www.northchannelstar.com

CHANNEL CURRENTS

U.S. Congressman Gene Green to deliver commencement address Fall graduation

United States Congressman Gene Green will deliver the commencement address at the San Jacinto College fall commencement ceremony on Sunday, Dec. 16, 2018, at 2 p.m., at Minute Maid Park.

Green, who represents the 29th Congressional District of Texas, was first elected to Congress in 1992 after 20 years in the Texas House of Representatives and the Texas Senate.

Alvarado Wins Election for Texas Senate

HARRIS COUNTY – State Representative Carol Alvarado, D-Houston, was the winner of a special election held Tuesday December 11, to fill the seat in the Texas Senate District 6, vacated by Sylvia Garcia.

There were four candidates running for the position. Alvarado finished with just over 50.4% to avoid a run-off. Democratic State Representative Ana Hernandez received 24% of the vote, Republican Martha Fierro 23%, and Democrat Mia Mundy 2.1%.

Turnout was light, with



CAROL ALVARADO celebrates her election victory Tuesday night at her watch party at the Raven Tower.

Photo Michael Wyka

only 5% of the eligible voters turning out.

Alvarado had run before for this position in 2013 in a special election, against 5 other candidates. Sylvia Garcia won a run-off against Alvarado by over 1000 votes.

Alvarado won votes in the precincts that overlap her House District 145, and almost received as many votes in Hernandez's District 143. Her campaign was backed by a large budget, and she also benefitted from name recognition both from her previous campaign and her time as City Councilwoman

in the same areas as District 6. In addition, her District covered more of District 6 than Hernandez's did.

Ana Hernandez will return to the Texas House, having won that race in November. Alvarado will have her term until January 2021.

After her election was apparent, a national women's rights organization supporting abortion rights, Emily's List, issued a statement praising her victory and saying she had the skill to work with Republicans on issues.

North Shore Mustangs headed to Semifinals

By Allan Jamail

Saturday, December 8, 2018 at NRG Stadium the North Shore Mustangs remained undefeated ending the season for the Cy-Fair

semifinals. This game is a part of the 2018 Football State Championships - 2018 Football Conference 6A D1 tournament.

Mustang Coach Jon Kay said about the Bobcats, "They're a well coached



Photo by Allan Jamail

North Shore's offensive line opens up a big hole for Zach Evans (#3) on a 15 yard touchdown run. Evans had 4 rushing touchdowns and one pass receiving TD.

Bobcats, the 2017 reigning 6 A Division II state champions, 38 to 21.

The new 6 A Division 1 Region III Champion Mustangs (14-0) will play Austin's Lake Travis Cavaliers' (13-1) at 2 PM Saturday, December 15 at NRG Stadium in the state

team that executes and plays hard. They won a state championship last year and came here to win. We still have a ways to go; we didn't set our sights on winning a regional championship. We set our sights

See North Shore Mustangs, Page 3



The North Shore Mustangs football team defeated Cy-Fair High School this past Friday and have advanced to the 6A Semifinal Playoff Game! They will take on Lake Travis High School on Saturday, December 15 at NRG Stadium. Game time is 2:00 p.m. Presale tickets, which are \$6 for students and \$11 for adults, are available at the GPISD Athletic Office on Thursday, December 6 and Friday, December 7 from 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. All tickets at the gate will be \$15. Parking at NRG will be \$12 and is cash ONLY. Go Mustangs!

See the
MUSTANG
Supporters in the
SPOTLIGHT
Page 6

CHARLOTTE'S WEB By Charlotte Jackson



Civic Involvement

Earlier this week, I served as the Presiding Judge at one of the Precincts located in Senate District 6. There were only 33 eligible voters who cast their ballot at our location, as well as three who needed to visit another location. In addition, we had eight local residents who took time out of their busy day to stop in to vote. Unfortunately, they reside in Senate District 15 and were not eligible to vote in this Special Election.

Several of those who voted asked how were the Election Workers chosen. Some of them did not realize the workers were paid. Some were under the misconception that you had to be retired to work. As we explained to them, I realized that perhaps there were others with these same questions.

If you are a Registered Voter, you can contact the Harris County Clerk's Office and ask to be added to

the list of those who are interested in working future elections. Typically, if your voting precinct has an elected Precinct Chair, they are contacted to serve as the Presiding Judge for the upcoming election. They are then responsible for recruiting workers.

People ask why would someone spend 12 – 14 hours on Election Day working for \$10 an hour. To me, it is something that I learned early in life. When I was a Senior at North Shore Senior High, my Government Teacher, Ms. Mary Lou Dillard, handed each student an application to become a registered voter. She did this the first week of our Senior year. She then returned it to us 30 days before our 18th birthday so we could verify that the information was still correct. Then she mailed it to the County Clerk's Office. She taught us throughout that year that if you did

not take the time to vote, you would not have the right to complain if the elected leaders did not work for you.

When I went off to the University of Texas, I had an amazing class that combined American History and Government. The two instructors, who were of complete opposite political views, taught us to respect those who did not agree but to get involved. Make a difference.

Later after coming to work for San Jacinto College, I had a colleague that encouraged her students to help fill those empty Precinct Chair positions in our community. She came to me after realizing my area was not represented. About the same time, someone who worked for a local Senator told me about working as an Election Clerk. And so my journey began.

See Civic Involvement, Page 6

Local Fire Departments, school district partner for Christmas toy drive



DeZavala Elementary School students showed their appreciation to the Channelview Fire Department and the Cloverleaf Fire Department during the 5th Annual Toy Drive.

Channelview Independent School District was proud to partner with the Channelview Fire Department and the Cloverleaf Fire Department for the Annual Community Toy Drive. The joyful event took place at Panera Bread on Saturday, December 8th, 2018. Holiday tunes filled the air as Channelview ISD choirs from Brown Elementary, Cobb



Precinct 3 Constables donated items for families in the North Channel Community.

See Toy Drive, Page 6

Letters to Santa

Dear Santa,
It's been a few years since I've been in touch with you. I've made it to the 12th grade, and may I say, I think I've been doing pretty well. I've been maintaining good grades (A's and B's) in most of my AP classes. I've joined many school clubs such as National Honor Society. You should be proud of me as I got accepted into the University of Houston (main campus). This was one of the happiest moments of this year. My classes begin at U of H, fall 2019 and I am beyond excited but a tad nervous. With that being said, this Christmas, I would like to have a full ride scholarship to the University of Houston. Would you be able to help me with this? Or be able to pass my information along to one of your elves that might know someone to fulfill the wish. :) I've been praying for this answer for a very long time... Santa, it would be a great honor if this really did come true. I am 18 years old and I attend at Galena Park High School. If I get this scholarship, you bet I'll make sure you have twice as much milk and cookies next year!

Your Jolliest Friend,
-Yadira

Dear Santa,
I want slime for X-mas and some lol dolls, a basketball and a basket basket ball cort and shoes seize 1 and scooter.
Kimberly Alvarez, 7 years old

Querido Santa,
Cisiera que bengas mi Abuela y mi Abuelo y mis Tios y mis Tias y estavos muy Felizes y nos bivertimos mucho.
Osvaldo, 6
Schochler Elementary

Dear Santa,
How is every-thing going? I've been helping my mom. I really love the ipad. This year I wold like a xbox one. I will love it! Merry Christmas!
Lane Landree, 8

Letters to Santa

Querido Santa,
Me porter muy vine este ano me tralles una muneca de BeBe.
Emily, 6
Schochler Elementary

Dear Santa,
How are you and Mrs. Clause doing? I hop you are doing well. I am doing good in reading. I really need to try harder in math. Thank you for the gifts last year. This year have a LoL dolls and I will share it to my friends and I will like to have a alppe wach and I really need it to call my mom. When something goes wrong so pls.
Zoey beth Valencia, 9

Dear Santa,
I hope your doing well! I will be on my best behavior. Thank you for the gifts you gave me last year. I woud love a phone and it will make me so happy.
Merry Christmas
Santa.
Madelyn Sebreh, 9

Dear Santa,
How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? I hope you had a great year! I have been good I only got a couple conduct marks. Better than last year. Thank you for the presints last year. I would like a nurf gun bullets and a nededo. If I got that my heart would be blown up. Merry Christmas.
Brycen Schryden, 8

Dear Santa,
How are you and Mrs. Clause doing? I hope you are doing well? I have been doing good with reading! Thank you for the tablet last year. This year I would want a doll. I would be so thankful for it. Merry Christmas. Don't get sick y'all.
Kalli Olree, 8

Dear Santa,
How is every-thing going? I hope you are doing well! I try hard to be helpful. Thank you for the stuf that you gave me last year! I really loved the pony! This year I want a inteno sich. It wode make me happy! Merry Christmas!
Anabell Salinas, 8

SEASON'S GREETINGS

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From Our Family to Yours,
Best Wishes for the New Year



Judge Joe Stephens and family

Wishing our community
a Happy Holiday
and a Prosperous
New Year!



Wishing You Happy Holidays
and a Prosperous New Year

Bill Palko, SVP
Community and Business Development Manager

Amegy Bank
of Texas



May the season

fill your home with love and joy through the closeness of friends, family, and the comfort of home. And may our nation renew ourselves to serving the least amongst us and treating one another with respect and dignity.

Sylvia R. Garcia

SYLVIA R. GARCIA

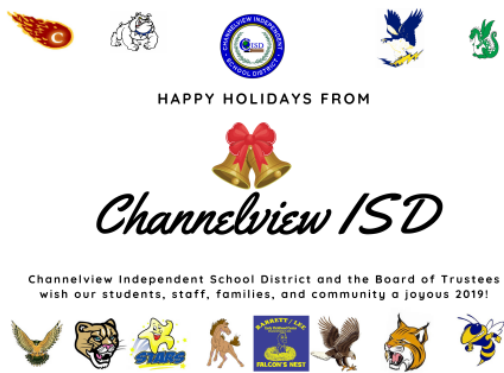
Wishing you a Merry
Christmas and
Happy New Year!



State Rep.
Ana Hernandez

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Happy New Year!



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Rep. Ana Hernandez hosts Annual Holiday Open House



Photo by Allan Jamail

Thursday, December 6, 2018, constituents from all over House District 143 came to enjoy food and refreshments with State Representative Ana Hernandez' at her annual holiday open house.

Galena Park ISD sees great success in Pre-K 3-year-old program

Early Childhood Development is a critical time in a child's life. Galena Park ISD (GPISD) wants to ensure these critical development periods begin at the earliest age possible and are free of cost for our students. During the 2017-2018 school year, we opened the GPISD Pre-Kindergarten 3-Year-Old program (Pre-K 3) at Jacinto City Elementary (JCE) and Tice Elementary (Tice). Each site serves 40 students; 20 English speaking students in the morning and 20 bilingual English learners in the afternoon.

We kicked off Pre-K 3 by hosting a Pre-K Round-Up event during the 2017 spring semester, which allowed early registration for students who met the State of Texas Pre-Kindergarten Eligibility Requirements and live within the GPISD community. After the Round-Up, we had 161 applicants and 156 of those students met the state requirements. The students were then entered into a lottery for the 80 available slots. Each student selected received FREE tuition for the entire school year.



Dr. Williams, superintendent of schools, with Woodland Acres Elementary Pre-K 3 student, Genesis Rodriguez

After the first successful year of the Pre-K 3 program and JCE and Tice and the overwhelming response from the community, we decided to open up an additional site this school year at Woodland Acres Elementary.

Thus far, the Pre-K 3 program has provided a nurturing environment and a solid foundation to help our young learners achieve their fullest potential. Through structured play, classroom routine and lessons; teachers are strengthening the social

and emotional development of students while setting the foundation for learning. The tailored Pre-K 3 curriculum and early exposure has positively helped our students' development and social skills; it has certainly enhanced their oral language to help prepare them for their academic career.

Registration information for the 2019-2020 Pre-Kindergarten Round-Up will be posted on the GPISD webpage and social media sites during the spring semester.

GALENA PARK ISD North Shore Senior High varsity basketball team wins the Goose Creek Memorial tournament



The North Shore Senior High Varsity Boys' Basketball Team won the Goose Creek Memorial Tournament!

In the first round, the Mustangs defeated Bellaire, 55-47. The Mustangs beat #29 in the state, Beaumont United, with a score of 46-35 to advance to the semifinals, and defeated Sam Rayburn to move onto the Championship round, the final score was 52-43.

In the Championship game, the Mustangs played #8 in the state, Sam Houston High School. In a hard fought battle, the Mustangs rose to victory over Sam Houston, the final score was 48-47.

"It was a great team effort and an emotional win for the boys," Coach Benitez said. Congratulations to Coach Benitez and the Mustangs!

North Shore Mustangs,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

on being the best possible team we can be."

North Shore's success can't be given to the offense or defense, they're a well balanced team as a whole on both sides of the ball. Disciplined to execute as coached, this year's team has the makings of winning a state championship.

The upcoming game against Lake Travis will test North Shore's pass defense. Pass defense execution is going to be a key factor as they matchup against some of the state's best passing quarterbacks.

The Mustangs offensive line executed so well it enabled Zach Evans to make 5 touchdowns, (TD's) averaging 8 yards per carry for 139 rushing yards. He ran for 4 TD's and caught a pass for his 5th TD. Quarterback Demetrius Davis had great pass protection and completed 77 percent of his 22 passes for 267 yards and ran for 112 yards. The offense made 24 first downs for 545 yards.

North Shore's pass receivers made 285 yards, Shadrach Banks 4 catches for 87 yards, Chance Pillar 2 for 47 yards, Zach Evans 3 for 39 yards and a TD, Dorian Manuel 1 for 32



Photo by Allan Jamail

North Shore's 245 pound defensive lineman Jordan Revels was all over the field stopping the Cy-Fair offense. Revels came from behind the Bobcat blockers tackling running back Jaelon Woods (#25) for a loss.

yards, Charles King 2 for 25 yards, John Gentry 2 for 21 yards, Ajani Carter 1 for 13 yards and Zorhan Rideaux 2 for 8 yards.

John Villalobos, Mustangs junior kicker continues perfect streak making all five extra points and a 19 yard field goal.

Mustang defense without question is a key factor in the team's success;

they kept the Bobcats to 3 touchdowns for 21 points well below their 40 point per game average. They've only allowed 153 points scored against them in their 14 game winning streak.

Game articles and photos can be found at, www.northchannelstar.com search keyword Mustangs. Subscription available too.



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OPINION PAGE

Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus

By FRANCIS P. CHURCH,
First published in The New York Sun in 1897

We take pleasure in answering thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

Dear Editor—
I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in The Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?

Virginia
O'Hanlon

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Francis P. Church's editorial, "Yes Virginia, There is a Santa Claus" was an immediate sensation, and went on to become one of the most famous editorials ever written. It first appeared in the The New York Sun in 1897, almost a hundred years ago, and was reprinted annually until 1949 when the paper went out of business.

Virginia O'Hanlon went on to graduate from Hunter College with a Bachelor of Arts degree at age 21. The following year she received her Master's from Columbia, and in 1912 she began teaching in the New York City school system, later becoming a principal. After 47 years, she retired as an educator. Throughout her life she received a steady stream of mail about her Santa Claus letter, and to each reply she attached an attractive printed copy of the Church editorial. Virginia O'Hanlon Douglas died on May 13, 1971, at the age of 81, in a nursing home in Valatie, N.Y.



Texas, nation mourn death of former president

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott on Dec. 3 proclaimed Dec. 5 as an official day of mourning across the Lone Star State in honor of former President George H.W. Bush, the 41st president of the United States, who died in Houston on Nov. 30.

In the proclamation, Abbott encouraged Texans to "gather, assemble and pay their respects to the memory of George Herbert Walker Bush through ceremonies in homes, businesses, public buildings, schools, places of worship or other appropriate places for public expression of grief and remembrance."

The proclamation also allowed state employees to attend such observances. State agencies, offices and departments were closed on that day, with general government operations and services maintained by reduced-size work crews.

The former president's body lay in state in the U.S. Capitol rotunda. Crowds viewed the casket and a 21-gun salute was performed. Official funeral services were conducted at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., and the body was transported to Bush's longtime home church, St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Houston, for funeral services. Crowds lined the railroad tracks as a funeral train carried the former president's body to College Station and its final resting place at the George H.W. Bush Presidential Library on the Texas A&M University campus.

Pablos resigns from post
Secretary of State Rolando Pablos, Texas' chief elections officer, has resigned from office, effective Dec. 15.

In his Dec. 6 letter of resignation, Pablos wrote to Gov. Abbott: "With the midterm elections successfully behind us and the 86th legislative session around the corner, I believe this would be a good time to begin the process of transitioning out of my position and passing the baton to the next secretary of state. Serving Texans as secretary of state has been the opportunity of a lifetime, but I feel the need at this time to turn my atten-

★
STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By Ed Sterling

tion to my private practice."

Abbott said Pablos "has been a dedicated public servant who has done an exceptional job upholding the integrity of our election system. He has strengthened Texas' standing on the international stage by fostering our cultural and economic ties with countries around the world. The State of Texas is better for his service. I thank Rolando for his commitment to our great state and wish him and his family all the best."

Before serving as secretary of state, Pablos served as chair of the Texas Racing Commission, as a member of the Public Utility Commission and as honorary consul to Spain. He also was founding chief executive officer of El Paso-based Borderplex Alliance and Uriel Americas, a renewable energy company.

AG joins anti-robocall group
Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on Dec. 6 announced he had joined 40 state attorneys general in an effort to stop or reduce "irritating and potentially harmful robocalls" that telemarketers and political campaigns may use to autodial the telephone numbers of private citizens and deliver recorded messages.

"Unwanted phone calls are both a nuisance and an invasion of privacy, and growing robocall scams could cost Texans anywhere from a few dollars to their life savings. This coalition is dedicated to protecting citizens from these risks and engaging telecom companies in a nationwide effort to put an end to these intrusive calls," Paxton said.

Revenue total increases
Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on Dec. 4 said state sales tax revenue totaled \$2.998 billion

in November, 7.7 percent more than the amount reported for November 2017.

"While slower than the double-digit pace of recent months, state sales tax revenue growth in November was strong," Hegar said. "Increased tax collections continue to be led by remittances from oil- and gas-related sectors, but at a slower pace than in recent months. Growth from retail trade and restaurants, the sectors most dependent on consumer spending, was positive, but comparatively modest."

The sales tax is the largest source of state funding for the state budget, accounting for 57 percent of all tax collections.

DSHS promotes flu shots
The Texas Department of State Health Services, in conjunction with National Influenza Vaccination Week, reminded Texans on Dec. 4 to protect themselves and loved ones by getting immunized.

"Last flu season was severe, and the U.S. saw a record number of flu-related hospitalizations and pediatric deaths," said Dr. Jennifer Shuford, DSHS infectious disease medical officer. "We have no way of knowing if this flu season will be milder or just as severe as last season. We are recommending all Texans six months of age and older get their flu vaccine as soon as possible."

Texans may visit texasflu.org or contact a health care provider for more information.

Stress-Free Holiday Entertaining Tips

(Family Features)
The holiday season is meant for spending quality time with friends and family, not stressing out over hosting. With some simple tips, you can cut down on hectic preparations while creating a memorable holiday full of food and fun guests can savor.

Consider these suggestions from the entertaining experts at Real California Milk:

Plan Ahead
Heading into your seasonal soiree with a plan in place can help avoid snafus. Make a shopping list of ingredients and decorations. Then put together a schedule a few days prior to the event to cover last-minute preparations.

Elevate Holiday Classics
Elevating classic appetizers is a simple way to savor the season. A trend on the rise, the Grazing Table starts with the table as the canvas, adds elements of the traditional cheese board then takes it to the next level with an arrangement of appetizers or brunch dishes and seasonal decor. Another way to lift your holiday spread is using high-quality, authentic ingredients like Real California Milk cheeses, made with milk from California dairy farm families, which are key ingredients in this Sweet Citrus and Spice Cheese Board.

Prepare Dishes and Decorations in Advance
Preparing for guests can be one of the most time-consuming aspects of hosting. Decorating at least a day ahead and setting the table the night before, for example, can help minimize stress. Welcome guests with holiday cheer and trendy decor like a virtual yule log made of melting cheese, complete with holiday music.

For more holiday inspiration and recipes like antipasto skewers and yogurt-pesto dip, queso fundido and cheese logs and bundts, visit realcaliforniamilk.com/recipes.

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Entered as Periodicals Class at Highlands Post Office, Highlands, TX 77562. Under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. Published 50 weeks per year, on Thursday, by Grafikpress Corp., 5906 Star Lane, Houston, TX 77057. Opinions in this paper are those of the authors, and not necessarily this newspaper's. Any erroneous statement which may appear will be corrected when brought to the attention of the publisher. Liability for errors is limited to the reprinting of the corrected version. Submissions are encouraged, in person, by mail, by fax, or by email, to grafikstar@aol.com.

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OBITUARIES

Stephen Lynn Smith

Stephen Lynn Smith, 56, passed away peacefully after a long battle with cancer on November 30, 2018 in Austin, Texas. Stephen was born on March 17, 1962 to parents Jimmy and Ann Smith in Houston, Texas. He was a true outdoorsman who enjoyed fishing, hunting and playing golf.

Stephen loved spending time with his family and playing with his grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his brother, Jeffrey Scott Smith. Stephen is lovingly survived by his wife, Deanna Smith; parents, Jimmy and Ann Smith; brother, Michael Todd Smith; children, Jeremy Mayo and wife Kelly, Ashley Knowles and husband Andrew; grandchildren, Emily Mayo, Mackenzie Mayo, Chandler Woodruff, Adam Knowles; his beloved dog, Jax; as well as numerous extended family members and friends.

Friends are welcome to join the family for visitation Tuesday, Decem-



ber 4th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Carter-Conley Funeral Home. Funeral services officiated by Pastor Danny Kilcoyne will be held at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, December 5, 2018 in the chapel of Carter-Conley Funeral Home.

Graveside services will immediately follow at San Jacinto Memorial Park under the direction of Carter-Conley Funeral Home.

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James V. “Jim” Garrett

James V. “Jim” Garrett, 80, passed away on December 1, 2018 peacefully at his home. He was born on October 27, 1938 in Houston, Texas to parents James Porter and Marie Emma Garrett. He attended Jacinto City Elementary School, Galena Park Junior High, and Galena Park High School.

James proudly served his country in the United States Marine Corps from 1956 to 1960. He retired in 2001 from his career as a State Trooper at the Texas Department of Public Safety after 37 years of employment.

James is preceded in death by his parents, aunts and uncles, and several cousins. He is lovingly survived by his wife, Lisa (Gibbs) Garrett; sister, Carolyn Tarris; brother,



Donald Garrett; two daughters; three grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; as well as several nieces, nephews, extended family members, and many friends.

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Christina Lee Williams Luper

Christina Lee Williams Luper, 86, of Baytown, passed away Sunday, December 1, 2018, in Baytown.

Christina was born November 29, 1932 in Brownwood, to parents: Luther and Sallie G. Williams. She was a high school graduate, a retired hairdresser and salon manager for J.C. Penny and also spent many of her younger years working as a florist.

Mrs. Luper was preceded in death by her parents and son: Michael Earl Luper. She is

survived by her son: John A. Luper, II, grandchildren: Chris Luper, Megan Luper Hart, John A. Luper, III, April Luper Hubbard, and Hailey Luper, aunt: Barbara Lummus, cousin: Marney Mason, niece: Becky Luper, numerous other relatives, and friends.

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CHRISTMAS
SCHEDULE 2018

MASSES

Christmas Eve
Monday, Dec. 24

5:00 pm --Vigil Mass
11:15 pm --Christmas Carols
12:00 am --Midnight Mass

Christmas Day
Tuesday, Dec. 25

9:00 am English Mass
11:00 am Spanish Mass

New Year's Eve
Monday, Dec. 31

6:30 pm Vigil Mass

New Year's Day
Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2019

8:30 am English Mass
6:00 pm Bilingual Mass

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Rev. Jose Mundadan, Pastor

Merry Christmas

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I Corinthians 13:8

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through Christ who
strengthens me.
PHILIPPIANS 4:13

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Pride only breeds quarrels,
but wisdom is found in
those who take advice.

God is our refuge
and strength, a
very present help
in trouble
Psalm: 46:1

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What we suffer now
is nothing compared
to the glory He will
reveal to us later
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

Toy Drive,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



The Channelview Ministry Team volunteered their service during the Christmas Toy Drive.

Elementary, Crenshaw Elementary, DeZavala Elementary, Schochler Elementary, and Alice Johnson Junior High entertained guests who showed their holiday spirit by donating toys, gift cards, and money. The Community Toy Drive “Every Child Deserves a Christmas” was

designed to brighten Christmas for children in the North Channel Community. Corporate sponsors for the 2018 Community Toy Drive were Arkema, Caterpillar, Channelview Ministry Team, Ctab Disaster Relief, Houston Responds, LyondellBasell, and Solar Turbines (a Caterpillar Company).

ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim: "If something is free, does it have value?"



I really like this question. I feel that there are many things in life that are free and have value. Love, friendship, a handshake, a hug, and even laying on the cool grass during a hot summer day. I can do any of these things for free and all of them have value to me.

For the financial value of an item, let's consider a piece of jewelry. Ultimately, the value of anything is what someone is willing to pay for that item at a given point in time. For example, people will often show me a ring or a pendant or a Rolex watch and ask me “what is it worth”? The value of a 14K gold ring depends on why the valuation is needed and its intended purpose. If the person is selling the ring because they need the cash for other expenses, that amount is based on its “scrap value”. If a person is wanting to have a formal appraisal done for insurance or replacement of that item, that value is much different and usually much higher than the scrap value and is known as the item's

“appraised value”. Value, much like beauty, is in the eye of the beholder or in the details for the circumstances.

We have many customers who will come into Pineforest Jewelry just to say hello. They're not here to buy something this time or for us to repair their jewelry, they just stopped by to have a cool drink and chat for a while. They feel comfortable here, they feel welcomed here, they feel appreciated here, they feel valued here. Our friendship and the cool drinks are all free. Now that's a real value, that's priceless!

We Love our customers and it shows every day of the week. Thank you for reading the “Ask Diamond Jim” column.

Diamond Jim is a diamond dealer and precious metals broker of NTR Metals. See more at: www.pineforestjewelry.com.

If you have questions pertaining to jewelry, watches, diamonds, precious stones, precious metals, and other questions related to the jewelry industry, email jmills@pineforestjewelry.com.

NORTH CHANNEL STAR HOLIDAY CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

Part 1

By Allan Jamail

December 12, 2018 - Tis the season to be jolly, but it is also the season to be wary of burglars, thieves, and criminals who holiday shop off of your carelessness.

During the holiday season, shoppers may be so busy they fail to protect themselves from the HOLIDAY THIEVES. Careless shoppers are easy victims for purse snatchers and vehicle burglars.

Purse snatchers love the holidays, use extra caution with purses and wallets. Carry a purse under your arm. Keep a wallet in an inside coat pocket or a front pants pocket.

When parking your vehicle to go shopping, remember where you parked. Always park in a well-lit and well-traveled area, don't park in a dark area. Lock your vehicle and keep your windows up even while you are driving.

Have your keys in hand when approaching your vehicle. You will be ready to unlock the door and will not be delayed by fumbling and looking for your keys. Check to see if you are being followed.

When you return to your vehicle, before getting in it look to be

sure no one is hiding inside.

When storing items purchased at the stores, place them out of sight. The best place is in a locked trunk. Do not leave your purse or cell phone where it can be seen.

If you are in a parking lot or garage, be mindful if you see someone who appears to be standing around for no good reason. He or she might be waiting to take advantage of you. They could be waiting to grab your shopping bags or your purse. Report them to security officers or leave the area until they're no longer around.

Don't resist if someone tries to take any of your valuables, call 911 instead. Try to get a good description or license plate number of their car. Robbers usually have a weapon so don't chase them.

If you go to an automatic teller machine for cash, look for people around you and make sure it is well lit and in a safe location.

Part 2 next week; *Home Holiday Crime Prevention / Allan Jamail is a North Channel Star writer who has Crime Prevention Education from the University of San Marcos and the Texas Department of Public Safety.*

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Civic Involvement,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Each election that I am asked to serve as a Presiding Judge, I look around and see if there are neighbors who are interested in serving, making a little money and getting to know others in the community. This election, I was blessed to have four very unique and interesting neighbors who joined me for the day. As the day went on, we

were able to learn about each other, as well as those who came in to vote. We discussed changes we would like to see and I encouraged them to take time to write a note to each of their elected officials, thanking them for what they do for us. If you are interested for 2019, get involved.

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Published each Wednesday by GrafikPress Corp. Any erroneous statement which may appear will be corrected when brought to the attention of the publisher. Liability for errors is limited to the reprinting of the corrected version. Submissions are encouraged, in person, by mail, by Fax, or by email, to: northchannelstar@gmail.com

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LEGAL NOTICE

Screenings to Identify Disabilities

CISD Special Education department provides screenings for children with suspected disabilities in an effort to identify every student with a disability who lives within the district's boundaries. Crosby ISD is committed to providing excellence in education to all students, and the screenings are designed to help identify children who may qualify for the district's special education programs. Eligible students with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 can be provided with services to ensure their successful participation in school. These services and supports may be provided through Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act. Special education services are also available starting at birth for eligible children who have a visual and/or auditory impairment.

If you know a child who may be challenged with a disability, please contact the Crosby ISD Special Education office at 281 328-9200, Extension 1108. If the child is already a student in Crosby ISD, please contact the counselor at the child's school. The counselor will be happy to assist you.

The special education personnel will coordinate efforts to evaluate the student and, if eligible, ensure that the student is provided with supports and services needed to benefit from instruction.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS CHANNELVIEW INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT'S State Financial Accountability Rating

Channelview ISD will hold a public meeting At 7:00 PM, December 18, 2018 In the Board Room, CISD Administration Building, 828 Sheldon Road, Channelview, TX 77530.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Channelview ISD's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

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GOOSE CREEK CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

Data Control Codes	General Fund	Debt Service Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Non-Major Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:					
5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 148,042,753	\$ 31,769,718	\$ 788,267	\$ 6,316,558	\$ 186,917,296
5800 State Program Revenues	85,720,320	282,433	-	2,872,333	88,875,086
5900 Federal Program Revenues	2,618,599	-	-	24,260,563	27,079,162
5020 Total Revenues	236,561,672	32,052,151	788,267	33,449,454	302,871,544
EXPENDITURES:					
Current:					
0011 Instruction	121,599,638	-	2,200,800	12,779,749	136,580,187
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	2,091,780	-	403,827	868	2,496,475
0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	2,166,506	-	-	2,014,290	4,180,796
0021 Instructional Leadership	4,311,933	-	-	214,229	4,526,162
0023 School Leadership	12,783,668	-	-	608,201	13,391,869
0031 Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	5,899,144	-	-	1,229,393	7,128,537
0032 Social Work Services	875,956	-	-	26,087	902,043
0033 Health Services	1,611,819	-	-	559,295	2,171,114
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	8,664,108	-	2,180,860	78,405	10,923,373
0035 Food Services	16,715	-	-	12,615,595	12,632,310
0036 Extracurricular Activities	4,460,093	-	-	1,168,517	5,628,610
0041 General Administration	7,215,205	-	1,649	-	7,216,854
0051 Facilities Maintenance and Operations	27,021,673	-	1,130,920	524,788	28,677,381
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	2,349,420	-	99,324	-	2,448,744
0053 Data Processing Services	4,349,306	-	182,876	288,085	4,820,267
0061 Community Services	207,912	-	-	484,081	691,993
Debt Service:					
0071 Principal on Long Term Debt	607,325	16,210,000	-	-	16,817,325
0072 Interest on Long Term Debt	79,663	18,488,390	-	-	18,568,053
0073 Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	-	879,682	-	-	879,682
Capital Outlay:					
0081 Facilities Acquisition and Construction	448,708	-	44,469,857	-	44,918,565
Intergovernmental:					
0095 Payments to Juvenile Justice Alternative Ed. Prg.	19,800	-	-	-	19,800
0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges	1,284,934	-	-	-	1,284,934
6030 Total Expenditures	208,065,306	35,578,072	50,670,113	32,591,583	326,905,074
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	28,516,366	(3,525,921)	(49,881,846)	857,871	(24,033,530)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):					
7901 Refunding Bonds Issued	-	108,085,000	-	-	108,085,000
7915 Transfers In	28	3,000,000	7,786,240	-	10,786,268
7916 Premium or Discount on Issuance of Bonds	-	13,151,703	-	-	13,151,703
7917 Prepaid Interest	-	279,759	-	-	279,759
7949 Other Resources	-	320,200	-	-	320,200
8911 Transfers Out (Use)	(10,786,240)	-	-	(28)	(10,786,268)
8940 Payment to Bond Refunding Escrow Agent (Use)	-	(120,516,942)	-	-	(120,516,942)
7080 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(10,786,212)	4,319,720	7,786,240	(28)	1,319,720
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	17,730,154	793,799	(42,095,606)	857,843	(22,713,810)
0100 Fund Balance - July 1 (Beginning)	73,232,514	28,026,735	70,615,275	4,843,423	176,717,947
3000 Fund Balance - June 30 (Ending)	\$ 90,962,668	\$ 28,820,534	\$ 28,519,669	\$ 5,701,266	\$ 154,004,137

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

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In conjunction with the "Hard Hat Tour" FTV will also be hosting a "Specialty" Hard Hat Tour focusing on the Normandy invasion of 1944. This tour will take place the same day as the Hard Hat tour at 2:00pm and will last approximately

(2) hours. This tour is available via a minimum donation of \$30.00 per person.

For anyone wishing to attend either or both of these tour you must be at least 14 years of age and older. Participants need to bring a small pocket flashlight, wear comfortable clothes (you may get a little dirty), good walking shoes for climbing numerous stairs/ladders and a camera if you wish. Hard hats are provided, and water will be available along the tour route during breaks. Promptness is required, as start times are strictly observed. If you can't make the December tour you can still buy your tickets early for the next one on January 19th and wrap them up for the holidays.

Easy, quick and inexpensive and 100% of all monies raised goes to helping us to ensure that the last remaining dreadnought style ship, one of the most important cultural resources of this state, will be here for future generations to enjoy. Please visit www.firsttexasvolunteers.org for more information.

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