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CHANNEL CURRENTS

NS MUSTANGS STATE CHAMPIONS

Star has on-field reporting team

The North Channel Star had reporting team for the whole North Shore Mustang season, and it was especially helpful for



and wife Linda, were on the sidelines taking photos and notes during the game, and interviewing players and coaches to bring our readers the full story.

A special thanks to this team for the excellent effort and results, as seen in this issue and on our website.

MaxPreps names Mustangs #1 team in nation

COACH KAY SHOWS OFF STATE TROPHY Coach Jon Kay holds UIL State 6A Championship trophy with Nation's number one rated North Shore Mustang team gathered for a victory photo.

WATCH THE FULL GAME, AT: www.youtube.com/ watch?v=t_UKMalzIJw

Allan Jamail



GAME HAS BREATH-TAKING ENDING

By Allan Jamail

Arlington, TX. AT&T (Cowboy) Stadium, Saturday, December 22, 2018 the Galena Park ISD Mustangs spoiled the "homefield advantaged" Duncanville Panthers Christmas and New Years

At the start of the battle of the two Texas powerhouses Texas Governor Gregg Abbott came out from the Panthers sideline to toss the coin wearing a Duncanville shirt. Abbott a graduate from D'Ville cheered from the sideline during the game for his Panthers But even a Governor's State of an Emergency couldn't give his team the crown, the East Side Boys wouldn't be intimidated and won 41 to

Duncanville traveled only a few miles and five minutes to get to the game, while the Mustangs traveled 250 miles and 4 hours

to play. Last week the undefeated 14 - 0 Panthers played on the same field beating Allen to reach the championship game.

On the game's first play it took only 10 seconds into the game for North Shore's defensive lineman Jordan Revels to force a fumble on Duncanville, the alert Ashton Reynolds scooped up the ball trotted nine yards for a 7-0 lead.

After a undefeated 15 game winning streak season and the state crown within reach, the visiting Mustangs found themselves in a never-before position. They found themselves trailing 35 to 36 in the fourth quarter with 63 seconds on the clock and 78 yards away from the Panthers goal.

Using the clock wisely the offense moved the ball in 8 plays to the Panthers 35 yard line, leaving only 11 seconds remaining. A failed pass attempt and a 10 yard penalty using 8

seconds Coach Kay then used his last timeout with 3 seconds on the clock.

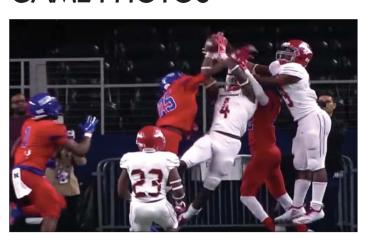
After 64 quarters of outstanding coaching this sea-son, Kay had only one play he knew of that could give his team and their fans the title, THE HAIL MARY pass. After calling the play, Kay took off his headset to watch the season's last play.

The Hail Mary pass is the most popular desperation pass play known in football. With his team dominating their opponents Coach Kay didn't know if he'd ever need to use it, but he wisely had his team practice it every

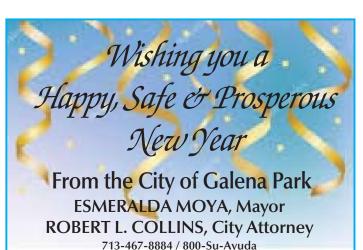
It was no secret or trick play, Duncanville coaches and fifty plus thousand spectators standing cheering knew what the last play would be. The Hail

> See North Shore Mustangs CHAMPIONS, Page 8

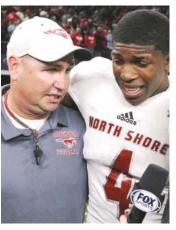
GAME PHOTOS



HAIL MARY GAME WINNING CATCH: The last play of the State Championship game be tween North Shore Mustangs and Duncanville Panthers, Mustangs AJ (Ajani) Carter rips the ball free from two defenders for the game winning touchdown from quarterback Dematrius Davis' 45 yard pass. Mustangs 41 - Panthers 36 (Fox Sports Photo)



Commissioners: **ZENAIDA GRANADOS RODNEY CHERSKY VERONICA GARCIA BEVERLY MULLEN** MAYRA GONZALES, City Secretary



TEARS OF JOY FROM COACH KAY & AJ CARTER: Tears of joy from both Coach Jon Kay and receiver Ajani Carter after the emotional game winning Hail Mary pass. Kay said, "The Mustangs practice this play every week, we work on it Thursdays before a Friday game, and it's called a Hail Mary for a reason - somebody's living right."

Photos by Allan and Linda Jamail except as noted



BANKS 80 YARD TD RECEPTION: Mustang receiver Shadrach Banks scores on a 80 yard touchdown pass from QB Dematrius Davis leaving a failing defender on the turf. This set a new record for the longest passing touchdown in championship history



TRICK PLAY / DEFENSIVE BACK REVELS CATCHES TD PASS: Mustangs Coach Kay's trick play using Defensive Lineman Jordan Revels on offense, scoring off a Dematrius

COMMUNITY NEWS

BARRET STATION

Man found fatally shot inside car



A suspect is in custody after a man was found shot to death in a pickup truck in east Harris County last Saturday, Sheriff Ed Gonzalez said. When deputies arrived around 6 a.m. at Magnolia and Holly, south of Crosby, a man was dead in the passenger seat of the truck, which was parked in the driveway of a home, authorities said.

The bullet had came through the passenger-side window, authorities said.

A possible suspect has been detained. Investigation continues.

Governor Abbott Sets Special Election For Texas House District 145

AUSTIN - Governor Greg Abbott today issued a proclamation announcing Tuesday, January 29, 2019, as the special election date to fill the Texas House of Representatives District 145 seat recently vacated by former Representative Carol Alvarado.

Candidates who wish to have their names placed on the special election ballot must file their applications with the Secretary of State no later than 5:00PM on Thursday, January 3, 2019.

Early voting will begin on Monday, January 14, 2019.

Covestro kicks off myON Reader Program at a school

By Susan Passmore

The joy of reading was taken to new heights for James Bowie Elementary School students as Covestro launched Renaissance myON Reader, an online individualized literacy program. Covestro, Bowie's Partner In Education through the Baytown Chamber of Commerce, donated \$10,000 through a grant for the two-year program, which provides students with a personalized library where a book is never checked out and where they can always find something of interest to read. Donna Mohlman, commu-

Donna Mohlman, community engagement specialist for Lee College, introduced the program to Bowie students during two assemblies. To add to the excitement of the kickoff, Councilman Charles Johnson, former after school program director at Bowie, challenged students to read at least 10 books to be entered in a drawing for four tickets to Pirate's Bay, donated by the City of Baytown. Johnson will present the top six readers, one from each grade level, with a \$25 gift

Jennifer Walsh, head of communications for Covestro, showed her enthusiasm for Renaissance myON Reader, encouraging students to read books during the holidays.

"My daughter participated in the myON Summer Reading Pilot Project in 2016, and I was pleased to see her reading level increase over the summer rather than stay stagnant or decrease as usually is the case. I want that for all students," Walsh said.

Accessible through a computer, tablet or smart phone, Renaissance myON provides students the opportunity to read books and news articles that are digitally enhanced by use of voice actors and illustrations, piquing their inter-

est. The program generates a recommended reading list for each student based on an interest inventory and the child's independent reading level

level.

"Seventy percent of the material offered is nonfiction and informational text similar to what is on the state STAAR," said Dr. Carl Franklin, vice president of MUS-ES3, LLC, a representative for Renaissance myON Reader. "Thirty percent is fiction, but 10 percent of all the material is Spanish or bilingual. We want to take students from where they are to higher reading levels."

A built-in component measures the Lexile levels of the students. Book quizzes are given to check student progress, and the recommended reading list is adjusted to the new reading level. Parents and teachers also can access the program through a computer, tablet or smart phone.

A former librarian at Highlands Elementary, Mohlman received a grant through the Goose Creek CISD Education Foundation for the mvON program, and she was excited about the progress her students showed. In 2016, as a volunteer with Academic Beginnings for Children, a broad-based coalition of education civic business and nonprofit organizations working together for student success, she suggested piloting the program in area school districts. That summer, 17 schools in Goose Creek CISD along with the Barbers Hill ISD Kindergarten Center implemented the myON Summer Reading Pilot Project.

"Of the participating students in Goose Creek CISD, 80 percent read at least five books, with a total of 40,000 books read during the summer. Lamar Elementary was number one with more than 6,000 books read. At the



Photo by Carrie Pryor-Newman

Covestro, Partners In Education with Bowie Elementary through the Baytown Chamber of Commerce, launches the Renaissance myON Reader program at the school through a \$10,000 grant to provide students with a personalized online library. Pictured are (from left) Karen Thomas, Goose Creek CISD area executive director; Charles Johnson, Baytown city councilman; Jennifer Walsh, head of communications at Covestro; Dr. Carl Franklin, vice president of MUSES3, LLC; Donna Mohlman, community engagement specialist for Lee College; Victoria Marron, executive director of retention and transition services for Lee College and Dr. Regina Sims, Bowie principal.

BHISD Kindergarten Center, students read more than 5,000 online books. At the end of the trial program, schools that administered the post-test showed average gains of 87 Lexile points for the eightweek period." Mohlman said.

After witnessing the success of the program, Walsh and Mohlman put their heads together on a grant for the myON Reader program for Bowie Elementary, which they were excited to receive

they were excited to receive.
"At Covestro, we're interested in building a stronger education for these students, because someday they may come and join our workforce. What they learn today from the books they read may help them find a career, a location where they will work, or even

spark their imagination to innovation and make the impossible possible," said Walsh.

To send the students off to begin their journey through the online reading program, Franklin dressed as a gingerbread man much to the delight of the students. When they returned to their classrooms, they were treated to gingerbread cookies provided by David Himsel, city councilman from Bowie's district and store manager of Kroger Marketplace. The program was delivered right on time for the holidays to allow students to travel all over the world, experiencing many adventures through online reading, as well as to give parents a solution when kids say, "I'm



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Congresswoman Garcia visits Jacinto City Health Care



Photo by Allan Jamail

December 19, 2018, Santa Claus (Roger Matheny) and Congresswoman elect Sylvia Garcia made a visit to the residents at Jacinto City Health Care and Rehabilitation Center. The Christmas party was a thrill to everyone both residents and health care workers. Garcia said seeing the happy faces on the residents was the best Christmas present she could ever ask for. If you would like to help on the upcoming Easter party contact NC Star writer Allan Jamail at: allanj211@aol.com

First annual "Gifts for Kids Day" in Jacinto City



Photo by Allan Jamail

Ruben Mendoza's First Jacinto City Gifts For Kids Day. L – R: Ruben Mendoza, Natalie Viera, Keep Jacinto Clean Vice-Pres. Irasema Salinas gives JC Elementary School Principal Becky Gardea a donation check for a Christmas party, brothers Oziel Jr. and Edgar Salinas. Other sponsors, Gainsborough Waste/Texas Outhouse.

By Allan Jamail

Jacinto City, TX. – December 19, 2018 at the Jacinto City Elementary School former student and Award Winning Tejano Drummer Jacinto City's Ruben Mendoza of Jaime y Los Chamacos came back to his roots to give hundreds of Christmas toys to the school's needy children

Mendoza said, "I remember my roots of growing up here in Jacinto City, now I want to come back and give to the city's needy children and make Gift For Kids Day an annual event."

Raised in Jacinto City Ruben began beating on a drum at the age of 14, his parents Maria Celia and Joel Mendoza instilled in him strong family values and strong work ethics as their only child.

After playing with several local bands at age 18 he joined the legendary Juan P. Moreno and the Renegaders, this got him out of the local scene where he toured all over the United States and Mexico. Later he toured with the Grammy award winning Mingo Saldivar Y Su Conjunto Los 4 Espadas until his father became ill and he made the tough decision $\,$ to return home to be by his father's side until he assed away.

Saddened by the loss of his dad Mendoza stopped touring for a while, in 2000 he got a call to join the famous Jaime Y Los Chamacos, this changed his life and it full-filled his childhood dream.

Frout to say was my friend. Later when I ran and was elected as Jacinto City's mayor we renewed our friendship, she was active in helping me bring the growing Hispanic residents and Anglo's residents peacefully together."

Eighteen years later

he's now touring and playing 150 shows a year. Ruben is a five time Grammy Nominee, Tejano Roots Hall of Fame Inductee, 2016 South Texas Conjunto Association Drummer of The Year and has many other awards.

North Channel Star writer Allan Jamail remembers his classmate Maria, Mendoza'a mother. "At the time Maria was one of the few Hispanics attending Galena Park Junior High, she was a model student and someone I'm proud to say was my friend. Later when I ran and was elected as Jacinto City's mayor we renewed our friendship, she was active in helping me bring the growing Hispanic residents and Anglo's residents peacefully together."



Jacinto City Seniors Annual Christmas dinner



Photo by Allan Jamail

Seniors Exercise Class L – R standing: Dora Wamsley, Maria Martinez, Delfina and Jose Perez, SanJuana and Anibal G. Lara and Ralph Morris. L- R seated: Flo Davis, Vivian Cole, Veronica Valdez and Betty Martin.

By Allan Jamail

Jacinto City, TX. December 21, 2018 - Annual Heritage Hall Seniors Christmas Dinner is the place next year to be if you live in the area for a delicious meal and a evening of fun, music and lots of door prizes given away.

There are many things

There are many things seniors can do to stay active and healthy at Heritage Hall. Daily seniors enjoy good meals, card games, dominoes, making arts and crafts, ceramics and a special exercise class 3 days a week with exercises designed for those not so active as before. Dora Wamsley a long time citizen contributor to the successes of many city events is the exercise instructor.

To become a part of the Heritage Hall activities contact Heritage Hall Director Elizabeth Flores, she manages a Meal on Wheels program for the home-bound senior. Flores can be reached at 1025 Oates Rd. in Jacinto City, 713-675-4487 or email: elizabeth.flores@jacintocitytx.gov

tx.gov
She also manages the area "Meals on Wheels" program which provides a nutritious meal for homebound senior citizens.

Gang and drug related shooting leaves man dead inside own house

HOUSTON, Texas – A shooting left a man dead inside his own home in east Harris County, deputies said.

Authorities said the shooting which happened in the 14000 block of Duncannon Drive may be gang

and drug related. Authorities said there were shell casings everywhere and a rifle lying in the middle of the road

There was also a crash on Duncannon that was related to the shooting, Officials said. Two other people were hurt and taken to the hospital for treatment of the injuries.

ment of the injuries.
During the shooting another person was also shot but is expected to survive, authorities said.





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OPINION PAGE



Social Security Matters

by AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor Russell Gloor

Ask Rusty: Maximizing Spousal Benefits

Dear Rusty: My husband turns 68 next year, and I will be turning 66. He plans on continuing to work and retiring at age 70 to maximize his monthly Social Security benefits. I am retiring next year due to a spinal injury. Since my monthly maximum is based on his, we are trying to figure out when mine should be activated to earn the highest benefit amount. Do I need to wait until he reaches age 70 to maximize mine, or can I activate it next year at the lesser amount and would Social Security adjust it to the higher his? Signed: Timing is Everything

Dear Timing: Your eventual spousal benefit from your husband's Social Security record will be based upon his full retirement age benefit amount, not on the increased benefit he will get by waiting until he is age 70 to claim. Thus, you don't gain anything by waiting past your full retirement age and until he claims his at 70 to start your own benefits. If you will be 66 next year, I assume your year of birth is 1953, which means your full retirement age (FRA) is 66. That means at age 66 you will get 100% of the benefit you have earned from a lifetime of working. By starting your benefits at age 66, your husband can then file a "restricted application for spousal benefits only" and collect 50% of the amount you are collecting, while allowing his own Social Security retirement benefit to continue to grow (it's already growing, but without him getting a spousal benefit from your record).

He can do this because he was born before the January 2, 1954 cutoff date after which that option was eliminated. By filing the restricted application after you start your benefits, your

spousal benefit from you while he is still earning delayed retirement credits (DRCs) for himself, which will mean his benefit at age 70 will be 32% more than it would have been at his FRA of 66. Then, when your husband claims his own benefit at age 70, you should apply for your spousal benefit, which will be 50% of his FRA benefit amount (you get that if it is more than you are getting from your own work record). And in the intervening months between when you apply at age 66 and when he claims his own benefits at age 70, your husband will have collected about 2 years worth of spousal benefits from your work record.

One final word of caution: should you decide to claim your own Social Security benefit before you reach your full retirement age next year, your eventual spousal benefit will be somewhat reduced. Waiting until you reach your FRA to apply for your own benefit will ensure you get the maximum spousal benefit you are entitled to when your husband switches to his own Social Security benefit at age 70. And at that time you will need to apply for your spousal benefit; it will not start automatically.

This article is intended

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Workforce commission reports continuation of employment trend

AUSTIN — Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.7 percent in November, remaining at the same 42vear low rate as in October, the Texas Workforce Commission reported Dec. 21.

The Texas economy added 14,000 seasonally adjusted non-farm jobs in November and annual employment growth was 3.0 percent for the month. marking 103 consecutive months of annual growth. according to the commis-

"The addition of 365,400 jobs over the year and 14,000 jobs in November demonstrates the consistency with which employers in our state create job opportunities for the highly skilled Texas workforce," said TWC Chair Ruth R. Hughs. "The Texas economy offers employers access to a competitive workforce and provides job seekers with career options in a variety of growing Texas industries. The numbers are a testament to the resilience of our Texas employers and the diversity of our Texas economy, she added.

The manufacturing sector recorded the largest private-industry employment gain over the month with 9,100 jobs added and led all industries in growth.

The Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area recorded the month's lowest unemployment rate among Texas MSAs with a non-seasonally adjusted rate of 2.1 percent, followed by the Amarillo the Odessa MSA, third lowest with a rate of 2.6 percent.

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling

Special elections are set

Gov. Greg Abbott set Tuesday, Jan. 29, as the special election date to fill two recently vacated seats in the Texas House of Representatives.

Those seats are House District 145, vacated by former state Rep. Carol Alvarado, D-Houston, a House member since 2008, and House District 79, soon to be vacated by Rep. Joe Pickett, D-El Paso, a House member since 1995.

Alvarado in early December won a special election runoff for the Texas Senate seat vacated by Sylvia Garcia, D-Houston, who resigned from office after she was elected to the U.S. House in November. Alvarado was administered the oath of office on Dec. 21. On Dec. 15, Pickett resigned from office effective Jan. 4, citing health

Candidates who wish to have their names placed on the special election ballot must file their applications with the Secretary of State no later than 5 p.m. on Jan. 3. Early voting by personal appearance will begin Jan. 14.

Regent chair is elected

Kevin Eltife, appointed in 2017 by Gov. Abbott to a six-year term on The University of Texas Sysem Board of Regents. a rate of 2.5 percent, and was unanimously elected chairman of the board on Dec. 20.

A native of Tyler, Eltife has a resume that includes service on the Tyler City Council as a councilmember, as may-or of Tyler, and as state senator for District 1.

While mayor of Tyler, Eltife received national recognition for the creation of a "pay as you go" business plan that strategically eliminated general obligation bond debt and lowered property tax

As a state senator, Eltife was noted for his bipartisan cooperation and his leadership in finance, economic development, open government, health and human services, and government organiza-

The UT board of regents oversees 14 higher education institutions. an enrollment of more than 235,000 students and an operating budget of \$19.5 billion.

Coalition includes Paxton

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on Dec. 20 announced that he and 38 state attorneys general had sent a letter to congressional leaders, asking them "to fully consider criminal justice re-forms" like those contained in the federal FIRST STEP Act (House

Resolution 5682). The letter explains that many states already have enacted criminal justice reforms similar to those in the FIRST STEP Act to great success, such as incentivizing federal inmates to participate in recidivism-reducing programs such as vocational training and academic

H.R. 5682 also would put more tools in the hands of prosecutors, allowing them to seek the most appropriate sentence for an individual's crimes, Paxton said.

"This legislation provides additional tools and flexibility to the Federal Bureau of Prisons, better equipping our correctional system to ensure that people coming back into our communities are prepared to do so as responsible citizens who do not pose a risk to our communities," coalition members wrote in the letter to Senate Majority Leader Mitch Mc-Connell, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, House Speaker Paul Ryan and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi.

5 Tips to Shed Those Pounds in the New Year

(StatePoint) Maybe you want more energy, or perhaps you want to lose weight and keep it off for good. Whatever your goals, a new year means a fresh start to become the best version of yourself.

Here are five tips from Nutrisystem experts to get your scale moving in the right direction and support your long-term

1. Skip "diet" drinks: Of course, you know not to order the regular cola with your meal, but you figure the lower-calorie diet version is an okay choice. Not necessarily. One recent review of research found that artificial sweeteners often used in diet drinks may not be as beneficial for weight management as intended, and that drinking them regularly may be linked to an increased body mass index. If you want something fizzy, opt for seltzer with lemon or lime. But if you can't stor dreaming of that diet soda, it doesn't have to be completely off-limits. Just try to cut back. Modera tion is key!

2. Drink more water Every part of your body needs water to work properly. When you don't get enough, your body can't perform normal functions, which can drain your energy. More fatigue means less physical activity. Plus, mild dehydration is often masked as hunger prompting you to grab a snack when all you really need is water. Nutrisystem experts recommend drinking at least eight, 8ounce glasses daily

3. Slow down: It takes 20 minutes for the "I'm full" signals from your stomach to reach your brain. When you inhale your food, it's much easier to eat more than your body really needs. One review of 23 studies found that fast eaters were about twice as likely to be obese, compared to slow eaters. To help slow down, take smaller bites, chew 10 to 15 times and put your fork down between each bite.

4. Don't eyeball portions: "The super-sized meals at restaurants have given us a skewed view of proper portion size," says registered dietitian for Nutrisystem, Courtney McCormick.

Even if you're tracking your food intake with an app or food journal, overestimating portions can sabotage progress.

McCormick's solution: Measure portions -- not forever, but for a while at the start. Doing so will help you get a visual of what portions should actually look like. You may also consider eliminating some of the guesswork with a pro gram, such as Nutrisys tem, that offers pre-portioned, nutritionally-balanced meals

5. Reduce stress: Stress can cause your body to burn calories more slowly. which could lead to weight gain, according to a study. Plus, stress increases hormones that stimulate appetite, and the foods you'll crave for comfort tend to be high in fat and sugar. Help manage stress with deep breathing, meditation, exercise, hanging out with friends or listening to music.

More tips on jumpstarting your weight loss goals can be found at nutrisystem.com.

With these tips for the new year, you'll be on the road to realistic weight loss achievement and have more energy for your day-to-day life.

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LIFESTYLE



Cecil Howard McBroom

Cecil Howard McBroom, passed away December 24, 2018 at his home in Houston, Texas.

Cecil was born on Octo-ber 23, 1959 to parents Cecil Sr. and Doris McBroom in Baytown, Texas. He enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, especially during the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, where he was a lifetime member who volunteered with them for over 35 years. Cecil also spent much of his time volunteering at numerous senior centers, as well as schools. He was also known for his heavy involvement in political

campaigns. Cecil is preceded in death by his parents, as well as his brother, William Henry Davis, Jr. He is survived by his son, Anthony McBroom: brother and sister-in-law, Rex McBroom and Cathy Carnew; sister and brother-in-law, There-sa and Charles McMichael; as well as numerous extended family members

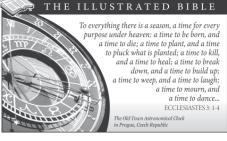


and dear friends.

The family invites you to join them for a visitation on Monday, December 31, 2018 from 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. in the chapel of Carter-Conley Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the 100 Club in Cecil's hon-

Carter * Conley FUNERAL HOME

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BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

- 1. For possible new vear's resolutions. Proverbs 16:3 says, "Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be ... Resolved, Established, Directed, Bountiful
- 2. Psalm 37:5 instructs us to, "Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to ..."? Nurture, Pass, Action,
- 3. Which book proclaims the first day of the new year is for resting and a memorial sounding the trumpet? Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers
- 4. 2 Corinthians 5:17 and Galatians 2:20 are among the verses to focus on what in a new year? Blessings, Moving forward, Grace Church attendance
- 5. In which month of the religious calendar did the new year begin in the Bible? 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th 6. From James 1:5, what may one lack, and if they ask God, it shall be given? Love, Wisdom, Truth, Goals

ANSWERS: 1) Established; 2) Pass; 3) Leviticus; 4) Moving forward; 5) 7th; 6)

TXDOT SEEKING PUBLIC INPUT ON FUTURE OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION IN TEXAS

AUSTIN — The Texas Department of Transportation is seeking public input on an update to the Texas Rail Plan, which includes a list of current and future rail projects that the public will have the opportunity to learn about and submit comments. The plan also keeps inventory of all rail lines; analyzes rail service goals and contributions to the economy; catalogs and assesses potential infrastructure

nance strategies for projects and services.

The public can review and provide input on the plan via the online meeting. There also is a survey and online form to submit $public\ comments\ until\ Jan.$ 8, 2019 at

www.surveymonkey.com/ r/TexasRailPlan. These options provide an opportunity for the public to comment on all rail-related issues in Texas, both

projects; and examines fi- freight and passenger, as well as existing and future projects and programs.

The rail system is a critical component of our thriving economy, safely connecting industries, ports and people. Per federal requirements, states must have a state rail plan that is updated every four years to establish policy, priorities and implementation strategies for freight and passenger rail in the



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

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 Calvary Baptist, 2217 Huff-man Eastgate Rd., Huffman, 281-324-3409 · Highlands Baptist, 111 E. Canal Rd., Highlands, 281-426-

Northeast Freeway Baptist, 1635 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2723
 Unity Baptist, 2625 Broad Dr.,

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BAPTIST New Life Baptist Church of East Houston, 18570 Van Road, Houston, 77049. 281-456-0082

•Second Baptist Church, 1913 18th. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-

·Second Baptist Church, 10501 Muscatine, Jacinto City, TX. 713-674-8463.

•St. Matthew Baptist Church, 119 Fidelity, Houston, TX. 713-674-0062. •First Baptist Church, 1505 1st. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-455-1261.

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·South Drive Baptist Church 15229 South Drive, Channelview, TX. 77530. 281-452-4500.

•First Baptist Church of Jacinto City, 10701 Wiggins, Jacinto City, TX 77029. 713-672-2802. •Beaumont Place Baptist Church, 13101 lvydale Street, Houtson, TX. 77049. •First Baptist Church of Gale-na Park 206 Woofle St 77547

CATHOLIC St. Andrew Roman Catholic Church, 827 Sheldon Rd.,

Channelview, TX. 281-452-

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•Galena Park Church of Christ, 301 Holland Ave. Galena Park. TX. 713-455-0826

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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

County Attorney Ryan obtains Settlement to stop polluting by Pasadena Refinery PSRI

Harris County Attorney Vince Ryan obtained \$210,000 for the County this week in the settlement of an environmental enforcement action against Pasadena Refining Services Inc. (PRSI). The company also agreed to perform an audit and to take corrective actions to prevent the occurrence of future violations and to correct other problems uncovered at the refinery during the lawsuit. The settlement comes as the result of a lawsuit seeking to hold the company responsible for repeated violations of Texas environmental protection laws.

Harris County filed suit against PRSI in March of 2017 for five separate vio-lations of the Texas Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act that occurred between 2015 and 2016 that were investigated by the Harris County Pollution Control Services Department.

County officials and company representatives agreed to work together to resolve the case rather than require a trial to achieve compliance. The company agreed to pay a total of \$415,000 in attorney's fees and penalties. \$210,000 of this amount vas paid to Harris County this week with the balance being paid to the State of

In addition to paying

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fees, PRSI must hire an independent auditor to certhe causes of the violations and report recommended corrective changes to the company. PRSI must then implement those changes according to a timetable that is a part of a judicial order.

Violations included an incident that occurred on July 25, 2016, in which 1,446 pounds of sulfur dioxide was released during a flaring operation. Sulfur dioxide is a toxic gas that has a characteristic smell. Human exposure to the gas can cause difficulty breathing and can be fatal The release was almost five times the limit imposed by law. As a result of the release, the Wash-burn Tunnel and the Houston Ship Channel were closed and the City of Galena Park issued a shelter-in-place order that lasted for one-and-a-half hours.

PRSI is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Petrobras, a Brazilian national oil company. The violations occurred at the century-old refinery the company operates on the Houston Ship Channel at 111 Red Bluff Road in Pasadena. The fa-cility in question is one of oldest refineries in Texas.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Texas Attorney Gener al also participated in the

Financing Available

ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim: "How did the Internet begin?"

In ancient Israel, it came to pass that a trader by the name of Abraham Com did take unto himself a healthy young wife by the name of Dorothy (Dot for short). Dot Com was a charming woman, broad of shoulder and long of leg. Indeed, she was often called Amazon Dot

And she said unto

Abraham, her husband, 'Why dost thou travel so far from town to town with thy goods when thou can trade without ever leaving thy tent? And Abraham did look at her as though she were several saddle bags short of a camel load, but simply said, "How, dear?" And Dot replied, 'I will place drums in all the towns and drums in between to send messages saying what you have for sale, and they will reply telling you who hath the best price. The sale can be made on the drums and delivery made by Uriah's Pony Stable (UPS)."

Abraham thought long and decided he would let Dot have her way with the drums. And the drums rang out and were an immediate success. Abraham sold all the goods he had at the top price, without ever having to move from his tent. To prevent neighboring countries from overhearing what the drums were saying, Dot devised a system that only she and the drummers knew. It was known as Must Send Drum Over Sound (MSDOS), and she also developed a language to transmit ideas and pictures -Hebrew to The People (HTTP).

And the young men did take to Dot Com's trading as doth the greedy horsefly take to camel dung. They were called Nomadic Ecclesiastical Rich Dominican

Sybarites, or NERDS. And lo, the land was so feverish with joy at the new riches and the deafening sound of drums that no one noticed that the real riches were going to that enterprising drum dealer, Brother William of Gates, who bought off every drum maker in the land. Indeed, he did insist on drums to be made that would work only with Brother Gates' drumheads and drumsticks. And Dot did say, "Oh, Abraham, what we have started is being taken over by others.'

And Abraham looked out over the Bay of Ezekiel , or eBay as it came to be known, and he said, "We need a name that reflects what we are." And Dot replied, "How about Young Ambitious Hebrew Owner Operators?

"YAHOO," said Abraham. And because it was Dot's idea, they named it YAHOO Dot Com. Abraham's cousin, Joshua, being the young Gregarious Energetic Educated Kid (GEEK) that he was, soon started using Dot's drums to locate things around the countryside. It soon became known as God's Own Official Guide to Locating Everything (GOOGLE).

That is how it all began. And that's the truth! Thank you for reading and Happy New Year!

Diamond $Jim\ is\ a$ diamond dealer and precious metals broker of NTR Metals. See more

www.pineforestjewelry.com.

 ${\it If you\ have\ questions}$ pertaining to jewelry, watches, diamonds, precious stones, precious metals, and other questions related to the jewelry industry, email

7 year-old girl killed in shooting



A 7-year-old girl, Jazmine Barnes, seen at left, was killed by a passerby shooter in a red pick up truck, seen at right. A \$35,000 reward has been offered for information on the shooter.

HARRIS COUNTY. Texas - A year-old girl was killed and her mother wounded in a shooting.

The shooting happend in northeast Harris County and the mother was wounded on the arm, according to Sheriff's deputies, Major Jesse Razo

with the Sheriff's Office said a car with a woman and four girls, ages 7 to 15 was driving near a Walmart store at Wallisville and the Beltway around 7 a.m. on December 30, 2018 when a red pickup truck came by and someone inside it started shooting, striking the mother and 7year-old girl.

The mother identified as LaPorsha Washington, 30, drove south on

the Beltway and then made a U-turn and stopped on the north side, Razo said.

When deputies arrived, the child was dead from a gunshot to the head, and the mother was taken to a hopsital for treatment of her injury.

The other 3 girls were shaken and devastated, Razo said. "We are going to use all resources available to bring this killer to justice," he add-

The gunman is described as a white male, around his 40s and with a beard.

If anyone has any information about this homicide, is urged to call the Sheriff's Office at 713-221-600.

11-year-old girl dies in car crash



TranStar camera shows intersection and crashed autos.

An 11-year-old girl died, and her father faces a murder charge following a two-vehicle collision last Monday

Jorge Ledezma Echavarria, has been charged with felony murder after a suspected drunken driving crash that killed his 11-year-old daughter in eastern Harris County on New Year's

Echavarria was driving a 2002 Chevy Tahoe in the 14200 block of Crosby Freeway around 8:30 p.m. when he allegedly flew through the

intersection at the East Sam Houston feeder, disregarding a traffic control device

He crashed into the side of a Ford Expedition headed north on the feeder road, according to the Harris County Sheriff's Office.

The 11-year-old was in the back seat and was taken to the hospital where she died almost two hours later after the crash. There were two other family members in the Tahoe and were also seriously injured, au-

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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

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.

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN **AIR PERMIT RENEWAL**

PERMIT NUMBER 40072

APPLICATION Southern Crushed Concrete LLC has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for renewal of Air Quality Permit Number 40072, which would authorize continued operation of a Rock Crushing Facility located at 15015 East Freeway, Channelview, Harris County, Texas 77530. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to application. http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=29.77335&lng=-95.147917&zoom=13&type=r. The existing facility is authorized to emit the following air contaminants: particulate matter including particulate matter with diameters of 10 microns or less and 2.5 microns

This application was submitted to the TCEQ on November 15, 2018. The application will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ central office, TCEQ Houston regional office, and the North Channel Branch Library, 15741 Wallisville Road, Houston, Harris County, Texas beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review in the Houston regional office of the TCEQ.

The executive director has determined the application is administratively complete and will co..+nduct a technical review of the application. Information in the application indicates that this permit renewal would not result in an increase in allowable emissions and would not result in the emission of an air contaminant not previously emitted The TCEQ may act on this application without seeking further public comment or providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.

PUBLIC COMMENT You may submit public comments, or a request for a contested case hearing to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. The TCEQ will consider all public comments in developing a final decision on the application. The deadline to submit public comments is 15 days after newspaper notice is published. After the deadline for public comments, the executive director will prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the TCEQ's jurisdiction to address in the permit process.

After the technical review is complete the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. If only comments are received, the response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will then be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or who is on the mailing list for this application, unless the application is directly referred to a contested

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING You may request a contested case hearing. The applicant or the executive director may also request that the application be directly referred to a contested case hearing after technical review of the application. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court. Unless a written request for a contested case hearing is filed within 15 days from this notice, the executive director may act on the application. If no hearing request is received within this 15 day period, no further opportunity for hearing will be provided. According to the Texas Clean Air Act § 382.056(o) a contested case hearing may only be granted if the applicant's compliance history is in the lowest classification under applicable compliance history requirements and if the hearing request is based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission may only grant a hearing on those issues submitted during the public comment period and not withdrawn.

A person who may be affected by emissions of air contaminants from the facility is entitled to request a hearing. If requesting a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, daytime phone number; (2) applicant's name and permit number; (3) the statement "[[/we]] request a contested case hearing;" (4) a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the application and air emissions from the facility in a way not common to the general public; (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the facility. (6) a description of how you use the property which may be impacted by the facility, and (7) a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period. If the request is made by a group or association, one or more members who have standing to request a hearing must be identified by name and physical address. The interests the group or association seeks to protect must also be identified. You may also submit your proposed adjustments to the application/permit which would satisfy your concerns. Requests for a contested case hearing must be submitted in writing within 15 days following this notice to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

ase hearing are timely filed, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for a contested case hearing to the Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. Unless the application is directly referred to a contested case hearing, the executive director will mail the response to comments along with notification of Commission meeting to everyone who submitted comments or is on the mailing list for this application. The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. If a hearing is granted. the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and la to relevant and material air quality concerns submitted during the comment period. Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the Commission's jurisdiction to address in this proceeding

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

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/, or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address and physical address will become part of the agency's public record. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the Public Education Program toll free at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-

Further information may also be obtained from Southern Crushed Concrete, LLC, 1725 Hughes Landing Boulevard, Suite 1200, The Woodlands, Texas 77380-3875 or by calling Ms. Monique Wells, CIC Environmental LLC at (512) 292-4314

Notice Issuance Date: November 29, 2018

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NOTICE OF LOCATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Notice is hereby given that the street address of the administrative office of Harris County Emergency Services District No. 5 is 5915 FM 2100, Crosby, Texas

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Harris County Emergency Services District No. 12 ("District")

The District's administrative office is located at 911 Hollywood Street, Houston, Texas 77015.

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LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

Harris County Emergency Services District No. 50

The District's administrative office is located at 1210 Dell Dale, Channelview, Texas 77530.

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NOTICE OF LOCATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Notice is hereby given that the street address of the administrative office of Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80 is Crosby Fire Station No. 2, 123 S. Diamondhead Blvd., Crosby, Texas 77532

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North Shore Mustangs CHAMPIONS,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mary pass.
This wasn't a luck play either; the play demanded a disciplined team who had fine tuned their skills to perfection to execute it as coached and practiced.

On the snap of the ball quarterback (QB) Dematrius Davis knew he had to allow his receivers enough time to run the 45 vards to reach the end zone, his line held the Panthers pass rush, the clock read zero, Panther defenders flooded the end zone, Mustangs AJ Carter and Shadrach Banks both raced to what's known as coffins corner" where you either live or die on this

Carter and Banks saw the ball coming high overhead, they leaped up and simultaneously two Panther defenders leaped up to

Eight sets of hands grabbed the ball, with feet in the air Carter ripped the ball from the clutches of the Panthers and fell down $\,$ inbounds for the winning

The Panthers pass defenders made a costly mistake; they tried to intercept the Hail Mary pass when instead all they had to do was bat the ball away giving them the crown

North Shore not only took home the state's num-ber one ranking but Max-Preps rewarded North Shore with the number one national ranking, becoming the third Texas school in five years to be crowned national champions.

With the dramatic win, North Shore adds a third state championship to its trophy case to go along with titles from 2003 and

2015. Kay also coached the 2015 championship game.

Second guessing Dun-canville's coaching; they under estimated the "East Side Boys" by making their last score too early leaving 63 seconds on the clock.

The game changed leads 8 times keeping the fans standing continuously: it wasn't a game for the faint of heart. Thrilling, exciting, breath-taking, nerve racking, exhausting best describes it.

Game ending stats, NS 20 first downs DV 18, rushing yards NS 176 ~ DV

passing yards NS 333 yds ~ DV 43 yds, total of-fensive yards – plays NS $61 - 509 \text{ yds} \sim DV 63 - 488$ yds, penalties NS 10 - 107 yds ~ DV 2 - 15 yds and possession time NS 20:16 - DV 27:44.

Carol Alvarado sworn in as Texas Senator

By Allan Jamail

Austin, TX. Friday, December 21, 2018 - in the Texas Capitol's Senate Chamber, House of Representative member Carol Alvarado was sworn in as the new Senator for Texas' Senate District 6.

Alvarado was recently elected in a Special Election on December 11th to fill the vacancy of Senator Sylvia Garcia who was elected in the November General Election as Congresswoman of the 29th District to replace retiring Congressman Gene Green.

The Master of Ceremonies was Senator John Whitmire the Dean of the Texas Senate and the Oath of Office was given by Harris County Commissioner Rodney Ellis.

Whitmire said, "Today is special to me because Carol's friendship and mine spans 26 years. As a Pre-cinct Chair there was no harder worker than Carol to get voters to the polls. She even created Block Capitan's to help her get the votes out, she's a hard worker, today proves hard

Photo by Allan Jamai

Senator Carol Alvarado, middle, takes Oath at Texas Capitol as new Senator of Texas for District 6

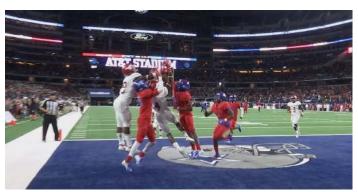
Ellis before administering the Oath gave praises to Alvarado's hard work as a Houston City Councilmember, noting she led the Council in efforts to improve air quality and closing nuisance bars in

neighborhoods. Senator Alvarado thanked her family and everyone in attendance and those who helped in her political career. She said, "My mother is my

rock and my idle and she did a great job raising our family. We need to see how hard work pays off in our Democratic process, I'll continue to work hard for those I represent and all Texans.

At this time there's not been a decision made by the Governor for an election date to fill Alvarado's vacant 145th State House

GAME PHOTOS



ANOTHER VIEW OF THE HAIL MARY GAME WINNING TD: The last play of the State Championship game between North Shore Mustangs and Duncanville Panthers, Mustangs AJ (Ajani) Carter rips the ball free from two defenders for the game winning touchdown. Quarterback Dematrius Davis' made a 45 yard pass with 3 seconds on the clock. (Fox26 photo)



STEWARTS DEFENSIVE TACKLE, PREVENTS PANTHERS TD: Keyoon Stewart, North Shore's defensive back makes a game saving tackle near the Mustangs goal line on Panthers quarterback Ja'Quinden Jackson.



MVP OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE GAME -DEMATRIUS DAVIS MAKES HISTORY: Sophomore quarterback Dematrius Davis named MVP Offensive Player of the game. His 45 yard Hail Mary touchdown pass on the final play of the game to AJ Carter made 6A Championship history for making 5 touchdown passes in a game



MVP DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE GAME / JORDAN REVELS: Jordan Revels holding his MVP Defensive player of the game award. On a trick play the heavily built defensive lineman went in on one offensive play, catching the Panthers off-guard, QB Davis hit him for a touchdown pass. The second time this season Coach Kay used the same play successfully.



AJ CARTER SHOWS GOLD MEDAL/ CAUGHT HISTORY MAKING, GAME WINNNG TOUCHDOWN: AJ Carter proudly showing his gold championship medal. Carter caught QB Davis' history making fifth touchdown pass of the game

Photos by Allan and Linda Jamail, except as noted.

New County Judge Lina Hidalgo takes oath

As required by law, Harris County Judge-elect Lina Hidalgo took her oath of office at 12:01 am on January 1, 2019. The swearing-in ceremony was held at the Office of Homeland Security and TranStar building, as seen at right. A more public ceremony was held later in the day at NRG, with all county elected officials taking the oath together.





Join us for an informational seminar.

Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2019 | 6-7 p.m.

Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital 4401 Garth Rd.

New Conference Room Baytown, TX 77521

Weight loss (bariatric) surgery may not be right for everyone, but learning about it and talking to your doctor can help determine if it's right for you.

Join Drs. Laura Choi and Kendall Sowards, who will address common questions such as:

- Am I a candidate?
- What are the common types of surgery?
- How do I know if I'm ready?



Laura Choi, MD, FACS Bariatric Surgeon



Kendell Sowards, MD Bariatric Surgeon

Registration is required.

Visit houstonmethodist.org/events or call 281.428.2273 for more information or to register.

Complimentary parking is available at the hospital.





NORTH SHORE MUSTANGS INDIVIDUAL GAME STATS

<u>Rushing</u> - Zach Evans 104 yds. (16 consecutive over 100 yard games), Dematrius Davis 90 yds, John Gentry 3 yds, Roger Hagan 1 yd.

Passing - Dematrius Davis 333 yds - (history making 5 touchdowns, history making longest 80 vd.TD).

Receiving - Shadrach Banks 179 yds (2 TD) - (80 yd. history making longest TD catch), Chance Pillar 42 yds, AJ Carter 53 yds (1 TD), Zach Evans 14 yds, John Gentry 33 yds (1TD), Jordan Revels 8 yds (1 TD) Zorhan Ride-

Extra points - John Villalobos 3 (16 game perfect season no misses).

<u>Center Snaps</u> – Luke Chavanne (16 game perfect season no miss snaps).

Leading tacklers, Keyoon Stewart 10, Daymond Lewis 10, Marco Crawford 10, Cory Flagg 8, Dorian Hewett 7, Jordan Revels 6, Tony Bradford 6, Ashton Reynolds 5, Darius Fitzpatrick 2, Joseph Wilson 2, Upton Stout 2, Marcus Cockrell 1, Kevin Gilliam 1.