

# NORTH CHANNEL



**Your News, Your Newspaper**

## Artist's Showcase



16x24 oil on canvas by mei hoffman  
713-977-2555 visit: paintingsbyme.com

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

VOLUME 7, NO. 07 (#261)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2019

www.northchannelstar.com

### CHANNEL CURRENTS

#### Jackson moves to "R-U-OK?" program for seniors

Our popular columnist, Charlotte Jackson, has taken a new position with Constable Sherman Eagleton's office, in the program "R-U-OK?" which monitors Senior Citizens to insure their health and welfare. Jackson was formerly a spokesperson and advisor for San Jacinto College North, and had many friends there. Her column next week, Charlotte's Web, will be about her new position.



#### Evening San Jacinto Pilot Club

This newly chartered club meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7 pm at the Woodforest Presbyterian Church. For more information, see the Facebook page entitled Evening San Jacinto Pilot Club or call 832-264-1565 / 832-289-4762.

#### San Jacinto Pilot Club meeting

The Club meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at Amegy Bank on I-10, at noon. Please visit [www.SanJacintoPilot.com](http://www.SanJacintoPilot.com).

#### Buckshot Jamboree

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

#### North Shore Seniors Dance

North Shore Seniors holds a dance the second Thursday of the month from 1 - 4 pm at the Grayson/Baldrree Building, Corpus Christi street. Live bands and refreshments. Cost is \$5/ per person. For more information call 713-455-3660.

## Channelview ISD calls for \$195M Bond Election in May

Proposition Addresses Growth, Safety, Program Expansion, & More

The Channelview ISD Board of Trustees voted unanimously to accept the Citizens' Bond Planning Committee recommendation to call for a \$195.4 million bond package addressing district growth, safety, program expansion, and aging infrastructure across the district.

Development of the bond proposal involved an in-depth process of information gathering, research and community input. The district conducted facilities assessments at each campus, a district-wide capacity study, educational planning with campus staff, and in October 2018, formed the Citizens' Bond Planning Committee (CBPC).

The CBPC, made up of parents, staff, and local

community members, met over the course of four months to study and prioritize the district's current and long-term facility needs. On Tuesday, January 15, the Committee made its recommendation to the Board of Trustees to call for a bond election to be held Saturday, May 4.

"We are extremely grateful to the citizens who worked diligently to develop this plan for the future of our district. We had over 40 community members from all backgrounds come together to provide their input. Their engagement and commitment to the process resulted in a bond proposal that plans for growth and impacts every campus," said Board President Keith Liggett. "We are excited to bring it forward to the voters for their consideration."

Some of the proposed

projects include:

Replacement school for DeZavala Elementary with increased capacity

Replacement school to combine Cobb Elementary and Schochler Elementary

A Career & Technical Education (CTE) Center at Channelview High School

Renovations and additions at the softball field, baseball field, football field, and track

Renovations across the district to extend the life of existing facilities and improve infrastructure items such as HVAC systems and roofing

Safety and security upgrades including enhanced video surveillance and controlled entrances at every campus, and an enclosed connection between Chan-

nelview High School and Kolarik Ninth Grade Center

Technology upgrades, including new student devices, across the district

"One of the key considerations used in forming our recommendation is the growth coming to our district. The Rancho Verde development has over 620 new homes planned, and several of our campuses are already at or near their capacities. We also felt it was important to increase safety, and since it's been 10 years since the District's last bond, provide infrastructure improvements at all of our existing campuses," said CBPC spokesperson Fernando Segura.

If approved, the estimated maximum tax impact of the total bond proposal is anticipated to be 11.75 cents for a total tax rate of \$1.5135. For the average home valued at \$120,000 this represents an increase

of approximately \$9.30 per month. CISD property taxes for citizens age 65 or older would not be affected by the bond election as long as a homestead and over 65-exemption application have been filed with the local appraisal district.

Channelview ISD residents will have the opportunity to vote on the bond referendum beginning with Early Voting, April 22-April 30, and Election Day, Saturday, May 4.

In the weeks ahead, district officials will speak to residents to provide facts about the bond election and answer questions. In addition, the district has established a bond website, [www.CVISDBond.org](http://www.CVISDBond.org), that will be updated with information about the bond proposition, including details on when and where to vote.

## Barge damages I-10 bridge Traffic flow severely throttled



THIS CONCRETE PIER, under the westbound lanes of I-10, was struck by an uncontrolled barge. TxDOT reported a structural failure both above and below the water line. They reported that they will let an emergency contract in a few days, for repairs and/or replacement of the pier. (Photo by We All Nosey)



TRAFFIC WESTBOUND at 4:33pm was blocked by TxDOT trucks and the police, as engineers assessed the damage. Later one lane was opened, and on Tuesday two lanes, but the on-ramp from Crosby-Lynchburg was closed, causing massive backups from Highlands to Crosby and Baytown. (Transtar Photo)

## North Shore & South Houston Face-off in Basketball Playoffs

By Allan Jamail

North Shore basketball Coach Sam Benitez is preparing the Mustangs for the first round of the playoffs in a Bi-District showdown against the South Houston Trojans with a 21 win, 13 loss record, North shore finished

regular season play with 28 wins & 3 losses.

The game will be played Tuesday, February 19th at 7 PM on a neutral site in Deer Park, 710 San Augustine Ave. 77536.

Losing in the playoffs is automatic elimination to advance.

#### North Shore 51, Channelview 34



February 12, 2019 the North Shore Mustang #10 Senior Keiman Capers shoots high over Channelview defender for a score. Mustangs won 51-34.

#### North Shore Mustangs 42, Beaumont United Timberwolves 45



PARENT NIGHT  
February 8, 2019 - North Shore Mustangs Senior's Parent Night at half-time with Beaumont United, the Timberwolves won by 3 points, 45-42.



Mustangs #13 Randy Woodard glides past 2 Beaumont United Timberwolves for a score.



Mustang #15 Jalen Means 6'-7" high jumps with a slam-dunk score as Beaumont Timberwolves watch helplessly.

Story and Photos by Allan Jamail



COMMUNITY NEWS

Pedestrian dies after being hit by 2 cars

CROSBY, Texas – A man died after being hit by two cars last Thursday in Crosby, Texas, deputies reported.

The accident happened around 10:50 p.m. on FM 2100 near North Diamond-head Boulevard.

According to officials, a man was standing in the northbound lane of the road when a car hit him. The car went off the road, hit a ditch and stopped; the driver run from the scene, deputies said.

While the victim was lying in the road a pickup truck ran over him. The drivers of the pickup also left the scene, investigators said.

The victim has been identified as 26 year-old Matthew Kimmell. He was flown to Memorial Hermann Hospital, where he died last Friday morning.

Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo launches Civic Engagement Plan

HARRIS COUNTY, Texas – Last weekend Judge Linda Hidalgo kicked off the first Civic Saturday event as part of “Talking Transition: Harris County”, a program designed to promote the public’s involvement in shaping the county’s future.

**Talking Transition: Harris County**

*This initiative of the newly-elect Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo will bring together thousands of Harris County residents from all walks of life to have our voices heard about issues that matter to us—from the education of our children to the fairness of our justice system—to share ideas, and to collectively inform the Judge’s priorities for her first year.*

*We all know that there are no shortage of good ideas in our communities that can help improve our schools, our hospitals, our courts, and the rest of the ways that county government affects people’s lives. The goal of this initiative is to make sure that all of us who want to improve our communities understand how county government works—and how we can change it.*

*It’s not an accident that most people don’t understand the workings of government—it’s not easy or accessible because that’s how those who have traditionally been in power have maintained it. But that’s not how it should be. We want to make county government more open and more accessible to every single one of us that has the desire to participate. In other words, we want to make Harris County live up to the idea that democracy is government by us, for us.* --Harris County Judge’s Office

**Upcoming Civic Saturdays**

A series of full-day public events will take place on several consecutive Saturdays throughout the County. Each Civic Saturday will consist of:

1. A large gathering organized around a specific theme (examples include education, health, and transportation) that will give people a chance to share new ideas for improving their communities and to hear from others;
2. Smaller working groups for people who have devoted time to specific issues to focus on how to best realize community-driven ideas through county government; and
3. Classroom style lessons on the workings of county government.

**Civic Saturday # 2**

This event is free and open to the public. Let us know that you’re coming by registering here!

**Topic: Transportation, Infrastructure, and Safety**

Date: Saturday, February 16

Time: 9:30AM - 1PM (Doors open 9AM)

Location: BakerRipley Gulfton Sharpstown 6500 Rookin St, Houston, TX 77074

Opening Town Hall - What makes a well-connected, safe, accessible, and affordable transportation network so that all Harris County residents can access opportunities?

This assembly-style session will include the entirety of the participants present and ask us to think creatively about our transportation network and what is needed to make our communities well-connected through multiple transportation options.

**Civic Saturday # 3**

This event is free and open to the public. Let us

know that you’re coming by registering here!

**Topic: Resilience & Flood Mitigation**

Date: Saturday, February 23

Time: 9:30AM - 1PM (Doors open 9AM)

Location: Baytown Community Center 2407 Market St, Baytown, TX 77520

**Civic Saturday # 4**

This event is free and open to the public. Let us know that you’re coming by registering here!

**Topic: Children & Early Education**

Date: Saturday, March 2

Time: 9:30AM - 1PM (Doors open 9AM)

Location: Julia C. Hester House 2020 Solo St, Houston, TX 77020

**Civic Saturday # 5**

**Topic: Economic Opportunity & Housing**

Date: Saturday, March 9

Time: 9:30AM - 1PM (Doors open 9AM)

Location: BakerRipley East Aldine 3000 Aldine Mail Rte Rd, Houston, TX 77039

**Civic Saturday # 6**

**Topic: Criminal Justice**

Date: Saturday, March 16

Time: 9:30AM - 1PM (Doors open 9AM)

Location: Emancipation Center 3018 Emancipation Ave, Houston, TX 77004

**Civic Saturday # 7**

**Topic: Resilience & Flood Mitigation**

Date: Saturday, March 23

Time: 9:30AM - 1PM (Doors open 9AM)

Location: Magnum-Howell Center 2500 Frick Rd, Houston, TX 77038.

Houston Symphony celebrates Rodeo with Western-inspired program

HOUSTON (Feb. 11, 2019) – Just in time for the start of Houston’s rodeo season, the Houston Symphony saddles up with the Western-inspired family program Wild, Wild West at 10am and 11:30am on Saturday, Feb. 16 at Jones Hall, featuring students from the Theatre Under the Stars’ (TUTS) Humphreys School of Musical Theatre and from TUTS’ The River Performing and Visual Arts Center.

Houston families with children and babies of all ages are invited to join Associate Conductor Robert Franz on a wild, Western adventure, filled with musical classics invoking America’s Wild West, like Aaron Copland’s “Hoe-down,” Rossini’s William Tell Overture and fun favorites from Toy Story 2, Oklahoma! and more.

Franz and the orchestra welcome children from TUTS’ Humphreys School of Musical Theatre, as well as TUTS’ The River Performing and Visual Arts Center, an organization that provides arts access



and education to children with disabilities, to share the stage.

The Wild, Wild West sponsored by BBVA Compass program takes place at Jones Hall for the Performing Arts, 615 Louisiana Street, in Houston’s Theater District. For tickets and information, please call (713) 224-7575 or [www.houstonsymphony.org](http://www.houstonsymphony.org). Tickets may also be purchased at the Houston Symphony Patron Services Center in Jones Hall (Monday–Saturday from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.). All programs and artists are subject to change.

## Maximum Tax Savings



Jack Noonan B.B.A., T.R.E.B., E.A.

### CRI FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY

A DIVISION OF CORPORATE RECOVERY, INC.

#### TAX PREPARATION & CONSULTATION

All Federal, State, Foreign & Individual, Partnerships, Trusts, Estates, Corporations (C,Sub S & Limited Liability) & Payroll Tax Returns,Intuit Pro-Advisors, Service All Businesses & Individual Taxes

Specialists in getting late filers into I.R.S. Compliance

Business Solutions for New Tax Rules, Regulations and Tax Audits

Debt Consultation and Bankruptcy Protection as a Solution to your Debts

Other Services Rendered

**Bookkeeping, Computer Systems, Financial Management, Investments, Payroll, Property Rendition, Real Estate & Business Brokerage**

Normal Business Hours

Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to Noon – 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Saturday By Appointment

ASK FOR YOUR FREE COPY OF OUR INCOME TAX ORGANIZER

JACK NOONAN, B.B.A., TREB, E.A. & STAFF

IRS Enrolled License # 2018 – 65282

6400 FM 2100 North Main, P.O. Box 1428, Crosby, TX 77532-1428

Telephone (281) 328-1755 Fax (281) 328-5280

E-mail: [cri.tax.jhinson@gmail.com](mailto:cri.tax.jhinson@gmail.com)



## 281-328-5869



## Home Health Care

Skilled Nursing, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Medical Social Worker, Home Health Aide, Hospice Services

\*Physical Therapy Position Available

**CALL TODAY TO SEE IF YOU QUALIFY FOR MEDICARE FUNDED HOME HEALTH CARE**

Physical Therapy Position Available

Locally owned and Operated by Tabatha and Jonathan Brady

*Non-Discrimination Policy*

No client shall be, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, age, sex, disability or handicap, sexual orientation, marital status, religion or status with regard to public assistance or veteran status, excluded from admission to services through Omnix Health Care Services, Inc.

**CROSBY’S HOME TOWN HOME CARE**



It's Time To

CUT YOUR DEBT!

With a Consolidation Loan from CRCU!

COMMUNITY RESOURCE CREDIT UNION

crcu.org/debt • 281.422.3611

NCUA

Federally Insured by the NCUA

\*APR: Annual Percentage Rate. Monthly payment would be \$464.15 on \$15,000 borrowed for 36 months at 5.99% APR, including all applicable discounts. All loans subject to credit approval and some restrictions apply. Payment also includes monthly premium for Payment Protection, which includes Credit Life and Disability Insurance. Credit Life and Disability Insurance is not required. Membership required. Offer subject to change or cancellation without notice.

0% FINANCING ON 2018 SILVERADOS



TURNER

CHEVROLET

TurnerChevroletCrosby.com

0% FINANCING ON 2018 TAHOES



TURNER

CHEVROLET

TurnerChevroletCrosby.com

0% APR for 72 months for qualified buyers. Monthly payment is \$13.89 for every \$1000 you finance. With Approved credit. Take delivery by 02-28-2019.

0% APR for 72 months for qualified buyers. Monthly payment is \$13.89 for every \$1000 you finance. With Approved credit. Take delivery by 02-28-2019.

TURNER

CHEVROLET

FAMILY OWNED

TurnerChevroletCrosby.com

281-328-4377



## Constable Eagleton hosts lavish fundraiser



Sherman Eagleton and his wife, Gayle, received guests and sponsors to the Valentine's Gala Saturday night, "It was a very successful evening and a great time was had by all! We filled the room to maximum capacity with 450 guests. It was definitely evident that we have the support of the department and community, and we are so grateful. We are blessed to serve communities that continue to encourage and stand behind us."



No shortage of Crosby Fair & Rodeo (CF&R) supporters at the Harris County Constable Precinct 3 Sherman Eagleton Valentine's Gala at South Shore Harbour featuring a Dinner and Reception of black tie, blue jeans and boots. In addition to being the first black Constable for Precinct 3, Eagleton was the first black man elected to the board of the CF&R. CF&R announced their 2019 badges for \$75 has gone on sale allowing entrance to Rock'n C Round Up/Steak Cook-Off, the Rodeo Cook-Off and this year's rodeo .



KNOW YOUR RISK

Take this first step in protecting yourself against heart disease. Join the experts at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital for:

Free heart screenings, including cholesterol and blood pressure readings, to learn your 10-year risk for heart disease

Talk with an expert about your results

Free Heart Screening Event

Friday, Feb. 22 | 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital

4401 Garth Rd.

New Conference Center

Baytown, TX 77521

Refreshments and light bites provided.

HOUSTON

Methodist

BAYTOWN HOSPITAL

Reserve your spot at [houstonmethodist.org/heart-event](https://houstonmethodist.org/heart-event), or call 281.428.2273 for more information.



OPINION

★

TEXAS  
SENATE NEWS  
By Richard Lee

Healthcare Committee passes mental health Collaboration Proposal

(Austin, Texas) – Mental health care for children and adolescents would be coordinated by a central commission charged with increasing detection and access to treatment under a bill approved by the Senate Health and Human Services Committee on Tuesday. Another of Governor Greg Abbott's emergency items for the session, the Texas Mental Health Consortium would be created through SB 10 by Flower Mound Senator Jane Nelson. As chair of the Finance Committee, Nelson filed a base budget bill that includes more than \$7 billion for mental health services across state agencies. This bill would create a board to ensure that those agencies coordinate and cooperate to improve mental health services in Texas, especially for children. She said that the dire need for better mental health care for minors was impressed upon her by the Santa Fe High School shooting last May as well as the surge in youth suicides in recent years. "As we've seen with recent acts of violence, increased suicide rates and lives shattered by drug and alcohol abuse, Texas students need our help," said Nelson.

Texas is facing a significant shortage of mental health professionals. According to a 2016 University of Texas at Austin report, 206 of the 254 counties in Texas fall short of the 1 provider to 30000 population ratio recommended by the federal government. SB 10 looks to address these gaps by creating comprehensive child psychiatry centers, what Nelson called "hubs", at state medical schools and other health-related institutes of higher education. These hubs would provide mental health consultation services from on-call mental health professionals, via telemedicine, to pediatricians and family physicians. Nelson said that in 75 percent of cases, it's pediatricians who first identify developing behavioral health disorders, but many feel uncomfortable managing treatment.

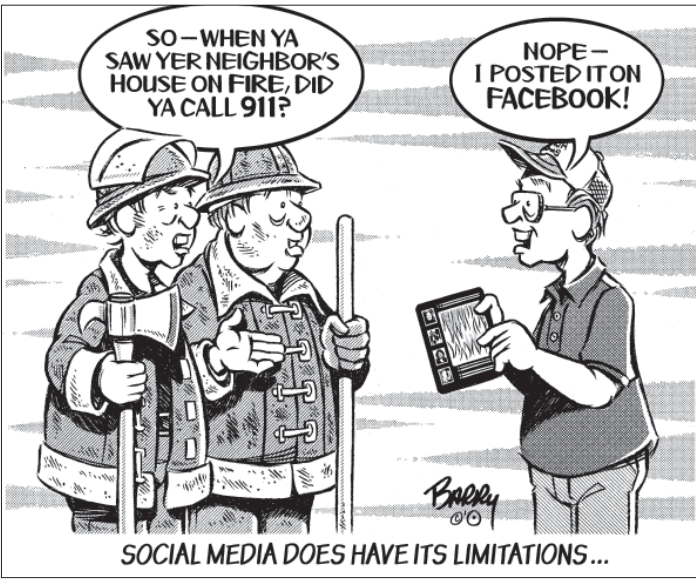
The centers will also use remote services to conduct behavioral health assessments for at-risk students. It would authorize these students to have two consultations via telehealth services with social workers or other mental health care

professionals, and then determine if a referral for additional treatment is called for. "We need to identify mental illness early, we need to treat it without stigmatizing it, just as we would any other physical condition," Nelson said. "I firmly believe that this legislation will help identify youth at risk, get them to treatment, and prevent them from becoming a danger to themselves or others." She said the goal is to work with local school districts to ensure that these programs are available in every region across the state.

Identifying and treating mental health disorders in children as early as possible is key to better outcomes, according to testimony offered by psychologist and mental health policy expert Dr. Andy Keller, who helped develop SB 10. The reason that mental health has become a crisis is that too many disorders go unidentified and untreated for too long, he said. According to research, the time between the appearance of behavioral health disorder symptoms and treatment averages ten years. "Just like any illness, if you wait that long, and you wait until it's a crisis until you intervene, it's going to be much harder to help, it's going to be far more risky to the individual as well as the folks around them," said Keller. "The point of this bill is to help us help children as soon as possible." He highlighted the detection provisions in the bill, which would help identify emerging mental health disorders in both pediatricians' offices and public schools, as well as opening pathways towards treatment and other mental health services through telemedicine and telehealth programs. "It's not just physicians, it's also social workers, other people who can be of help," said Keller. "Because it's not actually even usually medication that's helpful, it's a range of things, and a lot of support to parents."

The bill received unanimous support from the committee and won't face much opposition moving through the Senate, as all 31 Senators are signed on as co-authors of the measure.

The Senate reconvened Wednesday, February 13 at 11 a.m.



Governor gives lawmakers list of emergency items to tackle

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott named as his emergency priorities education reform, teacher pay, school safety, property tax reform, mental health services and disaster response in his Feb. 5 "State of the State" address to a joint session of the Texas Legislature.

The House and Senate may schedule committee hearings on bills related to items on the governor's priority list before the 60th day of the legislative session, which hits on March 8. Consideration of all other legislation must wait until after that date, except for House Bill 2 and Senate Bill 2 — the state budget — which is already in the works.

Abbott gave lawmakers something to cheer about when he said, "When you combine our legislative accomplishments with our record-breaking prosperity, you have elevated Texas to a rarified status and I am proud to tell you that the state of Texas has never been better."

Abbott touched on a number of other issues that need attention and funding, such as Hurricane Harvey recovery and disaster readiness, law enforcement and public safety, border security, mental health and services for military veterans.

In a news release, Abbott pointed out that half of the issues on his list "deal directly with public education, more if you count property tax reform, which is inextricably linked with school finance."

Tax panel receives input

The Senate Property Tax Committee on Feb. 6 held its first public hearing of the 86th session of the Texas Legislature to consider SB 2, a proposal to cap local property tax growth at 2.5 percent for most taxing entities and automatic ratification elections if an entity wishes to exceed the cap. There is an

★

STATE CAPITAL  
HIGHLIGHTS  
By Ed Sterling

exemption in the bill for entities that take in less than \$15 million in revenue per annum.

"We're going to solve this problem," said Sen. Paul Bettencourt, R-Houston, author of the bill. "We're going to be here until we do." Bettencourt said property tax bills have pushed many homeowners out of their neighborhoods and kept many others from buying homes, and passing a state law to lower the rollback rate is a way to change what is happening locally.

Much of the testimony given by panel after panel of witnesses in the three-hour hearing was in favor of the cap. Testimony given in opposition to setting the cap at 2.5 percent mostly focused on the potential of negative outcomes the low cap might cause, such as cutbacks in needed services and a reduction in local control.

Hegar distributes revenue

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on Feb. 6 announced he would send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts \$953.9 million in local sales tax allocations for February.

The amount is 4.6 percent more than the amount returned to governmental bodies in February 2018.

These allocations are based on sales made in December by businesses that report tax monthly; October, November and December sales by quarterly filers; and 2018 sales by businesses that report tax annually.

Revenue total increases

Comptroller Hegar on Feb. 4 announced state sales tax revenue totaled \$2.8 billion in January, an amount 6 percent greater than the total reported in January 2018.

Growth in sales tax collections was primarily due to continued strong spending in oil- and gas-related sectors. Collections from restaurants also grew, while those from retail trade were flat relative to a year ago, Hegar said.

Measles: new cases reported

Seven measles cases have been confirmed in Texas this year, according to information posted Feb. 7 by the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Measles is a contagious respiratory illness spread by contact with an infected person through coughing and sneezing.

Measles, a rash that begins as flat, red spots on the face, spreads down the neck and trunk to the rest of the body. Other symptoms include a high fever over 101 degrees, cough, runny nose and red, watery eyes. Anyone who believes they have measles should contact their health care provider as soon as possible, the DSHS said.

The DSHS and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend children get a dose of measles vaccine at 12-15 months of age and again at 4-6 years. The measles vaccine is about 97 percent effective after two doses. Children too young to be vaccinated or who have only had one dose of vaccine are more likely to get infected.

Advocates Praise Governor Abbott's Call for Property Tax Reform

AUSTIN, Texas – February 5, 2019 – **Texas Association Of Builders' Robert Wood:** "The Texas Association of Builders appreciates the leadership Governor Abbott has shown on the issue of addressing the rising property tax burden on Texas homeowners." "The Texas Association of Builders appreciates the leadership Governor Abbott has shown on the issue of addressing the rising property tax burden on Texas homeowners. We look forward to continuing our work with the Governor, Lt. Governor Patrick, Speaker Bonnen and the members of the Senate and House to help ensure that future generations of Texans can continue to attain the American Dream of home ownership." (Robert Wood, President, Texas Association Of Builders, 2/5/19)

**Texas Association Of Business' James Hines:** "We applaud the efforts of Governor Abbott, Lt. Governor Patrick and Speaker Bonnen to reduce the property tax burden and improve schools." "We applaud the efforts of Governor Abbott, Lt. Governor Patrick and Speaker Bonnen to reduce the property tax burden and improve schools. Addressing funding for schools and property tax relief will take Texas's legendary jobs and economic climate to an even greater level. TAB stands ready to help the Governor, Lt. Governor and Speaker make our schools, workforce and economy stronger than ever." (James Hines, Senior Vice President Of Government Affairs And In-House Counsel, Texas Association Of Business, 2/5/19)

**Texas Retailers Association:** "We applaud Governor Abbott and the state's leadership for making both property tax reform and school finance major priorities for the 86th Legislative Session." "The Texas Retailers Association represents all sectors and sizes of the retail industry in Texas. We applaud Governor Abbott and the state's leadership for making both property tax reform and school finance major priorities for the 86th Legislative Session. TRA and its members depend on a business-friendly environment as well as a well-educated workforce for continued success in Texas. We understand the complex nature of these two very important issues and are committed to working with our state's elected officials to make positive progress toward goals which are shared by our members, customers, and employees across the state." (Texas Retailers Association, 2/5/19)

**Texas Apartment Association's Chris Newton:** "The Texas Apartment Association applauds Gov. Greg Abbott's call for more transparency and accountability in the property tax system." "The Texas Apartment Association applauds Gov. Greg Abbott's call for more transparency and accountability in the property tax system. Through his efforts and those of legislative leaders Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and Speaker Dennis Bonnen, we are hopeful that the legislature will adopt meaningful reforms that will not only limit growth in property taxes and improve the overall valuation system but also provide more consistency and certainty." (Chris Newton, Executive Vice President, Texas Apartment Association, 2/5/19)

**Texas REALTORS® Tray Bates:** "Texas REALTORS® thank Gov. Abbott for making property tax reform a priority issue for the 86th Texas Legislature." "Texas REALTORS® thank Gov. Abbott for making property tax reform a priority issue for the 86th Texas Legislature. Texans deserve more clarity in the process that is leading to increasing tax burdens, and the Legislature must do everything in its power to ensure homeownership remains in reach of all Texans." (Tray Bates, Chairman, Texas REALTORS®, 2/5/19)



W.B. AUCTION  
Company

Business & Farm Liquidations  
Antiques - Estates - Mini-Storage  
A Complete Auction Service  
TXS.Lic. 10592

General Merchandise Auction  
Every Sat. 6pm  
2504 Fm1942  
Crosby, TX 77532

Col. Walter Bouillion  
713-817-9062  
wbauctioncrosby.com

HIGHLANDS CROSBY

Star★Courier

USPS 244-500  
and the  
Barbers Hill★Dayton PRESS

Editor & Publisher.....Gilbert Hoffman  
Associate Publisher.....Mei-Ing Liu Hoffman  
Assoc. Editor/Advertising Manager.....Lewis Spearman  
Assistant Editor.....Julietta Paita  
Production Manager.....Luis Hernandez  
Asst. Production Manager.....Gerardo Hernandez

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.

GRAFIKPRESS is publisher of community newspapers, including Highlands STAR-Crosby COURIER, Barbers Hill Dayton PRESS, Northeast NEWS, North Forest NEWS, North Channel STAR. Combined circulation of these newspapers exceeds 50,000. Readership exceeds 110,000 according to industry standards. We also print dozens of school, ethnic, and government publications on contract. Call for information to 713-977-2555.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: In-county, \$28.00 per year. Out of county, \$35.00 per year. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to StarCourier, P. O. Box 405, Highlands, TX 77562.

News and Ad Phones.....713-977-0270  
FAX Line.....713-977-1188  
email: grafikstar@aol.com  
Member Texas Press Association

Steve was walking down the sidewalk the other day to get from the barber shop to where he'd parked his pickup. It was a nice kind of day. Chilly, of course, but not bolt-freezing cold.

His mind was on what he had to do that day. In addition to the usual ranch chores, he had to catch up the horses and give their hooves a mid-winter trim. There are only a couple of horses shod at the moment, in case one is needed, and the others will get iron on them before the spring gather.

"Mister?"

Steve stopped and turned to see a girl about seven or eight years old coming up behind him.

★

HOME COUNTRY  
By Slim Randles



"Hi there," said Steve, smiling.

"Mister, I think you dropped this."

She held out her hand, and there was an old pocket knife. It was old and beaten up and Steve automatically slapped his left-side vest pocket. Gone.

"Thank you so much," Steve said, taking back the old, worthless pocket knife that had been handed down from his grandfather. He put it back in the vest pocket and buttoned the pocket shut.

"Can I give you anything? A dollar, maybe?"

"No thanks," she said smiling. "See you later."

Steve thought, she did this and didn't even know my name. Well, I don't know hers, either. But that was really nice of her.

Sometimes love can be just a little thing like handing a knife back to someone who dropped it.

-----  
Brought to you by Home Country (the book) available from www.riograndebooks.com.



LIFESTYLE

★

OBITUARIES

John Calvin Aylor

John Calvin Aylor passed away peacefully at his home on January 23, 2019 surrounded by his loving family, with his faithful dog Abby on his lap. Known as J.C., John was born on January 31, 1919 in Rollett, TX to Rollan Jack Aylor and Ada Lona Davis Aylor. A true child of the Depression and the Dust Bowl, J.C. related many stories of his family migrating from farm to farm in the 1920's around Texas to pick cotton, fruit, or other crops to earn a living. As a young man he worked for many years at the fig farms in Highlands, at the starting wage of 15 cents an hour.

J.C. joined the Army on January 15, 1940 as a corporal in the 2nd Division (Indianhead), 23rd Infantry, Company M. He and his sweetheart Olga Matula were married on October 5, 1942 while J.C. was on weekend leave in Houston, and the Army shipped him overseas in October of 1943. He was proud to have been part of the D-Day invasion that landed on Normandy Beach on June 6, 1944. He went on to fight the Germans in the French hedgerows of towns like Brest and Bayeux, and in the Battle of the Bulge in Belgium and France. He was honorably discharged after Axis defeat as a Staff Sergeant on August 17, 1945 and came back to Baytown and went to work for Humble Oil in the Research and Development Department, retiring as a Maintenance Supervisor from Exxon on June 1, 1980. He made full use of his 39 years of retirement, enjoying his family and friends, weddings and anniversaries, playing softball, traveling, hunting, and fishing. He also related his war stories to anyone who asked, and revisited Normandy Beach later in life, laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

J.C. was the storyteller of the family, and loved sitting on the back porch talking about growing up in the Depression, the hardships his family endured, all with the purpose of conveying the lessons of history. He was an honest man, a sincere man. He had a quality to be found in many men of the Greatest Generation. He was



very skilled in everything: plumbing, carpentry, electrical, roofing, you name it; he did not believe in throwing things away if he could fix it, saying "you've got to get the right tool for the job." He was also famous for his pot of pinto beans, homemade blueberry wine, sausage, and jerky.

Life-long residents of Highlands, J.C. and Olga raised their three children here, and J.C. was always proud of his children's accomplishments and loved providing a good life for them in the years after WW2. In his retirement, he loved watching his grandsons play baseball and taking them hunting and fishing, and those memories they will cherish. J.C.'s wife Olga is a lifelong member of St. Jude's Catholic Church in Highlands, and in 2014 J.C. was baptized, with his daughter and grandson serving as godparents.

John Calvin Aylor is survived by his loving wife of 76 years, Olga Marie Aylor of Highlands, daughters Barbara May of Highlands and Jo Ann Fowles (Raymond) of New Braunfels. He was preceded in death by his late son, Michael Calvin Aylor and his four brothers, Dock Oswald Aylor, O. B. Aylor, Joe Aylor and Roy Lee (Buddy) Aylor. Also surviving are five grandchildren, Gregory May (Charlene) of Baytown, Russell Brenner (Jackie) of Katy, Cassandra Mickel (Jefferson) of Austin, Johnathon Aylor (Christine) of Houston, and Ian Aylor (fiancée Brie) of El Lago. John is also survived by seven great-grandchildren, Mackenzie May, Emilee Herring, Reese Brenner, Hatfield Mickel, Augustus Mickel,

Gage Aylor, Ada Aylor, and his newest great-grandchild John Calvin Aylor II. Survivors include his daughter-in-law Wanda Aylor Wingo, brother-in-law Jerome Matula (Evelyn), sister-in-law Martha Schwartz, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held on Friday February 8, 2019 at 5:00 pm with rosary following at 7:00 pm at Sterling-White Funeral Home, 11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Road, Highlands, TX. A funeral mass will be held at St. Jude Thaddeus Catholic Church, 800 South Main Street, Highlands, TX at 10:00 am on February 9, 2019. Interment will follow at San Jacinto Cemetery, 14659 East Freeway (I-10).

The family would like to thank the doctors and nurses on the 2 East Wing of Baytown Methodist Hospital and the staff at the Methodist Rehabilitation Center for their tender loving care of John. They would also like to thank the Harbor Hospice staff for helping make his last few days comfortable. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Disabled American Veterans Charity, or to St. Jude Thaddeus Catholic Church in Highlands.

Pallbearers: Greg May and Russell Brenner  
Honorary Pallbearers: Johnathon Aylor, Ian Aylor, Ed Sheffield, Aubrey Barrow, Jerry Taylor, William Barrow, Dewey Higginbotham, Dick Moore, Bob Kelly and Leo Rizzuto.

**STERLING ~ WHITE**  
FUNERAL HOME & CEMETERY  
281-426-3555  
11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd.  
Highlands, TX 77562

★

HIGHLANDS HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS



Highlands State Bank Opening and first Miss Highlands Contest - 1956 - Winner Teresa Keyes, Runner-Up Sandra Dunaway. (Bank located at southwest corner of North Main and Wallisville).

—Photo Courtesy of Cynthia Wotipka Boland.

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey—

1. Is the book of 2 Thessalonians in the Old or New Testament or neither?  
2. From Song of Solomon 8, what is so powerful that many waters cannot quench it? Hope, Love, Salvation, Peace

3. Thorns and what else grew from the ground that God cursed after Adam and Eve's sins? Vines, Ivy, Thistles, Weeds  
4. According to Paul, in hardships Christians are "more than" what? Friends, Conquerors, Warriors, Innkeepers  
5. From Luke 19, what

town was home to Zacchaeus? Jericho, Tarsus, Thessalonica, Corinth  
6. How many sons did Isaac have? 2, 4, 6, 8

ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Love; 3) Thistles; 4) Conquerors; 5) Jericho; 6) 2 (Esau and Jacob)

**WESTON COTTEN, ATTORNEY**  
HIGHLANDS  
281-421-4050 1500 E. Wallisville Rd.  
NOT CERTIFIED BY THE TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

**FAITH**  
can move  
**MOUNTAINS**  
Matthew 17:20

*Attorney at Law*

**KAREN A. BLOMSTROM**  
281-328-7311  
Crosby, TX 77532

LOVE NEVER FAILS  
I Corinthians 13:8

CALL **713-266-3444** FOR A QUOTE TO  
REACH MORE THAN 7,000  
READERS WEEKLY

I can do all things  
through Christ who  
strengthens me.  
**PHILIPPIANS 4:13**

Call  
**GRAFIKSHOP**  
for printing jobs  
**713-977-2555**

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

*Complete Line of Groceries*  
**KWIK MART FOODS**  
14443 FM 1409 281-576-5788

**STERLING ~ WHITE**  
FUNERAL HOME & CEMETERY  
11011 CROSBY-LYNCHBURG RD.  
HIGHLANDS, TX 77562  
(281) 426-3555  
[WWW.STERLINGWHITE.COM](http://WWW.STERLINGWHITE.COM)  
*"A Tradition of Excellence Since 1824"*

**CERTIFIED CONTRACTOR**  
Financing Available  
**MR. ROOFER**  
**281-452-0000**

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

**ENVELOPES**  
Printed with your Address  
1 or 2 colors  
Special Rates 250 to 25,000  
Please call for a Quote  
Grafikshop at Star-Courier  
**713-977-2555**

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

*In order to be the best, you have to  
be willing to give the best.*

**CRESPO & JIRRELS**  
Funeral and Cremation Services  
*Where there's a definite difference.*

Call Us Today For More Information  
**281-839-0700**  
6123 Garth Road, Baytown | [www.crespoandjirrels.com](http://www.crespoandjirrels.com)





## Houston Methodist Baytown is expanding to meet our community’s needs.

Our expansion includes the most advanced technology and procedures available to ensure patients receive the highest quality treatment and care — right here in our community. Houston Methodist is committed to leading medicine in Baytown and the surrounding communities. The new facility expansion will include:

- New emergency department and enhanced specialty care
- Additional inpatient beds and operating rooms using the most advanced technology
- A new Outpatient Care Center offering:
  - Breast Care Center
  - Imaging services
  - Occupational Health Clinic
  - Orthopedics and sports medicine
  - Physical and occupational therapy
  - Primary care
  - Surgical services
- Renovated cancer center with upgraded technology for more advanced treatment options, as well as expanded infusion suites and support services



Visit [houstonmethodist.org/baytown](http://houstonmethodist.org/baytown) or call **281.428.2273** to schedule an appointment.

HOUSTON  
**Methodist**<sup>®</sup>  
BAYTOWN HOSPITAL









# ASK THE EXPERT

## GALENA PARK ISD Ms. Vivian Dancy named Region 5 Athletic Director of the Year

Galena Park ISD (GPISD) would like to congratulate Ms. Vivian Dancy, director of athletics, for being named Region 5 Athletic Director of the Year by the Texas High School Athletic Directors Association.

Since becoming athletic director, GPISD has enjoyed extraordinary success under her leadership including the North Shore Senior High football team winning the 6A Division I State Championship game against Duncanville High School and the Mustangs being named the #1 high school football team in the nation by MaxPreps.

Dancy started her career in GPISD in 1989 as the North Shore High School girls' basketball coach and led the team to their first-ever district championship. After 10 seasons as the head coach, former athletic director, Ed Warken, began giving Dancy more responsibilities



including coordinating duties with the athletic department. As time went on, she became more intrigued in how the athletic department operates and how she could make a difference. Dancy began her transition from coach to District Athletic Coordinator in 2000, where she oversaw the Districts' two high schools and four middle schools. She was named the interim athletic director in May 2016 and was named the athletic director in July 2017. She is the first female athletic director in Galena Park ISD.

Congratulations, Ms. Dancy! We are so lucky to have you in GPISD.

## Galena Park ISD crowns Spelling Bee winner



On Friday, February 1, Galena Park ISD (GPISD) hosted the annual Spelling Bee at the GPISD Administration Building. Twenty students, one spelling bee winner from each of the elementary and middle schools, competed for the title of the GPISD Spelling Bee champion! After many rounds of correctly spelling word after word, Aleia Johnson from North Shore Middle School was crowned the GPISD Spelling Bee Champ! Luis Guzman from MacArthur Elementary was named the runner-up!

Aleia will now compete in the Regional Spelling Bee on Saturday, March 23 at Baylor College of Medicine Academy at Ryan Middle School in Houston. The Spelling Bee will air on Sunday, March 31 at 5 P.M. on KUHT. Congratulations, Aleia and Luis!

## ASK DIAMOND JIM



### Diamond Jim: "How old are natural diamonds?"

Most natural diamonds are formed at high temperature and pressure at depths of 140 to 190 kilometers (87 to 118 mi) in the Earth's mantle. Carbon-containing minerals provide the carbon source, and the growth occurs over periods from 1 billion to 3.3 billion years (25% to 75% of the age of the Earth). Diamonds are brought close to the Earth's surface through deep volcanic eruptions by magma, which cools into igneous rocks known as kimberlites and lamproites. The word is from the ancient Greek *ἀδάμας* – *adámas* "unbreakable".

Diamonds have been treasured as gemstones since their use as religious icons in ancient India. Their usage in engraving tools also dates to early human history. The popularity of diamonds has risen since the 19th century because of increased supply, improved cutting and polishing techniques, growth in the world economy, and innovative and successful advertising campaigns.

In 1772, the French scientist Antoine Lavoisier used a lens to concentrate the rays of the sun on a diamond in an atmosphere of oxygen, and showed that the only product of the combustion was carbon dioxide, proving that diamond is composed of carbon. Later in 1797, the English chemist Smithson Tennant repeated and expanded that experiment. By demonstrating that burning diamond and graphite releases the same amount of gas, he established the chemical equivalence of these substances.

The most familiar uses of diamonds today are as gemstones used for adornment, a use which dates back into antiquity, and as industrial abrasives for cutting hard materials. The dispersion of white light into spectral colors is the primary gemological characteristic of gem diamonds. In the 20th century, experts in gemology developed methods of grading diamonds and other gemstones based on the characteristics most important to their value as a gem. Four characteristics, known informally as the four Cs, are now commonly used as the basic descriptors of diamonds:

these are carat (its weight), cut (quality of the cut is graded according to proportions, symmetry and polish), color (how close to white or colorless; for fancy diamonds how intense is its hue), and clarity (how free is it from inclusions). A large, flawless diamond is known as a paragon.

Not all diamonds found on Earth originated on Earth. Primitive interstellar meteorites were found to contain carbon possibly in the form of diamond. A type of diamond called carbonado that is found in South America and Africa may have been deposited there via an asteroid impact (not formed from the impact) about 3 billion years ago. These diamonds may have formed in the intrastellar environment, but as of 2008, there was no scientific consensus on how carbonado diamonds originated.

Misconception about diamonds forming from compressed coal

Few diamonds are formed from highly compressed coal. More than 99% of diamonds ever mined have formed in the conditions of extreme heat and pressure about 90 miles (140 km) below the Earth's surface. Coal is formed from prehistoric plants buried much closer to the surface and is unlikely to migrate below 2 miles (3.2 km) through common geological processes. Most diamonds that have been dated are older than the first land plants and are therefore older than coal. It is possible that diamonds can form from coal in subduction zones and in meteoroid impacts, but diamonds formed in this way are rare, and the carbon source is more likely carbonate rocks and organic carbon in sediments, rather than coal. To learn even more about diamonds, come see the incredible selection of loose diamonds and diamond jewelry at Pineforest Jewelry.

*Diamond Jim is a diamond dealer and precious metals broker of NTR Metals. See more at: [www.pineforestjewelry.com](http://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](mailto:jmills@pineforestjewelry.com).*

## GPISD crowns Elementary and Secondary Spanish Spelling Bee Winners

In the secondary competition, Early College High School student, Guadalupe Lomera, claimed the victory to become 2018-2019 Secondary Spanish Spelling Bee champion! The runner-ups were Daniela

Flores of North Shore Senior High 10th Grade Center and Maria Fernanda Vallecillo of Zotz Education Center.

Congratulations, Jeshua and Guadalupe!



First up, 15 elementary students, who were named their campus Spanish Spelling Bee Champion, competed through many rounds of competition. Jeshua Puente from Green Valley Elementary was crowned the 2018-2019 Elementary Spanish Spelling Bee winner! The runner-ups were Nicolas Alvarez of Woodland Acres Elementary and Nayruvik Cuellar of MacArthur Elementary.



On January 25, the top competitors from GPISD campuses gathered together to see who would become the GPISD Elementary and Secondary Spanish Spelling Bee Champions.

## I-10 Bridge,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

this newspaper that an investigation was underway, but did not have details on the cause of the collision at this time. Aerial photos on TV news showed the barge and a tug boat standing by just south of the highway.

Environmentalists such as Jackie Young of the San Jacinto River Coalition, expressed concern that workers repairing the damaged pier might be exposed to toxins from the nearby waste pits, which occur on both the north and south sides of the highway. She also said that the occurrence of a barge out of control was another reason why the waste pits needed totally removed from the river.

On Tuesday, at first TxDOT allowed westbound motorists to proceed in two lanes, one the regular right land and the other the shoulder. Then they totally closed the road for several hours, while they restriped the lanes to create two regular lanes. They indicated that this will be

the condition until repairs are made. An estimate of time for repairs was not available, TxDOT said, until engineers and contractors sign an agreement in several days. It is expected that this work will take weeks, perhaps months, to complete if a new pier with underwater foundation is required.

TxDOT indicated that they have a traffic division that is working to alleviate some of the jams. Harris County Pct. 2 indicated that they are not in a position to help, and it is a TxDOT responsibility, but they said they expect the westbound ramp at Four Corners to re-open soon.

Alternate routes, such as Highway 225 to the south, and US90 to the north are being recommended to avoid traffic. The county also considered expanding service on the Lynchburg Ferry, but this has not happened yet.

Motorists are advised to check each morning with Transtar and TV for updates on traffic problems.

### NORTH CHANNEL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

**EILEEN BRIGHTWELL, DDS**  
[www.brightwellddental.com](http://www.brightwellddental.com)  
1820 Holland St. • Jacinto City, TX 77029  
**(713) 455-7923**

Free Estimates      Financing Available

**MR. ROOFER**  
Siding & Contracting LLC  
**281-452-0000**  
New Roofs • Repairs • Painting • Hardi Plank Siding  
P.O. Box 914, Channelview, TX 77530  
[Mrroofer@mail.com](mailto:Mrroofer@mail.com)  
= Major credit cards accepted =

**Garage Doors &  
Electric Openers**  
Repair or Replace. We also repair broken springs. Call Ricardo  
**832-647-6378**

Call 713-266-3444 to Advertise  
YOUR Business in this Directory.  
5,000 readers Weekly

## What to get her for Valentine's?

Read her lips.

**PineforestJewelry.com**  
1141 Uvalde • Houston, Texas 77015  
713.451.1321

**Luis F. Garcia, CPA**  
Attorney at Law  
13364 Woodforest Blvd  
Houston, TX 77015  
713-999-8006  
[E.luis@luisgarcialaw.com](mailto:E.luis@luisgarcialaw.com)  
[www.luisgarcialaw.com](http://www.luisgarcialaw.com)

\*PERSONAL INJURY    \*SLIP/TRIP AND FALL  
\*AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENTS    \*TRUCK ACCIDENTS  
Se Habla Espanol

**NORTH CHANNEL★STAR**  
5906 STAR LANE, HOUSTON, TX 77057  
713-266-3444 • FAX (713) 977-1188  
email: [northchannelstar@gmail.com](mailto:northchannelstar@gmail.com)  
website: [www.northchannelstar.com](http://www.northchannelstar.com)

Gilbert Hoffman.....Editor & Publisher  
Mei-Ing Hoffman.....Associate Publisher  
Julieta Paita.....Assistant Editor  
Willie Glasgow.....Marketing Director  
Lewis Spearman.....Advertising Director  
Luis Hernandez.....Production Director  
Gerardo Hernandez.....Circulation/Mail Director

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](mailto:northchannelstar@gmail.com)

Member Texas Community Newspaper Association  
Member North Channel Chamber of Commerce  
Member Intercontinental Chamber of Commerce Houston  
Member Texas Press Association