

NORTH CHANNEL STAR

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

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CHANNEL CURRENTS

Morales elected to District 145 open seat

In the Special Election run-off, held Tuesday, March 5, Christina Morales defeated Melissa Noriega, with 60.76% of the vote, to 39.24% for her opponent.

A total of 3022 votes



CHRISTINA MORALES

were cast, out of a possible 72,927 registered voters in District 145.

Morales 50, is the president of the Morales Funeral Home in the East End. She takes the seat vacated by Carol Aldarado when she was elected to the Texas Senate to replace Sylvia Garcia. Morales will join the Session already meeting in Austin, and be on the Urban Affairs and Corrections committees. She also will work on public education, health care, and environmental issues.

Jacinto City Night Market Kick-off March 9

By Allan Jamail

The City of Jacinto City's Market by Night will kick-off their second year of the Market. for the 2019 season. The 2019 season will begin on Saturday, March 9th, from 5 PM to 9 PM and following every 2nd Saturday.

According to Market

See Night Market, Page 3

North Shore Basketball Team advances to State Championship Tournament



Photo by Allan Jamail

GAME 2: North Shore with Regional Final Trophy and Game Ball after defeating George Ranch Longhorns 35 - 32 - Saturday, March 2, 2019. See Regional Semifinal photo for names.

By Allan Jamail

Cypress-Fairbanks, Harris County - Berry Center - Friday, March 1st and Saturday March 2nd 2019 the North Shore Mustangs Eastside Boys Basketball team under the direction of Head Coach Sam Benitez captured Regional Title to advance in the 2019 Boys State Basketball Championship - 6A Regions 1 & 3 tournament.

1ST OF 2 GAME TOURNAMENT:

In a two-day tournament the Galena Park ISD Mustangs on Friday came from a 13 point deficit to defeat the Fort Bend ISD Elkins Knights 69 to 62 in overtime.

After trailing the entire game, late in the fourth quarter Coach Benitez called tim-

out to give the team his strategy to pull out a win. After the timeout the team shifted gears and began playing more aggressively, the lead changed by just one point a few times and was tied twice.

With the final 47 seconds on the clock a 3 point shot by guard KJ Smith tied the game 57 to 57, putting it into overtime. The Eastside Boys offense made 12 points and the defense held Elkins to just 5 points, winning 69 to 62.

Mustangs Leading scorer's #0 Joshua Cooper with 18 points, #11 Bruce Scott with 16 points and #15 Jalen Means 10 points.

NC Star writer Allan Jamail after the game asked Coach Benitez what did he most contribute the come-

from-behind overtime win to, Benitez said, "the East-Side-Boys pride."

Elkins coach Albert Thomas said the Knights came up short of a third regional contest chance because a lack of an aggressive attack along with a few mishaps and free throws.

Doubling back the next day on Saturday the Mustangs defeated the Lamar CISD George Ranch Longhorns 35 to 32 for the Regional Championship title to earn a trip to San Antonio's Alamo dome to take on the Duncanville Panthers, Friday, March 8th at 7 PM in the State Semifinals Championship Tournament.

See Championship Tournament, Page 8

Chamber hears about Small Business Administration

At the North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce luncheon this month, the featured speaker was Tim Jeffcoat, Director of the U.S. Small Business Administration in Houston.

Jeffcoat gave the audience an entertaining and informative look at the programs and services offered by the SBA to any small business.

He defined small businesses as any manufacturing or processing business that has less than 1500 employees. Examples were refineries, aircraft and airline companies, oil transportation, and delivery services. He also defined

small business as any service firm doing up to \$38.5 Million in business. Thus a large number of Houston businesses would qualify for SBA services.

These include access to Counseling, Federal Contracting, Capital, and support during crisis situations.

Jeffcoat noted that of all new businesses, 63% qualify as small businesses.

He sees SBA as "Helping Americans achieve the Dream of Small Business."

Jeffcoat went on to elaborate on each of the services offered by his agency. For Counseling, there are three types: Small Business Development Cen-



TIM JEFFCOAT, SBA

ters, often in conjunction with a college or university, of which he said there are 15 locations in the Houston region; SCORE, a

counseling service using retire executives in various fields, of which there are 15 chapters available in the region; and a Women's Business Center.

Federal Contracting is the next category of help from SBA. He said that most federal agencies have a goal of using small businesses, and the SBA will help make contacts and guide proposals and bids.

Another federal program is known as 8(a) with set-asides for owners that are socially and economically disadvantaged. There are five offices in the U.S. specializing in this type of help, and one is in the

Houston region. Altogether, they have contracted for hundreds of millions of dollars of work.

SBA is best known for securing loans for small businesses, Jeffcoat said, including disaster loans such as needed after Hurricane Harvey. They also have a research and technology grant program, with 3 steps to qualify for grant money from \$150,000 to over a million dollars, and then commercialization of the research.

Jeffcoat urged the audience to go to the website sba.gov for more information, or to contact his office for help.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT TX-29 Sylvia Garcia holds Open House

TX29 - Congresswoman Sylvia R. Garcia held her first District Office Open House less than two months after being sworn into the U.S. House of Representatives. An experienced public servant, Ms. Garcia aims to continue the long traditions established by the Honorable Gene Green during his years of serving the 29th District of Texas. Over 200 local leaders and residents were on hand as part of the celebration.

"We're open and ready to serve the community. Find us at the Atrium 10 office building in the same spot that Gene was in. Please call or stop by if you need anything. The people of the 29th District have come to expect a high level of constituent service and community engagement. We will continue with many of



Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia's first Open House with staff. An extraordinary high number of attendees came to greet the new member of Congress. L - R: John Chapa Gorczynski, Chief of Staff, Claudia Ortega Hogue, District Director, Congresswoman Sylvia R. Garcia, Yuroba Harris, Director of Special Projects, Daniel Vasquez, Field Representative. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

the previous initiatives such as Community Cleanup Day, regular Northeast Neighborhood Safety Meetings, and more. But we also want to grow and build on what people want. So come by and tell us how

we can help," said Congresswoman Garcia.

Present at the event were key members of Garcia's staff. John Chapa Gorczynski, previously her Chief of Staff

See Open House, Page 3

Rotary supports North Shore Little League



NORTH SHORE LITTLE LEAGUE PRESIDENT Ed Kirchner, 3rd from left, accepts a \$3000 check from Rotary president Bill Bowes to his right. Rotary has also supported the Challenger Division, for players with special needs, with a \$2000 donation. North Shore Rotary also helped build the Little League park and fields. Kirchner spoke at a recent Rotary Luncheon, and updated the club on the Little League Season, with Opening Day set for March 23rd. Pictured with Kirchner are Little League representatives, and Rotarians.

COMMUNITY NEWS

TxDOT urges young drivers to plan for sober ride ahead of Spring Break

TxDOT reminds Spring Breakers about deadly, long-term consequences of drinking and driving

HOUSTON – Spring Break is a dangerous time on Texas roads, with hundreds of impaired driving crashes involving young drivers occurring each year. As college students and young adults head to Spring Break destinations in the coming weeks, the Texas Department of Transportation’s “Plan While You Can” campaign reminds them to make a plan for a sober ride before the party starts.

“Drinking alcohol and driving can severely impact a young person’s future. Many promising lives are cut short due to the poor decision to drink alcohol and drive,” said TxDOT Executive Director James Bass. “We urge young drivers to make responsible choices during the Spring Break holiday.

Before heading out, please plan ahead for a sober ride to ensure you get to and from your destination safely.”

During last year’s Spring Break* in Texas, there were 444 crashes involving young drivers who were driving under the influence of alcohol. Those crashes killed 11 people and seriously injured another 37.

The “Plan While You Can” campaign includes a statewide tour featuring the new “Plan to Win” virtual reality game where participants are a part of an immersive trivia game which poses questions related to drinking alcohol and driving, and also demonstrates the consequences of drunk driving. Players avoid “jail” by answering questions correctly, and winners progress to a waiting taxi to receive a safe and sober ride. The experience will visit 10 Texas cities during March.

While drivers under the influence of alcohol risk killing or seriously injuring themselves or others, they also face up to \$17,000 in fines and fees, jail time and loss of their driver’s license. Visit SoberRides.org to find alternatives to drinking alcohol and driving, such as:

- Designating a sober driver or calling someone for a sober ride home
 - Contacting a cab or ride-share service
 - Using mass transit
 - Spending the night
- “Plan While You Can” is a key component of #EndTheStreakTX, a larger grassroots effort that encourages drivers to make safer choices while on the road. Since Nov. 7, 2000, at least one person has died on Texas roadways every single day and that’s why #EndTheStreakTX asks all Texans to commit to helping end the streak of daily deaths on our roadways.

Someone’s Child

By Charlotte Jackson

There is much concern about the increasing number of homeless people who are in the North Channel Area. Almost daily there are posts from concerned community members that are upset over the number of people and the amount of items that are piled under the underpasses along Interstate 10 heading east as well as those under the intersections along the Sam Houston Parkway. There are countless individuals who you can find in the wooded area along the Beltway as well as around vacant buildings and quite often behind restaurants in the alleyways.

On social media, you see some people almost developing a vigilante attitude, calling for the underpasses to be washed daily with a high pressure water pump. These people talk about their property value decreasing and the amount of trash as well as human excrement increasing. Often these homeless individuals scare off potential customers as well as potential new residents to the community.

There are numerous community members who will hand cash to those who approach them while others will look into the distance. Sometimes there are



individuals or groups who prepare a small plastic bag with basic essentials such as a toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss, deodorant, shavers, shampoo and other hygiene items. Other groups will sometimes distribute blankets, towels and jackets to the homeless community.

No matter which side of the discussion that you find yourself, take a moment and remember that the people on the streets and in the woods are someone’s child. We do not know what happened in their lifetime to lead them on the path that they are on now. Often the members of the homeless community have a mental disorder and without medication and treatment, their lives are in a constant turmoil. There is a misconception that many of the homeless are military veterans. In reality, thanks to many programs available, veterans are typically moved to the top of lists when trying to get assistance. Many of the homeless are ex-offenders and depending on the crime, there are few

options for housing. Even worse is the number of homeless youth. Please remember than not every person on the streets wants to be there or made decisions to be there.

On more than one occasion, I have sat down and talked to those living on the streets. Most often, they just want to know someone cares and they want to find resources for assistance. One of the best things that you can do is visit www.homelesshouston.org and print out the “HELP CARD” and give it with a smile to the next homeless person you see. If you are bold enough, hug them. Research shows three hugs a day improves your life. And if you are brave enough to speak with a homeless person, you might ask them if they would like to use your cell phone and contact a family member just to let them know they are still alive. If you are not quite that brave, you can at least pray for them. Always remember, we do not know the route that led them to the current situation, but they are still someone’s child.



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Galena Park ISD host annual prose and poetry competition

On Tuesday, February 26, Galena Park ISD hosted its annual Elementary Prose and Poetry competition. A total of 30 students in grades K-2 and 3-5 competed in the district level contest after being named campus winners. Many of the talented students recited famous poems and speeches, and the judges had the difficult task of picking the winners.

We would also like to congratulate each of our campus winners! They were all amazing and made GPISD proud!

3rd-5th grade winners:
1st place: Matthew Monsebaiz- Cimarron Elementary; 2nd place: Nicole Zavala- Woodland Acres Elementary; and 3rd place: Fernando Noyola- Purple Sage Elementary



Kindergarten-2nd grade winners:
1st place: Ethan Ronsonette- MacArthur Elementary; 2nd place: Josiah Zavala- Woodland Acres Elementary; and 3rd place: Olivia Washington- Havard Elementary



Channelview ISD schools participate in Digital Learning Day

Channelview Independent School District (CISD) believes in the power of ongoing professional development in the areas of curriculum and instruction and technology integration.

Through curriculum academies and hands-on workshops, teachers are given the tools they require to enrich the daily instruction that is delivered to students. Digital Learning Day in CISD highlighted the curriculum tools that have been featured in professional development academies.

The Barrett Lee Early Childhood Center and McMullan Elementary School are just two of the 12 campuses in CISD that joined thousands of educators around the world to celebrate Digital Learning Day. The digital celebration provided an opportunity for educators to shine a light on excellent teaching practice and showcase innovative teachers, leaders and instructional technology programs that are improving student outcomes. CISD educators used Twitter as a platform to highlight events that



Ms. Moreno's Pre-Kindergarten Class enjoyed learning math using a Hover Cam.

took place across the district. To take a sneak peek into the 2019 Digital Learning Day in CISD, visit our Twitter page @ChannelviewISD or follow the hashtag #DLDayCISD.

What is Digital Learning Day?

Digital Learning Day started in 2012 as an opportunity to actively

spread innovative practices and ensure that all youth have access to high-quality digital learning opportunities no matter where they live. In addition, Digital Learning Day promotes the effective use of modern day tools afforded to every other industry to improve the learning experience in K-12 public schools.

Night Market,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Chairwoman – Rebecca Mier at the Market they'll be lots of vendors, live music and curbside food vendors.

Jacinto City is committed to providing a local venue to help create and foster a healthy community through providing the community with direct access to local producers. As well as offering support to local consumers, farmers, artists and entrepreneurs.

Local residents with backyard gardens with

seasonal produce from their garden may participate in a community booth at no charge, there's limited booth spaces available.

Available will be fresh fruits, vegetables, herbs, flowers, other agricultural and horticultural products, honey sales, natural skin care products and quality hand-crafted arts will also be available.

Chairwoman Mier said, "come out and see what we have been up to lately, please take the time to

come out this "market season"; we would love to see you there! We'll be located at Jacinto City Town Center plaza located at 1025 Oates Rd. Jacinto City, TX 77029."

Gardeners and anyone interested in being a vendor must contact Market Chairwoman – Rebecca Mier, email: Marketdays@jacintocity-tx.gov or call (713)-674-8424 or (832) 554-6905. The Market guidelines can be found at www.jacintocity-tx.gov.

Open House,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

in the Texas Senate, splits time alongside side the congresswoman in the district and in Washington, DC. Claudia Ortega Hogue, previously Texas State Director for NALEO, runs operations. Yuroba Harris, longtime Gene Green staffer, is the Director of Special Projects and is responsible for

continuing many of the programs he began. Daniel Vazquez, formerly of the Houston Federation of Teachers and AFL-CIO, is the Field Representative who ensures that Ms. Garcia is represented in the community while she working for us in Washington. The office is located at 11811 East

Freeway Suite 430 between John Ralston and Federal Road, north of Jacinto City. The congresswoman can be reached at sylvia.garcia.house.gov or by calling (832) 325-3150.

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OPINION

TEXAS
SENATE NEWS
By Richard Lee

SENATE APPROVES
ACROSS-THE-BOARD
TEACHER PAY RAISE

(Austin) The Senate passed its first bill of the session Monday, one that would give every public school teacher in the state a \$5000 pay raise beginning in the fall semester of 2019. Named as an emergency issue by the governor, the bill would give teachers their first meaningful pay raise in 20 years, said author and Flower Mound Senator Jane Nelson. "The one thing we should do, first and foremost, is to recognize the need to uplift our entire teaching profession," she said. According to testimony offered by Texas education commissioner Mike Morath last week, most teachers in the state make between \$50,000 and \$60,000 per year, including bonuses and other incentives. All 30 members joined Nelson as co-authors of the bill.

The bill would cost the state right at \$4 billion next biennium: \$3.7 billion to pay for the raises for the state's 350,000 teachers and \$240 million in additional pension costs. An amendment added to the bill by Nelson would give the same raise to school librarians, at a cost of \$53 million. Nelson told members that this raise, if signed into law, wouldn't preclude additional, effectiveness-based pay schedules expected in forthcoming school finance legislation. The bill now heads to the House for consideration.

In committee action Monday, the Senate State Affairs Committee approved a measure aimed at ensuring the proper reporting and investigation of all sexual assault allegations on college campuses. Bill author and committee chair Senator Joan Huffman of Houston said that studies show that one in five female college students have experienced some form of sexual assault. SB 212 would require that any university employee that either witnesses or receives information of sexual harassment, assault, dating violence or stalking reports the incident to the institution's Title XI coordinator for investigation. It also requires the coordinator to make a monthly report on the number and status of sexual assault investigations to the institution's president, and

requires the president to make the same report to the institution's governing board once a semester. That report would be made publicly available, though the identities of individuals within would be concealed.

The bill also has strong penalties for non-compliance. Employees failing to report incidents of sexual assault would be terminated, and if the person intentionally tried to cover the incident up, they would face a Class A misdemeanor charge. The university itself could also face disciplinary action as failure to comply with the bill's requirements could incur as much as a \$2 million penalty. "I am confident that this bill strengthens the reporting requirements to ensure that the days when an outcry went unheard or covered up at an institution of a higher education are over," said Huffman. A similar version of this measure cleared the Senate 30-1 last session, but failed to reach the governor's desk.

The committee also passed a bill that would facilitate cooperation between state agencies on anti-human trafficking efforts. According to the Office of Attorney General, at any given time there are 234,000 victims of human trafficking in Texas, with nearly 80,000 of those victims being children or minors. SB 72, also by Nelson, would create a centralized body to formulate a statewide plan to combat human trafficking and facilitate cooperation between state agencies that work to fight the practice. "If we don't do everything we can to address this, we are allowing slavery to take place in this state," said Nelson. "My commitment is there both in financial resources and anything else we need to do to put a stop to this." As chair of the Senate Finance Committee, Nelson said she funded every agency request for human trafficking programs at a total cost of almost \$89 million. She said she intends the State Human Trafficking Prevention Coordinating Council created by this bill to help maximize the impact of these funds and ensure that agencies aren't duplicating efforts.

The Senate will reconvene Tuesday, March 5 at 11 a.m.



Order stops state, local authorities
from purging voter rolls

AUSTIN — A San Antonio federal judge on Feb. 27 ordered Texas Secretary of State David Whitley not to purge the names of voters whose registrations he challenged as being potentially fraudulent.

The order came in a voting rights case filed by the League of United Latin American Citizens and other plaintiffs. U.S. District Judge Fred Biery denied defendants' motion to dismiss the suit. Biery then ordered officials not to remove anyone from the current voter registration list until authorized by the court.

However, Biery added that local officials may continue to determine whether someone who is not a citizen is in fact registered to vote, so long as it is done without communicating directly with any particular individual on the list.

Biery's ruling, which came after three days of hearing evidence and arguments in the case, stated: "Out of 98,000 new American voters on the list, thus far approximately 80 have been identified as being ineligible to vote."

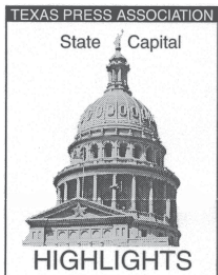
Plaintiffs filed the case after Whitley, acting as the state's chief elections officer, on Jan. 25 issued an advisory to county voter registrars regarding voter registration list maintenance activities, one of which was to identify any non-U.S. citizens registered to vote in Texas.

The advisory came after the secretary of state's elections division reported that some 95,000 individuals identified by the Texas Department of Public Safety as non-U.S. citizens have a matching voter registration record and that approximately 58,000 voted in one or more Texas elections.

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton reacted to the ruling, saying it "deprives state and county election officials of the capacity to faithfully execute their duties under state and federal law to maintain voting rolls." Paxton also said, "We are weighing our options to address this ruling and to continue making our case that ineligible voters should not vote and counties are free to continue to follow the law and keep their voter rolls clean."

Meanwhile, Whitley, appointed as secretary of state by Gov. Greg Abbott in December, is undergoing the confirmation process in the Texas Senate. The body's nominations committee last week voted along party lines to forward his nomination to

STATE CAPITAL
HIGHLIGHTS
By Ed Sterling



the full Senate for consideration.

Aid request is granted

The White House on Feb. 25 granted Gov. Abbott's request for a presidential disaster declaration for 33 Texas counties.

This action provides access to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Public Assistance and Hazard Mitigation grant programs for communities that are recovering and rebuilding following severe weather and flooding this past fall.

"I thank the president and FEMA for granting this disaster declaration," Abbott said. "As communities continue to recover and rebuild from the aftermath of these devastating floods, we remain committed to working with our federal and local partners to ensure that Texas is more resilient than ever before."

The following counties are included in the president's disaster declaration: Archer, Baylor, Brown, Burnet, Callahan, Comanche, Coryell, Dimmit, Edwards, Fannin, Franklin, Grimes, Haskell, Hill, Hopkins, Houston, Jones, Kimble, Kinney, Knox, Llano, Madison, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Nolan, Real, San Saba, Sutton, Throckmorton, Travis, Uvalde and Val Verde.

Abbott reacts to ruling

Gov. Abbott on Feb. 28 sent a letter to appointees and state agencies following the Texas Criminal Court of Appeals' Feb. 27 ruling that struck down a key provision of the state's open meetings law.

In question was the law's prohibition against

members of a governmental body meeting privately in numbers of less than a quorum to discuss public business. In writing the majority opinion, Presiding Judge Sharon Keller described that part of the law as "unconstitutionally vague."

The court's split decision came in a case pitting the State of Texas against a county judge who was alleged to have broken the law.

In his letter, Abbott instructed recipients to continue to follow the spirit of the Texas Open Meetings Act, despite the ruling. "Texas has long been, and will continue to be, a leader in governmental transparency," Abbott wrote.

"Regardless of yesterday's ruling, my standard and expectation is for all agencies and boards to continue to follow the spirit of the law. You should not waver in your commitment to providing transparency in the work you perform for Texans at your respective governmental entities," he added.

Sen. Kirk Watson, D-Austin, is working with advocates of government transparency and accountability on legislation addressing the appeals court's criticism of the law.

The bill-filing deadline for the current legislative session is Friday, March 8.

Abbott reappoints Morath

Gov. Abbott on Feb. 27 announced his reappointment of Mike Morath as state commissioner of education for a term to expire on Jan. 16, 2023.

The reappointment is subject to confirmation by the Texas Senate.

Morath has served as chief executive of the Texas Education Agency since January 2016.

LETTERS
To The Editor

Enclosed is a check for \$28.00 to re-new my subscription to the newspaper. I love it - Keep up your Good Work,

Retha Smith

Houston
TranStar
urges
motorists:
move over,
slow down -
it saves lives

Every day, law enforcement, fire fighters, emergency personnel and tow operators risk their lives responding to calls for help. In 2018, more than 1,100 crashes in the Houston/Galveston area involved emergency vehicles, according to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).

The Texas Move Over/Slow Down law requires that passing motorists move out of the lane closest to an emergency vehicle stopped on the roadway, or if they can't safely move, reduce driving speeds to 20 miles below the posted limit. Move Over/Slow Down also applies when passing stopped TxDOT vehicles and tow trucks displaying warning signals such as traffic cones or flashing lights.

"Move Over/Slow Down is designed to prevent secondary crashes and protect first responders as well as drivers and passengers," said Dinah Massie, Executive Director at Houston TranStar. "It's about improving safety for all, particularly emergency personnel who work in dangerous conditions along Texas roadways." The Move Over/Slow Down Law requires you to:

- Move out of the lane next to the stopped vehicle(s) when on a highway with two or more lanes going the same direction, if it can be done safely and legally
- OR -
- Slow to 20 miles per hour below the posted speed
- Slow to 5 miles per hour if the posted speed is 25 miles per hour or less

Heightened enforcement of the Move Over/Slow Down law is happening across the state, with fines from \$200 to \$2,000, depending on the offense. Last year, TxDOT reports the Department of Public Safety issued more than 41,000 warnings and citations to motorists violating the law.

For more information on road safety and to learn more about how to Travel Smart with TranStar, visit www.HoustonTranstar.org.

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LIFESTYLE

OBITUARIES

Callie Rae Soffes

Callie Rae Soffes, 51, of Crosby, Texas, passed away on Monday, February 25, 2019. She was born on December 4, 1967 in Houston, Texas to Johnnie Wayne Wisdom and Marilyn Rae Wooten McDonald. Over the years she was known to be an entrepreneur and owned Captain Kiwi's Seafood Market in Crosby. At one point, her market was known to be the largest supplier of crawfish in the Houston area. She was a wonderful cook and her specialty was seafood. She was proud of her family and loved them dearly. Callie will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her.

She is preceded in death by her father, Johnnie Wisdom; grandparents, Rachel; "Raye" Lou Greer, Travis Greer, Claude Wisdom, and Callie Clarien Wisdom; and uncle, Alley Strokos.

Callie is survived by her dear friend, James



Stephens; children, Chelsea Gillie and fiancé Dave Karwowski, Cameron Soffes and wife Stephanie; and Taylor Biedekapp; grandchildren, Laikynn Karwowski and Bradley Soffes; mother, Marilyn McDonald; father, "Papa" Pete McDonald; sister, Jamie McDonald-Fininis; brother, Jerry McDonald Harris and wife Kelli; nieces, Rylee Fininis and Kori Harris; nephews, Alex Fininis and Ty Harris; aunts, Barbara Hill-

house and uncle Cecil, Jackie Powell and uncle Wayne, Judy Quinters, Debbie Unkart and Angela Steele(Bobby); uncles, Gary Strokos and wife Gail, and Andy Strokos and wife Rita; and a host of extended family and friends.

A visitation for family and friends was held on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at Sterling White Funeral Home from 12:00pm to 2:00pm. Funeral services immediately followed. Interment was in Sterling White Cemetery. Arrangements were entrusted to Sterling White Funeral Home, 11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd., Highlands, Texas 77562. To offer condolences to the family, please visit www.sterlingwhite.com.

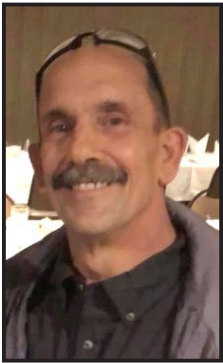
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Guy Joseph Gauthier

Guy Joseph Gauthier, age 53 of Highlands, passed away on February 28, 2019 surrounded by family. He was born February 14, 1966 in Chalmette, Louisiana to John and Carolyn Gauthier. Guy was very humorous and full of laughter. He was a friendly, outgoing, helpful and caring man. Guy enjoyed going fishing, hunting, scuba diving and cooking crawfish. He loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. Guy was a loving son, husband, father, pops and friend who will be missed by all who knew him.

He is preceded in death by paternal grandparents Silvio and Bella Gauthier, maternal grandparents Charles and Hannah Arcana, and father John Gauthier.

Guy is survived by mother Carolyn Arcana Gauthier of Covington, Louisiana, wife Pamela Gauthier of Highlands, daughter Ashlynn



Duhon(Justin Kelly) of Highlands, sons Guy Gauthier Jr of Highlands and Corey Gauthier(Megan Carney) of Highlands, grandsons Brantley Duhon of Highlands, Cooper Carney of Highlands, Daxyn Carney of Highlands, and Hudson Gauthier of Highlands, sisters Andre Smith(Jeff Bell) of Louisiana, Cheryl(Cook Perez) of Louisiana, and Diane(Kenny Powell) of Louisiana, nieces Stephanie(Eddie Appel) of

Louisiana, Courtney(Eddie Perez) of Louisiana, Lainie Smith, Desiree' Powell of Louisiana, and Renee' Powell Louisiana, and nephews Jimmy Perez of Louisiana and Ross Perez of Louisiana. He is also survived by 4 grandchildren, great-nieces, great nephews, extended family and friends.

A visitation will be held on Wednesday, March 6, 2019 from 10:00pm to 12:00pm at Sterling White Funeral Home, 11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd, Highlands, TX 77562. Funeral services will immediately follow visitation. Arrangements have been entrusted to Sterling White Funeral Home, 11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd., Highlands, TX 77562. To share your favorite memories or offer condolences for her family, please visit www.sterlingwhite.com.

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BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey—

1. Is the book of 1 Samuel in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. In Luke 21, on what shall they see the Son of man coming "with power and great glory"? Chariot, Cloud, Whirlwind, Burning bush
3. Who distributed to everyone a loaf of bread, a piece of meat and a cake of raisins? Solomon, Paul, Timothy, David
4. From Exodus 4, who did the Lord provide to Moses to be his mouth-piece? Abraham, Aaron, Noah, Mahalalel
5. To whom did the word of the Lord say, "Arise, go

to Nineveh, that great city"? Jonah, Samuel, James, Peter6. In Psalms 22:14, what did the psalmist say his heart was like? Water, Butter, Wax, Emptiness

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Cloud; 3) David; 4) Aaron; 5) Jonah; 6) WaxComments? More Trivia?

CHURCH LISTINGS

CROSBY, HIGHLANDS, HUFFMAN, BAYTOWN

ANGLICAN CHURCH

• Church of the Resurrection, meeting at Crosby Brethren Church, 5202 1st Street, Crosby, 832-661-9693.

APOSTOLIC CHURCH

• First Apostolic Church of Highlands, 1211 S. Main St. Highlands. 281-426-4133

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

• Crosby Gospel Assembly, 633 Kenning Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2516

• First Assembly of God, 406 N. Magnolia St., Highlands, 281-426-3170

• Gospel Lighthouse, 8218 John Martin Rd., Baytown, 281-421-1168

BAPTIST

• Calvary Baptist, 2217 Huffman Eastgate Rd., Huffman, 281-324-3409

• Highlands Baptist, 111 E. Canal Rd., Highlands, 281-426-2470

• Northeast Freeway Baptist, 1635 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2723

• Unity Baptist, 2625 Broad Dr., Highlands, 281-426-4223

• Iglesia Bautista Comunidad, 5323 Highway 90, Crosby, 281-421-9810. "Venid y te Haremos Bien"

BAPTIST-Missionary

• Antioch Missionary Baptist, 2500 Harris St., Highlands, 281-426-6565.

• First Missionary Baptist Church, 301 Cypress Avenue, Crosby, 281-462-7634.

• Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist, 315 Nod, Crosby, 281-328-4650

• True Vine Missionary Baptist, 404 Oak Ave., Crosby, 281-328-7637

• Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, 12418 Crosby Rd., Crosby, 281-328-1851

BAPTIST-Southern

• First Baptist- Crosby, 615 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2564

• First Baptist- Highlands, N. Magnolia at Wallisville, Highlands, 281-426-4551

• First Baptist- Huffman, 25503 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-1888

• Northside Baptist, 317 Barbers Hill Rd., Highlands, nsbhighlands.org

• Second Baptist, 400 E. Wallisville Rd., Highlands, 281-426-5557

• Crosby New Hope Baptist Church, 18319 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-6086

BRETHREN

• Crosby Brethren, 5202 1st St., Crosby, 281-328-2442

CATHOLIC

• Holy Family, 7122 Whiting Rock, Baytown, 281-426-8448

• Sacred Heart, 915 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-4871

• St. Martin De Porres, 12606 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-4451

• St. Jude Thaddeus, 800 S. Main St., Highlands, 281-843-2422

• St. Phillip the Apostle, 2308 3rd St., Huffman, 281-324-1478

CHURCH OF CHRIST

• Church of Christ at Wallisville Rd., 1500 E. Wallisville Rd., 281-426-7557.

• Crosby Church of Christ, 3737 Hwy 90, Crosby, 281-328-3496

• Highlands Church of Christ, 214 Clear Lake Rd., Highlands, 281-426-2742

• Barrett Station Church of Christ, 281-328-7882

CHURCH OF GOD

• First Pentecostal Church of God, 1328 Old Atascocita, Huffman, 281-324-1518

• Harvest Time Church of God, 495 S. Diamondhead Blvd., Crosby, 281-462-8060

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

• DMt. Rose Church of God in Christ, 13000 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-1314

EPISCOPAL

• Church of the Resurrection, 5202 Church St., Crosby.

INDEPENDENT

• Crosby Church, 5725 Hwy 90, Crosby and 30673 Huffman Cleveland Rd., Huffman, 281-328-1310

• Huffman Church, 1707 Huffman Eastgate Rd., Huffman, 281-324-3705

• New Covenant of Faith, 12217 Holly Rd., Crosby, 281-328-1315

• Restoration House, 1609 Jones Rd., Highlands, 281-843-4000

• Son Harvest, 2027 FM 1942, Crosby, 281-543-2860.

LUTHERAN

• Our Shepherd, 19704 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-2422

METHODIST

• Crosby United Methodist, 1334 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2616

• Highlands United Methodist, 107 W. Houston St., Highlands, 281-426-3614

• Lake Houston United Methodist, 23606 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-1541

NON DENOMINATION

• LifePoint Church, 9235 North Highway 146, Baytown, TX. 77523. D281-576-5452.

UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

• Pentecostals of Crosby502 Pine at Hwy 90 Crosby, TX 077532(281) 328-5054. Sunday 10 AM. Wednesday 7 PM. Pastor Kerry D. Lee

CHANNELVIEW, JACINTO CITY, GALENA PARK, HOUSTON

• Second Street Church of Christ, 15821 2nd. Street,

Channelview, TX. 77530. www.2ndstreetchurchofchrist.com

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

•Galena Park Assembly of God, 1211 2nd. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-455-0836.

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. 713-672-9232.

•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.

•Macedonia Baptist Church, 1230 Maxnie Street, Houston, TX. 77049. 713-674-6607.

BAPTIST-Southern

•Dell Dale Avenue Baptist Church, 402 Dell Dale Avenue, Channelview, TX. 281-452-3704.

•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 Ivydale Street, Houston, TX. 77049.

•First Baptist Church of Galena Park, 206 Woolfe St., 77547. 713-455-1261.

CATHOLIC

•St. Andrew Roman Catholic Church, 827 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, TX. 281-452-9865.

•Our Lady of Fatima, 1705 8th St., Galena Park, TX. 713-675-0981.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

•2nd. St. Church of Christ, 15821 2nd St., Channelview, TX. -281-452-4049.

•Channelview Church of Christ, 1301 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, Tx. 281-452-7129.

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

EPISCOPAL

•St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 13125 Indianapolis St., Houston, 713-451-2909.

HOLINESS

•Bible Missionary Church, 10246 Fairfax St., Jacinto City. 713-671-3500.

METHODIST

•Old River Terrace United Methodist Church, 16102 East Freeway, Channelview, TX. 281-452-2861.

•Galena Park United Methodist, 1705 1st. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-672-0245.

•Holy Trinity United Methodist, 13207 Orleans St., Houston, Tx. 713-453-7203.

For corrections or new listings, call 281-328-9605



bags on gentle zephyrs. Next week we'll probably get old garbage bags on the back wall and in the trees. That's kinda Phase Two, you see. I got this worked out pretty good now. I'm thinking of putting it in the book." "You mean the Duchess and the Truck Driver?" "Its actual title is Murder in

the Soggy Bottoms, Doc."

"Still sounds like wet diapers to me," said Steve.

"So Dud, when does buds swelling on the fruit trees come in? Phase Three?"

"Sometimes you get a few buds during Phase three, but we have to wait until later, usually. Phase Three I have as toys. You know, you find a dolly or little plastic truck and start hunting an unhappy kid to return it."

"Is there a Phase Four

wind, Dud?"

He smiled. "Yep. Cinder

blocks."

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Psalm: 46:1

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is nothing compared
to the glory He will
reveal to us later
ROMANS 8:18

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

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

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

ASK THE EXPERT

HCDE Public Recovery High School provides Wrap-Around approach for addiction

March 1, 2019 - Cy Lopez, 18, found out about Harris County's first public recovery high school through his therapy group while recovering from addiction.

The bright, determined young man, who takes advanced academic courses, visited the school called Fortis Academy after trying to return to his home school in north Houston while recovering from his addiction. There, peer pressure provided too much temptation.

"He's been one of our leaders here since joining our school this year," said Anthony Moten, principal at Fortis, a Latin term associated with strength, courage and determination.

Fortis is building its student roster this year as Harris County Department of Education administrators spread the word about the campus in the 25 school districts it serves, who send students to Fortis on a contractual basis. The school represents a huge paradigm shift in treating substance abuse.

"It's moving educators to understand a punitive-discipline model versus a restorative-therapeutic model," said James Colbert Jr., superintendent of HCDE and a strong proponent of the recovery school.

The school combines counseling, recovery coaching and academics in a low, student-to-faculty ratio for students who have completed substance abuse or dependency rehab programs. The goal is for students to continue their high school education in a sober environment.

Omar Lopez, Cy's father, attends meetings with his son and counselors at the school. One of the school's foundational principles is that it is important for parents to be active in their children's sobriety.

"The main thing about this school is the support it gives to kids to stay sober," said Omar as he visits his son at the school. "He is doing good with his grades and being sober."



Omar Lopez (right), Cy's father with his son at school.



Cy Lopez with classmates at culinary class.

Fortis has all the academic elements of a regular high school, with certified classroom teachers for core subjects. Small classes are coupled with computer electives, including physical education. Last month the school opened its culinary component, a kitchen where students get certified in safety and sanitation before learning to cook and bake. In the kitchen, students come together as a team and collaborate as they gain new skills to bolster their preparation for life after high school, as well as their self-esteem.

Senior Juan Garcia finds his cooking skills handy in winning the approval of his girlfriend, he said while learning to make crepes. Garcia

will be the school's first graduate, walking the stage in May at his home school in Galena Park ISD.

Cy's father is impressed by the culinary program at Fortis and appreciative of the recovery support his son receives each day. He's a strong advocate for public recovery high schools such as Fortis, even though they are relatively rare, with only three in the state of Texas.

"Private recovery schools are not affordable for many people," he said. "What you don't know, you don't know, and more people should know about this school. Recovery education has to be shared with low-income parents too."

He points to the benefits to taxpayers with public recovery schools tackling problems of addiction early on versus having residents go through the penal system later.

"The amount of taxpayer money we can be saving by having these kids here for four years versus 10 years in jail is amazing," he said, circling his arms to demonstrate the greater good. "Can't you see the difference in the money and lives saved?"

Omar insists his son Cy is learning how to live a good life without drugs or alcohol, despite the temptations of society. He credits Fortis for that change in attitude and said one of the greatest benefits of the school is Cy's ability to have a personalized recovery coach and meetings at the school during the day.

Cy said this model allows for problems to be tackled head on.

"We share what we're going through, and they give us feedback and help us learn to deal with issues," he said. "They listen to me, and I listen."

For more information about Fortis Academy, go to www.hcde-texas.org/schools/fortis-academy.



Diamond Jim: "A Diamond's Value & The 4 C's...Cut"

ASK DIAMOND JIM

DIAMOND CUT

Diamonds are renowned for their ability to transmit light and sparkle so intensely. We often think of a diamond's cut as shape (round, emerald, pear), but a diamond's cut grade is really about how well a diamond's facets interact with light. Precise artistry and workmanship are required to fashion a stone so its proportions, symmetry, and polish deliver the magnificent return of light only possible in a diamond.

The GIA Cut Grading System for the standard round brilliant diamond evaluates seven components. The first three, brightness, fire, and scintillation, consider the diamond's overall face-up appearance. The remaining four, weight ratio, durability, polish, and symmetry, assess a diamond's design and craftsmanship.

The quality of cut is crucial

to the diamond's final beauty and value. And of all the 4Cs, it is the most complex and technically difficult to analyze. If the diamond is cut either too deep or too shallow, the light entering the diamond will not reflect and return to the observer's eyes properly and will cause the diamond to seem "dull" or "dead". A diamond with an "Ideal" cut will offer the greatest amount of Brightness, Fire, and Scintillation.

BRIGHTNESS

Brightness is the intensity of the internal and external white light reflected from a diamond.

FIRE

Fire is the scattering of white light into all the colors of the rainbow.

SCINTILLATION

Scintillation is the sparkle a diamond produces, and the pattern of light and dark areas caused by reflections within the diamond.

Thank you for taking the time to read this brief summary of a Diamond's Cut. We hope you enjoyed it.

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

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

Career and Technical Education (CTE) opens doors for students in Channelview ISD

Students in Channelview Independent School District (CISD) are provided opportunities to prepare for the workforce and college through Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs. During February, the district highlighted CTE for the outstanding support and opportunities it offers to students in CISD.

Career and Technical Education is a comprehensive program that impacts students of all ages. Every student in CISD is provided with the academic and

offerings at Channelview High School.

An extension of classroom learning is provided through Career and Technical Student Organizations. Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA), Robotics, and Business Professionals of America (BPA) are a few of the organizations sponsored at Channelview High School. The CTE Program also offers Technical Dual credit opportunities for students.

In the month of February, CTE department hosted



Eduardo Martinez, a recent Channelview High School graduate, has secured the position of Pipe Fabricator.



CTE Marketing students attended the Digital Marketing Conference.

technical skills, knowledge and training necessary to succeed in future careers to become lifelong learners. At the elementary level, students participate in curriculum designed to explore career pathways and schools participate in Robotics through the FIRST Lego League. Secondary campuses build upon the foundation set at the elementary level, by offering opportunities for students to explore their interest. Agriculture, Auto Tech, Engineering, Health Science, and Media Technology, are a few of the many



CTE students attended "Exploring Industry Expo" hosted by San Jacinto College.

Career Days for elementary schools and student organizations provided an interactive showcase at Kolarik Ninth Grade Center.

CTE in CISD seeks to forge partnerships with industry through collaboration that is mutually beneficial. This month we highlight a success story from CTE and recognize our dynamic partnership with LyondellBasell and Austin Industries. Eduardo Martinez, a recent Channelview

High School graduate, was hired as an intern Craft Helper upon graduation. In less than one year, he was promoted. Eduardo has worked hard at his craft, and he is currently a Pipe Fabricator. "Eduardo should be the standard that perspective CTE students should model themselves after," said Project Manager Marcus Davis. "He is highly self-motivated and very ambitious and self-driven."

NORTH CHANNEL BUSINESS DIRECTORY



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LEGAL NOTICE

“Proposals for RFP 19-004 Garbage Collection Services will be received by the Galena Park Independent School District until Tuesday, April 9, 2019 @ 2:30 PM CSDT. At that time proposals will be opened at the GPISD Admin Bldg located at 14705 Woodforest Blvd., Houston, TX 77015. Additional information may be obtained by contacting Brooke Lakner, Director of Purchasing at 832-386-1008 or on our website: http://galenaparkisd.com. The Galena Park ISD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.”

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Intention To Introduce A Bill In The Legislature of Texas
Notice is hereby given of the intention to introduce in the Regular Session of the 86th Legislature of Texas a bill allowing the district to designate all or any part of the district as a tax increment reinvestment zone and use tax increment financing under Chapter 311 of the Texas Tax Code, pursuant to the provisions of Article 16, Section 59, of the Constitution of Texas and Chapter 313 of the Texas Government Code. This bill will provide for the district's administration, powers, duties, operation and financing under Chapter 311, Tax Code.

LEGAL NOTICES APPEAR
IN THE HIGHLANDS STAR
CROSBY COURIER,
AND THE NORTH
CHANNEL STAR.
CALL 713-266-3444

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Administration for Docket No. 468743; Estate of EMILY JEAN GRIFFIN Deceased; In Probate Court No. 4, of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on February 20, 2019.

JANICE FAYE SEPULVEDA

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

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

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Dated this February 26, 2019

by WESTON COTTEN
Attorney for the Estate

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF INTENT TO SELECT COUNTY DEPOSITORIES

In accordance with Article 116.022 of the Texas Local Government Code,

NOTICE, is hereby given to any Chambers County banking corporation, association, or individual banker, that the Chambers County Commissioners Court will at **10:00 a.m.** on the **23rd** day of **April, 2019**, select one or more depository banks for the following Chambers County Funds:

Chambers County Operating Funds
Interest and Sinking Funds
District and County Clerk Trust Funds
County Permanent School Funds
County Internal Funds
Other Related Funds

The county reserves the right to withdraw any or all Chambers County Permanent School Funds from this depository agreement. It is understood that the Chambers County Treasurer would give a 30-day written notice prior to any withdrawal of these funds.

The term of the depository contract shall be **four, (4) years** with an option to review at the end of **two, (2) years**.

Any banking corporation, association or individual banker desiring to be designated as a County Depository shall make and deliver to the Chambers County Judge an application applying for such contract on or before **2:00 p.m.** on the **3rd** day of **April, 2019**. The application must be in a sealed envelope marked on the outside **“Depository Application.”**

The application must state the amount of the bank's paid-up capital stock and permanent surplus; the application must be accompanied by:

- (1) A statement showing the financial condition of the bank on the date of the application;

and

(2) A certified check or cashier's check for at least one-half (1/2) percent of the county's revenue for the preceding year.

The certified check or cashier's check that accompanies the application is a good-faith guarantee on the part of the applicant that if accepted as a County Depository it will execute the bond required under Ch. 116, Subchapter D, Texas Local Government Code. If the bank is selected as a depository and does not provide the bond, the county shall retain the amount of the check as liquidated damages.

The Commissioners Court may determine and designate the character and amount of county funds that will be demand deposits and that will be time deposits. The Commissioners Court may contract with a depository for interest on time deposits at any legal rate under a federal law or under a rule adopted by the board of governors of the Federal Reserve System or by the board of directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

The Commissioners Court will select one of more of the qualified applicants that offer the most favorable terms and conditions for the handling of the county funds; the Commissioners Court reserves the right to reject those applicants whose management or condition, in the opinion of the Commissioners Court, does not warrant placing county funds in their possession.

Jimmy Sylvia, County Judge
Chambers County Commissioners Court
March 1, 2019

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals for Water Plant Improvements Project to serve the Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 50 in Harris County, Texas will be received at the office of Cobb, Fendley & Associates, Inc., 16610 IH 45 South, Suite 250, Conroe, Texas 77384, until 1:00 P.M. local time, March 21, 2019 and then publicly opened. A NON-MANDATORY BUT HIGHLY RECOMMENDED PRE-BID CONFERENCE will be held at the office of Cobb, Fendley & Associates, Inc. on March 14, 2019 at 1:00 P.M. Each bid must be submitted in a 9" x 12" envelope and accompanied by Cashier's Check or Bid Bond, duly executed, in the amount of not less than five (5%) percent of the bid.

The Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 50 is proposing to install several upgrades to two of the existing water plants within the District. For Water Plant One, including but not limited to booster pump installation, electrical modifications, chlorine equipment, yard piping. For Water Plant Two, including but not limited to booster pump installation, electrical modifications, chlorine equipment, yard piping, 83,000 gallon ground storage tank, 15,000 gallon hydropneumatics tank, gravel access drive.

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

CATEGORY	MBE	WBE
CONSTRUCTION	19.44%	9.17%
SUPPLIES	25.34%	8.82%
EQUIPMENT	16.28%	11.45%
SERVICES	20.41%	13.66%

• Equal Opportunity in Employment – All qualified Applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or handicap. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 40 CFR Part 33 in the award and administration of contracts awarded under TWDB financial assistance agreements. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach, which may result in the termination of the awarded financial assistance.
• Right to reject any and all bids.
• All laborers and mechanics working on the work site and employed by contractors and subcontractors on projects funded directly by or assisted in whole or in part by and through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund shall be paid wages as described in the section, Mandatory David-Bacon Act Contract Conditions.
• Any contracts in excess of \$2,000 for construction, alteration or repair (including painting and decorating and funded under the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund programs shall include the Mandatory David-Bacon Act Contract Conditions.
• This contract is subject to the federal requirements of Subpart C of 2 CFR Part 180 and Part 1532 regarding Debarment and Suspension. The Contractor will comply with the assurances provided with the bid that leads to a contract.

Copies of the bidding documents may be obtained from www.CivCastUSA.com: Search Harris County MUD No. 50 Smart Meter Installation. Questions deadline is March 18th at 4:00 PM. Bidders must register on this website in order to view and/or download specifications, and plans for this project. There is NO charge to view or download documents.

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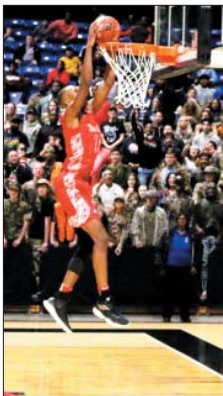
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TO THE LEFT – GAME 1:
Mustangs #15 Jalen Means
buries Elkins with a slam-dunk
as the overtime game clock
runs out for the final score,
69-62.



TO THE RIGHT - GAME 2: #11
Bruce Scott makes a late
fourth quarter shot to give the
Mustangs a 1 point lead, their
first lead in the game 33 – 32.
Scott later made the games
last 2 points after he was
fouled with 8 seconds
remaining to end the game 35
– 32.

PhotoS by Allan Jamail

GAME 2: North Shore Mustang Head Coach Sam Benitez gives a news interview after taking his basketball team to a victory over George Ranch, capturing the Region 3 - 6A Championship. Benitez told NC Star writer Allan Jamail it was the pride of the East Side Boys on the line that gave them the determination to defend, claw, scrap and fight to come from behind and win in back to back games with a few hours rest.



Championship Tournament,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

FINAL REGIONAL TITLE TWO GAME:

Saturday, March 2nd the Mustangs having to play back-to-back games with only a few hours rest, Head Coach Sam Benitez and the team loaded up on buses and began the long drive to Cy-Fair's Berry Center for the second day of the two-game tournament.

The Regional Title game was low scoring 35 - 32, North Shore and George Ranch put on a thrilling defensive show for their fans. Coach Benitez said he knew the Mustangs were tired from the start because of not having much time to rest from the long overtime game played hours before. "I knew they'd have to reach down deep inside to find the hustle and scrappiness needed to win, they did, and they deserve this hard fought earned win," Benitez said.

As the NC Star writer Allan Jamail who's covers the Mustangs, I knew when the East-Side-Boys pride kicked in, they were not going down

without a full-team attack on both ends of the court.

Coach Benitez said, "North Shore is a family, no matter what the sport being played is, football, basketball, track, baseball, golf or band, the administration, faculty, families, friends and former students are all supportive of the students here."

The Mustangs trailed the Longhorns the entire game, and trailed deep in the fourth quarter until senior forward Keiman Capers made a 2 point shot followed by a 1 point free throw by junior forward Randy Woodard to bring them within 1 point. The defense shut-out the Longhorns and after a missed basket on the next play Mustang Senior Guard Bruce Scott drilled a 2 point jumper to give the Mustangs their first lead, 33 – 32. The Longhorns missed another shot and fouled Scott putting him on the free-throw line for 2 shots with eight seconds left.

Longhorn Coach Charlie

Jones called timeout trying to freeze Scott, but the senior guard must have ice water in his veins, he remained calm and controlled as he put the final nails in the coffin, hitting nothing but net, making it 35 – 32, and getting crowned UIL Region 3 - 6A Champs.

Senior Bruce Scott and junior Oriekose Egbule led North Shore with 12 points each.

NEXT: DUNCANVILLE AGAIN!

Winning the Regional Championship earns North Shore (33 wins – 3 losses) a trip to San Antonio's Alamodome to take on the Duncanville Panthers (30 wins – 7 losses), Friday, March 8th at 7 PM in the State Semi-Finals Championship Tournament. These same schools only four months ago battled for the State's football title which the East Side Boys pride prevailed then too.

Watch Live Broadcast, North Shore verse Duncanville, Live on NFHS Network!



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