

# NORTH CHANNEL STAR

*Your News, Your Newspaper*

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

VOLUME 7, NO. 17 (#271)

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2019

www.northchannelstar.com

## CHANNEL CURRENTS

### Relay for Life

This is the 17th annual North Channel Relay for Life and it will be held Friday May 3, 2019 from 6pm to 12mid-night at the North Shore 9th Grade High Schhol track.

This year's theme is Carnival and the teams will have booths with games, food, and activities. This is entertainment throughout the evening.

The two highlights are the Survivors ceremony at the beginning and the Luminaria ceremony at dark.

There is no fee to attend.

### Jacinto City Public Events

- Jacinto City Pet Vaccination Saturday, April 27th from 9 AM until 3 PM, at the Public Works Facility, 12202 Market Street. Veterinarian vaccinations at reduced price, city pet license available.

- Jacinto City Residents Tire Roundup Day, Saturday, May 18th from 8 AM to 3 PM. To insure pick-up tires must be at curbside by 8 AM. No large truck tires, no tires on rims.

### North Channel Chamber Golf Tournament

At Tour 18, 3102 FM 1960 E., Humble, TX. 77338. Monday, May 6, 2019, 8:00 a.m. Shot Gun. Contact Margie with any questions:

margie@nccachamber.com or 713-450-3600.

### 25 years of the North Channel Library

Save the date and come and celebrate with the Library, May 15, 2019, at 1p.m. and 5 p.m., 15741 Wallisville Rd., Houston, TX 77049. Please call 832-927-5550 for more information.

## EPA sets public meeting May 7

### SJRC reviews Superfund status

HIGHLANDS – At its regular monthly meeting, the San Jacinto River Coalition learned that the federal EPA had scheduled a community meeting in Highlands on Tuesday, May 7 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. This is one of the quarterly public meetings that the EPA promised to have on a regular schedule. They will update information on activities at the Superfund site, according to the EPA spokesperson Janetta Coats.

At the same meeting, THEA president Jackie Young discussed the environmental impact that the ITC fire has had on the water quality of the river and ship channel. She displayed a bottle of water from the channel with heavy oil deposits.

Young also discussed the air polution caused by the KMCO fire on April 2, and noted that both the county and the state were suing the company for violations of the clean air act. Similar suits have been



Water samples from the Ship Channel contain at least 9 toxins in an oily slick.

billed against ITC, she said. The audience told the group that the Coast Guard is using River Terrace park to deploy booms in the ship channel. EPA will also meet with the Harris County Pollution control on May 8 to discuss some of these violations.

## LyondellBasell hosts CAPLE Safety Meeting

CHANNELVIEW – The CAPLE (Community Advisory Panel to Lyondell and Equistar) group held their monthly meeting last week, at the offices of Lyondell-Basell. They heard from Matt Smith and Phillip Reid about a national award, the 2018 Distinguished Safety Award from the American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers organization, that Lyondell-Basell had received for safe operation of their plant, with no injuries.

Then David Wade of the Harris County Office of Emergency Management explained how his office interacts with a plant that has an incident. HCOEM maintains personnel 24 hours to respond to any type of emergency. When an incident requires response from the plant or outside fire departments, Wade goes to the plant EOC (Emergency Operations Center) to coordinate plant and outside resources.

David Gray reviewed the resources and procedures that the LyondellBasell Channelview plant has in place to deal with incidents. First, the group viewed the EOC, and had its operation explained. Then Gray said they maintain their own fire department, which the group toured



CAPLE Presenters Dave Gray of LyondellBasell, and Dave Wade of Harris County Office of Emergency Management.

at the end of the meeting. An impressive array of fire fighting equipment was on display, including pumpers, aerial ladder truck, hose truck, breathing air, a command center, and several ambulances. In addition to their own equipment, the plant can rely on help from the local fire departments, other LyondellBasell plants, and

Continued. See CAPLE, page 8

## Woman's body found near San Jacinto River

Deputies reported that a woman's body was found in the San Jacinto River on April 16, 2019.

Authorities uncovered the body with multiple injuries. The investigation continues and the cause if death is unknown. Deputies do not know if the injuries were sustained before or after the death, reports stated.

The Harris County Sheriff's Office found the body around 5 p.m. in the

17400 block of River Road.

Authorities said the woman was wearing a striped shirt and had multiple tattoos. She appeared to be in the water for several hours and her body and face sustained visible injuries.

The investigation continues and the Harris County Sheriff's Office Homicide Unit is asking anyone with information on this case to call homicide unit at 713-274-9100.

## TxDOT updates I-10 bridge repair



TxDOT workers examine the broken support.

The following is an update from David Lazare, an engineer with TxDOT in regards to the San Jacinto bridge repairs.

This is an update on the Emergency Contract to repair the IH-10/San Jacinto Bridge that was struck by a barge on February 11, 2019.

The permanent repair work officially began on Monday, April 8th, 2019. Over the last week, the contractor has setup the cofferdam and is demolishing the damaged/broken column. They have also begun setting up temporary supportsto begin the permanent repairs.

Over the next week, we expect to install the per-

manent replacement column, permanent structural support and welding.

Early next week, we also expect to open 1 lane on SPUR 330 heading north to allow commuters to access the Crosby-Lynchburg intersection, which is temporarily signalized. This should ease the congestion on Thompson Rd and the intersection of I-10.

There have been a couple of interruptions in the work due to the effects of surrounding weather and unforeseeable conditions underwater around the structure. Weather and conditions cooperating though, the contractor believes we are on targetfor mid-May completion.

## Jacinto City elementary school celebrates 75th anniversary



Photo by Allan Jamail  
Soloist Alex Castro, a Jacinto City Elementary 5th grader drew loud applause with his solo performance of God Bless America.

By Allan Jamail

Jacinto City, Texas – On Thursday, April 18, 2019 the Jacinto City Elementary School celebrated 75 years of educating children. The celebration brought together former students, teachers, administrators and parents of current students.

Principal Becky Gardea the Master of



Photo by Allan Jamail  
Jacinto City Elementary School's 5th grade Honor Choir under the direction of music teacher Jueretta Berry provided entertainment at the 75th anniversary celebration ceremony.

Ceremonies began the program with students leading the 200 plus in attendance with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag followed with a prayer from Franklin Kilpatrick a former student.

Librarian Sharon Dixon gave the history of the school which she said began in 1943-44 in a small single story building consisting of an office, small kitchen, cafeteria and several classrooms. The first few years the number of students needing to

be taught was so large it required teaching in two shifts. As student growth continued the school's made several additions to it. It was first named Industrial Elementary School since it was located in an unincorporated area known as Industrial Acres.

In May of 1946 citizens in the area petitioned the state and formed what's now Jacinto City, the Galena Park school district renamed the school to Jacinto City Elementary School.

Principal Robert E. Wallace in 1944 was hired as the first principal, he had a staff of thirteen; he served for thirty years until 1974.

Principal L. D. "Red" Jones followed Wallace for the next twenty years, followed by Principal Jim Keal for twelve years until the current Principal Becky Gardea was hired and is in her seventh year.

Entertainment was provided by the Fifth Grade Honor Choir under

the direction of music teacher Jueretta Berry and Soloist Alex Castro, a Jacinto City Elementary 5th grader with his solo performance of God Bless America.

Teachers and students wearing tee shirts displaying the schools tiger mascot provided guided tours throughout the school building as former students and visitors toured the school.

School officials present, Board of Trustees Wilfred Broussard Jr,

Ramon Garza, Jeff Miller, Superintendent Dr. Angi Williams, Assistant Superintendent Terri Moore, Assistant Principal Cecilia Meza and Administrative Aide Dina Gonzales.

State Senator Carol Alvarado and State Representative Ana Hernandez had certificates of accomplishments presented by Sara Montelongo-Oyervidez and Linda Jamail respectively.



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Comm. Garcia reopens parks after water and soil results

HARRIS COUNTY, TX – Tuesday April 16, 2019-- Commissioner Adrian Garcia has re-opened five of the eight Precinct 2 parks with waterfronts in the Intercontinental Terminals Company (ITC) incident area.

The decision to re-open the parks was made after testing results were received and verified by both Harris

County Pollution Control and Harris Public Health indicated safe levels of recreation near or within the water parks listed below.

The following Parks are now open to the public:

- Sylvan Beach
- Meadowbrook
- Rio Villa Nature Trail
- Clear Lake Park
- Bay Area Park

The following three parks remain closed until further notice:

- Juan Seguin
- River Terrace
- Moncrief

The parks were closed March 22nd to allow for soil and water testing after materials from the ITC incident entered the Houston Ship Channel.

## Babin recognizes participants of the 2019 Congressional Art Competition

DEER PARK, TX – On Saturday, April 13, 2019, U.S. Congressman Brian Babin (TX-36) hosted an awards ceremony at the University of Houston-Clear Lake to announce the winners and honor the students who participated in the 36th Congressional District's 2019 Congressional Art Competition. This year's competition, which included more than 50 entries from high school students across the district, followed the theme of "Southeast Texas Wildlife." First place was awarded to Julian Lopez of Crosby High School for his incredible artwork titled "Ocean Lurker," which will now be displayed in the United States Capitol Building for an entire year.

"I would like to congratulate Julian Lopez and thank each of the talented students who participated in this year's Congressional Art Competition as well as the art teachers and families that supported them throughout this process," said Babin. "We have so many great artists in TX-36, and I am extremely proud to show their work to visitors from both our district and differ-



Rep. Babin with the 36th Congressional District's 2019 Congressional Art Competition Winner. (L to R: Tyra Baxter, Teacher; Rep. Babin; Julian Lopez, winner; and family).

ent parts of the country when we pass by the national display in the U.S. Capitol."

2019 Congressional Art Competition Awards:

- First Place: Julian Lopez (Crosby High School)
- Second Place: Ciara Pratt (Clear Falls High School)
- Third Place: Grace Hawley (Clear Falls High School)

Honorable Mentions:

- Lydia Covey (Home School); Gavin Burns (Crosby); Carre Cox (Hardin-Jefferson); Jordan

Boettger (The Academy of Viola DeWalt -La Porte); Jesse Hargrave (Warren); Brandon Scogin (Orangefield); Alexis Swafford (Woodville); Troy Conner (Warren); Avery Gore (Kirbyville); Le'Ana Martinez (Orangefield); and Fredy Rubio (Crosby)

Participating Schools: Clear Falls, Covey Home School, Crosby, Hardin-Jefferson, Jasper, Kirbyville, Orangefield, Soli Deo Gloria Academy, Valentine Home School, Warren, and Woodville.

## Pct. 3 Constable's RU-OK program presented to seniors



PCT. 3 CONSTABLES COMMUNITY RELATIONS DIVISION, seen above, spoke to the senior citizens at the San Jacinto Community Center about the program "Are You OK." The goal is to share this program with as many people as possible. Many Seniors live alone and find comfort in knowing that we care and we're checking on them, said director Charlotte Jackson. Presentations can be scheduled by contacting Constable Sherman Eagleton's office of Community Relations, at 713-274-2500, or <https://constable3.harriscountytexas.gov/pages/AreYouOk.aspx>. You can also send an email to [RUOK@cn3.hctx.net](mailto:RUOK@cn3.hctx.net).

24 HOUR DISPATCH - 281-427-4791 PATROL - 713-637-0014  
ADMINISTRATION - 713-274-2530 ANONYMOUS TIP LINE - 832-927-8477

## Chamber plays Red Wolf



The Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce held their 27th Annual Tees & Tails Golf Classic and Fundraiser at Red Wolf Country Club in Huffman last Wednesday. Above the team of Wycough, Baker, Barron and McDougald, above, won first place with a 53, beside them stands Justin League Golf Committee Chairman. Second place went to Brashear, Calenbey, Sheridan and Bam and third place went to Lee, Holmes, Miles and Steffenauer. Crawfish Shack's Dan Meaux prepared and donated crawfish and shrimp plates. A live auction by Colonial Rick Loggins peaked interest and funding, a silent auction had multiple items.

## Maximum Tax Savings



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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Judge Lucia Bates attends National Junior Honor Society at Anthony Aguirre Jr High School

Last week Judge Lucia Bates attended the National Junior Honor Society at Anthony Aguirre Jr. High School.

On Wednesday, April 17, Anthony Aguirre Jr. High School inducted 171 students into the National Junior Honor Society. The students represented the very best that Aguirre has to offer by maintaining high grade-point averages and displaying the five qualities that are required of the NJHS — scholarship, service, leadership, character and citizenship. The National Junior Honor Society helps children prepare for the National Honor Society



Judge Lucia Bates with newly inducted National Junior Honor Society.

in high school. While there is no guarantee that any of the NJHS members will be accepted at the high school

level, the NJHS gives them a head start and helps them along the way. Proud parents and teachers alike were

in attendance, and opening remarks were made by eighth-grader and NJHS member Se-Koya Jones who explained what it meant to be in this elite group of academic scholars.

Melanie Henderson is the adviser for the local group.

“These sixth, seventh- and eighth-grade students show a high standard of academic achievements, this is the first time we have ever had so many students inducted,” Henderson said. “We are all so very proud.” Certificates and pins were handed out to the inductees by current honor society members.

## Galena Park ISD Board of Trustees recognize an Autism Specialist

The Galena Park ISD (GPISD) Board of Trustees recognized Blair Overman, autism specialist, for going above and beyond the call of duty to help a student in need.

Dr. Angi Williams, GPISD Superintendent of Schools, received a letter from a pediatric trauma nurse, Lisa, who has been working with Ms. Overman to assist a GPISD student who was recently orphaned as the result of a tragedy which left his mother and sibling deceased.

In the letter, Lisa wrote Ms. Overman has been an integral part of advocating for this student in the hospital when he has had no one to be there for him and has assisted hospital staff with understanding his communication style, his learning patterns, his food choices and most importantly, she has been a face of comfort and stability for this child.

“In my 13 years as a nurse with exposure to numerous tragedies, I have never come across a representative from a school district who demonstrates the professionalism, empathy and genuine concern that Ms. Overman has,” Lisa said.

Galena Park ISD and the Board of Trustees would like to thank Ms. Overman for supporting this child in his time of need.



Meet  
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OPINION

TEXAS  
SENATE NEWS  
By Richard Lee

Property Tax growth  
limit passes Senate

(Austin) The Senate approved a measure Monday aimed at reining in property tax rate growth, one that Lt. Governor Dan Patrick called "the biggest tax relief and reform bill we've ever passed". Under current law, jurisdictions can increase property tax rates as much as eight percent before taxpayers can petition for an election to approve or deny the rate hike. This "rollback" rate, implemented in the face of significant inflation in the late 1970s, is much too high and prices people out of their homes due to skyrocketing tax bills, according to Houston Senator Paul Bettencourt. "Taxpayers can't take it any more," he said. "It's a growth curve that's by any measure two or three times faster than their ability to pay." His bill would move that rollback rate to 3.5 percent for most taxing entities and 2.5 percent for property taxes levied by local school districts. Additionally, rollback elections would be triggered automatically when rate increases exceed these limits and would be placed on the November ballot.

The bill also includes a number of reforms intended to increase transparency and give property owners more information about who is taxing them and for how much, and how those rates have changed over time. It also makes changes to the appraisal protest process, intended to level the playing field between appraisal review boards and property owners. Additionally, small taxing entities with less than \$15 million in annual collections would remain at the eight percent rollback rate initially, but taxpayers in those jurisdictions would get a chance to vote to opt in to the lower rollback rates on the uniform election date in May of 2020. "With the attention on many, many appraisal reforms as well, I believe that this is a balanced package," said Bettencourt. "It looks at the needs of rural Texas, as

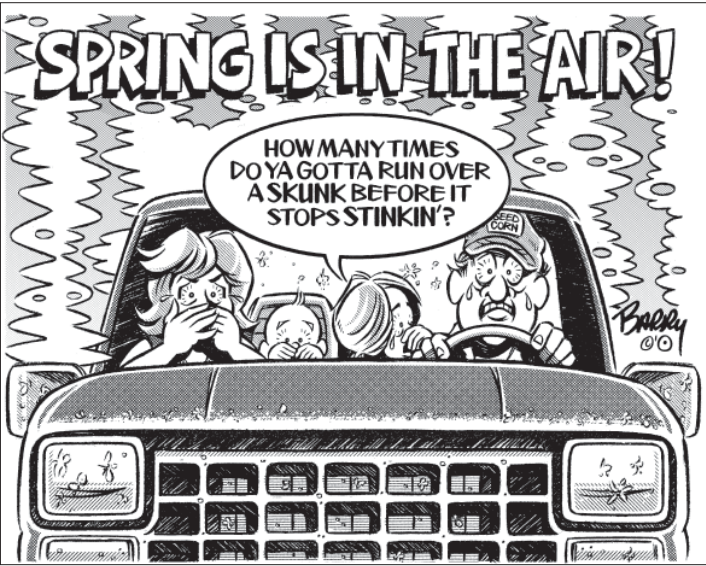
well as urban. More importantly, it looks at the needs of taxpayers all across the state."

This bill was a major priority for state leadership. "We made a promise, the Governor, the Speaker and I, when the session started that we're going to focus on property tax reform [and] relief to you," Patrick said in a video statement released upon passage of the measure. "[Monday], was the first bill to pass as part of that package." It now heads to the House for consideration, and Patrick said that with new leadership in that chamber, he believes the bill has a good chance of reaching the governor's desk this session.

Also this week, the Senate approved the remaining two bills in a four-bill package from Conroe Senator Brandon Creighton that would prohibit certain municipal regulations on private businesses. "These bills protect the pro-business climate, something often referred to as the 'Texas miracle'," he said when offering the first of these bills before the Senate last week. "Other states struggle; Texas remains number one in job creation and unemployment is at a record low." Creighton went on to say that local ordinances mandating employee benefits and other practices undermine the predictability and free-market principles that have created this economic prosperity.

The bills passed last week would prohibit local ordinances mandating paid sick leave for employees of private businesses and those that set requirements for paid time-off. The bills passed Wednesday would disallow cities from regulating scheduling practices and overtime pay policies, as well as from passing ordinances that prohibit employers from inquiring about past criminal history on applications. These measures will now head to the House for further consideration.

The Senate reconvened Tuesday, April 23 at 11 a.m.



Conference committee to work  
out differences in state budget

AUSTIN — After Easter weekend, conferees for the Texas House and Senate must work out differences in the two chambers' versions of a fiscal 2020-2021 state budget to send to Gov. Greg Abbott.

Concurrence is required on how to spend an estimated \$250 billion in revenue available to fund the state's fiscal years 2020-2021. Once an agreement has been reached, the budget bill will be subject to an up or down vote in each chamber before it is forwarded to the governor's office for final approval.

Speaker Dennis Bonnen on April 15 named five House members to a conference committee tasked with negotiating an agreement. He chose House Appropriations Committee Chair John Zerwas, R-Richmond; and Reps. Greg Bonnen, R-Friendswood; Sarah Davis, R-West University Place; Oscar Longoria, D-Mission; and Armando Wallé, D-Houston.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who presides over the Senate, on April 17 named five conferees — all Republicans: Senate Finance Committee Chair Jane Nelson of Flower Mound, and Sens. Larry Taylor of Friendswood, Joan Huffman of Houston, Lois Kolkhorst of Brenham and Robert Nichols of Jacksonville.

Nelson, in a report posted by the Senate News Service, looked forward to the work, saying: "Both chambers prioritized property tax relief and public education and I am confident we can finalize a budget that helps homeowners who are struggling with rising property taxes and make sure our schools have the resources needed to give teachers a raise and prepare our students for success."

STATE CAPITAL  
HIGHLIGHTS  
By Ed Sterling

\$116.8 billion in general Revenue and no dollars from the Rainy Day Fund.

**Property tax bill moves**  
The Senate's property tax reform bill, SB 2, passed the Senate on April 15, was referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means for consideration.

The vote on final passage in the Senate was 18-12, with Sen. Kel Seliger, R-Amarillo, joining Democrats in voting against the measure. One Democrat, Sen. Eddie Lucio of Brownsville, was listed as "present not voting."

SB 2 would change what is now known as the effective tax rate, that rate at which the entity would earn the exact same amount of revenue as in the previous year, would be renamed to the "no-new-revenue" tax rate. It would also change the term "rollback rate" to "voter-approved rate." Also, rollback elections would be triggered automatically when rate increases exceed the new limits and would be placed on the November ballot, the Texas Senate News Service reported.

Dubbed "The Property Tax Reform and Relief Act of 2019," the bill's main goals are to:

- (1) Lower the rollback rate from 8 percent to 3.5 percent for most taxing jurisdictions and 2.5 percent for school districts;
- (2) Require an automatic tax ratification election if the rollback rate is exceeded, eliminating the petition requirement in current statute;
- (3) Make information about the tax rates proposed by local taxing units more accessible to property owners and more timely; and
- (4) Make it easier for property owners to express their opinions about proposed tax rates to local elected officials before tax rates are adopted.

Gov. Abbott, in lauding the movement of SB 2, said he is looking forward to working with Lt. Gov. Patrick, Senate Property Tax Committee Chair Paul Bettencourt, R-Houston, Speaker Bonnen and House Ways and Means Chair Dustin Burrows, R-Lubbock, and the entire Legislature "to provide lasting property tax relief for all Texans."

Disaster declaration issued

Gov. Greg Abbott on April 17 issued a State Disaster Declaration for nine Texas counties impacted by recent severe weather, including thunderstorms and tornadoes that caused widespread property damage and the loss of life.

In the declaration, Abbott authorized the use of all available resources of state government and of political subdivisions to aid in response efforts.

"As a result of severe weather over the weekend, Texas is taking action to ensure those impacted have the resources they need to recover as quickly as possible," said Abbott said.

Counties included in the disaster declaration are: Cherokee, Freestone, Houston, Leon, Madison, Nacogdoches, San Augustine, Shelby and Robertson.

Early voting to be conducted

Texas Secretary of State David Whitley, the state's chief elections officer, on April 19 encouraged eligible voters to take advantage of the early voting period ahead of the May 4 election.

Early voting begins on Monday, April 22, and ends on Tuesday, April 30. Voters across the state will be casting ballots in local political subdivision elections, including those for mayor, city council, school board, municipal utility districts and other local entities.

GREEN  
LIVING:  
5 Ways to  
Celebrate  
Earth Month

(StatePoint) Are you looking for ways to celebrate Earth Month? From enjoying nature to making simple changes to your routine that will have a positive impact on the environment, here are five cool ideas for marking the occasion.


1. Reduce and reuse. You may not realize how much waste you create each day when you use disposable containers, bags and plastic bottles. While recycling is a great thing to do, that process itself takes a lot of energy to support and, unfortunately, not everything makes it to the recycling center. A better way to reduce your waste is by ditching single-use items and opting for more eco-friendly, reusable alternatives.

2. Make smart swaps. Disposing of hazardous items such as batteries and bulbs can be tricky. Take a walk through your home and swap out items containing hazardous materials, such as bulbs with mercury, to rechargeable or hybrid alternatives. For example, Casio's Lamp-Free projectors have a hybrid Laser and LED light source which removes the need for hazardous bulbs.

3. Skip "fast fashion." Many of your favorite stores likely sell what is known as "fast fashion." The fast fashion concept is what brings brand new apparel to consumers on a consistent basis, but unfortunately, the mass production of these cheaply made garments takes a toll on the environment. You can secure fashionable finds in an eco-friendly way by taking a look at apps and websites that sell second-hand clothing or even by visiting a consignment or thrift shop for unique finds. Declutter your own closet and give your clothing a second life by making donations to those in need.

4. Get outdoors. Celebrate the beauty of the planet by getting outdoors. Whether you're going on a hike, kayaking, or just taking a walk, high-tech wearables can help you make the most of the adventure. For example, Casio's WSD-F30 Pro Trek Smart Outdoor Watch is durable and water-resistant, and includes apps that support outdoor activities. Such technology can help you track your activity, navigate your surroundings, and even remind you when it's time to take a water break.

5. Get your veggies. Pick one day each week to eat a plant-based meal and skip the meat. You'll be doing the planet a whole lot of good, as the production of meat and animal-based products requires far more water and land use than the production of plant-based foods do. Consider also being more mindful about food waste in your own household, buying only what you need.




U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site

Community Meeting

Highlands, Texas

Tuesday, May 7, 2019



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, in cooperation with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Federal, State, and Harris County agencies, local officials, and industry, invite you to attend a Community Meeting for the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund site. The meeting will be held:

**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2019  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
**Location:** The Highlands Community Center  
604 Highland Woods Drive  
Highlands, Texas 77562

During the meeting, information will be provided on current site activities and the updated Community Involvement Plan. A question and answer session

will be open to the public following the updates. The meeting is being held in a fully accessible facility. Should you have any specific needs or questions about the facility, please contact EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, Janetta Coats, at 214-665-7308 or 1-800-533-3508 (toll-free).

Additional information about the site is available on the following EPA website:

<https://www.epa.gov/tx/sjrwpr>

**Para información en español, comuníquese con la Agencia de Protección Ambiental de los Estados Unidos (la EPA) a 1-800-533-3508 (llamada gratis).**



LIFESTYLE

Historic Crosby



Photo taken by Frank J. Schlueter and restored by Ron Shanks.

Crosby School building in 1921. It was located on the southeast corner of Runneburg Rd. and Pecan St.,

By Joel Fuchs

Pictured above is the Crosby School building, in 1921. It was located on the southeast corner of Runneburg Rd. and Pecan St., where the current tax office building (former high school building) is situated. It was built in 1910, for grades 1 through 10. It served as the only school for upper level grades for the Crosby and Highlands area as well as some Huffman students.

This is the first in a series, of historic photos of Crosby in honor of its upcoming bicentennial. Over the next few weeks, we will hopefully present some more historic photos. Crosby was settled in 1823, making it one of the oldest settlements in Texas. Lifetime resident Jody Fuchs, is preparing a photographic history of the community in preparation for the up-

coming event, and is looking for other old or interesting photos of the community. He is working with members of the Crosby Historical Society, Donna Davenport and Klaus Duda.

The above photo was taken by the renowned photographer, Frank J. Schlueter who took a number of photos of buildings in the state, and also chronicled the early oil boom. This photo was restored by local photoshop expert Ron Shanks.

Behind the school was Jackson Bayou and the Lars Nelson family farm. Today this is the Nelson Addition. In that era Lars grew cotton, corn and rice on the property, and it was also home to the local airstrip. In the photo you can see a bi-winged airplane that has just taken off from the airfield.

While researching the book, Jody has uncovered a number of other

interesting facts and fallacies regarding the town. Crosby received its current name in 1877, when the Vice President of the railroad named the train stop after himself. He was Josiah F. Crosby, and contradictory to local legend he was not a railroad construction engineer, but was a former judge, state representative, and lawyer. Prior to that, the town was known as Gentry, among other early names.

The book will cover the entire 200-year pictorial history of the town, as well as briefly covering the surrounding communities of Highlands, Huffman, Barrett, etc. If you have any interesting photos or artifacts of the town or its residents from 1823 until the present, please contact the Crosby Historical Society at 281-731-7010.

Crosby HS Alumni Committee meeting dates

The Crosby High School Alumni Association has announced the dates of the meetings to plan the 2019 Annual All Classes Reunion. The meetings are held at the Crosby Community Center on Hare Road beginning at 6 pm. The dates are: Wednesday, April 24, Wednesday, May 22, Wednesday, June 26 and Wednesday, July 24.

The 37th Annual All Classes Reunion is scheduled for Saturday, August 3, 2019 at the Crosby American Legion Hall.

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey—

1. Is the book of Galatians in the Old or New Testament or neither?
  2. From Joshua 6, on the seventh day, how many times did the men of war march around Jericho? 1, 3, 5, 7
  3. In His first recorded miracle, what did Jesus turn into wine? Goat's milk, Grape juice, Fig cider, Water
  4. From 1 Chronicles, what king was buried with his sons under an oak tree? Neco, Jehoash, Saul, Rezin
  5. What "vow" that appears in Numbers 6:1-21 has five features? Roman, Nazirite, Corban, Anathema
  6. In the story of creation, what did God call the darkness? Blackness, Night, Fourscore, Trinity
- ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) 7; 3) Water; 4) Saul; 5) Nazirite; 6) Night"

24th Annual Czech SpringFest

Sunday, April 28, 2019 11am – 6pm  
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Vladimir Klimes

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those who take advice.

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and strength, a  
very present help  
in trouble  
Psalm: 46:1

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ROMANS 8:18

All of them were filled with  
the Holy Spirit and began to  
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Spirit enabled them. Acts 2:4

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1 Corinthians 16:13

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elderly and revere your God.  
Leviticus 19:32



# ASK THE EXPERT

CHARLOTTE'S WEB



## Mental Illness Is Real

Not a day go by that I do not speak to someone who has been touched by mental illness. I talk to those who have been diagnosed with anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder or schizophrenia or talk to someone who is living with a loved one who has a diagnosis.

This morning, I spoke to an elderly woman who is being treated for severe depression and during the conversation, she mentioned at least six major events in her life that had triggered her illness. From the depression, she began to self-medicate with material items. It has reached a point where she broke down crying as she admitted she has become a hoarder. She is disabled and needs assistance with cleaning and organizing her apartment. Living in a rent-subsidized apartment, she is subject to an inspection at least once a year and she is now living in fear that if management walked in her apartment, she would be evicted.

Last night I spoke to a young woman who lost her mother at age 18 and shortly thereafter as a way to numb the pain, her father began to self-medicate with alcohol. His life continued to have one bad choice after another and within the next four years, he not only fathered two additional children but ended up in prison with a 44 year sentence after harming one of them. This young woman and her brother have dealt

with the depression in the same way their father did; instead of getting professional help, both young adults have become alcoholics and can rarely keep a job longer than 90 days. In addition, they have made irrational decisions and not only are covered in tattoos but also have numerous piercings which prevent stable employment, which has led to homelessness.

A number of people in the community know that I have been actively involved with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and have reached out to find out about the many free classes and support groups that are offered to consumers who are diagnosed with a mental illness or to their family and friends.

One of the hardest parts of living with a diagnosis is accepting it and learning to help remove the stigma associated with it. Education is always important and I encourage anyone who wants to learn more to reach out to NAMI Greater Houston, your medical professional or even myself. There is help available and there is a freedom from fear as you learn that millions of Americans live with mental illness and are able to lead successful lives. May is Mental Health Awareness Month and there will be plenty of free events in the Houston area. I hope that you will take advantage of some of them.

ASK DIAMOND JIM

## Diamond Jim: "What's the story of "The Wooden Bowl"?"



### The Wooden Bowl

I guarantee you will remember the tale of the Wooden Bowl tomorrow, a week from now, a month from now, a year from now.

A frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law, and four-year-old grandson. The old man's hands trembled, his eyesight was blurred, and his step faltered. The family ate together at the table. But the elderly grandfather's shaky hands and failing sight made eating difficult. Peas rolled off his spoon onto the floor. When he grasped the glass, milk spilled on the tablecloth. The son and daughter-in-law became irritated with the mess.

'We must do something about father,' said the son. 'I've had enough of his spilled milk, noisy eating, and food on the floor.' So the husband and wife set a small table in the corner. There, Grandfather ate alone while the rest of the family enjoyed dinner. Since Grandfather had broken a dish or two, his food was served in a wooden bowl.

When the family glanced in Grandfather's direction, sometimes he had a tear in his eye as he sat alone. Still, the only words the couple had for him were sharp admonitions when he dropped a fork or spilled food. The four-year-old watched it all in silence.

One evening before supper, the father noticed his son playing with wood scraps on the floor. He asked the child sweetly, 'What are you making?' Just as sweetly, the boy responded, 'Oh, I am making a little bowl for you and Mama to eat your food in when I grow up'. The four-year-old smiled and then went back to work..

The words so struck the parents so that they were speechless. Then tears started to stream down their cheeks. Though no word was spoken, both knew what must be done.

That evening the husband took Grandfa-

ther's hand and gently led him back to the family table. For the remainder of his days he ate every meal with the family. And for some reason, neither husband nor wife seemed to care any longer when a fork was dropped, milk spilled, or the tablecloth soiled. (An amazing lesson was learned)

On a personal note, I've learned that no matter what happens or how bad it seems today, life does go on and it will be better tomorrow or the day after that. I've learned that you can tell a lot about a person by the way he/she handles four things: a rainy day, the elderly, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights.

I've learned that making a 'living' is not the same thing as making a 'life.' I've learned that life sometimes gives you a second chance. I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands. You need to be able to throw something back sometimes.

I've learned that if you pursue happiness, it will elude you. But, if you focus on your family, your friends, the needs of others, your work and doing the very best you can, happiness will find you.

I've learned that whenever I decide something with an open heart, I usually make the right decision. I've learned that even when I have pains, I don't have to be one. I've learned that every day, you should reach out and touch someone. People love that human touch -- holding hands, a warm hug, or just a friendly pat on the back.

Ultimately, I've learned that...I still have a lot to learn.

*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).*

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

READER'S COMMENTS ON PAPER:

Dear Editor,

I like Charlotte's Web - great!! Read it first.  
I do not like Washington and Austin news items.  
Please add community news, most things get left out.

Please publish local news with more advance dates so us the old folks can go.

Regards,  
Ms. Patricia A. Clough

## Channelview resident claims \$15.75 million lotto Texas Jackpot

Winning ticket was purchased in Houston

(AUSTIN) – A Channelview resident claimed a \$15.75 million jackpot prize for the Lotto Texas® drawing held on April 13. The cash value option was selected at the time of purchase and the claimant will receive \$10,877,968.95. The claimant elected to remain anonymous.

The winning ticket matched all six of the numbers drawn (1-4-10-14-15-26). The ticket was purchased at Teddy's Food

Mart, located at 7702 Eastex Freeway, in Houston.

The next Lotto Texas drawing will be held Wednesday, April 24. The jackpot prize for the drawing is set at an estimated annuitized \$5.5 million.

Lotto Texas is played by picking six numbers from one to 54 and offers multi-million-dollar jackpots. Drawings are every Wednesday and Saturday at 10:12 p.m. CT. For \$1 more per play, a player can select the Extra! add-on feature and win up to \$10,000 more on non-jackpot prizes.

## Fidelity Manor High School Reunion

It's also the 50th year reunion for the class of '69. All students who attended and/or graduated from Fidelity Manor Elementary and Fidelity Manor High School, former faculty and staff members are welcome to attend. Fidelity Manor HS was under the umbrella of Galena Park ISD. Fidelity Manor HS closed 50 years ago and there will be an "All-Class" reunion to celebrate the event as follows:

- May 17 – Sock Hop and Social @ St Matthew Family Life Center, 119 Fidelity St., 77029, 8 pm - 12 midnight.
  - May 18 – Picnic at Evelyn Churchill Community Center (The Rec), 1508 Hunter St., 77547, 11 am - 6 pm. (food vendors will be on site)
  - May 19 - Worship Service @ St Matthew Baptist Church, 119 Fidelity Street, 77029, 10 am.
- For questions, please contact Johnnie Jones Busby at 832-908-2037.

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### Channelview ISD to provide information on federally funded services

**Attention Non-Profit Private Schools, Home Schoolers**  
Non-profit private schools and home schoolers who legally qualify as non-profit (currently hold a 501-C3 certificate) are invited to meet with representatives from Alvin, Clear Creek, Dickinson, Friendswood, Hitchcock, La Porte, Santa Fe, Texas City, and Channelview Independent School Districts to learn more about federally funded services available for eligible residents of these districts. The meeting will be held at the Dickinson ISD Education Support Center – Board Room – 1st floor (2218 FM 517 East, Dickinson, TX 77539) at 2:00 P.M on Wednesday, May 1, 2019.

**Atención, Escuelas Privadas y Educados En Casa**  
Las escuelas privadas sin fines lucrativos y los estudiantes educados en casa, que legalmente califican como una entidad no lucrativa y que tengan un certificado 501-C3, son invitados a una junta con representantes de los Distritos Escolares Independientes de Alvin, Clear Creek, Dickinson, Friendswood, Hitchcock, La Porte, Santa Fe, Texas City, y de Channelview para aprender más sobre los servicios financiados por el gobierno federal que están disponibles para los residentes elegibles de dichos distritos. La junta será el miércoles 1 de mayo del 2019 a las 2:00 P.M. Dicha junta será llevada a cabo en el salón de la mesa directiva del Centro de Apoyo Educativo de Dickinson ISD, en el primer piso. La dirección es el 2218 FM 517 East, Dickinson, TX 77539.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice for implementing new Harris County Transit procedures to determine eligibility for complementary ADA Paratransit service.  
Harris County Community Service Department  
Office of Transit Services

As required by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 37.37 for Paratransit Plan Development, Harris County Transit (HCT) will hold three Public Meetings within the service area of Harris County Transit's Fixed Routes Bus to provide the opportunity for public comments and review of updates for the application process of Paratransit Services.

Public Meetings information:

(1) Meeting  
Date: May 7, 2019  
Time: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm  
Location: La Porte City Hall – 604 Fairmont Pkwy, La Porte TX 77571

(2) Meeting  
Date: May 8, 2019  
Time: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm  
Location: Baytown Community Center – 2407 Market St, Baytown TX 77520

(3) Meeting  
Date: May 10, 2019  
Time: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm  
Location: JD Walker Center – 7613A Wade Rd, Baytown TX 77521

The application process for the ADA Paratransit service will include an application, a one-on-one interview and a Physical Assessment. All three locations for the Public Hearing are conveniently located along a HCT Fixed-Bus Route. If you require special accommodations to attend a hearing, or if information is needed in another language, please contact HCT at 713-578-2216. For your convenience, an online survey will be available at [www.harriscountytexas.com](http://www.harriscountytexas.com) under ADA Paratransit Service. Written comments should be directed to:  
Harris County Transit – ADA Paratransit Program  
ATT: Stephanie Nunez  
8410 Lantern Point Drive  
Houston TX 77054

LEGAL NOTICE

THE CITY OF GALENA PARK WILL RECEIVE SEALED BIDS FOR THE CITY OF GALENA PARK SWIMMING POOL MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION. SEALED BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED BY MAYRA GONZALES, CITY SECRETARY, AT THE CITY OF GALENA PARK, CITY HALL, 2000 CLINTON DRIVE, GALENA PARK, TEXAS 77547 UNTIL 12:00 P.M. ON MAY 3, 2019. NO BID WILL BE CONSIDERED IF RECEIVED AFTER THIS TIME. ALL BIDS MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED: "SEAL BID- CITY OF GALENA PARK SWIMMING POOL MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION". THE BIDS WILL BE OPENED AND READ ALOUD AT A SPECIAL OPEN MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL AT 2:00 P.M. AT CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 2000 CLINTON DRIVE, GALENA PARK, TEXAS, 77547 ON MAY 3, 2019.

BID SPECIFICATIONS ARE ON FILE AND MAY BE VIEWED AND OBTAINED WITHOUT CHARGE IN THE OFFICES OF THE CITY OF GALENA PARK 2000 CLINTON DR. GALENA PARK, TX 77547.

THE CITY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND/OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY AND ALL TECHNICALITIES AND TO ACCEPT ANY BID OR PART THEREOF WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE CITY COUNCIL IS MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE CITY.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Administration for Docket No. 473764; Estate of JUANELL TAYLOR WALTERS Deceased; In Probate Court No. 4, of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on March 15, 2019.

MELVIN ERNEST WALTERS

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 March 28, 2019

*Weston Cotten*  
by WESTON COTTEN  
Attorney for the Estate

LEGAL NOTICE

Notification is given that SouthTrust Bank, N.A., 601 Guadalupe Street, George West, Texas 78022, has filed an application with the Comptroller of the Currency on April 24, 2019, as specified in 12 CFR 5 for permission to establish a staffed branch office at 15201 East Freeway, Channelview, Texas 77530. Any person wishing to comment on this application may file comments in writing with the Director for District Licensing, 500 North Akard Street, Suite 1600, Dallas, TX 75201 within 30 days of the date of this publication.

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AW19-1032



## Channelview ISD April Students of the Month



Channelview ISD recently honored April Students of the Month by hosting a recognition luncheon in the press box of the Ray Maddy Stadium. The Students of the Month include top row, from left: Christian Gonzalez (Anthony Aguirre Junior High), Layla Sanchez (Alice Johnson Junior High), Meryl Roz Macarandang Micarandayo (Kolarik Ninth Grade Center), Lorena Castro (Joe Frank Campbell Learning Center). Front Row: Elaine Villanueva (McMullan Elementary), Claire Nesheim (Hamblen Elementary), Kaylin Booker (Brown Elementary), Anastasia Caporale (Barrett-Lee Early Childhood Center), Todd Robles (Cobb Elementary), Miguel Dimas (DeZavala Elementary). Not Pictured: Ernest Rocha (Crenshaw Elementary), Xavi Saucedo (Schochler Elementary), Reagan Pledger (Channelview High School).



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(CISD ADMIN BLDG)  
7AM - 7PM

OR ANY HARRIS COUNTY  
POLLING LOCATION

WWW.CVISDBOND.ORG

## Sheldon ISD hosts C-STEM challenge day



Students who participated in the C-STEM program.

On Saturday, April 17th, Sheldon ISD hosted the first ever district C-STEM (Communication, Science, Technology and Math) Challenge Day for over 100 students grades 4th-12th at Null Middle School. Events included Robotics, Innovation, Sculpture, Mural and Computer Programming.

Students participated in the C-STEM program after school from January-April to prepare for their competitions in which their teams were required to follow the C-STEM curriculum and complete projects to identify, design and build innovative solutions for their challenge modules. These modules are

designed by industry professionals. This year's theme is Live Smarter: Industry 4.0, in which, students focused on artificial intelligence and its impact on the world as well as learn the skills on how to best interact with this new industry.

From building and learning to drive a VEX robot to complete industry tasks, designing and building inventions and projects to save the environment, to drawing and painting an Industry 4.0 mural, to designing a computer program, these students and their coaches/teachers worked hard to prepare for this district competition to

show off their STEM skills for their teachers, parents and community members.

The awards were provided by the Sheldon ISD STEM business partner LyondellBassell and judges were provided by STEM Bridges and BP. It was a great day for these Sheldon students to show off their STEM skills. They will now complete their C-STEM season with a Houston area competition on April 27th at the Health Museum. Special thanks to Dr. Reagan Flowers, Founder of C-STEM.

Article submitted by Becky Zalesnik, Director of Innovative Programs / Sheldon ISD

[www.NorthChannelStar.com](http://www.NorthChannelStar.com)

GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION April 26 @ 6:30 p.m.  
& April 27 from 6:30 a.m. - 2:00 a.m.

RED TOP  
BARBEQUE

12901 INDUSTRIAL RD. HOUSTON, TX 77015

832-649-7099

## CAPLE Meeting,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

CIMA (Channel Industries Mutual Aid). The Lyondell-Basell response team maintains 26 trained personnel on-site that can fight fires or respond to other emergencies. In addition, CIMA has the resources of 110 area companies with their equipment and personnel.

Notification systems were then explained by Wade, and CAPLE facilitator Anne Gowan. In the case of an emergency, Wade said the plant will use the ENotify system to inform the public, their team, plant managers, and first responders of the problem and the scope.

Other systems that are used to notify the public include a Reverse 9-1-1 which calls phones within a service area around the plant, and mobile phones if a person signs up for this service.

Anne Gowan explained how to sign up for Emergency Notifications. She said to make a list of cities and counties where you live or work. Look at the websites of these, and sign up for whatever warning system they have.

Links to emergency notification systems for the 5-county Houston area can be found at:



A PIERCE LADDER TRUCK WITH A DELUGE NOZZEL is one of the fire trucks that make up the LyondellBasell firefighting fleet. Photographed at the factory in Wisconsin.

<http://readyhouston.wpengine.com/partners/offices-of-emergency-management/>.

Also, follow city and county social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter.

Sign-up for the following in Harris County and the Houston area:

-- Ready Harris: <http://readyharris.org/sign-up>

-- Greater Harris County 911: [http://www.911.org/Free\\_signups.asp](http://www.911.org/Free_signups.asp)

-- Houston: <http://www.houstonemergency.org/>

-- Galena Park: Text Swift911 to 99358


You can also Download emergency notification apps, including:

-- ReadyHarris

-- Swift911 Public (several cities use this app and you can sign up for all nearby alerts)

-- CAER Online.

CAER is an information line, managed by the East Harris County Manufacturers Association, and tells about operational updates and events. This might include flaring, incidents, noise, odors, pipeleints, smoke, fires, and more.




PELVIC HEALTH  
Seminar

Tuesday, April 30, 2019 | 6-7 p.m.

Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital  
4401 Garth Rd. | Main Classroom | Baytown, TX 77521

Restoring Pelvic Health. Restoring Confidence.



Paul C. Redman, MD  
Obstetrics & Gynecology

Attend our free seminar with Dr. Paul Redman, an obstetrician-gynecologist at Houston Methodist Baytown Hospital. Learn about:

- Pelvic floor dysfunction and prolapse
- Pelvic masses and tumor removal
- Pelvic pain and endometriosis
- Minimally invasive vaginal, robotic and laparoscopic surgery

ALSO PRESENTING – Michelle Jernsletten, PT, MPT, pelvic health therapist with Houston Methodist Baytown Outpatient Physical Therapy, will discuss conservative management options to address your leakage, lack of control and pain concerns.

HOUSTON  
Methodist  
BAYTOWN HOSPITAL

Visit [houstonmethodist.org/events](http://houstonmethodist.org/events) or call 281.428.2273 for more information or to register.