

NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City
VOLUME 7, NO. 20 (#274) THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2019

www.northchannelstar.com

CHANNEL CURRENTS

North Shore Rotary Fish Fry Saturday

Go Big for Rotary at the 44th Annual Catfish & Crawfish Boil, May 18, 2019 at the North Shore Rotary Pavillion, 14350 Wallisville Road. Serving time 11 am - 3 pm. Live auction, entertainment and 20 prizes in raffle drawing, including a NEW CAR OR TRUCK!

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.
- Questions? call 832-908-2037.

Jacinto City Public Events

- 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.

Buckshot Jamboree

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

Evening San Jacinto Pilot Club

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

San Jacinto Pilot Club meeting

The Club meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at Amegy Bank on I-10, at noon. Please visit www.SanJacintoPilot.com.

North Shore Seniors Dance

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

Jacinto City buildings suffer storm damage

By Allan Jamail

Jacinto City, Texas - Saturday, May 11, 2019 at about 6 PM during a busy time for shoppers the El Ahorro Supermarket store #6 located at 10341 Palestine Street had about 200 feet of the roof awning covering the sidewalk collapsed. The awning fell on four vehicles while no one was inside them or on the sidewalk.

Jacinto City's Police Chief Joe Ayala and Fire Chief Rebecca Mier both came to the scene and said no one reported being injured.

During the week leading up to the collapse the Jacinto City area had received about 9 inches of rainfall. According to Lon Squyres the City Manager the initial thought is the awning is made of stucco material and it might have

See Storm damages, Page 3



Collapsed roof at El Ahorro Supermarket in Jacinto City



The new addition to the fire station had damage to the roof and edge coping due to high winds.

North Channel Relay for Life raises over \$125,000

Friday, May 3 was a night of celebration, reflection and fun for the North Channel Relay for Life. The event was hosted at Galena Park ISD's North Shore Ninth Grade Center Track in conjunction with Sheldon ISD and Channelview ISD.

This year's theme was "Carnival for a Cure" and there was over 529 registered participants, 55 teams, 180 survivors and 65 caregivers. The North Channel Relay for Life has raised over \$125,000 for the American Cancer Society and money continues to come in!

We would like to thank



the North Channel Relay for Life Committee and the numerous organizations and businesses who had a hand in making this event a success.

Unified command responding to collision on Houston Ship Channel

HOUSTON — May 10, 2019 - A unified command has been established to respond to a collision on the Houston Ship Channel at Light 71-74 between a 755-foot tanker and a tug pushing two barges near Bayport, Texas, last Friday.

The unified command consists of the Coast Guard, Texas General Land Office and Kirby Inland Marine.

Sector Houston-Galveston watchstanders received a report that the tanker Genesis River and the tug Voyager collided. The tug was transporting two barges loaded with the gasoline blend stock Reformate.

An Air Station Houston MH-65 Dolphin Helicopter aircrew and a Station

Houston 29-foot Response Boat-Small boat crew were launched to assess the situation.

A Port Houston Fire Department fireboat plus oil spill response, air monitoring and salvage personnel are responding.

One barge has capsized and one is reported damaged.

An estimated 25,000 barrels of gasoline blend stock were loaded on each barge. An unknown amount of product has been released from the damaged barge.

Air monitoring is being conducted along the shoreline from Sylvan Beach to

See Collision at Ship Channel, page 6

Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia hosts Community Meetings

Commissioner Adrian Garcia's Advisory Board is hosting a series of community meetings in Precinct 2.

The meetings are a great opportunity for residents to share their vision for Precinct 2 and give input on topics such as education, health, flooding, housing and the environment.

The upcoming meetings will take place at different locations.

Please see below for the full list and Topics.

- Saturday, May 18 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Crosby Community Center 409 Hare Rd, Crosby, TX 77532 TOPIC: ENVIRONMENT

- Tuesday, May 21 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. East Harris County Activity Center 7340 Spencer Hwy, Pasadena, TX 77505 TOPIC: FLOODING AND ENVIRONMENT

- Wednesday, May 22 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. May Community Center 2100 Wolf Rd, Huffman, TX 77336 TOPIC: EDUCATION

- Wednesday, May 22 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. San Jacinto Community Center 604 Highlands Woods Drive, Highlands, TX 77562 TOPIC: HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

See Community Meetings, Page 6

Haunted Rooms America plans overnight ghost hunts on the USS Battleship Texas

A leading ghost hunting events company secures highly sought after historical location

HOUSTON, TX. - Haunted Rooms America (www.hauntedrooms.com), a leading ghost hunting events company, today announced two new dates for the exclusive ghost hunting event at one of most historic locations in the United States - the USS Battleship Texas.

Quote, Wesley McDermott (Owner of Haunted Rooms America): We're honored to be the first company to run a ghost hunt of this historic ship. There has been rumors of hauntings for decades, so we're looking forward to hopefully proving those rumors correct!

Moored just outside Houston at La Porte Texas, the USS Battleship Texas was commissioned by the U.S. Navy in 1914, becoming the most powerful weapon in the world at the time. It played an active part in both World Wars, firing on the Nazi defenses on D-Day, and providing gunfire support and



USS Battleship Texas

anti-aircraft fire to the landings on Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

The ship was decommissioned in 1948 after it was purchased by the state of Texas, becoming a memorial ship. Today the ship is a National Historic Landmark, operating as a floating museum and is the last remaining battleship of her kind!

The Battleship Texas is rumored to be one of the

most haunted locations in Texas, but it has never allowed an investigation like this before.

Tickets for this exclusive overnight ghost hunt are on sale now for two dates - Saturday, June 15th, 2019, and Saturday July 13th 2019.

Tickets are \$179 per person and include overnight accommodation and breakfast, in addition to:

- A hybrid History/Paranormal Tour of the Battleship Texas,

- A documentary screening about the ship,
- Access to the most haunted areas of this haunted battleship,
- Psychic Mediums in attendance
- Group Vigils with experienced investigators,
- Lone Vigils,
- Overnight Ghost Hunt,
- Use of our paranormal equipment which includes, trigger objects, EMF Readers, spirit boxes and many more,

- Free time to explore this location and to undertake your very own private vigils,

- Unlimited Refreshments, Including Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate, Bottled Water and Soda,
- Selection of high-quality snacks.

Join the Haunted Rooms America team for the first event of its kind aboard this historic ship.

Tickets available via www.hauntedrooms.com/battleship-texas and availability is limited for this very rare event.

About Your Company: Haunted Rooms America runs ghost hunts for the public at America's most haunted locations.

Operating approximately 100 events per year, the Haunted Rooms America team of experienced paranormal investigators and psychic mediums invite members of the public to investigate with them at the most haunted locations in the country!

Members of the media who wish to attend this event are invited to email wes@hauntedrooms.com

Lil' Cowpokes Pageant prelude to Crosby Rodeo



All American Cowboy 0-2 Charlie Wood Jr., Tilden Armstrong, Grayson Bench, Hendrix Geisen



All American Cowboy 3-5 Aiden Fletcher.



All American Cowgirl 3-5 Izabella Averett, Jayden Boenker, Ella Montroy, Audrey Roach

Cowpokes are glorious

Continued from page 1

According to Lanette Armstrong, "Crosby Fair & Rodeo would like to thank all who came out and participated in the Cowpoke Pageant today! Also, a big congratulations to the winners."

This year two winner's dads had competed and won their categories over 30 years ago, keeping the Western Heritage of Crosby.

According to Armstrong, "The Lil Copoke Pageant had been a continued tradition for Crosby Fair & Rodeo since the late 70s and it is nice to see the tradition continued with two of our cowpoke winners the sons of previous winners from the past."



All American Cowgirl 6-8 featured Jade-AveyThornton, Carsen Finches, Miranda Baker



Rodeo Clown 0-2 featured Tilden Armstrong and Kace Brightwell



All American Cowgirls 0-2, featured Hope Loggins, Emmalyn Bilot, Asher Finches and Baylor Staton



Rodeo Dress 3-5 Ella Montroy, Kinsley Crow, Izabella Averett, Audrey Roach



Rodeo Dress 6-8 Miranda Baker, Carsen Fincher, Jade-Avey Thornton, Adalynn Lucas

73rd Annual

CROSBY

FAIR & RODEO

May 31 - June 8

Kim Kim Designs 2019

BAG OF DONUTS

Friday, May 31

Travis Matte

Saturday, June 1

Flatland Calvary

Thursday, June 6

Adam Hood

Friday, June 7

Caden Gillard

Saturday, June 8

HI-LO PRO RODEO

7:30pm June 6, 7 & 8

Mutton Bustin'

7:00pm every night

COMMUNITY NEWS

Galena Park/ Jacinto City Rotary provides scholarships to students



Scholarship recipients for Galena Park High School Class of 2019. This year the Galena Park/Jacinto City Rotary Club gave \$19,000.00 to 18 students. Scholarship funds are raised through the club's cake auction, and other events.



Chrystal Arguelles, middle, received the ABBY scholarship for \$2,000, named for the deceased Rotarian.

Galena Park High School Buzz Media wins big at Houston Teens Care About Clear Air PSA Contest

Galena Park High School Buzz Media competed at the Houston Teens Care About Clear Air PSA Contest sponsored by the Environment Defense Fund. The students were required to submit a 3-minute PSA detailing the health effects on air pollution. Galena Park High School took home 1st and 3rd place out of 23 submissions. Evelyn Garcia won 1st place with her PSA, "Inhaling Hope" and Leslie Garcia took home 3rd place with her PSA, "Gasping for a Change". Leslie Garcia and Ghalesy Carreon won the People's Choice Award and an Honorable Mention went to Felix Gonzalez. Together, these students won \$3,250 in prize money. Congratulations!



Channelview ISD students receive free bicycles

Students in Channelview Independent School District received surprise visits from the Channelview Ministry Team during May. Over 15 bicycles have been awarded to elementary students who were selected based on their overall improvement this school year. "We are grateful for the generous

donation of bicycles from the Channelview Ministry Team," said Channelview ISD Superintendent Greg Ollis. "Channelview Independent School District is fortunate to have community partners who are committed to the success of students in our great school district."



Pictured to the right: Aryln Ramos was one of two DeZavala Elementary School students recognized by the Channelview Ministry Team.

Teen killed, brother hospitalized after car splits in half



Car splits in half on East Freewar feeder, killing a teenager.

CHANNELVIEW, Texas – A teenager died after a crash in east Houston, police said. The fatal accident happened around 3:30 a.m. last Monday on the East Freeway at Market Street. According to officials, the 18-year-old driver of a green Saturn was on the feeder when he lost control of the car and crashed into the freeway's signage pillar. The car was split in half and the driver was thrown from the Saturn, killing him, officials said. His 15-year-old brother was in the part of the car that was not damaged. This teenager was transported to Texas Children's Hospital and is expected to recover. Police said they do not know if the teenagers were wearing seatbelts, but they believe the driver was not wearing it and his brother was. Police still investigating to learn more details about the crash.

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Storm Damages,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

absorbed rain water to the degree the extra added weight could have caused the structure to give-way. The official cause is under investigation.



Another view of the roof collapsed at El Ahorro Supermarket

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LIFESTYLE

NEW APP FROM STERLING-WHITE F.H.

Local business supports business of savings lives

Sterling-White Funeral Home & Cemetery has graciously invested back into the community in order to promote the saving of lives. We recognized a very unique opportunity to assist our local first responders through an ingenious marketing initiative that could help save lives.

The funeral home asks that you download the Vital ICE (In Case of Emergency) app, from either the Apple App Store or Google Play, for your smart phone and enter in their code: #0325.

Sterling-White Funeral Home & Cemetery is making this potentially life-saving app available for free to download in the community as a way of showing their gratitude for allowing them to serve you. They ask that you please take just a few minutes to download the Vital ICE app and fill in the information so that you are prepared in case of an emergency.

This app is available to the entire community, regardless of age, so do not pass up this great life-sav-

ing opportunity. Questions about the app can be answered at www.vitalboards.com/vitalice.

In the event of an emergency, first responders can use the Vital ICE app to retrieve the user's vital information. This information can then be easily taken on the ambulance to the hospital, or sent directly to the hospital from the Vital ICE app, where ER staff can further access this critical information. Remember, time is of the essence when saving lives!

GCCISD students win Houston LS&R School Art Scholarships

Lediya Haider, a senior at Ross S. Sterling High School, was awarded a Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo School Art Scholarship in the amount of \$20,000. She is in the Top 10 in her class and plans to attend the University of Houston to major in biomedical engineering.



St. Jude Thaddeus annual bazaar set for May 19

St. Jude Thaddeus Parish will celebrate their annual bazaar this coming Sunday, May 19 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Enjoy BBQ Chicken and Sausage Dinners served in the Gym. Delicious Home-Made Desserts will also be available. Mexican Dinners and Hot

Dogs are also on the menu. There will be Moonwalks, Games, Carnival Rides, Photo Booth, DJ, and other Outdoor Booths. Bingo will be held in the Marian Hall beginning at 1:00 p.m., and Live and Silent Auctions will begin at 1:00 p.m. in the gym. A Raffle

with 10 great prizes will close the day's festivities at 5 p.m.

Father Joe Mundadan, Pastor, and parishioners invite the community to come enjoy a Family Day at St. Jude Thaddeus Parish, 800 S. Main, Highlands

Goose Creek Memorial High School senior Soham Datar has been awarded a \$20,000 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo School Art Scholarship. He is the valedictorian for GCM, and he plans to attend the University of Texas to major in biochemistry with the long-term goal of becoming a doctor.

(Submitted photos)



Experience Japanese culture at Crosby Branch Library

Nina Shimaguchi, from the Asia Society Texas Center, will present a traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony on Tuesday, May 28 at 2 pm at the Crosby Edith Fae Cook Cole

Branch Library, 135 Hare Road, Crosby, Texas 77532.

Participants will learn the customs of the ceremony, observe the preparation of green tea, then

make and try some themselves! This special program is free and open to adults. Register online at www.hcpl.net, or call the library at 832-927-7790.

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can move
MOUNTAINS
Matthew 17:20

Heal me, LORD,
and I will be healed;
save me & I will be saved,
for you are the one I praise
--Jeremiah 17:14

LOVE NEVER FAILS
I Corinthians 13:8

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

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

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

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What we suffer now
is nothing compared
to the glory He will
reveal to us later
ROMANS 8:18

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

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

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

ASK THE EXPERT

Collision at Ship Channel,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Kemah. The first priority of the unified command is public safety. If any readings above actionable levels are detected, advisories will be provided to local emergency operations centers.

The Houston Ship Channel is closed from Light 61-75.

There are no reported injuries at the time.

Congressman Babin's Statement on Houston Ship Channel Collision

U.S. Congressman Brian Babin (TX-36) released the following statement in response to the gas leak that occurred after a collision on the Houston Ship Channel last Friday afternoon.

"I am glad to see that first responders, Port of Houston officials and the Coast Guard have been able to bring this situation under control and remove

the immediate health and safety dangers it posed, and I am confident they will continue to do so as the final clean up and removal operations begin," said Babin. "Once this matter is fully resolved, and a full investigation with the involved parties has been completed, I look forward to doing my part on the federal level to implement any necessary actions or new safeguards to prevent a similar accident from happening again.

"The Houston Ship Channel generates billions of dollars in economic activity, supports thousands of good paying jobs, and is the main conduit for the energy supply that powers Texas, America and the world. Business and government have a duty to keep it running the in the safest and most efficient manner possible, and we will emerge from this even better prepared and able to do so."

Community Meetings,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

- Tuesday, May 28
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Bay Area Community Center
5002 E NASA Parkway,
Seabrook, TX 77586
TOPIC: EDUCATION
- Thursday, May 30
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Northeast Community Center
10918 1/2 Bentley -
Houston, TX 77093
TOPIC: HEALTH
- Monday, June 3
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Martin L. Flukinger
Community Center

- 16003 Lorenzo, Channelview, TX 77530
TOPIC: HOUSING
- Monday, June 3
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
San Jacinto Community Center
604 Highlands Woods Drive, Highlands, TX 77562
TOPIC: FLOODING
- Thursday, June 6
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Baldree Community Center
13828 Corpus Christi St, Houston, TX 77015
TOPIC: HEALTH



Three Sides, One Answer

It is a sad situation no matter how you look at it. Almost as soon as the shooting happened in Baytown early Tuesday morning, people were not only voicing opinions but attacking those who believed differently from them.

Many of those in the law enforcement community as well as their family, friends and supporters saw the situation as someone who was being disobedient. For many in the community, they felt that it was a case of harassment and unnecessary use of authority. Most of us have seen one of the videos of the event and there are others who have seen a second video. Did either of the videos show everything?

According to family and neighbors, the deceased was known to all. Neighbors as well as those in law enforcement who had interacted with the woman were aware that she had some mental health issues. Law enforcement officers must yearly attend training on mental health and there are also specialized units that respond when an officer or 911 caller report an incident where there is someone in a mental health crisis.

No matter the amount of training or the amount of living with someone who lives with a mental illness, people never know how they will react if faced with a confrontation. There are planned protests to draw attention to the situation and there are calls for an increased

police presence while it these events are happening.

Is there a better use of people's time and efforts? Is there a better use of law enforcement resources? The debates could last for weeks yet as someone who works for a law enforcement agency and as a mother of a son who has a shared diagnosis of severe bipolar disorder and paranoid schizophrenia, I would like to invite each of you to stop and pray. Ask for direction as to what you can do to help make a difference.

I believe we must have an understanding of others. Over the years, I have attended many workshops and presentations offered by The Center for Healing of Racism, as well as events hosted by Houston Interfaith Ministries which have taught be to open my mind that my way is not the always the right way and certainly not the only way to approach a situation. In addition, NAMI (Nations Alliance on Mental Illness) offers many free educational classes as well as support groups for those interested in learning more about mental illnesses. In addition, check out the many offerings held by Crime Stoppers as well as by the different law enforcement organizations in our community.

The key to understanding is learning that we all need to respect others and make a conscientious effort to treat others as we want to be treated. Be blessed and make a difference today.



Diamond Jim: "Does it take a lot of training to become a jeweler?"



Over the past 40 years, I've been asked this question countless times. Thank you for asking and allowing me to respond in writing. Most people equate being a "jeweler" with nearly any position in a jewelry store or jewelry manufacturing business. The Oxford Dictionary defines the word "jeweler" as "a person or company that makes or sells jewels or jewelry". Technically, the term or title of jeweler requires a little more definition. Someone who sells jewelry is a Sales Associate for a jewelry company and is not necessarily a jeweler. Personally, I find that it takes either the completion of formal education from an accredited institute, or many, many years of experience, or both, to earn the title of 'Jeweler'.

The GIA (Gemological Institute of America) is one of the most respected teaching institutions in the world in the arena of gems including diamonds, rubies, sapphires, emeralds, semi-precious gems and pearls. A formal education from the GIA will give you the educational acumen (basis) to begin what can be a very lucrative and rewarding career as a jeweler. Some of the career options available, once you have your schooling behind you, are; Gemologist, Bench Jeweler, Jewelry Appraiser, Jewelry Auction Specialist, Gem Buyer, Jewelry Designer / Manufacturer, and more.

An inexperienced jewelry sales associate tends to learn at the expense of a jewelry store owner and staff who must teach that person the basics of jewelry including how it's designed and created, how it's displayed, the content of the gold, platinum or silver metals in the jewelry, and some knowledge of the gems or stones that are set in the jewelry. The GIA offers a learning environment that employs some of the best jewelry educators and lab equipment in the

world. The cost of a formal GIA jewelry education is surprisingly low compared to a four year Bachelor's Degree at a university. For example, check out the beginners course entitled "Applied Jewelry Professional™". Obtaining the Applied Jewelry Professional™ credential is one of the fastest and most effective ways to improve your understanding of gems and jewelry, and covers essential knowledge related to diamonds and popular colored gems. You can earn your credential via eLearning by taking three online courses.

Course Listing: Jewelry Essentials, Diamond Essentials, and Colored Stones Essentials

The Graduate Gemologist credential is the most prestigious credential in the industry. The GIA Graduate Gemologist program gives you the comprehensive knowledge of diamonds and colored stones you need to succeed anywhere in the jewelry business. You'll gain both technical expertise and practical skills to evaluate gemstones by the 4Cs (color, clarity, cut, and carat weight), the International Diamond Grading System™, and the Colored Stone Grading System.

For more information, please logon to www.GIA.edu. If I can be of any assistance to you as you begin your amazing path towards a knowledgeable and rewarding career in the jewelry industry, please let me know.

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.

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