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Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City VOLUME 7, NO. 26 (#280) THURSDAY, JUNE 27 & JULY 2, 2019 www.northchannelstar.com

CHANNEL CURRENTS

WGU Texas signs agreement with San Jacinto and Lone Star Colleges to make higher education more accessible

Wooland Acres July 9 Meeting

Houston, TX - Houston City Council Member Dave Martin would like to make residents aware Houston Public Works will be hosting a public meeting regarding the upcoming Miles Street Roadway Pavement Replacement Project on Tuesday, July 9 in the multi-purpose room at Woodland Acres Middle School (12947 Myrtle Lane, Houston Texas 77015). There will be an open house portion for residents and business owners to examine exhibits and materials at 6:00 p.m. Houston Public Works will begin their formal presentation at 6:30

AUGSTON, TA GUNE 24, 2019) – Online, non-profit university WGU Texas announced today the signing of agreements with Lone Star College (LSC) and San Jacinto College (SJC) that create pathways for the community colleges' students, employees and graduates to work toward a bachelor's or master's degree and further their education at WGU

Texas.

"With this partnership, both institutions are committed to providing our students with educational pathways to earning a four-year degree, expand their education, and increase their earning potential," said Dr. Brenda Hellyer, San Jacinto Col-

HOUSTON, TX (JUNE lege Chancellor. "We are excited about helping stu-offit university WGU Texanounced today the goal."

This is the second transfer agreement between SJC and WGU Texas. The first was signed earlier this year and streamlined the process for SJC students and graduates pursuing a bachelor's degree in nursing at WGU Texas.

The signing event at SJC included remarks from Deer Park Mayor Jerry Mouton, Jr., who is a WGU Texas and SJC graduate.

"We are excited that WGU Texas has shown an interest in continuing our students' success," said Stephen C. Head, Ph.D.,



Dr. Brenda Hellyer, Chancellor of San Jacinto College; Dr. Steven Johnson, WGU Texas Chancellor signing agreement.

Lone Star College chancellor. "This agreement is a perfect example how twoyear and four-year colleges can partner to create educational pathways for our students"

our students."
Head also joined the WGU Texas advisory board in 2019.

Through the agreement with WGU Texas, LSC and SJC graduates, faculty, and staff may select among the more than 60 accredited bachelor's and master's degree programs in information technology, business, health professions and teaching. Transfer students also receive special benefits including:

See More Education, Page 8

Evening San Jacinto Pilot Club

This newly chartered club meets on 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.

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.

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.

County, City won't support ICE raids

For several days last week, rumors were rampant that a national effort to round-up and deport immigrants without legal papers would include Houston and Harris County persons. The rumors eminated from Washington, D.C. and said that the Immigration and Customs Enforcement would carry out unannounced raids, detention, and deportation without a court's due process.

Local leaders reacted with negative comments, vowing that they would not cooperate with such an undertaking, citing inhumane treatment of individuals, and questionable legal authority. Here are the statements by the County Judge and the Houston Mayor:

Judge Lina Hidalgo Statement:

The Trump administration announced that potential raids on undocumented fam-

ilies across the nation, including in Harris County, have been delayed. The Harris County Judge's Office had been working with community and government leaders to seek answers so we were prepared to do right by our community, and did not ever receive notice from any governmental agency regarding the reported enforcement operation planned by Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Nonetheless, Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo expressed disappointment at the reported threats of raids, saying, "Creating a climate of fear puts lives at risk. Even the threat of raids are a shameful attempt to push some of our most vulnerable residents further into the shadows. Families belong together, and immigrants make our communities stronger. My office will not assist in any rumored raids and will continue to advocate for reforms at all levels of government."

all levels of government."
Individuals with questions or in need of legal advice are advised to call the Immigrant Rights Hotline: 1-833-HOU-IMMI (468-4664). Should a loved one be detained by ICE, leave a message with a name, phone number and point of contact. Messages will be returned.



JUDGE LINA HIDALGO



MAYOR SYLVESTER TURNER

Mayor's statement:
"The city of Houston
has not been directly notified by ICE of any plans
to conduct mass raids

tified by ICE of any plans to conduct mass raids targeting undocumented families. The unconfirmed reports have created a great deal of anxiety for some and it proves once again this country needs comprehensive immigration reform."

"People deserve certainty in their lives, especially those who have been living in our community and making positive contributions. We are a country that places a high premium on families and we need to be cautious about separating parents from children or uprooting entire fami-

"Houston depends on the ingenuity, the sweat and the rich cultural contributions of its immigrants. One of four Houstonians is foreign born and we are the most. diverse big city in the U.S. We welcome newcomers of all kinds when they come to our city to work hard and make a home. "It makes sense, then,

"It makes sense, then, that many people in our city are concerned about reports of plans for mass raids against undocumented immigrants across the country. In the larger picture this is another vivid reminder that our national leaders must work together across party lines to fix a broken and dysfunctional immigration system.

ion system.

"My job starts with the never-ending effort to provide a safe, secure and prosperous environment for every resident of Houston in their places of work, their places of worship, their school, their homes and elsewhere. The city does not try to do ICE's job, nor does it try to impede ICE. And we will continue to be a city that builds relationships, not walls."

Environmental awards to three

Bayou Preservation Lauds Shanley, Turner, Young



Each year the prestigious Terry Hershey Bayou Stewardship Award recognizes members in the community who have demonstrated an outanding commitment to aiding the conservation, preservation, restoration and/or advocacy of Houston's waterways.

This year's awards went

to Kevin Shanley, principal of the global landscape firm SWA Group, and former BPA board chair;

Mayor Sylvester Turner, who has taken significant action during his administration for the region's waterways; and

Jackie Young, founder of a nonprofit THEA to pro-

tect water resources and safeguard public health from the harmful effects of toxic waste in the San Jacinto River Superfund site.

County Judge Ed Emmett also received a special recognition award for his commitment to the lealth of local bayous and waterways.

College degree an achievement for 80-year-old woman

By Allan Jamail

Houston, TX. June 21, 2019 North Channel Star writer Allan Jamail met with 80 year-old Beatrice Lillie who recently obtained her lifelong dream of a college degree.

Jamail said he was first informed by Angelia Lillie a church member at the Fifth Ward Church of Christ where they both attend, that her 80 year-old mother obtained her college degree. "At 75 years old I I knew this was a quite an achievement and wanted others to learn and be encourage by Beatrice's accomplishment," Jamail

I had never met Beatrice so I invited her to lunch at Luby's Cafeteria

See College Graduate, Page 3



Photo by Allan Jamail 80 year-old Beatrice Lillie with her degree from Houston Community College, full-filling her life-long dream.

COMMUNITY NEWS

HIGHLANDS ROTARY CLUB NEWS

Awards Scenes from the

Rotary Installation

Weston Cotten swears in the new president-



Gavel of Authority passed to new president Sheila McDonald from Denise Smith



Robert and Ann Woodall get an award for their work with children at BP Hopper.



charlie Ward and Patricia Scott are acknowledged



Gilbert Hoffman thanked for his work as



Betty Brewer receives certificate as Membership Chair and longevity award.



 $\mbox{Dr.}$ Larry White receives an award for his work as Scholarship Chairman.



Weston Cotten acknowledged as International

Jared Jamail awards 2018-2019 scholarships



This year Jared Jamail Scholarship winners are, left to right, Dayton Berezoski (Leadership), Dylan Hathorn (FFA/4H), Erik Haffelfinger (Academic), Randi Plair (Soccer). The next golf tournament is set for October 5th, 2019, stay tune for more updates in furure issues of this newspaper.

Harris County Fire Marshal encourages fireworks safety

Harris County, Texas -Fireworks are fun and beautiful, but can also be very dangerous. The Harris County Fire Marshal's Office encourages residents to attend professional fireworks displays and practice fireworks safety.

"Professional fireworks displays are a great way for residents to safely en-joy fireworks," said Harris County Fire Marshal Laurie L. Christensen. "If you choose to use consumer fireworks, please read the cautionary labels and per-formance descriptions. Fireworks can be danger ous if not used properly.

The Harris County Fire Marshal's Office encourages residents to follow these

recommended safety tips: · Follow the law. Make sure fireworks are legal in your community.

· Read and follow the directions and warning labels on fireworks packag-

ing.
• Never allow children to play with or ignite fireworks.
• Light only one fire-

work at a time.

• Do not point fireworks at homes, buildings, or

people.

• Never consume alcohol or drugs while shooting fireworks.

• Make sure there is a bucket of water or water source nearby for emergen-

• Be considerate of

neighbors when it comes to noise and the trash left be-

· Pets and fireworks don't mix. The loud noises can cause pets to become anxious or afraid.

Fireworks sales run from June 24 through July 4. Residents are urged to report complaints regarding the sale or illegal use of fireworks in the unincor-porated areas of Harris County by calling (281) 999_2200 or emailing fmosupport@fmo.hctx.net.

For additional informa-tion on fireworks contact the Harris County Fire Marshal's Office at (713) 274_1700 , or visit www.hcfmo.net.



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Burgers take the lead in Fourth of July Survey

Predictions show fashion will be the top online shopping category for holiday weekend

Happy Wednesday! With Fourth of July a little over a week away, many people are planning to celebrate their freedom in a variety of different ways – whether it's at a parade or fire-works, spending time with family and friends at a cookout or doing some good old-fashioned shopping.

In a recent survey con-

ducted TopCashback.com, a cross-section of 1,828 adults, aged 18 and over were polled and found that 86 percent of Americans will be celebrating the holiday.

How Americans Plan to Celebrate Fourth of July (top three responses)
• Cookout, BBQ or pic-

- nic (72 percent)
- Fireworks/community event (59 percent)
- Shopping Independence Day sales (26 per-

With cookouts, BBQs and picnics leading the poll, it's no surprise that these are the top three fa-vorite Fourth of July foods: · Hamburgers (30 per-

- cent)
 BBQ (i.e. shish kabobs;
- 30 percent)
 Hot dogs (10 percent)

TopCashback.com members shopped the most in the Fashion category with retailers like Adidas, Gap and Michael Kors leading the list for the week of July 1st. We are predicting those same retailers will fall into the Top 10 again this year, though we wouldn't be surprised if Tory Burch climbed towards the top. Based on anticipated shopping habits, Fashion is expected to be the most popular cate-

gory over the July 4th holiday week. According to the survey. we found that 86 percent of Americans plan to take advantage of Fourth of July sales and deals with two-thirds shopping online and one-third going in-

How much Americans plan on spending for Fourth of July sales:

- \$51 to \$100 (36 per-
- Less than \$50 (29 per-
- cent)
 \$101 to \$500 (29 per-
- cent)
 Whether it's shopping or planning a fun get-to-gether, it's important to

maximize your savings or go as easy on the wallet as you can. Below please find some tips on how to save money for Fourth of July this year from Rebecca Gramuglia, Shopping Expert at TopCashback.com:

•BYOF (bring your own food). One of the most popular Fourth of July celebrations includes barbecuing with friends and family. However, staples like burgers, hot dogs, steak, shish kabobs, and having a vari-ety of salads and snacks at your party can definitely add up. If you're hosting, make a few staples and let guests know what you're serving in advance. Tell your friends and family to bring their favorite sides or other festive items to make the cookout a little easier

on the wallet. Find free activities. Fourth of July weekend is known for fireworks, free concerts, fairs and more! Scout out your town's festivities for the weekend and catch the fireworks for free. If you're headed to the beach, make sure to bring activities for your friends and family such as beach

- balls, pales and shovels! Save wherever you can. You can still enjoy peak season without having to pay holiday prices! Try doing your online shopping prior to the trip and booking a stay at a less popular hotel to save mon-
- Use cashback sites. Whether it's holiday travel or festive outfits, you can er or restive outnits, you can save money by shopping through a cashback site like TopCashback.com to receive a percentage of your purchase back in cashback on qualifying purchases from Hotels.com, Old Navy, Ma-
- cy's and more.
 Time your purchases.
 Usually, around any holiday, there will be some sort of sale. If you're planning on buying summer clothes or outdoor accessories, wait it out until the week of Fourth of July to see if any items you're eyeing will go on sale. Those items tend to get heavily dis-counted later on in the sea-son, but if you need something ASAP, a holiday sale may be your best bet

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College Graduate,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

where I gave her a red bouquet to congratulate her; she told me I could call her Ms. Bea as her friends do.

Ms. Bea said she gradu-ated from Jack Yates High School in the fifty's, married and had 6 children. She never had the chance to go college until recently, her children grown and on their own it now afforded her the opportunity to go to college and get a degree.

As we sat there over her

favorite lunch (chicken fried chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy on the side, green beans, jalapeno cornbread and cherry cheesecake) I learned Ms. Bea had numerous life successes, she was a secretary in the Harris County's Probation Department, she owned her own phone answering company until voicemail and cell phones came about, and graduated with honors as Miss Franklin at the Franklin Beauty School as a Cosmetologist in the early seven"Meeting Christ and being saved was my life's greatest success. Although I know we can do all things through Christ, who strengthens us, I was still amazed at the commencement ceremony as I walked across the stage at the NRG Stadium. After four years of college I was receiving my Associate's Degree in Business Man-

agement," Ms. Bea said. She said, "Going to college and doing homework at my age taught me how to use the computer better, sharpened my mind in so many subjects including math which was my hardest subject and has brought me closer to my children and grandchildren. I've also learned about diversity and the arts.

She's inspired many of her children and grandchildren most of whom are enrolled in college now and attended the graduation ceremony. She wished her

mother could have been there at the graduation, "I think she really would have been proud," said Lillie.

She's active in her church (New Mount Carmel) where she and other members sing hymns accapella (without instru-mental music accompaniment).
Beatrice plans to contin-

ue to volunteer at the Northeast Houston Multi-Service Center, serving food and helping with other senior activities. She just recently started a mini arts and crafts class at the center. Ms. Bea doesn't miss

casting her vote in every election she's eligible to vote in. She remembers Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee before ever coming to Harris County's Smokey Jasper Park visit-ing with parents of the baseball players during

Harris County has

many community colleges which offer wide ranges of degrees for day and night classes. Colleges in or nearby Houston: Houston Community College, Lone Star College and San Jacinto College.

For a larger list of community colleges visit this website: https:// ww.communitycollegereview.com/ texas/harris-county

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NORTH CHANNEL STAR PICK-UP LOCATIONS

North Channel Chamber Office, I-10 in Woodforest Bank Bldg Pineforest Jewelry, Uvalde Rd Carter-Conley Funeral Home, 13701

San Jacinto College North, Student Center & Library

Fonteno Court House, Wallisville Rd Fast Houston Hospital I-10 Sellers Brothers Market, Uvalde Rd

YMCA, Wallisville Rd. Kroger's, Woodforest @ Beltway 8 Sen. Sylvia Garcia office, in Woodforest

North Channel Library, Wallisville Rd United Comm. Credit Union, Normandy United Comm. Credit Union, Wallisville

CHANNELVIEW

Woodforest Bank, Sheldon Rd Channelview Admin Bldg, Sheldon Rd Food Fair, Sheldon Rd @ I-10 Flukinger Comm Ctr, Lorenzo St Holiday Inn, I-10 E

SHELDON

Sheldon ISD Admin Bldg. Kroger's, Normandy at Woodforest Parkway Feed, CE King Blvd

HC WCID #36, Hollywood St Grayson Community Center, Corpus

Galena Park Admin Building, Beltway 8 at Woodforest

CommunityBank of Texas, I-10 E @

North Channel Assistance Ministries, Bonham @ Freeport

JACINTO CITY City Hall, Main Street

Community Center/Senior Center, Capital Bank I-10 F

Jacinto City Branch Library, Akron St State Rep Ana Hernandez office, Mercury Drive

Sellers Brothers Market, Market St

Market Street Feed Store, Market St

GALENA PARK

Baggett Community Center, Keene St Galena Park City Hall, Clinton Drive Galena Park Library, Keene St United Comm. Credit Union, 16th St.

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OPINION

County Attorney Vince Ryan warns seniors to watch out for scams

Harris County Attorney Vince Ryan has a reminder for all residents to watch out for common recurring scams, especially those that target senior adults.

The story of the grandmother receiving a phone call from someone claiming to be her grandchild who says she's in danger and needs money isn't a new story. But it was very real for Mary (not her real name), who felt compelled to send money via gift cards as instructed—not once, but twice.

The person on the other end of the phone was not Mary's grand-child nor an acquaintance of her grandchild. But when it was all said and done, Mary had sent more than \$10,000 in prepaid gift cards to a scammer.

Mary's story is just one of many brought to the County Attorney's Office, which is charged with protecting the disabled and elderly The Disability and Elder Law Practice Group in the Office represents the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services and Harris County's Adult Protective Services in cases involving the elderly or adults with disabilities who may be neglected, abused or exploited.

After Mary talked with the County Attorney's Office, she was guided to the professionals at the Harris County Senior Justice Assessment Center (SJAC), a central location where multiple agencies work together to deal with these issues. Agencies involved with SJAC include the Harris County Attorney, Harris County Guardianship Program, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (Adult Protective Services), Texas Attorney General's Office, Better Business Bureau Educa tion Foundation, Harris County District Attorney's Office, Harris County Sheriff's Office, Harris Health System. Houston Police Department, and UTHealth.

The agencies meet regularly to review referrals from participating agencies and law enforcement. The SJAC teams discuss each client's needs and how they can be met. Other professionals, including a forensic nurse, a psychiatrist, forensic case managers, geriatric health specialists, mental health professionals and lawyers participate in the discussions

HIGHLANDS

and planni

"I find those who prey on seniors, some of our most vulnerable residents, particularly despicable," said County Attorney Ryan. "We must help our seniors be vigilant and avoid these scams."

These are the seven scams that regularly target Harris County seniors according to Cecilia Longoria, Managing Attorney for the Disability and Elder Law Practice Group.

Sweepstakes Scam: You've won a contest! Or the lottery! Or the Publishers Clearing-house Sweepstakes! All you have to do to claim your prize is to pay some fees or taxes in advance so they can release your prize. This is not a new scam, but it is a perennial problem.

Medicare/Healthcare Scam: Someone may call and pose as a Medicare representative to get your personal information, such as your Medicare number. They will bill Medicare for bogus products or services that you never qualified for or in most cases never received. Be sure to keep an eye on your Medicare Summary Notices to catch such FRAUD. Report any suspicious behavior to the Texas Senior Medicare Patrol at 888-341-

Emergency Scam:

This one is sometimes called the "grandparent scam" because it often preys on older consumers. You get a call or email from your grandchild or other relative who was injured, robbed or arrested while traveling overseas and needs money ASAP. Do not send money!!

"Risk-free" Trial Offers: You've seen them on the television and internet: ads or links claiming these "miracle products will help you lose weight easily, combat wrinkles or whiten teeth. You may be enticed to try these products through a "riskfree" trial offer; however, many of us fail to look at the fine print where you discover you have only 14 days to receive, evaluate and return the product $% \left\{ -1\right\} =0$ before being charged \$100 or more for monthly shipments. A tip on free trials: If you have to enter a credit card number for something "free," that's a red flag.

CROSBY

Utility Company Scams: Utility scams happen when door-todoor sales representatives claiming to represent legitimate utility companies come to your home and convince you they can save you money on your electricity or gas bill. Unfortunatelv. they will either try to gain access to your account information to switch your service without permission or offer low-low rates for the first couple of months then hit you with a steep price hike. Your safest course of action to avoid $\begin{array}{c} \text{getting caught up in one} \\ \text{of these scams is to not} \end{array}$ open your door or respond to emails/phone

Tech Support Scam:
You get a call or a pop-up
on your computer
claiming to be from
Microsoft (or Norton or
Apple) about a problem
on your computer. They
say if you give "tech
support" access to your
hard drive, they can fix
it. Instead, they install
malware on your computer
and start stealing your
personal information.

calls from strangers.

Arrest Scam: You receive an ominous phone call from someone claiming to be a police officer or government agent (often the IRS). They are coming to arrest you for overdue taxes or for skipping out on jury duty. They will say you can avoid arrest by sending them money via a prepaid debit card or wire transfer. Another variation on this is that you'll be arrested for an overdue payday loan. Whatever the "violation," it's scary to be threatened with arrest and many people pay out of

County Attorney Ryan offers these guidelines that will help you avoid being the victim of a scam:

- Don't be pressured into making fast decisions.
- Take time to research the organization. Check them out on bbb.org, search online,
- Never provide your personal information (address, date of birth, banking information, ID numbers) to people you do not know.
- If you are unsure about a call or email that claims to be from your bank, utility company, etc., call the business from the number on your bill or the back of your credit card. Never send money by wire transfer or prepaid debit card to someone you don't know or haven't met in person.
- Never send money for an emergency situation unless you've been able to verify the emergency.

If you feel you are a victim of fraud or a scam, contact your local police department or call the Office of the Harris County Attorney at 713-755-5101. Call the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services at 1-800-252-5400 if you or someone you know may have been the victim of abuse, neglect, selfneglect, or exploitation of the elderly or adults with disabilities living at



Governor orders guard troops to border to assist feds

AUSTIN — On June 21, the day before President Trump called off a national sweep to find and detain undocumented non-citizens, Gov. Greg Abbott announced the deployment of 1,000 Texas National Guard troops to the Rio Grande.

Accompanied by Lt.
Gov. Dan Patrick, House
Speaker Dennis Bonnen
and Adjutant General
Tracy Norris in a state
Capitol news conference,
Abbott said the deployment would assist the
U.S. Department of
Homeland Security and
Customs and Border
Patrol with the "escalating humanitarian crisis"
at the Texas-Mexico
border.

"In the past three weeks alone," Abbott said, "more than 45,000 individuals from 52 different countries have been apprehended illegally crossing the border into Texas. The crisis at our southern border is unlike anything we've witnessed before and has put an enormous strain on the existing resources we have in place."

The federal government will pay for 100 percent of the costs associated with the short-term mission, according to a news release from the governor's office.

In the coming weeks, plans call for holding facilities to be established in the Rio Grande Valley and El Paso for single adults entering the country illegally. Texas National Guard troops will provide supplemental staffing support at the temporary holding facilities and supplemental enforcement support at ports of entry, Abbott said.

along the border and throughout the state are struggling to deal with health care system and schools are stretched to the breaking point, and cost increases on everything from temporary shelter and policing to street cleaning have been astronomical. Governor Abbott Speaker Bonnen and I are agreed that we must work with our federal partners and act now," Patrick said.

"As a longtime advocate for border security, I support today's announcement as yet another example of Texas stepping up and filling in the gaps where the federal government has fallen short," Bonnen said.

RRC elects new

The three-member Texas Railroad Commission on June 17 elected Commissioner Wayne Christian as the energy-



regulating agency's chair.

Christian succeeds fellow commissioner Christi Craddick in the role. Following the vote, Christian released a statement, saying: "Largely because of Texas, America has become the largest producer of oil and gas in the world, giving us not only energy security, but national security as well.

"At the same time we have seen tremendous growth in the industry, we have seen great gains environmentally. From 1970 to 2017, the six major pollutants monitored by the EPA plunged by 73 percent, while the U.S. economy grew 262 percent and its population by 60 percent.

"As chairman, I look forward to continuing to ensure our agency provides a consistent, predictable regulatory environment that allows businesses to thrive and protects the public from bad actors," said Christian.

Texas prepares for hemp

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller on June 11 commented after Gov. Abbott signed House Bill 1325, legislation opening Texas to the commercial growing of hemp.

Miller said the Texas Department of Agriculture would be working on the rules and guidelines for hemp production toward development of a plan to submit to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Under the 2018 U.S. Farm Bill, Miller said, the production of hemp was decriminalized and the federal government is working on regulations that all states must follow for hemp production. Texas, like many other states, had to first take steps to make it legal to grow, and now that has been done, he added.

Energy saving is urged

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on June 17 posted a bulletin to inform Texans that up to 18 percent of a Lone Star State household's energy usage is dedicated to cooling, higher than the national average of 12 percent.

Texas generates more electricity than any other state. Because approximately 64 percent of the state's power is generated by natural gas and coalburning plants, energy conservation helps keep the air clean by reducing emissions. Texans can take steps to reduce those emissions by reducing energy consumption.

The TCEQ's "Take Care of Texas" campaign recommends:

- —Staying up to date with maintenance on air conditioning units;
- -Routinely replacing air filters:
- —Cleaning air conditioner coils and keeping debris and foliage away from an external condenser unit;
- —Maintaining and repairing aluminum fins on coils; and
- -Cleaning out condensation drains.

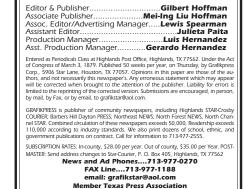


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THOUGHTS FROM

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By Dr. Mark Trice

ery deliverance, and rejoiced over each of them; but very

few let those miracles truly affect them. Not many had eyes that were open enough to see what was really go-

ing on, what Jesus most passionately wanted to give them: Salvation. As a result, though they were laying

palm branches on the ground and shouting, "Hosanna one day, they were crying out, "Crucify Him" just a few

those who have their hands out to receive, but they're very specific about what they want God to give them. There are many who head out on Sunday mornings only

because they want to tick "Went to church" off their To Do lists or to salve their guilty consciences. And then

there are those who are ever on the look-out for a church that will make them feel good or help their bored chil-

dren have fun. How many are genuinely affected by the experience? People haven't really changed much in 2,000

as "The Rapture," or the "catching away of the saints." Those who study Bible prophecy say that we're closer to the Rapture than most of us can imagine. Prophecy af-

ter prophecy regarding That Day has already been fulfilled, and God could literally turn to Jesus at any time.

It will be His Own that He catches away; it is up to us to accept Salvation and His Lordship so that we qualify to make the trip.

For a piece of candy to sit on the shelf long after its

appointed day is one thing. For anyone to be stuck here after God calls His children home...that will be some-

thing else entirely. When Jerusalem missed her time, she set herself up for total destruction. If a man misses the Rapture, he will face years of nothing but destruc-

tion in a world ruled by pure evil. If you think it's hard to live as a Christian now, you have no idea.

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But there is a day coming. It's what Christians know

And then there's today. Even in the church you find

It's amazing how far past Easter we were still seeing deeply-discounted Easter candy in the stores. Now... I like candy as much as the next person, but there's just something about candy that has missed its special day. It may not be past its "best by" date, but it still feels wrong.

For a piece of candy to miss its appointed time is one thing. For us, the case is very different. Missing medical appointments can create real problems. Employers look down on missed deadlines. God for-bid that you get your child to the ball field late. And guys, if you miss your anniversary or your wife's birthday... Just think on that one

for a moment.

But even these pale in comparison to our appoint-ed times with God. When I think of appointed times, one of the first that comes to mind is in Luke 19 when Jesus weeps over Jerusa-lem because He sees the destruction that is coming as a result of the Holy City missing what many ministers refer to as her "time of visitation," the time Jesus offered her everything.
That's what Jesus was

always doing. He came to Earth and gave continually, and the people took. They took every healing, every miraculous meal, ev-

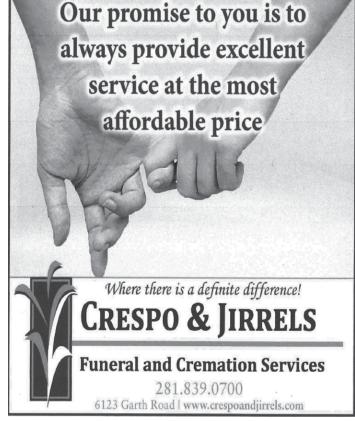
4. What kind of place was Patmos, where John received his revelation? Temple, Isle, Ship,

5. In Revelation 20, what is the eternal home for those not written in

the book of life? Whirlwinds, Lake of fire, Underworld, Exile

6. Who was the father of Gershom? Adam, Noah, Moses

ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) David; 3) The ant; 4) Isle; 5) Lake of fire; 6)



Chevron Phillips supports Education Foundation with Gala Sponsorship

Heather Betancourth (right), community and government relations representative at Chevron Phillips, presents a check for \$10,000 to Erika Foster, GCCISD Education Foundation director, for the company's All-Star sponsorship of the Education Foundation's All-Star Gala September 14, 2019, at Minute Maid Park. Chevron Phillips is a longtime supporter of Goose Creek CISD students,

staff and schools



BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey-

1. Is the book of 2 Thessalonians in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. Whom did God not allow to build a temple, as he had been a man of war? David, Solomon, Rehoboam, Jesse

3. In Proverbs 6:6, where/what should lazy people go to for wisdom? Mountaintop, Temple Priest, The ant

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of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them o Adam to see what he would

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

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

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

ASK THE EXPERT



Cheryle Denise Roy



Cheryle Denise Roy, 64, passed away June 25, 2019 in Pasadena, Texas. She was born in Jacinto City, Texas on September 9, 1954 to parents Betty and Joe Cooper, Sr. Cheryle treasured her faith and commitment to God. She was kind and caring friend to many and she also loved animals. Cheryle enjoyed spending time with her family. She was a devoted mother. grandmother, sister, and friend who will be

dearly missed. Cheryle is preceded in death by her parents; and husband, Freddie Wayne Dupuis, Sr. She is lovingly survived by her sons, Joseph Swayne Roy and wife Paula Roy, Jon Carroll Roy, Freddie Wayne Dupuis, Jr. and wife Michelle Dicker Dupuis; grandchildren, Ashley, Stormy, Joseph, Taylor, Paige, Audrey; brothers and sister, Charles Wayne Cooper, Joe Allen Cooper and wife, Vickie Cooper, Janet Ivy; nephew, Justin Ivy; her beloved dog, Cammie; as well as numerous extended family members and friends.



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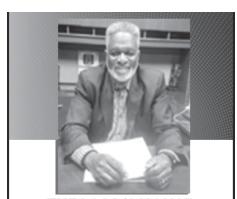


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JULY'S BIRTHSTONE IS RUBY

There's no better way to demonstrate your love than by giving a ruby in celebration of a July birthday. Rubies arouse the senses, stir the imagination, and are said to guarantee health, wisdom, wealth and success in love.

Fine-quality ruby is extremely rare, and the color of the gem is most important to its value. The most prized color is a medium or medium-dark vivid red or slightly purplish red. If the gem is too light or has too much purple or orange, it will be called a fancy-color sapphire.

À ruby is a pink to bloodred colored gemstone, a variety of the mineral corundum (aluminium oxide). The red color is caused mainly by the presence of the element chromium. Its name comes from ruber, Latin for red. Other varieties of gem-quality corundum are called sapphires. Ruby is considered one of the four precious stones, together with sapphire. emerald and diamond. Prices of rubies are pri-

marily determined by color. The brightest and most valuable "red" called bloodred or "pigeon blood", commands a large premium over other rubies of similar quality. After color follows clarity: similar to diamonds, a clear stone will command a premium, but a ruby without any needlelike rutile inclusions may indicate that the stone has been treated. Cut and carat(weight) are also an important factor in determining the price.

Rubies have a hardness of 9.0 on the Mohs scale of mineral hardness. Among the natural gems only moissanite and diamond are harder, with diamond having a Mohs hardness of 10.0 and moissanite falling somewhere in between corundum (ruby) and diamond in hardness.

ond in hardness.
All natural rubies have

imperfections in them, including color impurities and inclusions of rutile needles known as "silk". Gemologists use these needle inclusions found in natural rubies to distinguish them from synthetics, simulants, or substitutes. Usually the rough stone is heated before cutting. Almost all rubies today are treated in some form, with heat treatment being the most common practice. Howev-

treatment being the most common practice. However, rubies that are completely untreated but still of excellent quality command a large premium.

Some rubies show a three-point or six-point asterism or "star". These rubies are cut into cabochons to display the effect properly. Asterisms are best visible with a single-

asterism or "star". These rubies are cut into cabochons to display the effect properly. Asterisms are best visible with a singlelight source, and move across the stone as the light moves or the stone is rotated. Such effects occur when light is reflected off the "sil \bar{k} " (the structurally oriented rutile needle inclusions) in a certain way. This is one example where inclusions increase the value of a gemstone. Furthermore, rubies can show color changesthough this occurs very rarely-as well aschatoyancy or the "cat's eye" ef-

Thank you for reading the "Ask Diamond Jim" column. Please submit your jewelry related questions to: jchak@pineforestjewelry.com

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

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.

CHARLOTTES WEB

Hidden Gems in the Community

As you drive throughout the community, do you know the history of the area? It does not matter if you are driving down Sheldon Road, Woodforest Boulevard, Wallisville Road or Normandy, there are hidden gems everywhere. Among those gems are the names of Joyce Hendrix, Anthony Aguirre, Kenneth Tice and more. Do you know who there were?

If you are in Channelview and drive down Sheldon Road, you will undoubtedly see the Joyce Hendrix Administration Building of Channelview ISD. According to obituaries found online, "Joyce was a longtime business woman and community leader in the North Channel area. She was a champion of the underdog, queen of the dollar slots and a domino master. She was known for her world renowned holiday dinners and candies. She was one-ofa-kind, truly a colorful character." Anyone who has ever met any of her children will now know where they get their love of serving others. Her son Bill is a longtime member of the Rotary Club of North Shore and his infectious smile and sense of humor no doubt came from his momma.

As you travel down Wallisville Road, you see the names of Harvey Brown, Anthony Agu-irre, Wendel D. Ley and Charles Grant. Each of these men have made an impact on the community, yet perhaps you do not know the story behind the naming of the Anthony Aguirre Junior High School. Grab a tissue if you have not heard the story. In 2007, while on a deployment with the United State Marines, Aguirre was on a routine sweep of his unit's regular

patrol area in Iraq. when he realized he has stepped onto an improvised explosive device. Knowing that raising his foot would set off the mine, he yelled for the rest of his unit to take cover. He waited until all of his fellow Marines were out of farm's way before lifting his foot and triggering the device. According to his sister, had he not been at that exact spot, every one of the troops including Anthony would have been killed. He gave his life to protect others. Definitely sounds like a man honor.

As you continue west you will pass the Jim Fonteno Courthouse and $his\ contributions\ would$ take an entire column to mention. He and his wife Joann were known for all of the love they gave and the joy found in their children. When you see a park or flowers in the area, chances are great that the Fonteno family are tied to that impact. Keep traveling west and you will see two schools in the Galena Park ISD that are named after amazing men. Both William "Wild Cat" Cunningham and Kenneth Tice left their impact in the community and countless lives have been blessed. Today, years after the tragic death of Kenneth Tice, his son Mark serves as a Chamber County Commissioner.

I invite you to take the time to slow down, look around the community and make a list of people who have made an impact. If you know their stories, share them. If you have questions, ask. We can all benefit from the gems hidden in our



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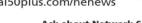
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Investigators make arrest in death of 11-year-old shot while sleeping

On June 26, 2019, Harris County Sheriff's Office Homicide Unit Investiga-tors and Harris County Sheriff's Office Gang Task Force Investigators arrested Sonnie Reyes, 21, in the murder of eleven year old Kamren Jones. On June 9. 2019, at approximately 4:20am, unknown suspects discharged numerous rounds from the roadway into a residence located at 15117 N. Brentwood Drive.

Kamren was struck by a projectile as he slept. He died at the scene. The investigation is on-going.

Anyone with information is urged to contact the Harris County Sheriff's Office Homicide Unit at 713-274-9100.



I-10 closed by bus fire at Monmouth exit



Traffic on I-10 near the San Jacinto River was stopped in both directions last Thursday afternoon, as a bus fire near the Monmouth exit blocked the westbound side, and onlookers blocked the eastbound. Channelview Fire Department had to rescue 26 occupants of the Casino tour bus, and take them to truck stops where they got other transportation. There were no injuries reported, and the cause of the fire was ruled to be an overheated engine.

More Education,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

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fer policy. "WGU Texas is thrilled to expand its presence in the greater Houston area by providing more LSC and SJC College students a seamless pathway to completing their bachelor's and master's degrees and preparing them to enter some of the state's most indemand careers," said Dr. Steven Johnson, chancellor, WGU Texas. "Community colleges enroll almost half of all students in the state—over 730,000 students. This partnership creates an opportunity to link those students to alternative, viable pathways

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enrollment is more than 12,500 students, Johnson said. He added that WGU Texas students are in all nine counties that make up the Greater Houston area. with more than 1,300 transfers from Lone Star and San Jacinto Colleges, and students enrolled in 233 of the state's 254 coun-

For more information about WGU Texas' community college partnerships and scholarship opportunities, visit texas.wgu.edu/cc.

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with nationally recognized Western Governors University, WGU Texas offers more than 60 accredited undergraduate and graduate degree programs in high-demand career fields of business, K-12 teacher education, information technology, and health professions, including nursing. In 2018, WGU Texas awarded degrees to 2,445 students across the state. Since the university's launch in 2011, more than 11,000 graduates have earned their undergraduate or graduate degrees through a variety of aca-demic offerings. To learn more, visit texas.wgu.edu.

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ments of history, industries and maritime enterprises of today, and the space age of tomorrow, San Jacinto College has served the citizens of East Harris County, Texas, since 1961. The College is fiscally sound, holding bond ratings of AA and Aa2 by Standard & Poor's and Moody's. San Jacinto College is a 2019 Aspen Prize for Communi-College Excellence Top 10 institution, a 2017 Aspen Prize Rising Star Award recipient and an Achieving the Dream Leader College. The College serves approximately 45,000 credit and noncredit students annually, and offers more than 200 programs across eight areas of study that put students on a path to transfer to four-year institutions or enter the workforce. San Jacinto College's impact on the region totals \$1.3 billion in added income which supports 13,044 jobs. To learn more, visit

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