

# NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

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Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City  
VOLUME 7, NO. 33 (#287) THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 2019 www.northchannelstar.com

## CHANNEL CURRENTS

### North Channel SALUTES set for November 7

The North Channel Chamber will hold its 11th annual Salute to Veterans, current military personnel, and First Responders.

Also taking place will be a Business Expo and Health Fair. The event will be held at Armenta's Reception Hall in Channelview, 823 Sheldon Road, from 10am to 2pm.

Booths and Sponsorships are available, call the Chamber at 713-450-3600.

### Harris County Clerk's Office to open in North Shore Sept. 18

The Harris County Clerk, Diane Trautman, will open a permanent office in the Courthouse Annex on Wallisville, starting Sept. 18 with a ribbon cutting at 2pm.

The convenience of a North Shore office has long been sought by residents, who need services such as marriage licenses, birth and death certificates, and other real property records.

### Jacinto City Night Market set for Saturday, Sept. 14

The Jacinto City Night Market will hold another session this Saturday, September 14 from 5pm to 9pm at the TownCenter on Challenger Drive. The open air venue, partially covered, provides a pleasant environment for shopping and people watching on summer evenings.

Visitors can expect many vendors showing crafts, jewelry, baked goods, artwork, library books, perfume, candles, and much more.

In addition, there will be music by a guitarist, and a first class food truck with many special items.

Market Director Rebecca Mier has put together a unique and special event, and said that with the weather cooling off, many more people are expected to attend.

Jacinto City Night Market is held every second Saturday of the month.

### VFW Memorial and Benefit for Randy Bell Aug 24

VFW Post 9292 will hold a Memorial and Benefit for Randy Bell. Saturday, August 24 from 12:30 - till. Plates are \$10.00, Chicken, Sausage, & Ribs with Beans and Rice and Dessert. DJ music, Auction. 1214 Maxey Road, Houston 77015.

### San Jacinto Pilot Club meeting

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

## Sheldon ISD holds ribbon cutting for new Sheldon Lakes Elementary

SHELDON – The Sheldon ISD Board members, administrators, dignitaries, teachers, students and community members participated in a ribbon cutting at the new Shel-

don Lakes Elementary, last Thursday, August 15, 2019 at 6:00pm. All who attended enjoyed learning about the new 21st century learning opportunities at this new school.

The campus is located on the Beltway 8 feeder road, just south of Garrett Road.

The principal for Sheldon Lake Elementary is Christopher Dickson, formerly the

principal at Sheldon Early Childhood Academy.

Architects for the new building were Lockwood, Andrews and Newnam, Project Manager was Stantec, and

contractor Durotech.

Sheldon ISD also held a ribbon cutting for their new football stadium on Wednesday evening, August 21. The stadium is adjacent to the new elementary.



Architect's rendering shows the exterior entrance of the new elementary that opens this fall. The building is just one of the new projects for this fast-growing district.



Sheldon ISD Superintendent King Davis cuts the ribbon to officially open the new Sheldon Lake Elementary campus.

Photo by DERIK MOORE.

## NEW PRINCIPALS - A SERIES

### Marcus Morrow is new principal at Joyce Zotz Ed. Ctr.

By Allan Jamail

The Galena Park Independent School District (GPISD) announced for the 2019/2020 school year Marcus Morrow as the new principal for the Joyce Zotz Education Center.

Principal Morrow brings to his new position 18 years of academic experience as a teacher, at-risk specialist and assistant principal at the Zotz Cen-

ter He has a bachelor's degree from Sam Houston State University and a master's degree from the University of Houston-Clear Lake.

The Joyce Zotz Education Center (JZEC) specializes in the accomplishment of students being able to obtain their educational goals through non-traditional settings. GPISD's goal is to provide students a valuable and worthwhile



MARCUS MORROW

education in a caring but well disciplined surrounding that they may not were getting from their home campuses.

Morrow said, "Parents with children can attend our night classes and we'll provide child care while the parent is in class, much like the same as the normal day-care centers does."

The center was named after Joyce Zotz who joined GPISD as a business

teacher in 1956. Over the next 47 years she held numerous positions ranging from teacher to campus principal. Ms. Zotz had a vision for better meeting the needs of students who did not seem to fit the mold of regular classroom. She advocated for those students who often "marched to the beat of a different

See PRINCIPAL, page 8

## Cody's fundraiser Goes BIG

CROSBY – August 17, the Big Event for the Cody Stephens GBOGH Memorial Fund was a rousing success held at Southern Lace Estates for a night of big band, big auction and big celebration.

A catfish dinner started off a packed program beginning with recognizing this year's youngsters saved from sudden death by the efforts of the foundation. Awards for those that contributed effort generally in the form of belt buckles.

It was especially a celebration of the passage of House Bill 76, the Cody Bill, with special recognition of Representative Dan Huberty, R. 127, (also excitement at the passage of



Dan Huberty welcomes the accolades for HB 76, the Cody Bill and HB 3, the school bill. His staff is weepy and he is supported by Carol Alvarado at left.

House Bill #3 for education) Rep. Briscoe Cain, R. 128, and State Senator Carol Alvarado, all instrumental in passing the bill that gives parents the right to choose a heart screening for their students.

Cody Stephens, Scott Stephens son, died in 2012 from sudden death, in the last legislative session, the Cody Bill was signed into law by the governor.

The band Modulation, brought back memories playing larger band sounds, including those from the 70's band Chicago.

Before the event the

See GO BIG, page 8

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★ COMMUNITY NEWS ★

# Crosby's Heart Healthy Schools recognized for relative safety

CROSBY – The Crosby ISD Trustees recognized Melody Stephens of Texas Children's Hospital on August 19 who in turn was recognizing two campuses within Crosby ISD as Heart Healthy Schools.

These have been recipients of Project ADAM (Automated Defibrillators in Adam's Memory.) The two schools Crosby Kindergarten and Barrett Elementary qualified for this honor by developing and implementing a cardiac emergency plan, holding practice drills, maintaining an AED (Alert Emergency Detail) and trained a team of campus first responders in the event of a cardiac emergency on their campus.

Melody was mother to Cody Stephens who died in 2012 from sudden death, in the lat legislative session, the Cody Bill was passed giving parents the right to choose a heart screening for their athletes. It is the first such bill passed in the nation.



Crosby Kindergarten Kriste Davis and Karen Stewardson received their signage for having made Crosby Kindergarten a Heart Safe School from Melody Stephens (Center.)



Darla Bumgardner, Phaedra Jackson and Karen Walthall of Barrett Elementary School received their signage for a Heart Safe School from Melody Stephens.

# Machete ends honor among alleged thieves



Tuesday, August 13, 7:40 a.m., behind the Harris County Sheriff's Office patrol units a trailer had been stolen but fell back into the hands of law enforcement when a falling out among those who will be charged with stealing it resulted in one of the charged attacking the other with a machete.

BARRETT STATION – A man accused of stealing a trailer in the 13,400 block of Crosby Lynchburg around 7:30 a.m. used a machete to get the upper hand on his alleged partner last Tuesday.

Neighbors have friends in the hamlet, generally many look out for one another and this case would be no exception as folks watching over a storage area followed what they thought were thieves stealing a trailer. Somehow in the act of following the pre-

sumptive thieves a minor traffic accident resulted between followers and suspects.

A fight broke out, not between the followers and the suspects, but between the two suspects themselves.

“One suspect took a machete and struck the other suspect in the back of the neck,” said Sergeant Samuel Hayes of Harris County Sheriff's Office.

The hack resulted in serious condition for the re-

ceiving suspect, he had to be flown by Life Flight Helicopter to Hermann Memorial Hospital.

Still on the lamb in the area, lawmen are searching for the suspect.

Detectives want a better idea of how all these events unfolded. Anyone with information on the location of the suspect or what may have occurred is asked to call (713) 221-6000.

Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzales described the happenings as “Pretty wild.”

# CROSBY HISTORY PROJECT Highlands Little League

This week's historical photos are from Highlands. Pictured is a Little League Parade along Main Street. This photo came from the Skrabanek family. The Skrabanek's had moved from Crosby to Highlands. I don't have a ton of details with these photos, but I thought readers would enjoy seeing them just the same, and will probably recognize some of those pictured.

This is the seventh photo in a series, of historic photos of Crosby and the sur-

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

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Board member Ybarra recognized for community service with EquuSearch



Mr. Alex Ybarra and Mr. Tim Miller received special recognition during the Channelview ISD board meeting.

Board member recognized for outstanding community service

Channelview Independent School District recognized school board member, Mr. Alex Ybarra, for his outstanding service to the community. Mr. Ybarra is a volunteer with the Texas EquuSearch, and he devotes many hours helping families across the state.

Recently, Mr. Ybarra and a team of 8 volunteers rescued a man who had been missing for five days. The team almost

suspended their search when Mr. Ybarra noticed something odd in the wooded area where they were searching. Thanks to the team's efforts, the man was located, and he received immediate care from medical professionals.

In a heartfelt acknowledgment at the ceremony, Superintendent Greg Ollis said "despite many difficult cases, Mr. Ybarra continues to volunteer to help families. He realizes that through his efforts with Texas

EquuSearch, families are reunited or, on many occasions, he is able to provide closure on a case."

Mr. Tim Miller, Director and Founder of Texas EquuSearch, was present to show his support of Mr. Ybarra. During the recognition ceremony, the Channelview ISD Board of Trustees presented Mr. Miller with a plaque thanking him for dedicating time and resources to helping individuals and families around the world.

## Sheldon STEM Academy recognized by TEA



SHELDON – Big news in Sheldon ISD!! After starting the district's first ever STEM Academy in grade 7 with 120 students just two short years ago and growing to a successful program for grades 6-10 with 512 students to start this school year, the Sheldon ISD STEM Program has recently received its T-STEM Designation from the Texas Education Agency.

This designation is for grades 6-12 and includes three SISD schools (C. E. King High School, Null Middle School and C. E. King Middle School). The program has plans to grow each year until a 6-12th grade STEM program is available.

Our district applied for a planning year in 2018-19 and has worked diligently with the entire district STEM Team to put everything in place and assure that the requirements of the T-STEM Designation were part of our plan throughout implementation.

T-STEM stands for Texas Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. To have the designation simply means that you offer a rigorous secondary school program that focuses on improving instruction and academic performance in Science and Mathematics-related subjects and you increase the number of students who study STEM careers. Along with this designation are other criteria such as:

- \*providing dual credit at no cost to students
- \*offering rigorous instruction and accelerated courses
- \*providing academic and social support services to help students succeed
- \*reducing barriers to college access
- \*aligning to regional workforce needs

One of the best parts of this program is that it targets at-risk students and provides them with the supportive, challenging learning environment to get them college and career ready. Our students will be ready for the workforce they will enter beyond high school.

In our district STEM program it's about embedding 21st century skills into the everyday classroom through Project-Based Learning.

Our students learn the essentials needed to be successful beyond high school with a daily emphasis on the 4C's-Communication, Collaboration, Critical Thinking and Creativity.

We are all looking forward to our first STEM



graduating class in the year 2021-22 as we turn our STEM students loose full of Confidence, Skills and Grit and encourage them to go out and change the world! Special thanks to our Sheldon ISD STEM Team of

dedicated administrators and teachers that are working hard to prepare our kids for the jobs of tomorrow!  
By: Becky Zalesnik  
Sheldon ISD  
Director of Innovative Programs

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OPINION PAGE

★



by AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor Russell Gloor  
Association of Mature American Citizens

# Social Security Matters

## Ask Rusty – How is my benefit Amount Determined?

Dear Rusty: I am 60 years old. I have worked full time since age 22. I am thinking about working part-time ages 62-65. When I start collecting my social security benefit sometime after age 65, will my monthly amount be based on only the last few years of my working? Can you please explain how my monthly amount will be determined? Signed: Planning My Future

Dear Planning: I admire that you're thinking ahead to your retirement years and I'm happy to clarify this for you. Your Social Security benefit, when you claim it, will be based upon the highest earning 35 years of your lifetime working career (not only the last few years). To determine your benefit, Social Security will take your entire record of lifetime earnings, adjust each year for inflation, and select the 35 years in which you had the highest earnings. After totaling those years they'll divide by 420 (the number of months in 35 years) to determine your "average indexed monthly earnings" (AIME). They then break your AIME into several parts (using what's known as "bend points") and then take a percentage of each part and add it up to arrive at what's called your "primary insurance amount" or "PIA." The "bend point" values change each year, but for 2019 they are \$926 and \$5583. To compute your benefit, the formula will take 90% of the first \$926 of your AIME; 32% of your AIME between \$926 and \$5583; and 15% of any amount of your AIME over \$5583. The product of those three computations are added together to arrive at your PIA.

Your PIA is the amount you will get at your full re-

tirement age, or your "FRA," which for you (born in 1959) is 66 years and 10 months. If you claim any earlier than your FRA, your benefit will be reduced - about 29% less if claimed at 62. If you wait beyond your FRA the benefit will be more - 8% more for each year you delay, up to age 70 when maximum is reached. At age 70 your benefit will be about 25% more than it would be at your FRA. But a note of caution: any benefit estimates you have now from Social Security assume you'll keep earning at your current level until you reach your FRA, so if you work part-time starting at age 62 your benefit amounts will be less than those shown in the current estimates.

Finally, the above applies to your own individual SS retirement benefit from your own lifetime work record. If you are married, and your PIA is less than 50% of your husband's PIA, then you might also be eligible for a spousal boost from your husband. Or if you are the higher earner, your husband might be eligible for a spousal boost from you when you claim your Social Security benefit.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website or email us.

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THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

## Second Sunset

I spent the last couple weeks visiting my parents. I've been lucky in the parent department. It's fashionable to recall some pivotal incident that occurred when we were eight and extrapolate how every difficulty experienced in our life since is a result. But I've never seen any truth to this in my own life. I was really happy when I was eight—and I give my parents full credit.

My life is very different from my parents' life. Still, they have always been supportive and have always at least pretended to be interested in whatever I was doing as I careened from one career to the next. When, in my fifties, I started to write, my parents were characteristically enthusiastic, with only the occasional exception (perhaps when I wrote in a column how my mother used to garden in her red bikini).

They have always lived a life they enjoy and are proud of, and have encouraged me to do the same. Now in their eighties, my parents still inspire me. Most recently, it was at sunset.

My parents live in a cabin high on a hill overlooking the lake, so you have to climb a lot of steps to get from the cabin down to the shore. My father built the steps down to the lake. In the middle of the climb, there is a bench where (my dad insists) there is a good place to admire the view. (It happens to also be a good place to rest on the way up—but I'll let him stick to his story.)

Almost every evening, my parents find their way down to the water's edge. They take a seat on the dock and watch the sun set across the lake. They listen to the loons call to one another across the water and watch the clouds turn pink as the sun disappears in the evening sky.

Then they do it all over again.

Because the cabin sits so far above the shore, when they climb back up the hill, the sun is no longer below the horizon but just beginning to set again—a second sunset.

So, my parents take a seat outside their cabin and watch the whole thing all over again—from a different perspective. I tell my parents I admire the life they have created for themselves. They have this great cabin, fun friends and neighbors, they bike all summer, ski all winter and, at the end of every day, they get an extra sunset.

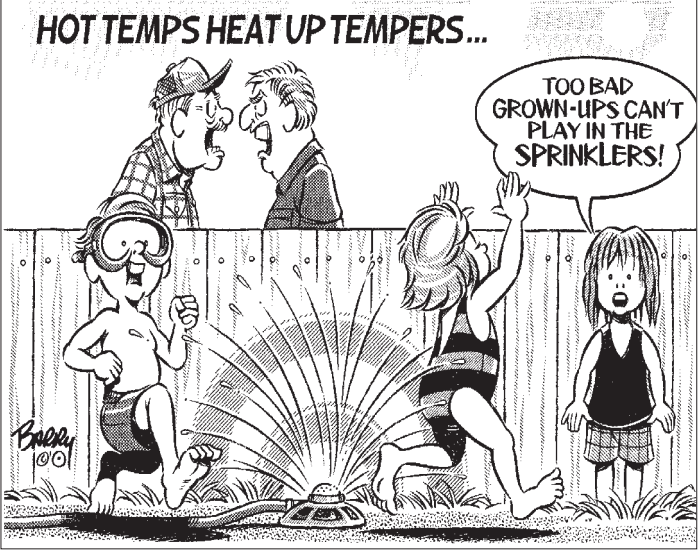
I'd like an extra sunset. By middle age, I thought I could already see the sun going down. I figured I knew, more or less, how the story ended. It turns out I was wrong.

Today, I am doing things I never dreamt of doing fifteen years ago, things I never imagined I could do. But now, as I scramble up the hill in the end-of-the-day light, I realize how much there is to do in the late afternoon, how much is left to see. I'd feel a lot sillier if I were the only one panting up the hill, but I have a lot of company. All around me I see folks looking for that second sunset: picking up paintbrushes and pens and college degrees, trying on new haircuts and new beliefs. Sometimes it's a little embarrassing—but we don't really care.

Like my parents, we're just grateful to get this extra sunset. We're so glad the sun hasn't gone down after all. We just needed a different perspective. We just needed to get to higher ground.

Till next time, Carrie

Carrie Classon's memoir, "Blue Yarn," was released earlier this year. Learn more at [CarrieClasson.com](http://CarrieClasson.com) or [www.Facebook.com/CarrieClassonauthor](http://www.Facebook.com/CarrieClassonauthor)



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

## Governor takes action to prevent acts of terrorism

AUSTIN — Texas now boasts its own Domestic Terrorism Task Force, established by order of the governor in the wake of the deadly Aug. 3 shooting in El Paso.

Twenty-two people were killed and 24 injured by a suspect firing a military-style assault rifle in a popular shopping venue.

Gov. Greg Abbott on Aug. 14 said the task force's job will be to analyze and provide advice on strategies to maximize law enforcement's ability to protect against acts of domestic terrorism. The first meeting is set for Aug. 30.

"Our top priority is to keep Texans safe in their communities," he said, adding that "Texas is stronger when we come together in pursuit of a shared goal, and today's actions are vital steps in our ongoing fight against extremism and violence. We stand united against those who wish to bring harm to our state, and together we will build a safer future for every Texan."

Meanwhile, Abbott directed the Texas Department of Public Safety to:

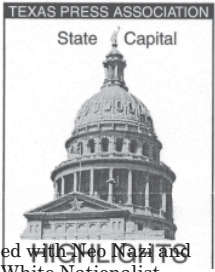
—Conduct a state intelligence assessment on the domestic terrorism threat;

—Establish a Domestic Terrorism Section within the Texas Fusion Center to proactively seek, assess and monitor domestic terrorism and other mass casualty threats;

—Coordinate with the designated regional fusion centers in Texas to increase the detection and monitoring of domestic terrorism and other mass casualty threats;

—Establish Domestic Terrorism Teams comprised of DPS Special Agents to provide immediate direct support to the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Forces and increase the number of special agents to conduct domestic counterterrorism investigations;

—Increasing the number of DPS special agents and analysts in the Texas Anti-Gang Centers conducting investigations of criminal gangs affiliat-



ed which has White Nationalist groups and networks espousing terrorist attacks.

### TASK FORCE MEMBERS NAMED

The Governor's office posted the following list of those who will serve on the new Domestic Terrorism Task Force:

Governor Greg Abbott, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, House Speaker Dennis Bonnen and Attorney General Ken Paxton. Also, DPS Chief Steve McCraw, Texas Division of Emergency Management Chief Nim Kidd; Major General Tracy Norris, Texas Military Department; Executive Director Amanda Crawford, Texas Department of Information Resources; and Executive Director Carter Smith, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department.

Also included are members of the U.S. Customs and Border Patrol, members of the U.S. Secret Service, U.S. Attorney John Bash, Western District of Texas; Jeff Murray, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; Lubbock County District Attorney K. Sunshine Stanek; El Paso Police Chief Greg Allen, Hidalgo County Sheriff Eddie Guerra, Hidalgo; and Capt. Anthony Carter, Collin County Sheriff's Office, North Texas Fusion Center.

Fusion centers combine the capabilities of local, state and federal law enforcement agencies in combating criminal activity.

### TEA RELEASES RATINGS

The Texas Education Agency on Aug. 9 released preliminary financial accountability ratings for more than 1,100 school districts and charters across the state.

According to the agency, 87 percent

earned the highest preliminary rating possible for 2018-2019. A school district or open-enrollment charter is assigned one of four possible letter grades — A, B, C or F — and a financial management rating of Superior, Above Standard Achievement, Meets Standard or Substandard Achievement.

Ratings for 2018-2019 are based on annual financial reports provided to TEA by districts and charters for the 2018 fiscal year.

### TEXAS' NOTES RATED HIGH

State Comptroller Glenn Hegar on Aug. 15 announced Texas repeated its high credit ratings for this year's Texas Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes, short-term debt obligations to help the state manage its cash-flow needs for fiscal 2020.

"Texas has once again received the highest short-term credit ratings on these one-year notes," Hegar said. "These high ratings, coupled with the maintenance of our AAA long-term ratings, help keep Texas' borrowing costs low and save taxpayer dollars as we manage our cash flow. Our creditworthiness reflects our conservative approach to financial management, an increasingly diverse economy and our broad and rising employment base."

Hegar added, however, that issues such as emerging trade tensions, the need to continue to address long-term obligations on the state's balance sheet and increased spending pressures continue to pose potential risks to the Lone Star State's future credit.

### ECONOMY ADDS JOBS IN JULY

The Texas Workforce Commission on Aug. 16 announced that in the month of July the state's economy added 35,200 seasonally adjusted total non-farm positions.

Also, the unemployment rate held steady in July at 3.4 percent, matching the all-time record low set in June. The rate of 3.4 percent is the lowest recorded unemployment rate since tracking began in 1976.

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Asst. Production Manager.....**Gerardo Hernandez**

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LIFESTYLE PAGE

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OBITUARIES

JOE WARREN HARRIS, SR.

Joe Warren Harris Sr., Born in Tenehah Texas December 29, 1934 went home to be with his Lord and Savior August 18,2019 in Jacinto City Texas.

He grew up in Center Texas and lived in Crosby Texas the remainder of his life and served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. After serving his country he came home to Texas where he met and married his wife of 52 years Robbie Lee Kilgore Harris.

He was preceded in death by Father JT Harris and mother Ola Mae Anderson Harris,



wife Robbie Harris and sister Hazel Honig. Surviving family are Brother Jack Harris and wife Susan. Children are Daughters Kathleen Elliott and husband Albert, Vickie Jo Machala and husband Andrew, son Joe Warren Jr wife Twyla. Grandchildren Richard

Scott Larson wife Crystal, Vanessa Larson and Travis Harris. Great Grand children Britton Cody Larson, Baleigh Cate Larson and Kaitlyn Elizabeth Larson. Numerous other family members along with many nieces and nephews and friends.

An informal memorial service is being planned in the near future. Any gifts in consideration of his memory as he was for many years a Masonic lodge member and Shriner can be made in his name to the Shriners Crippled Children's Hospital in Galveston Texas.

I Believe in Jesus; Now What?

Great question. Believing in Jesus is not the end, but the beginning of the Christian life. These are some basics:

1. Find a good church and attend every Sunday. Get to know the people.

2. Get baptized. Believer's baptism by immersion is a picture of your salvation and a testimony of your stand for Christ.

3. Read a chapter in the Bible every day. A good place to begin is in the Gospel of John. Get a good English translation like the NKJV.

4. Pray. About big things, little things. God wants to hear from His children.

5. Give to the Lord and His church.

6. Tell others about Jesus. Keep Jesus first in your life.

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. -Jesus; Matthew 6:33

You are invited to Northside every Sunday at 11am & 6pm. Services last about an hour, dress is casual.

-David R. Brumbelow, Northside Baptist Church, 317 Barbers Hill Rd., Highlands, TX 77562. [nsbchighlands.org](http://nsbchighlands.org)

★

THOUGHTS FROM  
MARANATHA CHURCH

By Dr. Mark Trice

WILLIAM STANLEY GRISSOM

William Stanley Grissom died in his home August 16, 2019 in North Zulch, Texas; succumbing to the effects of colon cancer. He was 77 years old.

Stanley was born August 21, 1941 in Henderson, Texas to parents William G and Hazel Grissom. After leaving the US Army in 1962, he worked several jobs before finding his niche in operating heavy equipment and then in construction supervision.

Stan retired in 2001 to his farm in North Zulch where he gardened and played rancher passing on his love of country life to his children; teaching them to always lend a hand and the importance of community. Known affectionately as the mayor of Whispering Oaks, he always greeted new neighbors,



helped with tractor work and working cattle.

He always had an ear to listen and a cold Lone Star Beer to share.

Stanley is survived by his wife Brenda Cryer Grissom, daughter Paula Harris and son-in-law Robbie Harris, son Richard Grissom, daughter Stacy Riendeau and son-in-law Marshall

Riendeau, and daughter Megan West and son-in-law Cody West, and younger sisters JoyceAnn Cheatham and Nora Faye Caufield, grandchildren Sydni Nelson, Chelsea Jones-Riendeau and Ciara Riendeau and great grandchildren, nieces and nephews and multiple life-long friends.

He was preceded in death by his father William Gordon Grissom, mother Hazel Lorene Kuhn, brother Gordon Ray Grissom and sister Opal Lorene Ellender.

The family will have a Celebration of Life on September 14, 2019 at the Midway Community Center located at 5612 School Rd, Midway, TX 75852 at 12pm.

Flowers can be sent to the family home.

Mending the fences

=People in our neck of the woods are quite familiar with fences of every sort surrounding fields full of cattle, and we all fully appreciate that those fences are in place.

Every rancher knows that, while some things can be ignored, the fence line can't. If you let your fence fail, you'll almost certainly lose part of your herd, because those great beasts seem eternally convinced that there's something better on the other side of that boundary. Yes, cattle can usually be tracked and recovered, but this takes time most ranchers really don't have. It's far better to maintain your fences and avoid the loss in the first place.

The Word of God is kind of like that fence line. As long as we stay in the Word, it can guard us. It informs us of what God wants from us as well as what He wants for us. It helps us guard our hearts so they don't wander off as they catch sight of the

seemingly exciting happenings on the wrong side of the boundary.

If we keep God's Word in our hearts, it continually alerts us to things in our lives that need to change. They key word is "keep." Just as the rancher has to keep his fence in good repair, because it only works if it has no weak spot or holes, we must maintain our relationships with God's Word. It can only protect us if we stay in it. Walk away from the Word and the odds are good you'll eventually wander away from God.

In Psalm 91, God makes great promises to those who dwell in His Secret Place – who stay inside the fence where it's safe, where we can live in the joy that can only be found in His presence. He promises to be our refuge, our fortress, our deliverer. He assures us that His truth (and His Word IS truth) will be our shield and buckler, which is even more protection.

In Psalm 91, verses 14-16, He says...  
"Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honor him. With long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation."

When you set your love on someone, you do all you can to get to know them. Where God is concerned, we do this by prayer and by digging into His Word like a hungry man digs in at the dinner table.

Stay in the Word, my friends. If you've slacked off, head back in and start mending those fences. God has great plans for you and you will miss out on them if you're on the wrong side of the fence.

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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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**PHILIPPIANS 4:13**

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

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

*"The Devil or the New Jersey Dance" (1797)*

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God resists the proud,  
but gives grace to the humble.  
Therefore submit to God.  
Resist the devil and  
he will flee from you.  
Draw near to God and  
He will draw near to you.

JAMES 4: 6-8

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ROMANS 8:18

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# ASK THE EXPERT

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

By Charlotte Jackson

## North Channel SALUTES set for November 7

Mark your calendar for Thursday, November 7, 2019. This is the date for the eleventh annual North Channel Salutes. On this day, we will honor our veterans, current military personnel, and our service providers. In addition to honoring these individuals with lunch, a Business Expo and Health Fair will be in place. The hours are 10 AM—2 PM. The event will be held at Armenta's Reception Hall located at 823 Sheldon Road. Booth space is available to chamber members for \$300 and \$350 for non-members. A Title Sponsorship is available for \$3,000 (includes name on all marketing materials and social media sites, first pick for booth location, 10 meal tickets and 50 veteran meal tickets). Silver Sponsorships are available for \$1,000 (includes booth, 10 lunch tickets, your choice location, recognition on chamber web and spotlight an printed materials). Corporate Sponsorships are also available for \$500 (includes booth, 4 lunch tickets, prime location and on printed materials). Space is limited. To register: call 713-450-3600; sign-up at [www.northchannelarea.com](http://www.northchannelarea.com) or email [blanca@ncachamber.com](mailto:blanca@ncachamber.com).

You can read the North Channel STAR on [Facebook.com/northchannelstar](https://www.facebook.com/northchannelstar) and at [northchannelstar.com](http://northchannelstar.com)

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ASK DIAMOND JIM

## Diamond Jim: "How important is it to know History"

Here's a little history that few ever knew.

When baseball greets Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig went on tour in baseball-crazy Japan in 1934, some fans wondered why a third-string catcher named Moe Berg was included. Although he played with 5 major league teams from 1923 to 1939, he was a very mediocre ball player, but was regarded as the brainiest ballplayer of all time. In fact Casey Stengel once said: "That is the strangest man ever to play baseball." When all the baseball stars went to Japan, Moe Berg went with them, and many people wondered why he went with the team

### MOE BERG AND BABE RUTH

The answer was simple: Moe Berg was a United States spy working undercover with the OSS forerunner to the CIA. Moe spoke 15 languages - including Japanese - Moe Berg had two loves: baseball and spying.

In Tokyo, garbed in a kimono, Berg took flowers to the daughter of an American diplomat being treated in St. Luke's Hospital - the tallest building in the Japanese capital. He never delivered the flowers. The ball-player ascended to the hospital roof and filmed key features: the harbor, military installations, railway yards, etc. Eight years later, General Jimmy Doolittle studied Berg's films in planning his spectacular raid on Tokyo.

### CATCHER MOE BERG

Berg's father, Bernard Berg, a pharmacist in Newark, New Jersey, taught his son Hebrew and Yiddish. Moe, against his wishes, began playing baseball on the street aged four. His father disapproved and never once watched his son play. In Barringer High School, Moe learned Latin, Greek and French. Moe read at least 10 newspapers every day. He graduated magna cum laude from Princeton - having added Spanish, Italian, German and Sanskrit to his linguistic quiver.

During further studies at the Sorbonne, in Paris, and Columbia Law School, he picked up Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Indian, Arabic, Portuguese and Hungarian - 15 languages in all, plus some regional dialects. While playing baseball for Princeton University, Moe Berg would describe plays in Latin or Sanskrit.

### TITO'S PARTISANS

During World War II, he was parachuted into Yugoslavia to assess the value to the war effort of the two groups of partisans there. He reported back that Marshall Tito's forces were widely supported by the people and Winston Churchill ordered all-out support for the Yugoslav underground fighter, rather than Mihajlovic's Serbians. The parachute jump, at age 41, undoubtedly was a challenge. But there was more to come in that same year. Berg penetrated German-held Norway, met with members of the underground and located a secret heavy water plant - part of the Nazis' effort to build an atomic bomb. His information guided the Royal Air Force in a bombing raid that destroyed the plant.

There still remained the question of how far had the Nazi's progressed in the race to build the first Atomic bomb. If the Nazis were successful, they would win the war. Berg (under the code name "Remus") was sent to Switzerland to hear leading German physicist Werner Heisenberg, a Nobel Laureate, lecture and determine if the Nazis were close to building an A-bomb. Moe managed to slip past the SS guards at the auditorium, posing as a Swiss graduate student. The spy carried in his pocket a pistol and a cyanide pill.

If the German indicated the Nazis were close to building a weapon, Berg was to shoot him - and then swallow the cyanide pill. Moe, sitting in the front row, determined that the Germans were nowhere near their goal, so he complimented Heisenberg on his speech and walked him back to his hotel. Werner Heisenberg himself blocked the Nazis from acquiring an atomic bomb.

Moe Berg's report was distributed to Britain's Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, President Franklin D. Roosevelt and key figures in the team developing the Atomic Bomb. Roosevelt responded: "Give my regards to the catcher."

Most of Germanys leading physicists had been Jewish and had fled the Nazis mainly to Britain and the United States. After the war, Moe Berg was awarded the Medal of Freedom, Americas highest honor for a civilian in wartime. But Berg refused to accept, as he couldn't tell people about his exploits.

After his death, his sister accepted the Medal and it hangs in the Baseball Hall of Fame, in Cooperstown.

Moe Berg - March 2, 1902—May 29, 1972

Note: Moe Berg's baseball card is the only card on display at the CIA Headquarters in Washington DC

Thank you for reading the "Ask Diamond Jim" column.

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).

CHARLOTTE'S WEB



## They don't care what you know

Have you ever known someone who radiated love? Take it a step farther. Have you ever known someone who loved their job? And then, have you ever met someone who made everyone feel as though they were the only person in the room? To finish the title.....They Don't Care What You Know Until They Know That You Care.

Many years ago I met a School Resource Officer who was assigned to Galena Park ISD. He seemed like a big, tough man who could handle the most undisciplined student or most upset parent with ease. He was able to calm students down as well as diffuse any situation at a school campus or at an athletic event. Parents would seek him out if they were having an issue with their child for guidance. Over the years, I repeatedly heard business owners, pastors, teachers, parents and students alike talk about he cared enough to sit down and listen. Notice I said "listen"?

Too often many in authority have the reputation for wanting to talk but not listen. To have a busy public servant want to sit down, look you in the eyes and listen to you talk is rare. Yet, as a mother of a son with mental issues, I found this man not only wanting to listen, but wanting to learn ways he could assist. Over the years, he has called me to help talk to other parents and community members about the importance of erasing the stigma of mental illness. He has reached out to learn more about NAMI Greater Houston. It certainly did not surprise me that he was instrumental in helping to organize a mental health first aid training for all of

the Harris County Constable Precinct 3 Deputies. He saw a need and reached out to help others learn about mental illness. Working with other law enforcement members, he has been instrumental in understanding that not all children or community members need to go to jail. Often, they need mental assistance or sometimes, just someone to listen to them.

As time has gone on, I have been blessed to witness many former GPISD students return to the community for athletic events, graduations and other celebrations. I would notice that even at a crowded event, they would wait to speak to him. They have often told him and others, that the fact that he cared, helped them to be the person they are today.

As my journey in life has transitioned from a position that I loved, I have found myself now in a position that I not only love but truly fulfills my passion of assisting others in many ways. And one of the biggest blessings is that I now report directly to this amazing man who has transitioned from a School Resource Officer to Major over the Community Relations area of the Constables Office. By now you have probably realized that I am talking about Major David "Bubba" Jones. With 34 years of service, he was recently recognized for having the longest tenure with the department.

He truly exemplifies service to the community and more importantly, being a caring person who leads by example. Be sure that if you see him at the North Shore vs. Katy football game next week, to give him a high five and congratulate him on his 34 years of service.

SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

lower-cost prescriptions. If you try to buy by mail, you don't really know who's on the other end — the drugs could be counterfeit and actually from a different country. Then there's the cost of shipping and the exchange rate. Here are some things to keep in mind while this proposal is being hashed out: \* Canadians aren't too happy about it, because they already have shortages. \* The U.S. Food and Drug Administration isn't happy about it, because the FDA thinks it's protecting us from bad drugs. \* The drug companies in the U.S. definitely aren't happy about it. The drug industry can do what it likes, including passing along the costs of research and development to us, the consumer. Medicare, for example, isn't allowed to negotiate for lower prices. If your drugs are expensive, talk to your doctor. There might be a suitable generic. Price shop at various pharmacies. Call the manufacturer and ask if it has coupons or a program with reduced costs. Ask your pharmacist for the lowest possible discounted price. If you're on Medicare Part D, be sure you're using a preferred pharmacy. Look online at [www.goodrx.com](http://www.goodrx.com) for low cost drugs near you. Meanwhile, keep an eye on the news.

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50-280 (Rev. 6-19/4)

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE**  
  
The CHANNELVIEW INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT will hold a public meeting at 7:00 PM ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2019 in THE JOYCE HENDRIX ESC BOARD ROOM  
  
LOCATED AT 828 SHELTON RD., CHANNELVIEW, TX 77530 **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**  
  
The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.  
  

<b>Maintenance Tax</b>	\$ 0.9700 /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
<b>School Debt Service Tax</b>	
<b>Approved by Local Voters</b>	\$ 0.4194 /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

**Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget**  
The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:  

Maintenance and operations	3.3782	% increase	or		% (decrease)
Debt service	24.6637	% increase	or		% (decrease)
Total expenditures	5.7445	% increase	or		% (decrease)

**Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)**  

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 4,131,589,576	\$ 4,432,164,210
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 151,055,046	\$ 199,024,953
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 3,479,015,436	\$ 3,732,115,066
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 127,196,283	\$ 167,589,464

  
\* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).  
\*\* "New property" is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).  
\*\*\* "Taxable value" is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

**Bonded Indebtedness**  
  
Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness\* \$ 121,960,000.00  
  
\* Outstanding principal.

50-280 (Rev. 6-19/4) (Back)

**Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates**

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
<b>Last Year's Rate</b>	\$ 1.04000	\$ .35600*	\$ 1.396	\$ 5,042	\$ 5,116
<b>Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance &amp; Operations Revenue &amp; Pay Debt Service</b>	\$ 0.95403	\$ .41946 *	\$ 1.37349	\$ 5,052	\$ 5,383
<b>Proposed Rate</b>	\$ 0.97000	\$ .41900 *	\$ 1.38900	\$ 5,191	\$ 5,782

  
\* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

**Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence**

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 123,841	\$ 140,216
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 100,405	\$ 113,645
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.396	\$ 1.389
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 1401.65	\$ 1578.53
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 176.88

  
**Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.**

**Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.3894 . This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of 1.3894 .**


  

**Fund Balances**  
  
The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:  

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 31,400,612
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 15,781,227

  
A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

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**"I was amazed! Sounds I hadn't heard in years came back to me!"**  
— Don W., Sherman, TX



## Galena Park/Jacinto City ROTARY provides backpacks and supplies to start school



Photos for Rotary's annual "Back to School Back Packs Giveaway" this last Saturday August 10th. Galena Park Resource and Training Center partnered with GP/JC Rotary Club, Lyondell Basell Houston Refinery, LULAC 4703, Officer Ruben Loreto, Air Alliance Houston,Viva Mi Casa, Eileen Brightwell D.D.S., MD Anderson Hospital, and Forest Park Lawndale Funeral Home.  
Maria D. Rodriguez  
GP/JC ROTARY CLUB



## North Channel Chamber Casino Night raises funds for scholarships



RECIPIENT OF THE 2019 SCHOLARSHIP OF \$5000 WAS LAURA DELGADILLO, LEFT WITH BILL PALKO, ADAM LUND, AND ALLATIA HARRIS MAKING THE PRESENTATION.



PLENTY OF FUN at the gaming tables all evening, as attendees competed for prizes. The Casino Night was put on by the North Channel Chamber Foundation last Friday, August 9. Title sponsor for the evening was Bestway Oilfield. The event was held at the Jacinto City Town Center building. About 100 persons attended during the evening, and the Foundation raised about \$8000 for future scholarships. This was slightly more than last year, according to the namesake Bill Palko. (NCC Foundation photos)

## GO BIG,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

goal was to raise about \$275,000 but the event went all the way to "a smidgen under \$300,000," according to Scott Stephens, "The event set wonderful records, the live auction brought in near \$85,000 for 43 items. The silent auction brought in over \$12,000. These resources will help us screen young hearts all over Texas and place ECG modules throughout Texas where they are needed."

Sudden death is the #1 killer of student athletes, about 1 in 300 youths have an undetected heart condition that puts them at risk. The standard physical exam/history misses 96% of the youth at risk. Thanks to the generous donors supporting the mission, Cody Stephens Foundation can offer funding for first year screening. Thus far the foundation has screened more than 130,000 people and at least 100 young lives are referred to more extensive care to avoid sudden death. The ECGs are read by board certified Cardiologists.



Although some Cardiologists fought making ECG less expensive dramatically, some supported Stephens as this one that did many of the readings for free. Alahna Kessler, Nathan Schwarz, and Thomas DeBauche accepted belt buckles.

## Principal Morrow,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

drum." Principal Morrow will be assisted by David Lovinggood, Assistant Principal, Kresha Lane, Operations Assistant Principal, Dr. Tanisha Rogers, Assistant Principal / Night School, Sonya Washington, Lead Counselor, Ms. Mel-

ody Burr, Counselor and Gigi Raibon, Testing Coordinator.  
The Joyce Zotz Education Center is located at 13801 Hollypark Dr. Houston, TX 77015, the telephone number is 832-386-3637.

## North Shore ROTARY provides backpacks and helps with school vaccination day in Galena Park



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