# NORTH CHANNEL & STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City www.northchannelstar.com VOLUME 7, NO. 37 (#292) THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

## CHANNEL **CURRENTS**

San Jacinto Pilot

Club Casino Party

Saturday, September 28, 2019, 6 - 11 p.m. at Baldree Building, 13828 Corpus Christi St. Houston, TX 77015. Call 281-

Fundraiser

## Sen. Alvarado's State of the District

T.S. IMELDA FLOODING PARALYZES HOUSTON

By Allan Jamail

Houston Texas, Saturday, September 21, 2019 in the morning at the Houston Community College Eastside and then again in the afternoon at the Leonel Castillo Community Center Senator Carol Alvarado gave her first State Of the District Legislative Report. Over 90 percent of her Bills have been signed

Both events began with a prayer and the Posting of the Colors with the Pledge

By Gilbert Hoffman

thorities.

of Allegiance to the Flag. The breakfast event began with a prayer by Father Joe Doran from St. Pius Catholic Church of Pasade-na and the Colors posted by the Chavez High School JROTC Color Guard. The lunchtime event began with a prayer by Father Tom Hawxhurst from St. Patrick Catholic Church in Houston and the Colors were posted by the North side High School JROTC Color Guard.

Senator Alvarado of the 6th Senate District wel-



Senator Carol Alvarado delivers her first State of the District report after the 86th Texas Legislature.

first legislative session results since being elected to the Texas Senate on December 11, 2018 in a Special Election. Alvarado's guests were visibly happy and impressed when she said she's was happy to report the Governor signed into law 29 of her 32 bills she authored and or sponsored.

Alvarado gave a short but detailed briefing on

> See State of the District, Page 8

## Greens Bayou Regatta

visit www.sanjacintopilot.com

4th Annual Greens Bayou Regatta, September 28th, 9 am - 2 pm. This is a 7.5 mile kayak/ paddle race on Greens Bayou. All proceeds from this event goes to the development of a 27.5 mile Paddle Trail and creation of kayak/canoe launches. For details, visit

www.greensbayou.org/events

### North Channel National Night Out

First Annual North Channel Community National Night Out, Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at Parking lot of the brand new Harris County Cultural Arts Center (front building - formerly Christian Tabernacle) 1334 Wallisville Rd., Houston, TX. 77049, from 6:00 p.m. -

## Neighborhood Safety & Improvement Meeting

To be hosted by the Office of Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia, scheduled on Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at 8:30am at the HPD East Freeway Storefront, 12001-A East Freeway (next to Burlington's).

### North Channel Area Chamber Luncheon

OCTOBER LUNCHEON, Friday, October 4, 11:30AM at San Jacinto College North Student Center, 5800 Uvalde Rd. Houston, TX 77049 (Inside Monument Room 2nd floor). Speakers: local School Superintendents. RSVP: 713-450-3600.



High water rescues were common throughout the county. Above, deputy Sheriff's rescue some residents from their flooded homes.



High water at the East Freeway at Wayside stopped traffic. This was typical all over Houston area highways.

## BARGE STRIKE DAMAGES I-10 BRIDGE, SHUTS TRAFFIC

Tropical Storm Imelda brought widespread flooding to many areas to the north and east in Harris County, and bayous and

the north and east of Houston, all the way to Beau-

See Imelda, Page 8

rivers rose rapidly.
In the San Jacinto Riv er, nine barges loaded with petroleum products broke loose from their moorings near the Waste Pits Thursday morning about midnight, and travelled downstream with two of the barges striking sup-port columns of the I-10

bridge over the river.
The extensive structural damage caused TxDOT to close the bridge to all vehicular traffic in both directions, and announced that they would remain closed until the waters receded and the supports

could be examined.

With very few alterna-



This aerial drone photo, furnished by the EPA, shows one of the two barges that struck the I-10 bridge supports, shearing them from the beams above, and totally destroying the structural integrity. The damage can be seen on the columns supporting the westbound lanes of the highway, but TxDOT will send divers and engineers to examine supports of both east and west arteries before deciding whether to reopen them for traffic

tive east/west routes, a tremendous traffic jam oc-cured on the east side of the county, affecting thoroughfares and local roads. Alternate routes SH225/ 146/330, and US90 were iammed with traffic that also blocked FM2100 for miles. This condition lasted for six days, until Tx-DOT decided they could use the eastbound side of the highway for two-way traffic, and re-opened with a concrete divider and new striping for two lanes in each direction.

However, it still is un-clear what long term repairs will be required for the damaged spans, and how long this might take. Earlier this year a barge hit and damaged a column, and it took three months for repair work.

## **WASTE PITS** EPA holds update session

Representatives of the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) were in Highlands last Tuesday evening, to tell a large crowd what progress has been made on removing the Waste Pits from the Superfund site in the San Jacinto River.

A lengthy presentation by EPA Project Manager Gary Baumgarten was very technical in nature, covering testing, strategies for planning the removal of the toxins, and schedules for the work

Baumgarten also covered the subject on everyone's mind, the run-away barges in the rain swollen river, and the damage to the I-10 bridge. He covered the details of the incident, the damage to the site, and the fact that no pollution from the site or the barges has been detected. One barge was on top of the pits, though, and after it was removed Sunday more testing for damage must take place, he said.

With wry humor, he quipped that he had never worked on a site that had so many



Jackie Young and Sean Matula were among about 20 persons that spoke.

things happen to it, including floods, an 18 wheel crash, and barge strikes. See EPA, page 6



A large crowd of concerned residents filled the hall of the Highlands Community Center.

## **SHELDON ISD** Homecoming King & Queen



C. E. King senior Sabrina Hernandez was rowned 2019 KHS Homecoming Queen and Bryson Washington was selected as Homecoming King before game at Sheldon ISD Panther Stadium.

(courtesy photo / SHELDON ISD

## New stadium site of Panther win 34-7



C. E. King High School junior defensive end Will Evans returns an interception in the second quarter of Saturday's varsity football game against Clear Brook. The Panthers went on to beat the Wolverines, 34-7, in Saturday's inaugural game at the new Sheldon ISD Panther Stadium (Sheldon ISD courtesy photo) DERIK MOORE).

### COMMUNITY NEWS

## Mayor, Harris County Judge urge support for **Imelda Assistance Fund**

Harris County, Texas -Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner and Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo yesterday urged residents to consider donating money to the Imelda Assistance Fund. The Fund was established in the hours follow-ing Tropical Storm Imelda's landfall to meet the needs of those who were displaced and/or whose homes were dam-aged by the flooding that followed.

The effort between May-

or Turner and Judge Hidalgo is in cooperation with the Greater Houston Community Foundation (GHCF), an organization with deep knowledge of the community and expertise in disaster relief charitable work. GHCF previously administered the Hurri-cane Harvey Relief Fund (HHRF) on behalf of the City of Houston and Harris County after Hurricane Harvey struck the region in August 2017. The fund will work with nonprofit organizations that are vetted and have experience to deliver support to affected residents.
"While the giving spirit

of the Houston area knows no bounds, storms such as Tropical Storm Imelda and Hurricane Harvey never observe government boundaries. Imelda displaced people and damaged homes on both sides of the city limits. It is crucial that the city and county move forward as one to help coordinate charitable assistance to the victims. That's why I am joining with Judge Hidalgo to launch this campaign," Mayor Turner said

"All of us have a role to play in helping our community recover from Tropical Storm Imelda," said Harris County Judge Lina

Hidalgo. "Today, there are dozens of communities across the county still digging out from this disaster. and they deserve all the support we can offer. For those who can help, please consider donating financial assistance through this fund. It is one of the most powerful things you can do to help survivors get back on their feet."

Recovery resources for residents are available at ReadyHarris.org. Residents can also dial 211. Additionally, the County has opened two Local Recovery Centers (LRCs) to provide residents an additional way to learn about various recovery programs that may be able to assist them in their recovery efforts. The Centers will be open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to Noon on Saturdays at the following lo-

•Kingwood United Methodist Church, 1799 Woodland Hills Drive, Rm K 105, Kingwood, TX 77339

•Grayson Community Center, 13828 Corpus Christie St., Houston, TX

At the LRCs, staff are available to answer specific questions about recovery programs and resources. This includes information about where residents can find access to food and temporary housing, support for cleanup and debris remov-al, legal services, and guidance on how to file insurance claims.

Residents should continue checking ReadyHarris.org or dialing 211 for support and the latest information on additional resources that are being made available.



Debris removal crews will be in the following subdivisions/roadways starting Monday, September 23rd - Friday, September 27th. Please be sure to place your items out on the curb. If you do not see your area listed below, please call 713-274-3880.

### ALDINE AREA

Aldine Village Hill Rd. W Aldine Gardens Fairgreen High Meadows East Sherwood Place Castlewood North & South

### BAYTOWN/HIGHLANDS AREA

Apache Ln. Highland Terrace Hunters Village Highland Shores Kings Colony Meadowlake Village Cedar Bayou Park W.

### BARRETT STATION

Dreamland Place Barrett Settlement Arcadian Gardens St. Charles Place

**CROSBY** 

Riverdale Subdivision Hadden Rd. Highland Estates Subdivision Highland Ridge Holy Rd. Lake Shadows Subdivision Foley Rd. Indian Shore's Subdivision Rustic Acres Subdivision Newport North, West, & South

### **HUFFMAN AREA**

Lochshire Subdivision

### PLEASE NOTE:

Debris collectors will make three passes in your area.

TO REPORT DEBRIS REMOVAL, CALL THE HARRIS COUNTY RESIDENTIAL DEBRIS AND DAMAGE ASSESSMENT HOTLINE AT

## Chamber's Nite at the Races Oct. 12

"And there off!" Please join the Crosby Huffman Chamber of Commerce as they host a "Nite at the Races" on Saturday, October 12th at the Crawfish Shack at 5 pm. Its FREE, BYOB and open to the pub-

It's a great night full of

00

fun, food, and horse racing. Your free entry gets you

\$10 in play money to bet on It's also a kid friendly the 10 races. Extra play money will be for sale. At the end of the night you use your play money to bid on over 35 awesome auction items.

There will be a Kentucky Derby Hat contest for the ladies that pays \$100 cash to the winner.

event and they are encouraged to dress up if they come. There will also be several card draws during the event.

The Chamber has sponsorships available. You can also purchase a horse for \$25. You get to name the and it will be in the official race program the night of the event. Plus if you are in attendance and your horse wins, you win \$50 in play money.

If you have any ques-

tions, or want to purchase a reserved table for \$50, please contact the chamber office at 281-328-6984.

## WATER DISTRICT **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE**

The <u>HARRIS COUNTY W.C.I.D.</u> #36 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2019 on <u>October 8, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.</u> at 903 Hollywood, Houston, TX 77015. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate

FOR the proposal: Ronald S. Holder, Gerardo Parra, Maria E. Koukoulakis, Felix Eddy, Edbert Cantu

AGAINST the proposal: None

PRESENT and not voting: None

ABSENT: None

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	<b>Last Year</b> \$ .35000/\$100	This Year \$ .32000/\$10
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ .03000	0/\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates(	-8.5	7%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 64,871	\$ 70,135
General homestead exemptions availa	ble	
(excluding 65 years of age or older or	r	
disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 12,974	\$ 14,027
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 51,897	\$ 56,108
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 181.63	\$ 179.54
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if		
proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)	\$ -2.0	9
and percentage of increase (+/-)	-1.1	.5%

## NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION

If taxes on the average residence homestead increase by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the rollback tax rate under Section 49.236(d), Water

**Bob Leared Interests 713-932-9011** 

## WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE

The <u>HARRIS COUNTY F.W.S.D. #51</u> will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2019 on <u>October 9, 2019 at 12:00 p.m.</u> at <u>367 Queenstown, Houston, Texas 77015</u>. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

FOR the proposal: Jerry Dominy, William Bowes, Cary Stephens, Mike Bilnoski and Les LeBleu

AGAINST the proposal: None

PRESENT and not voting: None

ABSENT: None

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$ .25000/\$100	\$.25000/\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ .00000/\$100	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates(+,	/-) .00%	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 138,203	\$ 148,877
General homestead exemptions availab	le	
(excluding 65 years of age or older or		
disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 27,641	\$ 29,775
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 110,562	\$ 119,102
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 276.40	\$ 297.75
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if		
proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)	\$ 21.35	
and percentage of increase (+/-)	7.7	2%

## NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION

If taxes on the average residence homestead increase by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the rollback tax rate under Section 49.236(d),

Bob Leared Interests 713-932-9011

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

## CHANNELVIEW ISD **Board Approves First Bond** Sale, Decreases Overall Tax Rate

House Bill 3, a school finance bill passed recently by the 86th Texas Legisla ture, and more favorable bond terms than originally anticipated, the Chan-nelview ISD Board of Trustees adopted an overall tax rate of \$1.3577 per \$100 of certified property value, an almost four-cent decrease from the 2018-19 tax rate of \$1.396.

Under the new tax rate of \$1.3577.97 cents will go toward the maintenance and operations (M&O) fund, and 38.77 cents is for the interest and sinking (I&S) fund.

The maintenance and operations budget funds daily costs and recurring or consumable expenditures, such as teacher and staff salaries, supplies, food, gas and utilities. House Bill 3 compressed public school maintenance and operations tax rates in order to provide property tax relief to Texans. This resulted in a M&O de-crease of 7 cents for the 2019-20 school year in Channelview ISD.

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking	Total Tax Rate
2018-19	\$1.04	\$0.356	\$1.396
2019-20	\$0.97	\$0.3877	\$1.3577

repay debt for longer-term capital improvements approved by voters through bond elections. In July, the Board also approved the first bond sale of \$70 million from the \$195.4 million bond election approved by voters in May.

Bonds are sold in phases to match the construction schedule of the proposed projects. This was the first of three sales planned. The next sale will be in 2020, and the final sale will take place in 2021.

"We are very pleased that the timing of the bond sale was able to take advantage of historically low interest rates, resulting in a tax rate lower than what was communicated to voters during the election," said Superintendent Greg

outstanding ratings from Moody's, Standard & Poor's (S&P) and Fitch Ratings, the top three credit rating agencies. Those ratings allow CISD to achieve the lowest interest rates available for all bond financings. The original estimated interest rate was 4.25% and the actual secured interest rate for the initial \$70 million sold on August 28, 2019, is 2.59%. This resulted in a 3.27-cent I&S rate increase for the initial \$70 million instead of a projected 3.75-cent in-

"CISD continually looks for ways to make the most out of taxpayer dollars," added Ollis. "We will continue to effectively manage the district's debt and finances and ensure eco-nomical and efficient operations."

## Alligator found at North Shore High School

NORTH CHANNEL COMMUNITY NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

partnership with the office of Judge Joe Stephens,

Justice of the Peace, Precint 3

HELP US BUILD A STRONGER COMMUNITY

through Good Food, Good Friends and

Good Fun at the 1st Annual

Tuesday, October 1, 2019

Parking Lot of the Brand

(Front Building - Formerly

**New Harris County Cultural Arts Center** 

Christian Tabernacle)

13334 Wallisville, Rd.

Houston, TX 77049

**FEATURING** 

Kid Zone-Food Truck-Music-Car Show -Pet Parade and More...

IS SPONSORED BY HARRIS COUNTY CULTURAL ARTS COUNCIL in

www.harriscountycac.org info@harriscountycac.org 281-318-1319

**North Channel Community National Night Out** 

6:00 pm



One result of Imelda's heavy rains was "critters" such as this alligator showing up at places not expected. This 'gator was found at the athletic fields at North Shore High School, and had to be handled by Pct. 3 deputies and Texas Fish and Wildlife experts.

## Sheldon ISD Board recognizes dedication

Sheldon ISD Executive Director for Student Services J. R. Webster received the "Distinguished Administrator Award" by the Texas Music Educators Association last night in a special ceremony at the SISD School Board meeting.

Webster, who was nominated by C. E. King Middle School band directors Crystal Hoisager recognized for his continued dedication and support for the fine arts. Over the past years, Webster has also been instrumental in preserving quality music education

Harkness.

program throughout the district. Pictured (from left) are J. R. Webster, Crystal Hoisager, and Brice

ISD's Child Nutrition Department for successfully meeting all the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program requirements assessed earlier this year. This review covered critical and general areas of review both districtwide and at C. E. King Middle School, KASE Academy, and Monahan Elementary.
Pictured are (from left) King

Davis, Sheldon ISD Superintendent; Carmen Nauling, SISD Child Nutrition



Operation Supervisor; Lindsay Montalbano, SISD Dietitian; and Latricia Archie, Sheldon ISD School Board President.

## B. H. Hamblen Scholarship Golf Tournament set

The Channelview ISD pendent School District's for the four-player scram-Education Foundation will Education Scholarship ble is available on host the 22nd Annual B.H.

Hamblen Memorial Schol-the purpose of providing the pu arship Golf Tournament on October 14, 2019. The event will be held at the River Terrace Golf Club at 16777 Wallisville Road from 10:45 am to 4:30 pm. The awards ceremony for first - sixth place teams and the silent auction will start at 4:30 pm. The foundation is seeking teams

and sponsors to participate in the 4 Player Scramble. The Channelview Inde-

money for scholarships to all qualified graduates of Channelview High School who plan to further their educational careers. The foundation provides graduates with choices they may not have without this program. The 2018 tournament raised over \$32,640 and awarded 45 scholarship to graduating seniors. Registration and sponsorship information

Hamblen Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament. sponsored by the CISD Education Foundation, has raised over \$496,111 in scholarships for graduating seniors at Channelview High School.

For additional information about playing in the tournament, or to become a sponsor, please contact Darcy Blackstock, 281-

## Channelview ISD School Board honors local community donors The Channelview Inde-

pendent School District Board of Trustees recognized local community organizations for their generous donations of Back-to-School supplies at the September 17, 2019, board meeting. Local organizations donated backpacks, school supplies. uniforms, and other neces sities for the students and staff of Channelview Independent School District.

"Channelview Independent School District is fortunate to have local community members who help our families transi-tion into the new school year by donating supplies that benefit our students, their families, and our staff," said Superintendent Greg Ollis. "Through on-going collaboration with local community agencies, we are able to cultivate strategic partnerships, implement innovative outreach strategies, and develop lasting relationships for the Channelview community.

The community organizations recognized at the meeting were Channelview Church of Christ, Channelview Senior Group, East Harris County Empowerment Council, LyondellBasell, MidAmerica Mortgage, Lakeside Garden Club, Legend Oaks Rehabilitation Center Old River Terrace United Methodist Church, Peter Piper Pizza, Rebecca's Purple Rose Foundation, Inc., and the Wendel D. Ley YMCA.



The Channelview Independent School District Board of Trustees recognized Rebecca's Purple Rose Foundation for their donation of school supplies to students at Hamblen Flementary School



trustees for donating school supplies to students at Alice Johnson Junior High School.



The Fast Harris County Empowerment Council was recognized by he board of trustees for their donations to Cobb Elementary, Crenshaw Elementary, and Schochler Elementary

## NORTHSHORE VACUUM Janitorial Supplies & Floor Care

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## OPINION PAGE



## Governor declares disaster in Imeldaaffected counties

Sept. 19 declared a state of disaster in counties impacted by Tropical Storm Imelda, which first hit the upper Texas Gulf Coast on Sept. 15.



year has worked "to Pharma for its deceptive marketing of

Counties listed in the declaration include Brazoria, Chambers, Galveston, Hardin, Harris, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Newton, Orange and San Jacinto.

The declaration ensures that local officials have access to any state resources they may require to

The state worked with local officials and emergen cy personnel in the named counties on problems caused by Imelda's heavy rains, high winds and catastrophic flooding.

### Safety select panel

The House Select Committee on Mass Violence Prevention and Community Safety met in the Capitol Sept. 17.

The panel is assigned to study mass violence, recommend ways to prevent future occurrences, reinforce public safety in Texas and address any shortcomings. Over the next few months, the panel will meet in Amarillo, Dallas, El Paso, Houston and Odessa.

"In the wake of recent shootings in El Paso and then in Midland-Odessa, it goes without saying that Texans are hurting," the panel's chair, Rep. Drew Darby, R-San Angelo, said "We've lost friends, family members and co-workers from these acts of mass violence. And I say we because these tragedies and this loss of precious life are felt by everyone in our state, whether or not you knew the victims personally. Texans deserve better and they expect and demand our earnest work to deliver sensible solu-

Col. Steven McCraw, director of the Texas Department of Public Safety, testified that there have been 12 mass casualty attacks in 53 years in Texas and that six of those attacks occurred in the past three years, resulting in the deaths of 82 people.

Discussion included topics such as social media postings, internet use, hotlines, tips and purchases of weapons and ammunition. Panelists also discussed how law enforce ment entities can share databases that contain information on criminal activities and suspicious behavior.

## AGs keep after opioid

Purdue Pharma and affiliated U.S. companies filed for bankruptcy last week under Chapter 11 in the United States Bankruntcy Court for the Southern District of New York.

filing, Texas General Ken Paxton said his office for more than a hold Purdue accountable

prescription painkillers like Oxycontin, which has fueled our opioid epidemic.

Paxton said in a news release that the bankruptcy filing was not unexpected "and is consistent with the framework structure agreed upon by a bipartisan group of 29 attorneys general and Purdue Pharma to obtain those resources to help the communities impacted by opioid misuse and addic-

## Pipeline inspections

The Texas Railroad Commission, the state's energy-regulating agency on Sept. 17 announced that in fiscal year 2019, which ended Aug. 31, its inspectors completed more than 4,800 pipeline safety inspections and issued more than 2.500 citations

In contrast, Railroad Commission inspectors completed 3,294 pipeline inspections, resulting in 2,444 cited violations in fiscal year 2018.

"Protection of public safety and our environment is our highest priority," said Stephanie Weidman, director of the commission's pipeline safety section. "Thanks to support from the 86th Texas Legislature, we boosted our inspector numbers from 63 in Fiscal Year 2018 to 70 positions in FY 19. This will help us keep pace with the state's new pipeline infrastructure being constructed to transport Texas' booming oil and gas production.'

## Property claims at

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on Sept. 18 an-nounced his office approved and paid a record \$308.4 million in unclaimed property claims during the past fiscal year.

This is the first time the comptroller's office has returned more than \$300 million in unclaimed property in a fiscal year, breaking the previous record of \$281 million returned in fiscal 2017. Hegar said.

There is no statute of limitations for unclaimed property the state holds, which means there's no time limit for owners to file a claim, Hegar added.

### Write-in filing deadline to hit

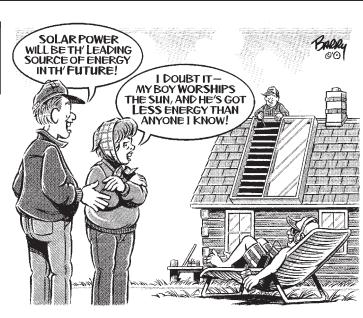
The Secretary of State's 2019 election law calendar identifies \_Sept. 26\_ as the 40th day before Election Day - Tuesday, Novem-

Texans who wish to file declarations of write-in candidacy for most local offices have \_until 5 p.m. on Sept. 26\_ to do so. More information is available at sos.texas.gov.



General Merchandise Auction Every Sat. 6pm 2504 Fm1942 Crosby, TX 77532

Col. Walter Boullion 713-817-9062 wbauctioncrosby.com



## Reps. Brian Babin and Randy Weber request POTUS deliver an immediate Federal Disaster Declaration for Regions of Southeast Texas

WASHINGTON, DC -September 19, 2019 - U.S. Congressmen Brian Babin (TX-36) and Randy Weber (TX-14) released the following statement after sending a joint letter to President Donald J. Trump requesting he immediately deliver a Federal Disaster Declaration to the regions of Southeast Texas impacted by Tropical Storm Imelda once in receipt of such a request.

"Ensuring that the residents of Texas's 36th Congressional District are safe and have access to the resources they need during and after this storm is my top priority at this time," said Babin. "Tropical Storm Imelda gave our

folks little to no time to  $\$ prepare, especially for the amount of rainfall the region is currently receiving. Many are still recovering or had just recovered from  $Hurricane\ Harvey-which$ left utter destruction in its wake. Reports indicate that, in many areas, the damage Imelda is expected to leave will be worse than that left by Harvey. I pray that everyone remains safe, and please know that my office and I will continue working tirelessly to make sure our citizens have the necessities and assistance required to weather this storm. I have no doubt that President Trump will act swiftly to deliver a Federal Disaster

Declaration once he receives a request from Governor Greg Abbott to do

"Southeast Texans are once again facing lifethreatening weather conditions - in some areas, the destruction is worse than Hurricane Harvey," said Weber, "Our first priority must be to ensure residents have access to essential supplies and rescue services. A delay in issuing a Federal Disaster Declaration will inhibit access to life-saving federal resources. We are confident the Administration will work closely with the State of Texas to ensure the health and safety of our citizens.

# To The Editor

## Comments on I-10 closure and barges

Sad this is the only east/west highway there is, why hasn't another ever been built?

--Conmgar on Twitter

I bet they do the same thing they did after the 1990's flood. They made one bridge with 2 super narrow lane each way They had so many wrecks that car parts were scattered on both sides.

-Sam Tucker on Twitter

Sell the barge that hit the I-10 bridge until they negligent big time

--sf3 on Twitter

Regarding I-10 bridge

over San Jacinto River: Many of you have asked what can be done to hold the barge company

accountable. Please know that I have spoken to the Texas Attorney Genrals office about this. They are looking into the matter to determine what can be

Per a call I just had with TxDOT (1:25pm):

done to hold them

accountable.

• if fault is found the State does seek reimbursement for the repair

• US Coast Guard is investigating

--Briscoe Cain on Twitter

Briscoe, I was in your office earlier this year and spoke to Theresa about this problem and the traffic at spur 330/I-10. I was in contact with Whitmires office and hhis assistant, Luther Jones... crickets from all of you. Talk the talk, now let's

-- Craig Srls, on Facebook

We need barges on both sides moved out of the area! They've proven time and time again they are incompetent

--Evelvn Hale on Facebook

Shouldn't allow those barges to be tied around/ near the I-10 bridge.

--Terry Edwards on Facebook

Fix it... yes, of course. More importantly... keep it from happening again. should not be so susceptible to be easily damaged any day of the week. Nothing else it's causing the problems except the barges. Remove them and the problem is solved.

--David Brumit on Facebook

\* \* \* \*

This is so damned frustrating! The last time this happened, it was a huge inconvenience and a HEADACHE... for a LONG time. No telling how long it will take this time. Lessons should've been learned a long time ago. When the rest of us know a storm is coming, we PREPARE for it. NO EXCUSES FOR THIS... A FEW HEADS OUGHT TO ROLL Incompetence at it's finest.

-- Day Linley on Facebook

We need the Market Street Bridge back.

--Jerry Smith

## **Water District** Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

Harris County Fresh Water Supply District No. 47 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2019 on October 10, 2019 at 5 p.m., at 210 Brookview, Channelview, Texas. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

> Dennis Hamala, Jack Dauzat, Alan Wolcik, G W Gunter, FOR the proposal: AGAINST the proposal:

PRESENT and not voting:

Nick Shankle

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

Last Year

This Year

Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.95/\$100 Adopted	\$0.918/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value Percentage increase/decrease in rates	\$	\$0.032/\$100
(+/-)	-	3.36%
Average appraised value	\$93,016	\$103,944
General exemptions available		
(excluding senior citizen's or disabled	1	
person's exemptions)	\$9,302	\$10,394
Average taxable value	\$83,714	\$93,550
Tax on average residence homestead	\$795.28	\$858.79
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if		
proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)	+\$63.51	
and percentage of increase (+/-)		+7.98%

## NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION

If taxes on the average residence homestead increase by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election to be held to determine whether to reduce the operation  $\overline{\phantom{a}}$ and maintenance tax rate to the rollback tax rate under Section

The Harris County Fresh Water Supply District No.47 proposes to use the tax increase for the purpose of making improvements to the water and wastewater system

### LIFESTYLE PAGE

# **OBITUARIES**

### Richard Frederick Arfmann

Richard Frederick Arfmann, 89, of Crosby, Texas, passed away on Saturday, September 21, 2019. He was born in Higginsville, Missouri on June 26, 1930 to George Fredrick Arfmann and Leona W. Tagtmeyer. He was a fun, loving, steady, strong, gentle, courageous and loyal man. Richard proudly served in the Navy in the Korean Conflict. Later he retired as a pipefitter. Richard enjoyed gardening, socializing and volunteering at VFW Post 9761.
"Papa" never missed sending a birthday card. He was the "rock of his family," that held everyone together. He will be dearly missed by everyone who knew and loved

He is preceded in death by his wife of 44 years, Cheryl Lynn Higley Arfmann; parents, George and Leona Arfmann; brother, Dale Arfmann; and sister, June Arf-

Richard is survived by his children, Teresa McAlexander and hus-band Mark, Bertha Rush and husband Jeff, Micheal Arfmann, Leah Frye and husband Donny, Tammy Holst and husband Charlie, and Matthew Arfmann and wife Kelli Baker; best friend and running bud-dy, Tom Devlin and wife



Nancy; brother, James "Jim" Arfmann and wife Janet; sister, Donna Campbell and husband John; many grandchildren and great-grandchil-

Richard and Cheryl were united December 21, 1968, and were reunited September 21,

A visitation for family and friends was held on Tuesday, September 24, 2019, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm at Sterling White Funeral Home. A Celebration of Richard's Life began at 7:00pm. Arrangements were entrusted to Sterling White Funeral Home, 11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd., Highlands, TX 77562. To share memories and offer condolences please visit www.sterlingwhite.com.

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**Noah Lafayette** Pruett



Noah Lafayette Pruett. 91, of Baytown, Texas died on September 11, 2019. He was born in Balmorhea, Texas in Reeves County on April 5, 1928 to the union of the late Verde E. and Mary E. Pruett. Noah served his country through the Army in 1946. He was a Customs Inspector for the US Customs and retired after 40 years of service. He attended the Crosby Church of Christ. In 2000 he met Joan M. Perry and on April 6, 2001 they were united in matrimony. Noah enjoyed dancing. He enjoyed it so that every Thursday morning he and Joan would go dancing at the Baytown Community Center. He and Joan would also go every Friday to the High-lands Community Center and participate in various activities. He would travel every year to Treasure Lake Camp Ground in Branson, MO. He is preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Elmer Pruett. He is survived by his wife of 18 years, Joan and a daughter, Catherine Furnace and two grandchildren.

**Earthman Baytown** Funeral Home & Memory Gardens Cemetery www.EarthmanBaytown.com 281-422-8181

### by Freddy Groves

Reducing the Rate of Military Suicides

In a joint venture to reduce suicides, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Defense and the Vet Centers have hooked up to provide counseling and outreach to the National Guard on drill weekends and during training. In 2017, the National Guard had the highest rate of suicide of all the military.

Now, however, the rate of National Guard members using the Vet Centers has risen 38%, and the suicide rate has fallen to its the lowest level in five years. It's thought that the increased use of the Vet Center services could be the reason.

Meanwhile, the Defense Suicide Prevention Office's  $most\ recent\ report\ saw\ 2018$ deaths-by-suicide numbers that were mostly higher than the year before: Air Force 60, Army 139, Marine Corps 58, Navy 68, Reserves 216 and National Guard

As the VA continues to try to understand the reasons for veteran suicides, it's looking at limited access to health care and isolation Up until 2016, Vermont had the nation's highest rate of veteran suicide. By this year, it was reported in Con-gress that Montana had the highest rate. First thoughts point to rural living and cold weather, vet in California. sunny and warm San Diego has the highest rate for that

If you think you might be in trouble, or if you know a veteran who is, call the Veterans Crisis Hotline 24/7 at 1-800-273-8255 or go online

www.veteranscrisisline.net. You also can send a text to

Besides the 24/7 hotline National Guard and Reserv ists are eligible to use the services of the Vet Centers (there are 300) and Mobile Vet Centers (there are 80). To find out more about what the Vet Centers do, or to find one in your area, go online

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1. Instagram 2. YouTube

3. Snap

4. Facebook 5. Twitter

6. Facebook Messenger 7. Pinterest

8. TicTok Discord 10. Tumblr

Source: Business Insider survey

## **TOP TEN MOVIES**

1. It Chapter Two (R) Jessica Chastain, James McAvoy 2. Hustlers (R) Constance Wu, Jennifer Lopez 3. Angel Has Fallen (R)

Gerard Butler, Frederick Schmidt

4. Good Boys (R) Jacob Tremblay, Keith L. Williams 5. The Lion King (PG) ani-

mated 6. Fast & Furious Presents Hobbs & Shaw (PG-13) Dwayne Johnson, Jason Statham

7. Overcomer (PG) Alex Kendrick, Shari Rigby 8. The Goldfinch (R) Oakes

Fegley, Ansel Elgort 9. The Peanut Butter Falcon (PG-13) Shia LaBeouf, Dakota Johnson10. Dora and the Lost City of Gold (PG) Is-abela Moner, Eugenio Derbez

### **BIBLE TRIVIA**

by Wilson Casey 1. Is the book of Levi in the Old or New Testament or

2 From Proverbs 29 what happens when the wicked have authority? People mourn, Heavens blackened, Masses kill Taxes abound

3. "Blessed are the meek, for they shall" do what? Obtain mercy, Inherit the earth, See God, Be called children of God

4. In what book of the Bible do we find the good Samaritan parable? Matthew, Mark, Luke,

John 5. From Numbers 22, what animal did God allow to speak? Lamb, Donkey, Camel, Ram 6. From 2 Chronicles, what

did Solomon ask for? Wealth, Long life, Wisdom, Honor

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) People mourn; 3) Inherit the earth; 4) Luke; 5) Donkey; 6)

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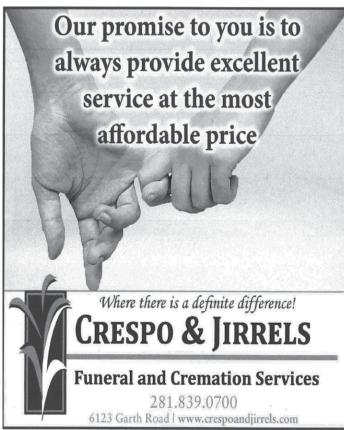
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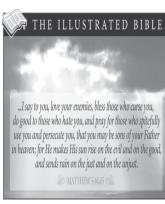
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## **ASK THE EXPERT**

## EPA update,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Baumgarten spoke about the schedule of work, noting that the Phase 2 Remedial Design had started on September 4th. The schedule now calls for final design to be completed by November 2020, and actual removal of the toxic wastes in the first quarter of 2021.

The Coast Guard was the onsite coordinator for the removal of the barges, Baumgarten said, and they have now all been moved to a safe location south of the bridge.

This week a bathymeric survey will be conducted, using sonar to determine if any damage to the cap can be detected. A probe with metal rods will also determine if any rock ballast is missing.

The technical presenta-

The technical presentation by Baumgarten was followed by a Question and Answer session, which also included many comments from the residents that were present.

Speakers seemed to express a displeasure and frustration with the EPA, blaming them for everything from slow performance on the waste pits removal, to permitting barges to be stored on the north side of the bridge, and therefore contributing to the damage and the large traffic jams.

EPA project director John Meyer patiently explained that much of the circumstances of these incidents was not within the jurisdiction of the EPA, but actually was controlled by other agencies such as the Coast Guard, Corps of Engineers, TCEQ, and Tx-DOT.

Speakers included Sean Matula, who grew up on a family farm overlooking the waste pits site. He said he suffers from about a dozen illnesses related to the toxicity, and asked for a stop to permitting and 3rd party oversight of the removal of the pits.

Many speakers blamed the Corps of Engineers for siding with the barge businesses, to the detriment of residents. Cynthia Garcia spoke vehemently against big business having more say than individuals. One speaker noted that only a few years ago there were no barges north of the bridge, and they should be removed now.

A recurring theme in the questioning was who permits the barges, and why no one wants to be responsible for them. And how an average citizen can have a say about them.

Frustrated speakers asked for immediate protection from future barge strikes, not more studies and planning.

Baumgarten said that the barges were owned by Canal Barge Company, but operated by San Jacinto River Fleet, who is an applicant for more barges.

plicant for more barges.
EPA's John Meyer said
that excessive barge traffic was one reason they had
decided to remove the
waste material in the pits.

# CHARLOTTES WEB

## Hurting People Hurt Others

If you have lived any length of time, you can probably remember people who were ugly to you for no apparent reason. If you have ever had young girls in your life, perhaps middle school aged, you will understand. Or perhaps you had a child who excelled in an academic area or athletic competition and their experienced this unjustified ugli-

Sometimes it happens when there is a new person in the office and they are feeling insecure compared to those who have been there any length of time. Maybe there is that one person in the office that seems to be able to sell more than others or that clerk that smiles all the time, while going the extra mile to help others. As they receive awards or recognition for their hard work, they too often receive glares from colleagues.

When that happens how do you handle it? Do you decide to go toe for toe, when they are ugly, you react with an uglier action? Perhaps you confront them? Do vou start documenting every unkind word, glare or action? Do you run to the school and report it before the issue becomes overwhelming? Or do you go out of your way to "kill them with kind-

I just had a younger community member ask me about these sort of examples this week. It seems that no matter what they did, there was someone being ugly to them. They felt as though everything they did resulted in a green eyed monster attacking them. Then, just

yesterday I had someone asking me how I knew someone. As I explained, they wanted to tell me details from a poor choice this person made over 25 years ago. They wanted to "fill me in" on the mistakes this community leader had made.

As I listened to both the hurting person and the vengeful person, I prayed for discernment. I wanted to use the right words so that I would not offend anyone.

Almost as if I closed my eyes and the hands of time turned back, I could hear one of the most kind and loving community members in the area speaking. He had been tested, tried and ridiculed by many yet in spite of it all, he smiled and reminded a crowd that "hurting people hurt others". He mentioned that none of us are perfect and that at the end of his life, he only had to answer to God for his action, his words spoke and unspoken. He told the congregation to stand firm, love others and pray for those who seemed to despise you. He encouraged the group to do everything with love.

I found myself repeating this words to the younger person who was asking me how to deal with recent issues. I also found myself telling the other person that I appreciated their concern, yet I would prefer them not to share more details. I let both people know that at the end of life, the actions and words of others would not matter; yet instead how we reacted would speak volumes. Sometimes it is best to just pray.

## ASK DIAMOND JIM

# Diamond Jim: "What are the birthstones for October?"

October birthstones are Opal and Tourmaline

### Opal

The name "opal" originates from the Greek word opallios, which meant "to see a change in color." The Roman scholar Pliny used the word opalus when he wrote about this gem's kaleido-scopic "play" of colors that could simulate shades of any stone. Opal's characteristic "play-of-color" was explained in the 1960s, when scientists discovered that it's composed of microscopic silica spheres that diffract light to display various colors of the rainbow These flashy gems are called "precious opals;" those without play-of-color are "common opals.

Dozens of opal varieties exist, but only a few (like Fire Opal and Boulder Opal) are universally recognized. Opals are often referred to by their background "body color"—black or white.

Opal's classic country of origin is Australia. Seasonal rains soaked the parched outback, carrying silica deposits underground into cracks between layers of rock. When the water evaporate ed, these deposits formed opal. Sometimes, silica seeped into spaces around wood, seashells and skeletons, resulting in opalized fossils. Since opal was discovered in Australia around 1850. the country has produced 95 percent of the world's supply. Opal is also mined in Mexico, Brazil, Honduras, Ethiopia, the Czech Republic and parts of the U.S., including Nevada and Idaho.

The water content of opal can range from three to 21 percent - usually between 6 and 10 in gem quality material. This, combined with hardness of only 5.5 to 6 on the Mohs scale, makes opal a delicate gem that can crack or "craze" under extreme temperature, dehydration or direct light. Wearing opal is well worth the extra care, though. For centuries people have associated

this gem with good luck. Though some recent superstitions claim that opals can be bad luck to anyone not born in October, this birthstone remains a popular choice.

### Tourmaline

The name "tourmaline" comes from the Sinhalese words tura mali, which mean "stone of mixed colors." As its name implies, tourmaline stands apart from other gems with its broad spectrum of colors in every shade of the rainbow.

Tourmaline is not one mineral, but a fairly complex group of minerals with different chemical compositions and physical properties.
Certain trace elements produce distinct colors.

Tourmaline is mined in Brazil, Sri Lanka, Nigeria, Mozambique, Madagascar, Afghanistan, Pakistan and the U.S.—mainly Maine and California. Tourmaline is desirable because of its sheer range of color options. Combined with a good hardness of 7 to 7.5 on the Mohs scale, tourmaline makes very wearable jewelry.

One of this gem's most impressive traits is its ability to become electrically charged through heat (pyroelectricity) and through pressure (piezoelectricity). When charged, tourmaline can act as a magnet by oscillating, and by attracting or repelling particles of dust. Ancient magicians used black tourmaline as a talisman to protect against negative energy and evil forces. Today, many still believe that it can shield against radiation, pollutants, toxins and negative thoughts.

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

If you have questions pertaining to jewelry, watches, diamonds, precious stones, precious metals, and other questions related to the jewelry industry, email

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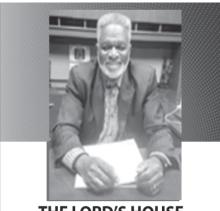
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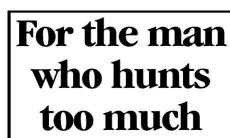


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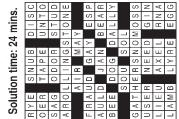
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## **ACROSS**

- 1 Bread choice
- Ignore Platter
- $^{\shortparallel}-$  the fields
- we go" 13 Watergate
- evidence
- "Do others
- 15 Succumb to gravity
- 16 Bloodhound's
- clue 17 Poker varietv
- 18 Half an apho-
- 21 Atmosphere
- 22 Spring time 23 Counterfeit

rism

- 26 Festive
- 27 Kreskin's
- claim "- Lang
- 30 Svne<sup>1</sup>
- Tenor Peerce
- 32 Tolerate 33 Spelldown
- 34 Follow relent-
- lessly
- 35 Linger 36 Old French
- coin
- 37 Scale mem-
- ber
- 18-Across' other half
- PC operator
- 46 Requisite 47 Martini ingredient

14 12 13 15 16 18 23 24 26 28 | 29 38 43 42 46 49 52 53

Mattress'

9 Grooving on

19 Praise highly

20 Put into

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words

24 Wish other-

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"The Seventh

- 48 Stead 49 Figure-skating 7
- amui 50 Genetic stuff
- 51 Mary's follower
- 52 Muse's musicmaker 53 Early bird?
- DOWN
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- 2 Calendar auota
  - 3 Therefore
  - 4 Impassive
  - 5 Bottom 6 "Once - a
- 25 Hearty quaff 26 Joke 27 Wet wriggler

wise

- 28 "Erie Canal" mule
- Seal" director 29 Use a crowbar 8 Failing the 31 Blog white glove 32 Ointment
  - 34 Fawn's mom
- 35 Random 10 Phaser setting drawing?
- 11 "The Da Vinci 36 Bush
  - 37 Villain's look 38 Sea flier
  - 39 Largest of the seven
  - 40 Abound 41 Alluring

  - 42 Shrek, e.g. 43 Croon
  - 44 Hosiery mishap
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## State of the District,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

how the laws will affect Texans. She was successful with bills affecting a host of issues. Including but not limited to, the economy, education, environment, women's and men's health, mental health, property tax reform, law enforcement, incarceration, flood damage, human trafficking, Houston Ship Channel and more.

The Senator introduced two special guests, Melody Stephens and Julie Voss who she worked closely with to get their bills passed (see photos and cutlines).

Alvarado announced to help school districts with funding she worked to increase the state's share of public education funding from 38% to 45%. Also for HISD teachers and staff to get from a 3.5 to 8 percent pay increase and for all other school employees to get an increase in the minimum wage from \$12 to \$14 an hour. Retired teachers will get a one-time check of \$2,000.

She said there's going to be state funding for free full-day pre-K, the cost of educating low-income students and a permanent state fund to lower school district tax rates. The law makers put a 3.5 percent per year maximum tax increase by a taxing authority on property owners.

Because of the three chemical fires, one at the Japanese owned Intercontinental Terminals Company (ITC) Deer Park facility (March 2019), one at the KMCO plant in Crosby (April 2019) and another at the France-based company Arkema Inc. plant in Crosby (August 2017) citizens were forced to evacuate or shelter in place. Because of inadequate air monitoring systems being used first



Melody Stephens of Crosby whose son Cody Stephens died in 2012 from Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) praised Senator Alvarado and others for helping to get The Cody Law (HB 76) passed. Stephens said on the fifth try the passage of the law now requires public school districts to inform U.I.L. student athletes of the option to request an EKG heart exam. To learn more, please visit www.codystephensfoundation.org.

A PADC A

PHOTO BY ALLAN JAMAIL

Photo taken at Senator Alvarado's first State of the District report. "Today is the first time my entire family was able to attend one of my events. I'm so proud of them," Alvarado said. "My family has always fully supported me and that's been a great inspiration for me." From left to right: Frank Alvarado, Jr., Yolanda Alvarado, Senator Carol Alvarado, Ted Zepeda, Liz Zepeda, Bobby Alvarado, Ida Alvarado & Linda Alvarado.



Photo by Allan Jamail
Julie Voss, Executive Director
of the Susan G. Komen Breast
Cancer Organization said
because of Senator Alvarado
support and other Legislators
H. B. 170 was passed into
law.

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responders and citizens were given confusing information as to their safety with the air quality.

To improve air monitoring equipment, Alvarado was successful in making three budget funding requests, not limited only to the ship channel industries corridor but anywhere in the vicinity and or state where's there's an emergency due to a dangerous chemical release into the air.

Alvarado worked to get \$1.1 million for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the state's environmental agency for purchasing a new monitoring vehicle with ultraviolet spectrometer technology. And to upgrade two vans with new mass spectrometer technology and to replace the chemical scanning electron microscope used to scan for chemicals in an environment and 15 new real-time handheld air monitors.

Senator Alvarado was able to help secure funds to assist in the University of Houston's first medical school facility, construction will begin this fall. She supported the acquisition of \$45 million to refurbish the university's law school

building.

She worked to provide funding for the University of Houston Downtown's "Wonderworks" that provides after-school and sum-

mer enrichment courses for high school students. Wonderwork also provides need-based scholarships in form of full-tuition waivers for all academically-qualified Houston-area students

students.
Chief of Staff Alex
Hammond and District
Director Sara MontelogoOyervidez assisted by providing information to the
article.

Senator Alvarado's Houston offices are located at 8799 North Loop Frwy. East, Suite 240, Houston, TX 77029 and 4450 Harrisburg, Suite 238, Houston, TX 77011 / telephone (713) 453-5100.

## T.S. Imelda "worse than Harvey,"

### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

The storm took five lives, three in Beaumont and two in Harris County. Authorities said a man drove into high water on Will Clayton Parkway in Humble, and another body of Rene Salas, 52,was found in a ditch near W. Mt. Houston.

Houston recorded as much as 10" of rain in a 24 hour period, and a total of about 20" in three days. Northeast Harris County, including Crosby and Huffman, recorded about 30" in that period, and a record was set in Winnie, in Chambers County, of 43" total for a storm.

Many of the same houses and neighborhoods that were under water two years ago after Hurricane Harvey suffered the same damage this time. Many who were interviewed expressed dispair and depression over this continued personal disaster, and asked why the government had not done more. Last year the county passed a \$2.5 billion bond issue to improve the



Huffman and Crosby were inundated in flooding. Pictured above is a rescue by boat in Huffman. Houston sent 3 high water vehicles to Crosby to help the fire department. Harris County authorities had to tow over 1600 autos to clear major highways.



Many rescue operations were required in the Deer Run neighborhood in Crosby last week as the accumulation of water began to enter houses and threaten residents.



County judge Lina Hildago urged motorists not to drive into high water, and to call 211 if they needed help. Pct. 2 Adrian Garcia sent trucks to help rescue.



Three workers were injured when part of the roof of the main Houston Post Office on Aldine Bender collapsed.

flooding situation, but County Judge Lina Hidalgo stated that flood relief projects took time to plan and build. Some detention ponds and larger drainage bayous are under construction, and the county voted recently to accelerate the schedule.

The Red Cross has established shelters in 19 locations, and Gallery Furniture, North Freeway and Lakewood Church

opened as shelters.

Harris County announced Local Recovery
Centers at:

--Kingwood United Methodist Church

-- Grayson Community Center, Channelview

Center, Channelview
Almost all school districts were closed on Friday. Authorities said that over 1500 high water rescues had been made in two days. Bush Airport was closed in incoming flights, and many others were delayed or cancelled.

Residents needing help can call 211 to be connected to resources.

