

# NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

*Your News, Your Newspaper*

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

VOLUME 7, NO. 38 (#293)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2019

www.northchannelstar.com

## CHANNEL CURRENTS

### Pct. 2 Seminar

Commissioner Garcia presents Rental Property & Multifamily Development Symposium. Thursday, October 3, 2019. 9:00 am - 11:30 a.m. at Leon Grayson Community Center, 13828 Corpus Christi St., 77015

### 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.

### San Jacinto River Coalition meeting

Thursday, October 10, 2019, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Martin L. Flukinger Community Center located at 16003 Lorenzo St., Channelview, TX 77530.

### Jacinto City Market by Night presents A pop-up Art Experience Art Beast in the Far East 2

Hosted by Henry Murillo

Jacinto City Market by Night presents a pop-up art experience. Saturday, October 12, 2019, at Jacinto City Town Center, 1025 Oates Rd. Market by Night 5pm-9pm, Art Market 5pm-11pm. Free admission. Free Parking. Family and Pet Friendly. Live Music by Grupo Invicto. Food Trucks. Spindletap Brewery. More...

## North Channel observes National Night Out



Photo by Allan Jamail

Neighbors at the Blackburn's & Sinnette's Annual National Night Out Chili Supper.

By Allan Jamail

Houston, TX. – October 1, 2019 each year on National Night Out residents in the Woodshadows I neighborhood come together for a meet and greet to discuss ways to prevent crime in their area.

Jack Blackburn prepares his delicious chili being served while his wife Sue passes out crime prevention literature. Neighbors gather around tables with chairs and get to know each other better, it's these types of gatherings and discussions that make it possible for

neighbors to learn about each other so they can spot unusual activity not normal at each other's homes.

About a dozen law enforcement officers and elected officials or their staff representatives dropped by to share helpful information fitting for the occasion.

Houston Police Officers Sgt. Houston and Martinez were present and happy to pose in the group photo as well as provide crime prevention advice.

The Blackburn's are promoting the use of the FREE Emergency Profile Service for Harris County residents.

They have firsthand experience in using the service when someone other than themselves placed a 911 call for their address. When the

**See National Night Out, Page 8**

## Jacinto City Library hosts grand opening

By Allan Jamail

Director Edward Melton of the Harris County Public Library said, "The George and Barbara Bush Family Place Libraries are transforming the way children and families are using the library. These interactive spaces allow for children and the caregivers to play and interact with various toys and manipulatives that enhance their learning experience. The interactive play connects the children to reading behaviors and fosters lifelong learning at an early age. These spaces also provide resources for caregivers and parents to encourage and engage with children in a meaningful educational way. The staff also received training to support the caregivers, parents, and children so that they can make the most out of using these resources and spaces."

Israel Favela - Branch Manager at the JC Library said, "The Jacinto City Li-

brary is proud to announce the opening of the George & Barbara Bush Family Place! Family Place builds on the knowledge that good health, early learning, parental involvement and supportive communities play a critical role in a young child's growth and development. Family Place Libraries create fun and welcoming environments where children along with their caregivers can play, learn and grow together."

"These specially designed spaces feature interactive materials for children ages 0-5 and parents including board and picture books, age appropriate toys, puzzles, dramatic play items, blocks and drawing stations providing a rich space for little ones to explore. Part 2 of Family Place includes free parent-child workshops which will be offered once a week for 5 weeks at a time; these workshops will begin January 2020," Favela said.

The Jacinto City Branch Library was built in 1992.



Photo by Allan Jamail

Ribbon cutting for the new Family Place wing. L – R: Gaby Prado - Youth Services Librarian @ Jacinto City Library (JC), cutting the ribbon, Israel Favela - Branch Manager @ JC Library and Director Edward Melton - Harris County Public Library.

The building, the A.J. "Bert" Holder Library, is a replacement for the original branch, which still stands on Mercury Drive in Jacinto City. The Li-

brary is named after former Jacinto City Mayor Bert Holder (1925- 1991). His picture hangs in the library as a gift from the Holder family.

Jacinto City Branch is a cooperative effort between

**See Library's Grand Opening, Page 8**

## GP SPORTS

### Galena Park Yellow Jackets lose District Opener Port Arthur 27 - GP 8



Photo by Allan Jamail

Patrick Hernandez Jr, Galena Park (GP) Yellow Jackets receiver crosses the goal line leaving a Port Arthur defender tumbling to the turf. Hernandez scored the only touchdown for GP on a 51 yard pass from quarterback Francisco Villalobos. Port Arthur won the district game 27 - 8.

Coach Spiro Amarantos' Galena Park Yellow Jackets has an away district game with the New Caney Eagles on Friday, October 4 at 7 PM at the Randall Reed Stadium: 21360 Valley Ranch Pkwy -- New Caney, Texas 77357.

## NS FOOTBALL

### North Shore wins homecoming game against La Porte 56 - 3




Photo by Allan Jamail

Demetrius Davis, #9 North Shore's junior quarterback stretches the ball across the goal as he makes one of his three touchdowns defeating La Porte Bulldogs 56-3.

**See North Shore Homecoming, Page 8**



★ COMMUNITY NEWS ★



**Precinct 2  
Debris Removal**

**SECOND DEBRIS REMOVAL PASS  
BEGINS OCTOBER 1, 2019**

Starting Tuesday, October 1st, debris removal crews will be making their second pass through areas that suffered residential flooding. Please be sure to place your items out on the curb.

If you live in unincorporated Harris County and have not had your Imelda debris picked up, please call **713-274-3880**.

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HARRIS COUNTY RESIDENTIAL DEBRIS AND DAMAGE  
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**(713) 274-3880**

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*May Community Center Hosts  
Fall Festival and Pumpkin Patch*  
FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

Attend May Community Center's Annual Fall Festival and Pumpkin Patch, a family festival and fund-raiser, Saturday, October 5 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sponsored by the Volunteers in Action (VIA), the nonprofit 501(c)(3) volunteer organization of May Community Center, this event includes carnival games, children's crafts, concessions, pumpkin patch, raffle for homemade quilt, silent auction, clowns, live entertainment, sweet shoppe with homemade goodies, free cotton candy sponsored by the Lions Club, craft and gift market. We will also have vendor booths with jewelry, clothing's, paintings and much more.

A \$5 wristband purchased at the Center enables children 12 and under to participate in all of the children's activities. All proceeds benefit Volunteers in Action, a nonprofit 501C3 organization that supports all special events, activities, and programs provided by May Community Center.

Purchase raffle tickets to win a homemade quilt valued at \$500. Or split the jackpot in the 50/50 raffle. Tickets for the quilt raffle are \$1 each or six for \$5; winners do not need to be present at the time of the drawing.

Exhibits and Shows Include:

Crocodile Encounter  
Yellow Rose Cloggers  
Live DJ  
Huffman Volunteer Fire Dept.  
Harris Co. Sheriff's Office  
Huffman EMS  
Free Cotton Candy provided by the Lions Club  
Vendors  
Pumpkin Patch Games  
Silent Auction

May Community Center is located at 2100 Wolf Road, Huffman 77336. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information regarding classes or other Center programs please call (713) 274-2434.

NOTICE  
OF TAX REVENUE  
INCREASE

The Harris County Emergency Services District No. 50 conducted public hearings on September 16, 2019 and September 30, 2019 on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the Harris County Emergency Services District No. 50 from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 7.76 percent.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised last year at last year's tax rate of \$0.0500 for each \$100 of taxable value was \$2,660,498.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.0500 for each \$100 of taxable value, excluding tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$2,860,540.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.0500 for each \$100 of taxable value, including tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$2,986,398.

Harris County Emergency Services District No. 50 is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public meeting to be held on October 7, 2019 at 1210 Dell Dale Avenue, Channelview, TX 77530 at 6:00 PM.

The Harris County Emergency Services District No. 50 proposes to use the increase in total tax revenue for the purpose of emergency services operations.

NOTICE  
OF TAX REVENUE  
INCREASE

The Harris County Emergency Services District No. 12 conducted public hearings on September 17, 2019 and October 1, 2019 on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the Harris County Emergency Services District No. 12 from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 13.38 percent.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised last year at last year's tax rate of \$0.0500 for each \$100 of taxable value was \$1,601,796.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.0500 for each \$100 of taxable value, excluding tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$1,811,596.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.0500 for each \$100 of taxable value, including tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$1,824,708.

The Harris County Emergency Services District No. 12 is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public meeting to be held on October 7, 2019 at 911 Hollywood St., Houston, TX 77015 at 6:00 PM.

Harris County Emergency Services District No. 12 proposes to use the increase in total tax revenue for the purpose of fire suppression operations.

NOTICE  
OF TAX REVENUE  
INCREASE

The San Jacinto Community College District conducted public hearings on September 24, 2019 and September 27, 2019 on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the San Jacinto Community College District from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 7.44 percent.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised last year at last year's tax rate of \$0.179329 for each \$100 of taxable value was \$98,876,459.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.178169 for each \$100 of taxable value, excluding tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$106,139,023.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.178169 for each \$100 of taxable value, including tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$109,606,988.

The Board of Trustees of San Jacinto Community College District is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public meeting to be held on October 7, 2019 at 4624 Fairmont Parkway, Room 104, Pasadena, TX 77504 at 7:00 PM.

The Board of Trustees of San Jacinto Community College District proposes to use the increase in total tax revenue for the purpose of supporting bond debt service requirements, and maintenance and operation expenses that support student success.



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Channelview residents meet on Environmental issues

By Carol Stone

Channelview had it's first environmental meeting the evening of Sept. 12, 2019 at the Channelview Fire Dept. Station 3 located at 1210 Dell Dale. This meeting was held for the purposes of providing community members a larger voice in their requests for solutions to the multitude of environmental issues plaguing Channelview, engaging residents in the sharing of related information and contacts useful in achieving beneficial results and to give Harris County governing agency representatives along with other helpful agencies an awareness of the community's issues and the impacts to the residents and to provide a pathway for those agencies to work with the Channelview community to document, remove, prevent and/or improve the issues and conditions affecting our residents.

Community residents had been discussing having a community meeting to address environmental and other issues affecting the Channelview area when on Aug. 13th residents along the Old River waterway experienced a extreme chemical odor event at approximately 7:30 p.m. Residents contacting Harris County Pollution Control for aid were denied response, being told HCPC does not respond to incidents reported after regular business hours until the next business day, this statement was later amended to HCPC does not respond "just from dusk to dawn" and those needing response should call upon the fire dept. Reponses from the Environmental Protection Agency and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality were also denied to the residents. In the eyes of the residents it was a complete failure of the agencies put in place to protect them. Since the incident was near the water the US Coast Guard did offer response. Findings made by the USCG are unknown at this time and due to refusal of response by all other agencies whose aid was requested on Aug. 13th, the residents will now never know what they were exposed to or who was responsible for the release. This incident spurred a chain of events which cumulated in the environmental meeting being held on Sept. 12th. CFD Chief Ryan Thistle and CFD Firefighter Sean Webb gave a presentation informing the attendees the fire dept.'s capabilities, equipment and limitations patiently responding to community members' questions and concerns. The fire department while not as well equipped as HCPC, EPA and TCEQ are willing and prepared to respond to environmental incidents occurring at anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, with the ability to respond within minutes, 7 minutes being the current average, far exceeding the several hours HCPC daytime response or the after business hours non-response policy experienced on Aug. 13th by community members. Once the fire department



Carol Stone raises questions about government response to air quality issues at a recent EPA meeting.

has made their initial investigation, if findings warrant additional response by HC Hazmat, Pollution Control, TCEQ or other agencies, the fire department has the ability to give a substantial request to those entities for their need to respond; an ability that seems to elude the residential community members. Following the CFD presentation, the meeting was opened to discussion of any environmental concern being experienced by community members or of concerns they were aware of within the Channelview area. A large amount of the open discussion was allotted to air quality issues and toxic releases, but also discussed were water quality concerns, hazardous businesses next to residential homes, hazardous and non-hazardous dumping, and the Texas Industrial Box Maintenance facility and fire and explosion which had occurred just a few days earlier on Sept. 10th despite the many complaints to Harris County agencies and officials which had fallen on deaf ears. Representatives from CFD, SJRC/ T.H.E.A, Water Dist. 84, and Harris County Pct. 2 commented or offered advice where appropriate during the discussions. Community members were encouraged to provide their concerns by completing an Environmental Concern Sheet detailing the issue and submitting it for follow up by the meeting organizers and entities with the ability to respond to the concern. Completion of the Concern Sheet was offered as a means for community members to have their environmental issues addressed whether or not they wanted to publicly speak of their concerns and even if they had spoken of them during the meeting, the written information could be used to improve follow up regarding the concern; provision of the compler's contact info was not required since organizers understood the repercussions of citing one's workplace or neighbor's environmental issue. Attendees were also provided an informational packet Channelview Environmental Contacts For Reporting Incidents & Concerns a compilation of agencies and their abilities to aid community members in determining who is best suited to address their particular environmental concern compiled by a community resident in an attempt to aid fellow community members.

This meeting despite a short time span in which it was organized was attended by an unofficial

count of 37 attendees. The large turnout for a first meeting emphasized the frustration of the residents with the environmental conditions they are being subject to and brought awareness to those in position to help the community. In attendance to hear the residents' concerns were Channelview Fire Dept. - Jimmy Sumbera Administrator, Ryan Thistle Fire Chief, Justin Wischnewsy District Chief, Sean Webb Firefighter and ESD Commissioners Jim Owens, Brenda Biggers, and Ben Ballew in their official capacity and as Channelview residents and members, SJRC/Texas Health and Environment Alliance - Jackie Young Founder and two team members, Channelview ISD - Steve Dennis Board Member and as resident, Water District 84 - Allen Hall Board Member and as resident, Lone Star Legal Aid Environmental Justice Team - Amy Dinn EJ Managing Attorney, Rodrigo Cantu EJ Attorney, Heejin Hwang EJ Fellow and Samantha Salas EJ Paralegal and as resident, Harris County Pct. 2 - Kristen Lee Environmental Director and Nelson Espitia Community Relations and the Coalition for Environment, Equity, and Resilience (C.E.E.R.) - Rebecca Smith Community Engagement Coordinator.

The organizers were very pleased and humbled by the outpouring of support by residents who took to word of mouth and social media to announce and encourage participation, the support and commitment of the Channelview Fire Department to its' community, the San Jacinto River Coalition/T.H.E.A.'s support, refreshments, facebook announcement and resources and Harris County Pct. 2's interest in becoming aware of the issues and their impact in the Channelview area. As a result of this first meeting in which several Channelview community members joined as one voice to be heard by groups attending some of the concerns are being addressed with progress to be relayed at Channelview's next Community Meeting and the San Jacinto River Coalition noting the residents' desire to be informed and need for action has expanded its monthly San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site meeting which for years has been held at the Highlands Community Center informing and aiding Highland residents to include a second monthly meeting this October which will be held in Channelview extending SJRC's considerable knowledge, contacts and advocacy to Channelview community members. SJRC's Channelview meeting will be held Thursday, Oct. 10th from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. at the Marten L. Flukinger Community Center 16003 Lorenzo, Channelview, TX. SJRC's regular October meeting will be held Tuesday, Oct. 8th from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. at the Highlands Community Center 804 Highlands Woods Dr., Highlands, TX. All are encouraged and invited to attend either meeting or both.

## Galena Park I.S.D. hosts retired educators



On Thursday, September 26, Galena Park I.S.D. (GPISD) hosted the Retired Educators' Luncheon to share all of the excellent things happening at GPISD schools this year. Once a year, GPISD hosts the Retired Educators' Luncheon to thank retired educators for their instrumental work in our community and schools. Through their years and decades of dedication to GPISD, these retirees have helped shape the district into what it is today and continue to make a huge impact on the community. During the luncheon, they learned about exciting things planned for the 2019-2020 school year. Many retired educators look forward to this event each year, because of the chance to catch up with former colleagues they haven't seen in a while. We are so thankful to have the retired educators as members of our family and are extremely grateful for their years of service.

## Galena Park I.S.D. Holds Annual Ministers Luncheon



On Friday, September 27, Galena Park I.S.D. (GPISD) welcomed local ministers and ministry leaders to the GPISD Administration Building to attend the Annual Ministers Luncheon. Galena Park I.S.D. hosts this annual luncheon to thank the ministry leaders for the support they show our District and the guidance they provide for the community. During the luncheon, they learned about all of the exciting things that will happen during the school year and the District's Character Education program. Through the Character Education program, every student is provided a first-rate educational foundation. The goal is to teach appropriate skills for a successful future and to produce productive citizens and lifelong learners. Church leaders left with a poster to display at their churches to spotlight each month's GPISD Character Education theme. Galena Park I.S.D. would like to thank all of the ministers and ministry leaders who attended the Annual Ministers Luncheon.

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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

# Chief election officer encourages Texans to register before deadline

AUSTIN — Texas Secretary of State Ruth Hughs invited eligible Texans to celebrate and participate in National Voter Registration Day — the fourth Tuesday in September — by ensuring they are registered to vote before the Oct. 7 registration deadline.

Hughs, the state's chief election officer, issued a final call to action to voters, community leaders and elected officials to encourage their fellow Texans to register and prepare to vote in the upcoming Nov. 5 election.

"An active and engaged citizenry plays an essential role in ensuring the continued well-being of our democracy," Hughs said.

The number of registered voters in Texas stood at 15,823,406 in September. For more information on voting in Texas, visit [www.votetexas.gov](http://www.votetexas.gov)

## E-cig cases are counted

The Texas Department of State Health Services on Sept. 24 announced the agency had identified 54 Texas cases of severe lung disease in people who report "vaping" before developing symptoms.

State health officials are gathering more information about 35 other possible cases to determine whether they are consistent with the symptoms and substance use seen in cases in Texas and 37 other states. About half of the Texas cases have been in teens, and more than half required hospitalization.

Respiratory symptoms include difficulty breathing, shortness of breath and coughing. Some people have also experienced nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. DSHS said clinicians should ask patients with those symptoms about a history of vaping, gather as much information as possible about suspected cases, and report them to the agency.

## Unemployment rate holds

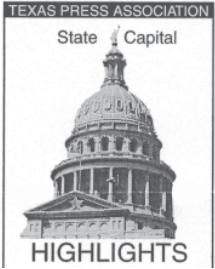
The Texas Workforce Commission on Sept. 20 reported that the state's economy added 18,200 seasonally adjusted total non-farm positions in the month of August.

Notably, the Lone Star State's unemployment rate held steady at 3.4 percent, matching the all-time record low set in June. The rate of 3.4 percent is the lowest since the agency launched this method of tracking in 1976.

The state's lowest unemployment rate among metropolitan statistical areas in August was the Midland MSA with a non-seasonally adjusted rate of 2.2 percent, followed by the Amarillo MSA at 2.7 percent.

## TxDOT asks for input

The Texas Department of Transportation on Sept. 23 started asking citizens what they think will be the most pressing transportation needs for the next 30 years.



TxDOT is hosting a second round of public meetings that the agency says will be essential to developing the state's long-range transportation plan, which helps inform the direction for the future of Texas' multimodal transportation system.

The Texas Transportation Plan 2050, or TTP 2050, will guide TxDOT's planning and programming for the next 30 years and set long-range goals for all forms of transportation.

Texans who can't get to the meetings in person may participate online by visiting [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) and searching for "TTP 2050". TxDOT is providing an interactive survey to gather public input. The virtual open house also features a transportation usage survey.

Online surveys will close Nov. 15, 2019, and public comments will be accepted throughout the development of the TTP 2050 until early 2020, the agency said.

## RRC tops cleanup goal

In fiscal year 2019, which ended Aug. 31, the Texas Railroad Commission cleaned up more than 400 abandoned oil field sites.

On Sept. 27, the state's energy-regulating agency said the number of cleaned-up sites is more than double the goal set by the Texas Legislature.

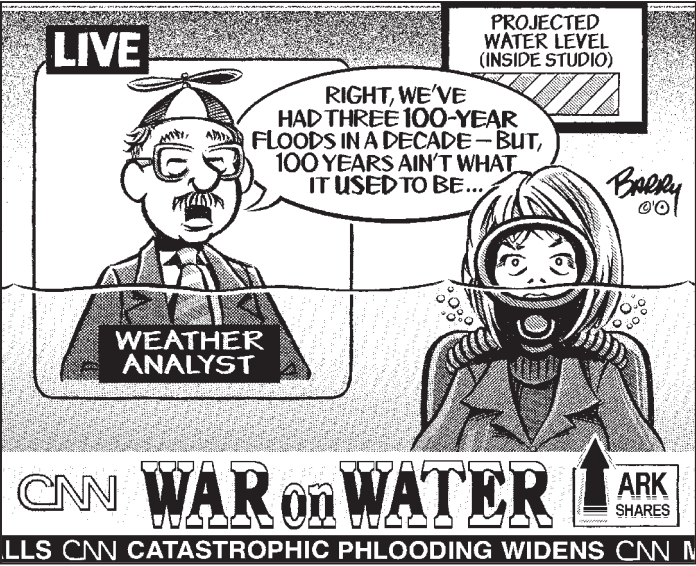
While most operators clean up their own oilfield sites when the wells are no longer productive, the Railroad Commission uses industry fees to clean up abandoned sites through the State-Managed Cleanup Program. The fees include regulatory fees, permit fees, enforcement penalties and bond amounts assessed on oil and gas operators.

Since the State-Managed Cleanup Program was established in 1992, the RRC has assessed, investigated and — if cleanup was determined necessary — completed cleanup activities at 6,821 abandoned oilfield sites, restoring land used in energy production back to a safe condition.

## Governor goes to Japan

Gov. Greg Abbott toured Japan in an economic development mission last week, visiting with top government and industry officials in various cities.

Among the topics Abbott discussed with his hosts were trade, manufacturing, transportation, energy, infrastructure and tourism.



# Drunk Pathologist Missed Illnesses

A pathologist at a Department of Veterans Affairs hospital in Arkansas has been charged with three counts of manslaughter after he altered lab results that showed he had misdiagnosed illnesses that led to the deaths of three veterans. A review of his work last summer revealed over 3,000 mistakes in his findings over the years. He was eventually fired after being suspended two years in a row for being intoxicated at work.

How on earth did someone like this continue to work at the VA?

In 2015 it was reported that he was drunk at work and a test showed his blood alcohol level at was .396. He was suspended and went into a treatment program, where he apparently learned how to stay drunk and not have it show up on tests. He was rehired

# VETERANS ★ POST ★

by Freddy Groves

by the VA in 2016, then suspended again in 2017 for working while impaired. He managed to keep from having alcohol detected in his system by using a chemical that doesn't show up in standard alcohol tests. It does show up, apparently, on a breathalyzer, as it did when he was picked up for drunk driving in 2018.

Among other sins, he entered false information into patient records that indicated another pathologist had agreed with his findings. In one case, the veteran had prostate cancer; the pathologist said he didn't, and the veteran died. As many as 15 deaths could be the result of his errors.

In addition to manslaughter, he faces charges of mail fraud, wire fraud and making false statements. Reviews of his work showed an error rate of 8.8% -- the national average is 0.7%.

The trial was to start October, but his attorneys requested an extension. It's now set for September 2020. He could face 524 years in prison along with a \$7.75 million fine.

How dare he plead not guilty!

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# NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE

The Newport Municipal Utility District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2019 on Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. at 16410 Country Club Drive, Community Room (next to Fitness Room), Crosby, Texas 77532. 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: Margarette Chasteen, Deborah Florus, Earl B. Boykin, R. Gary Hasse

**AGAINST** the proposal: None

**PRESENT** and not voting: None

**ABSENT:** DeLonne L. Johnson

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.

Tax rate	Last Year \$0.59000 /\$100 Adopted	This Year \$0.58600 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		- \$0.00400
Percentage increase/decrease in rates(+/-)		- 0.68%
Average appraised value	\$166,614	\$181,146
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$0	\$0
Average taxable value	\$166,614	\$181,146
Tax on average residence homestead	\$983.02	\$1,061.51
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)		\$ 78.49
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 be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the rollback tax rate under Section 49.236(d), Water Code.

Should you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact the tax office at 281-482-0216.

★

THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

# "Forever Home"

"The septic guy can't find the cover, call him," was the message. I've been getting a lot of messages like this since I decided to put my 100+ year-old farmhouse up for sale.

I haven't lived in the farmhouse for years now—not since I moved out to go to graduate school and become a writer, met Peter, married Peter, and moved on with my life. The farmhouse was where I lived for many years with my first husband and then, for a while, after our divorce. The farmhouse is where I thought I'd grow old. I planted a lot of trees. I had a garden. I painted every wall, inside and out. I thought there was a strong likelihood I'd die in that house. Now I've put it up for sale.

The house has been rented for the last few years. I've been getting a reasonable rent for it but being a long-distance landlord is not easy. Things go downhill.

"Why are they parking their cars on the lawn?" I wonder when I visit. "What's that stuff piled in the woods?" Gradually the property starts to look less and less well-cared for. It was time.

But that doesn't mean it's easy.

I remember Joel, the contractor who did most of the improvements to the house. Joel was a perfectionist and a terrible estimator of his time, so the work ended up being far more beautiful and far more expensive than anyone anticipated. But I can't say I did much to discourage him.

Joel asked me one day, "How long do you plan to live in this house?"

"Well, my grandmother lived to be 100. Does that help?"

"Okay then," Joel replied. Joel put in the solid wood shelves that used to be filled with my books and treasures from travel. He put in a fireplace with tile running around it. He patched the upstairs floor where a wall was removed with wood he took from the closet, so it was impossible to tell it had been repaired, then found nearly-matching wood to repair the back of the closet—just in case anyone should look, just because that's how Joel was.

Nothing in the sale price of the house will reflect the bookshelves or the perfectly matched wood. Nothing will reflect the weeks upon weeks I came home from work, changed clothes, and worked until late while listening to the radio as I varnished, so the woodwork would yellow gently with time and match the original wood. So, no, it's not easy.

And, despite a bad end, the marriage that occurred in that house was not without happiness. Most of my married life was lived in that house. There was a lot of optimism, then a lot of worry, and eventual despair over that marriage, but I am not going to deny that there were happy moments too, times when I felt secure and as if I had found my home forever.

I called the septic guy, Jack, and told him where to find the cover. I am sure there will be more calls. But right now, I'm just hoping the house will sell to someone who loves it. I'm hoping one day they'll notice the handiwork on the bookshelves. Maybe they'll like the woodwork. Maybe they'll admire the tiles around the fireplace on a cold winter night.

I want someone to fill the old house with books and treasures and happiness and feel as if it is a home they could live in for a very long time—maybe forever—or however long forever lasts.

Till next time,  
Carrie

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

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OBITUARIES

Thelma Ruth Rudek

Thelma Ruth Rudek, 76, passed away September 29, 2019 at her home in Houston, Texas. Thelma was born on April 15, 1943 in Lufkin, Texas to parents Ed and Mary (Howell) Hocutt. She married the love of her life, Milton Rudek on July 1, 1959 and they enjoyed over 60 years of marriage together.

Milton and Thelma raised four children and were proud to gain numerous grandchildren later to spoil. Thelma was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and friend. She enjoyed cooking and baking, and especially enjoyed teaching her grandchildren to cook and bake as well. She was a talented seamstress and she made each of her grandchildren a special blanket before they were born, which they each still cherish.

Thelma lived a simple life which she would explain by often saying, "We're not fancy". She appreciated everything, even the small things, and she treasured anything that was from her grandchildren. Thelma worked for Galena Park ISD for over 20 years before she retired. She was a faithful member of Channelview Church of Christ where she and her family attended church when she was able to. Thelma's kind and loving spirit will be remembered by those who knew her. She is preceded in death by her parents. Thelma is survived by her husband of 60 years, Milton Lynn



Rudek; children, Wendell Rudek and wife Rhonda, Rhonda Wilke and husband Keith, Tracy Bell and husband Ken, Roger Rudek and wife Laura; nine grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren; as well as numerous extended family members and friends.

Friends are welcome to join the family for services Wednesday, October 2, 2019 with visitation beginning at 10:00 a.m. and the funeral service will begin at 12 noon in the chapel of Carter-Conley Funeral Home. Graveside services will follow at 1:30 p.m. at San Jacinto Memorial Park under the direction of Carter-Conley Funeral Home.

  
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SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

Estimated Increase in Social Security

Grab your calculator. Those in the know are making an educated guess about the amount of our Social Security increase for 2020. The Senior Citizens League estimates that the increase will be 1.6%, below the raise we got last year. This will mean an average net gain of \$23.40 per month for those receiving the average \$1,460 per month benefit. In 2019, that benefit amount netted an increase of \$40.90 per month.

The Social Security Administration will come out later with the final number, but the Senior Citizens League has used the Consumer Price Index for 2019 up to the end of the third quarter for its calculations.

At the same time, says the Senior Citizens League, our Medicare Part B premium is expected to go from \$135.50 to \$144.30 per month. Doing the math, that nets the average benefit recipient an

extra \$14.60 per month. Some of us, however, are protected: If the Part B premium goes up more than the increased Social Security amount, the Part B premium will be adjusted to make sure there isn't a net loss.

What about our other expenses though? If we have a drug policy or a supplemental Medicare plan, chances are that the two of those will see increases that exceed the extra \$14.60 per month. Then there's the small matter of the price of fresh vegetables, beef, fish, eggs, dairy and cereal. Based on the Consumer Price Index, expect an increase in those prices, even before we get to 2020. Those of us who pay rent generally see an annual increase, too. Is there any chance the landlord will skip a year?

To see all the things the SCL is doing for us, go online to seniorsleague.org.

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Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

\* On Oct. 15, 1917, Mata Hari, the seductive female spy, is executed for espionage by a French firing squad. Mata Hari claimed to have been born in a sacred temple, but in reality, the exotic dancer was born Margaretha Geertruida Zelle in Holland.

\* On Oct. 17, 1931, gangster Al Capone is sentenced to 11 years in prison for tax evasion. Capone had avoided long stints in jail by bribing city officials and intimidating witnesses, and tax evasion was the only way federal agent Elliot Ness and "The Untouchables" could get him.

\* On Oct. 14, 1947, U.S. Air Force Capt. Chuck Yeager becomes the first person to fly faster than the speed of sound. His X-1 rocket plane was dropped from a B-29 aircraft, rocketed to 40,000 feet and exceeded 662 mph.

\* On Oct. 16, 1958, Chevrolet begins to sell a car-truck hybrid that it calls the El Camino. The vehicle, a combination sedan-pickup truck built on a station-wagon platform, was discontinued two years later, but was brought back in 1964.

ued two years later, but was brought back in 1964.

\* On Oct. 20, 1968, American Dick Fosbury wins gold and sets an Olympic high-jump record when he clears 7 feet 4-1/4 inches at the Mexico City Games. It was the international debut of his unique jumping style, known as the "Fosbury Flop."

\* On Oct. 18, 1977, in the sixth game of the World Series, New York Yankees outfielder Reggie Jackson hits three home runs in a row off of three consecutive pitches from three different pitchers. Only Babe Ruth had ever hit three homers in a World Series game, but he didn't do it on consecutive at-bats.

\* On Oct. 19, 1987, Black Monday, the Dow Jones Industrial Average experiences its largest-ever one-day percentage decline, plunging 22.6%. Unrelated world events compounded by computer-governed trading conspired to tank global markets.

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CHURCH LISTINGS

CROSBY, HIGHLANDS, HUFFMAN, BAYTOWN

ANGLICAN CHURCH

• Church of the Resurrection, meeting at Crosby Brethren Church, 5202 1st Street, Crosby. 832-661-9693.

APOSTOLIC CHURCH

• First Apostolic Church of Highlands, 1211 S. Main St. Highlands. 281-426-4133

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

• Crosby Gospel Assembly, 633 Kenning Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2516  
• First Assembly of God, 406 N. Magnolia St., Highlands, 281-426-3170  
• Gospel Lighthouse, 8218 John Martin Rd., Baytown, 281-421-1168

BAPTIST

• Calvary Baptist, 2217 Huffman Eastgate Rd., Huffman, 281-324-3409  
• Highlands Baptist, 111 E. Canal Rd., Highlands, 281-426-2470  
• Northeast Freeway Baptist, 1635 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2723  
• Unity Baptist, 2625 Broad Dr., Highlands, 281-426-4223  
• Iglesia Bautista Comunidad, 5323 Highway 90, Crosby, 281-421-9810. "Venid y te Haremos Bien"

BAPTIST-Missionary

• Antioch Missionary Baptist, 2500 Harris St., Highlands, 281-426-6565.  
• First Missionary Baptist Church, 301 Cypress Avenue, Crosby, 281-462-7634.  
• Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist, 315 Nod, Crosby, 281-328-4650  
• True Vine Missionary Baptist, 404 Oak Ave., Crosby, 281-328-7637  
• Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, 12418 Crosby Rd., Crosby, 281-328-1851

BAPTIST-Southern

• First Baptist- Crosby, 615 Runneberg Rd.,Crosby, 281-328-2564  
• First Baptist- Highlands, N. Magnolia at Wallisville, Highlands, 281-426-4551  
• First Baptist- Huffman, 25503 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-1888  
• Northside Baptist, 317 Barbers Hill Rd., Highlands, nsbchighlands.org  
• Second Baptist, 400 E. Wallisville Rd., Highlands, 281-426-5557  
• Crosby New Hope Baptist Church, 18319 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-6086

BRETHREN

• Crosby Brethren, 5202 1st St., Crosby, 281-328-2442

CATHOLIC

• Holy Family, 7122 Whiting Rock, Baytown, 281-426-8448  
• Sacred Heart, 915 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-4871

• St. Martin De Porres, 12606 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-4451  
• St. Jude Thaddeus, 800 S. Main St., Highlands, 281-843-2422  
• St. Phillip the Apostle, 2308 3rd St.,Huffman, 281-324-1478

CHURCH OF CHRIST

• Church of Christ at Wallisville Rd., 1500 E. Wallisville Rd., 281-426-7557.  
• Crosby Church of Christ, 3737 Hwy 90, Crosby, 281-328-3496  
• Highlands Church of Christ, 214 Clear Lake Rd., Highlands, 281-426-2742  
• Barrett Station Church of Christ, 281-328-7882

CHURCH OF GOD

• First Pentecostal Church of God, 1328 Old Atascocita, Huffman, 281-324-1518  
• Harvest Time Church of God, 495 S. Diamondhead Blvd., Crosby, 281-462-8060

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

• Mt. Rose Church of God in Christ, 13000 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-1314

EPISCOPAL

• Church of the Resurrection, 5202 Church St., Crosby.

INDEPENDENT

• Crosby Church, 5725 Hwy 90, Crosby and 30673 Huffman Cleveland Rd., Huffman, 281-328-1310

• Huffman Church, 1707 Huffman Eastgate Rd., Huffman, 281-324-3705  
• New Covenant of Faith, 12217 Holly Rd., Crosby, 281-328-1315

• Restoration House, 1609 Jones Rd., Highlands, 281-843-4000  
• Son Harvest, 2027 FM 1942, Crosby, 281-543-2860.

LUTHERAN

• Our Shepherd, 19704 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-2422

METHODIST

• Crosby United Methodist, 1334 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2616  
• Highlands United Methodist, 107 W. Houston St., Highlands, 281-426-3614  
• Lake Houston United Methodist, 23606 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-1541

NON DENOMINATION

• Lifepoint Church, 9235 North Highway 146, Baytown, Tx. 77523. 281-576-5452.

UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

• Pentecostals of Crosby502 Pine at Hwy 90 Crosby, TX 77532(281) 328-5054, Sunday 10 AM. Wednesday 7 PM. Pastor Kerry D. Lee

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ASSEMBLY OF GOD

•Galena Park Assembly of

God, 1211 2nd. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-455-0836.

BAPTIST

•New Life Baptist Church of East Houston, 18570 Van Road, Houston, 77049. 281-456-0082  
•Second Baptist Church, 1913 18th. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-672-9232.  
•Second Baptist Church, 10501 Muscatine, Jacinto City, TX. 713-674-8463.

•St. Matthew Baptist Church, 119 Fidelity, Houston, TX. 713-674-0062.

•First Baptist Church, 1505 1st. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-455-1261.

•Macedonia Baptist Church, 1230 Maxnie Street, Houston, TX. 77049. 713-674-6607.

BAPTIST-Southern

•Dell Dale Avenue Baptist Church, 402 Dell Dale Avenue, Channelview, TX. 281-452-3704.

•South Drive Baptist Church, 15229 South Drive, Channelview, TX. 77530. 281-452-4500.

•First Baptist Church of Jacinto City, 10701 Wiggins, Jacinto City, TX 77029. 713-672-2802.

•Beaumont Place Baptist Church, 13101 Ivydale Street, Houston, TX. 77049.

•First Baptist Church of Galena Park, 206 Woolfe St., 77547. 713-455-1261.

CATHOLIC

•St. Andrew Roman Catholic Church, 827 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, TX. 281-452-9865.

•Our Lady of Fatima, 1705 8th St., Galena Park, TX. 713-675-0981.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

•Church of Christ, 15821 2nd St., Channelview, TX. 713-826-2884.

•Channelview Church of Christ, 1301 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, Tx. 281-452-7129.

•Galena Park Church of Christ, 301 Holland Ave, Galena Park, TX. 713-455-0826.

EPISCOPAL

•St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 13125 Indianapolis St., Houston, 713-451-2909.

HOLINESS

•Bible Missionary Church, 10246 Fairfax St., Jacinto City. 713-671-3500.

METHODIST

•Old River Terrace United Methodist Church, 16102 East Freeway, Channelview, TX. 281-452-2861.

•Jacinto City United Methodist, 10730 Wiggins, Houston, TX. 713-673-7132.

•Holy Trinity United Methodist, 13207 Orleans St., Houston, Tx. 713-453-7203.

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but wisdom is found in  
those who take advice.

BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey—

1. Is the book of Acts in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. In 1 Kings 20, who besieged and made war against Samaria after gathering his forces? Benhadad, Menahem, Rezin, Omri
3. What king asked for the help of a woman who was a medium? Jehu, Amaziah, Saul, Neco
4. From 1 Samuel 19, whose life was saved when his wife put an idol into his bed? Samson, David, Amon, Cyrus
5. Who was the father of Elkanah? Jeremiah, Philip, Esau, Jeroham
6. From Esther 1, how many days did Ahasuerus' feast last? 2, 4, 7, 10

ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Benhadad; 3) Saul; 4) David; 5) Jeroham; 6) 7

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ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim: "I like your column. Do young people read newspapers anymore?"

Thank you. I don't know if young people read newspapers anymore or not... Let's find out, shall we?

"One bright day in the middle of the night, two dead boys got up to fight.

Back to back they faced each other, drew their swords and shot each other.

A deaf policeman heard the noise, came in and shot the two dead boys."

Now if you don't believe this lie is true, ask the blind man because he saw it too.

I can't remember the last time I saw a young person reading a newspaper, or without their face buried in a cell phone. It seems that we are losing our children to hyper advanced technology, cable television, and the internet. Our children are being robbed of their innocence and their childhood is being stolen in the blink of an eye. Gone are the days when you'd see 12 or more kids riding their bikes in the neighborhood or in the school parking lot or playing baseball in a vacant lot somewhere. When was the last time you saw a couple of kids building a treehouse or a "fort" in the woods? In today's world, it's also rare to hear a young

person say, "Yes sir" or "No ma'am", or even "Thank you".

So, do young people still read newspapers? The best way to find out is for me to say "If you are a young person between the ages of 18 and 33, and you read this "Ask Diamond Jim" column voluntarily, and you are the first one to come into our store on Saturday morning October 5th and you recite the "Backwards Rhyme" to me when you arrive, I will give you ten dollars. What's the "Backwards Rhyme"?...you'll figure it out. There can only be one winner. Just ask for "Diamond Jim" or "Diamond Jim in the Rough". AND, no cheating parents...this is not about you, it's about our children so please be fair and honest.

Thank you for reading the "Ask Diamond Jim" column and for supporting the North Channel Star Newspaper!

*Diamond Jim is a diamond dealer and precious metals broker of NTR Metals. See more at: [www.pineforestjewelry.com](http://www.pineforestjewelry.com).*

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CHARLOTTE'S WEB

Shifting and Molding

When we are young, our parents send us to school in hopes that we learn, graduate and continue along a path to be a successful young adult. Then as we join the workforce, we work to establish ourselves and move along a certain path to reach a place where we are happy and able to support ourselves. For many of us, we move into relationships and perhaps start a family. Others spend a little more time developing their professional life and perhaps continue to earn additional degrees or certifications.

We become active in our community, our church and perhaps in a service organization or with our children's school activities. As time progresses, there are many great activities that begin to take up our extra time. (What really is "extra" time? Don't we all just have 24 hours in a day?)

I am not sure when it happens or if it is at a certain time, but lately I have given much thought to the lives that I interact with. I have people in my address book that are much younger as well as those who are much older. I have relationships with people of many faiths and many interests.

In the last week as the community has been touched by the tragic murder of Harris County Sheriff Deputy Sandeep Dhaliwal, it has opened the eyes of many as to what they are doing with their own lives and how are they touched by the people who are in their lives.

His death has caused many to stop and

evaluate how they think and act. I know people, good people, who were irate at the time that he was given permission to wear his turban as well as keep facial hair due to his religious beliefs. Yet over time, interacting with him in various ways, they learned to respect him more as a person than what their thoughts were on his religious affiliation.

The same thing applies as we move about in perhaps the most diverse city in America. People who I have known for many years have had their eyes opened by taking the time to get to know those who do not look like, act like, identify or live as they do. I have seen where an older Caucasian law enforcement officer had his values changed by taking the time to get to know a person of color who had spent half of his life in prison. I saw someone who was proud to be a member of a radical group who hated minorities become the grandfather of two of the most beautiful biracial children in the community. I have seen young men released from prison give more of their time, effort and finances to reach young children and help them realize the value of education.

Life is about relationships. It is about learning to shift your mindset and your heart. Life is about constantly being molded into being a better person. Get outside of your box and explore the world. Make each day count by shifting your mindset and molding yourself and others to be more caring and compassionate people.

Hide it in the freezer

Then ask her for some ice cubes

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# NORTHSHORE HOMECOMING,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Photo by Allan Jamail

2019 North Shore Cheerleaders on Homecoming Night. Mustangs two mascots Lighting & Bolt standing in the rear.

By Allan Jamail

Galena Park ISD Stadium – Friday, September 27, 2019 the North Shore

Mustangs before thousands of homecoming fans watched their team defeat the La Porte Bulldogs 56 to 3. Coach Jon Kay had his Mustang offense and de-

fense playing near perfect football, garnering 531 yards combined passing and rushing yards and with only one penalty. His stingy defense kept the Bulldogs offensive to a

mere 74 yards in their first district victory. The eight rushing touchdowns for North Shore were made by, Demetrius Davis (3 TD), Zach



Photo by Allan Jamail

2019 North Shore Homecoming Queen Jewley Arredondo and King Abdil Galan Torres. After the ceremony they told NC Star writer Allan Jamail they've been high school sweethearts for the past three years.

Evans (2 TD), Roger Hagan (2 TD) and Ismael Villafuerte (1 TD). Kicker John Villalobos was flawless making all eight extra point kicks.

North Shore has an away district game with the C. E. King Panthers on Friday, October 4th at 7PM at 8540 C E King Pkwy, Houston, TX 77044.

## Library's Grand Opening,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Photo by Allan Jamail

Pictured clockwise from lower left: Gaby Prado - Youth Services Librarian @ Jacinto City Library (JC), Lori Lueptow - Principal - Whittier Elem., Director Edward Melton - Harris County (HC) Public Library, Sandra Zamarripa - Community Liaison for Comm. Adrian Garcia, Ashley Almendarez - Library Service Specialist @ JC Library, Ann Limon - Library Service Specialist @ JC Library, Linda Jamail – Community Liaison for Rep. Ana Hernandez, Israel Favela - Branch Manager @ JC Library, Sergio Hernandez - District Liaison - for Senator Carol Alvarado, Angela Rubio - Wraparound Resource Specialist @ Whittier Elem., Jennifer Bacall - Asst. Manager Youth Services - Harris County Public Library administration, Yamel Melchor - Instructional Coordinator - Whittier Elem., Linda Stevens - Division Director of Programs, Partnerships, and Outreach - HC Public Library. Sitting in front, Parent's and children's (names unidentified.)

the City of Jacinto City and Harris County. The city built and maintains the facility, while the county furnishes staff and materials. This cooperative agreement has been in force since 1957, when a local resident, Mrs. Dorothy Bowyer, spearheaded the effort to obtain a library for Jacinto City. Mrs.

Bowyer also served as the Branch Librarian from 1958 – 1989, when she retired. Services and equipment provided is, Citizenship Classes, Computer Classes, Spanish/Bilingual Computer Classes, English Language Acquisition (ESL) Classes, CAC Reader (Common Access Card for U.S.

Military), Laptops, Pharos Computer Booking Station, Photocopier, Print Station and Scanner. The Library is located at 921 Akron street in Jacinto City, TX. 77029 / phone: 832-927-5520 / facebook: jacintocitylibrary / To find a library near you visit: hepl.net

## National Night Out,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

police arrived Mr. Blackburn told the responding officers there was no emergency. But since the Blackburn's had previously entered their personal profile in the 911 Emergency Profile database the officers would not leave until they could see that Mrs. Blackburn was alright. Their reason for not leaving is on some 911 calls one person listed in the data base might have an emergency unbeknownst to the person meeting the responding officers, or they may be being prevented from getting to speak to the responding officers to explain why they called 911. Having information in the FREE Emergency Profile database quickly helps to save time for responders in the event of a fire, flood or crime or other emergency.

To register for the FREE 911 Emergency Profile Service you can sign-up at: [www.911.org/community/sign-up-for-services](http://www.911.org/community/sign-up-for-services) or [www.911.org](http://www.911.org).



Photo by Allan Jamail

North Channel Community National Night Out on Wallisville Road had law enforcement meeting with area residents passing out crime prevention literature and providing verbal tips on making their homes safer. Front standing: Harris County Deputy Sheriff Clayton Marshal with his K-9 dog partner Bady. Standing in the back is L - R: Deputy Freddy Castillo with Constable Eagleton's Pct. 3 and Harris County Deputy Sheriff Anthony Ramirez.

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