# NORTH CHANNEL & STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

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# Sheldon ISD Ribbon Cutting celebrates opening of new C.E. King High School

(HOUSTON – Jan. 06, 2020) On Jan. 06, Sheldon Independent School District (ISD) celebrated the completion of its new C.E. King High School. It was estimated that between 1,000-1,200 individuals from in and around the Sheldon community came out last Monday evening to celebrate the official ribbon cutting ceremony for the new C. E. King High School.

Sheldon ISD Superintendent Dr. King Davis thanked those in attendance, as well current and past Sheldon ISD school board members, for helping make this dream a re ality following a May 2016 bond election where more than 70 percent of voters



School District Officials, local community leaders, parents and students at the ribbon cutting of the new C.E. King High School last Monday, January 6, 2020.

bond package that included Sheldon Lake Elementary, Sheldon ISD Panther Stadium, and the new C. E.

King High School. "The opening of this new campus is an extraordinary milestone in the storied history of Sheldon ISD," said Sheldon ISD Superintendent King Davis. "Our students and staff of C.E. King High School will have the best learning environment possible in this landmark facility. We are all excited for this grand opening and optimistic about the future leaders that will emerge

See New C.E. King High School, Page 8

# Primaries start 2020 Election season

Early voting begins Feb. 18

NORTHEAST HARRIS COUNTY – March 3 Primary voting begins for early voters on February 18 and runs until Friday, February 28, according to the Texas Secretary of State. The last date to register to vote in primaries is February 3. March 3 is the last day to vote in person. Any run-off is to be completed by May 26. Candidates must achieve 50% or more to avoid run-off elections.

Locally, many are anxious to vote in the 2020 November 3 election so their vote will solve the Presidential question.

Few local candidates are unopposed this year, but State Representative Ana Hernandez D., **Texas House #143**, has no oppo-

Dan Huberty R., Texas House #127 after a highly successful year with



House Bill 3 (school funding) and locally House Bill 76 is opposed by a Republican, Dwight Ford.

Briscoe Cain, R., **Texas House #128** of Pearland, Highlands, Baytown and Crosby is challenged by Robert C. Hoskins formerly of Baytown City Council in the Republican Primary and Josh Markle and Mary E. Williams both



Brian Babin

District #128, a little research will show is com-prised of about 172,221 folks that are 58.2% white, 38.7% black or Hispanic and 3.1% other. Ethnically, District #128 is 70.8 % non-Hispanic and 29.2%

Hispanic Local offices of consequence include Precinct 2

See Elections, Page 6

filed in December

in federal court, and eleven plaintiffs claimed discrimina-tion and abridge-

ment of their first amendment rights

of the U.S. Consti-

tution, due to the

personnel actions similar to the com-

plaints in the first

lawsuit, and an additional charge that

# North Shore Mustang Basketball defeats C. E. King Panthers 63-50

By Allan Jamail

Houston, TX, Tuesday, January 7, 2020 the GPISD North Shore Mustangs basketball team went to the Sheldon ISD C. E. King court defeating them 63 to 50 in their second district game.

The Mustangs opened their district season by beating the LaPorte Bulldogs 68 – 42.

Nshore Coach Sam Benitez

who last year took his team to the state's final four championship contest only to lose in a close game, one game away from playing in the final championship game. This year he's built a team that'll once again be a strong force in the state.

North Shore (2-0) travels to Deer Park to play the Deer (1-1) Friday, January 10 at 7 PM.

Pictured to the right: # 22 Jakari Marshall, Mustang 3 point shooter makes six 3 point shots in 63 – 50 win over C. E. King. PHOTO BY ALLAN JAMAIL

See more game photos,



#### **GOVERNMENT**

# Constable Diaz faces 2 lawsuits, denies charges

filed involving personnel practices in the Constable Precinct 2 office, run by Constable Chris Diaz.

The original Petition to the state court was filed last June in which Plaintiffs Jerry Luman, the Chief Deputy, and three others claimed retaliation, demotions and terminations for their part in a "whistleblower" report. Defendents named were Constable Diaz, Deputy Lee Hernandez, and Harris County. Diaz and Hernandez were subsequently removed from the Defendents, due to restrictions in the state laws

The whistleblower report had involved the ac-cusation that Lt. Kim Bellotte had misused resources that were meant for Hurricane Harvey vic-



Constable Chris Diaz

time cards in relation to that effort. The charges included Diaz distributing tee-shirts printed with his name, even though they vere donated as flood relief. The Texas Rangers investigated these reports, and no charges were filed

they were required to support Chris Diaz financially and personally in his political tims, and filed incorrect campaign. Named as de-fendents were Constable Chris Diaz, Mayor Ana Diaz, and the city of Jacinto City. In a statement to the North Channel Star, Constable Diaz said that there

See Constable Lawsuit, page 6 The second lawsuit was

#### RECOGNITION

# Galena Park Youngster wins **Houston Texans Contest**



Tristan Chavez of Galena Park runs off the field at NRG Stadium after picking up the tee from the opening kick off of the Houston Texans recent home playoff game against the Buffalo Bills. Tristan's name was drawn as a winner of the Ashley HomeStore Kickoff Kid program. Visit any Houston-area Ashley HomeStore to enter for a chance to win.

#### COMMUNITY NEWS

# Harris County Judge urges residents to "Resolve" to purchase Control District receives Flood Insurance in 2020

Judge Hidalgo highlighted the need for residents to protect themselves now regardless of whether or not they reside in a high-

HARRIS COUNTY, TX -Tuesday, January 7th -Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo held a press con-ference following her meet-ing with Pete Gaynor, the Acting Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to discuss areas of ongoing attention between Harris County and FEMA, including the importance of increased adoption of flood insurance among residents in Harris County and the urgent need to focus on mitigating the threat of future disasters.

Flooding is the most common and costly disaster, and purchasing flood insurance is the only way for families to protect themselves financially from this ongoing threat to Harris County. Key Facts:

Standard homeowners and renters insurance does not typically cover flood damage. Additionally, residents should not wait for a pending storm to purchase insurance since typically there is a 30-day waiting period from the date of purchase until flood insurance policies go into

According to FEMA, just 1 inch of water can cause \$25,000 in damage.

Many flood claims come from outside of high-risk flood zones. Of the 3,990 homes flooded from Imelda, 2,479 (62%) were outside the 1% (100-yr) floodplain. Of those who responded to a survey fol-lowing Tropical Storm Imelda, over 77%



Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo

self-reported not having flood insurance.
. Flood insurance can

pay regardless of whether or not there is a Presidential Disaster Declaration.

To learn more about flood insurance, or to find out how to get covered residents can click the link on ReadyHarris.org or visit

# **Harris County Flood** FEMA grant for MAAPnext

On December 17, 2019, Harris County Commissioners Court authorized acceptance of \$3.5 million in grant funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to support the second phase of MAAPnext, the Modeling, Assessment and Project Awareness Project (MAAP), led by the Harris County Flood Control District. MAAPnext represents an innovative approach in the management and regulation of Harris County's flood-

resilience and growth. In early 2019, the Flood Control District received a grant from FEMA, which provided funding for the first phase of MAAPnext. Phase 1 consists of hydrologic and hydraulic (H & H) analysis of 11 of the County's 22 watersheds

plains, further contribut-ing to Harris County's

and is currently underway. maining 11 Harris County watersheds and will be funded by the award of this second FEMA grant. This work is anticipated to begin in early 2020.
With MAAPnext, the

Flood Control District and FEMA are transforming how we understand and manage Harris County's floodplains. The overarching goal for MAAPnext is to provide you with the flood risk information you need to make important life decisions. MAAPnext will improve understanding of the risk of flooding in Harris County so that the public, local communities and emergency man-agers can make informed decisions to protect life and property that may be at risk during flood events. MAAPnext will conclude with the Flood Control Dis-

trict creating new flood tools and FEMA releasing new preliminary Flood In-surance Rate Maps (FIRMs) by the end of

While developing and delivering this data, the Flood Control District will continue to engage community officials, decision makers, and technical staff to relay project findings. As part of MAAPnext, there will be a period of public open houses hosted by the Flood Control District and FEMA, followed by a 90-day comment period, allowing the public to be involved in the progress of the MAAPnext findings. For more information and to get involved in MAAPnext, visit

www.maapnext.org. You may also follow us on Twit-ter and Facebook @MAAP-







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# **COMMUNITY NEWS**

# **Upcoming Community Events**

will meet Thursday, January 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the Milton Lusk Youth Community Center located on Mercury drive, just 2 blocks south of I-10. For more information, please contact Linda at 281.782.6437.

·Inspire Senior Ministry under the direction of Pastors B.L. and Brenda George would like to invite all seniors, age 55 and older to join us on the second Saturday of each month at 11 a.m. for a time of fun. fellowship and food. The group which was founded in October has already reached over 60 individuals and planned their

calendar for 2020.
The Events will include information to help start the New Year off with Health and Fitness suggestions well as an introduction into organic foods. In February, the focus will be Matters of the Heart and FAST (Stroke awareness) presented by local physicians. March will bring a Community Health Fair focused on Living the Blessed

Seniors do NOT have to be a member of Inspire Church to participate in the meeting or

Dear Reader.

Patel and I am a

day, our team of

My name is Kim

volunteer recruiter for

the Red Cross. Every

volunteers in Harris

County are responding

to home fires. They are

out in the community,

when families have lost

24/7, ensuring that

everything that they

have a safe place to

stay, food to eat,

and should you have any questions, please contact Brenda at 979.665.7712.

·Street Athlete Mentors (SAM) is looking for those in the community who are willing to commit to make a difference in the lives of young people. The group, led by Freddie Evans will be working to bring the gap between educators, student athletes and parents. SAM will be working from the outside in starting with the North Channel Community. Too often there are many of our young men and women being written off or thrown to the side after making a bad decision. Often after a poor choice, they are removed from the team, organization or school they had participated in. Yet, those volunteering with SAM will believe in second chances, rehabilitation and helping young people learn life skills such as planning and decision making. SAM will help our youth become more productive citizens, far past their athletic contributions. If you are interested in learning more please contact Freddie at 832-

·Interested in participating in a John C. Maxwell Master

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team is looking for

help deliver this

important service.

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the eastern side of

Harris County. We

want to empower the

care of their neighbors

and their community

when there is a disas-

disaster is as small as a

single family fire that

ter. Even if that

affects one person.

community, to take

some new members to

volunteers who live on

Red Cross needs volunteers

in East Harris County

**Mind Group?** Groups are now being formed for 2020. Current plans are for the traditional group as well as an all women group and a group for those under 30 years of age. For more information, please call 346-297 0080. You may also visit www.johnmaxwellgroup.com/ corneliuswilson

• Are you a Senior or Disabled Adult? If you are over the age of 55 and would feel more secure with a weekly phone call from Constable Eagleton's Staff, you are invited to call the RUOk? Office at 713-274-2513 to learn more information as well as to sign up Staff Members are also available to come out to speak to groups who may have multiple members interested. As of July, the CASA Program was been added to assist our Spanish speaking community member as well Please call for details.
The Social Striders Walking

Club is off to a great start. The group meets weekly at 6 a.m. on Saturdays for a short time of walking and with each month the goal is to walk a little farther. Please contact Kristina at 713.305.0140 for more details

I'm working with our

communications team

to pull together stories

volunteers to highlight

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need for volunteers).

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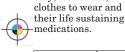
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**Tax Evasion or Tax Avoidance?** 

Paying taxes is never fun. But hiding assets from the IRS and violating federal tax law to avoid paying what you owe can have serious consequences, including costly court battles, hefty fines and even time in prison.

Tax evasion is the illegal act of deliberately underpaying or not paying your federal taxes.

Unlike tax evasion, tax avoidance involves the legal means by which an individual or company can reduce their tax burden

Learn what tax evasion is, how it stacks up against tax avoidance and what you can do to ensure your tax return is on the up-and-up for the









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# ★ OPINION PAGE ★

# LETTERS To The Editor

## Things change at rapid pace

#### Dear Editor,

Pay close attention to things that are changing at a rapid pace here in America. Newspapers used to report the actual news and did not often get involved in opinions. They instead gave you the facts and let you decide. TT STARTED" when writers and many reporters giving their obviously biased opinion, often changing or trying to change public opinion. Opinions that can often be changed based solely on biased reporting. Newspapers are nov blatantly engaged in pushing their own agenda. often regardless of the facts. The public is listening and information is being skewed to mold to a sometimes hidden agenda.

Gun manufactures are now being sued for selling their products, although completely legal, this is an attack on the US 2nd amendment, "the right to keep and bear arms," something that forged US independence from the British in 1776 and again in the war of 1812. Are the politicians trying to disarm America? Why? Think about how many counties disarmed the citizens and then elected a dictator? During most of the decades following Venezuela's adoption of a democratic government in 1958 through the 1980s, the country was the richest nation in South America. In 1989, Caracas exploded into protest, riots, and looting. Somewhere between an estimated few hundred to 3,000 people were killed, mostly at the hands of a brutal crackdown by government security forces. The public could not fight their own government because they had been disarmed. It happened again just a few years ago. Before that, were you aware that Hitler was actually elected? We know how that turned out, with the killing of millions of people that "he" did not like. "IT STARTED" with Hitler's military following orders, regardless of the consequences. Not everyone supported Hitler, but again, being disarmed, they could not fight their

own corrupt government.
Credit Card companies

are refusing to allow YOUR" business to accept debit and/or credit cards. This can make it more difficult to own a business and for your business to thrive. "Your" business could be anything deemed politically incorrect like gun stores. It started by several CC companies refusing to do business with a gun store, or a gun manufacture. What kind of business could be next and where does it end? "IT STARTED" should bring fear to Americans since "anyone" could then become their next target depending on the political winds. Is this an attempt to put politically incorrect business out of business? Government can't discriminate but private corporations do so often, and with little or no recourse by the public.

There are currently no laws that force companies to permit free speech. Facebook, and others, are limiting free speech as they deem fit. That's right; "they" make the sole decision as to what is acceptable "on their platforms." Yet another dangerous precedent since "they" now control what is being said and/or seen on many different sites. Imagine your phone carrier turning off your phone because they did not like what you were talking about. Wow. "They" make the decision that "they" don't like something and then attack that product on many levels. Often attacks can be fake news to meet a certain agenda. Many Americans will read the news and take it as Gospel since if they saw it on the internet it must be true. This is a war for information, to control the future since he who controls the media can also control elections. Wake up, speak up, learn the truth because the truth is often what they say it is.

nat they say it: Jerry Fallin

Jerry Fallin is born and raised in the North Channel Area, attended Galena Park High School. He and his wife now live in Baytown.

#### Caring about the community

#### Dear Editor,

To LIVE UNITED you first need to care about your community. Then you take it a step further and get involved in positive actions that make the community better. You may join a group that is working to disrupt the causes negatively affecting family members and friends. You might make a thoughtful donation that is then invested in solutions to the community-wide issues. Some do th It's your choice how you LIVE UNITED.

I think all who are reading this are community-minded and have concerns about their community. Many would like to be involved in the solutions in a manner that fits their lifestyles. Your United Way invites you to be part of the solution.

United Way works for the betterment of our community and is making a difference. This is possible because of volunteerism and funding

for the three focus areas education, financial stability and health that drive United Way's mission. In 2019, community impact funding helped nearly 50,000 residents who utilized local program services, which were funded by donations from individu als, businesses and foundations. As the disaster recovery group for our region, United Way repaired 63 homes damaged by Hurricane Harvey. United Way's impact is evident in human service program collaborations and positive results of the capacity-building efforts of local programs.

To further our efforts, your United Way needs you to participate in one of the upcoming community conversations. The full schedule is found online at https://www.unitedwaygbacc.org/uw-host-community-conversations. To learn more, please call 281.424.5922 x1001.

31.424.5922 x1001. **Melissa Reabold** 

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# Abbott, Patrick react after shooting incident at church

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick released statements following a deadly shooting on Dec. 29 at West Freeway Church of Christ in White Settlement, a city of 16,000 people on the west side of Fort Worth.

Two church members were killed in the shooting, which occurred during Sunday services. A possible motive for the shooting is under investigation.

under investigation.

The shooter was shot and killed at the scene by a member of the congregation who is a member of the church's volunteer security detail and is a firearms instructor.

"Places of worship are meant to be sacred and I am grateful for the church members who acted quickly to take down the shooter and help prevent further loss of life," Abbott said.

Patrick said the Texas Department of Public Safety is leading the investigation in cooperation with the White Settlement Police Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Tarrant County Sheriff's Of-

# Revenue total is higher

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on Jan. 3 reported that state sales tax revenue totaled \$3.01 billion in the month of December, 4.8% more than the amount reported for December 2018.

"Growth in state sales tax revenue was led by receipts from the construction, information services and restaurant sectors," Hegar said in a news release. "While revenue growth was slightly buoyed by collections from remote sellers and online marketplace providers, collections from retail trade were depressed due to significantly fewer Christmas shopping days in November this year compared to the previous year."

The majority of December sales tax revenue is

HIGHLANDS

# STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling



based on sales made in November and remitted to the agency in December. Total sales tax revenue for the three months ending in December 2019 was up 6.0% compared to the same period a year ago.

Sales tax is the largest source of state funding for the state budget, accounting for 57% of all tax collections, according to the comptroller's office.

In December 2019, Texas collected the following revenue from other major taxes:

-Motor vehicle sales and

-Motor vehicle sales and rentals, \$427.3 million, up 7.9% from December 2018; -Motor fuel, \$310.7 million, down 1.1% from De-

cember 2018;
-Natural gas production, \$114.0 million, down 33.8% from December 2018; and

-Oil production, \$362.5 million, up 18.3% from December 2018.

Toll hike takes effect The Texas Department of Transportation's annual toll rate increase took ef-

According to TxDOT, the biggest increase will be felt by drivers who still pay by mail, as the surcharge for

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those transactions will increase to 50% of the base rate paid by all toll users. Motorists with a TxTag account will experience an even larger comparative discount on tolls – a discount of 33% compared to Pay By Mail rates, the agency said in a late-December news release.

The 50 percent sur charge for Pay By Mail transactions helps defray the rising administrative costs associated with these mailed payments, such as viewing license plate images, generating and mailing invoices and processing payments. Raising the surcharge to 50% also brings TxDOT Pay By Mail rates in line with other toll authorities in Austin and Dallas and across the country, and further incentivizes having a TxTag ac-

Flu season hits hard
In its weekly update on
Jan. 2, the Texas Department of State Health Services encouraged
"everyone to get vaccinated now."

The most recent flu surveillance report shows widespread flu activity in Texas and high levels of influenza-like illness. There have been eight pediatric flu-related deaths reported in the 2019-2020 flu season.

Influenza is a contagious respiratory illness caused by one of a number of related viruses. The flu vaccine is made up of strains similar to ones likely to be circulating in North America, and vaccination is especially important for people with chronic health conditions and weaker immune systems and their caregivers, the DSHS said.

Additional information about influenza and ways to stop the spread of the flu virus can be found online at texasflu.org.

#### Ag chief hosts show Texas Agriculture Com-

missioner Sid Miller in mid-December announced he would host a new weekly television show to premiere on the RFD-TV network. The first show is set to air on Jan. 21.

The show, Texas Agriculture Matters, will spotlight Texas agriculture for 52 million viewers nationwide, according to Miller's office. The show is produced by RFD-TV in agreement with the Texas Department of Agriculture and recorded at the RFD TV/The Cowboy Channel studio in the Fort Worth Stockyards, with Miller hosting in his capacity as Texas agriculture commissioner and receiving no compensation for his participation.



# A Night at the Funeral Home"

"What do you think?" my husband, Peter, asked about the link he'd sent me as we prepared to head home from the holidays.

"The funeral home?" I asked "Yeah, that one." "I thought it was a joke." "No, it's right on our way." "We're going to spend the

night in a funeral home?"
"It's very inexpensive!"
I suddenly felt like I was in the opening scene of every horror

film I'd ever watched.

Peter wanted us to spend the night in a historic funeral home on our way home. The funeral home had been converted into an Airbnb. It was both right on

our way and suspiciously cheap. Peter and I drive home on two-lane roads. The roads are slower, but the route is more direct. The problem is that the few motels on the way are very much the worse for wear. We've tried virtually every one and I can no longer keep them straight.

"We stayed there," Peter will say as we drive by.

"Was that the one with the really loud heater?" I ask.

"No, that was the one with the toilet that rocked—and not in a good way."

If a person stayed in a bad funeral home, I figured, at least the experience would be memorable.

We pulled in about sunset. There was a bare weeping willow out front. The proprietor, a woman about my age named Cheryl, met us at the door. We'd been having trouble with our car battery, so we asked if we could plug a trickle charger into the unusually large garage.

"Boy!" Peter said, "This is a

big garage."

"They stored the coffins here

until the hearse picked them up.
"Huh," Peter said.
We entered the house and
noticed the front hallway was at
an odd angle. I asked Cheryl
why this was.

"There are three parlors, all with pocket doors to close them off and separate entrances," Cheryl explained. "So they could have three funerals at once!"

"Did they really have three funerals at the same time?" I asked. That seemed like a lot of simultaneous casualties in a town this size.

"I don't know if they did, but they could!"

Cheryl had four cats. One was black and named "Old Scratch."

"You know, that's a nickname for the devil," I told her—certain she already knew.

"No! I didn't know. He used to have a sibling named 'Sniff,' who died years ago and now I just call him 'Old Scratch."

There was a life-sized skeleton at the pump organ in one of the parlors and a figure in Victorian dress looking out the window. Our room upstairs was filled with antiques. There was also a skeleton in our closet, I discovered, when I put our luggage away.

Cheryl told us about the purported paranormal activities that had occurred in the house and the people who had stayed there, looking for them. There was, she told me, a persistent report of a woman on the back stairway.

"I don't know if it's haunted or not," Cheryl concluded cheerfully. "If I hear something funny, I just say, 'Oh! It's the cats again!" This seemed to me like a practical response.

I slept very well in the funeral nome.

The house was quiet and bed was comfortable and I cannot tell you anything unusual that occurred during the night. Except this:

I had a particularly vivid dream. I was flying and felt fearless and full of joy and humor. I was learning new things and surrounded by friends. If that's what haunting feels

If that's what hau like, I'll take it. Till next time,

at CarrieClasson.com.

Carrie Classon's memoir is called, "Blue Yarn." Learn more

#### LIFESTYLE PAGE

# **HIGHLANDS ROTARY CLUB NEWS**

# **Houston Museum of Natural Sciences at Rotary**

Rotarians heard about the Houston Museum of Natural Sciences at their weekly luncheon last Tuesday, Dec. 10. Temple was accompanied in his presentation by Chuck Leah, a grammy nominated musician who also works at the

Temple has been with the museum for 27 years, and shared his depth of knowledge with the Rotary members. He is a paleontologist, and studied archeology at the University of Houston.

As a spokesperson for the HMNS (Houston Museum of Natural Science) he introduced the group to the many varied aspects of the museum, some new and some traditional.

Examples of current exhibits include a model of Stonehenge made from Lego

blocks, and a model train show.

The museum has 17 permanent exhibit halls, the Cockrell Butterfly Center, the Burke Baker Planetarium, and the Wortham Gian IMAX Screen Theater. In just one visit you can investigate dinosaurs, mummies, the stars, and butter-

flies.
Exhibits are designed for both young learners and older adults. Children like to have birthday parties there. The museum charges admission, but also has



**David Temple** Assoc. Curator of Paleontology

family memberships to help with the cost. Temple gave out guest passes as an incentive to the Rotary audience. He also distributed a game board with images of the various features of the museum, and challenges to find things in the artwork.

Temple said he specializes in cooking insects, and promised to return to a future Rotary luncheon to demonstrate.

# Crosby-Huffman Chamber of Commerce welcomes new members



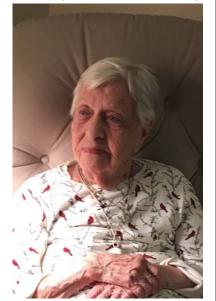
Please join us in welcoming our newest member Cayne Roofing. They are located at 6707 Miller Wilson Rd in Crosby and can be reached at 713-842-0802. They would love to help you with all your roofing needs.



Please join us in welcoming new member, Kat's Kitchen without Borders. They are a non-profit organization helping with micro-loans/grants to young children and women, sustainable organic resources and business education, and assistance to the homeless(people and dogs). To learn more about this organization please contact Kathleen O Toole at 201-966-



# Happy 99th Birthday



Sara Rupp of Highlands will be 99 years old on January 22, 2020.

#### **BIBLE** TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey-

- . Is the book of Nahum in the Old or New Testament or neither?
- 2. In Acts 7, who recounts the story of Abraham along with the captivity and freedom of the children of Israel? Paul, Peter, Stephen Andrew
- 3. From II Corinthians 3:17, "Where the spirit of the Lord is, there is ... "? Hope Liberty, Love. Peace
- 4. Who went to sleep and fell out the window while Paul preached? Esua. Enid.
- Eutychus, Eucyrus In what Macedonian city were Paul and Silas imprisoned? Philipi, Neapolis, Jericho, Jerusalem
- 6. From Acts 13:6, Barjesus was a ...? Cousin of Jesus, Early priest, Sorcerer, Friend of Mark

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Stephen; 3) Liberty; 4) Eutychus; 5) Philipi; 6)



Please join us in welcoming new member, Yard Date to our chamber family. They are a wonderful family owned business and a great addition to our community. They offer landscaping services, hang Christmas lights and numerous other services. You can reach them at 281-947-5517 for all your yard needs.

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# ASK THE EXPERT



# Planning for the Community

Over the past few months, I have been meeting with various people in the North Channel Community. At different gatherings, we have talked about the obstacles, the determination and the amount that we collectively have been able to make happen when none of us ant the credit. We simply want the community to be a better place. Better in what ways? We want to see services being offered, businesses being successful and all of us working together to reach common goals. These meetings have been with a variety of people. Some of the people were lifelong residents of the area Some were from the first graduating Class of North Shore Senior High School. Some are first generation Americans Some are still in school. Some work in the community. Most worship in the community. And certainly the large majority of people REFUSE to give up on just need a warehouse the Eastside or as it is but we really needed affectionately known by prayers, as Trey was not many, "The Beastside" talk, he PUSHED Nearly two decades

ago, our nation was attacked on September 11; yet before that happened, a young man named Misha Gautreaux decided that with the help of some family members, some friends and many community members, somehow the three local ISDs and San Jacinto College were going to pull off a "North Channel Multicultural Festival" to connect the communities and unless you were there, you missed it. Ask some of the older folks in the area and they will tell you than teamwork happened. Lives were changed and walls came down. The Inaugural Festival drew in over 5,000 attendees and many of the relationships that were formed are stronger today than

ago, just after Hurricane

nity and left most of us with no electricity and some other obstacles. Another young man began to meet with others in the community and find out what needs there were in those three ISDs as well as Crosby ISD and soon. The Rhodes School. Trey Narcisse was a younger and even more energetic gift to the community. He founded East Harris County empowerment Council and began moving mountains. By the time Hurricane Harvey tried to take us out, Trey had bonded with many and little mountains of supplies and resources started to flood our area. (I have to share that on one conference call, he explained the community would soon receive a MILLION packages of underwear. Yes, a MILLION packages. Suddenly, I found myself listening to a handful of others saying we did not

Ike touched the commu

So we now find ourselves at the beginning a new decade and we still have needs and we still have volunteers I do not even begin to know what God is going to do when all of these amazing people push forward to work together, but I know that one of the most important lessons that any of us can share with others is simply stated "Life is not about you.

and lots of volunteers,

someone who talked the

jump in, mark your calendar for Sunday, January 19 at 6 p.m. Better yet, bring your calendar and details of already know are planned for 2020 and meet with some amazing people to get busy and move mountains Location will be announced in next week's

If you are ready to

# ASK DIAMOND JIM

# Diamond Jim: "What is the birthstone for January?" January's Birthstone is Garnet

For babies born in January, the garnet is the perfect gem to represent their birth stone. This beautiful stone, which is most commonly red but can be found in a range of other colors, symbolizes peace, prosperity and good health. Some say it even has the power to give the wearer eternal happiness, health and

We say it's the perfect way to start each year!

Garnet is actually the name of a group of minerals that comes in a rainbow of colors, from the deep red of the Pyrope garnet to the vibrant green of Tsavorites. Some rare garnets are even blue, colorless, or-most rare of allchange colors in different lights. But the most common color is a beautiful range of reds, from rust colored to deep violet-red.

The garnet is a very durable gemstone (6.5-7.5 on the Mohs scale) found all over the world, including Wyoming, Czech Republic, Greece, Russia, Tanzania, Madagascar, Sri Lanka and India.

The folklore on garnet is extensive. Legend has it that the garnet can bring peace, prosperity and good health to the home. Some even called it the "Gem of Faith," and it's believed that to those who wear it and do good, more good will come. (Conversely, it was also said to bring very bad fortune to those who commit bad acts while wearing it.)

It is also believed that the garnet symbolizes deep and lasting friendship. With that "legend" in mind, give a garnet to someone whose friendship you deeply value. No matter why or how

you wear garnet, this beautiful gemstone is perfect for those who share January birthdays and get to start each New Year with a sense of goodwill, happiness, and purpose

#### HOW TO BUY **GARNET**

If you're looking to purchase a garnet for yourself or a loved one, it is a great way to celebrate friendship. toast a 2ndwedding anniversary or recognize the wearer's January birthday. When buying, visit a jeweler you know you can trust to assist you in purchasing exactly the right stone and piece. Look at how the garnet reacts under light and check for an intense, saturated color.

Try to find a cut that spreads light evenly over the surface of the gemstone. This will help to bring out the overall beauty and color of the garnet. No matter which stone or piece you choose, remember that the garnet is known for its durability and richness of color, so your investment will not only have great emotional value but could be a piece that stands the test of time.

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

 $Diamond\ Jim\ is\ a$ diamond dealer and  $\begin{array}{c} precious\ metals\ broker\ of\\ NTR\ Metals.\ See\ more \end{array}$ 

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# Primary Elections,

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1** 

Constable, with incumbent Chris Diaz running against several opponents including Democrats Jerry Garcia, a police officer; George Goffney Jr., a process operator technician; Alberto Rivera, a deputy constable; and Republican Daniel Vela, police officer. Precinct 3 Constable.

That job is now in the capable hands of Sherman Eagleton, D., being challenged by Democrats Deborah Florus, a Sheriff's Deputy; Ken Jones, retired from the office; Michel Pappilion, a retired Houston Police Department officer; John "Jay" Portillo, police officer, formerly of Precinct 3 and Deputy Eric Reed. A Republican Challenger is Andre Hines, a deputy.
Precinct 3 is 56% non-

Hispanic and 43% Hispanic. Of the 347,174 residents, 53% are white, 25% are black, about 1% are Indian and 1.5% are

Two local US Congressional elections are to be decided by voters. One is US Congressional Dis-trict #2, formerly Ted Poe's District and still in-cludes the wealthier houses on Lake Houston Dan Crenshaw, R., age 35, born in Aberdeen, Scotland is being challenged by three Democrats Elisa Cardnell, Travis Olsen and wait for it, Sima Ladjevardian.

US Congressional District #36, the rest of Ted Poe's District #2 including the rest of Crosby, Highlands, a little Baytown, to Beaumont is now represented by Brian Babin, R., he is challenged by R.J. Boatman a Republican and Democrat Rashad Lewis. The single difference in rhetoric between Babin and Boatman is that Boatman promises to impose his own term limit.

Kim Ogg, a Democrat is District Attorney being challenged by Carvana

Cloud, Democrat and Attorney; Audia Jones, a Democrat and Attorney; Todd Overstreet, Democrat and Lawyer; and Lori Deangelo, Republican Attorney; Mary Huffman, Republican Attorney; Lloyd Wayne Oliver, Republican Attorney.

Harris County -County Attorney Vince Ryan a Democrat is challenged by Attorney Ben Rose. Democrat; Attorney Christian Dashaun Menefee. Democrat: Attorney John Nation, Republican.

Harris County - Sheriff Ed Gonzalez a Demo-crat, is challenged by Democrat Jerome Moore, a Deputy Constable; Democrat Harry Zamora Houston Police Lt. Ret.;Joe Danna, Republican Deputy Sheriff. Paul Day, Republican Patrol Deputy; Randy Rush, Republican retired law enforcement.

Senator Cornyn, Incumbant, is polling weakly with about 45% against everybody and is running against four Republicans and ten Democrats. Virgil Bierschwale, John Castro, Dwayne Stovall and Mark Yancey are Republicans candidates against the former Senate whip and former best prosecutor in Texas. Chris Bell former Highlands and Crosby US Congressman is polling best now for the Democrats Royce West, Michael Cooper, Amanda Edwards, Jack Daniel Foster, Victor Hugo Harris, M.J. Hegar, Sema Hernande4z, Adrian Ocegueda and Cristina Tzintzün Ramirez fill out the Democrat candidates

Of course this is not nearly all the candidates to be on the ballot like Judgegs and Clerks but are the result of local election coming to Primarys according to Ruth R. Hughs.



## Constable lawsuits,

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1** 

was no merit to the charges, that personnel were as signed to enhance the efficiency of the office, and

to better serve the public.

The second lawsuit was filed by plaintiffs' attorney Scott Poerschke, in the United States District Court Southern District Texas. He also represented the plaintiffs in the first lawsuit in state court. That procedure has been sched-uled for a trial in August

2020. The plaintiffs have asked for a jury trial, and are demanding reinstatement to similar jobs, back pay, and compensation for

The county is also a defendent and the Assistant County Attorney working on the case is Laura Beckman. She told the Star that they will seek to have the charges dismissed prior to a trial date.

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**LEGAL NOTICE** 

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

Channelview ISD Property Foreclosure Auction; February 4, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.; Bayou City Event Center at 9401 Knight Rd, Houston, TX 77045: Cause Number 2005-24661: TRACT 1: LT 12 BLK 5 FOR-EST RIVER ESTATES; HCAD # 0836240000012; Property Address 0 Laurelwood Dr, Channelview, TX 77530. Opening Bid: \$8,500.00 call 832.777.3373 for more information.

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

**LEGAL NOTICE** 

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

Channelview ISD Property Foreclosure Auction; February 4, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.; Bayou City Event Center at 9401 Knight Rd, Houston, TX 77045; Cause Number 2007-20313; TRACT 1: LT 26 BLK 6 FOREST RIVER ESTATES; HCAD #0836250000026; Property Address: 0 Water Oak Dr, Channelview, TX 77530 and TRACT 2: LT 27 BLK 6 FOREST RIVER ESTATES; HCAD # 0836250000027; Property Address: 0 Water Oak Dr, Channelview, TX 77530 Opening Bid: \$16,000.00; call 832.777.3373 for more information

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## by Mike Marland



Weekly **SUDOKU** 

by Linda Thistle

6

8

3

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

♦ Moderate ♦ ♦ Challenging ♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

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4

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# **HOCUS-FOCUS**



#### Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln

I. Cows; 2. Yuengling; 3. Paris; 4. One, Washington; 5. He began to dance around; 6. Between the eyebrows; 7. World or peace; 8. Flopsy, Mopsy, Cottontail and Peter; 9. 1947; 10. George Washington; Thomas Jefferson; Theodore

Trivia Test Answerst

# King Crossword **ACROSS**

- Possesses Cribbage scorer
- Ringlet Preclude "M\*A\*S\*H"
- setting Scents
- 13 Kitchen pair and outs "The - Show With Jon
- Stewart" 18 Whopper 19 Citi Field team 20 Marching
- musicmakers Topper for Miss USA
- 23 Rushmore or 25 Responsibility
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- e.g. 36 African desert wind 37 Ointment
- vision 39 Unattractive
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- **DOWN**
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  - © 2020 King Features Synd., Inc.
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- playing dead "- Kapital" 26 Goes up a Templar (with
  - few degrees 28 Worship Parkinson's treatment
- 19 Spring month 30 Doctor's 31 Jealousy
  - 32 Iron or Bronze 34 Out of control 35 Long story

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  - Answer

E p 8 2 8 6 r 7

Weekly SUDOKU



Solution time: 25 mins. Answers King Crossword –



- 1. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What are female ele-2. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the
- oldest brewery in the United States?
  3. MOVIES: To which destination is the McCallister family traveling in the movie "Home
- 4. GEOGRAPHY: How many U.S. states are named after a president?

  5. MUSIC: In the song, what did Frosty the
- Snowman do after a magic hat was placed on his 6. ANATOMY: Where is the glabella located in
- the human body? 7. LANGUAGE: What did the Russian Space Station "Mir" mean in English?
- 8. LITERATURE: What are the names of the young bunnies in "The Tale of Peter Rabbit"? 9. HISTORY: In what year was the sound barri-
- er broken by a jet aircraft? 10. LANDMARKS: Which presidents are depicted in the Mount Rushmore National Memorial in South Dakota?

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# New C.E. King High School,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

from this beautiful cam-

Campus tours were also provided after Monday's brief program where community members had an opportunity to see this awesome new facility that was incorporated to drive 21st century learning.

Designed by Huckabee and constructed by Durotech, the school is a flagship campus for Sheldon ISD's program. The state-of-the-art, 580,000-square-foot campus is just a mile from Generation Park and will house up to 3,500 students. The school is designed like a college campus, with promenades and quads where students, faculty and community members can interact. The classrooms have flexible spaces where educators can plug and play various teaching equipment based on workforce demand.

on workforce demand.
The campus features a traditional, comprehensive high school education program, as well as six career and technical academies aimed at helping students become college and career ready. The six academies include: business and industry; human services; public service; agriculture, manufacturing and construction: science, technology, fine arts and math; and an early college acad-emy for traditional acaemy for traditional academics. The goal for the early college academy is for students to graduate with not only a high school diploma, but an associate's degree or an industry certificate that can help students continue on to community college, trade schools and traditional

four-year college.

Sheldon ISD is considered one of the fastest-growing school districts in the Houston area. The 9,000-student school district is in the booming petrochemical corridor northeast of Houston. By 2025, Sheldon ISD is ex-



New C.E. King High School building.

AIA, vice president at Lockwood, Andrews &

Newnam, Inc. (LAN), the

firm serving as the program manager for the bond program. "The high school will serve as a visual an-

chor point for Sheldon ISD. They're driving a stake in the ground, saying 'Sheldon ISD is here, we've ar-

Other elements of the

bond program include the Sheldon Lake Elementary School and Panther Stadi-

um that opened in August 2019, new track, baseball and softball fields, and ten-

nis courts. The bond pro-

gram also includes additions and renovations

to existing middle schools as well as district-wide en-

ergy management upgrades.

Photo Credit: LAN

pected to have more than 15,000 students. In May 2016, to handle this rapid growth, Sheldon ISD voters overwhelmingly passed a \$285 million bond to address student growth, safety and security measures and other potential facility upgrades. This bond program is the largest in the district's history.

"Sheldon is making a statement with this new high school," said JP Grom,

Sheldon ISD Superintendent Dr. King Davis talks to the audience at the celebration of the ribbon cutting of the new district's High School, C.E. King. last Monday, January 6,900



Attendees walked the new High School. There were several campus tours.

# Basketball game,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



#2 Kose Egbule, Mustang leaves the floor on a 2 point layup shot.



# 0 Joshua Cooper, Mustang avoids a C. E. King defender making a 2 point layup shot. Photos by Allan Jamail





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