

NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

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

VOLUME 8, NO. 06 (#310)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2020

www.northchannelstar.com

CHANNEL CURRENTS

North Channel Chamber Monthly Luncheon

Friday, February 7, 2020, 11:30 a.m. at San Jacinto College North, 5800 Uvalde Rd., Houston, TX 77049. Speaker: Ana Arredondo, U.S. Census Bureau.

Galena Park ISD to report on District's Academic Performance

The Galena Park Independent School District (GPISD) Board of Trustees will hold a Public Hearing to discuss the District's 2018-2019 Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR). The Public Hearing will be held on February 10, 2020 at 5:50 p.m. at the Galena Park I.S.D. Administration Building, located at 14705 Woodforest Blvd., Houston, Texas 77015.

Mustang's Football Fan Appreciation Day

By Allan Jamail

Galena Park ISD Stadium – Saturday, February 1, 2020 the North Shore Mustangs Fan Nation came out in the thousands to cheer and applaud their team for their historical successful season. The team has given a sense of pride to the eastside community. In a rematch game with the Duncanville Panthers who the Mustangs defeated in 2018 they once again won 31 to 17 in 2019. For the first time in the University Interscholastic League (UIL) Class 6A Division I has a team won back to back consecutive state championships games.

See Appreciation Day, Page 8



Photo by Allan Jamail
Government officials and or representatives recognizing North Shore Mustang's Coach Jon Kay, assistant coaches and team for their UIL Class 6A Division I successful history making 2018 – 2019 back to back State Football Championships.

Pictured Left to right: Pictured with both the 2018 and 2019 UIL State Championship trophies is, Mike Lykes, Chief of Staff for Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Linda Jamail, Community Liaison for State Representative Ana Hernandez, Lauren Lord, Galena Park Mayor Moya's staff, Lucia Bates, Justice of the Peace, Dr. Angi Williams, GPISD Superintendent, Senator Carol Alvarado, Ana Diaz, Jacinto City Mayor, Yuroba Harris, Director for Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia, Constable Chris Diaz, Noe Esparza – GPISD Board Trustee and Joe Stephens Justice of the Peace. Present but not in picture, State Representative Harold Dutton, Constable Sherman Eagleton and Wilfred J. Broussard, Jr. - Board Trustee.

Sheldon ISD calls for 2020 Bond Election

Sheldon ISD school board members who attended Tuesday's workshop unanimously voted to call a May bond election in the amount of \$438.8 million.

The majority of the bond funds would be allocated toward the construction of new campuses; expansions and renovations to existing campuses/district facilities; and security upgrades. Other portions of the bond would include a

new multipurpose arena as well as a community/district natatorium.

"We have been experiencing tremendous student growth throughout the district over the past few years – really over the past decade," Sheldon ISD Superintendent Dr. King Davis said. "Although most of our student growth was anticipated, there has been a recent influx of significant future developments

within our district that most likely will impact our student enrollment numbers in the near future."

Some of these future developments Dr. Davis was alluding to include two new apartment complexes (projected 378 combined units), the new Imperial Forest Edition near Royalwood Elementary (projected 326 homes), and another proposed housing development near Garrett

Elementary.

"According to our PEIMS data, Sheldon ISD's enrollment has increased by approximately 734 students since last school year alone," Dr. Davis said. "I appreciate our board's proactive approach to address these current and future capacity issues."

Dr. Davis said the bond, if approved, would be spread out into three phases.

Sheldon ISD's current enrollment is 10,135 students (an increase 734 students from last school year). Over the past decade, the district's enrollment figures have increased by more than 32 percent – from 6,851 students in 2010 to 10,135 students in 2020. As of Feb. 1, Sheldon ISD's student enrollment was 10,211.

See Sheldon ISD Bond, page 6

Expanding our team of leaders in

PRIMARY CARE



Pooja Kulkarni, MD
Family Medicine



Irfan Dadabhoy, MD
Family Medicine



Gregory Terry, MD
Family Medicine

Houston Methodist Welcomes Dr. Pooja Kulkarni

As a primary care physician, Pooja Kulkarni, MD, provides patient-centered care with a focus on health education to empower individuals in their health care journey. A board-certified family physician, Kulkarni applies her expertise to address:

- Acute and chronic conditions
- Depression and anxiety
- Diabetes
- High blood pressure
- High cholesterol
- Preventive care
- Weight loss management
- Women's health



SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT

1677 W. Baker Rd.
Outpatient Center, Suite 2701
Baytown, TX 77520

houstonmethodist.org/pcg/baytown
713.394.6638

Huffman ISD Students Selected as Texas All-State Musicians

Huffman ISD HS Band Director, Mr. Chris Wurtz, is proud to announce that two Hargrave High School band students have been selected to perform in Texas All-State Music ensembles. Ian McGregor, a Senior and pianist with the Hargrave HS Jazz Band, will perform with the Texas All-State Jazz Ensemble. Ruben Dominguez, a Senior and trombonist with the Hargrave HS Honor Band, will perform in the Texas All-State Symphonic Band. TMEA All-State Concerts will be held in San Antonio, Saturday, February 15, 2020 at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center as part of the 2020 Texas Music Educators Association Clinic/Convention. McGregor and Dominguez were chosen for this prestigious honor through a competitive process held this school year across the state at District, Region, and Area levels. High school students selected to perform in the All-State concerts have competed through auditions to qualify at the state level. All-State is the highest honor a Texas music student can receive. 1,795 students are selected through a process that began with over 66,800 students from around the state vying for this honor to perform in one of 15 en-



Ruben Dominguez, a Senior and trombonist with the Hargrave High School Honor Band, will perform in the Texas All-State Symphonic Band at the 2020 Texas Music Educators Association Convention.



Ian McGregor, a Senior and pianist with the Hargrave High School Jazz Band, will perform with the Texas All-State Jazz Ensemble at the 2020 Texas Music Educators Association Convention.

sembles (bands, orchestras, and choirs). Texas Music Educators Association sponsors the Texas All-State competition. This competitive process begins throughout the state in auditions hosted by 33 TMEA Regions. Individual musicians perform selected music for a panel of judges who rank each instrument or voice part. From this ranking, a select group of musicians advances from their Region to compete against musicians from other areas in eight TMEA Area competitions. The highest-ranking

musicians judged at the TMEA Area competitions qualify to perform in a TMEA All-State music group. Only the top 2.6% of musicians who initially audition become All-State musicians. These All-State students participate in three days of rehearsals directed by nationally recognized conductors during the TMEA Clinic/Convention. Their performances for thousands of attendees bring this extraordinary event to a close. For the All-State concert schedule and conductor information, go to the Performances section of www.tmea.org/convention. The Texas Music Educators Association is an association of over 13,500 school music educators dedicated to promoting excellence in music education. Go to www.tmea.org/convention for more information. The 2020 convention will be even more distinct because TMEA is celebrating 100 years as a music educators association.

Babin Announces 2020 Congressional Art Competition for Area High School Students



Rep. Babin with the 36th Congressional District's 2019 Congressional Art Competition Winner. (L to R: Tyra Baxter, Crosby ISD art teacher; Rep. Babin; Julian Lopez, winner; and family).

Intent to Participate Application Due By Friday, February 14, 2020

DEER PARK, TX – U.S. Congressman Brian Babin (TX-36) will once again host a Congressional Art Competition in 2020. Students in grades 9-12 wishing to participate must reside within the 36th Congressional District of Texas. All entries must follow the theme “Memories of the Battleship Texas,” and depictions may include a time the student personally visited the

U.S.S. Texas (BB-35) or of the Battleship Texas in combat during her tours in the First or Second World Wars. Teachers or home school students must submit an intent to apply application no later than Friday, February 14. The first place recipient must be able to participate in the national awards reception in Washington, DC. Round-trip airfare and accommodations for two in Washington will be provided. The first place entry will

represent the 36th District for one year in an exhibit in the Cannon Tunnel of the United States Capitol Building in Washington, DC. The second and third place entries will be displayed for one year in Congressman Babin’s Washington and District offices, respectively. For more information or to sign up, please contact Mrs. Beverly Ferguson, Regional Director of Community Relations, at 832-780-0966 or by email at tx36artcompetition@gmail.com.

W.B. AUCTION Company
Business & Farm Liquidations
Antiques · Estates · Mini-Storage
A Complete Auction Service
TXS.Lic. 10592

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

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

Maximum Tax Savings

Jack Noonan B.B.A., T.R.E.B., E.A.

CRI FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY

A DIVISION OF CORPORATE RECOVERY, INC.

TAX PREPARATION & CONSULTATION

All Federal, State, Foreign & Individual, Partnerships, Trusts, Estates, Corporations (C,Sub S & Limited Liability) & Payroll Tax Returns,Intuit Pro-Advisors, Service All Businesses & Individual Taxes

Specialists in getting late filers into I.R.S. Compliance
Business Solutions for New Tax Rules, Regulations and Tax Audits
Debt Consultation and Bankruptcy Protection as a Solution to your Debts
Other Services Rendered

Bookkeeping, Computer Systems, Financial Management, Investments, Payroll, Property Rendition, Real Estate & Business Brokerage
Normal Business Hours
Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to Noon – 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Saturday By Appointment

ASK FOR YOUR FREE COPY OF OUR INCOME TAX ORGANIZER
JACK NOONAN, B.B.A., TREB, E.A. & STAFF
IRS Enrolled License # 2018 – 65282
6400 FM 2100 North Main, P.O. Box 1428, Crosby, TX 77532-1428
Telephone (281) 328-1755 Fax (281) 328-5280
E-mail: cxi.tax.jhinson@gmail.com

Ex-Pct. 3 Cpt. Hagee charged, out on bond

Capt. Jack Hagee, 74, the public face for Precinct 3 Constable's Office back in the days of Ken Jones' administration, has now been arrested, charged and has bonded out on a total of \$60,000 for aggravated sexual assault of a child under the age of 14 and indecency with a child based on an allegation of serial incidents. The 38 year old woman alleged that the incidents happened about three times a week until she was about 13 years old. She says she first reported the incidents to her aunt and that her aunt's husband, Pastor John Hagee, confronted Jack. The pastor told police he then received a confession that he had "touched her." Baytown Police Department headed the investigation and alleged the incidents happened between 1989 until 1997. The woman reported the crimes in 2018 but she indicates they happened between her ages of 5 years old and 13. Hagee was her adoptive father. The statute of limitations in Texas was once 10 years after the victim's 18 birthday but



legislation changed all that in 2007. Hagee has not made a statement to police concerning the allegations. Hagee worked for the Constable's office back in the days of James Douglas and was promoted when Ken Jones took office in 2000. He came to work for Precinct 3 back in 1980 and was there until Constable Sherman Eagleton won the office in 2015 minus some time in 2012. All this time employed without a serious record blemish. According to Ken Jones who is running against Eagleton for his former position, "Jack Hagee never exhibited any signs – nor has there ever any infor-

mation received by me that he was ever engaged in any type of criminal conduct, much less the heinous types of offenses for which he now stands charged." Hagee appeared Monday before a Harris County District Court judge. An emergency protection order barring Hagee from leaving Texas, going near schools or contact with the victim or her family was issued. His bond totalled \$65,000. Aggravated assault charge drew \$40,000 and an indecency was \$25,000. Jack Hagee's attorney, Michael Turner, said decades-old allegations can be challenging. The allegations and chains of evidence will make this a difficult case for whatever verdict arises according to attorneys. "As you know, cases like this that are filed 20 to 30 years later are very difficult," Turner said. "These charges were just filed last week, so we have a lot of investigating to do. We're looking forward to having our day in court."

DEBORAH FLORUS

★★★
FOR CONSTABLE PCT.3
2020

"FLORUS IS FOR US!"

POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT FINANCED BY THE DEBORAH FLORUS CAMPAIGN FUND

COMMUNITY NEWS

Local youth scrambles to a win at Fort Worth Stock Show



Samantha Doerr, a member of Sheldon FFA, caught a calf during the 2020 Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo's Calf Scramble, earning a \$500 purchase certificate for a show heifer and the chance for up to \$16,000 in scholarship awards. The certificate, presented by Stock Show Calf Scramble Committee Chairman, Paxton Motheral, was sponsored by Doug and Betty Wolf, In Memory of Lois Luig. Samantha Doerr's parents are Michael Doerr and Angela McGehee. Samantha Doerr will use the purchase certificate toward the cost of a heifer for a 4-H or FFA project that she will raise and exhibit at next year's Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo.

Paul Harris awards presented by North Shore Rotary



Pictured are newly christened Paul Harris Fellows for North Shore Rotary. Members Doug Hughes, Adrian Silva and Greg Ollis are joined by honorary Paul Harris Fellows Dois Sutton and Stephen Shoemaker. District Governor Gary Gillen and Donald Nino made the presentations. The recognition took place at Holiday Inn East-Channelview last Thursday, January 30, 2020.

Galena Park ISD host first-ever CTE University

In January, Galena Park I.S.D (GPISD) middle school students visited the Ag Facility for the first annual (Career and Technical Education) CTE University. Approximately 1,750 eighth grade students from Cunningham Middle School, North Shore Middle School, Galena Park Middle School, Woodlands Acres Middle School and the Center for Success (CFS) attended CTE University to learn about the different programs offered to high school students.



A student explores the different programs CTE offers.

This event was designed for eighth grade students to learn about the different CTE program offerings, along with JROTC and Fine Arts. For two hours, eighth graders visited booths set up in the Ag Facility to find out more about various CTE opportunities.

Over 175 high school students and 45 teachers from Galena Park High School, North Shore 9th Grade Center, North Shore 10th Grade Center and

North Shore Senior High provided eighth graders with many hands-on activities some of which included cooking, changing tires, interacting with robots, learning how to give a manicure and exploring the inside of an ambulance.

"Students are getting their hands dirty; they are smelling what food is like when being prepared by a chef and working on a car with mechanics," Dr. Marley Morris, CTE Director, remarked.

Opportunities like CTE University are designed to spark the interest of eighth graders to pursue careers in the medical field, welding, culinary, architecture, education or law. These students are the future of our community and Galena Park I.S.D. is determined to help them be successful inside and outside of the classroom.

We would like to thank Community Bank of Texas for sponsoring this event.

San Jacinto College launches Bachelor of Science in Nursing

PASADENA – The Texas Board of Nursing (BON) approved San Jacinto College's new Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN-to-BSN) program Thursday, January 23, 2020, clearing the way for the College to launch its first baccalaureate degree in fall 2020.

The program was previously approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) and by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).

"We're excited to launch this new program and to be able to provide a vital next step for registered nurses with an associate degree working in the health care industry," said Dr. Brenda Hellyer, San Jacinto College Chancellor. "San Jac has been a nursing educator for more than 50 years and we're excited to expand our credentialing trajectory to help meet the needs of our local hospital partners and our health care graduates now looking to further their education."

Developed with input from a BSN advisory committee comprised of area hospitals, San Jac's new program is designed for working registered nurses (RNs) seeking professional growth, enhanced marketability, and opportunities to specialize

in advanced practice.

According to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, an estimated 44 percent of health care organizations require new nurses to hold a BSN degree, and nearly 80 percent of health care employers prefer BSN graduates.

"At San Jac, associate degree nursing is our launching pad, not our landing pad," said Dr. Veronica Jammer, San Jac's new RN-to-BSN department chair. "BSN is really the natural next step."

"This next step has been nearly 10 years in the making, as San Jacinto College formed advisory committees and began planning the path to offering a baccalaureate program on the heels of a 2010 Institute of Medicine (IOM) report, which highlighted necessary changes in the evolving health care industry and recommended 80 percent of RNs should hold BSN degrees by 2020.

The 2017 Texas Legislature also recognized the growing demand for nurses with higher credentials and authorized community colleges to offer workforce-related bachelor's degree programs—including BSN—which accelerated San Jac's efforts to help meet the workforce needs.

Dr. Rhonda Bell, Central Campus dean of

health and natural sciences, said San Jacinto College has always listened and responded to area workforce needs, but the BSN team also designed the program to answer the call of busy RNs.

"We're nurses. We know how it is to juggle families, school, and work," Dr. Bell said. "From the very beginning, we made sure not to lose that vision. We want the nurses in this community to have the opportunity to return to school, but we also want the school to meet them where they are."

San Jac's BSN classes will cost the same low tuition rate as the College's other credit courses. The hybrid program will build on working RNs' experience through eight-week courses that combine in-person and distance learning. The program will concentrate on community health nursing, nursing research, public and global health policy, informatics, and leadership, and will culminate in a capstone project, requiring students to determine a community health need, collect data, and design a project to meet that need.

The application period for the first cohort will be March 16 to June 30, 2020.

For more information about San Jacinto College's new BSN program, visit sanjac.edu/bsn.

CONNECTIONS  TEXAS

We are **NORTHSHORE MUSTANGS** PROUD 

CONGRATULATIONS STATE CHAMPIONS!!!



Congratulations

MUSTANGS

NORTHSHORE VACUUM

JANITORIAL SUPPLIES & FLOOR CARE

729 Uvalde Road
Houston, TX 77015
Phone: 713-451-3247
northshorevac@comcast.net

Hours: Mon. - Fri
9:00 am - 5:30 pm
Saturday
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Repair Work 100% Guaranteed
Bags & Belts for all vacuum including Kirby
Sales & Service - New & Used - Trade Ins
Do It Yourself - Professional Pest Control Supplies
Equipment Rental



BOBBY'S HAIR PALACE

12655 Woodforest Blvd., Ste 600
HOUSTON, TX 77015

"Where you will be treated like Royalty"

BOBBY L. RAY, SR

STYLIST

713-453-8891

CONGRATULATIONS

STATE CHAMPIONS



CONGRATULATIONS

STATE CHAMPS

THE LORDS HOUSE

CHRISTIAN CENTER CHURCH



12711 Woodforest Blvd
Houston, Texas 77015
713-505-1088
Sunday Worship Service
10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Bible Study Wednsday
7:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.

Joseph C. Glenn, Senior Pastor



EARLY EXPLORERS

LEARNING ACADEMY

534 Normandy

Houston, Texas 77015

Call Today:
713-455-3233

"Start Early - Finish Strong"

Now enrolling

Congratulations!!!



LIBERTY TAX

YOU DO LIFE. WE DO TAXES.

12620 Woodforest @ Normandy

Houston, Texas 77015

713-330-8111

We Are Open For Your Tax Questions

Monday - Thursday 10:00a.m. to 4p.m.

MUSTANG

PROUD



PLATINUM TAX SERVICE

516 NORMANDY

HOUSTON, TX 77015

713-623-1966

NOW OPEN

Get Your Max Back

CONGRATULATIONS

STATE CHAMPS!!!



Congratulations

North Shore Mustangs

Luis F. Garcia, CPA

Attorney at Law

13364 Woodforest Blvd
Houston, TX 77015

www.luisgarcialaw.com

713-999-8006



NORTH SHORE MUSTANGS!!!

CONGRATULATIONS

ELLIOTT'S COMMUNITY

BARBERSHOP #2

13030 Woodforest Blvd
Houston, Texas 77015

832-649-4480

THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY STANDS WITH YOU!!!!

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR NORTH SHORE MUSTANGS
ALL THE WAY TO STATE!!! CALL WILLIE G 832-290-0355



A terrible trip, thanks to a terrible TxDOT

I drive a lot around Harris County, to cover the stories and people that fill the columns of this newspaper. One of the most common trips I take is from my office in the Galleria area, to Highlands and Channelview. Usually with normal traffic this trip takes my about 35-40 minutes. With really bad traffic it can take over an hour.

But this Saturday, my normal trip turned into a nightmare, which I blame on the poor management or stupidity of TxDOT, the Texas transportation agency.

You see, that trip turned into a journey of over 4 hours, most of it spent sitting in a traffic jam in Channelview, with no movement at all of the cars and trucks.

A TxDOT contractor

was installing stripes between lanes on the I-10 bridge, and had closed two lanes. Only one lane was open to traffic and the three normal lanes plus entrance ramps from the frontage road made the road full of vehicles.

TxDOT could have accomplished the work by closing only one lane, and helping hapless drivers by posting an electric sign that there was a serious, 4 hour delay ahead. Or how about some traffic control and restricting the entrance ramp traffic? Or how about scheduling the work at night or time of day with less traffic?

It seems that TxDOT doesn't care much about the public, and the hardships they suffer by so much construction around the county.

What's your opinion or experience? Write to me.



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

Social Security Matters



Ask Rusty – About Warnings to Make Sure I “file properly”

Dear Rusty: I am currently 63 years old and planning to delay retirement until 70 to maximize my benefit. I've been seeing a lot of financial planners advertising claims that you can lose thousands of dollars in benefits if you don't “file properly.” Is there really anything more to it than simply applying for benefits when you are ready to retire? Do I really need to pay a financial advisor just to tell me how to apply to get the most benefits? Signed: Skeptical

Dear Skeptical: Nearly all the advertisements you see using language like that have an underlying purpose of trying to sell you something – usually a book, a subscription, or financial services. The phrase “losing thousands if you don't file properly” are very generic words meant to lure you into contacting them so they can sell something to you. Reality is that “filing properly” means simply choosing the right age to file for benefits given your specific personal circumstances. And personal circumstances are different for everyone. There aren't any tricks in the filing process itself – it's really quite straightforward, and you can get all your Social Security filing questions answered here at The AMAC Foundation's Social Security Advisory Service. Our staff of Social Security Advisors are fully trained and certified by the National Social Security Association (NSSA®), and we have years of experience on this complex topic. We provide Social Security information and answers to several thousand people each year, without a fee because we are a not-for-profit entity operating only on donations. And contacting us is easy at either ssadviser@amacfoundation.org, or 1.888.750.2622.

As for when you should file, everyone's personal situation is different, and your marital status should always be considered. But as an individual, waiting until

age 70 will give you the maximum benefit available to you. If you are now 63, your age 70 benefit will be 29.3% more than it would be at your full retirement age of 66 years and 4 months, and about 65% more than you'd get at age 64. And provided you are in good health and expect at least average longevity (about 84) not only will your monthly payment be more, but you'll collect more in cumulative lifetime benefits by waiting. And here's an extra bonus – if you are married and you predecease your wife, her survivor benefit will be based upon that larger amount you were receiving because you delayed claiming. If she has reached her full retirement age, as your widow your wife will get 100% of your actual benefit. But if you were to claim earlier, your wife's survivor benefit would be based on that smaller amount.

The answer to your specific question is that there is no magical way to apply for benefits once you determine the age at which you wish to file. You can file by calling the Social Security Administration directly, either at their general number (1.800.772.1213) or your local office (find it at www.ssa.gov/locator), or you can also file online at www.ssa.gov/retire. Filing online is by far the easiest and most efficient way to complete and submit your application for benefits.

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



Abbott joins officials in response to virus originating in China

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott on Jan. 30 commented on a White House briefing about actions to stem the transmission of novel coronavirus in the United States.

Speakers at the briefing concerning the outbreak of the new respiratory illness that originated in Wuhan, China, included U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar, Robert Redfield, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at the National Institutes of Health.

"The State of Texas is continuing to collaborate with our local, state and federal partners as updates come in on the status of the coronavirus," Abbott said. "Our local communities will have the resources they need to respond to any potential cases of the coronavirus in their area, and we remain committed to ensuring the health and safety of all Texans."

On Jan. 27, Abbott met with state health and emergency management officials for a briefing on the same topic. "The Lone Star State will remain vigilant to protect the health and safety of all Texans," Abbott said.

The Texas Department of State Health Services is working with local health departments to assess people with respiratory illness and recent travel to the province of Hubei, China, for possible 2019 novel coronavirus testing.

The DSHS said travelers should monitor themselves for symptoms and contact their health care provider if they develop fever, cough or shortness of breath within 14 days of being in Hubei. The agency urged Texas health care professionals to ask patients with respiratory symptoms about their travel history and contact their local or regional health department if they think a patient may have novel coronavirus. The state had not posted the

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling

number of diagnosed cases of the disease in Texas as of Feb. 2.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says the best way to prevent infection is to take precautions to avoid exposure to novel coronavirus — precautions which are similar to those the agency recommends to avoid influenza.

Abbott attends signing

Gov. Abbott on Jan. 29 joined President Donald Trump for the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement ceremonial bill signing in Washington, D.C.

The agreement, Abbott said, modernizes the 25-year-old North American Free Trade Agreement “and will support mutually beneficial trade leading to freer markets, fairer trade and robust economic growth in North America.”

It is estimated that the USMCA will have a positive impact of \$17.6 billion on Texas' annual gross product and create 164,700 new jobs in the state, according to December 2019 projections from the Waco-based Perryman Group. The USMCA also allows Texas increased access to trade with Mexico and Canada, the state's two largest export partners, according to the governor's office.

Law aids in unsolved cases

The Texas Department of Public Safety on Jan. 30 said law enforcement agencies have identified suspects in more than 45 unsolved cases thanks in part to the implementation of House Bill 1399, the Krystal Jean Baker Act.

The new law, which took effect Sept. 1, 2019,

authorizes the collection of DNA samples from individuals charged with certain felonies and compares the samples through the Combined DNA Index System database in an effort to clear unsolved cases.

"By allowing us to collect and enter DNA evidence from offenders in a much quicker time frame, we are able to make a critical connection to previous crimes committed by the same offender. We are aiming to stop these criminals from committing any other violent acts against innocent people," said DPS Director Steven McCraw.

According to the DPS, Baker was 13 years old when she was abducted, sexually assaulted and killed in 1996. DNA evidence was collected at the time of her death but no arrests were made. In 2010, the perpetrator was arrested on an unrelated charge in Louisiana. DNA taken at the time of the arrest linked him to Baker's murder and he ultimately pleaded guilty.

New tax guide is released

The Texas Comptroller's office on Jan. 27 announced its release of “A Field Guide to the Taxes of Texas” — a report providing an overview of Texas' major state taxes.

Every year, the state collects billions in state taxes and fees, federal receipts and other sources of revenue. The funds are used to pay for all of the responsibilities of state government, including the education of more than 5 million public school students and the provision of health insurance for more than 4 million low-income Texans, said state Comptroller Glenn Hegar.

The publication, which can be downloaded free of charge from the website, comptroller.texas.gov, shows:

—How major taxes have contributed to state revenue during the past 10 years;

—Future revenue estimates, exemption value estimates and tax allocations; and

—Links to other resources about state taxes.

AG: Letter to school districts

School districts must refrain from spending public funds to advocate for or against political candidates, said Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton in a Jan. 28 mailing to school districts across the state.

Included in the mailing were educational materials detailing the importance of the role of educators in the civic process and providing guidelines for legally and effectively leading both employees and students through the 2020 election.



"This is 'bout the best time of year," said Steve, "to get out and do something fun, like go to a rodeo."

"Awful cold out there right now, Steve," said Doc, who has more degrees than a thermometer. "I guess it's a good thing they have all those building rodeos these days."

"Well, that would take all the sport out of it, wouldn't it?" Steve said. "Dud, pass the sugar please."

Dud passed the sugar. "Don't know what you mean, Steve. Why would it take all the sport out of rodeo if the folks in the stands were comfortable?" "Cold factor," he said. "What?"

Now Steve was our resident cowboy here at the Mule Barn truck stop's philosophy counter. He still worked on ranches and lived in bunkhouses and saddled his horses one at a time, but his rodeo days were far behind him. It's a sport with a very short career ... one way or another.

"You see," Steve said, "when it's cold, the rough stock bucks harder ... specially the broncs. Not sure why, but you can see it even with broke horses. On a cold morning, they're liable to hump their backs and hop a few times just for fun, or to shake out the kinks. Same with rodeo broncs. With them, I think it's just more fun, though."

"Well, I can see where watching broncs in cold weather would make it more fun to watch," Doc said.

"That's only half of it," Steve said, grinning. "Those poor cowboys who ride them are cold and stiff, too. Doesn't help much with riding rank stock. And that's the reason it's more fun to watch a rodeo in cold weather. It tends to rain frozen cowboys."

Brought to you by Ol' Jimmy Dollar, Slim's children's book about a happy hounddog man and his "kids." See it at riograndebooks.com.



OIG Is VA's Watchdog---

Since 2012, the Office of Inspector General for the Department of Veterans Affairs has saved us \$1.4 billion. They do this by showing up unannounced to do inspections, audits, reviews, assessments or investigations. They scrutinize paperwork, conduct interviews and get to the bottom of what's going on.

The recent inspection of a facility estimated that the VA was about to spend \$261 million over the next five years on sleep apnea devices that veterans weren't using. Veterans were given the devices and only half were being used, with no staff follow-up.

The OIG recommendation was to loan the devices to veterans instead and keep track of the usage. This move is expected to save \$39 million per year for the sleep apnea devices and \$12 million per year for the supplies.

The VA has been spending \$450 million, split between four vendors, on contracts for medical and surgical supplies on the East coast. Because supplies of this nature must be delivered on time every time, the OIG dug around to see if anybody in the VA was keeping an eye on what was being delivered. In addition, the supplier was to report monthly about the order fulfillment levels. So what did the OIG discover: that nobody in VA was watching and the vendors were using funny math to report their deliveries. Correct orders only were received 40% of the time. This calculated to \$16.8 million in incorrect payments made to vendors in one year.

The OIG also looked at undelivered orders in a different investigation. Specifically, had prices changed between ordering and the delivery? Were the items still needed? Should the orders be canceled? Could the money be spent elsewhere? If budgeted money isn't spent in a fiscal year, it gets erased and vanishes. OIG discovered that \$132 million could have been spent elsewhere had anyone been paying attention to undelivered orders.

I still say, whatever the OIG's budget is, double it. We'll still come out ahead.

HIGHLANDS
CROSBY

Star ★ Courier

USPS 244-500
and the
Barbers Hill ★ Dayton PRESS

Editor & Publisher.....**Gilbert Hoffman**
Associate Publisher.....**Mei-Ing Liu Hoffman**
Assoc. Editor/Advertising Manager.....**Lewis Spearman**
Assistant Editor.....**Julietta Palta**
Production Manager.....**Luis Hernandez**
Asst. Production Manager.....**Gerardo Hernandez**

Entered as Periodicals Class at Highlands Post Office, Highlands, TX 77562. Under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. Published 50 weeks per year, on Thursday, by Grafikpress Corp., 5906 Star Lane, Houston, TX 77057. Opinions in this paper are those of the authors, and not necessarily this newspaper's. Any erroneous statement which may appear will be corrected when brought to the attention of the publisher. Liability for errors is limited to the reprinting of the corrected version. Submissions are encouraged, in person, by mail, by fax, or by email, to grafikstar@aol.com.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: In-county, \$28.00 per year. Out of county, \$35.00 per year. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Star-Courier, P. O. Box 405, Highlands, TX 77562

News and Ad Phones....713-266-3444
FAX Line....713-977-1188
email: grafikstar@aol.com
Member Texas Press Association

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, 281-326-2723
• 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

• 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 Churhc 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

Channelview, Jacinto City, Galena Park, Houston

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 Woofle 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.

For corrections or new listings, call 713-266-3444

Northside Baptist honors Gene Littlejohn's 30 years service

Northside Baptist Church of Highlands honored Gene Littlejohn for over 30 years of music ministry at Northside. The church secretly raised a love offering and presented it to him on January 26, 2020. The offering was more than enough for Gene to purchase what he had wanted for some time, a Fender guitar, case, strap, and picks. In appreciation, Gene wrote the following letter:

Dear NSBC Family,
Words cannot express how humbled I am by your generous gift. I have enjoyed being a part of the music ministry at Northside very much. It truly does not seem like 30 years have passed since I began leading the music.

You have blessed me with a beautiful Fender Telecaster guitar and I am enjoying it every day. I will use it to praise and worship God as long as He lets me live on this earth! I think of you all each time I look at or pick it up to play. Again there are not enough words to express



Gene Littlejohn and his Fender Telecaster guitar.

how grateful I am.
*Love Eternally,
Gene Littlejohn*

new guitar. Northside is located at 317 Barbers Hill Road, Highlands, TX 77562, nsbchighlands.org. Northside's worship is more on the traditional side; services last about an hour; dress is casual.

Northside invites everyone to attend next Sunday at 11am to hear Littlejohn sing and play that brand

OBITUARIES

Asa Robert Hearn

Asa Robert Hearn, "Asa Bob", 73, a lifetime resident of Crosby, passed away on Monday, January 27, 2020. He was born on June 16, 1946 in Baytown, Texas to Wilbur Asa Hearn and Myrth Fore Hearn. He married the love of his life Wilma Stasney Hearn and they had two sons, Blane and Coy. Asa Bob worked for Exxon for 18 years and retired in 2001.

Asa Bob loved baseball, car racing, and going hunting. He was stubborn at times but always giving and friendly. He was not a fancy guy but rather a simple man. He was well liked and was known to joke around. Most will remember him for recording everything and carrying a video camera on his shoulder. Asa Bob was a very special man who will be missed by all who knew and loved him.



He is preceded in death by his parents, Wilbur and Myrth Hearn.

Asa Bob is survived by his wife of 52 years, Wilma Hearn; sons, Blane Hearn and wife Carol, and Coy Hearn and wife Heidi; brother, Darrell Hearn; grandchildren, Hunter Hearn and fiancé Amanda Gooch, Carlan Hearn, and Maggie Hearn; and a host of extended family and friends.

A visitation for family and friends will be held from 5:00p.m. until

8:00p.m. on Thursday, January 30, 2020 at Sterling-White Funeral Home. Services will be held at 10:00a.m. on Friday, January 31, 2020, at Sterling-White Funeral Home with interment in Sterling-White Cemetery. Arrangements entrusted to Sterling-White Funeral Home 11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd. Highlands, Texas 77562.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks donations be made in Asa Bob's memory to the Alzheimer's Association 1 - 8 0 0 - 2 7 2 - 3 9 0 0 , www.alz.org or to CUIC Churches United In Caring, 944 Church Street, 281-328-3178.

STERLING ~ WHITE
FUNERAL HOME & CEMETERY

281-426-3555

11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd. Highlands, TX 77562

WESTON COTTEN, ATTORNEY

HIGHLANDS
281-421-4050 1500 E. Wallisville Rd.

NOT CERTIFIED BY THE TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION



Select Services:
Personal Care
Social Outlings
Respite Care
24 hr. Care
In-Hospital Sitting
Post-Surgical Assistance
Pet & Plant Care
Light Housework
Meal Preparation
Transportation

MONICA NELSON

COMMUNITY LIASON
346-216-8872
mnelson@sigselect.com
606 Rollingbrook Dr. #2G
Baytown, TX 77521
832-695-2328

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

PHILIPPIANS 4:13

Call
GRAFIKSHOP
for printing quotes
713-977-2555

LOVE NEVER FAILS
I Corinthians 13:8

Ruby Faye Bryant

Ruby Faye Bryant, 75, passed away January 21, 2020 in Houston, Texas. Ruby was born in Houston on December 7, 1944 to parents Nora Faye (Repond) and Sterling Truman Bryant, Sr. She was a proud member of TOPS TX 914. Ruby enjoyed fishing, golfing and spending times outdoors. She also loved riding horses and was a long time member of the trail-riders.

Ruby is preceded in death by her parents; and brother, Joseph Gary Bryant. Ruby is lovingly survived by her sister and brothers, Shirley Ann Bry-



ant, Gene Lynn Bryant, Sterling Truman Bryant, Jr.; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends.

Friends are welcome to join the family for visitation from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Thursday, January

Milton Lynn Rudek

Milton Lynn Rudek, 84, passed away January 30, 2020 at his home in Houston, Texas. Milton was born on August 29, 1935 in Bremond, Texas o parents Marion and Valera (Thomas) Rudek. He proudly served his country in the United States Naval Construction Battalions, better known as the Navy Seabees.

Milton married the true love of his life, Thelma Ruth (Hocutt) on July 1, 1959 and they enjoyed 60 years together until her passing in September of last year. He was a member of the North Shore Masonic Lodge #1353. Milton retired from the U.S. Postal Service after 40 years of dedicated service.



He was also a member of Channelview Church of Christ where he treasured the fellowship of his church family as well.

Milton is preceded in death by his parents; and wife, Thelma Rudek. He is lovingly survived by his children, Wendell Rudek and wife Rhonda, Rhonda Wilke and husband Keith, Tracy Bell and husband Ken, Roger Rudek and wife

23rd at Carter-Conley Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 10:00 AM Friday, January 24, 2020 in the chapel of Carter-Conley Funeral Home. Graveside services will immediately follow at 11:30 AM at San Jacinto Memorial Park under the direction of Carter-Conley Funeral Home.



CARTER ★ CONLEY

FUNERAL HOME

13701 Corpus Christi St., Houston, TX 77015
713-455-5100
www.CarterFuneral-Houston.com

Laura; 9 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren; as well as numerous extended family members and friends. Funeral services officiated by pastor Doug Rainbolt will be held at 12 noon Wednesday, February 5, 2020, with friends welcome after 10:00 A.M. for visitation before the service, in the chapel of Carter-Conley Funeral Home. Graveside services with military honors will follow at 1:30 P.M. at San Jacinto Memorial Park Cemetery under the direction of Carter-Conley Funeral



CARTER ★ CONLEY

FUNERAL HOME

13701 Corpus Christi St., Houston, TX 77015
713-455-5100
www.CarterFuneral-Houston.com

Complete Line of Groceries

KWIK MART FOODS

14443 FM 1409 281-576-5788

STERLING ~ WHITE

FUNERAL HOME & CEMETERY
11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd.
Highlands, TX 77562
(281) 426-3555
www.STERLINGWHITE.COM

"A Tradition of Excellence Since 1824"

Siding & Roof Repairs Mobile Home Skirting

Call Mr. Roofer

281-452-0000

What we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory He will reveal to us later
ROMANS 8:18

ENVELOPES

Printed with your Address
1 or 2 colors

Special Rates 250 to 25,000
Please call for a Quote

Grafikshop at Star-Courier
713-977-2555

ASK THE EXPERT

San Jacinto River Coalition hears EPA updates

HIGHLANDS – The San Jacinto River Coalition held their monthly meeting last Tuesday night, and director Jackie Young brought the group up to date with information recently received from the EPA.

She said that after not hearing any new information from the agency for several months, they now had emailed her and were planning on holding a Community Advisory Committee meeting in Houston next week. These groups are supposed to be an interface between the public and the EPA on environmental concerns, but have rarely occurred. In spite of its name, the meeting is not open to the public community.

EPA reported in the recent email that they had conducted sonar exams after tropical storm Imelda of the waste pits cap and liner. They determined that the liner had not been torn where a loose barge had grounded, due to a heavy rock coverage at that point. However, they conceded that the site was a “dynamic environment”



Jackie Young

subject to continued change. They said that some erosion had occurred during the flood, and some new deposition of new soil. Some of the site had been repaired, and more work was scheduled.

Young revealed that about 39% of the remedial design package had been completed, and the South site was due to be announced in April, and the North in May. At that time, negotiations with the Responsible Parties can enter into serious legal and financial talks.



A barge and tugboat pass the Waste Pits in the channel of the San Jacinto River. The barge traffic was one of the topics discussed at this week's Coalition meeting.

NORTH CHANNEL BUSINESS DIRECTORY



EILEEN BRIGHTWELL, DDS
www.brightwelldental.com

1820 Holland St. • Jacinto City, TX 77029
(713) 455-7923

Free Estimates Financing Available

MR. ROOFER
Siding & Contracting LLC

281-452-0000

New Roofs • Repairs • Painting • Hardi Plank Siding
• Mobile Home Skirting

P.O. Box 914, Channelview, TX 77530
Mrroofer@mail.com
= Major credit cards accepted =

Call 713-266-3444 to Advertise
YOUR Business in this Directory.
5,000 readers Weekly

NORTH CHANNEL ★ STAR

5906 STAR LANE, HOUSTON, TX 77057
713-266-3444 • FAX (713) 977-1188
email: northchannelstar@gmail.com
website: www.northchannelstar.com

Gilbert Hoffman.....Editor & Publisher
Mei-Ing Hoffman.....Associate Publisher
Julieta Paita.....Assistant Editor
Willie Glasgow.....Marketing Director
Lewis Spearman.....Advertising Director
Luis Hernandez.....Production Director
Gerardo Hernandez.....Circulation/Mail Director

Published each Wednesday by GrafikPress Corp. Any erroneous statement which may appear will be corrected when brought to the attention of the publisher. Liability for errors is limited to the reprinting of the corrected version. Submissions are encouraged, in person, by mail, by Fax, or by email, to: northchannelstar@gmail.com

Member North Channel Chamber of Commerce
Member Texas Press Association

ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim: "Is it difficult to become a jeweler?"



Over the past 40 years, I've been asked this question countless times. Thank you for asking and allowing me to respond in writing. Most people equate being a “jeweler” with nearly any position in a jewelry store or jewelry manufacturing business. The Oxford Dictionary defines the word “jeweler” as “a person or company that makes or sells jewels or jewelry”. Technically, the term or title of jeweler requires a little more definition. Someone who sells jewelry is a Sales Associate for a jewelry company and is not necessarily a jeweler. Personally, I find that it takes either the completion of formal education from an accredited institute, or many, many years of experience, or both, to earn the title of ‘Jeweler’.

The GIA (Gemological Institute of America) is one of the most respected teaching institutions in the world in the arena of gems including diamonds, rubies, sapphires, emeralds, semi-precious gems and pearls. A formal education from the GIA will give you the educational acumen (basis) to begin what can be a very lucrative and rewarding career as a jeweler. Some of the career options available, once you have your schooling behind you, are; Jewelry Sales Associate, Gemologist, Bench Jeweler, Jewelry Appraiser, Jewelry Auction Specialist, Gem Buyer, Jewelry Designer / Manufacturer, and more.

An inexperienced jewelry sales associate tends to learn at the expense of a jewelry store owner and staff who must teach that person the basics of jewelry including how it's designed and created, how it's displayed, the content of the gold, platinum or silver metals in the jewelry, and some knowledge of the gems or stones that are set in the jewelry.

The GIA offers a learning environment that employs some of the best jewelry educators

and lab equipment in the world. The cost of a formal GIA jewelry education is surprisingly low compared to a four year Bachelor's Degree at a university. For example, check out the beginners course entitled “Applied Jewelry Professional™”. Obtaining the Applied Jewelry Professional™ credential is one of the fastest and most effective ways to improve your understanding of gems and jewelry, and covers essential knowledge related to diamonds and popular colored gems. You can earn your credential via eLearning by taking three online courses....‘Jewelry Essentials’, ‘Diamond Essentials’, and ‘Colored Stones Essentials’.

Some say that the Graduate Gemologist credential is the most prestigious credential in the industry. The GIA Graduate Gemologist program gives you the comprehensive knowledge of diamonds and colored stones you need to succeed anywhere in the jewelry business. You'll gain both technical expertise and practical skills to evaluate gemstones by the 4Cs (color, clarity, cut, and carat weight), the International Diamond Grading System™, and the Colored Stone Grading System.

For more information, please logon to www.GIA.edu. If I can be of any assistance to you as you begin your amazing path towards a knowledgeable and financially rewarding career in the jewelry industry, please let me know.

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

If you have questions pertaining to jewelry, watches, diamonds, precious stones, precious metals, and other questions related to the jewelry industry, email jmmills@pineforestjewelry.com.

LyondellBasell makes “World’s Most Admired Companies” list third consecutive year

HOUSTON, Jan. 24, 2020 – Fortune Magazine released its annual list of “World’s Most Admired Companies.” For the third consecutive year, LyondellBasell (NYSE: LYB), who operates the Houston Refinery, Bayport, Channelview and La Porte manufacturing facilities in the greater Houston area, made the list. The company is ranked 5th when compared to its chemical industry peers and is viewed as having one of the strongest reputations across a variety of industry sectors.

“To achieve this level of distinction requires a dedicated team who has a relentless focus on operational excellence, delivering on our commitments, and being deeply rooted in the communities where we live and work,” said LyondellBasell senior vice president, Americas manufacturing, Michael VanDerSnick. “I’m proud to work with such a wonderful group of people who live the core values every day and deliver on what we all know is possible.”

Fortune Magazine’s “World’s Most Admired” list identifies the world’s most respected companies, as ranked by peers, board members and financial advisors on the company’s performance in nine key areas. These include the ability to attract and retain talent, the quality of management, social responsibility, innovation, quality of products and services, use of corporate assets, financial soundness, long-term investment value and global competitiveness.

Locally in 2019, LyondellBasell continued the construction of its Propylene Oxide / Tertiary Butyl Alcohol (PO/TBA) plant which will be located at the company’s Bayport and Channelview manufacturing sites. The company celebrated its 50th anniversary at Bayport

and 60th Anniversary at La Porte. In conjunction with the celebrations, LyondellBasell partnered with local officials to plant trees along city highways and donated books to area schools. Finally, local LyondellBasell colleagues joined their global counterparts in the company’s worldwide community service initiative – Global Care Day. This day of care provided:

• La Porte’s Today’s Harbor for Children landscaping and new plants;

• Pasadena’s Richey Elementary with park benches and picnic tables and Armand Bayou Nature Center with trail fencing; and

• Channelview’s community, including The Rio Villa neighborhood, benefited from a cleanup project along Sheldon Road.

Globally in 2019, LyondellBasell:

- played a leadership role in creating and launching the first global, cross-value chain Alliance to End Plastic Waste;

- collaborated with Samsonite to create a suitcase collection made of 100 percent post-consumer plastic waste provided through our Quality Circular Polymers joint venture with SUEZ;

- advanced our molecular recycling capabilities and announced the construction of a small-scale pilot plant in Ferrara, Italy to convert post-consumer plastic waste into feedstock;

- successfully produced plastics at commercial scale using sustainable bio-based raw materials, such as waste and residue oils in collaboration with Neste; and

- announced Memoranda of Understanding to form two joint ventures in China which will produce chemicals used in a variety of applications including construction materials, packaging and furnishings.

Sheldon ISD Bond,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The majority parts of Phase 1 would add wings for classroom expansions at both Cravens Early Childhood Academy and Michael R. Null Middle School; security upgrades; and additional interior and exterior renovations throughout the district.

Phase 2 includes the construction of a seventh elementary campus; and Phase 3 would add a third Early Childhood Academy, a third middle school campus, a Ninth Grade Center or Grade 9/10 campus, multipurpose arena, and a natatorium.

Sheldon ISD Chief Financial Officer Abraham George said that if voters were to approve the 2020 bond, the district’s Interest and Sinking (I&S) rate would increase by 4 cents per \$100 assessed values. For example, a homeowner’s residence valued at \$100,000 (taxable value) would see a \$40 per year (or \$3.33 per month) increase.

It is also important to

note that Sheldon ISD residents age 65 or over will not see an increase in their tax rate if they have applied for an Over 65 tax exemption.

George also said because of a new law that was recently passed by the Texas Legislature, the district’s overall bond package must be split into three propositions on the ballot. Proposition “A” would include the instructional upgrades; Proposition “B” includes the multipurpose arena; and Proposition “C” is for a community/district natatorium.

District administrators are currently working on providing the community with additional information about the 2020 bond through informational webpages, social media posts, district mailers, and upcoming Town Hall meetings.

The informational webpages will be located at the following URL: www.sheldonisd.com/bond2020/

The Valentine's gift that gets her seal of approval



PineforestJewelry.com

1141 Uvalde • Houston, Texas 77015
713.451.1321

More News on our website:
www.northchannelstar.com

CLASSIFIED

ADS

Call 713-266-3444

Your AD will reach up to 120,000 readers in our FIVE newspapers, with a combined circulation of 40,000 copies. Get ACTION on your AD. Rates start at only \$16 for 20 words. A bargain!

CEMETERY PLOTS

2 CEMETERY Plots/Pals Memorial Park Garden C, Dayton, TX, \$1,100. Call 713-204-6076.

6-2

FOR SALE

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT Electrical remote hospital bed, wheel chairs, walkers, bed size commodes, over bed tables, hoyer lift. Recliner lift chair, regular & air mattress w/ compressor 7 many other medical items. Call 832-681-6372. North Shore area.

6-2

LEGAL NOTICES APPEAR IN THE HIGHLANDS STAR CROSBY COURIER, AND THE NORTH CHANNEL STAR. CALL 713-266-3444 FOR MORE INFO.

Classified ADS 713-266-3444


LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Administration for Docket No. 480658; Estate of EDWARD GILLESPIE WHEELER Deceased; In Probate Court No. 4, of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on January 23, 2020.

MARY LYNNE MORRIS

The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is: c/o Weston Cotten 1500 Wallisville Rd Highlands, TX 77562

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this January 28, 2020



by WESTON COTTEN Attorney for the Estate


LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Administration for Docket No. 480665; Estate of RICHARD C. DEPEW Deceased; In Probate Court No. 1 of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on January 20, 2020.

RHONDA DEPEW

The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is: c/o Weston Cotten 1500 Wallisville Rd Highlands, TX 77562

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this January 28, 2020



by WESTON COTTEN Attorney for the Estate


LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Administration for Docket No. 481252; Estate of JEANNINE BIRMINGHAM Deceased; In Probate Court No. 3 of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on January 21, 2020.

TERRI ANN BIRMINGHAM LAPETINA AKA TERRI ANN BIRMINGHAM

The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is: c/o Weston Cotten 1500 Wallisville Rd Highlands, TX 77562

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this January 27, 2020



by WESTON COTTEN Attorney for the Estate


LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Administration for Docket No. 481258; Estate of EDWIN KEITH NEWSOM Deceased; In Probate Court No. 4, of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on January 21, 2020.

MARY J. TURNER COOLING

The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is: c/o Weston Cotten 1500 Wallisville Rd Highlands, TX 77562

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this January 28, 2020



by WESTON COTTEN Attorney for the Estate


LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Administration for Docket No. 480667; Estate of BILL LEE HOSKINS Deceased; In Probate Court No. 1, of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on January 16, 2020.

JERRY DEAN HOSKINS

The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is: c/o Weston Cotten 1500 Wallisville Rd Highlands, TX 77562

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this January 27, 2020



by WESTON COTTEN Attorney for the Estate

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 FOREST RIVER ESTATES; HCAD # 0836240000012; Property Address: 0 Laurelwood Dr, Channelview, TX 77530. Opening Bid: \$8,500.00; call 832.777.3373 for more information.

2-4


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

2-4

Need Help With Your

Social Security Disability Claim?





We've Helped Thousands Get the Benefits They Deserve


Start The Process Today!


Applications • Hearings • Appeals

You Could Be Eligible To Receive:

 Steady monthly income depending on your paid in amount

 A lump sum payment of benefits owed from back-pay

 Annual cost of living adjustments

 Call for a free consultation (844) 509-9547

Bill Gordon & Associates, a nationwide practice, represents clients before the Social Security Administration. Member of the U.S. & New York Associations. Advt. 140 New St Washington D.C. Office: Broward County Florida. Services may be provided by associated attorneys licensed in other states.

easyMedicare

• An Affiliate of e-Trade Insurance...

MEDICARE BENEFITS REPORT

You could be missing out on benefits like:

\$0 Copays, \$0 Deductibles, \$0 Premiums

Plus Dental, Vision, Hearing and more.

Call now to see if you qualify for these amazing benefits!

866.707.2763

TTY 711 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern, Monday to Friday

Call now to speak with a licensed agent!

easyMedicare is an affiliate of e-Trade Insurance, Inc., a private licensed representative of Medicare insurance organizations with a Medicare contract. easyMedicare is not affiliated with or acting on behalf of any government agency or program. Prescription, dental, hearing and vision benefits are not guaranteed, are only available in select plans and are not available in every state or zip code. The products described in this advertisement is a Medicare Advantage Plan with Part D prescription drug coverage and may not be available in your area. Your eligibility is not guaranteed. This is not a complete listing of plans available in your service area. For a complete listing, please contact 1-800-Medicare (TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048), 24 hours a day/7 days a week or consult www.Medicare.gov. This information is not a complete description of benefits. Contact the plan for more information. Limitations, copayments and restrictions may apply. Benefits, premiums and/or member cost-share may change on January 1 of each year. You must continue to pay your Medicare Part B premium.

ADVANCED HEARING AID TECHNOLOGY

For Less Than \$200

"I was amazed! Sounds I hadn't heard in years came back to me!"

— Don W., Sherman, TX

How can a hearing aid that costs less than \$200 be every bit as good as one that sells for \$2,250 or more?

The answer: Although tremendous strides have been made in Advanced Hearing Aid Technology, those cost reductions have not been passed on to you. Until now...

MDHearingAid® uses the same kind of Advanced Hearing Aid Technology incorporated into hearing aids that cost thousands more at a small fraction of the price.

Over 300,000 satisfied MDHearingAid customers agree: High-quality, FDA-registered hearing aids don't have to cost a fortune. The fact is, you don't need to spend thousands for a hearing aid. MDHearingAid is a medical-grade hearing aid offering sophistication and high performance, and works right out of the box with no time-consuming "adjustment" appointments. You can contact a licensed hearing specialist conveniently online or by phone — even after your purchase at no cost. No other company provides such extensive support. Now that you know...why pay more?

Can a Hearing Aid Delay or Prevent Alzheimer's and Dementia?

A study by the National Institute on Aging suggests older individuals with hearing loss are significantly more likely to develop Alzheimer's and dementia over time than those who retain their hearing. They suggest that an intervention — such as a hearing aid — could delay or prevent this by improving hearing!

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR 45-DAY RISK-FREE TRIAL!

Hearing is believing and we invite you to try this nearly invisible hearing aid with no annoying whistling or background noise for yourself. If you are not completely satisfied with your MDHearingAid, return it within 45 days for a FULL REFUND.

For the Lowest Price Call 1-855-502-4986

BATTERIES INCLUDED! READY TO USE RIGHT OUT OF THE BOX!

Nearly Invisible

BIG SOUND. TINY PRICE.


Proudly assembled in America!

Use Code HQ97 and get FREE Batteries for 1 Year

MDHearingAid®

Plus FREE Shipping


DOCTOR DESIGNED | AUDIOLOGIST TESTED | FDA REGISTERED



American Standard

Walk-In Tubs

WALK-IN BATHTUB SALE! SAVE \$1,500



✓EXPERIENCE YOU CAN TRUST! Only American Standard has OVER 140 years of experience and offers the Liberation Walk-In Bathtub.

✓SUPERIOR DESIGN! Ultra low easy entry and exit design, wide door, built-in safety bar and textured floor provides a safer bathing experience.

✓PATENTED QUICK-DRAIN® TECHNOLOGY

✓LIFETIME WARRANTY! The ONLY Lifetime Warranty on the bath AND installation, INCLUDING labor backed by American Standard.





✓44 HYDROTHERAPY JETS! More than any other tub we've seen.

Lifetime Warranty! Finance Options Available

Limited Time Offer! Call Today!

855-898-5730

Or visit: www.walkintubinfo.com/newnews

Discount applied at time of purchase. Terms and Conditions Apply. * Subject to 3rd party credit approval. Minimum monthly payments required. Receive a free American Standard Cadet Toilet with full installation of a Liberation Walk-In Bath, Liberation Shower, or Deluxe Shower. Offer valid only while supplies last. Limit one per household. Must be first time purchaser. All offers subject to change prior to purchase. See www.AmericanStandardBathTubs.com for other restrictions and for licensing, warranty, and company information. * CSLB B682796; Suffolk NY:55438; NYC:HCR2022748-DCA. Safety Tubs Co. LLC does not sell in Nassau NY, Westchester NY, Putnam NY, Rockland NY.

Appreciation Day,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Photo by Allan Jamail
Senator Carol Alvarado presenting Coach Jon Kay with Mustang's State Championship Award Resolution from Texas Senate. Alvarado said, "The Mustangs had another spectacular year and by winning this year's state championship they became the first Houston area team in a decade to win repeat state championships."

While the Eastside Team watched and listened to local governmental officials and or their representatives (SEE GROUP PHOTO FOR NAMES) each gave their remarks praising Coach Jon Kay, assistant coaches, Athletic Director Vivian Dancy and all those in the GPISD who had a part in the accomplishment.

Coach Kay speaking for himself and the team gave his thanks and appreciation to the fans, school officials, local officials, the Mustangs school band, drill team, cheer-



Photo by Allan Jamail
Linda Jamail, Community Liaison for State Representative Ana Hernandez presents Coach Jon Kay with Mustang's State Championship Award Resolution from Texas House of Representatives. Jamail said she hasn't missed a game in 4 or 5 years and was proud to have been able to witness all 4 Mustang state championship games, the first being in 2003. She said she was excited with their back to back wins. She then said, "I'm hoping for a three-peat," fans cheered in agreement.

leaders, flag brigade, trainers, managers and all others who supported the team. Kay received in behalf of the team numerous awards and recognition resolutions.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL North Shore Mustangs win two games

North Shore Mustangs vs LaPorte Bulldogs



Photo by Allan Jamail
Randy Woodard, #13 North Shore Mustang goes high for a 2 point slam dunk; LaPorte Bulldog looks on. Coach Sam Benitiz' Mustangs easily defeated the Bulldogs 64 to 42.

North Shore Mustangs vs C.E. King Panthers



Photo by Allan Jamail
Jaron Jefferson, #10 Mustang out leaps C.E. King Panthers for a 2 point layup; North Shore wins 64 to 38.

Shelson ISD Advisory Council met



Members of the Sheldon ISD Superintendent's Advisory Council met on Jan. 24 in the New Administration Building Boardroom. The Superintendent's Student Advisory Council is comprised of Sheldon ISD elementary, middle and high school students who focus on continuous improvement and supporting all schools through the lens of equality. Together with Sheldon ISD Superintendent Dr. King Davis, these students will work to deliver on the commitments outlined in the Sheldon ISD Strategic Plan as well as to Connect, Empower, Value and Achieve.

Congratulations to Sheldon ISD Educators of the Month for 2020!



JANUARY EDUCATORS OF THE MONTH: Pictured (in no particular order) are Maria Lezama, SECA; Aliza Draine, CECA; Paula Boderek, SE; Andrea Diaz Martinez, SLE; Romeo Ramirez, RE; Vicki Clements, ME; Jessica Thibodeaux, GE; Michelle Martinez, CE; Lizette Charcousse, NMS; Altera Blackshear, KMS; Al Stein, ECHS; and Olivia Webb, KHS.



OUTSMARTING CANCER in Baytown

Our nationally recognized specialists are finding new ways to outsmart cancer.

From screenings and diagnosis to the most advanced treatments, our leading cancer care is available in Baytown. We offer personalized guidance and support, so you can focus on healing, surviving and thriving.

HOUSTON
Methodist
CANCER CENTER



281.428.2273
houstonmethodist.org/cancer-baytown