# NORTH CHANNEL & STAR

### Your News, Your Newspaper

Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Cloverleaf, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City VOLUME 8, NO. 07 (#311) THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020 www.northchannelstar.com

# **CHANNEL CURRENTS**

# Lynchburg Ferry closing for repairs

M O N D A Y

PRESIDENTS'
DAY

February 17

San Jacinto
College launches
program to
provide full tuition
to eligible
students

PASADENA, Texas — In partnership with Good Reason Houston, San Jacinto College has launched the Harris County Promise at San Jacinto College, a program for local high school seniors to earn a tuition-free higher education credential.

Harris County Promise is

Harris County Promise is a partnership between local independent school districts, higher education institutions, and Good Reason Houston aimed at increasing college credential and degree attainment for the region. Data shows that 65 percent of today's jobs require more than a high school education, but only 21 percent of students in Harris County earn a post-secondary credential.

secondary credential.

"Harris County Promise provides an incredible opportunity for high school students and their families," said Dr. Brenda Hellyer, San Jacinto College Chancellor.

"The Promise and college staffs will partner to provide additional support for our students to enroll in college, stay on a path to completion, and ultimately earn their certificate or associate degree."

The Promise program launched last month in seven high schools across three school districts with three community college partners. The participating high schools in the San Jac Promise program are from Pasadena ISD. Seniors at Dobie, Sam Rayburn, and South Houston High Schools are eligible for the tuition-free program, which requires that students be Texas residents and complete four steps to enroll, regardless of GPA or family income.

GPA or family income.

"Promise at San Jac is starting with students from the Pasadena Independent School District because PISD is already working with Good Reason Houston on another initiative," stated Dr. Allatia Harris, San Jacinto College vice chancellor for strategic initiatves. "We selected these three schools because they represent some of the lowest and highest college-going rates. We will be studying the data to determine how we can efficiently grow the Promise program to get more students on a path to meaningful careers."

After leveraging any financial aid awards and grant funds, as well as third-party scholarships, the students who meet the requirements will receive a scholarship from the San Jacinto College Foundation-to cover the remainder of their tuition and books. Students will be required to

See Full Tuition, Page 6

HARRIS COUNTY Motorists should prepare for the Lynchburg Ferry to be closed starting Tuesday, February 25th until late 2020 for necessary improvements to preserve the longevity of its operations. During this closure, crews will be reconstructing the approaches and transfer ramps that Lynchburg Ferry Boats use to dock. The \$6 million project is a joint venture between Harris County Precinct 2 and the Texas Department of Transportation, who is overseeing construction of the project. Starting March 1, 2020,

Washburn Tunnel. This includes overseeing daily operations, maintenance, capital expenditures, and public inquiries for both facilities. Per the Commissioners Court meeting held on June 25, 2019, these facilities will be transferred to the Toll Road Authority without the imposition of tolls. Drivers should expect no changes to operations when utilizing the Ferry or Tunnel, and no current employees will lose their jobs.

Commissioners Court recommended the transfer to HCTRA to preserve the historical features, and ensure they are safe and enjoyable for long-term use by the public. With HCTRA's dedicated engineering staff, they are able to provide around-the-clock staffing and are more able to fund the assets. HCTRA's Incident Management Services will also be extended to the facilities, which includes free roadside assistance to motorists on their system.

For future updates on the Washburn Tunnel and Lynchburg Ferry, be sure to follow "Lynchburg Ferry" and "Washburn Tunnel" on Facebook.

# Group battles to bring Battleship to Baytown



CONCEPTUAL SKETCH shows Battleship Texas and a new hotel/convention center located next to the existing Bayland Marina and O'Neal's restaurant.

A group of citizens from Baytown are still hoping to win the competition to locate the Battleship Texas in a new port, at Bayland Marina. The spokeman for the group, Russell Hamman, gave a talk to the Highlands Rotary Club on Tuesday, reviewing the history of the ship and its current need of repairs.

the Harris County Toll

Road Authority (HCTRA)

will manage operations of the Lynchburg Ferry and

The State of Texas has turned the ownership and control of the ship to the Battleship Texas Foundation, a private organization headed by Bruce Bramlett. They have issued an RFP, or Request For Proposals,

for interested locales or groups that would be able to maintain and exhibit the ship in the proper manner to benefit the public and the foundation. The RFP is due to be

returned by March 13, and at that time proposals will be evaluated and a decision made as to a home port for the ship. At the current time, it is thought that Baytown, Kemah, and Corpus Christi are the interested parties. At one time Galveston was interested, but recent statements indicate they are involved in other projects

and do not want to compete for the Battleship, Hamman said.

The State of Texas has allocated \$35 million dollars to move the ship to a repair facility, probably along the Gulf Coast east of New Orleans, and to also help establish a new setting for display and visits from the public.

On its return, dredging a channel and site preparation might cost as much as much as \$30 million.

See Battleship, Page 6

# North Shore Mustangs win streak reaches 5



Photo by Allan Jamail
February 2, 2020, Colton Price, #20 North Shore Mustang
6'-8" junior slam dunks for 2 points to ice the win over
Baytown Sterling 61 to 31. **See another picture, page 6** 



### ★ COMMUNITY NEWS ★

# Crosby ISD renews security contract with Pct. 3 Constable

CROSBY – According to Patricia Kay of Crosby ISD, the Security Contract for Crosby schools again this year was made with Precinct 3 Constable Sherman Eagleton's office.

The contract that was approved at the January meeting of the Board of Trustees is a roll over previous years.

The district has agree to pay 70 percent of the costs of placing 6 officers on the campuses. Two at the high school, one at the middle

school, one at Drew Elementary, another at the high school is a roll over to kindergarten, one is shared by Barrett Elementary and Newport Elementary. These funds were already designated to security in the school budget.

These charges are just for the security men to be in place to interdict violence or serious crime. They are not there to aid discipline.

Of the funding leadership has its cost \$81,966 is for a sergeant to be on hand of the \$444,731 total. Of the \$444,731 some \$23,000 represents an increase due to the Constable's office not requiring an increase during times of financial difficulties that was previously experienced by the school. At that time the Constable's office absorbed the differ-

The constable's office works well with all of us." Kay said.

## Ridership growing for new Harris County bus service

Harris County Transit is using federal disaster funds to operate five new bus routes in areas that are still recovering from Harvey. Service started earlier this month in Channelview, Sheldon and Cloverleaf, and there's already a lot of interest.

Harris County Transit Deputy Assistant Director David Jones said they had 313 boardings in their first week of operation. In the second week, boardings rose to 565. Jones said that increase is significant.

"And as more people realize the service, more people are going to use the service," he said. "They're finding it meets a lot of needs for shopping, school, medical and even just social trips."

Even though the service is designed for people who



suffered losses in Harvey's floods, Jones said they'd like to make the routes permanent.

Right now they have three years' worth of disaster funds to operate the buses. Jones said after that, they want to use other funding to keep the service going.

"I look for these things to expand over time," said Jones. "We have aging demographics and the population is going to need more public transportation. And as we get more dense in population, for air quality, public transportation is going to be the way to go."

to go."

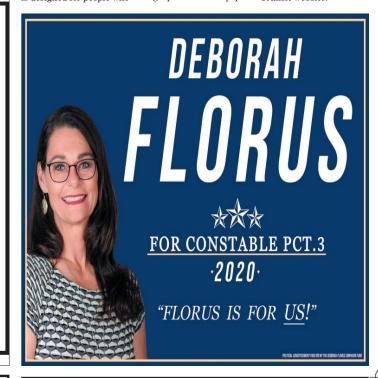
To allow people to try out the new routes, Harris County Transit is offering free rides through the end of January. You can check out schedules and routes on the Harris County Transit website.

You are invited to the Crosby Historical Society's book signing and presentation ceremony!

> February 29, 2020 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM Crosby Brethren Church



The Historical Society will be distributing several hundred of their recently released book, entitled 200 Years; Crosby's Bicentennial Story. All book sale proceeds will benefit the Crosby Historical Society.



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CROSBY'S HOME TOWN HOME CARE

# **COMMUNITY NEWS**

# Pilot Club's Anchors attend district convention



Pilot Club president Julie Fallon, left, with Anchor Club of North Shore members attending the Anchor Convention in Tyler, TX.

# North Shore Rotary supports **GPISD Superstar Rodeo**



Last month, North Shore Rotary Club President Ryan Dagley, right, presented a check for \$1,000 to Abbey Tyler, left, for the Galena Park ISD Superstar Rodeo for special needs kids. North Shore Rotary is proud to support this great event.

# YOU DO LIFE. WE DO TAXES

### 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 2020 tax season at your nearest Liberty Tax Office.

**Kathy Seydler, Office Manager** 12620 Wood Forest @ Normandy-Houston, TX 77015 713-330-8111

### **JANUARY 2, 2020** NORTH CHANNEL STAR PICK-UP LOCATIONS

NORTH SHORE

North Channel Chamber Office, I-10 in Pineforest Jewelry, Uvalde Rd

San Jacinto College North, Student Center & Library Fonteno Court House, Wallisville Rd Sellers Brothers Market, Uvalde Rd

YMCA, Wallisville Rd. Kroger's, Woodforest @ Beltway 8 Sen. Sylvia Garcia office, in Woodforest Bank Bldg Capital Bank, I-10 E North Channel Library Wallisville Rd Water District # 21, Sheldon Rd

CHANNFI.VIFW

Woodforest Bank, Sheldon Rd Post Office, Sheldon Rd Woodforest Bank, Sheldon Rd Channelview Admin Bldg, Sheldon Rd Holiday Inn, I-10 E

Martin Luther King Community Ctr., Lorenzo St. Water District #47, Woodforest Blvd

Chevron, Woodforest & Uvalde Bonfire Wings, Woodforest Blvd Serena Donuts, Woodforest Blvd Pine Trails Community, Woodbend Dr

**SHELDON** Sheldon ISD Admin Bldg. Kroger's, Normandy at Woodforest Sheldon ISD Transportation HCA Houston 24/7, Beltway 8

CLOVERI.FAF

HC WCID #36, Hollywood St Grayson Community Center, Corpus Christi St Galena Park Admin Building, Beltway 8 at Woodforest

Carter-Conley Funeral Home, 13701 Corpus Christi CommunityBank of Texas, I-10 E @ Freeport North Channel Assistance Ministries, Bonham @ Chevron, I-10 West

JACINTO CITY

City Hall, Main Street Community Center/Senior Center, Oates Rd Jacinto City Branch Library, Akron St State Rep Ana Hernandez office, Mercury Drive Sellers Brothers Market, Market St Market Street Feed Store, Market St Mr. Mercury Gas Station, Mercury Dr Jacinto City Parks & Recreation, Mercury Dr Chevron, Market St

**GALENA PARK** 

Baggett Community Center, Keene St Galena Park City Hall, Clinton Drive Galena Park Library, Keene St United Comm. Credit Union, 16th St Galena Park Community Crt, Keene St Middleton Super Market, Clinton Dr Exxon King Fuel, Clinton Dr Galena Park Medical Clinic, Clinton Dr

If you would like to be a PICK-UP LOCATION, let us know. 713-266-3444 or northchannelstar@gmail.com.

REV 01/2020

### SHELDON ISD

# Support services employees recognized



Congratulations to our Support Services Employees of the Month for January

Pictured (from left) are Latricia Archie, SISD Board President; Khadijah Moore, Transportation Employee of the Month; Christian Borrego, Technology Employee of the Month; and Dr. King Davis, SISD Superintendent. Not pictured are Joe Underwood, Maintenance Employee of the Month; Dora Martinez, Custodial Employee of the Month; and Wendy Reyes, Child Nutrition Employee of the Month.



Luis F. Garcia, CPA Attorney at Law 13364 Woodforest Blvd Houston, TX 77015 713-999-8006

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### OPINION PAGE

# **LETTERS** To The Editor

# Tx-DOT & deplorable roads

Dear Editor,

Thanks for your comments in the Feb. 6 paper. I could not agree more. Our highway's, roadways are deplorable. I was sore-

ly affected this weekend trying to get to Wirt Road and I-10. Waco St. was closed. On Saturday had to take Clinton Drive to get to Jensen Drive, again Waco was closed. I heard years ago that the engineer's that set up Dallas streets were drunk three days running before they started on that project, be cause the street system is so discombobulated

I cannot begin to fathom what these engineers were into or doing before this insanity with our high-ways began. Many times er. You can't use one major roadway, and the alternate route is also closed or severely impacted as well. MapQuest is of little if any value, because it is not always aware of road clo-

Tx-DOT is absolutely laughable, except it is not really funny. Shame on the powers that be.

Aliene Wingate



# Secret History -Masons and the Boston Tea Party?

SECRET HISTORY? Do you ever wonder about the real history of America, the stuff that often does not make it into the text books? There is lots of historical information that never made it into the history books, and this is just one of many. There has been a long standing rumor that the Masons were actually responsible for the "Boston Tea Party."

In the 1700s, the Green Dragon Tavern was a community center in Boston. Downstairs was the Tavern. Upstairs was the St. Andrews Masonic Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. It was the largest place for meetings in the north east end of Boston. Historians often called it the headquarters of the American Revolution. According to documents from the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon, the statement was made, "Where we met to Plan the Consignment of a few Shiploads of Tea, Dec 16, 1773." It seems the King of England had given a tea monopoly to his preferred friends, and the colonists were unhappy with the quality of such. The tea was reported to have been rotting in warehouses in England and the owners needed to be rid of it. They were also unhappy with the fact that the King had placed a tax on it, just to prove he had the power to tax. The colonists stated "taxation without representation, along with a tea monopo ly, is tyranny!" On December 16th, the evening of the famous Tea Party, records of the St. Andrew Lodge show that only five members were present. A note says "Lodge closed on account of too few members present." It seems the members might have been pre-occupied that night by the Boston Tea Party. The whole Tea Party was in range of a 60-gun warship, and the

Afterwards, the 'perpetrators" marched

by under his window. The

Admiral opened the window and shouted window and shouted,
"Tomorrow you'll have to
pay the piper!" But that
was never to be. Although 2,000 people stood on Griffin's wharf in Boston and watched the Boston Tea Party in silence as sixty men dumped 90,000 pounds of tea into salt water, not one witness could be found to testify. It is not strange that no one could be found to identify the "perpetrators." It was the same the year before in Rhode Island. Some Patriots dressed as Indians attacked the Gaspee, a British Customs Schooner that was baited into shallow water and run aground. It was then attacked, looted and burned. The British claimed that Brother Abraham Whipple (St. John's Masonic Lodge No. 1, Providence, RI) was the leader. They promised to hang him. Brother Whipple said they would have to catch him first. No one was ever prosecuted for it either.

To this day no one knows for sure who actually planned the Boston Tea Party. Many vears later Sir Winston Churchill - Prime Minister of England, Historian and Freemason - com-mented on the act of given the East India Company a monopoly on tea. Brother Churchill called it "a stupid blunder." Americans have been drinking coffee ever since. You decide: were the Masons deeply involved in the Boston Tea Party? Were they also involved in American Independence?

Jerry Fallin has been a contributing writer for several news outlets over the years, born and raised in the North Channel Area. He now lives in Baytown and can be



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# State defends system of choosing presidential electors

AUSTIN — Texas Deputy Solicitor General Matthew Frederick on Feb. 6 defended the Electoral College system in a case before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Cir

Frederick, arguing on be-half of Gov. Greg Abbott and Attorney General Ken Paxton, maintained that Texas' method of appointing presidential electors is consistent with the U.S. Constitution's requirement that "each state shall appoint, in such manner as the legislature thereof may direct, a number of electors. equal to the number of sena tors and representatives to which the state may be enti-tled in Congress."

As most other states do, Texas appoints presidential electors on a winner-takes-all basis to the presidential candidate who receives the most votes in a statewide election.

The case, brought by the League of United Latin American Citizens and several individual plaintiffs, challenges the constitutionality of Texas' system, asserting that the voting power of minorities is diluted under winner-takesall in violation of the Voting Rights Act and the 1st and

Study: Teens, seat belts In 2018, 111 of the 264

teens killed in vehicle crashes in Texas were not wearing a seat belt, the Texas Department of Transportation reported on Feb. 4.

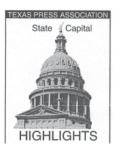
Vehicle crashes are the leading cause of deaths among teenagers. One simple click could help change that, TxDOT says in its current "Teen Click It or Ticket" cam-

paign.
"For teens, getting a driver's license is a rite of passage, but when they start driving, they aren't thinking about how their lack of experience places them at greater risk of getting in a crash," said Tx-DOT Executive Director James Bass. "Tragedy can strike in an instant, which is why we hope all parents, teachers and other influencers are urging teens to buck-le up each and every time, no matter how short the trip may

Hegar reports revenue Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on Feb. 4 said state sales tax revenue totaled \$3.08 billion in January, 8.9% more than reported in January 2019.

Growth in state sales tax revenue was led by receipts from the retail trade and in-

### STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling



formation services sectors, while receipts from oil and gas mining were down from a year ago, Hegar said. In addition, January retail trade sector collections were higher than a year ago in part because more Christmas shopping days fell in December. Collections also were slightly boosted by market-place providers and remote sellers who first began col-lecting Texas sales taxes in

October, Hegar added.
The majority of January sales tax revenue is based on sales made in December and remitted to the agency in January. Notably, total sales tax revenue for the three months ending in January 2020 was up 6.6% compared to the same period a year ago.

HIGHLANDS

Sales tax is the largest source of state funding for the state budget, accounting for 57% of all tax collections.

### USDA OKs hemp plan

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller on Jan. 27 welcomed news that the U.S. Department of Agriculture had approved the Lone Star State's plan for the production and regulation of hemp.

Miller referred to hemp growing as "an exciting new crop opportunity." However, he cautioned would-be growers, saying, "It is still not legal to grow hemp – so don't put those seeds in the ground just yet. We've got to get our rules approach got to get our rules approach got to get our pulsoning." proved and get our licensing program up and running, but the dominoes are dropping pretty quick. We're almost there."

House Bill 1325, passed by the Texas Legislature last May, created a legal path for Texas to open itself to commercial hemp farming. The state submitted its hemp plan to the USDA for approval on Dec. 2. Now, with USDA approval, Texas must follow its administrative rule-making process, which includes public notice and public hearings, before farmers can plant hemp.

CROSBY

# THE **POSTSCRIPT** By Carrie Classon

### "Romantic Impulses"

I was looking at my hair in the

"I think I might need a touch up," I noted to my husband,

without looking up. (Which means, "If you think so honey, I honestly believe you might be able to hold off a week!" I can always count on Peter for a thoughtful response.)

"Maybe I should get it done in time for Valentine's Day." This time Peter did look up, with just a trace of alarm.
"You know, so I'll be ready for

our Big Night Out!" I smiled and Peter relaxed and went back to his reading. I was just kidding and he knew it.

Peter and I will be celebrating Valentine's Day in the way we traditionally have-by ignoring it completely

I don't want to give the wrong impression; Peter is a very romantic person. But he is bothered when someone tells him how and when to be romantic and tries to make money off his romantic impulses and so he opts out of the entire red and pink frenzy: no roses, no dinner reservations, not ever any heart-shaped candies.

I am not as hardcore as Peter. I don't think there is anything inherently wrong with celebrating love. It's only when it stops feeling like a celebration and starts feeling like an obligation that the problems start. I am also a little suspicious of big romantic gestures delivered on cue because of my first marriage.

On our eleventh anniversary, my former husband wrote in an anniversary card his only wish was to have "another eleven years" with me. I am not big on keeping sentimental items, but for some reason I hung onto that card. It felt like an insurance policy, good for: "another eleven years." What I did not count on was his leaving me almost

exactly eleven years later. You have to check the expiration date on insurance policies

I have never felt for a moment that Peter would slip away. I have also learned that romance comes in many shapes and

Peter is not a giver of gifts wrapped up in paper and delivered on any kind of schedule. He does not buy the idea that celebrations need to occur in compliance with a calendar date (except our anniversary, which he always observes). He asks me what I want for my birthday, doesn't do surprises, and has never, to my recollection, given me a greeting

But Peter keeps me supplied

If this doesn't sound significant, that's because you have no idea how many raisins I go through. I've been doing a lot of writing lately and I can't be bothered getting up and fixing myself a proper meal. So, I've been eating "overnight oats" which is just oatmeal you soak in milk instead of cooking. I fill it with raisins, some cinnamon and chopped up apples, and I'm good to go till dinnertime.

I've been going through pounds of raisins and Peter notices and makes sure there are always more. He also makes the coffee in our house, which is pretty much a fulltime job. He notices when my brand of toothpaste is on sale and buys ten tubes. (We do not share toothpaste. His is blue!) He replaces things that break, refills things that are empty, and improves things that have bothered me for ages but I never thought to do anything about.

Every day, in dozens of ways. Peter shows me that he loves me and makes my life happier. And he doesn't do greeting cards.

I'm okay with that. Till next time.

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



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### ★ LIFESTYLE PAGE ★

# Eagleton 's Valentine Gala complete success



Constable Sherman Eagleton with his wife, hosted his annual campaign fund-raiser at the 2500 South Shore Blvd. with massive Democrat support and the Crosby Fair & Rodeo of which Mr. Eagleton was the first black board member. Ricky Loggins was auctioneer of the live auction. The Constable recognized special services and initiatives of his deputies.

# THOUGHTS FROM HILLSIDE CHURCH



# Let it Spur You On

Do you watch westerns? I do, and have since I was a kid. One thing you see a lot in westerns is a cowboy walking around in boots and spurs. Generally, this means he's just finished working cattle, and may even be heading back out. I will occasionally, if there's something I need to take care of quickly, go out in public wearing my boots and spurs. When I do, even if they don't see me, people generally know I'm there, and if they know cattle they have a pretty good idea what I've been doing recently. That spur jingle is distinctive.

Have you ever thought about how much spurs are like God's Word? Its jingle is distinctive too. Think about it; you can pretty much recognize someone who has been spending quality time with the Word because they sound and act differently. They've been led and guided by God's Word just as carefully as a cowboy's horse has been led by the touch of his spurs.

A cowboy who knows what he's doing can use just the right spur on just the right horse to lead and train it to respond perfect-

ly. That horse can get in the arena or out in the pasture and seem to almost know what its rider is thinking, because the cowboy has so skillfully used those bits of metal for some serious communication. It is the spurs, used properly, that enable the two to move as

one.

God does the same with us. His desire is for us to move as one with Him, to always walk as He would walk, talk as He would talk, and He knows how to get us there. Just as the green horse gets touched with only the gentlest spur, the newborn Christian is molded by the milk of the Word. (Hebrews 5:12-14) God is gentle and merciful, giving the newborn Christian time to grow and mature.

And then, just as the cowboy pulls out a more serious set of spurs for the better-trained, more experienced horse, God pulls out the meat of the Word for the more mature Christian and serves up a banquet. He knows this one is ready for more intense instruction, has potential for more, and the results of God's training are telling.

When we submit to the Word as it spurs us on to become more, we grow more into the image of Christ.

Of course, we all know a poorly trained rider can ruin a horse by misusing his spurs. The same holds true in the church. God would never ruin a Christian, but man certainly has been known to. Unfortunately, there are many Christians out there who use the Word like the careless cowboy digs a tenpoint star into the side of the wrong horse – in both cases it is galling and can do permanent damage.

God's Word isn't meant to be a weapon. It is a precious gift from Love Himself and He gives it so we can share it with love. So I encourage you to always follow God's example and use His holy Word to encourage and lift one another up, to offer Good News to those around you who are lost, in pain, or longing for something more. I encourage you to let the Word spur you on to greater acts of love and kindness, to being a living testimony of the goodness of God.

MyHillsideFamily.com

### **BIBLE TRIVIA**

by Wilson Casey—

- 1. Is the book of Lamentations in the Old or New Testament or neither?
- 2. Which book could be summarized, "By human standards you're looking OK, but by God's, you're failing"? Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah
- 3. From Genesis 41, who had the vision of seven fat cows coming out of a river? Adam, Moses, Pharaoh, Abraham
- 4. Who was suspended by a lock of hair between heaven and earth in a vision? Samson, Esau, Elijah, Ezekiel
- 5. What church did John describe as one with an "open door"? Sardis, Philadelphia, Antioch, Smyrna
- 6. From Acts 10, where did Cornelius encounter an angel? Temple, Well, House, Field

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Amos; 3) Pharaoh; 4) Ezekiel; 5) Philadelphia; 6) House

# JUDGE GENESIS



compliance with the voluntary limits of the Judicial

# Superintendent's Choice Awards of Rodeo Art



4

Photo by Mima Trujillo

The Rodeo Art Superintendent's Choice Awards went to Vianey Trejo (front left), 11th grade, Goose Creek Memorial High School, and Patrick Ibarra (front right), 4th grade, Victoria Walker Elementary. Not pictured is Karen Reyes, 8th grade, Highlands Junior. The students are pictured with Dr. Randal O'Brien (back left), Goose Creek CISD superintendent, and Susan Chiboroski, director of fine arts.

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## **ASK THE EXPERT**

North Shore Mustangs defeat Deer Park 46 – 30 and Baytown Sterling 61-31



Photo by Allan Jamail

Treveon Taylor, #3 Mustang junior lays up a 2 point short in the 61 to 31 win over Baytown Sterling In other Mustang basketball news on February 4, 2020 North Shore won over the Deer Park Deer 46 to 30

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# **ASK DIAMOND JIM**

# Diamond Jim: "How old



are natural diamonds?"

to the surface of magma, or molten rock which solidifies when it draws closer surface



themselves are much older than the rock that they are found in.

Measuring age
It isn't always possible to find out the age of a diamond by examining it directly A better method is to look at tiny inclusions, which are crystals made from other miner als that are often found within diamonds. These give out a slight radioactive signal that scientists can measure to find out how old they are. This means flawless diamonds, that don't have any inclusions, are very difficult to date.

The method for determining age known as "Carbon Dating" is, unfortunately, of little help when it comes to diamonds. The accuracy of carbon dating reaches its limit when attempting to date an item older than 60,000 years old, thus falling way short of what's needed for diamonds.

### A garnet within a diamond

The diamond in the image above contains a violet-red garnet. The garnet gives us a clue to the conditions and rock types that the diamond formed in, as scientists know the temperature and pressure that is needed for garnet to turn into its crystal form.

Other minerals turn into crystals at different temperatures and different pressures.

### Finding accurate information

There is some debate about how accurate the evidence from inclusions is. Many inclusions are very old and so the diamonds they were found in may also have formed a very long time ago. However, some scientists think diamonds could have formed around the inclusions more recently.

The popular consensus is that the diamonds we can now see and touch are between 900,000 and 3 billion years old.

Synthetic diamonds Advances in technology mean that we can now create synthetic diamonds and these have increased our understanding of diamonds in

the natural world.

By working out the conditions needed to create synthetic diamonds we have also learned more about how and where real diamonds form, and where else we

might hunt for them. Thank you for reading the "Ask Diamond Jim" column and for support-ing the North Channel Star Newspaper!

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 ques-tions related to the jewelry industry, email mills@pineforestjewelry.com.

### **CHARLOTTE'S** WEB



# Looking Back and Learning

Earlier this week I celebrated my first anniversary working with the RUOk? Program. For those of you not familiar with the program, this is one of the first "quality of life" programs that Harris County Constable Sherman Eagleton implemented after he was sworn into office in 2017. The program is an opportunity for Seniors to sign up for a weekly phone call. During the phone call, if the Senior expresses a need, the staff will look for resourc-es for them. If the Senior does not answer their phone, the staff will then call the contacts which the Senior provided at the time of their enrollment into the program. If by chance, the contacts are not sure where the Senior is at, the staff will then ask to have a Deputy do a welfare check.

Over time there have been Seniors who have moved outside of the area yet as long as they are in Harris County, the staff continues to reach out weekly. Once they tell their new neighbors about the program, they often want to enroll as well. Constable Eagleton saw the need and gave us the go ahead to enroll Seniors throughout Harris County. The more often presentations were made, the more we recognized the need to offer the program to the Spanish-speaking community as well. In July, the CASA (Consta bles Assisting Senior Adults) Program was introduced by Constable Eagleton.

Several times each month Rebecca Gonzales and myself make presentations to local Seniors about the program as well as attend events where we can enroll new participants. Each event is a blessing and perhaps one of the best parts of the day is when all the Seniors for that day have been reached and we know that everyone is safe

During the course of this last year I have met some interesting Seinors and each one has a story to tell. One of my favorite

participants shared that when she enlisted in the US Air Force, they selected her to be a model for the advertising campaign. And then because she only weighed 89 pounds, she had to sit and eat banana splits for two weeks so that she could reach the required weight. We have noticed many of our participants have served in the military. Late one night, I received a phone call from someone volunteering with Raising Men Lawn Care Service. This organization has volunteers who look for lawns to be taken care of while teaching youth how to get involved in community service. When they called, they were looking for a disabled Senior. preferably a Veteran who lived within the 77015 zip code. Off the top of my head, I was able to think of several. I reached out to one Senior and he was so excited. I connected him to the group leader and what a great day. I am not sure who enjoyed spending time with the other most. The volun-teers learned much history and the gentlemen was so proud of his yard. Shortly thereafter, the gentleman had a terrible fall and ended up in the hospital. Due to complications, he passed away. His son said that when they went to clear out his father's home, they found a picture we had sent to him of him and the volunteers. He also had his birthday card, notes of encouragement and a list of things he wanted to tell us about.

Perhaps the hardest part of this assignment is knowing that each month, we will have participants who pass away. Yet, we are able to find comfort in knowing that during their finals days, we helped them smile and they knew we cared.

To learn more about the RUOk? Program, please call me at 713.274.2513 or if you have a Spanish-speaking Senior who may benefit from the CASA Program, please have them call Rebecca at 713.274.9732

## Full Tuition,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

take a minimum of 12 hours each fall and spring semester and must complete the credential within three years with a minimum 2.0 GPA. Staff will be available at the College to assist students throughout their time at San Jacinto College to ensure that they complete their credential or associate

degree on time.

"We know in a fastchanging world, our students need more skills to remain competitive in to-day's job market," said Dr. DeeAnn Powell, Pasadena ISD Superintendent. "This program helps our students receive the degree or technical certification needed to

succeed in the workforce and beyond."

Modeled after similar successful programs across Texas and the country, Har-ris County Promise aims to solve the opportunity gap and increase college completion, particularly among low-income students. While Harris County Promise launched with seven high schools, the program plans to expand to more high schools and four-year colleges in the future.

For more information about the Harris County Promise at San Jacinto College, visit the San Jacinto College website.

# Battleship

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1** 



Russell Hamman explains plan to save the Battleship to Highlands Rotary.

The city of Baytown is considering whether they want to contribute money to this endeavor, he said. In addition, the Bay

town group is raising funds and campaigning to have the ship berthed permanently in Bayland Marina in Baytown. The group is headed by businessman Jay Eshbach, and includes Hamman and several Bay-town mayors. They are asking the public to pledge a sum of 27¢ a day for five years, to show their sup-port for the project. This would amount to \$492.75

in five years, but is only a pledge and no money is being collected. So far, Hamman said, \$30,000 has been raised.

Hamman, a well-known local historian, has two Facebook sites to aid in the effort. They are "Bring the Battleship to Baytown" and "Hamman's History of Baytown... with a twist." Together they have about 20,000 followers. Hamman sais that a

show of public support would help the Foundation decide in Baytown's favor. He also pointed out that the planned location has a large number of people passing by daily on the passing by daily on the Fred Harman bridge, 80,000 per day with 120,000 projected when the Grand Parkway is completed. He estimates that the ship will require 100,000 paying visitors every year to be financially sound.

Hamman asks that if you favor the project, write a letter of support and email david.bloom@baytownsun.com. You can also volunteer to help maintain the ship and run the museum and gift shop that will be part of the develop-

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Notice of Initiation of the Section 106 Process-Public Participa-

tion in accordance with the Federal Communications Commission regulations (47 CFR § 1.1307) for Section 106 of the

National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Program Comment

for Positive Train Control and Infrastructure, Union Pacific pro-

poses to construct an approximately 65' monopole communi-

cations pole with associated equipment at the following

approximate locations in Harris County, TX within the existing

•Coordinates: 29.940373, -95.028324; Mile Post #337.95, NE

• Coordinates: 29.911402, -95.066093; Mile Post #341.01, W of Crosby.

We respectfully request that parties interested in providing comment on the proposed undertaking relative to potential effects

on cultural or historic properties should contact GSS, Inc., 3311

109th Street, Urbandale, IA 50322; Ph. (515) 331-2103, within

30 days of the date of this publication (GSS W20028-TX-2,3)

### **LEGAL NOTICE**

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etters of Admini

GUY Deceased:

uary 24, 2020.

**CAROL ANN GUY** 

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The residence ad dress of the admin istrator is in Harris County, Texas. The nailing address is c/o Weston Cotter

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All persons having claims against this Estate which is cur rently being admin istered are required to present them ithin the time and n the manner pre scribed by law Dated this Janua 31, 2020

I lister toller by WESTON COTTEN Attorney for the

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**LEGAL NOTICE** 

CREDITORS issued on January 21, 2020.

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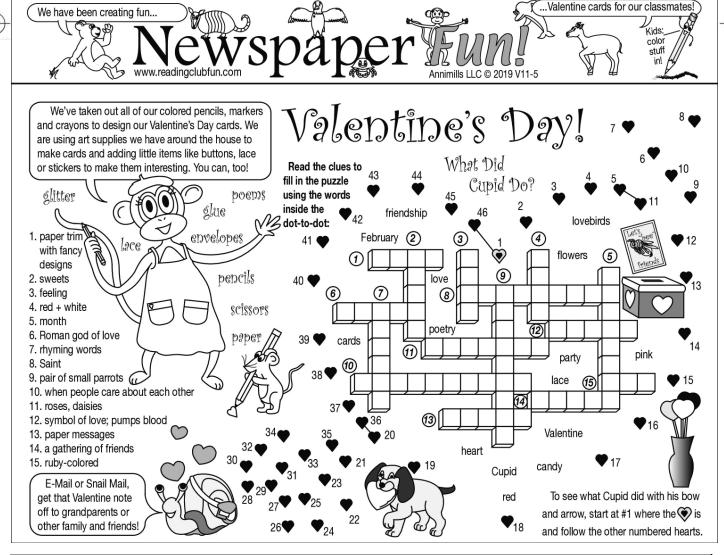
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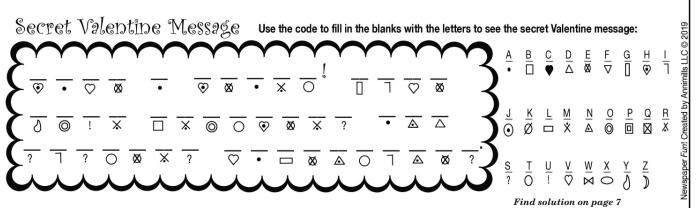


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