## NORTH CHANNEL & STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Cloverleaf, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City
VOLUME 8, NO. 19 (#324)

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2020

www.northchannelstar.com

## **CHANNEL CURRENTS**

## COVID-19

#### Cases as of May 12, 2020 HOUSTON AREA

13,214 POSITIVE 343 DEATHS 4,850 RECOVERED

#### **TEXAS**

40,909 POSITIVE 1,125 DEATHS 21,713 RECOVERED

#### **UNITED STATES**

1,366,350 POSITIVE 82,105 DEATHS 232,733 RECOVERED

#### WORLDWIDE

4,247,709 POSITIVE 290,838 DEATHS 1,485,134 RECOVERED

#### COVID-19 RESOURCES

#### **CITY OF HOUSTON**

832-393-4220

#### HARRIS COUNTY

713-634-1110 ASK A NURSE

MOBILE TESTS 713-439-6000

#### PRE-SCREENING

HARRIS COUNTY 832-927-7575 readyharris.org

#### MD MEDICAL

1-888-776-5252 For Pre-srceening Aldine Mail Rte.

## City of Galena Park distributes food to the community

By Julieta Paita

GALENA PARK, Texas — Last Monday Galena Park Mayor Esmeralda Moya, along with other community leaders distributed free fresh food and masks to the residents. "My heartfelt thanks to the

"My heartieit thanks to the more than 480 lovely people who participated in our Food and Masks Curbside Distribution yesterday afternoon. I was blessed to see the goodness, resilience, and hope of the people of Galena Park. We witnessed what's possible when we come together as one and help our brothers and sisters in these challenging times.

My gratitude to Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia, Senator Carol Alvarado, Harris County Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Plumbers Local Union 68 Rick Lord The Committee for a Bot



Commissioner Adrian Garcia helps with distribution of vegetables last Monday at the Galena Park Food Pantry.

See more pictures of Food Distribution on Pages 3 & 8



Rick Lord, Business Agent Plumbers Local 68, Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia, Galena Park Mayor Esmeralda Moya, Senator Carol Alvarado and Michael Walter, Supervisor Community Relations Valero Houston Refinery. Monday, May 11, 2020 at the Galena Park Food Pantry. Citizens received food and protective masks. (Allan Jamail photo)

ter Galena Park, Houston Food Bank, Valero Energy Corporation and to the most talented, tireless, and mission-driven employees who have given of themselves for the betterment of others. God bless you all and, may God continue to bless our beloved city of Galena Park," Mayor Moya posted on the City's facebook page.

The City distributed more masks on May 4 and there was another fresh food and mask curbside distribution on April 29, 2020.

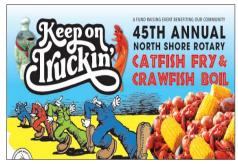
## Rotary Fish Fry Drawing set for Saturday as online event

North Shore Rotary Club will hold their raffle drawing this Saturday. There will be a grand prize of either a Chevrolet Colorado pickup truck or a Camaro. Other prizes include a whole hog, a side of beef, each cut and wrapped from animals purchased at auctions from local FFA students. Houston Livestock & Rodeo packages, Texan tickets with hotel accommodations, vacation packages, gift cards, and many more. Twenty prizes to be drawn.

Tickets can still be pur-

Tickets can still be purchased from any Rotarian or purchased via Pay-Pal by going to nsrotaryfishfry @gmail.com, or Contact President Elect Lowell Everitt at leveritt @everittind.com.

For information: info@northshorerotary.org



The drawing will be held at Turner Chevrolet at 2:00 PM on Saturday May 16, 2020. It will be shown live on Facebook Live by going to Rotary Club of North Shore Facebook page. The drawing will also be presented via a Zoom meeting. Check the Rotary Facebook page

for ID to enter the meeting.

North Shore Rotary
says they are committed to
not cutting any scholarships provided annually.
Purchase of a ticket will
help reach closer to their
goal and enable Rotary to
continue to support programs for seniors, veter-

## HC Clerk Trautman resigns her office

HARRIS COUNTY — Citing fear of the Covid-19 pandemic, and other health concerns, first term Harris County Clerk Diane Trautman announced her resignation last week.

In a letter addressed to Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo, Trautman said the resignation would be effective May 31. The Commissioner's Court will appoint an interim Clerk, Judge Hidalgo said.

Trautman said that her decision was "due to personal health concerns... the Covid-19 pandemic, my age, and underlying health issues. I do not feel I can safely continue to carry out my duties as Harris County Clerk."

Trautman took office in January 2019, after holding previous positions as a teacher, local school board member, and county school board member

The County Clerk is in charge of all elections, and in that capacity she brought a number of innovative advances to the election process in Harris County. She is credited with convincing the county and the state to allow voters to cast their ballots at any polling location, instead of the one closest to their home.

Due to the Coronavirus, she has also been working on a plan to allow the majority of voters to vote by mail instead of risking their health at polling locations. She has received preliminary county



Harris County Clerk Diane Trautman

funding of \$12 million for this effort, but has been told by the state that it would not be legal to allow all to vote this way, and she is awaiting resolution of this ruling.

Trautman credits her staff for much of the accomplishments, and praises their commitment and hard work.

In accepting her res ignation, Judge Hidalgo said "Dr. Trautman embodies the spirit of the community she has served... she led the charge to allow citizens to vote at any polling place on Election Day.. panded voting cations... and expanded hours and early voting opportunities for all. During the Coronavirus push for mail ballot voting... I thank her for serving our community with pride, dedication, and an ambitious agen-

The Harris County Republican party issued

> See TRAUTMAN, Page 8

## Food/mask Distribution in Jacinto City by Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia, others

By Allan Jamail

JACINTO CITY, MAY 13 – The Jacinto City food distribution, virus masks giveaway and U.S. Census information event was organized by the Office of Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia in collaboration with State Senator Carol Alvarado, State Rep. Ana Hernandez, Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Mayor of Jacinto City Ana Diaz, Constable Christopher Diaz, the U.S. Census, and the Houston Food Bank.

"Today, May 13th, I organized a food distribution event in Jacinto City because it is imperative that

See Jacinto City Food Distribution, Page 8



Pct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia and Jacinto City Police Chief Joe Ayala handing out virus protection masks and boxes of food commodities. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

## Virtual and in-person DOCTOR APPOINTMENTS



houstonmethodist.org/hereforyou 281.428.2273



#### COMMUNITY NEWS ★

## Commissioner Garcia proposes property tax relief for seniors and individuals with disabilities

Plan will provide much needed relief to Homeowners from Harris County Property Taxes

County Property Taxes
Harris County, TX
Last Tuesday, Harris
County Commissioner
Adrian Garcia announces
will be putting an item on
the next Commissioners
County Agenda (May 19,
2020) to extend the Harris County Homeowners
Property Tax Exemption
for seniors and disabled
homeowners. The plan
would eliminate county
property tax liability for
seniors 65 years of age and
older as well as disabled
homeowners and disabled
military veterans, with
homes valued at \$260,000
or less. Qualifying homeowners with homes valued
at \$260,000 or more would

save at least \$350 next year (and annually going forward) on their property tox bills

tax bills. This is the first update to the Homeowners Exemption since 2008, and according to a Budget Management Department analysis commissioned by Commissioner Garcia's office in 2019, the plan would be revenue neutral. The exemption also eliminates tax liability for Harris Health and Harris County Flood Control for homeowners qualifying for the exemption. If the plan is approved, it would take effect for this year's tax bills.

"I hope my fellow members of Commissioners Court will approve this plan to increase these exemptions without delay.

This would be the first time in twelve years that we will have brought meaningful tax reform to Harris County homeowners, and given that seniors and homeowners are particularly vulnerable during the COVID-19 pandemic, we need to step up and help right away. In addition, the added exemption is long overdue to negate the adverse impact of rising appraisal values is having on families across Harris County," said Com-missioner Adrian Garcia, "I'm proud to be the first Commissioner to submit this in 12 years and put money back into the pock-

ets of hardworking fami-

lies, many who have been

directly impacted due to

COVID-19.

## Pct. 3 Constable continues mask and glove giveaways

May 6 was a banner day for the Precinct 3 Constable to keep on giving away masks and gloves for free to resi-

According to Constable Sherman Eagleton, "When we work together everyone wins"

St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church, St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church combined forces with Precinct 3 to "Feed those in need."

With special notation from the Constable to the "staff at the Wendell D. Ley Family YMCA and National Guard that distribute food two times a week and make it look easy."

Special recognition goes for masks for distribution courtesy Commissioner Rodney Ellis, US Representative Sylvia Garcia, State Senator Carol Avarado, State Rep. Harold Dutton, Ana Hernandez and J. P. Jee Stephens



## Free Brown Bag lunch & Grab & Go meals

FREE BROWN BAG

Every Monday & Wednesday for all ages from 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm. Drive-thru style & on a first come, first serve basis. Must be present to receive lunches. At the following locations:

-Grayson Community Center, 13828 Corpus Christi St., Houston, TX 77015. -J.D. Walker Community Center, 7613 Wade Rd., Baytown 77521. -EHCAC, 7340 Spencer

-EHCAC, 7340 Spencer Highway, Pasadena, TX 77505.

-Barret Station Community Center, 11901 Mulberry St., Barrett, TX 77532

FREE GRAB & GO MEALS

At San Jacinto Community Center, 604 Highland

Woods Dr., Highlands, TX 77562. Starting Tuesday May 12 from 10 am - 12 pm or while meals last.

Serving every Tuesday. Sample menu Turkey & cheese hoagie, apple sauce, cheese stick, pizza crackes and juice.

For more information please call 281-833-3129 or info@bachamp.org, www.bachamp.org

## Crash on Main Street reminds residents of driving dangers



A truck towing a trailer loaded with an ATV crashed on Main Street in Crosby, in front of the Jack In The Box restaurant last Wednesday, May 5. It appears the driver first lost a Yeti Cooler followed by the trailer sweeping to the right. The ambulance service is seen treating the driver.

## www.starcouriernews.com www.northchannelstar.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 COPÝ 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: <u>cri.tax.jhinson@gmail.com</u>



281-328-5869



### <u> Home Health Care</u>

Skilled Nursing, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Medical Social Worker, Home Health Aide, Hospice Services

\*Physical Therapy Position Available

CALL TODAY TO SEE IF YOU QUALIFY FOR MEDICARE FUNDED HOME HEALTH CARE

Physical Therapy Position Available

Locally owned and Operated by Tabatha and Jonathan Brady

Non-Discrimination Policy

No client shall be, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, age, sex, disability or handicap, sexual orientation, marital status, religion or status with regard to public assistance or veteran status, excluded from admission to services through Omnix Health Care Services, Inc.

CROSBY'S HOME
TOWN HOME CARE

#### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### Senator Alvarado's District Wide Mask GiveAway



Senator Carol Alvarado, State Rep. Ana Hernandez, Victor Trevino III passing out masks, Channelview, TX. at the Praise Christian Center World Outreach. Present but not in photo, Judge Joe Stephens and Judge Lucia Bates, Commissioner Adrian Garcia and Constable Sylvia Trevino. Thursday, May, 7th 2020. (Contributed Photo).

By Allan Jamail - Assisted
by, Sara MontelongoOyervidez, District Director
for Senator Alvarado

lena Park, Constable
Sylvia Trevino, Victor Trevino III, Greater Northside
Management District, MD

HOUSTON, TX. May 2 nd through May 14 th, 2020 – State Senator Carol Alvarado spearheaded a massive distribution of virus masks throughout Senate District 6. Alvarado said, she was pleased to see thousands of citizens come out to get the vital protective masks which may be the difference between life or death.

"I'm grateful to everyone who has helped make
these mask distributions
possible. This has been a
great opportunity to serve
the community and keep
people healthy. We'll keep
working to provide resources and fill community needs wherever we can,"
Alvarado concluded.

Other partners, elected officials, organizations and companies helping in these events (not alphabetized) Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia, Commissioner Adrian Garcia, State Rep. Ana Hernandez, State Rep. Christina Morales, State Rep. Armando Walle, State Rep. Mary Ann Perez, State Rep. Anna Eastman, Judge Joe Stephens, Judge Lucia Bates, Houston City Council Member Karla Cisneros, Mayor Brandon Capetillo, City of Baytown, Mayor Ana Diaz, City of Jacinto City, Mayor Esmeraldo Moya, City of GaSylvia Trevino, Victor Trevino III, Greater Northside Management District, MD Anderson Family YMCA, Gulf Coast Distiller, McDonald's, Exxon Mobile, City of Pasadena, BakerRipley, Supervisor Michael Walter, Valero Houston Refinery, Cities of Jacinto City, Galena Park, South Houston, Baytown, South Houston and Houston.

Cities and areas where citizens came to get masks included Houston, Pasadena, Jacinto City, Galena Park, South Houston, Baytown, Channelview, Denver Harbor, Houston Northside, Aldine and Magnolia/East End.

State Representative Ana Hernandez said, "We recognize that there is great need in our community as we navigate through this pandemic and are committed to assisting those who are struggling to make ends meet. It is vital in our fight against this virus that we help our must vulnerable neighbors and provide resources to them in any way possible."

Galena Park Mayor Moya stated, "My heartfelt thanks to the more than 480 lovely people who participated in our Food and Masks Curbside Distribution. I was blessed to see the goodness, resilience, and hope of the people of Galena Park. We witnessed what's possible when we come together as one and help our brothers and sisters in these challenging times."

"My gratitude to Con-

gresswoman Sylvia Garcia, Senator Carol Alvarado, Harris County Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Plumbers Local Union 68 Rick Lord, The Committee for a Better Galena Park, Houston Food Bank, Valero Energy Corporation and to the most talented, tireless, and mission-driven employees who have given of themselves for the betterment of others. God bless you all and, may God continue to bless our beloved city of Galena Park," Moya concluded.

Ana Diaz, Jacinto City's Mayor said she was honored to have Jacinto City be a host city where any citizen in the area in need would be able to come and get food and protection from the deadly decease. She also said, "Our city has always been a city where the poor and needy people can come and find help. I'm proud to be the mayor of a loving city."

The next event is Thursday, May 14 – at Denver Harbor at the Denver Harbor Multi Service Center, 6402 Market St., Houston, TX 77020. Sponsors: Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia, State Representative Ana Hernandez, Houston City Council Member Karla Cisneros.

### Testing intimidating but relatively simple

Getting tested for COV-ID 19 is in the best interest of the area and nation overall but actually doing it requires registration and a willingness to follow instructions but nothing to be intimidated by.

Harris County Public Health encourages people who have a fever\* above 100.4°F (38°C) and with respiratory symptoms, had close contact\*\* with someone diagnosed with COV-ID-19, have health conditions like (diabetes, lung disease, heart disease, pregnancy), are age 60 and older, are residents of nursing homes (or other senior living facility) are part of an investigation of a cluster or an outbreak, are asymptomatic who be-

lieve they have been exposed to COVID-19 to get tested.

One must register by either going to readyharris.org or http://covcheck.hctx.net or telephone (832) 927-7575 to set up your test by registration. At this time, once successfully registered, one will be issued a code to take with them to whereever the test is being administered. In Highlands or Crosby one will probably be sent to Stalworth Stadium in Baytown off of Sjolander Road onto Archer Road and follow the signs.

One will be directed to a tent where officers give

directions and a healthcare worker checks your code and places a package on your windshield and you will be directed to the next station.

The final station before exit a rolling bench will put a package with three pieces inside, one is a briefing about everything COVID related, a stick inside a plastic bag and a capped little bottle. You will be instructed to stick the cotton ended swab up your right nostril and swirl and hold for 15 seconds, then insert the swab into your left and repeat that action. One then inserts the swab into the little bottle and closes the bottle tightly. Then you are instructed to leave

## Robbery suspect dead and another injured on Maxey Road

The fatal shooting of one robbery suspect and the wounding of another at 4 Maxey Road about 1:30 a.m. on May 6 will be referred to a Harris County grand jury.

The identity of the deceased juvenile male suspect is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences. A second juvenile suspect, 16, also sustained a gunshot wound and was transported to an area hospital in an unknown condition.

The male shooter was not injured.

According to HPD Homicide Division Sergeant T. Simmons and Detective T. Andrade, a convenience store employee locked the front door of the store located at 4 Maxey Road to clean the common area when two unknown suspects came to the front door and started pulling on it. The employee retreated to the cashier area and locked himself inside.

One suspect managed to break through the front door and went after the employee in an attempt to rob the store. The employee then shot both suspects.

One died at the scene, while the other suspect fled and was taken into custody in the area by responding HPD officers. He was determined to have a gunshot wound and transported by paramedics to the hospital.

Two other suspects, described only as juveniles, are believed to be at large in a vehicle described only as a dark-colored BMW.

Anyone with information in this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers at 713-322 TIPS

## 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



#### Rodrigo "Rodney" Sanchez

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



www.northshorevacuum.net

## Dealing with the loss of a loved one is never easy, but maybe these guys can help!

We're the only funeral home in the Houston area providing full-time, certified therapy dogs for the comfort of our families and guests





13701 Corpus Christi St, Houston, TX 77015 • (713) 455-5100 www.carterfuneral-houston.com

### NORTH CHANNEL STAR PICK-UP LOCATIONS

NORTH SHORE

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

Carter-Conley Funeral Home, 13701 Corpus Christi St.

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
North Channel Library, Wallisville Rd
Water District # 21, Sheldon Rd

CHANNELVIEW

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

CLOVERLEAF

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

CommunityBank of Texas, I-10 E @ Freeport North Channel Assistance Ministries, Bonham @ Freeport Chevron. I-10 West

JACINTO CITY
City Hall, Main Street

Community Center/Senior Center, Oates Rd
Capital Bank, I-10 E
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 Commu

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

#### PAGE OPINION



### Social Security Matters

by AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor Russell Gloop

Dear Rusty: I am 65 and still working and plan to work for some time to come. My birthdate is February 1955. My wife is 64 and not working. Her birthdate is January 1956. Half of my benefit is more than half of hers. I am confused on the spousal benefit rules. If she were to take her Social Security early before she reaches her full retirement age, what are the rules that affect her? Signed: Confused Husband

Dear Confused: First I must clarify that

spousal benefits do not work as you have suggested, that "half of my benefit is more than half of hers "Spousal benefits are always based upon the amount the individuals are due at their full retirement age, regardless of the age at which they claim. If half of your benefit at your  $full\ retirement\ age\ (FRA)$ is more than your wife's full benefit at her full retirement age, then the difference between those two numbers is a "spousal boost" which is added to your wife's own payment amount when her spouse benefit starts If she has reached her FRA when you claim and her spouse benefit starts your wife will get the entire spousal boost; if she has not, the spousal boost will be reduced. Your wife cannot collect a spousal benefit until you start collecting your Social Security, so if she claims benefits before you claim she will initially get only what she is entitled to on her own work record. Then when you claim, the 'spousal boost" will be added to her benefit. If vou claim at vour FRA. your wife will not yet have reached her full retirement age, so her spousal boost amount will be reduced and added to her own reduced benefit amount, making her total benefit as your spouse less than 50% of your FRA benefit amount.

Your full retirement age is 66 years and 2 months, and you won't be entitled to full benefits until you reach that age For your awareness, you can wait beyond your FRA and earn delayed retirement credits, up to

age 70 when your benefit  $\,$ would be about 31% more than it would be at your FRA, but your wife cannot get her spousal boost until you claim. And also for your awareness, if you claim benefits before you reach your FRA and continue to work, you'll be subject to Social Security's earnings limit (\$18,240 for 2020) which, if exceeded, will cause SS to take back some of your benefits. The earnings limit goes up by about 2.5 times in the year you reach your FRA and goes away when you reach your full retirement age

Your wife's full retirement age is 66 years and 4 months and any benefits she claims on her own record prior to reaching that age will be reduced. At 64 she could claim her own benefit from her own work record (assuming she has at least 40 SS credits), but that benefit would be reduced to about 85% of what she would get at her FRA. And claiming at age 64 would also affect the amount of her spousal benefit when that starts. The only way your wife can get 100% of the amount she is due as your spouse is to wait until her FRA to claim any benefit. If she claims her own benefit at age 64 or any time before her FRA, not only will her own benefit be reduced, but her eventual benefit as your spouse will be less than 50% of your FRA benefit amount, even if you wait to claim until your wife reaches her FRA. That's because her spousal boost, when it occurs, will be added to the reduced SS retirement amount she is getting because she claimed before her full retirement age.

You are certainly not alone to be confused about spousal benefits as this is one of the most confusing areas of Social Security's rules But I hope the above provides what you and your wife need to make an informed claiming decision.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not repre $sent\ legal\ or\ financial$ guidance. To submit a question, visit our website (amac foundation.org /programs/social-securityadvisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org





#### Governor, president spotlight actions in pandemic, economic downturn

AUSTIN - Texas, along with the rest of the nation and the world, continued to battle the COV ID-19 pandemic last week as cases and deaths attrib uted to the novel coronavi rus increased.

Gov. Greg Abbott on May 7 met with President Trump in the White House. The president praised Abbott's leadership in handling the months-long medical emergency and in managing the resulting slowdown of the economy in the Lone Star State.

Abbott said Texas has one of the lowest COVID-19 death rates in the country, noting that half of the state's 254 counties have no cases or five or fewer cases of the virus. He said we have the knowledge and resources to contain COVID-19, adding that "It's the people of Texas who have done a great job of slowing the spread" by washing their hands, wearing masks and practicing social distancing.

"Because of that, we are now seeing more and more businesses that are opening up gradually to make sure we don't expand the spread, but we're doing so in a way that we'll make sure Texas will once again reclaim its position as being the number one economy in the United States,

the governor said. Trump asked about the Dallas-area beauty salon owner who was arrested and jailed for violating one of Abbott's executive orders by prematurely opening for business. "She's free today," the governor said during the Oval Office meeting, adding that authorities should exercise common sense in carrying out his executive orders. In the wake of the beauty sa lon case, Abbott modified his executive orders related to COVID-19 to eliminate confinement as a punishment for violating the orders.

On May 10, cumulative figures posted by the Texas Department of State Health Services showed that some 37,860 people in Texas had been diagnosed with COVID-19, and 1,049 deaths resulting from the influenza-like virus had been confirmed.

#### **TEA:** Graduation guidance The Texas Education

Agency on May 5 announced graduation guidance for the class of 2020. Under the guidelines, ceremonies may take place as early as May 15 as the state continues the reopening of services in response



to the COVID-19 pandem-

While school buildings remain closed to normal in-classroom instruction for the remainder of the 2019-20 academic year, the TEA, in coordination with the governor's Strike Force to Open Texas, is providing four different pathways for schools to celebrate their graduating

Virtual ceremonies that take place entirely online with the use of videoconference or other technologies;

 Hybrid ceremonies consisting of a compilation of videos of students being recognized in person as they celebrate graduation in small groups;

 Vehicle ceremonies in which students and their families wait in their cars while other graduates are recognized one at time with their families alongside them; and

- Outdoor in-person ceremonies, which are currently permitted for cer-

Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath said that "by taking the necessary precautions developed by medical exappropriately honor our class of 2020 graduates while keeping everyone

HIGHLANDS

Editor & Publisher.

Production Manager.

USPS 244-500

Asst. Production Manager.....Gerardo Hernandez

ASSL. Floduction i meanings.

Entered as Periodical Class at Highlands Post Gifte, Highlands, TX 77562. Under the Ac of Congress of March 3, 1879. Published 50 weeks per year, on Thursday, by Graflispres 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 i limited to the reprinting of the corrected version. Submissions are encouraged, in persor by mail, by Fax, or by email, to grafistar@aol.com.

GRAFIKPRESS is publisher of community newspapers, including Highlands STAR-Crosby COURIER; Barbers Hill Dayton PRESS, Northeast NEWS; North Forest NEWS, North Chan nel STAR. Combined circulation of these newspapers exceeds 50,000, Readership exceeds 110,000 according to industry standards. We also print dozens of school, ethnic, and government publications on contract. Call for information to 713-977-2555.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: In-county, \$28.00 per year. Out of county, \$35.00 per Year. POST SUBSCRIPTION Males: In-county, 328.00 per year. Out of county, 536.00 per Year. P MASTER: 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

#### AG joins in crackdown

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on May 4 joined a coalition of 52 attorneys general in a letter to the Washington, D.C.based broadband industry association USTelecom, urging the association's members to continue developing robocall traceback and other capabilities suited to law enforcement

Paxton and his colleagues said they anticipate an increase in enforcement and a need for increased investigative support from leading voice service providers.

"Texans' private phones are bombarded by constant calls that invade their privacy and often attempt to defraud them of their hard-earned money," Paxton said

#### Preparedness week proclaimed

Gov. Abbott Abbott on May 4 issued a proclamation declaring May 3 through May 9 as Hurricane Preparedness Week

In his proclamation, the governor asks all Texans to take steps to protect themselves and their loved ones from the danger and destruction that hurricanes can bring.

"There are no substitutes for having emergency supplies and a well-prepared emergency plan to protect yourself, your family," Abbott said. He encouraged Texans to visit the Texas Ready webpage, texasready.gov, to learn more about the steps they can take now to prepare for hurricane season. Hurricane season starts on June 1 and ends on Nov. 30.

CROSBY

.Gilbert Hoffman

Luis Hernandez

#### THE **POSTSCRIPT** Carrie Classon

#### "My Signature Look"

We're at the stage where everyone is complaining about

I am not complaining. As I have frequently bragged, my husband, Peter, cuts my hair and this has continued while the beauty parlors are closed and everyone is growing increasingly cranky.

We were talking to our friends, Mary and Wolfgang, about this and Mary was expressing a bit of envy that I had gotten a haircut the previous day. I let her think that getting a haircut from Peter was like getting a haircut in a salon although, other than the use of scissors, there is very little

Professional stylists will ask you, "What do you have in mind?" and stand there and pretend to listen before they start cutting hair off. Peter dispenses with this formality. "Snip! Snip! Snip!" Peter is done in no time flat and my hair looks as good as it's going to get.

I also used to go to a hair salon to get my hair "highlighted." This was code for "bleached blond," but I always said, "highlighted" because that's what the stylist would say. Eventually, I realized I was spending a lot of money on a pitiful crop of hair. So, I took a deep breath and tried lightening it myself. The results were exactly the same so I kept doing it. Then, one day about a year ago, the package design changed and I bought the wrong color.

I realized immediately that I had made a dreadful error and had bleached my hair an alarming platinum blond. "OH NO! What have I done?!"

I went to bed wondering if I would try to cover up this disaster or just hide in my house long enough for it to grow out.

But a funny thing happened the next morning. I got out of bed, forgetting my fiasco of the previous evening, and saw myself in the morning sunshine My hair was, as always, standing straight on end. But now it was

"Wow. Your hair is very blond," my mother said when she

"I know," I told her. "It was a mistake.'

"I like it," she told me. That settled it. Wackadoodle blond was my new signature So now my hair is newly cut

and blond and I am feeling bette than Mary and Wolfgang.
"I used to cut Wolfgang's

hair," Mary confessed, "but it's too hard now that he's going

"He just needs to pay you more," I told Mary.

"Why is that?" Wolfgang demanded. "Why do I have to pay more for less hair?"

"It's just like camping gear and lingerie," I told Wolfgang. "The less there is, the more you

Wolfgang and Mary thought that was funny and probably also thought I knew something about lingerie—I didn't set them But the truth is, my under-

wear are an embarrassment and my nightgown has holes in it. My mother gave the nightgown to me years ago for Christmas and it is my favorite. It has reindeer on it and it is quite literally falling to pieces.

I decided, with my fancy new haircut, I should bite the bullet and get a new nightgown and went looking online. The only one I found that was anything like it was exactly like it-it had reindeer prancing across the front. I bought it.

So this summer I'll he the wackadoodle blonde wearing a festive reindeer nightie.

One of the many nice things about getting older is that I've had time to learn what really

Till next time.

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



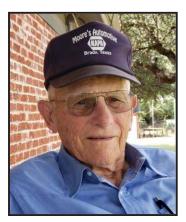
CALL TODAY - For \$100 Gift Card Promy Code: DISH10 1-877-756-0437 Offer ends 7/15/20.





#### ★ LIFESTYLE PAGE ★

## **OBITUARY**



#### **Knute Blomstrom**

Knute Alvin Blomstrom, Jr., age 84, of Rochelle, Texas passed away Wednesday evening, May 6, 2020 at his residence in Rochelle. Knute was born July 6, 1935 in Houston to Knute Alvin Blomstrom, Sr. and Gertrude Mae (Wilson) Blomstrom He graduated from Robert E. Lee High School in Baytown in 1953. He married Helen Louise Spiers on March 20, 1954 in Houston. He was an engineering technician for Exxon Oil for 33 years, retiring in 1986. He lived in Crosby, Texas for 29 years before moving to Rochelle in 1993. Knute led a full life. He was known for his kindness, generosity and his servant heart. He was very active in sports, church and community organizations over the years. He was a member of the Rochelle Baptist Church where he served as deacon for many years and served on the Board of Directors of the Heart of Texas Memorial Hospital for several

Graveside services at 1:00pm Wednesday, May 13, 2020 at Sterling-White Cemetery, 11011 Crosby Lynchburg Road in Highlands, TX. Knute Blomstrom will lie in state at the pavilion at Sterling-White Cemetery Wednesday, from 12 Noon to 1:00pm prior to the service. Friends may view Knute Blomstrom's Memorial Video Tribute and/or sign the online memorial guest book at www.leatherwoodmemorialchapels.com. Knute Blomstrom is survived by his

wife Helen Louise Blomstrom of Rochelle son Chuck Blomstrom and wife Paula of Crosby; daughters Karen Blomstrom and husband Tommy Lowden of Crosby and Susan Blomstrom Hurst of Weaverville, CA; daughter-in-law Robin Morris of Crosby; grandchildren David Vogelpohl and wife Catherine, Stephen Vogelpohl, Jeffrey Vogelpohl and wife Stacey, Jacob Gunner Blomstrom, Ashlynn Blomstrom, Ronnie Blomstrom, Cody Evans and Lacey Painter; great-grandchildren Luke, Jake, Ava, Jackson and Emily Vogelpohl and Alice Fancher. Also survived by sisters-in-law Frances Brown and Helen Spiers; nephews Bill Spiers and wife Chris, Rod Brown and wife Christy and Rusty Brown and his wife Bonnie; special cousins David Blomstrom, Thomas Blomstrom, Martha Anderson, John Blomstrom, Patty Jaeger and Bill Jaeger; and his extended family, Joyce Wilson and her children Clint Wilson and his wife Kissee and Dr. Mary J. Flannery and her husband Mike. He was preceded in death by his parents, son Arthur "Tiger" Blom-strom and sister Geraldine Blomstrom. Memorial contributions in memory of Knute Alvin Blomstrom, Jr. may be made to the Women's Missionary Union, %Rochelle Baptist Church, P.O. Box 126, Rochelle, Texas 76872.

Arrangements Entrusted To



"Serving the family for generations" www.leatherwoodmemorialchapels.com

1001 South Elm Street Brady, Texas 76825 325-597-0714

YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPERS ARE ON YOUR SMART PHONE!

Follow local news on the Internet, on your browser:

www.starcouriernews.com. www.northchannelstar.com

## Goose Creek CISD Nutrition Services helps community with meals

Making sure students are fed is a way of life for Natalie Edwards, Goose Creek CISD Nutrition Services director. When Goose Creek CISD superintendent Dr. Randal O'Brien realized Friday, March 13, that students were not going back to school after spring break due to the COVID-19 situation, he asked Edwards when they could set up to provide grab & go meals, and she got the wheels rolling

ing,
"We started with lunch
Monday, March 16, and added breakfast the next day at
11 sites. Since then, we have
had from 11-19 sites serving children 18 and under,"
Edwards said.

From March 16-April 30, Edwards and her team, comprised of nearly 100 of the more than 300 Nutrition Services employees, have served 132,839 breakfasts and 135,467 lunches, providing a boost for many families who have experienced layoffs, furloughs or reduced hours. With 71 percent of the district's students on the free or reduced lunch program, Goose Creek CISD knows there is a need for nutritious meals when school is not in session and works to make sure children do not go hungry.

Working during a pandemic means that employees fix the meals, package them and give them to fam-



Nutrition Services employees (from left) Alma Chaverria and Blanca Maldonado prepare to hand out meals at Lamar Elementary.

ilies outside of the schools, while wearing gloves and masks. Employees are encouraged to put the bags containing the food on a table and let the parents pick them up. They also are required to stay apart in the kitchen while preparing the meals.

kitchen while preparing the meals.

"People have been grateful to get the food," Edwards said. "I watch some of little kids get excited about things that are in their bags. We try to give them a treat every day, such as chips, cookies or ice cream. Sometimes there are some small toys. We do whatever we can to make it fin."

During the school year, Edwards manages all food programs, including child nutrition, catering and concessions at Stallworth Stadium. Registered dietician Kirsten Kruzenga helps create menus for the 28 schools and nearly 24,000 Goose Creek CISD students, making sure students with special dietary needs, such as food allergies, are accommodated. Each kitchen operates as an individual restaurant, with a manager and assistant manager placing food orders, counting inventory, working with monthly promotions and participating in campus activities.

promotions and participating in campus activities.

Roshelle Stevenson handles marketing for Aramark/
GCCISD Nutrition Services, and Chef Francheska Bland
works with catering, creating food demonstrations, and
encouraging students to enter the culinary profession by
offering internships, field trips and competitions. Dina
McCartney, Suellen Lambert and Michelle Ojeda supervise the school kitchens.



Aramark/Goose Creek CISD Nutrition Services staff (from left) Teofila Reyes(Chica), Raina Cardona, Chef Francheska Bland, Veronica Magana, Alma Rodriguez and Natalie Edwards accept the Best of Booth Award, getting out into the community at the recent Epicurean Evening event.

The grab and go meal distribution will continue through June 30 and will start back up again sometime in July.

"Natalie Edwards and her food service team are some of the most dedicated and caring staff members within the district," said Dr. Anthony Price, deputy superintendent for administrative services. "Their focus is to ensure our students are fed each day, while providing a safe transference for all involved within the grab and go process. They truly are meeting the needs of the community."

The Journey of a thousand miles begins with one step

-laoTzu



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

to the glory He wil reveal to us later ROMANS 8:18

ENVELOPES
Printed with your Addre

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** 

## The More Things Change

A very old quote says that "the more things change, the more they stay the same." Generally, this expression is used in a negative sense, but the child of God can find a lot of truth here.

Think about the church. What has changed through the years? One obvious change is in our music. Most generations grew up with hymnals in hand. Many still use them, but large numbers of churches now choose more contemporary forms. Other changes involve the appearance of the sanctuary, the arrangement of the seating, the minister's presentation stule. The list gree on

style... The list goes on.

In recent months, the biggest changes have come as a direct response to a worldwide pandemic. Ministers all over have had crash courses in live streaming as their congregations became accustomed to attending service in their living rooms while wearing their pajamas, and where it's been permitted drive-in churches became an option that allowed us to not only see each other (while remain ing socially distant). but

HILLSIDE CHURCH
By Dr. Mark Trice

THOUGHTS FROM

lot "sanctuaries."

Much has changed in recent decades, years, and weeks, but this is not what's important. Where the Christian is concerned, what is truly important is what has stayed the same, the truths that will never change, such as...

also have breakfast and

enjoy coffee in our parking

God loves everyone in the world. (John 3:16)

There is only one way to God. (John 14:6)

We all need a one-onone, intimate relationship with God. (John 17:3)

We must worship Him with a pure heart. (John 4:23)

We are called to come together as a church body. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Jesus still expects us to

do what He tells us. (Luke 6:46)

We must take personal responsibility to share the Gospel. (Matthew 28:19-20)

As we come back together in our sanctuaries after this break from the norm, let us return with fresh hearts, hearts focused on the eternal truths found in the Word of God, hearts on fire with a passion to live every moment in a way that is pleasing to Him and brings Him glory. Let us determine not to return to church as usual, but rather to focus even more intently on living the lives God has called us to live, on actively basing our lives on those things that never

www.myhillsidefamily.com, @myhillsidefamily

#### WESTON COTTEN, ATTORNEY

HIGHLANDS
281-421-4050 1500 E. Wallisville Ro
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

**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

In order to be the best, you have to be willing to give the best.



Call Us Today For More Information 281-839-0700

6123 Garth Road, Baytown I www.crespoandjirrels.com

#### ASK THE EXPERT

#### **CHARLOTTE'S** WEB



## Changes

nine weeks, life as we have known it has been turned upside down. Living rooms have become classrooms, garages have become gyms, backyards have become learning labs for nature and dining room tables are often workspaces for laptops. Many conversations include talk about being screened for COVID19 as well as stimulus checks. Teenagers and children have learned to adjust to online classes as well as the reality that this school year will be one

that "life changed".
School officials have scrambled to find funding to distribute laptops to stu-dents as teachers have had to move lesson plans online as well. Parents have had to adjust to answering questions from children while trying to work from home. Grandparents have stepped in to care for chil-dren who have parents who work in essential roles. There are daily food distributions as well as mask distributions. And of course, any time there are emergency situations such as tornados, hurricanes or this current pandemic, there will be criminals trying all sorts of things.
I read this week about

someone walking up into a driveway, eating half of a freshly grown tomato and then leaving their wornout sandals in the driveway. You cannot help but wonder if the homeowner will soon realize that they left another pair of shoes outside that perhaps this person traded the sandals for. Did the person who stopped by for the tomato \_not know there were free

food distributions in the community? Perhaps they did not have transportation or perhaps they do not have access to a phone or social media to learn about the available help. This person was fortunate that the homeowners or neighbors did not pull a gun in fear of the trespasser. In-stead of finding sandals outside, there could have been a dead body.

There are many senior

citizens who regularly attend the county community centers for activities, field trips, meals and opportunities to connect with others. Their lives have been drastically changed. Now, if they are signed up for meals to be delivered to their home from the County, they see one person daily whereas they were accustomed to seeing 40 or more daily at the Center Many of the seniors that I speak to each week have adjusted well, yet there are a few who are now experiencing signs of depression. Loften hear that they have not seen others, so they do not make the effort to bathe and change clothes I hear about how they do not like television, so they just sleep all day. I hear about how they are frus-trated with the younger people they live near who make noise all day and

As each one of these changes is happening, we must all learn to adjust and as hard as it is, we must learn to live with the "new normal" while not giving up too much of what we enjoy. This season of our lives should be a time we learn to be more content as well as understand-

"THANK YOU"! If you have been a customer for many

> If you have yet to visit our amazing store, "THANK YOU" ... for reading this brief

### **ASK DIAMOND JIM**

#### Diamond Jim: "THANK YOU!"

I encourage you to

yourself how it feels to

be truly appreciated.

vour name and vour

friendly smile mean

more to us than the

amount of your pur-

a nice cold glass of

refreshing juice or ice

water, and a warm &

sphere. We've always

kept our store clean

handles and counter-

tops is nothing new for

Come on in and view

our great selection of

men. Take your time,

relax, and enjoy your

shopping experience.

Give us the opportuni-

ty to earn your busi-

ness, earn your trust,

and earn your friend-

Diamond Jim" column

and for supporting the

North Channel Star

ship. THANK YOU.

Thank you for

reading the "Ask

jewelry for women and

and sanitary, so

disinfecting door

caring "home-away-

from-home" atmo-

chase. Here you'll enjoy

At Pineforest Jewelry,

stop by and see for

During the past two months there was a brief time when we were not allowed to be open. As soon as the 'Stay at Home" order was issued, we applied for a waiver as an "Essential Business". Three weeks later, our request was approved.

Nearly every customer who has visited us has thanked us for being open and for being here for them. Friends/Extended Family are very welcome! It is, and has always been, our sincere and honest pleasure to serve your needs and desires for engagement & wedding rings, watches, earrings, chains/pendants, and jewelry repair. You are the very reason that we are here.

This is our opportunity to say THANK YOU from my entire staff, my wife Linda, and me. We owe YOU our gratitude and appreciation!

If 2019 or this year  $Diamond\ Jim\ is\ a$ was your first visit to diamond dealer and Pineforest Jewelry,

precious metals broker of NTR Metals. See www.pineforestjewelry.com. years, "THANK YOU"! If you have questions

Newspaper!

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

#### Trautman,

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1** 

the following statement: We appreciate Dr.

Trautman's stated willingness to work together during the one and half years she has been in office. While we have had our differences. Dr. Trautman showed the importance of having an independent county clerk dedicated to meeting important election challenges. Her tenure has also shown why the County Clerk is elected by the people and not beholden to other county officials. While serving as County Clerk is no easy job, it plays a criti-cal role in Harris County, overseeing the largest elections in Texas and, in November 2020, one of the largest countywide voting operations in the nation.

#### Harris County Clerk Diane Trautman Accomplishments

Diane Trautman has served as Harris County Clerk since January 1, 2019, working arduously to make the voting process accessible, continually anticipating challenges, and addressing public concerns to ensure the election infrastructure remains secure. Below is a list of some of her major accomplishments.

1. Countywide Voting Centers - Successfully implemented a Countywide Polling Place program which allows voters to cast a ballot at any Election Day polling location.

2. Extended Early Voting Hours - To of-fer voters additional time to vote, opened polls from 7 am to 7 pm during Early Voting.

3. Additional Early Voting Locations Opened 6 new Early Voting sites including the campuses of Texas Southern University and the University of Houston bringing the total number of Early Voting locations to 52.

4. Textbot Poll <u>Finder and Wait Time</u> <u>Features</u> – Worked to create website features to help find the nearest voting locations and those with the shortest

5. Election Judge Training - Improved election judge training and included additional ADA and sensitivity training for all election workers

6. More Transparent Website - Updated the harrisvotes.com website by including information on the application process for Voting Centers, easy to find election reports, and an improved polling location map.

7. New Wallisville Annex - Opened 11th Harris County Clerk Annex location so that have to drive far to get copies of vital documents.

8. Sexual Harrass ment Training - All 333 employees completed Sexual Harassment

and Sensitivity training.
9. ADA & Accessability - Settled a six year old ADA lawsuit from the last administration by providing greater access for all voters. Also implemented a multilingual virtual poll worker for translation support in dozens of different languages

10. New Marriage <u>License</u> - Created a new more modern design with a new Harris County Clerk logo showing the skyline of "can do" city of Houston.

The following has not yet been accomplished, but is expected to be implemented in the near future:

tensive plan to ensure

voting at the polls con-

tinues to be safe and ac-

11. Supporting Safe Elections- Most recently, secured \$12 million from the Harris County Commissioners Court to expand ballot by mail to those who qualify and worked with election officials to create an ex-

#### **NORTH CHANNEL BUSINESS DIRECTORY**



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

Free Estimates 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

| Ī | 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       |
|   | Carardo Harnandaz | 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 verare encouraged, in person, by mail, by Fax, or by email, to

Member North Channel Chamber of Commrce Member Texas Press Association

## She still gets a standing ovation



from her #1 fans! And the gift that says her future is brilliant.



1141 Uvalde \* Houston, Texas 77015 713.451.1321



cessible.



Millions Of Dollars Saved In Back Taxes

Anthem Tax Services provides world class personalized tax debt re tax preparation services. We offer the tailored experience that you from your tax preparation professionals, and we operate remotely never need to leave your home or office.

Tax debt can happen to anyone. Whether you are self-employed, an independent contractor, took an early withdrawl from a 401K, or had another unforseen life event occur, we can help resolve your debt in a few

■ Opportunity Investigation Agreement TAX DEBT FREE!

"They stopped my garnishments in less than 2 days after hiring them. This saved me \$84,276 with the IRS and \$13,500 with the state of California. They saved my emotional and financial well-being." - Wage Garnishment Client



Call us now for your FREE tax consultation & evaluation 877-370-2127

There are many ways we can tackle IRS or State tax relief together:

√Tax Levies & Liens Release ✓ Resolve Back Taxes

✓Wage Garnishment Release **✓**Payroll Tax Negotiation

ACCRESITED A+

✓Stop Penalties and Interest

✓Tax Preparation & Bookkeeping

✓Tax Debt Negotiation &



#### 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**

#### Two plots at San Jacinto Cemetery

valued at \$8,150. Will sell both for \$4,000 +\$150 transfer fee, Call 281-452-0833 for further information. in Channelview area. Call for details 936-218-6731

ROOMMATE

WANTED

WANTED

Classified ADS 713-266-3444

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

#### **Architectural Services HOFFMAN-LIU DESIGN**



TYPES OF SERVICES: Interiors Graphic Design Landscape Planning Feasibility 8

RECENT PROJECTS: Fleming Residence Texas Dept. of Health Lab Texas A & M--Kingsville Rydin & Rivera Residences East Aldine District Offices **SWBR** Computer Center

Call for a free consultation GILBERT HOFFMAN, **Architect Emeritus** 713-977-2556

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

**LEGAL NOTICE** 

**LEGAL NOTICE** 

**LEGAL NOTICE** 

Attention Private Non-Profit Schools, Home Schoolers, Parents, and Community Members in the Sheldon Independent School District

Private, non-profit schools, who legally qualify as a non-profit (currently hold a 501-C3 certificate), home schoolers, parents, and community members are invited to participate in a virtual meeting with representatives from the Sheldon Independent School District to learn more about federally funded programs and services available for the 2020-2021 school year. The meeting will be held virtually using zoom, on Wednesday, May 27, 2020, from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. If you are interested in participating or have questions, please contact Sheldon ISD at (281) 727-2096. Details on how to access the zoom meeting are posted at

Atención escuelas privadas, escuelas sin fines de lucro y estudiantes educados en casa en el Distrito Escolar Independiente Sheldon

Las escuelas privadas, escuelas sin fines de lucro y estudiantes educados en casa qu califiquen legalmente como sin fines de lucro (que actualmente tengan un certificado 501-C3) están invitados a reunirse con representantes del Distrito Escolar Independiente Sheldor para saber más acerca de los programas y servicios financiados con fondos federales disponibles para el año escolar 2020-2021. La reunión se realizará en el Edificio de Administración NEY de Sheldon ISD localizado en el 11411 C. E. King Parkway, Houston, Texas 77044, el miércoles 27 de mayo, 2020, de 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Si usted está interesado en participar, por favor contacte a Sheldon ISD al (281) 727-2096 para solicitar información acerca de elegibilidad.

Where can I pick up a Star-Courier?

Page 7

HIGHLANDS: Library Food Town Community Center Backdraft Rest Woodforest Bank Conoco Station Post Office (outside) CROSBY: Library Community Center Race Track Arlan's Market Kroger's

Community Banl HUFFMAN Community Bank

Posting Date May 11, 2020

#### **Amber Waves**

#### by Dave T. Phipps

#### I HEARD THE FARMER TALKING BOUT SOME NEW VIRUS GOING HEY LOU, WHAT'S ALL THE HUBBUB WITH THE FARMER? OH, THAT'S JUST A BUNCH OF MEDIA HYPE. I DON'T BELIEV AROUND THAT'S CONTAGIOUS WORD OF THAT FAKE NEWS



by Mike Marland



The Spats

3

1



by Jeff Pickering



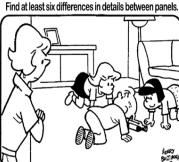
Weekly SUDOKU

8 6 2 Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

♦ Moderate ♦ ♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY! © 2020 King Features Synd., Inc.

**HOCUS-FOCUS** HENRY BOLTINOFF



Differences: 1. Plant is missing. 2. Frame is added. 3. Woman's blouse is different. 4. Lamp is added. 5. Girl's skirt is different. 6. Woman's earting is added.

Chinese; 9. 76; 10. 360 7. A beagle; 8. Six: English, Spanish, French, Russian, Arabic and 4. Greyhound bus lines; 5. About 5,000 years ago; 6. Tina Turner; I. Haiti and the Dominican Republic; 2. Wisconsin; 3. Pancreas; Trivia Test Answerst

### **King** Crossword

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Work units 5 Urban carrier
- 8 Wanders
- 12 Hoodlum 13 Bobby of
- hockey 14 Leave out
- 15 Atmosphere
- 17 With skill 18 Godlike
- 19 Indefinite interval
- 21 To and -22 Regimen
- 23 Sheepish comment
- 26 Mess up 28 Manicurist's concerns
- 31 Mater preced-
- 33 Insult (SI.) 35 Nike slogan,
- "Just -
- 36 Unpaid bills 38 1960s Pontiac
- 40 Homer's neighbor 41 Faraway
- fleet? 43 Actress
- Thurman 45 Help 47 Least
- adorned 51 Physicist
- **Niels** gods

- 9 Drive map? 10 Pickling herb
- DOWN

- 52 Food of the

8 4 1 7 6 9 2 5 3

1 9 8 9 7 7 2 6 6 7 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 7

1 2 3 9 8 4 2 5 8

7 6 4 9 8 1 8 7 9

8 8 1 2 2 9 7 6 9

3 8 5 4 2 4 9 4 6 4 8

9 4 8 8 3 9 6 1 7

7 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 2 |

Answer

- 11 Eyelid woe birds 16 Ireland 20 Victory 23 Evil
- 1 "Zounds!" 2 Jim of sports
- radio 25 Surprise 3 Asian desert
- 4 Express dis- 27 Tractor-trailer 53 Russian dain nasally 29 Falsehood

## 14 36 55

58 54 Tourney situa- 5 Massachus-

- tions etts city 55 Wire measure 6 Joan of 56 Soda fountain 7 The staff of
  - treat 8 Proceed
- 57 Right on the
- 58 Snoop 59 Arctic diving

- attacks
  - © 2020 King Features Synd., Inc.

30 Norm: Abbr.

34 Unshaven, in

32 Originally

a way

37 "Mayday!"

39 Mr. Sharif

44 Scent

42 Postage buy

45 Singer Lane

46 Protein-rich

smoothness

space station

bean 48 Birthright bar-

terer 49 Symbol of

50 Body pics

- $t\!e\!st$  by Fifi Rodriguez
- 1. GEOGRAPHY: The island of Hispaniola is

24 Brewery prod-

uct

- divided into which two countries? 2. U.S. STATES: Which state is known as the Badger State?
- 3. MEDICAL: Which human organ is involved in the development of diabetes? 4. AD SLOGANS: Which company advises cli-
- ents to "leave the driving to us"? 5. MONUMENTS: How long ago was Stonehenge built?
- 6. ENTERTAINERS: Which singer/actress was born with the name Anna Mae Bullock?
- 7. COMICS: What kind of dog is Snoopy in the "Peanuts" comic strip? 8. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: How many
- official languages does the United Nations have? 9. MEASUREMENTS: How many drops are in a teaspoon? 10. MUSIC: How many members sing in the
- Mormon Tabernacle Choir?
- © 2020 King Features Synd., Inc.

# Meekiy Sudoku

Solution time: 25 mins. Answers

— King Crossword —

#### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

#### Galena Park Food Distribution,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE



From left to right: Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Rick Lord with Plumbers Local Union, Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia, Mayor Esmeralda Moya, Senator Carol Alvarado and representatives from Better Galena Park and Valero Energy (in blue t-shirt) working together at Galena Park's food distribution last Monday, May 11, 2020. (Contributed Photo).

## Jacinto City Food and Mask Distribution,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



State Rep. Ana Hernandez, Sandra Zamarripa, Community Liaison Pct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia's office, Jacinto City Mayor Ana Diaz, Senator Carol Alvarado and Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia. Jacinto City's mask giveaway day led by Senator Alvarado. Every child was given a free toy. Friday, May 8th. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

no one in our community goes hungry due to the COVID-19 pandemic," said Congresswoman Garcia. "We must continue to do everything in our power to help people who have been hit the hardest by this health and eco-nomic crisis. The need for food assistance is great, so much so that people waited in line for hours to secure food for their families. continued Congresswoman Garcia. "And this is not just happening in the greater Houston region. It's occurring all across the country as millions of Americans have lost their jobs and are struggling to put food on the table. This is why the Heroes Act, which was introduced on Tuesday in the House of Representatives, includes additional funds to expand SNAP and other food assistance benefits during this crisis. We have a responsibility to ensure we take care of the people in our community and all across the U.S.,' concluded Congresswoman Gar-

Precinct 2 County Commissioner Adrian Garcia said, "I am pleased to join my colleagues today in Jacinto City as we distribute needed food and masks. Working together we will all come through the pendomia"

through the pandemic."

Jacinto City Mayor Ana Diaz said, "Tm happy our city is able to help so many families in need with food and virus protection masks. Our city has always opened its heart to the entire area during hurricanes, flooding and now this pandemic."

Lon Squyres, City Manager of Jacinto City's said the city currently has 14 positive cases of the



State Representative Ana Hernandez and Jacinto City Mayor Ana Diaz providing both English and Spanish U. S. Census information. Hernandez didn't let her broken ankle hold her back from reaching out to the needy. She's been seen hobbling around at many of the like events. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

COVID-19 virus and according to Galena Park Chief of Police Rodney Chersky has 10 cases.

Why responding to the 2020 Census data helps states and communities get their part of thousands or millions of dollars in federal funds. Text "Censo2020" to 3131.

Por que responder al Censo 2020 datos ayudan a estados y comunidades obtener parte de mil de milliones de dolares en fondos federerales. Texto "Censo2020" a 3131.

## Police investigate shooting of a teenager on Uvalde Rd.

Houston police are investigating the shooting of a man that occurred at 606 Uvalde Road about 4:45 p.m. last Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

Accoring to Houston

Accoring to Houston Police Department Major Assaults & Family Violence Division Officers M. Althaus and Z. Brumley, the suspect's pickup truck backed into a parking spot at a

business in the 600 block of Uvalde and was approached by the victim, Izayah Torres,18, and the suspect then exchanged gunfire and Torres was struck in the chest. At this time, it is not known if the suspect was also wounded by the gunfire.

The suspect fled in the vehicle, described as only as an older model,

red Ford pickup truck.
Mr. Torres was trans-

Mr. Torres was transported to an area hospital in critical condition. Anyone with informa-

Anyone with information in this case is urged to contact the HPD Major Assaults & Family Violence Division at 713-308-8800 or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS.



12620 Woodforest @ Normandy-Houston, Texas 77015

713-330-8111

We Are Open For Your Tax Questions Monday - Thursday 10:00a.m. to 4p.m.

Kathy Seydler, Office Manager



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

E.luis@luisgarcialaw.com www.luisgarcialaw.com

\*PERSONAL INJURY \*SLIP/TRIP AND FALL
\*AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENTS \*TRUCK ACCIDENTS

Se Habla Espanol





