By Allan Jamail

Galena Park, Texas — Last Monday, Galena Park Mayor Esmeralda Moya, along with other community leaders, distributed free food and masks to the residents.

"We heartily thank you for the more than 400 volunteers who came out to serve and hosted the event," Moya said.

Masks given out at the event were organized by the Office of Pre-screening, with State Senator Carol Garcia in collaboration with other community leaders.

Moya said the event was organized to provide residents with food to help combat the COVID-19 pandemic.

The event was held at Turner Chevrolet for Saturday as an online event. The drawing will be held 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.

Tickets will also be presented via a Zoom meeting. Check the Rotary Facebook page for more information.

By Julieta Paita

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 21. The Commissioner's Court will appoint an interim Clerk, Judge Hidalgo said.

Troutman 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 sufficiently continue to carry out my duties as Harris County Clerk.”

Troutman 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 advancements 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 residences.

Due to the Coronavirus crisis, she has led the push for mail ballot voting, and expanded hours and early voting opportunities for all. During the Coronavirus crisis, she has led the push for mail ballot voting, and expanded voting locations and early voting opportunities for all in the county.

HARRIS COUNTY – The Jacinto City food pantry has been helping to distribute food to the community.

On May 13th, I organized a food distribution event in Jacinto City because it is imperative that we continue to support our community during this time of need.

Food distribution is ongoing and will continue to help those in need. We will be providing food assistance to families who are struggling to make ends meet.

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, which months ago was halted due to information of the Coronavirus, was successfully held with State Senator Carol Alvarado, State Rep. Ana Hernandez, Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Mayor of Galena Park Esmeralda Moya, Galena Park Alderman Christopher Ruiz, the USA Farmers, and the Houston Food Bank.

“Today, May 13th, I organized a food distribution event in Jacinto City because it is imperative that we continue to support our community during this time of need. We will be providing food assistance to families who are struggling to make ends meet. The food distribution is ongoing and will continue to help those in need. We will be providing food assistance to families who are struggling to make ends meet.”

By Julieta Paita

The Harris County Clerk is resigning her office 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 that way, and she is awaiting resolution of this ruling.

Troutman credited her staff for much of the net accomplishments, and praised their commitment and hard work. In accepting her resignation, 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... she expanded voting locations... expanded voting hours and early voting opportunities for all... During the Coronavirus crisis, she has led the push for mail ballot voting... I thank her for serving our community with pride, dedication, and an ambitious agenda."

The Harris County Republican party announced...
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.

Harris County, TX – Last Tuesday, Harris County Commissioner Adrian Garcia announced he will be putting an item on the next Commissioners Court Agenda (May 19, 2020) to extend the Harris County Homestead 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 $250,000 or less. Qualifying homeowners at $260,000 or more would save at least $250 next year (and annually going forward) on their property taxes.

This is the first update to the Homestead Exemption since 2016, according to a Budget Management Department analysis commissioned by Commissioner Garcia. The plan would be retroactive back to January 1, 2020. The added exemption would bring overall Harris County property tax relief for Harris County Flood Control for homeowners for the exemption. If the plan is approved it would take effect for the 2020 tax year.

“Improving the lives of older seniors and disabled individuals with disabilities is a priority for me,” said Commissioner Adrian Garcia. “I’m proud to be the first Commissioner to submit a proposal for seniors and disabled individuals with disabilities to our local governmental taxing unit that distributes funds from the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts to each governmental taxing unit in Texas to be used for property tax relief for seniors and disabled individuals with disabilities. The plan to increase these exemptions without delay would be the first time in twelve years that meaningful tax relief is provided 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 in having on families across Harris County,” said Commissioner Adrian Garcia. “This is the first time in twelve years that we will have brought meaningful tax relief to Harris County homeowners. The Harris County Constable to the `staff at YMCA and National Guard that distributes food two times a week and makes it look easy.”

Special recognition goes for masks for distribution community member and Harris County Commissioner Rod Ellis, US Representative Will Hurd, County Judge Ed Emmett, State Senator Carol Alvarado, Judge Des and J.P. Joe Stephens.

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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.
Menu is subject to change weekly.
For more information, please call 281-833-3129 or info@bachamp.org.

Crash on Main Street reminds residents of driving dangers

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

dents.

According to Constable Sherman Emfinger, “When we fire out the masks, they come...”

St. Martin de Porres Cath-

dal Church, St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church con-
cined forces with Precinct 3 to “Feed those in need.”

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 soon treating the driver.

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Pct. 3 Constable continues mask and glove giveaways

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Senator Alvarado’s District Wide Mask GiveAway

Senator 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, Senator Carol Alvarado, State Rep. Ana Hernandez, Victor Trevino III, Greater Northside Development Corporation and to the Edison Multi Service Center, Har- bor at the Denver Harbor Building, 8222 Gulf Dr, Houston, TX 77020. Sponsors: Community Star, CDC RMC, Galena Park Community Center, Senior Center, Galena Park Night Market, 410 Market St, Houston, TX 77012. The identity of the deceased juvenile male is pending verification in this case. He was a white male, approx. 17 years old, who was shot and killed. The second juvenile suspect, a 16-year-old male, 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 A Anderson, a convenience store employee was robbed at gunpoint at a convenience store on Maxey Road about 1:30 a.m. on May 6 and was later to be referred to a Harris County Grand Jury. The identity of the deceased juvenile male is pending verification in this case. He was a white male, approx. 17 years old, who was shot and killed. The second juvenile suspect, a 16-year-old male, also sustained a gunshot wound and was transported to an area hospital in an unknown condition. The male shooter was not injured.

Testing intimidate but relatively simple

Getting tested for COVID-19 is in the best interest of the area and country. Our mayor and government officials, organizations and citizens came together to provide a massive distribution of protective masks which may be the difference between life or death. Mayor Esos, Mayor Brandon Bates, Houston City Council Member Karicia, State Representative Sylvia Garcia, Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Plumbers Local Union 685, Rob, The Committee for a Better Galena Park, Houston Food Bank, Valencia Energy, and others to the most talented, trained, and LICENSED-Driv- er license who have given of themselves for the better- ness of our community. God bless you all and may God continue to bless ourbeloved city of Galena Park, Mayor concluded.

Ana Diaz, Jacinto City’s Mayor said she was happy to have Jacinto City a host city where anyone in the area can get masks inside and out. It is a great opportunity to serve and make this distribution possible. This has been a great opportunity to serve the community and keep people healthy. We will keep working to provide resources and fill community needs wherever we can,” Alvarado concluded.

Other partners, elected officials, and community leaders joined in these events (not alphabetized): Congresswoman Carol Alvarado, Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Commissioner Adrienne Bell, State Representatives Amanda Edwards, State Rep. Christina Morales, State Rep. Amanda Watts, State Rep. Mary Ann Perez, State Rep. Anna Eastman, Judge Joe Stephens, Judge Lucia Bates, Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Plumbers Local Union 685, Rob, The Committee for a Better Galena Park, Houston Food Bank, Valencia Energy, and others to the most talented, trained, and LICENSED-Driv- er license who have given of themselves for the better- ness of our community. God bless you all and may God continue to bless ourbeloved city of Galena Park, Mayor concluded.

By Allan Janet—Assisted by, Sara Montelongo-Ocampo, District Director for Senator Alvarado

…to the one who has helped make these mask distributions possible. This has been a great opportunity to serve the community and keep people healthy. We will keep working to provide resources and fill community needs wherever we can,” Alvarado concluded.

Houston, TX: May 7 not through May 14th 2020. – Senator Car- lito Alvarado spearheaded a massive distribution of pro- tective masks throughout Sena- tor District 6: Albvaca- don, she was pleased to see thousands of citizen.” She also said, “Our city is blessed to see thousands of citizen.” She also said, “Our city is blessed…”

Thank you to all who has helped make these mask distributions possible. This has been a great opportunity to serve the community and keep people healthy. We will keep working to provide resources and fill community needs wherever we can,” Alvarado concluded.

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Dear Rusty: I am 65 and still working and plan to work for some time to come. My birth- day is February 15. My wife is 64 and not working. Her birthday is in January 1956. Half of my benefit or $850 a month, plus half of my benefit or $600 a month, plus the spousal benefit she is entitled to on her own work record. Then if she reaches her FRA, you claim at your FRA, she is entitled to on her own work record. If she claims her own benefit when you reach your FRA and go away when you reach your full retirement age, what is the rule that affects her benefits?

Confused: First I want to clearly that spousal benefits do not work as you have suggested, that “half of my benefit is the half that benefits are always based on the individual’s full benefit at their full retirement age, then the difference between those two numbers is a “spousal boost” that is added to the reduced benefit you receive before you reach your FRA. The reduced benefit you receive before you reach your FRA is always reduced to about 85% of what you would get at your FRA. And claiming at age 64 will also affect the amount of her spousal benefit when that starts. The only way your wife claim in at age 64, the amount of your benefit is in your spouse’s retirement age.

You are certainly not alone to be confused over spousal benefits. There are many confusing areas of Social Security, and above all, you have the above provides hope that you need to make informed conclusions. This article is intended for informational purposes only and does not represent the views of our editors. To submit a question, visit www.socialsecurity.org/support/assistance or email at SSDIaco@aol.com.

AUSTIN, Texas—along with the rest of the nation and the world, continues to battle the COVID-19 pandemic. On Monday, the governor signed HB 1387, which authorizes the state to reclaim federal funding from the CARES Act for use in times of disaster.

Governor, president spotlight actions in pandemic, economic downtown

Austin, Texas

While school buildings remain closed to in-person instruction, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) continues to coordinate with the governor’s Strike Force to Open Texas, a group of four different path- ways for schools to celebrate their graduating classes.

Virtual ceremonies that take place entirely online with the use of video- conference or other technologies;

Hybrid ceremonies consisting of a completion of video or student recognized in person as they celebrate graduation in small groups;

Vehicle ceremonies, in which students and their families watch the cars while other graduates are recognized one at a time by the principal and other teachers present along with them; and

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

In his proclamation, the governor asks all Texans to take steps to protect themselves from the danger and do what it’s going to take to bring this pandemic under control.

In his proclamation, the governor asks all Texans to take steps to protect themselves from the danger and do what it’s going to take to bring this pandemic under control.

I know," I told her. "It was a task," she said. "We're not teaching anymore. Let's give them one message. Let's hold them to a new standard. Only if they care and want to be great: 1/2 of my income. I'm starting to be able to do this. I've been saving. I've got some money."

Governor Abbott, on May 3, declared May 3 through May 9 as Texas Preparedness Week.

State Capitol

Through May 9, Gov. Greg Abbott is honoring the men and women who have been working for the state, county, and city governments to keep our community safe.

In his proclamation, the governor asks all Texans to take steps to protect themselves from the danger and do what it’s going to take to bring this pandemic under control.

For your awareness, you can read beyond your FRA and earned delayed retirement credit, up to age 70 when your benefit would have been about 31% more than it would be at age 64. Spousal benefits are always based on the individual’s age 64 or any time before her FRA and continue to work, you’d be subject to Social Security’s earnings limit ($42,440 for 2021) if, which, if she claims, will cause SS to take back such benefit. The earnings limit goes up by $1,630 each year. If she reaches her FRA, you claim she will reach hers in 2021 and the spousal benefit rules.

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Knute Blomstrom

Knute Atlin Blomstrom, Sr., age 84 of Rochelle, Texas passed away Wednesday evening, May 6, 2020 at his residence in Rochelle. Knute was born July 8, 1935 in Houston to Knute Atlin Blomstrom, Sr. and Gertrude Mae (Wilson) Blomstrom. He graduated from Robert E. Lee High School in Baytown in 1953. He married Maralee Louise Blomstrom on March 30, 1956 in Baytown. Knute worked for Exxon Oil for 35 years, retiring in 1993. He and Maralee moved to Highlands, TX. Knute enjoyed a love for hunting, fishing, his grandchildren, and his church as usual, but rather than returning to church as usual, he asked Edwards to share his thoughts about the church at the recent Goose Creek CISD Nutrition Services event. For more information, please contact Natalie Edwards at natalie.edwards@goosecreekisd.net or 809-927-2020.

OBITUARY

Knute Blomstrom

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GOOSE CREEK CISD NUTRITION SERVICES HELPS COMMUNITY WITH MEALS

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 list of truth in this statement.


“Think about the church. What has changed through the years? One defining change in our music: our choirs, granddaughters Jennifer and Alice Painter. Also survived by six great-grandchildren: Lacey Painter; great-grandchildren Luke, John, and Alice Painter. Also survived by six great-grandchildren: Lacey Painter; great-grandchildren Luke, John, and Alice Painter.

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For the past eight or nine weeks, life as we have known it has been turned upside down. Living rooms have become classrooms, garages have become workshops, and play rooms have become offices. Many businesses and individuals have had to make adjustments and the current pandemic has affected us all in one way or another. In the future, when we look back at this time, we will remember the sacrifices that were made and how we supported one another. The choices we made during this time will shape our future for years to come.

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 canceled, we opened for business as usual. This season of giving up too much of what we enjoy, we learn to be more conscientious. As tornadoes, hurricanes or earthquakes happen, the mindset is the same. As tornados, hurricanes or earthquakes happen, the mindset is the same. Life has been dramatically changed. Now, if they are signed up for meals to be delivered to their home, the County tax assessor can go to their address and have them assess 40 or more units of the County. Many of the seniors that I speak to each day have adjusted well, yet there are a few who are now experiencing signs of depression. I often hear that they have difficulty concentrating and making decisions. I often hear that they have difficulty concentrating and making decisions. After a brief time when we were closed, Diamond Jim's was your first visit to our store! We thank you from my entire community to say THANK YOU!

Thank you for being a customer of NTR Metals. See the website of NTR Metals. 333 employees completed the harrisvotes.com Ent Website. ADA and sensitivity training. Updated the City Clerk logo showing the skyline of "can do" city of Houston. The following has not yet been completed and the future is uncertain:

4. Election Judge Training Center: free training center and included additional ADA and sensitivity training for all election workers.

5. More Transparencystarted Website: Updated the Harris County website by including information on the application process for Voting Centers, easy to find election reports, and an improved polling location map.

She still gets a standing ovation from her #1 fan! And the gift that says her future is brilliant.

PineforestJewelry.com
LEGAL NOTICES

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

Amber Waves
by Dave E. Phiepp

R.E.D.

The Spats
by Jeff Fickering

Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

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LEGAL NOTICE

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 Bank

(2)

HUFFMAN

Exxon Station

Community Bank

LEGAL NOTICES

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), have activities, 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 and have questions, please contact Sheldon ISD at (281) 727-2096. Details on how to access the virtual meeting can be found at www.sheldonisd.com.

Atención escuelas privadas, escuelas sin fines de lucro y estudiantes educados en casa que legalmente califiquen como sin fines de lucro (que actualmente tengan un certificado 501-C3) tienen actividades, padres y miembros de la comunidad que están invitados a participar en una reunión virtual con representantes del Distrito Escolar Independiente Sheldon 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 77084, 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 adicional acerca de la misma.
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. According 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 transported to an area hospital in critical condition.

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.

Galena Park Food Distribution,
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In this image, 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 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, Sandy Santamaria, Community Liaison For 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia’s office, Jacinto City Mayor Ana Diaz, Senator Carol Alvarado and Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia. Jacinto City’s food giveaway led by Senator Alvarado. Every child was given a free toy. Friday, May 8th. (Photo by Allan Jamail)