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VOLUME 8, NO. 22 (#327) THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2020 www.northchannelstar.com

CHANNEL CURRENTS

COVID-19 Cases as of June 1, 2020

HOUSTON AREA 19 COUNTIES

19,230 POSITIVE
436 DEATHS
7,671 RECOVERED

TEXAS

65,693 POSITIVE
1,683 DEATHS
43,338 RECOVERED

UNITED STATES

1,811,357 POSITIVE
105,147 DEATHS
458,231 RECOVERED

WORLDWIDE

6,270,758 POSITIVE
375,632 DEATHS
2,697,094 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

METHODIST
HOSPITAL BAYTOWN
Download mymethodist app.

MD MEDICAL
1-888-776-5252

William C. Palko Scholarship Fundraiser

The North Channel Area Chamber Foundation is having a casino night fundraiser on Friday, August 14th. Foundation Chairman, Bill Palko, would like you to join him and support the William C. Palko Scholarship fundraiser. Come for a great evening of fun, music, Vegas style gambling and a chance at great prizes from 7-11pm on Friday, August 14th at the Jacinto City Town Center. Corporate Sponsorships are available for \$650 and individual tickets are \$75. A corporate sponsorship includes food and drinks for eight people plus \$40,000 in funny money. An individual ticket includes food, drinks and \$5,000 in funny money.

There will be food, drinks, prizes, music and dancing. Extra measures will be in place to insure the safety of everyone's health and well being, such as more tables with less chairs and spaced apart throughout the room. There will be also hand sanitizer at each table. All food will be wrapped for individual consumption.

All proceeds go to the William C. Palko Scholarship. For more information call 713-450-3600.

KMCO acquired from bankruptcy by ALTIVIA

CROSBY- ALTIVIA Oxide Chemicals, LLC, an affiliate of ALTIVIA Petrochemicals, Monday announced that it acquired KMCO LP on Friday and its associated chemical ethoxylation manufacturing assets, according to the company in a June 1 press release.

KMCO LP was bought from bankruptcy and the price was low except for over \$600,000 of property taxes and millions of dollars in liabilities to creditors.

"ALTIVIA plans a \$25 million process safety and control systems upgrade to the facilities and will start production in two new oxide reactors by the

end of this year," the release stated.

"We have completed a detailed evaluation of these assets and are looking forward to starting production by year end. The reaction chemistries in Crosby are complementary to ALTIVIA's current product offerings and will provide our customers important sourcing options," said ALTIVIA's Chief Executive Officer J. Michael Jusbasche. "The market for oxylation tolling and custom manufacturing services will now have available a state-of-the-art facility in the U.S. Gulf Coast."

The facilities, located on 160 acres near Hous-



Parking lots almost empty as announcement of sale of KMCO LP from bankruptcy is made. The plant is to be back in operation later this year.

ton, include 31 reaction and distillation trains with capacity for Ethylene and Propylene Oxide reac-

tions as well as a broad range of organic reactions including polymerization, neutralization, and con-

densation. Products include surfactants, lubri-

See KMCO Sold, Page 8

Attorney Chris Hollins sworn in as new Harris County Clerk

By Allan Jamail

Monday, June 01, 2020 Christopher G. Hollins, a 33 year old Houston attorney married to wife Morgan with daughter Vivian won the approval of Commissioners Court to fill the vacated position of Dr. Diane Trautman. He has pledged to hold the job only in an interim role, avoiding the potential distraction of running a campaign this fall.

On May 19th Commissioners Court voted 3-2 along party lines to ap-

point Hollins, vice chairman of finance for the state democratic party. He will serve until a new clerk can be elected in November.

Commissioners Court members said they were impressed with Hollins' credentials, as well as his commitment not to seek the job permanently. "I think his background with McKinsey a global consultancy company will be helpful in getting procedures in place to get through this election process," Precinct 1 Commissioner Rodney Ellis said. Precinct 2 Commission-



Chris Hollins sworn in as Harris County Clerk, replacing Dr. Diane Trautman after her recent resignation due to health reasons.

er Adrian Garcia supported Hollins's appointment, stating, "I'm thrilled that Chris Hollins decided to accept this appointment to become the County Clerk for the remainder of the year. He is incredibly qualified, and I am confident he will do an excellent job."

Hollins issued the following statement:

"It is a great honor to serve the residents of Harris County as County Clerk. My deep connection to Harris County and professional background in management consulting, government, and law has

prepared me to step into this role and be effective from day one. I look forward to serving this community to the best of my ability, and to continue to assist residents and small businesses at the high standard that Harris County deserves.

"We are living in a challenging time. This November, our office will administer the most consequential election of our lifetime amid a global health pandemic. The right

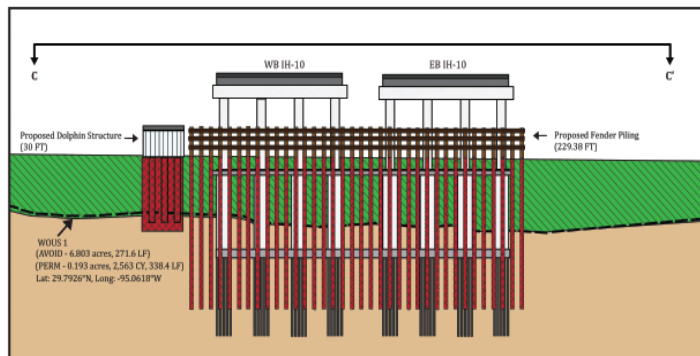
See New Harris County Clerk, Page 6

San Jacinto River

Construction planned in river near Waste Pits

TxDOT will rebuild bumpers, column fenders

EAST HARRIS COUNTYñ The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has applied for a permit from the Army Corps of Engineers to reconstruct the bumpers and fenders in the San Jacinto River, to protect the structure of the IH-10 bridge. These structures have been damaged by repeated



Cross section D of the Bridge shows rebuilt dolphin bumpers at left, and rebuilt fenders and rip-rap (stone) fill in Red color. See Reference plan on page 8.

storms, including Tropical Storm Imelda, and also by barges that hit them as a result of the storms.

In their permit application, TxDOT claims that the construction would not affect any adjacent land, because construction would be entirely from within the river. However, maps show activity quite close to the waste pits. See illustrations enclosed.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: TxDOT proposes to

See Construction near Waste Pits, Page 8

Local non-profit receives \$200,000 to support families impacted by Covid-19 in East Harris County

East Harris County, Texas —East Harris County Empowerment Council (EHCEC) received a \$200,000 grant from the Greater Houston COVID-19 Recovery Fund. The Fund is led by the Greater Houston Community Foundation and United Way of Greater Houston to support vulnerable households throughout Harris and Montgomery coun-

ties.

East Harris County households have been impacted in various ways from the novel Coronavirus known as COVID-19. As schools remain closed and the true toll remains unclear, families are looking for help. "We are so grateful that the Greater Houston COVID-19 Recovery Fund has trusted us to support

our neighbors during this time," says Terence Narcisse, Executive Director. "We hope that this emergency financial assistance will help families keep the lights on and food on the table."

This program is available to the Channelview, Crosby, Galena Park, Jacinto City, Northshore, and Sheldon communities. EHCEC is currently

accepting applications for the COVID-19 Neighbor Assistance Program on the website at www.ehcec.org/covid19.

About EHCEC

Established in 2008, EHCEC is committed to improving the quality of life through innovative, sustainable programs, and services that empowers men, women,

and youth to achieve their full potential. We are exclusively focused on serving the eastern unincorporated communities of Channelview, Crosby, Galena Park, North Shore, and Sheldon.

For more information about EHCEC/To learn more about EHCEC visit https://ehcec.org/, call 281-712-2550, or email info@ehcec.org

All Six HCPH COVID-19 Test Sites are moving to new locations

New Test Site Locations Open Tuesday, June 2

Houston – Harris County Public Health’s two largest COVID-19 test sites are moving to new locations, in CyFair and Pasadena. These are the fixed sites currently in Baytown and Katy, the last day they test is Saturday, May 30. The new locations opened last Tuesday, June 2 at Ken Pridgen Stadium, 11355 Falcon Rd, Houston, TX 77065 and San Jacinto College Central Campus, 8060 Spencer Hwy, Pasadena, TX 77505. The four mobile testing sites in Harris County will continue to change locations weekly. Residents from other counties can be tested at any of these six sites. Harris County Public Health encourages as many people as possible to get tested, even if they don’t have symptoms. Testing identifies new cases of COVID-19 so contact tracers can determine the sources of infection and

help prevent further spread of this contagious disease. In addition, infected people often don’t have symptoms but are still contagious. Without knowing it, they can infect older people and those with underlying health conditions who may get extremely ill or die. Testing is free, easy to register and quick, due to the six drive-through sites in Harris County. Sign up, take the self-assessment and drive to the test site. Register at <https://www.readyharris.org>, www.hcphtx.org or call 832-927-7575. To get tested the next day, call or register online after 6:30 p.m. Testing will be available 6 days a week, Monday-Saturday. You must take the self-assessment to get an authorization code for a testing site. Mobile locations for the week of June 1-6, Monday-Saturday. Each site is open

5 days and closed one day.
-Lone Star College – North Harris Campus 2700 W.W. Thorne Drive, Houston, TX 77073. Closed Tuesday, June 2
-La Porte High School 301 E Fairmont Pkwy, La Porte, TX 77571. Closed Wednesday, June 3
-Zube Park 17560 Roberts Rd, Hockley, TX 77447. Closed Thursday, June 4
-Barbara Bush Branch Library 6817 Cypresswood Dr, Spring, TX 77379. Closed Friday, June 5

People who are tested will receive their results in 3-5 days. To reduce your chances of contracting COVID-19, practice social distancing, wear a mask in public and wash your hands frequently. Visit www.hcphtx.org for the latest COVID-19 updates and resources.

Suicidal man assisted

Crisis Intervention Response Team (CIRT) Deputy Doucet & Clinician Porter assist HCSO District 3 Patrol in getting a barricaded suicidal suspect out of his Highlands house. CIRT was able to talk him out without incident.



Pandemic drives record unemployment

(AUSTIN) — Businesses across Texas and the nation have been forced to curtail or cease operations in the face of the coronavirus pandemic, throwing millions out of work and prompting a record increase in unemployment claims that is straining the safety net for workers. Nearly 2 million people in Texas filed for unemployment insurance benefits from March 14 through May 9, triple the number of claims filed in all of 2019. In this issue of Fiscal Notes, we take an early look at the economic pressures now gripping the state. We also examine early impacts on employment and several other measures that can shed some light on current conditions. “It’s far too early to say how long these conditions will last — and how deep the trough will go,” Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar

said. “Many economic measures are only beginning to reflect the crisis. It will be months before we can chart its full dimensions. Fortunately, our state’s fiscal position is strong enough to support vital programs for the remainder of this year, and our state’s “Rainy Day Fund” remains healthy. But the legislative session that begins in January 2021 will face significant and perhaps unprecedented challenges.” Getting Texans back to work will no doubt be one of the bigger challenges. A record 315,167 Texans filed initial jobless claims during the week ending April 4; a comparable week in 2019 saw about 13,000 claims. The spiraling unemployment rate has forced the Texas Workforce Commission to ramp up its web-based and telephone systems, boost staffing and extend operating hours to

ensure claimants get the benefits due them. The May issue of Fiscal Notes also considers the history of previous recessions and their effect on tax revenues. The current situation is unprecedented in the speed with which it took effect, but the past does provide some important clues for our future. For questions about how our tax functions are continuing during the outbreak, visit our COVID-19 News page or our Virtual Field Office. Fiscal Notes is available online and can be received by subscribing via the Comptroller’s website. Fiscal Notes furthers the Comptroller’s constitutional responsibility to monitor the state’s economy and estimate state government revenues. It has been published since 1975, featuring in-depth analysis concerning state finances and original research by subject-matter experts in the Comptroller’s office.

State Sales Tax Revenue Totaled \$2.6 Billion in May

(AUSTIN) — Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar today said state sales tax revenue totaled \$2.61 billion in May, 13.2 percent less than in May 2019 and the steepest year-over-year decline since January 2010. The majority of May sales tax revenue is based on sales made in April and remitted to the agency in May. Widespread social distancing requirements were in place across much of the state throughout April. “Significant declines in sales tax receipts were evident in all major econom-

ic sectors, with the exception of telecommunications services,” Hegar said. “The steepest decline was in collections from oil and gas mining, as energy companies cut well drilling and completion spending following the crash in oil prices. “The business closures and restrictions and stay-at-home orders due to the COVID-19 pandemic spurred deep drops in collections from restaurants, amusement and recreation services, and physical retail stores. These declines were offset in part by increases from big box retail-

ers and grocery stores that remained open as essential businesses, online retailers and restaurants that could readily pivot to takeout and delivery service. “With the easing of state and local government social distancing orders beginning in May, business activity in the sectors most affected by measures to curb the pandemic should begin to slowly recover, but operations resuming at reduced capacity will result

See Tax Revenue, Page 6

Maximum Tax Savings



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

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CROSBY’S HOME TOWN HOME CARE

COMMUNITY NEWS

Harris County \$30 Million COVID-19 relief fund established to support most vulnerable in County

Resources on the way to the most vulnerable through local community-based organizations

HOUSTON, TX (May 28, 2020) – Harris County has established the Harris County COVID-19 Relief Fund to provide much-needed relief to Harris County residents most impacted by the global pandemic. The \$30 million fund, which will be administered by Greater Houston Community Foundation, aims to strategically serve a large number of the most vulnerable people, in particular county residents who may not be eligible for other COVID-related funding and/or who cannot afford to wait for assistance. The Harris County COVID-19 Relief Fund is expected to assist about 20,000 households to provide support with housing, electricity, food, childcare, and other essential needs.

“Harris County on its own can’t unilaterally turn around the economic fallout from COVID-19, but we are committed to running the most impactful, targeted program to support the hardest-hit families in our community,” said Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo. “If we want the entire community to get through this, it means helping the most vulnerable among us.”

Funds will be disbursed in two ways to help ensure equitable distribution. First, the Fund will partner with trusted, high performing community-based organizations that are already actively supporting the community and have deep relationships and understanding of families with emergency needs. These organizations will work with eligible individuals and families to complete a simple application, verify eligibility, and provide financial assistance. The first round of grants to these organizations is estimated to disburse in June.

“The Coronavirus pandemic has created both a health and financial crisis in our region,” Harris County Precinct One Com-

missioner Rodney Ellis said. “Our communities are hurting. And it is our duty as public servants to make sure that our most vulnerable residents, who were already living paycheck to paycheck, do not lose everything in the midst of this crisis. Advancing a relief fund with enough resources – and structure to ensure those resources reach the most vulnerable in our community – was a key priority for our County.”

Second, the Fund will invite all eligible low-income Harris County residents to complete an application through a multilingual call center and/or website to participate in a fair, randomized process. Given the incredible need, Harris County knows resources will be insufficient. That is why a randomized process will be used to select eligible households to receive financial assistance. Eligible individuals will be matched with a community-based organization to understand their needs, verify eligibility, and provide assistance. The public will be given a minimum of one week’s notice for when this process will be opened.

“Right now, the focus of our work is to get the Harris County COVID-19 Relief Fund up and running as quickly as possible. Much like previous relief efforts, such as the Harris County Small Business Loan program, our goal is to expedite the process and get money into the hands of our most vulnerable residents fast while also making sure it’s done right,” said Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia. “I have total confidence that our partners at Greater Houston Community Foundation will be successful in this endeavor. The Foundation is a recognized leader in disaster recovery efforts, and their performance managing the Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund as well as the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund proves they are the right organization for the job.”

The Fund is open to Harris County low-income

residents, including those excluded by the CARES Act or immigrant households, adults listed as dependents, and people who may receive Pandemic Unemployment Assistance but cannot afford to wait for months. Eligibility and disbursement guidelines for the Fund include:

- Those who have experienced adverse economic impact related to COVID-19; AND are:
 - Households below 60% of the Area Median Income (AMI), or are accessing public benefits that already confirm they are very low-income; or
 - Survivors of domestic violence, or
 - Youth aged out of foster care, or
 - Those in homeless shelters.
- Applicants cannot have received benefits from any City of Houston or other Harris County program administered for the same purpose.
- Prioritized consideration for:
 - Applicants ineligible for unemployment insurance or have applied and will take too long to receive assistance to meet basic needs.
 - Applicants ineligible for CARES Economic Impact Payments, or have not yet received a payment and cannot wait for the assistance to meet basic needs.

“Our biggest priority is to get money and assistance to those who need it the most as quickly as possible,” said Stephen Maislin, President and CEO of Greater Houston Community Foundation. “We know people need help and we are committed to working closely with Houston-area community-based organizations through a data-driven process to quickly and effectively deploy these funds to as many people in need as possible. We are honored to work with Harris County to support these critical efforts.”

Those in need of immediate assistance are encouraged to call 211 Texas/United Way helpline to find an organization in your geographic region that can serve you.

The Harris County Flood Control District reminds residents to prepare as Hurricane Season approaches

The 2020 Hurricane Season begins June 1 and forecasters are predicting an above normal storm season. The Harris County Flood Control District encourages Harris County residents to take time to prepare their families and homes for severe weather and related impacts. Preparedness is the key to protecting life and property.

“The Harris County Flood Control District’s Flood Watch Team will monitor rainfall trends and check the gauges that measure rainfall amounts and water levels in bayous and creeks. In addition, our construction contractors will be actively working to ensure our channels are clear and functioning, however, residents still need to be prepared,” said Jeff Lindner, Harris County Flood Control District Meteorologist.

As a storm approaches, it is often too late to get ready. Now is the time to prepare. Before Hurricane Season:

- Complete a family communication plan. Plan how you will assemble your family and loved ones, and anticipate where you will go for different situa-

tions. Get together with your family and agree on the ways to contact one another in an emergency, identify meeting locations, and make a Family Emergency Communication Plan.

- Purchase flood insurance. Harris County Flood Control District recommends that all Harris County residents become informed about their flood risk and have flood insurance no matter where they reside in Harris County. Flood insurance accelerates the rebuilding and replacement of personal property and fosters community resiliency as a whole. For information on flood insurance, visit the National Flood Insurance Program website or call 1-888-379-9531.

- Sign up for FWS alerts. The Flood Warning System offers an alert feature that allows residents to subscribe to and receive email/text alerts that report near real-time rainfall and water levels. Residents are able to customize alerts and notifications for bayous and tributaries in their particular areas of interest. Sign up for the Alert Notification System at

fwsalerts.org.

- Know if your home is at risk of flooding. You can view a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM or floodplain map) at the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Map Service Center.

- And, remember when a storm hits:

- Turn Around, Don’t Drown: If heavy rainfall occurs in an area where you are traveling, or near homes and places of work, you are urged to avoid high water and flooded streets throughout the county and proceed with caution when driving on area roadways.

- Stay Home, Don’t Roam: When faced with a flooding situation, stay put wherever you are, unless your life is threatened or you are ordered to evacuate. Never drive or walk into high water areas. If you must venture out, avoid driving into water of unknown depth. Moving water can quickly sweep you and your vehicle away.

- Log on to the Harris County Flood Control District Stormcenter webpage at hcfcd.org/stormcenter to view the District Hurricane Guide, information on flood insurance and more.



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1/18 CW



★
OPINION

By Diamond Jim Mills

*Open your Business
and Persevere!
MAGA my Friends!!!*

1. At our 1st Saturday staff meeting prior to the required closings, I informed my staff that their pay would continue even if I had to cut off the utilities and rent...and my own pay. We continued to work on inventory, updating records, displays, A/R, and a myriad of other things. We planned...and persevered...

2. We chose to begin sidewalk service...something almost unheard of in our business. We were working the sidewalk...with two of us armed...delivering repairs and taking in repairs, watches, etc....and continuing our "buying" as normally as we could muster. Police units sat in cars across the street and monitored us...while criminals were being set free. But we followed the rules...and we persevered...

3. We filed a request to Harris County to allow us to open the store as an "essential business" because our customers who needed to sell TO us were unable to sell precious metals to the bank in order to buy food, pay rent, etc. In some instances, Pineforest Jewelry IS their bank! It took THREE WEEKS before the county allowed us to open...with the asinine statement that we could only allow 10 folks into our 7200 SF store at a time...and that included employees (I have 12). In addition, we were barred from selling jewelry...but WERE allowed to buy gold, silver, diamonds...and replace watch batteries. Absurd! As if someone would catch Covid-19 if they purchased a diamond...but were "safe" if they only purchased a battery. And as if the powers that be thought we could run our business off of buys and watch batteries. Police that should have been investigating crime were still assigned the brave duty of sitting nearby in their vehicles to make sure that we did not "open for business". But we followed the rules...and we persevered...

4. We put up signage regarding masks, social distancing, and use of hand sanitizers. We measured and taped zoned areas, and installed Plexiglas on our counters. We had to track down suppliers of masks, commercial tubs of wipes, and cleaners. The masks cost us \$2 each...so we sold them for \$2 each. I continued to pay my staff, even though we were bringing in such a small amount that it did not cover overhead. We attempted to follow the rules...but we persevered...

5. After the 12-year-old running our county sent us our letter designating us as an essential business...we were desperate to open...and did so. I applied for the PPP "grant" which dictated that we had to pay our staff (which I had already decided to do)...but that also brought requirements that absolutely NO SMALL BUSINESS COULD UNDERSTAND, MUCH LESS COMPLY WITH. The problem with the government help is that, as usual, so much red tape was required that if the rules were not followed we would have our "grant" turn into another government "loan"!!! I have a gifted accountant in house who brought us an Excel spreadsheet from

hell...which not only explained the loan and requirements, but also allowed input of employee and other expenses to insure compliance. This was a true gift to us! (As an aside...anyone in need of this spreadsheet will receive it, or receive a link to it, by email by simply requesting it from us. Email your request to Linda Mills at lmills@PineforestJewelry.com.) We were suffering, but now we have had some degree of help. And luckily, being in Texas, OUR state recognized the need to OPEN...and began planning how to do so. At that point we were being left alone by the local gendarmes and liberal-progressives (who never missed a check I might mention) while WE earned nothing but paid THEM to prevent US from earning a paycheck to pay THEM (strange how that works, huh?)...and we worked...and we persevered...

6. We are now experiencing a resurgence in sales as if Covid-19 (THE CHINESE VIRUS) never happened. Folks are wearing masks...folks are friendly...folks are doing business as usual...folks are happy...and the criminals continue to take advantage as they always do. Yesterday we were hit by a distraction theft team that stole an Alison Kaufman wedding ring (I'll give AK a plug). Go to our FB page and read about it when we get the post up...
www.facebook.com/PineforestJewelry. Society has recovered, folks...and we persevere...

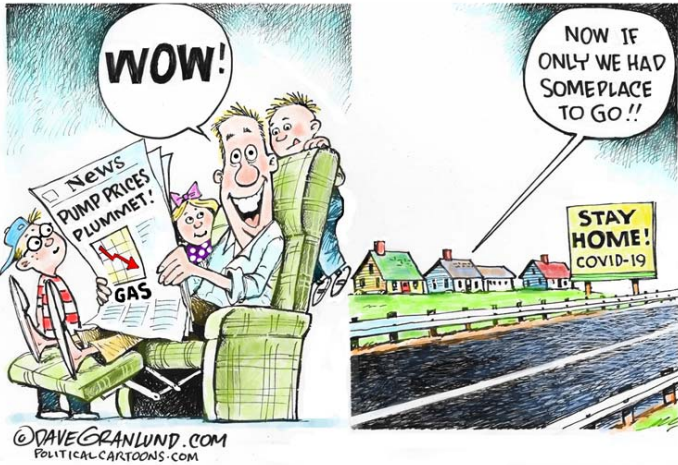
7. But the nation has learned a lesson. You cannot allow the entire economy to be destroyed. You cannot allow the government to allow WalMart to sell jewelry while jewelry stores remain closed. You cannot allow the government to dictate that one may get eyeglasses repaired at Target...but that an independent eyeglass boutique must remain closed. You cannot allow the government to PAY folks more to stay at home than they can earn actually WORKING! Even though the government did not understand, or worse did not see what the unintended consequences of their actions would be, that if they paid folks more to stay at home than to come to work...opening the economy still could not happen if folks stayed home. Ah...the sheer brilliance of government officials at every level.

8. The American people are not idiots...they are not sheep...and they possess more common sense than those who govern them. Observe...think...and vote with your common sense, and NOT YOUR EMOTIONS! Vote right (pun intended)...and persevere...

**OPEN YOUR
BUSINESS AND
PERSEVERE!
MAGA MY
FRIENDS!!!**

Diamond Jim Mills

Opinions are those of the Author, and not necessarily of this newspaper.
WHAT IS YOUR OPINION?
Send us a letter or email at grafikstar@aol.com. We may edit these for publication. Thank you.



*Proclamation allows more
services, activities to resume*

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott on May 26 issued a proclamation giving the green light to more services and activities in a second phase of the state's plan to reopen from mandatory pandemic closures.

The Phase II proclamation allowed water parks to open beginning May 29 on condition that the venues limit occupancy to no more than 25% of normal capacity. However, components of water parks that have video arcades must remain closed. Also, starting May 31, recreational sports programs for adults were allowed to resume but games and similar competitions must wait until June 15 to resume. Driver education programs can resume operations immediately.

Food-court dining areas in shopping malls were allowed to resume operations immediately, but malls are encouraged to designate one or more individuals responsible for health and safety practices on premises, including:

- Limiting tables to six individuals; maintaining a six-foot distance between individuals sitting at different tables;
- Cleaning and disinfecting tables between uses; and
- Ensuring no condiments or other items are left on tables between customer uses.

In other news, cumulative figures posted on May 31 by the Texas Department of State Health Services showed that some 64,287 people in Texas had been diagnosed with COVID-19 and 1,672 deaths resulting from the virus pandemic had been confirmed.

**Protests erupt
in cities**

Crowds gathered in many cities across the nation in recent days to protest the May 25 death of former Houston resident George Floyd, 46, in Minneapolis.

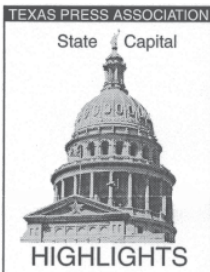
A white Minneapolis police officer, assisted by three fellow officers, arrested and handcuffed Floyd, an African-American, then pinned him face down on a paved city street. Floyd, who was heard saying he could not breathe while he was pinned down, lost consciousness and was later pronounced dead. Video of the incident was captured by a bystander and posted on social media.

Gov. Abbott reacted on May 30, saying, "Texas and America mourn the senseless loss of George Floyd, and the actions that led to his death are reprehensible and should be condemned in the strongest terms possible. As Texans exercise their First Amendment rights, it is imperative that order is maintained and private property is protected."

Some of the protests turned violent. Abbott activated the National Guard and ordered state

★
**STATE CAPITAL
HIGHLIGHTS**

By Ed Sterling



resources to Houston, Dallas, San Antonio and Austin, he said, to maintain public safety. The Texas Department of Public Safety deployed more than 1,500 officers to assist local police departments and more resources will be provided as needed, Abbott said.

**Paxton applauds
court**

The Texas Supreme Court on May 27 ruled against a petition by the Texas Democratic Party in an ongoing effort to enable all Texans to vote by mail, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton applauded the ruling written by Chief Justice Nathan Hecht. Hecht concluded that a lack of immunity to COVID-19 is not itself a "physical condition" for being eligible to vote by mail under the state election law. Texas Democratic Party Chairman Gilberto Hinojosa reacted to the ruling, saying, "Now, it is up to the federal court to ensure basic Constitutional rights still exist in Texas and ensure that Texans have a right to vote safely and not put their health at-risk."

Paxton said a voter ill with COVID-19 and who meets legal requirements may apply for a ballot by mail, "but fear of contracting COVID-19 is a normal emotional reaction to the

current pandemic and does not amount to an actual disability that qualifies a voter to receive a ballot by mail."

Plaintiffs have a separate mail-in-ballot case pending in the federal court system.

**SOS: Voting
guidance**

The Office of the Texas Secretary of State in consultation with the Texas Department of State Health Services on May 26 released health protocol guidance for Texas election officials and voters in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Secretary of State Ruth R. Hughs, Texas' chief election officer, said the guidance, available at sos.texas.gov, reflects the minimum recommended health protocols to help ensure the health and safety of voters, election office personnel, polling place workers and poll watchers.

**Unemployment
hits high**

In April, all major industries in Texas were hit with job losses related to the pandemic.

The Texas economy lost 1,298,900 non-farm positions in the month, the Texas Workforce Commission reported on May 22, causing the Lone Star State's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate to rise to 12.8%.

The Amarillo Metropolitan Statistical Area recorded April's lowest unemployment rate among Texas MSAs with a non-seasonally adjusted rate of 8.8% followed by the Abilene MSA and the College Station-Bryan MSA, which both recorded 8.9% for the second-lowest rate. The Lubbock MSA recorded the third-lowest rate of 9.9%.

★
**THE
POSTSCRIPT**

By
Carrie Classon

*"The Only
Dog in
Minnesota"*

I want to make it clear that we are not adopting a dog.

I won't deny it is tempting. We decided not to get another dog because we travel. Dogs and airplane travel do not go well together. Now, however, with no travel in sight, I admit I am consumed with envy when I see happy dog owners on the trail. I have started carrying dog treats just so I can talk to the dogs of complete strangers. The owners are tolerant. The dogs love it.

My brother-in-law had our entire extended family in a lather for a full 48-hour news cycle when he circulated photos of puppies on Facebook. Everyone was convinced he was going to adopt a puppy. He didn't, as it turned out.

"He should never have put those photos on the internet!" my sister said. "Everyone thought we were getting another dog!"

This is the same brother-in-law who, at age sixty, enrolled in the seminary. Everyone was wondering how he was going to preach sermons, write two papers every week, and study Hebrew and Greek while paper-training a puppy.

But now, it seems everyone has more time, and puppies (I have been told) are in short supply. Yes, along with toilet paper, yeast, flour, hand sanitizer, and vegetable seeds, there is a national puppy shortage.

I couldn't believe there was actually a dog shortage so I checked the website of our local shelter. They had no dogs—but this didn't prove a thing. We have a well-funded shelter and I've heard rumors that dogs from towns with less well-financed animal shelters are smuggled into town. (Okay, I've heard more than rumors but I am not squealing on anyone.) A dog shortage here is not news.

So, I checked with the animal shelter in Minneapolis, where my sister and brother-in-law live. Sure enough, there was only one puppy. It was a black and tan shepherd mix. She was holding her head at an adorable angle. "Hi, my name is Bella!" the story beside the photo read. "I came to Animal Humane Society because I need help with my behavior." Uh oh. I saw that Bella had been surrendered at the end of March.

"That was right at the start of the pandemic!" I thought. "Who surrenders a dog when they are stuck at home?"

"I'm ready to find a new home where I can continue to work on learning good manners," the story continued. I wondered exactly how bad Bella's bad manners were. I wondered if "learning good manners" was another way of saying, "not chewing up the furniture." I went to the humane society for St. Paul. I clicked, "Adoptable dogs."

To my astonishment, there was only one—it was Bella.

"I like playing with toys and enjoy other busy interactions." Busy interactions! This was obviously another euphemism for something—like, "Little Johnny is being sent to juvenile detention for his busy interactions."

I went further afield, to suburbs on the north and south sides of the Twin Cities. Bella again! The Twin Cities has a population of 3.4 million people and it appeared that Bella was—at the moment—the only dog in Minnesota available for adoption.

So, I thought I should just get the word out for anyone near or traveling to Minnesota that, in spite of the nationwide puppy shortage, there is one dog available. Her name is Bella. She's famous for her busy interactions and needs a little work on her manners.

Frankly, I'm thinking Bella couldn't have picked a better time to try to find a home.

*Till next time,
Carrie*

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



Dorrance, Svab to wed Sept. 19

Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Dorrance, Jr. of Crosby, Texas are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Heather Amanda Dorrance, to John Robert Svab, son of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Svab of Katy, Texas. Heather graduated Salutatorian from Crosby High School in 2012. She and John are 2016 graduates of Texas Tech University with each earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemical Engineering. Heather is employed as a Chemical Engineer by Phillips 66 in Lake Charles, Louisiana. John is employed as a Chemical Engineer by ExxonMobil in Beaumont, Texas. The couple will exchange vows on September 19, 2020 at the Chapel in the Woods – Woodlands Church with the reception following at The Woodlands Country Club.

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey



1. Is the book of Ezekiel in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Who had 900 iron chariots and made 20 years of life unbearable for the Israelites? Tobiah, Pilate, Sisera, Absalom
3. How did God evaluate His work after six days, as all He made was ...? Heavenly divine, Righteous sake, Thine image, Very good
4. Who was the father of Apostles James and John? Zacchaeus, Zebedee, Zebulun, Zechariah
5. 27,000 men were killed when what city's walls fell on them? Sechem, Sodom, Aphek, Jericho

6. Who burned his son alive as a sacrifice? Achan, Ahaz, Moses, Shimei
Very good; 4) Zebedee; 5) Aphek; 6) Ahaz

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Sisera; 3) ...

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

It was the Lord our God himself who brought us and our parents up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we traveled.

Joshua 24:17

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CHURCH LISTINGS

Crosby, Highlands, Huffman, Baytown

ANGLICAN CHURCH

• Church of the Resurrection, meeting at Crosby Brethren Church, 5202 1st Street, Crosby. 832-661-9693.

APOSTOLIC CHURCH

• First Apostolic Church of Highlands, 1211 S. Main St. Highlands. 281-426-4133

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

• Crosby Gospel Assembly, 633 Kenning Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2516
• First Assembly of God, 406 N. Magnolia St., Highlands, 281-426-3170
• Gospel Lighthouse, 8218 John Martin Rd., Baytown, 281-421-1168

BAPTIST

• Calvary Baptist, 2217 Huffman Eastgate Rd., Huffman, 281-324-3409
• Highlands Baptist, 111 E. Canal Rd., Highlands, 281-426-2470
• Northeast Freeway Baptist, 1635 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2723
• Unity Baptist, 2625 Broad Dr., Highlands, 281-426-4223
• Iglesia Bautista Comunidad, 5323 Highway 90, Crosby, 281-421-9810. "Venid y te Haremos Bien"

BAPTIST-Missionary

• Antioch Missionary Baptist, 2500 Harris St., Highlands, 281-426-6565.
• First Missionary Baptist Church, 301 Cypress Avenue, Crosby, 281-462-7634.
• Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist, 315 Nod, Crosby, 281-328-4650
• True Vine Missionary Baptist, 404 Oak Ave., Crosby, 281-328-7637
• Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, 12418 Crosby Rd., Crosby, 281-328-1851

BAPTIST-Southern

• First Baptist- Crosby, 615 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2564
• First Baptist- Highlands, N. Magnolia at Wallisville, Highlands, 281-426-4551
• First Baptist- Huffman, 25503 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-1888
• Northside Baptist, 317 Barbers Hill Rd., Highlands, nsbhighlands.org
• Second Baptist, 400 E. Wallisville Rd., Highlands, 281-426-5557
• Crosby New Hope Baptist Church, 18319 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-6086

BRETHREN

• Crosby Brethren, 5202 1st St., Crosby, 281-328-2442

CATHOLIC

• Holy Family, 7122 Whiting Rock, Baytown, 281-426-8448
• Sacred Heart, 915 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-4871

• St. Martin De Porres, 12606 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-4451
• St. Jude Thaddeus, 800 S. Main St., Highlands, 281-843-2422
• St. Phillip the Apostle, 2308 3rd St., Huffman, 281-324-1478

CHURCH OF CHRIST

• Crosby Church of Christ, 3737 Hwy 90, Crosby, 281-328-3496
• Highlands Church of Christ, 214 Clear Lake Rd., Highlands, 281-426-2742
• Barrett Station Church of Christ, 281-328-7882

CHURCH OF GOD

• First Pentecostal Church of God, 1328 Old Atascocita, Huffman, 281-324-1518
• Harvest Time Church of God, 495 S. Diamondhead Blvd., Crosby, 281-462-8060

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

• Mt. Rose Church of God in Christ, 13000 FM 2100, Crosby, 281-328-1314

EPISCOPAL

• Church of the Resurrection, 5202 Churhc St., Crosby.

INDEPENDENT

• Crosby Church, 5725 Hwy 90, Crosby and 30673 Huffman Cleveland Rd., Huffman, 281-328-1310
• Huffman Church, 1707 Huffman Eastgate Rd., Huffman, 281-324-3705
• New Covenant of Faith, 12217 Holly Rd., Crosby, 281-328-1315
• Restoration House, 1609 Jones Rd., Highlands, 281-843-4000
• Son Harvest, 2027 FM 1942, Crosby, 281-543-2860.

LUTHERAN

• Our Shepherd, 19704 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-2422

METHODIST

• Crosby United Methodist, 1334 Runneberg Rd., Crosby, 281-328-2616
• Highlands United Methodist, 107 W. Houston St., Highlands, 281-426-3614
• Lake Houston United Methodist, 23606 FM 2100, Huffman, 281-324-1541

NON DENOMINATION

• Lifepoint Church, 9235 North Highway 146, Baytown, Tx. 77523. □281-576-5452.

UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

• Pentecostals of Crosby502 Pine at Hwy 90 Crosby, TX □77532(281) 328-5054. Sunday 10 AM. Wednesday 7 PM. Pastor Kerry D. Lee

Channelview, Jacinto City, Galena Park, Houston

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

•Galena Park Assembly of God, 1211 2nd. St., Galena

Park, TX. 713-455-0836.

BAPTIST

•Uvalde Baptist Church, 901 Uvalde, Houston, TX 77015. 713-453-2235
•New Life Baptist Church of East Houston, 18570 Van Road, Houston, 77049. 281-456-0082
•Second Baptist Church, 1913 18th. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-672-9232.
•Second Baptist Church, 10501 Muscatine, Jacinto City, TX. 713-674-8463.
•St. Matthew Baptist Church, 119 Fidelity, Houston, TX. 713-674-0062.
•First Baptist Church, 1505 1st. St., Galena Park, TX. 713-455-1261.
•Macedonia Baptist Church, 1230 Maxnie Street, Houston, TX. 77049. 713-674-6607.

BAPTIST-Southern

•Dell Dale Avenue Baptist Church, 402 Dell Dale Avenue, Channelview, TX. 281-452-3704.
•South Drive Baptist Church, 15229 South Drive, Channelview, TX. 77530. 281-452-4500.
•First Baptist Church of Jacinto City, 10701 Wiggins, Jacinto City, TX 77029. 713-672-2802.
•Beaumont Place Baptist Church, 13101 Ivydale Street, Houtson, TX. 77049.
•First Baptist Church of Galena Park, 206 Woolfe St., 77547. 713-455-1261.

CATHOLIC

•St. Andrew Roman Catholic Church, 827 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, TX. 281-452-9865.
•Our Lady of Fatima, 1705 8th St., Galena Park, TX. 713-675-0981.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

•Church of Christ, 15821 2nd St., Channelview, TX. 713-826-2884.
•Channelview Church of Christ, 1301 Sheldon Rd., Channelview, TX. 281-452-7129.
•Galena Park Church of Christ, 301 Holland Ave, Galena Park, TX. 713-455-0826.

EPISCOPAL

•St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 13125 Indianapolis St., Houston, TX. 713-451-2909.

HOLINESS

•Bible Missionary Church, 10246 Fairfax St., Jacinto City. 713-671-3500.

METHODIST

•Old River Terrace United Methodist Church, 16102 East Freeway, Channelview, TX. 281-452-2861.
•Jacinto City United Methodist, 10730 Wiggins, Houston, TX. 713-673-7132.
•Holy Trinity United Methodist, 13207 Orleans St., Houston, Tx. 713-453-7203.

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-LaoTzu

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ROMANS 8:18

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Goose Creek Memorial High School student donates face masks to seniors



Last week, Gabriel Brock, a student from Goose Creek Memorial High School, was presented with a certificate from Commissioner Garcia for his service to the community. Gabriel has been a scout since first grade, is ranked in the top 3% of his class, and is an Eagle Scout Candidate. He made face masks to donate to homebound seniors in Barrett and McNair. Commissioner Garcia thanks Gabriel for giving back to the community and wishes him well in his pursuits.

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I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

PHILIPPIANS 4:13

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.
-- 1 JOHN 4:18

For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.
--2 Timothy 1:7

ASK THE EXPERT

Tax Revenue,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

in continued reductions in employment, income and activity subject to sales tax for months to come.”

Sales tax is the largest source of state funding for the state budget, accounting for 57 percent of all tax collections, but the effects of the economic slowdown and low oil prices were evident in other sources of revenue in May 2020. Texas collected the following revenue from other major taxes:

- motor vehicle sales and rental taxes — \$265 million, down 38 percent from May 2019 and a modest improvement over April’s results;
- motor fuel taxes — \$221 million, down 30 percent from May 2019 and the steepest drop since 1989;
- natural gas production tax — \$31 million, down 76 percent from May 2019;
- oil production tax — \$90 million, the lowest

monthly amount since July 2010, down 75 percent from May 2019 and the steepest drop since a 77 percent drop in March 1988;

- hotel occupancy tax — \$8 million, down 86 percent from May 2019 and the steepest drop on record in data going back to 1982; and

- alcoholic beverage taxes — \$28 million, down 76 percent from May 2019 and the steepest drop on record in data going back to 1980.

The Comptroller extended the due date for franchise tax payments this year from May 15 to July 15, meaning that comparisons to May 2019 collections are uninformative. The Comptroller’s office detailed other COVID-19 impacts to the Texas economy, including the skyrocketing claims for unemployment benefits, in the most recent edition of Fiscal Notes.

ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim: " What is the birthstone for the month of June?"



JUNE BIRTHSTONES

June counts three gems as birthstones: pearl, Alexandrite, and moonstone.

Pearl

Pearls are unique as they are the only gems from living sea creatures and require no faceting or polishing to reveal their natural beauty. In the early 1900s, the first successful commercial culturing of round saltwater pearls began. Since the 1920s, cultured pearls have almost completely replaced natural pearls in the market.

The qualities that determine the overall value of a natural or cultured pearl or a piece of pearl jewelry are size, shape, color, luster, surface quality, nacre quality, and—for jewelry with two or more pearls—matching.

When other value factors are equal, larger pearls are rarer and more valuable than smaller pearls of the same type. Round is the most difficult shape to culture, making it the rarest cultured pearl shape and—if all other factors are equal—also generally the most valuable. There are exceptions, though. Well-formed pear, oval, or baroque (irregularly shaped) cultured pearls are also prized by pearl lovers.

Natural and cultured pearls occur in a broad range of hues. There are warm hues like yellow, orange, and pink, and cool hues like blue, green, and violet. Pearls have a wide range of tone from light to dark. Pearl colors tend to be muted, with a soft, subtle quality.

Alexandrite

A relatively modern gem, Alexandrite, was first discovered in Russia in 1831 during the reign of its namesake, Czar Alexander II, and is an extremely rare chrysoberyl with chameleon-like qualities. Its color is a lovely green in both daylight and fluorescent light; it

changes color to a purplish red in incandescent light.

Due to its rarity, some jewelers stock synthetic versions of this enchanting gemstone. (Synthetic gemstones are man-made alternatives to the natural material, possessing the same physical, optical, and chemical properties as the natural gemstone.) Alexandrite is also the gem for the 55th wedding anniversary.

Moonstone

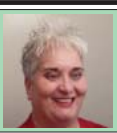
The third birthstone for June is the moonstone. It was given its name by the Roman natural historian Pliny, who wrote that moonstone’s appearance altered with the phases of the moon — a belief that held until well after the sixteenth century. A phenomenal gemstone, moonstones show a floating play of light (called adularescence) and sometimes show either a multi-rayed star or a cat’s eye.

Considered a sacred stone in India, moonstones often are displayed on a background of yellow (a sacred color) and are believed to encapsulate within the stone a spirit whose purpose is to bring good fortune. Part of the family of minerals called feldspar, moonstone occurs in many igneous and metamorphic rocks and comes in a variety of colors such as green, blue, peach, and champagne. The most prized moonstones are from Sri Lanka; India, Australia, the United States, Myanmar, and Madagascar are also sources.

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

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

CHARLOTTE’S WEB



Relationships Matter

The past few weeks have proven to be a time to watch what we say as well as what we do. This is especially true in households that have become “classrooms” for students who went home for Spring Break and were not allowed to return to campus due to the COVID 19 Pandemic. Young minds are always full of questions and seem to be like a sponge, ready to absorb everything, especially things they do not always need to hear.

Fortunately, there are some amazing parents in our community as well as great role models. Recently I was visiting online with one of my friends. Kristina is someone who lives to help others. She is full of energy and excitement. I am blessed that over the past few years, I have worked with Kristina on a variety of projects and have grown to include her in my daily prayers. As a young single female, determined to make a difference, she is full of compassion, community pride and self-determination.

She recently completed her Bachelor of Business and at the same time, started her own on-line store. She opened “By the Sea: A Destination Couture Boutique”. Between working full-time, taking classes towards her next degree, being active in the community, she decided that to open this on-line business and at the same time, look for other entrepreneurs who she could bless.

During her years of being involved in many things, she met Demetria and an immediate friendship was formed. As children were staying home from school,

Demetria’s 14-year-old daughter Blayke came to her mom and presented a business venture to make her own lip gloss and start her own cosmetic line. She showed her mother where she had researched the supplies as well as the costs for her business. She then came up the name for the business. Mother and daughter prayed about the venture and immediately started sharing with family and friends about the business. Being home from school due to the pandemic provided the right time to develop the products and begin marketing them.

Kristina was among the first to order the products from BJuicy Cosmetics to stock in her on-line store. She has also been helping to promote Blayke’s business on social media and to all she meets. If you are interested in learning more about the cosmetic line, please email bjuiicyflare@gmail.com or call 832-721-1818 for information.

As the pandemic continues, look around and see who you may know who you can be a blessing to. Who do you know who makes masks and may need you to help to promote them? Do you know someone that you could bless by picking up their groceries from the store? Perhaps there is someone among you who loves to cook and could start meal prepping for the health care professionals or first responders who may not have time to do it for themselves. Sometimes it can be as simple as asking a single parent if they have a load of laundry you can wash for them. Look around, count your blessings and know that relationships matter.

New Harris County Clerk,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to vote is fundamental to our democracy, and I will work tirelessly to ensure that Harris County residents can exercise that right safely, conveniently, and with the peace of mind that their vote will be counted.”

“Our efforts start with the July runoff contest. I encourage Harris County residents to register to vote by the June 15th deadline. I also encourage you to make a plan to vote by mail (if eligible), during the early voting period, June 29 - July 10, or on Election Day, July 14th.”

“Thank you to the Harris County Commissioners Court and the people of Harris County for entrusting me with such an important task. I cannot thank Dr. Diane Trautman enough for her service to Harris County, and I look forward to working with her talented staff to achieve our office’s mission.”

Hollins said he would take that outsider’s approach to the clerk role and would retain the office’s senior staff, including Elections Director Michael Winn who came on board after Trautman was elected and newly promoted by Trautman Chief Deputy Teneshia Hudspeth.

Chris developed a commitment to public service through the selfless example of his parents and their devotion to improving the lives of others. His father, George, served for 34 years

in the Houston Police Department, and his mother, Christie, managed a career as a secretary while raising Chris, his two sisters, and more than 20 young foster children.

After graduating from Hightower High School in Missouri City, Chris went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts with Phi Beta Kappa honors from Morehouse College. Chris also completed a joint program with Yale Law School and Harvard Business School, earning both his Juris Doctor and Master of Business Administration degrees.

Before transitioning into private practice, Chris attained a strong strategic skill set by working at some of the world’s most distinguished professional service firms. He was a Senior Engagement Manager at global consultancy McKinsey & Company, where he flourished in applying analytics and organizational best practice to transform public safety, defense and security agencies. Chris was also a Summer Associate with Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz and the investment bank Goldman Sachs. Despite his private sector background, Chris’s most memorable professional experience ensued through his time with the White House Office of Presidential Personnel during the first year of the Obama administration.

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

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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.

LEGAL NOTICE

Harris County ESD No. 50 is selling a 2006 Ferrara Intruder II Pumper from the Channelview Fire Department's fleet through sealed bid process. ESD 50 will be accepting sealed bid from June 4th until 5pm CST on July 6th. The bids will be opened at a public meeting on July 6, 2020 at 6pm at the Channelview Fire Department located at 1210 Dell Dale, Channelview, TX 77530. The bidding process is being hosted by Brindlee Mountain Fire Apparatus. Further details are available at <https://www.firetruckmail.com/AvailableTruck/13663/2006-Ferrara-Intruder-II-Pumper> or by calling 256-776-7786. Bids may be hand delivered or mailed to: Channelview Fire Department ATTN: Truck Bid 1210 Dell Dale Channelview, TX 77530

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Chambers County Mosquito Control Department will begin preparing for its aerial and ground insecticide applications for the control of mosquitoes. Individuals who suffer with allergies or other interested parties with questions regarding operating procedures, or the chemicals used, are to contact: Lawrence Lewis, Mosquito Control Director, 409-267-2720, 409-267-3265 (fax) or by e-mail to llewis@chamberstx.gov.

LEGAL NOTICE

Newport MUD FIRM Map Revision Request


The Harris County Engineering Department [in accordance with National Flood Insurance Program regulation 65.7(b)(1),] hereby gives notice of Harris County's intent to revise the flood hazard information, generally near San Jacinto River Cross-section 113810.8. Specifically, the flood hazard information will be revised along the San Jacinto River from a point approximately 2,400 feet downstream of the referenced cross-section to a point approximately 4,870 feet upstream of the referenced cross-section. Additionally, the flood hazard information will be revised along Jackson Bayou from cross-section 11826.75 to cross-section 13,644.06.

As a result of the revision, the floodway will narrow, with no change to 1-percent - annual-chance water-surface elevations or floodplain, within the area of revision.

Maps and detailed analysis of the revision can be reviewed at the Harris County Engineering Department at 10555 Northwest Freeway, Suite 120, Houston, Texas. Interested persons may call Mr. Shawn Sturhan at (713) 274-3900 for additional information.

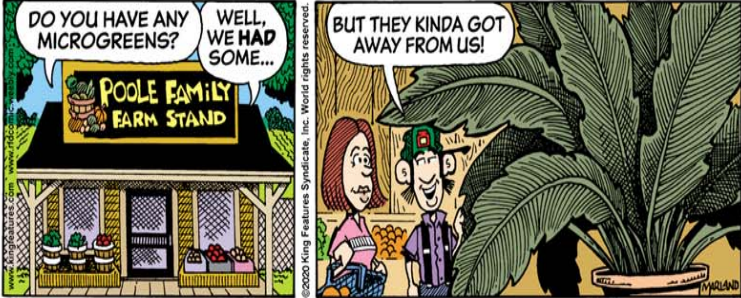
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



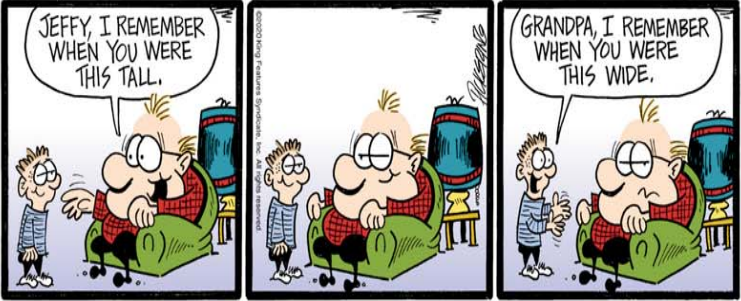
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



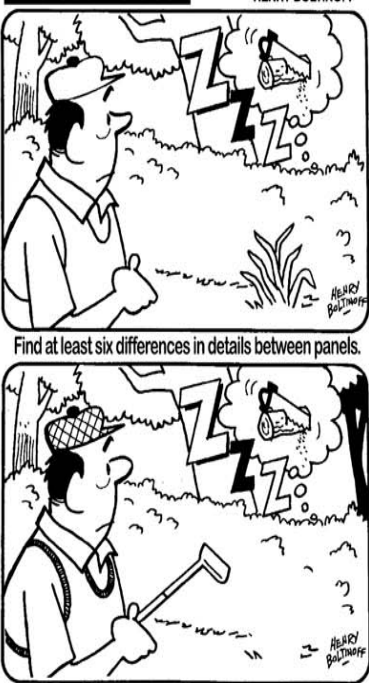
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINGOFF



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

Posting Date May 25, 2020

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15			16					17		
18						19	20			
21					22			23	24	25
26	27	28			29			30		
31				32				33		
34				35			36			
37			38			39				
40						41		42	43	44
45	46	47			48	49				
50					51			52		
53					54				55	

ACROSS

1 Dallas cager, briefly

4 Frat party supply

8 Prejudice

12 Expert

13 Sicilian spouter

14 St. Louis landmark

15 Flogged

17 Tardy

18 Vigorous

19 Puncturing tool

21 Fa neighbor

22 Pulverized

26 Pitch

29 Irritate

30 Foreman opponent

31 Check

32 Calendar pgs.

33 Pageant winner's address

34 Scepter top-per

35 Fido's foot

36 Insertion mark

37 Ran

39 Scull tool

40 Mentalist

41 Eaves drop-per?

45 Deserve

48 Played in water

50 United nations

51 Twistable treat

52 Singer

53 "Little Women" woman

54 Agrees silently

55 Banned bug killer

DOWN

1 Numbers course

2 Liniment target

3 Couturier

4 Give

5 — alcohol

6 Compass pt.

7 He loved Aida

8 Poolroom supply

9 A Gershwin brother

10 Performance

11 The girl

16 Insurance fraud factor

20 Tussaud's medium

23 Barber's concern

24 Otherwise

25 Mi. or km (on)

26 Walked hard

27 Juno's counterpart

28 Barbecue entree

29 Promise

32 Midwestern capital

33 Breaker of Ruth's record

35 Apiece

36 Chocolate sources

38 Intuitive feeling

39 Lubricated

42 African nation

43 Give temporarily

44 Fix manuscripts

45 Recede

46 Heady quaff

47 Deteriorate

49 Paid athlete

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

D	D	T	S	O	N	H	B	E
I	N	V	O	E	R	O	C	O
D	E	H	S	V	A	P	S	N
E	L	C	I	C	I	I	R	U
R	V	O	D	E	H	S	V	O
I	E	R	B	P	A	V	B	B
S	S	I	W	S	O	W	N	I
I	T	V	X	E	V	A	M	O
D	E	H	S	V	O	S	L	E
H	E	A	R	T	V	A	L	E
T	R	A	V	E	D	H	S	V
H	C	A	C	E	T	N	A	V
M	A	V	B	E	R	B	E	R

Solution time: 27 mins.

Answers

1. Peeling skin; 2. Lunch, the butter; 3. 28; 4. Barcelona, Spain; 5. "Kramer vs. Kramer"; 6. Panther; 7. Seafood; 8. A fear of clowns; 9. Lucille; 10. Tennessee (Memphis)

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Construction near Waste Pits,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

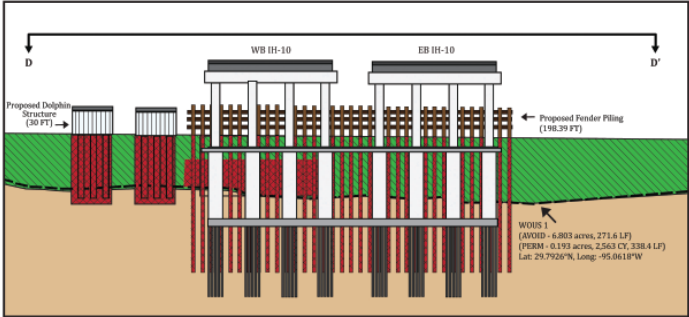
permanently discharge 0.193 acres of fill material in the form of pilings and rip-rap into 338.4 linear feet (LF) of the San Jacinto River, during replacement of damaged dolphin structures and fender systems.

Four dolphin structures are to be replaced by the proposed project. The existing damaged dolphin structures would be removed by heavy machinery on barges within the River channel and new dolphin structures would be installed in the same locations. Each proposed structure is 30 LF, for a total of 120 LF of impacts. The acreage of each proposed dolphin structure is 0.015 acre, for a total of 0.060 acre of permanent impacts. The fenders of the proposed dolphin structures are 18-inch-diameter steel coated with a marine-grade epoxy coating. It is undetermined if the pile fenders will be braced with either 18-inch-to 24-inch-diameter braces and timber railroad ties or plastic lumbers (Concept 1) or braced with 24-inch-to 36-inch-diameter bracings with pile fender wraps (Concept 2). Both concepts would include pipe sleeves around the pile and would result in the same amount of permanent impacts to the San Jacinto River.

To repair the navigation fender system, 77 steel pilings would be required. Each piling will be coated with a marine-grade epoxy coating and would measure approximately 1.5 LF, in diameter, and impact 0.00004 acre of the River. Of the 77 fender pilings, 15 pilings would be located within the proposed rip-rap so the linear feet of impacts are only calculated for 64 pilings as the linear feet of impacts of the 15 pilings within the rip-



Plan of construction shows the work area in green, and dolphin bumpers and rip-rap fill (stone) in red. TxDOT says all construction will be done from barges in the river, and only in the highway right-of-way, not on adjacent land. However, an access road borders the waste pit site.



Cross Section C of the Bridge shows rebuilt dolphin bumpers at left, and rebuilt fenders and rip-rap (stone) fill in Red Color.

rap are included in the rip-rap linear feet calculations. These pilings would total 96 LF in permanent impacts to 0.003 acre. Approximately 0.130 acre (1,454 cubic yards) of 24-inch stone rip-rap and 3-inch bedding material is to be placed along the proposed east fender, extending for 122.4 LF.

ALSO quoting from the permit application is the impact on adjacent river banks:

All work would be com-

pleted within existing right-of-way (ROW). No work is proposed along the banks of the San Jacinto River as the proposed construction techniques would facilitate completion of all work from barges or the bridge structure. No permanent or temporary construction easements are included in the proposed project. The project is considered necessary to increase the safety to ships utilizing the channel and to protect the bridge from

impacts.

AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION: The applicant has stated that they have avoided and minimized the environmental impacts by the following construction design techniques:

TxDOT proposes to complete the project via barge or from the bridge structure, thereby avoiding any impacts to the banks of the San Jacinto River or three Section 404 wetlands within the project ROW.

KMCO Sold to Altivia,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cant additives, fuel additives, and a variety of ethoxylation and propoxylation based intermediates. Its products service the coatings, automotive, fuels and lubricants, and surfactant industries.

An explosion April 2, 2019 killed one worker and injured dozens of others, two critically. That following a series of renovations to make the plant more safe and neighbor friendly including putting generators atop telephone poles and other seemingly excentric safety measures. None of those measures stayed the hand of Harris County and individuals that filed suit. A previous fire related mishap killed an OSHA worker.

KMCO ownership since 2012, Owner Research Group Chemical Holdings, then stated through managing partner, John Foley, that the explosion was of a nature that it could have happened anywhere.

KMCO LP was the largest customer of Crosby Municiple Utility District and the loss of revenue from the cut backs in May of 2019 stagnated local water development allocations.

KMCO LP was founded by Artie McFaren in 1979.

Headquartered in Houston, Texas, privately held ALTIVIA was founded in 1986 and today operates four separate businesses.

ALTIVIA Petrochemicals, with facilities in Haverhill, Ohio is the third largest merchant producer of Phenol, Acetone and Alpha Methylstyrene in the Americas; ALTIVIA Specialty Chemicals, the largest producers of Phosgene derivative intermediates in the Americas, including chloroformates and acid chlorides, serving pharmaceutical, organic peroxide and agricultural markets from its operations in LaPorte, Texas; ALTIVIA Ketones & Additives, a producer of ketones and carbinols at its facilities in Institute, West Virginia. This business was acquired from The Dow Chemical Company in 2019 and it services the coatings, industrial and automotive lubricants and adhesives industries.

ALTIVIA Chemicals, a producer of iron-based salts serving municipal and industrial customers with a broad range of chemical solutions, including products formulated for specific water treatment applications.

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Statement from Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo on George Floyd and Protests in Harris County

Harris County, Texas - May 31, 2020, County Lina Hidalgo today issued the following statement in response to the death of George Floyd and ongoing protests occurring in Harris County:

"I join the millions of fellow Americans and people across the world in condemning the brutal, senseless murder of George Floyd. The sight of yet another black American having their life stolen by a law enforcement officer whose mission was to protect and serve their community is heartbreaking, and stands as just the latest painful reminder of the deep, systemic flaws that continue to break the bonds of trust between many of our residents and our criminal justice system.

For generations, black and brown people in America have suffered grave injustices at the hands of institutional power in this country. That is one of the reasons I ran for office and why so many patriotic residents across our county and cities across our nation are choosing to exercise their first amendment right to speak out and demand meaningful change. I wholeheartedly support their

rights to do so and join Mayor Turner and others in urging those who speak out to do so peacefully, safely, and with the ultimate goal of driving meaningful change, not more violence. It is also true that today, the threat of COVID-19 continues to linger in our community, and close contact with others can be potentially deadly and lead to an outbreak. That is why I urge those who join in demanding change to wear a face covering, practice social distancing, and mitigate potential exposure as much as possible or by participating virtually.

Each and every member of our community, regardless of their race, background, or economic status deserves to be treated with dignity and respect during encounters with police. When we lost George Floyd, we lost a fellow Houstonian and someone whose legacy will forever remind us of the work that remains to build a more just equal society for the most vulnerable among us. As we move forward, I want George Floyd's friends and family here in Harris County to know that his life - and the life of so many others we've lost to injustice - will drive us to work ever



more zealously to create a more equitable, fairer Harris County. As County Judge, I will continue to do everything in my power to drive forward meaningful criminal justice reform, hold all our institutions - including law enforcement - accountable and work to dismantle the root sources of racism and inequity in our community. The work is long and hard, but we will continue to drive forward alongside the community and with more resolve than ever.

Over the past several days, I and our Office of Emergency Management have remained in close touch with Mayor Turner and the City of Houston regarding the protests. We stand ready to provide any additional tools or resources they may require to keep our communities safe and look forward to working together to honor the life of George Floyd by promoting meaningful action, peace, and justice for all."

JUNE 4, 2020 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 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

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