

NORTH CHANNEL STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Cloverleaf, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City
VOLUME 9, NO. 18 (#371) THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021 www.northchannelstar.comCHANNEL
CURRENTSNorth Shore
Rotary Raffle
Benefit May 15

The North Shore Rotary Club will hold a MEGA RAFFLE on Saturday May 15th, in place of their annual Fish Fry. This 46th Annual Fund-raising Event will feature a Grand Prize of the winner's choice of a 2021 Chevy Camaro, or a Chevrolet Colorado pickup.

There are also 25 additional prizes including a 1/2 side of beef, 2 whole hogs w/ freezers, deluxe fireworks package, golf cart, juke box, vacation package, iPad, patio furniture, custom rod/reel combo, fishing trip, restaurant package and much more.

The drawing will be held at Turner Chevrolet, and broadcast live on Facebook. Tickets are \$100 and available from all North Shore Rotarians, or on Facebook.

Locations which are selling tickets include Pineforest Jewelry on Uvalde, NCA Chamber of Commerce on I-10, Community Bank on I-10, Crawfish Shack in Crosby, Turner Chevrolet in Crosby, and more. Or contact Lowell Everitt at 281-452-6660 or Shawn Silman at shawn.silman@sjcd.edu.

COVID-19

Cases as of
May 4, 2021HOUSTON AREA
19 COUNTIES647,487 POSITIVE
7,129 DEATHS
600,930 RECOVERED

TEXAS

2,903,764 POSITIVE
50,411 DEATHS
23,274,930 TESTS

UNITED STATES

32,510,732 POSITIVE
578,406 DEATHS
437,469,331 TESTS

WORLDWIDE

153,943,676 POSITIVE
3,222,832 DEATHS
90,558,558 RECOVERED

JACINTO CITY - 75 YEARS OLD!

History, photos, oratory, Fireworks at May 8 event

JACINTO CITY – Excitement is building, as this community nears its big May 8 Celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the town's founding, in 1946. The festivities will center around the Town Center on Saturday May 8, but is also going to involve the whole community with a bus tour of historical landmarks, starting at 1:30pm at Town Center.

Then at 3:00 there will be an Official Ceremony of speakers and refreshments inside the Town Center. The official pro-

gram as described by City Manager Lon Squyres will include a Welcome by Mayor Ana Diaz, Comments from City Council Members, and then formal greetings from Regional Elected Officials.

Emphasis will be on the history of the city and the people who live and work here. Mayor Diaz and Assistant City Manager Kathy Greiner will introduce past officials and employees. A slide show with historical photos of the city, many never seen be-



fore, will be presented before the ceremony. Fire Chief Rebecca Mier has been reviewing over 800 photos for the show.

Other activities will include a Trivia Contest with Councilwoman Carmela Garcia, Historical Recognition by Councilman Jimmy Rivas, and a report on the Ongoing History Project by City Secretary Joyce Raines. City staff with longevity will also be recognized.

Continued. See 75 Years, Page 8

SUNDAY



See Special Mother's Day articles, tributes, artwork and promotions on Page 3 of this week's North Channel Star.

Channelettes standing strong amidst the virus



2020-2021 Channelview Channelettes

Front Row L to R: Assistant Director Heather Keith, Historian - Alma Gutierrez, President - Pierjah Johnson, Jr. Captain - Erriel Hollis, Jr. Captain - Rocio Lira, Jr. Captain - Emily Zambrano, Jr. Captain - Lizeth Negrete, Vice President - Krystian Martinez, Secretary - Yasmin Sanchez & Director Suzanne Hutchins Director. 2nd Row L to R: Anakaren Guerra, Cassandra Guajardo, Sierra Robinson, Madeline Manzanarez, Dericka Reese, Arlyne Ramales, Amanda Perez Negron, Jasmine Gutierrez, Gisell Cruz, Yajaira Magana & Isabella Moreno. 3rd Row L to R: Kathy Le, Dia'mond Gallien, Ruby Arredondo, Amarie Jones, Joselyn Mora, Jaanal Suarez, Jennifer Ozuna, Violette Ruiz, Amaris Cervantes, Gisell Aguilar, Emily Cardoza, Brianna Bustos. Back Row L to R: Alexis Rivera, Celeste Gutierrez, Glory Nguyen, Naima Botello, Kate Mayorga, Miguel Morin Ana Amaro, Sydney Caesar, Vivian Martinez, Isabel Robles, Alizea Morales & Yareli Trevizo. Photo by Allan Jamail

By Allan Jamail

Channelview, TX. – May 5, 2021 – The 2020-2021 Channelview ISD Channelettes and Channelette Reserves have been working very hard for a year, dancing with all the new changes the deadly COVID-19 virus brought them.

Due to the great teamwork and experience of the Channelettes Director Suzanne Hutchins and Assistant Director Heather Keith the young ladies and gentlemen student dance team never experienced any serious health setbacks from the Corona pandemic. Hutchins has been the dance team director since 1990, 31 years.

Keith a former Channelette dancer under Hutchins has 5 years of teaching dance instructions in dance levels I, II, III & IV.

These two ladies work together like a precision team, always putting the health and safety of the students as their top priority. Parents and the CISD Trustees should be proud to have them overseeing the dancers.

Hutchins said, "The pandemic has made our team approach normal everyday situations much differently, we have overcome so many obstacles since March of 2020. The seniors deserved so much more than what they got, we tried to make every event special, even if it was

done virtually."

"Our COVID year started in April when we realized that we would not be going back in person for the 2020 school year. Our first dilemma with the dance team was how to make "senior dedication night" special if we weren't able to gather. We traveled to each Channelette and Steady Soulz (Boys Dance Team) senior's house and presented them with a flower, a yard sign of the seniors, playing the high kick song, and taking pictures of them. It wasn't the traditional way to honor our seniors but it was special," Director Hutchins said.

Channelettes tryouts looked different; students

learned the tryout dance from a video and submitted their performance for judges to view virtually. After an unusual ending, starting the New Year was an undertaking. Football season would not be the same. Instruction, rehearsal space, formations for dances took on a whole new set of challenges. Social distancing, wearing masks, sanitizing, and providing a safe environment was a top priority. Class procedures and rehearsals changed, checking temperatures daily and online assignments for virtual students. Issuing uniforms and equipment, dancing and dressing would require constant sanitation due to cross con-

tamination and all the while keeping a 6 feet distance.

Talking with students and their parents or playing team bonding games had to be analyzed and approached differently, the directors and students together had to be flexible.

"I love my job and my family, I spend way too much time at school with my student children, but I feel it's my job in life... hopefully to set an example for the Channelettes and to encourage them to set their goals high. We're proud of how our students have endured, we feel they'll come out of this more resilient and stronger," Hutchins said.

Customs officers seize illegal
"chicken lollipop" pet food
destined for Highlands

HIGHLANDS U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agriculture specialists have yet to charge a local vendor for placing an order for contraband chicken lollipop pet treats.

The federal agents at Dallas Fort Worth International Airport seized a cargo package of the illegal dog treats disguised as men's sweaters bound for Highlands from Hong Kong on April 14.

Animal disease concerns are the reason the 93 said to be chicken-flavored lollipop pet treats with rawhide stems are illegal, according to CBP. Attempting to bring in unde-

clared items that are prohibited or restricted can result in a civil fine.

Highly pathogenic avian influenza 2, Newcastle disease, Foot and mouth disease, Classical swine fever and African swine fever are the specific foreign animal diseases being targeted by the CBP restrictions and prohibitions. The agency destroyed the Highlands order by steam sterilization.

"Consumers are unaware that some international goods and products are prohibited or restricted because of the potential agriculture or biological risks associated with that product," said Dallas CBP



CHICKEN LOLLIPOPS Seized by the Customs and Border Patrol in Dallas, bound for an address in Highlands, TX. The contents of the box were labelled as sweaters.

Port Director Tim Lemaux in the release. "When we encounter suspicious shipments, we examine them and then act accordingly.

In this case, we seized the shipment to protect our nation's agriculture industry.

Continued. See Customs officers, Page 8

Free Event tickets at
NRG for those who
get a COVID shot

NRG Park Community Vaccine Center has Contest Offering Event Tickets and Giveaways to Vaccinated Participants

Random Drawing of Winners from People that Get Vaccinated at NRG Park CVC May 3-16

Houston – As an incentive, people that receive their vaccination at NRG Park CVC from May 3-16, 2021 will be entered into a random drawing to win tickets to one of the following events or giveaways:

-- Houston Texans
-- Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ – (Grounds Passes)
-- 2021 Nutcracker Market
-- Monster Jam

-- Disney on Ice
-- 2022 Boat Show
-- 2022 Houston Auto show

-- Astros Giveaways
-- Houston Dynamo/Dash

-- Houston area concerts presented by Live Nation
*Some restrictions may apply

*Tickets are subject to availability

Participants will receive their vaccination at NRG Park Yellow Lot, Gate 16A. 9036 S. Main Street. Houston, TX, 77054 from 12 pm – 9 pm. Walk-ins/Drive-ups are available. No appointments, pre-registration, or insurance are required. Vaccines are free.

Rotary

Club of North Shore



Rotary

Club of North Shore

46th Annual Fundraising Event

Only \$100.00 per ticket

MEGA RAFFLE

25 MEGA Raffle Drawing Prizes with the GRAND PRIZE of a choice of Chevrolet COLORADO or CAMARO

You may purchase tickets from your Favorite Rotarian or message us here on Facebook

Drawing will be held via Facebook Live on May 15th 2021

GRAND PRIZE



Photo may not represent exact vehicle or selected equipment

Choice of

2021 CHEVROLET COLORADO OR CAMARO

*Camaro based on availability. Inventory is currently limited.

ADDITIONAL PRIZES

1/2 Side of Beef with Freezer * 2 Whole Hogs w/ Freezers * Deluxe Fireworks Package * Customized Hunting Golf Cart * Juke Box * Vacation Package * Apple iPad Mini w/ Yeti Cooler * Custom Patio Furniture *Custom Rod/ Reel Combo and 1/2 Day Fishing Trip * Restaurant Gift Package * PLUS MANY OTHER PRIZES

Deputies see increase in local Meth, theft busts

HIGHLANDS – Precinct 3 Constable's Deputies have been working traffic locally and many times they are encountering more and more drugs and stolen items also on the streets.

It was April 23 on East Wallisville Road, Constable's Deputy Herrold stopped a black Honda CRV driven by Braison Woodward with passenger Robin Yates in the 700 block of East Wallisville. Yates, the owner of the vehicle, gave consent to search and a glass pipe was discovered. Crystal Methamphetamine was found in a backpack. In Woodward's shirt pocket was a cigarette box with a clear plastic bag inside with more methamphetamine.

Chivalrously Woodward claimed all the meth but Yates was within reach of the glass pipe and some loose meth found inside the metal ashtray. She denied knowing of the drugs.

The District Attorney's Office took charges on both for Possession of a Controlled Substance. Both were booked into Harris County Jail without incident.

April 26, at about 7:30 a.m. in the 15600 block of Wallisville Rd. Precinct 3 Deputy Lopez stopped a truck for a traffic violation. The driver was identified as Ardis Johnson. Deputy Lopez was speaking with Mr. Johnson when the smell of burnt rope came wafting from the vehicle. Johnson was detained and a search of the vehicle immediately followed.

During the search, 1.4 grams of crystal methamphetamine was found in the dash board of the truck. A black magnet box was located under the vehicle containing another 8.1 grams of crystal methamphetamine. A total of 9.5 grams of crystal methamphetamine was found in defendant Johnson's possession.

After contacting the District Attorney's Office, Ardis Johnson was charged with possession of a controlled substance and transported to the Harris County Jail.

Deputy Perez and Sgt. Sullivan conducted a traffic stop before 10 a.m. April 28 in the 5400 block of S. Main in Crosby after seeing a black Chevrolet truck pulling a Sunbelt Rentals generator and trailer without a registration sticker.

Once stopped, the driver identified as Ernest St. Julian, was detained due to indications that the truck was possibly stolen. Lt. Sanders made contact with the owner of the truck who advised it had been stolen the week prior.

Deputies then contacted Sunbelt Rentals for more information regarding the generator and trailer. Sunbelt Rentals confirmed it had been placed on a job site in the McNair area the day before and that they would contact the construction company who rented it.

Defendant Ernest St. Julian was charged with Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle and transported to the Harris County Jail without incident.

The investigation is ongoing and may result in additional charges.



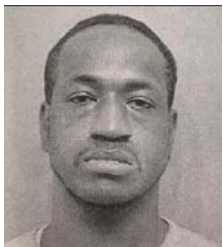
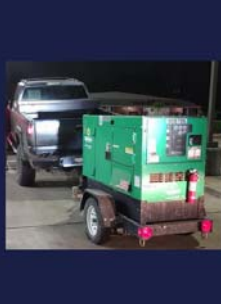
Robin Yates charged Possession of Controlled Substance



Braison Woodward charged with possession.



Ernest St. Julian and a stolen set of merchandise.



Ardis Johnson

Maximum Tax Savings



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

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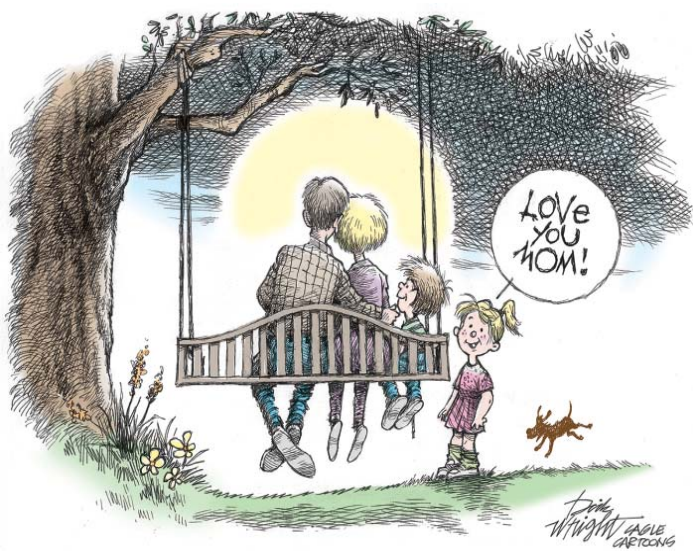
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No client shall be, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, age, sex, disability or handicap, sexual orientation, marital status, religion or status with regard to public assistance or veteran status, excluded from admission to services through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

CROSBY'S HOME TOWN HOME CARE

Happy Mothers Day



Constable Silvia Trevino
presents

Muffins for Moms

Thursday, May 6, 2021

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
5900 Canal St. Houston, TX. 77011

We are calling on all Moms to join us for a Drive - Thru event for Mother's Day! We will be distributing muffins and other goodies to all of our wonderful mothers

See you here!

Ana Hernández
State Representative • District 101

VICTOR TREVIÑO III
Mayor of Houston
District 101

ARANDAS
District 101

VOLE ONDA!
District 101

Precinct 6 Dispatch: 713-274-3409

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3 Reasons to Smile on
Mother's Day

A real rose of your choice trimmed in Pure 24k Gold that lasts forever, an 18" Freshwater Pearl Necklace & Russell Stover Chocolates.

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Mother's Day thoughts from State Rep. Ana Hernandez



As all parents know, the greatest honor in this life is the ability to watch one's child grow and to see them flourish. These past few weeks have served as a beautiful reminder of this fact, as I celebrated my son's 9th birthday. My commitment to providing for my child stems from the same motivation I have to serve you and your family. I will continue to work tirelessly for the betterment of our community.

Thankful for Mothers

By Charlotte Jackson

Mother's Day may not be as happy as a Hallmark greeting card for some women, but at the end of the day, we must be thankful for mothers. Each one of us is here today because we had a mother. There are many women I know who are not mothers and sometimes that is by choice and sometimes that is just how God planned their lives. There are mothers who are raising children alone by little or no choice of their own. There are women who made some poor choices and no longer have their children in their lives.

Each one of us had a mother. She may not have been the perfect mother. She may have told you many times that she never wanted to be a mother. She may have poured her time into working multiple jobs to keep the bills paid and in some ways you grew up with resentment towards her for not being there physically for you.

I was in my mid-fifties when I met a lady who lost her mother at birth. We rarely hear about that

any more, but can you imagine the pain and perhaps even guilt that she has lived with for the past 70 years? One day in talking to a very special lady, she broke down crying. She had kept a secret concerning a teenage pregnancy for over 50 years. She shared that when she found out she was pregnant, her mother and her pastor made the decision to send her to a home for unwed women. She had an older sister who to this day is unaware of the child. She remembers living at the home for about seven months and then as soon as the infant was born, the baby was whisked away by the nurse. My precious friend never knew if the baby was a boy or girl. She never held her firstborn child. The pain from this was hard to deal with. She eventually got married and had two children. Yet, when the children became teenagers, she left them with their dad and filed for divorce. She started running from that pain of not knowing about her first child. Now, years later as she has begun to suffer with dementia, she often calls and tells me that perhaps this is the punishment of not keeping that child. I hurt for her as I know

that secrets kill from the inside out. She has always put out the appearance that life is good and she loves everyone. Yet deep in her heart she grieves for her child.

There are another group of those in my life who have lost their mothers to death before they were adults. I will never forget the first young girl who lost her mother who became a "bonus daughter" to me. As I look over the situations that Ryann has dealt with since losing her mom in 2007, my heart aches. She has dealt with many obstacles but she recently graduated from college, is happily married and an incredible mother to three happy, healthy children.

I have always reminded Ryann that she will forever be my very special daughter and there are never problems.....Just opportunities to stretch our faith and build relationships. There will be challenges but we should all be thankful for our mothers.



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OPINION PAGE

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PCT. 2 TALK

By Commissioner Adrian Garcia



Precinct 2 Brings Vaccines to You

By: Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia

You may have noticed recently that there's no longer a vaccine waitlist at vaccine mega-sites like Harris County's at NRG Stadium. Now, at ReadyHarris.org you can pick the day and time that works best for you, and those who want a COVID vaccination don't have to spend hours and stress waiting online for the very moment slots open. Most vaccination sites now are accepting walk-ins without previous registration and appointments! Just as Precinct 2 mobilized quickly for the first wave of vaccinations, now we're quickly adjusting to reach and vaccinate people who might be less able to visit shot sites and are perhaps hesitant about getting the shots that will save lives.

Many Precinct 2 residents can't get to mega-sites like NRG Stadium twice in a month for their shots. For readers of Northeast News, Highlands Star-Crosby Courier, Barbers Hill-Dayton Press, or North Channel Star, committing three or more hours on a workday to get to a vaccine site isn't feasible. Worse yet, many others don't have access to effective transportation and struggle with limited Metro routes, especially at the outer edges of our precinct.

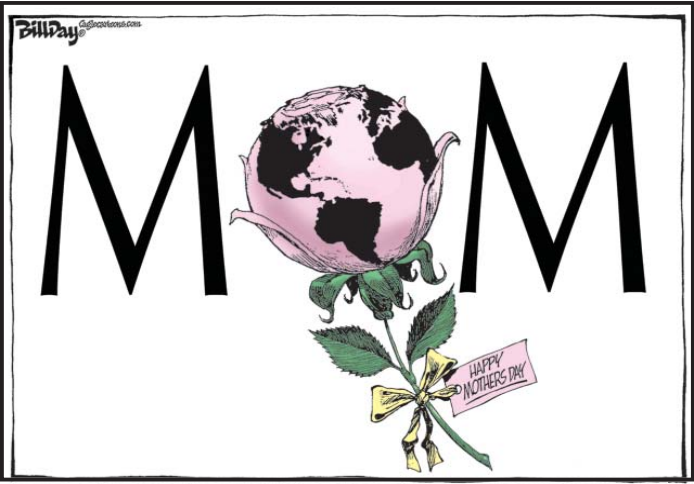
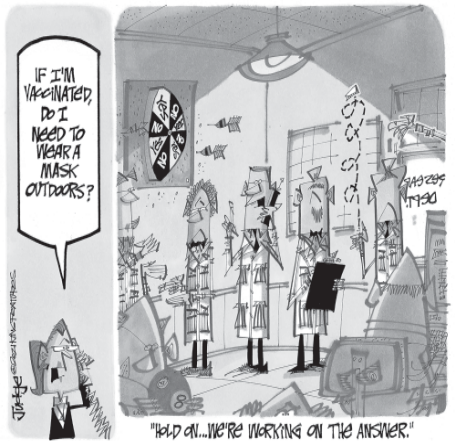
For these reasons, I've tasked the Precinct 2 team to bring vaccines directly to the communities I serve. Under the management of our talented Director of Health Services, Chara Bowie, Precinct 2 has coordinated more than 15,000 shots in arms of people who previously couldn't get them. In Aldine alone, a Precinct 2 partnership with UHP Health (operators of the SmartPod Access2Health) has supported more than 2,500 vaccine shots at North East Community Center, where we are doing regular vaccinations multiple days per week. In addition, our residents received more than 1,750 doses in Channel-area communities and close to 700 doses in Crosby and Barrett.

While reaching a wide variety of communities in areas near our Community Centers and Precinct 2 facilities, we've also partnered with the Longshoremen's Union, Plumber's Union, Teamsters and other labor organizations to vaccinate thousands of these essential workers. Like other frontline workers, our friends in labor have critical need for vaccination access to be healthy.

Even with these local vaccine events, challenges to get the shot remain for tens of thousands. Many of our seniors don't drive, are mostly homebound or are residents in a senior living community. To address these issues, Precinct 2, along with Harris County Public Health, has begun taking shots to Senior Care Facilities in Precinct 2, as well as to the homes of seniors in our homebound meals program.

Now, as the first wave of vaccinations in Harris County slows and begins to build a second smaller wave, I'm using all of my knowledge of Precinct 2's extremely diverse population to reach out and find all residents who want and need a COVID vaccination. An important part of this is to help build interest and understanding why each vaccination helps each and all of us stay healthy. We need to engage those hesitant about vaccinations and help them value a vaccination that saves their lives as well as the lives of their loved ones.

Since being elected, I've asked my team to understand all the unique characteristics of our communities and to really know the precinct's residents. In this way we can bring vaccines directly to you, no matter where you live. While I'm proud of all Precinct 2 residents who are now vaccinated, we are accelerating our efforts to help more people get vaccinated, all to reach a level that'll crush COVID in Precinct 2. If you haven't gotten your vaccine yet, don't wait. If you're concerned and hesitant, take a close look at the ultimate benefits to you, your family and your friends. Please get your shots so we can all get back to doing the activities we love with the people we love.



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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



State shows largest numerical population gain

Texas stands to gain two seats in the U.S. House of Representatives after results of the 2020 census released last week show the state had the largest numerical gain of any state since the 2010 census

The population increased by nearly 4 million in the past decade, to 29.14 million. That's a population increase of 15.9% in 10 years — third highest by percentage in the nation, behind Utah and Idaho. The state's clout in the House will increase to 38 congressional districts, with redistricting likely coming this fall.

The increase has been driven for the most part by increases in the state's Hispanic population, which accounted for half of the growth in the past decade, according to the census. As the Texas Tribune pointed out, annual increases in Hispanic residents in Texas have been greater every year since 2010 than the combined growth among white, Black and Asian residents.

ABBOTT GETS BILL ALLOWING TO-GO ALCOHOL SALES FROM RESTAURANTS

Restaurants can continue to sell alcohol to go after both chambers passed a measure making Gov. Greg Abbott's pandemic declaration permanent. Abbott is expected to sign the measure.

When restaurants were forced to close their dining areas last March, the measure allowed beer, wine and mixed drinks to be sold along with takeout and delivery food orders. While pandemic restrictions on in-dining seating have been lifted, many restaurants continue to rely on takeout and delivery options.

The Texas Restaurant Association reports 700,000 restaurant workers in Texas lost their jobs



in the early weeks of the pandemic, with thousands of restaurants permanently shuttered.

ERCOT ANNOUNCES INTERIM CEO

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas has picked Brad Jones to be interim CEO for the Texas grid operator. Jones has more than 30 years of industry experience, including two stints with ERCOT.

The previous CEO was fired after the widespread power blackouts during the February winter storm, and nearly half the board resigned. Under ERCOT's bylaws, Jones can serve as interim CEO for up to a year.

ERCOT falls under the umbrella of the Public Utility Commission. Its newest member and chairman, Peter Lake, was recently confirmed by the Texas Senate.

STATE RELEASES \$11.2 BILLION IN FEDERAL FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS

The state's top leadership announced last week the release of \$11.2 billion in fresh federal funding to help public schools "address student learning loss and costs incurred as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic."

Two-thirds of the nearly \$18 billion allocated by the feds is now available

under grants administered by the Texas Education Agency. The remaining one-third in funding will be distributed contingent upon approval by the U.S. Department of Education.

Texas already had received roughly \$2.2 billion in federal funding to help school districts respond to COVID-19. School districts and others have been calling for the state to release the money so they could begin budgeting for the next school year. The federal government requires the state to maintain both public school funding and money for public colleges and universities at the same levels as in the three years before the pandemic to tap into the K-12 stimulus dollars.

VACCINATION PACE SLOWING; NEW COVID-19 CASES, DEATHS STEADY

The Texas Department of State Health Services reported the number of Texans who have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine reached 11.1 million Sunday. As in the rest of the country, the pace has slowed — up just a bit over 4% from the previous week. A total of 7.92 million state residents are now fully vaccinated — more than one-fourth of all residents, according to DSHS.

Meanwhile, a total of 23,054 cases of COVID-19 were reported last week, a drop of about 600 people; 353 deaths were reported, down just slightly from the previous week, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. Lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19 patients hospitalized dropped slightly to 2,648, according to DSHS.

TEXAS GETS \$79 MILLION TO PROTECT COASTAL AREAS

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality announced last week the state will receive an additional \$79 million as part of the RESTORE Act, which is the law passed in response to the 2010 Deepwater Horizon blowout and the resulting massive oil spill. The money will be used for land acquisition for coastal conservation; shoreline protections; restoring water quality and freshwater inflows on the Texas coast; and restoration of high-quality coastal habitats in the Texas portion of the Chenier Plain complex, which extends from Galveston Bay to Vermillion Bay, Louisiana.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.

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THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

Still Nagging

It is a well-known fact that we are allowed to chew out the people we care about. Most recently, this came to mind when I gave my old friend, Andrew, a serious tongue-lashing.

Andrew is a lifelong bachelor, and a committed curmudgeon. He is better than most curmudgeons at being curmudgeonly because he started young. Andrew showed signs of being a grumpy old man when he was still in his 30s. But Andrew is no longer in his 30s, and this is what brought us to our recent conflict.

Andrew is not taking care of himself. He would argue this is not true, of course. He would say that he lives a healthy life and even eats vegetables on occasion. He rides his stationary bicycle on a nearly daily basis, and he has no bad habits—which is probably true, except for the bad habit of ignoring the advice of his dearest and most concerned friend.

My problem with Andrew is that, like a lot of men, he does not go to the doctor. I'm betting every woman reading this right now is clucking her tongue in unison. I rarely make sexist generalizations, but I have observed that women seem to take the whole "going to the doctor before there's anything wrong" thing a lot more seriously than men do unless there's a woman nudging the man in the ribs. This brings us back to Andrew.

Andrew knows he's supposed to see a doctor. He also knows he's overdue for a colonoscopy, which he is not looking forward to, and so he dawdles and, eventually, he puts it out of mind completely—until I remind him.

"You haven't had a doctor's appointment yet?" I ask, accusingly.

"I've been busy," he says. This is true. He has been busy lately, as he is a tax preparer and tax preparers are madly busy for about three months of the year. The rest of the year, however, he has been dawdling.

"So, have you had your annual exam yet?" I asked again, after he had a chance to rest up for at least two-and-a-half days. He did not answer.

I told Andrew if he died early of something preventable, I was going to give his eulogy and say, "He was an idiot and he got what he deserved!" and sit down.

I wouldn't really do this. But I feel like it every time I hear he still hasn't gone to the doctor.

Andrew will tell that you he is extraordinarily healthy. Logically, he knows this is no reason not to have a medical exam, but he will cite the fact that he has never had a cavity as evidence of his better-than-average health. There are no reputable studies linking an absence of cavities to immortality, that I am aware of, but Andrew clings to the conviction that he is not like the rest of us cavity-riddled mortals.

I checked my email to see if Andrew had written this morning. He has not. This means one of three things: He is still mad at me, he has not yet scheduled an appointment, or he is mad at me and has not scheduled an appointment.

But I am still nagging him. I don't care if he is angry with me because I don't think he has anyone else nagging him to take care of himself, and I care about Andrew very much.

A person doesn't get more than one friend like Andrew in their life. I've got to do everything I can to keep him around, complaining as long as possible.

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



OBITUARIES

DON ROBERT HENDRIX

Don Robert Hendrix, loving husband, caring father, loyal friend, devoted educator, world traveler, Houston sports fan, and music lover passed away in peace at his home on April 28, 2021.

Born in 1943 in Temple, Texas, Don grew up in Highlands and Deer Park. Don earned his baccalaureate degree from Stephen F. Austin University, and his Master's and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Texas at Austin. His generous spirit informed his 42-year career in education culminating with 22 of those years as superintendent of Crosby Independent School District. He cared deeply for the Crosby community. During his tenure, he was a driving force for academic excellence at CISD by raising expectations, establishing full-day kindergarten, half day Pre-K and a first-rate college preparatory program using the College Board Pre-AP model. Chairing University Interscholastic League's Legislative Council and a fixture at Crosby football and basketball games, Don believed in the power of extracurricular activities to enrich the education and citizenship of all Texas children.

His family will fondly remember his love for life, friendliness, open mind, and soulful singing, but most of all they remember his abundant love and how much he gave of himself in the service of others.

Don was preceded in death by his mother, Billie and his twin sister, Donna. He is survived by his wife Maryland, his son and daughter-in-law, Dean and Cara Hendrix of San Antonio, his son, David Hendrix of San Antonio, his stepdaughter Amy Lee Holmes of Brenham, his stepson, Joel Wilburn of Tomball, his sister and brother-in law Billie Jean and Pat Mongiello, He is also survived by his loving grandchildren Jessica Rose Wilburn, Karina Wilburn, Sophie Hendrix, Julian Hendrix, William Hendrix, Mac Battaglia, Jocelyn Hendrix, and Brandi Wilburn.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, May 8, 2021 at 1 pm at the



Sterling-White Funeral Home
11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd
Highlands, TX 77562. Visitation will begin two hours earlier from 11am-1pm.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that his legacy be honored with a contribution to the Dr. Don Hendrix Memorial Scholarship Fund at the Crosby Education Foundation to benefit Crosby students in the pursuit of their dreams.

Mail checks to:
Dr. Don Hendrix Memorial Scholarship Fund
c/o Crosby Education Foundation
333 Red Summit Drive
Crosby, Texas 77532

Or contribute online via Venmo or PayPal:
Venmo: @CrosbyEducation-Foundation
PayPal: Paypal.me/CrosbyEF
Please designate in the comments that your contribution is for the Dr. Don Hendrix Memorial Scholarship Fund.

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Sheldon ISD names Executive Director of Special Education

During the April school board meeting, Dr. Davis presented Mrs. Brooke Douget as the new Executive Director of Special Education.

Mrs. Brooke Douget's interest in serving students began when she had the opportunity to work as an eight-grade student assistant in a self-contained life skills classroom. She later began her educational career as a special education teacher and transitioned to roles that allowed her to share her passion for teaching and learning in a larger way, for example, serving surrounding districts in expanding special education programming into more inclusive and supportive places to learn in New Caney ISD as Special Education Manager of Compliance & Software, Dayton ISD as Special Education Compliance Coordinator, Texas Education Agency as Special Education Escalation Specialist, and most recently Mrs. Douget served Goose Creek Consolidated ISD in the role of Special Education Coordinator of Assessment. Mrs. Douget will join the Sheldon ISD team in May.

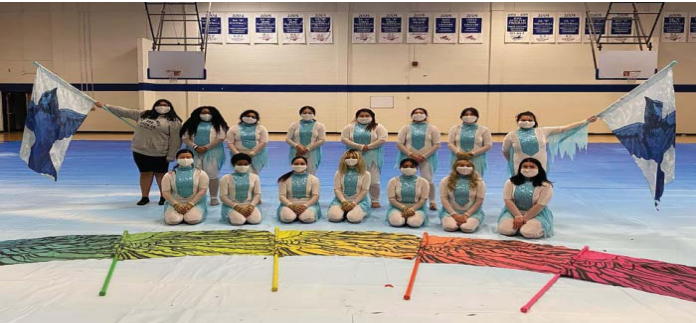


SHELDON ISD NEWS

Parents, we want your feedback! Sheldon offers parent engagement survey
Sheldon ISD is requesting parent feedback in the annual parent engagement survey to support the district's desire for continuous improvement. The survey will be available on the district's website(www.sheldonisd.com) until May 14. If you have questions, contact the district at 281-727-2096.

KHS Winter Guard brings home second place

At the April 10 Texas Color Guard Circuit Championships, the King High School Winter Guard's received second place.
Additionally this year, the C.E. King High School Winter Guard competed in the Texas Color Guard Circuit (TCGC) virtual competitions, earning second place in the first contest and first place in the most recent competition. The team has had an extremely successful year.



Sheldon ISD Education Foundation to host Sheldon Summer Scramble

To support the mission of raising funds for innovative teaching grants, Sheldon ISD Education Foundation is hosting its inaugural Sheldon Summer Scramble at 8 a.m. Thursday, June 3 at the Golf Club of Houston. Teams are still available. To register, go to www.sheldonisd.com/seff/.

Register for Pre-kindergarten in Sheldon ISD

Pre-kindergarten registration is now open for new students to Sheldon ISD entering pre-kindergarten. To learn more and to register, go to www.sheldonisd.com.

Sheldon offers Blue Card program for senior citizen residents

The Blue Card Program is an initiative to honor all of our supporters in the district who are age 65 or older. One of Sheldon ISD's goals is to create and foster an environment where all stakeholders are engaged and actively involved in the work we do for children. The success of our students is a shared responsibility of community members, parents, and educators, and we believe a community's collective power is greater than individual efforts. To sign up to be a Blue Card member, go to www.sheldonisd.com/bluecard/

Members receive free entry to district-sponsored fine arts and sporting events as well as a free luncheon each year with an opportunity to learn more about the district and engage with district leaders.

GPISD students win 2020 Congressional App Challenge

Representative Sylvia Garcia named Matthew Stith and Osvaldo Castro, North Shore Senior High School students, as the winners of the 2020 Congressional App Challenge in the 29 District of Texas (TX-29).

Stith and Castro created the CovEd-19 app. When asked what inspired the creation of CovEd-19, the young men said, "We knew we wanted to make an app about a current problem relevant to soci-



ety. We came up with the idea of making a Coronavirus game and thought it would be a great way to spread awareness about the danger of COVID-19 in a way that would be interesting."

Over 6,500 students registered for the 2020

Congressional App Challenge. Students created and submitted 3,088 functioning apps, marking the end of an extremely successful Congressional App Challenge amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Over 300 members of Congress hosted Congressional App Challenges in their districts across 49 states, Puerto Rico, the Mariana Islands and Washington, DC.

Congratulations, Matthew and Osvaldo!

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ASK THE EXPERT

Sheldon ISD recognizes educators and employees for excellence

Each year, Sheldon campuses and departments recognize employees for their dedication and commitment to their work.

Each school and district building nominated a Teacher of the Year, Paraprofessional of the Year and a Rookie of the Year. The district will select one elementary and secondary Teacher of the Year in May to represent Sheldon ISD in the annual Region 4 awards ceremony. Sheldon ISD is a part of Region 4, along with other school districts in Harris County. Region 4 is the largest of the 20 regions in the state.

Below are this year's honorees:

Teachers of the Year	
Cravens ECA	
Serita Walker	
Sheldon ECA	Bani Coello
Carroll Elementary	Lucero Aguilar
Garrett Elementary	Tiffanie Ivy
Monahan Elementary	Brenda Villela
Royalwood Elementary	Dianna Estrada
Sheldon Lake Elementary	Jeffrey Gaspard
Sheldon Elementary	Yessenia Pita
King Middle School	Amari Shields
Null Middle School	Je'neal Roland
King High School	Cynthia McFadyen
Early College High School	Randy Cotton
Paraprofessional of the Year	
Paraprofessionals represent positions such as secretary, administrative assistant and/or aides.	
Cravens ECA	Gabriela Diaz
Sheldon ECA	Angelica De Anda
Carroll Elementary	Ana Portillo
Garrett Elementary	Latarchia Soileau
Monahan Elementary	Yasmin Lucero
Royalwood Elementary	Guadalupe Gamino
Sheldon Lake Elementary	Veronica Flores
Sheldon Elementary	Yemina Avalos
King Middle School	Laura Oquinn
Null Middle School	Barbara Jenkins
King High School	Sofia Ruelas
Early College High School	Gertrudis (Beatriz) Trevino
Rookie of the Year	
This award is presented to first year educators.	
Cravens ECA	Isylee Sanchez
Carroll Elementary	Leslie Vasquez
Garrett Elementary	Jason Tuttle
Monahan Elementary	Grisela Jimenez
Royalwood Elementary	Mayra Sanchez
Sheldon Lake Elementary	Yadira Rebollar
Sheldon Elementary	Courtney Makow
King Middle School	Diana Del Bosque
Null Middle School	Mark Cook
King High School	Candace Darby
Employees of the Year	
This group represents Sheldon ISD departments.	
Early Learning Center	Melissa Gloria
Maintenance	Enoch Vell
Custodial	Maria Elena Ibarra
Transportation	Jeanette Lavalais
Child Nutrition	Arisbel Suarez Clabon
NEY Administration and Network Operations Center	Francine Carter

Jacinto City -- 75 years old,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Later, from 5:00 to 9:00 pm the Market by Night will be held on the plaza, with music, vendors, exhibits, and food trucks.

And after dark, the 75th Celebration will be highlighted with a Fireworks Show at Town Center.

Everyone is invited to join in the fun, but please RSVP so that the city can

plan on how many will attend. Contact Mrs. Joyce Raines at 713-674-8424 or by email at Joyce.Raines@JacintoCity-TX.gov.

The North Channel Star newspaper will publish congratulations ads. Contact the paper at 713-266-3444 with your message.

Tire change results in fatal Hit & Run on I-10

Crime Stoppers and the Houston Police Department's Vehicular Crimes Division need the public's assistance identifying the suspect responsible for a Hit and Run – Failure to Stop and Render Aid - Fatality.

On Saturday, April 10, 2021, at approximately 7:20 a.m., the victim Cesar Jimenez Mancera was struck by a vehicle in the 12400 block of the East Freeway in Houston, Texas. The victim was changing a flat tire on the right shoulder of the eastbound lanes when the suspect vehicle struck him head on. The suspect continued

traveling eastbound without rendering aid to the victim. The victim suffered major injuries, and sadly died as a result of the collision.

Crime Stoppers may pay up to \$5,000 for information leading to the identification, charging and/or arrest of the suspects in this case. Information may be reported by calling 713-222-TIPS (8477), submitted online at www.crime-stoppers.org or through the Crime Stoppers mobile app. Only tips and calls DIRECTLY TO Crime Stoppers are anonymous and eligible for a cash reward.

House fire and shooting on Parkette

Houston Fire Department reports they fought a house fire in the North Forest/ East Houston Area, at the 8800 block of Parkette, 77078. There were no reported injuries.

HFD reported \$42 thousand in estimated property saved, and \$55 thousand in estimated damage.

The cause is under investigation, but initial indication is that it was set intentionally.

Firefighters arrived on scene within two minutes to find heavy fire on the

side of a house. Crews made an offensive attack and found no victims inside. The fire was extinguished and another intentionally set fire was found inside a nearby home. Crews extinguished the second fire quickly. HFD Arson investigators were requested to determine the cause of the fire. Houston Police Department was also requested due to a recent reported shooting at the same location. Firefighters from Stations 34, 45, 32, 43 and 56 responded to this incident.

Customs Officers,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

try.”

Visitors to the U.S. are encouraged to declare all agriculture items they are bringing into the U.S.A. On a typical day in fiscal year 2020, CBP intercepted 3,091 materials for

quarantine including plant, meat, animal byproduct and soil.

The case has been turned over to Homeland Security for further investigation.

ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim: “When did Mother’s Day begin?”



American MOTHER'S DAY ORIGINS

The official Mother's Day holiday arose in the 1900s as a result of the efforts of Anna Jarvis, daughter of Ann Reeves Jarvis. Following her mother's 1905 death, Anna Jarvis conceived of Mother's Day as a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers made for their children. After gaining financial backing from a Philadelphia department store owner named John Wanamaker, in May 1908 she organized the first official Mother's Day celebration at a Methodist church in Grafton, West Virginia. That same day also saw thousands of people attend a Mother's Day event at one of Wanamaker's retail stores in Philadelphia.

Following the success of her first Mother's Day, Jarvis—who remained unmarried and childless her whole life—resolved to see her holiday added to the national calendar. Arguing that American holidays were biased toward male achievements, she started a massive letter writing campaign to newspapers and prominent politicians urging the adoption of a special day honoring motherhood. By 1912 many states, towns and churches had adopted Mother's Day as an annual holiday, and Jarvis had established the Mother's Day International Association to help promote her cause. Her persistence paid off in 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson signed a measure officially establishing the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

Anna Jarvis had originally conceived of Mother's Day as a day of personal celebration between mothers and families. Her version of the day involved wearing a white carnation as a badge and visiting one's mother or attending church services. But once Mother's Day became a national holiday, it was not long before florists, card companies and other merchants capitalized on its popularity.

While Jarvis had initially worked with the floral industry to help raise Mother's Day's profile, by 1920 she had become disgusted with how the holiday had been commercialized. She outwardly denounced the transformation and urged people to stop buying Mother's Day flowers, cards and candies. Jarvis eventually resorted to an open campaign against Mother's Day profiteers, speaking out against confectioners, florists and even charities. She also launched countless lawsuits against groups that had used the name “Mother's Day,” eventually spending most of her personal wealth in legal fees. By the time of her death in 1948 Jarvis had disowned the holiday altogether, and even actively lobbied the government to see it removed from the American calendar.


Mother's Day falls on the second Sunday in May and traditionally involves presenting mothers with flowers, cards and other gifts. Currently, more phone calls are made on Mother's Day than any other day of the year. These holiday chats with Mom often cause phone traffic to spike by as much as 37 percent. It celebrates motherhood and it is a time to appreciate mothers and mother figures. Many people give gifts, cards, flowers, candy, a meal in a restaurant or other treats to their mother and mother figures, including grandmothers, great-grandmothers, stepmothers, and foster mothers.

Diamond Jim is a master jeweler, diamond dealer and precious metals broker of NTR Metals. Pineforest Jewelry has been a proud member of the IJO for many years. See more at: www.pineforestjewelry.com.


Thank you for reading the “Ask Diamond Jim” column and for supporting the North Channel Star Newspaper!

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.

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