

NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

Your News, Your Newspaper

Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Cloverleaf, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City
VOLUME 9, NO. 46 (#397) THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2021 www.northchannelstar.com

THURSDAY



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CHANNEL CURRENTS

Channelview Fire Dept. Toy Drive Sat. Dec. 4

Channelview Fire Department will hold their Annual Community Toy Drive on December 4, 2021 from 10:00am to 1:00pm at the Walmart Parking Lot, corner of Wallisville Road and Beltway 8.

"EVERY CHILD DESERVES A CHRISTMAS"

You are invited to Donate a NEW Unwrapped Toy, or Donate a Gift Card, or Donate Money.

Memorial Service for Bertie Simmons

We note the passing on November 19 of former Furr High School Principal Bertie Simmons.

Bertie was the beloved but controversial leader who turned the underperforming school into a national award winner, receiving a \$10 million grant from the Steve Jobs QX Foundation.

A Memorial Service will be live streamed on Facebook Sunday, Nov. 28 at 2:30pm.

See Charlotte's Web column on page 8 for additional thoughts.

Candlelight Remembrance Service Dec.5

Carter-Conley's Annual Candlelight Remembrance Service, Dec. 5 at 3:00 pm. In person at 13701 Corpus Christi Street, Channelview, or Live Streamed. See the website or Facebook page for access.

The Remembrance Tree will be in the lobby of the Funeral Home from Nov. 27, 2021 through Jan. 3, 2022. You are invited to come and leave a remembrance hanging on the tree.

More information, 713-455-5100.

North Channel Chamber Open House

The North Channel Chamber of Commerce welcomes you to their Holiday Open House, Tuesday December 11, 2021 from Noon to 3:00pm. At the Chamber office, 13301 East Freeway, Suite 100, Houston 77015.

Chamber members, guests, and the public are welcome to come and share the Holiday spirit.

Info 713-450-3600.
Reminder: 45th Annual Awards GALA will be held Jan. 27, 2022 at the Sylvan Beach Pavilion in La Porte.

San Jac opens Generation Park campus

EAST HARRIS COUNTY — The grand opening that was initially delayed by COVID-19, and then further by Hurricane Nicholas, finally took place on Friday, Oct. 22 at San Jacinto College's newest campus — Generation Park. The event has been years in the making, but well worth the time and effort for those celebrating the fifth and most northern campus for San Jac. Faculty, administration, board members, community members, and other supporters gathered together on the beautiful 57-acre campus to participate in the ribbon cutting for the 55,000 square-foot facility that opened to students in fall of 2020.

"I am very excited to be here today," said San Jacinto College Chancellor Dr. Brenda Hellyer. "Despite the delays of the official grand opening, the Generation Park campus has been serving the needs of the northern part of our taxing district for more than a year now. This campus is an asset to the community by bringing top-notch, nationally recognized education options to the Generation Park area. We are excited about the future graduates at this campus."

The facility houses general education and academic classes, focusing on the needs of students looking to transfer to a four-year college or university. And beginning in the fall of 2021, Generation Park began workforce training solutions with the launch of Fundamentals of Supervision Academy. Generation Park leaders continuously meet with established and emerging in-



San Jacinto College president Brenda Hellyer, center, joins Ryan McCord, Destry Dokes, and others at the ribbon cutting.



The new 55,000 square foot building at Generation Park is only the first of several planned for the new campus on the Beltway in East Harris County.

dustry partners to determine how the campus can assist with professional development needs in the areas of business operations, supply chain management, and entrepreneurship.

"The offerings at Generation Park will continue to evolve to meet the needs of our growing student population," said Dr. Destry Dokes, executive director of the San Jacinto College Generation Park campus. "This beautiful, 55,000 square-foot facility is just the first step San Jac is taking to bring high-quality education options to people of Generation Park."

Houston-based real estate development and management company, McCord Development, was an active partner working on this project alongside San Jac officials. The company donated 3.8 acres situated at the intersection of West Lake Houston Parkway and Lockwood Road as a testament to their commitment to education.

"It has been an honor working alongside the administration of San Jacinto College to bring the

Continued. See San Jac Generation Park, Page 8

NS Mustangs Cruise Forward in Playoffs with 41-13 win over Clear Springs

-By Allan Jamail

Webster, TX. At the Challenger-Columbia Stadium the visiting North Shore Mustangs wasted little time moving ahead of League City's Clear Spring Chargers who scored first taking a 6-0 lead. The Eastside Boys struck back ending the first quarter with a 10-6 lead.

Coach Jon Kay called on his placekicker Carlos Dominguez to kick 2 field goals to move the Mustang's ahead closing the first half with a 13-6 lead. His defense continued its dominance over opponent's offensive units, shutting them down until late in the final minutes of the game with the Chargers making their 2nd TD. The offense answered with a Mustang TD

Continued. See NS Mustangs win over Clear Springs, Page 8



Carlos Dominguez, junior Mustang placekicker made 10 points with 2 field goals and 4 extra points in playoff game. Allan Jamail photo



Christopher Barnes, Mustang special team's sophomore returned a kickoff 94 yds. for a TD. Allan Jamail photo

Hartman Bridge demonstrators found guilty 25 admit guilt; Greenpeace pays \$58,450 fine

HARRIS COUNTY — Greenpeace paid \$58,450 in criminal restitution to five local police and fire-fighter agencies as part of a plea agreement with 25 defendants, who executed a "takeover" of the Fred Hartman Bridge, closing the Port of Houston for approximately 24 hours in September 2019, Harris County District Attorney Kim Ogg announced last week.

On the Greenpeace USA Twitter page, they stated that they were protesting the fossil fuel industry, and trying to block the oil tankers exporting in the channel below. The Coast Guard said they had closed about one-half mile of the channel for safety reasons. The protesters are dan-



ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISTS cling to the underside of the Hartman Bridge in September 2019, closing all traffic on the river below.

gling about 100 feet above the water. The bridge is 180 feet above the water. A fall could be deadly, they were warned.

The protesters said that their plan was to dangle in place for 24 hours, but after only 12 hours into the incident, authorities had removed most of them.

"Regardless of motive, it is illegal to risk the

lives of law enforcement and ordinary people who must drive the bridge. They wasted the time of police officers and firefighters, who potentially could have been used to respond to real emergencies," Ogg said.

As part of the agreement, the 11 people who repelled off the bridge in 2019 and the 14 people who helped them including those acting as "spotters," admitted to their guilt to the charge of Obstructing a Highway.

They also each paid a pre-trial intervention fee of \$250, and Green Peace paid \$58,450.92 to the agencies affected by their actions.

The agencies compensated include the Harris County Sheriff's Office, Houston Fire Department, Baytown Fire Department, Har

Continued. See Hartman Bridge Protest, Page 4

top ten

THANKSGIVING DESSERTS

1. Pumpkin pie

2. Sweet potato pie

3. Pecan pie

4. Apple pie

5. Hummingbird cake

6. Pumpkin cheesecake

7. Carrot cake

8. Cranberry pie

9. Pumpkin roll

10. Egg custard pie

Source: Cox Media Group

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COUNTY CONNECTION

Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo



Essential to get our Children vaccinated

So many Harris County residents who have gotten vaccinated still have feelings of anxiety about COVID, and it's understandable. Children under the age of 12 have been ineligible to receive the vaccine and remained unprotected from this pandemic that has taken so many lives. This week finally marks the end of the wait — the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) have approved the vaccine for kids ages 5 to 11, an essential piece of our response to COVID-19 that is long overdue.

And, though many parents are eager to get their children vaccinated, others may still be hesitant. Parents should know that the vaccine is safe — the side effects adults have experienced, like a short-lived fever and cold-like symptoms, are less likely to affect kids. It's also effective — it has a 90% effectiveness rate in preventing children ages 5 through 11 from contracting COVID-19. Although younger children are less likely to be hospitalized or lose their lives from the virus, they can still suffer from various long-term effects of COVID-19. If you want to protect your kids from getting sick from COVID-19, there is no reason to delay signing up for this vaccine.

So, let's celebrate all of our hard work to get Harris County vaccinated and last week's downgrade in Harris County's threat level to Level 2: Orange by getting all eligible Harris County children vaccinated. To sign up, check first if your pediatrician is offering appointments. If not, you can check with your local pharmacy or sign up for an appointment through Harris County Public Health by calling 832-927-8787 or registering at ReadyHarris.org.

This is a huge leap in our fight to return to normalcy — let's give our children the protection they deserve and the chance for a childhood where they can go to school without masks, hug their friends, share their toys, and see their teachers and friends' smiling faces, without worries about the virus.

Sincerely,
Lina Hidalgo

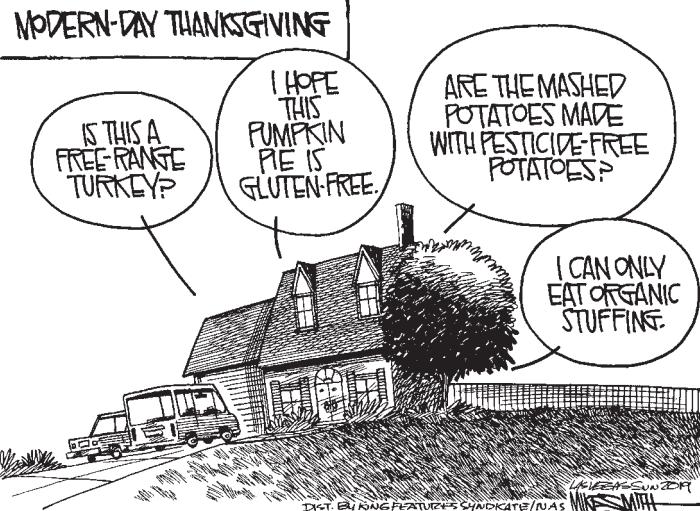
County funds Summer study programs for 3,480 youths

Children should never stop learning, even over the summer and during a pandemic. In March 2021, Commissioners Court approved \$712,250 from the COVID Response and Recovery Fund to fund the County Connections Youth Summer Initiative under the Harris County Department of Education (HCDE).

County Connections used this funding to support nonprofit organizations that provide comprehensive summer programs, short term projects, and summer camps hosted in-person or virtually from a variety of locations including schools, community centers, apartment complexes and churches.

In total, 43 organizations received funding to serve 3,480 students at 99 sites across the County. Grants were awarded to several local nonprofits, including FORGE for Families, SHAPE Community Center, the Art League of Houston, and the Houston Tennis Association, and were used to provide program content and materials to youth as well as 54 full or partial scholarships to help families pay for summer services.

For more information visit the Harris County Department of Education's Center for After-school, Summer, and Enrichment here.



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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Filing period for the 2022 Primary opens

The filing period for the 2022 Texas primary elections opened on Nov. 13, allowing candidates to file with their respective party chairs for spots on the March 1, 2022, primary ballot. For primary elections, candidates must file their applications with their state party chairs. If a district is solely contained within a single county, a candidate would file with the county chair.

The filing period for county, district and statewide offices ends at 6 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 13. Early voting for the March 1 primary begins on Feb. 14. Among the statewide offices on the ballot are governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, comptroller, agriculture commissioner, land commissioner, railroad commissioner and seven states on the state board of education.

To find out who has filed to date, go here: <https://tinyurl.com/4s89j6be>

TASK FORCE ON CONCERT SAFETY FORMED

Gov. Greg Abbott last week announced the formation of a task force on concert safety after at least nine people were killed and hundreds injured at the Astroworld Festival in Houston on Nov. 5. Members include safety experts, law enforcement officials, firefighters and leaders from the Texas Music Office, the Texas Department of Public Safety, the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission and a half-dozen other state entities.

The task force is led by Brendon Anthony, director of the Texas Music Office.

"Live music is a source of joy, entertainment and community for so many Texans — and the last thing concertgoers should have to worry about is their safety and security," Abbott said.

Lawsuits have been filed on behalf of more than 200 victims. Defendants include rapper Travis Scott and concert promotion giant Live Nation, according to a report in the Houston



Chronicle. The deaths and injuries occurred when a crowd rushed the stage as Scott performed.

DROUGHT CONDITIONS SPREAD IN OCTOBER

Blame it on La Niña. Drought conditions throughout much of the state continued to expand in October, thanks in large part to the weather conditions caused by the atmospheric phenomenon, which pushes warmer and drier conditions in the southern United States while causing cooler, wetter weather in Pacific Northwest.

Dr. Nelun Fernando of the Texas Water Development Board wrote recently that this winter is likely to be drier and warmer than average. The U.S. Drought Monitor released last week indicates 61.4% of the state is considered abnormally dry, while nearly 38% of the state is in moderate or severe drought.

Most of the drought areas are in East Texas, the Panhandle and Far West Texas.

ALLIGATOR SNAPPING TURTLE GOING ON ENDANGERED LIST

The alligator snapping turtle, which is North America's largest freshwater turtle species, is slated to be listed as an endangered species by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, pending public comment due by Jan. 10. The turtle, a popular target of poachers in Texas and other

states, can weigh more than 200 pounds.

In recent months, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and other agencies and institutions teamed up to repatriate a couple dozen confiscated alligator snapping turtles to their native Texas rivers. While all states ban commercial harvest of the turtle, recreational harvest is allowed on a limited basis in Louisiana and Mississippi.

The Texas comptroller's office has contracted with the Environmental Institute at the University of Houston—Clear Lake to develop long-term monitoring procedures in an effort to develop more effective conservation measures.

VAST MAJORITY OF COVID-19 DEATHS AMONG UNVACCINATED

A study by the Texas Department of State Health Services during the Delta variant outbreak of COVID-19 indicates unvaccinated Texans were 20 times more likely to die from the virus than those who had received one of the vaccines. From the report: All authorized COVID-19 vaccines in the United States are highly effective at protecting people from getting sick or severely ill with COVID-19, including those infected with Delta and other known variants. Real world data from Texas clearly shows these benefits.

Meanwhile, the total number of new cases of COVID-19 in Texas in the past week rose slightly to 23,350, as did new deaths at 846, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. Since the pandemic began, 4.28 million Texans have been diagnosed with the virus — 14.6% of the state's entire population. COVID-19 has taken the lives of 72,760 Texans, roughly equivalent to the entire population of Harlingen.

The good news is that at least for now, the number of hospitalized, lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients continues to drop, with 2,736 reported by DSHS as of Sunday. That is down 75% from mid-August levels.

DSHS also reports the number of Texans who are fully vaccinated continues to inch upward, with 15.67 million reported, a number that now includes children ages 5-11 who are now eligible for the vaccine.



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THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

What Thanksgiving Looks Like

My mother sent a photo of a huge female turkey sitting on her bird feeder.

The giant, ungainly creature looked ridiculous, perched on the little wooden roof of a feeder intended for chickadees and nuthatches.

"She has been hanging around for two days now," my mother wrote. "Maybe our Thanksgiving dinner?"

Even before my mother sent this, I was thinking Thanksgiving looked a little strange this year.

I've heard the complaints, year after year, about how we're rushing the season, how we want to get through Halloween and Thanksgiving before we start thinking about Christmas. We don't want turkeys dressed in Santa hats or a Christmas tree surrounded by pumpkins. Being something of a purist, I usually agreed.

But this year, I say: Bring it on.

Of course, I don't work in a retail store. If I did, I might feel differently about having three holidays stacked up on top of one another, a cacophony of holiday carols blaring over displays of gourds and discounted black cat sunglasses.

But I don't work in a retail store. Instead, I wander around the neighborhood and see what folks have set up in their yards and sometimes get a glimpse of how they've decorated the insides of their houses. (Looking through windows while walking down the sidewalk does not count as spying!) And this year, the early appearance of pine trees covered in lights, red bows around planters, and sparkly wreaths hanging from doors is making me happy.

We missed the whole holiday season last year, after all.

Everyone did the best they could, but most gatherings were small or nonexistent. My parents spent the holidays alone. My husband, Peter, and I spent Thanksgiving with his very sick sister, Lori, and her husband.

I will always be grateful we had that time together and that we were able to share a small meal. I knew, even at the time, that it would be Lori's last Thanksgiving. I knew the pandemic would eventually come to an end and that I would always remember that holiday season for being a different kind of year, a special and quiet year. But it did not feel much like the holidays, and I don't think I'm the only one who felt that way.

So, this year, if someone is going mad with tinsel and twinkle lights a little ahead of schedule, I am not going to criticize.

I will be celebrating Thanksgiving up north with my parents. Peter, and I have rented a little cabin about a mile away, so we won't be piled directly on top of my sister and her family. It will be a smaller gathering than some in the past, but I know it will be special because this year, more than most, we have a lot to be thankful for.

I'm grateful that we have enough—and that we know it. I'm grateful for the opportunity to learn every day, to find things to laugh about with Peter and to share my experiences with you.

But most of all, I'm grateful I made it through this last, very different year.

I now have a chance to take a fresh look at the things I hadn't looked at closely in a long time, things I had taken for granted. Thanksgiving is not going to look the same this year because Thanksgiving, like me, is going to have to change.

I think the turkey on the birdfeeder is safe. In fact, we may put some food out and invite her to be our guest.

That's what Thanksgiving looks like this year.

Till next time,
Carrie

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

Holiday Season's Greetings



You are Invited to
Carter-Conley Funeral Home's
Annual Candlelight Remembrance Service

Carter-Conley Funeral Home cordially invites the families we have served, as well as the general public, to begin the Christmas holidays with a time of remembrance during our Annual Candlelight Remembrance Service.


Sunday Afternoon
December 5, 2021 at 3:00 P.M.
At Carter-Conley Funeral Home, 13701 Corpus Christi Street

If you have lost a loved one and find the holidays to be a difficult time, please join us for some words of encouragement, followed by a candle lighting ceremony in memory of your loved one. This years' service will be LIVE STREAMED so you may join us virtually in the safety of your home. Visit our website or our Facebook to obtain access.

Our Christmas Remembrance Tree will be in our lobby from
November 27, 2021 thru January 3, 2022

We invite you to stop in and personalize an ornament with the name of your deceased loved one, which will be yours to keep following the holidays.

It is our hope to make this time a little more bearable as we remember those we have lost, during this especially difficult year.

For additional information, please call us at (713) 455-5100 or visit www.CarterConleyFH.com

Sincerely, Carter-Conley Funeral Home staff



CARTER ☆ CONLEY
FUNERAL HOME
13701 Corpus Christi St., Houston, TX 77015
Phone (713) 455-5100
www.CarterConleyFH.com
2022 Calendars Now Available





The Grand Sale

A Year's Collection of treasures for your shopping pleasure at bargain prices!

Thursday, Friday, Saturday
December 2, 3, 4

POP-UP
New & Gently Used
SHOP
Something Old, Something New

Something Old, Something New

Toys, Jewelry, Collectibles, Designer, Memorabilia, Clothing & Shoes, Sports, Home Décor, Antiques, Name Brands, You Name It!

American Legion Hall
14890 FM 2100 Crosby, TX

Thurs, Dec 2	Preview Sale \$10.00 admission	4-8 pm
Fri, Dec 3	FREE ADMISSION	2-8 pm
American Legion has dinner for purchase!		
Sat, Dec. 4	FINAL DAY-- FREE ADMISSION	9 am - 4 pm

Churches United in Caring (CUIC) Non-profit
Boutique is to increase funds to continue to provide assistance to needs of our community (Crosby, Huffman, Barrett)—food, clothing, school supplies, bill assistance, Christmas, aid for the homeless, & more.

Monetary donations welcome
P. O. Box 640, Crosby, TX 77532



JOIN US FOR OUR
Christmas Party
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11TH 2-5 PM

THE LODGE AT
PINE CREEK
BY ABBY SENIOR LIVING

Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree Party

Join us on **Saturday, December 11th from 2pm-5pm** as we kick Christmas into high gear! We'll have a live band playing all of your cherished Christmas songs as well as plenty of eggnog and Christmas foods. Everyone is welcome to come and experience what The Lodge at Pine Creek has to offer!

Everyone is welcome to add an ornament to our keepsake tree for all to enjoy throughout the month.

Rsvp Appreciated CALL 832.572.5592 LODGEATPINECREEK.COM

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OBITUARIES

NORMA JEAN DELLIGATTI

Norma Jean Delligatti passed away November 13, 2021. The family will be having a memorial service on November 27 at 2PM to 4PM at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church at 24915 FM-2100 Rd. Huffman, Tx 77336.

Norma is survived by her daughter Dawn Kelley and son in law Stephen Kelley. She also leaves behind 2 granddaughters, Madison Kelley and Meagan Kelley, as well as her sister



Priscilla Harris, brother, Joe Harris and sister in law Gail Harris. Norma has several nieces and nephews as well.

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LETTERS
To The Editor

Too Hot to Work

RE: Letter to the Editor: Too Hot to Work: Congressional District Fact Sheets Show What's at Stake for Outdoor Workers

As Houston Climate Week opens this week in Houston, it is imperative that we continue to hear and to see action from city council members, mayors, and other legislatures regarding our environment and the impacts of pollution on our communities.

The five surrounding counties of Harris all experience persistent flooding, ever-growing tides and coastal erosion. Our communities are also burdened by polluted air and watersheds.

The most expensive thing we can do in the face of pollution is to do nothing regarding the quality lives for our children and grandchildren. Our elected representatives work for us. They must be ready to address the pollution in our community and should be poised to take the swift and strong action we so urgently need to avoid the worst impacts of this pollution. We also must hold state agencies accountable for not following through on fines and fees for polluting our air, water, and land.

I hope to see all of the candidates in all local city councils speak up on climate change in every chance they can for the future of Texas, our children, and our grandchildren.

As an engaged voter, it is crucial to see what science-based solutions our potential leaders, no matter the party, have to tackle this issue on behalf of Texas communities.

Sincerely,
Rev. James L Caldwell
Founder/ Director Coalition of Community Organizations
URL:

COVID-19 Booster shots available to all 18 and up from Harris County Health

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR THOSE 18 AND UP JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

HARRIS COUNTY – Beginning Saturday, November 20th, the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 booster vaccines will be available for all individuals 18 years and older, with or without pre-existing conditions, at Harris County Public Health (HCPH) vaccination sites.

This announcement comes following Friday's approval of the expanded booster dose eligibility from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS). We encourage all residents to get their booster dose before the upcoming holidays as more people begin to travel and gather with friends and family.

Residents who completed their two-dose mRNA vaccine series (Pfizer or

Moderna) at least six months ago and anyone who received the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine at least two months ago are encouraged to get their booster dose.

All COVID-19 vaccines provide strong protection for most people. A booster vaccine is an additional dose given after the protection provided by the original series has begun to decrease over time. The booster helps certain groups of people maintain their level of immunity longer.

COVID-19 vaccinations are free at all HCPH designated sites and appointments are not required, although recommended. Go to vacstrac.hctx.net or call 832-927-8787 for scheduling. To find a location near you click here. If you are receiving your booster dose, please remember to bring your COVID-19 vaccination card with you.

Kelsey-Seybold Joins Dynamic Community, Opens Doors to New North Channel Clinic

On Aug. 23, Kelsey-Seybold celebrated the much-anticipated opening of its North Channel Clinic. Patients living nearby and residents in and around the North Channel area now have a convenient location close to home and work. The new 7,500-square-foot clinic is located at 5820 E. Sam Houston Parkway North in The Shops at Stone Park. Ample parking is available in front of the clinic.



Clinic Administrators Jackie Baker and Alvin Payne welcomed patients to the bright, modern clinic.



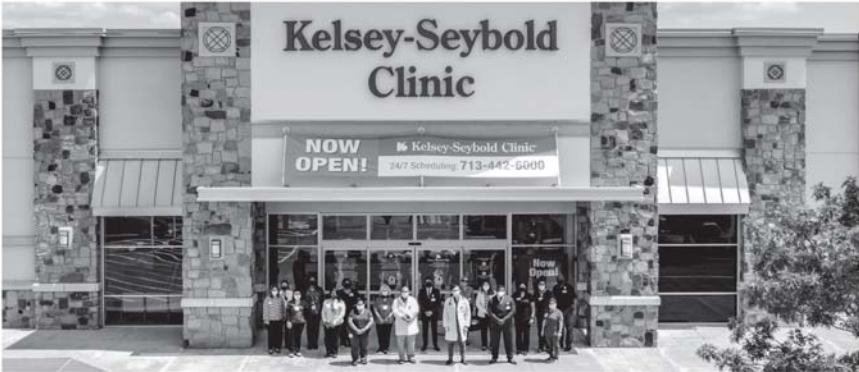
Ambulatory Services Representatives Daniella Jackson (left) and Amanda Stringer checked patients in for their appointments on opening day.



New Kelsey-Seybold Physician John Ruelas, M.D., Family Medicine, saw patients on opening day and said they all were excited to have a new clinic so close to home.



Adam Mitchell, M.D., Managing Physician at North Channel clinic, has been with Kelsey-Seybold for 13 years and is delighted to welcome new and current patients to the newly opened clinic.



Clinic staff and providers commemorated opening day at North Channel Clinic with a group photo. Left to right: Jackie Baker, Clinic Administrator, Amanda Stringer, Ambulatory Services Representative, Febe Campuzano, C.M.A., Blanca Joseph, Nursing Supervisor, Daniella Jackson, Ambulatory Services Representative, Fallon Wiggins, Nurse Supervisor II, Emma Escamilla, R.M.A., Terri Harwell, L.V.N., Adam Mitchell, M.D., Managing Physician, John Ruelas, M.D., Family Medicine, Cecilia Fowler, Senior Director, Ambulatory Clinics, Blanca Gutierrez, Director, Radiographic and Mammographic Imaging, Alvin Payne, Clinic Administrator, Summer Creek, Denice Gomez, Radiology Technician, Reeshemah White, Patient Service Technician II, Christopher Newton, Supervisor, Patient Service Center, and Nancy Muldowney, Radiology Supervisor.

Kelsey-Seybold Clinic
Changing the way health cares.

North Channel Clinic:
5820 E. Sam Houston Parkway North, Houston, Texas 77049
713-442-6000 • kelsey-seybold.com/NorthChannel

Texas RenFest closes with Celtic Christmas

Father and Mother Christmas welcome all to the festival's final three-day event

WHAT:
Ho, ho, ho! The 47th annual Texas Renaissance Festival season concludes with a three-day Celtic Christmas celebration this Friday, Nov. 26 – Sunday, Nov. 28 from 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Father Christmas, Mother Christmas, and all the Christmas elves welcome adults and children of all ages for the festival's final celebration of the coming Yuletide season. Celtic Christmas transforms the kingdom into a winter wonderland, filling the lanes with holiday music and cheer. Festivalgoers may even find the perfect holiday gifts in one of the kingdom's 400+ shoppes!

Don't miss out on the joy of Father Christmas as he visits from the North Pole to listen to final holiday wishes! Children of all ages are invited to sit on Father Christmas' lap, or on a bench near him. He will be available near the festival entrance throughout each day of the kingdom's final three-day event.

Experience the magic of the festival's interactive experiences and attractions before the Kingdom gates close, including a holiday costume contest and pumpkin pie eating contest to add to the season's Christmas cheer. Attendees can cozy up at Wyrnwood Public House for the final parade viewing soiree or warm their holiday spirit at Odin's table for a unique Texas wine tasting.

Ticket sales to the 2021 Texas Renaissance Festival are date specific and can be purchased on the website. Thanksgiving Friday, Nov. 26, tickets cost \$20 for adults over the age of 13 and \$27 for adults Saturday, Nov. 27 and Sunday, Nov. 28. General admission tickets purchased at the gate will cost \$25 for adults on Friday and \$32 for adults on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets for children ages 12 and under are half-price on Friday and Saturday and free on Sunday.

For more information regarding the festival's daily enchantment, please visit www.texrenfest.com.
Hip, hip, huzzah!

The Texas Renaissance Festival is the nation's largest Renaissance event. Each year over 450,000 patrons enter through the gates of the festival into a 16th Century European Village where performers immerse you in the enchantment of the village that feature 21 stages of music and stage acts, 400 shoppes, artisans, and a world tour for the taste buds that of course include turkey legs!

The Texas Renaissance Festival is located one hour north of Houston. 2021 TRF season dates are Saturdays and Sundays, Oct. 9 – Nov. 28, including Thanksgiving Friday.

WHEN:
Thanksgiving Friday, Nov. 26 – Sunday, Nov. 28 | 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.

WHERE:
Texas Renaissance Festival
21778 Farm to Market 1774
Todd Mission, TX 77363

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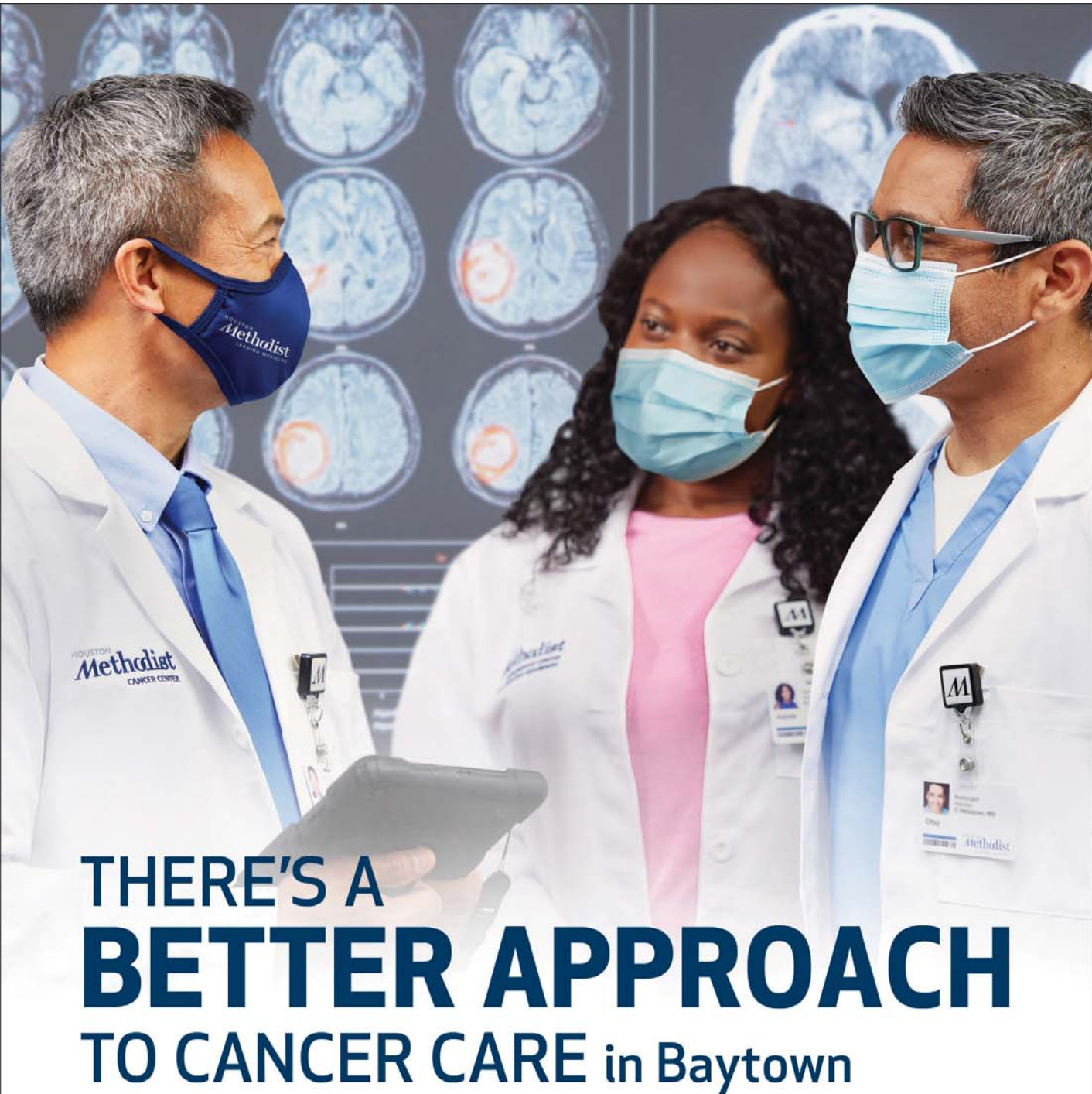
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At Houston Methodist Cancer Center, we treat every aspect of your cancer. Leading oncologists work with our specialists across disciplines to minimize cancer's effects on major organs. One comprehensive team — dedicated to your individual care — uses the latest research, treatments and technology to stop your cancer. From infusion and clinical trials to surgery and reconstruction, our innovative care is available in Baytown.

That's the difference between practicing medicine and leading it.



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CANCER CENTER

281.428.2273
houstonmethodist.org/cancer-baytown



NS Mustangs 41-13 win over Clear Springs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

capping the game's score 41-13.

North Shore's offense rolled over the Chargers defense with both passes and runs, racking up 483 yards. Their passing game accounted for 56 percent of their total yds. and making one of their 5 TD's. The 212 rushing yds. is beginning to show a balanced offense with 44 percent of the offensive yds.

TD's were made by Xavier Owen- 2 TD, Treyventa Hilliard-1 TD, David Amador-1 TD reception & Christopher Barnes 1-TD. Carlos Dominguez & Andres Montes-Zamora kicked extra points. Jayven Anderson defensive back intercepted a Charger pass.

After their powerful and experienced offensive unit graduated last year some predicted the Mustangs wouldn't reach the playoffs this season... they haven't missed the playoffs in 28 years. Last season they failed to reach the state championship losing to Austin's Lake Travis.



Mustang senior running back Treyventa Hilliard runs for a TD. Allan Jamail photo

It's shaping up into a similar season this year, who's going to stop them except maybe Austin's Lake Travis again. And they're being predicted to win back to back state championships. To reach the state finals North Shore needs to continue to improve both on passing and pass defense.



SEE ARROW: Junior receiver David Amador catches a Mustang TD pass from QB Kaleb Bailey. Allan Jamail photo

Coach Kay inherited a good football program 7 years ago in 2014 from retiring Coach David Aymond. The next year in 2015 he got North Shore's first state title and has continually improved the program wining 3 state titles in 2015, 2018 and 2019, the most successful Houston-area football pro-

gram in the last decade. North Shore improved its record to 11-1 and will host the Katy Tompkins Falcons with the same 11-1 record. Kickoff is at 1pm, November 26th at GPISD Stadium (353 N Castlegory Rd.) Houston, TX 77049) Statistician Linda Jamail, Allanj211@aol.com.

ASK DIAMOND JIM

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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.

She never asks for anything for herself



This holiday, thank her in a special way for always putting everyone else first.



SanJac Generation Park,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Generation Park campus to life for the Lake Houston community,” said Ryan McCord, president of McCord Development. “San Jacinto College's strategic workforce programs will be influential in our efforts to attract BioMed and other life sciences manufacturing and development to Generation Park and the greater Houston area.”

The Generation Park grand opening is the fifth and final grand opening that San Jac celebrated this fall as a result \$425 million bond referendum

approved in 2015. In this bond, voters allowed San Jac to build new facilities, update infrastructure and security and remodel nine buildings that are at least 30 years old.

Land for Generation Park was purchased in 2015, and the college spent the next three years planning how the space would best be used. In September 2018, the Board of Trustees approved the development and the groundbreaking occurred in April 2019.

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CHARLOTTE'S WEB

By Charlotte Jackson



Give Hope, Show Kindness

Houston and our surrounding area is known for many things. Perhaps the qualities of our hearts are even more impressive than the size of the Texas Medical Center or our sporting venues. In spite of what others see as tragedies, we rise up and see opportunities to make a difference.

Several years ago, I knew a young man who had spent most of his life with not only his father incarcerated but feeling like he just did not fit in anywhere. His mother was forced to retire from her job with a local retail giant because she was having to adjust to a life with a young son who was diagnosed with Autism and other challenges. Between Tropical Storm Allison, Hurricane Ike, Hurricane Harvey and several other challenges, the mother was forced to relocate multiple times and it had an effect on her oldest son.

When she finally landed on her feet, she tried unsuccessfully to keep her older son in the same school district as before, yet there were many obstacles. Suddenly, she found the need to enroll her son in Furr High School

After a few weeks, her son was ready to drop out of school. He just was not adjusting well. When she told me about the situation, I knew I had to reach out to Dr Bertie Simmons, Principal of Furr High School. Within a few hours she had responded to my email and asked for me to tell the young teenager to be in her office the next morning. She spent time with him getting to know him. She listened, she hugged and she put him on the right track.



In November, 2019 when her book “Whispers of Hope, The Story of My Life” was launched at the Houston Museum of African American Culture, the building was full of former colleague, students and community leaders. When I approached the book-signing table and she asked who she should mention in her note at the front of the book, I gave her his first name. With a huge smile on her face and gleam of hope in her eyes, she said “I remember his vividly. The world wanted to forget about him yet he was a fascinating young man.”

This is the type of leader Dr Simmons was. She never met a stranger and she loved life. She loved to make everyone feel important. When news spread last week of her death, leaders from every walk of life had something positive to say about her. I would like to encourage you to jump on Facebook on Sunday and watch the streaming of her Celebration of Life. The live streaming will begin at 2:30 p.m.

As you are thinking about holiday gifts, visit www.BertieSimmons.com and purchase a copy of her book to bless someone with or consider making a contribution to the Ashley Fendley Foundation. At the very least, as we move into the season of “praising and grazing” give hope, show kindness and remember everyone matters.