NORTH CHANNEL & STAR

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Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Cloverleaf, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City VOLUME 9, NO. 47 (#398) THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2021 www.northchannelstar.com

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.

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

Parades, Santa, Toy Drives: Holiday Season underway

By Charlotte Jackson

Mark these on your calendar. The first Saturday of December is the Annual Channelview Fire Department Toy Drive. With the help of Channelview Ministry Team as well as local businesses, the event is held at the Panera Bread on Wallisville at Sam Houston Parkway. From $10-1\ p.m.,\ community$ choirs will be singing, volunteers will be collecting new toys and gifts. Hugs are matched in number



The 6th Annual Community Toy Drive will be held on Saturday, with the collection point being the parking lot between Panera and WalMart. The drive is held by the Channelview fire department, with the help of volunteers from the Channelview Ministry Team and students from nearby schools. Sponsors include Arkema Caterpillar, Solar Turbines, Lyondellbasell, and others. The toys will be distributed by the Ministry Team to about 200 needy families

parade, be sure to join the fun in Cloverleaf on Thursday, December 16 as well as on Friday, December 17 in Channelview. If you want to have more fun, go east to Barrett Station for the Annual Parade on Saturday, December 18.

For those who want to see the gift of love in action, you can see a single parent who is without transportation receive a refurbished vehicle, filled with gifts, on Thursday, December 16. Bates Cus-

al event. Leading up to this day, community members have opportunities to donate items for the family

I would be amiss if I failed to mention that not only does the North Channel Area Chamber host an Annual Open House, but so do the local School Districts. Look around social media or google the events. If you want to know more, conme tact <u>Charlotte.Jackson</u> @yahoo.com.

Mustangs hold on over Katy Falcons 26-20

Advance to Quarterfinals Friday night vs. Atascocita

By Allan Jamail

North Shore Nov. 27, 2021 the East Side Boys played one of their hardest fought games of the season squeaking by Katy Tompkins Falcons 26-20 in a down to the wire thriller.

What began as a typical North Shore (NS) cake-walk running up a high score on their opponent ended up being a fierce battle just to escape a season ending defeat. $Thousands\ of\ fans\ of\ both$ teams stood yelling their team on the entire fourth quarter until game's end.

Coach Jon Kay's East Side Boys were scoreless in the first quarter due to $% \left\{ 1,2,\ldots ,n\right\}$ penalties and turnovers. In the second quarter his offense settled down and made three touchdowns (TD's). The battle hardened stingy defense shutout the Falcons the first half with a score of 20-0. But in the second half the $\,$ playing changed, Katy found a weak spot in their defense.

After halftime what looked like two different teams than of the first half it was mostly all Falcons on offense. Katy



The Bailey Brothers Duo, #12 Mustang Jhalyn Bailey lands on his back catching brother Kaleb's TD pass. Photo by

passing and pass interference penalties against NS to get back in the game. If their game's passing had been more accurate they would have wrecked havoc and probably advanced into the playoffs. They outscored NS 20-6 in the final two quarters. NS had a lone but important second half, third quarter game

winning Mustang TD. Both teams had 17 first downs; total yds.

found out they could use had twice as many penalties for four times the penalty yards, 6-63/3-15. NS's penalties and turnovers (3) kept Katy's offense on the $\bar{\rm field}$ keeping the game close.

Freshman quarterback Kaleb Bailey threw for all four of NS's TD's, which is a significant improvement than in previous games, making him more versatile. The offense made 335 yds, Carlos Dominguez kicked 2 extra points and had 2 kicks



Defensive pass interception by Mustang #10 Kent Battle stopped Falcons offense momentum. Photo by Allan Jamail

Kaleb Bailey 8-12, 109 yds, 4 TDs. & Wyndell Mitchell 2-2-0, 12 yds.

NS leading receivers & scorers: Jhalyn Bailey 3-54, 2 TDs, David Amador 3-41, 1 TD, Xavier Owens 2-12, Nessiah Dunham 1- $5, 1\,\mathrm{TD}; 121\,\mathrm{total}\;\mathrm{passing}$

NS leading rushers: Kaleb Bailey 12-103, Xavier Owens 13-53, Rashaad Johnson 5-34, Evan Jackson 1-20; 214

total rushing yds.

NS Leading passers: #2-Caleb Flagg, #7-Jayven Anderson, #16-Aubrey Broussard, #84-Joseph Richard.

North Shore takes on the Atascocita Eagles, in the 6A Div 1 Region 3 Quarterfinals Playoff. Friday, Dec. 3, 2021, 7:00 PM at Pasadena Memorial Veterans Stadium, located at 2906 Dabney, Pasadena 77502.

Statistician & photographer Linda Jamail, allanj211@aol.com. More Photos. See Mustangs, Page 3

GP/JC Rotary helps prepare Thanksgiving Turkeys



Rotary Club of Galena Park/Jacinto City Texas Elleen Brightwell - November 17 at 11:18 AM - 3

Great in-person service project helping pack Thanksgiving boxes with the Galena Park Community Assistance Program. Maria Cortez-Ochoa and 12 others.

NS Lady Mustangs College Scholarship Signing Day



D'Auna Jenkins, Lady Mustang's centerfielder gets Duke University scholarship. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

By Allan Jamail

GPISD North Shore High School – November 10, 2021 family, fans, faculty and students lined the gyms bleachers to witness college scholarship acknowledgement of softball players Emily Garcia and D'Auna Jenkins. Garcia a pitcher will be heading to San Jacinto College to join the Covotes who are one of the premiere teams in the

D'Auna Jenkins said. "I am so thankful to be Continued. See Softball Signings, Page 4



Emily Garcia, Lady Mustang's pitcher gets a San Jacinto College scholarship. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

in this position today, this ride has been insane. I want to give a huge thank you to my family, friends and all of my supporters. To my high school coaches, thank you for pushing me to be the best version of myself and being the best leader I can be. To my amazing mother thank you for the countless sacrifices, this couldn't have been able to happen without you. Coach Ray, I love you more than words can ever say. You have molded me into nation and the Region XIV Champs. And D'Auna
Jenkins will be headed to Duke University Blue

a fearless, determined, strong minded athlete. You
allowed me to believe in myself when I felt every a fearless, determined, strong minded athlete. You Devils who just won their first ACC title in team one was against me. I can't wait to experience an-

★ OPINION PAGE ★

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders



Samsung taps Taylor for new semiconductor plant

Electronic giant Samsung announced last week that it will build a new semiconductor manufacturing facility in the Central Texas town of Taylor, about 40 miles northeast of Austin. The \$17 billion investment will be the largest foreign direct investment in Texas to date and brings the company's total investment in the state to \$35 billion

Samsung already operates a facility in Austin, its lone U.S. manufacturing plant. The deal was helped along with a \$27 million Texas Enterprise Fund grant, according to Gov. Greg Abbott's office. In addition, city, county and school district officials put together incentive packages worth of hundreds of millions of dollars, according to the Austin American-Statesman.

The project will create more than 2,000 high-tech jobs, thousands of indirect jobs and at least 6,500 construction jobs. Construction is slated to begin early next year with a target completion date in the second half of 2024.

"Samsung Austin Semiconductor has been proud to call Texas home for more than 25 years," said Dr. Sang Sup Jeong, president of Samsung Austin Semiconductor. "We are excited about our growth and future opportunities in Central Texas and appreciate the support from all Central Texas leaders."

WINTER STORM URI'S IMPACT ON PINE TREES STUDIED

The damage caused by Winter Storm Uri to the state's trees is still being assessed. While many hard-



woods whose crowns turned brown after several days of bitter cold have recovered, pine trees in East Texas are now suffering from an invasion of beetles. The beetles attack both stressed and healthy pine trees, but can only successfully invade severely stressed pine trees, such as those recovering from Uri.

"Looking back at the past nine months, the fact that these beetles are now taking center stage in the decline and death of our pine trees is inevitable," said Allen Smith of the forest service. "Uri was a major stressor of trees, and the following extended droughty conditions throughout the pine regions of East Texas added additional stress."

Standing beetle-killed trees should be removed and burned or otherwise disposed of to stop the emergence of beetles. Smith said the best-case scenario for pine trees is for a wet winter in East Texas so that trees have ample soil moisture when they start growing again in the spring.

STATE TO GET \$408 MILLION FOR CHARGING STATIONS

Texas is slated to receive \$408 million for electric car charging stations under the recently passed federal infrastructure plan and could apply for additional grants, according to The Dallas Morning News. The money comes under a Biden administration plan to shift half of passenger vehicle sales in the U.S. to electric vehicles by 2030.

The state needs more than 14,000 charging stations to support the number of electric vehicles projected to be traveling on Texas roadways by 2030, according to a 2018 report from Environment Texas. The state had just over 52,000 registered electric vehicles as of last June, according to the Morning News story.

COVID-19 CASES DROP, AS DO DEATHS

While new cases of COV-ID-19 are spiking again in the Upper Midwest and Northeast, the number in Texas dropped during the past week to 14,745 — down 36% from the previous week. The number of new deaths reported in Texas by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University in the past week totaled 254, down 57% from the previous week.

However, the number of hospitalizations of lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients in the state was virtually unchanged at 2,681, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services.

The number of Texas who are fully vaccinated contin-



ues to inch upward, with 15.838 million reported by DSHS as of Sunday. That is 54.3% of the state's total population.

Still, while noting hospitalizations are at their lowest levels in many months, officials are still cautious. "We're certainly in a better place right now than we have been in quite a while," Chris Van Deusen, spokesperson for the Texas Department of State Health Services, told the Texas Tribune. "But we are sort of starting to see things change again. And you know, if there's one thing we know about this pandemic, it's that it's going to keep changing."

Meanwhile, another variant of COVID-19 named "Omicron" has been discovered in South Africa and several other countries. Experts are concerned that the new variant may spread more aggressively than previous versions and could prove to be resistant to current vaccines.

EXPERTS URGE TEXANS TO GET FLU SHOTS

A resurgence of influenza this winter is overdue, and Texans are urged to get vaccinated.

"Flu is overdue right now," Dr. Donald Murphey, an Austin pediatric infectious disease specialist and chair of the Texas Medical Association Council on Science and Public Health, told the Texas Newsroom.

"We should be concerned about flu returning. Flu is here every year consistently and last year, with mitigation for COVID, we didn't have a flu season at all," he said.

Murphey added that this year's flu season could be

even worse as the decline in COVID-19 cases leads to an increase in public gatherings with fewer people wearing masks. The Texas Medical Association encourages flu shots for everyone 6 months of age and older. TMA says Texans can safely get vaccinated for the flu and COVID-19 at the same time.



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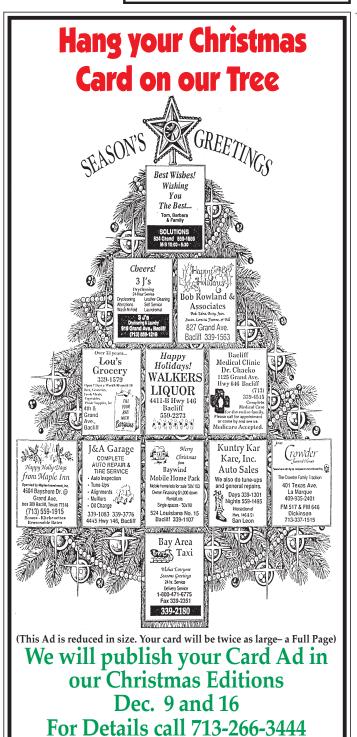
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SHELDON ISD

Panther band wins third overall

The King High School Panther band attended the Gulf Coast Marching Championships on October 30 at Mc-Neese State University. The Panther marching band placed second in their division and third overall of 19 bands that competed. This is the team's final contest for



From L-R: Amber Marquez (Drum Major), Joella Joseph (Colorguard Captain), Jerson Lopez (Head Drum Major), Melany Hernandez (Colorguard Senior Member), Alejandra Gonzalez

Null Middle School students set record

Over the weekend. two Null Middle School Stallion band members auditioned for the Region Band along with 200 students in the area. Eighth grader Gabriel Harris came in third out of 24 tubas and will perform in the symphonic band. Kadyn Henry, 7th grader came in fourth out of 24 tubas and will perform as first chair in the con-



cert band. The concert will be held Saturday, November 6 at Galena Park High School with all of the other students who earned a spot in the regional bands. It has been more than five years since Null Middle School has been represented in the Region Band.

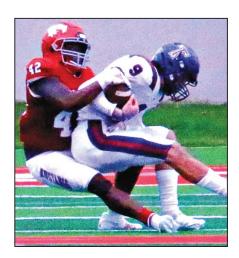
Mustangs hold on over Katy Falcons 26-20



See Story on Page 1

LEFT: Mustang's #8 David Amador crosses the goal on a pass catch from Kaleb Bailey. Photo by

RIGHT: Defense touchdown saving tackle by #42 PJ Douglas on Falcon QB Cole Francis inside the Mustangs 20 yd. line. Photo by Allan



SPOTLIGHTS













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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.







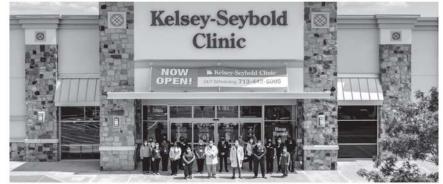
es Daniella Jackson (left) and Amanda



New Kelsey-Seybold Physician John Ruelas, M.D., Family Medicine, saw



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



y Services Representative, Febe Campuzano, C.M.A. I, Bianca Joseph, Nursing sor II, Emma Escamilla, R.M.A. II, Terri Harwell, L.V.N., Adam Mitchell, M.D., I

Kelsey-Seybold Clinic

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North Channel Clinic:

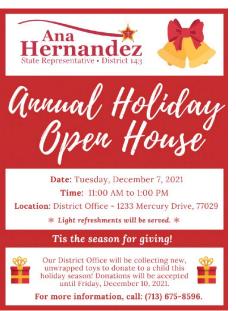
5820 E. Sam Houston Parkway North, Houston, Texas 77049 713-442-6000 • Kelsey-seybold.com/NorthChannel

GPISD Board recognizes Bryce Thamm from NS Elementary



Bryce was selected to participate in the 2021 Lone Star Leadership Academy Camp with other distinguished students from across the state. The students had an opportunity to learn about the great State of Texas by visiting numerous historical sites and venues throughout the state. During the week-long camp, they participated in leadership groups and activities to complete problem-solving simulations and learn the importance of resourceful, creative and diolomatic teamwork.

A certificate and medal were presented to Bryce Thammon behalf of the Board of Trustees and Dr. John Moore, Superintendent of Schools.





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Softball Signings,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

other four years of softball at my future home. GO BLUE DEVILS BABY!" $\,$

Emily Garcia said, "First I would like to thank every one for coming out today. I would like to thank God for giving me this opportunity to play the sport I love and for letting me continue my education and softball career at San Jac. Softball has never really been a straight line. I've had a lot of ups and downs. At times, I felt there were definitely more lows than high but I never gave up. Instead I used it to keep pushing and get better. I also want to give a big thanks to all my coaches, friends, family and teachers for pushing me and wanting the best for me. To Coach McKay, Coach Colbert and coach Nava thank you for always believing and trusting in me. I appreciate all of your guidance and support. I also want to thank my parents for giving me everything I've ever needed to be the best version of myself. Without my parents I don't know where I would be today, from taking me to all my lessons to never missing any games. My parents made it possible for me to play the game that has my heart. Softball has also given me the opportunity to make some great friendships that I will cherish forever. And with that being said I am excited to be a Coyote!!"

Lady Mustangs head coach Sydney McKay is a Houston native, born and raised in Pearland. At Pearland high school she had a 4-year letter. Later playing at University of Louisiana Monroe, she earned all-conference and all-region honors and currently holds the all-time hit record at ULM. In her first year she guided the team to the playoffs and next season she'll have most all players returning including 6 seniors.

McKay said, "D'Auna is a great student and athlete who has all the tools to play at the next level and will be successful on and off the field! Her work ethic on the field and in the classroom is unmatched and it shows in her play. Duke is lucky to be getting her. Emily is a dual threat in the circle and at the plate. She gets it done in the classroom and on the field. I am very excited for her future as a Coyote. San Jac got a good one"!



Feel the Love

This week as I turned the page on the calendar to see that we have survived one of the roughest years in modern history, it was enough to make me want to jump and shout. Knowing that December brings a season of grazing and praising, the sight of seeing the word "December" had me smiling from ear to ear.

Instantly I saw dates on the calendar that jump out to me. Christmas Day. My oldest son's birthday. My first granddaughter's birthday. My grandson's birthday is December 6, and that day is I with emotions. It is the birthday of one of my classmates who even if I do not see often enough, I know that when I do, it is a reunion filled with love and laughter. It is a day recognized by family and friends who have lost a loved one too soon. I learned about this from Charles and Velma Chesnutt.

If you have been in the North Shore area any length of time, there is a great chance your life has been touched by them. Mr. Chesnutt began a career with Galena Park ISD in 1959. Several years later, Mrs. Chesnutt began her career with the district as well. In 1978, their pride and joy, Amy Corrine Chesnutt was born. Sadly, in June 2000, Amy died in a vehicular accident. On that day, Charles and Velma joined a group that no parent wants to belong to. In the months ahead, they joined together with several other couples in the area to form Hearts of Parents Endure (HOPE). Each year on December 6, there are candlelight remembrance services hosted around the world. The one held in Houston is at San Jacinto College North every year at 7 p.m. This is an event that has a beautiful story filled with love. Come out and meet the HOPE families as well as friends who have so much to share.

There are other dates that are important in our community where love is felt, and you want to mark these on your calendar. The first Saturday of December is the Annual Channelview Fire Department Toy Drive. With the help of Channelview Ministry Team as well as well as local businesses, the event is held at the Panera Bread on Wallisville at Sam Houston Parkway. From 10-1 p.m., community choirs will be singing, volunteers will be collecting new toys and gifts. Hugs are matched in number with smiles.

If you are looking for a parade, be sure to join the fun in Cloverleaf on Thursday, December 16 as well as on Friday, December 17 in Channelview. If you want to have more fun, go east to Barrett Station for the Annual Parade on Saturday, December 18

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ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim: "What is Moissanite and what makes it different from Diamond?"

Moissanite, also known as silicon carbide, is a gemstone unlike any other. With more brilliance and fire than diamond, this stone has been a source of intense interest ever since its discovery more than a century ago. Moissanite dances with sparkles of light that draw the eye and delight the senses. Its unique internal beauty lends a captivating allure to jewelry, making a magnificent statement at a fraction of the cost of other gemstones. But only you know what you paid envious passers-by see only a grand statement of opulence.

Today's alluring Moissanite gemstones are the end result of a 110 year old geological discovery. Moissanite was first discovered in 1893 by the Nobel Prize-winning French chemist Dr. Henri Moissan at the site of a massive meteorite strike in Arizona. The tiny particles he unearthed were initially mistaken for diamond due to their hardness and brilliant reflectiveness, but after painstaking testing, were identified as naturally-occurring silicon carbide. This intriguing new stone was named Moissanite in his honor, and Moissan spent the rest of his life attempting to re-create this exceptional mineral, which is among the hardest materials on Earth.

Moissanite vs Diamonds

The resulting gemstones exhibit more brilliance than diamond, and are more durable than ruby, emerald, and sapphire. With a refractive index of 2.65-2.69, Moissanite is truly the World's Most Brilliant Gem®. And thanks to a dispersion level that produces 2.4 times the fire of diamond, Moissanite bends light into mesmerizing rainbow flashes of fire. By day and by night, Moissanite's conspicuous brilliance is greatered.

The unrivaled fire and brilliance of Moissanite is guaranteed to last forever. The sparkle that makes this gemstone so beloved will never fade or dull, and is protected by a limited lifetime warranty from Charles & Colvard. Due to a hardness that is second only to that of diamond, Moissanite is highly unlikely to ever break, scratch or chip. And unlike diamonds, Moissanite stones are conflict-free and sustainable, grown as they are in a lab rather than mined from the earth



Natural Moissanite is incredibly rare on Earth; in fact, the largest natural Moissanite gems are too small to be set into jewelry. Nearly one hundred years after Dr. Moissan's discovery, scientists at a research laboratory in central North Carolina perfected and patented the innovative process that creates silicon carbide crystals for Charles & Colvard®. Within a controlled environment that mimics the forces of nature, our researchers produce durable, superhard crystals with a minimum of ecological impact, and absolutely no mining. Today, Charles & Colvard® remains committed to producing the highest quality Moissanite gemstones using innovative techniques and technol-

Moissanite was introduced to the jewelry market in 1998. It is regarded as a diamond alternative, with some optical properties exceeding those of diamond. Its lower price and less exploitative mining practices necessary to obtain it make it a popular alternative to diamonds.

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

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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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BARBERS HILL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT'S STATE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING

Barbers Hill ISD will hold a public meeting at 6:30 p.m., Monday, December 13, 2021 In the J. Justin Jenson Conference Room, 9600 Eagle Drive, Mont Belvieu, TX.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Barbers Hill ISD's rating on the State's financial accountability system.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Galena Park is accepting bids for the construction of the Churchill Community Center. Bids must be received by 3:00 PM on December 17, 2021 ATTN: Mayra Gonzales at Galena Park City Hall located at 2000 Clinton Drive. Galena Park, TX 77547. The City will award the contract at the regular council meeting on December 21, 2021, at 6:00P.M. The City Council reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids. Respondents may obtain an electronic copy of the contract specification by emailing Mayra Gonzales, City Secretary at: mayra@cityofgalenapark-





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