

NORTH CHANNEL STAR

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Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Cloverleaf, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City
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Exclusive photos by Allan Jamail:

NORTH SHORE MUSTANGS CHAMPIONSHIP PARADE



North Shore Mustangs Head Coach Jon Kay. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia congratulates the team at the parade assembly point. She said, "Congratulations to the North Shore Mustangs on a FIFTH state championship. Your dedication and ferocity on the field is so impressive. Thanks for all the hard work you put in to making Galena Park and the North Channel Community so proud. Special thanks to all your coaches, teachers, parents and guardians for making this success possible. We are all so proud of you! On to number six!" (Photo by Allan Jamail)



State Representative Ana Hernandez (center) Constable Victor Trevino III, Linda Jamail, Community Liaison & Adriana Aguirre (driving). (Photo by Allan Jamail)



Kae Walker, GPISD Assistant Athletic Director proudly displays the Mustangs State Championship Trophy. He's been with the district 16 years and 5 years as Assist. Dir. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

Rep. Hernandez said, "Congratulations to Coach Kay and our Eastside boys on an amazing season! I am proud of the legacy our North Shore Mustangs are creating and look forward to celebrating many more championships."



Waving is GPISD Dr. John Moore Superintendent, on his left is Elizabeth Valdez, to his right is Trustee Ramon Garza. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



State Senator Carol Alvarado said, "Congratulations to North Shore High School for winning the Texas 6A High School Football Championship- again! Winning one state title is no small feat but three championships in four years is simply extraordinary! You've made the whole city of Houston proud. Go Mustangs!" (Photo by Allan Jamail)



On The Commissioner Adrian Garcia Float is Cindy Miller, Community Liaison North Channel Area & Paul Lachapelle, Director of Baldree Community Center. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

Commissioners Adrian Garcia said "North Shore should consider renaming itself to Title Town High School! The Mustangs 4th championship under Head Coach John Kay shows how consistently dominant the team has become under his leadership. North Shore's program does an amazing job representing the excellence of Harris County, and we are all so lucky to have such a fantastic institution in the Precinct 2 community, that not only is fun to watch but more importantly is helping to build young men to be future leaders. Great job Mustangs!"

MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 8

NS LADY MUSTANGS WIN ONE – LOSE ONE NS 63 ~ Kingwood 26 / NS 53 ~ Summer Creek 66

January 26 – 29, 2022 - The North Shore Lady Mustangs playing two games in just 3 day was able to win over the Kingwood Mustangs but then lost after a fierce battle with the Summer Creek Bulldogs. As of now their second place in the district.

Head Coach Allison Campbell did a fantastic job keeping them in the game with the home team Bulldogs.

MORE PHOTOS, P. 3



Allison Campbell (kneeling center) during a time out gives valuable game strategy to the team. (Photo by Linda Jamail)

NS Mustangs 58 Summer Creek 82

By Allan Jamail

Saturday, January 29, 2022 at the GPISD North Shore basketball gym the Mustangs fought against one of the best teams in the area. Summer Creek had a fight on their hands though. The Mustangs came within 2 points several times but finally the Bulldogs pulled away.

RIGHT: Mustangs Head Coach Sam Benitez leaps off the floor as he's trying to help his team. He shouts and leaps in a way to get the players attention, it pays off many times. He's a good coach that knows the basket ball game. Having taken the Mustangs 2 years ago to the state's final four championship and planning to do it again. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



Houston offers \$50 to \$1000 incentives to get vaccinated

Houston Health Department is launching a \$1,000 COVID-19 vaccination incentive program, or Hundreds of people can get a chance at \$50 gift cards.

HOUSTON – The Houston Health Department is launching a new program to encourage more Houstonians to get vaccinated against COVID-19. The 6-week initiative will award 12 people \$1,000 gift cards and provide \$50 gift cards to hundreds of additional people.

People who get their first dose or booster shot at eligible health department vaccination sites between January 29 and March 10, 2022, will be entered into

drawings for \$1,000 gift cards. Two \$1,000 winners will be selected on Fridays starting February 4 for a total of 12 winners over six weeks.

Fixed vaccination sites eligible for the \$1,000 incentive program are:

- Acres Home Multi-Service Center, 6719 W. Montgomery Rd.
- Hiram Clarke Multi-Service Center, 3810 W. Fuqua St.
- La Nueva Casa de Amigos Health Center, 1809 North Main St.
- Magnolia Multi-Service Center, 7037 Capitol
- Northside Health

Center, 8504 Schuller Rd.

- Sharpstown Health Services, 6201 Bonhomme Rd.

- Southwest Multi-Service Center, 6400 High Star Dr.

- Sunnyside Health Center, 4605 Wilmington St.

Fixed vaccination sites close at 11:30 a.m. on the second Wednesday of every month.

Many of the department's pop-up vaccination sites are also eligible for the \$1,000 incentive program. Weekly schedules listing eligible pop-up vaccination sites are available

at houstonhealth.org or by calling 832-393-4220.

Once a person is entered into the pool for the \$1,000 drawings, their name will remain in unless it's selected. People may only enter the pool once.

In addition to being entered into the \$1,000 drawings, people who get their first dose or booster shot at select pop-up sites will receive a \$50 gift card until a total of 760 cards are distributed.

Sites and schedules eligible for the \$50 incentive are:

- Lyons Elementary, 800 Roxella St, 77076

January 29, 2022

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

- Benavidez Elementary, 6262 Gulfton St, 77081

February 5, 2022

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

- Brookline Elementary, 6301 S Loop E Fwy, 77087

February 12, 2022

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

The program is a partnership with Houston in Action and Human Age Digital, which received \$50,000 in grant funds to support efforts to increase vaccination rates in Houston.

Participants must sign a declaration affirming eligibility for the program, and verification will occur using the Texas immunization database.

People ages 5 and up are eligible for the Pfizer vaccine, while people ages 18 and up are eligible for the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines. In addition, booster shots are available to people ages 12 and up.

Getting vaccinated or tested for COVID-19 at health department-affiliated sites is free and does not require proof of residency, citizenship, or insurance.

GALENA PARK ISD NEWS

North Shore Senior High School Esports Team awarded by GPISD

At the January 10th Galena Park ISD (GPISD) Board of Trustees meeting, GPISD recognized the North Shore Senior High School Esports Team and sponsors, Christopher Ybarra, Keith Lovinggood, Manuel Vargas and Logan Wilson for advancing to the High School Esports League National Championship in Arlington on May 13-15, 2022. The following players will have an opportunity to play in front of college recruiters and compete for \$150,000 in scholarship money:

- Damian Alexander Gonzalez
- Juan Pablo Escalante
- Sharar Ohee
- Osvaldo Daniel Garcia



- Victor Saul Alanis Mondragon
- The team earned \$500 in travel vouchers to attend the championship in May following an outstanding regular season and Fall Major appearance in December.

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

Channelview ISD NEWS

Art Exhibit created by Channelview Students Displayed at Children’s Museum Houston

December 10, 2021 - Students from De Zavala, Crenshaw, Cobb-Schochler, and McMullan Elementaries have partnered up with Save The Children, Bvlgari North America, and Young Audiences Houston, to exhibit student-made art installations at the Children’s Museum Houston.



Unveiled to the public on November 20, 2021, the artwork took the efforts of 600 students from Channelview and Beaumont-area schools to complete. Named “Wish In a Bottle”, the exhibit features the wishes of students from across the Texas Gulf Coast, displaying each message individually on an array of decorative water bottles.

The artwork commemorates World Children’s Day, celebrated around the world on November 20 following the UN General Assembly’s Declaration of the Rights of the Child, ratified on November 20, 1959.

“Keeping kids engaged is a way our kids can enhance their creativity,” said LaKeisha LeBlanc, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education. “It may feel like a small contribution, but the lesson here is to show our kids that great things can happen when they band together.”



The “Wish in A Bottle” art installation contributes towards Parent-Family Engagement goals set out by Channelview ISD in the 2021-2022 district improvement plan by hosting activities that develop stronger ties between the Channelview community and our campuses. The Save the Children program has coordinators currently at De Zavala, Crenshaw, Cobb, Schochler, and McMullan elementary schools.

“It is always a joy to witness our student’s face light up when they see their work on display, especially in front of their parents,” said Dr. Don Beck, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Curriculum. “The messages from our students reflect their humble spirits. The accompanying drawings in these bottles show that they are optimistic about the future and how they intend to play a role in that.”

SHELDON ISD NEWS

Week of January 28, 2021

ROTC Scholarship Program

On Tuesday, the Army ROTC Scholarship program sponsored a simulation opportunity at C.E. King High School. The U.S. Army asset truck provided STEM students the opportunity to simulate a helicopter flying mission to practice extinguishing a forest fire. Students also learned about scholarship opportunities provided by the United States Army ROTC program which offers full college tuition with a commitment to military service after college graduation.



College Week
Throughout the district our students show they are gearing up for the future by participating in College and Career week. Our students were able to participate in theme days and learned different career paths.



Football banquet
On Monday, the CE King Football program was honored to host a banquet for being the “Team of the Week” for their victory against Huntsville High School in September. The award was presented by Geico Local Office with help from the multimedia platform Inside High School Sports.

CE KING FOOTBALL

NAME: CE King High School

EVENT: Banquet

PRESENTING: East Houston Geico Local Office

DATE: January 24, 2022

TEAM OF THE WEEK

PRESENTED BY

GEICO

LOCAL OFFICE

CE King took on one of the toughest districts in the state! Their win against Huntsville earned them our Local Houston Area Geico Agents Team of The Week!

TEAM OF THE WEEK PRESENTED BY GEICO LOCAL OFFICE:

CE KING HIGH SCHOOL

INSIDE HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

CHARLOTTE'S WEB

By Charlotte Jackson



Diversity

When is the last time you pulled out your phone or your address book and evaluated the names of those who you stay connected with? If you are like most people, you have family, friends, former classmates, coworkers, and many others who you have known for weeks or even decades.

Is there diversity in your circle? If not, who is influencing who? I certainly do not want to offend anyone but take a minute and think about when you were a child. Chances are good that you may have been given a plastic cup, some potting soil, and a seed. And then you as you put the soil in the cup, you added some water and then put the seed in the soil. Together with instructions from the adult and a partner, you worked to plant the seed and in time, watch the seed blossom.

My point is that the seed did not grow from being in a pile with other seeds. Yet when you put the soil in the cup, put the seed in the soil, added water and a smile or two, the stage was set for success. We need to do the same in building relationships.

I am a soon to be 60-year Caucasian female. I have lived in 77015 for 50 years. I am the proud mother of three adult children as well as three young grandchildren. In my lifetime, I have had several people “pour life into me.” For many years, those who encouraged me and helped to guide me along the way, were people who resembled my parents. They were older Caucasians who did not just want their children to have better lives but expected my brother and I to succeed in everything we attempted.

Yet somewhere in my teenage years, I began to be influenced by others who had different ideas and different upbringings than my parents. Ironically, my parents already had some differences from each other which I do not think I realized until years later.

When I went off to the University of Texas at Austin, I realized that many of the other girls who were living at the private dormitory with me not only came from two parent households, but they were members of protestant churches. Many of the girls had two parents with college educations. My dad worked hard and provided for the family while my mom became a community resource that has helped many more people that anyone can count.

As I returned home from Austin, I realized that while I was gone, God put a diverse group of people in my life. As I began working at a local credit union, my circle expanded. As I married, it expanded. Once I became a mother, the circle grew to include married parents, single parents, and people of different religious denominations and each had a different background. I yearned to get to know more people. I wanted to know people who had traveled roads different from the one I had traveled. As our community changed, so did my circle.

As we move throughout 2022, I encourage you to look around and explore people who have diverse backgrounds and experiences than you. Perhaps get to know 12 people who have something different than you. And by the end of the year, let me know how it works out.

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Lady Mustangs
win one, lose one,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

NS LADY MUSTANGS STARTERS AGAINST SUMMER CREEK. L-R: #32 Atria (Tree) Dumas, #11 Makenzie Paul, #1 Shalayne Morgan, #2 Simran Williams & #12 Jy’Nyla Kennedy (Photo by Allan Jamail)

Senior Atria (Tree) Dumas makes a basket. The 6’-3” Lady Mustang is racking up points and blocking shots against all their competition. This young lady should be getting college scouts attention. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

top ten

GEMSTONES FOR
ENGAGEMENT RINGS

1. Colored diamonds

2. Sapphire

3. Emerald

4. Ruby

5. Amethyst

6. Tourmaline

7. Citrine

8. Garnet

9. Aquamarine

10. Opal

Source: International Gem Society

North Shore Rotarians help at the Veterans Hospital

Today, in honor of Veterans Day on Thursday, November 11th, the Rotary Club of North Shore continues its annual program of delivering goody bags to our veterans in the Michael Debakey VA hospital. Along with the 75 goody bags stuffed with such needed items as throw blankets, water bottles, socks and snacks, we delivered wall calendars, books, playing cards and back scratchers. We also delivered a \$2,500.00 check to the VA Volunteer Services to assist them in their continued service to our hospitalized veterans. Due to covid we could not enter the hospital and hand deliver our bags with our personal thanks to our veterans. Hopefully we can start back doing personal visits next year. Thanks to all that donated the items that went into our bags. A special thanks to Air Force veteran Dois Sutton for being our club's liason with the VA Hospital and coordinating this effort every year since 2010.

ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim: “What is the birthstone for February?”

For individuals with February birthdays, the amethyst makes a perfect birthstone. This month is often cold, dark and short for many people around the world, so the amethyst—which is often associated with qualities of peace, courage and stability—is the right gem for individuals who need a little extra warmth and strength this time of year.

Amethyst is purple quartz and is a beautiful blend of violet and red that can be found in every corner of the earth. The name comes from the Ancient Greek, derived from the word “methustos,” which means “intoxicated.” Ancient wearers believed the gemstone could protect them from drunkenness.

Amethyst, as previously mentioned, is composed of quartz, which is the second most abundant material found in the Earth’s crust. Amethyst gets its color from irradiation, iron impurities and the presence of trace elements. Its hardness (a 7 on the Mohs scale) is the same as other quartz, which makes it a durable and lasting option for jewelry.

While amethyst is most commonly recognized to be a purple color, the gemstone can actually range from a light pinkish violet to a deep purple that can read more blue or red, depending on the light. Sometimes, even the same stone can have layers or color variants, so the way the gemstone is cut is important to the way the color shows in a finished piece.

Amethyst often occurs in geodes or in the cavities of granitic rocks. It can be found all over the world, including the United States, Canada Brazil and Zambia. The amethyst is not only the February birthstone, it is also used to celebrate the 6th and 17th year of marriage.

It has been associated with many myths, legends, religions, and numerous cultures. Some historical accounts say that Saint Valentine had an amethyst ring carved with an image of Cupid. And for those familiar with Old Testament history, amethyst was one of the twelve gemstones that represented the twelve tribes of Israel.

For many years, amethyst was held to be one of the most precious gemstones, often favored by royalty or exclusively by the clergy as a symbol for the diety of Christ. It was even held for many years in the same regard as the diamond. It wasn’t until the discovery of more abundant supplies of amethyst that it became a gemstone enjoyed by more than just the wealthiest buyers.

Many wearers of amethyst throughout history and even today prize the gem for its symbolism as well as its beauty. Leonardo da Vinci once said that amethyst helps to quicken intelligence and get rid of evil thoughts. Other qualities like peace, stability, courage and strength are said to be derived from this gemstone. Today, many wearers simply prize the amethyst for its beautiful shade and the way it complements both warm and cool colors.

“Diamond Jim” Mills

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.

Fire starter



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OPINION PAGE

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OPINION

By Carol Alvarado



It's Past Time for online Voter Registration in Texas

The state’s chief election officer, the Texas Secretary of State, recently announced that supply chain issues have forced the state to reduce the number of voter registration card applications available for the public.

Voter registration organizations who have requested applications are only receiving a fraction of the number they request. This is inexcusable, indefensible and downright embarrassing.

New 18-year-old adults, citizens who have moved to Texas from other states, naturalized citizens and previously unregistered Texans might not be able to exercise their right to vote in the upcoming election on March 1 because of a supply shortage of voter registration cards. We are not talking about not being able to buy toilet paper—it is our sacred right to cast a vote. This is sad, tragic, laughable and happening in real time.

It didn’t have to be this way.

I have filed legislation to allow universal online voter registration every session since 2013 and I will file a bill next session. If my bill gets a hearing, I will not need to call up a panel of experts to testify why we need the bill; I will just point to the events of this past week to make a compelling case.

Online voter registration is safer, more secure and cheaper than its paper equivalent. It was first implemented close to 20 years ago in Arizona. Now 42 states and the District of Columbia allow online voter registration. This includes red, blue, purple, small and large states. Notably there have been no major scandals involving fraud or other issues that have caused states to scale back use of online voter registration.

In August of 2020, a federal court ruled that Texas was in violation of the National Voter Registration Act because the state was not giving residents the option to register to vote when they renewed their driver’s license. Texas was forced to comply and since then, 1.5 million Texans have used the online system to register to vote or change their voter registration address. We have not heard any reports from the Texas Secretary of State that this system is being abused with fraudulent registrants.

This latest episode of voting in Texas confirms the obvious. Texas is not a voter friendly state.

Last summer, I stood for 15 hours straight on the floor of the Texas State Senate to bring national attention to legislation that makes it difficult for Texans to access the ballot box. During my filibuster Texans from across the state sent me their concerns about this bill, including how difficult it would be for older Texans, veterans and those with disabilities to cast their vote. Nevertheless, Texas adopted the most restrictive voting measure of any state in the nation and we are already paying the price.

One of the provisions I spoke out against was a new requirement for voters to include their state-issued ID card number or the last four digits of their social security number on mail ballot applications. The number needs to be the exact same one a voter used when they first registered to vote—even if it was decades ago. If the number doesn’t match, then the application must be rejected. So if you used your driver’s license number when you registered to vote but then you used your SSN for the mail ballot application, you’re out of luck.

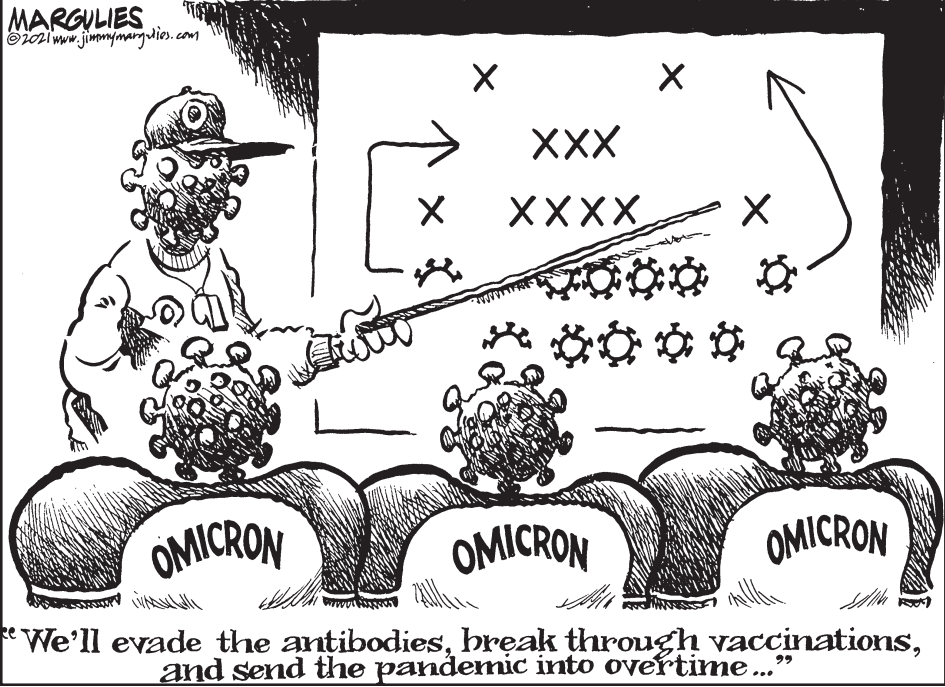
I warned that mail ballot applications would be rejected because of this unnecessary requirement. I was correct. We are now getting reports that election officials across the state have been forced to reject up to half of mail ballot applications because of confusion over what must be included on the application. What’s worse is the state has not provided a way for voters to correct their applications. We’re running out of time; mail ballots are already being sent out. It looks like the so-called election integrity legislation will disenfranchise many Democratic and Republican party primary voters.

It is no secret that those in control of state government want to make it hard for certain folks to vote. That was on full display last year during the regular legislative session and subsequent special called sessions. There is however a difference in making it harder to vote and not letting you vote.

The jig is up. Enough. Let’s join the rest of the country in the 21st century and get online with voter registration.

Senator Alvarado represents District 6 in the Texas State Senate.

EDITOR’S NOTE: *Opinions expressed here are not necessarily that of this newspaper or its staff. YOUR OPINION is welcome. Send a letter for possible publication to Grafikpress Newspapers, 5906 Star Lane, Houston TX 77057 or an email to GRAFIKSTAR@aol.com. Please limit your words to about 200. Letters will be subject to editing. Thank you.*



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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Registration Form shortage as Deadline nears

Less than a week remains before the Jan. 31 deadline to register to vote in the March 1 primary. While Secretary of State John Scott publicly assured Texas voters that “every single eligible Texas voter will be able to register to vote if they have not done so already,” the League of Women Voters on Friday threatened to sue his office if the nonpartisan group isn’t provided with additional voter registration forms.

The Austin American-Statesman reported the league contends the state has decided to “sharply limit” the number of voter registration forms distributed to the league and other groups, claiming that is a violation of the National Voter Registration Act. “It is crucial that the Secretary of State’s office act swiftly to provide the necessary voter registration forms for the people of Texas. The deadline to register to vote for the upcoming primary election is quickly approaching, and Texas is one of 11 states without online voter registration,” said Grace Chimene, president of the League of Women Voters of Texas.

Sam Taylor, assistant secretary of state for communications, told KUTV that supply chain issues have made it harder and more expensive to get paper, which means the Secretary of State’s office will be giving out fewer voter registration forms to groups ahead of elections this year.

“We are limited in what we can supply this year because of the paper shortage and the cost constraints due to the price of paper and the supply of paper,” he said.

Texas is one of the few states that does not have online voter registration.

LEANDER MAN CHARGED FOR THREATENING ELECTION OFFICIALS

A Leander man is the first person to be charged



by federal officials in a case brought by a task force formed to combat threats against election officials. Numerous media outlets reported that Chad Christopher Stark posted a message last January on Craigslist, saying it was time to kill a Georgia elections official.

“Georgia Patriots it’s time for us to take back our state from these Lawless treasonous traitors. It’s time to invoke our Second Amendment right it’s time to put a bullet in the treasonous Chinese [Official A]. Then we work our way down to [Official B] the local and federal corrupt judges,” Stark wrote, according to the indictment.

The three officials allegedly threatened were not named.

The Texas Tribune reported Georgia officials were especially targeted by a flood of hostile messages after they refused to back then-President Donald Trump’s claims of election fraud. Election officials across the country have faced criticism and personal attacks by Trump supporters claiming the election was stolen. No widespread instances of election fraud have come to light despite dozens of investigations.

STATE AGAIN REACHES RECORD JOB LEVEL

The Texas Workforce Commission reported last week that the seasonally adjusted state unemployment rate dropped to 5.0% in December, down 0.2 per-

centage points from the previous month. The state added 50,000 nonagricultural jobs last month — marking job gains in 19 of the last 20 months. The state set another record level of employment with more than 13 million jobs. “Seeing a second consecutive month of record-setting employment, with more than 13 million jobs, highlights the underlying strength of the Texas economy,” said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel. “This economic strength creates an environment for Texas employers to continue to create jobs and provide opportunities for the workforce in the Lone Star State.”

The state has added 694,000 jobs since December 2020.

COVID-19 CASES SET RECORD HIGH

Spurred by the omicron variant, the number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas in the past week climbed to a record 433,584, with 971 new deaths reported as well by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. Since the pandemic began in March 2020, the state has recorded 5.9 million cases and 78,055 deaths — equivalent to the entire population of Cedar Park.

Hospitalizations in Texas of lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients also continued to rise, up 36% from the previous week at 13,324, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services. That figure is approaching the record high of 14,106 set in January 2021.

PAXTON DENIES OPEN RECORDS LAW VIOLATION

Attorney General Ken Paxton denied that he violated the state’s open records law, rejecting an allegation by the Travis County district attorney that his office should release communications from the week of the Jan. 6, 2021, Capitol attack, The Dallas Morning News reported.

Five of the state’s largest newspapers filed a joint complaint after Paxton denied their open records requests. The district attorney’s office warned it would file suit if Paxton did not release the information. In a letter to the Travis County district attorney’s public integrity unit, Paxton’s office called the claims “meritless” and said there was “no violation to cure.”

Editors for the newspapers released a joint statement saying: “We believe these records are public and should be released. We hope the Travis County district attorney continues to hold the attorney general accountable for following our state’s open records laws and continues to advocate for the public’s right to know in this case.”

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THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

A better way

“You’ll never guess what I did!” my husband, Peter, announced.

“You’re right. I won’t.” “I microwaved the masking tape!”

I can’t tell you how pleased he was with himself.

My husband has a hack for everything. When I buy a roll of masking tape that is good for nothing but causing intense frustration, I am willing to give it up, toss the tape, and call it a lesson learned.

“Next time, I’m buying the expensive kind!” I said to Peter, after the tape shredded into itty-bitty bits just trying to get a few inches out to secure a box.

I was packing away the last of the holiday stuff—rather late—as I am supposed to be packing for Mexico. We are leaving next week and, so far, the packing has all occurred in my head. I know what I am bringing, more or less.

Meantime, Peter has all the items he plans to pack laid out in a line that fills most of his office (aka “the brooding room”) and new unidentified items are arriving in the mail daily.

“What is that?” I ask, concerning the latest mysterious package.

“It’s a battery phone charger.”

“For when there’s no electricity?”

“Yup!”

“When will there not be electricity?”

Peter has some sort of plan in mind, and I will not be at all surprised when his battery phone charger saves the day. Peter is always thinking of a better way to do things, which brings me back to the masking tape.

“You microwaved the masking tape?” I said, not quite sure I’d heard correctly.

“I did!”

“And?”

“And now it works perfectly! It was just old. I microwaved it for 15 seconds and now look!” Peter grabbed the roll of tape and effortlessly pulled off several inches—just for fun.

“Wow.” It was impressive.

“I think you should go back to the hardware store and tell them,” Peter said. “A lot of customers could be spared frustration if they just put their tape in the microwave!”

I considered doing this for exactly two seconds, and rejected the idea. I think the guys at the hardware store might think I’m a little odd already. This would seal the deal, so to speak.

But it’s nice to have a husband who is always thinking of everything. We have every imaginable form saved to the cloud. We bring our own knives and kitchen odds and ends so we can cook wherever we are. Peter uses our departure on an extended trip as an opportunity to update his end-of-life instructions, should we both suddenly die or disappear in Mexico.

“I don’t plan on dying this trip,” I informed him.

“You should have seen how out of date the document was!” he marveled, ignoring me.

I used to think of myself as someone who was reasonably well-prepared for whatever life threw at me, but it would never have occurred to me to raise a roll of masking tape from the dead.

Today, I need to start packing. So far, my focus has been on whether I am bringing enough warm clothes to wear inside as we will start out in the mountains, there will be no central heating—and it can get chilly at night. Peter is not concerned about keeping warm.

“I’ll wear my raincoat!” he tells me. And I know he will.

Peter will keep warm and he will make sure we have what we need. After a life of mostly taking care of myself, it’s nice to rely on Peter to figure out a better way to do everything.

Till next time, Carrie Classon’s memoir is called “Blue Yarn.” Learn more at CarrieClasson.com.

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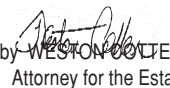
LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for Docket No. 499844; Estate of ROBERT D. CRUNK, Deceased; In Probate Court No. 4 of Harris County, Texas, were issued on JANUARY 20-, 2022.

LEIGH CHARISSE (CRUNK) SARTOR
The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is:

c/o Weston Cotten
1500 E. Wallisville Rd
Highlands, TX 77562

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this JANUARY 26, 2022.


by WESTON COTTEN
Attorney for the Estate

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Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Beer License / BG License by Rosa Maria DeLaVega dba Jags Icehouse, to be located at 507 Dell Dale in Channelview, Tx, County of Harris. Officers of said corporation are Rosa Maria DeLaVega (owner).

05-2T

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top ten

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1. The Office

2. Community

3. Breaking Bad

4. Parks and Recreation

5. Avatar: The Last Airbender

6. Waco

7. New Girl

8. The Sopranos

9. The Big Bang Theory

10. Friends

* 2020 pageviews

Source: IMDB

HOLLYWOOD

by Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD — Wanted: big-name star, must be funny and able to move the highest-rated award show on television at a fast pace and grab enormous ratings. ABC sent the word to the Academy Award producers that they want a big-name host this year. ABC's own Jimmy Kimmel (not a movie star like Bob Hope, Billy Crystal or many of the previous hosts), did the honors in 2018 and 2019. There was no host in 2020 or 2021, and the ratings dipped substantially. When Crystal hosted several very successful ceremonies, he began eight months early, preparing sight gags and jokes based on films of that year.

The Oscars air March 27 and a host, as of this column, hasn't been announced. It doesn't leave much time to prepare.



Previous Oscar Host
BILLY CRYSTAL

Moviegoers braved movie theaters during this pandemic to watch “Spider-Man: No Way Home,” “The Power of the Dog” and “Belfast,” to name a few.

Maybe they should name Gal Gadot to host the awards, she seems to be getting all the plum jobs. She's already been announced as the wicked queen that gives “Snow White” (Rachel Zegler, wonderful in “West Side Story” as Maria) the poison apple, while Andrew Burnap, who won a Tony Award last year for “Inheritance,” has also been signed — not to play the Prince or The Huntsman, but a newly created character. In addition to another “Wonder Woman,” Gadot's set to play the Grace Kelly role in Paramount Pictures' remake of “To Catch a Thief,” the 1955 classic Alfred Hitchcock romantic thriller that starred Cary Grant. Gadot also will serve as a co-producer.

Andrew Burnap is destined for stardom if his roles in Hulu's “Under the Banner of Heaven,” with Andrew Garfield (who's currently running the award season with “Tick, Tick... Boom”), and his role opposite Oscar winners Jared Leto and Anne Hathaway in Apple TV+'s “WeCrashed” impress.

ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

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TODAY'S WORD

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1. Ingest 2. Charts
3. Prepare 4. Trudge

Today's Word
SPEECH

CRYPTOQUIP

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: C equals B

QP GFVGU PTBB QX CGQVS
YGHQDQM EGHXGB CM CTSX QTVVM,
YG WQSYE CG YHDQVS H CHB
YHUG BHM.

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TODAY'S WORD

January 31, 2022 Posting Date

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Kitten's cry
4 Opera set in Egypt
8 Garden intruder
12 Eggs
13 Some deer
14 — -bitty
15 Containers for laundering
17 Appease
18 "So there!"
19 Pittsburgh pro
21 Emphasize
24 Droop
25 Chop
26 Pirate's potation
28 Yokels
32 "I've Got — in Kalamazoo"

DOWN

1 Trim the grass
2 Actress
3 Remove by cleaning
4 Tennis legend
5 Debtor's note
6 Society news
7 Admin. aides
8 Know-it-all
9 And others (Lat.)
10 Diminutive suffix
11 Color worker
16 Dinner for Dobbin
20 Corn spike
21 Excellent, in slang
22 Toy block name
23 Place
27 May honoree
29 Aftermath
30 Vogue rival
31 Thin cut
33 Beatles classic
35 Standard
38 Conk out
40 Pamper
43 Sage
45 Farm female
46 Country's McEntire
47 Actor
48 Jannings
49 Unspoken feeling
53 Unwell
54 Yon maiden
55 Sweetie

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Answers

1. Hair is different. 2. Chair is missing. 3. Coat stripes are missing. 4. The is different. 5. Badge is moved. 6. Arm is moved.

King Crossword

Answers

1. An understirt
2. The flight of a large flock of starlings in a coordinated, swooping pattern.
3. "The African Queen"
4. Abraham Lincoln, 1864
5. Chicago
6. Three
7. Kenyan shilling
8. An eighth of a mile
9. The Volga
10. Keratin

Weekly SUDOKU



Answers

CRYPTOQUIP

If Either Fluid is being heavily heated by Buge Bunny, he might be having a bad here day.

Exclusive photos by Allan Jamail, Continued from Page 1:

NORTH SHORE MUSTANGS CHAMPIONSHIP PARADE



Justice of the Peace George Risner said, Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace George Risner praised the efforts of the coaches and members of the North Shore Mustangs whose hard work and skills made this a winning season. Being a resident of the Galena Park community, and a “long time ago” alumnus of the Galena Park Independent School District, Risner takes pride in cheering the North Shore Mustangs football team as once again, they captured the Texas high school football state championship.



GPISD Trustee Norma Hernandez (Photo by Allan Jamail)



Class Officers of 2023 (Photo by Allan Jamail)



Constable Sherman Eagleton said, This team is the true definition of perseverance and dedication. They set the example for all of us in the community. We could not be more proud of the coaches, players and the entire organization. A big congratulations to the North Shore Mustangs from all of us at Harris County Constable Precinct 3!



North Shore High School JROTC



North Shore High School Flag Brigade (Photo by Allan Jamail)



North Shore Rotary (Photo by Allan Jamail)



North Shore Middle School Leadership Officers Training Corps. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia said, “I would like to thank each of you for bringing some joy and happiness to our communities during these trying times. Congratulations on another great season and again thank you for representing us with honor, strength, and class. May God Bless You All.”



Cunningham Middle School Sapphires (Photo by Allan Jamail)



Judge Lucia Bates (Photo by Allan Jamail)



North Shore High School Student Council (Photo by Allan Jamail)



Havard Elementary (Photo by Allan Jamail)



Shirley J. Williams Elementary Leading Ladies (Photo by Allan Jamail)

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