

NORTH CHANNEL★STAR

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Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Cloverleaf, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City
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CHANNEL CURRENTS

EPA Waste Pits Meeting June 23

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will be holding a San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site (SJRWPSS) Community Meeting this month on Thursday night, June 23rd at 6:30 - 8:00 PM at the Martin Flukinger Community Center, 16003 Lorenzo St., Channelview, TX 77530. The meeting will be an in-person meeting, but you may also participate by phone by calling +1 202-991-0477 and entering the code 453688444#.

This meeting will contain important information the Channelview and surrounding communities and all who travel I-10 East will want to know.

C.H.I.C. WILL NOT hold our scheduled meeting at the Channelview Fire Sta. #3.

Additional info contact THEA Jackie Medcalf, Director at jyoung@txhea.org, Rachel Jordan, Asst. Director at AD@txhea.org, or Kristine Singleton at KSingleton@txhea.org or any of them phone 281 315-5242.

JC Rabies Vaccination Clinic June 25

Jacinto City will hold their annual Rabies Vaccination Clinic on Saturday, June 25 from 8am to 3pm at 12202 Market Street in Jacinto City 77029.

CHIC opposes permits for River Road construction

The Channelview watchdog group, CHIC, has learned that the Corps of Engineers has issued a Letter of Permission for work to build a barge terminal on a site near River Road in the SJ River Estates area.

Also, the Harris County Engineering Department has issued after-the-fact building permits to the owner of Riverside Grille, for work already done, according to Carolyn Stone of CHIC. She claims this is a favored deal that is denied other property owners.

TimTom Land Holdings on 06/06/22 received a USACE Letter of Permission (LOP) SWG-2021-00168 for removal 109 existing dilapidated pilings and install 10, 21-inch monopiles below the High Tide Line along the shoreline at 17433 River Rd., Harris County, Channelview, TX in the San Jacinto River. CHIC became aware of Friday, June 10th. The removal of 109 "existing" pilings mentioned in the Project Description has already occurred without permission. The pilings removal was made in early 2021 and documented by community members.

The second LOP SWG-2022-0200 addresses a scope of work already performed and additional work to be performed related to a structure the same parties are determined to operate as a restaurant, bar and boat/barge mooring facility. The USACE is requiring responses to LOP SWG-2021-00168 and SWG-2022-0200 within 15 days from the date of the Letter of Permission. Responses to USACE will be due by June 21, 2022 to USACE Project Manager Mr. Brian J. Bader at Brian.J.Bader@usace.army.mil. Mr. Bader can be reached by phone at 409 766-3037. No physical mailing address for responding was provided in the LOP.

Constable Silvia Trevino's Appreciation Crawfish Cookout



Constable Silvia Trevino with elected officials at her 4th Annual Law Enforcement Crawfish Boil & Fish Fry. Front Row - L - R: State Rep. Christina Morales, JP Elect Judge Dolores Lozano, State Rep. Mary Ann Perez, Constable Silvia Trevino (centered crawfish shirt), State Rep. Ana Hernandez, State Senator John Whitmire & State Rep. Armando Walle. Back Row - L - R: City Councilman Robert Gallegos & JP Judge Victor Treviño III. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

By Allan Jamail

Houston, TX. — June 12, 2022 – Precinct 6 Constable Silvia Trevino at her East End home had her 4th annual crawfish cookout to show her appreciation to her staff and others assisting her department. She gathered her deputies, administrative staff, law enforcement officers from various agencies and elected officials (see photo outline) from East Harris County and community leaders to thank them for their work in Pct. 6.

"I can't think of a better way to celebrate our Precinct 6 Employees than with our Annual Crawfish

Boil. But most importantly thank you to all my Precinct 6 employees for your hard work and for another wonderful year of Public Safety," Trevino said.

NC Star writer Allan Jamail and former Chief of Police said, "The appreciation event was much like a "crime prevention retreat" where law enforcement officers, judges, legislators and community leaders got away from their formal "on duty" job and discussed crime and ways to improve the criminal justice system."

Trevino is a 37-Year Law Enforcement Officer with a Master Peace Officer Certification. She's a

second-generation Pct. 6 home-grown Houstonian who was born in her Precinct's historical neighborhood known as "El Crisol."

Democrat Silvia Trevino assumed office in 2017 by besting her Republican opponent with 76 percent of the vote in the 2016 General Election. She was not challenged in the 2020 General Election; her current term ends December 31, 2024.

Constable Trevino said, "We will serve with Honor, Equality, and Justice. We will work diligently to

Continued. See Appreciation Cookout, Page 5

EPA MEETING JUNE 23 WILL REPORT ON SJR WASTE PITS

CHANNELVIEW – CHIC members and guests heard of recent activity regarding the remediation of the San Jacinto River Waste Pits, at a meeting held last month at the Channelview FD Station 3.

Public interest remains high regarding the waste pits, and the EPA plans a public meeting for everyone on Thursday June 23rd at 6:30pm at the Flukinger Community Center in Channelview.

At the CHIC meeting, presented by Rachel Jordan of THEA, attendees learned that work will



Rachel Jordan, at left, of THEA updated CHIC members last Thursday, May 26. Above, Ginnie Ramsey and Carolyn Stone of CHIC at the meeting in Channelview.

start in the fall of 2022 to excavate the toxic material in the South impoundment. Jordan shared

information from a CAC

Continued. See Waste Pits meeting, Page 5

Cornyn's Senate Panel drafts new limited Gun Safety laws

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senators John Cornyn (R-Texas), Chris Murphy (D-Conn.), Thom Tillis (R-N.C.), Kyrsten Sinema (D-Ariz.), along with Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.), Roy Blunt (R-Mo.), Cory Booker (D-N.J.), Richard Burr (R-N.C.), Bill Cassidy (R-La.), Susan Collins (R-Maine), Chris Coons (D-Del.), Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.), Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.), Mark Kelly (D-Ariz.), Angus King (I-Maine), Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.), Rob Portman (R-Ohio), Mitt Romney (R-Utah), Debbie Stabenow (D-Mich.), and Pat Toomey (R-Pa.) issued the following statement:

"Today, we are an-

nouncing a commonsense, bipartisan proposal to protect America's children, keep our schools safe, and reduce the threat of violence across our country. Families are scared, and it is our duty to come together and get something done that will help restore their sense of safety and security in their communities. Our plan increases needed mental health resources, improves school safety and support for students, and helps ensure dangerous criminals and those who are adjudicated as mentally ill can't purchase weapons. Most importantly, our plan saves lives while also protecting the constitutional rights of law-abiding



SENATOR JOHN CORNYN

Americans. We look forward to earning broad, bipartisan support and passing our commonsense proposal into law."

The proposal includes: **SUPPORT FOR STATE CRISIS INTERVENTION ORDERS**

--Provides resources to

states and tribes to create and administer laws that help ensure deadly weapons are kept out of the hands of individuals whom a court has determined to be a significant danger to themselves or others, consistent with state and federal due process and constitutional protections. **INVESTMENT IN CHILDREN AND FAMILY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

--National expansion of community behavioral health center model; major investments to increase access to mental health and suicide prevention programs; and other support services available in the community, including crisis and trauma inter-

PROTECTIONS FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

--Convicted domestic violence abusers and individuals subject to domestic violence restraining orders are included in NICS, including those who have or have had a continuing relationship of a romantic or intimate nature. **FUNDING FOR SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES**

--Invests in programs to expand mental health and supportive services in schools, including: early

Continued. See GUN SAFETY, Page 5

GPJC CIP TOPIC:

Recycling by Plants, Cities, County, and Individuals

By Allan Jamail

Galena Park, TX. – Thursday, June 2, 2022 at the Alvin Baggett Community Building, 1302 Keene Street the first in-person Community-Industry Partnership (CIP) took place since the COVID-19 Pandemic forced meetings to take place via Internet on a zoom app. The meeting was hosted by Hosted by Houston Cement.

Facilitator Diane Sheridan opened the meeting and introduced Glenda Squyres as the Secretary and said that CIP celebrated its 10th Anniversary in 2021. And formation began in October 2010 with a team of community members and plant representatives who developed ground rules and selected the core membership.

Sheridan explained the following topics:

- Recycling is the process of collecting and processing materials that would otherwise be thrown away as trash and turning them into new products. (EPA)



David Clark, U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary showed how he stops bringing home restaurants plastic or Styrofoam food containers from leftover meals when eating out. He takes his own reusable take-home container to restaurants to bring leftovers home. If more people would take their own reusable containers when eating out this can save lots in the waste landfills. (Photo Allan Jamail)

- When we refer to recycling, we often mean avoid, reduce, reuse, and recycle.

- Recycle is the last step before disposal in the waste hierarchy.

Plant members, CIP cities, individuals, and the Harris County representatives attending presented what they do in

Continued. See RECYCLING, Page 7

Highlands native is new Hospital CEO

Houston, Texas — HCA Healthcare Gulf Coast Division President Troy Villarreal announced Jeanna Bamburg has been named chief executive officer of The Woman's Hospital of Texas. Bamburg will assume her new role Tuesday, July 5, 2022.

A native Houstonian originally from Highlands, Bamburg has been the chief executive officer at HCA Houston Healthcare Southeast since 2012. Prior to serving as CEO, Jeanna served as chief operating officer at HCA Houston Healthcare Southeast when it was



JEANNA BAMBURG

Bayshore Medical Center. Additionally, she has held positions of increasing responsibility in her 25 years with HCA Healthcare.

Bamburg has been

Continued. See NEW CEO, Page 3

SHELDON ISD NEWS

NewBell Schedules Determined for 2022-23

New bell schedules determined for 2022-23
Sheldon ISD will modify the campus bell schedule to a new tiered system which will begin with the 2022-23 school year.
The new schedule is listed below:
Early Childhood Academies - 8:25 a.m. - 3:55 p.m.
Elementary Campuses - 7:45 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.
Middle School Campuses - 8:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.
9th Grade Campus and King High School - 7:05 a.m. - 2:44 p.m.
All campuses, with the exception of the early childhood academy, will notice minor changes. The bell adjustments have been made with the following considerations:
Moving the early childhood academies to the last bus tier prevents younger children from waiting for the morning bus in an earlier, darker time of day. Early childhood academy families can expect more communication from their campus principal in the next week or so regarding the new arrival time. This change allows for older siblings to arrive home first to be able to watch younger siblings after school. Additionally, the high school dismissal time provides students with an opportunity to work after classes if needed. With the addition of the 9th Grade Campus, the tiered bell schedule will allow for more time for routes to be completed in a timely manner. A four-tiered system allows for drop off and pick up times that are not conflicting and flow continuously at the beginning and end of each school day. Doors will open 30 minutes prior to the start of instruction so students can eat breakfast. The new bell schedules will begin in August 2022.

GALENA PARK ISD NEWS

Pre-Kindergarden And Kindergarten Registration for 2022-23 School Year Begins June 13, 2022!

The Galena Park Independent School District's Early Childhood Department is committed to creating meaningful experiences for all Pre-Kindergarten students. Galena Park I.S.D. offers a full-day Pre-Kindergarten program for 4-year-old students at all campuses. This outstanding opportunity to prepare your child for success includes an interactive learning community with targeted instruction by a state-certified teacher. A half-day program is also offered for 3-year-old students at select campuses.

Online Registration for New Kindergarten and eligible Pre-Kindergarten students begins on June 13, 2022. [Pre-K Eligibility Requirements Required Documents](#) [Online Enrollment Process](#) [Pre-K 3-Year Old Program](#)



IMMUNIZATION CLINICS

JUNE 13TH & JUNE 22ND

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

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HOUSTON, TX 77015

HARRIS HEALTH SYSTEM



CHANNELVIEW ISD NEWS

Summer Food Service Program



The Summer Food Service Program serves free, healthy meals to children 18 and younger. Participants enjoy meals and there are no registration or identification requirements. Kids simply show up to receive a healthy meal at no cost. ***All children, regardless of enrollment in Channelview ISD, may come to enjoy a delicious, healthy meal for free.*** Adults must be accompanied by a child and may purchase breakfast for \$2.30 or lunch for \$4.15.
Our locations and serving times are:

June 8 - June 30, Monday—Thursday
Channelview High School 1100 Sheldon Road
Breakfast: 6:45 – 8:00 a.m. and Lunch: 10:30 – 1:00 p.m.

June 13 - June 30 & July 11 - July 28, Monday – Thursday
Hamblen Elementary 1019 Dell Dale
Breakfast: 8:00 – 8:25 a.m. and Lunch: 10:35 – 12:05 p.m.

June 8 - July 6, Monday – Thursday
Early Childhood Center 911 Sheldon Road
Breakfast: 7:15 – 7:45 a.m. and Lunch: 11:15 – 12:20 p.m.

Please note that there will be no curbside meals available for pickup. Children must be present and consume their meal onsite. If you have any questions, please contact the Nutrition Department at 281-860-3807.



112 Denny St. Highlands, TX 77562-Dine In & Boutique Shopping
15110 FM 2100 Ste. 9 Crosby, TX 77532-Pickup Only & Boutique Shopping
281-426-3670
6/21-6/25

Desserts of The Week Strawberry Cream Cake, Chocolate Spoon Loving Cake, Reese's Peanut Butter Pie \$5.95

Cherry 4 Layer & Bread Pudding \$4.95 each

Large Family Meal Feeds 6+ \$55* Small Family Meal Feeds 4+ \$45* Single Meal \$11.95

Tuesday: King Ranch Chicken, Fresh Garden Salad with Homemade Croutons, Garlic Bread & Cake Balls! This one is an oldie but a goodie! I didn't even know I liked King Ranch Chicken until I tried it from Teapot!

Wednesday: Pork Chop Potato Casserole, Green Beans, Rolls & Carmel Pretzel Crack Bars. This is a new one and it's goood! Boneless Pork Chops, Cream Soups, Hashbrowns & ALL THE SEASONINGS!

Thursday: Cajun Chicken & Sausage Pasta, Garlic Bread, Bread Pudding & 1 Gallon of Sweet or Unsweet Tea

Friday: Party Tray! Cucumber Sandwiches, Strawberry & Feta Salad with Red Onion & Poppy Seed dressing, mini Ham & Cheese Quiche & assorted sweet breads!

Saturday: Come have lunch & Shop with us!

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Add a Gallon of Sweet or Unsweet Tea for \$5.00


Add a Gallon of Peach or Raspberry Tea for \$6.00



YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site Community Meeting

Thursday, June 23, 2022
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in cooperation with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), Federal, State and Harris County agencies, local officials and industry, invites you to attend a Community Meeting for the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund site. Meeting details are listed below:

Thursday, June 23, 2022
6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.
The Flukinger Community Center
16003 Lorenzo Street
Channelview, Texas 77530

During the meeting, an update will be provided on current site activities and next steps. Following the updates, a question-and-answer session will be open to the public.

To participate remotely, a listening-only audio option is available by calling +1 202-991-0477 and entering the code 453688444#. You may also find a copy of this presentation online at <https://www.epa.gov/tx/sjrwsp>.

This meeting is being held in a fully accessible facility. Should you have specific needs or questions about the facility, please contact Janetta Coats, EPA Sr. Community Involvement Coordinator, at (214) 665-7308, (800) 533-3508 (toll-free), or coats.janetta@epa.gov.

EPA will continue to monitor COVID-19 community levels in Harris County, TX. Updates on the status of this meeting, if needed, will be available online at: <https://www.epa.gov/tx/sjrwsp>. Copies of fact sheets, informational bulletins, the administrative record, and additional information are also available on this site.

Para información en español, comuníquese con la Agencia de Protección Ambiental de los Estados Unidos (la EPA) a 1-800-533-3508 (llamada gratis).



top ten

Recycling No-Nos

1. Plastic bags
2. Pizza boxes
3. Gift wrap
4. Small bits of metal
5. Receipts
6. Food residue/containers
7. Broken crockery
8. Diapers
9. Shredded paper
10. To-go coffee cups

Source: Wild Minimalist

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CHARLOTTE'S WEB

By Charlotte Jackson



Contributions

When many people hear the word contributions, they immediately think of financial donations. Others think of time spent with a volunteer project. Others may think about their past experiences and how they have contributed to who they are today.

Recently I was attending a luncheon with dynamic speakers who shared testimonies about how despite poor choices in the past, their lives were not defined by those choices. Earlier that morning, I had listened to another man share about how the first year he earned a million dollars had started off with his water being turned off at his apartment.

In talking with a young man on Friday, he shared that he had no plans for his future after high school. I asked if his parents had talked to him about college. He shared that his father has been in prison since he was just a few months old. His mother had taken her life on his third birthday. As much as his grandparents were doing for him, they did not discuss life after high school. He has friends who are dreaming about being musicians and others who plan on being professional athletes. I asked if he had met with a school counselor, and he told me how burned out most of them seem to be. He shared that it seems that unless you are gifted in some way, nobody really cares.

I immediately slammed on my brakes and started asking questions. I asked if he had ever had an adult from church spend time with him, or a mentor with whom he could talk. He told me that when he was younger, he heard so much about one program at the school that really seemed to help guide the young men in a positive direction. Sadly, that program was cancelled prior to him being old enough to join.

I was not going to let the past define this young man. I shared with him that there are others in the community who have had a difficult journey, yet they have overcome obstacles and are thriving today. I asked him if he knew several people who worked at his previous school as well as several people in our community. He had heard of them. I started sharing that some of those people had experienced things that could have left them bitter. I explained that each day, we have the option to react to the situation and learn from it. I shared about one of the people we have talked about. That respected school employee had dropped out of high school, used drugs and alcohol to cover some pain and now has not only been married almost 16 years, but is just two classes from earning their bachelor's degree. I also mentioned that one of those retired NFL Players he looked up to and grown up with his father never at any of his high school or college games, yet he has a list of twenty-five other men who stood in the gap.

Each one of these people made contributions that cannot have a price put on them. Focus this week on what you can contribute as well as to who has contributed to your success.

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Bamburg Hospital CEO,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

named one of Houston's Most Admired CEOs, Houston's Women Who Mean Business and Houston's Breakthrough Women.

"Jeanna has demonstrated expertise in improving patient safety and quality, expanding clinical service lines and HCA's footprint in the community and transforming the hospital's culture. She has dedicated herself to ensuring the hospital is a great place for patients, their families, staff and providers," said Villarreal. "Her work ethic, talent and natural leadership ability make her a great fit to take the helm at The Woman's Hospital of Texas."

Along with her work in healthcare, Bamburg serves on the Board of Directors of Houston's Alley Theatre, a Tony Award-winning theatre and one of America's leading non-profit theatres. She has significant experience leading local fundraising campaigns, committees, and mentoring initiatives for several organizations. Her focus is to mentor the next generation of female leaders and improve healthcare for all women. She recently served as the 2022 March of Dimes March for Babies Houston Chairperson and proudly continued the tradition of Houston's event landing in the nation's top spot for both walkers and funds raised.

Bamburg earned a master's degree in business administration and a bachelor's in business administration with a concentration in marketing from the University of Houston Clear Lake. She is board certified in healthcare management as a fellow with the American College of Healthcare Executives, with which she currently serves as the regent for the Southeast Texas chapter.

About The Woman's Hospital of Texas

Since 1976, The Woman's Hospital of Texas has been the state's premier facility dedicated to the health and well-being of women, newborns and children. As a Level IV Maternal Designated facility, with an Advanced Level IV NICU, the hospital offers expertise and outstanding care in breast health, imaging, gynecology, obstetrics, high-risk pregnancy, neonatology, minimally-invasive surgery and pediatric care. For more information, visit [womanshospital.com](#). The Woman's Hospital of Texas is an HCA Houston Healthcare facility, part of HCA Healthcare Gulf Coast Division.

About HCA Houston Healthcare

HCA Houston Healthcare is the leading provider of healthcare in the Houston area, where excellent trained physicians, nurses and allied health professionals treat almost a million patients annually. With an employee base of 15,000, HCA Houston Healthcare's comprehensive network includes 13 hospitals, 10 outpatient surgery centers, 12 freestanding emergency centers and numerous freestanding diagnostic imaging facilities in the greater Houston area. It also includes a regional transfer center that provides one-phone-call access and support for patient transfers into and out of HCA Houston Healthcare facilities as well as access to ground and air transportation within a 150-mile radius. As one of the region's largest healthcare systems, HCA Houston Healthcare recognizes the importance of giving back to the communities we serve. A strong advocate for the next generation of healthcare professionals, HCA Houston Healthcare also is a major supporter of the University of Houston College of Nursing and the new University of Houston College of Medicine. For more information, visit [HCAhoustonhealthcare.com](#).

ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim: “Should I have my Jewelry cleaned and inspected?”



Jewelry repair is not expensive, but neglect is!

As a jewelry professional, I'm often asked about cleaning, inspecting and repairing jewelry. Here's some really good news...we will gladly clean your jewelry and inspect it at no charge. In the event your jewelry does need some minor repair work, it's usually not expensive at all. In fact, having an annual inspection of your jewelry could save you hundreds if not thousands of dollars later. Neglecting what is now a small, needed repair will most likely become a large repair job later, especially if you lose a stone in your ring or your necklace breaks and you lose the pendant all together.

Pineforest Jewelry invites you to come in and let our expert staff clean and inspect your jewelry at no charge. We have two custom design and professional craftsmen available 5 days a week (Tuesday thru Saturday). Together, our jewelry repair shop experts have a combined expertise of more than 65 years in the jewelry industry. Our state-of-the-art shop does both micro-soldering & laser fusing on everything from ring sizing and prong repair to restoration of your family heirlooms. The difference with a laser repair is that the heat is highly focused making the weld extremely strong. With a laser we can repair almost any metal, even the new titanium eyeglasses. Often, we can safely repair a damaged item without removing the gemstone. We offer this new laser technology to ensure we can provide the best care for your jewelry. Let us inspect your jewelry before any stone loss or further damage. We provide a 1 year warranty on any repairs we perform.



Bring in your jewelry for a **free** cleaning and a **free** no-obligation inspection by our repair expert, Mr. Gary. It's like Diamond Jim and Gary often say..."Jewelry repair is not expensive, but neglect is"! Trust the care of your jewelry to the repair experts at **Pineforest Jewelry**.

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

Diamond Jim is a master jeweler, diamond dealer and precious metals broker. Pineforest Jewelry has been a proud member of the Independent Jewelers Organization (IJO) and the Retail Jewelers Organization (RJO) for many years. See more at: [www.pineforestjewelry.com](#).

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

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OPINION PAGE

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STARLITE

By Gil Hoffman, Publisher

A Sailor’s Surprise

The Coast Guard Cutter USS EAGLE is now in Galveston Harbor, paying a public relations visit to the historic town for the first time in 50 years. It is one of only two American square-rigged sailing vessels in the U.S. Public tours were available last weekend, but long lines meant many folks simply looked on from a distance, and I might add, with awe. The 295 foot cutter, with its 3 masts and sleek lines, is a sight to see. And that brings me to my personal story about the first time I saw the ship.



USCGC USS EAGLE under full sail. The Ship is now paying a visit to Galveston Harbor.

I have been a sailor of small personal boats since my days in Connecticut, starting in the 1960’s. A good friend of mine, David Kilgore, and I worked in the architectural office of Eero Saarinen, and for a break we bought a sailboat, and learned to sail it by reading a book. We kept the boat at a small village on the coast of Long Island, where we sailed among what are known as the Thousand Islands (count them, only 360 in reality).

We usually sailed on the weekends, among the islands and out into the Sound. It was on a summer morning in 1964 that we were sailing like this, and the fog had not totally cleared. The water was rough, and we were busy with the sheets and tiller. Occasionally we would look out and through the fog see another boat, or more often a tug pushing a load of barges.

But as we got farther out into the Sound, the fog lifted slightly and much to my amazement, it revealed a 3-masted, square-rigged cutter right out of the history books. Through the fog, I couldn’t believe my eyes. I did not know that



A 19-FOOT LIGHTNING DAYSAILER similar to the Purlisher’s first sailboat.

anything like it existed in modern times, and to see it so close, and so large was a thrill and a threat at the same time.

It was not until the next day, in Sunday’s New York Times, that we learned that dozens of these “Tall Ships” had gathered in New York harbor for a celebration called “Operation Sail” to commemorate the New York World’s Fair of 1964.

We learned also that there are two square-rigged ships in the US military. The other is the USS Constitution, a wooden cutter built in 1794 and usually kept in Boston harbor when not sailing. The USS Eagle is actually a modern cutter, built by the Germans in 1936 and confiscated by America after World War II. It is made of steel, not wood, and is 295 foot long, with a crew of 12 officers, 68 crew, and 150 trainees when used for training recruits. There is also a smaller Frigate, USS Constellation, built in 1854 are kept in Baltimore harbor but not sailed.

Sailing has brought me many joys, from the fun of the sport to an appreciation for the weather conditions from storm to eery calm.

When I moved to Texas, it was not long before I acquired another sailboat, a 23 foot Pearson. Not only was it larger than the Lightning, but it had a cabin with sleeping and eating facilities. For almost twenty-five years we sailed on Clear Lake and Galveston Bay. Although age finally dictated that we give up the sport, a visit from the USS EAGLE brought back lots of pleasant memories and a latent desire to be back on the water.



★

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



TEA directed by Abbott to make schools safer

Gov. Greg Abbott has directed the Texas Education Agency to ensure school facilities are made safer in the wake of the killing of 19 children and two teachers at Robb Elementary in Uvalde.

In a letter to TEA Commissioner Mike Morath, the governor requested the agency:

- Instruct school districts to identify actions to make campuses more secure prior to the start of the new school year.
- Instruct all school districts to conduct weekly inspections of exterior doors to verify they are secure during school hours.
- Develop strategies to encourage school districts to increase the presence of trained law enforcement officers and school marshals on campuses.

The state has made an initial \$5 million investment to establish a Family Resiliency Center in Uvalde County. The center will provide psychological services, crisis counseling and other health services for those affected by the massacre.

To date, the governor has rejected calls for a special session to consider additional gun control measures. Instead, he has asked legislative leaders to convene special committees to develop recommendations on school safety, mental health, social media, police training, firearm safety and other issues.

GOP DONORS URGE CONGRESS TO ACT ON GUN CONTROL

More than 250 major Republican donors in Texas signed an open letter published in *The Dallas Morning News* urging congressional action to increase gun restrictions. The letter was published as a full-page ad on Sunday. It endorses the creation of red-flag laws, raising the age to purchase a gun to 21, and expansion of background checks.

“Most law enforcement experts believe these measures would make a differ-



ence,” the letter reads. “And recent polls of fellow conservatives suggest that there is strong support for such gun-safety measures.”

Texas Sen. John Cornyn is leading bipartisan negotiations on possible gun reform measures.

“We are grateful that our Senator John Cornyn is leading efforts to address the recent tragedies in Uvalde and elsewhere across our great Country,” the letter says. “He’s the right man to lead this bipartisan effort, as he has demonstrated throughout his career.”

Among those signing the letter are major financial supporters of Abbott.

INFLATION INCREASE IS HIGHEST IN 40 YEARS

A report by the state comptroller’s office notes that inflation increased to 8.5% nationally in March — “the highest year-over-year percent change in consumer prices since January 1982.”

Food and energy prices were the leading contributors, with gas prices reaching record levels. The largest source of inflation in food products were in meat, poultry, fish and eggs, up 14.3% in the past year.

The comptroller’s report said the increase in prices is likely a “confluence of economic pressures related to the coronavirus pandemic stemming from both the supply side and the demand side.”

The pandemic disrupted production and transporta-

tion lines in the global supply chains, which are not expected to fully recover until next year. In addition, demand now exceeds production capacity, often leading to empty grocery shelves and nearly empty lots at car dealerships.

Finally, Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and the subsequent sanctions on that country have contributed to driving up the cost of oil.

Inflation decreased slightly in April.

EMERGENCY SNAP BENEFITS AGAIN EXTENDED

Once again, the *Texas Health and Human Services Commission* has received approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to provide nearly \$318 million in emergency food benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for June.

All SNAP households will get a minimum of \$95 in additional food allotments on top the regular allotment. More than \$6.9 billion in emergency benefits have been provided to Texans since April 2020.

“We’re here to support families when they need us most,” said Texas HHSC Access and Eligibility Services Deputy Executive Commissioner Wayne Salter. “Providing access to fresh, nutritious foods is essential for healthy families.”

VEHICLE DEATHS REACH 41-YEAR HIGH IN 2021

The number of people killed in vehicle crashes totaled 1,532 last year, with 6,493 major injuries — the highest level since 1981. More than a third of those deaths involved excessive speed, according to the *Texas Department of Transportation*. With a 16% increase last year in speed-related wrecks, TxDOT is urging drivers to slow down and drive to weather and traffic conditions.

“Speed is the number one factor in roadway crashes in our state, causing 1 out of every 3 traffic deaths,” said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. “When you speed, you increase the risk of death and serious injury in a collision. By observing the speed limit and driving to specific weather and road conditions, Texans can make our roads safer for everyone.”

COVID-19 CASES CONTINUE TO RISE

The number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas during the past week rose to 46,946, with 42 new deaths reported by the *Coronavirus Resource Center* at Johns Hopkins University. That is more than double the number of new cases reported a month ago. The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations across the state also rose to 1,168, according to the *Texas Department of State Health Services*.

★

THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

Hot Sandwiches

I have been trying, for as long as I can remember and with limited success, to learn Spanish.

My husband, Peter, says I am good, but that is because he does not speak Spanish, so if I say anything that is understood by anyone, he regards it as a minor miracle. I feel that I have been stuck at about the same level of Spanish for at least 20 years. I can ask where things are and communicate in emergencies and exchange the usual greetings, then I dry up. I’d like to change that.

Since we are now planning to spend more time in Mexico, I’ve been taking this whole learning Spanish thing more seriously. I’ve been using Duolingo, which is a free program online, and I seem to be making progress, albeit slowly.

Duolingo relies on repetition—a lot of it. It tries to replicate the way a child would learn a language, so instead of lessons to memorize, there is simply exercise after exercise that builds on one another. Just as a toddler repeats the same thing over and over again, Duolingo does its best to turn me into that toddler, repeating nonsensical phrases until they finally stick in my brain and become second nature. At least that’s the theory.

“I really like hot sandwiches,” I say in Spanish over and over again.

As I say this, it occurs to me that I have not actually eaten a hot sandwich in years. I’m trying to remember if I have ever had a hot sandwich. I try to imagine where in Mexico I might find a hot sandwich and have an opportunity to tell someone how much I like it. Then I realize that I’m not even sure that I do especially like hot sandwiches. And even if I did, who would care?

The next phrase is waiting for me. I move on.

“My dog never takes a shower.”

Well, I no longer have a dog, so this phrase appears to be of even less use. It is true, when I had a dog, he never took a shower. Was he supposed to, I wonder? Would someone ever ask me this, in Mexico or anywhere else? Under what circumstances would someone ask, “Say, how often does your dog shower?”

“Oh,” I’d confidently reply, “My dog never takes a shower!”

Again, I’m coming up with very few instances when this phrase would have much practical value.

When I get an answer correct in Duolingo, a little animated animal jumps for joy. While I would like to say that I find this ridiculous and unnecessary, I would be lying. Making that little owl do a somersault is deeply satisfying.

I don’t honestly know if this is the best way to learn Spanish or not. There are a lot of programs out there. But most of them do not involve animated animals celebrating every time I get an answer correct and I might need that kind of encouragement if I’m ever going to get any better. These little animals seem to know I’m not the brightest Spanish student they’ve ever had, but they are patient. If I can correctly tell them about my dirty dog or my love of hot sandwiches, they are over the moon.

When I finish a lesson, a horn sounds, as if this is a grand accomplishment. I know it’s not. The overexcited owl knows it’s not.

But learning just a little bit of Spanish every day feels as if I am accomplishing something, so, what the heck. Let’s celebrate with a hot sandwich.

Till next time,
Carrie
Follow me on Facebook at: CarrieClassonAuthor.

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Sheldon Road Clean-up continues Saturday June 25

C.H.I.C. is conducting a monthly cleanup of Sheldon Rd. from to Woodforest Blvd. this SATURDAY June 25th from 7:00 am - 11:00 am.

Please come out and join us. Volunteer's do not have to stay the entire length of the cleanup, participation of any length of time will be greatly appreciated and is needed. During this cleanup we will concentrate on removing trash from the medians and roadsides north of Market St. towards Woodforest Blvd. while performing maintenance trimming of the trees we addressed in previous cleanups.

Saturday's Cleanup Plan:

Date & Time: Saturday, 06/25/2022 @ 7:00 - 11:00 AM

Meeting Location: Foodtown parking lot* 435 Sheldon Rd., Channelview

*We will move further down Sheldon as cleanup progresses. Please make sure to sign-in before you start cleaning.

Please Wear Bright Clothing. Preferably Safety Yellow or Orange Shirts or Vests if you have them.

Equipment to Bring: Gloves and your personal protective gear (safety glasses, gloves, closed toed shoes, etc.). Some tools such as gloves, rakes, shovels, wheelbarrows, pruners, trash cans may be provided, but you are encouraged to bring your personal lawn care equipment for your use (i.e. pruners, clippers, shears, and lawn mowers). Wagons are also very helpful to have.

Clean Up Plan: We will begin at the roadside and the medians north of I-10 East in front of Foodtown and work our way North

up Sheldon Rd. cleaning and trimming as much area as we can with the number of people participating and tools provided. We will work in groups based on the number of participants and equipment brought.

Cautions: We will be working in a traffic area. You will be responsible for your own safety for yourself and equipment. NO SMALL CHILDREN! It is just not safe conditions for children and we do not want to see them harmed. Older children, teenagers, can participate if they are responsible and safety orientated. Again they, and yourself, will be your responsibility and you will be participating at your own risk.

We look forward to seeing you Saturday June 25th!

Carolyn Stone
Channelview Health & Improvement Coalition

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Sunday, June 26th @ 5 PM

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North Shore Rotarian attends International Convention in Houston

Rotary Club of North Shore 23m · 🌐

North Shore Rotarian Dr. Charles Grant is with Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta discussing International Fellowship of Rotarian Educators.



Law Appreciation Cookout,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

provide a safe environment while upholding the laws of the state, preserving the peace, and safeguarding the property of our community. We will continue to build partnerships, but more importantly build a Trust between Law Enforcement and our children, our elderly, our community, and our businesses. Public Safety Is and Always Will Be Our #1 Priority.”

She said in her personal life she puts God as number one, then her family and public safety.

Trevino's Precinct 6 serves approximately 32 square miles and about 170,000 constituents. Her office has 130 employees consisting of 90 full-time Peace Officers, 10 Telecommunication Officers, 10 clerk positions, and 20

non-paid Reserve Deputies. Her department averages 90,000 calls for service per year, with an average response time of 3 minutes.

She and her staff have created their very own Pct. 6 School Resource Program to address the dangers of Drugs, Weapons, Gangs, and Bullying in the 30 elementary schools in Pct. 6. The presence of our Deputy's in the schools ensures that students feel a sense of security while attending school. They host a National Night Out event each August with over 1,000 citizens participating to learn how to prevent crime and to keep their family safe.

Fighting crime within the criminal justice system is a “family tradition” for

the Trevino's. Her son Victor Treviño III is a Justice of the Peace in Harris County. His father Victor Trevino Jr. retired now from law enforcement began his service in 1988.

At the event crime prevention communications materials were available with numbers to reach for help; Emergency 911, Crisis Hotline: 1-800-273-8255, Harris County Pct. 6 dispatch: 713-274-3400, Houston Police: 713-884-3131, Sheriff's Dept.: 713-221-6000, Crime Stoppers: 713-222-TIPS (8477). Pct 6 office: 5900 Canal St. Houston, TX 7701, Business Hours: Mon - Fri: 8AM - 4PM. Other helpful information can be obtained <https://constablesilviatrevino.com>. (Allanj211@aol.com)

Waste Pits Meeting,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

(Community Awareness Committee) meeting that was held in Houston on May 16th with EPA representatives.

The report from the CAC meeting was divided into the South and North impoundments, because the schedule and type of remedial work are different.

For the Southern impoundment, the updated RD (Remedial Design) package is due in June 2022, and contractor selection, procurement, and excavation work are scheduled to start in Fall 2022. This section of the work had a new EPA Remedial Project Manager, Lauren Poulos.

For the Northern impoundment, the PRP (Potential Responsible Party) has requested an extension of time to finish the 90% Remedial Design, which is due June 26, 2022. The PRP said in their request that the scope of the project has changed (i.e. greater depth and volume of waste) and the engineering complexities have increased. In addition, the PRP consultant raised the issue of interference with a new I-10 bridge, both the alignment and the work areas possibly overlapping.

The EPA Region 6, headquartered in Dallas, has a new regional administrator, Dr. Earthea Nance. On April 15 of this

year, she responded by saying that EPA believes information in the 90 percent design is sufficient, and that proceeding will benefit other stakeholders and aid EPA in evaluating the final design. Therefore, the request for an extension was denied, and the schedule remains the same.

The Community Meeting on June 23 with EPA, TCEQ, and other interested parties, is to provide an update on current site activities and next steps. Following the updates, a question-and-answer period will open, allowing the public to gain further information on these subjects.

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24-2T

/s/
President, Board of Directors

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