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CHANNEL CURRENTS

SEP. 22, THURSDAY
Joe Stephens Golf Tournament & Dinner
Join Judge Joe Stephens and friends for a day of Golf and fine dining.
Thursday, September 22nd at Stonebridge @ Newport, 16401 Country Club Drive, Crosby TX 77532.
12pm Tee Time, Dinner & Auction after the tournament. \$600 per team, includes golf, lunch and dinner. Four Player Scramble. Prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, closest to pin, and longest drive.
Info and reservations, 281-857-5406 or votejoestephens@gmail.com.

Channelview hears Public Safety plans

CHANNELVIEW – Harris County Precinct 2 hosted a meeting with the public last Thursday evening, Sept. 1 at the Bill Neal Center in Channelview. Public concern about crime in the community has been running strong, and this forum was meant to hear complaints, and also to present information on initiatives underway by authorities to counter the criminal activity. Subjects that were covered by the presenters included Stray Dogs, a new service phone number, 3-1-1 to request county services, crime rates as seen in data captures in the Channelview area, random gunfire, ShotSpotter to find shooters, VIPER to arrest violent criminals, homeless persons, nuisance properties, workforce jobs for homeless, or



Employ2Empower, and health concerns in the East side of Harris County. Garcia explained that Public Safety was his #1 priority, but that he plans on aN holistic approach, that includes “Cops, Courts, and Community.” Garcia’s community-focused approach to solving the underlying causes of crime includes investing in programs that address youth, food insecurity and hunger, affordable housing, behavioral health, and job training. He also has acted to increase funding for a new full-time district court judge, 6 associate judges, visiting judges, and jury operations expansion. To help Cops, Garcia

Information on Public Safety initiatives were presented by Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Channelview ISD Superintendent Tory Hill, and Harris County Sheriff’s Captain Nathan Douglas. A crowd of about 60 interested persons met with the presenters at the Channelview Bill Neal Center for about two hours last Thursday, Sept. 1st.
SEE RELATED STORY ON “SAFE HARRIS” ON PAGE 8
CONTINUED. SEE PUBLIC SAFETY IN CHANNELVIEW, PAGE 3

North Shore ends Westfield's unbeaten streak

North Shore 55, Westfield 25

By Allan Jamail
GPISD stadium – Friday, September 9, 2022 – It was a classic Texas Friday Night Football contest. The Galena Park (GP) ISD North Shore Mustangs hosted the Spring ISD Spring Westfield Mustangs (SWM) in a battle of the unbeaten. With both teams ranked high in the state each brought their Mustang Nation fans and filled the stadium to capacity leaving standing room only viewing. GPISD’s Superintendent Dr. John Moore said when it was decided to close the gates because of reaching the safe capacity limits people still tried to get inside through other entrances. He said some fans even went and got on the sidelines without authorized field passes, so



PHOTO TOP LEFT: Houston’s KPRC TV Channel 2 Sports selected the North Shore Mustangs verse the Spring Westfield Mustangs as their Football Frenzy’s top high school game of the week.
Seated: TV Sports Reporter Randy McIlvoy interviews #2 Christopher Barnes, NS Mustang junior wide receiver and his offense teammates.
Back row - L - R: #64 Zach Chavanne, #9 Kaleb Bailey, #58 Omarion Dudley, #76 Tyler Edwards, #4 Terrence Guillory and #89 Kaleb Thomas
Photo by Linda Jamail
PHOTO LEFT: #28 D’Andre Hardeman NS Mustang get a key block and fights off Westfield Mustang tackler for a Touchdown.
Photo by Allan Jamail
MORE GAME PHOTOS ON PAGE 5

GP YELLOWJACKETS REMAIN UNDEFEATED

Jackets 28, Wildcats 14

By Allan Jamail
Splendora, TX. September 9, 2022 - The visiting Galena Park Yellowjackets defeated Splendora Wildcats 28 – 14. The Jackets boast a 3-0 record and have shown much improvement under Head Coach Spiro Amarantos and his coaching staff. This year GP team is well rounded on both offense and defense. The Eastside Gold Blood team has a strong running attack and against the Wildcats the Jackets quarterback Daniel Gomez showed he can pass. Daniel Gomez, GP’s sophomore quarterback threw a perfect 71 yard TD strike to wide receiver Jonathan Renteria for a touchdown (TD). Francisco Martinez had a good night making several big runs including a 20 yard rushing TD. Jordan Balderas

also had a good running game making long runs. The trio of runners with quarterback Gomez and running backs Balderas and Martinez should provide a good enough ground game to open up more pass completions. Coach Amarantos’s offense garnered 360 total yards, 289 on the ground and 71 yards passing. The rock solid defense is getting tougher each game and the team should be a strong contender for the district title. The Yellowjackets now own a 3-0 record. Next week they have a bye and then they travel to Texas City for a 5A-2 Region III District 9 contest on Friday, September 23. Galena Park will play a Stingarees squad coming off a 7-0 non-league loss to Ball (Galveston, TX). The Stingarees record now stands at 1-1.

GP/JC CIP MEETING Chevron plans to update Pasadena plant

By Allan Jamail
Jacinto City, Texas ~ September 1, 2022 ~ Chevron hosted the September Galena Park and Jacinto City Community-Industry Partnership (CIP) meeting at Jacinto City’s Town Center. Tim Sutherland Chevron’s Pasadena General Manager (GM) presented their renovation project. It will upgrade the century old former Crown Central Refinery ** (PRSI) plant south of the Washburn Tunnel. The renovation project is important to the North Channel communities in terms of employment, economy and the quality of the environment. Sutherland with 31 years of experience began his Pasadena GM role in May 2019, charged with

the responsibility for safe and reliable operations of the facility. He joined Chevron in 1991 and was a member of the purchase team and served as the integration – transition manager for the purchase. Chevron acquired the **Pasadena Refining System Inc. (PRSI) in May 2019 in order to process light-tight-crude-oil (LTO). The refinery will create ever-cleaner energy products that fuel local and global progress. Their global processes make fuels and lubricants under Chevron, Texaco and Caltex brands. Light tight oil (LTO) – also called tight oil or shale oil is a low-density crude oil found within certain geological formations, such as shale or tight sand-



TIM SUTHERLAND General Manager, Chevron Pasadena Refinery
stone. By refining light crude it’s expected to improve environmental permitted emissions in a safer way than other types of crude oil. Sutherland has said, “In all our work we place the highest priority on operating safely, reliably and responsibly to protect people and the environment. We’re committed to creat-



JERELYN HUGHES-GLENN San Jacinto College, IT Department (photo by Allan Jamail)
ing social and economic value wherever we do business and will work hard to earn your trust, respect and be a good neighbor.” In 2021 to present they report a 75% reduction in air emissions and reporting issues. Over the past 12 recent months they had one excess opacity notification and zero other reportable “quantity” air

emission events. There were no major negative findings with multiple agency inspections in waste, discharge elimination, leak detection and spill prevention. Sutherland reported improvements were made in their flare system performance. A refinery flare is a means to emit and safely burn gases or liquids into the environment which cannot be used otherwise. Or if storage reaches capacity limits or pressures increase near unsafe levels. If this happens a safety feature will trigger automatic pressure relief valves sending the excesses to the flare stack for disposal. When designed and used properly the flare emissions are harmless producing environmentally safe steam

and carbon dioxide (CO2). The refinery will continue to produce a variety of petroleum products throughout nearly the project’s entire construction period. By reconfiguring the plant and idling a few historically unreliable units, it will increase refining capacity and give more flexibility to adjust ingredients to manufacture products higher in demand. The reconfiguration also gives it the ability to make jet fuel and other new products. An increase in the plant’s processing could result in producing 125,000 barrels of refined product per day. The schedule of the new LTO project in 2022 to 2023 is to complete final
CONTINUED. SEE CHEVRON PASADENA PLANT, PAGE 3

SHELDON ISD NEWS

Sheldon Hosts First Blue Card Luncheon

On September 12, approximately 30 senior citizens attended Sheldon ISD's first Blue Card Member luncheon. The Blue Card Program is an initiative to honor all of our supporters in the district who are age 65 or older. One of Sheldon ISD's goals is to create and foster an environment where all stakeholders are engaged and actively involved in the work we do for children. The success of our students is a shared responsibility of community members, parents, and educators, and we believe a community's collective power is greater than individual efforts.

Members receive free entry to district-sponsored fine arts and sporting events as well as a free luncheon each year with an opportunity to learn more about the district and engage with district leaders. This year's luncheon included a presentation from Superintendent Dr. King Davis as well as student fine arts performances from the King Middle School dance team and the King High School drama department. To sign up to be a Blue Card member, go to www.sheldonisd.com/bluecard/



Panthers Win First Home Game Against Pearland

Seniors celebrated at Senior Night. The King High School Panthers defeated Pearland 45-7 at the season opener at Panther Stadium September 9. The evening also served as Senior Night for the football team and cheerleaders. The Class of 2023 celebrated their senior year with their families during a pre-game ceremony where families walked them across the football field as their names were called. The first district game for the Panthers is Homecoming against Humble High School on September 23.



New Families Join The District's Ambassador Academy

Superintendent Dr. King Davis and members of Sheldon ISD's administrative team met with the district's Ambassador Academy participants on Thursday, September 8. The purpose of the program is to develop a group of parent and community leaders that encourage interaction, partnership, learning and dialogue to promote and support the district's vision. The Academy is a year-long program where participants meet monthly to get a behind the scenes look at Sheldon ISD through sessions that focus on specific areas of the district to include academics, fine arts, school finance, athletics, career and technical education, special education and more.



If you are interested in joining this community program, please call the Sheldon ISD Communications Department at 281-727-2007.

Cravens Early Childhood Academy Celebrates National Teddy Bear Day

Friday, September 9 was National Teddy Bear Day. Student at Cravens Early Childhood Academy enjoyed bringing their furry friend to school for a fun-filled day.



King High School Sets Date for Homecoming Parade

The King High School Homecoming Parade will be held off Community Drive near Panther Stadium at 10 a.m. on Saturday, September 17. Immediately following the parade will be a festival held on the second floor of Panther Stadium, ending around 1 p.m. The King High School Homecoming game will be Friday, September 23 at 7 p.m.

GALENA PARK ISD NEWS

A Message From The Superintendent

Dear Galena Park ISD Family and Friends,

Great things are happening in Galena Park ISD! The month of August proved to be a great month. Our students returned to a safe learning environment, the excitement of game days fills the air, academic competitors are getting ready for action, and we are preparing for excellence on all fronts! This school year will be amazing because we are committed to producing productive citizens and lifelong learners!

As we begin the month of September, please join us in celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15th through October 15th. We will respect and recognize the rich culture of the Hispanic community and the historical contributions made to the United States. Recognizing our community is an important part of Galena Park ISD because we are full of diversity, culture, and tradition.

The Character Education traits for September are citizenship and school pride, and recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month builds upon those skills. School pride means that our students begin and end their days feeling welcome, celebrated, and supported. Citizenship is when our students serve our school community or even assist their



John Moore, Ed.D. Superintendent

classmates and teachers.

Finally, I encourage you to stay tuned to district updates on our informational platforms because we are excited about ongoing academic growth and the opportunity to celebrate other cultures throughout the year! Our recognitions and cultural celebrations are a part of what makes *Galena Park ISD...A Great Place to Be!*

Thank you for your support, John Moore, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

CHARLOTTE'S WEB

By Charlotte Jackson



Motivation

If there were a way to determine what motivates people, there would be a way to become wealthy. Countless mornings have been spent by parents trying to get their children awake, ready for school and out the door on time. There are many of us who know we need to exercise and even when the doctor tells us to do it, many people cannot find the motivation.

How many of us worry that we have not saved enough money for retirement? How many students know they need to study for a major exam, yet have found themselves watching television or surfing the internet? Even more serious, how many adults know they need to change a habit, which has become an addiction, yet have not found the motivation?

Sometimes, a person needs to seek counseling, yet cannot find the time to make that first phone call to find a therapist. Sometimes a person hits rock bottom before they find the motivation to get help.

Perhaps we all need to take a few hours and make a list of our personal goals. From there, we need to make a list on how to accomplish those goals. One thing I have heard for years, that if you do something repeatedly for 30 days, it become a habit. And amazingly we do not need to spend several hours each day to reach that goal. Sometimes it is as simple as starting with five minutes and as you develop that habit, you find yourself doing it ten minutes a day. And in six months, you realize that you have stuck with it and now are doing it thirty minutes a day.

Do you think an athlete like Earl Campbell woke up one day and was an amazing running back for the Houston Oilers? No, he started at a young age and his length of practice was extended over time. From a young age, he had a desire to not just play professional football, but to be able to bless his mother with her own home. He started off learning the plays and the rules of football. He pushed himself both off the field and on the field. He excelled in high school football. He was awarded a scholarship to attend the University of Texas. He became household name to many sports fans. When he was drafted into the National Football League by the Houston Oilers, he became a favorite to many in Texas but especially in Houston.

Long after he bought his mother that first home, Earl continued to make dreams come true. Now, all these years later, he still gives selflessly of himself to help others. His world revolves around his family, his friends and making a difference. His motivation is something that has carried him through life. We all need something to motivate us. Maybe you will have some time to stop and write out your list soon. I pray so.

Chevron Pasadena Plant,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

design engineering, build foundations and install new equipment, which are underway.

In 2023 to 2024 process pipe fabrication begins followed by connecting pipes to the LTO equipment. Testing and completion of the system is projected in 2024.

Lon Squires, Jacinto City's City Manager expressed his concern about the reliability and safety of the plant's old equipment. Southerland stated all equipment will be tested at half of their total life expectancy to ensure plant safety.

Tom Ehlers, Galena Park's Fire Chief explained the state-of-the-art multiple siren warning system coming to GP from his grant application. He said as the project develops they'll be making residents aware of how and when it's going to be used.

Jerelyn Hughes-Glenn, representing San Jacinto College, IT Dept. reported their educational and technical training classes which could lead to employment opportunities at the Chevron facility. For more information call 281-542-2020 or CPD-IT@sjcd.edu.

Bill Stephens, a Chevron's Communications Advisor provided helpful information for this article.

Readers are encouraged to stay up-to-date with the CAER online system that's managed by the East Harris County Manufacturers' Association (EHCA). It informs residents in the Houston ship channel area about operational updates and events in facilities. Information can be found about noise, odors, smoke, flaring, pipelines, railcars, tanker trucks and more.

Visit: ehca.org/caeronline and download the app on your cell phone.

Public Safety in Channelview,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

has voted to increase Sheriff funding, Constable funding, an increase in salaries, a Viper Warrants taskforce, and over 400 new vehicles.

To aid the Courts, Garcia has voted for a 15% increase in funding for the District Attorney. This has been used for a new Environmental Crimes Unit, new prosecutors, and salary increases.

To aid the Community, Garcia has voted for additional funds for mental health and public health initiatives, violence deterrence programs, Holistic Assistance Response Teams (instead of Deputies attempting to deal with domestic problems), nuisance abatement to clear 1100+ properties, and pre-emptive youth programs.

Garcia said that over \$30 million had been invested in parks, trails, community centers, public wifi, sidewalks, and solar-powered lighting.

Because of great public concern for packs of stray dogs roaming streets at night, HCSO Deputy Charles made a presentation on what the county is doing to deter this problem, and how the public can assist. He said the HCSO Sheriff's office also deals with coyotes, feral hogs, and opossums. There is a number you can call for assistance with dangerous or stray dogs, 281-999-3191. He emphasized that responsible pet owners, who microchip and spay or neuter their animals, and keep them leashed, can help the problem a great deal.

Garcia said that the county now has a service number, 3-1-1 which answers calls for all county services. This is similar to the service that the city has had for some time. Rina Fava of the County Universal Services Department made a presentation

of all the benefits available to county residents by calling this number.

Channelview superintendent Dr. Tory Hill made a brief talk about the measures the district has taken to ensure safety for the students. He mentioned programs and training required by the state, which CVISD is following. He also revealed that the district has installed two license plate readers on Sheldon Road, to keep track of persons who might be a threat. This comment raised some concern and objections from the audience.

HCSO Patrol Captain Nathan Douglas presented a summary of deputy's activities in the Channelview area, and cited statistics that he said indicated a relatively low violent crime rate compared with other areas around the county. Public comments from the audience indicated that they desired more deputies patrolling the area, removal of homeless from the underpasses, and concern about random curfew at night in some communities, including Channelwood.

Garcia indicated that these officers and their departments have had their budgets increased this year. In addition, he said technology such as ShotSpotter was a "force multiplier" reducing crime with fewer personnel.

He also praised the new VIPER program, that is intended to remove violent criminal who are out on bond. Working with the U.S. Marshal's service, and local constables, he said the task force is charged with making felony warrant arrests. Combined with increases in judges, court capacity, and district attorney prosecutors, the effect is anticipated in a serious reduction in crime, especially with repeat offenders.

ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim: ‘How did the ‘Tennis Bracelet’ get its name?’

Tennis season is behind us. Wimbledon and the women's U.S. Open are finished until next year. So, it's a perfect time to look at the tennis bracelet – a great piece of jewelry that comes with a great story.

At the 1987 U.S. Open, tennis star Chris Evert was playing in a hotly contested game. She suddenly stopped mid-match and asked the officials for a time out. The reason: The clasp on her diamond bracelet had broken and the bracelet had fallen off her wrist, and she wanted to find it before playing the next point. When asked about it in an interview, she called the missing piece of jewelry her "tennis bracelet," and so the iconic name was born.



Chris Evert sporting her diamond tennis bracelet at the 1989 U.S. Open. Photo by Adam Stoltman.

The bracelet Evert was wearing during the match was a line bracelet set with diamonds made by noted jewelry designer George Bedewi. Traditionally featuring diamonds, this style of bracelet can also be set with colored stones or a combination of diamonds and colored stones. Thanks to Evert's incident that brought it into the national spotlight, sales of the bracelet exploded and became forever known as the tennis bracelet.

Considering Evert's famous mishap, you might be wondering if wearing a tennis bracelet during a match is a good idea. GIA experts offer a few suggestions so you can wear your bracelet without fear:

1. In addition to the clasp, add a safety catch on the side of the bracelet for added protection.
2. Have the tennis bracelet routinely checked by a jeweler to make sure the clasp, safety catch, and mountings are secure.
3. Keep the diamonds sparkling with periodic cleaning.

Nearly 30 years have passed since Evert's unforgettable on-court incident, and the tennis bracelet is still a fashion accessory for the sophisticated set. The tennis bracelet remains popular because it's an elegant piece of jewelry that comes with a fun story. Now you have some ideas to decorate your wrist.

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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OPINION

By BILL KING



County Tax Revenues were up by 7% Last Year; here's what you can do about it

The Harris County Auditor's Office recently released its monthly report for February 2022, which is the County's fiscal year end. There is a lot to unpack in the report. But the number that jumped out at me was the increase in property tax receipts. From FY2021 to FY2022 property tax receipts jumped to over 7%. During that same time period, inflation for the Houston region was 1% and the County's population was virtually unchanged. Yet the County collected over \$113 million more from its residents than the year before.

You may recall that in September 2019, County Judge Lina Hidalgo and Commissioners Adrian Garcia and Rodney Ellis voted to raise property taxes by 8%. This is a link to the video of that meeting where the discussion and vote took place. The discussion about raising property taxes begins at 26:19 of "Item I, Part 1 of 2." The actual votes are taken beginning at 1:31:00 or you can see just the vote in this clip posted by my friend Charles Blain.

However, in a second required vote, Commissioners Radack and Cagle boycotted the meeting, blocking the increase. In reaction, Judge Hidalgo said, "Unfortunately, today commissioners Cagle and Radack chose to hide rather than face the tough reality of the impact that extreme revenue caps will have on our county," and "called the failure to increase taxes by 8% "dangerous."

Well, those "extreme revenue caps" allowed the County to collect new revenue at seven times the rate of inflation at a time that the County's population barely increased. Had the tax increase proposed by Hidalgo, Ellis and Garcia passed, the County would have collected almost 20% or roughly \$350 million more from Harris County taxpayers last year. Even more significantly, it would have established a base from which the Court would have been able to continue to raise taxes even higher indefinitely into the future.

I would encourage to look at your tax bill last year and calculate what an additional 13% in County taxes would have cost you. And then think about paying that additional amount each year in the future.

There are three positions on the Commissioners Court which are up for election this November: the County Judge and Commissioner Precincts 2 and 4. I plan to ask each of the candidates for these three positions to take a pledge that they will not vote to increase the property tax rate during their term. Any of them who refuse to do so will not get my vote.



with Slim Randles

Hot Popcorn

"You know it used to was even hotter than it is right now, don't you?" Windy looked up from his lunch. Oh boy, professorial mood. We're gonna get it. "I used ta pack mules, a-course. Well, I packed 'em 'til the accident, anyway."

"Accident, Windy?" Dang it, Dud, you've done it now. "Nobody can say I don't love them little mules, but that accident took all the packin' enthusiasticals right outa me.

"Over in Death Valley it was. Summer. Hotter'n ... well, you know. I was takin' the pack mules out each day with the lunches all packed on 'em fer these dudes. Kinda fun.

"Jest why these here folks want to go a pick-a-nickin' on a hot day I couldn't say. To each his own said the old maid as she kissed the cow, I guess. Mules is the best manmade varmint in history, ya know? But even mules got theirselves a limit on hotness.

"Them mules. My mules ... oh I was so very happy with them mules. But what's done is water under the road and chickens swimmin' upstream, ain't it?

"Well, that day we had a party that was partial to popcorn. Loved the stuff. I put two big cans on each mule in bag loads. One on each side.

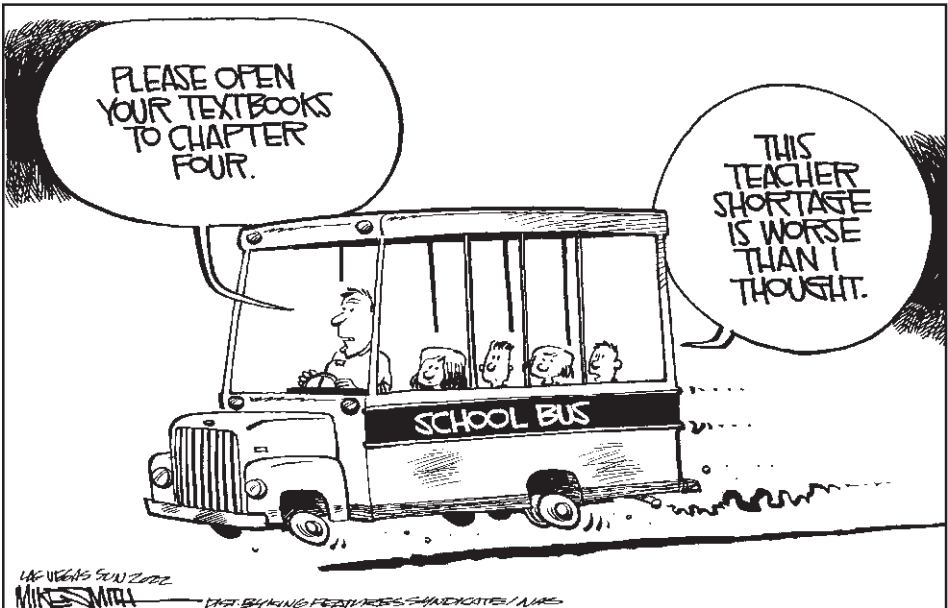
"And we wasn't but maybe ... oh, like 20 minutes on the trail when the accident happened. (sob) I still can't rememorate it today without goin' all gooshy inside, either.

"What happened was somethin' we never figgered on. Nos-sir! Why, the heat was just a-hottenen down on them pack mules and their packs got all hot, and them cans of popcorn got all hot and then the popcorn went to poppin'!

"Pardner, you never seen such a goldarn wreck in your life! Them mules heard that popcorn a-poppin' and figgered somebody was shootin' at 'em. Yessir. And they went to buck-in' around out there, and when they did, the lids come off all 16 cans of popcorn and it looked like the Fourth of July, with big ol' fountains of that popcorn cas-cradin' down 'round them mules.

"And when the popcorn hit the ground, the mules looked at it, thought it was snow and froze to death! A terrible tragedy, and I ain't packed popcorn since that day."

Brought to you by <https://www.amazon.com/Cowboys-Guide-Packing-Backyard-Horse-ebook/dp/B00W2U3VXE> now just \$3.49 on Kindle.



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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



TxDOT announces \$85 Billion Transportation plan

The Texas Department of Transportation has adopted a 10-year statewide roadway construction plan with a record \$85 billion price tag, officials announced last week. The Unified Transportation Plan authorizes the distribution of construction money that is expected to be available during the next decade. Within that framework, TxDOT works with elected officials and local planning organizations, as well as the public, to pick and fund the state's highest priority transportation projects.

In addition to highways the UTP addresses public transportation, aviation, rail, maritime, and freight and international trade. Many projects in the plan are highways identified on the state's 100 most congested roadways list.

"The UTP reflects a continued focus on improving transportation safety as the top priority, maintaining our current system, addressing traffic congestion, and improving statewide connectivity over the next decade," said TxDOT Commission Chairman J. Bruce Bugg, Jr.

Funding for UTP comes from "legislative and voter-approved initiatives that allocate portions of oil and gas taxes, sales taxes, and other money to the state highway fund," according to the TxDOT news release.

RRC APPROVES FINAL RULE FOR GAS PLANT WEATHERIZATION

More than 18 months after Winter Storm Uri shut down much of the state's electric grid, the Texas Railroad Commission last week adopted the state's first weatherization rules requiring natural gas facilities to protect gas flow to power plants.

"These new rules ensure our state's natural gas supply chain is prepared for extreme heat and freezing cold," said RRC Chairman Wayne Christian. "These rules will ensure that the natural gas facilities Texans rely on for reliable energy



are operational when we need it most."

Fines for administrative violations could reach up to \$1 million.

GAR HARVEST DRAWING NOW UNDERWAY

Anglers itching for a chance to catch a large alligator gar can sign up through Sept. 30 to enter a drawing through Texas Parks & Wildlife to legally do so on a stretch of the Trinity River that goes from Dallas through East Texas. A total of 150 anglers will have the chance to use any legal means to take one of these prehistoric-looking creatures that is over 48 inches in length.

The following counties are included: Anderson, Chambers, Dallas, Ellis, Freestone, Henderson, Houston, Kaufman, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Navarro, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity, and Walker.

"This segment of the Trinity River has become one of the most popular destinations in the world to catch a large alligator gar, but concerns have been raised about the potential for overharvest and its risks to fishing quality," said Craig Bonds of TPWD. "With this drawing system, we are able to give 150 anglers the opportunity to harvest the fish of a lifetime while also meeting our management goal to conserve this unique resource for current and future generations of anglers."

To find out more, go to tpwd.texas.gov.

TEXAS SEES FIRST MONKEYPOX FATALITY

State officials last week confirmed the first death of a Texas patient diagnosed with monkeypox. As reported by the Austin American-Statesman, the adult in the Houston area was "severely immunocompromised."

The rare disease is generally transmitted by skin-to-skin contact with someone already infected. Its symptoms are generally less severe but can be extremely painful, with rashes and blisters arising. Fever, headaches, rashes and blisters can also occur.

The Texas Department of State Health Services has reported a total of 1,695 cases in Texas to date.

GRIM YEAR FOR TEXAS COTTON GROWERS

Cotton production has been largely wiped out this year by drought and extreme heat, the Texas Tribune reported. The loss to farmers mainly in the Texas High Plains will be at least \$2 billion, according to the International Center for Agricultural Competitiveness at Texas Tech University.

Cotton isn't the only crop suffering from the heat and drought. Corn crops are in poor condition, and many pastures for cattle have been extraordinarily dry, forcing ranchers to sell their animals.

"They've had to liquidate their cattle herds due to the fact that there's nothing for the cattle to eat without supplemental feeding," Brant Wilbourn, associate director of commodity and regulatory activities at Texas Farm Bureau, told the Tribune.

COVID-19 WORKERS' COMP CLAIMS UPDATED

More than 90,000 COVID-19 workers' compensation cases have been reported in Texas, along with 459 fatalities, according to the state Department of Workers' Compensation. Slightly more than half (51%) of the claims and 55% of the fatalities involved first responders and correctional officers.

Most of the benefits paid were for employer salary continuation or indemnity benefits in the cases of fatalities. The information was gathered through a conference call with 74 selected insurance carriers.

COVID-19 CASES, FATALITIES SHOW LITTLE CHANGE

The number of new cases of COVID-19 reported in the past week in Texas stayed steady at 56,734, with 183 deaths reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. That is little changed from the previous week.

DSHS reported 2,598 lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations in the state as of Friday, also comparable to last week.

★

THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

"The Redhead and Cat"

Here's the thing: I'm not superstitious.

It all started when I was still in Mexico, visiting a gallery, and I saw a painting across the room. The composition was striking. The bottom third was black and the top two-thirds were filled with a deep blue sky and great white clouds rising from the horizon. There was a bare tree on the right side and on the left was a full moon. I felt pulled into the gallery and across the room to see the picture, and that's when the figures in the foreground became clear.

Standing beside the tree were a woman and a cat. The woman had brilliant red hair. The cat was small and gray, and I felt something in me stir.

"The Redhead and Cat," the painting was called.

My best girlfriend, Angel, my biggest support to me when I started writing, had been a redhead, and my cat, Lucy, my muse every step of the way, was a small gray cat. They were both now long dead, but there they were, in front of this blue sky with the rising moon in the background.

I'm not superstitious, but having those two looking over me as I wrote seemed like a good idea. I brought the painting home to the U.S., and I got around to hanging it up just the other day.

That's when funny things started happening.

I've been grumpy. It's nothing big. It's nothing important. It's just the usual stuff that adds up like paper cuts. Working with no apparent progress. Feeling alone. Wondering if I am on the right track. Wondering if there is a track at all. That sort of thing.

It wears at the soul—when hopefulness starts to fray, and instead of facing the day with excitement, I just feel tired.

As I hung the painting, I tipped my head back and lost my balance. My favorite reading glasses slipped off my head and onto the floor just in time for me to catch myself and step on them. Crunch.

I grumbled. They were prescription glasses. Grumble.

The next day, I was still grumpy. I sat down at my computer and, to my surprise, found I had typed:

I am rtrtuyijng rto
"What the heck?!" I tried again.

I am rtrtuyijng rto
I unplugged my keyboard and plugged it in again. I got the same results. The keyboard was unusable. I grumbled again. I reached for a pen to take notes. My hand felt wet. The pen had exploded, and my hand was covered in ink.

It wasn't until then I remembered the painting on my wall.

Honestly, I am not superstitious. But I did ask them, after all.

Directly or indirectly, I asked my two loyal companions to help me, to both encourage me and, I guess, show me the error of my ways when I got lost—when I was grumpy, or failed to remember what matters.

What matters is the glorious journey. What matters is this wonderful day. Sure, it's corny, and it's been said so many times that sometimes it loses meaning, but that doesn't make it any less true.

This time, sitting at my desk, this time is sacred. It is short. It is precious. And I am a fool not to rejoice in the little time I have.

So Angel and Lucy are watching over me. They might be doing no more than that. But perhaps, from time to time, they may take a more active hand and provide me with a much-needed reminder of what a great fool I can be.

Till next time,
Carrie
Photos from the column and a link to YouTube videos can be found at CarrieClasson.com.

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NS Mustangs defeat Westfield 55-25,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Jon Kay NS Mustang's head coach intensely watches his players as he ready's the team for another State Championship title. He's said he never looks past the next game on the schedule, it's one game at a time. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



#34 Rashaad Johnson, NS Mustang running back scores one of his two TD's. (Photo by Linda Jamail)

security and school officials had to have them removed.

The two Mustang nations turned out but only one went home happy... it was the Eastside Boys who spoiled Westfield's night, romping 55 -25.

They share the same Mustang mascot but that's all they share. After the team captains exchanged their friendly handshakes during the coin toss at the beginning there wasn't any more friendly gestures exchanged. Both teams wanted the win in their record column.

It was the first win for North Shore over Westfield since the 2019 season. Westfield leads the series 6-4 since 2004. NS won the flip and Coach Kay wanted to get the 2nd half kick-off as he's most always does.

North Shore was picked to win Friday's contest by sport analysts but Westfield wanted to prove once again they could take the Eastside Boys down. After

all last season Westfield denied the State Champions a perfect winning season giving Kay's team the only defeat of their season. NS players remembered it and were determined to not let it happen again.

Kay's team not only wanted to do a payback for Westfield's 27-21 six point victory over them last season but they also wanted the win for their injured teammate. When Amador left on a stretcher in the ambulance I could feel the emotionally charged Eastside team rally and get juiced up for battle.

The first offensive play of the game was a pass play to last season's state championship's game star receiver David Amador. The ball wasn't caught and as he went down he was injured by a falling defender who landed on him. That quieted the crowd for over 30 minutes until he was loaded on an ambulance in route to the hospital. He's now home recovering from a minor

injury.

What was billed as to be a thriller, it wasn't. NS proved they're in a league of their own at least at this point in the season. This could be why across the sports world they're referred to as having built a dynasty. That could be true but as the old saying goes, don't count your chicks until they're hatched.

The Eastside Boys led by double digits throughout the game and Westfield never was able to mount a threat. NS offense and defense was polished and played with strength and vigor.

North Shore led Westfield 48-11 at halftime, Coach Kay pulled his starters early in the 3rd quarter and Westfield still couldn't make a noticeable challenge.

North Shore 3-0 has a bye next week but then opens district play away against Beaumont United 1-2 on Friday, September 23 at 7PM.

FOOTBALL SEASON WEEK 3: Aggies host Miami in meeting of ranked teams: Texans head to Denver to take on Wilson's Broncos

The No. 6-ranked Texas A&M Aggies host the No. 16-ranked Miami Hurricanes on Saturday evening in a prime time game to be broadcast nationally on ESPN.

This will be a good test for Jimbo Fisher's team, which opened the season with a less than stellar 31-0 victory over Sam Houston State two weeks ago.

Granted, the game was delayed some three hours due to inclement weather in the College Station area, and that could have had some effect on the lackluster performance of the Aggie offense. The Aggie defense, on the other hand, played well in pitching a shutout against the Bearcats.

That unit will get a real test on Saturday night when they face Miami QB Tyler Van Dyke, who threw for 193 yards and two TDs in the 'Canes 70-13 route of Bethune-Cookman.

The A&M-Miami game appears to be the marquee game this week in college football. In other offerings, No. 2-ranked Georgia opens SEC play at South Carolina, while Oklahoma visits Nebraska, and a game UTSA team head to Austin to take on Texas.

In the NFL, the Texans play their first road game of the season when they travel to Denver to take on Russell Wilson and the Broncos. Denver fans are hoping Wilson is the missing piece that returns Denver to the playoffs. The Dallas Cowboys hosts the defending AFC champs, Cincinnati, while Tampa Bay visit New Orleans.

Week 2 starts on Thursday night with a key AFC West tilt as the Los Angeles Chargers will visits the Kansas City Chiefs. Week 2 concludes with a double-header, with Tennessee visiting Buffalo in a meeting of defending division champions on ESPN at 6:15 p.m., while ABC will have Minnesota at Philadelphia at 7:30 p.m.

Before we take a look at this weekend's games, let's review Week 1's results, which were average. A 6-6 start to the season (50%), is nothing to gloat about.

I'll try and do better heading forward.

Now, onto this weekend's games.

NCAA
Georgia at South Carolina: Well, I guess Georgia is beginning to look a lot like Alabama, they don't rebuild, they just reload. Despite losing 15 players to the NFL, Georgia did not miss a beat in their season-opening 49-3 pasting of No. 11-ranked Oregon in their season opener. The Bulldogs looked strong on both sides of the ball as quarterback Stetson Bennett IV threw for 368 yards and two touchdowns in the route of the Ducks. Running back Kenny McIntosh hauled in 9 passes for 117 yards, while the defense came up with two interceptions. This week they face a South Carolina team that has high hopes this year behind OU transfer QB Spencer Rattler (227 yards, 1 TD in the Gamecock's season-opening win). Look for the 'Dawgs to roll in this one. My pick, Georgia 34, South Carolina 17

Oklahoma at Nebraska: Back in the day, this was one of the most anticipated games when these two met in the Big 8. The winner usually won the conference and headed to the Orange Bowl. My, how times have changed. While OU has been a consistent winner since these two teams were in the same conference, while Nebraska has struggled since its move to the Big 10. Cornhusker head coach Scott Frost's seat is blazing hot after losing the opener to Northwestern in Ireland. Nebraska did pick up a 38-17 win in Week 2. UT transfer Casey Thompson (548 yards, 3 TDs) and running back Anthony Grant (290 yards, 4 TDs) will both need to bring their "A" game on Saturday if they hope to pull off the upset. OU opened the season with a 45-13 win over UTEP as new QB Dillon Gabriel threw for 233 yards and 2 TDs, while running back Eric Gray rushed for 102 yards and fellow back Marcus Major scored two rushing TDS. Look



for the Sooners to make things even more miserable for Frost and his team come Saturday. My pick, Oklahoma 31, Nebraska 23

UTSA at Texas: Texas opened its season with a convincing 52-10 over Louisiana-Monroe as new starting QB Quinn Ewers passed for 225 yards and two TDs and found a new weapon in tight end Ja'Tavion Sanders, who caught six passes for 85 yards and one TD. Running back Bijan Robinson added 71 yards on the ground and a score. While the 'Horns were rolling, the Roadrunners put up a quality effort against Houston before falling 37-35 in triple overtime. UTSA QB Frank Harris proved he's a dual threat as he rushed for 63 yards and a touchdown and passed for 337 yards and three scores. Texas had better not look past the Roadrunners, because if they do, they might get embarrassed at home. This should be a competitive game, but look for Robinson's legs to make the difference in this one. My pick, Texas 33, UTSA 28

Miami at Texas A&M: If the Aggies are going to be serious about contending for a spot in the College Football Playoff (CFP), a win over a ranked Miami team could be a huge resume enhancer. A lot of experts believe Miami could be a very dangerous team this year led by Van Dyke at QB, who should play at the next level. The 'Canes are under the direction of first-year head coach Mario Cristobal, a no-nonsense head coach who returned to his alma mater after a stint at Oregon's head coach. Miami also has a strong running game led by Henry Parrish (108 yards, 3 TDs in season opener). A&M's run game was nonexistent in the season opener as star running back Devon Achane was held to just 41 yards. Quarterback Haynes King had a nice game passing for 364 yards and three TDs. Wide receiver Ainas Smith hauled in six passes for 164 yards and two touchdowns, while Yulkeith Brown grabbed two passes for 68 yards and a score. Fisher needs Achane to get untracked if his team is going to come away with the win on Saturday night at Kyle Field. Something tells me Achane will be the difference maker against Miami on Saturday. My pick, Texas A&M 31, Miami 25

NFL
Los Angeles Chargers at Kansas City: A good one to start Week 2 as the Chargers visit the Chiefs in an early-season AFC West showdown. The Chargers believe they have the pieces in place on both sides of the ball to wrestle the AFC West title away from the Chiefs and they can make an early-season statement with a win on the road Thursday evening. This game will feature two of the best young QBs in the NFL as LA's Justin Herbert (5,014 yards, 38 TDs) take on KC's Patrick Mahomes (4,839 yards, 37 TDs). The KC defense will have its hands full trying to corral Herbert, running back Austin Ekeler (911 rushing yards, 70 receptions, 647 yards, 20 total TDs in 2021) and wide receivers Keenan Allen (106 receptions, 1,138 yards, 6 TDs) and Mike Williams (76 receptions, 1,146 yards, 9 TDs). If the Chargers hope to pull off the upset, they must contain KC tight end Travis Kelce (92 receptions, 1,125 yards, 10 TDs). Kelce will continue to be Mahomes' go-to receiver now that Tyreek Hill is with the Dolphins. This should be a fun game to watch with plenty of offensive fireworks. The Chiefs are not going to give up their seat as the top dog in the AFC West without a fight, which the Chargers will discover come Thursday night. My pick, Kansas City 34, Los Angeles Chargers 31

Cincinnati at Dallas: After opening the season

against Tom Brady and Tampa Bay, the Cowboys face another tough test when they host the defending AFC champion Cincinnati Bengals on Sunday afternoon at AT&T Stadium. The Dallas defense will have its hands full trying to contain Cinci QB Joe Burrow (4,611 yards, 34 TDs), running back Joe Mixon (1,205 yards, 16 total TDs) and wide receiver Ja'Marr Chase (81 receptions, 1,455 yards, 13 TDS). Dallas will need to keep the Bengals offense off the field, so look for the Pokes to give the Bengals defense a steady dose of running back Ezekiel Elliott (1,002 yards, 12 TDs) and Tony Pollard. If the running game softens up the Bengal defense, then QB Dak Prescott (4,449 yards, 37 TDs) should be able to find star WR CeeDee Lamb (79 receptions, 1,102 yards, 6 TDs) for some big strikes down field. This should be another wild one to watch. My pick, Dallas 33, Cincinnati 31

Houston at Denver: The Texans travel to the Mile High City to face the Broncos and their new QB, Russell Wilson (3,113 yards, 25 TDs). Bronco fans are hyped about the prospects of Wilson returning Denver to the playoffs and he has some nice, young weapons to work with in second-year running back Javonte Williams (903 yards, 7 TDs) and wide receiver Courtland Sutton (58 receptions, 776 yards, 2 TDs). The Texans will need a big day from rookie running back Damien Pierce, the star of training camp, to take pressure off of QB Davis Mills (2,664 yards, 16 TDs). If the Texans hope to pull off the upset, Mills and WR Brandin Cooks (90 receptions, 1,037 yards, 6 TDs) will need to make plays in the passing game. This will be Wilson's first home game so look for him to have a big day against the Houston defense. My pick, Denver 34, Houston 20

Tampa Bay at New Orleans: Tom Brady (5,316 yards, 43 TDs) and the Bucs play their second straight road game when they take on the Saints in an NFC South contest on Sunday. The Saints have won five straight against Brady and TB over the last two years and you know that does not sit well with the GOAT. Look for Brady to come out firing as he looks to make plays with wide receiver Mike Evans (74 receptions, 1,035 yards, 14 TDs), while running back Leonard Fournette (812 yards, 69 receptions, 454 yards, 10 total TDs) gets things done on the ground. The Saints will need a big day from running back Alvin Kamara (898 yards, 47 receptions, 439 yards, 9 total TDs), but it won't be enough as Brady brings an end to NO's dominance over his team. My pick, Tampa Bay 27, New Orleans 17

Tennessee at Buffalo: A good AFC matchup in the early Monday Night Football game pits the Titans against the Bills in Buffalo's home opener. Many are picking the Bills to win the AFC and the Super Bowl this year and taking down a quality AFC foe in Tennessee could do a lot for the Bills' confidence. Buffalo will be led by QB Josh Allen (4,407 yards, 36 TDs/ 763 rushing yards, 6 TDs) and big-play wide receiver Stefon Diggs (103 receptions, 1,225 yards, 10 TDs). If running back Devon Singletary improves and gives the Bills a lift on the ground, then the Bills could be downright unstoppable on offense this year. Look for the Titans to give the Bills a steady dose of running back Derrick Henry (937 yards, 10 TDs in just 10 games) to take pressure off of QB Ryan Tannehill (3,734 yards, 21 TDs), who will be without his play-making WR now that A.J. Brown (63 receptions, 869 yards, 5 TDs) is now a Philadelphia Eagle. The Bills' fans will be at fever pitch having had all day to "prepare" for the home opener. My pick, Buffalo 26, Tennessee 18



#3 Evan Jackson, NS Mustang Special Team's player gallops 66 yards for a TD on a punt return. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



#84 NS Mustang sophomore Cameron Smith hauls in a Kaleb Bailey pass for a TD. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



#84 NS Mustang sophomore Cameron Smith hauls in a Kaleb Bailey pass for a TD. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

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THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF JACINTO CITY WILL MEET IN SPECIAL SESSION ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2022 AT 5:45 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT 10301 MARKET STREET FOR THE PURPOSE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE ANTICIPATED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022/2023

The proposed budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$ 309,835, which is an 8.6 percent increase from last year's budget. The property tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is \$ 384,811.16.

| Property Tax Rate Comparison | 2021-2022 | 2022-2023 |
|--|------------------|--------------|
| Property Tax Rate | 0.773590/100 | 0.65588/100 |
| No-New-Revenue Tax Rate | \$0.749138/\$100 | 0.599472/100 |
| No-New-Revenue Maintenance & Operations Tax Rate | \$0.657427/\$100 | 0.623138/100 |
| Voter-Approval Tax Rate | \$0.773592/\$100 | 0.620453/100 |
| De minimis rate | \$0.845413/\$100 | 0.682623/100 |

Total debt obligation for CITY OF JACINTOCITY secured by property taxes:

\$ 0.0

During the 2022-2023 Budget year, \$ 2,000.00 projected for advertising and \$ 1050.00 has been spent as of 8/9/2022. The 2022-2023 Budget Proposal includes \$ 2000.00 for advertising.

Jacinto City did not budget for or spend funds on lobbying efforts in the 2021-2022 budget and there is no such funding proposed for the 2022-2023 budget.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IS ENCOURAGED

Joyce Raines, City Secretary

NS Rotarians join the 70’s fun at the Chamber Casino fund raiser

Several members of the Rotary Club of Greater Houston Area Veterans attended the North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce 70's theme event last night. We supported their fundraiser to raise money for a local scholarship named after Bill Palko. We made new friends and laughed with old friends. Who said building a community has to be boring?



LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN AIR PERMIT (NORI) RENEWAL

PERMIT NUMBER 48923

APPLICATION. Specialty Sand Company, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for renewal of Air Quality Permit Number 48923, which would authorize continued operation of a Industrial Sand And Abrasives Facility located at 16601 Garrett Rd, Houston, Harris County, Texas 77044. **AVISO DE IDIOMA ALTERNATIVO.** El aviso de idioma alternativo en espanol está disponible en <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/air/newsourcesreview/airpermits-pendingpermit-apps>. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to application. <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=29.89&lng=-95.133055&zoom=13&type=r>. The existing facility is authorized to emit the following air contaminants: carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, organic compounds, particulate matter including particulate matter with diameters of 10 microns or less and 2.5 microns or less and sulfur dioxide.

This application was submitted to the TCEQ on August 5, 2022. The application will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ central office, TCEQ Houston regional office, and the Central Library Jesse H. Jones Building, 500 McKinney, Houston, Harris County, Texas beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review in the Houston regional office of the TCEQ.

The executive director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application. Information in the application indicates that this permit renewal would not result in an increase in allowable emissions and would not result in the emission of an air contaminant not previously emitted. **The TCEQ may act on this application without seeking further public comment or providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.**

PUBLIC COMMENT. You may submit public comments to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. The TCEQ will consider all public comments in developing a final decision on the application and the executive director will prepare a response those comments. Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the TCEQ's jurisdiction to address in the permit process.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. You may request a contested case hearing if you are a person who may be affected by emissions of air contaminants from the facility. If requesting a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, daytime phone number; (2) applicant's name and permit number; (3) the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing;" (4) a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the application and air emissions from the facility in a way not common to the general public; (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the facility; (6) a description of how you use the property which may be impacted by the facility; and (7) a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period. If the request is made by a group or association, one or more members who have standing to request a hearing must be identified by name and physical address. The interests the group or association seeks to protect must also be identified. You may also submit your proposed adjustments to the application/permit which would satisfy your concerns.

The deadline to submit a request for a contested case hearing is 15 days after newspaper notice is published. If a request is timely filed, the deadline for requesting a contested case hearing will be extended to 30 days after mailing of the response to comments.

If any requests for a contested case hearing are timely filed, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for a contested case hearing to the Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. Unless the application is directly referred to a contested case hearing, the executive director will mail the response to comments along with notification of Commission meeting to everyone who submitted comments or is on the mailing list for this application. The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. **If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law relating to relevant and material air quality concerns submitted during the comment period.** Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the Commission's jurisdiction to address in this proceeding.

MAILING LIST. In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list for this application by sending a request to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. Those on the mailing list will receive copies of future public notices (if any) mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk for this application.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION. Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/, or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address and physical address will become part of the agency's public record. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the Public Education Program toll free at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from Specialty Sand Company, 16601 Garrett Road, Houston, Texas 77044-5957 or by calling Mr. Gordon Langston, Chief Operating Officer at (281) 215-9500.

Notice Issuance Date: September 6, 2022

Water District
Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

Harris County Fresh Water Supply District No. 47 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2022 on September 22, 2022 at 5 p.m., at 210 Brookview, Channelview, Texas. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

FOR the proposal: Dennis Hamala, Jack Dauzat, Alan Wolcik, James Laake
AGAINST the proposal: None
PRESENT and not voting: None
ABSENT: Nick Shankle

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

| | Last Year \$0.8071/\$100 Adopted | This Year \$0.7549/\$100 Proposed |
|--|--|---|
| Total tax rate (per \$100 of value) | | |
| Difference in rates per \$100 of value | | -\$0.0522/\$100 |
| Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-) | | -6.46% |
| Average appraised value | \$126,321 | \$139,777 |
| General exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disable person's exemptions) | \$12,632 | \$13,978 |
| Average taxable value | \$113,689 | \$125,799 |
| Tax on average residence homestead | \$917.58 | \$949.66 |
| Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-) | | +\$32.08 +3.49% |

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602(d), Water Code.

The Harris County Fresh Water Supply District No.47 proposes to use the tax increase for the purpose of making improvements to the water and wastewater system.

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County announces new crime reduction initiative

\$150 million for “Safe Harris” and VIPER

HARRIS COUNTY – County leaders on Wednesday touted an overall decrease in violent crime across the region and announced the Safe Harris initiative — a four year \$150 million public safety investment focused on further reducing crime in Harris County.

According to Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo, the county saw a 7% decrease in violent crime since June 2021, with a 4% decrease in homicides. Additionally, Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez added that since December 13, his department seized 279 guns, cleared 1,303 warrants, and filed over 1,000 charges — a majority of those being felony charges, Gonzalez said.

“We’re moving in the right direction,” Gonzalez said. “We’re taking crime seriously here in Harris County, and we’re going to continue to work collaboratively and learn



Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez (middle) speaks to reporters about the county’s Safe Harris initiative on August 17, 2022. At left is County Judge Lina Hidalgo, at rear Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, and at right Deputy County Administrator for Public Safety Perrye Turner.

from what’s working and what’s not working.”

The additional money will bolster the county’s ongoing public safety investments and help fund the Violent Persons Task Force, or Viper, which

will launch next month in Harris County with the aim to “take the most dangerous individuals off the street,” according to Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia.

“These efforts are part

of the effort to address the common threat, which is in the rise of violence,” Garcia said. “This is why more common sense gun laws and measures are needed.”

The county also creat-

ed the Safe Harris website, which compiles already existing dashboards — including data on Harris County Jail’s population and the county’s criminal court backlog — into one centralized location, along with information about the county’s public safety spending.

“SafeHarris.com is for you, our community, and is designed to give you a full view of the money and programs being developed and implemented,” said Deputy County Administrator for Public Safety Perrye Turner.

During the briefing, the focus shifted to the county’s short fiscal year \$1.3 billion budget, which focused heavily on public safety.

The Harris County Sheriff’s Office saw a \$123.6 million increase in total funding from from 2019 to 2021, which funded additional overtime and increased salaries for county law enforcement,

according to the Safe Harris website.

Judge Hidalgo added that the budget for the Harris County DA’s Office has increased by \$12.7 million from 2019 to 2021 and adamantly dismissed accusations of defunding law enforcement — claims that Hidalgo said were purposefully perpetuated by political opponents during an election year.

“We have increased the funding for every single law enforcement agency, so it is a lie,” she said. “You are hurting our law enforcement and you are hurting our democracy when you’re willing to spread lies.”

Harris County Commissioners Court previously allocated millions to several programs aimed at reducing crime and increasing community safety, including a controversial “ShotSpotter” gunshot detection pilot program in Aldine and two public safety programs meant to decrease reliance on police intervention.

Chappell Hill Art Gallery features Paintings by Mei

Texas Artisans Art Gallery in Chappell Hill is now featuring oil painting by Mei Hoffman. Gallery is on the main street, and open weekends and some weekdays by appointment. Call 713-703-3841.

The Texas Artisans Art Gallery in Chappell Hill, a short drive from Houston on US290, recently received new paintings to add to its collection of artwork by Mei Hoffman.

The landscape painting seen at the top of the photo on the right was purchased by Leslie Conrads, (in photo left), with the artist Mei Hoffman on the right.

Both Chappell Hill and Round Top are busy each weekend this fall with visitors to the galleries and stores.



ROTARY NEWS

Jeanne Shipp wins new vehicle in North Shore Rotary Fish Fry Raffle



Jeanne Shipp picks up her new Truck at Community Toyota in Baytown. North Shore Rotarians Steven and Stacey Palko of Palko & Associates sold her the winning ticket. Also present were Roger Elswick of Community Toyota, NS Rotary president Shawn Silman, and NS Rotarian Bill Palko.

North Shore Rotary hosts Multi-Club meeting with District Governor



ABOVE: Rotaians from Rotary Clubs in Highlands, North Shore, Baytown, Galena Park/Jacinto City, Humble, and Lake Houston met last Thursday, August 25 in the Monument Room at San Jacinto College North for a social luncheon and a talk by Rotary District 5890 Governor Mindi Snyder.

RIGHT: NS President Ken Wimbley presents flowers to the guest speaker, DG Mindi Snyder.

