NORTH CHANNEL STAR

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Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Cloverleaf, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City
VOLUME 11, NO. 20 (#470) THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2023 www.northchannelstar.com

CHANNEL CURRENTS

NORTH SHORE ROTARY 48TH ANNUAL CATFISH FRY & CRAWFISH BOIL

Luther Smith wins Rotary Fish Fry truck

Jacinto City changes Trash Pick-up Days

Starting Monday, May 3 waste collection days will change to MONDAY and THURSDAY. The last Saturday that waste will be collected is April 29. Heavy waste collection will occur on Thursdays.

Contact WM at 800-800-5804 with questions.

Tina's Resale Shop closing after 20 years

Tina Zorrilla is retiring after 20 years, and permanently closing her Resale Shop at 10407 Market Street in Jacinto City. All merchandise is 50% off, including furniture, antique collectibles, sports memorabilia, cameras, jewelry, and much more.

jewelry, and much more. Open Tues-Sat 11-6. See details on page 5.

Fish Fry event draws record crowd

NORTH SHORE – North Shore Rotarians held their 48th Annual Catfish Fry & Crawfish Boil last Saturday at the Rotary Pavilion on Wallisville Road, and it was a roaring success.

Over 500 persons turned out for great food, silent and live auctions of unique items, a raffle with 20 valuable prizes including a new 2023 Toyota vehicle, and lots of socializing with old and new friends in the Rotary and North Channel area.

The crowd stayed to the end of the afternoon, because the raffle prizes are the very last activity of the day, and anticipation of who will win the new vehicle grows, as each ticket is pulled from the rotating bin. This year the winner was Luther Smith, and the winning ticket was sold by his friend Rotarian Lowell



Winners of the new 2023 Toyota Pick-up truck in the Rotary Raffle are Christina and Luther Smith, seen here with Lee Brown, Rotary chairman of the Catfish Fry & Crawfish Boil event, held last Saturday at the Rotary Pavilion on Wallisville Road.

Everitt. Smith and his wife Christina were present for the drawing, and were able to pose for a picture with the new Toyota Tacoma truck. They will have an opportunity to work with the dealer, Community Toyota in Baytown, to finalize the actual model and trim details of the vehicle they will drive home.

Each year the president elect of the Rotary club serves as the chairman of the Fish Fry, and this year it was Lee Brown, principal of Goose Creek Cloverleaf Elementary school. Brown had the support of the whole club, including the president Ken Wimbley, to make this year a great success.

Money raised in this Fish Fry is used all year for community projects, scholarships, Rotary International projects, and other Rotary activities benefitting the North Shore/Channelview community. The club usually makes about \$300,000 from this event, which is the main fund raiser for the year. The club has returned millions of dollars to the community over the years.

In addition to tickets sales for the raffle and food, funds come from sponsors. Major sponsors this year were the Mulloy Family Foundation, and Education Foundations from Sheldon ISD, Channelview ISD, Galena Park ISD, and San Jacinto College. Also, Community Toyota was a named sponsor. There were about 30 other named sponsors.

The live auction included some unusual items, which buyers vied for with

Continued. See Rotary Fish Fry,

FALLEN HEROES CEREMONY – JACINTO CITY

By Linda Jamail

JACINTO CITY - Saturday, May, 2023 at the Jacinto City Police Station, law enforcement officers, veterans, club representatives, city officials and citizens came to the Fallen Heroes' Memorial ceremony.

The annual event began in 1973 when Allan Jamail, then president of the JC Police Officers Association had a monument made and set the date of the third Saturday of May to recognize and pay respect for those killed in the line of duty.

Instead of having sepa-



FALLEN HEROES CEREMONY PARTICIPANTS.

Standing L—R~ Deputy Const. D. Walker, Pct. 3, Capt. Marcus Anderson, Const. Pct. 2, Officer A. Howard, JCPD, Chief J.M. Ayala, JCPD, Officer J. Pizano, JCPD, Officer D. Grant, JCPD, Officer M. Hernandez, JCPD, Det. R. Barker II, JCPD, Sgt. J. Ruiz, Pct. 2, Sgt. C. Nieto, JCPD, Allen Lee, JC Councilman, Robert Hernandez Jr., Gregg Robinson, JC Councilman, holding the flag, Pct. 2 Deputy Const's - Dep. F. Cabral, Dep. J. Lancaster, Dep. J. Stubblefield & Allan Jamail, former JC Councilman, Mayor, Chief of Police & Emergency Management Director.

Sitting L—R \sim Veteran, VFW Post 9296 member John Huff & Rosane & President Antonio Silva, Righteous Riders Motorcycle Club (Photo by Linda Jamail)

rate ceremonies for our nation's heroes for each of the branches of the armed forces, firemen and law enforcement Jamail created a combined ceremony honoring them all.

Chief Ayala thanked everyone for attending and vowed to keep the annual ceremony going. He gave words of praise to Constable Jerry Garcia's Precinct 2 deputies for their attendance and their working with his department in helping to keep the community safer. He made complimentary remarks to former Chief Allan Jamail

CONTINUED. SEE PAGE 3

North Channel Library opens Family Place Wing

By Allan Jamail

May, 17, 2023 – Houston, TX. – Harris County's Public Library (HCPL) North Channel Library Branch (NCLB) at 15741 Wallisville Rd. expanded their services to the community by opening a family place wing.

Dr. Tori Hill, Superintendant of CISD delivered the inaugural message. He said, "children about three years old or younger are learning how to read, after that they read to learn." He stated if a child can't read by the age of three they're likely not going to do well in school or graduate.

The funds for the new wing were made available from the Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation to the Harris County Public Library System.

The Foundation advocates for literacy as a fundamental right for everyone and views literacy as a necessary skill to achieve individual, family, and community success. It is founded on the belief held by former



L – R: Linda Jamail, Community Liaison for State Rep. Ana Hernandez, Stephanie Villanueva, Community Engagement Coordinator for Comm. Rodney Ellis Pct. 1., Dr. Tori Hill, Superintendant CISD, Daisy Preciado, Staff, NCLB of HCPL, Kim Tiller, Children's Program Specialist NCLB, Maria Rawls, Librarian NCLB & Abner Lyons, Community Liaison for Rep. Harold Dutton. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

First Lady Barbara Bush: "If you help a person to read, then their opportunities in life will be endless."

The George and Barbara Bush Family Place wing is a space inside a branch library for toddlers and young children with toys, games, puzzles, books and materials for parents to encourage early literacy learning and promote interaction between a caregiver and Residents of Harris County can get a free HCPL membership card in order to access the library services by visiting any HCPL branch. Or calling (713) 274-6600 or (832) 927-5550 or emailing: nc@hcpl.net.

emailing: nc@hcpl.net.
Other North Channel Family Place wings are located in Jacinto City at 921 Akron St. phone (832) 927-5520 and Galena Park 1500 Keene St. phone, (832) 927-5470.

28 GPISD Athletes Signed Letters of Intent on National Signing Day

HOUSTON – National Signing Day is a day when high school seniors officially commit to college athletic programs; four Galena Park High School senior athletes and twenty-one North Shore Senior High School senior athletes inked their signatures on

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3.



Pictured: Galena Park High School senior athletes



Pictured: North Shore Senior High School senior athletes

SHELDON ISD NEWS

Sheldon ISD Education Foundation Presents \$68,000 in Innovative Teaching Grants

On May 19, Sheldon ISD surprised teachers by awarding \$68,000 in innovative teaching grants. This year, 27 applicants were selected from more than 60 applications representing 11 schools in Sheldon ISD. Selected grants range from creative ideas for STEM take-home kits for elementary students to courtroom furniture for the law and public service courses at the high school.

The Sheldon ISD Education Foundation raises funds to directly support educators in the school district through the innovative teaching grant process. To date, the Foundation has awarded more than \$188,000 in innovative teaching grants to Sheldon ISD educators. To learn how to get involved or donate to the Education Foundation, go to www.sheldonisd.com/



Dr. Demetrius McCall receives Outstanding Superintendent award



Sheldon ISD's newly approved Superintendent of Schools Dr. Demetrius McCall has been named the 2023 Texas Black Expo Outstanding Superintendent. Dr. McCall has been selected based on his exemplary achievements in education. He was recognized at a luncheon on May 19.

Coach Damien Mobley Named King HS Head Basketball Coach

Coach Damien Mobley comes to Sheldon ISD from Dallas as the head basketball coach for James Madison High School where he has led a winning team since 2018, with five state championships during his tenure as head coach. He has also been named the Dallas Morning News Coach of the Year. He has more than 20 years of experience as a head basketball coach and physical education and health teacher. He has a total of six state championship wins and one finalist standing. Coach Mobley has worked at schools in Dallas, Waxahachie and Odessa. He has a bachelor of science and a masters in counseling from Prairie View A&M University.

Class of 2023 Celebrates Upcoming Graduation with Annual Senior Walk



On May 18, the Class of 2023 traveled across the district, visiting Sheldon ISD's 13 schools. It was an exciting day for seniors to be able to see previous teachers and administrators throughout their educational journey in Sheldon ISD. This also promotes the district's mission to our younger learners to graduate students ready for their futures.

King High School's graduation is scheduled for 7: 30 p.m. on Friday, May 26 at Panther Stadium.

Summer Theater Opportunity for kindergarten Through Fifth Graders

King Theatre Company is presenting its first Summer Theater Workshop Monday, June 5 through Thursday, June 15 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be a final performance at the conclusion of the workshop. This program will provide students with an opportunity to create costumes, work on sets and theater performances to include singing and dancing. Students will be divided into classes based on age and grade level. The program is geared for students who have completed kindergarten through fifth grade. Details can be found on the district's website at www.sheldonisd.com. Proceeds for the camp will benefit the C.E. King High School Theatre Company. Registration is limited for Sheldon ISD students.

In North Shore, nearly everyone reads the NORTH CHANNEL STAR. Your Hometown Newspaper.

Jillian Howard named principal of C.E. King High School

Sheldon ISD announces Mrs. Jillian Howard as the new principal of C.E. King High School. Mrs. Howard comes to Sheldon ISD from Galena Park ISD where she has worked since 2015. She has a proven track record of success in leadership at all levels, and brings eight years of administrative experience serving North Shore High School as an assistant principal, associate principal of curriculum and instruction and most recently deputy principal. She has also served in Clear Creek ISD as a bilingual elementary teacher and Spanish Pre AP teacher at the Clear Horizons Early College High School.

"I am very excited to begin working with the C.E. King High School community, students and staff," said Mrs. Jillian Howard. "King High School is an established campus with wonderful programs in place that prepare students for their futures. I look forward to being a part of this school and leading the campus in continued excellence."

Mrs. Howard holds a bachelor of science in developmental psychology from Tulane University and a master in education in educational policy and leadership from the University of Texas at Arlington. She has had the honor of being named Texas Ele-



Mrs. Jillian Howard mentary Teacher of the Year in 2014.

Her role as principal of King High School will begin with the 2023-24 school

GALENA PARK ISD NEWS





Pictured: Roberto Torres, GPHS Welding Instructor; Marcos Rodriguez, GPHS Welding Insructor; Wanda Heath-Johnson, GPISD Board Trustee; Marcelo Feistauer, Airgas East Texas Vice President; Pedro Gonzalez, Airgas Account Manager; and Dr. John Moore, Superintendent of Schools

Houston, TX: Galena Park ISD recognized Airgas for their generous donation to Galena Park High School's (GPHS) Welding Class.

With more than 900 retail locations, Airgas is the leading, single-source supplier of gases, welding equipment, and safety products. With more than

one million customers, Airgas is a trusted collaborator for customers and now with Galena Park ISD. GPHS will use this donation to bolster Career and Technology curriculum, enhance supplies, and acquire needed materials for welding instruction. Galena Park ISD is thankful to

Airgas for their partnership and for investing in the future of our students!

A plaque was presented to Airgas on behalf of the Board of Trustees and Dr. John Moore, Superintendent of Schools.

Story Credits: Dr. Tommie L. Smith

Photo Credits: Jerome Delafosse



CHARLOTTE'S WEB

By Charlotte Jackson



When Did We....

hen did we become so full of anger?
When did we decide we have to prove
ourselves on social media? When did
we decide that our children did not need a bedtime? When did we decide to honor our parents
but not the parents of our loved one? Is there
some sort of unwritten message that says we are
supposed to receive respect even if we do not give
it? Why do we think we can exit the entrance
gates and enter the exit gate? Or when did we
decide that it did not matter how loud we were,
even if the neighbors had young children?

These were questions that several people I know were discussing over breakfast on Saturday. Most of the group were over the age of fifty. They were talking about things they had just experienced in the past few days. Some of the group live in apartments and some are homeowners, but it was a consensus that our world has changed greatly. Some members of the group babysit their grandchildren and were totally frustrated as to the things that their children allowed the grandchildren to get away with. One man said if he had ever called his mother by her first name, he would have never made it to the age of ten. Another was appalled that when her son in law buys gifts for the holidays, he buys for his parents, his siblings, his wife, and their children, but never thinks about his in-laws.

One man was sharing that the same things his son in law wants to point out as his faults are nowhere near as bad as his own father. The conversation shifted when someone asked if was there a change in the issues if they were at their own house instead of at their children's home. The conversation went on until someone asked, "Well, how do we make changes?" It was a unanimous decision that it needs to start with prayer. None of us want to see distance put in relationships, but we must do our part to make the change. Perhaps the second step is to realize that no two people have the exact same paths. Out of the group, there were some who had grown up with both parents at home. Some did not know their fathers. Everyone's birth order had something to do with their journey. Those who were raised in the home with both biological parents could not understand about a home having multiple children, born to multiple unmarried parents. There were some who grew up in church and continued that tradition with their children. Others had suffered abuse from those in the church and never returned to church much less took their children.

By the time we left, we all agreed that we needed to pray more, learn to listen more and to forgive even more. We agreed that we were going to make a list of things that we felt we needed to change in our own lives and work on those before we tried to correct what we perceive as other's faults. We also agreed to meet again monthly to hold each other accountable.

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Galena Park National Signing Day,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

national letters of intent to their respective schools. These athletes basked in a celebration of the hard work and dedication they have put into their sport, as well as their academic achievements.

From Galena Park High School: Briana Allen (girls track) - Sam Houston State University; Quindell Anthony (football) - Avila University; David Barnes (football) Avila University; Branasia Brazelton (girls basketball) - Arlington Baptist University; Diamond Broussard (boys basketball) - Lee College; Leah Chanette (girls track) -Our Lady of the Lake University; David Charles (swimming) - University of Texas Permian Basin; Logan Chavanne (football) - Aurora University; Zachary Chavanne (football) - Aurora University; Jacob Dancy (football) -North American University; Omarion Dudley (football) - Avila University; Tyler Edwards (football) - Benedictine College; Carlos Espino (baseball) - Kansas Wesleyan University; Briana Hernandez (girls soccer) - North American University; Nehemiah Jones (boys basketball) - Dallas College Richland; Emiliano Lopez (boys soccer) - University of St. Thomas; Karissa Maldonado (volleyball) - Philander Smith College; Ashley Moreno (girls soccer) - North American University; Shalayne Morgan (girls basketball) - Tyler Junior College; Yasmin Soto (girls soccer) - Trinity Valley Community College; Jacob Tanguma (baseball) - Angelina College; Taylor Waters (girls track) - Lamar University; and Verdarion Williams (football) - Cisco College; LIsbeth Yanez (girls soccer) - Blinn College

From North Shore Senior High School: Kenneth Conyer (football) - Texas Lutheran University; Jazlynn Estrada (cross country and track) - Houston Christian University; Iris Garcia (girl's soccer) - Nebraska Wesleyan University; and Jonathan Renteria (football) - Sul Ross State University

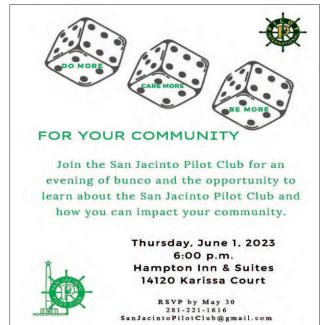
We wish these GPISD athletic graduates all the best in their future endeavors! Story Credits: Dr. Tommie L. Smith Photo Credits: Jerome Delafosse Photo Direction: Allan Jamail for the North Channel Star

Heroes Ceremony,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

in being tough on crime. He said he'd heard the late Chief Joe E. Daniels was a good chief who always got along with the citizens.

Galena Park's John Huff of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9296 led the group to the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Jamail gave the invocation. Galena Park's Antonio Silva, President of the Righteous Riders Motorcycle Club and his wife Rosane attended and passed out small coins with a cutout cross in them along with cards with Christian beliefs on them. They're members of the Christian Motorcyclists Association.



We are excited to announce that our next "Eastside Prayer Gathering" will be taking place on Friday, June 2nd at 7pm. The Prayer Gathering will be held in Judge Joe Stephens

court room located at the Fonteno Court house.



ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim: "Can Fancy Color Diamonds be Found in All Colors!"

Fancy color natural mined diamonds come in almost any color you can imagine. Red, green, purple, and orange are generally the rarest, followed by pink and blue. Yellows and browns are the most common fancy colors, but they're generally less valuable than the rarer colors.



Blacks, grays, and fancy whites are considered fancies, too. Some have been fashioned into gems. The 67.50-carat Black Orloff diamond, named after the Russian Princess Nadia Vyegin-Orloff, is the most well-known example.

Spectacular prices in high-profile auctions are another factor in the increased awareness of fancy color diamonds. Not all fancy color diamonds command such high prices, however. Many people consider yellow and brown fancies less desirable than near-colorless stones of equal weight and clarity. And deeper yellows and browns are generally less valuable than other fancy colors.

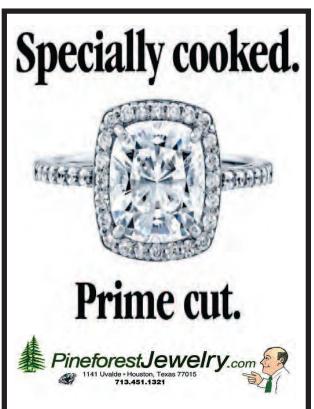
If you are looking for any color diamond, look no further than Pineforest Jewelry. Contact us if you would like to set up a private appointment.

Credit to GIA for much of the content in this article

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 <u>jmills@pineforestjewelry.com</u>.





In North Shore, nearly everyone reads the NORTH CHANNEL STAR. Your Hometown Newspaper.



OPINION PAGE \bigstar \bigstar

OPINION By Texas Department of Transportation

More people are dying in Motorcycle crashes in **Texas**

AUSTIN – As motorcycle fatalities continue to rise and the spring weather draws more riders to Texas roadways, TxDOT is urging drivers to look twice and be considerate on the road around motorcycle riders.

Amy Jo Miller was enjoying a ride on the back of her boyfriend's motorcycle in Bell County when an inattentive driver turned left in front of them, hitting the bike and throwing her across the road. Seconds later, another vehicle then ran her over in a hit-and-run crash, leaving her with multiple serious injuries. Fortunately, she survived, but 15 years later, Amy Jo is still recovering from her

Amy Jo, now 49, is just one of thousands of Texas motorcyclists seriously injured—or worse, killed—in crashes every year. In 2022, 562 motorcycle riders were killed in motor vehicle crashes, an 8% increase over the previous year.

"People on motorcycles are more vulnerable on our roadways," said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "It's important for drivers to pay extra attention and look out for motorcycles especially at intersections, when turning in front of oncoming traffic and while changing lanes. We all want to get home safe."

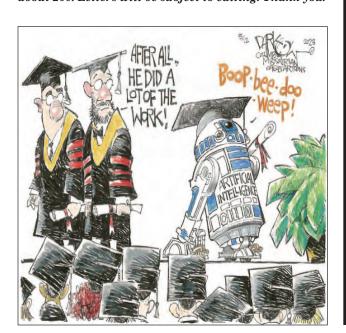
In addition to National Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, TxDOT's annual safety campaign "Share the Road: Look Twice for Motorcycles" also aims to protect motorcyclists by educating drivers on how to safely share the road. Below are safety precautions all motorists should keep in mind to help prevent motorcycle crashes:

- Stay alert. Give driving your full attention. Even a momentary distraction, such as answering a phone call or changing the radio station, can have deadly consequences.
- Pay special attention at intersections. Onethird of all motorcycle fatalities happen at roadway intersections.
- Take extra care when making a left turn. Always assume motorcycles are closer than they appear and avoid turning in front of an oncoming motorcycle.
- Look twice when changing lanes. Check mirrors, check blind spots, and always use turn
- Give motorcyclists room when passing them. Move over to the passing lane and don't crowd the motorcyclist's full lane.
- Stay back. If you're behind a motorcycle, always maintain a safe following distance. When a motorcyclist downshifts, it can catch drivers off guard since there are no brake lights to signal reduced speed.
- Slow down. Obey posted speed limits and drive according to conditions.

To help drivers fully understand the importance of driving safely and the dangers motorcycle riders face, TxDOT is taking its "Share the Road: Look Twice for Motorcycles" campaign exhibit on the road during National Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month. The exhibit will feature a virtual reality component that gives participants the opportunity to experience high-risk traffic situations from the perspective of both a driver and a motorcyclist.

TxDOT's "Share the Road: Look Twice for Motorcycles" campaign is a key component of #EndTheStreakTX, a broader social media and word-of-mouth effort that encourages drivers to make safer choices while behind the wheel to help end the streak of daily deaths. Nov. 7, 2000, was the last deathless day on Texas roadways.

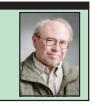
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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



House Lawmakers Defy Abbott on Vouchers

A key House education committee adjourned last week without voting on a school voucher bill that is Gov. Greg Abbott's top priority this session, the Houston Chronicle reported. Barring some unforeseen maneuver in the last week of the regular legislative session, the bill is effectively dead for now.

The Senate had approved a bill that would provide Texas families \$8,000 in taxpayer money to fund private or charter school tuition. The House narrowed the scope so that it would only apply to students with disabilities or those attending schools with a failing grade issued by the Texas Education Agency an estimated 800,000 students. The Senate bill would make vouchers available to 5.5 million Texas students.

State Rep. Brad Buckley, R-Killeen, chair of the House Public Education Committee, said he doesn't plan to call a vote on the measure. Abbott has threatened to veto the House version or call a special session if the House does not approve the Senate version.

Opponents of the voucher system say it would take money away from public ed-

"These voucher proposals have been brought before in 1957. A tuition grant bill was passed through the House. It failed ultimately, but it was to allow kids to leave integrated schools and join white-only schools," state Rep. James Talarico, D-Round Rock, said.

BILLS FAVORING NATURAL GAS POWER PLANTS

ADVANCE A Texas House committee voted Thursday to send to the House floor a Senate bill providing \$10 billion in taxpayer money for low-interest loans to build natural gaspowered electrical generating plants. The plan is still subject to change in the waning days of the legislative session, however.

The Dallas Morning News reported the call for plant expansions stem from the near collapse of the power grid during the devastating winter storm in 2021. Hundreds



of Texans died during that blackout.

State Rep. Todd Hunter, R-Corpus Christi, and chair of the House State Affairs Committee that is considering the bills, said the \$10 billion loan fund and other power generation measures remain "works in progress." The legislative session ends May 29.

HOUSE, SENATE CLOSER ON **TAX RELIEF PLAN**

The Texas House and Senate appear to be nearing a deal that would deliver billions of dollars in property tax relief, the Austin American-Statesman reported. The proposal combines House Speaker Dade Phelan's preference for cutting appraisal caps by half with Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick's preference for increasing

homestead exemptions. The Legislature was under a mandate from Abbott and Patrick to return nearly half of the state's \$33 billion budget surplus to taxpayers. The latest measure would lower the appraised value cap from 10% to 5% for all properties. The House version would also raise the state's homestead exemption from \$40,000 to \$100,000, with an added \$10,000 exemption for seniors and disabled homeowners. Patrick's original proposal was to raise the exemption to \$70,000.

DRAFT BUDGET BARS TAX DOLLARS FOR PAXTON SETTLEMENT

House and Senate budget negotiators plan to bar using state funds to pay the \$3.3 million whistleblower settlement negotiated by Attorney

General Ken Paxton and his former aides, the Statesman reported.

The settlement was reached in February after four former employees of the AG's office sued Paxton, accusing him of bribery and abusing his office. Since that time the four aides were fired or have resigned. Paxton denied their allegations, but as part of the settlement apologized for calling them "rogue employees."

Paxton said when the settlement was reached that it would save taxpayer money in the long run by avoiding an expensive court battle.

"I have chosen this path to save taxpayer dollars and ensure my third term as Attorney General is unburdened by unnecessary distractions," Paxton said in a statement at the time. "This settlement achieves these goals."

SUSPECTED FUNGAL **INFECTIONS LINKED TO MATAMOROS SURGERIES**

The Texas Department of State Health Services is sounding the alarm to the public and doctors about suspected cases of fungal meningitis among Texas residents receiving surgery in Matamoros, Mexico across the border from Brownsville. So far, the investigation has found at least five affected patients, four of whom are now hospitalized and one who died.

The patients traveled from Texas to Matamoros for surgical procedures that involved an epidural anesthetic, which is injected around the spinal column. One of the possible elective procedures conducted under an epidural is liposuction.

"It is very important that people who have recently had medical procedures in Mexico monitor themselves for symptoms of meningitis," said DSHS Commissioner Jennifer Shuford. "Meningitis, especially when caused by bacteria or fungus, can be a life-threatening illness unless treated promptly."

Anyone who had surgery involving an epidural in Matamoros this year is advised to contact a doctor, DSHS said in its news re-

MORE THAN \$9 MILLION IN **EMS STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS**

The state is funding more than \$9 million for 1,500 emergency medical services scholarships. The goal is to expand the state's EMS workforce, especially in underserved and rural areas. The funding comes from legislation passed during the 2021 legislative session.

"This funding to support EMS education opportunities and to increase the workforce will ensure a strong EMS system in Texas," said Joe Schmider of DSHS. "These scholarships are impacting the current and future emergency care throughout all of Texas."

Potential EMS students can learn more by going here: <u>dshs.texas.gov/emstex-</u>



"Lukewarm Water"

Yesterday wasn't the best

I don't like to complain and, the truth is, I have very little to complain about. Still, yesterday was not the best

I woke with a stomachache. I'd gone to bed with a stomachache, and this is not terribly unusual. My mother gets stomachaches, and now my 20-year-old niece is prey to them. Stress and irregular eating set them off, these stomachs of ours, and sometimes they take hours or even days to get sorted out. This one was particularly stubborn and saw me through the night and into the next day. By midmorning, I realized, unless I was writing about a stomachache, I wasn't likely to get much writing done.

So I thought I'd learn a new program I'd promised myself I'd learn. The young woman on the video assured me that this training was for "absolute beginners," and I felt reassured. I sat down with my stomachache and started watching.

I had no idea what she was talking about.

It wasn't that she left me behind-I never got on the bus. The bus pulled away and left me standing on the curb. I suddenly felt old. I was an old woman with a stomach-

Then I heard from my agent. My agent is cheerful and hopeful and loves my book, and she's working hard right now to sell it. She wrote to tell me I got another rejection. She sounded pretty down—for a perpetually upbeat person. She sounded as if we might be running out of people to send my book to. This was depressing news.

That's when I saw the Facebook post.

A friend objected to my reent column where I looked through the stained glass in a church and found colorand reason to be happy. It wasn't realistic, he wrote. Bad things happen, and people like me should acknowledge them. He talked about tornados and shootings. He said people like me would go looking for a pony in a pile of horse poop. He wasn't very nice.

And I still had a stomachache. Nothing makes me feel better when I am down than a nice hot bath by candlelight, and it was certainly time for one of those. But the bathtub faucet was not working, and so the hot water filled the tub very slowly—so slowly that, by the time there was enough for a bath, it was lukewarm.

"Oh well!" I said as I hopped in. "A lukewarm bath by candlelight is better than no bath at all."

That's when the candle fizzled out.

I sat in the lukewarm water in the dark. I still had a stomachache as I mulled over the rejection of my manuscript. I remembered my friend's accusation that I was not realistic. I realized he was right.

But, as I considered the options, I honestly couldn't think of another way to live. Life is short, no matter how long we live. Knowing that my time is short, and my abilities limited, encourages me to do whatever I can with this precious time I have—right now-sitting in lukewarm water. I get a choice about how I wish to feel about all of it, even the stomachache. And I believe (realistic or not) that it is a precious gift to live in this continually amazing, astonishingly beautiful world.

I feel better today. The sky is still gray. The faucet is still broken. There is still no word on my book. But my stomachache is marginally better. And I am enormously grateful to experience all of it.

Till next time,

Carrie



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Harris County increases Homestead exemption

New exemption for Seniors and Disabled raised to \$275K; 3rd time Garcia has saved homeowners' money

Harris County — During the May 16 Commissioners Court, Commissioner Adrian Garcia led an effort to increase the homestead exemption for seniors and disabled homeowners. The measure, which passed unanimously, means seniors and homeowners with disabilities who qualify for the exemption may take an additional \$25,000 (\$275,000 total) off the appraised value of their homes. The move would provide an average savings of about \$130 per

A longtime champion for taxpayer relief, Commissioner Garcia has repeatedly looked for ways to reduce the burden of property taxes for families. Back in 2020, Garcia proposed the first increase in the homestead exemption since 2008.

"Once again, we deliver real savings to people desperate for help. This latest increase of the exemption should help ne-

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gate the impact of rising appraisal values on families across Harris County," said Commissioner Adrian Garcia, "I'm proud to have helped put money back into the pockets of hardworking fami-

Should the Texas Legislature raise the maximum amount available for homestead exemptions, Commissioner Garcia plans to bring an item to Commissioners Court to increase it in Harris County as well.



Bezos Academy-North Shore is Accepting Applications Now for the 2023–2024 School Year.

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Park to become a multi-use facility focused on adventure sports

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (HPARD) will host the grand reopening of Brock Park on Saturday, May 6, 2023, from noon to 3 p.m. Brock Park is located at 8201 John Ralston, Houston, TX 77078 in northeast Houston. The new Brock Park has been reimagined as an adventure park, featuring amenities like a ropes course, Ninja Warrior course, a kayak/calaunch, nature-based programming, and enhanced site security. The park is the first of its kind in the City of Houston. "The transformation of Brock Park into an adventure park destination is an exciting development for the City of Houston parks landscape," said Mayor Sylvester Turner. "The amenities that will be available at the park, along with the addition of upgraded event space, will undoubtedly make Brock Park a destination stop for generations of Houstonians looking for unique entertainment options. Thank you to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and our dedicated Parks team for making this dream a reality." Funding for the project was made possible by a \$1 million grant

from Texas Parks and

Wildlife, and funding

from the Houston Parks

and Recreation Depart-

ment's Capital Improve-

ment Fund. Brock Parks



that helped guide this makeover, and of course. it could not have been done without the generous support of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Thank you all." Brock Park was acquired by the City of Houston in 1957. It later became an 18-hole golf course, that has since closed. The park is located in Houston City Council District B, which is represented by City Councilmember Tarsha Jackson. For a closer look at Brock Adventure Park, click: https:// y o u t u . b e / MK4tTkHnhNI. For more information about the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, please www.houstonparks.org.



sits on 354 acres and features 2,500 square feet of interior space. It is situated about 20 minutes from downtown Houston. "I believe the

game-changer for the City of Houston," said Kenneth Allen, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "With its focus on adven-Brock Park project is a ture sports, nature-

based programming, and all of its other attributes, Brock Park is like no other park in Houston. I am just so proud of the Houston Parks and Recreation Department team





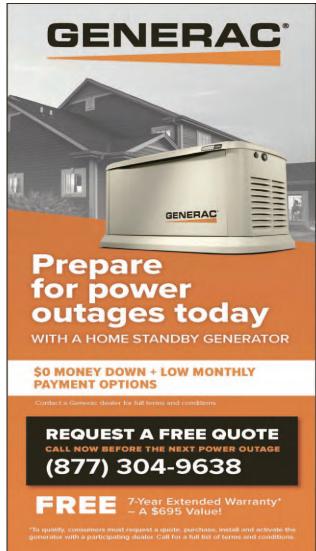


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Channelview I.S.D. will accept Sealed Request for Proposals for the following:

- RFP# 2223-003 Milk Coolers
- RFP# 2223-004 Cambro Flex Stations

Bids will be received until 10:00 a.m., Friday, June 02, 2023, at the Channelview ISD's Ebidding website. Please visit the electronic bidding website at https://cvisd.ionwave.net

All necessary information may be obtained by calling the Business Office at (281) 452-8003, or the district website www.cvisd.org, under Departments → Business Office → Purchasing. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Channelview I.S.D. will accept Sealed Request for Proposals for the following:

RFP# 2225-001 – Depository Services

Bids will be received until 10:00 a.m., Friday, June 02, 2023, at the Channelview ISD's Ebidding website. Please visit the electronic bidding website at https://cvisd.ionwave.net

All necessary information may be obtained by calling the Business Office at (281) 452-8003, or the district website <u>www.cvisd.org</u>, under Departments → Business Office → Purchasing. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Channelview I.S.D. will accept Sealed Request for Proposals for the following:

RFP# 2324-001 – BIDS

Bids will be received until 10:00 a.m., Friday, June 16, 2023, at the Channelview ISD's Ebidding website. Please visit the electronic bidding website at https://cvisd.ionwave.net

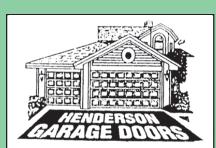
All necessary information may be obtained by calling the Business Office at (281) 452-8003, or the district website <u>www.cvisd.org</u>, under Departments → Business Office → Purchasing. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

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North Shore Lady Mustangs Soccer Team

2023 Varsity & Junior Varsity

Photo by Allan Jamail

Top row: Maria Zamora, Andrea Gonzalez-Murray, Esmeralda Enriquez, Daniela Fernandezdelara, Angela Nunez (JV)

Second to last row: Daniela Barrera, Itzel Cruz, Azaria Galindo, Caitlyn De La Torre, (JV), Yarisah Perez, Natalia Herrera, Karen Franco (Varsity), Yomaira Martinez (JV)

Third row: Valeria Carpio & Ashlee Ybarra (Varsity) Fourth row: Gabriela Valerio, Brenhelyn Veliz, Amberly Gamboa, Maria Murray, Jeaneth Velasquez (JV) Jocelyn Santillan(Varsity), Samantha Villegas (JV), Alondra Flores (Varsity), Alyna Sánchez (JV)

Second row from Bottom: Angela Cantu (Varsity), Lizeth Mayorga (Manager), Lizbeth Mayorga (JV), Serenity Williams, Galilea Guerra, Amy Rosa (Varsity, Génesis Padilla, Janie Moreno (JV)

Bottom row: Isela Hernández (JV coach), Lisbeth Yanez, Briana Hernández, Ashley Moreno, Yasmín Soto (Varsity), Ysamar Alonso (Varsity Coach), Aliyah Silva (student-teacher)



Rotary Fish Fry,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

great interest. These included popular quilts handmade by Connie Russell (a Highlands Rotarian), Astros and Texans game tickets, fishing trip, two night hotel stay in College Station, shot gun, dinner package at Killens, autographed jerseys and bats by sports stars, hunting trip at Diamond R Ranch, fishing trip package, custom made FFA projects, souvenir flags, HoustonRodeo tickets, golf packages, framed historical maps, unique signs, sides of beef and pork, and finally a huge fireworks package.

Auctioneers for the live auction were Bill Busby and Scott Stephens, who did a great job with the help of spotters, North Shore football players, and Interact club members.





ORDER DRAWN	TICKET NO.	OWNER OF TICKET	SOLD BY	PRIZE / DONATED BY					
l	230	Robert Koury	Robert Lunde	Food Town Gift Cards donated by Food Town					
2	438	Rachelle Martin	David Gray	Restaurant <u>Package: Atmentas</u> , El Tejano, Landry, Pappas					
3	806	Harrison Lee	Kevin Morris	64 Inad Dontated by Rotarian Don Spies					
4	1115	Emmett Lewis	Diamond Jim Mills	YETI 35 Cooler donated by San Jacinto College Liberal Arts Division					
5	960	Ryan Dagley	Ryan Dagley	36" Blackstone Griddle donated by North Shore Rotarians					
6	1421	Norman Giles	Norman Giles	HLSR Package – 6 Tickets to the 2024 Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo donated by Rotarian Lowell Everitt wit Everitt Industrial Supply.					
7	2254	Matt Mikeska	Adam Lund	2 Houston Texass 2023 Preseason football tickets. Donated by D&L Quality Painting. \$100 Landry's Gift Card donated by North Shore Rotarians					
8	1454	Dee Kennedy	BR Hendrix	4 Houston Astros tickets with parking pass donated by Capital Bank \$100 gift card to Escelantes donated by Rotarian Robert Lunde.					
9	461	Jorge Caballero	Derrill Painter	Whole Hog cut & wrapped from the 2023 Sheldon FFA Auction donated by North Shore Rotary. \$250 Gift Card for Freezer					
10	705	Sandra Ramirez	Alexander Okwonna	RTIC Cooler package donated by The Silman family					
11	579	Felix Ortiz	Ramon Garza	PlayStation 5 Digital game console donated by North Shore Rotarians.					
12	1223	John Brewer	Lowell Everitt	Half side of beef cut & wrapped from donated by North Shore Rotarians					
13	186	Mickey Berguin	Margie Buentello	Craffisman tool set donated by Rotanian Allatia Harris and Wayne Dickerson					
14	815	Wayne Dickerson	Allatia Harris	50" Television donated by Rotarian PDG Bill Palko					
15	474	Suzanne Hutchins	Derrill Painter	Turtlebox Audio system donated by Rotarian Amber Groberg					
16	1358	Shalonda Buckner	N/A	City Wide YMCA Family Membership donated by WD Ley Family YMCA					
17	1932	James Barker	Cary Stephens	Whiskey Barrel table package donated by North Shore Rotarians					
18	1632	Tom Devlin	John Painter	Deluxe Fireworks Package donated by Richard Fallin with Top Dog Fireworks					
19	423	Danny Abrego	Robert Lunde	Half side of beef cut & wrapped from donated by North Shore Rotarians					
20	1389	Luther Smith	Lowell Everitt	2023 Toyota Tundra or Camry from Community Toyota					



ENTERTAINMENT

ACROSS Beer ingredient 5 Adj. modifier 8 Taverns 12 "The Middle" actress Heaton 14 Denny's rival 15 Susan of

"Dead Man

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34 Minus

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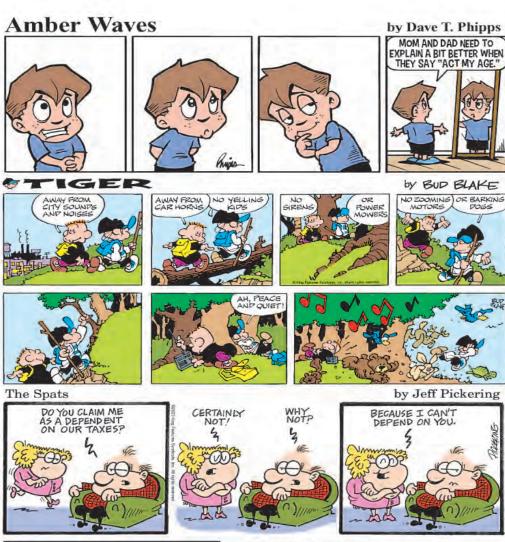
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35 Melodies

36 Blitzen's boss

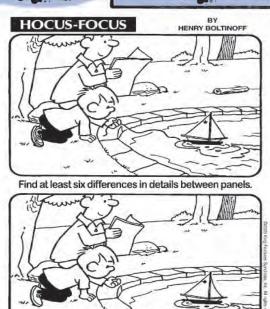
"Star Wars"

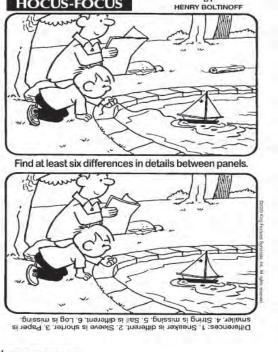




◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging

♦♦♦ HOO BOY!





Solution time: 22 mins.

STSWEIS

King Crossword

May 22, 2023 Posting Date King Crossword

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50 Thanksgiving veggie

30 Pirate's chart 51 Section

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37 Two-piece Nature walks 23 Loses color 40 Jazzy style Outlet letters God, in Roma 41 Greek vowels

42 Revolutionary Eighth U.S. War battle 47 Hamlet, e.g. 48 Stumble on

president 8 London landmark

26 "So be it" 27 Group of actors 29 Futile

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38 Slanted type (Abbr.) 39 Welles role 40 Edge 43 Coach Parseghian

33 Elevated

36 Daytime

drama

34 Portable PC

Hotel furniture

44 Eggs 45 Berlin's coun-

try (Abbr.) 46 Museum display

11 Raced

13 Hostels

19 Sharif of

"Topaz"

author

25 Clerics' rob-

ing room

"Funny Girl"

1. TELEVISION: What is the name of the high school in "Buffy the Vampire Slayer"?

2. MOVIES: Who voiced the character Woody in "Toy Story"? 3. LITERATURE: Who are the tragic lovers in

the novel "Wuthering Heights"?

4. AD SLOGANS: Which product invites con-

sumers to "taste the rainbow"?

5. FOOD & DRINK: Which root vegetable is

known as Japanese horseradish?

6. ANATOMY: What substance gives skin its

7. GEOGRAPHY: Where are the Great Pyra-

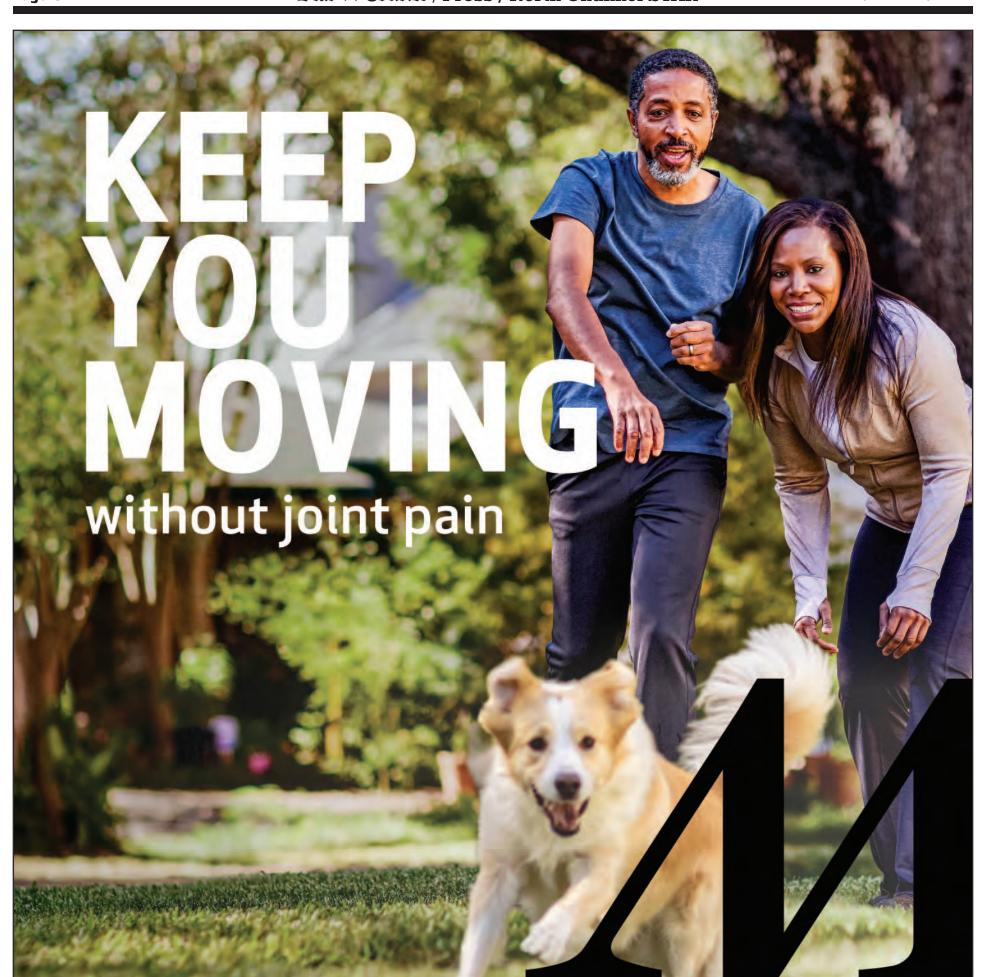
mids of Giza located? 8. HISTORY: Who was the first female prime

minister of Great Britain? 9. SCIENCE: What is the hollow, woody tissue that carries water and nutrients from a plant's

roots to the entire plant? 10. U.S. STATES: Which is the only state that doesn't have a mandatory seat belt law for adults?

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10. New Hampshire. 5. Wasabi.; 6. Melanin.; 7. Egypt.; 8. Margaret Thatcher.; 9. Xylem.; 1. Sunnydale High.; 2. Tom Hanks.; 3. Heathcliff and Catherine.; 4. Skittles.; Trivia Test Answerst



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