

Sheldon greets Dr.  
Demetrius McCall, Page 2

Judge Hidalgo opposes  
Texas election bills, Page 4

# NORTH CHANNEL ★ STAR

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VOLUME 11, NO. 23 (#473) THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2023 [www.northchannelstar.com](http://www.northchannelstar.com)

## CHANNEL CURRENTS

### Sheldon Road Cleanup set Saturday June 17

C.H.I.C. will conduct the June cleanup of Sheldon Road from Market St. to Woodforest, 7:30am to 12noon. Concentration on medians and roadsides. Everyone welcome.

### C.H.I.C. monthly meeting June 22

C.H.I.C. will hold their monthly meeting Thursday, June 22 at 6:30pm at the Channelview Fire Dept. Station 3, 1210 Dell Dale. Social Hour 5:30-6:20. June's program will be a presentation by the Channelview Fire Dept. about its history, service to the community, and equipment. Everyone welcome.

## Friends wish Happy 99th Birthday to Buck Sloan

*World War II veteran, Buckshot Jamboree Musician*

CHANNELVIEW – Friends and family held a parade and potluck dinner party for Buck Sloan, the World War II veteran and Purple Heart Recipient on his 99th birthday, last Saturday June 3rd.

It was a surprise party, and no one enjoyed it more than Buck himself. Fans of the Buckshot Jamboree joined the parade with their cars decorated and lots of noise and fun. Even the local media, newspapers and tv stations were on hand to record the event, as well as veterans from local posts.

After the parade and dinner party, as you might expect Buck took the stage at the Jamboree building



at 7414 Hartman Road, and had his type of fun playing, fiddling, and singing.

The surprise party was organized by his wife Shirley, Deanna Brown, and scores of other regulars of

the weekly Jamboree.

Buck values his time in the service, having made trips back to the war scene of the Battle of the Bulge in Europe. Everyone wishes him well!



## History Made: GPISD grad Gabriel Barrero gets West Point Scholarship

By Allan Jamail

Jacinto City, TX. – June 8, 2023 at State Representative Ana Hernandez's district office Gabriel Barrero received a congratulatory certificate from Hernandez on his acceptance of a full four year college scholarship at the West Point Military Academy.

Representative Hernandez says, "Congratulations to Gabriel Barrero on your appointment to West Point Academy! We are proud of your achievements and your commitment to serving our country."

Mrs. Sandra Rodriguez, Principal of Woodland Acres Elementary School reached out to me and informed me that Gabriel Barrero her former student had received a scholarship and was accepted into the West Point Military Academy (WPMA). She said Gabriel was the first GPISD student ever to be accepted into the WPMA. He graduated high school with a 4.604 average.

Gabriel said, "I decided I wanted to go to the WPMA in 6th grade when I was talking with my mom about universities. She encouraged me to select something that would allow me to live away from home and develop as an adult. When she mentioned West Point, I was sold on it."

"My grandfather served in Korea and my great-grandfather served in World War II, they had enlisted in the Army. The idea that I could continue the legacy



Gabriel Barrero, a West Point Military Academy scholarship recipient as he receives a Texas House of Representative Certificate of Congratulations from State Rep. Ana Hernandez (Photo by Allan Jamail)

of service to my country became a big motivator," he stated. When asked if he applied for scholarships to other universities he replied he had not, he was set on going to the WPMA.

His mother Alaide Zavala, the Assistant Principal of Woodland Acres Elementary was recently awarded by the GPISD as their Assistant Principal of the Year. He said, "My parents are my biggest sup-

Continued. See West Point Scholar, Page 3

## JC PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR KYLE REED RETIRES AFTER 26 YEARS OF SERVICE

By Allan Jamail

Houston, TX. – June 9, 2023 at the Golden Corral restaurant, city and state officials, family and friends gathered at a retirement luncheon in honor of Public Works Director (PWD) Kyle Reed for his 26 years of faithful service to the citizens of Jacinto City. The new PWD is Tommy Rogers; the NC Star will introduce him to the citizens in a future article.

Kyle oversaw the most vital department of the city. His outstanding leadership and supervisory skills in public works provided the community with the best of water, sewer, streets and flood protection services anyone could hope for in a city with a small budget.

You can do without most any department in the city by means of the cities Mutual Aid Program the city has with other cities, but not public works. Kyle kept the sanitary sewage treatment plant operating so



L- R: Linda Jamail, Community Liaison for Rep. Ana Hernandez presenting formal resolution of recognition of city service to Kyle Reed, Kyle Reed, retiring Public Works Director, Mayor Ana Diaz, presenting the City's gift of a clock with engraved period of 26 years of service & Councilwoman Carmela Garcia, Public Works Liaison with retirement gifts. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

citizens seldom had any problems. The same with the water department, he made sure the drinking water met county, state and federal safety requirements and made sure mosquito spraying was done often enough to prevent health problems.

As the founder of the Keep Jacinto City Clean Committee fifty years ago, Kyle and the committee and I worked on many health issues that he re-

solved promptly.

He worked under three city managers (Jo Ann Griggs, Jack Maner & Lon Squyres) and numerous changes of mayors and council members without skipping a beat. He had the ability to be flexible with the different managers which isn't easy to do. But his dedication and sacrifices to the community

Continued. See JC PW REED RETIRES, PAGE 7

## COMMISSIONER GARCIA CITES PROGRESS IN REDUCTION OF CRIME CASE BACKLOGS

Felony and Misdemeanor backlogs reduced by more than 40%

Harris County, TX — Harris County Commissioner Adrian Garcia has championed the importance of reducing the backlog of cases in the criminal justice system, long before COVID-19. Often saying "justice delayed is justice unserved," Garcia has often taken the lead in directing Commissioners Court to invest nearly \$40 million in efforts to reduce the backlog.

**Since January 2022, the investments have led to both the felony and misdemeanor backlogs being reduced by more than 40%.**

At Tuesday's Commissioners Court, an additional \$25 million in ARPA funds were allocated to reduce the backlog, and Commissioners Court ap-

proved the measure unanimously. The new funds are broken down into the following programs:

- \$7.9 million – Case Preparation: Associate Judges and support staff
  - \$4.8 million – Evidence Management: Technology and support staff
  - \$8.3 million – Case Disposition: Emergency Response Dockets District Courts
  - \$2.9 million – Case Disposition: Emergency Response Dockets County Courts
  - \$1.2 million – Case Flow Management & Process Improvements
- The funds will be dis-



tributed among the following departments: District and County Courts, the District Attorney, the District Clerk, the Harris County Sheriff's Office, Community Supervision (adult probation), the Public Defender, and Pre-Trial Services.

As an example of why these investments are critical, the \$4.8 million dedicated to evidence management includes \$1.8 million to the Institute of Forensic Sciences (IFS). IFS has suffered significant staffing and retention challenges, with over 20% of positions needing to be filled.

*"I am proud of our progress so far, but I will*

Continued. See Court Backlogs reduced, Page 3

### 'Uplift Harris': to provide support for some low-income households

HARRIS COUNTY, Texas – A program designed to help struggling families in the Houston area passed in a vote of 4-1 in Harris County Commissioners Court last Tuesday.

Harris County Commissioner Rodney Ellis and County Judge Lina Hidalgo outlined details about the \$20.5 million Uplift Harris program, aimed at helping low-income residents with rent, food costs, and other issues.

The program is set to begin in September. The initiative is a guaranteed income program, and officials are hoping it will re-



Pct. 2 Commissioner Ellis announces details of the program, with Judge Lina Hidalgo and HC Public Health Director Barbie Robinson.

duce poverty. Uplift Harris would also help people with transportation, housing, utilities, and care.

Under the program, up to 1,500 families living below 200% of the federal poverty line – approximately \$40,000 for a fami-

ly of four – will receive \$500 per month to support their household needs. Uplift Harris will run for 18 months, beginning this fall. It will be administered

Continued. See Anti-Poverty Program, Page 7



## SHELDON ISD NEWS

### Sheldon ISD Hosts Meet and Greet for New Superintendent Dr. Demetrius McCall

On June 8, Sheldon ISD hosted a carnival, meet and greet for Superintendent Dr. Demetrius McCall and a Movie Night. Due to weather, Movie Night was canceled; however, families and community members were able to participate in the carnival and meet Dr. McCall. Mr. McCall began in Sheldon ISD on June 1 and replaces Dr. King Davis who has retired. A carnival was held by the district's advanced academics department and after-school program department. A student performance was featured by King High School's gospel choir Voices of King.



### Sheldon ISD's Carroll Elementary teacher Wins Spark Award



Manuel Gonzalez Bert has been named the winner of the SPARK Award sponsored by alliantgroup and Fox 26. Gonzales Bert is a fourth and fifth grade science teacher at Carroll Elementary and has been teaching for 22 years. He was nominated by a fellow educator in Sheldon ISD for being an outstanding Texas Elementary science teacher and was one of six finalists recognized during an awards ceremony last week. As the winner, he received \$3,500 and \$500 for his classroom.

## CHANNELVIEW ISD NEWS

### The CISD SUMMER Meals Program

With the Summer Meals Programs, all children and teens ages 18 and under, can continue to eat healthy throughout the summer at no cost, just by showing up at a participating meal site.\*

**Locations & serving times:**

<b>Channelview High School</b> June 5th - 29th, Monday - Thursday	Breakfast 7:30 am-8:00 am Lunch 11:15 am-12:30 pm
<b>McGhee Elementary</b> June 5th - 29th, Monday - Thursday	Breakfast 7:45 am-8:15 am Lunch 10:40 am-12:30 pm
<b>Barrett-Lee ECC</b> June 5th - 29th, Monday - Thursday	Breakfast: 7:30 am-8:00 am Lunch 11:15 am-12:30 pm
<b>Hamblen Elementary</b> July 17th - 27th Monday - Thursday	Breakfast: 7:45 am-8:15 am Lunch: 11:00 am-12:30 pm

\*MEALS MUST BE CONSUMED ON SITE

## CHANNELVIEW ISD NEWS

### Congratulations to Channelview High School Falcons Valedictorian

A huge congratulations to Valedictorian Estefhania Morales Guerrero for her dedication and hard work! We wish her the best as she embarks on a new journey.



### Congratulations to Channelview High School Falcons Salutatorian

Congratulations to our Channelview H S Salutatorian, Andrea Diaz. We can't wait to celebrate all of our graduates this weekend.



### Summer Camp Opportunity for CISD Students

Career & Technical Education has another Summer Camp opportunity for our CISD students. In partnership with EHCEC and Best Buy, we are hosting a 2-day Geek Squad Academy for incoming 5th - 12th graders to be held 6/28-29 at Channelview High School. Please check out the flyer for more info.

### Geek Squad Academy

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28 - THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 2023**

Geek Squad Academy from Best Buy is a two-day hands on opportunity for **students** to develop tech skills, build self-confidence, spark creativity, and discover how technology can benefit them in their educational pursuits and in future careers. Students will learn coding, game design, photography, 3D design, digital music and more!

In partnership with Channelview ISD CTE.

**8:30 AM - 3:30 PM**  
**Free Event - Registration Required**  
**Breakfast & lunch will be provided.**

For registration & more information please visit:  
<https://rb.gy/ay62b>

Must be a current Channelview ISD student in grades 5-12 to attend



CHARLOTTE'S WEB

By Charlotte Jackson



# Unresolved Pain

How many times have you heard the expression “Hurting people hurt others”? If you are like me, you have heard it too many times. If you are like many readers, you have felt that hurt too many times as well.

When there are unresolved issues, there will be unresolved pain. Some people choose to stuff the pain inside, as if in a trashcan. And yet, at the most inopportune moment, when they least expect it, there is too much that has been stuffed and the lid flies off the trashcan. And then the “trash” flies in every direction and the people you never meant to harm are the ones who feel the pain the most.

No parent intentionally hurts their child. Spouses take vows to love one another through sickness and pain, yet too often hurt the one they vowed to love. When there is pain, unless coping skills are taught, the pain intensifies. Too often, the innocent people feel the effects of the unresolved issues. Take for example a woman who struggles to raise her children. She does not have the financial support of their father. She must learn to support her children by any means possible. Some of the children overcome obstacles and others turn to the world to numb their pain. One may become addicted to alcohol another to drugs. One pours their pain into working too many hours. One turns to others to ease their pain.

With the next generation, some grandchildren mimic the behavior of their parent. Some fall into the same pain. One will lash out and hurt their child with words, another with actions and perhaps one will just shut down until the lid blows off. Unless the individuals have learned to release the pain, it continues to hurt others.

In speaking with a forty-three-year-old, who was trying to get help for her twenty-seven-year-old, I could hear the pain and frustration. She has often made comments that this world is not fair. Her daughter is incarcerated for a horrible crime, yet all she can see is how the incarceration is keeping her daughter from her grandchild. She has focused on what the daughter has learned yet forgets that the crime must be paid for by time in prison. In the past few years, the grandmother has lost most every material possession as well as a younger son to suicide.

It was not until a few days ago when in yet another crisis, that she revealed she had no clue who her own father way. She had grown up in a very dysfunctional family and unfortunately, she followed the example her mother had left. Eventually, her daughter did the same thing, yet with more pain shoved down into a place that would eventually hurt others.

Another young mother was raised by a strong mother who had her share of stumbles and because all she knew was the mistakes of her mother, she began down the same road. Along the journey, she used people without a second thought. Her goal was to accomplish what she wanted, never thinking about what her husband wanted or what her sons needed. She built a life that put her mother on a pedestal and hurt so many others. Eventually the lid blew off and multiple others were harmed. And as others were left to pick up the pieces and begin to heal, she was still oblivious that her actions hurt many.

As adults, whether in a family or in friendships, we need to realize that until we learn to deal with the pain, we will hurt others. We must face the unresolved not just for our lives to be better, but so we can be a part of the solution.

# West Point Scholar,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

porters and have helped keep me motivated, fit and focused on being successful,” Gabriel said.

To be accepted, Cadet Candidates must be student scholar athletes with high standardized test scores, exemplify leadership qualities, and be a servant to their community. Additionally, Cadet Candidates must receive a Congressional/Service-Based Nomination. And pass the Candidate Fitness Assessment and pass the Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board to ensure there’s no disqualifying medical condition.

Applying for West Point (WP) is a year long process; applicants begin applying in their junior year. Approximately 12,000 Cadet Candidate files are opened, 4,000 receive a nomination, and 1000-1200 are admitted.

Gabriel is 18 years old, a registered voter and in school he played the saxophone in the Galena Park Band of Gold. His hobbies are listening to Alternative/Indie music, listening to audio books, working out. His favorite food is pizza with pineapples on it; his favorite actor is Matt Damon. His favorite college football team is Army

(of course) and his pro favorite team since age 5 is the NY Jets.

Gabriel said one of his mentors is John Polisini. “He is the man who changed my life by being real with me. He is a Field Force Officer who assists in the West Point Admissions process. I met him upon entering an admissions meeting and ever since that day, he has been a huge part of my life. He challenges me daily to be the best version of myself. Even after receiving my nomination, I see him every weekend as we are now working with another student to try to get her to be the first female from GPISD to attend West Point,” he stated.

His advice to others is: “To anyone who feels that they cannot achieve that impossible goal, please know that you can. You just need to dig deep, even when it hurts or when it is convenient for you not to. After all, why not you?”

Mr. Gabriel Barrero will be at (WP) for the next four years, and is making WP his career, upon graduation, he will be commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Army. He plans on pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Engineering.

# Court cases Backlog reduced,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

*not be satisfied until we reduce the backlog to pre-Hurricane Harvey levels, eventually eliminating it. Historically, it takes around 200 days to bring a typical case to disposition,” said Commission-*

*er Adrian Garcia. “We can’t keep delaying justice for victims who deserve a speedy resolution. It’s also important that the accused get their day in court in a timely manner.”*

# ASK DIAMOND JIM

# Diamond Jim: “Sparkling Perfection The Rise of Moissanite in The Jewelry Industry”

In recent years, a new gemstone has been making waves in the jewelry industry - Moissanite. Known for its sparkling brilliance and affordability, Moissanite has been steadily gaining popularity among consumers who are looking for a more ethical and sustainable alternative to traditional diamonds. With its unique properties and stunning beauty, Moissanite is quickly becoming a favorite among couples who are looking for an engagement ring that is both beautiful and budget-friendly. In this article, we will explore the rise of Moissanite in the jewelry industry, its unique properties and why it is quickly becoming a top choice for engagement rings. We will also delve into the ethical and environmental benefits of choosing Moissanite over traditional diamonds, and how this trend is shaping the future of the jewelry industry. So, if you’re curious about the sparkling perfection of Moissanite, read on to discover everything you need to know about this stunning gemstone.



**A Brief History of Moissanite**

Moissanite, a gemstone that has been around for over a century, has recently gained immense popularity as a diamond alternative. But what many people don’t know is the fascinating history behind this gemstone, which was first discovered by French scientist Henri Moissan in 1893 in a meteorite crater. Moissan spent years researching and studying this rare mineral, which he named after himself, before it eventually faded into obscurity. However, in the 1990s, scientists were able to successfully recreate moissanite in a laboratory setting, leading to its resurgence in the jewelry industry. Today, Moissanite is known for its brilliance, durability, and affordability, and has become a popular choice for engagement rings and other fine jewelry.

**Can Moissanite Be More Brilliant than Diamond?**

Because of its unique optical properties, in some instances Moissanite can be more brilliant than a well cut natural mined diamond. As a man-made diamond alternative, the manufacturing processes utilized to create Moissanite allow for consistent repeatability. While natural mined diamonds rely on temperature, pressure, and millions of years for their creation, Moissanite is created in a laboratory by heating silica and carbon to approximately 1400-2000 degrees Celsius. At this point, the silicon atoms will begin to arrange themselves into 6-sided crystals. This happens through crystal growing, or synthetic gemstones formation within a laboratory.

**In Conclusion**

The Moissanite manufacturing process provides high-quality moissanite without flaws. Through years of tests and trials, this has become a huge possibility. Manufacturers ensure that they do everything based on research. That is the only way to make the best quality gems. Ultimately, they can create an exclusive line of exquisite fine jewelry using only top of the range stones.

If you would like to see and experience the beauty and brilliance of Moissanite for yourself, look for further than [Pineforest Jewelry](#). Once we know the size, shape, and overall design of the jewelry piece you have in mind, we will match the perfect Moissanite to your desires. We are very knowledgeable about Moissanite and other diamond alternatives [Contact us](#) if you would like to set up a private appointment.

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

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*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

Harris County Judge  
Lina Hidalgo



### Judge objects to state bills targeting Harris County elections

“Harris County today finds itself grappling with the audacity of Republican state lawmakers, hell-bent on recklessly enhancing the election chances of one party by targeting the largest county in the state,” said Judge Hidalgo. “This sets a dangerous precedent and subverts elections in one of the most diverse counties in the nation—another step toward disenfranchisement in the name of ‘election reform.’”

Background information:

Harris County is home to nearly 5 million residents and the third largest in the nation. The signing into law of two Texas election subversion bills, SB 1933 and SB 1750, will strip away Harris County’s nonpartisan Elections Administrator and empower a Republican state official (the Abbott-appointed Secretary of State who served for 30 years as a Republican state senator) to tightly control the elections in Texas’ largest—and Democratic— county. There has been no substantiated finding of the exaggerated allegations that Republican lawmakers used as the reason behind the bills. 9 out of the 10 largest counties in Texas, and almost 50 percent of counties in the state have a nonpartisan Elections Administrator.

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OPINION

By Elsa Soto Leggett, PhD, LPC-S  
Texas Counseling Association

### A simple way for Texas to increase mental health access

State legislators can take a simple but important step to improve access to mental health care by authorizing Texas to join the Interstate Counseling Compact — currently a group of 25 states who allow Licensed Professional Counselors (LPCs) the privilege to practice in-person and via telehealth across state lines.

Elected officials from both parties continue to call for greater access to mental health services. More than 180 of the 254 counties in Texas have been identified as mental health workforce shortage areas. By allowing Texans to work with Licensed Professional Counselors in other states, the Compact would vastly grow the number of counselors able to serve Texans — regardless of whether they live in our large cities or smaller rural communities that have long struggled with attracting mental health professionals. Joining the Compact may not eliminate that vexing challenge, but it will give rural Texans more counselors from whom to choose.

The impact could be profound for military families and others who have recently moved from another state and are looking to maintain their relationship with their professional counselor. Also, counselors who leave Texas could keep seeing clients from our state. This continuity of care would benefit the clients and the counselor. The Compact similarly helps families who have experienced a divorce that causes a spouse and children to relocate to another state, because the adults and children involved could continue to see their counselors after moving. Young adults moving off to attend college would also benefit.

How does the Compact work? Professional counselors licensed in their home state apply for a privilege to practice under the Compact. States participating in the Compact communicate and exchange information including verification of licensure and disciplinary sanctions. The State of Texas would retain the ability to regulate practice in our state.

In order to see Texas clients, participating professional counselors from other states must have a license from their home states, pass an FBI background check, comply with their home state’s continuing education requirements and have no adverse action against their license for the past two years.

The Compact is a way to vastly improve access to mental health care without a broad expansion of government or a new type of entitlement. This is probably why conservative states such as Florida, Arkansas, West Virginia and Tennessee have joined the compact, along with more centrist states such as North Carolina, Virginia and New Hampshire.

The Texas Counseling Association has identified passage of the Compact as its highest priority because professional counselors understand how much this agreement could expand access to needed mental health services from quality providers. It would be wise for Texas to join this diverse, growing coalition of states who recognize the importance of mental health care and the challenges of finding the professionals needed to deliver that care.

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



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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



### Central Figure in Paxton Case Charged

The Austin real estate developer who is at the heart of Attorney General Ken Paxton’s impeachment was arraigned on eight federal charges Friday, the Austin American-Statesman reported. Nate Paul was arrested by the FBI on Thursday.

Paul, 36, has been accused of providing financial benefits to the attorney general, who in exchange intervened in several legal issues involving Paul. That connection led in part to the Texas House impeaching Paxton on May 27. He now awaits a trial sometime this summer in the Senate.



cently purchased the land that had been leased to the state for the past half-century.

Shawn Todd, the company’s founder and CEO, told The Dallas Morning News the state had engaged in “intimidation” in an attempt to block his family’s company from acquiring the 5,000-acre tract from energy company Vistra. The state made a \$25 million offer to buy Todd Interests out of its contract in mid-May, according to The News.

Arch “Beaver” Aplin III, chair of the nine-member commission, said the legal maneuver is an effort to save and expand a “beloved state park.”

At least three measures concerning condemning the park land in order to acquire it failed to pass in the last legislative session. The park averaged 80,000 visitors annually, according to TPWD.

#### NEW \$321.3 BILLION BUDGET SENT TO ABBOTT

Texas comptroller Glenn Hegar has certified that the recently passed \$321.3 billion, two-year state budget is balanced. The budget legislation is the only task required of lawmakers by the Texas Constitution, the Texas Tribune reported. That means Gov. Greg Abbott can now review the 1,115-page document and potentially veto certain items that do not meet his approval. The deadline to do so is June 18.

Abbott’s line-item veto authority only applies to the state budget. The 2024-

2025 budget allocates tax money toward tax cuts, broadband internet expansion, border security and raises for state employees, to name a few items. It does not provide increased pay for teachers. Although \$4 billion has been set aside to increase teacher salaries and public-school funding, that will occur only if the Legislature acts separately to create a private school voucher program. Legislation for that failed in the regular legislative session but likely will be considered again in a special session later this year.

#### JACKSON NAMED INTERIM CHAIR OF PUC

Kathleen Jackson, recently confirmed to the Public Utility of Commission by the Texas Senate, has been named interim chair by Abbott. That follows the resignation of chair Peter Lake, who will remain on the PUC until July 1. He joined the PUC in April 2021 in the wake of the major failure of the electric service after Winter Storm Uri the previous February.

“I’m honored and humbled by Governor Abbott’s trust and confidence in me to lead the Public Utility Commission at this very important time for the agency and for Texas,” Jackson said.

#### DROUGHT CONDITIONS EASE ACROSS STATE

Abundant rain in the Panhandle and much of Central Texas has eased drought conditions for much of those areas, according to Dr. Mark Wentzel, hydrologist with the Texas Water Development Board. The end of May saw the ninth consecutive weekly decrease in areas of the state affected by the drought. Less than 1 percent of the state is now listed as suffering from severe drought. That’s the least since March 2022.

A total of 34% of the state is listed in any type of drought condition, compared to 78% a year ago. The arrival of an El Niño weather pattern should bring a cooler, wetter autumn and winter, forecasters say.

#### STATE AGAIN NO. 1 IN FORTUNE 500 COMPANIES

With a record 55 Fortune 500 companies headquartered in Texas, the state continues to lead the nation, Abbott announced.

“Texas is the headquarters of headquarters,” Abbott said. “With our strong and growing workforce and welcoming business climate, Texas is where businesses find the freedom to flourish, and people find opportunities to prosper.”

The greater Houston metropolitan area is second in the nation, home to 25 Fortune 500 headquarters. The Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington metro area is third with 24.

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THE POSTSCRIPT

By  
Carrie Classon

### “Father’s Day”

It’s time to be thinking about Father’s Day—even if all we do is think about it.

The woman who suggested Father’s Day in 1909 was named Sonora Smart Dodd. She was raised, along with her five siblings, by her father after her mother died in childbirth.

The idea took a long time to catch on, and didn’t become a national holiday until Richard Nixon was in the White House. If you’re thinking it’s too bad that Ms. Dodd wasn’t around to see her dream fulfilled, you’d be wrong. She was just 90 years old. At age 92, she was honored for her idea.

I always have trouble finding a card that seems appropriate for Father’s Day. My dad’s eyesight isn’t great, but even if the cards were easier to read, there wouldn’t be much worth reading. Father’s Day cards are all about fishing or drinking or playing golf, and my dad isn’t big on any of those activities. But even if I found a card, the holiday is hard to celebrate.

This year, I’m seeing my dad right before Father’s Day.

“We’re going to miss Father’s Day!” I told him. “That’s fine!” he said.

He didn’t sound disappointed at all. Missing Father’s Day meant we’d have less of a chance to wrestle the restaurant check away from him. He sounded like he hoped we might forget to get him a present as well. But that doesn’t mean I won’t be thinking about him because I always am—whether I know it or not.

My dad’s advice, my dad’s way of solving problems, of taking care of business is so ingrained in me that I’m not sure I know where he leaves off and I begin. It doesn’t seem like my dad’s way of looking at the world, it just seems like the way the world should be looked at—if I take the time to be thoughtful and don’t rush out and do something stupid.

My dad would say that every plan needs “belt and suspenders.” What will I do if something falls through? What’s the next move?

The lesson in this way of thinking is that a person can do virtually anything they want to do as long as they take the time to think it through. My dad might argue mightily against something I wanted to do (and he has), but he’d never tell me not to do it. He’d just want to make sure I’d covered all the angles.

The result is that I’ve done things that, at first glance, might seem improbable or risky but, because I’d given them the “belt and suspenders” test before I started, were not nearly as precarious as they seemed. I can’t imagine a more valuable lesson to have learned young. I can’t imagine a better teacher than my dad.

My dad now lives in the house he planned for many years before his retirement and built almost entirely by himself with the help of his Uncle John. He always has a project in progress. He’s going to turn 90 next year, and he would tell you he has slowed down, and perhaps he has, but if you just met him, you’d never guess.

I will be celebrating Father’s Day this year—maybe early, maybe late, certainly over the telephone at the very least. I’ll try to tell my dad how important he has always been to me—how every major decision of my life has been guided by him, how every decision I ever make will continue to be. And how much I love him.

Happy Father’s Day.  
Till next time,  
Carrie

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Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in 500-Year Floodplain/Adjacent to a Wetland

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of Jacinto City. To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals on June 15, 2023: This is to give notice that the City of Jacinto City has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988 and 11990, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Wetlands Protection. The activity is funded under the Community Development Block Grant Program under Contract 22-085-053-D306. The City of Jacinto City proposes a Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements project – with the goal of bringing the wastewater treatment plant into optimal working conditions and hardening the wastewater treatment plant during flood conditions – that includes the following activities: Rehabilitate two (2) clarifiers including the rake, skimmer, and stilling well, modifications to the existing chlorine contact basins including raising the walls to a minimum of three feet above base flood elevation, construct a combined dechlorination basin / effluent measuring basin with a peak flow capacity of 4,728,960 gallons per day (the permitted capacity of the plant), install approximately 75 linear feet (LF) of 30-inch effluent piping, a 72-inch by 72-inch reinforced concrete junction box with a traffic-rated top, and a 30-inch check valve to prevent backflow from Hunting Bayou, rehabilitate the existing aerobic digester tanks, replace centrifugal blowers on the existing sludge tanks, replace the aeration system on the existing sludge tanks, including air piping and diffusers, installation of various monitoring equipment throughout the wastewater treatment plant, replacement of broken valves throughout the wastewater treatment plant. If additional funds remain, Jacinto City proposes the following improvements: Replacement covers for the existing aerators, installation of fiberglass launder covers on the clarifier launders, install one additional digester tank, decommission the existing drying beds, installation of magnesium oxide dosing equipment, replacement of one effluent weir gate and two clarifier feed gates at the oxidation ditch, replacement of additional broken valves throughout the wastewater treatment plant. Construction shall take place at the Jacinto City Wastewater Treatment Plant located at 12202 Market Street, Houston, Harris County, Texas, approximately 0.12 miles west from the intersection of Mae Drive and Market Street. The Jacinto City Wastewater Treatment Plant is approximately 13 acres, located in the 500-year floodplain (Shaded Zone X) and the 100-year floodplain (Zone AE). The project shall include activities within approximately 5.38 acres of the 500-year floodplain (Shaded Zone X). The property is located adjacent to Hunting Bayou, a designated wetland, code R2UBH, in Harris County, TX; however, no project activities will occur in the designated wetland. The City of Jacinto City has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values of the floodplain/wetland: a reduction in scope, alternate locations, and no action. The scope and location of project activities were chosen based on minimum improvements necessary to correct the health and safety risks the existing facilities pose to the natural and human environment. Due to the limited project scope of work which focuses solely on the system components requiring urgent repairs and necessary improvements, the considered alternatives would not address the identified risks or environmental compliance violations. Additionally, there shall be no significant increase to impervious surface, best management practices shall be employed during construction to ensure erosion control and to prevent the unintentional discharge of dredged or fill material into the wetland, and the activity shall comply with state and local floodplain management/wetlands protection procedures. The City of Jacinto City has reevaluated the alternatives to building in the floodplain and near a wetland and has determined that it has no practicable alternative. Environmental files that document compliance with steps 3 through 6 of Executive Order 11988 and 11990 are available for public inspection, review, and copying upon request during regular business hours at Jacinto City Hall. There are three primary purposes for this notice: (1) People who may be affected by activities in floodplains/wetlands and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas; (2) An adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains/wetlands can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas; and (3) As a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains/wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk. Written comments must be received on or before June 22, 2023, by the City of Jacinto City at 1301 Mercury Drive, Jacinto City, TX 77029, (713) 674-8424. Attention: Ana Diaz, Mayor. A full description of the project may also be reviewed during regular business hours at 1301 Mercury Drive, Jacinto City, TX77029. Comments may also be submitted via email to gabby.jakubowski@grantworks.net

Aviso final y explicación pública de una actividad propuesta en una llanura aluvial de 500 años/adyacente a un humedal

Estos avisos deberán satisfacer dos requisitos de procedimiento separados pero relacionados para las actividades que llevará a cabo la Ciudad de Jacinto City. Para: Todas las agencias, grupos e individuos interesados el 15 de junio de 2023: Esto es para notificar que la Ciudad de Jacinto City ha realizado una evaluación según lo requerido por las Ordenes Ejecutivas 11988 y 11990, de acuerdo con las regulaciones de HUD en 24 CFR 55.20 Subparte C Procedimientos para tomar determinaciones sobre el manejo de llanuras aluviales y la protección de humedales. La actividad está financiada bajo el Programa de Subvención en Bloque para el Desarrollo Comunitario bajo el Contrato 22-085-053-D306. La ciudad de Jacinto propone un proyecto de mejoras en la planta de tratamiento de aguas residuales, con el objetivo de llevar la planta de tratamiento de aguas residuales a condiciones óptimas de trabajo y endurecer la planta de tratamiento de aguas residuales durante las condiciones de inundación, que incluye las siguientes actividades: Rehabilitar dos (2) clarificadores, incluido el rastrillo, el skimmer y el pozo de quietud, modificaciones a las cuencas de contacto de cloro existentes, incluida la elevación de las paredes a un mínimo de tres pies sobre la base. elevación de inundación, construir una cuenca combinada de decloración / cuenca de medición de efluentes con una capacidad de flujo máximo de 4,728,960 galones por día (la capacidad permitida de la planta), instalar aproximadamente 75 pies lineales (LF) de tubería de efluentes de 30 pulgadas, una caja de conexiones de concreto reforzado de 72 pulgadas por 72 pulgadas con una parte superior clasificada para el tráfico y una válvula de retención de 30 pulgadas para evitar el reflujo de Hunting Bayou, rehabilitar los tanques de digestión aeróbica existentes, reemplazar los sopladores centrífugos en los tanques de lodos existentes, reemplazar el sistema de aireación en los tanques de lodos existentes, incluidas las tuberías de aire y los difusores, instalación de diversos equipos de monitoreo en toda la planta de tratamiento de aguas residuales, reemplazo de válvulas rotas en toda la planta de tratamiento de aguas residuales. Si quedan fondos adicionales, Jacinto City propone las siguientes mejoras: Cubiertas de reemplazo para los aireadores existentes, instalación de cubiertas de lavado de fibra de vidrio en las lavanderías clarificadoras, instalar un tanque digestor adicional, desmantelar los lechos de secado existentes, instalación de equipos de dosificación de óxido de magnesio, reemplazo de una compuerta de vertedero de efluentes y dos compuertas de alimentación clarificadoras en la zanja de oxidación, Reemplazo de válvulas rotas adicionales en toda la planta de tratamiento de aguas residuales. La construcción se llevará a cabo en la Planta de Tratamiento de Aguas Residuales de Jacinto City ubicada en 12202 Market Street, Houston, Condado de Harris, Texas, aproximadamente 0.12 millas al oeste de la intersección de Mae Drive y Market Street. La Planta de Tratamiento de Aguas Residuales de la Ciudad de Jacinto tiene aproximadamente 13 acres, ubicada en la llanura de inundación de 500 años (Zona sombreada X) y la llanura de inundación de 100 años (Zona AE). El proyecto incluirá actividades dentro de aproximadamente 5.38 acres de la llanura de inundación de 500 años (Zona sombreada X). La propiedad está ubicada junto a Hunting Bayou, un humedal designado, código R2UBH, en el condado de Harris, TX; sin embargo, no se realizarán actividades del proyecto en el humedal designado. La ciudad de Jacinto City ha considerado las siguientes alternativas y medidas de mitigación que se deben tomar para minimizar los impactos adversos y restaurar y preservar los valores naturales y beneficiosos de la llanura de inundación / humedal: una reducción en el alcance, ubicaciones alternativas y ninguna acción. El alcance y la ubicación de las actividades del proyecto se eligieron en función de las mejoras mínimas necesarias para corregir los riesgos para la salud y la seguridad que las instalaciones existentes plantean para el medio ambiente natural y humano. Debido al alcance limitado del proyecto de trabajo que se centra únicamente en los componentes del sistema que requieren reparaciones urgentes y mejoras necesarias, las alternativas consideradas no abordarían los riesgos identificados o las violaciones de cumplimiento ambiental. Además, no habrá un aumento significativo de la superficie impermeable, se emplearán las mejores prácticas de manejo durante la construcción para garantizar el control de la erosión y evitar la descarga involuntaria de material dragado o de relleno en el humedal, y la actividad deberá cumplir con los procedimientos estatales y locales de manejo de llanuras aluviales / protección de humedales. La ciudad de Jacinto City ha reevaluado las alternativas a la construcción en la llanura de inundación y cerca de un humedal y ha determinado que no tiene una alternativa viable. Los archivos ambientales que documentan el cumplimiento de los pasos 3 a 6 de la Orden Ejecutiva 11988 y 11990 están disponibles para inspección pública, revisión y copia a pedido durante el horario comercial regular en el Ayuntamiento de Jacinto. Hay tres propósitos principales para este aviso: (1) Las personas que puedan verse afectadas por actividades en llanuras aluviales / humedales y aquellos que tengan interés en la protección del medio ambiente natural deberían tener la oportunidad de expresar sus preocupaciones y proporcionar información sobre estas áreas; (2) Un programa adecuado de aviso público puede ser una herramienta educativa pública importante. La difusión de información y la solicitud de comentarios públicos sobre llanuras aluviales / humedales pueden facilitar y mejorar los esfuerzos federales para reducir los riesgos e impactos asociados con la ocupación y modificación de estas áreas especiales; y (3) Como cuestión de equidad, cuando el gobierno federal determine que participará en acciones que tengan lugar en llanuras aluviales / humedales, debe informar a aquellos que puedan estar en mayor o continuo riesgo. Los comentarios por escrito deben ser recibidos en o antes del 22 de junio de 2023 por la Ciudad de Jacinto City en 1301 Mercury Drive, Jacinto City, TX 77029, (713) 674-8424. Atención: Ana Diaz, Alcaldesa. Una descripción completa del proyecto también puede ser revisada durante el horario comercial regular en 1301 Mercury Drive, Jacinto City, TX77029. Los comentarios también pueden enviarse por correo electrónico a gabby.jakubowski@grantworks.net

OBITUARIES

SUSAN LYNN HOFFMAN

Susan Lynn Hoffman died on Tuesday, May 23rd in Phoenix, Arizona at the age of 64, from Cardiac Arrest suffered during a scheduled heart procedure.

Susan was a graduate of New Castle, Pennsylvania High School, class of 1976, and Arizona State University, class of 1980, with a bachelor's degree in Political Science. Susan's career was as a Legal Assistant, and for most of her life she was employed by Attorney Scott Palumbo of the law firm Palumbo Wolfe & Palumbo. She was a valuable member of the firm who will be greatly missed.

Susan's interests included extensive travel, and care for every conceivable stray animal she encountered. With her sister Trisha, Susan had travelled to Mexico, Australia, Canada, and Florida and Washington States. She cared for many stray animals, including cats,



dogs, and birds. She kept some, but found foster homes when possible. She supported animal shelters and encouraged others to do the same. She was also an avid sports fan, following NASCAR and the NFL. She had been to several Super Bowls, and a Rose Bowl game.

Susan was born on September 24, 1957 in New Castle, Pennsylvania to Gilbert E. B. Hoffman and Carol Louise Lutz Hoffman. Her mother Carol preceded her in death in 2017. Susan is survived by her husband Terry Blanchard, her sister Trisha (Patricia) Alison Hoffman, her nephew Derek Geffs, stepsons



Kevin and Billy Blanchard, and several step-grandchildren. She is also survived by her half-sister Kristan Liu Hoffman and family of Cincinnati, Ohio. She also leaves extended Cramer family in Florida.

Susan had planned to retire in a few short years, and had a second home in the woods of Show Low, Arizona where she was able to retreat and enjoy the quiet of the country. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends. Funeral arrangements are private, and donations can be made in her name to animal rescue organizations.

DESSIE MAE CUMMINGS

Dessie Mae Cummings, a loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great-grandmother, passed away peacefully on June 8, 2023, in Baytown, Texas, just two days shy of her 92nd birthday. Born on June 10, 1931, in Itasca, Texas, she was the daughter of the late Fannie Mae (Walker) and Starks Gregory.

Dessie was a proud graduate of Itasca High School, Class of 1950. Shortly after graduation, she married the love of her life, George Roland Cummings, on July 15, 1950. Together, they built a beautiful life and family, raising four children.

In her early years, Dessie helped her parents with their cotton field business by paying their workers. She later became the bakery manager for Weingarten's, where she retired after 25 years of dedicated service. Dessie also worked at Crystal Creations at Astro-world, sharing her love for creativity with others. Her commitment to her community extended beyond her professional life, as she volunteered as an auxiliary police woman for Jacinto City.

Dessie's love for baking was well-known



among her family and friends. She took great joy in making and decorating birthday cakes for her children and grandchildren, creating lasting memories for all who enjoyed her delicious creations. Her generosity extended beyond her family, as she would cook for and take meals to prisoners during the holidays, ensuring that they too could enjoy a warm meal and a touch of kindness.

Dessie was preceded in death by her parents, Fannie Mae (Walker) and Starks Gregory; her husband, George Roland Cummings; her son, Kenneth Lloyd Cummings; and her brother, Talmadge Gregory. She is lovingly survived by her son, Roland Eugene Cummings and his wife Patty; her daughter-in-law, Ann Cummings; her daughters, Kathryn Novosad, and Joy Connerly and her husband James;

nine grandchildren; fifteen great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Throughout her life, Dessie was known for her generous spirit and unwavering love for her family. Her legacy will live on through the countless lives she touched, both within her family and throughout her community. She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

Dessie's life will be celebrated and remembered by her family and friends. As they gather to share stories and memories of her kindness, they will honor the incredible woman she was and the lasting impact she had on those fortunate enough to know her.

The family will be having a graveside service on Wednesday, June 14th, 2023 at 1:00 P.M in Itasca Cemetery under the direction of Carter-Conley Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, the family asks donations be made to your local food bank, in memory of Dessie.

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<p><b>Attention Non-Profit Private Schools, Home Schoolers</b></p> <p>Non-profit private schools and homeschoolers who legally qualify as non-profit (currently hold a 501-C3 certificate) are invited to meet with a representative from Channelview Independent School District to learn more about federally funded services available for eligible residents of Channelview ISD. Please contact the district, Dr. Patricia Glaeser (<a href="mailto:patricia.glaeser@cvisd.org">patricia.glaeser@cvisd.org</a>), Director of Federal Programs, no later than Thursday, June 15, 2023.</p> <p><b>Atención Escuelas Privadas y Educados En Casa</b></p> <p>Escuelas privadas sin fines lucrativos y estudiantes educados en casa, que legalmente califican como una entidad no lucrativa y que tengan un certificado 501-C3, son invitados a una junta con representante de Channelview para aprender más sobre servicios financiados por el gobierno federal que están disponibles para los residentes elegibles en dichos distritos. Por Favor de contactarse con Dr. Patricia Glaeser la coordinadora del Programa Federal de Distrito de Channelview (<a href="mailto:patricia.glaeser@cvisd.org">patricia.glaeser@cvisd.org</a>), a no más tardar el día Jueves, 15 de junio de 2023.</p>					

<b>LEGAL NOTICE</b>	<b>LEGAL NOTICE</b>	<b>LEGAL NOTICE</b>	<b>LEGAL NOTICE</b>	<b>LEGAL NOTICE</b>	<b>LEGAL NOTICE</b>
<p>TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS THE CITY OF JACINTO CITY HAS RECEIVED TWO VARIANCE HEARING APPLICATIONS. THEY ARE AS FOLLOWS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. GONZALO &amp; ENEDELIA ALVARADO AT 1630 JENNIFER IS WANTING A VARIANCE FOR AN APARTMENT THAT IS AT THE BACK OF THE LOT</li> <li>2. FIDENCIO MORENO AT 10425 S. OSWEGO IS WANTING A VARIANCE ON THE FRONT PORT SETBACK LINE</li> </ol> <p>THE BOARD WILL HEAR THE PETITIONS ON JUNE 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 STARTING AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE CITY HALL ANNEX, 10301 MARKET STREET. ANY INTERESTED PERSON MAY ATTEND.</p>					

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# Harris County starts anti-poverty program,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

by a third-party agency and subjected to rigorous evaluation.

Judge Hidalgo said “The program is designed so it goes to folks with a certain income level, so it’s below the poverty line for those zip codes where there are economic challenges for a lot of people.”

Uplift Harris was spearheaded by Commissioner Ellis’ Office. The program, funded by American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, is part of the county’s broader strategy to reduce poverty and deliver economic prosperity for everyone in Harris County.

“Decades of neglect, inequity, and discrimination have financially destabilized generations of Harris County families, perpetuated poverty, and created unfair barriers to prosperity,” Commissioner Ellis said. “Unchecked and ongoing inequality has created an economic divide that families can’t overcome on their own, and Harris County has an obligation to act.”

Similar programs have been launched in 45 cities across the country, including Austin, which has seen positive results so far.

According to a study by the Urban Institute, before the program was brought to Austin, 80% of families said they could not afford food. After six months of being in the program, the number dropped to 68%.

Before the program, 77% of families in Austin said they couldn’t afford to serve balanced meals to their children. After six months of being a part of the program, that number dropped to 62%. About 55% of families in Austin said they were behind on their rent before starting the program, and after six months, that number dropped to 33%.

For more information, visit this website: <https://countiesforaguaranteedincome.org/>.

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FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE CHARGING AND/OR ARREST OF THE SUSPECT(S) IN THIS CASE

Crime Stoppers and the Harris County Sheriff's Office Vehicular Crimes Division need the public's assistance identifying the suspect(s) responsible for a Hit and Run – Failure to Stop and Render Aid – Fatality.

On Saturday, February 4, 2023, at approximately 5:30 a.m., the victim was struck by an unknown vehicle in the 15100 block of Woodforest Blvd. in Harris County, Texas. After the incident, the victim's body was found unresponsive in the westbound lanes of the roadway. The suspect's vehicle fled the scene without rendering aid. The victim suffered major injuries, and sadly died as a result of the collision.

Crime Stoppers may pay up to \$5,000 for information leading to the charging and/or arrest of the suspect(s) in this case. Information may be reported by calling 713-222-TIPS (8477), submitted online at [www.crime-stoppers.org](http://www.crime-stoppers.org) or through the Crime Stoppers mobile app. Only tips and calls DIRECTLY TO Crime Stoppers are anonymous and eligible for a cash reward.

VICTIM: ERICA NGO



HCSO CASE #2302-01270

How to Report a Tip

Call 713.222.TIPS (8477)

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Go to [crime-stoppers.org](http://crime-stoppers.org)

# JC Public Works Director Reed Retires,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

made it possible.

City Manager Lon Squyres commented at the event on how he and Kyle worked together on several projects which benefited the city in the past 9 years. Squyres said he and Reed didn't always agree on issues, “Kyle often would offer suggestions of projects which would benefit the city but I had to tell him, we couldn't afford them.”

Mayor Ana Diaz and council members, Carmela Garcia, Allen Lee, Mario Gonzales, and Gregg Robinson all said how much they appreciated Reed's service to the city and that he'd be sorely missed. Garcia said Kyle really was a big help to her when she was first elected and he took the time to educate me in PW's. Former Mayor Mike Jackson dittoed Garcia.

Joyce Raines, City Secretary and Kathy Greiner, Assistant City Manager who worked with Reed made the following comment; “We have worked with Kyle for 26 years and anytime we needed anything all we had to do was call him and it was taken care of. He will definitely be missed.

Chief of Police Joe Ayala told Kyle how much he appreciated him always being available to provide emergency traffic control devices and help his department with anything they needed. He told Kyle he will be missed and he invited Reed to come visit him at the police station anytime he wanted to.

Former Mayor's Mike Jackson and Chris Diaz both said Kyle was helpful to them in providing the citizens with services to keep them satisfied.

Allan Jamail, former JC Councilman, Mayor, Chief of Police, Emergency Management Director and Volunteer Fireman said, “It would take too many words to express his feelings about Kyle's service to the community. Kyle always put the citizen's needs first and made them his upmost priority. His public works members of 26 years ago and still today is the live-blood of the city. We can't do without our public works staff. He knew how to treat workers to where they got the job done and stayed many years under his tenure.

Kyle Reed made the following statement to the NC Star:

I started with Jacinto City, in March of 97 and I am B certified in water works, B certified in Sewer treatment which is required certification by the TCEQ. Since my beginning with JC we have re-habilitated most all the sewer system by pipe burst method to cause minimal disruption in sewer services. This 7.5 million dollar project consisted of replacement of the main sewerage lift station on lane / mercury drive and replacing pumping units (4) at the sewerage treatment plant. We also have completed approximately 40% of the cities old water lines. These water line projects are primarily funded through grant money that is available to some parts of Jacinto City. We have completed most of the old lines on the south side of Market Street all the way to Holland Ave and are currently working on the north side of Market Street. Phase 2 is being constructed now and phase 3 will begin probably in September

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Kyle Reed, Director of Jacinto City's Public Works at the city's main water pumping station. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

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The Ground storage tank was updated at this time as well. This allowed the new police station to be constructed at the same location as it has been for years!!

There is a 4.8 million project going on at the sewer plant facility's that will consist of new primary screening and secondary screening at the head of the plant. The lift station piping will be upgraded to stainless steel due to the extreme corrosive environment. Aeration process was updated and new gates on all the treatment units are replaced. We will do away with gas chlorine

and sulfur dioxide, to very hazardous chemicals and start using a much safer bleach compound and another much safer chemical to de-chlorinate as is required by the EPA/TCEQ.

Linda Jamail provided the following resolution words describing Reed's city service from Rep. Ana Hernandez.

### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Kyle Reed retired as director of public works for Jacinto City on May 31, 2023, drawing to a close an exemplary career with the city that spanned more than a quarter century; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of Ross S. Sterling High School, Mr. Reed began his career with the Crosby Municipal Utility District in June 1986; he was first hired by Jacinto City on March 3, 1997, and during his 26-year tenure, he oversaw water and wastewater systems as well as the maintenance and repair of city buildings, streets, and drainage infrastructure; moreover, he worked closely with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and city engineering firms to achieve regulatory compliance; and


WHEREAS, Over the years, Mr. Reed helped Jacinto City upgrade miles of water and wastewater pipes, lift stations, water storage facilities, and generators; he was also integral to recovery efforts in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Allison and Hurricanes Ike and Harvey; and


WHEREAS, through his dedication, professionalism, and commitment to excellence, Kyle Reed has greatly benefited the citizens of Jacinto City, and he may indeed reflect with pride on his achievements as he embarks on the next exciting chapter of his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Kyle Reed be congratulated on his retirement as director of public works for Jacinto City and that he be extended sincere best wishes for the future.

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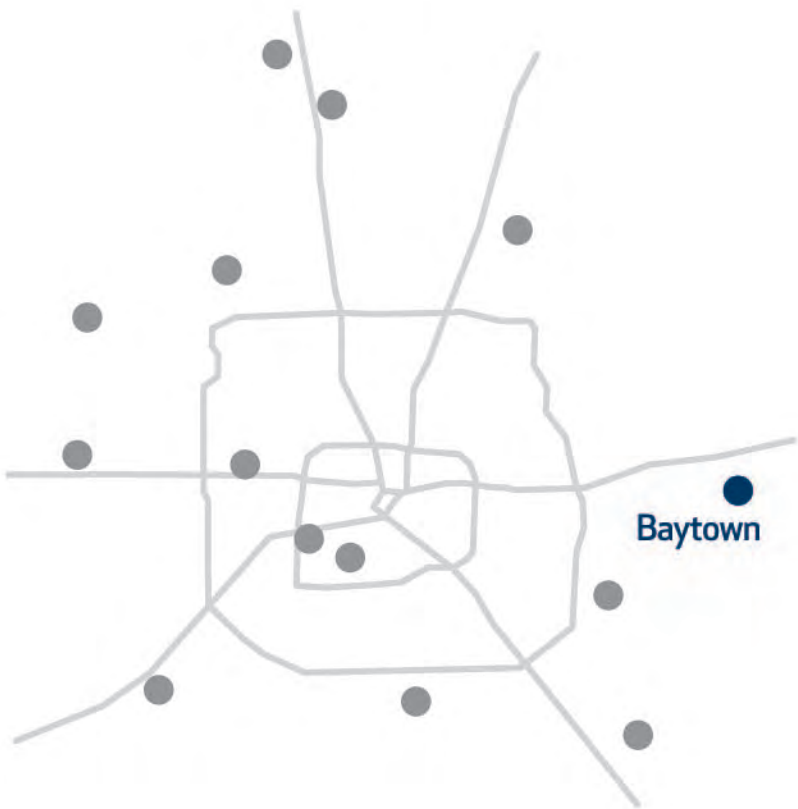




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