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| VOLUME 12, NO. 8 (\#507) | THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2024 | www.northchannelstar.com |

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Curenis
cuir Alliance warns of high Pollution Levels
Community Meeting hears results of recent monitoring in Jacinto City \& Galena Park

## BLACK HISTORY

 MONTHMaya
Angelou
Honoree

 Ameiemonon tornt

 | 3rd did.seies |
| :---: |
| ByAllan Inmal |

 writer Allan Jamail said, "I've
chosen Maya Angelou for my third Weers' Arecognition of
2024 Black History Month. I've 2024 Black History Month. I've
chosen her because she's an
 deserving for her courage and
struggles to climb up on the struggles to climb up on the
rough side of life's mountain to gouin prominence."." Three years
before her death in 211 she before her death in 2011 she
was awarded the Presidential was awarded the Presidential
Medal of Freedom by president Barack Obama.
She was borr Mar She was born Marguerite Annie
Johnson April 4, 1928, in St.
 Lon , 1 , 58, , 2014, in Winsston-
onlem, North Carolina. She had Salem, North Carolina. Sh
an older brother Bailey
Jon an older brother Bailey
Johnson J. At the age of Joventent, she gave bith to
ser only child, ason her orly child, a son, Clyde
Johnson (who ater changed Johnson (who later changed
his name to Guy Johnson). Angelou's older brother, Bailey J., nicknamed Marguenite "Maya", defived from "My" or
"Mya Sister". When Angelou was three and her brother four,
heir parents disastros their parents' disastrous
marriage ended, and their marriage ended, and their
father sent them to stamps, Arkanssas alone by train, to live
with their paternal
Continued. See BLACI Continued. See BLACK
HISTORY MONTH, Page 3

By Juan Flores
Air Alliance Houstor
Air Alliance Houston
GALENA PARK - On
February 6, Air Alliance Houston, Environmental Community Advocates of
Galena Park, and EnvironGalena Park, and Environ-
mental Defense Fund held mental Defense Fund held
a meeting in Galena Park a meeting in Galena Park/
Jacinto City to update the community on the data gathered by their air mon itoring network and share
insights into the extent the insights into the extent the
pollution is impacting pollution is im.
their community. By the time the meeting
started, the room was started, the room was filled to capacity, predominantly with local resi-
dents who were paying dents who were paying
close attention to the information presented as it directly impacts them. There were a lot of gasps in the

audience when they and acquiring their own learned about the high lev- air monitors.
els of pollution where they els of pollution where they
live. Concerned residents posed questions about the data and its significance or their health and their community's health. At the end of the meeting, attendees expressed an interest
in getting more involved els in the area, with sumhighest values - at least since April 2022. Ozone levels across Ga-
lena Park and Jacinto lena Park and Jacinto City soared during the summer
with high levels being re with high levels being re-
corded as early as March and lasting as late into the year as November - even as
high as 90 ppb higher than the EPA's standard. Given that sunlight and heat are
one of the precursors for one of the precursors
ozone pollution, this is expected, however, 2023 did record a longer ozone pollution period than 2022 This points towards the
impact of ever increasing impact of ever increasing
summer temperatures and Continued. See AIR ALIANCE Continued. See AIR ALLANCE
POLLUTION LEVELS, Page 3

## Galena Park's Industrial Fire Training

By Allan Jamail Galena Park, TX. ~ Feb-
ruary 20, 2024 $\sim$ ChiefTom ruary 20, 2024 ~ Chief Tom
Ehlers of the Galena Park Ehiers of the Galena Park
Fire Department said his department recently received exceptional fire training provided by the Chevron
Pasadena Refining CompaPasadena Refining Compa-
ny.
Chief Ehlers said Chevron provided the GP depart ment's members with Industrial Fire Brigade
Training at TEEX (Texas Training at TEEX (Texas sion Service) in College Sta tion this January. TEEX is a state extension agency that offers
training programs and tech training programs and technical assistance to public
safety workers both in Texas and around the world. Firefighters attended three sessions during the January College Station training course. They
trained side by side with trained side by side with
members of Chevron Pasadena's firefighting team. It provides and exposes emer-
gency responders to mock

disasters. Firefighters from across the state and nation come there to develop training and practical workforce solutions. What this training program comes down to
IS SAVING LIVES. The A\&M Lraining facility is home to some of the world's top training facilities which include the emer-
mpus. Firefighters gets campus. Firefighters get
both hands-on and class room instructions and train room in
ing.
"This
"This training provides valuable skills to Chevron's firefighters and ours on how
to deal with and help mitigate fires in many of the facilities around Galena Park This TEEX training provided firefighters with 20 hours

## Early voting in Primary starts February 20

HARRIS COUNTY -
Harris County Clerk Teneshia Hudspeth has announced the start of Early Voting for the March 5 Joint Primary Elections, and her staff demonstrated what voters can expect to see at the polls at a Press Conference last Monday, ebruary 19..
Early Voting in per20 to March 1, from a.m. to 7 p.m., except Sunday, February 25, noon to 7 p.m.
Harris County has countywide polling which means voters can go to any of the 79 early vote centers across the county.
Voters will choose from either a Democrat
or Republican ballot of the Harris County Deoff, they must vote in the same party. Ballots will be lengthy, because they include Presidential candidates, Senators, Congressmen, Judges, local county and city officials, constables and sheriff, precinct chairs, and propositions on th Republican ballot. Of special interest to area voters is State Rep-
resentative Briscoe Cain resentative Briscoe Cain running against Bianca
Gracia in District 128. Other incumbents run ning unopposed are Sen fronia Thompson, Carol Alvarado, and Sylvia Garcia on the Democrat ic slate.
Richard Cantu is running to retain his seat on
partment of Education nent in Josh Wallen stein.
Other high profile races include the Harris County District Attorney, with incumbent Kim Ogg facing challenger Sean Teare. Also of interest is a race for Sheriff, with incumbent ed Gonzalez facing 3 torney Christian Mene fee has an opponent Umeka Lewis.
For election information, visit www.Harris Votes.com and connect on social media at@HarrisVotes for news and updates.


Firefighters trained to pump over a thousand gallons of water per minute to cool down a fuel tank with a fire blazing nearby it.
each of Industrial Fire Bri- Chief Tom Ehlers would gade training and the oppor- like to thank Chief Wally
tunity to learn valuable skills fighting flammable adena Refining for the liquids fires, LPG fires, rail commitment to help make car fires, loading rack fires, sure Galena Park's fire and industrial unit fires, fighters are well trained and Galena Park benefited ubstantially by receiving the training because it was completely paid for by Pasadena's Chevron Refining Company. Ehler's said, "this hows their commitment in making sure that Galena protect their community and have the training to handle these types of emer have the skills they need to best serve and protect th community.
In my many conversa
tions with Chief Ehlers I can say the GP citizenry and city administration has an asset with him at the helm of their fire and rescue de
partment. He's a committed man determined to do his best to provide the commu nity with the best liv Trail Rides mark start of RodeoHouston

HOUSTON - A total of
more than 2,000 cowboys and cowgirls are expected to participate in this year's 11 rodeo trail rides, some of which will travel 100
plus miles to Houston. plus miles to Houston.
February marks th start of rodeo season in Houston, and as part of a beloved annual tradition later this month, thou-
sands of cowboys and cowgands of cowboys and cowtheir way to the city while riding horses and wagons in a scene straight out of
the Old West. the Old West. Eleven trail rides asso clated with the Houston
Livestock Show and Rodeo will commence starting Feb. 16, the rodeo announced Thursday. A total of more than 2,000 trail
riders are expected to riders are expected to par
ticipate, and they'll come from rural locations throughout the Southeast Texas region while making


NORTHEASTERN TRAIL RIDERS, Anthony Bruno Trail Boss, start from Cheeks, Texas and come through Northeast Houston on the way to Memorial Park
and the Houston Rodeo Parade on Saturday, February $24 t h$. SEE MORE ON and the Houston Rode Para.
THE TRALL RIDE ON PAGE 6 .
overnight stops and trav- The trail riders will gath eling more than 100 miles er Feb. 23 at Memorial as ome cases - with Goli-
ad, the site of an 1836 bat- $\begin{aligned} & \text { Park, where an award } \\ & \text { ceremony will be held }\end{aligned}$ tle between the Republic of The trail ride tradition Texas and Mexico, being dates to 1952, when fou he most far-flung starting This year's rodeo is scheduled for Feb. $27-$ ham on horseback Bren ham on horseback to proham on horseback to pro-
mote the Houston Rodeo, which first
1931. --HPM


CISD Literacy Bus Unveiled:
Channelview Welcomes Mobile Library Sponsored by LyondellBasell


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## Air Alliance warns of high

 Pollution levels,
## Who Sets Standards

Over the weekend, I read a post on social media where someone was upset that their neighborhoo was not receiving the much-needed repairs that elt that because their neighborhood was more homeowners than renters, they should be getting more attention. They also felt that since they pay Home Owner Association (HOA) dues, they should ave been the priority for repairs.
It was noted that Commissioner Adrian Garcia had advertised and held many meetings in various parts of Precinct Two, yet those in Cloverleaf had
As the more attended than in North Shore. As che post contrined gain other residents, there seemed to be some that felt Some felt that because the homeowners pay dues, hey should be treated better. It was repeatedly pointed out that the squeaky wheel gets the grea Those who took the time to attend meetings and voice their concerns were listed to by the Commissioner.
Some of the posters made it seem as though renters were on a lower level of qualifying to com-
munity resources. To me, it was obvious that some munity resources. To me, it was obvious that som did not pay any attention to what was being prowhen community improvements started happening, they were appalled.
As often say in my column, we are all equal and thakes all of us working together to see positive why some people feel they are entitled to more than someone else. If you look around, there are a variety f "standards" that someone has put in place. Is it air that one person or one group is looked down upon by another?
One of the pet peeves that I have is when somene wants to hold someone else down due to past mistakes. I feel that if someone has made a mistake earned from it, and is trying to make improvements in their life, we should be ready to treat them with he same respect we ask for. I read a post where someone was wanting to suggest that one group of people are sick and perverted, yet they forgot it was athroom with another woman in a compromising athroom with another woman in a compromising otorcycle headed towards a bar in Galveston fter consuming way too much alcohol, found imself wanting to call others and have them pick sides. And yet, why just a few years later, after he and his bride went through marriage counseling, did he think he had the right to condemn other sam sex couples?
We all sin and we all fall short, yet why do we want to judge others and crucify them for errors? We need to apply the same grace and mercy to others. We need to quit thinking we are more deserving of privilege or accommodation than
others. We need to find common ground and comothers. We need to find com

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## ONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

heat on regional air quali-
Readings from particuperhaps the worst of all. All 4 air monitors measuring PM2.5 across Galena
Park and Jacinto City rePark and Jacinto City recover the EPA's (previous) standard of 12 micrograms per cubic meter for 13 of the last 16 months. With he new reduction in the standard to 9 micrograms
or's monthly averages this level for all 16 ut of 16 months. Moreover, average PM 2.5 levels seem to have increased in with the area suffering levels $5-10 \mathrm{ug} / \mathrm{m} 3$ above the EPA annual standard for most of the year.
shared from a 'Sampling the City' community bike ride held in October 2023
where residents equippe where residents equipe
with portable FLOW 2 ' ai monitors rode through Galena Park and Jacinto City to capture levels of air pol
lution in real-time. The re lution in real-time. The re-
sults largely confirmed the sults argely confirmed the
previous readings from AAH's community air monitors:
-High N
-High NO2 levels were recorded in Jacinto City
-VOC levels were high throughout the ride even reaching as high as 295 ppb -PM2.5 levels were also high throughout the
ride with an average of $90.2 \mathrm{ug} / \mathrm{m} 3$ and a peak $214 \mathrm{ug} / \mathrm{m} 3$
The presentation of the meeting can be viewed on meeting

## Maya Angelou,

gix
stark contrast to the hansh
he time, Angelou's grandmother
the time, Angelou's grandmothe
prospered financially during the
Grospered financially during the
because she owned the only general
sore in the African American
community which sold basic and
needed commodities.
Four years later, when Angelou was
seven her father sent her and her
heir mother's care in 5 st. Louis.
heir mother's care in st. Louis.
he was sexually abused and raped
by her mother's boytriend. She told
er brother the man's name, who
old the rest of their family. The
tan was jailed for four days, shorty
after his release he was found
me was so traumatizied by the
experience she quitit talking for
years. Later she said, "I t thought my
oice killed him; I lilled that man,
because t told his name. And then,
thught would never speak again
hought I would never speak aga
because my voice would kill
year I Iter Angelou was eight and
her brother nine, they again were
sent to Annie Henderson, the
Srandmother in Stamps, AR.
raining School, in tatatamps, aunty
Rosenwald School (1 of 5,000 ) built
he creaditis a teacher and friend of
he credits a teacher and friend of
er family, Mirs. Bertha Flowers,
challenging her by sayying: 'rou do
hot Iove poetry, by sou untili you speak
not
." Flowers introduced her to
authors such as Charles Dickens,
William Shakespeare, Edgar Allan
ooe, Georgii Douglas Johnsson, an
ames Weldon Johnson, authors
ho would affect Angelolo's life and
aristst like Frances Harper, Anne
encer, and Jessie Fauset.
When Angelou was 14 and her
brother I5, she and her brother
moved in once again with their
moved in once again with their
mother, who had since moved to
War II, Angelou attended the
California Labor School.
At the age of 1 , she became the
first Black female streetcar
conductor in San Francisco. She
wanted the job badly, admiring the
uniforms of the operators so much
so that her mother referred to it as
later she worked intermittently as
ocktail waitress, a cook, and a
cancer. It was as a dancer that sh
asumed her professional name.
Maya changed hoer nes name nome.
Marguerite Anni
arguerite Annie Johnson in 1954
While eerforming at San Francisco's
Greek sailor named Anastasios
gelopulos; she decided to use
ame "Maya Angelou" because it
and distinctive. She combined the
Ickname her brother had given
with a new last name she derived
her twenties in the late 1950's
e moved to New York City,
her literary talents at the Harlem
Writers' ' Guild. About the same time,
Departmentsponsored pordeduction
epartment-Sponsored production
Forgy and Bess; with this troupe she
urred 22 countries in Europe and
Martha Graham and Pearl Primus. In
play The Blacks. That same year she
was persuaded by a south African
dissident to move to Cairo, Egypt
where she worked for the Arab
where she worked for the Arab
Observer. She later moved to Ghan
Obsever. She later moved to Ghana
and worked on The Africian Review.
After hearing civil rights leader
Wartin Luther King Jr. speak for the
Ast time in 1960 , she was inspired
She organized several beneneitit for
him, and he named her Northern

Coordinator of the Southern
Christian Leadership Conferenc She worked for Malcolm X shortly She worked for Malcoll X Shortly
before his asasssination in 1965 . In before
1968 , King assased her to organize a
march but he too march, but he too was assassinated
on April 4 , which also happened to on April 4 , which also happenear to
be her birthday. For many years, Angelou respondded to King's
murder by not celebrating her murder by not celebrating her
birthday, instead choosing to meet
with, call or send flowers to his birthady, instean choosing to
with, acli, or snd flowers to his
widow, Coreta Cott King.
Her early life is the focu of her first Her early life is the focus of her firs
autobiographical work, "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" which gained critical acclaim and a
National Book Avard nomition National Book Award nomin
She picked that title from; She picked that titte from;
"Sympath" by Paul Lawrence
Dunhar a Black t's a sumblic Dunbar, a Black. It's s symbolic
poem that presents a stark poem that presents a stark
comparison between cruel slav comparison between cruel slavery
versus joyous freedom. Using the
metaphor of a bidd Dunhar metaphor of a bird, Dunbar
highights the importance of highights the importance of
freedom.
Maya used the same metaphor of a
caged bird to expresss that even caged bird to express that even
though she had suffered abuse, sh though
would survive by fighting back, just as a caged bird still sings and fight for its freedon.
Three of her sayings is, "Ive learned
that people will torget what you that people will forget what you
said, people will forget what you said, people will forget what you
did, but people will never forget did, but people will nevere forget
how you made them feel" and "you how you made them feel and "you
may shoot me with your words, you
may cut me with your eves may cut me with your eyes, "yous,
max kill me with your hatefuliness, may kill me with your hatefulness,
but like air , III still ise" and "Ive
learned that making ine learned that making a living is not
the same thing as making life.: the same thing as making a life.
In 1966 she wrote Black, Blues,
Black kiried 1988|, a 10 -part
Black liried 1968), a a 10 part
television series about the role televisison series about the rolo of
African culture in American life. As
the witer of te the writer of the movie drama
Georgin Georgi, Georgia (1972), she
became one of the first African became one of the first African
American women to have a screenplay produced as a feature
film. She also acted in such movies film. She also acted in such hovies
as Poetic Justice ( 1993 ) and How to as Poetic Justice (1993) and How to
Make an American Ouilt (1995) and appeared in several television
productions incud appeared in severat tele
productions, including the
miniseries miniseries Roots (1977). Angelou
received a Tony Award nomination received a Tony Award nomination
for her performance in Look Away
11973 , defpite the fact that the (1973), despite the fact that the Play closed on Broadway after only
one performance. In 1998 she mad one performance. In 1998 she mad
her diretorial debut with Down in
the
 Maya Angelou and Still I Rise 12016
depicts her life through interiews depictst her life through interviews
with Angelou and her intimates and with Angela
admires.
Subsequent
Subsequent volumes of
autobiography include autobiography include Gather
Togetene in My Name (12744),
Singin' and Swinin' Singin' and Swingmin' and Gettin'
Merry Like Chrismas Merry Like Christmas (1976), The
Heart of a Woman (1981), All God Heart of a Woman (1981), All
Children Need Traveling Shoes Childre) Need FVIng to
(1986), Aong Fung Up to Heal
(2002), and Mom \& Me Mom (2002), and Mom \& Me \& Mom
(12013). In 2014, Angelou received
lifetime achievement award from lifetime achievement award fro
the Conference of Minority the Confererce of Minority
Transportation Officicils as part
session billed "Women What Transportation Officials as part of a
session iiled "Women Who Move
the Nation". the Nation".
Among numerous honors was her
invittion to compose and deliver invitation to compose and deliver
poem, "On the Pulse of Morning,"
for the ina poem, on ter fuse in . for the inaurartion of U. Pres.
Bill Cinton in Bill Clinton in 1993. She celebrated
the 50th anniversary of the United
Nations in the poem 'A Arave and the 50th anniversary of the United
Nations in the poem "A Brave and
Starting Truth" 1995 and elegized Startinin Truth" " 1995 ) and degized
Nelson Mandel in the poem "His Nelson Mandela in the poem His
Day Is Isene" 2013 , which was
commissioned by the U.S. State commissioned by the U.S. State
Department and released in the Department and released in the
wake of the South African leader's Departm
wake of
death.

## ASK DLAMOND JIM

## Diamond Jim:

 "What is a Brilliant Cut Diamond?"Diamonds are one of the world's most prized treasures - but they don't come out of the Earth looking like a mil-
lion bucks! In fact, they look like... well, rocks. The appearance is dull, and it is in the hands of skilled cutters that the true beauty is revealed.
Diamond cutting has been in practice since at least the 14th century. Before that, they were polished to en hiques have evolved, as has the skill of expert cutters. large, brilliant cut diamond is, in many ways, the cul-


Brilliant Cut Diamond Definition
Many of us regard diamonds as magical objects! They are simply stunning, and brilliant cuts are designed to maximize the appeal of the stone: the shine, the spar le, and the elegance
When talking about the brilliant cut diamond, it is also important to become familiar with these terms:
Brilliance: white light reflected from the facets
Fire: reflected color created when white light is dispersed through the diamond
Scintillation: the sparkl
Scintillation: the sparkle we see when the reflections interact as the stone is in motion
A brilliant cut diamond has 58 facets (including the culet). The crown (i.e. the upper portion of the stone) has 33, while the pavilion (i.e. the lower portion of the
stone) has 25 . But it's more involved than that: the crown has one table facet, eight bezel facets, eight-star facets, and 16 upper girdle facets, while the pavilion has eight facets, as well as 16 lower girdle facets and a culet. Cut of symmetry and proportion.
Speaking of which: the table, crown, and pavilion al must be in proportion to each other. For instance, if the table is too large, then too much light can escape. This the pavilion is too deep or too shallow light is lo through the bottom, and we miss out on the brilliance
Why Invest in a Brilliant Cut Diamond?
As a professional in the jewelry industry, it is essen-
ial that we deliver the quality and aesthetic beauty that fial that we deliver the quairity and aesthetic beauty tha ur customers want. Round brilliants are the most pop-
ular stones on the market, accounting for more than 70 percent of sales nationwide.
The reason for this is obvious: They are iconic! When people picture the ideal engagement ring, for instance their mind This that a briliant cut diamond will pop int fire, and scintillation. The beauty and glamor of the bril fire, and scintillation.
Large, brilliant cut diamonds may cost a bit more than other cuts. The cutting process is labor-intensive, and it must be meticulous and exacting. Even in the hands of a master, there is a good deal of waste involved in the
cutting process. You may, for example, lose up to 60 per cent of the carat weight as a rough diamond is trans formed into a customer-ready brilliant cut stone, However, many customers accept a higher price point
in return for the quality and enduring beauty they re-

The Diamond Experts
Our expert team will help you select the right stone(s) for your jewelry. We offer a host of services to stream-
ine your purchase experience and your enjoyment your brilliant cut diamonds. We offer financing and custom one-of-a-kind CAD design assistance. We can han desire at an affordable price.

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 Drecious 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: $\frac{\text { www.pineforestiewelry.com. }}{\text { If }}$.
If you have questions pertaining to jewelry, watches, iamonds, precious stones, precious imills@pineforestjewelry.com
"I still do."


## 次 OPINION PAGE *



Stricter Gun Control Regulations needed
Judge Lina Hidalgo Calls for Stricter Gun Safety Regulations in Wake of Lakewood Church hooting
Harris County, TX, February 16, 2024, Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo issued the following satement in response to the shooting at Lake-
od Church on Sunday
"All of us in Harris County are hurting from the shooting at Lakewood Church. Part of our response to what is now just the latest tragedy
like this, which is not unique, is looking at how we can prevent an unstable person from accessing a gun. The majority of guns used to commit a gun. The majority of guns used to commit Lakewood shooter used an AR-15 that she was able to purchase legally, despite her criminal record and a history of violent behavior.
Texas has a history of responding to mass trengthening them. This is demonstrably not way to reduce gun violence. With state laws tying our hands, we can only do so much at the local level. I am calling on our state leaders to do what is beyond obvious and pass stricter regulations on purchasing guns in Texas, including a red flag law," said Judge Lina Hidalgo
\#\#\#
Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo is Harris County's chief executive and Director of the Harris County Office of Homeland Security an Emergency Management. Judge Hidalgo, alongside four county precinct commissioners, oversee a budget of approximately $\$ 5$ billion that funds services and institutions for the third-largest county in the nation, home to nearly 5 million people. For more information about Harris County and the Office of the County Judge, please visit: cjo.harriscountytx.gov.

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that of this newspaper or its staff YOUR OPINION is welcome hat of this newspaper or its staff. YOUR OPINION is welcome.
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with Slim Randles
Morning exercise. The easy way
Doc was just getting up to leave the philosophy ounter as Herb walked in. Herb was grinning and eyes. We stared.
"Herb," said Doc. "You know, you can overdo a good thing."
"Why Doc ... whatever do you mean?"
"I realize that getting more exercise is your you need to pace yourself a little, that's all. Don't try to get in shape all at once."
"Why Doc, I've never felt better in my life. Hey, you were so right to get me on this exercise kick. been needing. Whg to thank you. It's just what playing some football in the spring? I mean, it's just touch football, but I miss the ol' razz-matazz, you now?
Doc shook his head sadly and walked out. Herb tarted laughing and sat down with us and flipped his cup over for his morning eye opener
"What was that all about, Herb?" Dud asked.
"A little joke I'm playing on Doc, that's all," Herb said. "You remember how Doc has been on my ase to get more exercise and slim down some? Well, there was only one way to shut him up, so I started running. I bought a sweat suit and started unning. I run past his house each morning. Then, brection, huffing and puffing and looking at my watch."
"An hour? You run for an hour each morning?" "Of course not," Herb said, laughing. "I run past Doc's house then walk the block to the library. An two blocks home."

We stared at him.
"What?" he said. "You know Doc's going to worry about me one way or the other. I just thought I'd hange it up a bit."

Brought to you by Saddle Up: A Cowboy Guide to Writing by Slim Randles. Now available as a Kindle book on Amazon.com.

$\star$

## STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders


## Pitch Made for New Power Plants

Lt. Gov Dan Patrick
joined with the world's joined with the world's argest investment firm building natural gas power plants in Texas at a summit held last week in Houston.
Patrick and BlackRock CEO Larry Fink shared the stage as they atempted to persuade age of $\$ 10$ billion in incentives and bonuses provided by the state after voters approved a constitutional amendment last
ovember, kut.org reported. "We estimate in this iom," Fink told the crowd. "We only have to put $\$ 10$ billion to work, so can we get it done? Can we start raising
While Patrick remained optimistic the lan would attract building new power plants, others aren't so
sure.
Ed Hirs, an energy eonomist at the Univer sity of Houston, old kut.org that the way the Texas power marke
is structured won't necessarily provide a steady return to power plant operators.
"If you've got \$2 trillion worth of investors and they're looking for deal ... they wouldn't have had this summit; ower plants being be built," he said. "All of these guys are sharks. They're not going to miss an opportunity to make a profit."

New law increases entences for human mugglers
A state law that sentence from two years to 10 years for people convicted of smuggling mmigrants or harboring hem illegally went into


## $\mathfrak{S t a r *} \mathbb{C}$ mutivr

Barbers Hill $\star$ Dayton PRESS North Channel * Star


Donuts in the Middle of the Day


While a person may buy a
cake here in Mexico seven days week from early morning to late at night, getting any other kind
of dessert is more challenging of dessert is more challenging.
There is a bakery I walk by every day. Everything is fres every day. Scstomers pick up
and in bins. metal tray and tongs and select what they want, then bring it up to the counter. The tray is re turned to the pile. The tongs are hung neatly with the other tong
It is a great system, except that the tray holds a lot of baked goods-probably more than should eat on any given day. But a problem has occurred. of writers on a rooftop, and they have been kind enough to agre to read the first half of my new book. The first half(slightly more than half, actually) is 149 pages so this is a generous thing for
them to do I want to bring treats, naturally. I thought apple empanadas would be best, as they are my favorite. But the meeting is at 2 in the afternoon, and the empanadas only appear at 2 promptyy at 2,
minute before.
"I don't suppose I could pick any up at 1?" I asked the nice girl at the counter.
She shook her head sadly. N
They were
They were only available at 2 .
"What do you have that I could buy at 1?" I inquired. She pointed to the bread Somehow, showing up at the meeting with a bag of dinner roll was not what I was imagining. The ghirl's ayeses widened as if if was really asking far too many ques tions, and she referred me to baker standing in the back. I explained to the baker (to th best of my ability) that I had meeting "sweets" to the meeting The meeting, I added, was with Americans. (There will also be several Canadians, but I decided not to complicate things.) I could
tell he sensed the proble. Thi tell he sensed the problem. This
man looked as if hedd been baking things long enough to hav heard of the eccentricities Americans.
"So, no empanadas before 2 ?"
I wanted to confirm. I wanted to confirm.
That could not be done. That could not be done.
"Cookies?"
They come out later yet. "Donuts?" He seemed to find this amusing. D
available before 5 available before 5 .
"Maybe you could buy empanadas the day before?"' he suggest ${ }^{\text {ed. }}$ "Would they still be hard?" asked (because I couldn't ber how to say "soft"
"They would be next day," he admitted. I was sty next day,"
mied.
I aske
I asked Pepe at my hotel,
"Why do you eatdonuts antert? "Why do you eat donuts at night." chocolate or coffee after dinner. When do you eat them?" "Usually in the morning," I told him, feeling a little foolish as $I$ admitted it.
admitted it.
"In the morning?"
"Y
"Yes." away as yet another inexplicable thing he had learned about gringos while working at the hotel.
The meeting is next week The meeting is next week, and
I still do not have a good solution. I will probably take the baker' advice and buy empanadas a day early. They will be a little "suave," as he said, but they will still be delicious. And, as long as $I^{\prime} m$ buy ing things a day ahe
throw in some donuts.
throw in some donuts.
We'll sit there on the roff, a
bunch of happy idiots bunch of happy idiots, eating do nuts in the middle of the day. Till next time,
Carrie


## "Tracker"

| "TRACKER"" (TV-14) | isodes premiering every |
| :--- | :--- |
| Justin Hartley ("This Is | Sunday. (Paramount+) | - Justin Hartley ("This Is Us") leads this new CBS action-drama series based on the novel "The Never

Game" by Jeffery Deaver. Hartley plays - cue the burliest name you can
think of - Colter Shaw, a lone-wolf survivalist" with excellent tracking around the country to help citizens and law enforcement solve the mind-boggling mysteries and tragedies that have affected their town. In the first Klamath Falls, Oregon, to dig deeper into the disappearance of a 14 -year-old boy. Hartley also serves as an executive producer for the series, so here's hopbe gripping enough to pull in viewers and get picked up for another season. The first two episodes are out now, with subsequent ep-
"FERRARI" (R) From director Michael Mann ("Collateral"), this riopic follows Enzo of the car manafacturer Ferrari, during the summer of 1957 as the racing division of his com-
pany prepares for the pany prepares for the
Mille Miglia race. Portrayed by Adam Driver ("House of Gucci"), Enzo is in a state of chaos due to his company facing extreme financial losses and
his deteriorating relation his deteriorating relation
ship with his wife, Laura ship with his wife, Laur
(Penelope Cruz). On top of this, kept hidden away from his wife in the countryside of Modena, Italy, is Enzo's son, Piero, with mistress Lina (Shailene a true family. But even with the pressure rising from all aspects of his life Enzo is determined t
keep his company out of hot water and pull off the win at the Mille Migia. Out now to rent. (Amazon Prime Vide
"THE GREATEST NIGHT IN POP" ${ }^{\text {(PG-13) }}$ casts a spotlight on a magical evening in 1985 when some of the most famous
musicians in the world at usicians in the world at gether to record a memorable pop anthem called We Are the World." With incredible insider footage of the night, viewers feel
like flies on the wall watching legends like Lionel Richie, Michael Jackson, Cyndi Lauper and Bob Dylan attempt to find their footing amid an elite group of their peers. The with new interviews featuring some of the musicians as they recount the ong hours they put in that night and how beautifully the song came together in
"CONSTELLATION" TV-MA) - This psycho-logical-thriller series centers on Jo (Noomi Rapace), an astronaut who barely urvives a mission gone turning to Earth, Jo starts to notice some eerie differences in her life back home, like a piano suddeny placed in her living doomn't play. She also experiences intense hallucinations, and as time goes on, her relationship with her daughter becomes estranged. Despite getting with other astronauts about her situation, Jo inches closer to the brink of madness and is left to wonder if this terrifying phenomenon will ever cease. The first two epi(Apple TV+
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by Dana lacl<son
Q:I remember when singer Usher used to be on the soap opera "The Bold and the
Beautiful." Has he done any acting since? S.L

A:Born Usher Raymond IV, superstar Usher was born in Dallas and sang in the church choir that was directed by his mother. The family later moved to Atlanleased his first album in 1994 at the age of 16 and also hit it big with his second album, "My Way," in 1997. He flexed his
talents even more by branching out into acting - first in the sitcom "The Parent "Hood" on The WB network, then in recurring roles on "The Bold and the Beautiful" and "Moesha."
More recently, he's just played himself
in several TTV hows like "Dav" and The in several TV shows like "Dave" and The being selected to headline the Super Bowl halftime show is a high honor for any recording artist, so I doubt he has any regrets about not having a hit acting career.
He also just released his ninth album "Co also just released his ninth album,
"Coming Home," so perhaps he'll be adding his ninth Grammy to his mantle during the next award season.
Q: When is "Young Sheldon" coming back with new episodes? Is it true that this ill be the final season? - A.M. might have noticed that "Young Sheldon" returned to CBS with all new episodes on Feb. 15. Delayed by the writers' and actors' strikes, the seventh and final season will only consist of 14 episodes, with its
hour-long series finale airing on May 16. It was inevitable that the show would end, since the title character was getting closer to the age of his future self in "The Big Bang Theory", the hit sitcom that preced-
ed "Young Sheldon." ed "Young Sheldon."
the horizon. According to The Holys on Reporter, CBS is "reteaming with exec producers Chuck Lorre, Steve Holland and Steve Molaro to develop a spinoff of their prequel series 'Young Sheldon."' Although nothing official has been announced, word
is that the new show will focus on Sheldon's brother, Georgie (Montana Jordan), and his fiancee, Mandy (Emily Osment).


## Musician Usher

It will debut as early as the $2024-25$ televi sion season. Hopefully, Iain Armitage wil pop in occasionally as Sheldon.
Q: Is it true that Jon Bon Jovi lost his voice? Will he still be able to sing? - I.S.
A:Singer Jon Bon Jovi is recovering fro A:Singer Jon Bon Jovi is recovering from
surgery to mend a vocal cord injury, but his career is far from over. According to Entertainment Weekly, the lead singer of the popular rock band Bon Jovi had undergone surgery 19 months ago with a specialist in
Philadelphia who used a plastic implant to fix an atrophied vocal cord. While promoting" "Than The Bon Jovi Story," an upcoming docuse ries on Hulu about him and his bandmates, Bon Jovi said that their new record has been completed and that he recently performed
live for the first time since his surgery. He's also about to become Millie Bobby Brown's ("Stranger Things") father-in-law, as his son, Jake, proposed to the actress last year. Send me your questions at at KFWS, 628 Virginia Drive Orlando, FL 32803.
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ENTERTAINMENT


Weekly SUDOKU
HOCUS-FOCUS ${ }_{\text {HENRY Bltitimofe }}$


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February 19, 2024 Posting Date King Crossword


## ?Trivia <br> test ${ }_{\text {Rofinifue }}^{\text {big }}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { 1. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Can- } \\
& \text { ada? }
\end{aligned}
$$ ada?

2. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What was the first animal to be cloned?
3. LTERATURE: Ine children's book series
"The Bobbsey Twins," what are the names of the "The Bobbsey Twins," what are the names of the
two setsof twins?
4. CHEMISTRY: What is the symbol for the two sets of twins?
5. CHEMISTRY: What is the symbol for the
chemical element platinum? chemical element platinum?
6. MUSIC: What is the title of Elvis Presley's first commercial single?
7. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the first U.S. national park?
8. MEDICAL: What is a common name for xerosis?
9. FOOD \& DRINK: What is a sommelier?
10. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first presi9.
dent to visit all 50 states?
10 HISTORY 10. HISTORY: What were the principal powe
of the Axis in WWII? of the Axis in WWII?
02024 King Features Synd. Inc.

## Trail Boss: Anthony Bruno

By Jonathan Bruce KTRK
February 24, 2023
ABC13 caught up with trail boss Anthony Bruno live from the trail to talk about the journey and the ically Black trail ride.

HOUSTON, Texas -Fifty-five riders, 19 wagons, and 111 miles over six days make up the only historically Black trail stock Show \& Rodeo, tock Show \& Rodeo.
ABC13 caught up with Northeastern Trail Ride trail boss Anthony Bruno live on the trail as the caravan made its way to Me morial Park in Houston rate the rodeo as part of the 71 -year history of the


Anthony Bruno Trail Boss Northeastern Trail Ride famous trail rides. "For us to be able to do this every year, it's an
honor and a privilege. We honor and a privilege. We dream," Bruno said from inside a Northeastern wagon as the ride set out on its final stretch of a six day journey.

Ten trail rides got underway on Sunday to parsignature annual tradi-
tion.
Bruno is making the journey with a bittersweet of his father last year. Bruno's father, Joseph, co-founded the historically Black Northeastern Trail Ride in 1982 and served as its inaugural trail boss for about 30
years before passing the years before passing the
reins to Anthony. "This trail ri founded to introduce people to Black cowboys and Black cowboy history because it hasn't been fairly documented," Bruno said. We are keeping our cul-
ture and heritage alive."


Trail Boxx Anthony Bruno in the saddle.

## COMMUNITY WATCH

Fatal Hit \& Run on I-10 East Freeway; Reward
Reward of up to $\$ 5,000$ leading to the Shockingly, the suspect(s) fled the scene charging and/or arrest of the suspect(s) without providing any aid to the victim. involved in this case. Mr. Meadows suffered major injurie Harris County Texas - Crime Stop- and tragically lost his life as a result Harris County, Texas - Crime Stop- the collision pers, in collaboration with the Harris
County Sheriff's Office Vehicular Crimes Division, urgently seeks the public's help in identifying the
suspect(s) involved in a tragic Hit and Run - Failure to Stop and Render Aid Fatality incident.
On Saturday, January 13, 2024, at approximately 10:08 p.m., Billy Leon Meadows, the victim, was struck by a vehicle in the 16000 block of East Fwy. in Houston, Texas. Mr. Meadows was walking southbound when he was hit by the suspect's vehicle, identified as a Honda Civic, traveling westbound. ward

Homicide Investigators seek help for a 2016 Multiple Murder In East Harris County
Houston, TX - October 25, 2023 - Investigators with the Harris County
Sheriff's Office Homicide Division seek the public's help for information on the death of Christopher Chaney, Nicholette Briscoe, Willie Norman and Kelcii Flintroy,
On Friday, December 9, 2016, Har ris County Sheriffs Deputies and Chan-
nelview Fire Dept. responded to a call nelview Fire Dept. responded to a call
in the 15300 block of Market St, Channelview, Texas, for a vehicle fire. Upon arrival, Deputies and Fire personnel discovered two males and two females deceased in the vehicle from apparent gunshot wounds.


The suspect(s) are unknown at this time. This homicide case is still open, pending new leads. Anyone with information about the identity of the suspect(s) is asked to contact Crime (8477). Crime Stoppers will pay up to $\$ 5,000$ for information leading to the charging and/or arrest of the suspect(s) in this case.

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LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE

CEMETERY LOTS
NOTICE OF STREET ADDRESS OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

The street address of the administrative office of Harris County Emergency Services District No. 6 is 332 Freeport St., Houston, Texas 77015.

We have 4 Cemetery spaces for sale at
We have 4 Cemetery spaces for sale at
the San Jacinto Memorial Park-Funeral Home off of I-10. They are located in the Blue Lagoon section Lot \#57 and spaces $9,10,11$ and 12 They are $\$ 5000$ each We can break them up and sell

$$
2 \text { groups of } 2 .
$$

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## EMPLOYMENT

 EMPLOYMENT EMPLOYMENTBOOKKEEPER POSITION The bookkeeper reports to our Senior Accountant and assists with the usual bookkeeping functions, including data entry,
filing, report prep, and other tasks. Negotiable salary starts ling, $\mathrm{teport} \mathrm{prep} ,\mathrm{and} \mathrm{other} \mathrm{tasks}$.Negotiable salary starts
at $\$ 45 \mathrm{~K}$ with a great package of benefits. We're looking for someone with a certificate or 2 -year degree in bookkeeping or equivalent experience in a similar position plus knowledge of QuickBooks and Microsoft Office. Send Resume to shill@haweshill.com.


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Sheldon ISD educators representing 13 campuses
were recognized at the Houston Area Alliance of (HAABSE) annual Outstanding Teacher Awards and Recognition Ceremony
on February 8 . Nominees on February 8. Nominees
from across the Houston from across the Houston region were presented for
teachers who go above and beyond to serve their school communities, stu dents and families. Congratulations to the
following Sheldon ISD HAABSE Teacher of the Year nominees:
Cravens Early Childhood Academy, LaToya Johnson
Sheldon Early Childhood Academy, June Carroll Elementary, Myavia Varner
Garrett
Garrett Elementary Tolenia Lee
Monahan E Jacqueline Miller Royalwood Elem Teresa Moreno Sheldon Elementary Sheshia Shields
Sheldon Lake Elemen-

tary, Brenda Penaloza King Middle
Tylisha Jones Null Middle School, Na tasha Green King 9th Grade Cam pus, Roddrell Stewart
King High School King High School, Sha
lonica Cluse Ionica Cluse
KASE Academy,
Michelle Ruiz Additionally, King High Charlotte Harris was honored as Assistant Principal of the Year, and King High School senior Sarah Roldan is a $\$ 1,000$ scholarship recipient.

Null Middle School receives National AVID recognition


Null Middle School has achieved the AVID National Demonstration Valida-
tion. AVID, Advancement Via Individual Determinasystem that is designed to
$\begin{array}{ll}\begin{array}{ll}\text { increase schoolwide learn- } \\ \text { ing and performance. As a }\end{array} & \begin{array}{l}\text { being used in the school as } \\ \text { well as the difference it is }\end{array}\end{array}$ Demonstration School, making in student's lives.
Null Middle School particNull Middle School partic-
The school celebrated this
ipated in a rigorous validaipated in a rigorous valida-
tion process that anement with a parade
and presentation during a tion process that and presentation during a
showcased how AVID is
luncheon on February 14.


6 students Sign NCAA Letters of Intent


On February 13, six King High School seniors committed to playing NCAA sports during a signing ceremony, The following students participated:
Danee Clark - Tyler Junior College, Volleyball
Danee Clark - Yyler Junior College, Voleybali
Darius Clark-James - Sam Houston State University, Football Rae'G Dailey - University of Texas Permian Basin, Football K'Mard Kimble - Stephen F. Austin University, Football Leo Lane Jr. - University of Texas A \& M Kingsville, Football
Derek Williams - Southwest Assemblies of God Unverity Derek Williams - Southwest Assemblies of God University, Baseball This marks a total of eight seniors who have signed their Letters of Intent during the 202324 school year.

## GALENA PARK ISD NEWS

## Band Director Honored for His Positive Impact



GPISD School Counseling Teams Awarded for Reinforcing Excellence



## THERE'S A <br> BETTER APPROACH

TO CANCER CARE in Baytown

At Houston Methodist Neal Cancer Center, we treat every aspect of your cancer. Leading oncologists work with our specialists across disciplines to minimize cancer's effects on major organs. One comprehensive team dedicated to your individual care - uses the latest research, treatments and technology to stop your cancer. From infusion and clinical trials to surgery and reconstruction, our innovative care is available in Baytown.

That's the difference between practicing medicine and leading it.



[^0]:    Scenes and moments from the ribbon cutting ceremony of the CISD Literacy Bus! Sponsored by LyondellBasell, the CISD Literacy Bus is Channelview's newest community engagement asset to promote literacy across the district and beyond. Filled with books and a space to read on board, CISD students can take a book and read to their hearts content!
    Expect to see this mobile library rolling around Channelview in the near future!

