



NORTH CHANNEL ★ STAR

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Serving all of the North Shore -- Channelview, Cloverleaf, Sheldon, Galena Park, Jacinto City
 VOLUME 12, NO. 48 (#547) THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2024 www.northchannelstar.com

CHANNEL CURRENTS

Holiday Events

Saturday, DEC. 14 Channelview FD Pictures with Santa
 Dec 14th 1-5 PM
 Channelview Fire Station #3, 1210 Dell Dale, Channelview, TX
 The CFD Christmas Toy Drive is still in need of items for older children ages 10-18. Your generosity can make a big difference.

Saturday, DEC. 21 Channelview FD Christmas Parade
 Dec. 21st 6 PM
Parade Route: 16550 Wallisville Rd. (Harvey Brown Elementary) west to Dell Dale, then south to Woodforest Blvd, then east to Sheldon Rd, then north to Bill Neal Center parking lot.
Parade Participants: Anyone wishing to participate in the parade line-up with a group, vehicle or float, please email publicrelations@channelviewfire.com

Parade Line-up: Harvey Brown Elementary Parking Lot at 5 PM - 16550 Wallisville Rd, Houston, TX 77049

Friday, JAN. 31 NCAC Awards Banquet & Gala
 Join the North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce for their 48th Annual Awards and Installation Gala Behind The Mask: A Night of Elegance and Enchantment at the Hyatt Regency Baytown Hotel, 100 Convention Center Way, Baytown 77520. Festivities begin at 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. To sponsor or buy tickets, contact Yesenia@ncachamber.com. Cocktail attire and RSVP deadline is Jan. 22, 2025. Reservations after Jan. 22 will include an additional 20 percent fee.

Rep. Ana Hernandez' Holiday Open House



State Representative Ana Hernandez with Open House guests. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

By Allan Jamail

Thursday, December 5, 2024 - Jacinto City, Tx. - Each holiday season State Representative Ana Hernandez of House District 143 invites her constituents to an open house at the district office. The joy-

ous and cheerful event provides festive food and refreshments for her guests. Hernandez also uses this opportunity to visit and to learn of any issues or concerns anyone may have in which she can be of help. Monthly Hernandez and her staff visits civ-

ic and neighborhood clubs keeping members informed on important issues and to provide help with issues they may have. Representative Hernandez has always believed that the best policy is an open door policy. Each year, she takes the holiday

season as a time to welcome the community to the district office and remind them that it is their office. She encourages the guests if they ever find themselves in need of assistance with a state agency to contact her office. The 143rd State District

covers part of Houston, Baytown, Channelview and the cities of Galena Park and Jacinto City. The district office is located at 1233 Mercury Drive in Jacinto City (phone: 713-675-8596)

Mustangs Dominate Atascocita 49-21 to Advance to State Semifinals

By Allan Jamail

Houston, TX. - Saturday, December 7, 2024 at the Thorne Stadium a neutral playoff site before a sellout crowd the GPISD North Shore Mustangs (13-0) in a rout dominated the Humble ISD Atascocita Eagles (12-1) winning 49-21 in the UIL Texas High School Football Championship Contests of the Class 6A Division 1 Regional Finals. They've beaten the Eagles in five straight playoff games and won nine consecutive matchups.

With the temperatures hovering in the upper 40's and raining intermittently the Eagles received the opening kickoff but failed to make a first down so they punted to the Mus-



#7 Mustang's Kaleb Maryland outruns entire Eagles defense for a 26 yd TD. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

tangs. The Eastside Boy's junior quarterback Kaleb Bailey wasted no time moving the team down field and he scored the game's first TD just seven minutes into the first quarter.

The Mustangs defense was awesome to say the

least throughout the game. They held the Eagles offense from making first downs and from scoring in the first quarter. The defense stopped the Eagles time and time again and gave their offense the ball that made 21 points before the Eagles could finally



#28 D'Andre Hardeman Jr. breaks free of Eagle tackler for a NShore TD. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

put up 7 points before halftime. The NShore defense shutout the Eagles from scoring in the first and third quarter, (SEE BOX SCORE) The

Continued. See MUSTANGS TO STATE TO STATE SEMIFINALS, Page 5

Jacinto City Sparkles with Annual Christmas Parade, Award Ceremony and Tree Lighting Celebration

By Gerardo Hernandez

Jacinto City kicked off the holiday season in grand style with its annual Christmas Parade and Awards Ceremony. Mayor Diaz welcomed attendees to the event, setting the tone for an evening filled with festive cheer and community spirit. Followed by the introduction of city officials and special guests by Mayor Diaz. The evening's judges, Lina Medina, Al Gutierrez, and Debbie Gutierrez, were tasked with selecting winners from the impressive parade entries.

The festivities featured captivating performances by the Jacinto City Elementary Honor Choir, the Galena Park Jacketeers, and members of the Galena Park Choir, showcasing the community's young talent. Parade participants dazzled the crowd with creative floats, earning top honors in various categories. The "Polar Express Train" float by the Galena Park High School Gold Blooded Athletic Council won "Most Beautiful," while Galena Park High School FFA claimed "Most Original." Whittier Elementary Wildcats Cheer Team earned recognition

Continued. See JC CHRISTMAS PARADE, Page 3



Santa Claus waiving to the people of Jacinto City riding on top of JC fire Department truck



Mayor's Choice: Galena Park High School Jacketeers



People posing in front of the Christmas Tree at the JC Town Center

Letters to Santa

Letters to Santa

Dear Santa: This year I have been good. I would like for you to bring me an iPad, peachy babies, slime roux and a gift for my teachers. A lot doll and a mini verse capsules. Love-America, 8 yr.

Dear Santa: I want a VR and a PS5 and a bed and I want a big pillow. Steven, 9 yr.

Dear Santa: This year I have been a good kid at my house, I would like for you to bring me a uglies quest, I also want a iPhone 12. Love, Ian, 7 yr.

Dear Santa: My name is Xavier. Thanks for last year present. This year I want to have Led lights, and a X box. Xavier, 10 yr.

Dear Santa: I have been good. I would like you for to bring me a Nintendo switch and cinameloll hat. I also like linnamerololl stuff. Naendellin, 7 yr.

Dear Santa: May I have a Cougar toy, a bulls toy, bear toy, a puppy, a kitten, a seal toy and a train set and animal kingdom toys, all of them. Benjamin, 10 yr.

Dear Santa: This year I have been good. I would like for you to bring me a cute bingbag, and a lotto paper to drew and cinamoroll stuff, and can I have a stickers and two 100 Roux, and peachy babies slimes, Auora jell cube, Kawaii space bear, Axolot ice slime. Andrea, 8 yr.

Dear Santa: For Christmas I want a meta guest 3 to play with, but my little brother is Mannix, a dark off brand VR headset. Mason, 8 yr.

Dear Santa: For Christmas this year I have been very good. Lego friends set, Coloring book, board games, mini verse, dry erase markers, jewelry. Sophia, 8 yr.

Dear Santa: For Christmas I want a kids 3d pen art supplies, and pet bunny a big kitchen play set for my sister, and my wish is every one should always be happy and grateful. Lisa, 8 yr.

Dear Santa: For Christmas I would like a nerf grenade and a x-shot insanity motorized rage fire here gun. I know you are busy making toys but these are the only two things I have on my wish list this year. Camedeh, 8 yr.

Dear Santa: I want a blue stanly. Here are more things that I want for Christmas: A baby Yoda ornament, so I can hang it up on my tree, new clothes so my mom won't have to buy it. The last thing I really want is world piece and being loved by my family. Ariana, 9 yr.

Dear Santa: May I get a google and Nerfgun, the mini gun that is a Nerf gun and a lava lamp. Damon, 9 yr.

Dear Santa: I would like mini verse, also LoL dolls lego and a jumbo gummy pizza, also a new squשמellow. And new jeans I would also like a white T-shirt with flowers. Aubrey, 9 yr.

Dear Santa: I don't want much this year, all I want is to get a phone and switch. But the most I want is a good family. Jonathan, 9 yr.

Dear Santa: I been working really hard at school. So I been wanting a big mirror with a built in jewelry organizer. I also been wanting some rings and some spinning organizers. Maybe some lip glosses. I hope you can buy some of this. I will be very grateful. Love, Daliah, 9 yr.

Dear Santa: I really want a VR headset or a Zodiak sigh book and I want medicine for me and my family and dots I want these things because these are the first things I could think of that I can share. Juan, 9 yr.

Dear Santa: I have been a very good student. I do my homework every day and I made good grades. I try my best to do good in school. I have a very nice teacher whose name is Ms. Coopers. She makes learning fun. I am proud to be a tiger at Jacinto City Elementary. Angelica, 8 yr.



Carter~Conley Funeral Home wishes you Happy Holidays (713) 455-5100

From Our Family to Yours, Best Wishes for the New Year



Joe Stephens and family

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! State Representative Ana Hernandez



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



HIGHLANDS ROTARY CLUB 50th Annual CHILI FEAST Feb. 1, 2025 Win a 2025 Chevy Trailblazer, or 2025 Chevy Trax SUV Tickets \$100 Call 713-906-2337

Wishing you the Merriest Christmas and a Happy and Productive New Year JERRY & JULIE Fallin

Wishing our community a Happy Holiday and a Prosperous New Year! A warm, heartfelt message that's sure to spread cheer.



NORTH CHANNEL STAR wishes you Happy Holidays 713-266-3444

Happy Holidays & Happy New Year

Sheldon ISD Every Child, Every Day

Christmas with Friends CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION DEC. 24 7 p.m. 5202 First Street, Crosby, TX Join us as we welcome special musical guests!



CHARLOTTE'S WEB
By Charlotte Jackson



Caring for our youth

Every day we see too many headlines about another young person making a mistake. Too often we read about a young life being taken too soon. We often see reports of young people making poor choices. We know the criminal justice system is full of young people who did not have the proper guidance. So, what are we as a community doing about it? Teachers can only do so much. Churches and service organizations can only do so much. Often the youth will not listen to the older adults in the community and sadly many youths have no respect for the law enforcement agencies or even the local judges.

In the 1990's, local courts partnered with local churches, and they saw a reduction in their caseload as the juveniles were court-ordered to attend "Family Value" classes and if the parents attended "Parenting Classes", monetary fines were dismissed. It seems like the first decade of the 2000's was filled with memories of world confusion, beginning with September 11 and the attack on the World Trade Center. We saw an increase in young people signing up for the military. Unfortunately, the decade following brought about much racial tension and less respect for law enforcement.

As our communities have aged, we need leaders who will step up to the plate and offer guidance to our ever-changing community. Several months ago, Freddie Evans gathered some of his friends who are active in various aspects of the community and decided to do something positive.

After his own struggles with young adulthood and challenges he saw in the community, he reached out to Kelly Simon, Johnny Gentry III, Sheena Jarvon and Thomas Hollins as well as others and they have formed Developing Emotional Literacy Outreach or D.E.L.O.

They have been working on various classes and activities to reach our youth. They have held behavior modification classes as well as organized college campus tours for the youth, aged middle school, and high school. They are listening to the youth as well as the parents on what topics need to be addressed.

This Friday, December 13 you have an opportunity to meet the leaders and to contribute to their First Annual Christmas Drive. The event starts at 5:30 p.m. at 16 Uvalde Road, STE 14C, Houston TX 77015. This event will also include a live podcast panel so you can hear about the founders as well as plans for the program.

They are accepting donations at CashApp \$UncleFredSpeaks and still have space for a few vendors. For information on becoming a vendor, reach out to Jamel Darrett 321-200-2351. If you are interested in volunteering to speak to the youth or have suggestions for future activities, please contact Freddie at 832-870-6202.

Together, we can make a difference in the lives of our youth and share with them why the eastside of Harris County has a rich history of being involved in making a positive impact.

Jacinto City 2024 Christmas Parade

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

for "Marching," and Rosyisela DeLeon and Family's "Whoville/Grinch" float received an Honorable Mention. The coveted "Mayor's Choice" award went to the Galena Park High School Jacke-

teers. The evening concluded with the lighting of the Christmas tree, a cherished tradition that brought families and friends together in celebration. Mayor Diaz, along

with the council and city employees, extended warm wishes to the community for a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year, marking the start of the holiday season in Jacinto City.



The Grinch passing by



JC Police Captain Mark Longrigg with Santa Clause



Most Beautiful: GP High School Gold Blooded Athletic Council -Polar Express Train



Jacinto City Christmas Float



Galena Park High School Jacketeers in the Parade



Students Signing Christmas Songs Outside the JC Town Center



Local JCROTC Cadets march in unison during the evening Parade showcasing their discipline and holiday spirit.



A festive truck adorned with colorful holiday



Community members gather to meet up Santa

ASK DIAMOND JIM

Diamond Jim: "Is it difficult to become a Jeweler?"



Over the past 40 years, I've been asked this question countless times. Thank you for asking and allowing me to respond in writing. Most people equate being a "jeweler" with nearly any position in a jewelry store or jewelry manufacturing business. The Oxford Dictionary defines the word "jeweler" as "a person or company that makes or sells jewels or jewelry". Technically, the term or title of jeweler requires a little more definition. Someone who sells jewelry is a Sales Associate for a jewelry company and is not necessarily a jeweler. Personally, I find that it takes either the completion of formal education from an accredited institute, or many, many years of experience, or both, to earn the title of 'Jeweler'.

The GIA (Gemological Institute of America) is one of the most respected teaching institutions in the world in the arena of gems including diamonds, rubies, sapphires, emeralds, semi-precious gems and pearls. A formal education from the GIA will give you the educational acumen (basis) to begin what can be a very lucrative and rewarding career as a jeweler. Some of the career options available, once you have your schooling behind you, are; Jewelry Sales Associate, Gemologist, Bench Jeweler, Jewelry Appraiser, Jewelry Auction Specialist, Gem Buyer, Jewelry Designer / Manufacturer, and more.

An inexperienced jewelry sales associate tends to learn at the expense of a jewelry store owner and staff who must teach that person the basics of jewelry including how it's designed and created, how it's displayed, the content of the gold, platinum or silver metals in the jewelry, and some knowledge of the gems or stones that are set in the jewelry.

The GIA offers a learning environment that employs some of the best jewelry educators and lab equipment in the world. The cost of a formal GIA jewelry education is surprisingly low compared to a four year Bachelor's Degree at a university. For example, check out the beginners course entitled "Applied Jewelry Professional™". Obtaining the Applied Jewelry Professional™ credential is one of the fastest and most effective ways to improve your understanding of gems and jewelry, and covers essential knowledge related to diamonds and popular colored gems. You can earn your credential via eLearning by taking three online courses...Jewelry Essentials, Diamond Essentials, and Colored Stones Essentials

Some say that the Graduate Gemologist credential is the most prestigious credential in the industry. The GIA Graduate Gemologist program gives you the comprehensive knowledge of diamonds and colored stones you need to succeed anywhere in the jewelry business. You'll gain both technical expertise and practical skills to evaluate gemstones by the 4Cs (cut, color, clarity, and carat weight), the International Diamond Grading System™, and the Colored Stone Grading System.

For more information, please logon to www.GIA.edu. If I can be of any assistance to you as you begin your amazing path towards a knowledgeable and financially rewarding career in the jewelry industry, please let me know.

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

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

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

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 OPINION PAGE 

Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus

By FRANCIS P. CHURCH,
First published in The New York Sun in 1897

We take pleasure in answering thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

Dear Editor—

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in The Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?

Virginia O'Hanlon

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

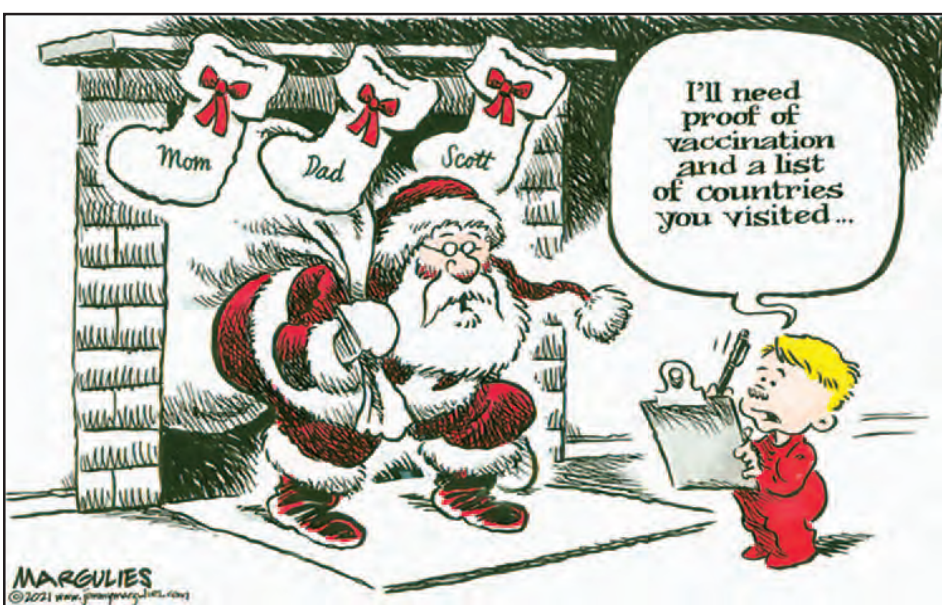
Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Francis P. Church's editorial, "Yes Virginia, There is a Santa Claus" was an immediate sensation, and went on to become one of the most famous editorials ever written. It first appeared in the The New York Sun in 1897, almost a hundred years ago, and was reprinted annually until 1949 when the paper went out of business.

Virginia O'Hanlon went on to graduate from Hunter College with a Bachelor of Arts degree at age 21. The following year she received her Master's from Columbia, and in 1912 she began teaching in the New York City school system, later becoming a principal. After 47 years, she retired as an educator. Throughout her life she received a steady stream of mail about her Santa Claus letter, and to each reply she attached an attractive printed copy of the Church editorial. Virginia O'Hanlon Douglas died on May 13, 1971, at the age of 81, in a nursing home in Valatie, N.Y.



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Deportation Vow Alarms Construction Industry

The state's construction industry is voicing concern that President-elect Trump's vow to deport millions of undocumented immigrants would cause major labor shortfalls, according to the Texas Standard. "It would devastate our industry, we wouldn't finish our highways, we wouldn't finish our schools," said Stan Marek, CEO of Marek, a Houston-based commercial and residential construction giant. "Housing would disappear. I think they'd lose half their labor."

Many of the state's cities are on lists of the country's fastest growing communities, and companies rely on undocumented labor. A 2022 report by the American Immigration Council and Texans for Economic Growth indicated more than a half million immigrants were working in the construction industry and nearly 60% of that workforce was undocumented.

Economist Ray Perryman notes that the Texas workforce isn't large enough to keep pace with growth.

"There are more undocumented people working in Texas right now than there are unemployed people in Texas," Perryman said.

PROPOSED TARIFFS RAISE CONCERNS ALONG BORDER REGION

Trump's intention to levy a 25% tariff on goods imported from Mexico and Canada is raising concerns, particularly along the southern border.

"The biggest impacts are going to be felt by manufacturing companies, transportation companies and warehousing companies," said Tom Fullerton, an economics professor at the University of Texas at El Paso. "We could end up with a repeat of the 1930s with the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act," which created a trade war and contributed to the Great Depression.

Most goods traded across the three countries are considered intermediary goods, The Texas Tribune reported. An example is an American carmaker importing Chinese electrical parts, sending the vehicle to Mexico for a circuit board, then the vehicle being sent back across the border for finishing in an assembly line in Texas. Fullerton said an individual product could pass between the



TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION
STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By Gary Borders

U.S. and Mexico four to eight times.

Some Texas elected officials have expressed support for Trump's tariffs, however. Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller said tariffs can be an effective negotiating tool to encourage Mexico to shut down the border and said any potential economic impacts would be short-lived.

"We are trying to shut down the flood of illegal immigration," Miller said. "That factor alone offsets any temporary price increase."

PATRICK CALLS FOR ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH FUNDING

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick wants lawmakers in the upcoming session next month to approve a dementia research fund modeled after the state's \$6 billion Cancer Prevention and Research Institute, called CPRIT, The Tribune reported.

Since it began in 2007, CPRIT has become the country's second-largest funder of cancer research, only exceeded by the federal government. If funded by the Legislature, the dementia counterpart could have a global impact on research into Alzheimer's and dementia.

"Like CPRIT, this investment will draw leading researchers and companies to Texas and require them to be based in Texas, leading to their further investment in our state," Patrick said last week.

The Texas Department of State Health Services reports that 459,000 Texans have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's, the most common form of dementia. That is about 12% of the state's over-65 population.

CRYPTO MINING FACILITIES MUST REGISTER WITH PUC

Cryptocurrency mining facilities connected to the state's primary electric grid must register with the Public Utility Commission under a rule passed late last month. The rule was mandated by a bill passed in 2023 requiring crypto mining facilities using more than 75 megawatts of power to do so.

Crypto mining consumes huge amounts of power. According to the Texas Blockchain Council, there are at least 27 mining operations in Texas and more are planned. The Electric Reliability Council of Texas predicts the growth in crypto mining facilities and data centers could nearly double electric use within six years.

"To ensure the ERCOT grid is reliable and meets the electricity needs of all Texans, the PUCT and ERCOT need to know the location and power needs of virtual currency miners," PUCT Chairman Thomas Gleeson said.

Virtual currency mining facilities are "flexible loads," meaning they can quickly adjust their power consumption in response to certain factors, like changes in the wholesale price of electricity. Facilities that fail to register could be fined \$25,000 a day.

FEDS CAN'T DESTROY RAZOR WIRE, APPEALS COURT RULES

A federal appeals court has stopped the federal government from destroying razor-wire fencing installed by Texas along the U.S.-Mexico border near Eagle Pass, the San Antonio Express-News reported. The state placed more than 29 miles of wire in the Eagle Pass area in the past year or so. The Border Patrol has cut some of the wire in a long-running dispute between the federal government and the state over who controls the border.

Last week, the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals issued a 2-1 opinion reversing a lower court's ruling that the federal government could destroy the wire.

"It was shocking to me that the federal government would go out of their way to cut razor wire to allow illegals to cross when we're just trying to protect our own land," Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton said.

TXDOT PROJECTS SAVE COMMUTERS \$915 MILLION

A historic number of projects underway by the Texas Department of Transportation are easing commute times, according to a new report from the Texas A&M Transportation Institute.

Despite the number of miles traveled on state roads increasing by 7% in the past five years, traffic delays are down 7% in that same time period, according to TTI. The study also found commuters are saving an estimated \$915 million in time and fuel costs.

"As our population and economy continue to grow, there's a considerable need for more projects, and this report helps guide our work to areas that need it most," TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams said.

COMMUNITY WATCH

Man charged in Jacinto City Thanksgiving double murder

By David Taylor
Managing Editor

A Galena Park man still sits in Harris County Jail after he was charged with the stabbing deaths of his wife and another man in Jacinto City late Thanksgiving night, November 29.

Jesse Leal, Sr., 38, is accused of stabbing to death his wife and another man in the garage apartment behind the main home in the 10300 block of Flaxman in Jacinto City.

"The individual, I believe, went into some kind of rage and ended up stabbing his wife Stephanie and another man, Randall Pannell who was at the home for the Thanksgiving celebration," said Jacinto City Police Chief Joe Ayala.

When police arrived, the wife was still alive and transported to Ben Taub Hospital where she later died. Pannell, who was stabbed after trying to step in to intervene, was pronounced dead at the scene.

There were numerous other people at the home at the time of the murders including four of Leal's own children, Ayala said.

Leal fled the scene and almost immediately after, JC police began to receive tips on his whereabouts.

"He was taken by a friend to a hotel where he cleaned up. While at the Econo Lodge, he was looking for assistance," the chief said. "We received a lead where he was, but he was gone when we got there."

Two days later, Jacinto City detectives received a tip that he could be found in the 16000 block of Wallisville. He was arrested by Jacinto City Detective Ronnie Barker, II with the assistance of Harris County Sheriff's Office and Pct. 3 Constable's deputies without incident on Dec. 1.

"We didn't put out a BOLO (be on the lookout) for him. We didn't want to alert him of what we were doing," the chief said.

During his arrest, Leal also threatened the life of one of the Jacinto City police officers and was charged with retaliation.

He was booked into Harris County jail and charged with two counts of capital murder.

Leal allegedly admitted to the stabbing of the victims during the suspect's interview after arrest.

Leal has a long rap sheet with prior run-ins with the law including a felony conviction for possession of a controlled substance in early March of this year.

Ayala said it wasn't the first time the city had experienced a double homicide.

A shooting occurred in the early hours of Saturday, March 30, 2024, at a 21-year-old females birthday party on Muscatine Street that resulted in two fatalities.

The city experienced another double homicide in December of 2022.

At a "proof evident" hearing before the court, the judge denied bail pending indictment.

If convicted, Leal could face the death penalty for his crime.

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FOOTBALL SEASON WEEK 15:

Texans host Tua and Dolphins: Bills, Lions do battle in Motor City

College football's regular season, along with the conference title games, have come and gone and now we wait on the College Football Committee (CFP) to announce the 12 teams who will make up this year's new playoff format.

When the 12 team field is announced, the top four seeds will receive byes, while the other eight teams will play first-round games Dec. 20 and 21. The higher seeded teams will host a game on their respective campuses, while the top four teams will get a much-needed week off.

It has been a wild and woolly year. I think it's safe to say that no matter what transpired in the SEC title game on Dec. 7, the University of Texas should be in the field. They've won 11 games, earned a spot in the SEC title game in their first year in the conference and have perhaps the best defense in college football.

While we wait for the CFP field to be announced, there is one game to discuss this weekend as Army and Navy will meet for the 125th time (Navy leads the all time series, 62-55-7) on Saturday at Northwest Stadium in Washington, D.C. Both teams have had solid seasons. Army finished first in the American Athletic Conference and carried a 10-1 record into the AAC title game against Tulane a week ago. Navy with an 8-3 record. Both teams will be bowling this year.

While a lot of attention will be on that game and the CFP committee's announcement, the NFL will take center stage this weekend. So, what else is new?

The Texans return to action after a much-needed bye week and will host Tua Tagovailoa and the Miami Dolphins on Sunday at NRG Stadium. Two weeks ago, the Texans got back on the winning track with a 23-20 road win at Jacksonville. Running back Joe Mixon got going once again with 101 yards rushing and a touchdown and QB C.J. Stroud turned in a turnover-free performance. This will be a tough game for the Texans because the Dolphins are a desperate team hanging to their playoff lives.

Week 15 begins with Thursday Night Football with the Rams visiting the beat-up and battered 49ers. SF running back Christian McCaffrey sustained another injury two weeks ago against the Bills and could be finished for the season. The Rams are in the NFC West race and will need to win one on the road to remain in the race.

Other key games this weekend have the Cowboys and their faint playoff hopes traveling to Carolina to take on a feisty Panthers team. Carolina has played hard the last few weeks and took Tampa Bay to overtime two weeks ago before falling, 26-23. This is a game Dallas cannot afford to take for granted, especially considering they probably have to win out to even have a chance of the playoffs.

The Chiefs have a tough road test at Cleveland. The Browns have had a disappointing season, but three weeks ago upset the Steelers at home and would like nothing more than to upset the defending Super Bowl champs on Sunday.

The Game of the Week will occur in Detroit, when the Lions host the Buffalo Bills in what could be a Super Bowl preview.

There's also the battle for the Keystone State when the Steelers visit the red-hot Eagles in Philadelphia. Both teams should be playoff bound. This should be a fun game to watch as the stout Steeler defense will try and slow down the high-octane Philly offense.

Tampa Bay heads to LA to take on the Chargers, while the Packers will head to the Pacific Northwest to take on Seattle on Sunday Night Football.

The NFL will give us two Monday Night Football games, with the Bears and their new head coach Thomas Brown. Brown replaces the fired Matt Eberflus, who was fired after the Bears fell to 4-8 after their Thanksgiving loss at Detroit. The nightcap will feature Atlanta at Las Vegas.

Before we take a look at this weekend's games, let's review last week's record. An 8-4 week brought the season record to 101-43 (70 percent).

Now, onto this weekend's games.

NCAA

Army vs. Navy - I don't



know about you, but I love this game and watch it every year. This is more than a football game, it's a meeting of two of the most respected military academies in the country and features young men who won't be playing in the NFL, but who will be defending our great country once they graduate from their respective schools. And this year, both teams have had solid seasons, especially Army, which entered the AAC title game with 10 wins against one loss, while Navy will enter with an 8-3 record. If you like teams that run the football, then you will love this game. These two teams have combined for 72 rushing touchdowns (Army has 39 and Navy has 33). Both teams have dual-threat QBs as Army is led by Bryson Daily (860 passing yards, 8 TDs/1,348 rushing yards, 25 TDs) and Navy is led by Blake Horvath (1,154 passing yards, 11 TDs/895 rushing yards, 13 TDs). Daily will get help in the running game from running back Kanye Udoh (906 yards, 9 TDs). This should be a high-scoring and entertaining game. Look for Daily to make one or two more plays than Horvath does as the Black Knights pull it out. My pick, Army 34, Navy 31

NFL

Los Angeles Rams at San Francisco - Week 16 kicks off with an NFC West battle on Thursday Night Football as the Rams visit the beat up 49ers. San Francisco has been decimated by injuries and has lost star running back Christian McCaffrey for the rest of the season with a knee injury. His backup, Jordan Mason (789 yards, 3 TDs) is also injured, so that means QB Brock Purdy (2,707 yards, 13 TDs) will need to make plays in the passing game to wide receiver Juan Jennings (50 receptions, 654 yards, 4 TDs) and tight end George Kittle (61 receptions, 649 yards, 8 TDs). The Rams are squarely in the division race and will look to QB Matthew Stafford (2,983 yards, 17 TDs), running back Kyren Williams (926 Yards, 10 TDs) and wideouts Cooper Kupp (58 receptions, 565 Yards, 5 TDs) and Puka Nacua (42 receptions, 546 yards, 2 TDs) to attack a suspect SF defense. The Rams have too much firepower and will pick up a big road win on Thursday night. My pick, Los Angeles Rams 326 San Francisco 23

Dallas at Carolina - Can the Cowboys make a late-season run after a disastrous start to the season? Maybe, but they will need to win on the road on Sunday against a young and hungry Carolina team that has not given up on the season, even though they've won only three games heading into their Dec. 8 game at Philadelphia. Dallas picked up its second straight win on Thanksgiving Day over the Giants as backup QB Cooper Rush (1,008 yards, 5 TDs) passed for 195 yards and a score and running back Rico Dowdle (600 yards, 2 TDs) rushed for 112 yards and a score. Dallas will need star wide receiver CeeDee Lamb (79 receptions, 880 yards, 4 TDs) for this game. Lamb sat out most of the New York game with a shoulder injury. The Dallas defense will need to contain Panthers QB Bryce Young (1,381 yards, 6 TDs) and running back Chubba Hubbard (919 yards, 7 TDs) if they hope to pull out the win. It says here the Dallas "D" will do just that come Sunday. My pick, Dallas 24, Carolina 17

Kansas City at Cleveland - The Chiefs may not be blowing people out, but they do find ways to keep on winning. On Sunday they will face a tough test at what should be a chilly afternoon in Cleveland. KC QB Patrick Mahomes (2,979 yards, 19 TDs) will be up to the task. He will get help from running back Kareem Hunt (592 yards, 5 TDs), tight end Travis Kelce (75 receptions, 637 yards, 2 TDs) and rookie wideout Xavier Worthy (33 receptions, 407 yards, 5 TDs). The Browns have had a tough year, but have not given up on the season. They lost a tough one at Denver two weeks ago, falling 41-32. Reserve QB Jameis Winston (1,763 yards, 11 TDs) and wide receiver Jerry Jeudy (54 receptions, 880 yards,

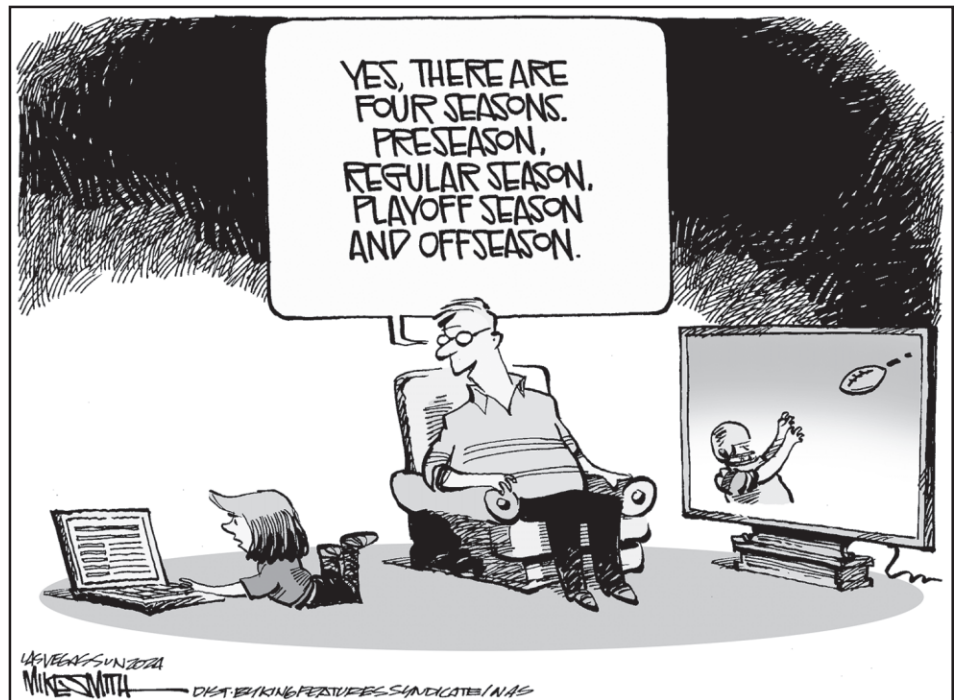
3 TDs) have formed a formidable duo, but look for the Chiefs defense to harass Winston and force a turnover or two as the Chiefs win a tough road contest. My pick, Kansas City 23, Cleveland 16

Miami at Houston - The Dolphins visit the Texans on Sunday and the Texans will take on the explosive Miami offense without starting linebacker Azeez Al-Shaair, who the league suspended three games for his hit on Jacksonville QB Trevor Lawrence. Houston head coach DeMeco Ryans will need to come up with a solid game plan to slow down Miami QB Tua Tagovailoa (2,125 yards, 17 TDs), running back De'Von Achane (576 yards, 9 total TDs) and speedy wideout Tyreek Hill (55 receptions, 654 yards, 4 TDs). The Texans could use another big day from running back Joe Mixon (887 yards, 12 total TDs). If Mixon has success running the ball, Houston can control the clock and keep Tua off the field. That will also open up the passing game for Texans QB C.J. Stroud (3,117 yards, 15 TDs) and big-play wide receivers Nico Collins (49 receptions, 532 yards, 4 TDs) and Tank Dell (43 receptions, 543 yards, 2 TDs). With Kansas City and Baltimore next up on the Texans schedule, it would behoove the locals to win this one at home on Sunday. My pick, Houston 31, Miami 27

Buffalo at Detroit - This should be a really good game as one of the best teams in the AFC visits the top team in the NFC. Detroit improved to 11-1 with their Thanksgiving Day win over Chicago, while Buffalo improved to 10-2 with their win over SF two weeks ago. The Lions are beat up on defense, which should have Buffalo QB Josh Allen (2,691 passing yards, 20 TDs/334 rushing yards, 6 TDs) smiling. The Lions defense will also have to contend with running back James Cook (703 yards, 11 TDs) and wideout Khalil Shakir (60 receptions, 629 yards, 2 TDs). The Buffalo defense will also have its hands full taking on Lions QB Jared Goff (2,982 yards, 22 TDs), running backs Jahmyr Gibbs (973 yards, 11 total TDs), David Montgomery (720 yards, 11 total TDs) and wideouts Amon-Ra St. Brown (76 receptions, 820 yards, 9 TDs) and Jameson Williams (34 receptions, 630 yards, 4 TDs). The Lions are tough to beat at home, which the Bills will discover come Sunday. My pick, Detroit 33, Buffalo 30

Pittsburgh at Philadelphia - The Steelers and Eagles battle for the pride of the Keystone State on Sunday in what could turn into an offensive shootout. Two weeks ago, Steeler QB Russell Wilson (1,626 yards, 10 TDs) passed for a season high 414 yards and three TDs to lead his team to a 44-38 win at Cincinnati. He has been receiving a lot of help from running back Najee Harris (824 yards, 4 TDs) and wideout George Pickens (55 receptions, 850 yards, 3 TDs). The Steeler defense is one of the best in the league, but they will take on a loaded Eagle offense led by QB Jalen Hurts (2,454 passing yards, 14 TDs/485 rushing yards, 12 TDs), sensational running back Saquon Barkley (1,499 yards, 13 total TDs) and wideouts A.J. Brown (44 receptions, 793 yards, 4 TDs) and DeVonta Smith (41 receptions, 516 yards, 4 TDs). This should be one of those back-and-forth games, but playing at home will be a huge benefit for the Eagles. My pick, Philadelphia 31, Pittsburgh 28

Tampa Bay at Los Angeles Chargers - An important game for both team's playoff hopes. Two weeks ago, the Bucs survived a scare at Carolina and pulled out a 26-23 win. QB Baker Mayfield (3,034 yards, 25 TDs) is having another big season and he's getting help from rookie running back Bucky Irving (732 yards, 6 TDs) and dependable wide receiver Mike Evans (39 receptions, 521 yards, 5 TDs). Irving sustained a hit injury in the Panthers win and his availability could be up in the air for this game. The Chargers improved to 8-4 after their road win at Atlanta. LA is a hard-nosed team, just like their first-year head coach Jim Harbaugh. They aren't flashy, but they get the job



done behind a solid QB in Justin Herbert (2,551 yards, 13 TDs) and rookie wideout Ladd McConkey (55 receptions, 815 yards, 4 TDs). Starting running back J.K. Dobbins is out with a knee injury, which means Gus Edwards (235 yards, 1 TD) will need to step up and lead the running game. Look for the Chargers to win another close one as the defense will be the difference maker come Sunday. My pick, Los Angeles Chargers 20, Tampa Bay 16

Green Bay at Seattle - The Packers head to the Pacific Northwest to take on the Seahawks on Sunday Night Football. Both teams are squarely in the NFC playoff race, with the Packers probably looking at a Wild Card spot,

while Seattle is looking to win the NFC West. GB QB Jordan Love (2,518 yards, 20 TDs) needs a big night, and will count on running back Josh Jacobs (987 yards, 9 total TDs) and wideout Jayden Reed (44 receptions, 693 yards, 6 TDs) to help him navigate the Seattle defense. The Seahawks will need a big night from QB Geno Smith (3,241 yards, 13 TDs), running back Kenneth Walker III (547 yards, 8 TDs) and wide receivers Jaxon Smith-Njigba (70 receptions, 829 yards, 4 TDs) and DK Metcalf (50 receptions, 763 yards, 3 TDs). The Packers have the better defense, and that unit will be the difference maker in this one. My pick, Green Bay 26, Seattle 22

Chicago at Minnesota - The

Bears visit the Vikings with a new head coach, but it probably won't matter much at this point in another disappointing season for the Windy City team. The Vikings know they can't afford to look past anyone team at this point in the season. They are smack dab in the middle of the NFC playoff hunt, so look for QB Sam Darnold (2,952 yards, 23 TDs), running back Aaron Jones (820 yards, 5 TDs) and wide receivers Justin Jefferson (68 receptions, 1,038 yards, 5 TDs) and Jordan Addison (36 receptions, 575 yards, 4 TDs) to come out in attack mode. The Vikings defense will also bring it's "A" game on Monday Night Football, which could make for a long night for rookie Bears QB Caleb Williams (2,612 yards, 14 TDs). My pick, Minnesota 30, Chicago 14

Mustangs Extend Winning Streak Against Eagles,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



NShore receiver Quanell Farrakhan Jr. scores on a 35 yd TD pass from Kaleb Bailey. (Photo Linda Jamail)



NShore QB #15 Kaleb Bailey outruns Eagle's defender for game's first score. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



NShore players helmets display #10 (see arrow) on them in honor and in memory of former player #10-Javon Coles, who was shot and killed in a drive-by shooting in March 2024. (Photo by Allan Jamail)



NC Star photographer/statistician Linda Jamail with TV channels 13 and 11 interviewing Mustangs head coach Willie Gaston after the game. (Photo by Allan Jamail)

Eagles never went ahead or tied the game. The defense stonewalled the Eagles four times near their goal line. And once when Eagles quarterback Cardae Mack was stuffed on 4th down from the 1 yard line. To add insult to injury NShore then marched 99-yards to score and took a 21-0 lead before halftime; from then on the Eastside Boys never looked back.

North Shore Head Coach Willie Gaston said after the game, "I think the kids understand that we want to just come out and fight another week. Survive and advance. That's what we're trying to do: survive and advance. I think that's the driving force. They want to play as long as possible."

Gaston also said after the game, "I didn't know Westlake had won until just now, I didn't get on any social media, and I didn't get any scores because I wanted to be all in on this game, and I didn't want to be caught looking

ahead. But they're another familiar opponent, with a good program. Coach (Tony) Salazar does a good job over there. We'll be ready to go, and I know he'll have his team ready to go."

Mustang's senior receiver Quanell Farrakhan Jr. who made 2 touchdowns (TD's) said, "We really just want to keep focusing on each upcoming team. We don't look to the future or look ahead. So now we're on to Westlake, and we'll just keep focusing and practicing hard."

Mustangs Field General Kaleb Bailey said, "We don't look ahead, we stay focused on who we're playing the week of the game. We take it one game and one week at a time. We practice hard each week getting ready for the opponent we're going to play."

Kaleb Bailey rushed for 250 yards and two TD's on

10 carries, averaging 25 yards per carry. He completed 78 % of his passes, (14 of 18), for 192 yards and two TDs.

NShore scorers: Kaleb Bailey 2 TD's, Quanell Farrakhan Jr. 2 TD's, Kaleb Maryland 2 TD's, D'Andre Hardeman Jr. 1 TD and extra point kicker Daniel Cruz was perfect, 7 for 7 points. Linda Jamail, Photographer/Statistician

The Mustangs (14-0) will next play the Austin Westlake Chaparrals (13-1), at 2PM Saturday, Dec. 14, at Legacy Stadium in Katy a neutral site. The Chaparrals lone loss was to the Atascocita Eagles 39-21 back in September. North Shore beat the Chaparrals in the semifinals the past two seasons, including 23-14 last year. This game will make NShore's seventh consecutive year to play in the state semifinals.

Scoring by quarter:

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Final
North Shore	7	14	21	7	49
Atascocita	0	7	14	0	21



Dear Santa:
For Christmas I would like a nerf grenade and a x-shot insanity motorized rage fire here gun. I know you are busy making toys but these are the only two things I have on my wish list this year. Camedeh, 8yr.

Dear Santa:
May I get a google and Nerfgun, the mini gun that is a Nerf gun and a lava lamp. Damon, 9 yr.

Dear Santa:I don't want much this year, all I want is to get a phone and switch. But the most I want is a good family. Jonathan, 9 yr.

Dear Santa, I would like toys love mrbeast toys. Trucks and donuts golden retriever a toy robot recess all day log. And I want a vincon vip aceses.lanxy box toys plushies calyas goldens plusies. A buch of toys clothes fgteev plushies. Fgteev books love again lots of books. Meet mrbeast and jmanclury. And fgteev presents late songs and watch secrets videos. Diego, 8 Jacinto City Elementary School

Dear Santa: I really want a VR headset or a Zodiac sigh book and I want medicine for me and my family and dots I want these things because these are the first things I could think of that I can share. Juan, 9yr.

Dear Santa: I want a VR and a PS5 and a bed and I want a big pillow. Steven, 9 yr.

Dear Santa: My name is Xavier. Thanks for last year present. This year I want to have Led lights, and a X box. Xavier, 10 yr.

Dear Santa: May I have a Cougar toy, a bulls toy, bear toy, a puppy, a kitten, a seal toy and a train set and animal kingdom toys, all of them. Benjamin, 10 yr.

Dear Santa, I wish for a desktop pc, studio series devastator transformer and 2 plushies gelatin jelly amp and transformers toys a cat, and to get my VR fixed. And vinyl figures and BFDI plushies. No name given Jacinto City Elementary School

Dear Santa, This is things I want for Christmas: a weenie dog puppy, new iphone, Hello Kitty mirror, Hello Kitty merch, desk that's pink, Apple pen, new tv for my room. Avarie Chavez, 8 Jacinto City Elementary School

Dear Santa, I want my Dad that all please. Jaime Cepeda, 8 Jacinto City Elementary School

Dear Santa: For Christmas I want a meta guest 3 to play with, but my little brother is Mannix, a dark off brand VR headset. Mason, 8 yr.

Dear Santa: This year I have been good. I would like you to bring me a soccer ball, also a poca marquer. Ian, 7 yr.

Dear Santa, I have been a good person, but sometimes I do bad stuff like forgetting my homework but I promise to bring it back. For Christmas I want Monopoly so I can play with my family and other people. Then my 2nd wish is a pizza so I can eat it with my family. Finally my last wish is to have the best Christmas ever! Isaac, 8 Jacinto City Elementary School

Dear Santa, This is all I want for Christmas a Diecast plane, Re airbusa380 and Ps5 2 controllers. Ezekel G, 8 Jacinto City Elementary School

Dear Santa: This year I have been talking. I would like for you to bring me a Gel Blaster and Mr. Beast Candy and a go cart. Javier, 8 yr.

Dear Santa, I've been very good this year. I help my friends when their absent at school. And I can't wait for Christmas. My Favorite reindeer is Rudolph. I wish it can snow this year. I want to make snow angels, Snow man, and throw snowballs at my brothers. Merry Christmas! Love, Victoria Aguilar 8 Jacinto City Elementary School

Dear Santa, I would like these things for Christmas: I want a pc, and I want a ps5, Then I want a iphone 16 promax. I also want a apple vr finally I want a ipad. Phoenix Tristan, 8 Jacinto City Elementary School

Dear Santa: This year I have been good. I would like for you to bring me an iPad, peachy babies, slime roux and a gift for my teachers. A lot doll and a mini verse capsules. Love-America, 8 yr.

Dear Santa: This year I have been a good kid at my house, I would like for you to bring me a uglies quest, I also want a iPhone 12. Love, Ian, 7 yr.

Dear Santa: I have been good. I would like you for to bring me a Nintendo switch and cinnamonlol hat. I also like linnamerololl stuff. Naendellin, 7 yr.

Dear Santa: This year I have been good. I would like for you to bring a cute bingbag, and a lotto paper to drew and cinamoroll stuff, and can I have a stickers and two 100 Roux, and peachy babies slimes, Auora jell cube, Kawaii space bear, Axolot ice slime. Andrea, 8 yr.

Dear Santa: For Christmas this year I have been very good. Lego friends set coloring book board games mini verse dry erase markers jewelry Sophia, 8 yr.

Dear Santa: For Christmas I want a kids 3d pen art supplies, and pet bunny, a big kitchen play set for my sister, and my wish is every one should always be happy and grateful. Lisa, 8 yr.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS CHANNELVIEW INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT'S State Financial Accountability Rating

Channelview ISD will hold a public meeting at 7:00 PM, December 17, 2024 in the Board Room, CISD Administration Building, 828 Sheldon Road, Channelview, TX 77530

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Channelview ISD's superior rating achieved through the state financial accountability system.

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BID NOTICE

BID NOTICE

Galena Park Independent School District ("GPISD" or "the "District") is soliciting proposals for **RFP 25-008 General Retail Merchandise** as more fully set out in this Request for Proposals ("RFP"). The submission deadline will be, **Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 2:00 PM CST** at the GPISD Admin Bldg. The Purchasing Department, located at 14705 Woodforest Blvd., Houston, TX 77015. Interested proposers should respond to this RFP and submit proposals online at the GPISD eBid System site, <https://galenaparkisd.ionwave.net/Login.aspx>

Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Purchasing Dept. at our website: galenaparkisd.com/Page/1155

The Galena Park ISD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

Galena Park Independent School District ("GPISD" or "the "District") is soliciting proposals for **RFP 25-009 Catering Services** as more fully set out in this Request for Proposals ("RFP"). The submission deadline will be, **Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 2:00 PM CST** at the GPISD Admin Bldg. The Purchasing Department, located at 14705 Woodforest Blvd., Houston, TX 77015. Interested proposers should respond to this RFP and submit proposals online at the GPISD eBid System site, <https://galenaparkisd.ionwave.net/Login.aspx>

Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Purchasing Dept. at our website: galenaparkisd.com/Page/1155

The Galena Park ISD reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

Galena Park Independent School District ("GPISD" or "the "District") is soliciting proposals for **RFP 25-010 General Purchases (Multi Award)** as more fully set out in this Request for Proposals ("RFP"). The submission deadline will be, **Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 2:00 PM CST** at the GPISD Admin Bldg. The Purchasing Department, located at 14705 Woodforest Blvd., Houston, TX 77015. Interested proposers should respond to this RFP and submit proposals online at the GPISD eBid System site, <https://galenaparkisd.ionwave.net/Login.aspx>

Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Purchasing Dept. at our website: galenaparkisd.com/Page/1155

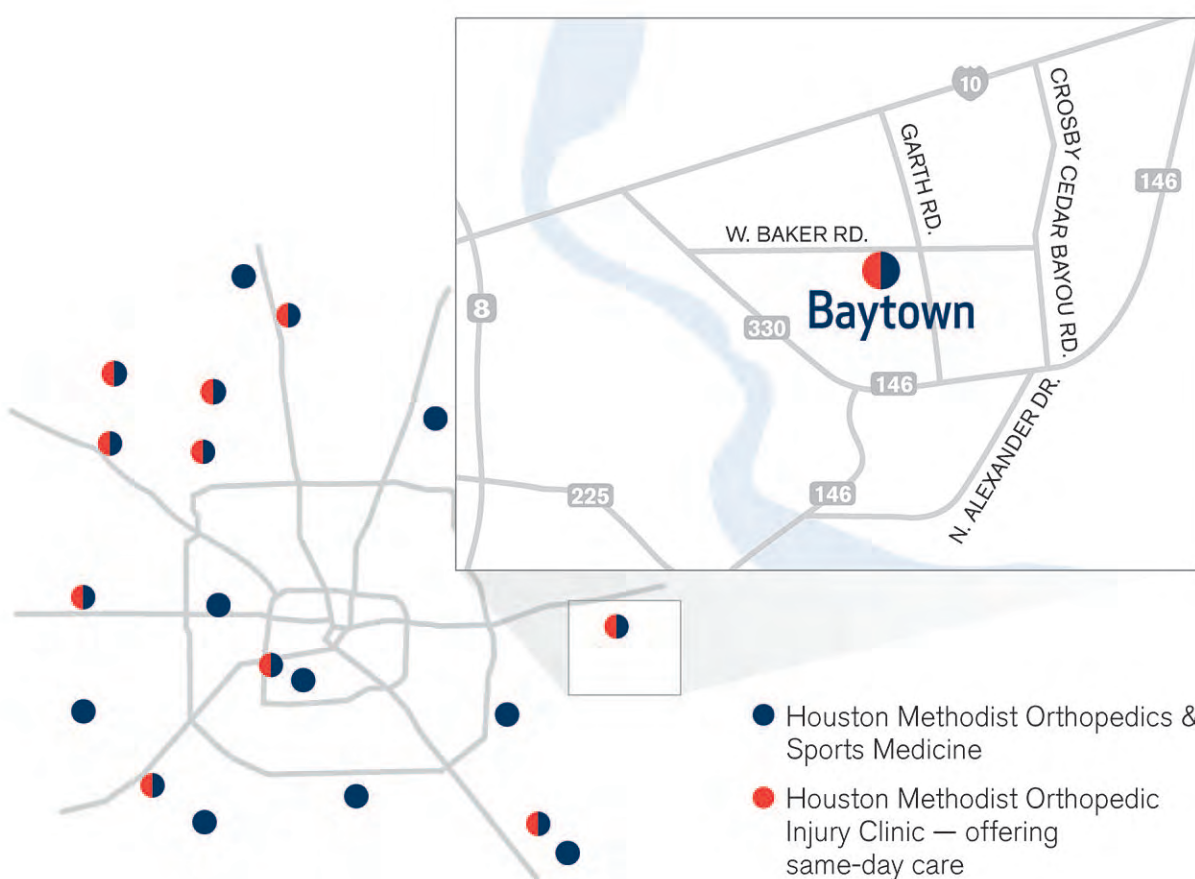
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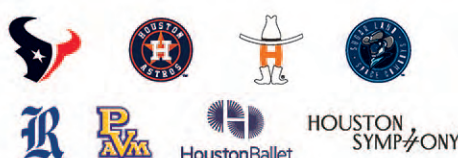
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Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want Infinite pomegranate and Middle School Get Me Out Of Here books also some chapter books also some chapter some chapter books and a new ps5 controller pro please and a big big house like a mansion with a pool a hot tub and every single ice cream flavor with me at all times and I pass every xtramath lesson and the best Christmas every! Julian Garcia, 8 Jacinto City Elementary School

Dear Santa,
I want a nerf blaster, basketball arcade machine, rc car, new crocks, and having recess for 30 minutes that after I want a big Hershey bar and two blox fruit plush and finally a mini skee ball machine. Ediel, 9 Jacinto City Elementary School

Dear Santa,
My friends are the best friends ever and my teacher and the counselor and the principal Linda. When my friends are absent I feel sad because I miss them but I call them but I call them after school every day and go to sleep on call and in the morning I say good morning to them every day. And Santa I want a lot for Christmas. That is all I want to say. Areli, 9 Jacinto City Elementary School

Dear Santa,
I wish for a desktop pc, studio series devastator transformer and 2 plushies gelatin jelly amp and transformers toys a cat, and to get my VR fixed. And vinyl figures and BFDI plushies. No name given Jacinto City Elementary School

Dear Santa,
This is a list I want: a new phone/ipad, new shoes, new clothes, a new blanket it can be red/pink/hello kitty, 2 Stanley's, and a vr. Love, Alyla Pena, 8 Jacinto City Elementary School

Dear Santa,
I would like a turtle, one duck, one maine coon cat, black boots, nickeys, laptop, iphone 14 case, giraffe plush, can you pls at least get me some of it. Tysm merry Christmas have a great holiday. Ysabel, 8 Jacinto City Elementary School

Dear Santa,
Hi this is from Lucas Tejada in Houston TX I want to wish you a merry christmas. Love, Lucas Tejada, 8 Jacinto City Elementary School

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District Finalist
Bailey Wallace, C.E. King High School 11th Grade

Middle School Winner
Leah Silva, C.E. King Middle School 8th Grade

Elementary Winner
Sania Muhammad Hassan, Carroll Elementary 5th Grade

Cover Art- District Winner
Chris Cano, C.E. King High School 10th Grade

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