

HIGHLANDS

CROSBY

Star Courier

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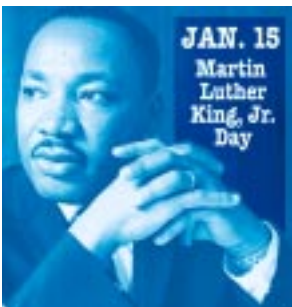
THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2018

P.O. DRAWER 405, HIGHLANDS, TEXAS 77562

These stories in the PRESS:

- Cedar Port Industrial Park
- WCC Chamner of Commerce Annual Banquet
-And more, Page 5

IN THE STARS



EVENTS

THUR., JAN. 11 WEIGHT LOSS EVENT

Houston Methodist San Jacinto Hospital is hosting a medical weight management and weight loss surgery educational event, 6-7 pm, Hospital Conference Boardroom, 4401 Garth Rd., Baytown TX 77521. Call 281-428-2273 to register.

THUR., JAN. 18 CROSBY CC LUNCHEON

The luncheon will take place on Thursday, Jan, 18 at Lake Houston United Methodist Church, 23606 FM 2100, Huffman, TX 77336. Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. Reserve at 281-328-6984.

SAT., FEB. 3 CHILI FEAST

Highlands Rotary Club's 43rd Annual Chili Feast Raffle & Auction at St. Jude's Catholic Church, 808 S. Main Street, Highlands, 11 am - 3 pm. Live auction 12:30 p.m. Win a new 2018 Chevy Camaro or 2018 Chevrolet Equinox from Turner Chevrolet, Your Choice!. Call 713-252-8000 for tickets.

BIRTHDAYS

- Jan 11—Tracey Browder
- Elizabeth Bulanek
- Jan 12—Dick Emery
- Veronica Henry
- Jan 13—Hunter Bradford
- Antonio Hernandez
- Jan 14—Harold Havard
- Haley Bradford
- Jan 15—JoAnn Johnson
- Jan 16—Connie Williams
- Aleta Bennett
- James Dammon
- Patsy Dammon
- Jan 17—Meledy Oviedo

ANNIVERSARIES

- Jan 11—C.J. & Retha Meineke
- Jan 12—Troy & MaryAnn McCarty
- Jan 14—Mr. & Mrs. Connie Clark
- John & Verna Lee Shipp
- Jan 15—Lee Roy & Lydia Moore

DEATHS

- Joshua Ashton McKinney
- Reinhardt H. Zwahr Jr.

Ambulance crews recap extreme year

KEMAH – Harris County Emergency Service District #5, the ambulance crews that service Crosby and mutual aid surrounding areas, awarded the most prestigious annual award to each individual with courage enough to mount those ambulances in the last most eventful and dangerous year.

"I did not give a Medal of Distinguished Service to any one person this year because all my employees were employee of the year because of the tough year we had Highlighted by not only the loss of two law enforcement officers but also the hurricane."

2017 followed a disproportionately busy year, 2016 with over 2702 calls with a year of 3280 calls not counting the 14 days of crisis related to Hurricane Harvey.

"I have never been so proud of this ambulance service than I am today for their selfless dedication



Front Row left to right, Christy Graves - Director, Randy Wooten, Karen Elkins, Hernando Andrada, Teresa Aldy, Back row, Jerardo Gonzales, Keith Kline, Kenny Robbins, Bryan Piatekowski, Martine Enciso, and Clayton Ehrlich were all Employees of the Year because of their heroic efforts during the most busy year in memory for medical calls, incidents, mayhem and then the hurricane with subsequent events. Not photographed is Jo Ann Kuritz to be recognized for her efforts during the hurricane.

and achievements during that hurricane. Yes, it was their job but for instance, three of them were losing their homes to the flood and continued to work. A

neighborhood in Newport dug a trench around one of my medic's home to keep it from being swamped while she was performing water rescuing." said Graves add-

ing as an aside that she and Teresa Aldy commemorated 20 years of service to Crosby this year without ceremony.

Some of the ambulance crews completed 14 days of water rescues working in all aspects of medical and life rescue in adjunct to other services including the Coast Guard as far east as Lake Jackson performing not only ambulance service but also search and rescue with the game warden. The second row spent their time between the shelters and local calls for 14 days with extensive hours in service.

Currently, Graves is completing FEMA grants to recoup the funding lost during the hurricane where medical expenses were funded 100% by the governor's and Federal Disaster relief.

Last year ESD#5 performed 5 CPR saves, a record and earned the Mission Lifeline Gold Plus Award from the American Heart Association and were said to have performed with 98% accuracy.

See Ambulance Continued on Page 10

New Highlands Fire Station opens this week



Highlands Fire Dept.'s second station opened this week housing rescue personnel and volunteer firemen on Wallisville Rd. It was built to replace the former station. It has room for 6 apparatus, day rooms and sleeping quarters. The new addition should help with homeowners insurance bills and provide additional protection on the east side of Highlands.

Sleuths probe local murder



Yvonne Raquel Ramirez of Baytown and Josh McKinney of Highlands, both 19, were involved in an incident on Dec. 31 before 4:30 a.m. in which he was killed and she was wounded and charged with his murder.

HIGHLANDS – A local man was killed and his date is charged with his robbery and murder related to a New Year's Eve incident.

The 19 year old suspect told deputies she fired in self defense. Harris County prosecutors allege she

originally told authorities that a gun dropped, fired and struck the 19 year old victim, killing him. She told detectives when the gun dropped she picked it up and fired in self defense.

See Probe Continued on Page 10

Many Candidates competing for Poe & Green's Congressional Seats

The March 6th Primary election will see a large number of candidates competing for open Congressional seats. In Texas alone, eight seats are open, and the ones of most interest in this area area TX29, Gene Green's seat, and TX2, Ted Poe's seat.

Green is a Democrat, but seven Democrats and four Republicans will be on the ballot in March for this position.

Poe is a Republican, and nine Republicans and five Democrats will try to win

a spot on the November general election for this position.

Also contested in the primary and general election will be Senator Ted Cruz, up for re-election after his first six year term. He is opposed by four Republicans, and three Democrats including front-runner Beto O'Rourke from El Paso.

These elections have national significance, as the House and Senate could lose their Republican majorities in November.

Another interesting Tex-



GENE GREEN



SYLVIA GARCIA



DOMINIQUE GARCIA



ROEL GARCIA



TAHIR JAVED



HECTOR MORALES

as race is the governor, where 10 Democrats are running in the primary to oppose Governor Greg Abbott, and two Republicans.

Because of the large numbers of candidates running in each of these races, it is anticipated that there will be a run-off election in some, which is scheduled for May 22.

Candidates for the TX29 seat given up by retiring Congressman Gene Green include Democratic front-

See Many Candidates, page 3

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★ COMMUNITY NEWS ★

District holds first Wellness Fair for Staff

By Susan Passmore

Goose Creek CISD hosted a Wellness Fair for all district employees in the Ross S. Sterling High School Commons the first day back from the holidays. The event, "Plug in the Pieces to Your Health," was designed to give staff tools for a healthy start to a new year.

Forty-six vendors and more than 350 employees attended the Wellness Fair, organized by GCCISD Human Resources and Benefits departments. Participating vendors were 24 Hour Fitness, AAA, AFLAC, Allstate Benefits, AMBA, Ameritas Vision, ARAG, AXA, Bayshore Hospital, Baytown YMCA, Camp Gladiator, Chick-fil-A, City of Baytown, Costco Wholesale, Eagle Pointe Recreation Center, First Financial, GCCISD Behavior and Mental Health, GCCISD Benefits, Goose Creek CISD Healthy Community School Coordinator, Gold's Gym, Grand Canyon University, Harris County Public Health and Houston Methodist San Jacinto Hospital.

Also participating were Humana Dental, Joint Chiropractic, Kelsey Sey-



Photos by Susan Passmore

David Laughlin (right) from Horace Mann Junior School participates in a bone density screening with Mike Waddell from Bayshore Hospital at the first Wellness Fair for Goose Creek CISD employees.

bold, Kroger, Lamar University, Lee College, Lee College Wellness, Metlife, MD Anderson, Rightway Imaging, Salata, Sam's Club, Smoothie King, Summit Dental Center, Sun Life, Texas Children's Health Care, The Rose, United Way, University of Houston Clear Lake, UNUM, UT Arlington Online, Village Family Practice and Weight Watchers.

"Stephanie Myers, benefits coordinator, and our staff did an excellent job of organizing the Wellness Fair, which made our employees aware of resources in the community they might not have known were out there," said Eloy Chapa, assistant superintendent for human resources. "We hope to provide another event of this type in the future to

allow even more vendors and employees to participate."

Door prizes, donated by the vendors, went to employees Sandra Adcock, Tara Aguilar, Letty Arredondo, Patricia Authement, Kevin Billings, Stephanie Boykin, Kim Bryant, Rosemary Calico-Hopson, Sarah Capestani, Tahnee Cornelius, Deanne Cummings,

Aracelie De La Cruz, Crystal Garcia, Norma Garcia, Brandi Gonzales, Frank Gonzales, Juan Gonzalez, Stella Gonzalez, Margie Grimes, Andrew Gross, Nikki Harrison and Ryan Heffernan.

Martha Herrera, Courtney Holt, Debbie Jackson, Maria Jimenez, Joel Kunz, Traviata Lewis, Constance Lunsford, Christina Marioneaux, Tammy Matejka,

Victoria McCoy, Brian McLemore, Nicole Mengo, Jennifer Miller, Rebekah, O'Banion, Elizabeth Perez, Tara Pohony, Harley Preto, Laura Reyes, Maria Rival, Linda Rye, Allison Selsky, Carrie Smith, Stewart Howford, Cynthia Trevino, Jessica Vasquez, Mike Wagner, Tamera West, Angela Westbay and Mandi Whitaker also won door prizes.



Carolynn Stanley, a teacher from Alamo Elementary, signs up for information as Priscila Garza (right), healthy community school coordinator, and David Garza, a teacher from Horace Mann Junior School, demonstrate "Deskercises" at the recent Wellness Fair, held at Sterling High School for Goose Creek CISD employees.

AREA'S BEST BUSINESS REVIEW

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Spending more and buying less? Maybe you should be shopping at WARMART in Humble where your dollar goes a lot further! Conveniently located at 9451 FM 1960 Bypass Rd., phone (281) 540-8838; this full line department store offers something that most other stores can't compete with... the area's very lowest prices on EVERYTHING! Food to feed your family, toys to entertain your children, school supplies, sporting goods, tools, and auto accessories. Nearly every little thing you can think of! Most "regular" retail department stores feature "full retail" prices. At WARMART, this is not the case! Here you get the service you want, the quality you look for, and prices you can afford! Open 24 hours, they can meet all of your needs at any given time day or night. If you are shopping for appliances or furniture, WARMART offers you the kind of quality you deserve.

We, the editors of this 2017 Area's Best Business Review offer this suggestion to the people in our area: So, whether or not you need a big grocery shopping trip, get your tire changed or pick-up a prescription, do what smart shoppers do... make WARMART your one-stop shopping headquarters for the best products, the largest selection and the ultimate in everyday bargains!

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Highlands Rotary Club's 43rd Annual CHILI FEAST

Raffle & Auction

St. Jude's Catholic Church
808 S. Main Street, Highlands

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Live Auction 12:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 3, 2018

Win a new 2018 CHEVY CAMARO or 2018 CHEVROLET EQUINOX from Turner Chevrolet. YOUR CHOICE!!

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| 50th Ticket..... Fit Bit Activity Tracker | 450th Ticket..... Browning Game Camera |
| 100th Ticket..... Bose Bluetooth Speaker | 500th Ticket..... Go Pro Camera |
| 150th Ticket..... \$150 Gift Card | 550th Ticket..... Shotgun |
| 200th Ticket..... Kindle Fire HD | 600th Ticket..... \$250 Gift Card |
| 250th Ticket..... PlayStation 4 | 650th Ticket..... Yeti Cooler |
| 300th Ticket..... \$200 Gift Card | 699th Ticket..... 42" TV |
| 350th Ticket..... Amazon Echo | 700th Ticket..... 2016 Chevy Camaro or 2016 Chevrolet Equinox SUV (Color & Model may vary from Pictures) |

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CROSBY'S HOME TOWN HOME CARE

★ COMMUNITY PAGE ★

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

May Community Center special events

Dancing with the Cougar Stars

2nd annual Dancing with the Cougar Stars is on Friday, January 26th at 7pm at Crosby High School. This event features CISD teachers and administrators and Crosby community members dancing with members of the CHS Cougar Stars dance team. They compete for a mirror ball trophy! There will be a panel of judges but the audience will get to vote for their favorites from their cell phones as well! In addition to the dance competition, the Aggie Wranglers from Texas A&M will perform! There will be also performances by the Crosby Middle School Star Steppers, the Crosby Elementary School Dream Steppers, and the Newport Elementary School Step Team. It should be a fun time for all ages. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. They will be sold at the door on the night of the event or in advance at the CISD Administration Building.

May Community Center ongoing programs

- Rhythm Walking: Weekday mornings from 8:10 a.m. to 8:55 a.m. Come rain or shine for a 2-mile walk to music in the comfort of the Center.
 - Body Toning Chair Exercise: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Boost your energy, stamina, and flexibility with other individuals at the center.
 - Decorative Painting: Mondays at 9 a.m. Master decorative artist teaches the art of decorative painting.
 - Pickle ball: Mondays at 10 a.m. Pickle ball is all the craze in the US and now it's coming to May Community Center! Played on a court similar to tennis and with a paddle similar to ping pong – Pickle ball! Dress in comfortable attire; no experience necessary. Equipment is provided.
 - Party Bridge: Mondays at 1 p.m. Play party bridge every Monday and meet other intermediate level bridge players from the Lake Houston area. This class is not suitable for beginners.
 - Dart Baseball: Tuesdays at 10 a.m. No skills are needed to join the dart baseball team—just a willingness to try. All of the necessary equipment is provided.
 - Yoga: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6 p.m. Certified instructor Cindy Roberts teaches yoga at the Center.
 - Knitting: Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Does learning to knit have you all in knots? Participants need to bring a U.S. size 8 knitting needle and worsted weight yarn (any color).
 - Quilting: Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m. Take this opportunity to quilt, share ideas, and enjoy the fellowship of other quilters. Quilters of all experience levels can attend these sessions.
- Please call or come by the center to sign up for these events at May Community Center, 2100 Wolf Rd., Huffman, TX 77336, 713-274-2434.

•Blood Pressure/Sugar: Check Tuesday, January 16 at 9 a.m. Keeping a healthy lifestyle means keeping blood pressure and blood sugar in check.

•Bunco: Wednesday, January 24, 2018 from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Suggested \$3.00 donation. Brunch will be served and you could win some prizes!

•Harris County Precinct 2 North by North Trips:

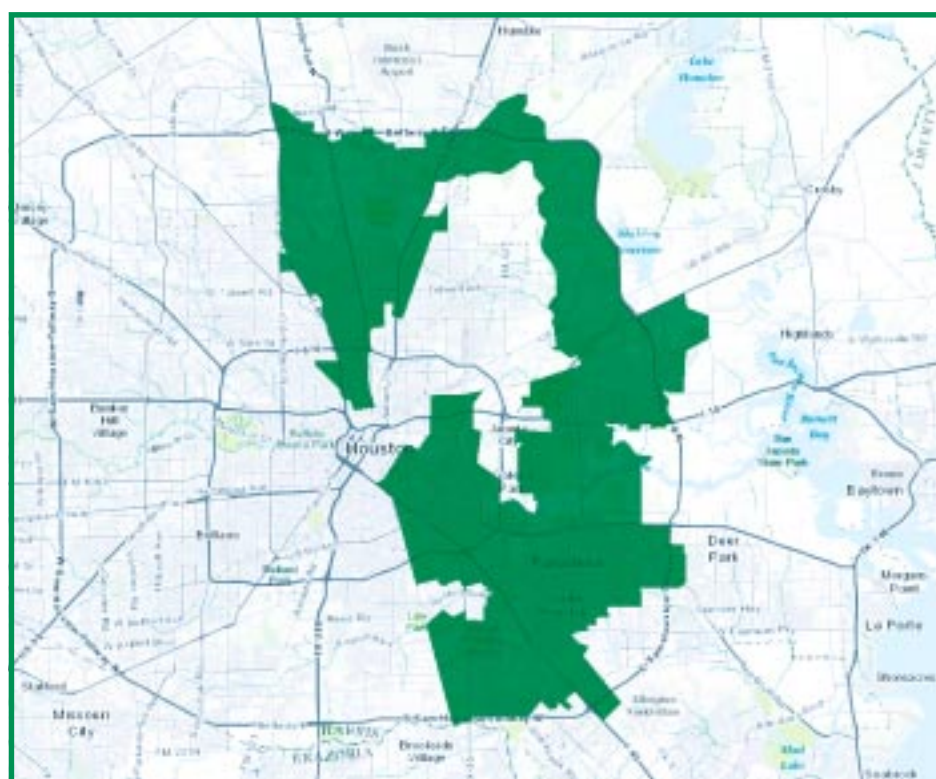
*Playhouse 1960, Houston, Saturday, January 20 at 5 p.m.; Cost is \$15 – Dinner not included; Departing Crosby Community Center; Contact Donna Jausz at 281-605-8636. RSVP with payment by January 12, 2018.

*Tanger Outlet Mall, Cypress, Thursday, January 25 at 9 a.m.; Cost \$3 – Lunch not included; Departing May Community Center; Contact Center Staff at 713-274-2434.

Transportation is provided for individuals 55 years or better through Harris County Precinct 2. Registration is in person on a first-come, first-served basis and participants pay all event fees. Preferential Reservations are given to Harris County residents. Persons not residing in Harris County may participate if space is available.

Many Candidates Compete,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



The 29th Congressional District of Texas runs in a circular manner, from North Houston, Aldine, through East Harris County communities such as Baytown, Galena Park, Jacinto City, Pasadena and South Houston.

runner State Senator Sylvia Garcia, real estate agent Dominique Garcia, Houston Attorney Roel Garcia, school teacher Hector Morales, and Beaumont area businessman Tahir Javed.

The 29th District was originally set-up to represent the 77% Hispanic population in that area of Harris County, and runs from Greenspoint and Aldine through East Harris County and Pasadena. It includes all of the cities of Galena Park, Jacinto City, and South Houston, and parts of Baytown, Houston, and Pasadena. With all the Garcia-named candidates running, there is a strong possibility this year that an Hispanic will end up as the candidate. Up until now Gene Green, a non-Hispanic,

has won the seat every 2 years since 1992, a testament to his responsiveness to his constituents and their needs. The first year, 1992, he won by only 180 votes out of 31,000 cast in a runoff, but since then he has had solid victories. The population of the 29th District is approximately 758,000 people.

Since all the Democratic candidates but Javed have Hispanic names and heritage, it is likely that this district will finally be represented in Congress by a Hispanic, and perhaps a woman. State Senator Sylvia Garcia laughs at so many Garcias running, and says “You’re talking to the real Garcia” when asked to comment. Green has endorsed Sylvia Garcia for the position shortly after announcing his retirement.


One other possible candidate was State Representative Armando Walle, who worked for Green for several years, but Walle has decided to return to the State Legislature instead.

Two candidates will be on the Republican primary ballot, Robert Schafranek and Phillip Aronoff. However, the voters in the district are heavily Democratic.

In District 2, retiring Congressman Ted Poe’s seat will be competed for by Rick Walker, Kathleen Wall, David Balat, and six other Republicans and five Democrats.










Early voting for the Primary starts February 20th, earlier than most other states, and may determine the outcome. It is expected that nearly half the votes will be cast early.

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OPINION PAGE

Social Security Matters

By AMAC
Certified Social Security Advisor Russell Gloor
Association of Mature American Citizens

Ask Rusty - When Should I Apply for Social Security

Dear Rusty: I will be turning 62 in 2018; birth date 9/24/1955. My husband is 77 and receiving Social Security. Longevity runs in my family. I have been self-employed all my life. I am still working and my husband collects a pension, Social Security and RMD from a traditional IRA, so there is no need for additional monies under my current circumstances. When should I start taking Social Security? Signed: Thinking about Retirement

Dear Thinking: The question of when to take Social Security normally gets an answer of "It depends on your health, your family history of longevity, and your need for the money". You've already addressed those items so I'll focus on your main question - when should you start taking Social Security?

Even though you'll be eligible to collect Social Security when you turn 62, if you do so you will only get 74.17% of the retirement benefit you would be entitled to at your full retirement age (FRA). Whenever you apply, you will be deemed to be filing not only for your own retirement benefit but also any spousal benefit you may be entitled to from your husband's work record. Similar to your SS retirement benefit, your spousal benefit would also be reduced because you took it early; instead of being 50% of your husband's benefit at your FRA, you would only get 35% at age 62 (if that is larger than your own retirement benefit). The point I'm making is that by claiming SS early, any benefit you're entitled to will be reduced from what you would get at your full retirement age.

Just as you are penalized for claiming before your full retirement age, you are rewarded for waiting beyond it to claim Social Security retirement benefits. In fact, for each year you wait beyond your full retirement age, your retirement benefit will be 8% higher than it would be at your FRA. That will continue up until you are 70 years old when your retirement benefit will be 30.67% higher than it would have been at your FRA. You stop earning additional credit at age 70, so there's no reason to wait beyond that to apply. Let's use an easy example to illustrate: If your FRA retirement benefit is

\$1000, by applying at age 62 you would only get \$741 per month instead of \$1000. But if you wait until you are 70 to claim benefits, you would get \$1306 per month, nearly twice what you would get by applying at age 62.

There are two other factors you should incorporate into your thinking:

1) At your FRA, you will be entitled to _ of your husband's benefit at his FRA. If your spousal benefit at your FRA is substantially more than your own retirement benefit, then applying at your FRA may be a good strategy, as opposed to waiting and earning delayed retirement credits.

2) Once you have reached your FRA you will be entitled to 100% of your husband's benefit amount if he should predecease you. If your eventual survivor's benefit would be more than your own FRA benefit amount, you might be better served by claiming your retirement benefit earlier than age 70.

As you can see, most of the answer to your question depends upon whether your benefits as a spouse or a survivor will be more than your benefit based upon your own work record. If not, then waiting beyond your FRA up to age 70 will yield you the maximum retirement benefit. But if your spouse and/or survivor's benefit will be more than your own retirement benefits, then applying at your full retirement age may be the best strategy. If you haven't already done so, I suggest you go to www.ssa.gov and set up your personal "My Social Security" account which will give you access to your currently estimated retirement benefit. Comparing that to your potential spousal and survivor benefits should give you the answer you're seeking.

The information presented in this article is intended for general information purposes only. The opinions and interpretations expressed are the viewpoints of the AMAC Foundation's Social Security Advisory staff, trained and accredited under the National Social Security Advisors program of the National Social Security Association, LLC (NSSA). NSSA, the AMAC Foundation, and the Foundation's Social Security Advisors are not affiliated with or endorsed by the United States Government, the Social Security Administration, or any other state government.



FEMA clears way for public assistance to churches that aid in disasters

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott and Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on Jan. 3 announced the Federal Emergency Management Agency's approval of their request to allow churches and religious organizations to receive the same public assistance available to other nonprofits aiding in Hurricane Harvey relief efforts.

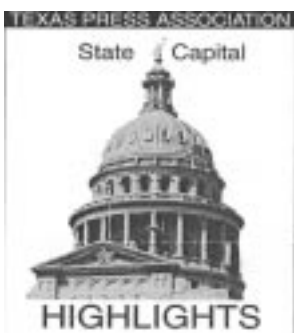
FEMA's Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide previously offered assistance to private nonprofit organizations, including zoos, performing arts centers and museums, and excluded facilities established or primarily used for religious activities. The revised policy is in force for any major disaster declared on or after Aug. 23, 2017.

Abbott and Paxton sent a letter to President Donald Trump in September urging him to authorize this assistance.

"When Harvey moved across the Texas Gulf Coast, churches across the state opened their doors to those in need," Abbott said. "Churches and other houses of worship continue to play a vital role in the ongoing recovery effort, and their ability to receive the same assistance available to other nonprofits should never have been in doubt. I thank FEMA and the Administration for their commitment to helping Texans and the churches that have helped their communities throughout the recovery and rebuilding process."

"FEMA's policy change averts the federal government violating the constitutional rights of those who continue to play a vital role in helping Texans get back on their feet after Hurricane Harvey," Paxton said. "Many churches and other houses of worship suffered damage from Harvey, and now they can seek FEMA assistance so they can continue serving their communities."

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling



Oaths are administered

Now-former Texas Supreme Court Justice Don R. Willett, nominated by President Trump and approved by the U.S. Senate to fill a vacancy on the Fifth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, and James Davis Blacklock, Willett's replacement on the Texas Supreme Court, both were sworn in on Jan. 2.

Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice Nathan Hecht administered the oath to Willett, who served more than 12 years on the Texas Supreme Court. Willett will take his place on the Fifth Circuit, the New Orleans-based federal appellate court with jurisdiction over appeals from U.S. district courts in Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi.

Gov. Abbott swore in Blacklock, who he appointed to succeed Willett on the state's high court. Prior to the appointment, Blacklock served as the governor's general counsel.

2017 revenue is reported

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on Jan. 3 reported that state sales tax revenue totaled \$2.75 billion in December, 12.3 percent more than reported in December 2016.

"Double-digit growth in sales tax revenue was fueled by collections from oil- and gas-related sectors as

well drilling and completion continued to rebound, but growth in tax receipts was notable across all major economic sectors, including retail trade and restaurants," Hegar said.

Total sales tax revenue for the three months ending in December 2017 was up 10.2 percent compared to the same period a year ago. Sales tax revenue is the largest source of state funding for the state budget, accounting for 58 percent of all tax collections.

Revenue from other major taxes on motor vehicle sales and rentals, motor fuels and oil and natural gas production also rose in December 2017, according to the Office of the Comptroller.

For example, motor vehicle sales and rental taxes totaled \$414.3 million, up 16.1 percent from December 2016, and vehicle purchases to replace cars damaged by Hurricane Harvey continued to boost those tax collections, the agency noted.

Also, motor fuel taxes, at \$303.7 million, were up 4.9 percent from December 2016; and oil and natural gas production taxes, at \$396.4 million, were up 73.4 percent from December 2016.

Abbott issues proclamation

Gov. Abbott on Jan. 5 proclaimed January 2018 to be Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

"The State of Texas will not tolerate the inhumane practices carried out by coercive and manipulative criminals. We provide serious penalties for human traffickers, and we continuously look for ways to better serve the victims," Abbott states in the text of the proclamation.

Abbott urged Texans "to learn more about the risks and indicators of human trafficking and to do their part in helping end this atrocity."

Former first lady dies

Rita Crocker Clements, a force for decades in the Republican Party, died Jan. 6 at her home in Dallas. She was 86.

Clements was first lady of Texas twice, serving alongside her husband, Gov. Bill Clements, from 1979 to 1983, and again, from 1987 to 1991. Gov. Clements died in 2011 at age 94.

Mrs. Clements was noted for her role in renovating the governor's mansion in Austin, for her service on the boards of several major corporations and as a member of the University of Texas System Board of Regents.

TWO CENTS WORTH By Charlie A. Farrar

Here is one I did back on the 47th day of 2003.

Me and the Mrs. went out to Bush country this past weekend (presidential, mesquite and tumble weed.)

Flew out to Midland, Texas and then drove on to Big Spring, Texas. Midland is the home of George Bush and we went by his old homestead; managed to get a couple of photos as well of the little house on the corner cross the street from the Methodist Church.

Might not be a big deal to you but I was out there to visit my Uncle J. C. from my hometown in Georgia who lives over in Big Spring, Texas. Ain't no S at the end of Spring.

Beautiful country out in West Texas and I must say it adds to the beauty of this great country. They don't get much rain out there but it is still pretty country with lots of sodbusters, retired oil field equipment and you name it.

Saw miles and miles of bare cotton, maize, wheat fields, and a lot of tractor riding; dry country out there now I'm telling you.

Uncle J. C. said he ain't had a crop in five years; lack of rain really hurts. That is cotton country for sure, 50 pound of seed per acre. You priced diesel fuel lately?

Riding out on the highway from here and yonder, I was admiring the zillion pieces of plastic snagged on the mesquite brush inside the fence line with lots of blue pieces from some store Uncle J. C. mentioned.

Lots of fence lines to look at out there when a gate came into view. There were two coyote strung out over the strands of barbed wire on each side of the gate.

Uncle J. C. said they have their share of coyotes, prairie dogs and rattlesnakes.

Driving out to the barn we come across and scattered a bunch of dove. I have never seen that many dove in one place at one time in my life. The dove broke and flew in a wide circle and came back to rest on a nearby fence line. Wish we had had the windows down now so I could have heard the drone from that many birds taking flight.

Words can't describe the view of that many birds and pleasure I had from seeing them. I got a shot at them with my camera.

Getting out on the country roads, many fence lines along the road are lined with dirt from the dust storms. These would make a good bunker and some of the dirt had drifted up near top of the fence posts.

Folks plant cedar bush and trees around the perimeter of the house to help block some of the dust from the storms.

Acres and acres of farmland all plowed up this time of year, they cut down 14 inches during plowing and rows are already formed. Some may have to plow again if a good dust storm comes up or so I heard.

There are so many oil pumping wells out in the Permian Basin and we was amongst them while riding out in the country.

An odor was noticed a couple of times out in the middle of nowhere but I kept my mouth shut but I sure looked at Uncle J. C.

The second time I gave him a hard look and he never said a thing even though he is hard of hearing. About a mile on down the rode to the turnoff, we had to turned around because the road was bad and could not travel down it.

Uncle J. C. asked, "You smell that sour gas?"

I had noticed signs that said poison gas as we rode by.

I told him "I thought it was you."

He looked at me and said, "I can do better than that."

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2018

P.O. BOX 2351, MONT BELVIEU, TEXAS 77580

ROUND-UP

Weight loss Event

Houston Methodist San Jacinto Hospital is hosting a medical weight management and weight loss surgery educational event, 6-7 pm, Hospital Conference Boardroom, 4401 Garth Rd., Baytown TX 77521. Call 281-428-2273 to register.

BLT: Cabaret

Performances are at 8:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Jan. 12 and 13 and at 2:30 pm Sunday Jan. 14. Tickets are \$25. All performances are at Baytown Little Theater (BLT), 2 E. Texas Ave. at N. Main Street.

Dayton Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet

17th Annual Banquet, Saturday, January 20, 2018, 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm, Community Center Ballroom, 801 S. Cleveland St., Dayton TX. RSVP to 936-287-2393.

WCC Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet

West Chambers County Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet, Monday Evening, January 22, 2018 7:00 Social Hour 7:00 Dinner and Awards at Hilton Garden Inn, 4910 East Chase Street, Baytown.

Cedar Port Industrial Park developments



Cedar Port Industrial Park aerial view

At the November council meeting the owner/developer of Cedar Port Industrial Park (TGS) addressed council and about 80 residents on their plans for development of approximately 13,000 acres west of FM 2354 to Cedar Bayou.

During the meeting, it was stated that as of this moment there are no precise or immediate plans for development of the land adjacent to Beach City along FM 2354. That's not to say that it will not happen in the next few years but that there are no plans at this time. Current development is concentrated along FM 1405 and Hwy 99.

Here is a summary of the meeting:

1. Hear and discuss a report from TGS (Trans-Global Solutions) regarding development within Cedar Port Industrial Park James Scott and John Kline with TGS / Cedar Port addressed Council

and approximately eighty people in attendance for their presentation on development of the Cedar Port Industrial Park. Cedar Port lies within Chambers County Improvement District No. 1; of which TGS Cedar Port is approximately fifteen-thousand acres.

Projects located within the park and primarily on FM 1405 include:

- IKEA leased two 500,000 square foot distribution centers at the beginning of this year.

- Ravago is a plastic trading company that has purchased 170 acres and they own a 750,000-square foot facility.

- Avera purchased 40 acres and they are constructing a new 500,000 square foot warehouse for the plastics trading company, Vinmar International (Vinmar will lease this facility from Avera). They will package the plastic pellets made at Exxon, Chevron, etc.

Resident Questions:
Q. On TX 99, there is a lot more rail storage now. There is one spur that crosses FM 565 going north, are there any plans to put in a new spur to get out of all this container area?

A. TGS built six additional interchange tracks within TGS Cedar Port. These interchange tracks allow the railroads to come straight into the industrial park. UP (Union Pacific), BNSF (Burlington Northern Santa Fe) and TGS will utilize these railroads to more effectively move rail traffic in and out of TGS Cedar Port.

Q. You own the greens, the woods next to this building up FM 2354, behind the homes here, how far up do you plan to build?

A. We currently have no plans to build in this area. There is an area where we

See Industrial Park, Page 10

Man accused of robbing two banks in custody

BAYTOWN, Texas - A man accused of robbing two banks is in custody after Baytown Police shoot and apprehend him unharmed.

According to Baytown Police, the first bank robbery occurred around 10:40 a.m. last Saturday in the 800 block of Rollingbrook. The suspect left the scene in a black SUV, police said.

Around 11:32 a.m., officers received a call [while they were on the first scene] of a second bank robbery at Texas Dow Employees Credit Union (TDECU) in the 600 block of Garth Rd. When police arrived at the second scene, an officer saw 32-year-old Victor Luna hiding behind a car in the parking lot. Luna then pulled out a handgun pointing it



Victor Luna

to the officer. The officer shot at the suspect but did not strike him. Luna then got into the SUV, but within a short distance, he stopped and pulled over his car where he was taken into custody.

No injuries were reported. Luna is being held at the Baytown Jail.

Baytown woman kills her family, shoots herself

GALVESTON, Texas - A Baytown woman allegedly killed herself after killing her husband and kids at a resort in Galveston.

Police received a call reporting gunshots around 4:30 a.m. last Monday. When they arrived they forced their way into the room and found Mauricio Canas, 39, and a 5 year-old boy dead. A 10-year-old boy and Flor De Maria Pineda, 37, were critically injured and transported to University of Texas Medical Branch where they died, police said.



The family had checked in at the resort around 7:00 p.m. on Sunday.

The case still under investigation but collected data indicates the woman could be the shooter and apparently killed her husband and two kids while they slept.

Burnsides to be Honored at Diabetes Gala

BAYTOWN — (December 22, 2017) — R.D. and Ginger Burnside have been regulars for years at the annual gala benefiting diabetes research and education programs, but it took the passing of a dear friend to bring the cause closer to home.

The Baytown area couple will serve as honorees during the "Carnival" gala benefiting the Baytown Council of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation (JDRF) on Saturday, January 27 at Houston's Royal Sonesta Hotel. A long-time member of the area's farming community, R.D. says the death of friend Bill Murphy a year ago makes their recognition as honorees all the more poignant.

"We have supported the cause by attending the galas and buying something at the auction, but the reason it's a passion of mine is because Bill passed away from diabetes and I saw what a terrible disease it is," Burnside said. "He suffered for five or six years with it and wound up needing a wheelchair."

Murphy was the owner of turfgrass supplier Murr Turf Farm in Crosby, but in addition to being a trusted friend, Murphy also served as a mentor for Burnside when he decided

to transition several years ago from growing crops like rice and soybeans to cultivating turfgrass for sale on the wholesale market.

"He was the person who got me involved in growing turfgrass and really helped us out when times were tough," Burnside recalls.

While Burnside says there's not much history of diabetes in his family, he has come to understand first-hand the devastating toll the disease can have not only on patients, but their friends and family as well. He says he's become educated on the damaging role that obesity can play in the development of the disease that affects 415 million people across the globe. An estimated 30 million adults and children in the U.S. have been diagnosed with diabetes.

"People should realize how important it is for them to stay healthy and get regular check-ups and do what their doctor says," he said. "Diabetes is so widespread now that I'm afraid it could eventually take down our health care system if we don't get a handle on it. It would be a dream to find a cure for it."

Houston Methodist San Jacinto Hospital serves as a "King Momo" (\$5,000 lev-

el) sponsor of the 2018 gala that will feature dinner, silent and live auctions, and live music and dancing. Auction items range from guided fishing tours, golf packages, spa getaways and Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo tickets to a wide assortment of products and services provided by Baytown area businesses.

JDRF funded research helps create significant advances in type 1 diabetes therapies, with the ultimate goal of finding a cure and universal prevention. The global organization works to ensure that potentially life-changing treatments and therapies move through development and to the market where they can lessen the impact of diabetes.

The Burnsides, married for 41 years and with two adult children, were displaced after their home suffered damage during Hurricane Harvey and have been living in a Baytown apartment complex while repairs are being made. But even as they navigate the complicated road back to normalcy following the storm, they remain committed to making a difference in their community.

"I feel like we're all here to serve others; that's our purpose on this earth," Burnside said. "That's the bottom line."

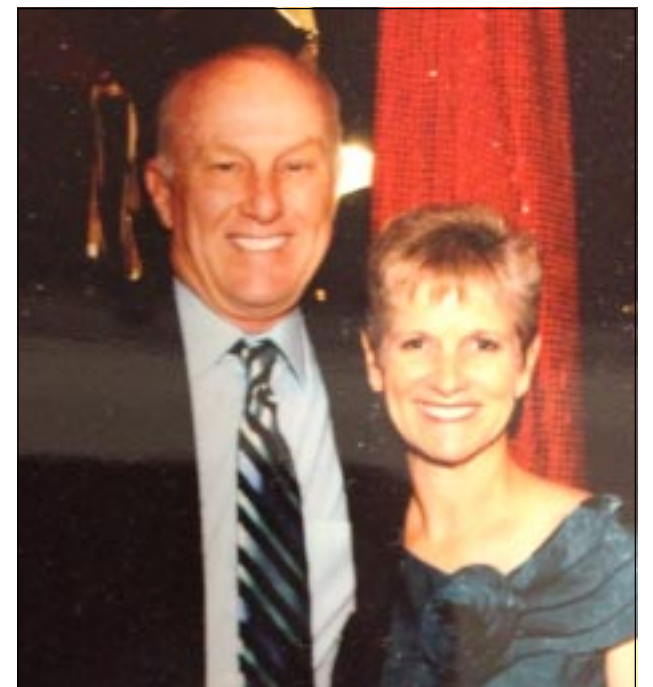
For more information on the gala, contact Laurie Terry at laterry@houstonmethodist.org.

About Houston Methodist San Jacinto Hospital

Houston Methodist San Jacinto Hospital has provided Baytown and East Houston with quality medical care since opening its doors in 1948. The hospital has grown throughout the years with the community, providing comprehensive care at all stages of life. As a health care leader, the hospital is proud to have a fully integrated residency program focused on educating and inspiring future practitioners. Today, Houston Methodist San Jacinto provides some of the most advanced and innovative procedures while never losing focus on compassionate and patient-centered care. Houstonmethodist.org/sanjacinto.

About JDRF

JDRF is the leading global organization funding type 1 diabetes (T1D) research. Our mission is to accelerate life-changing



R.D. and Ginger Burnside

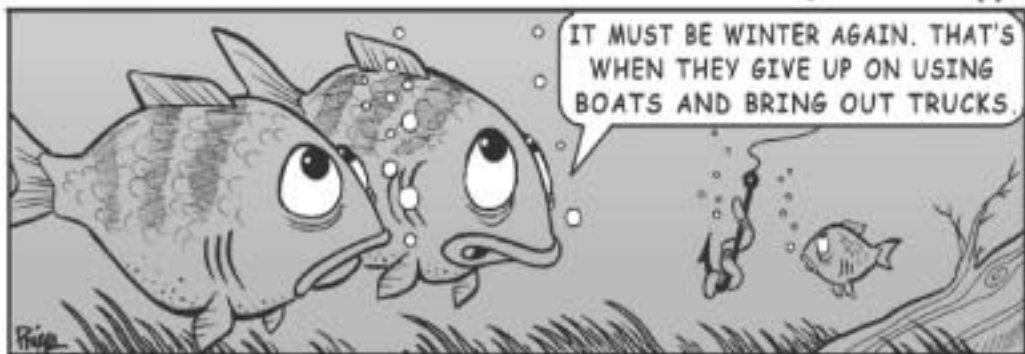
breakthroughs to cure, prevent and treat T1D and its complications. To accomplish this, JDRF has invested more than \$2 billion in research funding since our inception. We are an organization built on a grassroots model of people connecting in their local communities, collaborating regionally for efficiency and broader fundraising impact, and uniting on a national stage to pool resources, passion, and energy. We collaborate with

academic institutions, policymakers, and corporate and industry partners to develop and deliver a pipeline of innovative therapies to people living with T1D. Our staff and volunteers throughout the United States and our six international affiliates are dedicated to advocacy, community engagement and our vision of a world without T1D. For more information, please visit jdrf.org or follow us on Twitter: @JDRF.

COMICS

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



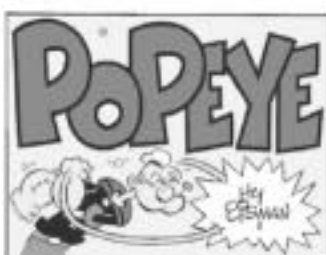
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



LAFF-A-DAY



I've always said if it's worth doing, it's worth letting someone else to do it right.



SCRAMBLERS Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words...

- CLANGE SAUSER ORIGEN PASSER

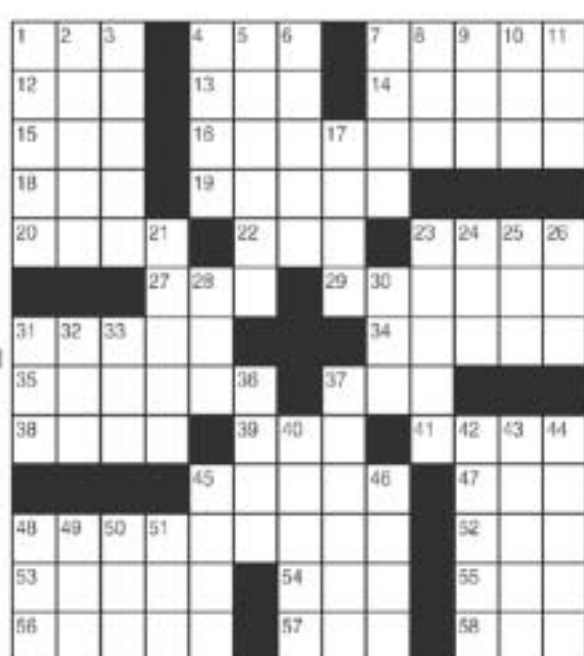
TODAY'S WORD

Posting Date January 8, 2018

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Gymnast's surface 4 Expert 7 Pops 12 Brewery output 13 Sleep phenom 14 Unmoving 15 Rotating part 16 Reason to call 911 18 Pump up the volume 19 Heathen 20 Lumber 22 Run-down horse 23 Blue hue 27 Toss in 29 Political refugee 31 Groan-inducing, maybe 34 Take as one's own 35 Overacted 37 Lingerie item 38 Church section 39 - Khan 41 Traditional tales 45 Pilfered 47 Chum 48 Too thin 52 Storm center



- 53 Automaton 54 A Kennedy 55 Sinbad's bird 56 Lessen 57 One or more 58 Pismire 9 Lair 10 Joan of - 11 Pigs' digs 17 Anger 21 "Inferno" writer 23 Type of wave 24 Swelled head 25 Dada artist 26 Say it's OK 28 Easter buy 30 Scratch 31 Shell game item 32 Diamond arbor 33 Phone bk. info 36 Facts 37 Whalebone 40 Must, jocularly 42 Met performance 43 Silk alternative 44 Vote for 45 Locale 46 Vortex 48 Mound stat 49 Unruly bunch 50 Lawyers' org. 51 Barracks bed

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3x3 square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

- Moderate Challenging HOO BOY!

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- 1. GEOGRAPHY: What country has a region known as Catalonia? 2. SCIENCE: What do you call an animal that lives part of its life on land and part in the water? 3. HISTORY: When did the Spanish Civil War take place? 4. ANIMAL KINGDOM: A male bird is called a peacock, and the female is called what? 5. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: How many colors are in a rainbow? 6. MOVIES: What was the name of the princess in the animated Disney movie "Aladdin"? 7. WEATHER: What is the wind speed at which a tropical storm is designated a hurricane? 8. AUTOS: What was the manufacturer of the Viper car model? 9. U.S. PRESIDENTS: What was first national monument established by President Teddy Roosevelt? 10. MONEY: Whose portrait is on a U.S. dime?

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HOCUS-FOCUS



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Answers: 1. Girl has a ponytail. 2. Shirt has a stripe. 3. Chair is different. 4. Chair is different. 5. Chair is missing. 6. Box on counter is different.

- 1. Spain 2. Amphibian 3. 1936-1939 4. A pebber 5. Seven: red, yellow, orange, green, blue, indigo and violet. 6. Jasmine 7. 74 mph 8. Dodge 9. Devils Tower, Wyoming 10. Franklin D. Roosevelt

Trivia Test Answers



Solution time: 27 mins.

King Crossword



Answer

CryptoQuip

This is a CryptoQuip puzzle in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: E equals N

JIZMNOJ MFEO ZGFCY MFLKGFVPM RUKAJA RUQKEY HOKTKV CEVKU Z EQOAYYQLK OIFT: "LFFE FHKU LP ZLQ."

© 2018 King Features Synd., Inc. CryptoQuip puzzle: 51.50 - 24 Volmen - Order at: rfn.com

LASAGNA

Today's Word

- 1. Glance; 2. Assure; 3. Ignore; 4. Sparse

SCRAMBLERS

solution

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer



Classic song about someone's French friend viewed under a night-time glow: "Moon Over My Shoulder"

★ LIFESTYLE PAGE ★

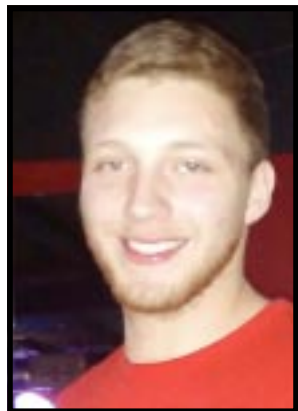
St. Martin de Porres church in Barrett Station

"To love is to serve"

OBITUARIES

JOSHUA ASHTON MCKINNEY

Joshua Ashton McKinney, 19, of Highlands was born May 5, 1998, in Houston and passed away December 31, 2017. He attended Goose Creek Memorial High School and was a 2016 graduate of the Texas ChalleNGe Academy. He was attending Lee College and had his sights set on his ultimate goal...to become a U. S. Marine.



He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Natividad and Maria Castilleja. He is survived by his parents, Minerva Barboza and Aaron McKinney; sisters, Melissa Barboza and Caylen McKinney; brother and sister-in-law, Robert and Cristy Barboza; grandparents, Joye and Chuck McCallum; nieces, Amiya and Allison; cousins, Haley and Chase; and many more loved ones who adored Joshua.

His family will receive friends at Navarre Funeral Home Wednesday, January 10, 2018, beginning at 12 Noon with a service to

follow at 2:00 p.m. with Pastor Lance Richards officiating. Burial will follow at White Cemetery in Highlands.

Serving as pallbearers will be J. D. Brown, Steven Castilleja, Colby Neal, Halil Odun, C. J. Wingate, and Matthew Wingate.

To view the online obituary or to post a tribute for the family, go to www.navarrefuneralhome.com

Arrangements are under the direction and personal care of Navarre Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 2444 Rollingbrook Dr., Baytown, TX, 77521 (281) 422-8111.



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, located at St. Martin de Porres church in Barrett Station, Crosby, Texas, (12606 Crosby Lynchburg Rd.) was in dire need of assistance. The society needed help in getting things moved around in the food pantry. Terrence Narcisse of the EHCEC helped in putting the society in contact with a group of students from Little Rock Christian Academy of Little Rock, Arkansas. These students were in the Houston area during their January term. The group partnered with Mission Discovery to assist those affected by the floods of Hurricane Harvey and consisted of 27 students and their chaperons. While in the Houston area, these students served in community gardens, local relief centers, and helped with rebuilding homes in third ward Houston. St. John the Divine Episcopal Church (2450 River Oaks Blvd, Houston, TX 770190) hosted the group. The school plans to send another large group of students later this year. Their motto is "To love is to serve". What a wonderful model for us all. Thank you Dr. Justin Smith, students, and chaperons of Little Rock Christian Academy!

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

...There is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do. Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

HEBREWS 4:13,14

Death of "Hand of God" by Clive Lightson (1952)

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Samaria in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Judges 11, what judge of Israel

was a prostitute's son? Hosea, Jephthah, Samson, Lot

3. The 10 Commandments' tables (tablets) had writing on which sides? Front only, Both sides, Back only
4. From Esther 1, what king did Esther

marry? Jehu, Omri, Ahasuerus, Zedekiah

5. Who asked, "If a man die, shall he live again"? Samuel, Judas, Job, Stephen
6. From 2 Kings 23, where was King Josiah killed? Megiddo, Anathoth, Philadel-

phia, Jericho

- ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Jephthah; 3) Both sides; 4) Ahasuerus; 5) Job; 6) Megiddo

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John 7:38

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Pride only breeds quarrels, but wisdom is found in those who take advice.

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble
Psalm: 46:1

★ **OBITUARIES**

REINHARDT HENRY ZWAHR JR.



Reinhardt Henry Zwahr Jr., 84, of Huffman, died at home on January 8, surrounded by his family. He was born on September 14, 1933 in Brenham, Texas to Reinhardt Adolf Zwahr Sr. and Rosie Weckworth Zwahr.

A child of the Great Depression, responsible living was instilled in him from the earliest age. The son of a carpenter/farmer, he learned the value of hard work and flexibility while growing up as one of four sons in Crosby. He met his beloved wife Esther aged 12, when they were partnered together for the annual Maypole dance. They married shortly after graduation from Crosby High School, enjoying a long and happy marriage blessed by two sons. When his country called him to serve aged 21, he answered without hesitation, serving two years in the Battery C 425th AAA Battalion. After being honorably discharged, he embarked on a long career in the chemical plant industry, first with ARCO Chemical, where he retired as shift superintendent after 29

years. Not finding the quiet life to his taste, he then worked a further 10 years at Texas Petrochemical. Throughout his life he was known for being honest, responsible, authoritative – and right 99.9% of the time! He charmed everyone he knew with stories about the 'old days', and loved spending time in Brenham, on the rural land his German ancestors settled over 100 years ago. Hunting and fishing were his favorite pastimes; he was a member of the Bull Creek Hunting Club for over 50 years, and this is where some of his most cherished friendships were formed. Above all however, he will be remembered for being utter-

ly devoted to his wife, right up to the moment he fell gravely ill. He will be sorely missed by all who knew and loved him.

He is preceded in death by his parents and brothers Delano Zwahr, of Huntsville, and Earl Zwahr of Thicket.

Those left to cherish his memory include his devoted wife of 63 years, Esther Leazer Zwahr; son Ronald Zwahr and his wife Sandra, of Kingwood; son Gary Zwahr of Huffman; granddaughter Amber Zwahr and her husband Antoine Froger, of London; grandson Aaron Zwahr of Austin; brother Kenhardt Zwahr of Dayton, and many other extended family and friends. A visitation for family and friends will be held at Sterling-White on Thursday, January 11, 2018 from 5pm-8pm. Funeral services will be held at Sterling-White on Friday, January 12, 2018 11am with interment to follow at Sterling-White Cemetery. Services have been entrusted to Sterling-White Funeral Home 11011 Crosby-Lynchburg Rd. Highlands, Texas 77562. To send the family condolences please visit www.sterlingwhite.com.

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What we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory He will reveal to us later
ROMANS 8:18

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Acts 2:4

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Be alert. Continue strong in the faith. Have courage and be strong.
1 Corinthians 16:13

Rise in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God.
Leviticus 19:32

★ ASK THE EXPERTS ★

2017 was a wet year, exceeding 2016 by 23 inches of rainfall, with a Hurricane and widespread flooding



Letha Strouhal
Star-Courier
Rain Monitor

As of DECEMBER 31, 2017, total rainfall was about 23 inches more than 2016. Hurricane Harvey, at the end of August, was the major factor.

| RAIN REPORT | | RAIN REPORT | | RAIN REPORT | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Highlands, Texas OCTOBER 2017 | | Highlands, Texas NOVEMBER 2017 | | Highlands, Texas DECEMBER 2017 | |
| Contributed by Letha Strouhal | | Contributed by Letha Strouhal | | Contributed by Letha Strouhal | |
| Day | OCT | Day | NOV | Day | DEC |
| 2 | 1.60 | 1 | 1.10 | 3 | .37 |
| 20 | 2.13 | 3 | .05 | 4 | .44 |
| 22 | .95 | 9 | .19 | 5 | .07 |
| 27 | .03 | | | 6 | .34 |
| TOTAL | 4.71 | TOTAL | 1.34 | 7 | .75 |
| | | | | 8 | .01 |
| OCT. 2016 | .04 | NOV. 2016 | 2.67 | 17 | .67 |
| Year to Date 2016 | 59.34 inches | Year to Date 2016 | 62.01 inches | 18 | .08 |
| Year to Date 2017 | 84.60 inches | Year to Date 2017 | 85.94 inches | 19 | .02 |
| | | | | 20 | .70 |
| | | | | 22 | .03 |
| | | | | 26 | .04 |
| | | | | 27 | .17 |
| | | | | 31 | .04 |
| | | | | TOTAL | 3.78 |
| | | | | DEC. 2016 | 4.84 |
| | | | | Year to Date 2016 | 66.85 inches |
| | | | | Year to Date 2017 | 89.72 inches |

HOME

How to find an affordable home in today's market

(StatePoint) Affordable housing is in high demand in cities and counties nationwide. Experts say that areas grappling with affordable housing issues may find factory-built homes to be a powerful tool in addressing this need.

Built in a factory and delivered to home sites, this efficient process translates into lower production costs that are passed on to the consumer. The good news is while manufactured homes cost less than site-built homes they are just as high quality. The average new manufactured home costs around \$70,600. The cost for a smaller new single-section home can be as low as \$20,000. In 2016, manufactured homes accounted for 80 percent of all new homes sold under \$150,000.

Unfortunately, when many people think of manufactured housing, the old stereotype of a run-down trailer park enters their minds. However, most of the more than 37,000 manufactured housing communities in the U.S. are a far cry from that negative image, boasting amenities like community centers, organized activities and children's play areas. Other benefits may include:

- The option to rent an existing home in the community or place your own home in the community.
- Provided services, which often include professional property management, care and maintenance of common grounds, as well as resources and amenities like trash removal, community centers, playgrounds, storage and laundry facilities.
- The possibility of not paying real estate taxes. While it varies state-to-state, residents of land-lease manufactured home communities often don't



pay real estate taxes, but rather, pay a personal-property tax, offsetting the cost of land-lease rents for the homeowner.

• Affordable homeownership, along with many of its benefits, including control over home and yard improvements, as well as convenient parking.

• A sense of community. In many communities, there are social or activity clubs, fitness amenities, and friendly and caring neighbors. Indeed, "sense of belonging" is among the most frequent responses about why residents enjoy living in a land-lease community.

Newer manufactured homes come in a variety of architectural styles and exterior finishes that will suit most any buyer's desires, as well as customization opportunities, including interior features like vaulted ceilings, fireplaces and state-of-the-art kitchens and baths.

They also feature enhanced energy efficiency in an era of rising energy costs, thanks to upgraded insulation and more efficient heating and cooling systems than homes from decades ago.

Smart buyers also are turning to ENERGY STAR-labeled manufactured homes for additional savings.

Modern manufactured homes are among the safest housing choices today, as homes must adhere to strict federal building standards. All aspects of construction are continually inspected by professionally trained third-parties, and homes feature smoke detectors, and limited combustible materials around furnaces, water heaters and kitchen ranges, as well as wind resistance in areas prone to hurricane-force winds.

"The need for quality, affordable housing has never been greater. However, today's manufactured homes are high-quality and cost up to 50 percent less per square foot than conventional site-built homes," says Richard Jenison, president and CEO of the Manufactured Housing Institute. "These savings are allowing more Americans to own a home in the face of an ever-widening housing affordability gap."

Check our New Website format, with PDF's of previous issues, and major current stories.
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AREA'S BEST BUSINESS REVIEW

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We, the editors of this 2017 Area's Best Business Review offer this suggestion to the people in our area: So, whether or not you need a big grocery shopping trip, get your tire changed or pick-up a prescription, do what smart shoppers do...make WALMART your one-stop shopping headquarters for the best products, the largest selection and the ultimate in everyday bargains!

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01-4

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02-2

LEGAL NOTICES APPEAR IN THE HIGHLANDS STAR CROSBY COURIER, AND THE NORTH CHANNEL STAR. CALL 281-328-9605 FOR MORE INFO.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

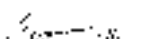
Notice is hereby given that Original Letters of Administration for Docket No. 462,062: Estate of STANLEY EARL BEAL, Deceased; In Probate Court No. 3, of Harris County, Texas, Deceased, were issued on December 15, 2017.

SHIRLEY JOAN BEAL

The residence address of the administrator is in Harris County, Texas. The mailing address is:

c/o Weston Cotten
5223 Garth Rd.
Baytown, TX 77521

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this January 9, 2018.



by WESTON COTTEN
Attorney for the Estate

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LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

ADDITION TO FIRE STATION, JACINTO CITY, TEXAS

Sealed bids, in duplicate, on Bid Forms provided, addressed to The Mayor and City Council, City of Jacinto City, Jacinto City, Texas, Harris County will be received at the City Hall, 1301 Mercury Drive, Jacinto City, Texas 77029 until 4:00 p.m. Thursday, January 25, 2018 and then publicly opened and read during the Thursday, January 25, 2018 Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m. for furnishing all labor, material, and equipment and performing all work required for the construction of "Fire Station Addition".

Accompany Bids with acceptable Cashier's or Certified Check in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total amount bid in the Base Bid, payable without recourse to the City of Jacinto City, or a Bid Bond of like amount from an approved surety company, as a guarantee that bidder will enter into a contract. Successful contractor will provide insurance and performance bonds as detailed in Instruction to Bidders, and a list of experience with similar projects, and references. The City of Jacinto City reserves the right to reject all bids, or choose a contractor in their best interests, regardless of cost.

Plans and Specifications will be available from a DropBox link, <https://goo.gl/UZW3Pe> or purchase them from B and E Reprographics, 3664 Walnut Bend Lane, Houston TX 77042 at non-refundable cost. Two sets of drawings are required, a Base Bid set and an Alternate Bid set, plus hardware schedule and project manual. Examine documents at the office of the architect, Hoffman-Liu Design Associates, 5906 Star Lane, Houston TX 77057 or at Dodge Data & Analytics, AGC Plan Room, other plans rooms, and City Hall in Jacinto City.

A Non-Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference for prospective bidders, suppliers, etc. will be held on Friday, January 12, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the construction site, the existing Jacinto City Fire Station, 1126 Mercury Drive, Jacinto City, Texas 77029.

Contractor will provide the necessary materials, equipment, supervision, labor and appurtenances to construct approximately a 3800 square foot two story addition to the existing fire station. There is a base bid, and three add alternates. A separate set of drawings is required for the Alternates.

City of Jacinto City
Ana Diaz
Mayor

1-2

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE - RFP #18-100

The Barbers Hill Independent School District is accepting proposals for:

2018 DISTRICT PROPERTY INSURANCE PROGRAM BUILDINGS AND CONTENTS/BOILER AND MACHINERY

Proposal forms may be picked up weekdays between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the BHISD Administration Building at 9600 Eagle Drive on or after January 22, 2018. Interested parties also may contact the BHISD Assistant Superintendent of Finance at 281-576-2221 to obtain a copy of the RFP.

Sealed proposals are to be returned to the BHISD Administration Building no later than 1:30 p.m., CST, on Monday, March 5, 2018.

The school district reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, waive any formalities and/or technicalities in the proposal and award the contract to the best proposal that serves the interests of the district. The district may negotiate with proposers as deemed advisable or necessary.

1-2

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF APPOINTED AGENT

TO THE DULY QUALIFIED RESIDENT VOTERS OF EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 14

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 31.123, Texas Election Code, as amended, the Board of Commissioners of Emergency Services District No. 14 has appointed the following person as its agent to perform election duties for the Commissioners Election to be held within and for Emergency Services District No. 14 on May 5, 2018:

Agent's Name: Weston Cotten
Office Location: Law Office of Weston Cotten, P.C.
Mailing Address: 5223 Garth Road Baytown, TX 77521

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Monday through Thursday,
8:30 a.m. until noon and 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. Friday

Duration of appointment: Beginning December 21, 2014 and continuing until a successor agent is appointed in connection with the calling of a subsequent election by the District.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

May 2018

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AUCTION

Cattleman Bull & Female Sale, Noon, Jan. 20, 2018, El Campo Livestock Auction, El Campo, TX - www.cattlemansale.com, Adrian Knight 903-452-7591 or Kelly Conley 903-857-2594.

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FESTIVAL

Camofest Weekend, Jan. 26-27, downtown Bay City. Friday night: Wolf Moon Concert, dancing, games, food. Saturday: Wine and wild game tastings, 3D archery shoot, Kidz Zone, duck calling contest, live music and more. baycitycamofest.com.

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LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Mesothelioma may occur 30 to 60 years after exposure to asbestos. Industrial and construction workers and their families may have been exposed from the 1940s through the 1970s. Call 800-460-0606 for professional insight or visit www.asbestoslaw.com.

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Industrial Park,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

did a wetland mitigation project, which was a Corps of Engineers project due to some wetlands that were filled in. We plan to do more of the wetland mitigation projects and we are working with the Corps of Engineers on that. There are currently no projects planned in this area.

Q. Tell us a little about your plans for your entry off the Fisher Road intersection coming off TX 99.

A. TGS has been working with TxDOT on the Fisher Road - TX 99 intersection. All the plans are approved to make this intersection look like the 99 - FM 1405 intersection. The plan is to have six lanes in that general area, with a turning lane on either side. TxDOT plans to add an overpass at this intersection.

Mayor Combs noted, by TGS adding an entrance onto the Fisher Road property from TX 99, this will in effect keep the truck traffic inside of the park as opposed to outside of the park. Mr. Scott added that

the long-term plan is to connect this road to FM 1405 and keep the truck traffic on TX 99 / FM 1405 and off of FM 2354.

Q. What is TGS doing at McKinney Road and FM 2354?

A. We have been clearing out the fence line to give the cattle more grazing room. Some of the fence line has not been cleared in thirty years.

Q. Can you tell us about the drainage study?

A. Surveyors for TGS have been going to the different roads within the industrial park area and surveying the drainage. So far, they have reviewed/surveyed approximately eight thousand out of ten thousand acres. This will help them to understand where the water flows to, how much water flows through each site, and what can possibly be done long term to improve the drainage.

Information submitted by Billy Combs, Mayor Beach City

Ambulance Banquet

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Citizens recognized for excellent volunteer service, presented by Christy Graves at left: Josh Sparks, Keenan Smith, Andrew Wilson, Courtney Seiter, and Linda Wyntjes.

Josh Sparks volunteered as the ambulance service's IT/radio operator and communications agent. Pastor Keenan Smith sent Pastoral Services to folks that experienced losses in incidents throughout the year, and Crosby Church feed nearly 15,000 during the crisis of Hurricane Harvey.

Andrew Wilson volunteered to assist with patients at the emergency shelters in the Crosby Middle School and Crosby American Legion making beds and transporting patients that required dialysis.

Courtney Seiter is a Nurse Practitioner that lives between Highlands and Crosby that became aware of the shelters due to her husband's connections at the American Legion. Seiter enabled the development of a program to handle patients that did not necessarily need an ambulance but rather treatment and dialysis. A veteran of two tours in Afghanistan for the Naval Medical Corps, she shuttled between the middle school and the legion hall writing prescriptions that were life saving. The healthcare delivered by the shelter's emergency medical centers was unprecedented and many of the medications needed were funded by Mrs. Seiter personally.

OMNIX Homehealth was not in attendance at the banquet but one could find Tabitha Brady or her husband attending the medical facility within the middle school at all hours and personnel from the homehealth service were working with patients inside the shelters around the clock.

Linda Wyntjes the former president of the Ladies Auxiliary of Crosby Volunteer Fire Dept. volunteered at both shelters and spent a full 24 hour shift helping process patients. Her experience, organizational acumen and work were very valuable. Melanie Webb was also not in attendance for the meal but her volunteer work based on her experience at Fresinius Dialysis Clinic was also life saving. The medical facilities were in operation for six days.

Murder Probe

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

His body was found lying on Mizell Street at about 4:30 a.m.; she had a bullet lodged in her shoulder.

As of Tuesday, Yvonne Raquel Ramirez of Baytown is sitting in Harris County Jail charged with the murder and attempted robbery of Josh McKinney of Highlands.

One witness indicated they had seen the victim getting rough with Ramirez and ran to call the law when gun shots rang out. Another witness said she was rifling through the deceased pockets as the body lay on the ground after the shooting.

Others indicate the two had recently met; he, an aspiring Marine, was said to have a cache of weapons that she had somehow come into possession of and she demanded \$2,000 for the return of those weapons, some told

detectives.

All these and other details including how many people were involved is still under investigation by the Harris County Sheriff's Office Homicide detectives that for now are remaining mum regarding details in question.

McKinney was a graduate of the Texas Challenge Squad, a residential military academy operated by the Texas National Guard. His instructors indicate he was a stand-out and eager to qualify to become a Marine and take care of his mother.

Ramirez is the mother of a young daughter. Her facebook account was very active concerning her plans: even writing the day before the incident; "Everything falling in place, i start my job monday, getting my car soon & then my apt. couldn't be more blessed Thank you God."

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