

# NORTHEAST ★ NEWS

Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 41 Years  
VOL. 42, NO. 11 TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com



NANCY PELOSI MEETS WITH HOUSTON DEMOCRATS last week to campaign for voters to go to the polls.

## NEWS NOTES

### Buckner Spring Break Event

The Buckner Family Hope Center, 4700 Aldine Mail Rt., will hold a Community Spring Break Festival on Wednesday, March 14th at 6pm. Everyone is invited to attend this FREE event which includes food, games, music, prizes and more!! The Second Students from Kingwood Second Baptist Church will host the festival. All ages are welcome to come and enjoy fun and fellowship!! For more information about the festival or other activities at the Center, call 281-449-4828.

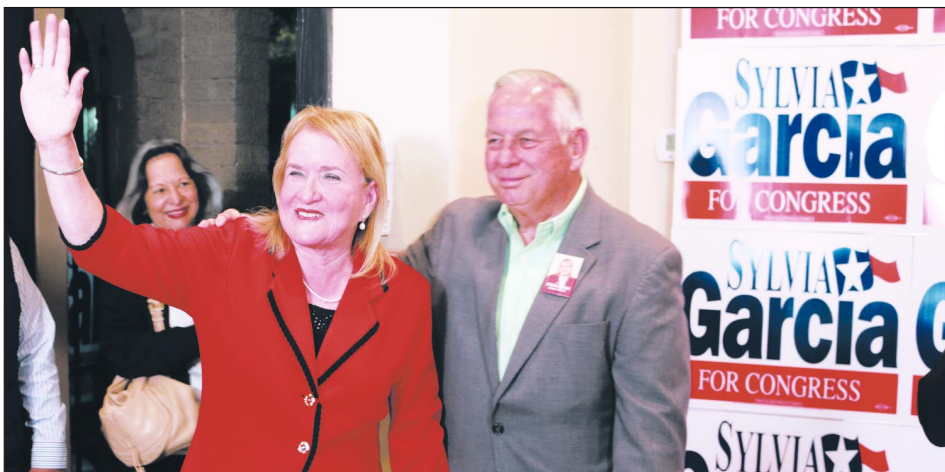
### District II Sheriff's Safety Forum

Join Sheriff Ed Gonzalez & District II to talk community concerns in your area. Tuesday, March 13, 2018, 7 pm - 8 pm. at Harvest Time Church, 17770 Imperial Valley, Houston, TX 77060.

## Sylvia Garcia wins big; Bates defeats Coffey House leader Pelosi fires up Democrats

SENATOR SYLVIA GARCIA WINS BIG, AVOIDS PRIMARY RUNOFF  
U.S. House of Representatives leader Nancy Pelosi fires up Harris County Democrats

By Allan Jamail  
Election Day - March 6, 2018 Senator Sylvia Garcia crushed 6 opposing candidates vying for the 29th Congressional District seat being vacated by retir-



Northeast News Photo by A. Jamail  
Sylvia Garcia and Congressman Gene Green at the campaign's East end headquarters, greet cheering supporters as the election results indicate she has won.

ing Congressman Gene Green.

Garcia's win came after a recent visit to Houston by Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi of California. Pelosi is the Democratic Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives for the 114th Congress. From 2007 to 2011, Pelosi served as Speaker of the House, the first woman to do so in American history.

Pelosi spoke at the Harris County Democratic

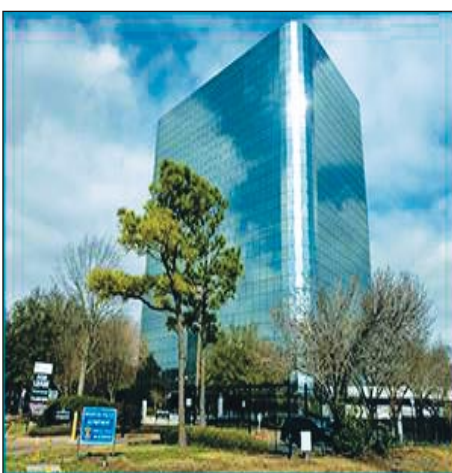
See Election Results, page 3

## New station for HPD North Belt Division

Houston Police Department (HPD) officers held their first roll call in January at the new HPD North Belt Division, located at 100 Glenborough west of I-45. Their first call on the job - patrolling the streets during the winter storm!

One hundred officers are reporting to the station, and North Houston District is funding the office space.

Plans are underway for an official grand opening in the spring.



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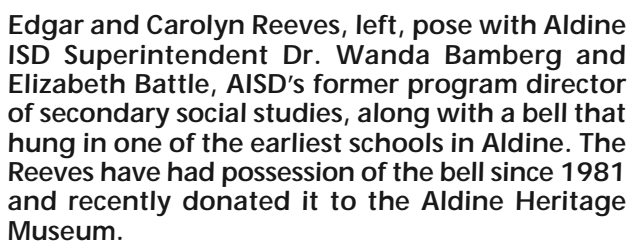
**5216 Aldine Mail Rte.**  
281-442-1991

Wednesday  
4 Bolillos for \$1



# AISD reunited with a piece of its history

In 1986, the bell was used in Aldine ISD's 50th anniversary celebration at Thorne Stadium. Mr. Reeves kept the bell in his



Mr. Reeves, whose fam-

And now, thanks to the Reeves family, other generations will have the chance to see some of Aldine's first history for years to come!

# *HISD Superintendent Richard Carranza Accepts New Role*

"It has been an honor and privilege to have served the students of the Houston Independent School District and bring a voice to communities that have historically been underserved," Carranza said. "It is with a heavy heart that I announce my depart-

The Board met the first Thursday of this month to discuss next steps.

# Texas Art Education Association names Aldine ISD teacher to leadership scholar cohort Program

To optimize the learning experience, participation is limited to four individuals



In 2015, Wagner began teaching art. It was his first time in more than 10 years that the campus had an art educator. She took on the role with no previous experience. But that did not stop her from giving her students the best experience possible. Wagner met with Dr. Michaelann Kelley, the District's visual arts program director; read and experimented.

## *Jump for Heart Heroes from Mendel*



Mendel Elementary School students and staff raise awareness and collected over \$1100.00 to fight heart disease and brought awareness to keeping their hearts healthy. These heart heroes jumped rope during physical education classes. We are very proud of our Mendel Bees!!!

# PREMIERE CINEMAS

SUNDAY-THURSDAY 3/11-3/15

Opens **THURSDAY, March 15**

**TOMB RAIDER 2D (PG13)** 7:00 10:00

**TOMB RAIDER 3D (PG13)** 7:00 10:00

**LOVE, SIMON (PG13)** 7:00 9:45

\* **GRINGO (R)** -

12:50pm, 3:50pm, 6:50pm, 9:50pm

Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption

\* **THE HURRICANE HEIST (PG-13)**

12:15pm, 2:40pm, 5:10pm, 7:35pm,  
10:00pm

Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption

\* **THE STRANGERS: Prey at Night (R)**

12:45pm, 3:00pm, 5:30pm, 7:45pm,  
10:00pm

Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption

\* **A WRINKLE IN TIME in Disney Digital**

**3D (PG)** - 2:30pm, 7:30pm

Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption

\* **A WRINKLE IN TIME in Disney Digital**

**3D (PG)** - 2:00pm, 7:00pm

SPA-Spanish Dubbed;Stadium

Seating;CC-Closed Caption

\* **A WRINKLE IN TIME (PG)** -

12:00pm, 5:00pm, 10:00pm

Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption

\* **A WRINKLE IN TIME (PG)**

11:30am, 4:30pm, 9:30pm

SPA-Spanish Dubbed;Stadium

Seating;CC-Closed Caption

\* **DEATH WISH (R)** 11:14am, 2:20pm,

4:50pm, 7:20pm, 9:50pm

Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption

\* **RED SPARROW (R)**

12:30pm, 3:30pm, 6:30pm, 9:30pm

Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption

**EVERY DAY (PG-13)** 12:25pm, 2:45pm,

5:00pm, 7:25pm, 9:55pm

Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption

**GAME NIGHT (R)** 12:05pm, 2:25pm,

4:45pm, 7:20pm, 9:45pm

Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption

**BLACK PANTHER (PG-13)** 11:45am,

2:30pm, 3:15pm, 5:45pm, 9:00pm,

9:30pm

Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption

\* **BLACK PANTHER in Disney Digital**

**3D (PG-13)** 12:15pm, 6:15pm

Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption

**PETER RABBIT (PG)** 12:00pm, 2:30pm,

4:45pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption

**PETER RABBIT (PG)** 11:30am, 2:00pm,

4:15pm, 6:30pm, 9:00pm

SPA-Spanish Dubbed;Stadium

Seating;CC-Closed Caption

**DEN OF THIEVES (R)**

12:15pm, 3:15pm, 6:15pm, 9:15pm

Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption

**JUMANJI: Welcome to the Jungle (PG-**

**13)** 12:40pm, 3:40pm, 6:40pm, 9:40pm

Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption

"No passes on these movies" "No passes accepted for 3D movies. ID Required for R rated movies.

\*New Releases, no passes accepted for the first two weeks \*\*Sorry No Passes **CG** CLOSED CAPTION

\*Policy prohibits admission of ANY child 6 or under to any R-rated movie after 6pm. NO EXCEPTIONS.

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<b>Nexium™</b> \$874.58 <small>Typical US Brand Price for 40mg x 100</small>	<b>VS</b>	<b>Esomeprazole*</b> \$82.00 <small>Generic Price for 40mg x 100</small>	<b>Advair™</b> \$985.38 <small>Typical US Brand Price for 250-50mg x 180</small>	<b>VS</b>	<b>Salmeterol &amp; Fluticasone Propionate*</b> \$145.00 <small>Generic Price for 250-50mg x 180</small>
<b>Actonel™</b> \$735.28 <small>Typical US Brand Price for 35mg x 12</small>	<b>VS</b>	<b>Risedronate*</b> \$48.00 <small>Generic Price for 35mg x 12</small>	<b>Evista™</b> \$694.32 <small>Typical US Brand Price for 60mg x 100</small>	<b>VS</b>	<b>Raloxifene*</b> \$76.00 <small>Generic Price for 60mg x 100</small>
<b>Abilify™</b> \$2,936.61 <small>Typical US Brand Price for 15mg x 90</small>	<b>VS</b>	<b>Aripiprazole*</b> \$75.90 <small>Generic Price for 15mg x 90</small>	<b>Lipitor™</b> \$920.43 <small>Typical US Brand Price for 20mg x 100</small>	<b>VS</b>	<b>Atorvastatin*</b> \$67.00 <small>Generic Price for 20mg x 100</small>
<b>Flomax™</b> \$1,007.14 <small>Typical US Brand Price for 4mg x 90</small>	<b>VS</b>	<b>Tamsulosin*</b> \$141.00 <small>Generic Price for 4mg x 90</small>	<b>Prevacid™</b> \$322.58 <small>Typical US Brand Price for 30mg x 84</small>	<b>VS</b>	<b>Lansoprazole*</b> \$100.00 <small>Generic Price for 30mg x 84</small>

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## CITIZENSHIP WORKSHOPS

\*ST. CHARLES BORROMEO  
 CATHOLIC CHURCH  
 SATURDAY MARCH 24, 2018  
 REGISTRATION STARTS AT 9:00  
 AM  
 1501 TIDWELL RD. HOUSTON,  
 TX 77022.  
 \*LONE STAR COLLEGE  
 GREENSPPOINT CENTER  
 THURSDAY MARCH 29, 2018  
 REGISTRATION STARTS AT 4:00  
 PM  
 250 N SAM HOUSTON  
 PARKWAY E, HOUSTON, TX  
 77060  
 \*ST. LEO THE GREAT  
 CATHOLIC CHURCH  
 SATURDAY APRIL 7, 2018  
 REGISTRATION STARTS AT  
 9:00 AM  
 2131 LAUDER RD. HOUSTON,  
 TX 77039  
 \*ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC  
 CHURCH  
 SATURDAY APRIL 14, 2018  
 REGISTRATION STARTS AT  
 9:00 AM  
 901 ROSELANE ST, HOUSTON,  
 TX 77037  
 \*PRE-REGISTRATION RE-  
 QUIRED, 281-799- 9076.

# CITIZENSHIP CLASSES 2018

THURSDAY APRIL 5 TO MAY 24  
 LONE STAR COLLEGE  
 GREENSPPOINT CENTER  
 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM (EVERY  
 THURSDAY – 8 WEEKS)  
 250 N. SAM HOUSTON PKWY  
 E, HOUSTON, TX 77060.  
 • MONDAY APRIL 9 TO MAY  
 21ST. 2018  
 CHRIST THE GOOD SHEPHERD  
 CATHOLIC CHURCH  
 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM (EVERY  
 MONDAY – 8 WEEKS)  
 18511 KLEIN CHURCH RD.  
 SPRING, TX 77379  
 • FRIDAY APRIL 20 TO JUNE  
 1ST.  
 ST. BARTHOLOMEW THE  
 APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM (EVERY  
 FRIDAY – 7 WEEKS)  
 5356 11TH ST, KATY, TX 77493  
 • SATURDAY APR. 21 TO JUNE  
 9  
 ST. CHARLES BORROMEO  
 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM (EVERY  
 SATURDAY – 8 WEEKS)  
 501 TIDWELL RD. HOUS-  
 TON, TX 77022  
 • SATURDAY APRIL 21 TO JUNE  
 9  
 EAST ALDINE DISTRICT  
 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM (EVERY  
 SATURDAY – 8 WEEKS)  
 5333 ALDINE MAIL ROUTE RD.  
 HOUSTON, TX 77039  
 • SATURDAY MAY 12 TO JUNE  
 16  
 ST. LEO CATHOLIC CHURCH  
 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (EVERY  
 SATURDAY – 6 WEEKS)  
 2131 LAUDER ROAD,  
 HOUSTON, TX 77039  
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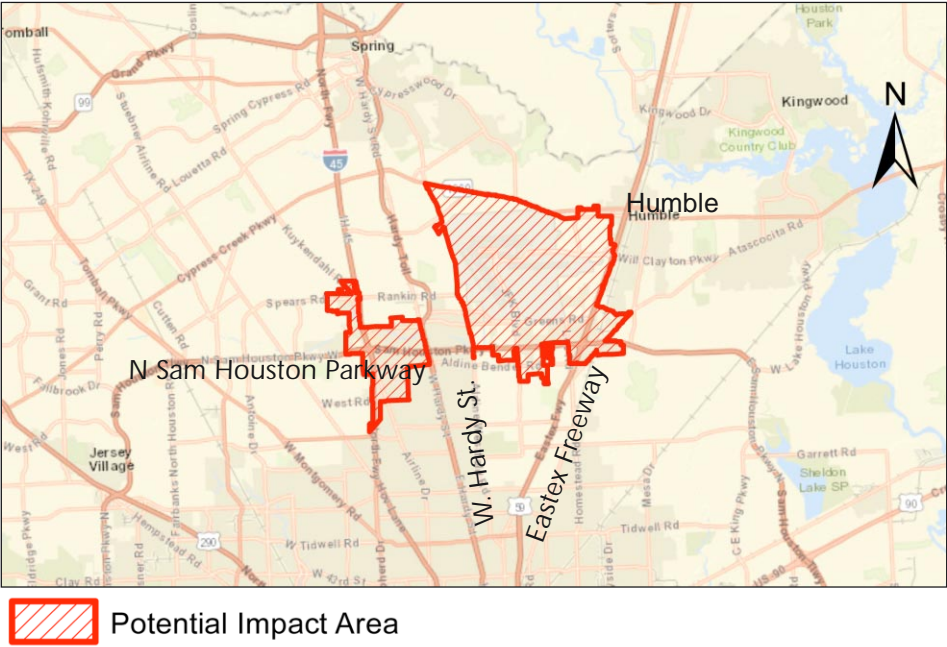


COMMUNITY PAGE

Repair of main line causes low water pressure in North Houston

HOUSTON - Houston Water begins repair work on Friday, March 2nd on a large water line located near Beltway 8 North and US59. The project requires shutting down a 66-inch (5.5-foot diameter) water main in North Houston. Work should not impact water service or quality, but residents in the area may notice lower than usual water pressure. Water pressure will back to normal by Tuesday, March 13th.

Impacted Zip codes include: 77090, 77014, 77060, 77067, 77038, 77037, 77396, 77338, 77073 and 77032.



Man dies while checking his truck on Eastex Freeway

HOUSTON, Texas – A man died after a big crash on the Eastex Freeway near Aldine Bender last Tuesday, March 6, 2018. According to investigators, a man and his girlfriend were in a Ford F-150 when they stopped in a moving lane of traffic, possibly stalled, authorities said. The man got out to check on the truck, and soon after, a suspected drunk driver hit the back of his pickup truck causing it to spin out of control. Authorities say the victim was pinned between his Ford F-150 and the barricade. The truck caught fire and the man died. The victim's girlfriend, Shonta Scott, was transported to the hospital with serious injuries.

The suspected drunk driver was arrested and charged with DWI.



HCC partners with Stanford University on new virtual heart program



HOUSTON [March 8, 2018] - Imagine being able to perform virtual heart surgery without having to go through medical school. Now you can! Using Stanford University's Virtual Heart Program and the new state-of-the-art virtual reality lab and studio now available at Houston Community College, students and faculty can transport themselves inside the human heart to see how it functions when experiencing abnormalities. They can even begin surgery to fix any problems they discover – all in a risk-free, virtual environment. Stanford University is

partnering with HCC and 20 other institutions to test the virtual heart application. Co-developer Dr. David Axelrod describes the technology as “an educational virtual reality experience in congenital heart disease, intended for parents/patients and students/faculty.” The Stanford Virtual Heart is the newest addition to HCC’s library of unique, immersive applications accessible in the virtual reality lab and studio at HCC Central College. Students use the lab not only to explore material but to also create their own work. For example, a student in an art class can

design graphics in Adobe Illustrator or Photoshop and then maneuver through it in the virtual reality lab. Chemistry students are able to create and interact with molecules in three dimensions and architecture students can take a virtual stroll through the buildings they design. The lab offers endless opportunities for conceptualization, construction and design. To reserve time in HCC’s Virtual Reality Lab and Studio, contact Ruben Duran at ruben.duran@hccs.edu or visit <https://goo.gl/aow-bQY>.

Investigation into shooting at Tidwell

Houston police are investigating the shooting of a man found at 5900 Tidwell about 3:45 a.m. on March 8. According to officials, HPD patrol officers in the area were flagged down by

the victim, Anthony Charles Jefferson Jr., 30, who stated he had been shot in the back. He was transported by HFD paramedics to an area hospital in stable condition. At this time, there are

no known suspects. Anyone with information in this case is urged to contact the HPD Major Assaults Unit at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS.

Election Results,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Party’s (HCDP) annual fundraiser to a record crowd. Chairwoman Lillie Schechter of the HCDP said this year’s event set a fund raising record and an attendance record with over 3,500 Democrat activists.

Vote results, Sylvia Garcia 63.22% (11,659 votes), Tahir Javed 20.70% (3,817 votes), Roel Garcia 6.60% (1,217 votes), Hector Morales 3.05% (562 votes), Augustine Reyes 2.84% (524 votes), Dominique Garcia 2.56% (472 votes)

and Pedro Valencia 1.04% (192 votes).

Texas statewide Primary Election result changes since the 2014 mid-term election, Democrats had a 86% increase (+ 470,653 votes) compared to 16% increase (+207,095) for the Republicans.

Sylvia Garcia was born in Palito Blanco, Texas. She earned a bachelor’s degree in social work and political science from Texas Woman’s University and a J.D. from Thurgood Marshall School of Law at

Texas Southern University. Garcia’s career experience includes working as a social worker and a legal aid lawyer. She served as director and presiding judge of the Houston Municipal System. Garcia was elected city controller in Houston and the Harris County Commissioner’s Court. She was elected Texas State Senate in 2013. Congressman Green, who ran against Garcia for the seat in 1992, threw his support behind the senator

in the crowded Democratic race in Congressional District 29. “The reason I supported Sylvia is she’s a legislator, and that’s what a member of Congress should be. On the legislative side, its give and take, I have to compromise with my Democrats and obviously my Republican colleagues. She knows how to do that to be successful to represent this district in Washington,” Green said. “Tonight, women spoke,” Sylvia Garcia said, in her

victory speech. “Tonight we voted and we voted loud and clear. And we said elections can’t be bought, and what matters is people. So what matters is fighting on and someone being there willing to fight, willing to stand up, and willing to serve the people, and that’s what I intend to do.” Precinct 2 County Commissioners race. Republican Commissioner Jack Morman will face former Houston Councilman and Harris County Sheriff Democrat Adrian Garcia.

Democratic Party Primary County Commissioner, Precinct 2, vote results, Adrian Garcia 65.13% (15,626 votes), Roger Garcia 16.68% (4,002 votes), Ken Melancon 11.45% (2,747 votes), and Daniel Box 6.74% (1,618 votes). Democratic Party Primary Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3, Place 2 incumbent Don Coffey lost to Lucia Bates 52.36% (6,082 votes), and Don Coffey 47.64% (5,533 votes).

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OPINION PAGE

5 ways to refresh your home for Spring



Photo courtesy of Getty Images  
Source: The Salvation Army

(Family Features)  
Spring is a time for renewal and awakenings. It's also the perfect time to take your cues from Mother Nature and devise a plan to reduce and reimagine your way to a refreshing, updated home you can fully enjoy once more.

**Reorganize cluttered areas**  
If a room (or rooms) in your house are in disarray, start by reorganizing those often-used spaces to give them a like-new look and feel. Begin by removing everything from the room - including the furniture, if you're able - and separate your belongings into boxes or piles based on what you plan to put back in the room, move to another location and throw away or donate. Once you've cleaned the space, resituate the necessary furniture then place items you're keeping back in their places in tidy fashion so they're easy to locate.

**Eliminate the extras**  
While you're freshening up the house, it's the perfect time to purge unwanted and unused items, but remember that items in good condition can actually do good for those in need. By donating clothing, electronics, furniture, household goods and vehicles to be sold in The Salvation Army Family and Thrift Stores, you can help transform lives in your local community. A good rule of thumb: if you haven't used it in the last year and it doesn't have special sentimental value, it's probably time to let it go.

**Get rid of grime**  
A whole season's worth of dirt and dust accumulates during the cold winter months. A

deep clean inside and out can restore your home to its former glory. Inside, take time to launder all of your linens, including curtains, rugs and bedding. Move furniture to vacuum behind and below, and don't overlook dust and dirt magnets like mirrors, light fixtures and the insides of cabinets, especially higher shelves that see infrequent use. Outdoors, hose off or power-wash surfaces like windows, siding, decks and concrete to restore a crisp, clean appearance.

**Revise for real life**  
If there's an area of your home that isn't quite working for your lifestyle, spring cleaning is the perfect opportunity to make a change. That may mean reconfiguring furniture for a more functional living room or converting an underused guest room into a useful craft or project space. Take time to consider what changes will make the space more practical, and even sketch out some possibilities on paper to fine-tune your ideas before you get to work.

**Discover new decor**  
A spring refresh is about more than just decluttering and cleaning, it's about giving new life to your home with new decor, accessories and artwork. One affordable option: seek out unexpected treasures by shopping for great bargains at thrift stores. The proceeds from the sale of items found at shops like The Salvation Army Thrift and Family Stores go to help those in need, and it's one simple way to update your decor without spending a fortune.

Visit SATruck.org to schedule a donation pick-up or find a thrift store near you.



Elections bring about change

This morning as I was getting prepared for the day, I began to think about all of the changes I have experienced in the past year. Several loved ones passed away and many of the people I know welcomed new babies and new spouses. Hurricane Harvey brought much devastation to our lives and yet, the World Championship Houston Astros brought a celebration second to none to the city.

This past year brought about announcements from Senator Ted Poe and Congressman Gene Green concerning their decisions not to run for re-election. This will impact thousands of voters. With the March Primary Election just days from now, candidates are scrambling around looking for endorsements.

Texas Governor Greg Abbott introduced legislation which passed the Senate to eliminate "straight party voting". Unless this is overturned, we may see some life-altering changes in our state. If voters to not take the time to research candidates and know which ones support their values, they may not bother to vote for a candidate and we could experience a shift like never before.

Perhaps the greatest change that needs to come from us, is to sit down and talk with young voters as well as those who only vote in Presidential Elections and explain the importance of researching and getting involved in campaigns. During every election, there are opportunities to work with candidates, to volunteer as Deputized Voter Registrars and to also get paid to be an Election Worker. Please take the time to share this with others. There are too many voters who do not even know the rich history that Harris County has concerning late elected leaders such as US Representative Barbara Jordan, Houston Councilman Judson Robinson, Jr and Congressman Mickey Leland. These individuals are the reason why so many others entered politics.

Today we have Senator Borris Miles, Senator Sylvia R. Garcia, State Representatives Senfronia Thompson, Ron Reynolds, Armando Walle, Harold Dutton, Jr and we certainly cannot forget our Mayor Sylvester Turner.

Sometimes people will ask me why it is important to vote....the answer is simple. Do you want people to represent you who have no idea of who you are or what matters to you? Do you want judges who cannot understand that not everyone has the same foundation? Do you want elected leaders lining their pockets with donations from big businesses who do not care about the community? Do you want to elect someone who understands what preservation is about and why it is important to US?

As we near Tuesday's Primaries, take the time to stop and think about the changes YOU want to see in your community. Let those changes begin with you.

Abbott orders action to ensure safety at junior colleges

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott is calling for immediate action to ensure the safety of Texas' junior college campuses following a Feb. 14 mass shooting at a high school in Parkland, Florida.

Abbott's order came in a Feb. 28 letter to Texas Higher Education Coordinator Raymund Paredes. He issued a similar order addressing the safety of all Texas schoolchildren a week earlier.

Abbott outlined steps to be taken by the Higher Education Coordinating Board.

"These are important first steps to ensuring that junior college districts are meeting all requirements and have the best information available to help keep their campuses safe," Abbott said. "Texas will continue to evaluate and improve our approach to ensure our students are safe."

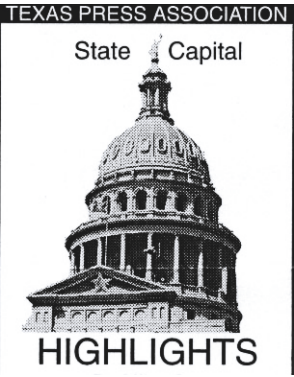
A few among a longer list of Abbott's suggestions to officials were these:

- Catalog, share and distribute campus safety information;
  - Ensure that all public junior college districts are in compliance with statutorily required school safety audits and multi-hazard emergency operations plans; and
  - Work with the Texas School Safety Center, the Department of Public Safety and the governor's office to draft recommendations to the Texas Legislature on policy changes to keep students safe.
- The Texas School Safety Center at Texas State University in San Marcos serves as a clearinghouse for the dissemination of safety and security information through research, training and technical assistance for K-12 schools and junior colleges.

Paxton joins AG Sessions

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton and the attorneys general of six other states on Feb. 27 joined U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions in Washington, D.C., as Sessions announced new steps the De-

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS  
By Ed Sterling



partment of Justice is taking to combat the nation's opioid epidemic.

Sessions praised Paxton and the state attorneys general, saying, "Each of them has made combating opioid abuse a priority and has shown outstanding leadership."

Some 64,000 fatal drug overdoses were reported across the nation in 2016. Of those, 2,831 opioid-related deaths were recorded in Texas.

Paxton said his office would "continue to do everything it can to protect Texans from the opioid crisis."

In 2017, Paxton and a coalition of officials in 40 other states served investigative subpoenas and additional requests on eight companies that manufacture or distribute highly addictive painkillers. The goal is to collect enough information so that the multi-state coalition can evaluate whether manufacturers and distributors engaged in unlawful practices in the marketing, sale and distribution of opioids, Paxton said.

In other news, Paxton was joined by the attorneys general of 15 other states in a U.S. Supreme Court brief supporting President Trump's proposed travel ban preventing entry into the United States by citizens of a list of countries identified by the State Department as

locations of known terrorist organizations.

Sales tax revenue is up

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on March 2 announced state sales tax revenue totaled \$2.61 billion in February, an amount 8.6 percent greater than the amount reported in February 2017.

Total sales tax revenue for the three months ending in February 2018 was up 10 percent compared to the same period a year ago, Hegar said. Sales tax revenue is the largest source of state funding for the state budget, accounting for 58 percent of all tax collections, he added.

"Increased sales tax collections were spurred by business spending," Hegar said. "Growth was especially notable in remittances from oil- and gas-related sectors as well as wholesale trade. But collections from retail trade, the sector most reflective of consumer spending, declined slightly from year-ago levels."

DPS offers safety tips

The Texas Department of Public Safety on March 2 urged Texans to obey all traffic laws and use extra caution when driving during the spring break period, which stretches over the next few weeks.

State troopers and local law enforcement in the coastal areas of Texas will be enhancing enforcement efforts, watching for speeders, drunken drivers and seat-belt violators.

The DPS offered these safe travel tips:

- Don't drink and drive;
- Eliminate distractions while driving, including the use of mobile devices;
- Buckle up everyone in the vehicle;
- Slow down or move over for police, fire, EMS and Texas Department of Transportation vehicles and tow trucks stopped on the side of the road with emergency lights activated;
- Drive defensively; and
- Don't drive fatigued.

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RECENT DEATHS

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BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Mark in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. What kind of physical problem did Timothy have of which Paul advised a little wine? Back, Stomach, Head, Legs
3. From Proverbs 22, "A good name is rather to be chosen than great ...?"

Riches, Witness, Corruption, Love

4. What is the Hebrew word that's usually translated as "blessing"? Brocho, Chosson, Chumash, Duck-et

5. From Acts 8, who baptized the Ethiopian eunuch? Isaiah, James, Philip, Paul

6. How old was Abraham when he died? 75, 175, 202, 256

ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Stomach; 3) Riches; 4) Brocho, 5) Philip; 6) 175



THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



*But if a woman  
has long hair,  
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for her hair is given  
to her for a covering.*

1 CORINTHIANS 11:15

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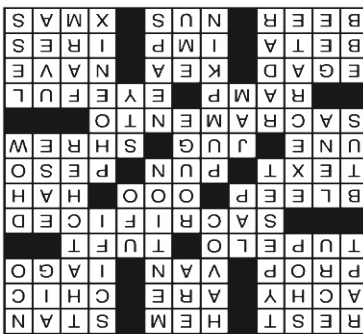
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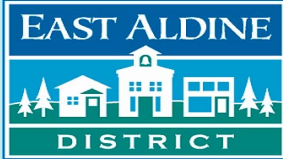
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VETERANS POST

Looking Out for No. 1

By Freddy Groves

All across the country there are veterans who might be ill and not know it. The reason: They don't have the results of their medical tests.

If you have medical tests done at a veterans' facility, before you leave, ask when the results will be ready. You'll likely be told, "Someone will call you." Get a name and write it down. Later if you start getting anxious because you haven't gotten a call, give it one more day ... then go on the hunt.

Leave messages for your care manager, if you have one, and your doctor. Give it another day. If you don't hear back, try again. Call the medical facility and ask for the lab. They're not likely to give you the results, but ask when the results were ready, and get that person's name. That's part of your ammo ... know-

ing that results were ready and when. Then call the care manager or doctor back and state that the results were ready at a certain time.

See how this works? Be proactive. Through all these steps, your name gets out there as someone who's hunting for test results. The same is true if you have a My HealtheVet account.

Once you get the results over the phone, ask that a copy be mailed to you (or print it from your online account), which you'll then put in your file at home.

If you have a condition that is regularly monitored, there's a possibility that you can make pals with someone in the lab who will just read the results to you.

The bottom line is that you don't stop until you have the results. Stand up for yourself and guard your health. Don't assume that no news is good news. Be sure.

NatureFest, Spring Break, and games at Jones Park

**Gardening Daze:** Wednesdays, March 14, 21, and 28 at 8:30 a.m. Join Horticultural Coordinator Matt Abernathy Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m. for native plant landscaping and habitat restoration in the park. Volunteers assist with gardening outside the Nature Center, caring for plants in the greenhouse, removing invasive species, habitat restoration, and other horticultural projects. Park staff and volunteers also work in the heritage garden at the pioneer homestead after 10 a.m. Closed-toed shoes, gloves, a hat, sunscreen, and water are recommended.

**Spring Breakout:** Monday, March 12 to Friday, March 16. Spring Break is a great time to get out and enjoy the park with a variety of programs throughout the week. Reservations required beginning Wednesday, Feb. 28.

- Jr. Master Gardener. Monday at 10 a.m. Ages 7 to 12
- Jr. Angler. Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Ages 8 and up.
- Texas Bound. Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Ages 7 to 12.
- Jr. Canoe Training. Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Ages 10 to 15.
- Geocaching. Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Ages 7 and up.

**Adopt-A-Trail:** Saturday, March 17 from 9 a.m. to noon. Adopt-a-trail sponsors and interested visitors can join staff and volunteers in marking and removing invasive plants and other habitat management project throughout the park. For more information on this program, please call the park office and for more information on Texas invasive plants, visit [www.texasinvasives.org](http://www.texasinvasives.org). Ages 10 and up. Reservations required beginning Wednesday, March 7.

Jesse H. Jones Park & Nature Center is located at 20634 Kenswick Drive in Humble. Please call 281-446-8588 or visit [www.hcp4.net/community/parks/jones](http://www.hcp4.net/community/parks/jones) for more information.

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