

### NEWS NOTES

#### UT Physicians - Community open house

UT\*Physicians-Jensen will celebrate almost a year of its opening with a Community Open House on Saturday, March 24, 2018 from 10 am - 1 pm.

The Open House will provide fun for the whole family as well as healthy grocery giveaways, snow-cones, popcorn and cotton candy for the kids to enjoy a sweet treat.

Artists will be handy for face painting and balloons. Come and take pictures at the photo booth.

While kids have fun, take advantage of complimentary health screenings, vendor booths, community performances, food truck. Ribbon cutting will take place at 10:45 a.m.

UT\*Physicians - Jensen is located at 2620 E. Crosstimbers, Suite 200, Houston, Texas 77093.

The center accepts all major insurance carriers including Medicaid and Medicare, appointments can be made by calling 713-486-8550.



## Aldine ISD selects Teachers of the Year

Lynette O'Neal was named Aldine ISD's Elementary/Intermediate Teacher of the Year and Chelsea Davis-Bibb was named the district's Secondary Teacher of the Year during Aldine ISD's Teacher of the Year Breakfast, held Friday, March 9 at the Hyatt Regency North Houston Hotel.

In addition, the district's Principal's of the Year were also announced at the breakfast. Scott Dubberke of Gray Elementary School was named the Elementary/Intermediate Principal of the Year and Dr. Crystal Watson was named the Secondary Principal of the Year.



Aldine ISD's Teachers of the Year (TOY) and TOY finalists, along with the district's Principals of the Year pose with Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. Wanda Bamberg, Aldine ISD Trustees Steve Mead, Rose Avalos, Connie Esparza and Dr. Viola M. Garcia and members of the Aldine Education Foundation Board following the district's annual Teacher of the Year Breakfast, held Friday, March 9 at the Hyatt Regency North Houston Hotel. Seated are (l-r): TOY finalist Mario Romero, AISD Secondary Teacher of the Year Chelsea Davis-Bibb, AISD's Secondary Principal of the Year Dr. Crystal Watson, AISD's Elementary/Intermediate Principal of the Year Scott Dubberke, AISD's Elementary/Intermediate Teacher of the Year Lynette O'Neal, TOY finalist Elisa De La Rosa, TOY finalist Allison Hamacher and TOY finalist Elizabeth Woodson.

The other four Teacher of the Year finalists were Elizabeth Woodson of Kujawa Elementary School, Mario Romero of Stehlik Intermediate School, Allison Hamacher of Drew Academy and Elisa De La Rosa of MacArthur Ninth Grade School.

O'Neal said she strives to motivate her students to reach their full potential as learners.

"Every student needs to achieve a measure of success to keep them motivated during the learning process," she said. "My role is to evaluate the needs of

See Teacher of the Year, Page 2

## Pct. 2 opens new Seguin Park

#### Juan Seguin Historical Park is educational, recreational

LA PORTE – Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Jack Morman announces the opening of Juan Seguin Park. The \$3.4 million project transformed the undeveloped greenspace into an educational park that focuses on Lieutenant Colonel Juan Seguin and his role in Texas History.

"We wanted to tie into all the history along Independence Parkway from the Battleship Texas, the Battleground site, Lynchburg Ferry and the David G. Burnet Park just north of this channel," said Com-



Drone photo, courtesy of Pct. 2, shows the beauty of the new Juan Seguin Historic Park, on the Ship Channel. In the distance is the Lynchburg Ferry, and at right Independence Parkway. The park features a viewing walk along the Ship Channel, a playground, and historic markers telling the story of Juan Seguin's contribution to the Texas Revolution.

See Juan Seguin Park, Page 3

### Houston Airport System is in search of Volunteers to Assist Passengers



Volunteers are needed to provide vital assistance to passengers and visitors who arrive in and depart at both George Bush Intercontinental Airport and William P. Hobby Airport.

Those wishing to join the volunteer airport ambassador program should contact us at 281-233-1173 or email us at hasvolunteers@houstontx.gov

## Two Fires destroy 16 apartments, building

#### Houston Firefighters Battle Two 2-Alarm Fires Overnight

NORTH HOUSTON – The Houston Fire Department responded to two 2-11 fires overnight in the Greenspoint and North Houston areas.

#### NORTH FREEWAY

The first was a vacant 2 story office building at 4045 North Freeway near Crosstimbers. The initial dispatch time was 10:47 pm last Sunday evening, March 11. One civilian was transported to the hospital due to an asthma attack on-scene aggravated by smoke inhalation. The civilian was a bystander



FLAMES completely engulf an apartment building on Northborough in North Houston.

evacuated from the Texan Inn hotel across the street, due to extremely heavy smoke surrounding the building. Part of the building collapsed and was deemed a total loss. The cause was not determined

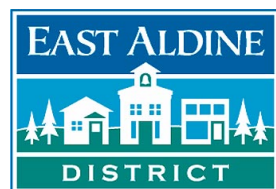
at this time.

#### NORTHBOROUGH

The second fire was a 2 story apartment building in the 13500 block of Northborough. The initial

See FIRES, page 3

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## *Keeble EC/PK Center reports school events*

**ABC Club, February 2nd**  
Keeble EC/PK Center offered ABC club on Friday, February 2nd to two different sessions of parents and students. This month's ABC club discussed the ways to boost your child's self-esteem. Students happily participated in an interactive read-aloud using the story book *Froggy's First Kiss*. After sharing in the tenderhearted story, families guided their children in a make-and-take activity.

**Career Day, February 6th**  
All Keeble students were invited to share their dreams of the future for Career Day. As they are molded into responsible and productive citizens, students chose to dress as what they intend to be when they grow up.

A large group of young girls, likely members of the Girl Scouts, posing for a group photo. They are arranged in many rows, wearing various uniforms and dresses, some with hats. The background is a blue curtain with heart decorations.

The second annual Father-Daughter dance at Keeble was a huge success. Dads and daughters dressed in elegant attire and danced the night away to wonderful music. These young girls were overjoyed to have the opportunity to receive special time with their dads creating heartfelt letters, silly selfies, tiaras, and participating in game relays while occasionally resting with a cupcake and soft drink.

**100th Day of School,  
February 20th**

The 100th day of school was celebrated school-wide by Keeble students and staff on February 20th. A dedicated campus committee planned and worked together to celebrate the 100th day of school! Students enjoyed dressing one hundred piece shirts and as one hundred year old elderly citizens as they took time to visit various stations around the campus devoted to math activities that targeted the number one hundred.

**Jump Rope For Heart, February 21st - 23rd**

Keeble students and staff have been contributing funds to a great in support of the American Heart Association's Jump Rope For Heart event. Jump Rope For Heart taught students how to take care of their hearts while they experience the joy of giving back to their community. The jump rope skills the students learned and the experience of being part of a larger program all across the country will serve students for a lifetime.

## Black History Luncheon, February 23rd

Staff members joined in a delicious luncheon of African American dishes in honor of Black History month. Staff enjoyed bountiful dishes at tables decorated with

## Pastries With Parents, February 23rd

Pastries With Parents was held on February 23rd. This event was held to encourage reading and the importance of parent involvement in schools. Parents and students shared in delicious pastries and refreshments while reading a delightful storybook.

**AXA Perfect Attendance Incentive, February 28th**

At Keeble, staff attendance is valued just as much as the students. And to show appreciation for those who have received perfect attendance, AXA Equitable business partners donated gift cards to committed staff members for showing up to guide students daily.

[www.nenewsroom.com](http://www.nenewsroom.com)

# Teacher of the Year,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

each student, keep them energized, facilitate their learning, provide them with what they need and equip and empower them to take ownership of their learning and its outcomes.”

Davis-Bibb said she tailors her teaching to reach each and every student she comes in contact with on a daily basis.

"One of the leading principles that guides my career as a teacher is that all students can learn," she said. "With this principle in mind, I base my instruction on the needs of my students. I believe that students learn through experience. Therefore, my delivery of teaching is through a lot of group work and collaborative learning."

All Teachers of the Year received cash prizes from Aldine Education Foundation supported by donations from Presenting Sponsor H-E-B Tournament of Champions; Platinum Sponsor WCA Waste Corporation of Texas; Gold Sponsors Caldwell Companies and The Edu-Source Corporation; Silver Sponsors CenterPoint Energy, DivisionOne Construction, Huitt-Zollars, Inc., and McDonald's; and Campus Sponsors BakerRipley, Edgenuity, Inc., Jones/Carter, Jostens, Kurz & Co., PBK Architects, Tandus Centiva, TCG Group, and Edward Vines.

Additionally, winning Teachers of the Year each received two first-class round-trip tickets from United Airlines. The four Finalists each also received \$25 gift cards from Dahill. All Teachers of the Year received gift bags from Academy Sports + Outdoors which included mugs, pencils, and lunch bags from East Aldine District, car sun visors from InvesTex Credit Union, three-year planners from Joustens, pens from North Houston District, calendars and lunch bags from Mago's Print Shop, and shirts from Aldine Education Foundation.

Door prizes were donated by Dahill, DoubleTree Houston Intercontinental Airport, Houston Astros, Houston Rockets, and Hyatt Regency North Houston.

Prior to the announcement of the district Teachers of the Year, AEF President Bill Ginder provided an overview of AEF, introduced the AEF Board and thanked the sponsors who made donations.

Dr. Keena Bradley, the district's director of auxiliary staffing, served as chairperson of the Teacher of the Year Committee. The committee consisted of Dr. David Villareal and Mark Mitchell of the Human Resources Department, AEF Board Member Jeff Hartmann, 2016-17 Elementary/Intermediate Teacher of the Year Mariangela Garcia, 2016-17 Secondary Teacher of the Year Lester Morrow, Eun Sung Kim of Carter Academy, Kendra Jacobsen of Hill Intermediate School, Crachelle Gates of Cypresswood Elementary School and Emily Bartley of Aldine High School.

Dr. Linda Rodriguez and Dr. Todd Davis introduced the Principals of the Year. The Principal of the Year Committee consisted of Dr. Tamika Alford, Superintendent of Finance, Dawn Ayers Rodriguez, Executive Director of Assessment, Accountability, and School Improvement, Sherrie Batro of the Human Resources Department, Ben Ibarra, Principal of Blanton Career & Technology High School, Deborah Johnson, Program Director of Secondary Social Studies, Christine Kujawa, Multilingual Program Specialist, Sandra Mader, Director of Athletic Services, Stacey Smith, Program Director of Resource Development and an AEF Board Member and Efrain Uribe, Program Director of Elementary/Intermediate Counseling & At-Risk Students.

Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. Wanda Bamberg provided closing remarks. She lauded and thanked the teachers in the audience for choosing to share their knowledge and talents with Aldine ISD's students.

"It is exciting to see our educators do outstanding work with our students," she said. "You all are a tribute and credit to this profession. I've watched this event grow over the years. It has evolved into a wonderful event to honor our wonderful teachers."

She also thanked AEF and sponsors who supported the breakfast and donated prizes.

Prior to and during breakfast, the MacArthur Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Jose Diaz, provided the entertainment.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## CITIZENSHIP WORKSHOPS

•ST. CHARLES BORROMEO CATHOLIC CHURCH  
SATURDAY MARCH 24, 2018  
REGISTRATION STARTS AT 9:00 AM  
501 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 REQUIRED. 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 BORROMEEO  
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM (EVERY  
SATURDAY – 8 WEEKS)  
501 TIDWELL RD. HOUS-  
TON, TX 77022

REGISTRATION REQUIRED,  
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713-471-5832.

## Keep East Aldine Clean & Green!



# Premiere CINEMAS

FRIDAY-WEDNESDAY 3/16-3/21

*Opens THURSDAY, March 22*  
**PACIFIC RIM: UPRISING (PG-13)**  
2D - 7:00 10:00 3D - 7:00 10:00

**\* LOVE, SIMON (PG-13) -**  
12:55pm, 3:55pm, 6:55pm, 9:55pm  
*Stadium Seating; CC-Closed Caption*  
**\* TOMB RAIDER (PG-13):** 1:00pm, 7:15pm  
*Stadium Seating; CC-Closed Caption*  
**\* TOMB RAIDER (PG-13):** 12:30pm, 6:30pm  
*SPA-Spanish Dubbed; Stadium Seating; CC-Closed Caption*  
**\* TOMB RAIDER 3D (PG-13)**  
4:00pm, 10:00pm  
*Stadium Seating; CC-Closed Caption*  
**\* TOMB RAIDER 3D (PG-13)**  
3:30pm, 9:30pm  
*SPA-Spanish Dubbed; Stadium Seating; CC-Closed Caption*  
**\* GRINGO (R)** 12:35pm, 6:35pm  
*Stadium Seating; CC-Closed Caption*  
**\* THE HURRICANE HEIST (PG-13)**  
12:10pm, 2:35pm, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 9:55pm  
*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)** 3:30pm, 9:30pm  
*Stadium Seating; CC-Closed Caption*  
**\* A WRINKLE IN TIME in Disney Digital**

**3D (PG)** 3:00pm, 8:30pm  
*SPA-Spanish Dubbed; Stadium Seating; CC-Closed Caption*  
**\* A WRINKLE IN TIME (PG)**  
12:30pm, 5:30pm  
*SPA-Spanish Dubbed; Stadium Seating; CC-Closed Caption*  
**\* A WRINKLE IN TIME (PG)**  
1:00pm, 6:30pm  
*Stadium Seating; CC-Closed Caption*  
**DEATH WISH (R) -** 12:00pm, 2:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm  
*Stadium Seating; CC-Closed Caption*  
**EVERY DAY (PG-13):** 2:25pm, 7:20pm  
*Stadium Seating; CC-Closed Caption*  
**GAME NIGHT (R)**  
12:05pm, 4:45pm, 9:45pm  
*Stadium Seating; CC-Closed Caption*  
**BLACK PANTHER (PG-13)** 12:30pm, 3:00pm, 3:30pm, 6:30pm, 9:00pm, 9:30pm  
*Stadium Seating; CC-Closed Caption*  
**\* BLACK PANTHER in Disney Digital 3D (PG-13)** 12:00pm, 6:00pm  
*Stadium Seating; CC-Closed Caption*  
**PETER RABBIT (PG)** 12:30pm, 2:45pm, 5:15pm, 7:30pm, 9:50pm  
*Stadium Seating; CC-Closed Caption*  
**PETER RABBIT (PG)** 12:00pm, 2:15pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 9:35pm  
*SPA-Spanish Dubbed; Stadium Seating; CC-Closed Caption*  
**DEN OF THIEVES (R)** 3:15pm, 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 except Mon. NO EXCEPTIONS.

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COMMUNITY PAGE

Sweet ways to welcome warmer days

(Family Features) Warmer, longer days are made for quality time with friends and family. There's no better way to cap off an afternoon in the sun than a good meal followed by a great dessert. Plan to end your next gathering on a sweet note with these fruity desserts to conclude a day spent with loved ones.

Fruity treats are hard to resist, especially when paired with tasty, complementary flavors and textures. If you're looking for a treat that travels a bit off the beaten path, this pie may be just the answer. A crushed pretzel crust and creamy peanut butter filling provide a salty, savory background for plump, sweet strawberries. Or serve up a taste of the tropics with a cream pie that celebrates a medley of textures and flavors from lively blueberries to toasted coconut.

When you make fruit the star of the dessert, there's no question you need top-quality ingredients. Each of these desserts features Lucky Leaf Fruit Fillings, which are made from fresh fruit, contain no high-fructose corn syrup and are GMO-free, for a delicious dessert every time. With a variety of flavors to choose from, including apple, blueberry, cherry, peach and strawberry, there are plenty of convenient, versatile dessert options for any occasion.

Find more tasty treats for entertaining and beyond at [luckyleaf.com](http://luckyleaf.com).

- Strawberry Peanut Butter Pie**
- 1 1/4 cups crushed pretzels
  - 1/4 cup granulated sugar
  - 1/2 cup butter, melted
  - 1 cup creamy peanut butter
  - 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese
  - 1/2 cup powdered sugar
  - 1 1/2 cups frozen whipped dessert topping, thawed
  - 1 can (21 ounces) Lucky Leaf Premium Strawberry Fruit Filling and Topping



Combine pretzels and granulated sugar then stir in butter. Press crumb mixture onto bottom and sides of 10-inch pie plate. Cover and chill.

With electric mixer on medium speed, beat together peanut butter, cream cheese and powdered sugar. Fold in whipped dessert topping.

Spoon 1/2 cup pie filling into crust-lined pie plate. Carefully spread peanut butter filling over top. Top with remaining pie filling. Cover and chill 2 hours before serving.

- Fluffy Blueberry Cream Pie with Toasted Coconut**
- 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
  - 1/3 cup sugar
  - 1 tablespoon milk
  - 2 cups frozen whipped topping, thawed
  - 1 can (21 ounces) Lucky Leaf Premium or Organic Blueberry Fruit Filling or Topping
  - 1/2 cup toasted coconut flakes, plus additional for topping, if desired
  - 1 graham cracker crust (9 inches)



In large bowl, beat together cream cheese, sugar and milk until creamy, about 1-2 minutes. Add whipped topping, pie filling and coconut; carefully fold together until no streaks remain.

Spoon filling mixture into graham cracker crust. Sprinkle top with additional coconut flakes, if desired. Cover and chill 2 hours, or until firm.

North Houston Fires,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

dispatch was at 3:43 am Monday morning, March 12. The fire was at the Sago Palms Apartments, and totally destroyed on of the buildings.

Houston Fire Department responded with two alarms, sending about 50 firefighters and two ladder trucks.

There were 16 apartment units in the two sto-

ry building, and about 30 persons lost their home and possessions. The Red Cross set up a shelter at a nearby church.

One resident, Jacoby Ross, was treated for lacerations received from breaking out a window to self-evacuate. Due to the heat, he was unable to open his apartment door, so he escaped through a

window. He then knocked on other apartments to alert sleeping residents. Another man jumped out a second floor window, with the help of neighbors. One woman lost her pet dog to the fire.

No firefighters were injured. Both fires are currently under investigation, but the cause has not been determined.

Juan Seguin Park,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Commissioner Jack Morman congratulates Shela Condon on the excellence of the design of Juan Seguin Park.



Decendant Albert Seguin, (fourth great grandson of Juan Seguin) tells what the park means to the family of the survivor of the Alamo.



Charles Lara, a reenactor, in the role and dress of Juan Seguin from the Texas Revolution.

missioner Morman.

The Precinct worked diligently with the Harris County Historical Commission, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, as well as Juan Seguin descendants to create educational and unique aspects to the park. The park was paid for by funds from the Waste Pits Superfund settlement, and Pct. 2. The park was designed by Clark Condon Landscape Architects, and built by Landscape Art, Inc.

New park features include a pier that overlooks the Ship Channel, a large pavilion with artwork etched into its concrete base, a nautical-themed playground, walking trails, and picnic tables scattered throughout. Park visitors will also find interpretive panels with historical information on the Lynchburg Ferry, Ship Channel, and Juan Seguin.

Juan Seguin Park is located next to the Lynchburg Ferry south landing at 4407 Independence Parkway South in La Porte. It is open Monday through Sunday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. For more information and updates on the Precinct, visit [www.hcp2.com](http://www.hcp2.com) or like their Facebook page "Harris County Precinct 2."

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- Week 8 Disaster Simulation Drill



For Information on Harris County Citizen Corps visit: [www.HarrisCountyCitizenCorps.com](http://www.HarrisCountyCitizenCorps.com)

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OPINION PAGE

★

MESSAGE FROM  
REP. BRIAN BABIN



Tax Cut Law =  
More Jobs & Larger  
Paychecks

The American people and small businesses across East Texas are reaping the benefits of the new tax cut law. It's putting more money in people's pockets and enabling businesses – American employers - to create jobs, purchase new equipment and expand. It is growing our economy.

Ninety percent of Americans are getting a tax break from lower tax rates, a doubling of the standard deduction to \$24,000 for a married couple (\$12,000 for individuals), and increasing the child tax credit to \$2,000 per child.

We've all seen the headlines about large businesses and their employees benefitting from lower taxes. While this is great news, it is important to note that the benefits go far beyond large businesses. I've been hearing from hundreds of individuals, families and small businesses about how their tax bills are being cut and what they are doing with those tax savings.

ExxonMobil has announced a \$50 billion investment in its U.S. operations and employees over the next five years. Walmart, Home Depot, Lowes and Best Buy have boosted wages or given employees bonuses and in some cases, both. Boeing announced \$300 million in employee-related investments and charitable giving.

To break this down even further, let's discuss the stories that are improving lives and growing businesses across Southeast Texas.

Juan and Leigh, both small business owners in Houston, wrote to tell me they have hired additional employees with the money they are saving. That's putting our friends and neighbors to work.

Small business owners in Polk and Tyler counties shared with me how they were able to purchase new equipment to help their women-owned businesses grow and run more efficiently. Another business owner in Orange County is purchasing a larger

inventory for her business.

Folks, small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and I am hearing story after story like this about small businesses growing and hiring our friends and neighbors.

The tax rate cuts for individuals and families are also making a huge difference for East Texans. This should be no surprise as nearly every American is getting a tax cut.

Robert from Highlands, Texas wrote to tell me that he is using his tax savings to help his daughter get a college degree.

Alan in Houston has decided to put is tax cut into savings for his retirement.

Ms. Drake is now able to buy a new stove, while Justin from Harris County is paying down credit card debt.

Scott is using his savings to help him purchase a home.

Mr. Woods told me that he will be spending his tax savings on his wife. Mr. Woods –that's a good decision!

The tax cuts are even helping in Hurricane Harvey recovery.

Judy from Orange County shared with me how the tax cuts have enabled her to replace household items destroyed by Hurricane Harvey. And, Jason from Baytown is using his savings to help repair his home.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act is making a real difference in the lives of real people across Southeast Texas and the nation.

Each of these individual decisions adds up and as a result tens of billions of dollars in economic activity is being generated benefitting individuals and employees.

I'm excited that tens of millions of Americans are seeing lower payroll deductions, larger paychecks, more retirement savings, bigger family budgets and relief at every level.

This tax cut bill is benefitting families, job creators and our economy.



★

TWO CENTS  
WORTH

By Charlie  
A. Farrar



Me & the Mrs. took a road trip to Sweetwater, Texas to look at the rattlesnakes gathered at this year's roundup and there were some big ones as usual. Looked as though they had a record number of rattlesnakes this year judging by the height of the pile of them in the pit. The total weight of rattlers for 2016 was 24,262 pounds and that was a new record. Back in 2006 the longest snake was 79 inches.

Last year the largest rattlesnake was 69" and the total pounds of snakes in the roundup totaled 7,458 pounds. Mind you this is not a catch and release event. Some are offended by that but that's ok if you savvy.

The Sweetwater Jaycees sell the rattlesnake meat and has some fried at the event. Take my advice and save your money, all we could taste when we got some rattlesnake to eat was the grease and cornmeal. No meat just bones fried in the Mrs.'s opinion.

Consider it a day trip driving from Baytown to Sweetwater and we have our usual outlook for hawks and what is on the highway as road kill. This year we counted 26 dead skunks, numerous coyotes, coons, lots of deer and some unidentified creatures on the road and on side of the road.

That is an event for about every 2 to 3 years for us.

Prior to that trip we drove between Columbia, South Carolina and Charlotte, North Carolina. That trip lasted over 2 weeks as we acted as chauffeur for my sister. She was not allowed to drive and believe me she lives in the woods. Don't even bother turning on your Verizon wireless, it don't work worth a hoot in the country there.

Think we will stay in Texas for a while now, allow time for the bills to roll in and see if we can make do till then.

By the way a congressman says they can't live decently on \$178,000.00 a year and need a raise.

Lots of the people who vote them in live on a lot less.

Your Peace  
Officer

By Robert Hahn

They put themselves between you and the worst that society has to offer. They lay their lives on the line every day so that you can be safe. They accept your rudeness, and abuse when you disagree with a citation as readily as they accept the rare moment of praise that they receive when they have just saved your life, your family's life, or your property. Without exception if you ask them why they do it, they will say to make a difference, and to help others. If your definition of a hero is a normal person who under abnormal conditions rises above their natural instinct for self-preservation to protect others, then you have just defined who they are!

And if you are wondering how you might repay them in some small way for what they do, that is simple. When you see an Officer or Deputy the next time, thank them for everything they do, and tell them how much you appreciate it!

If you pass them in your car, smile and give them a thumbs-up. It is a small gesture for you, but can mean a lot to them! And lastly, if you ever find yourself starting to take them for granted, just ask yourself, could I do that job? I THINK YOU KNOW THE ANSWER!!!

More Texans than  
usual cast ballots in  
primary elections

AUSTIN — In early voting, Texans participated in greater numbers in the state Democratic primary than the Republican primary, but on Election Day, March 6, the Republican turnout exceeded the Democratic turnout by half a million votes.

Primaries historically have been light-turnout affairs. This time, about 10 percent of the state's 15 million registered voters cast ballots in the Republican primary and about 7 percent in the Democratic primary. In contrast, in March 2014, 7 percent of the state's 13 million registered voters cast ballots in the GOP primary and 3 percent cast ballots in the Democratic primary.

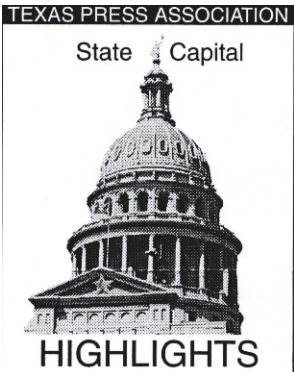
Republican voters expressed satisfaction with top incumbents: 90 percent marked their ballots for Gov. Greg Abbott and 76 percent for Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick. GOP incumbents Attorney General Ken Paxton and Comptroller Glenn Hegar ran unopposed. Land Commissioner George P. Bush got 58 percent of the vote and his closest challenger, former state senator and Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson, got 29 percent of the vote. Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller received 55 percent of the vote, while challengers Jim Hogan and Trey Blocker received about 23 percent and 21 percent, respectively. Railroad Commissioner Christi Craddick received 76 percent of the vote to challenger Weston Martinez's 24 percent.

U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz received 85 percent of the vote, while none of his four challengers received more than 7 percent.

Advancing to a May 22 runoff in the Democratic primary are the party's top two vote-getters in the race for governor, former Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez with 43 percent and Andrew White, son of late former Texas Gov. Mark White, with 27 percent.

Mike Collier, with 52 percent of the vote to Michael Cooper's 48 per-

STATE CAPITAL  
HIGHLIGHTS  
By Ed Sterling



cent, will face Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick in the Nov. 6 election. Also, Justin Nelson will face Attorney General Paxton; Joi Chevalier will face Comptroller Hegar; Miguel Suazo will face Land Commissioner Bush; Kim Olson, who ran opposed, will face Agriculture Commissioner Miller; and Roman McAllen will face Railroad Commissioner Craddick.

U.S. Rep. "Beto" O'Rourke, D-El Paso, received nearly 62 percent of the vote, winning the right to challenge Republican U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz in the Nov. 6 election.

Sales rebates  
increase

State Comptroller Glenn Hegar on March 7 announced he would send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts some \$671 million in local sales tax allocations for March.

The amount is 8.3 percent more than allocated in March 2017. Allocations are based on sales made in January by businesses that report tax monthly.

Of the overall amount, cities received \$431 million; counties, \$42 million; transit systems, \$150.5 million; and special purpose taxing districts, \$47 million.

More details can be found on the comptroller's website under Monthly Sales Tax Allocation Comparison Summary Reports.

Assistance is  
extended

Gov. Abbott on March 6 announced that the Federal Emergency Management Agency granted his request to extend until April 23 the deadline for transitional sheltering assistance for victims of Hurricane Harvey, which struck Aug. 25-31.

The assistance helps those unable to return to their homes pay for short-term shelter in hotels or other temporary housing. Some 5,500 households meet the criteria for eligibility.

Abbott said Texans with questions regarding their eligibility or status may contact the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362.

In other news, Abbott met with U.S. Small Business Administration Chief Linda McMahon on March 9 in Austin. Abbott thanked McMahon for the federal agency's work in assisting small business owners affected by Hurricane Harvey and for the SBA's monitoring of the storm as it made landfall, enabling the agency to mobilize and prepare staff quickly to address the needs of the victims.

Abbott said 41,412 SBA low-interest disaster loans totaling more than \$3 billion have been granted for Texans impacted by Harvey.

Unemployment  
stays low

The Texas Workforce Commission on March 9 reported that the Lone Star State's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.0 percent the month of January, just below the U.S. unemployment rate of 4.1 percent.

The Texas economy added 16,000 jobs in January. Industries adding jobs that month included Mining and Logging, 3,300 jobs; Education and Health Services, 2,800 jobs; and Manufacturing, 2,400 positions.

The Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area recorded the month of January's lowest unemployment rate among Texas MSAs with a non-seasonally adjusted rate of 2.4 percent. It was followed by the Amarillo MSA with a rate of 2.8 percent and Austin-Round Rock MSA with the third-lowest rate of 3.0 percent.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



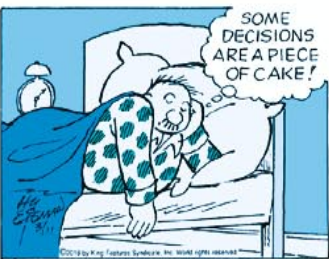
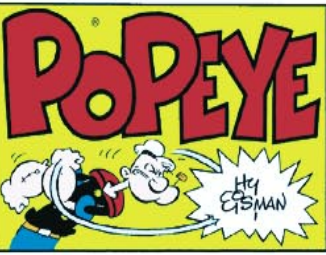
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



LAFF-A-DAY



"Rattle the dog's dish, dear."

SCRAMBLERS

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Just GIRTH  
Form SINGED  
Odd BRAZIER  
Bright LACER

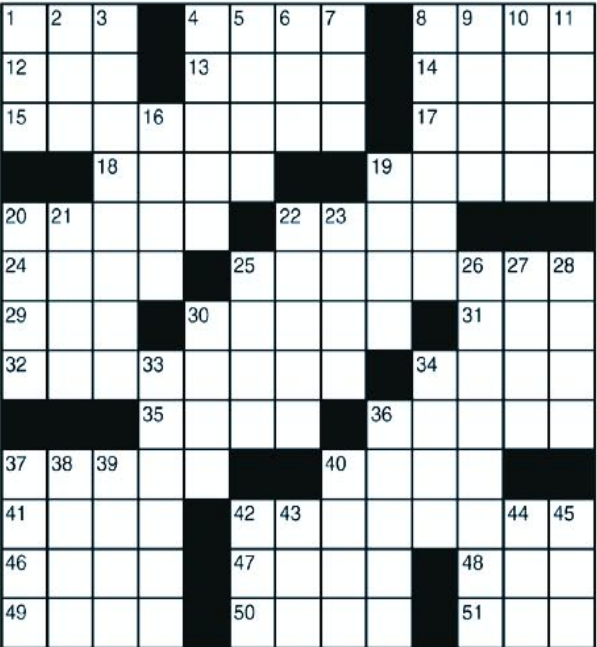
TODAY'S WORD

Posting Date March 19, 2018

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 "Grey's Anatomy" network  
4 Facebook contribution  
8 Undergoes recession  
12 Carnival city  
13 Arthur of tennis  
14 Portrayal  
15 Place to find a rake  
17 Cheer  
18 Bart's sis  
19 Keep tabs on  
20 Tureen accessory  
22 Authoritative order  
24 Oodles  
25 Diamond-back, e.g.  
29 Present  
30 Stinky  
31 Praise in verse  
32 False teeth  
34 Unaccompanied  
35 Make one's way  
36 "Annie Hall" director  
37 Yuletide rendition  
40 "Buenos —"  
41 On  
42 Annoy for one's own



- amusement  
46 Young horse  
47 Initial chip  
48 Conk out  
49 TV trophy  
50 Require  
51 Kreskin's claim  
8 Mistakes in print  
9 Galosh  
10 United nations  
11 Eve's third son  
16 Bouncy melody  
19 Hospital section  
20 Come to earth  
21 Lotion additive  
22 Celebrated with a bash  
23 Eye part  
25 Gull's cousin  
26 Cabana's location  
27 Not working  
28 Noble gas  
30 Coal or gas  
33 Doubly thick  
34 Cabbage salad  
36 Wasn't well  
37 Eatery  
38 Teeny bit  
39 Wander  
40 Be overly fond of  
42 Enthusiast  
43 Individual  
44 "— the sea-son ..."  
45 With it, once

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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 9-box 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. ASTRONOMY: How large is Jupiter's giant "red spot"?  
2. U.S. STATES: Which is the only U.S. state that begins with the letter "p"?  
3. HISTORY: Who was the last man to walk on the moon?  
4. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: The average person speaks how many words in a day?  
5. MOVIES: In the movie "The Wizard of Oz," what did the Tin Man want from the wizard?  
6. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a guanaco?  
7. BIBLE: In the Old Testament, who was Abraham's first wife?  
8. GEOGRAPHY: What two states border Lake Tahoe?  
9. WEATHER: What was the fastest wind speed ever recorded?  
10. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first U.S. president to declare war?

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTOFF



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IF CXGPSJUGKF GU ZQQSJGXA

UKCLSXKU M NTMUU GX

DZJUSIMXUDGE KDMK'U NMTTSL

"NJSMKGPS JGLGXA."

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HAZARDS

Today's Word

3. Bizarre; 4. Clear

1. Right; 2. Design

solution

SCRAMBLERS

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

"creative riding."

My university is offering students a class in horsemanship that's called

answer

CryptoQuip



CHURCH PAGE

RECENT DEATHS

Mary Frances Clepper  
Billie Ann McFarland  
Nova Skye Robertson  
Jose Arnoldo Conde  
Beverly Jo Powell

Manuel Trujillo Palacios  
Edward Poole Sr.  
Lena Mae Helling  
Joe Renteria Jr.  
Michael C Watkins



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BIBLE TRIVIA

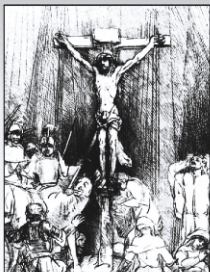
by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Gethsemane in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. What's the only book of the Bible (KJV) that mentions Christ's tomb being sealed? Matthew, Mark, Luke, John
3. From Matthew 28, who rolled away the stone from the mouth of Jesus' tomb? Simon, An angel, Villagers, Disciples

4. When Mary Magdalene and "the other Mary" came upon the risen Jesus, whom did He ask them to inform? Priests, Disciples, No One, Villagers
  5. Which disciple doubted Jesus had risen unless he could see the wounds? Peter, Andrew, Thomas, Thaddeus
  6. From Acts 1, how long did Jesus remain after His resurrection before He ascended into heaven? Instantaneously, 1 hour, 7 days, 40 days
- ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Matthew; 3) An angel; 4) Disciples; 5) Thomas; 6) 40 days



THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



Detail of the "The Three Crosses" by Rembrandt (1653)

*My soul is among lions; I must lie among those who breathe forth fire, even the sons of men, whose teeth are spears and arrows and their tongue a sharp sword. Be exalted above the heavens, O God; let Your glory be above all the earth.*

PSALM 57:4,5

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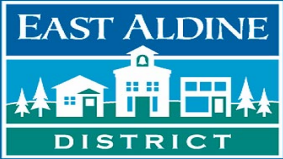
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L I F E S T Y L E

NatureFest and Easter Games at Jones Park

**First Saturday Birding:** Gardening Daze. Wednesdays, March 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.

**Tai Chi:** Wednesdays, March 21 and 28 at 9 a.m.

Interested in trying a new healthy outdoor activity? Doug Ebeling, volunteer Tai Chi instructor, leads this class based on the 24-step Yang form

of T'ai Chi. The one-hour class includes low-impact stretching, breathing, and range of motion exercises held in the outdoor classroom near the Nature Center.

**Pontoon Boat Tours:** Saturday, March 24. Tours throughout the day

This program provides a leisurely guided tour along Spring Creek, providing visitors with scenic views and a background on the area's natural history and wildlife. Ages 8 and up. Reservations required beginning Wednesday, March 14.

**Jesse Jones Park Volunteer Meeting:** Monday, March 26 at 7 p.m.

Join Jones Park staff and volunteers for their monthly volunteer meeting to learn more about what's new at Jones Park, upcoming events and programs, and volunteer oppor-

tunities. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. with a guest presentation.

**Easter Games:** Saturday, March 31 from 10 a.m. to noon

Enjoy egg rolls, bunny races, spoon races, and other traditional Easter games at Redbud Hill Homestead. Bring a picnic lunch. Ages 12 or under. Reservations required beginning Wednesday, March 21.

Jesse H. Jones Park & Nature Center is a Harris County Precinct 4 facility located at 20634 Kenswick Drive in Humble. All programs are free of charge and open to the public. Jesse Jones Park Volunteers (JJPV) welcomes applications from interested participants. For more information about the park or any of the activities and programs offered, please call 281-446-8588 or visit [www.hcp4.net/community/parks/jones](http://www.hcp4.net/community/parks/jones).

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