

NORTHEAST ★ NEWS

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VOL. 42, NO. 10 TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2018 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

Daylight
Saving Time
begins
March 11

NEWS NOTES

Constable takes school safety action

The recent school shooting in Parkland, Florida has caused a slight uptick in calls and inquiries from concerned parents whose children attend several of the different schools that Harris County Precinct 3 Deputies patrol and provide security.

Recently, a juvenile was detained at one of those schools after officials alerted the campus deputy of a threat made by the student.

Constable Eagleton is committed to the safety and welfare of the students and staff at the five school districts within his precinct. "Children are our most precious gift, it is incumbent that parents be involved, and monitor the activities of their children, especially on social media. Ultimately, safety is everyone's responsibility," said, Constable Eagleton.

The current climate has caused anxiety for many parents, but Constable Eagleton has implemented enhanced safety measures on all campuses. All deputies assigned to patrol schools are trained to respond to emergency situations, including active shooters, and each district has an established plan in place, for emergency situations. Visibility of law enforcement has increased, due to close patrols. Citizens are urged to contact dispatch to report any suspicious activity by calling 281-427-4791.



EAGLETON

Primary Election is Tuesday March 6

Battle for Congress in District 29

HARRIS COUNTY – Voters will have their say this Tuesday, March 6th as they vote in the Primary Election, to choose candidates for the November general election.

Ballots will have candidates for local, state, and federal offices, except for the president and vice president.

Polls will be open Tuesday, from 7am to 7pm. Voters should go to www.harrisvotes.com and enter their address in the form, to determine where they should vote.

Harris County Clerk Stan Stanart has indicated that early voting shows a surge in Democratic voters. He cited an increase of 100% for Democrats from the previous election, and a 15% increase for Repub-



SYLVIA GARCIA



TAHIR JAVED

licans.

The race with the most local interest is TX29, the Congressional seat given up by the retiring long-time legislator Gene Green. Green is a Democrat, but seven Democrats and four Republicans will be on the ballot in their respective parties.

The leading candidate for this seat has been State Senator Sylvia Garcia, with endorsements from Gene Green, Armando Walle, local labor unions, and many

other influential organizations and individuals. Garcia has campaigned on her Hispanic Heritage, women's rights, liberal immigration policy, equal treatment for all, including GLBT individuals, and accountability for government bodies.

The possible strongest opponent for Garcia is a political novice, Pakistani born Tahir Javed. He is a healthcare businessman, who has poured millions of his own money into the race. He has campaigned hard, using public giveaways at food drives, and hurricane recovery events in District TX-29, to gain at-

See **ELECTION**, page 8

Judge Stephens holds "Boys Rock 2 life" camp

Judge Joe Stephens, in his courtroom setting, sees the need to reach out to young men to give them a different setting to address some of their nonacademic needs. Therefore, he is sponsoring a "Life Skills" camp for boys within his jurisdiction.

On February 17th he held a one-day fun packed workshop, that addressed topics such as appearance, handling money, social skills and more. Other topics included Dating, Etiquette, Substance Abuse, Men of Honor, Law Enforcement, Success through Accepting Responsibility, Social Skills, and Hy-

giene.

In commenting on his Boys Rock 2 Life Skills Camp, Judge Stephens said that mentoring youth early in life leads to posi-

See **CAMP**, page 8



Mayor Turner was one of the featured mentors at the camp. Judge Stephens on the right.

Rodeo time Houston

Trail Riders, Parade, BBQ cookoff, Entertainers, and professional Rodeo events



On February 24 Rodeo parade in downtown Houston marked the beginning of three weeks of rodeo events at NRG stadium. The parade included 13 trail riding outfits, and Mayor Sylvester Turner. The opening day of the two week program was Tuesday, Feb. 27 with the popular Garth Brooks as the opening act, and also will be the closing act on March 18.

COUNTY ATTORNEY: Opioid lawsuit against three drug companies

Harris County Attorney Vince Ryan is fighting to keep the opioid lawsuit filed on behalf of Harris County in a state district court.

Ryan is opposing an effort by opioid drug distributors to move the lawsuit to federal court. He has filed a motion seeking to have the case returned to state district court.

Three distributors—McKesson Corporation, Amerisource Bergen and Cardinal—moved Harris County's lawsuit to federal court. They are also seeking to have the lawsuit transferred to a federal court in Cleveland, Ohio. If they are successful, Harris County's motion to return the case to state district court will be ruled on in Ohio, not Houston, and the case will remain in Cleveland,



COUNTY ATTORNEY
VINCE RYAN

Ryan said, resulting in a substantial delay in proceedings.

"Harris County residents deserve justice in their own court," said Ryan. "Any delay such as that associated with transferring the case to Cleveland is unacceptable

See **Opioid Lawsuits**, page 8

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COMMUNITY / SCHOOL NEWS

Immigration Forum held at Hambrick Middle School



Volunteers at Hambrick Middle School assist participants as they complete applications during the Bonding Against Adversity Immigration Forum which was held on Saturday, February 24.

On Saturday, February 24 Hambrick Middle School was the location of the Bonding Against Adversity (BAA) Immigration Forum. BAA hosts these forums regularly throughout the year in an effort to help families in the Aldine community complete their applications for citizenship in the United States. One hundred twenty lawful permanent residents were present on Saturday to take advantage of the ser-

vices offered at the forum. Dozens of volunteers were also on hand to assist in making the process as easy as possible. One of the volunteers, Francisco Garcia, is a teacher who once completed the process for citizenship through a previous BAA Immigration Forum. Mr. Garcia was sworn in as a US citizen during the Naturalization Ceremony on February 14th and is now happy to help others do the same. Volunteers

like Mr. Garcia who return to help more people are a part of what makes this event such a success. Jessica Narvaez, BAA liaison at Hambrick Middle School, worked with volunteers along with the BAA staff to ensure a pleasant experience for the participants. Mariana Sanchez, chief operating officer of BAA, stated, "We are ready to continue serving the Aldine community through Hambrick Middle

School." She encouraged all the teachers, custodians, bus drivers and any employee in Aldine who needs to complete their application to take advantage of this and future opportunities to begin their citizenship process. BAA offers free Citizenship Preparation classes at East Aldine District. These classes are conducted by volunteer Judy Hoya who is a former Aldine

teacher. "She goes extra miles to help LPR's to get ready for their citizenship interviews," Ms. Sanchez said of Ms. Hoya. Mariana Sanchez expressed her appreciation to the administrators and staff at Hambrick for their assistance in making this a successful event. The next Immigration Forum at Hambrick Middle School will be held on May 19, 2018.

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
- *PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED, 281-799- 9076.

CITIZENSHIP CLASSES 2018

- SATURDAY FEB. 3 TO MARCH 17 ST. CHARLES BORROMEO 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM (EVERY SATURDAY – 8 WEEKS) 501 TIDWELL RD. HOUSTON, TX 77022
- SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3RD. TO MARCH 31ST EAST ALDINE DISTRICT 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM (EVERY SATURDAY – 8 WEEKS) 5333 ALDINE MAIL ROUTE RD. HOUSTON, TX 77039. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL 281-799-9076 & 713-471-5832.

Mrs. Denman to compete for ‘Teacher of the Year’ title



Mrs. Denman reads a Martin Luther King Jr. book to her students in celebration of Black History Month. Mrs. Denman likes to teach her students how important it is to be treated fairly in today's world.

Hinojosa Staff members voted Mrs. Jeanetta Denman as the Teacher of the Year for 2017-2018. Mrs. Denman has been at Hinojosa for over 10 years and has taught Regular PK, Inclusion and served as the school's Skills Specialist. Mrs. Denman will now go into Aldine's Teacher of the Year competition and

will be honored at a breakfast in late March. "Mrs. Denman is a passionate and dedicated educator with a deep commitment to helping all of her students achieve at high levels," said Ms. Denise Meister, principal.

U.S. Department of Education official visits Thompson Elementary School



Yianni Alephoritis, an officer with the U.S. Department of Education, visited Thompson Elementary School on Wednesday, Feb. 28, along with representatives from Texas A&M University to observe the school's ELLA-V (English Language and Literacy Acquisition-Validation) program. Pictured with Mr. Alephoritis, left, are A&M officials Dr. Beverly Irby, Dr. Fuhui Tong, Dr. Rafael Lara-Alecio and Dr. Cindy Guerrero. A number of Aldine ISD campuses participated in ELLA-V from 2013-2017. Not pictured, Aldine ISD School Assistant Superintendent Dr. Linda Rodriguez, who also took part in the visit to Thompson.

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A WRINKLE IN TIME 3D (PG)
7:00 9:30

SPA-Spanish Dubbed; Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption
EARLY MAN (PG)
12:00pm, 2:15pm, 4:30pm
Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption
SAMSON (PG-13)
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm
Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption
THE 15:17 TO PARIS (PG-13)
7:00pm, 9:30pm
Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption
FIFTY SHADES FREED (R) 12:10pm, 2:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm
Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption
LA BODA DE VALENTINA (R) 12:30pm, 3:30pm, 6:30pm, 9:30pm
Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption
PETER RABBIT (PG) 12:30pm, 2:45pm, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 9:45pm
Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption
PETER RABBIT (PG) 12:00pm, 2:15pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:15pm
SPA-Spanish Dubbed;Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption
DEN OF THIEVES (R) 12:30pm, 3:30pm, 6:30pm, 9:30pm
Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption
JUMANJI: Welcome to the Jungle (PG-13) 12:45pm, 3:45pm, 6:45pm, 9:45pm
Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption

* DEATH WISH (R) 12:00pm, 2:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm
Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption
* RED SPARROW (R) 12:45pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm
Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption
* EVERY DAY (Every Day Another Day) (PG-13) 12:25pm, 2:45pm, 5:00pm, 7:25pm, 9:55pm
Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption
* GAME NIGHT (R) 12:15pm, 2:40pm, 5:15pm, 7:40pm, 10:00pm
Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption
BLACK PANTHER (PG-13) 12:30pm, 1:00pm, 4:00pm, 6:30pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm, 12:00pm, 6:00pm
Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption
* BLACK PANTHER in Disney Digital 3D (PG-13) 3:30pm, 9:30pm, 3:00pm, 9:00pm
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BLACK PANTHER (PG-13) 12:30pm, 1:00pm, 4:00pm, 6:30pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm, 12:00pm, 6:00pm
SPA-Spanish Dubbed; Stadium Seating;CC-Closed Caption
* BLACK PANTHER in Disney Digital 3D (PG-13) 3:30pm, 9:30pm, 3:00pm, 9:00pm

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COMMUNITY PAGE

Arming teachers with mental health tools, not guns

The recent shooting at a Parkland, Florida high school has opened the conversation and has many of us struggling with what needs to happen to prevent another tragedy like this from happening again. For a young person to even have such thoughts and feelings is unimaginable. To have them actually follow through with these heinous acts is chilling. However, assigning teachers the responsibility to bear arms on campus as a means of protection for students and themselves is not the answer to address campus gun violence. The risks of “collateral damage” from armed teachers in a shootout could result in a more disastrous situation. While there is no single best solution to eliminate the risk of more tragedies, we believe that a compelling answer can be found in the early detection and prevention of mental health issues in our children.

In a nationwide State of Mental Health in America - Youth Data report for 2017, Mental Health America found that 11.25% of U.S. teens and pre-teens, aged 12-17, reported suffering from at least one major depressive episode in the past year. In Texas, 67.3% of young people with major depression did not receive any mental health treatment. That means that 6 out of 10 in this age group, who have depression and who are most at risk of suicidal thoughts, difficulty in school, and difficulty in relationships with others, do not get the treatment they need.

Clearly now, more than ever, it is important that,

as a society, we take the mental health of school-age children seriously, and invest time, resources and awareness for prevention and early intervention. We cannot afford to test an “O.K. Corral” theory against the wellbeing of our children and the educators who work to teach, protect and serve them. Fighting gunfire with gunfire is not the answer.

Parents should be aware that our schools are at risk for this situation at any school, at any time. In the days since the Florida shooting, there have been at least five accounts of young people in the Houston area making threats against a school, outlining plans for on-campus violence, and even bringing a gun on campus, resulting in high alerts and school lockdowns.

Instead of allotting funding to have teachers and other educators go through special gun training, why not change the system, making it mandatory and fiscally viable for all teachers, counselors, and others who work in a Texas school district, to learn to protect themselves and students by using an arsenal of early identification and prevention tools to identify, resource and refer young people with mental health concerns?

Significant strides have been made in some districts, but so much more needs to be done all over our state. We desperately need to adopt system-wide changes. Too many schools in our state are sorely under-resourced, when it comes to behavioral health issues, with some having no counselors and others only one counselor trained

to recognize mental health concerns in young people. The research shows that expanding school counseling services in schools is associated with improvements in mental health and behavior, but also in student learning.

Children are living in troubled times, and unfortunately teachers and schools bear the brunt of many of these concerns. As part of the solution in our region, Mental Health America of Greater Houston, through its Center for School Behavioral Health, works collaboratively with 26 public and charter school districts and more than 80 child-serving organizations, institutions of higher learning, community stakeholders, advocacy groups, students and parents, to develop and implement projects and policies that promote the wellbeing of school-age children, prevent the downward trajectory of untreated behavioral health concerns, and appropriately address the needs of children with behavioral disorders, as well as the needs of children who have experienced trauma.

By working together with concerned state officials, we can better support our public education system to ensure that the behavioral health and wellbeing of all students and educators are addressed through early detection and prevention programs.

Alejandra Posada,
M.Ed.
Interim President and CEO
Mental Health America of Greater Houston

‘Plan While You Can’ campaign aims to reduce crashes, save lives

AUSTIN – Each year in Texas, more than half of drivers involved in deadly drunk driving crashes are between the ages of 17 and 34. With many college students and young adults heading to Spring Break destinations in the coming weeks, the Texas Department of Transportation’s “Plan While You Can” campaign reminds them to make a sober ride part of their festivities.

“Enjoy Spring Break, but do so responsibly,” said TxDOT Executive Director James Bass. “If you drink and drive, you run the very real risk of being killed or destroying your future and the lives of others. It’s irresponsible and just not

worth it.”

During last year’s Spring Break in Texas, there were 410 crashes involving young drivers who were driving under the influence of alcohol. Those crashes killed 20 people and seriously injured another 48.

The “Plan While You Can” campaign includes a statewide tour featuring an interactive dodgeball game where participants try to avoid incoming “beach balls” as virtual drinks are added to the screen. As more drinks are added, participants experience how drinking can slow their reaction times as on-screen avatars begin

responding more slowly to their players’ movements. The experience will visit eight Texas cities during March.

While drivers under the influence of alcohol risk killing or seriously injuring themselves or others, they also face up to \$17,000 in fines and fees, jail time and loss of their driver’s license. Visit SoberRides.org to find alternatives to drinking and driving, such as:

- Designating a sober driver, or calling someone for a sober ride home.
- Contacting a cab or ride-share service.
- Using mass transit.
- Spending the night.

Recognizing America’s food producers

(NAPSI)—Supply, affordability, variety and wholesomeness accurately and uniquely describe America’s highly efficient food production system. Thanks to the unparalleled productivity and ingenuity of U.S.farmers and ranchers, millions of people here and abroad benefit daily from the fruits of their land and labor.

That’s because one U.S. farmer produces enough to feed 165 people—106 Americans and 59 people outside the country. Better yet, Americans spend just 10 percent of their disposable income on food, much less than in all other developed countries.

Today’s consumers have a tremendous variety of nutritious products available for their families. There’s an almost unend-

ing choice of wholesome foods to meet all tastes and dietary needs—year-round fresh, convenient frozen and ready-to-eat, local and traditional, organic and specialty products.

Amazingly, only about 2.2 million farmers and ranchers help feed and clothe a constantly growing U.S. population of 326 million and a global population of 7.6 billion. They do so using less water, land and other resources than ever before. Sustainable, modern practices and innovative production technologies help bring safe, abundant and affordable food to tables around the world, every day.

Each spring, National Ag Day recognizes the accomplishments of America’s food producers. On March 20, consumers

across the country can celebrate the role farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses play in feeding the world while nurturing a healthy, thriving planet.

According to the Agriculture Council of America, the national organization charged with promoting National Ag Day, this year’s theme is Agriculture: Food for Life. It demonstrates the incredible responsibility and commitment farmers and ranchers share in meeting the ever-growing and changing food and fiber demands of consumers.

To learn more about National Ag Day and how America’s agricultural producers proudly lead the way in providing the essential Food for Life to the world, visit www.agday.org.

Mercer Botanics gardens celebrates grand reopening with plant sale

Celebrate the grand reopening of Mercer Botanic Gardens and browse a variety of hard-to-find plants during the annual March Mart Plant Sale Saturday, March 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Mercer Botanic Gardens.

Purchase a TMS membership to gain VIP early access to the sale Friday, March 16 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. or Saturday, March 17 from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. “Mercer staff have worked



Shoppers browse plants during the 2017 March Mart Plant Sale.

Man dies in car crash on Parker Road

A driver died after a high speed chase on Parker Road and Hardy Toll Road, police said.

According to Houston police, the fatal crash occurred in the 6500 block of Parker Road about 11:25 p.m. on Tuesday, February 27.

HPD North Patrol Division officers attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a tan Toyota Corolla traveling at a high rate of speed and without headlights on

in the area of Parker Road and the Hardy Toll Road. The driver refused to stop and officers initiated a vehicle pursuit.

The driver swerved out of his lane in the 6500 block of Parker and struck a concrete guardrail on the right side of a bridge. The vehicle went over the guardrail, burst into flames and landed in the bayou below. The driver was pronounced deceased at the scene.

The identity of the male victim, 33, is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences. The HPD Dive Team responded to the scene to recover the vehicle from the bayou.

As is customary in incidents involving the death of a suspect in the presence of an HPD officer, this case is also being investigated by the HPD Homicide Division Special Investigations Unit.



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OPINION PAGE

Supreme Court declines to decide fate of ‘Dreamers’ just yet

By JESSICA GRESKO

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court on Monday rejected the Trump administration’s highly unusual bid to bypass a federal appeals court and get the justices to intervene in the fate of a program that protects hundreds of thousands of young immigrants from deportation.

The announcement means the case affecting “Dreamers” will have to work its way through the lower courts before any Supreme Court ruling is possible. The case could also become moot if Congress takes action in the meantime. Right now, however, efforts to address the issue in Congress have hit a stalemate.

The Supreme Court’s decision for now to stay out of the case on the Obama-era Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or DACA, wasn’t surprising. It’s highly unusual for the Supreme Court to hear a case before a lower appeals court has consid-

ered it. But DACA supporters hailed the decision as a significant — if only temporary — win. Trump said the case would now be heard by an appeals court and “we’ll see what happens from there.”

“You know, we tried to get it moved quickly because we’d like to help DACA. I think everybody in this room wants to help with DACA,” he said to visiting governors. “But the Supreme Court just ruled that it has to go through the normal channels.”

DACA has provided protection from deportation and work permits for about 800,000 young people who came to the U.S. as children and stayed illegally.

In September, Trump argued that President Barack Obama had exceeded his executive powers when he created the program. Trump announced he was ending the program effective March 5 and gave lawmakers until then to come up with a legislative fix.

But in recent weeks, federal judges in San Francisco and New York have made Trump’s deadline temporarily moot for people who have sought and been granted renewals; the rulings do not extend to people who are applying for the first time. Judges issued injunctions ordering the administration to keep DACA in place while courts consider legal challenges to Trump’s termination. As a result,

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services resumed accepting and processing DACA renewals in January, just as it had before Trump’s September announcement.

The Trump administration has not tried to block the injunctions that force it to continue operating the program. Though the March 5 date is now moot, Greisa Martinez, policy and advocacy director for United We Dream, said DACA supporters planned to demonstrate in Washington on that day in part to continue to pressure Congress to act.

The Senate two weeks ago blocked a bipartisan bill offering Dreamers potential citizenship and providing \$25 billion for President Donald Trump to build his proposed border wall with Mexico. A more conservative House proposal that sharply reduces legal immigration and imposes other restrictions has languished short of the GOP votes it would need to pass, leaving its fate in question.

The Supreme Court’s announcement Monday that it wouldn’t step in to the case now means the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit will likely be the first appeals court to weigh in on the topic, the step before the case would return to the Supreme Court.

California Attorney General Xavier Becerra, who has led the multi-state lawsuit in California to keep DACA in place, cheered the Supreme Court announcement Monday.

“It’s a victory for all Dreamers, certainly a great victory for California,” Becerra said during a phone call with reporters. “It’s a victory for the rule of law and it’s a victory for our economy.”

The Ninth Circuit has set no date to hear arguments but has given lawyers dates by which they must file briefs that run through April. Andrew Pincus, an attorney who represents more than 100 businesses that intervened in support of DACA, said June is probably the earliest that the court would rule.

Trump on Monday didn’t seem to hold out much hope of winning at the Ninth Circuit, criticizing the liberal-leaning court by saying “nothing’s as bad as the Ninth Circuit.”

“I mean, it’s really sad when every single case filed against us is in the 9th Circuit we lose, we lose, we lose and then we do fine in the Supreme Court,” he said.



Governor orders action to address safety at schools

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott on Feb. 21 sent a letter to Texas Education Agency Commissioner Mike Morath ordering immediate action to ensure the safety of children in Texas schools following the multi-fatality shooting at a Parkland, Florida, high school on Feb. 14.

Abbott listed steps for Morath and other state education leaders to take to respond to and prevent such tragedies, including:

— Catalog and share all available information from the Texas School Safety Center on school safety programs and distribute this information to all school districts, charter schools and education service centers across the state;

— Ensure that all Texas public schools have completed their statutorily required school safety audits and have submitted confirmation of these audits to the Texas School Safety Center;

— Publish on the Texas Education Agency website and via agency press release a list of any school districts that have not completed the statutory requirements referenced in point two above within 45 days; and

— Work with the Texas School Safety Center, the Texas Department of Public Safety and the governor’s office to draft recommendations to the Texas Legislature on changes to the school safety architecture of our state.

“All of Texas grieves the tragedy that occurred in Parkland last week. As governor, I take seriously the safety of all Texas residents, and as an American, I mourn the loss of 17 Floridians in a cruel and senseless act of violence. Immediate steps must be taken to keep our students and communities safe, with the understanding that more will be expected in the future,” Abbott said.

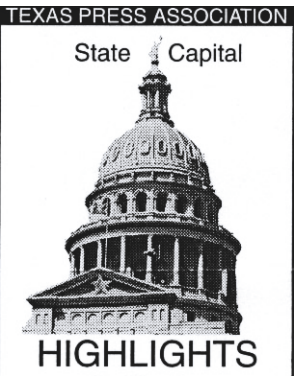
State laws allow marshals

Acknowledgement of the threat of school shootings came years ago in the form of House Bill 1009, a law passed by the 83rd Texas Legislature in 2013.

The law allows public school districts and open enrollment charter schools to appoint school marshals.

In 2015, the 84th Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 386, to include public two-year junior colleges in the list of institutions that can appoint school marshals.

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling



And, in 2017, the 85th Texas Legislature passed House Bill 867, a law that allows private schools to appoint school marshals.

According to the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement, “The sole purpose of a school marshal is to prevent the act of murder or serious bodily injury on school premises and act only as defined by the written regulations adopted by the school board/governing body.”

Abbott spares prison inmate

Shortly before state prison inmate Thomas Bartlett Whitaker, 38, was scheduled to die by lethal injection on Feb. 22, Gov. Abbott signed a proclamation commuting the death sentence to life in prison without possibility of parole.

Abbott, in making the proclamation, agreed with a recommendation by the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles.

Whitaker was convicted and sentenced in 2008 for conspiring to kill his parents and brother, but he did not shoot the gun that caused the murders of his mother and brother.

DPS drone program debuts

The Texas Department of Public Safety on Feb. 15 announced the launch of its “unmanned aerial systems” program.

Small, unmanned aerial vehicles, generically referred to as “drones” will be used for a variety of public safety missions across Texas, including flight missions related to officer safety, search and rescue, disaster support, aerial observation support, crash reconstruction, crime scene photography and communication tower inspections.

So far, the DPS said, the program’s fleet in-

cludes 17 unmanned aerial systems costing the state an estimated \$70,000 and paid for with existing funding, grant funding or seized funds.

AG pursues elder fraud

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on Feb. 23 announced that his office joined the U.S. Department of Justice and the National Association of Attorneys General in “the largest coordinated sweep of elder fraud cases in history.”

The multi-state actions charged a variety of fraud schemes, ranging from mass mailing, telemarketing and investment frauds to individual incidences of identity theft and theft by guardians.

“Anyone can be a victim of fraud, but senior citizens are targeted more often by scammers seeking to exploit someone for a quick buck,” Paxton said. “Today’s action is one of many steps my office has taken in the fight to protecting elderly Texans whose financial well-being is compromised by nefarious characters,” he added.

Joining Texas in the coalition are the U.S. Department of Justice, Alabama, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New York, North Dakota, Oregon and South Dakota.

How to see actual government documents

(NAPSI)—You may have been hearing a lot about the workings of your government and its official documents lately—but often they’re much easier to see than most people realize.

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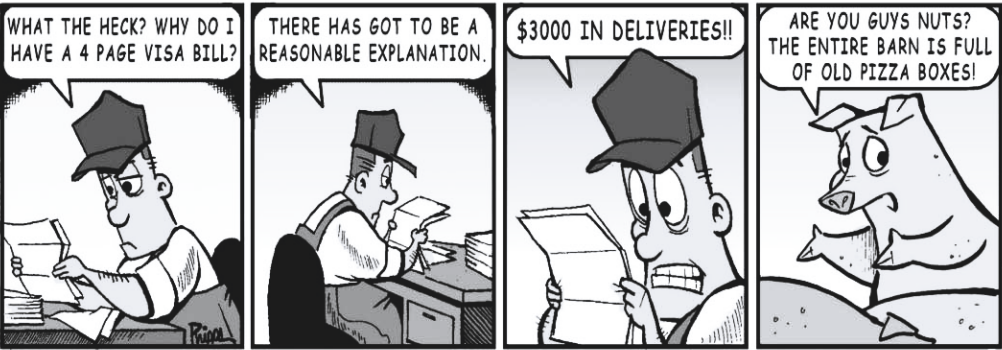
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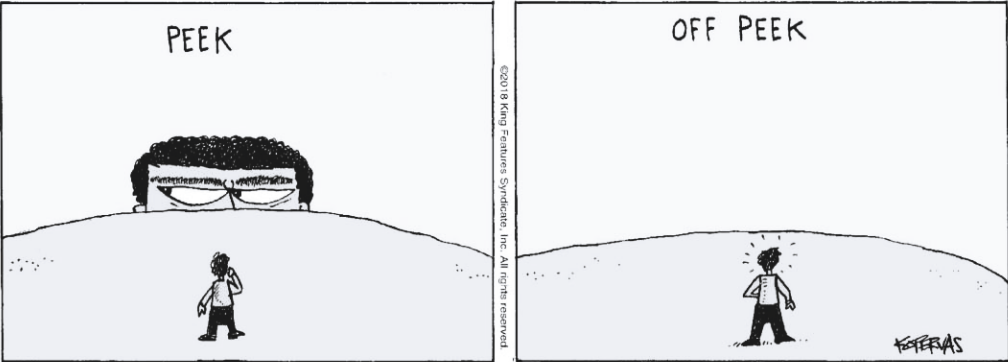
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LAFF-A-DAY



"Day 6,573: It's getting harder and harder to claim a home-office deduction."

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Delight ASLEEP
Rant IRATED
Bright TADRAIN
Edge GRIFEN

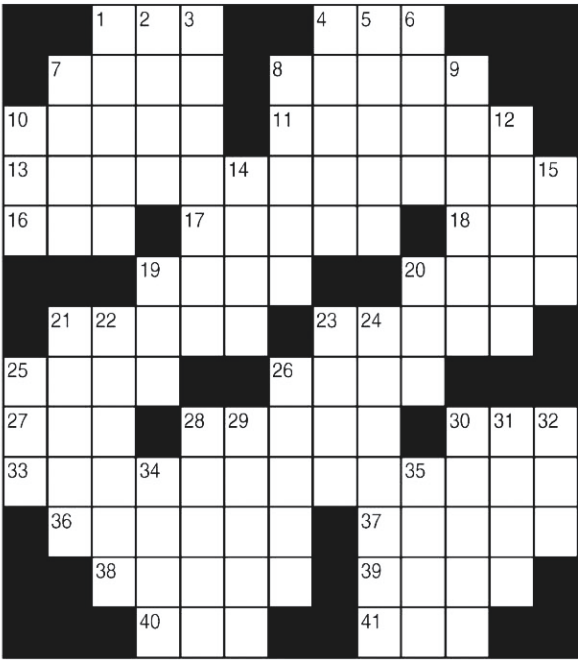
TODAY'S WORD

Posting Date March 5, 2018

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Chaps
- 4 Insane
- 7 Location
- 8 Skeptical sort
- 10 Original "Trivial Pursuit" edition
- 11 Traitor Benedict
- 13 Monopoly avenue neighboring "Go"
- 16 Winehouse or Poehler
- 17 Wooden strips
- 18 I love (Lat.)
- 19 Big party
- 20 Always
- 21 Fischer's game
- 23 Cloys
- 25 "Hey, sailor!"
- 26 Legend
- 27 — de Janeiro
- 28 Occurrence
- 30 Hot tub
- 33 1970s TV hospital drama
- 36 Ending that may be grand
- 37 Point-and-click device
- 38 Follow
- 39 Bridge, in Brest

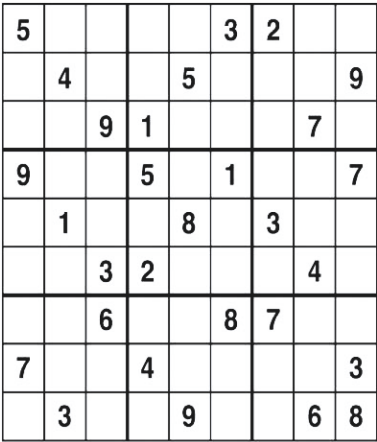


- 40 That woman
- 41 Powerful stick
- 9 Stick firmly
- 10 "Today Show" rival, for short
- 12 Knighted women
- 14 Chows down
- 15 Neither mate
- 19 "30 Rock" star
- 20 Biblical verb ending
- 21 Main
- 22 Sweatshirt that can cover your
- 8 — blanche head
- 23 Harmonization
- 24 Try
- 25 Upper limb
- 26 Brawl
- 28 PayPal currency
- 29 Worth
- 30 "Beat the Clock" challenge
- 31 Nuisance
- 32 Exist
- 34 Quaint stop-overs
- 35 Middy

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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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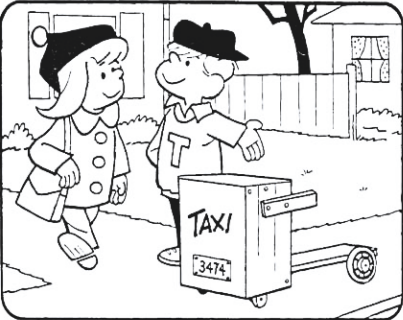
Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- 1. AD SLOGANS: Which company advertised its products with the tagline "Maybe she's born with it"?
- 2. SCIENCE: What is the process called when heat is transferred through a liquid or gas?
- 3. MOVIES: What is the theme song from "Titanic"?
- 4. MEASUREMENTS: How many pounds are in a ton (U.S.)?
- 5. ANATOMY: Metabolism is regulated by which gland in the human body?
- 6. LITERATURE: In which book in the Harry Potter series does the character of Dolores Umbridge appear?
- 7. MYTHOLOGY: Who was the Roman god of strength?
- 8. MATH: What is the degree of a triangle?
- 9. MUSIC: What was the name of the Grateful Dead's first album?
- 10. FAMOUS QUOTES: Which inspirational speaker once said, "Setting goals is the first step in turning the invisible into the visible"?

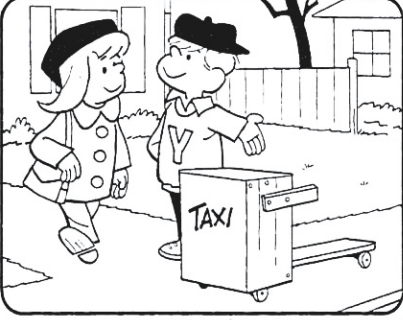
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BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



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This is a simple substitution cipher 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: Q equals T

MH O FUDOWQMP PUBYVN HFUD

JOFAOJ NWR BY LNQQMWL

ANYOFOQNR, XUB DMLKQ AOX

QKNX OFN YUVNA OYOFQ.

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ASPIRIN

Today's Word

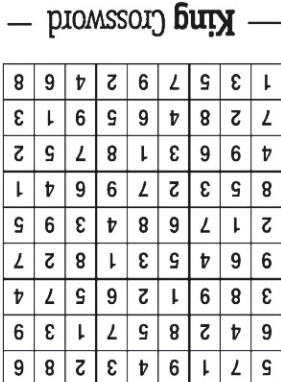
3. Radiant; 4. Fringe; 1. Please; 2. Trade;

SCRAMBLERS



Solution time: 25 mins.

Answers



Answer

They are Poles apart.

Weekly SUDOKU

answer

If a romantic couple from Warsaw end up getting separated, you might say

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- Center of Life Baptist Church, 11250 Bentley St. 281-442-5433
- De Priest Baptist Church, 5609 Mount Houston Rd. 281-449-0774
- Esperanza Baptist Church, 14710 Mill Rd. 281-227-0123
- First Baptist Church Kinwood, 5538 Lauder Rd. 281-442-3823
- First Baptist Church N. Houston, 4422 Lauder Rd. 281-449-7201
- First Unity Baptist Church, 2110 Aldine Bender Rd. 281-445-7379
- Grace Missionary Baptist Church, 1823 Aldine Mail Route. 281-442-7137
- Greater Purelight Missionary, 12330 Vickery St. 281-987-1980
- Harmony Baptist Church, 1325 Lauder Rd. 281-442-3444
- Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist, 4730 Gaston St. 281-442-2947
- New Beginning Baptist Church, 10921 Foy Ln. 713-696-9249
- New Mt. Olive Baptist Church, 4706 Mount Houston Rd. 281-227-6885
- Parkwood Baptist Church P.O. Box 60143. 281-442-5359

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CHRISTIAN

- Faith Christian Center, 10118 Tidwell Rd. 281-459-1709

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 65 Melbourne Street. 281-799-6289.

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE:

- Woodsdale Church of the Nazarene, 4903 Hollybrook Ln. 281-442-4107

JEHOVAH'S WITNESS:

- Jehovah's Witnesses, 4416 Mohawk St. 281-442-1612

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- P.O. Box 111581. 281-449-0994
- South Aldine Baptist Church, 2121 Aldine Mail Rt. 281-442-3124

LUTHERAN:

- St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 11025 Aldine Westfield Rd. 281-442-2180
- Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, 215 Rittenhouse. 281-445-2203
- Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 215 Rittenhouse. 713-694-7433

METHODIST:

- Aldine First United Methodist Church, 4623 Aldine Bender Rd. 281-442-4961
- Hillcrest United Methodist Church, 4234 Mount Houston Rd. 281-442-7164
- Love United Methodist Church, 11255 Eastex Fwy. 281-590-9294
- El Mesias United Methodist Church, 406 E. Rittenhouse St. 713-699-8990

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- El Monte Calvario Church P.O. Box 11726. 281-987-1174
- Iglesia de Dios Santidao, 11721 Aldine Westfield Rd. 281-219-0707
- La Iglesia de Dios Santa Sion, 2332 Aldine Mail Rt. 281-449-0536
- Manantial de Vida, 2810 Lauder Rd. 281-442-7709
- Primera Iglesia Bautista, 13380 Korenek St. 281-590-5642

NON-DEMOMINATIONAL/OTHER


- Aldine Christian Church, 2233 Aldine Mail Rt. 281-442-9751
- Apostolic Bible Ctr., P.O. Box 8569. 281-442-5171
- Bethel Community Church, 2414 Lauder Rd. 281-449-1473
- Church of the Living God, 4422 Hopper Rd. 281-219-3853
- Church the Lord Jesus Christ, 11268 E. Hardy Rd. 281-442-0303

- Church of the Lord Jesus Christ, 9407 Crofton St. 713-631-7339.
- Emmanuel Deliverance Temple, 4718 Littlecrest Rd. 281-987-9166
- Grace Restoration Church, 13223 Aldine Westfield Rd. 281-449-5996
- Houston Restoration Church, 1831 Hartwick Rd. 281-227-6260
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- Jesus Center, 11742 Aldine Westfield Rd. 281-590-3216
- Monument of Faith Church-God, 2233 Aldine Mail Rt. 281-442-2002
- New Covenant Missionary Church, 2202 Aldine Bender Rd. 281-987-7170
- North Central Assembly of God, 13703 Aldine Westfield Rd. 281-907-6609
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- Sabbathay Kingdom, 4034 Linder St. at Kelley and Hirsch Rd., Houston, 77026. 713-635-3025.
- Temple de Poder, 10912 Aldine Westfield Rd. 281-372-1060
- Tomb of Jesus, 1301 Aldine Mail Rt. 281-987-1371

- Word of Deliverance Life Ctr, 4001 Darwin St. 281-227-0700
- Phuc Vien Temple, 14101 Eastex Fwy. 281-449-1900
- Gospel Shop, 14341 Lee Rd. 281-227-8898
- Jimmie Guillory, 13120 Luthe Rd. 281-449-6016
- Dynamic Global Interprises Inc., 2201 Little York Rd. 713-695-9830
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