

Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 41 Years VOL. 42, NO. 25 TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2018 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

New Aldine ISD superintendent Dr. LaTonya Goffney will be recognized at an Aldine Optimist club luncheon on Wednesday, July 11 at the AISD Child Nutrition Building.

NEWS NOTES

High Meadows Library Summer Reading Program

•Come build an alligator with Texas Park & Wildlife, July 11, 10:30

• Join Senior Inspector Petty and Cinder the dog as they provide tips on fire safety, July 18, 10:30 a.m.

•Houston Grand Opera brings stories to life with their pleasing picture book presentation, July 25, 2018, 10:30 a.m.

Join us for the Science Show! Its musical! And its science, August 1, 2018, 10:30 a.m.
Summer Reading Party,

August 8, 10:30 a.m. The library is located at 4500 Aldine Mail Rt., 281-590-1456 (next to MacArthur High School).

Immigrant kids already housed in County

Southwest Key plans to add 5th site

By Gilbert Hoffman

As debate rages endlessly in the nation about the federal government policy of separating children from their parents who entered the county illegally, the debate has now moved to the Houston political stage because the state's largest provider of these services has requested a permit to use a building at 419 Emancipation Avenue on Houston's east side.

Southwest Key Programs is the largest provider in Texas, now housing 2,725 unaccompanied children in 16 locations.

This includes 4 facilities in the greater Houston area that are virtually unknown and unnoticed, including one that dates back to 1991. Two of these



This building at 15101 I-10 East Frontage Road, now houses about 200 immigrant children most of whom crossed into the U.S. without their parents. The building was formerly the Kindred Hospital, and before that the East Department of the East Houston Hospital. It has been run by Southwest Key Programs as a shelter for undocumented children for several years

are in the North Channel/ Northeast circulation area. Casa Montezuma is on the I-10 Feeder road in the Channelview area. Neighbors had suspected that the facility was a federal

children's shelter, but weren't sure, they told this newspaper. Records from the Texas Health and Human Services show that the facility is currently housing 191 children, and recently had its license increased to 210, an increase of 11% similar to figures statewide. This shelter is licensed to provide child care services only, since May 2017. Children

housed are from 10 to 17 years of age.

The other facility in our area is at 7900 Mesa Drive, in Northeast Houston. It houses 54 children, ages 10 to 17, and is licensed for multiple services, including Emotional Disorders. It has had a license from the state since 1991.

Most of the Texas shelters are run by two non-profits: Southwest Key Programs and BCFS Health and Human Services. The latter is a church sponsored group, based in Dallas. Southwest Key is a private company based in Austin, founded in 1987 by Juan Sanchez and his wife Jennifer.

Southwest Key receives most of its funding in grants and contract revenues. It's income has increased substantially, from \$193 million in 2015, to \$310 million in 2018 in the "unaccompanied alien chil

See Immigrant kids, page 8

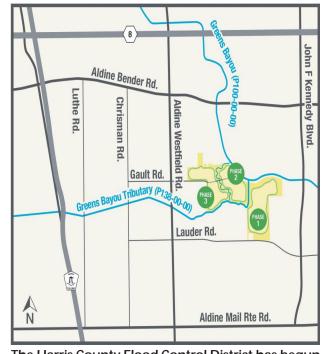
Work begins at detention basin to reduce flood risks in Greens Bayou

Project Will Reduce Flooding Risks in Greens Bayou Watershed

HARRIS COUNTY – The Harris County Flood Control District has begun excavation of the Lauder Stormwater Detention Basin, a project that will help reduce flood risks in the Greens Bayou watershed of north Harris County.

On May 1, 2018, Harris County Commissioners Court awarded a \$3,730,268 construction contract to low bidder Challenger Services Inc. for an intermediate phase of excavation at the 90-acre Lauder site near Lauder Road and Aldine Westfield Roads. Construction began in June 2018 and will take about six months. The project

See Reducing Flood Risks, page 3



The Harris County Flood Control District has begun work on the Lauder Stormwater Basin, a project that will help reduce flood risks in portions of the Greens Bayou watershed of north North Harris.

Civic Clubs hear County Attorney speak on services

ALDINE – Civic Clubs from the Aldine area met last Tuesday evening, June 26th at the offices of the East Aldine District.

Speaking to the clubs was Harris County Attorney Vince Ryan, who introduced services that his office provides to the citizens of Harris County.

Ryan said that in addition to services he provided, his office also has a speaker's bureau, available to any club or organization to speak on a variety of topics.

Castlewood Civic Club organized the meeting, and invited civic clubs from Green Forest, Eastex Freeway Forest, Fairgreen 1, 2, 3, & 4, Parkwood Estates, and High Meadows subdivisions. Many of these groups were represented by members who came to the meeting, as well as the general public.

The audience not only wanted to hear about ser-

See COUNTY ATTORNEY, page 3



Harris County Attorney Vince Ryan speaks at Castlewood Civic Club meeting which took place at East Aldine District offices on June 26.

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NEWS COMMUNITY

Lone Star College, Google to offer IT Support Professional Certificates

HOUSTON (June 28, 2018) - Grow with Google announced that it will bring the _Information Technology Support Professional Certificate to Lone Star College and more than 25 additional community colleges.

Google.org is funding the workforce development nonprofit, JFF, to provide support for learners in seven states (CA, IL, MI, NY, OH, TX and WI). JFF accelerates the alignment and transformation of the American workforce and education systems to ensure access to economic advancement for all.

In addition, 13 additional companies signed on to consider those who complete the program for their information technology support jobs. The program will be available at Lone Star Corporate College starting in fall 2018 and expanding to an associate degree program in spring

"Google is committed to training the workforce of today and tomorrow, and we are thrilled to team up with community colleges to help graduates jumpstart a new career in IT support," said Jesse Haines, Director of Grow with Google. "Community colleges play an important role in helping Americans get ahead, and they will be strong partners in Grow with Google's mission to create more economic opportunities for Americans."

Launched in January on the Coursera learning platform, Google's IT Support Professional Certificate aims to train learners with no prior experience to be information technology support professionals in about eight months. In the five months since its inception, almost 40,000 students have enrolled in the online program.

With over 150,000 open positions, information technology support is one of the fastest growing fields in the U.S. While there is demand for specialists, employers are of-





Lone Star College and Google will provide Information Technology Support Professional Certificates for students looking to enter one of the fastest growing fields in the U.S.

ten challenged to find trained talent, as the majority of information technology support positions do not require a college degree but do require prior experience. Through lots of hands-on assessments that allow learners to troubleshoot as if they were on the job, this certificate is designed to give learners the training and experience they need to get a job in tech support. The median annual wage for computer user support specialists is

_\$52,160. As part of the announcement, learners who complete the certificate program can now share their information directly with up to 22 top employers who are looking to hire information technology support talent. _The first group of employers includes Bank of America, Walmart, Sprint, General Electric Co. Digital, PNC Bank, Infosys, TEKSystems, UPMC and Google itself.

The 13 new companies include MCPc, Cognizant, RICOH USA and 10 members of the Walmart family: Sam's Club, Shoes.com, Jet, Allswell, Bonobos, Hayneedle, Modcloth, Moosejaw, Store No. 8, and

"JFF is excited to join forces with Google to lead the implementation of the Google IT Support Professional Certificate in over 25 leading community colleges across the country," said Maria Flynn, president and CEO. JFF. "This collaboration is an opportunity for JFF to leverage its extensive expertise in working with community colleges to support Google's innovative new IT credential that offers a pathway for students into self-sustaining IT jobs."

"Lone Star College continues to look toward the future to provide the training needed for companies to compete in today's hightech world," said Stephen C. Head, Ph.D., LSC chancellor. "We are proud to work with Google and JFF to ensure our students receive world-class instruc-

In addition to this partnership, Lone Star College will open its LSC-Westway Park Technology Center in spring 2019. This nontraditional, state-of-the-art center will support the college systems' Computer Information Technology Department and multiple programs within Computer Information Technology including Cybersecurity, Mobile Data Application Development, Microsoft Administration, CISCO Networking Academy, Computer Programming, Visual Communications to include a mock Security Operations Center and test prep for the more advanced learner.

The IT Support Professional Certificate is a key program in _Grow with Google_, the initiative to create more economic opportunities for Americans. Like other Grow with Google programs, such as _Get Your Business Online_ and _Applied Digital Skills_, the certificate is intended to give more Americans access to the digital skills and to find success in today's digital economy.

Already, Google has given 10,000 students free access to the program through financial aid and Google.org scholarships to nonprofits focusing on low income learners through Year Up, Per Scholas and Goodwill®; veterans through Student Veterans of America; and refugees through Upwardly Global.

Mayor Turner announces grants for neighborhood Storytellers for Complete Communities

HOUSTON - Mayor Sylvester Turner announces the awarding of grants totaling \$40,000 to five creative individuals selected for a Storytellers program that will work with organizations in each of the Complete Communities neighborhoods: Acres Home, Gulfton, Second Ward, Near Northside, and Third Ward.

Complete Communities is the mayor's pilot program aimed at improving neighborhoods so that all of Houston's residents and business owners have access to quality services and amenities.

"Like every community in Houston, Complete Communities are packed with cultural assets and stories," Mayor Sylvester Turner said. "Uplifting and supporting these communities with storytellers unique to each builds on a creative environment for visitors and Houstonians to share.'

The Storytellers will work to illuminate the arts and culture in their communities using media -film, photography and creative writing -- to translate the communities' creative work into narratives that can be used for marketing and neighborhood enrich-

Each partner organization worked with the Houston Arts Alliance, the nonprofit agency that manages the grant program, and the Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs to select applicatants for the Storyteller positions. HAA is providing guidance and technical assistance throughout the process.

The Visit My Neighborhood Storyteller grant recipients and partnering community organizations

Jose Monterrosa - East End Chamber of Commerce (Second Ward)

Monterrosa is a writer and photographer with a master's degree in advertising from Michigan State University. As a native of El Salvador, he has worked in Central America as a marketing manager developing projects in television and radio.

Marc Newsome - The Third Ward Cloth Cooperative (Third Ward)

Newsome is a filmmaker, photographer and graphic designer. His project, I Love 3W, is an ode to the Third Ward area, highlighting gentrification

Ulavia Dilworth - Acres Homes Multi-Service Cen-

ter Advisory Committee, Inc. (Acres Home)

Dilworth is an author, director and video editor. She is the director and writer of the documentary 100 years later and Acres Homes and is co-founder of Rebirth Black.

Ana De Leon – Culture of Healing-Advancing Together (Gulfton)

De Leon is a Latina bilingual fiction and non-fiction writer pursuing at master's degree at the University of Houston in the Spanish and Literature and Linguistics departments. She serves as the Spanish Event Coordinator at Writespace, a Houston-based organization for emerging and established writers.

Javier Fernandez - Avenue CDC (Near North-

Fernandez is an independent filmmaker studying environmental issues and indigenous and marginalized communities. He works as a cinematographer at the video production agency Film Lab Creative.

Funding for the grant program is provided by the City of Houston using Hotel Occupancy Tax proceeds dedicated to the arts.

Off-duty officer discharge gun at robbery suspect

Houston police are investigating an apparent robbery at the Wells Fargo bank on Friday, June 22.

According to police, a woman was confronted by an armed, masked suspect outside the bank locate in the 3400 block of Tidwell.

Officials said the offduty officer was exiting his vehicle to work an approved extra job at the bank and heard a female screaming. The officer walked toward the bank and saw a suspect wearing a mask and pulling a woman's purse from her hands. The officer gave the suspect verbal commands to stop, which he ignored and instead reached for a handgun tucked in his waistband. The suspect then got into a silver SUV parked in the bank parking lot and reversed the vehicle to flee.

The suspect stopped the

vehicle and looked back toward the officer. Fearing the suspect was about to fire a shot toward him, the officer discharged his duty weapon several times. It is undetermined at this time if the suspect or his vehicle were struck. The suspect fled the scene and the officer attempted to pursue the vehicle on foot but was unable to catch up

The suspect is described only as a white or Hispanic male, about 6 feet 2 inches tall and weighing about 235 pounds. It is unknown at this time if the suspect was wounded by the gunfire. The suspect remains at large. Anyone with informa-

tion in this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS.

House fire in **Northline** area

 $HOUSTON-A\,house$ caught fire in Northside/ Northline area.

The fire occurred on June 27, 2018 at 10:44 p.m. in the 12000 block of Anchick St., 77076.

According to official reports, firefighters arrived on scene to find fire coming from a corner of an one-story home and began an attack on the fire. A primary search was completed with several pets successfully rescued. Crews from Stations 58, 31, 30, and 67 responded to this incident.

The estimated damage is \$90 thousand.

The cause is under investigation by HFD Arson investigators.



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COMMUNITY PAGE

Mercer Botanic Gardens hosts summer programs

Lunch Bunch: Putting Wetlands to Work in Your Hometown. Wednesday, July 11 from noon to 2 p.m. Find out ways to use the natural benefits of wetland plants and soil in cities and suburbs while also providing much-needed habitat. Participants should bring a lunch and dress for the weather. Lunch Bunch is recommended for everyone 12 and older. Participants should meet at Mercer's West Side Arboretum in the Post Oak Pavilion. To register or to receive additional information, call Mercer Botanic Gardens at 713-274-4160.

Summer Garden Club: Saturdays, July 21, Aug. 18, and Sept. 15 from 10 a.m. to noon. Participate in monthly hands-on workshops conducted by experienced artisans and gardening professionals. Topics include orchid care; local and migratory butterflies, nectar and butterflyhost plants; the art of kokedama; and terrariums. Pricing for members of The Mercer Society: \$35 per workshop or \$125 for all workshops. Non-members: \$40 per workshop or \$145 for all workshops. Workshops will feature a plant sale that corresponds to the workshop theme. Enrollment fees cover all project materials. To register or receive additional information, call Mercer Botanic Gardens at 713-

With leadership from Commissioner R. Jack Cagle, Mercer Botanic Gardens is a Harris County Precinct 4 Parks facility located one mile north of FM 1960 at 22306 Aldine Westfield Road in Humble, 77338. Harris County Precinct 4 programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, sex, religion, national origin, or physical ability. Anyone seeking additional information or requiring special assistance to participate in any program should contact Mercer at 713-274-4160 or online atwww.hcp4.net/Community/Parks/Mercer.

Reducing Flood Risks,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

will involve the excavation of approximately 343,280 cubic yards of soil. It is one of several planned and ongoing projects included in the Flood Control District's umbrella effort known as Progress Greens.

Formally identified as HCFCD Unit P500-06-00, the Lauder basin has been partially excavated in previous excavation and removal agreements. Future phases of the project will involve excavation of additional land as it is acquired by the Flood Control District. Property acquisition and environmental permitting is underway.

The final basin design includes a permanent pool, island and other features to improve stormwater quality. The design preserves a 200-foot-wide wooded area along Greens Bayou, a tree buffer along the east side of the site, and a remnant channel or

oxbow. When complete after additional construction phases, the basin is expected to hold at least 1,200 acre-feet, or more than 391 million gallons of excess stormwater that otherwise

might flood homes and businesses. Stormwater detention basins reduce flooding risks during heavy rain events by safely storing excess stormwater and slowly releasing it back to the bayou when the threat of flooding has passed.

The Lauder basin project is part of the Greens Bayou Mid-Reach Flood Damage Reduction Plan, which includes construction of four stormwater detention basins, improvements to 11 miles of channel between John F. Kennedy Boulevard and Beltway 8, and modifications to 19 bridges. The Kuykendahl and Glen Forest basins are currently under construction; the Aldine Westfield basin is in design.

Construction-Related Activities

The contractor will use large construction equipment to remove trees, vegetation and soil from the site. Residents and motorists are being urged to observe posted warning signs and obey safety personnel,

especially during hours of heaviest construction traffic. The Flood Control District appreciates the public's patience and understanding through the duration of this project.

Members of the public with questions or comments about this project may call the Flood Control District's Project and Study Information Line at 713-684-4040, or email ProjectCommunications@hcfcd.org.

ABOUT THE HARRIS COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

The Harris County Flood Control District provides flood damage reduction projects that work, with appropriate regard for community and natural values. With more than 1,500 bayous and creeks totaling approximately 2,500 miles in length, the Flood Control District accomplishes its mission by devising flood damage reduction plans, implementing the plans and maintaining the infrastructure. To learn more about the Flood Control District, visit

County Attorney Ryan,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

vices from the county attorney, but also wanted to discuss recent flooding, and the \$2.5 billion bond issues that will be before voters on August 25.

The audience also wanted to discuss deed restrictions, auto repair shops in residential areas, bandit signs, nuisance and noise abatement, and flooded home buyouts.

Ryan said his office represents Harris County, its departments, elected and appointed officials, and employees in virtually all civil matters that involve county business.

He said that his office also works to protect the people of Harris County from unscrupulous businesses, environmental polluters and unwanted sexually oriented businesses. Attorneys from his office are involved in enforcement of deed restrictions, and removal of nuisances.

Topics for his speakers bureau include crime victim compensation, mental health care, deed restriction enforcement, public nuisances and other topics. By presenting this information at community centers and civic clubs, his office can explain to the public how to utilize the services that governmental entities offer.

Other areas of service that he mentioned are the defense of free speech, elder law and the avoidance of exploitation of the elderly, Houston Volunteer Lawyers, an extensive Law Library open to the public, prosecution of animal cruelty cases, guardianship for the elderly or disabled, open carry of guns information, civil injunctions against nuisances and gangs.



to civic clubs from the Aldine area at a recent meeting sponsored by the Castlewood Civic Club. Castlewood members are Carmen Schnur, left, and Connie Esparza, right.

Harris County Attorney Vince Ryan, center, spoke

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WEST GULF BANK ROAD

Judge shuts down smoke shop after police reports illegal selling of dangerous synthetic substances

Harris County Attorney Vince Ryan's Office obtained a Temporary Restraining Order on Thursday, June 21, to close down the Time Zone Smoke Shop, 5853 W Gulf Bank Road, in north Houston for selling synthetic cannabinoids, illegal gambling, and selling alcohol without a permit. The Houston Police Department Narcotics Division found laced vaping oil, large amounts of synthetic marijuana, PCP, natural marijuana, synthetic urine, 18 gambling machines, large amounts of cash, alcoholic beverages, and numerous credit cards in different names inside the store.

Syed Abidi and his sister, Tabbasum ("Tabby") Bhimji, owners and operators of the smoke shop, were named in the lawsuit along with the landlord, White Lotus Investments

The HPD Narcotics Division conducted an undercover operation at the store and made several purchases of cannabidiol (CBD). The non-intoxicating marijuana extract is being credited with helping treat a host of medical problems -- everything from epileptic seizures to anxiety to inflammation to sleeplessness. But experts say the evidence is scant for most of these touted benefits and because CBD is produced without any regulation products can vary widely in quality, and may be contaminated with dangerous additives. Lab reports showed the

oil seized at the smoke shop was mixed with synthetic cannabinoids, human made, mind- altering chemicals. These chemicals are sold as a liquid to be vaped in e-cigarettes or are sprayed on plant material to create "Kush". Kush is dangerous, highly addictive and illegal in Texas. Also called "Spice" and "K2," synthetic cannabinoids can cause rapid heart rate, vomiting, violent behavior, hallucinations, and suicidal thoughts.

Police officers believe the brother and sister duo were operating the store as a front for the distribution of illegal narcotics, an illegal game room, and credit

card theft. Abidi and Bhimji were charged with the felony offense of Possession of a Controlled Substance with Intent to Deliver. The location of Time Zone Smoke Shop has been a concern. The strip center next to the smoke shop includes an adult day care center, a barber shop, a convenience store and several other businesses.

Law enforcement agencies report there has been an increased use of "laced" CBD oil, particularly by teenagers and young

"My office will continue the fight, together with law enforcement and state, county, and city officials, to put a stop to shop owners who sell these dangerous chemicals," County Attorney Ryan said. "We will continue to seek substantial fines against them and shut down their businesses entirely if necessary."

The restraining order requires that the smoke shop stay closed until the hearing on the Temporary Injunction set for June 29,

Flood aid recipients: Get insurance to stay eligible for repeat assistance

Some residents in high-risk areas must maintain flood coverage or risk missing out on future aid

AUSTIN, Texas – If disaster strikes once, it can strike again. Make sure you're prepared - and remain eligible for assistance from the federal government — by buying and maintaining flood in-

If your community par-Flood Insurance Program and your property is in a high-risk zone known as a special flood hazard area (SFHA), you are required by law to purchase and maintain flood insurance if you have received federal disaster assistance for flood damage. Otherwise, when disaster strikes again, you will be ineligible for federal assistance for flood damage to your home or its contents.

Homeowners in SF-HAs who receive disaster assistance must maintain flood insurance for as

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long as the property address exists. If the home is sold, the insurance requirement is passed to the new owner; therefore buyers should thoroughly research the history of their property before clos-

Renters in SFHAs who ticipates in the National receive federal disaster assistance for flood-damaged personal property also must maintain flood insurance on the contents of their home for as long as they live at that location. The insurance requirement, however, ends once the aid recipient moves away.

People in an SFHA who receive flood assistance through FEMA's Individuals and Households Program (IHP) may qualify for a Group Flood Insurance Policy (GFIP). The group policy is paid with IHP grant funds for survivors who receive di-

saster assistance and lack required flood insurance. To receive a group policy, you must have applied for a U.S. Small Business Administration disaster loan and been found ineligible, among other requirements. A group policy expires at the end of 36 months, but the requirement to maintain flood insurance continues.

To learn more about flood insurance and the National Flood Insurance Program, call 800-427-4661, www.fema.gov/business/ nfip or contact your insurance agent.

For information on Hurricane Harvey and Texas recovery, visit the Hurricane Harvey disaster web page at www.fema.gov/disaster/ 4332 or the Texas Division of Emergency Management website at

www.dps.texas.gov/dem/



OPINION PAGE

Social Security Matters

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

Ask Rusty – Overpayment Notice due to Ex-spouse Benefits

Dear Rusty: My husband got an overpayment notice from Social Security telling us that his former wife had collected \$32,640.34 in benefits she wasn't entitled to and they want us to repay the overpayment. We knew that his ex-wife had been married another 3 times, but she was single at 62 when she filed for ex-spouse benefits from my husband. When her current husband went to retire, he asked if he could collect benefits from his wife who had just died; Social Security told him "no" as she was collecting benefits from an ex-husband. He asked, "which husband?", which triggered the overpayment letter to us. If Social Security had an "adverse letter" system like they do for children, we could have answered the letter by stating that she had been married three times. Social Security should have run her ŠS number and saw how many times she changed her name on the card. End of story. \$32,640.34 is hard to swallow when you are 80 and 85 and we now must repay this amount. Signed: Upset

and Angry

Dear Upset: Social Security's rules say that you must be unmarried when you apply for ex-spouse benefits, not that you cannot have remarried and subsequently again divorced, been widowed or had the later marriage annulled. If an ex-spouse collecting benefits from a former husband remarries, they are obligated to inform Social Security that they are no longer eligible to collect exspouse benefits because they have remarried. It sounds as if your husband's exwife neglected to inform Social Security of her several remarriages, each of which made her ineligible to collect from your husband while she was married to another. I suggest that you appeal this Social Security ruling on the basis that the former wife negligently continued to collect exspouse benefits from your husband after she had remarried. This was clearly something that your husband had no control over since his Social Security benefit wasn't affected in any way by his exwife collecting benefits on his record. Although there are time limits specified to contest an adverse ruling, you are hopefully within the "3 years, 3 months and 15 days after the year the adjustment relates." Your right to re-appeal continues even if you have been initially and subsequently denied, even taking your appeal to an Administrative Law Judge if need be. Considering

the amount of money

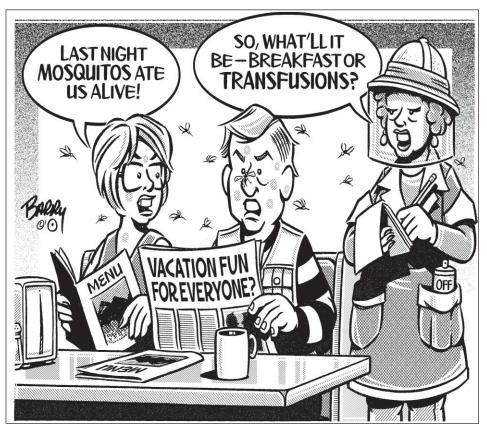
involved here, and the clarity of the ex-wife's neglecting to inform Social Security of her remarriage(s), I encourage you to immediately appeal Social Security's ruling.

So that you know, there is precedent within Social Security for situations where benefits were overpaid to one person without the knowledge of or benefit to another - for example, your husband's ex-wife collecting benefits she wasn't entitled to because she was remarried. This precedent information can be found at the following Social Security link, which deals with a ruling that is "against equity and good conscience": https://www.ssa.gov/ OP_Home/cfr20/404/ 404-0509.htm. For your convenience, here is what the Federal Code says about this (please print this and take it with you when you meet with Social Security): "Recovery of an overpayment is against equity and good conscience.....if an individual...was living in a separate household from the overpaid person at the time of the overpay ment and did not receive the overpayment". I believe your husband's situation regarding his ex-wife getting benefits she wasn't entitled to, and that he had no knowledge of, clearly qualifies as "against equity and good conscience.' Please make an appointment at your local Social Security office as soon as possible and file an appeal on this ruling, and don't simply accept it if they initially reject your appeal. Your right to appeal continues up to and including consideration by an independent Administrative Law Judge and I encourage you to use the appeal process to its fullest. The information

presented in this article is intended for general information purposes only. The opinions and interpretations expressed are the viewpoints of the AMAC Foundation's Social Security Advisory staff, trained and accredited under the National Social Security Advisors program of the National Social Security Association, LLC (NSSA). NSSA, the AMAC Foundation, and the Foundation's Social Security Advisors are not affiliated with or endorsed by the United States Government, the Social Security Administration, or any other state government. Furthermore, the AMAC Foundation and its staff do not provide legal or accounting services. The Foundation welcomes questions from readers regarding Social Security issues. To submit a request, contact the Foundation ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org, or visit the Founda-

tion's website at

www.amacfoundation.org.



Parents, children separated at border gain widespread attention

AUSTIN — Although border-crossing issues are largely federal matters, the Lone Star State has been a center of news reports about authorities separating children from their parents at detention centers along the Rio Grande.

President Trump on June 20 ordered a cease in the forced separation of family members who are in detention, but the fate of more than 2,000 minors who were taken away from their parents remained unresolved.

On June 21, a contingency of the non-partisan United States Conference of Mayors, including Austin Mayor Steve Adler, gathered at a border detention center in Tornillo, near El Paso. The mayors were not allowed to enter the facility where children reportedly were being held.

"Using children in order to deter or dissuade folks from coming to our border and seeking asylum is unjust. It is wrong. It is immoral and it is un-American. We are better than that," Adler said at the beginning of a longer, widely disseminated video statement.

Meanwhile, many Republican and Democratic members of Congress are seeking solutions that would keep more asylumseeking families together and reunite families that have been separated.

Court rules against ban

The Texas Supreme Court on June 22 upheld a ruling by the Texas 4th Court of Appeals that the city of Laredo's ban on single-use plastic bags is ille-

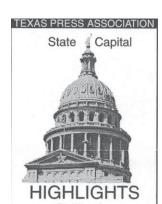
The ruling effectively invalidates bag bans across the state, said Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton.

"Municipalities violate the law when they unlawfully pass the burden of solid waste management to citizens and retailers through illegal bag bans. I hope that Laredo, Austin and any other jurisdictions that have enacted illegal bag bans will take note and voluntarily bring their ordinances into compliance with state law. Should they decline to do so, I expect the ruling will be used to invalidate any other illegal bag bans statewide," Paxton said.

Operation gets results

Attorney General Paxton on June 18 announced the Consumer Protection Division of his office had taken legal action against three companies, including a Houston-based labor poster operation, as a part of the Federal Trade Com-

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling



mission's sweep targeting scam artists who attempt to defraud small business-

"Operation Main Street" resulted in 24 actions nationwide against individuals or companies accused of ripping off small businesses. The collaborative effort included participation by the offices of seven other state attorneys general, the Better Business Bureau and two U.S. attorneys' offices, among others.

Paxton said his office obtained a temporary restraining order and asset freeze against Corporate Compliance Solutions, a company that solicited small businesses with warnings of their need to comply with federal labor laws. The company tricked business owners into thinking they needed to buy an \$84 labor law compliance poster or face fines and possible imprisonment.

ment, Paxton said.

Paxton's office also obtained a permanent injunction and restitution order against American Advertising Concepts, a company that sold advertising space on dry erase boards to small business owners nationwide by falsely claiming affiliations with schools and apartment complexes.

Additionally, Paxton's office filed a lawsuit against Solvera, a compa-

ny that Paxton said "duped individuals into paying thousands of dollars by falsely leading them to believe it could improve a business' reputation in internet search results."

Emergency election is set

Gov. Greg Abbott issued a proclamation ordering a July 31 emergency special election to fill the Senate District 19 seat formerly occupied by Sen. Carlos Uresti, D-San Antonio. Uresti resigned from of-

fice effective June 21. He was convicted of fraud and money laundering by a San Antonio federal district court on June 18.

Senate District 19 includes Brewster, Crockett, Dimmit, Edwards, Frio, Kinney, Maverick, Medina, Pecos, Real, Reeves, Terrell, Uvalde, Val Verde and Zavala counties and parts of Atascosa and Bexar counties.

SBOE OKs ethnic course

The State Board of Education on June 15 announced preliminarily approval a new social studies course titled "Ethnic Studies: Mexican American Studies."

A second and final vote on curriculum standards for the course will take place at the board's Sept. 11-14 meeting. If approved, the one-credit elective course would then become the first SBOE-approved ethnic studies course in Texas.

Once fully adopted, the course will be available for use in Texas public schools in the 2019-2020 school year. The course is based on a course created by the Houston Independent School District.

Must-Know Health Tips for Summer Vacation

(StatePoint) More than half of Americans are planning to take a vacation this summer, according to a Bankrate survey. While these excursions are meant to be fun and relaxing, road trips and long flights can lead to health risks that vou know about, like jet lag, and some you may not be familiar with, such as leg swelling and deep vein thrombosis (DVT). Experts advise travelers to take precautions for a healthy travel experience.

"Most people are familiar with jet lag, but even if you're sitting in a car for a long time, you're at risk for other conditions like edema, which can cause painful leg swelling," says nationally renowned natural health physician and best-selling author, Dr. Fred Pescatore. "Luckily, there are simple steps you can take to avoid these issues."

For a healthy, relaxing vacation, Dr. Pescatore is sharing his favorite travel tips.

Power Nap

Flying or driving to a new time zone can throw off your internal clock, causing jet lag and making it harder to sleep.

"Take 15 to 20-minute power naps if you're heading to a different time zone. Quick naps when your body naturally feels tired offers you some rest, but won't leave you wide awake at bedtime," says Dr. Pescatore.

Take Fitness Breaks

Cramped up in a car or plane for long periods of time can cause swelling and fluid accumulation in the lower legs, known as edema, which is a major risk factor for developing a potentially life-threatening blood clot known as Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT).

Each year, as many as 900,000 Americans are affected by DVT, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and studies published in Minerva Medica show that 10 percent of long-haul air passengers are at risk. Dr. Pescatore recommends taking frequent breaks to walk around and stretch in order to avoid these conditions. At rest stops, take a walk and when flying, stand up and stretch in the aisle when possible.

Try a Natural Supplement

A new peer-reviewed clinical study shows that supplementing with the natural super-antioxidant, Pycnogenol (pronounced pic-noj-en-all), can help reduce edema and relieve jet lag symptoms during longhaul travel.

"This research is exciting news for those looking for a safe, effective healthy travel option," Dr. Pescatore says.

Pycnogenol is one of the most researched ingredients on the market, with decades of studies showing its benefits for a variety of health applications. It's available in more than 700 dietary supplements, multi-vitamins and health products worldwide. For more information, visit pycnogenol.com.

As you prepare for your summer travel, remember these tips for a healthy vacation.



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Amber Waves

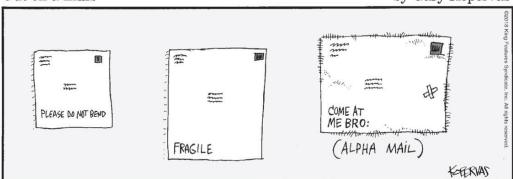






Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



R.F.D.







The Spats























SCRAMBLERS



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps





"I'm glad I had that talk with Jimmy about the birds and the bees. I learned a lot of interesting stuff."



"I'm making breakfast — how do you want

your ____ ?"

Lecture OILHYM		 -
Objective GATTER		- 1 0
Drawing TROTYLE		
Crazy AGENDER		
	TODAY'S WORD	

Posting Date July 2, 2018

King Crossword

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21 Chief who

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ACROSS

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- Chagall
- 12 Thought
- 13 Arctic bird
- 14 Met melody
- 15 Slaughter
- 17 Vend
- 18 Type squares 19 Doctor's due
- 20 Any of 150 in the Bible
- 21 Doorstep item
- 22 Lemon
- meringue, e.g. 23 Sacrifice site
- 26 Spa fixture
- 30 The Red and the Black
- 31 Formal wear 32 Start a garden 51 For fear that
- to socialize 35 Heredity fac-
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- 36 Pick a target 37 Existed
- 38 Animal 41 Purse
- 42 Mauna -45 Not pizzicato
- 46 "Manon" composer
- 48 Opposed
- 49 Pismire
- 50 Unaccompanied
- 9 Vicinity 10 Small stream 11 At peace
- 33 Popular place 52 Fourth letter
 - 53 Recipe meas.

 - **DOWN** 1 Fourth dimen- 20 Snapshot
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 - 5 Aspect
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- 4 Petrol "peace" 23 Fire residue
- 24 Zodiac cat 7 Guitar's 25 Tit for -
- cousin 26 Stick out 8 Some physio- 27 Buddhist sect 28 Wye follower
 - © 2018 King Features Synd., Inc.

- 20 22 28 43

50

- 53 29 Egos' coun-
- terparts 31 Male turkey
- 34 Fruit stone
- 35 Jokes
- 37 Squander
- 38 False god 39 Sea eagle
- 40 Performances 41 Poison
- 42 Door opener 43 Morays, e.g.
- 44 On 46 Crazy
- 47 Superlative suffix

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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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.

♦ Moderate ♦ ♦ Challenging **♦♦♦** HOO BOY!

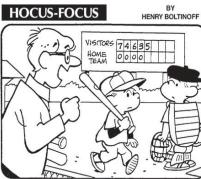
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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF 0000

Rodriquez

- 2. ANATOMY: Where in the human
- 3. MUSIC: Which artist recorded the
- 4. LITERATURE: Who wrote the novel "The Swiss Family Robinson"?
- of Portugal? 7. TELEVISION: What was the name
- 8. LANGUAGE: What does the Greek
- stand for in classic geometry?
- uct's slogan is "When it rains, it pours."



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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Clue: V equals D BQSGR YWR UQFR-AFRNYWQSP ARNBY QB YCYNOOH VRUQGQRSY QS MFCMRF BORRM, NOO VNH YWR VFNPCS QB VFNPPQS'.

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HOT DOG

Today's Word 3. Lottery; 4. Derange 1. Homily; 2. Target;

noitulos SCRAMBLERS

1. HISTORY: Who was Jesse James'

brother and partner in crime?

- body would you find the tympanic membrane?
- album titled "Blood on the Tracks"?
- 5. CHEMISTRY: What is the symbol for the element magnesium? 6. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital
- of Robert Blake's cockatoo in the TV series "Baretta"?
- prefix "ornitho" refer to? 9. MATH: What does the symbol "r"
- 10. ADVERTISEMENTS: What prod-

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8. Bird

7. Fred

gM.c

10. Morton Salt 9. Radius 6. Lisbon 4. Johann Wyss 3. Bob Dylan (eardrum) 2. Between the outer and middle ear 1. Frank James Trivia Test Answers



Answers — King Crossword —

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Answer Weekly SUDOKU

the dragon is draggin' in proper sleep, all day beast is totally deficient Since the fire-breathing

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- 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

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

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CHRISTIAN

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

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CHURCH OF THE NAZA-RENE:

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

JEHOVAH'S WITNESS:

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

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
- •El Mesias United Methodist Church, 406 E. Rittenhouse St. 713-699-8990.

PENTALCOSTAL:

- · Calvary Pentecostal Church of God, 3122 Hopper Rd. 713-694-6112
- Iglesia Pentecostal Unida, 2410 Bertrand St. 281-590-5187 • Temple of Salvation, 4906 Haile St. 281-987-2655

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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
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- 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-

- 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 Houston Revival Temple 5801 Mary Francis Dr. 281-987-
- 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
- •New Gate Fellowship, 4234 Mount Houston Rd. 713-166-6684 • North Central Assembly of God, 13703 Aldine Westfield Rd. 281-907-6609
- Pillar of Glory, 14341 Lee Rd. 281-449-6404
- •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 •The Shelter Church, 4102 Lauder Rd. 281-846-4538

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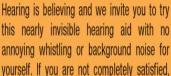
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CHURCH

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Libitaria in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. In Galatians 5:1, "Stand fast therefore in the ... wherewith Christ hath made us free"? Light, Liberty, Redemption, Resurrection

3. From John 8:32, "And ye shall know the ..., and 'it' shall make you free"? Word, Truth, Love, Forgiveness

4. In which book's 6:7 does it say, "For he that is dead is freed from sin"? Isaiah, Daniel, Mark, Romans

5. How many times is the word "independence" mentioned in the Bible (KJV)? 0, 2, 11, 17 6. In Acts 22:28, who said, "But I was free born"? Paul, Bernice, Nicodemus, Phoebe

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Liberty; 3) Truth; 4) Romans; 5) 0: 6) Paul

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

For many deceivers have gone out into the world,

those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming

in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist.

Watch yourselves, that you do not lose what we have

accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward.

2 JOHN 1: 7,8

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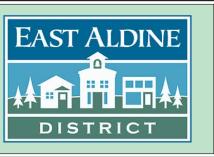
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Take Pride in our Community, **Keep it Clean**



Immigrant Kids,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Southwest Key facility at 9700 Mesa Drive, houstong 54 immigrant youths for child care services, including emotional disorders, since 1991.

dren" program. Its projected income next year is \$458 million. It currently

houses about 5,100 immigrant children, and operates 26 immigrant youth facilities in Texas, Arizona, and California.

When it was announced that they would lease a building in Houston to expand their unaccompanied children program, local

organizations and politicians raised their voices in opposition. Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, Pct. 1 County Commissioner Rodney Ellis, State Senator Sylvia Garcia, State Representatives Ana Hernandez and Armando Walle, and Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner have been seen either picketing or voicing objection over the media.

Houston Airport System is in search of Volunteers to Assist Passengers

Volunteers are needed to provide vital

assistance to passengers and visitors who

Mayor Turner said adamantly "I do not want to be an enabler in this process. I do not want the city to participate in this process." He called on the State not to license the facility.

The building was formerly a Star of Hope residence hall, and can house about 200 persons. It is at 419 Emancipation Avnue.

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BAKER RIPLEY ¿Qué dicen Alexis y Tabbie?



Alexis Rios y Tabbie Saenz son expertos en temas empresariales del Programa Conexion de Emprendedores de BakerRipley.

Aprende como iniciar un negocio o crecer tu negocio en la Academia de Emprendedores de BakerRipley



Alumnos de la clase Crecer de la Academia de Emprendedores de BakerRipley Spring 2018.

Aprende cómo iniciar un negocio o crecer tu negocio en la Academia de Emprendedores de BakerRipley

Las inscripciones para la Academia de Emprendedores ya están abiertas. !Si deseas iniciar o crecer tu negocio, este programa es

definitivamente para ti! El comenzar un negocio es difícil y puede ser un verdadero desafío ya que pueden surgir obstáculos para los cuales no estabas preparado. Las estadísticas nos muestras que el 50 por ciento de las pequeñas empresas fracasan después de cinco años en el negocio. Sin embargo, las probabilidades de éxito contando con las herramientas necesarias y estando al lado de mentores y otros em-

prendedores, al momento de emprender o crecer un negocio, son mucho más altas y hacen que esta aventura sea mucho más interesante.

El Programa Conexión de Emprendedores de BakerRipley es el lugar donde encontrarás todas las herramientas asesoramiento necesario para emprender y tener un negocio exitoso. Las clases de la Academia, que tiene una duración de 9 semanas, comienzan en agosto y se llevarán a cabo los días sábados de 9:00 a.m. a 12:00 p.m. en el nuevo centro de Baker-Ripley East Aldine Campus ubicado en 3000 Aldine Mail Route Road.

Los cursos dictados

por expertos en negocios, te enseñarán cómo:

- validar tu idea de negocio - crear tu propuesta de valor
- analizar el mercado y la competencia - identificar la estructura legal
- de tu negocio - crea un plan de negocios
- crear tu equipo de trabajo
- acceder a financiamiento - acceder a mentores y
- asesores - encontrar nuevos clientes

Una vez concluidas las clases tendrás acceso a mentores, asistencia técnica, workshops y mucho más. Si estás lis to para iniciar este viaje, inscríbete online en el siguiente enlace: https:/ /goo.gl/bvhiqN

Para obtener más información sobre este programa llámanos al teléfono 346-226-1591.

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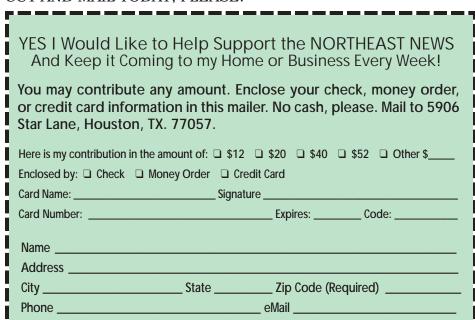
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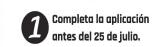




determina la estructura legal de tu empresa, desarrolla un plan de negocios y mucho más! Los graduados son elegibles para solicitar un préstamo con interés del 0%.

> Clases: Sábados de 9 a.m. a 1 p.m Duración: Agosto a octubre de 2018 Lugar: BakerRipley East Aldine Campus Dirección: 3000 Aldine Mail Rte Rd

Registrarse para la Academia de Emprendedores: https://goo.gl/bvhiqN





Asiste a una sesión de información.



Participa de la entrevista de selección.





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