

Elderly & Disabled Housing Page 2

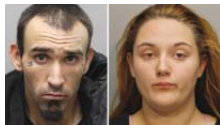
# NORTHEAST NEWS

Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 42 Years  
VOL. 43, NO. 03 TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2019 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

## Two charged in shooting of 13 yr-old

Sheriff's deputies have arrested two persons who allegedly were involved in the drive-by shooting of a 13-year old girl, sitting in a friend's house in the 14500 block of Maeline Street near Aldine-Westfield.

The shooting took place last Thursday, about 4:30 pm. Deputies were able to obtain surveillance video of a white truck



Blanco Strong-Matyas

passing by, and about an hour after the shooting a tip led them to the truck on Greens Road with two people inside. Steven LeBlanc Blanco, 28, and Allison Strong-Matyas, 19, were taken into custody Thursday night and charged in connection with the shooting.

Blanco was charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and felon in possession of a weapon, and Strong-Matyas was charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. A motive for the shooting is not known.

## Garcia brings 35 years of public service to Pct. 2

HARRIS COUNTY, TX – January 1st – Former County Sheriff Adrian Garcia took the oath of office to become Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner, bringing 35 years of experience in public service.

"It is the honor of a lifetime to serve the people of Precinct 2 as County Commissioner," said Garcia. "I am deeply grateful to the voters, volunteers and my family for their support of my commitment to public service."

Commissioner Adrian Garcia is committed to fulfilling his promise to voters: making education a priority in county government and connecting Precinct 2 residents to opportunities in the region, while tackling some of our biggest challenges.

"The campaign is over and it's time for all of us to come together, roll up our sleeves and begin the hard work improving our communities. We're already off to a great start – because Precinct 2 is blessed with the most humble and hard-



Commissioner Adrian Garcia taking Oath

working people I know," said Commissioner Garcia. Commissioner Garcia will work to adopt equitable and environmentally sound solutions to infrastructure and flood control – and to provide quality and accessible services and

programs to help Precinct 2 residents get family-sustaining jobs. Commissioner Garcia's commitment to public ser-

See Commissioner, Page 2

## COACH OF THE YEAR:

### Eric Jackson leads Eagles to playoffs in first year as Eisenhower head coach



Eisenhower High School head football coach Eric Jackson is the 2018 Northeast News' Coach of the Year

By Mike Keeney  
Contributing Writer

Eisenhower High School head football coach Eric Jackson led his team to the playoffs in the first year as the school's head coach. The Eagles made it to the post season after a two-year playoff drought.

That accomplishment earned the veteran coach the honor of being named the Northeast News' Coach of the Year for the 2018 season.

The 2018 season was Jackson's first as a head coach and he's excited

See Coach of the Year, Page 3

## Texas Legislature starts 86th Bi-Annual Session Rep. Armando Walle Sworn-in



ARMANDO WALLE, State Representative for District 140, is shown at the first session of the 86th Legislature after his swearing-in ceremony. Pictured with Armando is wife Debbie and family.

AUSTIN – State Representative Armando Walle issued the following statement regarding the start of the Legislative Session: "Yesterday we were sworn-in to our 6th term as member of the Texas House of Representatives. Meaning that we've been in office

10 years to date. Family is very important to me so we always make it a point to bring them on for the experience. Appreciate HD-140 for sending me to Austin to fight for them. I love being able to serve my communi-

See Walle Sworn-in, P. 2

## Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo 2019

FEBRUARY 27

Brooks & Dunn



FEBRUARY 28

Luke Bryan



MARCH 1

Cardi B



MARCH 2

Turnpike Troubadours



MARCH 3

Panic! At the Disco



MARCH 4

Old Dominion



MARCH 5

Camila Cabello



MARCH 6

Luke Combs



MARCH 7

Tim McGraw



MARCH 8

Zedd



MARCH 9

Kane Brown



MARCH 10

Los Tigres Del Norte



MARCH 11

Zac Brown Band



MARCH 12

Kings of Leon



MARCH 13

Santana



MARCH 14

Chris Stapleton



MARCH 15

Cody Johnson



MARCH 16

Brad Paisley



MARCH 17

George Strait



MARCH 17

Lyle Lovett & Robert Earl Keen



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### PREMIERE CINEMAS

FRIDAY-WEDNESDAY 1/11-1/16

* A DOG'S WAY HOME (PG) - 12:15pm, 2:35pm, 5:00pm, 7:15pm, 9:30pm Stadium Seating	* BUMBLEBEE in 3D (PG-13) - 12:30pm, 5:45pm SPA-Spanish Dubbed; Stadium Seating
* PERFECT STRANGERS (Perfectos Desconocidos) (R) - 12:45pm, 3:15pm, 5:50pm, 8:30pm Stadium Seating	* BUMBLEBEE in 3D (PG-13) - 1:00pm, 6:30pm Stadium Seating
* REPLICAS (PG-13) - 1:00pm, 3:30pm, 6:00pm, 9:00pm Stadium Seating	SECOND ACT (PG-13) - 1:00pm, 4:30pm, 6:30pm, 9:00pm Stadium Seating
* THE UPSIDE (PG-13) - 12:00pm, 2:45pm, 5:45pm, 8:45pm Stadium Seating	* MARY POPPINS RETURNS (PG) - 1:00pm, 4:30pm, 8:00pm Stadium Seating
* ESCAPE ROOM (PG-13) - 1 hr. 40 mins 12:30pm, 3:30pm, 6:30pm, 9:15pm Stadium Seating	THE MULE (R) - 12:20pm, 3:00pm, 5:45pm, 9:00pm Stadium Seating
* AQUAMAN (PG-13) - 4:30pm Stadium Seating	Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse (PG) - 12:40pm, 3:15pm, 6:15pm, 9:00pm Stadium Seating
* AQUAMAN (PG-13) - 3:10pm SPA-Spanish Dubbed; Stadium Seating	Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse (PG) - 12:15pm, 5:45pm SPA-Spanish Dubbed; Stadium Seating
* AQUAMAN 3D (PG-13) - 12:30pm, 6:30pm Stadium Seating	* Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse 3D (PG) - 3:00pm, 8:30pm SPA-Spanish Dubbed; Stadium Seating
* AQUAMAN 3D (PG-13) - 12:00pm, 6:15pm SPA-Spanish Dubbed; Stadium Seating	CREED II (PG-13) - 7:45pm Stadium Seating
* BUMBLEBEE (PG-13) - 3:10pm, 8:30pm SPA-Spanish Dubbed; Stadium Seating	RALPH BREAKS THE INTERNET (PG) - 12:00pm, 2:35pm, 5:15pm Stadium Seating
* BUMBLEBEE (PG-13) - 3:35pm, 9:15pm Stadium Seating	

\*No passes on these movies \*\* No passes accepted for 3D movies. ID Required for R rated movies.  
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COMMUNITY & SCHOOL NEWS

MacArthur HS student named JEN scholarship recipient



Priscilla Corpus (center) poses with Principal Heather Peterson and Jazz Band Director José A. Diaz.

The national award is bestowed each year to a talented bassist musician to attend the JEN Conference for a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

One MacArthur High School student is among the few to receive Jazz Education Network (JEN) scholarships. Priscilla Corpus has been named the 2019 Mary Ann Fischer Scholarship recipient.

The award is presented to a deserving high school student bassist entering his or her collegiate jazz studies the following year. The scholarship allows a lucky recipient to attend the annual JEN Conference. The 2019 conference is set for January 9-12 in Reno, NV.

**Award**  
 • \$1,000 scholarship + 1 year eJEN membership + Certificate  
 • JEN Conference registration  
 • LJEN Conference Travel & Lodging stipend up to \$1,500

The conference is part music festival, part networking and part education. It aspires to inspire young musicians. The annual conference hosts thousands of people from around the globe. The conference brings together jazz beginners and experts for a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

José Antonio Díaz is Priscilla's jazz band director at MacArthur HS. Congratulations and All That Jazz!

Victory Early College High School students inducted Into LSC Brother for Brother Organization



Victory Early College High School participants.

Victory Early College High School Students Inducted Into LSC Brother for Brother Organization. College can seem daunting, especially if a young person is the first in his or her family to pursue a post-secondary education. Studies show that groups and organizations help students succeed by developing relationships and connections with fellow

students and key leaders at a college or university.

To give students that head start, Victory Early College High School partnered with Lone Star College's Brother for Brother (B4B). The organization helps students develop their academic, personal and social success in school. Volunteer faculty and staff from Lone Star College (LSC) mentor

them. The young men of Brother for Brother work hard to support and encourage each other in being responsible students, community leaders and volunteers.

Brother for Brother Objectives  
 • To graduate all members from Lone Star College  
 • Help members achieve

successful development in social, academic and personal aspects of their lives.

• Educate and ensure members follow The 9 Core Values.  
 • Ensure the presentation of educational and professional meetings and events in which students can gain leadership, service and networking opportunities.

Commissioner

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

vice began as a Houston Police officer. In 1994, he was appointed by Mayor Lee Brown as Director of the Mayor's Anti-Gang Office and in 2003, was elected to Houston City Council. With the support of his peers on City Council, he would be confirmed as Mayor Pro-Tem by Mayor Bill White. In 2008, Commissioner-Elect Garcia continued his service by being elected to the office of Harris County Sheriff—the largest sheriff's office in Texas and the 3rd largest in the United States.

Experiences that will serve him well as County Commissioner.

Precinct 2 is home for the Commissioner who was born and raised in the Northside and still lives there today with his wife and where they raised their daughter.

"Serving as County Commissioner for Precinct 2 is a dream come true. I'll work hard every day to live up to my dad's example and adhere to his words of wisdom while protecting the trust placed in me by the voters," said Commissioner Garcia.

Walle sworn-in,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Tuesday marked the beginning of the 86th session in the Texas Senate, a 140 day term in which state leadership has pledged to tackle the complex issues of public school finance reform and property tax reform. Governor Greg Abbott was on hand to welcome the members, new and current, and promised to finally resolve these is-

sues. "We are going to step up and address it," he said. Other major issues facing the Legislature this session include state pension funds and contracting oversight, but like Abbott, Senate leader Lt. Governor Dan Patrick and newly elected House Speaker Dennis Bonnen have highlighted property tax and school finance reform as critical issues this session.

The initiative aims to reach more children and young families at risk of hunger.

One in four southeast Texas children are at-risk of hunger. This means they don't have consistent access to enough nutritious food. Children need nourishment for success. Studies link healthy nutrition to better grades, improved attendance and a healthier community.

One of Houston Food Bank's strategic goals is to provide hunger-relief programs. The food bank has many child hunger-relief programs available. These include Kids Cafe, Backpack Buddy and School Market.

Houston Food Bank developed the School Market program to improve older students' access to nutritional foods. The program targets middle and high school students. This is a vulnerable population that can be difficult to serve as they outgrow programs like Kids Cafe and Backpack Buddy.

School Markets are on-

site. Meaning they are set up at a campus for easy access and set distribution schedules.

A key feature of School Markets is that students staff them. Students receive training to perform the various jobs that support the market. These tasks include setting up product for distribution, restocking, and cleaning up the area afterward. This is a great opportunity for student volunteers to practice leadership skills.

Earlier this school year, MacArthur HS partnered with the Houston Food Bank to take part in the School Market Program. The campus operates through a mobile market that brings food to the school in a truck with a large refrigerated trailer.

**Market Days at MacArthur HS**  
 • Dates: Market days are every first and third Saturday of every month until the end of the school year.  
 • Place: MacArthur HS Bus Ramp, 4400 Aldine Mail Route (Houston, TX 77039)



Student and faculty volunteers stock the Houston Food Bank pantry items at MacArthur HS.

•Time: Open from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. or until all market items have been distributed.  
 •Free Groceries Available: Fresh produce, grains, dry beans, meat and a variety of shelf-stable goods  
 •Who can take part?: It is open to MacArthur students, family, faculty and community members.  
 •What Do Students Taking Part in the Program Need to Bring?: Students must bring their

report to their initial visit to the market. Those taking part must also bring their report to the last market day of the school year. Houston Food Bank will analyze the data to see if access to food increases academic achievement.

•Campus Contact for Program Information: Sheila Billingsley or Cynthia Juárez @ (281) 985-6330  
 •Houston Food Bank Email: schoolpantry@houstonfoodbank.org



Aldine ISD honors School Board members for advocating for Local School children

Aldine ISD joins the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) and other districts across the state this month to honor the countless contributions of these locally elected advocates for schoolchildren and public schools.

"School board members tackle a difficult job and shoulder enormous responsibilities. These elected officials establish the policies that provide the framework for our schools. They provide vision and leadership. They continuously stand up for public education," said Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney, superintendent of schools.

"Our District benefits from the tireless work and countless hours contributed by these local citizens who work without pay. Serving as a crucial link between the community and classroom, our board is responsible for approving the annual bud-

get as well as providing direction and oversight of every AISD campus."

Through the Board's leadership, Aldine ISD year after year earns the top financial rating under the Schools Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST).

"Our board members come from diverse backgrounds," said AISD Board President Steve Mead. "Some Board members are retirees while others are working professionals or active volunteers."

"Although we wear many hats, we come together as a team to work toward a common goal — helping students achieve."

Schools will develop their own way of saying "thank you." Some will create cards and gift baskets to give to Board members. The District will officially recognize Trustees at the Board meeting set for Tuesday, Jan. 15 at the

Donaldson Administration Building, located at 2520 W.W. Thorne Blvd. (Houston, TX 77073). The Board meeting will start at 7 p.m.

Board members serving Aldine ISD are:

•Steve Mead, President — Position 5. Elected in 2004

•Conception "Connie" Esparza, Vice President — Position 4. Appointed in February 2017

•Dr. Kimberley Booker, Secretary — Position 6. Appointed in February 2017

•Paul Shanklin, Assistant Secretary — Position 2. Appointed in December of 2014

•Rose Ávalos, Member — Position 3. Elected in May 2006

•Dr. Viola M. García, Member — Position 7. Appointed in 1992

•Patricia Ann Bourgeois, Member — Position 1. Elected in November 2013.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Harris County Judge Hidalgo kicks off historic term with community-wide engagement initiative

Harris County, TX - After her historic inauguration with more than 2,200 attendees, Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo announced that she is launching a new civic engagement program designed to help shape the first year of her administration.

Judge Hidalgo capped her inauguration remarks with an emphasis on opening the doors of County government at a public ceremony celebrating 81 newly elected Harris County officials. She highlighted the need for elected officials to "proactively inform our community about County government, and bring lessons from our community and from thought leaders into our policy agenda."

Judge Hidalgo's initiative, Talking Transition: Harris County, will provide a forum for residents to discuss the issues that matter most to them, learn about County government, and weigh in on pressing public policy matters.

The first program of its kind in Harris County, Talking Transition will allow Judge Hidalgo and her team to obtain a qualitative and quantitative analysis of the issues and ideas that most impact County residents, as they work to shape their agenda.

"Throughout my campaign, I pledged to increase transparency and accountability in Harris County government. Too few residents know how County government works and how to engage with it," said Judge Lina Hidalgo. "For



Harris County Judge Hidalgo

me, public service means ensuring that our most vulnerable residents have the same voice in our local government as the most powerful among us."

Talking Transition: Harris County is expected to be the largest civic engagement program in the South. It is modeled after similar programs in New York and Washington, D.C., and made possible by the Houston Endowment and the Ford Foundation.

"Houston Endowment recognizes the value of community voice in good governance," said Ann Stern, president and CEO of Houston Endowment. "By ensuring all voices are heard, we can continue to

enhance our region's assets, achieve equitable outcomes, and resolve issues that are important to the residents of Harris County."

Talking Transition will address seven public policy areas - education, housing, transportation, resiliency, health, justice, and economic opportunity - through a series of public events across the County. The initiative includes a variety of ways for Harris County residents to interact with and learn more about their local government. The core components include:

**Transparency Project:** Announcements through-

out the County will provide easily-digestible information about how County government works and eye-opening statistics intended to motivate residents to learn more.

**Civic Saturdays:** Offered at seven locations around Harris County, Civic Saturdays are a series of full-day public events happening on consecutive Saturdays:

- **Civic School:** Features classroom-style lessons for Harris County residents to learn about how County government works.

- **Town Halls:** A large gathering organized around a specific policy area that will give residents a chance to share new ideas for improving their communities and to hear from others.

- **Action Plan Workshops:** Smaller working groups for people who have devoted time to specific issues to focus on how to best realize community-driven ideas through County government.

**Survey:** Teams of canvassers will be spread throughout the County to ask residents about what needs to be improved among County services, what would help them engage more with County government, and what needs to be prioritized when it comes to prioritizing the County budget. The survey will also be available both online and at each Civic Saturday.

All Talking Transitions events are free and open to the public. A full schedule of activities will become available online at [www.talkingtransition.us](http://www.talkingtransition.us).

HCC seeks community input on college's 10-year strategic plan

HOUSTON (Jan. 8, 2019) - Houston Community College is reaching out to the community for input on how HCC should continue to meet the education needs of Houstonians. To that end, HCC invites the public to join in a discussion about its 2020-2030 Strategic Plan at a meeting Thursday, Jan. 17 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the HCC Brays Oaks Campus, Room 204, 8855 W. Bellfort.

This is an important opportunity for HCC leaders to hear from the communi-

ty. Dr. Kurt Ewen, HCC vice chancellor for planning and institutional effectiveness, will field questions from community members, along with Trustee Dr. Pretta VanDible Stallworth and HCC Southwest College President Dr. Madeline Burillo Hopkins.

HCC's 10 year plan will be the roadmap for how the college moves forward in an era of unprecedented change. The theme of the planning process is, "How will HCC embrace our city's future?"

Coach of the Year

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

about the future for the Eisenhower football program.

"We're getting there, but we're not satisfied where we're at. We still have ways to go" Jackson said. "The kids are excited about the program and so are we as coaches. We're starting a new regime and I think we have gotten off to a good start."

The Eagles finished tied for second place in District 16-6A and earned a post-season berth.

Prior to being named the Eagles' head coach, Jackson served as defensive coordinator at Eisenhower. He has also served on the staffs at Hastings High School, Beaumont Central High School Beaumont Ozen High School, Willowridge High School and Fort Bend Terry High School.

The Baton Rouge native is a graduate of Nichols State where he played linebacker.

Jackson and the Eagles have reason to be excited about the future. They will enter spring training with eight offensive and four defensive starters back for the 2019 season, which is a solid nucleus.

Jackson said his goals for the program are simple. "Every coach wants to win a state championship, that's what we all want," he said. "But we also want to win district and go to the playoffs on a consistent basis. We also want to have

a winning environment around here."

He's excited about next year's senior class because he believes it could be a special group of student-athletes.

"This group of juniors is going to be a good group of young men," he said. "They understand what we want as coaches."

Jackson is confident next year's senior class will be good mentors for the younger players in the program.

"Our goal for the offseason is to get our younger kids accustomed to what we are doing and to develop a work ethic in the weight room and on the field during offseason," he said.

Jackson's father was a principal and coach, but he did not see himself going into coaching. Twenty-five years later he's glad that he did because he has the chance to not only coach young men about the game he loves, but also about life.

"I like working with kids, helping them become young men," Jackson said. "I believe as a coach you have to teach kids about what's right and what's wrong."

It appears the Eagles have a bright future with Eric Jackson as their head coach.

HCC announces Qatar Harvey fund scholarship program

HOUSTON (Jan. 9, 2019) - The Houston Community College Foundation today announced a new scholarship program for students who were unable to continue their studies at HCC due to financial constraints resulting from Hurricane Harvey. It is anticipated that more than 100 students who withdrew from HCC after the hurricane will receive scholarships, beginning in the Spring 2019 semester.

Funding for the scholarships was provided by the State of Qatar through a \$300,000 grant from its Qatar Harvey Fund, a \$30 million fund established last year for the long-term recovery of southeast Texas. The funding will be made available to the HCC Foundation via a partner-

ship between the Qatar Harvey Fund and the Rebuild Texas Fund.

The Rebuild Texas Fund is a collaborative project of the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation and the OneStar Foundation, created to support the rebuilding of Texas communities hit hard by Hurricane Harvey. The Qatar Harvey Fund grant for HCC student scholarships is part of \$5 million in overall funding that the Qatar Harvey Fund has committed to the Rebuild Texas Fund for long-term recovery assistance in southeast Texas.

"We are grateful to the Qatar Harvey Fund and the Rebuild Texas Fund for their dedication and passion to help rebuild and revitalize our community, including our HCC family

impacted by Hurricane Harvey," said HCC Chancellor Cesar Maldonado. "We now can provide financial assistance to students who had to put their HCC education on hold, or step away from classes altogether, as a result of Harvey."

"A storm as devastating as Harvey disrupts lives in so many ways," said His Excellency Meshal bin Hamad Al-Thani, Qatar's Ambassador to the U.S. "The Qatar Harvey Fund Scholarship Program will support HCC students impacted by the storm as they continue their studies. Qatar has long invested in education, which provides both a direct benefit to students who pursue it, as well as a multiplier

effect for their families and communities. We are very pleased to partner with the Houston Community College Foundation on this program."

"We are excited to partner with the Houston Community College Foundation on this scholarship program to continue our collective mission of helping communities rebuild after Hurricane Harvey," said Neeraj Aggarwal, program director of Rebuild Texas Fund. "We know that rebuilding requires strong, creative partners from business, government, non-profit and philanthropy working together, and are excited to see how HCC's project positively impacts the community."

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OPINION PAGE

**OPINION**  
By REP. DAN CRENSHAW



**The Silly Arguments  
Against a Border Wall**

*They'll go around it? Exactly—that's the point.*

By Dan Crenshaw

This week saw the culmination of the great wall debate. President Trump made his case—one I generally agree with—and explained what an extra \$5.7 billion (approximately 0.1% of the budget) would do for the security of our southern border. Democratic leaders Chuck Schumer and Nancy Pelosi immediately dismissed it. It is honestly surprising how quickly and thoroughly Democrats adopted the notion that a wall of any kind is such an obviously stupid and immoral idea. Well, is it? Let's lay out the claims one by one:

- They'll just climb over it, dig under it or break through it. Just like that huh? I spent 10 years as a Navy SEAL, and people often say, "Dan, you know better than anyone how ineffective a wall is." Actually, I know how effective walls are, even against skilled SEALs. Planning to scale a 30-foot steel slatted barrier is a daunting challenge. Do you bring an enormous ladder all the way there? How do you get down from the top? Jump? Rappel? This isn't a Tough Mudder course. A few skilled and well-equipped people may figure it out, but the reality is that most will be deterred.

The same goes for "digging" or "breaking." Tunneling would require special equipment and hundreds of hours to dig under the barrier, the base of which would penetrate many feet underground. To break through it, you'd need specialized circular saws, torches or explosives. Typical equipment for a special-ops team, but not exactly on the packing list for a migrant. And Border Patrol agents would easily detect such a ruckus.

This isn't to argue that a wall is completely impenetrable given the right equipment, but to state the obvious: A barrier is far preferable to an open space, where migrants can simply walk across.

- They'll just go around it. Exactly—that's the point. A deterrent at the busiest sections of the border would allow more effective allocation of manpower. If a mile of the border is walled off, that's one less mile the Border Patrol needs to worry about. Agents can still respond to the location if a special-ops caravan shows up with a blowtorch, but otherwise they can focus on open areas where it is simply not viable to build a barrier.

- You can't put a wall on the Rio Grande. Fair enough—there are places where a physical barrier can't work, such as private land along the river in Texas. You can't build a wall everywhere—but that doesn't mean you shouldn't build one anywhere.

This whole debate is a classic case of one side attacking the other's worst arguments instead of seriously addressing the actual proposal. Democrats need to stop assuming we are talking about a contiguous 2,000-mile wall. Republicans know that's not practical. The budget's small allocation of \$5.7 billion that President Trump has requested would build 234 miles of wall. It's a start.

We know that border security is a multifaceted problem, that security at unwallied segments can be enhanced by drones, sensors and additional patrols, and that the Rio Grande requires a different approach. Let's start looking for a multifaceted solution instead of automatically dismissing the critical role that physical barriers play.

Do Democrats agree that it's a problem when hundreds of thousands of people illegally cross our border each year or not? If we all still agree on the sanctity of our country's borders and rule of law—and I have faith that most of us do—then we should be looking for solutions. My fear is that Democrats have staked out a position so extreme that any common-sense compromise involving a physical barrier will constitute a serious political loss for them. It doesn't have to. The president's proposal—a mix of physical barriers, technology and more Border Patrol agents—is one that benefits everyone.

**Mr. Crenshaw, a Republican, represents Texas' Second Congressional District**

*This Op-Ed originally appeared in the Wall Street Journal.*

**COMMENTS INVITED: Your thoughts on this subject should be sent to the Editor c/o [nenewsroom@aol.com](mailto:nenewsroom@aol.com).**



**STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS**  
By Ed Sterling

**Legislature convenes with list of big issues**

AUSTIN — The 86th Texas Legislature convenes Jan. 8 as the partial shutdown of the federal government that began Dec. 22 enters a third week.

As always, lawmakers' priorities will be the writing of a two-year state budget and deciding how to fund it. In the 140 days of the regular session, they also will consider public education funding, property tax reform, health care, public safety, transportation, water and a host of other issues.

After the oath of office is administered by Texas' new Secretary of State David Whitely, the first order of business for the 150-member Texas House of Representatives will be to elect a new speaker to succeed Joe Straus, the San Antonio Republican who presided over the body for five consecutive two-year terms. In the fall, Rep. Dennis Bonnen, R-Angleton, eventually secured more than 76 pledges from fellow House members, the minimum number needed to win the race for speaker. Other House members who declared their candidacy for the office and later withdrew include Republicans John Zerwas of Richmond, Drew Darby of San Angelo, Travis Clardy of Nacogdoches, Phil King of Weatherford, Walter T. "Four" Price IV of Amarillo, Tan Parker of Flower Mound and Democrat Eric Johnson of Dallas.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, R-Houston, won a second four-year term, and again will preside over the Texas Senate. The lieutenant governor and the speaker will choose committee chairs and committee members before hearings commence and proposed legislation is heard.

**Oldest WWII veteran dies**

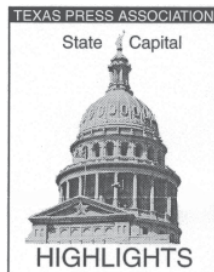
Richard A. Overton, America's oldest-living World War II veteran, died Dec. 27 in Austin. He was 112.

Born May 11, 1906, in Bastrop County, Overton lived in his home on Austin's Richard Overton Avenue, a street renamed in his honor on his 111th birthday.

Overton enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1940 and served in the 188th Aviation Engineer Battalion, an all-black unit operating on various Pacific islands, including Hawaii, Iwo Jima, Okinawa, Palau and Guam. He mustered out of the service in 1945.

Services with full military honors and burial are set for Jan. 12 in the Texas State Cemetery in Austin.

"Richard Overton is an American icon and a Texas legend," Gov. Greg Abbott said on Dec. 28. "With his quick wit and kind spirit he touched the lives of so many and I am deeply honored to have known



him. Richard Overton made us proud to be Texans and proud to be Americans. We can never repay Richard Overton for his service to our nation and for his lasting impact on the Lone Star State. On behalf of Texas, Cecilia and I offer our thoughts and prayers to his family and friends."

**Founder of airline dies**

Herb Kelleher, chairman emeritus of Dallas-based Southwest Airlines, died Jan. 3. He was 87.

The New Jersey native arrived in Texas in 1967 to open a law practice. With client and business partner Rollin King, Kelleher incorporated Air Southwest Co., later named Southwest Airlines.

In June 1971, the fledgling carrier opened gates at Love Field in Dallas and began service to Houston and San Antonio. The airline, with its fleet of Boeing 737 aircraft, grew to be a major carrier with destinations from coast to coast and in other countries.

**Tax collections increase**

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on Jan. 3 said state sales tax revenue totaled \$2.87 billion in December, an amount 4.7 percent more than collected in December 2017.

"Growth in state sales tax revenue continues to be led by remittances from oil- and gas-related sectors," Hegar said. "The year-over-year rate of growth has moderated, as expected, due to strong collections from a year ago, as well as the decline in the price of crude oil."

Also, Hegar said, total sales tax revenue for the three months ending in December 2018 was up 6.5 percent compared to the same period a year ago.

In the month of December, the comptroller's office reported the following revenue from other major taxes:

- Motor vehicle sales and rental taxes: \$395.9 million, down 4.5 percent from December 2017;
- Motor fuel taxes: \$314.3 million, up 3.5 percent from December 2017; and
- Oil and natural gas production taxes: \$478.5 million, up 20.7 percent from December 2017.

**Kernels about pecan trees**

By Lynette Parsons

The pecan is the Texas state tree, being native to about 150 counties and capable of growing and producing in all Texas counties. The tree is popular for landscaping and as a source of nuts. Proper attention to cultural requirements and pest control will help to assure a long and productive life for home pecan trees

**Soil and Site Requirements**

Pecans are native to river and creek bottoms, the soils of which are deep, fertile and well-drained and have substantial water-holding capacity. Pecans require at least 3 feet of well-drained soil above the minimum depth of the water table to develop a strong root system. Pecans planted on shallow soils having poor internal drainage never develop into large, productive trees.

There is not enough space in this article to provide all the wonderful information available on pecan growth; excerpts have been reprinted here, but there are three excellent sources for complete discussion. Two are from Texas A&M and one is from University of Missouri Extension. They can be found online.

"Home Fruit Production - Pecans", by John A. Lipe, Larry Stein, George Ray McEachern, John Begnaud and Sammy Helmers, Extension Horticulturists.

"Homeowner's Fruit and Nut Spray Schedule", by Jerral D. Johnson, George Phillely, James V. Robinson and George Ray McEachern, Extension Horticulturists.

"Pecan Pest Management: Insects and Diseases", by George S. Smith and Maureen H. O'Day, Department of Entomology, University of Missouri, with William Reid, Kansas State University.

**Fertilization of young trees**

Nitrogen is necessary for rapid tree growth and is the only soil-applied nutrient that most pecan trees ever need. It is important to apply nitrogen in frequent small amounts during the first few years.

Freeze damage is very common on young pecan trees fertilized after the month of June, so do not fertilize after this date.

**Mature Trees - Nitrogen**

Apply 1 pound (2 cups) of 21-0-0 or 33-0-0 for each inch of trunk diameter in late March before bud break. If the tree produces a very heavy nut set in May, make a second application in late May or early June. Apply the fertilizer broadcast on the surface starting 3 to 5 feet from the trunk and extending out a few feet past the tree canopy. Water the fertilizer into the soil promptly.

**Zinc** - Frequent zinc

sprays are essential for rapid tree growth. Trees deficient in zinc usually have small, weak leaves, highly branched (rosetted) twigs at shoot tips and, in severe cases, dieback of twigs and branches

During the first 7 years, trees grow best if foliar sprays of zinc are applied at least every 2 weeks throughout the growing season of April through early August. If the trees are not growing, reduce the spray frequency. Spray mature trees with zinc at least three times between bud break in late March or early April and early June

**Irrigation** - Irrigation is essential for survival and rapid growth of young trees and for consistent production of quality nuts on bearing trees. Each irrigation should be sufficient to thoroughly soak the soil. Water regularly from mid-March through September. Ideally, water at least weekly, especially in mid-summer. Apply at least 1 inch of water each irrigation. The water needs of trees will vary from 1 inch per week in the spring to more than 2 inches per week in mid-summer. If lawn grasses are under the trees competing for water, apply additional water to compensate.

Do not reduce late summer watering on bearing trees that are maturing a full crop until after shuck split. Water every 6 to 7 weeks in the fall and winter, if rainfall is short, to avoid root stress or freeze damage.

The root system of a pecan tree is at least two times the width of the tree canopy. Water the entire root soil area to stimulate maximum growth and production. Drip and microsprinkler irrigation systems can be used to deliver water efficiently, but use sufficient drip emitters or sprinklers to provide water to at least 50 percent of the soil root area under each tree. Drip systems that water only a small percentage of the root area are inadequate during droughts.

**Insect issues** - Here's a short list of problems with nuts resulting from insect or fungal issues. Shucks won't open, small white worms tunneling in shucks = Hickory shuckworm. Round, 1/8" diameter hole in the shell = Pecan weevils. Black spots on kernels = Stinkbug damage. "Stick-tights" (shuck adheres to nut shell) = Pecan scab. Premature nut drop = Pecan nut casebearer. Kernels poorly filled = Hickory shuckworm.

**Environmental issues** - Premature nut drop = Poor pollination, drought stress. Shriveled kernels = Drought and heat stress in September and October. Kernels poorly filled = Crowded or old trees, shallow soil, late summer drought stress, or poor nutrition.

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# ENTERTAINMENT

## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



## Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



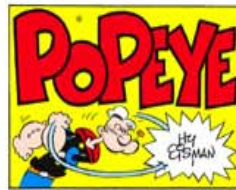
## R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



## Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



## LAFF-A-DAY



## 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!

- Ignore PRUNS
- Shine REGAL
- Polish HENIS
- Dot PINTO

TODAY'S WORD

Posting Date January 14, 2019

## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 — about (spread the word)
- 6 Utters
- 12 Grads
- 13 Recluse
- 14 ymnoso-phist's practice
- 15 Incompetent
- 16 Vicinity
- 17 Sicilian spouter
- 19 Tier
- 20 Onetime NYC mayor
- 22 Writer Buscaglia
- 24 Sternward
- 27 Near the treasure
- 29 "Thin Man" dog
- 32 Just one thing after another?
- 35 Deserve
- 36 Arp's movement
- 37 Poehler or Grant
- 38 Panasonic competitor
- 40 Incline
- 42 Slithery squeezer
- 44 Not so much
- 46 Radius neighbor
- 50 German Chancellor



- 7 Punishment-related
- 8 Geological time
- 9 Food of the gods
- 10 Narc's measure
- 11 Crockpot creation
- 12 Literary collection
- 18 Menaces
- 21 Possess
- 23 Chow down
- 24 Expert
- 25 Govt. lender
- 26 Seasoning herb
- 28 Guaranteed
- 30 Male turkey
- 31 One or more
- 33 Business abbr.
- 34 Hoosegow
- 39 Back street
- 41 Disney pachyderm
- 42 Wild party
- 43 Never again?
- 45 41-Down's "wings"
- 47 Noisy
- 48 Schnozz
- 49 Illustrations
- 51 Blunder
- 53 Neither mate

### DOWN

- 1 Unclear view
- 2 Discourteous
- 3 Eskimo boat
- 4 Officeholders
- 5 It gets punched
- 6 Avoid

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

6			5			3	8
	3			6	7		
4	9						5
		6	7	4	2		
	2			1	8		9
4	5	3			6		
			6	3	9		
2	9			8			7
		5		2			1

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

- GAMES: How much do you have to pay if you land on the "Income Tax" space in Monopoly?
- LANGUAGE: What does the Greek prefix "poly" mean in English?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of the island of Fiji?
- FOOD & DRINK: What is the substance in chili peppers that makes the tongue burn?
- SCIENCE: What does the acronym DNA stand for?
- MATH: What is the top number of a fraction called?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: What was the Secret Service code word for first lady Michelle Obama?
- LAW: What is the 10th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution about?
- ANATOMY: What is the rarest blood type in human beings?
- MUSIC: The film "Rhapsody in Blue" was about the life of which composer?

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## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTWOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Boy's hat is different. 2. Bear is wearing mt. 3. Boy's glove is back. 4. Mountains are snow-capped. 5. Boy's brooches are missing. 6. Bear has three toes.

- 10 percent of your assets or \$200
- Many
- Suva
- Capricorn
- Deoxyribonucleic Acid
- The numerator
- Renaissance
- Rights retained by the states
9. A negative (less than 1 percent)
- George Gershwin

### Trivia Test Answers



Solution time: 24 mins.

### King Crossword

3	6	5	7	2	9	4	8	1
2	9	4	1	6	5	3	7	6
8	7	1	6	4	3	9	5	2
4	5	8	3	9	2	6	1	7
7	3	2	5	6	1	8	4	9
9	1	6	8	7	4	5	2	3
1	4	7	9	3	8	2	6	5
5	8	3	2	1	6	7	9	4
6	2	9	4	5	7	1	3	8

### Answers

### Weekly SUDOKU

When a city's name is being in its own honor, people could claim it has the home port advantage.

## CryptoQuip

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

Clue: D English P  
 BNFV S PCGI'W VSMI CW  
 OSGGKQVA CV CGW TBV NSXOTX,  
 DFTDKF PTLKO PKSCU CG NSW  
 GNF NTUF DTXG SQMSVGSFAF.

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### SCRAMBLERS

Today's Word  
 1. Spurn; 2. Glare; 3. Shine; 4. Point

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 Gerardo Herrera Gonzales

Earline Williamson  
 Katherine Reyes Crespo  
 Frances Ione Ellisor  
 Jose Erasmo Lesso Jr.  
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## BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of 2 Kings in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Acts 6, which one of the seven "deacons" did great wonders and miracles among the people? Nicanor, Philip, Timon, Stephen
3. What apostle was a disciple of John the Baptist when Jesus recruited him? Andrew, Simon Peter, Thomas, James

4. From Revelation 6, what color was the sun when it became like a sackcloth of hair? Red, Black, White, Green
5. Who was Saul of Tarsus waiting for while he fasted three days in Damascus? Darius, Zenas, Ananias, Apollo
6. From Isaiah 63:2, what color of garments does the Lord wear? Purple, Red, White, Gold

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Stephen; 3) Andrew; 4) Black; 5) Ananias; 6) Red

**THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE**

When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking.

LUKE 5:4-6

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LIFESTYLE

# Blessed by the Father

In December, our church embarked on a journey: In our annual Operation BAM Christmas outreach we chose to Be A Miracle, to leave our mark by setting ourselves to be the greatest blessing we could possibly be to our community. We provided gifts for wounded veterans and their families; carried hundreds of gifts to, and completed several service projects for, a battered women's shelter; gave sheets and towels to a homeless shelter; and drove into the streets of Houston to deliver truck beds full of boots, blankets, socks, and more to the homeless where they live. The days before Christmas were filled with truly awe-inspiring experiences for everyone!

We've been doing such things for years, but for our church this marks the dawning of an even greater year-round focus on practical outreach.

**THOUGHTS FROM  
MARANATHA CHURCH**

By **Dr. Mark Trice**



People often talk about being the hands and feet of Jesus, but we're determined to put the principle into practice like we never have before. Our Operation BAM Disaster Response team has already met the needs of victims of one disaster. We've also launched a brand new ministry through which we will obtain and provide meat for organizations (such as the two shelters) that generally make do with mostly non-perishable food donations. And this is not all; the planning for 2019 has only just begun.

I don't say this to brag about our church, but to encourage you. Jesus commanded us to "go out," but it's easy not to. The temptation is to sit in our comfy seats on Sunday morning and think that our presence in His

house means we're serving our God-called purpose, but God expects us to do more. Matthew 25:31-40 makes this perfectly clear. We've all heard the words, "For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you took Me in, I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you looked after Me, I was in prison and you visited Me." More than a checklist of things we have to do, this illustrates an attitude He wants us to live out - to meet needs where we see them.

In these unprecedentedly troubled times, with disasters, disturbances, homelessness, and hopelessness abounding, the hour has come for the church to sit up and take notice, for the men, women, and even children who make up the church to rise up and get into the action more than we ever have before. It is time for the individual Christian to say, "Yes, I can!" and jump up and DO. We don't have to wait for someone else to make a plan, to start the process;

each of us has the power in our own hands. It is my desire to see every Christian get into position so that we will all hear Him say, "Come, you who are blessed by My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

*Maranatha: "Rejoice, the Lord is coming soon!"*  
#MaranathaChurch #IglesiaMaranatha

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# FLOOD CONTROL NEWS

## Harris County Engineering Dept. schedules Storm Drainage Improvement Public Meetings

(HARRIS COUNTY, Texas) - The Harris County Engineering Department - Recovery and Resiliency Division will host the following community engagement meetings. Residents of these areas are invited to attend and provide feedback on proposed stormwater drainage improvements. Harris County Flood Control District representatives will also be in attendance.

Any improvements will be funded with the bonds approved by Harris County voters on Aug. 25, 2018.

\* Crosby Township community engagement meeting, Precinct 2  
Jan. 15, 2019, from 6 to 8 p.m.  
Crosby Community Center 409 Hare Rd, Crosby, Texas 77532

\* Apache Land and Creel Country Estates Subdivisions community engagement meeting, Precinct 2  
Jan. 16, 2019, from 6 to 8 p.m.  
San Jacinto Community Center 604 Highland Woods Dr. Highlands, Texas 77562

\* Airline Estates and Blue Bell Subdivision community engagement meeting, Precinct One  
Jan. 17, 2019, from 6 to 8 p.m.  
Pep Mueller Community Center  
14750 Henry Road Houston, Texas 77060

\* Sierra Ranch and Stonefield Subdivision community engagement meeting, Precinct One  
Jan. 23, 2019, from 6 to 8 p.m.  
Parkway Utility District  
12843 Tidwell Road  
Houston, Texas 77044

\* Bear Creek Village Subdivision community engagement meeting, Precinct 4  
Jan. 24, 2019, from 6 to 8 p.m.  
19202 Groeschke Road  
Houston, Texas 77084

\* North Park Forest Subdivision community engagement meeting, Precinct 4  
Jan. 28, 2019, from 6 to 8 p.m.  
DeKaney High School  
22351 Imperial Valley Drive  
Houston, Texas 77073

\* Barwood, Tower Oaks Meadows, and Bernadine Estates Subdivisions community engagement meeting, Precinct 3  
Jan. 30, 2019, from 6 to 8 p.m.  
Arnold MS  
11111 Telge Road  
Cypress, Texas 77429

\* Memorial Hills Subdivision community engagement meeting, Precinct 4  
Feb. 12, 2019, from 7 to 8 p.m.  
Memorial Hills Community Improvement Association  
2225 Briarcreek Blvd.  
Houston, Texas 77007

For more information, visit [www.hcfc.org/2018-bond-program/community-engagement-meetings](http://www.hcfc.org/2018-bond-program/community-engagement-meetings).

About the Harris County Engineering Department - Recovery and Resiliency Division

The Harris County Engineering Department, with direction from the Commissioners Court, established the Recovery and Resiliency Division (RRD) in 2018 to oversee engineering projects dedicated to the reduction of flood risk following Hurricane Harvey. The Division is one of eight within the Harris County Engineering Department, which executes the planning, study, design and construction of various infrastructure, parks and other architectural and maintenance projects in accordance with engineering design standards and specifications. For more information about the Harris County Engineering Department, visit [www.eng.hctx.net](http://www.eng.hctx.net).

## Houston to open four Hurricane Harvey Housing Recovery Centers

The City of Houston will receive \$1,155,119,250 in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds for assisting in long-term housing recovery from Hurricane Harvey. Housing Resource Centers have been established to assist residents with the Hurricane Harvey Recovery survey and application process in order to receive these funds.

Mayor Sylvester Turner and Tom McCasland, Director of Housing and Community Development, will be present on January 14 2019, for the grand opening and tour of a Housing Resource Center located at 9551 N. Wayside Dr. Houston, TX 77028 at 2:00pm

Invite your fellow community and faith leaders, or anyone else that may have been impacted by Hurricane Harvey as the City of

Houston takes this important step on the road to long-term recovery.

Intake specialists will be available to assist constituents with the Harvey Recovery Survey. Please let me know if you or anyone else from your community plans to attend so I can add your name to the list of attendees. Call 1832-275-1513.

--Jorge Maldonado

## CIVIC CLUB NEWS

### Castlewood Civic Club

## Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia to visit Castlewood Civic Club

Castlewood's first quarterly meeting of 2019 will be held next week. The CCC meeting will be held at Bethel Community Church on 2414 Lauder Road, on Thursday, January 24th, 2019.

The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm. We will have Commissioner Adrian Garcia, Precinct 2, as our



speaker for the evening. He will be visiting Castlewood earlier this month and will be addressing some of the issues for our area that evening at the meeting. I hope to see you at the meeting along with other Castlewood residents. Judy Dela Garza Secretary - Castlewood Civic Club

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