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## Fatal crash on Aldine Mail Route

has been charged with murder after his SUV struck a pick-up truck and killed the woman driver.
The accident occurred

last Tuesday at about 2:20 pm, at the corner of Aldine Mail Route and Aldine Westfield Road.

Sheriff Ed Gonzalez told the media that the SUV driver was travelling at a high rate of speed west-

See Fatal Crash on  ${\it Aldine\ Mail\ Rte,\ Page\ 8}$ 



After the horrendous crash, the cars lie in the ditch along Aldine Mail Rte. The woman driving the red pick-up died after being hit by the SUV.

## Congressman Gene Green honored by Aldine ISD Trustees

During the Dec. 18 Board meeting, Aldine ISD honored U.S. Congressman Gene Green for his decades of dedicated service to the school district.

Congressman Green is retiring after serving the North Houston area and Aldine for 25 years.

AISD thanked Congressman Green for his outstanding support of the district as a parent, a state representative, a state senator and as a U.S. Congressman. Mr. Green has supported Aldine ISD by holding an annual job fair at the M.O. Campbell Educational Center, he's supported the district's C.H.I.C.K.E.N Club,

See Honored, Page 3



U.S. Congressman Gene Green, center, was honored by the Aldine ISD Board of Trustees during its Dec. 18 Board meeting. Congressman Green was honored for his 25 years of dedicated service to the district while serving in the U.S. Congress. Pictured with Congressman Green and his wife Helen, were: (I-r): Vice President Paul Shanklin, Board Member Patricia Ann Bourgeois, Board Member Dr. Kimberley Booker, Board Member Dr. Viola M. Garcia, Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney, President Steve Mead, Secretary Rose Avalos, Assistant Secretary Connie Esparza and Deputy Superintendent Dr. Selina Chapa.

## **DEFENSIVE PLAY OF THE YEAR:**

40'x40' Oil on Canvas

**Artist's Showcase:** 

## Jonzell Prudhomme's big senior season lands him honor

By Mike Keeney Contributing \X/riter

The future is indeed bright for Jon-

zell Prudhomme. The 6-2, 220pound senior line-backer turned in quite a year for the Davis Falcons.

Prudhomme recorded 49 solo tackles. 37 assisted tackles, 18 tackles for loss, 11.5 quarterback sacks, 2 in-terceptions (one he returned for a touchdown), seven batted ball, five pass breakups and nine quarterback

Those numbers added up to Prudhomme being named the 2018 Northeast News' Defensive Player of the Year.

He had a busy season indeed, and will also have a busy winter as he decides which college he wants to choose to continue his academic and athletic career.

Prudhomme has already visited the Air Force Academy and will visit West Point in January. He is also drawing interest



by Mei Hoffman

Davis High School senior linebacker Jonzell Prudhomme was named the 2018 Northeast News Defensive Player of the

from Kansas State, New Mexico, Sam Houston State, the Naval Academy, Fresno State and a host of

other schools.
"I really liked the Air Force Academy and I am looking forward to visiting West Point," Prudhomme

James Showers, his coach, said whoever lands

See Defensive Player of the Year, Page 5



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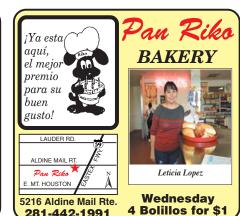
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#### COMMUNITY SCHOOL NEWS

## MSMS names Aldine ISD's Carter Academy 'Best Visual and Performing Arts Magnet Program

Carter Academy has been named as the "Best Visual and Performing Arts Program" by Magnet Schools of the Mid-South (MSMS). The regional organization highlights the academic achievement and successful magnet implementation in campuses in Arkansas, Colorado, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

The campus received the award at the organization's annual regional conference held in Houston last week.

The award lauded Cart-er Academy's vibrant magnet curriculum. The program provides "ample opportunities to learn through a unique approach that enriches the lives of all students."

Carter students receive specialized instruction in dance, drama, visual arts, music and strings. The program encourages students appreciation of the arts while developing criticalthinking and problem-solving skills.
"I am proud of Carter



Lauren Anderson with Houston Ballet After-School Program seen in 2015 working with the students.

Academy. This is one of many wonderful magnet programs we offer in AISD," said Olivia Boatner, director of magnet schools.

"We are very honored to receive this award and recognition," said Principal Lee Wold. "At Carter Academy, we strive to provide students with an excellent program that integrates arts and academics to teach the whole child."

Several Aldine ISD

leaders attended the conference including representatives from magnet schools across the District. Superintendent LaTonya M. Goffney served as keynote speaker.

Schools can apply for the award each year. They must prove fidelity of implementation of the program. Other factors include gains in student achievement and success in narrowing gaps.

## Rep. Sylvia Garcia becomes one of the first latinas in Congress to represent Texas

Washington, DC - January 3, 2019– Joined by many supporters, friends, and colleagues, Congress-woman Sylvia Garcia (TX-29) made history today when she was sworn in as one of the first two Latinas of Texas in the U.S. Con-

gress.
"Today is a significant, historic moment for the people of the Texas 29th Congressional District, particularly Texas' Latinas," said Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia. "Never be-fore has there been a Latirepresentation in Houston

delegation. I look forward to working with my colleagues to find solutions to the challenges facing our country and our communi-

"I thank Congressman Gene Green for his years of service and look forward

to building on his proud legacy of fighting for every person in the 29th District and the Houston region." Congresswoman Garcia

joins Rep. Veronica Esco-bar (TX-16), as the first Latinas to represent Texas in Congress. Along with fellow Houstonian Rep. Lizzie Fletcher (TX-7), they also represent the first freshman Texas wom-en elected to a full term in Congress in more than 20

About Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia (@RepSylviaGarcia):

Congresswoman Garcia is one of the first Latinas to serve in Congress representing Texas' 29th District. Garcia has a lifelong dedication to public service as a social worker and le-gal aid lawyer early in her professional career. Active in the Houston community, she has served on over 25 boards. As Houston City Controller, Harris County Commissioner, and Texas state Senator, Garcia has been a fighter for her district and advocated for veterans, immigrant rights, women's health and access to healthcare.

About Texas' 29th Congressional District:

Texas' 29th Congressional District includes, Houston, Pasadena, Gale-na Park, Jacinto City, Aldine and South Houston. Home to Hobby Airport and the Port of Houston, the 29th District is a critical hub for transportation and industry. Over 76% of residents are of Hispanic or Latino origin with 68% of the residents speaking a language other than English at home with the majority speaking Span-

## Aldine ISD meets with elected officials, community leaders ahead of 2019 Texas Legislative Session



Superintendent LaTonya M. Goffney presented the District's agenda. She centered on four priorities — accountability, school safety, public school finance and full funding for prekindergarten.

Houston-area elected officials and their staff convened at the Blanson Career and Technical Education High School on December 14 to receive an update from AISD Superintendent LaTonya M. Goffney and hear the District's priorities for the up-coming legislative session

that starts Jan. 8, 2019.
Attendees received a brochure describing in full detail the District's legislative agenda. The discussion, however, centered on four key areas — accountability, school safety, public school finance and funding for full-day prekindergarten.

"We're grateful for the support of our elected officials here in Houston and Aldine," Goffney said. "We hope that as you meet with colleagues that you see there is a strong consensus across Texas that the Legislature must fix school finance by increasing its share of public education funding and removing the heavy burden on local property taxpayers. We hope that you will advocate for public education and make school finance your

top priority."
Elected officials, com munity members and faith-based leaders also heard from Assistant Superintendent of Finance Tamika Alford-Stephens, Executive Director of Assessment Dawn Rodríguez, Deputy Superintendent Selina Chapa and Assistant Superintendent for Region 3 Elementary Schools Christina Gómez.

Goffney described meeting with superintendents across the region as well as organizations such as Texas School Alliance, Texas Urban Council and the Texas Association of School Administrators. School leaders across the state developed a consensus on

legislative priorities.

Finance Alford-Stephens stressed that the current school finance system is outdated and is insuffi-

Xifaxan 550mg

cient to meet the needs of growing economically disadvantaged students and English language learners in the District. Currently, the state provides funding for about 20 percent of the District's transportation costs, with funding based on gas prices from the 1980s. This has forced AISD to cover the rest of the cost by relying more on local taxpayers. Alford-Stephens stated that an allotment increment as small as \$100 would give AISD \$1 million.

Aldine ISD and other districts seek a state system of public school finance that increases sustainable state revenue sources — e.g. increase in sales tax, increase in cost of education, moving property tax — instead of the current system of shifting funds from one area to another. Districts also want flexibility to use the funds where it is most needed instead of being restricted. When asked where the District would use additional funds, Alford-Stephens said the majority of the funds would be used toward funding full-day prekindergarter

Accountability

The current state accountability system is not a fair system. Ayers-Rodríguez noted that the cur-rent system does not look at multiple quantifiers that show where there is growth and progress, which make a campus great. She added that the District supports Senate Bill 213, which allows for the continued use of Individual Graduation Committees (IGC). The IGC process has been used over the last four year. Supporters find that students graduating under the IGC process are being assessed and measured under a more rigorous, balanced and arguably more accurate program than those graduating under a single STAAR standardized endof-course exam. SB 213 ensures that students who have passed all of their courses and have demonstrated that they are prepared for college or the workforce will graduate from high school. Safety

Several stories from across the country have put an emphasis on school safety. AISD has been ahead of the curve regarding the use of metal detectors in schools. Board Trustee Rose Avalos, a retired school principal, stated the District years ago chose to be proactive to spend the money for metal detectors. Several media stations — ABC, NBC and PBS — featured the District's use and significant reduction in incident reports on campuses. Chapa discussed that AISD is looking to be reimbursed by the state for any costs toward school safety im provements. Aldine ISD also wants to have flexibility to determine how they will spend funds for safety improvements. The District believes that a key area to help students is to identify children at risk of behavior problems. School leaders seek to fund preventative measures such as counseling and mental health support, which the state currently does not

Prekindergarten

Currently, the state funds school districts for a half-day prekindergarten program. Gómez shared that AISD has 4,000 eligible students enrolled, tu-ition free, in 12 PreK campuses. In October, the District launched a PK pilot program for three-year which has 91 youngsters taking part. Earlier this year, the District also partnered with Good Reason Houston to raise awareness and inform the community about the importance of early childhood education. The 86th Texas Legisla-

ture regular session con venes on Jan. 8, 2019.



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#### NEWS COMMUNITY

## Retiring Congressman Gene Green honored at Holiday Reception

By Gilbert Hoffman

last Friday evening to hon-or retiring Congressman Gene Green, and thank him for the 26 years of service to the community he represented. Green was elected to represent Texas District 29 in 1992, and was re-elected 12 times.

Green is known for his service projects in the community, including Job Fairs, Immunization Days, Citizenship Days, Paying for College Workshops, Senior Citizens Forums, and Veterans' forums.

Prior to his terms in Congress, Green served in the Texas House and Senate. He will be succeeded by Sylvia Garcia, who won the election in November. Garcia was the keynote speaker at the reception, reprising Green's career and service to the community, and promising to con-



Host Constable Chris Diaz presents an appreciation plaque to Gene Green and wife Helen Green

tinue his service projects. The reception was held at the Holiday Inn on the East Freeway, hosted by Constable Chris Diaz and wife Jacinto City Mayor Ana Dia, and Amir and

Sabrina Khan.

The event was attended

by about 150 friends and well-wishers, a cross section of the several communities he served, and the organizations in each of these areas, including pastors, Rotarians, civic club leaders, educators, and businessmen.



THE RECEPTION HEAD TABLE included (I to r) Hosts Chris and Ana Diaz, Helen and Gene Green, State Representative Mary Ann Perez, Host Amir Khan, and Pct. 3 Constable Sherman Eagleton, and Congresswoman-elect Sylvia Garcia, not pictured, who was speaking.

## Harris County Attorney's Office works for the Community

Harris County Attornev Vice Ryan will visit the Aldine Library on Wednesday, January 16, at 2 pm to present "Introducing the County Attorney's Office" to area residents.

The Harris County Attorney is the civil lawver for the county, related government entities, and their officials. His ultimate clients are the people of Harris County. The County Attorney and his staff safeguard the rights of county res-

idents and protect them from a broad range of public nuisances. Everyone is invited to come and find out what the County Attorney's Office does for the benefit all county residents. The Aldine Library is located at 11331 Airline Dr.

## www.NENewsroom.com

## Suspect killed during robbery at Little York

The fatal shooting of a robbery suspect that occurred at 108 Little York about 1:10 p.m. on Wednesday, January 2 will be re-ferred to a grand jury. Richard A. Smith, 27, is

charged with felony in possession of a firearm. The shooting, in which he dis-charged his weapon at the robbery suspect, will be re-ferred to a Harris County Grand Jury.
According to HPD Offi-

cials. Smith and his fiancee were leaving a check cashing business at Little York when they were approached by the male who demanded money and con-cealed his hands in a threatening manner. Smith fired his handgun, striking him in the torso. The male was pronounced dead at the scene

Smith then fled the scene on foot but was locat-



ed a short distance away by officers. Smith stated he was in fear of his life when he fired his gun.

The identity of the de-ceased male is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.

The investigation is continuing.

Man shots girlfriend

Charges have been filed against a suspect arrested in the shooting of a woman at 392 East Rittenhouse about 10:45 p.m. on Christ-

mas day.
The suspect, Hector Chavez, 38, is charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. He is accused in the shooting of his girlfriend, Juana Saenz, 32, who was transported to an area hospital in critical condition

According to officials, HPD patrol officers responded to the shooting call and found Ms. Saenz had been shot once in the abdomen. She was transported by Houston Fire Department paramedics to the hospital. Further investigation determined Chavez shot Saenz in the presence of their male child, 7, who was not in-



Chavez

jured. Chavez was taken into custody at the scene

and subsequently charged.
Anyone with additional information in this inci-dent is urged to contact the HPD Major Assaults & Family Violence Division at 713-308-8800 or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS.

## Woman arrested, charged in stabbing of another woman

Charges have been filed against a suspect arrested in the stabbing of a wom-an at 2409 West Little York about 5:20 p.m. on Tuesday, January 1, 2019.

The suspect, Lashante N. Crawford, 42, is charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Detectives said the victim, Alma Herrea, 33, and Crawford got into an earlier physical confrontation and then met up again later in the day. At that time, another physical confrontation between the two women ended with Crawford stabbing Herrera mulback with a knife Para-



Crawford

rera to an area hospital with multiple stab wounds Crawford fled the scene, but eventually turned herself in the following day.

\* DOG'S WAY HOME (PG)

REPLICAS (PG13) 7:00 9:30

## Honored,

CONTINUED FROM

supported the district's FFA students by purchasing student projects at the annual Sale of Champions, held financial and immunization workshops across the district and played in the M.B. "Sonny" the M.B. Donaldson Golf Tournament, which benefits the Aldine Education Foundation.

Congressman Green has presented numerous American flags to Aldine schools and leaders. These flags have flown over the U.S. Capitol and are a symbol of appreciation and support for the community.

Congressman Green has constantly bragged about Aldine because the district is special to him. Both of his children are graduates of Aldine ISD and his wife Helen taught in the district for nearly 30 years.

The district presented Congressman Green with a piece of artwork that was produced by Eisenhower Ninth Grade student Asia Figueroa.

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FRIDAY-WEDNESDAY 1/04/19-1/09/19

#### OPINION PAGE



## Social Security Matters

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

## Ask Rusty – File & Suspend? Restricted Application? Or just wait?

Dear Rusty: My wife and I were both born in 1953. My wife will reach her full retirement age in March 2019 and I will reach mine in June of 2019. My wife's benefit will be roughly \$2,200/ month and mine will be about \$2,700/month if we were to file for payments. An option I have considered is spousal benefits only. In June of 2019 can my wife or I file and suspend our benefits and the other file for spousal benefits and receive half of the others benefits while both our benefits continue to earn credit (8% per year) until we both hit 70? Signed: Looking to Maximize

Dear Looking: Well, you can't do things quite the way you suggest, but you do have a different option known as the "restricted application for spousal benefits only" which either of you can exercise because you wer both born before the cutoff date in the 2015 law which changed the File and Suspend option.

You can't both "file and suspend" benefits as you asked but using the Restricted Application (RA) allows one of you to file for benefits and the other to file the RA to collect half of the other spouse's benefit while allowing their own benefit to grow. To use the restricted application, I usually suggest that the lower-earning spouse apply for their retirement enefits first, allowing the higher-earning spouse to file the RA and collect \_ of the lowerearning spouse's benefit while their own retirement benefit grows at a rate of 8% per year of delay (actually 2/3rds of 1% per month of delay). You can delay up until age 70 when you'll get 32% more than you will get at age 66.

So if your wife applies in March 2019 and collects her full benefit, you could file the RA when you reach age 66 in June 2019 and get half of your wife's benefit (about \$1,100/month) for 4 years

until you reach 70, at which point you can switch to your own retirement benefit which would be about \$3564 per month (using the numbers you provided). Since your wife's retirement benefit would always be more than her spousal benefit (half of your FRA benefit), she would continue receiving her own full retirement benefit, unless you should predecease her, in which case she would get 100% of the increased benefit you are receiving instead of her normal retirement benefit. But there is another alternative: You could

both simply wait until you are 70 to apply and both get the 32% benefit increase, which for your wife would mean about 8700 more per month.
Which is the better
alternative? Only you can
decide, while comparing expected longevity against your wife collect-ing an additional \$700 per month starting at age 70. In a little over 6 years, your wife's additional monthly benefit would offset what you would have received in spousal benefits from the Restricted Application, and she'd get the higher benefit for the rest of her life. In the end, it always comes down to how badly you need the money now, your health and your expected longevity.

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## Sales tax revenue totaled \$2.9 billion in December

3. 2019-Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar today said state sales tax revenue totaled \$2.87 billion in December, 4.7 percent more than in December 2017. "Growth in state

(AUSTIN) —January

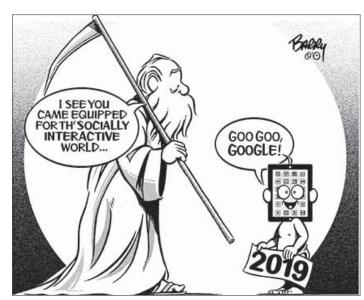
sales tax revenue continues to be led by remittances from oil and gas-related sectors," Hegar said. "The year-over-year rate of growth has moderated, as expected, due to strong collections from a year ago as well as the decline in the price of crude oil.

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. The sales tax is the largest source of state funding for the state budget, accounting for 57 percent of all tax collections.

Texas collected the following revenue from other major taxes: • motor vehicle sales

In December 2018,

- 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.



## Workforce commission reports continuation of employment trend

AUSTIN - Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.7 percent in November, remaining at the same 42-October the Texas Workforce Commission reported Dec. 21.

The Texas economy added 14,000 seasonally adjusted non-farm jobs in November and annual employment growth was 3.0 percent for the month, marking 103 consecutive months of annual growth, according to the commis-

"The addition of 365,400 jobs over the year and 14,000 jobs in November demonstrates the consistency with which employers in our state create job opportunities for the highly skilled Texas workforce," said TWC Chair Ruth R. Hughs. "The Texas economy of-fers employers access to a competitive workforce and provides job seekers with career options in a variety of growing Texas industries. The numbers are a testament to the resilience of our Texas employers and the diversity of our Texas economy,

she added. The manufacturing sector recorded the largest private-industry employment gain over the month with 9,100 jobs added and led all industries in growth.

The Midland Metropolitan Statistical Area recorded the month's lowest unemployment rate among Texas MSAs with a non-seasonally adjusted rate of 2.1 percent, followed by the Amarillo MSA, second lowest with a rate of 2.5 percent, and the Odessa MSA, third percent. Special elections

#### are set Gov. Greg Abbott set Tuesday, Jan. 29, as the

special election date to fill two recently vacated seats in the Texas House of Representatives. Those seats are House District 145, vacated by

## STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling



former state Rep. Carol Alvarado, D-Houston, a House member since 2008, and House District 79, soon to be vacated by Rep. Joe Pickett, D-El Paso, a House member since 1995.

Alvarado in early December won a special election runoff for the Texas Senate seat vacated by Sylvia Garcia, D-Houston, who resigned from office after she was elected to the U.S. House in November. Alvarado was administered the oath of office on Dec. 21. On Dec. 15, Pickett resigned from of-fice effective Jan. 4, citing health issues.

Candidates who wish to have their names placed on the special election ballot must file their applications with the Secretary of State no later than 5 p.m. on Jan. 3. Early voting by personal appearance will begin Jan.

#### elected Kevin Eltife, appointed in 2017 by Gov. Abbott to

a six-year term on The University of Texas System Board of Regents, was unanimously elected chairman of the board on Dec. 20. A native of Tyler, Eltife

has a resume that in-

## Regent chair is

## NORTHBAST\*NEWS

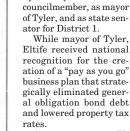
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Tyler City Council as a



and lowered property tax As a state senator, Eltife was noted for his bipartisan cooperation and his leadership in finance, economic development, open government, health and human services, and government organiza-

The UT board of regents oversees 14 higher education institutions, an enrollment of more than 235,000 students and an operating budget of \$19.5

#### Coalition includes Paxton

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on Dec. 20 announced that he and 38 state attorneys general had sent a letter to congressional leaders, asking them "to fully consider criminal justice reforms" like those contained in the federal FIRST STEP Act (House Resolution 5682) The letter explains

that many states already have enacted criminal justice reforms similar to those in the FIRST STEP as incentivizing federal inmates to participate in recidivism-reducing programs such as vocational training and academic H.R. 5682 also would

put more tools in the hands of prosecutors, allowing them to seek the most appropriate sentence for an individual's crimes, Paxton said. "This legislation pro-

vides additional tools and flexibility to the Federal Bureau of Prisons better equipping our correctional system to ensure that people coming back into our communities are prepared to do so as responsible citizens who do not pose a risk to our communities," coalition members wrote in the letter to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, House Speaker Paul Ryan and House Minority Leader Nancy

## 5 ways to raise a confident, adventurous child

(Family Features) From taking steps toward the stairs to learning that bubbles don't taste good, exploration is a part of development for babies and young children. While it's an exciting time, it also can be hesitation as parents find themselves saying "no" or jumping in when baby discovers

An Open for Adventure survey from Babyganics found a majority of parents (69 percent) believe a child can learn to be more confident if he or she is allowed to explore freely as a baby. However, letting go doesn't always come naturally for parents.

Clinical health psychologis Dr. Bobbi Wegner encourages parents to be explorer parents which focuses on raising resilient, confident and adventurous humans through challenge and discovery. She offers these tips for parents:

Aid in discovery. Encourage and applaud baby's healthy risktaking, such as mastering a challenging stair climb or pushing through moments of frustration and failure. Additionally, create teachable mome that introduce your child to necessary limits. For example, if you have hot coffee in the morning and your little one wants to touch the mug, let him or her gently touch a warm area of the mug with a fingertip and repeat that the mug is "hot" to help encourage exploration and flex baby's senses.

Let baby be free. While you may think baby gadgets are necessary for playtime, consider rethinking those toys. Instead of searching for stimulation through lights and sounds from a toy, allow your baby to explore the natural environment. Look for opportunities that allow him or her to make a manageable mess and even get wet or dirty. This could be as simple as playing with a container filled with water or letting your baby pull up grass in the backyard. These small unstructured play adventures can help develop independence

Engage the senses. Exposing your baby to new flavors and smells helps engage him or her on a multi-sensory level. For example, allowing your baby (at an appropriate age, typically between 4-7 months) to try new foods can provide a feeling of accomplishment while also exposing him or her to different textures and flavors. Encourage even more sensory exploration by allowing your baby to smell the food and even play with it using his or her

Provide early exposure to **new places.** Bringing baby along to restaurants and other public spaces allows for positive exposure to new places, people and sounds, which can help build the immune system, encourage social interaction and support development. While letting a child explore in a public setting like an airport or train station car make many parents anxious, carrying products such as Babyganics Alcohol-Free Hand Sanitizing Wipes can help ease parents' apprehension and keep little hands germ-free while on

Wait a moment. It's common for parents to intervene the moment baby awakes from nap or starts moving toward the stairs. Try pausing, allowing your little one to naturally find his or her limits while managing your own fears and worries. This tactic can allow your young explorer an opportunity fo cognitive and social-emotional development with you as a safety net nearby. "Parents often look to their

own internal response to guide parenting: 'If I am worried then it must be dangerous, and I should not allow my baby to do it," Wegner said. "When in fact. parents should prioritize their baby's exploration and needs to provide learning opportunities rather than allowing their own anxieties to impede their children." For more information, visit

babyganics.com.



#### ENTERTAINMENT SPORTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Prudhomme will be getting a special player.

Jonzell is a workhorse who does not let up," Show-ers said. "He's very smart and can analyze a play be fore it happens. His strengths are his football IQ and his relentlessness to make plays. Jonzell has a true passion for the game."
Prudhomme, whose fa-

ther Tremel played on the 1990 Aldine High School team that won the state and national title, is also a solid student off the field. He carries a 3.9 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) and is in the top 1% of his class. He's also a member of the National Honor Society at Davis High, served as a volunteer during Hurricane Harvey, was a member of the District 16-6A All Academic Team and was Academic All-State. He was also named first team all-district on the District 16-6A defensive team. He is also a Houston Chronicle Top 100 recruit. "He's well liked by his classmates, our staff and his teammates," Showers said. "Our coaches love him corosielly me!"

him, especially me!" Showers said Prudhomme is only scratching the surface with his playing talents. He said his frame should allow him to add another 20 to 30 pounds of muscle that could make him an even more power-

ful player.
Off the field, Prudhomme likes giving back to his community and church,

Showers said. "He enjoys assisting in the community and with the ministry at his church," Showers said. "He comes from an outstanding family. He is a reflection of his mom and dad. Tremel and Natasha, both of whom work in the district."

It appears whatever college or service academy lands Jonzell Prudhomme, they are going to get a winner on and off the football

## Defensive Player, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department delivers rainbow trout to Precinct 4 Parks

The Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) will deliver up to 1,400 rainbow trout to each of the following Precinct 4 parks Friday, Jan. 18

- Burroughs Park, 9738 Hufsmith Road in Tomball
- Bane Park, 9600 W Little York Road
- Dennis Johnston Park, 709 Riley Fuzzel Road in Spring
  • Meyer Park, 7700 Cypresswood Drive
- in Spring
   Pundt Park, 4129 Spring Creek Drive
- in Spring
   Kickerillo-Mischer Preserve, 20215

Chasewood Park Drive in Houston

Chasewood Park Drive in Houston
Delivery times will vary depending on
the TPWD delivery schedule. Anglers are
encouraged to take advantage of rainbow
trout fishing opportunities while they last, as rainbow trout are only available during the winter. TPWD recommends using cheese, kernel corn, nightcrawlers, red wigglers, and meal worms to catch trout. Suggested lures include a small inline spinnerbait or a spoon.

Rainbow trout are delivered to Precinct

4 parks annually to provide ample fishing opportunities during the winter, when other fish species are less active. Late winter and early spring are also successful times for catching white bass and crappie. Catfish may be caught year-

There is a daily bag limit of five trout per angler and no minimum length lim-



Rainbow trout

its. All TPWD rules, regulations, and licensing requirements apply to the public waterways within Precinct 4.

Anglers 17 years of age and older are required to purchase a valid Texas fishing license with a freshwater stamp endorsement. The freshwater stamp endorsement has replaced the trout stamp. A freshwater fishing license may be purchased at most sporting goods stores and a valid Texas driver's license is required. Anglers may also purchase a license over the phone by calling the Texas Parks & Wildlife credit card licens sales line at 1 (800) TX LIC 4 U [1 (800) 895-4248] or online

www.tpwd.state.tx.us.
To view the rules and regulations about fishing in Precinct 4, please visit www.hcp4.net/community/

Posting Date January 7, 2019

## Amber Waves

#### by Dave T. Phipps







R.F.D.

by Mike Marland





The Spats







## Weekly **SUDOKU**

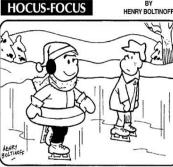
## by Linda Thistle

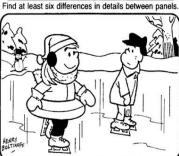
	7			9				5
		6	1			4		
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			1			7		
2					8			4
		8	3			9		
9			6					3
7		2			9		6	
	3			5		2		

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! © 2019 King Features Synd., Inc





Differences: 1. Snowman is added. 2. Boy's hat is black 3. Girl's hair is different. 4. Background hills are missing 5. Tree is added on right. 6. Boy's left arm is hidden.

## King Crossword **ACROSS** 1 Ref 4 Present 8 Jeans-maker

Strauss 12 Seek damag-

- 13 Dunkable treat 14 Mosque big-
- 15 Jogged unto-
- gged 17 Baby feeding finale
- 18 Standing 19 Parched 21 Started 22 Let slip
- 26 Reservation residence 29 Marry
- 30 Part of "to
- be" 51 Unctuous 31 Unoriginal 52 "Holy cow!" 53 Uppercase one
- 32 Pickle container 33 Thick chunk
- 34 Grant opponent
- 35 Plague 36 Coffer 37 Duration
- 39 Bill's partner 40 Scooted
- 41 Turmoil 45 Gujarat gar-

- 6 Retainer 7 Little kid
- short Small beard 5 Annoyed

50 Help hoods

54 Untouchable

1 Cold War ini-

Eliot

tials

2 Silent

55 Agent

**DOWN** 

- 3 Culprit, for aftermath 26 Lofty 27 Duel tool
  - 28 Hammerhead 47 Agt.
    - 49 Dead heat 29 Grow bigger

8 Tripoli's land 32 Lincoln suc-

16 Swiss mathe- 38 Southern side

cessor

35 Sch. org.

36 Rabbits

dish 39 Ringlets

nent

45 Pouch

44 Yon folks

46 Counselors

42 Early birds?

43 Flight compo-

33 Rid of wool

9 Aussie bird

10 Alt. spelling

11 Mischievous

matician

23 Hardy cab-

24 Historic times

bage

25 "Pay later"

tyke

20 Scarlet

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

## Answer

## Weekly SUDOKU



Solution time: 27 mins.

Answers — King Crossword —

- 1. LITERATURE: Which 20th-century novel begins with the line, "All of this happened, more or less"?
- 2. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What are the two flowers traditionally associated with the month of December?
- 3. FOOD & DRINK: What is cardamom?
- 4. GEOGRAPHY: In which country is Mount Kilimanjaro located? 5. U.S. STATES: Which state's slogan is the
- "Land of 10,000 Lakes"? 6. TELEVISION: What was Archie Bunker's
- nickname for his wife Edith in "All in the Fam-7. CHEMISTRY: What is the lightest element?
- 8. U.S. PRESIDENTS: What was the Secret Service code name for President Jimmy Carter? 9. MUSIC: Which 1980s movie features the
- song "The Power of Love"? 10. LANGUAGE: What does the name "Volvo" mean in Latin?

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#### 9. "Back to the Future"; 10. "I roll" 3. A spice; 4. Tanzania; 5. Minnesota; 6. "Dingbat"; 7. Hydrogen; 8. "Deacon"; I. "Slaughterhouse-Five," by Kurt Vonnegut; 2. Narcissus (paperwhite) and holly; Trivia Test Answerst

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#### **BIBLE TRIVIA**

by Wilson Casev 1. Is the book of Jeremiah in the Old or New Tes-

tament or neither? 2. The villains, Sanballat and Geshem, are mentioned in only which book (KJV)? 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, 2 John

3. From Ephesians 5, what did Paul recommend as a substitute for wine? Water, Laughter, Love, Holy Spirit

4. Who condemns drinkers who start early in the morning? Job, Isaiah,

Ruth, Esther
5. From 1 Kings 10:26, which king had 1,400 chariots and 12,000 horsemen? David, Jehoash, Solomon

6. According to many, who wrote the book of Revelation? John, Jude, Matthew, Peter

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Nehemiah; 3) Holy Spirit; 4) Isaiah (5:11); 5) Solomon; 6) John (the Reve-



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## LIFESTYLE

## Open-Fire Cooking, and more at Jones Park!

Tai Chi Wednesdays, Jan. 9, 16, 23, and 30 at 9 a.m.

Interested in trying a new healthy outdoor activity? Tai Chi is a centuries-old activity shown to reduce osteoarthritis pain and improve quality of life, reasoning ability, balance, and stability. John Spencer, volunteer Tai Chi instructor, leads this class based on the 24-step Yang form of Tai Chi. The one-hour class includes low-impact stretching, breathing, and range of motion exercises held in the outdoor classroom near the Nature Center.

#### Conservation

Connections Wednesdays, Jan. 9, 16, 23, and 30 at 8:30 a.m. Join Horticultural Coor-

dinator Matt Abernathy Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m. to assist with conservation projects around Jones Park. Projects may include the following: pollinator garden maintenance, vegetation management, habitat restoration, native plant propagation, biological surveys, and more throughout the year. Ages 10 and up. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Participants need to wear closed-toed shoes and bring their own gloves. Long pants, water, and a hat are recommend-

#### **Tadpoles Club**

Wednesdays, Jan. 9, 16, 23, and 30 at 10:30 a.m. or

1 p.m. Introduce preschool-

aged children to nature through stories, crafts, puppets, short walks, and animals. This free, interactive, naturalist-led program provides a great opportunity for caregivers and children to learn about and enjoy nature together. Reservations required beginning Wednesday, Dec. 5. Ages 3 to 4 only. Parent/ guardian must accompany child. No younger or older

#### Second Saturday Settlers: Open Fire Cooking Saturday, Jan. 12 from

siblings.

1 p.m. to 3 p.m. In this family-friendly

event, volunteers and staff bring the heat to Jones Park's historic Redbud Hill Homestead. As the chilled January air swirls, guests

are invited to gather around a crackling fire as re-enactors demonstrate 19th century cast iron cooking techniques and share some tasty bites.

#### **Pioneer Campfire** Saturday, Jan. 12 at 5:30

Spend a captivating evening around a campfire with acclaimed actress and storyteller Jean Donatto. In This Train is Bound for Story, Jean takes audience members on a highly participatory journey through an itinerary filled with tricksters, humor, high drama, and lessons in life. Reservations required be-

ginning Wednesday, Jan. 2.

Jesse Jones Park **Volunteers Meet &** 

Monday, Jan. 12 at 7

Become a V.I.V. (Very Important Volunteer)! Get behind-the-scenes access to special programs and be the first to learn about up-coming volunteer opportunities, projects, and how to become involved with the nonprofit organization, Jesse Jones Park Volunteers (JJPV). If you enjoy the outdoors, working with people, or have a special skill, consider becoming a Jesse Jones Park Volunteer and meet others who share your passion. Training is provided as needed and no previous experience is necessary

#### Second Sunday

**Pickers** Sunday, Jan. 13 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Join this musical group celebrating more than 30 years of concerts! The Second Sunday Pickers entertain with acoustic music, including country-and-western, bluegrass, folk, gospel, Cajun, and blues. Visitors are welcome to listen to free folk music or bring an instrument to join in the fun.

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

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

## New County Judge Lina Hidalgo takes oath

As required by law,
Harris County Judge-elect
Lina Hidalgo took her oath
of office at 12:01 am on
January 1, 2019.
The swearing-in
ceremony was held at the
Office of Homeland
Security and TranStar
building, as seen at right.
A more public
ceremony was held later in
the day at NRG, with all
county elected officials
taking the oath together.



## Fatal Crash on Aldine Mail Rt.,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

bound on Aldine Mail, failed to stop at a red light, and struck the side of a red Ford F-150 pick-up headed southbound on Aldine Westfield. The driver of the pick-up, Silvia Zavala, 45, was killed in the accident.

was killed in the accident. The GMC Acadia SUV that struck the truck had three teenage boys inside, who had been throwing eggs at passing cars. One of the cars hit by the eggs decided to chase the boys, and they were travelling at a high rate of speed to avoid being caught. Some reports say the driver of the car chasing them brandished a gun, adding to the mayhem. The 14 year old SUV driver suffered a broken ankle, one other was injured and taken to LBJ hospital, and the third was not injured in spite of the

fact that both vehicles were thrown up into the air by the impact, landing in a ditch along Aldine Mail Route. The pick-up in which the woman died was upside down, and torn apart by the crash.

apart by the crash.

The car that was chasing the SUV did not stop, and authorities said they know who was driving it, and are planning to interview him. He may face charges, too, pending a planned presentation to a grand jury by the District Attorney's office. Failure to stop and render aid in an accident is a second-degree felony. Witnesses said he was driving a gold older Lincoln Continental sedan with a white top. He was identified as an Hispanic male in his late 20s with a tattoo on his left arm.

The accident was captured on video by two neartyred on video by two nearby stores, on their surveillance cameras. The impact was astonishing, unlike anything imaginable.

The mother of they boy, in a television interview, said he took the car keys she had hidden from him, while she was at church. She said the driving chasing him was at fault, not her son, because he was "running for his life." She said she was asking for forgiveness for her son. She says he is a good kid, who

greeness for her son. She says he is a good kid, who studies and goes to church. Meanwhile, Sheriff Gonzalez says that the boy has been "booked in the county juvenile detention center," pending further action by the District Attorney's office.

# Carol Alvarado sworn in as new Texas Senator

By Allan Jamail

Austin, TX. Friday, December 21, 2018 – in the Texas Capitol's Senate Chamber, House of Representative member Carol Alvarado was sworn in as the new Senator for Texas' Senate District 6.

Alvarado was recently elected in a Special Election on December 11th to fill the vacancy of Senator Sylvia Garcia who was elected in the November General Election as Congresswoman of the 29th District to replace retiring Congressman Gene Green.

The Master of Ceremonies was Senator John Whitmire the Dean of the Texas Senate and the Oath of Office was given by Harris County Commissioner Redney Ellis

Rodney Ellis.

Whitmire said, "Today is special to me because Carol's friendship and mine spans 26 years. As a Precinct Chair there was no harder worker than Carol to get voters to the polls. She even created Block Capitan's to help her get the votes out, she's a hard worker, today proves hard work pays off."



Photo by Allan Jamail

Senator Carol Alvarado, middle, takes Oath at Texas Capitol as new Senator of Texas for District 6.

Ellis before administering the Oath gave praises to Alvarado's hard work as a Houston City Councilmember, noting she led the Council in efforts to improve air quality and closing nuisance bars in neighborhoods.

Senator Alvarado thanked her family and everyone in attendance and those who helped in her political career. She said, "My mother is my rock and my idle and she did a great job raising our family. We need to see how hard work pays off in our Democratic process, I'll continue to work hard for those I represent and all Texans."

At this time there's not been a decision made by the Governor for an election date to fill Alvarado's vacant 145th State House seat

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