

**FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE:**

- Purchasing Power
- Aldine's History

SEE PAGE 8 FOR ALL THESE STORIES IN COLOR

# NORTHEAST NEWS



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Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 42 Years  
VOL. 45, NO. 21 TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2019 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com



## Aldine ISD Dance and Performing Arts Camp set

If you are passionate about dance, music, drama and love to perform, then the Aldine ISD Summer Dance and Performing Arts Camp is for you!

The camp is open to young people between the ages of 6 and 17 who will receive the opportunity to experience the magic of performance through classes in various styles of dance.

Two sessions of the camp will be offered. The first will be held June 3-6 and the second will be offered June 10-13. The camp will be held at the Carver High School Dance Room (2100 South Victory Drive).

Pre-registration will be held now through Monday, May 27 at the Performing Arts Office in the M.O. Campbell Educational Center from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. On-site registration for Session I will be held on Monday, June 3 at 8:30 a.m. and on-site registration for Session II will be held on Monday, June 10 at 8:30 a.m.

The cost is \$75 per session. Payments must be made in cash. Individuals can also pay online at <http://aldine.revtrak.net> and then select Elementary Performing Arts, select Aldine Dance Co., select summer camp options, add to cart and then make your payment.

Parents are asked to bring their child's last report card to registration to verify grade level. Sessions will run from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Female campers need to wear black leotards, while male campers need to wear black pants and a

See Art Camp, Page 2

## North Houston District/Greenspoint announces: "Exciting Things Are Happening Here" Campaign

**Renovations, major investments and area improvements, a \$500+ million investment**

HOUSTON, TX (May 14, 2019) - The North Houston District, at the intersection of Interstate 45 North and the Sam Houston Parkway, is changing its landscape. New companies are moving in and developing innovative spaces and others are investing hundreds of millions in a new look. Exciting things are happening in the North Houston District and Greenspoint areas and these are some of the projects underway.

### Coca-Cola Southwest Beverages, an Arca Continental Company

In September, Coca-Cola Southwest Beverages, a Dallas-based subsidiary

of Mexican Coca-Cola Arca Continental, broke ground at Pinto Business Park, in the southwest corner of the North Houston District. The company will consolidate its Houston facilities and open a \$250 million production and distribution facility. The 1-million-square-foot facility will be the first new Coca-Cola plant built in the U.S. in a decade.

### Skyline Changes

One of the most obvious changes in the area is of the "Greenspoint" or new North Houston District skyline. A giant CityNorth sign now stretches along one of the buildings that make up its north Houston skyline near Bush Intercontinental Airport.

As part of its many renovations, owner, Lincoln Property Company, updated the facade of its building 2, which overlooks the

north beltway, for a new look to match its millions of dollars in improvements.

CityNorth consists of six buildings with more than 2 million SF of office and retail space. Lincoln Property Company plans to invest \$100 million on improvements to attract and retain companies.

### North Houston Bike Park

And for children and families, another place for adventure is in the works. The North Houston Bike Park is located at I-45 North at Kuykendahl Rd., next to the North Houston Skate Park, and will be a one-of-a-kind park in Houston. Scheduled for a soft opening this summer, the park will draw BMX

See North Houston District Investment, page 2

## Comm. Garcia proposes 1 million dollars for county-wide land trust program

HARRIS COUNTY, TX - May 14th - Commissioner Adrian Garcia has proposed to invest one million dollars in a new Land Trust pilot program that could give Harris County residents an opportunity to own a home.

On Tuesday, Commissioner Garcia requested the court discuss and approve the establishment of a Land Trust Program for Unincorporated Harris County. Under the current proposal, the program would operate as a Community Land Trust (CLT) nonprofit owned by the county and will have the ability to acquire land, including accepting land currently owned by the county. The acquired land will be used to develop affordable housing, which will be made available to low- and moderate-income families



Commissioner Adrian Garcia

at below-market rates. The County will continue to own the land and lease it to the homeowner. In exchange for purchasing a CLT home at an affordable price, buyers agree to resell at a price that is affordable for future low-income owners. A like-

ly scenario would include a 99-year lease that may be renewed and inherited.

"My Precinct has the highest percentage of renters among all 4 precincts. Most residents rent because they cannot afford to own and I want to change this. This type of program makes homeownership accessible to those who may not be able to do it otherwise," said Commissioner Garcia.

"One of the most significant driving factors of gentrification in Harris County is the cost of land. By offering the opportunity to own and pay taxes on only the improvements and providing the land for a low-priced lease, Harris County will be providing

See Land Trust Program, Page 3

## Suspect sought in fatal shooting at Keith-Wiess Park

Police are searching for a suspect seen in a surveillance video, after a homicide in Keith-Wiess Park.

Houston Police said that a body was found dead near a pick-up truck, the Harris County Medical Examiner identified the victim as Arnaldo Moreno. The incident occurred on Tuesday, May 14 at about 7 pm. A motive for the shooting, and details leading up to it, are not known at this time.

Witnesses reported seeing a man running from the scene, and disappearing into the woods along Aldine-

Westfield at Keith-Wiess Park.

The suspect is described as a Hispanic male in his early 20s, wearing a light-colored shirt and tan shorts.

Anyone with information on the case is asked to call HPD at 713-308-3600, or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-8477.



HPD released this surveillance video of a man running from the scene of the homicide in Keith-Wiess Park. He is wanted for questioning.

## Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia hosts Community Meetings

Commissioner Adrian Garcia's Advisory Board is hosting a series of community meetings in Precinct 2.

The meetings are a great opportunity for residents to share their vision for Precinct 2 and give input on topics such as education, health, flooding, housing and the environment.

The upcoming meetings will take place at different locations.

Please see below for the full list and Topics.

- Thursday, May 30 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Northeast Community Center 10918 1/2 Bentley - Houston, TX 77093 TOPIC: HEALTH

- Monday, June 3 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Martin L. Flukinger Community Center 16003 Lorenzo, Channelview, TX 77530 TOPIC: HOUSING

- Monday, June 3 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. San Jacinto Community Center 604 Highlands Woods Drive, Highlands, TX 77562 TOPIC: FLOODING

- Thursday, June 6 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Baldree Community Center 13828 Corpus Christi St, Houston, TX 77015 TOPIC: HEALTH

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Opens THURSDAY, May 23	<b>THE INTRUDER (PG-13)</b> - 12:00pm, 2:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm
* ALADDIN (PG) 2D - 6:00 3D - 9:00	<b>UGLYDOLLS (PG)</b> - 12:00pm, 2:15pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:15pm
* A DOG'S JOURNEY (PG) - 1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm	<b>AVENGERS: ENDGAME (PG-13)</b> - 3 hr. 2 mins. 12:00pm, 3:45pm, 7:45pm
* JOHN WICK: CHAPTER 3 - PARABELLUM (R) 12:25pm, 3:15pm, 6:15pm, 9:15pm	Spanish Dubbed <b>AVENGERS: ENDGAME (PG-13)</b> - 3 hr. 2 mins. 12:30pm, 1:00pm, 4:15pm, 5:00pm, 8:00pm, 8:45pm
* JOHN WICK: CHAPTER 3 - PARABELLUM (R) 12:20pm, 3:20pm, 6:20pm, 9:20pm	Spanish Dubbed <b>THE CURSE OF LA LLORONA (R)</b> - 12:15pm, 2:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 9:45pm
* POKEMON DETECTIVE PIKACHU (PG) 12:25pm, 4:30pm, 9:30pm	Spanish Dubbed <b>THE CURSE OF LA LLORONA (R)</b> - 12:30pm, 2:45pm, 5:00pm, 7:15pm, 9:30pm
* POKEMON DETECTIVE PIKACHU (PG) 12:30pm, 5:30pm	Spanish Dubbed <b>LITTLE (PG-13)</b> - 12:00pm, 2:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm
Spanish Dubbed * POKEMON DETECTIVE PIKACHU 3D (PG) 2:00pm, 7:00pm	<b>DUMBO (PG)</b> - 12:00pm, 6:00pm
* POKEMON DETECTIVE PIKACHU 3D (PG) 3:00pm, 8:00pm	* DUMBO 3D (PG) - 3:00pm
Spanish Dubbed * TOLKIEN (PG-13) - 9:00pm	
<b>EL CHICANO (R)</b> - 12:30pm, 3:30pm, 6:30pm, 9:30pm	

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COMMUNITY / SCHOOL NEWS

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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Signing ceremony held for Aldine ISD TAFE seniors



MacArthur High School TAFE (Texas Association of Future Educators) student Olivia Lopez and two of her classmates sign their letters of intent to return to Aldine to teach once they have earned their college degrees. The signing ceremony was part of the Future Educators Signing Ceremony, held Tuesday, May 14 at the Child Nutrition Center.

Approximately 113 Aldine ISD TAFE (Texas Association of Future Educators) seniors signed letters of intent to return to Aldine to teach once they have completed their college degrees.

The seniors who are interested in a teaching career signed their letters of intent during the Future Educators Signing Ceremony held in their honor on Tuesday, May 16 at the Child Nutrition Center.

Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney encouraged the seniors to think seriously about becoming teachers because of the profound impact teachers make in the lives of others.

"Teaching is a calling and I invite you to accept this calling," Dr. Goffney said. "If it wasn't for teachers, I wouldn't be standing

here today."

Dr. Goffney added teachers play a vital role in society.

"Our profession makes all other professions possible," she said.

Davis High School graduate Arrieta Farris, a former TAFE student, and current TAFE student Paula Cancino of MacArthur High School delivered special remarks.

"Go to college and enjoy your four years," Farris said, who was a member of the first graduating class at Davis High School.

Cancino said she has wanted to be a teacher since she was a little girl and will spend the next four years preparing for her future as an educator.

"I knew what my passion was and I've always wanted to be a teacher," she said. "The TAFE pro-

gram allowed me to grow as a person. This program has solidified my goals of wanting to become a teacher."

Scott Corrick, director of staffing in Human Resources, challenged the seniors to earn their degrees and return to Aldine to teach.

"We hope this is the start of an exciting journey," he said. "Stay driven, stay committed and follow your plan. Aldine wants you back."

Franklin Higgins, director of career and technical education, delivered the welcome and Brooke Martin, program director of career and technical education, introduced Farris and Cancino and announced the 113 TAFE students who attended the Future Educators Signing Ceremony.

Sales Tax Holidays for water-efficient and energy star products set for May 25-27

(AUSTIN)—Texas families and businesses can save on the purchase of certain water- and energy-efficient products during the state's Water-Efficient Products and ENERGY STAR® sales tax holidays. Both take place Saturday, May 25, through Monday, May 27.

The Texas Comptroller's office estimates shoppers will save about \$12.6 million in state and local sales taxes during the Memorial Day weekend sales tax holidays.

"Inefficient appliances and outdated water systems can put a tremendous strain on our power grids and water supplies," Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar said. "By taking advantage of these sales tax holidays, Texans can make upgrades that will help alleviate those pressures and lower their utility bills — while saving money on state and local sales taxes."

This is the fourth year for the Water-Efficient Products Sales Tax Holiday. Products displaying a WaterSense® label or logo can be purchased tax-free for personal or business use. These include showerheads, bathroom sink faucets and accessories, toilets, urinals and landscape irrigation controls.

The sales tax holiday also applies to lawn and garden products that help conserve water outdoors. Items qualifying for the exemption include soaker or drip-irrigation hoses; moisture controls for a sprinkler or irrigation system; mulch; and plants, trees and grasses. These items can be purchased tax-free for residential use only.

There's no limit to the number of water-efficient or water-conserving products you can purchase tax-free. For more information on the Water-Efficient Products Sales Tax Holiday, visit the Comptroller's website.

During the ENERGY STAR Sales Tax Holiday, certain energy-efficient products displaying the ENERGY STAR logo can be purchased tax-free, including air conditioners priced at \$6,000 or less, refrigerators priced at \$2,000 or less, ceiling fans, fluorescent light bulbs, dishwashers, dehumidifiers and clothes washing machines.

Estimated annual energy and water savings for eligible products are listed below.

ENERGY STAR® Appliance vs. Conventional		
Appliance Type	Energy Savings	Water Savings
Central Air Conditioners	8%	
Room/Window Air Conditioners	10%	
Refrigerators	9%	
Ceiling Fans	40%	
Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs	70%	
Clothes Washers	25%	33%
Dishwashers	12%	30%
Dehumidifiers	30%	

Source: U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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Keep East Aldine Clean & Green!

Art Camp,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

white T-shirt. Campers also need to have a pair of black tights (footless or footed), ballet shoes, Hip Hop attire, and have their hair arranged neatly and out of their face. Campers will not be allowed to wear jewelry of any kind. Campers also need to bring a sack lunch and bottled water every day to camp.

The Summer Dance and Performing Arts Camp have been created to satisfy the artistic needs of kids of all ages. Students of all dance abilities are welcome to attend. Participation in the camp offers each student the opportunity to develop existing talents or to realize new, undiscovered talents within themselves.

The camp's goal is to motivate children to achieve their true potential in dance within a positive and encouraging environment.

At the camp, students will receive training in dance warm-ups, strength building, flexibility, cardiovascular fitness and basic injury prevention. Also during Session II, auditions for the Aldine Dance and Performing Arts Company will be held. Students will be notified after Session II if they have made it to the final round of auditions. The Aldine Dance and Performing Arts Company consists of students from Aldine ISD. These students receive many performance opportunities to

demonstrate their talents. They are invited to perform for numerous events in and out of the city of Houston. In the past the company has traveled to San Antonio and Dallas to perform, in addition to performing at district and community events.

Additionally, company members will compete in at least one major competition per year. Auditions for the Aldine Dance Company are separate from the Aldine ISD Dance and Performing Arts Camp. Attending the summer camp does not guarantee placement in the Aldine Dance and Performing Arts Company. For more information, contact Emma Quiroga at (281) 985-6108.

North Houston District Investment,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and mountain bikers of every skill level.

It will include a BMX track, 25,000 SF of concrete bike bowls, a performance pavilion with large event lawn, an urban riding plaza, large and small pump tracks, a tot track, a dirt jumps track, and off-road trails with break-out areas for various skill work.

Also, trail enthusiasts will be able to walk or ride the trails.

Hotel Renovations

Two airport hotels will be keeping up with current design trends as Driftwood Hospitality Management expects to spend \$100 million on extensive renovations and upgrades to the properties.

Driftwood Hospitality Management, a North Palm Beach, Fla.-based hotel management company, purchased the 480-room Hilton Houston North and 390-room Houston Marriott North in November. All rooms and public space will be renovated at the Hilton atrium lobby, and the food-and-beverage and arrival areas will be reimaged. The Houston Marriott North will go through complete renovations as well.

"Driftwood Hospitality Management has grown tremendously in the past couple years, and we are eager to expand our footprint across the state of Texas," said David Budde-meyer, president of Driftwood Hospitality Management.

The Hyatt Regency Houston Intercontinental Airport Hotel is also investing in major changes.

Last year, it transformed its rooms with

modern furnishings and decor, and this year it's working on the exterior. "We are renovating and updating our hotel entrances and our tropical style pool area," says Hyatt Regency General Manager Tom Jamison. "This includes new tile flooring, new railings, lighting and landscaping."

Public Safety Improvements

Keeping the area safe is also a top priority for the District, and after increased efforts to reduce crime, the area has dropped from 3rd to 19th place for violent crime. This has continually improved from 2014 to 2018.

As of last year, the North Houston District funds \$200,000 a year for Houston Police Department's new North Belt Division at 100 Glenborough Dr., improving police surveillance in the area.

About the North Houston District

Created in 1991 by the Texas Legislature, the North Houston District is a business improvement district that leverages public and private partnerships to provide enhanced services in transportation mobility, public safety, beautification and recreational development, marketing and strategic planning and development. Minutes from Bush IAH, the District's 12-square-mile service area has 20 million square feet of office, retail and industrial properties. The District includes 3,800 businesses, 61,500 employees and 117,000 residents. For more information, visit [www.northhouston.org](http://www.northhouston.org).

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Mayor's daughter encourages Carter Academy students to develop love of reading



Ashley Turner, seated, the daughter of Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner recently visited Carter Academy to read to first graders and encourage them to develop a love for reading. She's pictured here with Carter student Eliana Castillo as the two read aloud to Eliana's classmates. Ms. Turner, who is also the First Daughter of the City of Houston, read two books to the students and had a number of them participate by showing off their reading skills to their classmates. She also answered questions from the students.

## Aldine ISD Police Department hosts BBQ in honor of National Police Week



Aldine ISD Capt. Kevin Northey and volunteers served lunch to local law enforcement officers during a barbecue lunch held in their honor during National Police Week and Peace Officers' Memorial Day. The event was organized by the Aldine ISD Police Department and Hinojosa EC/Pre-K/K School Principal Denise Meister.

## Haunted Rooms America plans overnight ghost hunts on the USS Battleship Texas



USS Battleship Texas

A leading ghost hunting events company secures highly sought after historical location

HOUSTON, TX, May 9th, 2019: Haunted Rooms America (www.hauntedrooms.com), a leading ghost hunting events company, today announced two new dates for the exclusive ghost hunting event at one of most historic locations in the United States - the USS Battleship Texas.

Quote, Wesley McDermott (Owner of Haunted Rooms America): We're honored to be the first company to run a ghost hunt of this historic ship. There has been rumors of hauntings for decades, so we're looking forward to hopefully proving those rumors correct!

Moored just outside Houston at La Porte Texas, the USS Battleship Texas was commissioned by the U.S. Navy in 1914, becoming the most powerful weapon in the world at the time. It played an active part in both World Wars, firing on the Nazi defenses on D-Day, and providing gunfire support and anti-aircraft fire to the landings on Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

The ship was decommissioned in 1948 after it was purchased by the state of Texas, becoming a memorial ship. Today the ship is a National Historic Landmark, operating as a floating museum and is the last remaining battleship of her kind!

The Battleship Texas is rumored to be one of the most haunted locations in Texas, but it has never allowed an investigation like this before.

Tickets for this exclusive overnight ghost hunt are on sale now for two dates - Saturday, June 15th, 2019, and Saturday July 13th 2019.

Tickets are \$179 per person and include overnight accommodation and breakfast, in addition to:

- A hybrid History/Paranormal Tour of the Battleship Texas,
- A documentary screening about the ship,
- Access to the most haunted areas of this haunted battleship,
- Psychic Mediums in attendance
- Group Vigils with experienced investigators,
- Lone Vigils,
- Overnight Ghost Hunt,
- Use of our paranormal

equipment which includes, trigger objects, EMF Readers, spirit boxes and many more,

•Free time to explore this location and to undertake your very own private vigils,

•Unlimited Refreshments, including Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate, Bottled Water and Soda,

•Selection of high-quality snacks.

Join the Haunted Rooms America team for the first event of its kind aboard this historic ship.

Tickets available via www.hauntedrooms.com/battleship-texas and availability is limited for this very rare event.

About Your Company: Haunted Rooms America runs ghost hunts for the public at America's most haunted locations. Operating approximately 100 events per year, the Haunted Rooms America team of experienced paranormal investigators and psychic mediums invite members of the public to investigate with them at the most haunted locations in the country!

Members of the media who wish to attend this event are invited to email wes@hauntedrooms.com



Aldine ISD Chief of Police Craig Goralski addresses local law enforcement personnel during a barbecue lunch held in their honor during National Police Week and Peace Officers' Memorial Day. Police officers from Aldine ISD, Klein ISD, Spring ISD, the Harris County Sheriff's Department and the Aldine Fire Department were treated to a BBQ lunch, which was provided by the Aldine ISD PD, the Aldine Noon Optimist Club and Burns BBO. In addition, Solid IT donated a number of gift cards that were given away to officers via a random drawing. National Police Week and Peace Officers' Memorial Day honor law enforcement officers who have given their lives in the line of duty and celebrates those who "protect and serve."

## Land Trust Program,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

an opportunity for housing that will remain affordable in perpetuity," said Commissioner Garcia

Commissioners Court authorized Harris County

Engineering, the Community Services Department, and the County Attorney to establish the land trust, and create policies and procedures to determine

how it will work. Harris County would be setting aside one million dollars for the program with each Precinct receiving \$250,000.

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OPINION PAGE

**TEXAS SENATE NEWS**  
By Richard Lee

*Senate approves repeal of "vexing" driver penalty program*

A controversial citation program that can put drivers in a cycle of escalating fines would be eliminated under a bill approved unanimously by the Senate on Wednesday. The Drivers Responsibility Program (DRP) has been unpopular among lawmakers since its creation in 2003, but because it supports the state trauma fund, it's been difficult to do away with. "The Texas Legislature has contemplated replacing the DRP for more than 15 years, but we have been hesitant to change the program because it is tied to Fund 5111, which is dedicated to supporting Texas trauma care," said Houston Senator Joan Huffman. "This account assists in the treatment of approximately 130,000 individuals each year in medical facilities throughout Texas." She proposed a measure, HB 2048, which would repeal the DRP while implementing new revenue sources to maintain the hundreds of millions of dollars the program sent to the state trauma fund every biennium.

Under the DRP, when a person is cited for a traffic violation, they begin to accrue points on their license. Each violation adds a point, and points stay on a driver's record for three years. If they accumulate six points, they must pay the state a \$100 annual surcharge, with each point above six adding another \$25. It also includes much steeper fees for DWI convictions, as well as \$250 for driving without a license or insurance. Failure to pay these surcharges can result in license suspension, trapping drivers in a system of endlessly compounding fees and fines. "Because this suspension exists, and driving with a suspended license is an eligible offense under the DRP, certain drivers find themselves in a never-ending cycle of charges," said Huffman.

In order to cover the \$300 million in biennial revenue collected through the DRP today, the bill would turn to three new sources. It would increase the base state traffic fine by \$20, up to \$50, and increases the fee charged on every auto insurance policy issued in Texas from \$2 to \$4. It would

also create new fines for those convicted of DWIs that are equal to current DRP surcharges. Those currently owing surcharges or those with a license suspended strictly due to DRP non-payment would have their licenses restored and surcharges forgiven. "Everyone will be moving forward with a new slate," said Huffman. The proposed revenue sources would actually put more money into the state trauma fund, with the Legislative Budget Board estimating a biennial gain of almost \$7 million for 2020 and 2021.

When the Senate version of this bill was heard in the Finance Committee in April, chair and Flower Mound Senator Jane Nelson told Huffman that while she supported the repeal, any solution must adequately fund trauma care. "If we do anything to change this, that trauma funding is going to be replaced," she said then. The bill offered Wednesday won her approval. "It's what we should've done all those years ago," said Nelson. "I thank you for fixing this horrible driver responsibility program and putting in place a trauma funding system that will work statewide for all Texans."

Nelson was among a number of Senators who rose to thank Huffman for her work on this troublesome issue. McAllen Senator Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa said he opposed the original legislation creating the DRP during the 78th Session. "We've made criminals out of a lot of people that couldn't afford it and created a debtors' prison by issuing arrest warrants for thousands of people in our state," he said. "I do support trauma care funding. It's important, but at the same time I don't want it funded on the backs of poor people who can't afford to pay the fines...thank you for working on this bill." A handful of technical amendments were added to the bill, so it must go back to the House where Representatives can vote to concur in Senate amendments or request a conference committee to negotiate compromise language.

The Senate will reconvene Monday, May 20 at 11 a.m.

**MEMORIAL DAY 2019**



*Lawmakers remain on threshold of passing major legislation*

AUSTIN — Texas lawmakers have yet to cast final votes on the marquee issues of the 86th regular session of the Legislature: the state budget, school finance reform and property tax relief.

Conference committees named by House Speaker Dennis Bonnen and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who presides over the Senate, must complete their work on the state budget and the other top issues hastily in order to meet deadlines and deliver the finished products to their respective chambers. While little time remains for the bodies to address other issues, many measures can make it through both houses if Bonnen and Patrick want. The largely ceremonial last day of the session will be Monday, May 27 — Memorial Day.

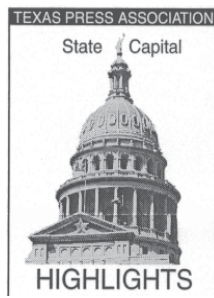
Meanwhile, here is a random sampling of bills passed by the House and Senate that have either been signed into law by Gov. Greg Abbott or are on his desk, waiting for him to take action on them: —HB 302 by Rep. Dennis Paul, R-Houston, and sponsored by Sen. Bryan Hughes, R-Mineola: Amends law relating to the carrying, storage or possession of a firearm or firearm ammunition by certain persons on certain residential or commercial property.

—HB 547 by Rep. Terry Canales, D-Edinburg, and sponsored by Sen. Charles Perry, R-Lubbock: Amends law by allowing Texans to use as proof of a hunting or fishing license a digital image of the license on their phone.

—HB 793 by Rep. Phil King, R-Weatherford, and sponsored by Sen. Brandon Creighton, R-Conroe: Amends the law relating to certain government contracts with companies that boycott Israel.

—HB 1785 by Reps. Giovanni Capriglione, R-Southlake and Sarah Davis, R-Houston, and sponsored by Sen. Joan Huffman, R-Houston:

**STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS**  
By Ed Sterling



Amends the law relating to the information required to be disclosed in a registration form for lobbyists.

—SB 450 by Sen. Beverly Powell, D-Burleson, and sponsored by Rep. Will Metcalf, R-Conroe: Amends the law by changing from Feb. 1 to April 1 the annual deadline by which the board of directors of a Type A or Type B economic development corporation is required to submit a certain annual report to the comptroller of public accounts.

—SB 726 by Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, and sponsored by Rep. Stan Lambert, R-Abilene: Amends the law by raising the cap on the aggregate of community development investments to 15 percent of a state bank's unimpaired capital and surplus.

—SB 999 by Sen. Donna Campbell, R-New Braunfels, and sponsored by Rep. John Zerwas, R-Richmond: Amends the law to require the Department of State Health Services to create a state plan for education on and treatment of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders.

**Focus: hurricane dangers**  
Gov. Abbott on May 7

issued a proclamation to raise awareness about the dangers of hurricanes and the precautions Texans can take as hurricane season approaches.

Abbott proclaimed the week of May 5 to May 11 as Hurricane Preparedness Week, and in doing so called Texans to take steps to protect families, communities, neighborhoods and local economies.

Abbott suggested Texans visit <https://gov.texas.gov/hurricane> to learn more about the steps they can take now to prepare for hurricane season, such as:

- Put together an emergency supply kit;
- Create a communication plan with your family; and
- Know where to go.

**Bush: Think about pets, too**

In observance of National Animal Disaster Preparedness Day on May 11, Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush urged Texans to plan for the whole family, including pets, when preparing for severe weather.

"Hurricane Harvey devastated communities and left thousands of pets in need of rescue," Bush said. "When severe weather is in the forecast, make sure your pets are prepared by creating an emergency kit." A kit would include such items as:

- Adoption information papers;
- Collars and leashes;
- Medicine; and
- Pictures of you and your pet together.

"Remember, many temporary evacuation shelters don't allow pets, so make sure you have a plan in place for your whole family," Bush added.

**Comptroller sends revenue**

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on May 8 announced he would send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts \$867.7 million in local sales tax allocations for the month of May.

The amount is 0.7 percent more than the monthly distribution for May 2018.

Sales tax allocations are based on sales made in March by businesses that report tax monthly, and sales made in January, February and March by quarterly filers.

**Social Security Matters**

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



*Ask Rusty – What Social Security Benefit Will My Wife Get If I Die?*

**Dear Rusty:** I am 69 and have been holding off on collecting my Social Security payment until I'm 70 on the assumption that my wife would collect my benefit if I died first. My thought was that she would collect the monthly benefit I will earn at age 70 in the event of my death. Now a Social Security employee is telling me she would only be entitled to what my benefit would have been at age 66 (my full retirement age). That is about an \$800 drop in monthly benefits from what I thought it would be. My wife is a year younger than me, much healthier than I am, has mostly worked part time and she started collecting her SS at age 62 and gets about \$700 a month. So, is the Social Security employee correct? Signed: Concerned Husband

**Dear Concerned:** The Social Security employee you spoke with might have misunderstood your question. It sounds like the answer you were given pertained to the benefit your wife is entitled to as your spouse while you are living, which is based upon your "primary insurance amount," or "PIA" (your PIA is the amount you were due at your full retirement age, or "FRA").

When you claim your increased benefit at age 70 your wife can apply for her spousal benefit, which will be based on your FRA benefit amount (not the increased amount you'll get by waiting until age 70 to claim). She gets that spousal benefit if it is more than she is receiving on her own work record, which from what you've told me it will be. What actually happens is that she will continue to get her own benefit and she will also get a supplemental amount to make her total Social Security benefit equal to what she is entitled to as your spouse. That amount will be a bit less than half of your FRA benefit because she took her own benefit at age 62 (claiming Social Security early doesn't only affect one's own benefit, it affects their spousal benefit also). The spousal benefit your wife gets when you claim at age 70 will continue for as long as you are living.

But the Social Security benefit rules are different for your wife as your widow and your survivor. If you predecease your wife, her spousal benefit from your work record, as described above, will discontinue and she will be switched to her survivor's benefit. That survivor's benefit will be 100% of the benefit amount you were receiving at your death, instead of the lower amount she was receiving as your spouse when you were living. So, your original assumption is correct – as your widow your wife will get 100% of the increased benefit you were receiving when you pass. The Social Security employee was incorrect by telling you that, if you pass, your wife will only get what you were due at your full retirement age; instead she'll get the full amount of your current Social Security benefit (your full age 70 benefit, plus any COLA adjustments made after your claim).

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# ENTERTAINMENT

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by Dave T. Phipps



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by Gary Kopervas



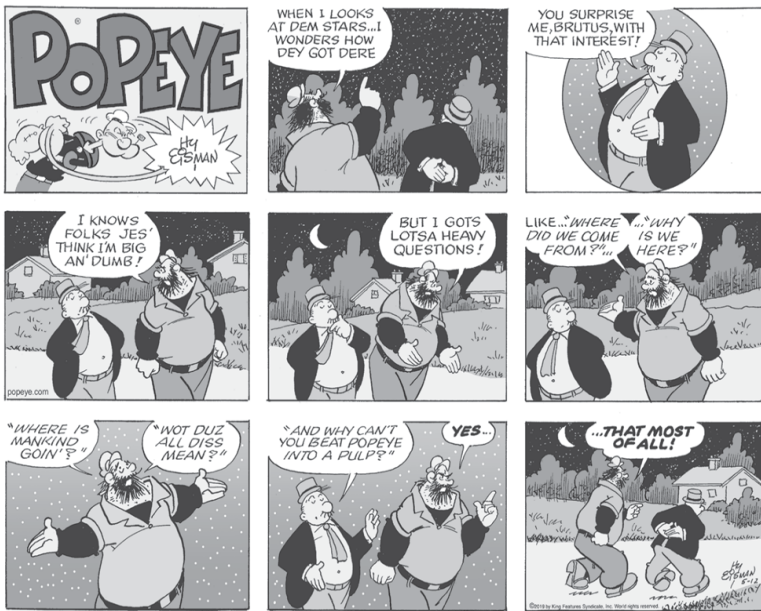
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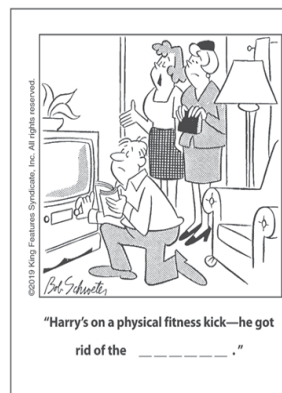


## Just Like Cats & Dogs

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!

Absolve: **NEATO** [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]  
 Indication: **CATER** [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]  
 Sever: **UNERDS** [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]  
 Mix: **LEMING** [ ]

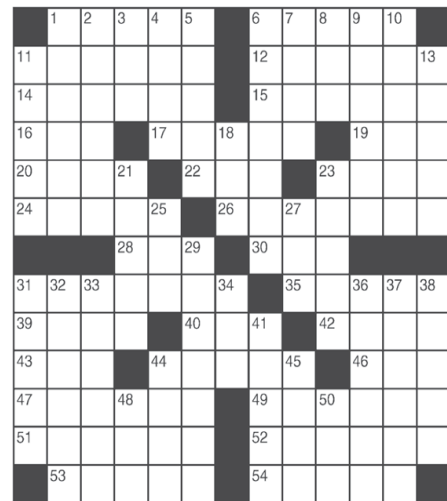
TODAY'S WORD

## ACROSS

- 1 Macbeth's title
- 6 Hot dog side dish
- 11 Tar
- 12 Bay windows
- 14 Mr. Ed's owner
- 15 President Woodrow —
- 16 Suitable
- 17 Aristocratic
- 19 Pair
- 20 Fishing need
- 22 U.K. fliers
- 23 Ball of yarn
- 24 Gold-finger?
- 26 Copious oil wells
- 28 Water barrier
- 30 Mainlander's memento
- 31 Outstanding
- 35 Kitchen lure
- 39 Apiary house
- 40 Tease
- 42 Strait-laced
- 43 Commotion
- 44 Olympian's award
- 46 Mound stat
- 47 Infamous middle name
- 49 "Die Hard" star
- 51 Taxed
- 52 Loud sounds
- 53 Fight

## King Crossword

Posting Date May 20, 2019



- 9 Get snug and cozy
- 10 Not as fast
- 11 Honey bunch?
- 13 Hemingway's "The — of Kilimanjaro"
- 18 Satchel
- 21 Tureen accessory
- 23 Tweet mule
- 25 7-Down's
- 27 Red or Black
- 29 Copes
- 31 Wrap
- 32 Neatens (up)
- 33 Develop
- 34 Discumber
- 36 Threatening conclusion
- 37 More like a mud pit
- 38 Accumulate
- 41 Sunrises
- 44 Encounter
- 45 Namia's Aslan, e.g.
- 48 DIY buy
- 50 Perjurer's pronouncement

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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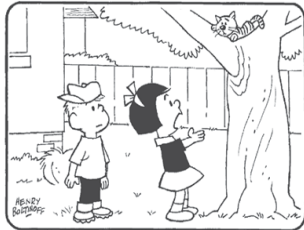
## Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- HISTORY: Which woman won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 for her work with the poor in Calcutta, India?
- LITERATURE: What was the last known play written by Shakespeare?
- LANGUAGE: "Cyborg" is a shortened version of which futuristic phrase?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What men's haircut was named after a style adopted by college rowing teams?
- MOVIES: Who wrote the screenplay for the original "The Heartbreak Kid" movie?
- GEOGRAPHY: Which three countries mainly make up the Scandinavian Peninsula?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the only president to be awarded a Purple Heart?
- U.S. STATES: Which state has the most active volcanoes?
- ANATOMY: What is a more common name for enlargement of the thyroid gland?
- GAMES: How many letters does each player draw to begin a game of Scrabble?

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## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Boy's hat is missing. 2. Girl's skirt has ruffle. 3. Boy's left arm is hidden. 4. Flowers added near tree. 5. Cart's tail is longer. 6. Girl is extending both arms.

- 10. Seven
- 9. Colter
- 8. Alaska
- 7. John F. Kennedy was wounded in WWII.
- 6. Sweden, Norway and Finland
- 5. Neil Simon
- 4. The crew cut
- 3. Cybernetic organism
- 2. "The Two Noble Kinsmen"
- 1. Mother Teresa

## Trivia Test Answers



Solution time: 24 mins.

## Answers

## King Crossword

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

## Answer

## CryptoQuip

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

Clue: O equals D

- ORO AROM RB MZZQFD BQD
- DQ WRXJM ZQFMJD ZLFMJ.
- UM WGRAMO LD'J BQD BLWM
- DQ ZXMG AQDUMF BRDXFM.

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## REMOTE

Today's Word

3. Sunder; 4. Mingle

1. Atoner; 2. Trace;

solution

## SCRAMBLERS

## Weekly SUDOKU

Dad made an effort not to cause forest fires to fuel Mother Nature.



LIFESTYLE

The music of Selena fills Jones Hall this summer as the Houston Symphony pays tribute to the queen of Tejano music

HOUSTON (May 16, 2019) – In homage to the “Queen of Tejano Music,” The Houston Symphony under the direction of guest conductor Andrés Franco, brings the iconic music of Selena to life in a way audiences have never heard it before: backed by a full, world-class symphony orchestra. The Music of Selena is part of the Bank of America Summer Sounds Series at Jones Hall, on July 12 & 13 with sensational vocalist Isabel Marie Sánchez.

An acclaimed young recording artist, vocalist, and experienced performer, Sánchez recently gave showstopping interpreta-

tions of Selena’s music at the annual Fiesta de la Flor festival, a celebration of the life and legacy of Selena Quintanilla, in Corpus Christi. Formerly a contestant on Telemundo’s La Voz Kids, Sánchez makes her Houston Symphony debut in The Music of Selena. She currently records for Q-Zone Records, the label founded and owned by Abraham Quintanilla, Selena’s father.

“I really feel honored to perform her songs,” said Sánchez, “especially with the Symphony. It’s going to be beautiful. I just can’t wait to hear all the instruments bring it to life.” Sánchez will perform



Vocalist Isabel Marie Sánchez.

Selena’s iconic hits like “Dreaming of You,” “Como La Flor,” “Bidi Bidi Bom Bom,” and many more. Audiences can enjoy drinks and photo ops in the lobby prior to the performance.

The Houston Symphony encourages concertgoers to dress up in their favorite Selena inspired outfit.

Created under the auspices of the Symphony’s Hispanic Leadership

Council, which aims to provide meaningful musical experiences to all segments of Houston’s diverse community. The Music of Selena celebrates the timeless and classic songs of “The Queen of Tejano Music.”

The Music of Selena takes place at Jones Hall for the Performing Arts, 615 Louisiana Street, in Houston’s Theater District. For tickets and information, please call 713.224.7575 or visit houstonsymphony.org. Tickets may also be purchased at the Houston Symphony Patron Services Center in Jones Hall (Monday–Saturday, 12–6

p.m.). All programs and artists are subject to change.

About the Houston Symphony

During the 2018–19 season, the Houston Symphony celebrates its fifth season with Music Director Andrés Orozco-Estrada and continues its second century as one of America’s leading orchestras with a full complement of concert, community, education, touring and recording activities. The Houston Symphony, one of the oldest performing arts organizations in Texas, held its in-

See Houston Symphony, Page 7

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**EVENT**  
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LIFESTYLE

**Houston Symphony,**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

augural performance at The Majestic Theater in downtown Houston June 21, 1913. Today, with an annual operating budget of \$33.9 million, the full-time ensemble of 88 professional musicians presents nearly 170 concerts annually, making it the largest performing arts organization in Houston. Additionally, musicians of the orchestra and the Symphony's four Community-Embedded Musicians offer over 900 community-based performances each year, reaching hundreds of thousands of people in Greater Houston.

The Grammy Award-winning Houston Sympho-

ny has recorded under various prestigious labels, including Naxos, Koch International Classics, Telarc, RCA Red Seal, Virgin Classics, and, most recently, Dutch recording label PENTATONE. In 2017, the Houston Symphony was awarded an ECHO Klassik award for the live recording of Alban Berg's Wozzeck under the direction of former Music Director Hans Graf. The orchestra earned its first Grammy nomination and Grammy Award at the 60th annual ceremony for the same recording in the Best Opera Recording category.

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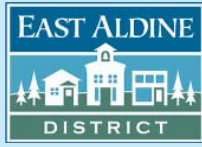
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## East Aldine District NEWS REPORT

### History of Aldine

This is Part 2 of a 3 part series covering the History of East Aldine.

#### Jayhawks' Roost and The Great Storm

- by EAMD Staff

We mentioned Kansans and newspaper databases. In late 1899, many of the former began to appear in entries in the latter. Small-town personal notices like these abound:

"Miss Bessie Poteet left Tuesday for Aldine, Texas." Miami Republican (Paola, Kansas), November 24, 1899.

"Miss Cora Young arrived in Paola from St. Louis last week and will remain here a brief time, from where she will go to Aldine, Texas." -- Miami Republican, February 16, 1900

"Ferris W. Colby, wife and daughter, left today to make their future home at Aldine, Texas." -- Paola Times, March 8, 1900

"F.W. Colby returned Thursday from Aldine, Texas. He says the Paola people are all contented and happy there." -- Miami Republican, March 23, 1900

"Attorney John C. Carpenter, with his family, will soon move to Aldine, Texas, where he proposes to engage in the fruit business." -- Olathe Tribune, Olathe, Kansas, August 10, 1900.

Colby would say the Paola people were all happy whether they were or not -- he was the developer who talked them into moving there. Perhaps unfairly, he was branded a wolf in sheep's clothing by an Irish-born, Kansas-bred reporter.

Sheridan suspected Colby of concealing his capitalistic motives beneath a thick veneer of Christian moralizing. The Irishman thought it especially rich that Colby portrayed Paola, Kansas as a Sodom-on-the-Plains, when every right-thinking Kansan simply knew that Texas was a backward doomscape of gun-toting hotheads, fallen women, drunken judges, and failing, if even existing schools. (Kansas papers zealously reported every Texas murder, riot, and bar-room brawl as if they were personal attacks on every Jayhawk from Kansas City to Colorado.)

With more than a wee dram of sarcasm, Sheridan characterized Colby's evangelical sales pitch, one he finally arrived at after long sermons blasting Kansas as an infernal Babylon, in these words:

"Texas is the land where thistles grow figs and the ozone is temperance and virtue; where all become centurions; where Sam Houston had to kill a Mexican to start a grave yard; where gallinippers make honey and centipedes give sweet milk; where swamp lands yield grapes and desert plains answer the simoon with ten apple crops a year; where civilization's refinement relishes a man for every breakfast and

the ranches and the gospel mills resound with the music of the Winchester while the short, sharp strains of derringers inspire such as angels as Colby to missionary work in heathen Kansas!" (Editor's note: "gallinippers" are large mosquitoes and "simoon" is a "a hot, dry, dust-laden wind blowing in the desert, especially in Arabia.")

Sheridan went on to mock what he claimed was Colby's scheme to make Aldine an inland port and his "calling upon Paola people to flee from this Gomorrah ere the brimstone rain of resubmission comes."

Few heeded Sheridan's mockery -- he fired off that screed in early 1899, and by the end of the year, Paola people were heading south to Aldine in droves.

Some of them had cause to regret that migration, if only for one awful night, and one hopes Sheridan was man enough to resist a round of "I told you so's" in September 1900, when the weakened but still dangerous Great Hurricane ripped through Aldine and destroyed much of what the Kansans had built.

One of them, Carrie Canfield, sent a report back home ten days after the storm. "A night of horror," she called it, with the winds whipping the rains right through their little house. "The house rocked back and forth as a cradle and we expected every moment to be whirled into the seething waters. Sleep did not enter many homes here that night." The next day revealed that almost all of their worldly possessions were ruined -- either soaked by the rains or blown to the ground. Their house survived, as did their horses, even though they had to be dug out of the fallen timbers that had been their barn. But the family survived intact, and Canfield's letter closes on a note of optimism, like those of so many residents of the storm-wracked Texas coast in the years to come. You learn that there is always somebody suffering worse than you:

"Although we suffered quite a loss, we were thankful to escape with our lives. It is something terrible to know of the suffering and loss of human life that is all around us. The loss at Galveston cannot be estimated, as there were so many bodies washed into the gulf that can never be recovered. Houston, too, suffered severe damage. It was the worst storm ever along this part of the coast, and those who experienced it will never forget that terrible storm."

(It seems odd to us, given that thanks to The Wizard of Oz, Texans associate Kansas with terrible storms, to see these Jayhawks fleeing Tornado Alley only to run into that mightiest of storms.)

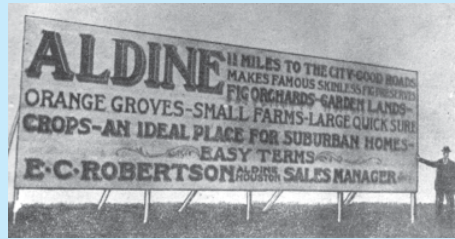


CARPENTER'S FIG CANNERY IN ALDINE


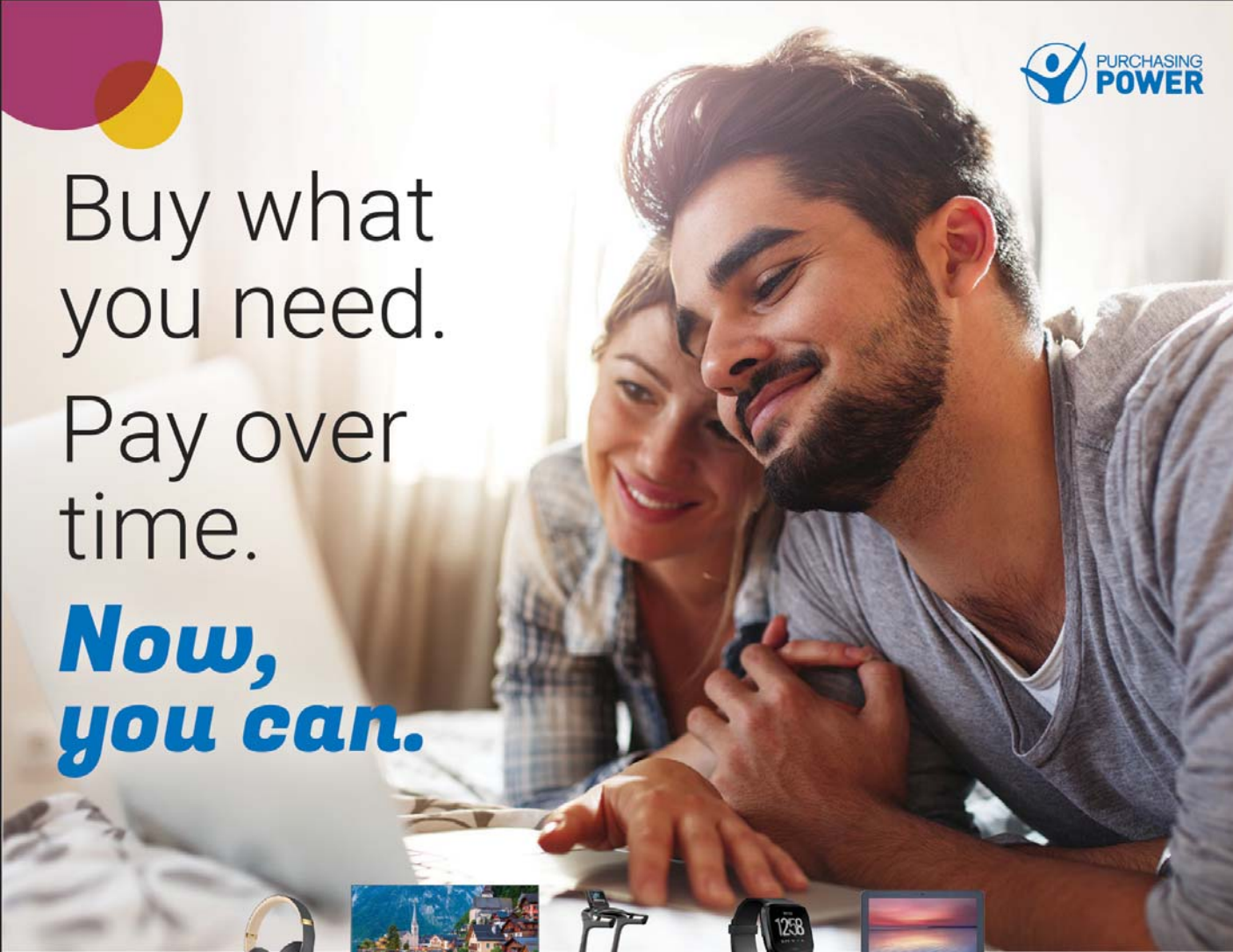

Canfield's letter then pivots on a dime. Despite what was then and remains today the deadliest natural disaster in American history, life goes on. Their potatoes, turnips, and green beans were all thriving, and roses were still in bloom. Their neighbors' crops of strawberries were outstanding, making up for the Storm's destruction of that year's crop of figs. Canfield looked forward to more bountiful years to come, ones more like 1899 that saw them jarring 40 quarts of the sweet and sticky fruit's preserves.

And that's just what happened. The very next year, the Olathe newspaper noted that John Carpenter, the local attorney who moved to Aldine a few weeks before the Storm with dreams of fig production dancing in his head, mailed back several jars of preserves to his friends. "John and his father now own several fine pieces of fruit land there and they expect to go into fruit production on a large scale," the paper went on to report.






They did. By the following year, he was selling preserves by the jar to railway dining cars and hotel restaurants, and by 1915 Carpenter had a fig cannery in Aldine that employed dozens after harvest. The Hurricane of 1915, blight, and World War I's sugar rationing (you need lots of sugar to preserve them) put an end to large-scale commercial fig-growing in Aldine.



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