

FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE:

- Prosperity Bank HOPP, p8
- Aldine History, p8
- UT Physicians Immunizations, p8
- New Principals, p2

SEE INSIDE FOR ALL THESE STORIES

NORTHEAST NEWS



State Representative Armando Walle helps distribute bags of "healthy" foods at last week's UT Physicians Immunization event. See MORE, page 8

Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 45 Years
VOL. 45, NO. 31 TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2019 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

NEWS NOTES

Aldine ISD to hold second annual Jamboree Aug. 13

Asthma Classes for Youth

HCEC will be hosting a FREE class for youth (ages 6-18) with asthma. Presented by Harris County Public Health, this interactive and educational series will consist of four 2-hour sessions. If a child in your family has asthma or asthma-related symptoms, this is a great opportunity. Please share this with friends, family, or other community groups and organizations.

FREE food will be served! FREE gift of asthma tools and equipment provided!

Four-Part Series Dates:

Mon. 8/5
Tues. 8/6
Mon 8/12
Tues 8/13
Time:
2:00-4:00 PM each day
Location:
Harris County Emergency Corps
2800 Aldine Bender
Houston, TX 77032
Registration:
https://bookoo.com/hceceducation?event=213JMCUKF16C2577DB5D_2019-08-05_z8A9AgnbQCK
Questions:
Contact Junelyn with Harris County Public Health at 210-557-8947

Aldine ISD will hold its second annual Jamboree to showcase the district's athletic and performing arts programs on Tuesday, Aug. 13.

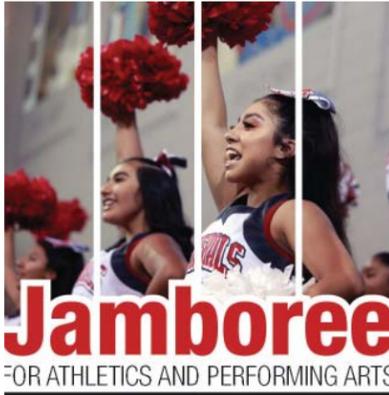
The Jamboree will be held at the M.O. Campbell Educational Center (1865 Aldine Bender Road) and will run from 6-8 p.m.

Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney will address the crowd, as will other guest speakers. Last year, Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner delivered remarks.

The Jamboree will feature Aldine's extra curricular programs, such as band, cheerleading, performing arts and athletics and will serve as a kickoff for those programs for the 2019-20 school year.

In addition, free food will be on hand for attendees.

For more information, contact the district's athletic department at (281) 985-6100.



Jamboree
FOR ATHLETICS AND PERFORMING ARTS

Online Enrollment Expedites Registration for New Students

More than 1,740 new Aldine ISD students were enrolled using the new student online registration portal, since July 8.

At the beginning of the month, the district launched a new and convenient way for families new to the district to enroll their students. The online enrollment tool has expedited the registration process allowing families to complete a portion of their back-to-school registration before coming to their campus.

Students new to the district or previous Aldine ISD students who were not enrolled on the last day of school must register as a new student for the 2019-2020 school year.

Forms are available online and can be completed on most computers, cell phones or tablets. Aldine ISD campuses will also have computers available for parents to complete required forms electronically. Once enrollment forms are submitted, families must meet with campus administrators to complete the registration process.

Continued - See ONLINE page 2

Sales Tax Holiday Aug. 9 thru Aug. 11

(AUSTIN) — Whether you're in need of notebooks, rulers or running shoes, Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar is reminding shoppers they can save money on those and other items during the state's sales tax holiday on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 9-11.

The law exempts sales tax on qualified items — such as clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks — priced below \$100, saving shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend.

"As Texas families begin the process of replacing their beach towels with lunch boxes, the sales tax holiday is the perfect opportunity to save some money on supplies families need before the school bell rings," Hegar said. "As a father of three, I know how these expenses can add up."



Apparel and school supplies that may be purchased tax-free are listed on the Comptroller's website at TexasTaxHoliday.org.

Shoppers this year will save an estimated \$102.2 million in state and local sales taxes during the sales tax holiday.

Texas' sales tax holiday weekend has been an annual event since 1999.

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SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWS

EVENTS CALENDAR

Grandparents Family Strengthening Conference

This September Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group of Aldine-Harris County, is hosting its 16th Annual Family Strengthening Conference. This event will be held on Saturday, September 7th at the M.O. Campbell Educational Center in Houston, Texas from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. The Conference is a FREE community event provided to help spread the awareness of health, mental health, family issues and other situations that Grandparents and kinship face when raising children. Participants will be offered free health screenings, school supplies, educational materials designed to promote personal health and wellness, and a variety of resources from keynote speakers as well as agencies. This will be an exceptional opportunity for your organization to showcase its services/products and show support of family wellness. We are asking that each vendor donate for the participants. There are options listed on the vendors form. If you are not able to we do understand. It is our desire that each family will receive a backpack filled with school supplies per student in their family unit. If your organization would like to donate for the event please call 832-265-8380 or email at grandparentsmarketing@gmail.com. You can also contact Mrs. Portier-Reed, the President and Founder at 832-771-4504.

RESCHEDULED! Sen. Miles Town Hall Meeting

State Senator Borris Miles will hold a Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, July 31 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm to discuss the 86th Legislative Session. Important legislation that passed and bills that will directly impact you neighborhood. Location: East Houston Civic Club, 7418 E. Houston, Houston, TX 77028. For more information, call 713-223-0387.

Toss it into the can. It's a neat idea.



Ten AISD campuses get new principals for 2019-20 school year

When the 2019-20 school year begins on Aug. 20, Aldine ISD will welcome 10 new principals to the district. "I am super excited to welcome these nine new principals to Aldine ISD," said Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney. "They bring a wealth of experience in the field of education and I am excited to see what all of these outstanding leaders will do for their respective campuses." Tonya Porter-Brisker will be the new principal of Griggs EC/Pre-K-K Primary School after serving as an assistant principal at Griggs. She brings 27 years of experience in the field of education to her new duty. She has served as a second- and third-grade ELA teacher, kindergarten teacher, as a counselor and as an assistant principal in Houston ISD and Aldine ISD. Ida Carter is the new principal of Smith Elementary School after serving as an assistant principal in Houston ISD. She brings 16 years of experience to her new position. She has served as a teacher, as a magnet coordinator and as an assistant principal in Houston ISD. Nereida Ochoa will be the new principal of Thompson Elementary after serving as principal of Goodman Elementary School. Ochoa brings 15 years of experience to her new assignment, and she has spent all of those 15 years with Aldine ISD. Ochoa has served as a bilingual teacher, as a bilingual skills specialist and as an assistant principal. LaShawn Hodge will serve as the new principal of Conley Elementary School after serving as that school's assistant principal. She brings 17 years of experience to her new assignment. Hodge has served as teacher, as an academic advisor, as a skills specialist, at a Dyslexia/Irlen screener, as a dropout prevention coordinator and as an assistant principal. Tonya Clark-Antwine



AISLEY ADAMS



DIANA DEL PILAR



IDA CARTER



JANE OCANAS



LASHAWN HODGE



MANDELE DAVIS



NEREIDA OCHOA



TONYA CLARKANTWINE



TONYA PORTER-BRISKER



YUL EVERLINE

will serve as the new principal of Lewis Middle School after serving as an assistant principal at Teague Middle School. She brings 12 years of experience in education to her new assignment. She has

served as a total learning curriculum teacher, as a fifth-grade teacher, and as an assistant principal with San Antonio ISD and Aldine ISD. Jane Ocanas will serve as the new principal of

Eisenhower Ninth Grade School after serving as the principal of Marshall Elementary in Houston ISD. She brings 15 years of experience in the field of education. She has served as a teacher, as an instruc-

tional coordinator, as an assistant principal and as a principal in Houston ISD. Mandele' Davis will return to her high school alma mater to serve as principal of Eisenhower High School after serving as an assistant principal at Aldine High School. She brings 19 years of experience to her new position. She has served as a teacher, as a principal, as a community involvement specialist, as a school choice manager and as an assistant principal with YES Prep, Klein ISD and Aldine ISD. Dr. Yul Everline, a graduate of MacArthur High School, will serve as the new principal of MacArthur Ninth Grade School after serving as dean of students at Heights High School in Houston ISD. He brings 18 years of experience to his new assignment. He has served as a computer instructor, as an English teacher and coach, as a principal and as a dean of students with Houston ISD. Diana del Pilar, a graduate of MacArthur High School, will serve as the first principal of Rose Avalos P-TEC High School after serving as the principal with HISD's Middle College High School. She brings nearly 20 years of experience in the field of education to the role. She has served as a bilingual teacher, as an assistant principal and as a principal with Houston ISD, Spring Branch and Aldine ISD. Aisley Adams was named principal of Nimitz Ninth Grade School in the spring of 2019 after serving as dean of instruction at Patrick Henry Middle School in Houston ISD. She brings 12 years of educational experience to her position. She's served as an English Language Arts teacher, a middle school teacher, as an adjunct professor with Lone Star College, as a skills specialist and as curriculum coordinator with Klein ISD, Aldine ISD and Bryan ISD.

Online, Aldine ISD named TAEA District of Distinction

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Appointment times and hours vary per campus. The Aldine ISD School Locator should be used to determine a student's assigned campus. If you need assistance with enrolling your new student online or have questions about enrollment contact your assigned campus or call the Student Services Department at 281.985.4782.

The Texas Art Education Association (TAEA) recently named Aldine ISD a District of Distinction. Aldine was one of only 20 school districts in Texas to earn this honor.

"We are extremely proud that our visual arts program has been named a District of Distinction by TAEA and that we are one of only 20 school districts across Texas to be in the inaugural class," said Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney. "I want to commend Michaelann Kelley, our director of visual arts, for her leadership and vision in helping Aldine attain this prestigious

honor. We are super proud of the many talented visual arts students we have across our district at every grade level."

Kelley credited the district's art teachers for bringing out the talent of their students. "Aldine's art teachers are passionate about their work with our Aldine art students and are always working to

nurture their talent and creativity," she said.

The district successfully submitted all required materials with fidelity to be named a TAEA District of Distinction. More than 1,000 districts were eligible to apply for this inaugural Texas Art Education Association Visual Arts Award. The TAEA Administration and

Supervision Division sponsor recognized districts with outstanding leadership in promoting the arts in their district and community.

Aldine ISD's visual arts program met or exceeded TAEA's rigorous 14-point rubric. The rubric examined district's visual art program from participation in TAEA through membership, exhibitions, and contests to community engagement in the visual arts through field experiences, community service, and collaboration with other content areas.



Hurricane Recovery snagged by floodplain rules

HARRIS COUNTY - The public doubtlessly wants to stop flooding but with new rules adopted in early July building new will come at a premium. Harris County Commissioner's Court has established new rules that require that builders set off as much retention as would handle flooding at the 500-year floodplain. The vote was unanimous on July 9 concerning unincorporated Harris County to move the model from the

100-year to 500-year floodplain. The new rules are related to projecting increases in the state's rain from federal studies and the Atlas-14 rainfall data. All of this is atop of any other requirements by enforcers like the Harris County Flood Control District. According to County Judge Lina Hidalgo at the assembly, "to make sure the new development takes into account the latest rainfall projections and

the new development is required to retain as much water as possible so as to offset any impact they would have on the folks downstream." All eyes now are on the Federal Emergency Management Agency that is affixing flood maps that are due in 2021. The county's guidelines are much like the new rules adopted by Houston. Locations that did not flood during Hurricane Harvey are being made to build higher and

have more detention because they are in the 500-year floodplain. All this, of course, has builders upset and begging for enactment to be delayed or reconsidered based on development cost. Houston Association of Realtors for instance, although they are in favor of unincorporated Harris County having housing being better able to withstand floods; they are reacting with sticker shock over building costs.

PREMIERE CINEMAS
FRIDAY-WEDNESDAY 8/2-8/7

Opens THURSDAY, August 8
* DORA & THE LOST CITY OF GOLD (PG) 4:00p, 6:20p, 8:40p
* SCARY STORIES (PG-13) 7:00p, 9:30p

* Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw (PG-13) - 11:30am, 2:30pm, 5:30pm, 8:30pm
Spanish Subtitled
* Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw (PG-13) - 12:00pm, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 4:00pm, 6:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:00pm
* Once Upon a Time...in Hollywood (R) - 12:00pm, 4:00pm, 6:00pm
* THE LION KING in RealD 3D (PG) 12:45pm, 6:15pm
* THE LION KING in RealD 3D (PG) 12:45pm, 6:15pm
Spanish Dubbed
* THE LION KING (PG) - 11:00am, 1:00pm, 2:00pm, 3:30pm, 4:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:00pm
* THE LION KING (PG) - 3:30pm, 9:00pm

Spanish Dubbed
* CRAWL (R) - 12:00pm, 2:15pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:15pm
* Spider-Man: Far from Home (PG-13) - 12:00pm, 6:00pm
* Spider-Man: Far from Home 3D (PG-13) - 3:00pm, 9:00pm
ANNABELLE COMES HOME (R) - 12:00pm, 2:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm
CHILD'S PLAY (R) - 12:30pm, 2:40pm, 4:50pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm
TOY STORY 4 (G) - 11:00am, 3:50pm, 8:30pm
Spanish Dubbed
TOY STORY 4 (G) - 11:30am, 4:30pm, 9:30pm
* TOY STORY 4 in Disney Digital 3D (G) - 1:30pm, 6:10pm
Spanish Dubbed
* TOY STORY 4 in Disney Digital 3D (G) - 2:00pm, 7:00pm
ALADDIN (PG) - 11:30am, 2:30pm, 5:30pm, 8:30pm

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COMMUNITY NEWS

CRIME WATCH

Arrests at three illegal game rooms on Airline



(Photo courtesy Constable's Office)

NORTHEAST — Deputies busted three illegal game rooms in north Harris County late Friday night, July 26th. They executed a search warrant on three separate game rooms on Airline Drive just north of Tidwell.

At least five people were arrested along with a security guard who tried to stop deputies from going inside. Inside, they found a number of gaming machines but no card tables, with a number of elderly persons involved in playing the machines.

Investigators say some of them will be charged. When the search warrant was executed, there were many people gambling, including many elderly.

“The saddest part about all these game rooms is the amount of elderly people giving up their hard earned retirement money for little to no odds of winning. Obviously, we would like to see that change,” said Sergeant Bradley Stenberg with the Harris County Constable's office.

Deputies say no one who was playing inside the game room was arrested, instead they focused on those operating the game rooms.

Argument outside store leads to fatal shooting; suspect sought

Crime Stoppers and the Houston Police Department's Homicide Division need the public's assistance identifying the suspect responsible for a Murder.

On Saturday, July 13, 2019, at approximately 7:40 p.m., the victim, Julius Caesar was shot and killed in the parking lot of a convenience store in the 13300 block of Northborough Drive in Houston, Texas. The victim was involved in a verbal altercation with the suspect as he exited the store. Shortly after the argument, the suspect shot the victim several times. The suspect fled the scene in a tan late 90's model GMC extended cab pickup truck (which had damage to the front bumper).

The suspect is a Hispanic male, 5'7", heavy build, 250 lbs., with shoulder length hair, mustache and beard.

The family of the victim is requesting help from the community in finding the suspect responsible for the Murder of Julius Caesar.

Crime Stoppers may pay up to \$5,000 for information leading to the charging and/or arrest of the suspect in this case. Information may be reported by calling 713-222-TIPS (8477), submitted online at www.crimestoppers.org or through the Crime Stoppers mobile app. All tipsters remain anonymous.

Family Engagement/Back-to-School Event

Aldine ISD, in partnership with U.S. Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia and BakerRipley, held its annual Back-to-School Family Engagement Expo on Saturday, July 27, at the M.O. Campbell Educational Center, 1865 Aldine Bender Road. The free event was open to families in Aldine ISD with children in prekindergarten to high school.

The event provided resources for school and helpful tips and strategies to help students succeed. Free immunizations and free health screenings were also available. Additionally, vouchers for free uniforms and free school supplies were available while supplies last.

The expo featured several family workshops. Free childcare for children in grades Pre-K- 5 was also provided.



The floor of M.O. Campbell Center was completely covered with about 70 booth with information and handouts for students preparing for Back-2-School. A long line at the upper right is for immunizations.



State Representative Armando Walle confers with Lone Star College - North Harris president Gerald Napoles.



East Aldine District was on hand, with information on services provided by the District to area residents and businesses.



Aldine Superintendent LaTonya Goffney, second from left, with Shirley Reed, Armando Walle, Selina Chapa, Connie Esparza, and Viola Garcia.

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Aldine ISD Career and Technical Education Annual Notification 2019 - 2020

“The Aldine Independent School District offers career and technical education courses in the following areas; agriculture food, & natural resources, architectural and construction, Arts, a/v technology and communications, business management and administration, education and training, finance, health science, hospitality and tourism, human services, information technology, law public safety corrections and security, manufacturing, marketing, sales and services, science technology engineering and mathematics (stem) and transportation, distribution and logistics and exploring careers. Admission to these programs is based on ability, aptitude, interest, grade level and class size. It is the policy of the Aldine Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. It is the policy of the Aldine Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, handicap, or age in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. Aldine Independent School District will take steps to ensure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Dr. Selina Chapa, Deputy Superintendent, 2520 W.W. Thorne, Houston, Texas 77073, (281) 449-1011, and/or the Section 504 Coordinator, Dr. Charlotte J. Davis, Assistant Superintendent of Student Support Services, 9999 Veterans Memorial Drive, Houston, Texas 77038, (281) 985-6472.

Aldine ISD Career and Technical Education Annual Notification 2019 -2020

El Distrito Escolar de Aldine ofrece programas vocacionales y técnicos en las siguientes áreas: educación agrícola y recursos naturales, arquitectura y construcción, artes, tecnología audiovisual y comunicaciones, manejo y administración de empresas, educación y capacitación, finanzas, ciencias de la salud, hotelería y turismo, información tecnológica, derecho público, seguridad ciudadana y centros penitenciarios, manufactura, mercadeo, ventas y servicios, ciencias, tecnología, ingeniería y matemáticas (STEM, por sus siglas en inglés) transporte, distribución, logística y exploración de carreras. La admisión a estos programas se basa en la habilidad, aptitud, interés, grado escolar y número de estudiantes en la clase. Es la política del Distrito Escolar de Aldine no discriminar en base a raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, religión o discapacidad en sus programas vocacionales, servicios o actividades como exige el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964; el Título IX de las Enmiendas Educativas de 1972; y el Artículo 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973 y sus correspondientes enmiendas. Es la política del Distrito Escolar de Aldine no discriminar en base a raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, religión, discapacidad o edad en sus prácticas de empleo como exige el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964; el Título IX de las Enmiendas Educativas de 1972; y el Artículo 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973 y sus correspondientes enmiendas. El Distrito Escolar de Aldine tomará las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de destrezas en el idioma inglés no sea una barrera para la admisión y participación en todos sus programas educativos y vocacionales.

Para más información sobre sus derechos o para quejas, comuníquese con la Coordinadora del Título IX, Dra. Selina Chapa, Superintendente Adjunta de AISD, 2520 W.W. Thorne Drive, Houston, Texas 77073, al teléfono (281)449-1011 y/o comuníquese con la Coordinadora del Artículo 504, Dra. Charlotte J. Davis, Superintendente Adjunta de Servicios de Apoyo a los Estudiantes, 9999 Veterans Memorial Drive, Houston, Texas 77038, al (281)985-6452.

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OPINION

By **MICHAEL SKELLY**
Make I-45 Better Coalition

The Real Debate over I-45 Finally Begins

After almost 5 1/2 hours of public commentary (65 people spoke) and debate on Friday, the Houston-Galveston Area Council's Transportation Policy Council approved \$100 million in funding for Segment 2 of the I-45 expansion from I-10 to I-610.

More than a hundred of you (wow!) showed up to the meeting, and 59 of you spoke eloquently against the funding. As one resident said, "There is nothing innovative about bulldozing through low income communities." Local figure Jim "Mattress Mack" McIngvale called the NHHP (I-45 expansion) "the \$7 billion boondoggle." Many more cited TxDOT's own estimates of number of displaced residents; displaced businesses and jobs; and worse air quality as major reasons to delay funding.

Progress While this may not be the outcome we wanted, we've made definitive progress along the way. For starters, this vote was all over the news, and the project is now known as "the controversial I-45 expansion project." Spreading the word to more residents makes a huge difference!

Thank you to every one of you who has written to an elected official, attended a meeting, or spoken to your neighbors about the I-45 expansion.

We're making waves due to our collective effort, but we need to keep the pressure on.

Other wins we've earned:

- \$1.5 million in funding for community engagement, which we will monitor to ensure the process is transparent and impacts the current design
- \$50 million for transportation-related projects along the I-45 corridor to address adverse impacts of the expansion including but not limited to mobility, safety, and air quality

- quarterly reporting by TxDOT on community engagement and response
- a threat by City of Houston officials to kill the project if it doesn't get better
- upcoming community outreach by the City of Houston with Huitt-Zollars engineers and UH-Community Design Research Center

- much more press and community awareness about the project and its consequences for people living alongside it
- more awareness and discomfort by Houston City and Harris County officials

What is H-GAC? / What Was This Vote For?

This vote was by a committee of the Houston-Galveston Area Council, a group made up of representatives from Houston, Harris, Fort Bend, Galveston, Montgomery and other surrounding counties to plan transportation projects in our region. Not surprisingly, these surrounding county officials don't care much about Houston's neighborhoods, air quality, or flooding, so it's not a great shock that they'd support a

project whose impact is borne by Houston residents.

This is far from the final word on this project as the Federal permitting studies are many months away from completion.

Elected Officials' Responses

Against funding: Of note, Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo fearlessly was the only member to vote against the \$100M for the I-45 project, after she was denied her proposal to delay the funding vote until January 2020. We applaud Judge Hidalgo's bold move standing up for the people of Harris and Houston.

Numerous other elected officials sent in letters against funding the project this month and called for the vote to be delayed.

Neutral: Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia was the only to abstain.

Pro funding: Although he is not on the voting council, Mayor Sylvester Turner sent in a letter of support for this week's \$100M of funding.

Houston Council Member David Robinson (At Large) voted in favor of advancing the project.

Houston Council Member Martha Castex-Tatum (District K) voted in favor.

METRO Chair Carrin Patman voted in favor



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

Paxton lauds ruling against preclearance for redistricting maps

AUSTIN — Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton applauded a federal court ruling allowing the state to proceed with redistricting legislation without asking the federal government's permission.

The July 24 ruling by a three-judge federal court rejected plaintiffs' petition to require the state to obtain permission from the U.S. Department of Justice or a federal court before redistricting legislation could take effect.

After the San Antonio-based panel ruled on the ongoing voting rights case, Perez v. Abbott, Paxton said, "This court ruling is a win for our Constitution and the right of Texans to govern themselves."

Paxton called the plaintiffs' request for "bail-in" — that is, requiring proposed changes to voting laws and redistricting plans to be "precleared" by the Department of Justice — a "baseless challenge."

The plaintiffs originally brought suit over redistricting plans Texas lawmakers adopted in 2011, claiming that plans were passed by the Republican-dominated Legislature to dilute the voting power of minorities. The Legislature repealed those plans in 2013 and adopted largely court-drawn plans. The U.S. Supreme Court in 2018 confirmed that the Legislature in 2013 fixed defects plaintiffs alleged to have existed in the 2011 plans.

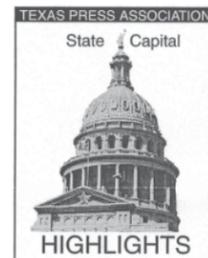
Furthermore, notably, the high court in June ruled 5-4 that federal courts have no oversight role when redistricting lines are drawn to favor a political party.

BALLOT ORDER IS DRAWN

Texas Deputy Secretary of State Joe Esparza on July 23 drew the ballot order for 10 propositions, the proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution that will appear on the Nov. 5 ballot.

At least two-thirds of the members of both the Texas Senate and the Texas House of Representatives approved each proposed constitutional amendment for Texans to vote on.

They will appear on the ballot in the following order:



—Prop. 8: "The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the flood infrastructure fund to assist in the financing of drainage, flood mitigation, and flood control projects."

—Prop. 9: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation precious metal held in a precious metals depository located in this state."

—Prop. 10: "The constitutional amendment to allow the transfer of a law enforcement animal to a qualified caretaker in certain circumstances."

VOTER REGISTRATION URGED

After the proposed constitutional amendment drawing ceremony on July 23, Deputy Secretary of State Esparza reminded all eligible Texans to register to vote in the November constitutional amendment election.

"The future of Texas is and will always be in the hands of Texans. This fall, voters will have the opportunity to directly impact the Texas Constitution, and I strongly encourage all eligible Texans to register to vote so that they can actively participate in shaping the future of the Lone Star State," Esparza said.

Texans will have the opportunity to approve the amendments with a majority vote.

For more information and resources for voting in Texas, visit VoteTexas.gov.

SALES TAX HOLIDAY IS SET

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar last week reminded shoppers they can save money on a number of items during the state's sales tax holiday on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 9-11.

The law exempts sales tax on qualified items — such as clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks — priced below \$100.

Apparel and school supplies that may be purchased tax-free are listed on the Comptroller's website at TexasTaxHoliday.org.

Texas' sales tax holiday weekend has been an annual event since 1999



Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

MOMENTS IN TIME: The History Channel—

- * On Aug. 25, 1835, the start of a six-part series announcing the discovery of life on the moon appears in the New York Sun newspaper. Sales of the paper soared as readers believed the tales about unicorns, two-legged beavers and furry, winged humanoids. Even Yale University scientists were fooled.
- * On Aug. 24, 1873, Wil-

liam Henry Jackson takes the first photographs of Colorado's elusive Mount of the Holy Cross, providing reliable proof of its existence. The phenomenon formed after thousands of years of erosion of two deep ravines, which by sheltering winter snow from the sun created a perfect cross.

- * On Aug. 19, 1909, the first race is held at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. After the unstable

rock and tar track caused the deaths of six people that day, the surface was replaced with 3.2 million paving bricks.

- * On Aug. 21, 1920, Daphne Milne, wife of writer A.A. Milne, gives birth to a son, whom they name Christopher Robin Milne. He would be immortalized in A.A. Milne's books "Winnie-the-Pooh" and "The House at Pooh Corner."
- * On Aug. 20, 1975, Viking 1, an unmanned U.S. planetary probe, is launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, on a mission to Mars. On July 20, 1976, the Viking 1 lander touched down on the Chryse Planitia region, becoming the first spacecraft to successfully land on Mars.
- * On Aug. 22, 1989, Nolan Ryan of the Texas Rangers becomes the first pitcher in major league history to record 5,000 career strikeouts. Ryan would go on to compile 5,714 strikeouts, a record that still stands.
- * On Aug. 23, 1999, seven people die in New York from what turns out to be the first cases of West Nile virus in the United States. West Nile virus, previously found only in Uganda and the Middle East, had been contracted by birds and spread by mosquitoes.

NORTHEAST NEWS

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Eleven-year-old excels in Karate Classes at East Aldine District



Eleven year old Kayla Van Dyke has a passion for karate. In the year since classes started at the East Aldine Management District Office, she has won four first place and two second place awards in tournament competition. She volunteers by coming in early to help with the younger students. Kayla will soon be testing for her purple belt. She is in the Honor Roll and is a First Lieutenant Executive Officer of the LOTC Program at Teague Middle School.

Karate and LOTC are both for building confidence, self-esteem, and leadership. All the qualities for making successful adults. Jesse and Sue Diaz are her Instructors from the American Society of Karate. They are very proud of her accomplishments. The Karate classes are free. They are sponsored by Veronica Sanchez and the EAMD Office. For more information call Sue Diaz at 713-962-6641.

Social Security Matters



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

Ask Rusty - About Collecting Spouse Benefits or Disability

Dear Rusty: My wife will be 62 in a few months and I'm still working (I am 59). Can my wife get any Social Security if I'm not yet retired? She's short quarters for her own Social Security from when she worked. She also worked under our State Teachers Retirement System as a substitute teacher, but she is short of getting any STRS benefits. She's a diabetic and has other health problems, so can she qualify for disability? Signed: Inquiring Husband

Dear Inquiring Husband: Your wife cannot collect Social Security spousal benefits from your record until you are collecting your own Social Security. To be eligible for Social Security on her own work

record she needs to have at least 40 "quarters" of work credits - about 10 years of substantial earnings over her lifetime during which she and her employer both contributed to Social Security. Her employment with STRS didn't give her Social Security credits since her State employer doesn't participate in the Social Security program; however, if she doesn't have a STRS pension then neither does she need to worry about that pension affecting her eventual Social Security spousal benefits when she can collect from you (if she had a pension from STRS her Social Security spousal benefit would be reduced).

As far as the possibility of your wife getting Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits, SSDI benefits can only be awarded based upon one's own work record. Whether your wife qualifies would depend upon how many Social Security quarter credits she has and when they were earned. Your wife would need to have worked in Social Security covered employment for at least 5 of the last 10 years to be eligible for SSDI benefits, and her current health condition would need to render her totally disabled and

unable to work (and that must be medically confirmed) in order to qualify.

If she hasn't already done so, I suggest your wife obtain a Statement of Estimated Benefits and Earnings Statement from Social Security. She can do this online by setting up her own personal "My Social Security" account at www.ssa.gov or by requesting same from Social Security via phone. You can find your local Social Security office contact information by going to this link: www.ssa.gov/locator. Once you have obtained this information you will be able to determine exactly how many Social Security "quarter credits" your wife actually has to this point and the employment years for which she earned them (for SSDI purposes), and also if she is entitled to any Social Security benefits on her own from credits earned over her lifetime (SS credits don't expire). Having all that information should help your wife fully understand if she has any claiming options other than waiting until you start collecting your own Social Security retirement benefit, at which point she can claim her spousal benefit.

VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

When a Veteran Dies Without Family - When a veteran dies and there is no family to tend to the details, the cremated remains will sometimes stay in storage for years. They're called Unclaimed Veterans. If the eventual burial takes place in a Department of Veterans Affairs cemetery, it's called an Unattended Interment. Sometimes these veterans are homeless; sometimes they're in a care facility. Sometimes no one knows the whole truth unless VA paperwork is found

in the veteran's belongings. I know of three situations in the past six months where veterans with no relatives were buried - yet hundreds and thousands showed up at their funerals. In those instances, word went out via a social media blog requesting that people come to pay their respects. Some traveled many miles to be able to attend and notified others in the area. Now and then a local funeral home will put out word for nearby residents to attend the funeral of a veteran without family. Use it as the clearing house for any plans you might make, such as for "Taps" or notifying veteran motorcycle groups. That way you won't be duplicating efforts. Ask specifically what they need. It might be they only require your attendance and anyone else you

can bring with you. Either way, the veteran can receive military honors, including "Taps" and a gun salute, often performed by the American Legion if the burial takes place in a civilian cemetery. If asked to attend the funeral of a veteran without family, please try to go. While they don't have a biological family, these veterans do have a military family - us. To learn more, there are Unclaimed Remains Burial Resources and Unclaimed Veteran Remains fact sheets available on the VA's cemetery website (www.cem.va.gov). Also look online for the Dignity Memorial Homeless Veterans Burial Program (www.dignitymemorial.com).

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ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves



R.F.D.



The Spats



Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle. A 9x9 grid with some numbers filled in. Below the grid are instructions: 'Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.' and 'DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦ Moderate ♦♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!'

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF. Two panels showing a boy in a swimming pool. The first panel shows him looking at a pair of goggles. The second panel shows him looking at a pair of goggles. Below the panels are instructions: 'Find at least six differences in details between panels.' and a list of differences: 'Differences: 1. Boy's hair is different. 2. Birds have been added. 3. Snorkel is different. 4. Shoreline is longer. 5. Bushes are different. 6. Boy on left is shorter.'

Posting Date August 5, 2019

King Crossword

A crossword puzzle grid with 11 columns and 11 rows. To the left of the grid is a list of clues for 'ACROSS' and 'DOWN'. To the right of the grid is a list of answers for 'ACROSS' and 'DOWN'. The clues include: '1 Moment, for short', '4 Nevada neighbor', '8 Detergent brand', '12 Savings plan acronym', '13 Actor LaBeouf', '14 Moby Dick's pursuer', '15 Insect repellents', '17 " - Lisa', '18 Harbor structure', '19 Asian nation', '20 Not intoxicated', '22 Actor Newman', '24 On in years', '25 San Francisco carriage', '29 Under the weather', '30 Divine', '31 "... and seven years -", '32 1776 crossing site', '34 Porn', '35 Sampras of tennis', '36 Vatican heads', '37 "Caribbean Queen" singer Billy', '40 Sleeve end', '41 Bedframe piece', '42 Stump', '8 Mexican entree', '9 Breakfast chain acronym', '10 Carvey or Delany', '11 Abba of Israel', '16 Piper's adjective', '19 Seventh of a series', '20 Put into words', '21 Leer at', '22 Chaplain', '23 Competent', '25 Layer', '26 Marshmallow toaster', '27 Chills and fever', '28 Decays', '30 Verdon or Stefani', '33 Carelessness?', '34 Couch', '36 Lightweight boxer?', '37 Norway's capital', '38 Organization', '39 Relaxation', '40 "Be a sport"', '42 Scoundrel', '43 Corroded', '44 Martini ingredient', '45 Affirmative action?'

Answers for the crossword puzzle. A grid of letters corresponding to the crossword puzzle grid. The answers are: 1. MOMENT, 4. NEVADA, 8. DETERGENT, 12. SAVINGS, 13. LA BEOUF, 14. A-HA, 15. OFFICE, 17. LISA, 18. BRIDGE, 19. JAPAN, 20. DRUNK, 22. NEWMAN, 24. OLD, 25. CARRIAGE, 29. WEATHER, 30. DIVINE, 31. SEVEN, 32. CROSSING, 34. PORN, 35. SAMPRAS, 36. VATICAN, 37. BILLY, 40. SLEEVE, 41. BEDFRAME, 42. STUMP, 8. MEXICAN, 9. BREAKFAST, 10. CARVEY, 11. ABBA, 16. PIPER, 19. SEVENTH, 20. PUT, 21. LEER, 22. CHAPLAIN, 23. COMPETENT, 25. LAYER, 26. MARSHMALLOW, 27. CHILLS.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- 1. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which city will host the 2022 Winter Olympics?
2. ANATOMY: What is a human's body temperature in Celsius?
3. PSYCHOLOGY: What fear is represented in the condition called spectrophobia?
4. GEOGRAPHY: Which is the only large major city built on two continents?
5. MATH: The Roman numbers MMXIX translate to what in Arabic numbers?
6. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of lemurs called?
7. LITERATURE: The character of Miss Moneypenny appears in which novels?
8. TELEVISION: Which animated series features the character Stewie Griffin?
9. MEASUREMENTS: How many yards are in a mile?
10. LANGUAGE: What does the Latin phrase "ars gratia artis" mean?

Trivia Test Answers: 1. Beijing; 2. About 37 C; 3. A fear of mirrors; 4. Istanbul - Europe and Asia; 5. 2019; 6. A conspiracy of Lemurs; 7. James Bond novels; 8. "Family Guy"; 9. 1,760; 10. Art for art's sake.

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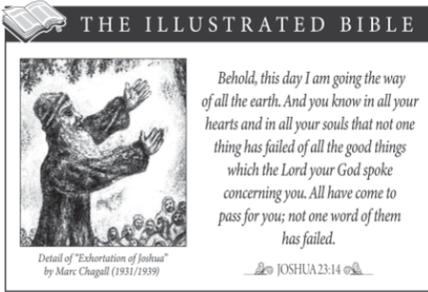
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LIFESTYLE

BIBLE TRIVIA
by Wilson Casey

BIBLE TRIVIA by Wilson Casey —1. Is the book of Hebrews in the Old or New Testament or neither? 2. "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord" is found in what book? Psalms, Proverbs, Numbers, Jeremiah 3. What did Abel do for a living? Carpenter, Keep-

er of sheep, Tax collector, Tentmaker 4. Who was the first woman judge in Israel? Deborah, Sarah, Jezebel, Lydia 5. To whom did Jesus say, "Get thee behind me, Satan"? Andrew, Rizpah, Elijah, Peter 6. Who prayed three times a day at an open window? Daniel, Jonah, Stephen, Solomon
ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Psalms 150:6; 3) Keeper of sheep; 4) Deborah; 5) Peter; 7) Daniel



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UT Physicians Clinic at Jensen has Back2School Health Fair, immunizations

UT Physicians held a Health Fair with Back-to-School immunizations last Saturday, July 27 at their clinic on Crosstimbers at Jensen Drive.

Sponsors of the Immunization drive were Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia, and State Representative Armando Walle.

This is a continuation of healthcare for residents of Gene Green's Texas District 29, held for many years.

Also participating in the event were Pastor David Smith from the New Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church, with some of his parishioners. The were pro-

moting the Jensen Jubilee, scheduled for October.

The clinic had a number of nurses and doctors on hand, and site managers Marlin Stewart and Xochitl Olguin.

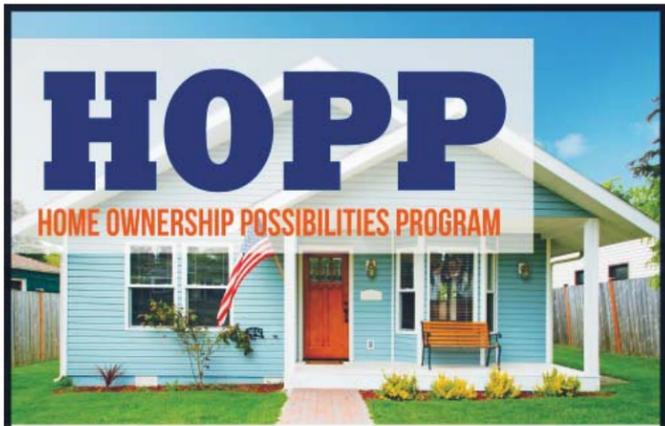
In addition to shots, the Health Fair provided backpacks and bags of healthy foods from the Food Bank.



Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia and State Rep. Armando Walle were among the volunteers that helped with immunizations and food distribution.



ABOVE LEFT: Welcoming remarks to the families attending, from Sylvia Garcia and Armando Walle. ABOVE: The waiting room was filled for the four hours that the event took place. Lines formed outside too. LEFT: Armando Walle, Sylvia Garcia, and UT Staff Marlin Stewart and Xochitl Olguin were among the group that helped every child get their vaccine shots.



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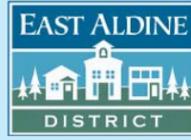
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East Aldine District NEWS REPORT

History of Aldine Part 4 ALDINE DEPOT

Now that Aldine has grown to sprawl over such an enormous geographical area, it's easy to forget today that it was once a little farming village, and that little farming village had at its center a railroad depot, and that little building was both Aldine's reason for existence and gateway to the world.

In 1873, the International and Great Northern Railroad laid tracks north from Houston to join up with the other main branch of their line at Palestine and what is now Aldine lay along the route.

Victorian steam engines needed near-constant replenishment with coal and water, so the railroads built stops every ten or 20 miles whether or not the areas were populated. Aldine, first known as Prairie Switch, got its start as the second such supply stop north of Houston, one just beyond another called Crosstimbers and just south of the Westfield, Spring, Haltom's, Egypt, and Grand Lake stops.

The railroad companies hoped that these stops would evolve into shipping points, towns or even cities, but they had mixed results on that score, as you can see by the names listed above — Haltom's, Egypt and Grand Lake are all long since ghost towns if they ever lived at all; Crosstimbers lives on only as a Houston street. Spring and Aldine are among the survivors.



Tragedy and dark comedy arrived along with the trains. In May of 1876, a Galveston newspaper reported the burial of "an unfortunate man whose name is supposed to be Charles Collins, killed by the International and Great Northern train accidentally running over him at Prairie Switch." A few months later, the same paper published the account of a briefly infamous and very fortunate Austin County man whose name was always reported only as "Dibbe." This Dibbe had been convicted of murdering his own father and was sentenced to hang. Governor Richard Coke commuted Dibbe's sentence to either life, or, as one account had it, a single year in prison; in either event, that decision was unpopular, and for a few days thereafter Texas newspapers mocked Coke for being soft on crime.

You would have thought Dibbe would have been happy just to be alive as he and a couple of guards rode north from Houston towards his new digs in Huntsville's Graybar Hotel, but this Dibbe was not satisfied with a mere reprieve from the gallows. As his train passed through Prairie Switch, he jumped out while it was still rolling. And that was about as far as his escape attempt went — it was far bolder than wise. Dibbe badly sprained his ankle on contact with the ground and was immediately apprehended by his guards. But don't be giving those guys any good cop awards just yet: the newspaper went on to report that Dibbe was not only "unshackled and unconfined," but also "drunk on lager beer obtained in Houston."

That's right — these two guards loaded a drunk man completely unhindered by either handcuffs or leg-irons and possibly facing life imprisonment, aboard a passenger train.

Man, prisoner transport sure has changed since then. And you have to imagine that when they got Dibbe back on a Huntsville train, he was both in irons and sober.

North of Spring, the I&GN chugged north to Palestine, where it joined the main body of the railway coming in from Laredo and San Antonio via Austin, Round Rock, Taylor, Rockdale and Hearne. At Palestine, the line beelined northeast toward St. Louis, with branch lines for major river ports at places like Memphis and Cairo, Illinois. Once there, goods and people had entered the settled, civilized world — to Texans, the hub city of St. Louis was as much a gateway to the east as it was a portal to the west for people from, say, Kentucky or Maryland.

For Aldine, it was how all the Kansans who came in such numbers in the early days of the town arrived and went home to visit friends and families, and how all the figs that were grown there left for faraway markets. Or maybe never



made it off the train — fig preserves were a very popular item in the dining cars.

Aldine's depot once stood near the northeastern corner of Hardy and Aldine Bender, so as Allen's Landing is to Houston, so that corner is the Plymouth Rock for Aldinites. Around that depot, you once had Aldine's first hotel, general store, school, church, post office and houses, all of which were in place around 1912, along with a cemetery, most likely the earliest portion of the one that is now Morales/Santa Teresa.

Bisected by Aldine Bender/FM 525, the little town was bounded on the south by Aldine Mail Route, on the north by Greens Bayou, and on the east by Luthe Road. With its western boundary at Lillija Road, it straddled the International & Great Northern Railroad, today's Hardy Road. Fascinatingly, there are some remnants of streets to the west of that roadway that almost certainly belonged to a lost Aldine street grid. If you are westbound on Aldine Bender and hang a left on Henry Rd., out of nowhere you will come across a 4th Street and a 5th Street, neither of them more than a block or two long. Where are 1st, 2nd and 3rd streets? Why do only these stranded remnants survive?

The depot closed in 1931 or 1932, amid very hard times for Aldine and the world. As locomotives switched to diesel, fewer stops were necessary to maintain the engines, and as more people got cars and trucks, it was easier for them to drive to depots farther away. And as the Great Depression broadened, Aldine's population shrunk to a few dozen people; a sort of calm before the storm, as Houston was marching northward to envelop Aldine.

But that would not come for another ten years or so. And in 1966, the International & Great Northern Railroad ceased its corporate existence — today its tracks are operated by Missouri Pacific, or MoPac.