

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Primary Election Results, page 2
- Aldine & LSC - a great pair, page 2
- East Aldine District Groundbreaking, page 2

NORTHEAST NEWS

Kite Festival...



Kite Flying Photos pages 1 & 5

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VOL. 44, NO. 10 TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

INSIDE:

- Community/School News.....Page 2
- Community News.....Page 3
- Opinion.....Page 4
- Entertainment.....Page 5
- Lifestyle.....Page 6
- Church Page.....Page 7
- EA Town Center Ground Breaking..Page 8

NEWS NOTES

NHA Little League Opening Day

Join to celebrate de opening with a parade and festival, Saturday, March 21, 2020. Parade starts at 10 am, at MacArthur High School, 4400 Aldine Mail Rt. and ends at the Squatty Lyons Park, 1601 Cromwell-77093. Little League games from 11 am- 5 pm. Questions, call 281-536-4062.

Police investigate fatal shooting on Maxey Road

Houston police are investigating the fatal shooting of a man that occurred at 664 Maxey Road about 11:50 p.m. on Sunday, March 1. The victim, Alberto Zavala Perez, 43, was transported to the hospital where he was pronounced dead. HPD Homicide Division Sergeant K. Meek and Detective T. Andrade reported: Officers responded to a shooting at an apartment complex at the above address and found Mr. Perez lying in the courtyard. Houston Fire Department paramedics transported Perez to Memorial Hermann Hospital where he was pronounced deceased. There is no known suspect nor motive in this case. Anyone with information in this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS.

Go Fly a Kite - at Aldine's Kite Festival!

The East Aldine community held a Kite Festival last Saturday, at the Town Center. Meant to set a tradition for the community, the East Aldine District promoted the event with the help of sponsors. Families, friends and neighbors first met on the BakerRipley courtyard for a Zumba performance, and then enjoyed kite making, kite flying, games, face painting, raffles, moon walks, and food from food trucks.

A great tradition of fun and neighborhood that the East Aldine community can look forward to again.



A proud young kite flyer demonstrates his artwork on his kite, and his skill in flying it low (and later higher up in the sky). A few ended up in the trees and water.



Children and adults made their kites, and then colored them with bright designs. Some also brought their own.

Officials confirm more cases of coronavirus in Houston and Harris County

UPDATED - March 6, 2020 - Health Officials confirmed the second case of coronavirus in the City of Houston, making a total of 8 in Fort Bend, Houston and Harris County areas. (NOTE: This number may change as days go by.)

The female patient, in the 60 to 70 age range, is part of the same group of travelers to Egypt associated with recent cases announced in Fort Bend County and Harris County. She is currently hospitalized and stable.

HOUSTON, Texas - March 5, 2020 - Harris County Public Health



Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo with Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner and County Health Director Umair Shah, at press conference last Thursday on Coronavirus.

(HCPH) confirmed last Thursday four more cases of Coronavirus, all in Harris County or Houston.

The new cases involved four people in their 60s who were exposed to the virus during a trip to Egypt last month. The 70-year-old from Fort Bend took the same trip and this case was confirmed last Wednesday by a Houston laboratory.

Four of the five patients with coronavirus are hospitalized in stable condition and the fifth is self-quarantined at home

See Coronavirus in Harris County, Page 3

U.S. Deputy Secretary of Education Zais visits Aldine ISD's Blanson CTE High School

U.S. Deputy Secretary of Education Dr. Mitchell "Mick" Zais visited Aldine ISD's Dr. Archie L. Blanson Career and Technical Education High School on Wednesday, March 4.

During his visit, Dr. Zais toured Blanson CTE High School to explore its extensive career and technical education programs.

His visit highlighted the Trump Administration's goal of ensuring every high school student in the United States access to CTE programs that provide high-quality pathways to



U.S. Deputy Secretary of Education Dr. Mitchell "Mick" Zais, center, visits with Aldine ISD Board President Paul Shanklin, left and Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney, right, during his visit to Blanson CTE High School on Wednesday, March 4.

success after graduation.

President Donald Trump's fiscal year 2021 budget proposal unveiled last month increases in funding for CTE programs by \$900 million, increasing CTE funding to \$2 billion.

Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney welcomed and thanked Dr. Zais for taking the time to visit the Aldine ISD campus.

"Everyday we work hard to demonstrate what's possible for our students," Dr. Goffney said. "We want them to have

choices and at this beautiful campus provides them with a myriad of choices."

Prior to his tour of the campus, Dr. Zais received an overview of Aldine ISD's Career and Technical Education program by Franklin Higgins, AISD's director of Career and Technical Education.

Blanson Principal Ben Ibarra shared information about the school, which opened in August of 2018.

Secretary of Education in Aldine, Page 8

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PREMIERE CINEMAS
FRIDAY-WEDNESDAY 3/6-3/11

Opens THURSDAY, March 12
 * **STILL BELIEVE** (PG) 7:00p 9:50p
 * **MY SPY** (PG-13) 6:00p 8:30p
 * **THE HUNT** (NR) 7:00p 9:20p

* **BENEATH US** (R) 12:30pm, 2:30pm
 * **BENEATH US** (R) 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 9:30pm Closed Caption
 * **ONWARD** (PG) 12:00pm, 6:00pm, 8:30p Spanish Dubbed, CC
 * **ONWARD** (PG) - 12:30pm, 6:30pm, 9:00pm
 * **ONWARD in RealD 3D** (PG) 3:00pm Spanish Dubbed, CC
 * **ONWARD in RealD 3D** (PG) 3:30pm

* **THE WAY BACK** (R) 12:00pm, 3:00pm, 6:00pm, 9:00pm
THE INVISIBLE MAN (R) 12:00pm, 12:15pm, 2:45pm, 3:00pm, 5:30pm, 6:00pm, 8:30pm, 9:00pm
 Closed Caption
BRAHMS: THE BOY II (PG-13) 12:10pm, 2:30pm, 4:40pm, 7:00pm, 9:20pm
THE CALL OF THE WILD (PG) 12:00pm, 2:20pm, 4:40pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

THE CALL OF THE WILD (PG) 12:30pm, 2:45pm, 5:00pm, 7:05pm, 9:20pm
 Closed Caption; Spanish Dubbed
MY BOYFRIEND'S MIDS (Las piloras de mi novio) (R) 12:00pm, 2:30pm, 4:50pm, 7:10pm, 9:30pm
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG (PG) 12:00pm, 2:25pm, 4:45pm, 7:10pm, 9:30pm Spanish Dubbed
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG (PG) 12:15pm, 2:40pm, 5:00pm, 7:20pm, 9:40pm Closed Caption
Harley Quinn: BIRDS OF PREY (R) 12:00pm, 6:00pm Spanish Dubbed
Harley Quinn: BIRDS OF PREY (R) 3:00pm, 9:00pm
BAD BOYS FOR LIFE (R) 3:00pm, 9:00pm Spanish Dubbed
BAD BOYS FOR LIFE (R) 3:00pm, 8:30pm Closed Caption
BAD BOYS FOR LIFE (R) 12:15pm, 5:45pm
BAD BOYS FOR LIFE (R) 12:00pm, 6:00pm
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SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWS

KASHMERE GARDENS MBC FAMILY CELEBRATES Pastor Edward L. Durant Jr. 10th Pastoral Anniversary

Kashmere Gardens Missionary Baptist Church has served as a pillar in this community for 60 years. On Sunday, March 22, 2020 at 10:15 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., we will celebrate Rev. Edward Louis Durant Jr. for 10 years of service as Pastor and 20 years of commitment as a Minister of The Gospel. We are excited about the future of "The Gardens" as we prepare to receive the bountiful blessings that our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, has in store for our Pastor and church family.

Rev. Edward L. Durant Jr. was baptized at the age of five by Rev. M. L. Bryant and began his spiritual training at Forest Lawn Missionary Baptist Church. It was there he developed the level of integrity, honesty, responsibility, cooperation

and patience that Pastor Durant exemplifies today.

Pastor Durant began his formal education in the Houston Public School System. He attended Oak Forest Elementary, Lanier and Terrell Middle schools and is a proud graduate of Kashmere Senior High School. He then attended Sam Houston State University and Texas Southern University where he received his Bachelor and Master degrees. As a Teacher and Math Coach, Pastor Durant served in North Forest Independent School District for ten years.

Pastor Durant comes from a family of educators and leaders in their professions. Early influences of family bonds have served as the link to his ability to serve and in his

pastoral success. Strong work and moral ethics, principles and values were instilled in him at an early age by the Matriarch of the Durant family, his Grandmother, Alene Bowie Durant, who was affectionately called "Mother". The words of her favorite song, "Let The Works That I've Done, Speak For Me" still reside in the corridors of Pastor Durant's mind as he embarks upon his 10th Pastoral and 20th Ministerial Anniversaries.

Currently, Pastor Edward L. Durant Jr. continues to share the Gospel message through his preaching, teaching, short talks, youth conferences, and ongoing dialogues within schools, churches and community associations. He has become a defining voice of alliance of people

and organizations that are committed to the transformation of the family unit, Christian discipleship and community involvement.

As a church moving into the twenty-first century, under Pastor Durant's leadership, the first church logo was designed, a church app was created and implemented, and a digital marquee sign was acquired. Pastor Durant aspires to be a leader who encompasses the ability to serve, assist, educate, encourage and motivate those under his leadership to fulfill our mission: "Building a family devoted to God, through Christ, with love, prayer, praise, teaching, stewardship and evangelism; to save the lost, serve the unfortunate and strengthen the weak."



"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

Hebrews 11:1

Primary Election hits incumbents

Ryan out; Constable Diaz, Eagleton in Run-offs

By Lewis Spearman

HOUSTON – The primary election brought a number of surprises on the Democratic ticket. County Attorney Vince Ryan was defeated by challenger Chris Menefee. Ryan could only muster 25% of the votes, and Menefee avoided a run-off with 50.45%.

Several other upsets occurred, with Pct. 2 Constable Chris Diaz facing a run-off with Jerry Garcia, and Pct. 3 Constable Sherman Eagleton in a run-off with Ken Jones, his former boss. Diaz had only 34.7% of the vote, Garcia got 39%, Eagleton received 47.44%, Ken Jones got 16%.

In the Presidential race in Texas, Donald Trump commanded 93.94% of Re-

publican votes, Joe Biden took 33.6% Democrat votes, Bernie Sanders 30% Mike Bloomberg had 14.7% and Elizabeth Warren also ran for 11.6%.

In the race for the Senate John Cornyn had just 76% of Republicans. Democratic candidates Mary "M.J." Hegar had 23.12% and Royce West got 14% and will head to a run-off.

In the battle for Sheriff of Harris County Democrat incumbent Ed Gonzales got 72.61% of the votes.

Democrat Kim Ogg kept her seat as District Attorney with 55%.

State Representative Briscoe Cain with 79% took Robert Hoskins's retirement plans to the woodshed with 20.6%. Mary Williams will chal-

lenge him as a Democrat with 72% in District 128.

US District 36 saw Congressman Brian Babin win with 86% over J.R. Boatman with 13%. Babin will run against Democrat Rashad Lewis.

Railroad Commissioners were most in play in the late hours: Democrats Roberto (Beto) Alonzo had 29% against Chrysta Castaneda with 33% while Republicans Ryan Sittton had 67% over Jim Wright.

The League of Women Voters said that the turnout was quite heavy for a Primary. Long lines were the result at many polling places, and TSU reported that some voters did not to cast their ballot until after midnight.

TCEQ Holding Union Pacific Responsible for Creosote Site Senator Miles announces



Senator Boris Miles makes announcement of TCEQ action, with Mayor Turner and Kathy Blueford-Daniels, at the site of the Creosote shop in the background.

Senator Miles Announced TCEQ Holding Union Pacific Responsible for Creosote Site

Senator Boris Miles announced the Texas Environmental Quality would be holding Union Pacific's feet to the fire regarding the site, formerly known as the Houston Wood Preserving Works, which used creosote, a substance described the Environmental Protection Agency as a probably cancer-causing substance, to preserve the wood.

"Since before this facility ended operations in 1985, nearby residents and former employees began complaining about a severe decline in their health and cancer diagnoses related to the site, now owned by Union Pacific," said Senator Miles. "It brings me great pleasure to inform this community that the State of Texas is NOT going to allow Union Pacific to ignore this site that has been plaguing the Fifth Ward and Kashmere Gardens for over three decades."

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) joined Senator Miles, announcing they would be mandating the Union Pacific to submit a revised permit renewal

and cleanup plan by August 31, 2020. TCEQ officials also assured the Senator and community that Union Pacific would be held accountable to meet all permitting requirements and continue to make progress on cleaning the site.

Upon being elected, Senator Miles first learned about the site and began meeting with the community and Union Pacific officials. After reviewing Union Pacific's original cleanup plan, and deeming it unacceptable, he sent a letter to the TCEQ voicing opposition and requesting a public meeting.

"We are grateful Senator Miles and other elect-

ed officials have listened and prioritized the needs of the community," said Kathy Blueford-Daniels, Fifth Ward native and community activist. "We look forward to working together as we finally get this site cleaned and end the destruction it has done to our neighborhoods."

"Today is our first victory, and we should celebrate it. But there is still more work to be done to rid this area of what I deem, environmental racism. This will not bring back the lives lost, or heal those who are still fighting for tomorrow, but it is the first step of ridding our community of this environmental hazard," said Senator Miles.



Mayor Turner commends Senator Miles for his initiative in the Creosote cancer cluster concerns.

AEF/ASF/LSCF scholarships

Aldine ISD and Lone Star College make a great pair

Perhaps it was kismet when Lone Star College, then just North Harris County College, opened in the early seventies with Dr. W.W. Thorne as the first President. Thorne was the former Superintendent of Aldine ISD and since the very beginning, the two educational institutions have formed a close partnership that now sends many AISD students to LSC every year.

"More than 30 years ago, a group of community members and Aldine ISD administrators founded a non-profit organization, the Aldine Scholarship Foundation (ASF). ASF raised private funds to send AISD graduates to Lone Star College," said Sheleah Reed, Chief Communications Officer for Aldine ISD. To date, the collective endowments now total close to \$2 million.

"Aldine ISD strongly values its long-standing partnership with Lone Star College in providing college scholarships to Aldine ISD seniors. For 30 years, Aldine ISD and Lone Star College have provided Aldine ISD students with the opportunity to begin their college careers. Many of the students who have received scholarships have been the first in their families to attend college," Reed said.

Aldine Education Foundation and Lone Star College Foundation have the shared goal of supporting student success beyond Aldine ISD classrooms. Both organizations seek to connect donors' gifts to those students who need financial assistance to pursue their education beyond



Aldine ISD's Superintendent congratulates student as he receives graduation diploma.

high school.

Every year, ASF endowments generate 130 scholarships annually for Aldine ISD graduates now attending Lone Star College with many attending LSC-North Harris and East Aldine Center.

"Our unique partnership means we work closely together to manage the application and award process of the funds held at Lone Star College Foundation specifically for Aldine ISD students to attend Lone Star," says Michele McGovern, Director, Aldine Education Foundation. "In addition to the benefits this provides for our graduates, there are community benefits to keeping some of our best and brightest close to home."

Nicole Robinson Gauthier, Executive Director, LSC Foundation says, "this partnership is a great example of the LSC Foundation mission in action, part of which is changing lives through relationship

building. With the same goals in mind, the Foundation and AISD are poised to continue great work for our students and the community. It is an honor to partner with our Aldine friends!"

The partnership isn't limited to scholarships, as the newly opened East Aldine Center shows. Opened in 2019, the center allows even more access for the Aldine community to academic courses as well as workforce training programs in high demand fields. Also on site is Aldine ISD's Rose M. Avalos Pathways in Technology Early College High School where high school students earn their diploma and college credit hours simultaneously.

If you are interested in supporting student scholarships at Lone Star College, please contact the Foundation at 832.813.6636 or email foundation@lonestar.edu for more information.

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OPINION PAGE



Social Security Matters

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

Ask Rusty – Will Taking My Benefit Early Affect My Widow Benefit?

Dear Rusty: My husband is 70 and has been taking Social Security for several years. His benefit is \$2,100 per month. I am 60 and will turn 61 in March. I have very little built up and my expected SS benefit at my full retirement age is \$1163 and \$829 if I choose to take it at age 62. We are comfortable with our current income, but the benefit at 62 is enticing. I want to know how taking it at 62 would affect my situation if my husband predeceases me. Would I then be able to exchange my benefits for his? Please advise. Signed: Planning Ahead.

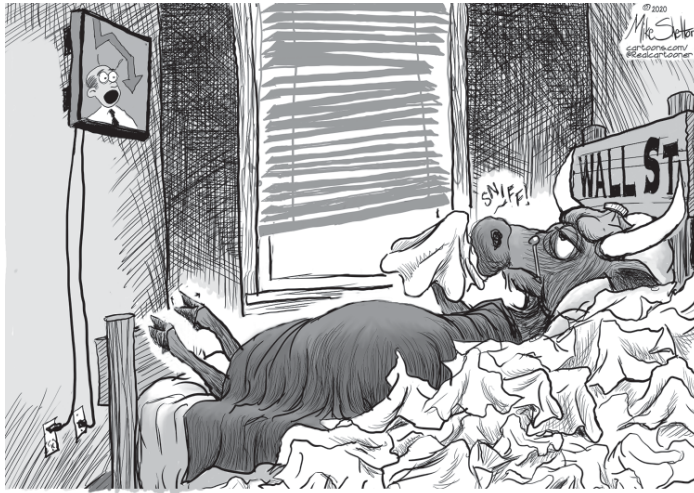
Dear Planning: Taking your own SS benefit early (before your full retirement age) won't affect the amount of your survivor benefit should your husband predecease you. The only thing that would affect your survivor benefit is the age at which you claim it. So yes, you could claim your own benefit first and then switch to your survivor benefit later without hurting your eventual survivor benefit. If you have reached your full retirement age (FRA) when your husband passes, your survivor benefit will be 100% of the amount your husband is receiving at his death, instead of your own smaller benefit. But if you take the survivor benefit before your FRA, it will be actuarially reduced according to the number of months prior to FRA it is claimed. To be clear, if your husband were to pass before you reached FRA, you have the option to wait until your FRA to claim the survivor benefit (so you can get 100% of his benefit). In other words, you could continue to collect your own benefit until your survivor benefit reached 100% at your FRA (a survivor benefit reaches maximum at FRA).

Be aware, though, that there is another consideration if you claim your own SS benefit before you reach your full retirement age. If you are still working and claim your benefit before your FRA, you'll be subject to Social

Security's "earnings limit" which, if exceeded, will cause SS to take back future benefits equal to 50% of the amount you exceeded the limit by (the 2020 limit is \$18,240, but it changes annually). If you have substantial earnings from working, that could mean you will go some number of months without benefits (depending upon your earnings level). In the year you reach your FRA (but prior to your FRA) the earnings limit goes up by 2.6 times and the penalty is less, and once you reach your FRA there is no longer an earnings limit. But, I want to make sure you're aware that collecting early and exceeding the earnings limit will affect your benefits. If you go months without benefits because you exceeded the earnings limit, SS will give you time credit for those months when you reach your FRA, which will result in a small increase in your own SS benefit at that time.

But the bottom line is that collecting your own Social Security benefit early will not affect your eventual survivor benefit. Only the age at which you claim it, if earlier than your FRA, will affect the amount of your survivor benefit. And, by the way, your FRA as a widow is 4 months less than your normal FRA because SS takes 2 years off of your birth year to determine your "widow's FRA."

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The Coronavirus spreads...

Governor gives update on actions to combat coronavirus

AUSTIN — As the worldwide threat of novel coronavirus increased, state agencies already were working together to ensure the health and safety of all Texans, Gov. Greg Abbott said Feb. 27.

After a briefing from state and federal health officials on coronavirus (COVID-19), Abbott provided an update on steps the state is taking. He said the Department of State Health Services has activated the State Medical Operations Center to serve as a touchpoint for any requests from local entities. The center also ensures consistent collection, tracking and reporting of public health activities and data.

Also, DSHS is preparing state laboratories with testing capabilities for the novel coronavirus and is updating public health response plans in the event of the spread of the virus. Abbott said multi-level and multi-agency coordination and communication efforts are practiced daily to ensure up-to-date information is flowing between federal, state and local partners.

Furthermore, DSHS is coordinating with the Texas Department of Emergency Management, Texas Hospital Association, Texas Medical Association and state university systems to provide educational materials and the latest developments in research and treatment methods for the virus.

And, relevant agencies will implement disinfecting measures at places such as driver license offices and schools and ensure that high-risk populations such as those in day-care centers, nurs-

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By Ed Sterling

ing homes, assisted living associations and health-care facilities are prepared and properly cared for, Abbott said.

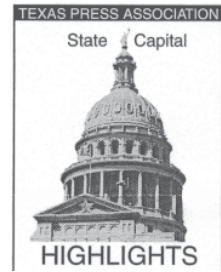
Meanwhile, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has confirmed multiple cases of COVID-19 in people under federal quarantine at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. The first was a traveler who returned on a U.S. State Department-chartered flight from Wuhan City, China. The others returned on a State Department flight for passengers from the Diamond Princess cruise ship quarantined in Yokohama, Japan. The individuals will remain isolated at medical facilities until they test negative for the virus and are no longer at risk of spreading it. The CDC has the latest information on the number of people under quarantine who are infected and is updating its national numbers each Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

New cards being issued

The Texas Department of Public Safety on Feb. 27 announced that it is now issuing redesigned, tamper-resistant Texas driver's licenses, identification cards and license-to-carry cards.

The cards have a new look with an updated design and enhanced security features. The driver's license and ID cards also have visible and discrete identifiers on the front.

The DPS said that previously issued driver's licenses are still valid until the expiration date listed on the card and, beginning Oct. 1, travelers will need a valid passport, U.S. military ID or a REAL ID compliant driver's license (one with the gold star) to travel on commercial airlines or enter federal facilities.



Paxton welcomes ruling

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on Feb. 26 applauded a federal district court ruling holding that a 1998 comprehensive settlement agreement with R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company and other tobacco companies stands and the agreed payments to the state for smoking-related health-care costs must be enforced.

The U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas rejected Reynolds' argument that selling acquired brands included in the settlement nullified its obligation to Texas taxpayers, declaring that "Reynolds remains as liable today as it was when it entered into the Texas Settlement in 1998."

Vaping case count: 250

The Department of State Health Services on Feb. 25 reported some 250 Texas cases of severe lung disease in people who used e-cigarettes before developing symptoms. Four of them have died.

Patients range in age from 13 to 75 years old with a median age of 22 years. About one-quarter of the people affected in Texas are minors. Three-quarters are male and nine in 10 report vaping THC or marijuana possibly in conjunction with other substances. Almost all patients were hospitalized and the DSHS said many required intensive care.

THE POSTSCRIPT
By Carrie Classon

"Push-Ups with Bob"

Bob suggested we all do push-ups.

I guess I should mention that I don't know Bob. Peter, my husband, knew Bob in high school. To be perfectly honest, I'm not sure Peter and Bob were even close pals in high school. But Bob sent me a Facebook friend request shortly after he became Facebook friends with Peter and, even though I don't know Bob, I accepted. Then Bob challenged me to do push-ups. "Join me in the push-up challenge!" Bob said.

I was delighted that I been invited. I love the idea of a personal trainer—although I am far too cheap to hire one. Here was Bob, offering to provide encouragement and support and that's important, especially as we get older. A person can coast through their thirties and forties without a care and then one day, you flap your arms in the mirror and discover you look like a bat. It's not good.

Now here was Bob, offering to save me from my bat wings. I was delighted.

Looking back on it now, I'm not sure Bob really intended for me to take up his challenge. I suspect he was thinking that other friends—friends he actually knew—might be inspired to start doing push-ups with him every day. But I appreciate when someone challenges me to try something new. So, when Bob suggested that we should all start doing push-ups, I started doing push-ups.

I wasn't very good at first. But the nice thing about having a long-distance coach is that Bob was not very demanding. I figured if I added one push-up every other day the days would add up—and they did.

"I'm still doing push-ups!" I reported to my new friend, Bob, with some regularity. Bob didn't write back but I like to think he nodded approvingly.

Then, I stopped. I got busy and preoccupied and I let one day go and then another and soon it had been a week and, before long, it had been a month and I'd not done a single push-up. I could hardly look Bob in the face—except that I didn't have to, as I mentioned, because I don't actually know Bob. Still, I felt bad.

Today I was sitting and thinking of how things were going in my life—sort of taking an inventory, the way I like to do from time to time. I have a book halfway finished and that makes me happy. I've been eating more or less healthy—although Peter has been on a cookie-baking binge and having freshly baked cookies in the house is a hazard. But overall, I thought things were going pretty well until I remembered the push-ups—and Bob.

"I haven't reported to Bob in ages!" I thought. And it was true. I had ditched my personal trainer and I was not feeling good about it.

So, today I came clean and wrote to Bob.

"Hey Bob! I stopped doing push-ups and felt terrible, but I've started again!" I wrote. And then I added, "Thank you for your inspiration."

I knew Bob probably didn't remember who I was, and that's okay.

Almost every day someone gives me a lift, inspires me to do a little better, and I'm not very good at letting them know. So, I wanted Bob to know that he helped me do something that makes me feel better and I was grateful.

Imagine my surprise when I got a message from Bob. "Thanks for the kind words!" he said.

Now I definitely can't slack again.

My arms are killing me. Till next time, Carrie

Carrie Classon's memoir is called, "Blue Yarn." Learn more at CarrieClasson.com.

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Gerardo Hernandez.....Asst. Production Mgr.

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ENTERTAINMENT

KITE FESTIVAL East Aldine Town Center

Hundreds of children and adults turned out for the East Aldine Kite Festival at Town Center. They spent several hours enjoying the kite making tables, food trucks, and kite flying. Also kids could enjoy face painting, moon walks, and games. There was also a raffle for everyone.

Sponsors had tables set up for information, give-aways, and games. Sponsors included East Aldine District, Harris County Sheriff's Office, Lone Star College- East Aldine Campus, BakerRipley, Hope Clinic, Avolos P-Tech high school, Aldine ISD, WIC, and Bonding Against Adversity.

Kite Festival photos by Northeast News/Julietta Paita, and evipro courtesy of the East Aldine District.



Kids enjoyed Moon Walks and games as well as the Kite Flying



A successful flight by one of the participants. The wind and sun were good all day.



Sponsors included the Harris County Sheriff's Office, with gifts and information for kids and families.



The grass berms, walking trails, and the detention pond were a perfect spot for flying kites.



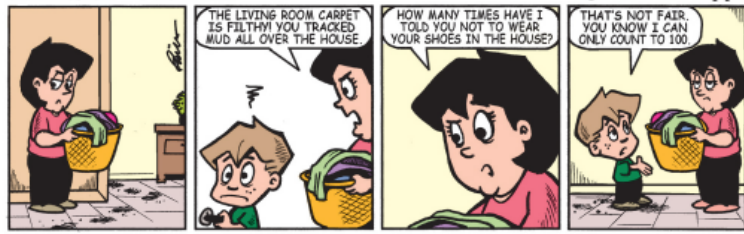
Several hundred families and kids spread out over the new landscaping at the Town Center.



East Aldine District had a tent with gifts, and a raffle.

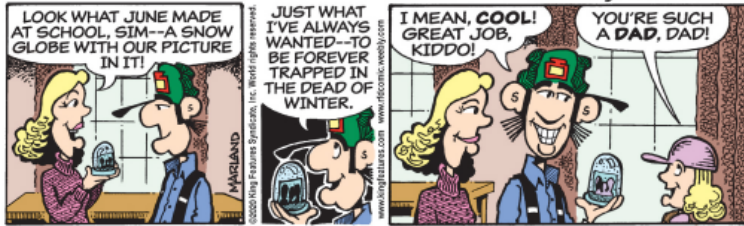
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

		4		3				1
	9			2		6		
6			7		5			2
		5	6				1	3
8					9			7
	4	2		1		8		
		9	3	7		2		
	3			5				9
7					4			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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HOCUS-FOCUS
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Polka dots are added 2. Knob is different 3. Towel is shorter 4. Shirt is different 5. Cup is missing 6. Water is off

Posting Date March 9, 2020

King Crossword

ACROSS

- Symbol of intrigue
- Jet forth
- Faucet problem
- Shade
- Part of the foot
- Solemn promise
- Geological period
- Silver salmon
- Wrinkly fruit
- Informal game
- "Absolutely"
- Deposit
- Brilliance
- Cotillion honoree
- Blond shade
- Proper subject?
- Stop running
- Toll road
- Pooch
- Cover
- Bizarre
- "A mouse!"
- Donkey
- Uncanny ability to make money
- Memory unit
- Tittle
- Aye canceler
- Practice pugilism
- Heal, as a fracture
- Little demon
- Bouquet
- Withered
- Ball prop
- Sharpen
- Continental coin
- Bridges or Brummell
- Potpourri bag
- College lecturers, often
- Reverberate rapidly?
- "Yahoo!"
- Uncertainty
- Sitarist's music
- "- have to do"
- Collins or Donahue
- Greenish-blue
- Bathroom fixture
- Conclusion
- Bill's partner
- Drag along
- Accomplished
- Football fill
- Go downhill
- Haw preceder
- Long-snouted antelopes
- Mexican moola
- Mainlander's memento
- Will subject
- Nail smoother
- Moving about
- Recipe meas.
- Syringe, for short
- Greek vowels
- Top-notch
- Troop group
- Arrived
- Advertise

DOWN

- 1 Sharpen
- 2 Continental coin
- 3 Bridges or Brummell
- 4 Potpourri bag
- 5 College lecturers, often
- 6 Reverberate rapidly?
- 7 "Yahoo!"
- 8 Uncertainty
- 9 Sitarist's music
- 10 "- have to do"
- 11 Collins or Donahue
- 12 Conclusion
- 13 Bill's partner
- 14 Drag along
- 15 Accomplished
- 16 Football fill
- 17 Go downhill
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- 24 Moving about
- 25 Recipe meas.
- 26 Syringe, for short
- 27 Greek vowels
- 28 Top-notch
- 29 Troop group
- 30 Arrived
- 31 Advertise

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- ADVERTISING SLOGANS: Which product was advertised as "the champagne of bottled beer"?
- GEOGRAPHY: Which was the first designated national park in the United States?
- BIBLE: From which book of the New Testament does the proverb "the blind leading the blind" originate?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president established the Purple Heart award to military members injured or killed in battle?
- LITERATURE: What is the title of a classic novel that its British author originally named "Strangers from Within"?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: Which animal's home is called a lodge?
- FOOD & DRINK: Which spice is described as "the Queen of Spices"?
- MUSIC: Who wrote the libretto and music to the opera "The Flying Dutchman"?
- HISTORY: Which country's revolution was described in the book "Ten Days That Shook the World"?
- ANATOMY: What is the most common blood type in humans?

Answers

King Crossword

Solution time: 24 mins.

Answers

Weekly SUDOKU

Answers

1. Miller High Life; 2. Yellowstone; 3. Matthew; 4. George Washington; 5. "Lord of the Flies" by William Golding; 6. Beaver; 7. Cardamom; 8. Richard Wagner; 9. Russia; 10. O positive

LIFESTYLE

SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

Flu Tips to Stay Safe From Coronavirus—

We can't turn on the news now without hearing about the new virus that's sweeping the world. Coronavirus, now called COVID-19, is a serious virus that came out of China. At this point the virus has spread to more than 30 countries and there have been over 2,800 deaths. Protecting ourselves from COVID-19 is much like how we avoid the seasonal winter flu that's now in high numbers in every state. Guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is mostly common sense, but every step is important:
* Wash your hands frequently. Use warm water and soap and wash for a minimum of 20 seconds. Try singing "Happy Birthday" to mark the time.
* Keep your hands away from your face, even if you've just washed your hands.

* Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, and then throw away the tissue.
* Disinfect surfaces in your environment frequently, such as countertops and doorknobs.
* When you go out, take a pack of antiseptic wipes to wet down grocery cart handles. If you don't have those, put hand sanitizer on your palms and wet the cart handle.
* Never share cups or plates or anything else with those who are sick.
* If you have to be out in public, keep your distance. Stay at least 6 feet away from others. For now, avoid shaking hands.
* If you feel sick, don't rush to the doctor. Call first and explain your symptoms. If they want you to come in, there might be a special entrance for you to use to keep from spreading germs to others. Stay healthy this winter. Get enough sleep, eat well and keep your stress down. All of those affect your immune system. And if you haven't had a flu shot, get one now.

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VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

Stand Downs Offer Help for Homeless Veterans—

Do you need Stand Down services? Or are you willing to help create successful events for homeless veterans? Even though parts of the country aren't quite out of winter weather, annual Stand Downs are gearing up. As spring and summer fully arrive, the number of events will increase. Stand Downs, which last from one to three days, provide a long list of services, all in one location. Legal assistance, haircuts, personal care supplies, counseling on Department of Veterans Affairs benefits, clothing, information about housing, dental screenings ... they offer all this, usually right at one of the VA facilities across the country. Counseling is available as well for mental health concerns, plus substance abuse, health

care information and referrals, and much more. Perhaps you don't need the services but can offer your help instead, especially if you're a member of a veterans' group. Great. Contact organizers in your area and volunteer. They'll need drivers, set up, donations of personal care items, you name it. Ask what you can do. If you plan to go to a Stand Down to access services, bring your DD-214 or its equivalent, plus your VA medical card if you have one. If you need a way to get there, sign up for transportation in advance. If you need housing services, or if you are homeless now and there is no Stand Down coming up in your area, contact National Coalition for Homeless Veterans [www.nchv.org] at 1-877-424-3838. If you have a housing emergency (you're about to be homeless), you can call 24/7. Visit its website and look through the drop-down menu across the top. To see the list of Stand Downs in your area, go to www.va.gov/homeless/events.asp and scroll down the page. You'll see the location, as well as two contacts with email and phone numbers for each one.

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CHURCH PAGE


BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey—
 1. Is the book of Leviticus in the Old or New Testament or neither?
 2. About whom did Jesus say, "For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men"? Physicians, Hypocrites, Sadducees, Adamites
 3. From Genesis 29, what childless woman was jealous of her sister's fertility? Candace,

Abigail, Rachel, Herodias
 4. In what book do we find the story of Samson and Delilah? Judges, Numbers, Exodus, 1 John
 5. From Genesis 39, whose wife tried to seduce a handsome slave? Daniel, Shimei, Potiphar, Achan
 6. In Ruth 3, which farmer winnowed his barley at night? Abner, Eleazar, Boaz, Joab
ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Hypocrites; 3) Rachel; 4) Judges; 5) Potiphar; 6) Boaz

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Do not let your adornment be merely outward - arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel - rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God. 1 PETER 3:3,4



Detail of "Lesende Frau" by August Macke (1913)

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RECENT DEATHS

Geraldine Douglas
 Dorris M. Wilson
 Shirley Ann Harris
 Bonifacio Villa Cortes

Petra Rodriguez Vasquez
 Floyd Wayne Phillips
 Ira B. Franklin
 Geraldine Douglass



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NORTHEAST BELTWAY 8 News

COMMUNITY NEWS

Secretary of Education in Aldine,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



U.S. Deputy Secretary of Education Dr. Mitchell "Mick" Zais poses for a photo with Blanson CTE High School faculty and Aldine ISD board members.



U.S. Deputy Secretary of Education Dr. Mitchell "Mick" Zais listens as Blanson CTE High School machine teacher Jay Rankin, left, explains a student's project during Dr. Zais' visit to the Aldine ISD school on Wednesday, March 4.

Ibarra told the deputy secretary that in its first year of existence, the school earned an "A" rating from the Texas Education Agency. In addition, last year Blanson students earned 604 industry certifications and had a 97% attendance rate.

Ibarra added that Blanson CTE offers 17 areas of study and this year has an enrollment of 1,264 students.

During his time at Blanson, Dr. Zais visited four classrooms/labs, the school's collision repair classroom, its machine classroom, its audio/video production classroom and Emergency Medical Technician classroom.

At each stop Blanson students and teachers demonstrated what they are teaching and learning in their respective classrooms and answered the

deputy secretary's questions.

Following the campus tour, a panel discussion was held in the library with Aldine ISD Trustees, Blanson students and district administrators.

Robert Thomas, AISD's program director of career and business partnerships, provided an overview of business partnerships the district has developed. Ibarra informed Dr. Zais

that Blanson has 90 business partners.

Zais informed the group that President Trump is a strong supporter of high school CTE programs.

"This president is a huge supporter of CTE programs," he said. "We hope Congress will support the President's budget recommendation (to add \$900 million in funding to CTE programs)."

Dr. Zais said CTE stu-

dents are provided with opportunities to learn skills and trades that can result in good paying job right out of high school and they are given the chance to be treated like adults.

"When you start treating young people like adults, they start acting like adults and I've seen that here today," Dr. Zais said.

Dr. Zais added he was impressed with his visit to

Blanson CTE High School.

"I have been very excited with what I've seen here today," Dr. Zais said. "The 90 business partners you have is a testament to the leadership here and in the district. This is a very impressive school."

"This is so encouraging and uplifting. To the students here, I admire what you are doing and am impressed with your work ethic," he said.

Young drivers urged to plan sober rides ahead of Spring Break

TxDOT reminds spring breakers about deadly, long-term consequences of drunk driving

HOUSTON – Jamie Chapman was a 20-year-old college student when he made the fateful decision to drive after drinking at a party. He slammed into a tree and suffered a traumatic brain injury. Although he survived the crash, it left him physically debilitated.

"Jamie was no different than any other college kid. He loved a good time with his friends, and he had so much to look forward to in the future," said Katrina Chapman, Jamie's mom. "Jamie's decision to drive drunk has affected our entire family's life, even eight years later. I hope young adults will see Jamie's story and make the right decision to find a sober ride."

The Chapman family is sharing their story through TxDOT's "Plan While You Can" campaign, which aims to save lives and decrease alcohol-related crashes. As many college students enjoy Spring Break in the coming weeks, the campaign focuses on younger drivers who may engage in activities involving alcohol.

During last year's Spring Break* in Texas, there were 417 crashes involving young drivers who were driving under the in-

fluence of alcohol. Those crashes killed 26 people and seriously injured another 52.

"Drinking and driving is a dangerous and often deadly choice that can ruin the future of a young driver and all those involved in a crash," said TxDOT Executive Director James Bass. "This Spring Break, be responsible and plan ahead for a sober ride."

The "Plan While You Can" campaign will tour the state featuring the "Plan to Win" virtual reality game. The game poses questions related to drinking and driving, and illustrates the consequences of getting behind the wheel through an immersive experience.

Driving under the influence of alcohol not only risks death or serious injuries, but it can also be costly. Drivers can face up to \$17,000 in fines and fees, jail time and loss of their driver's license. Instead of getting behind the wheel, here are some alternative options:

- Designate a sober driver.
- Contact a cab or ride-share service.
- Use mass transit.
- Spend the night.

"Plan While You Can" is a key component of #EndTheStreakTX, a broader social media and word-of-mouth effort that encourages drivers to

make safer choices while behind the wheel, like wearing a seat belt, driving the speed limit and never driving after drinking or using other drugs. Nov. 7, 2000 was the last deathless day on Texas roadways. #EndTheStreakTX asks all Texans to commit to driving safely to help end the streak of daily deaths on Texas roadways.

For media inquiries, contact TxDOT Houston District Public Information Office at (713) 802-5076.



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