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NORTHEAST NEWS



Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 43 Years
 VOL. 44, NO. 23 TUESDAY, MAY 26 & JUNE 2, 2020 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

NEWS NOTES

TO OUR READERS:
 The current Covid-19 Pandemic and other economic conditions have caused us to combine some issues every two weeks, and to change distribution to Pick-up locations. See page 7 for 50 locations where you can get a copy of the Northeast News, and page 4 for email subscriptions. We thank you for your continued support.

Governor Abbott announces phase two to open Texas

AUSTIN - May 18, 2020 -- Governor Greg Abbott today announced the second phase of the State of Texas' ongoing plan to safely and strategically open Texas while minimizing the spread of COVID-19. Under Phase II, restaurants may increase their occupancy to 50% and additional services and activities that re-

mained closed under Phase I may open with restricted occupancy levels and minimum standard health protocols laid out by the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS).

Additionally, the Governor announced that public schools in Texas have the option to provide in-person summer school so

long as they follow social distancing practices and health protocols laid out by DSHS. These classes may begin as soon as June 1st.

"Today, tomorrow, and every day going forward is one step closer to medical discoveries that can treat and protect people from COVID-19—but until that day comes, our focus is keeping Texans safe while

restoring their ability to get back to work, open their businesses, pay their bills, and put food on their tables," said Governor Abbott. "By continuing to use safe practices, we are slowing the spread of COVID-19 and protecting our most vulnerable. Now more than ever, we need to work together as one Texas. I ask all Texans to continue

heeding the guidance of our state and federal medical experts and do their part to protect public health. If we all unite in our resolve, we will overcome this challenge."

Via Executive Order, the following services and

See Texas Opens, Page 8

COVID-19 Cases as of May 23, 2020

HOUSTON AREA
 19 COUNTIES
 16,363 POSITIVE
 408 DEATHS
 6,538 RECOVERED

TEXAS
 54,776 POSITIVE
 1,478 DEATHS
 32,277 RECOVERED

UNITED STATES
 1,622,670 POSITIVE
 97,087 DEATHS
 361,239 RECOVERED

WORLDWIDE
 5,311,089 POSITIVE
 342,104 DEATHS
 2,112,198 RECOVERED

City concerned about TxDOT I-45 Expansion planning

Mayor sends letter asking for changes

HOUSTON - With a sense of urgency, because TxDOT is intending to enter the next phase of planning for the rebuilding of Interstate IH-45, Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner sent a letter to TxDOT Commissioner Laura Ryan last Monday, asking for a review of their plans and a reconsideration of their final design plans.

Turner said that after a year's study by a special committee, the city recommends that TxDOT plans follow guidelines that would cause the least disruption to existing neighborhoods while still increasing the number of persons that could be moved from point to point.



HOUSTON MAYOR SYLVESTER TURNER

The Mayor's letter emphasized a more comprehensive design to improve lifestyles, not just highway design. It addressed flooding, landscaping, neighborhood preservation, and safety, as well as limiting construction to the exist-

ing right-of-way where possible.

There are three segments to TxDOT's plan, and construction on Segments 1 and 2 are scheduled to start in 2021. This is the roadway from downtown to Beltway 8. Segment 3 is parts of IH-45 that are downtown and will be rebuilt on a different right-of-way.

In his letter to TxDOT, the Mayor says:

For Segments 1 and 2, we incorporated the Technical Appendix herein this letter and attached it for your reference. We ask that

See I-45 Expansion, Page 8

HARRIS COUNTY & PCT. 2 Property Tax Relief via increased Homestead Exemption for seniors & disabled homeowners

Plan goes into effect for next years' tax bills

Harris County, TX — TODAY, Harris County Commissioners Court passed an expansion of the Homestead Exemption for seniors, disabled veterans, and homeowners living with disabilities. The increased Exemption now applies to qualifying homeowners with homes valued up to \$286,250.

The plan passed by a vote of 5-0. It eliminates county property tax liabil-

ity for seniors 65 years of age and older, as well as disabled homeowners, and disabled military veterans, with homes valued at \$286,250 or less. Qualifying homeowners would save at least \$500 next year (and annually going forward) on their property tax bills. The plan takes effects for next year's tax bills.

Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia said "Meaningful

See Tax Relief, Page 8

2020 VISION: BRING YOUR FUTURE INTO FOCUS!

The world looks a little different right now, but one thing is clear; Lone Star College-North Harris is here for you.

REGISTER NOW for Summer and Fall 2020 classes.

Talk to an advisor: NH-Advisor@LoneStar.edu

Get help with financing: FACC@LoneStar.edu

LSC-East Aldine Center questions:

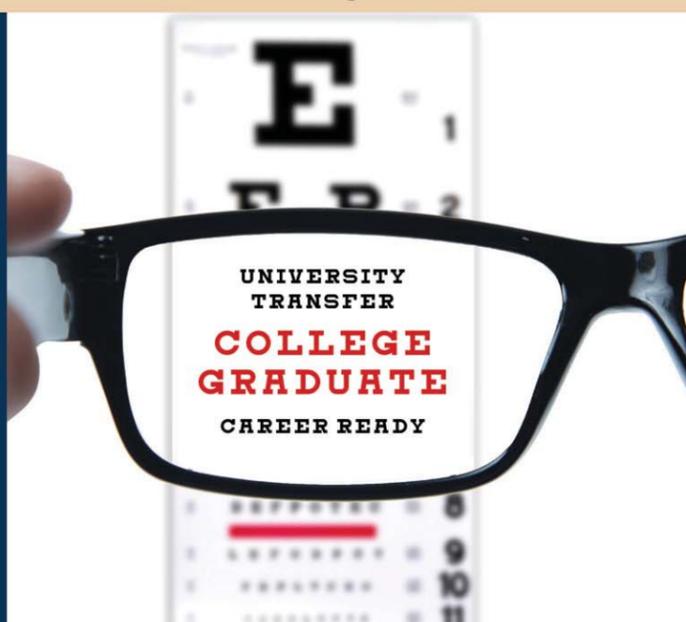
LSC-EastAldineCenter@LoneStar.edu

Summer classes begin June 1

Fall classes begin Aug. 24



LoneStar.edu/LearnMore



CONFESSIONS:
 TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY
 AND THURSDAY
 FROM 6 TO 6:50 PM,
 SATURDAYS
 FROM 4 TO 4:50 PM,
 FROM 6:30 PM TO 6:50 PM

ST CHARLES BORROMEO CHURCH
 501 TIDWELL RD, HOUSTON, TX
 BETWEEN I-45N & HARDY TOLL RD
713-692-6303

EAST ALDINE DISTRICT
www.aldinedistrict.org
713-595-1226
 Veronica Sanches,
 Director of Services
VSanches@haweshill.com

713-595-1232
 Richard Cantu,
 Deputy Executive Director
 5333 Aldine Mail Rt.
 Houston, TX. 77039

911-Emergencies
 713-221-6000
 Dispatch

Aldine Storefront
 281-449-6600

Capt. Mike Koteras
 District II

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Martha & Gamaniel

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281-442-1991

SCHOOL NEWS

10 Ways Aldine ISD families can celebrate the Class of 2020

1. Have your Aldine ISD Senior fill out a Senior Spotlight Form. Each week Aldine ISD highlights students through Senior Spotlights on our district Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts to recognize the Class of 2020 Seniors. Senior students are encouraged to share their plans after graduation. This includes enlisting in the military or attending a college, university, or trade school.

2. Update your Facebook profile with an Aldine ISD Class of 2020 Facebook Frame. Aldine ISD has created several Facebook frames to show support of the senior Class of 2020. Facebook users can utilize the following frames:

- Proud Aldine ISD Senior Class of 2020

- Proud Aldine ISD Senior Class of 2020 Parent - Community Supporter Aldine ISD Class of 2020

3. Tag us in all your Senior Photos on Social Media by using the official Class of 2020 hashtag #AISDClassof2020. Listed below are some cool ideas for seniors to showcase their completion of high school:

- Pose with your Class of 2020 Yard Sign

- Decorate your front door with all of your high school memorabilia

- Strike a pose in your cap and gown

4. Use Flipgrid to tell us about your Senior's next step after high school.

5. Celebrate seniors virtually with Facebook and Oprah Winfrey. On May 15 at 1 PM CST, Facebook will broadcast #Graduation2020: Facebook and Instagram Celebrate the Class of 2020. The virtual commencement address will be given by Oprah Winfrey. Awkwafina, Jennifer Garner, Lil Nas X, Simone Biles, and more, will share words of wisdom for the class of 2020. More information can be found on Facebook.com.

6. Join us online for a virtual Class of 2020 Senior Spirit Week May 25-29. Senior students and their families are invited to participate in a virtual districtwide Class of 2020 Spirit Week. Campuses are hosting specific events.

The official hashtag for social media is #AISDClassof2020.

Monday: #MondayMotivation Show off your high school pride and post a photo of you in a campus t-shirt and post an inspiring note to your fellow 2020 classmates on FlipGrid.

Tuesday: #BetterTogetherTuesday Take a "socially distant" photo with a fellow classmate to show how you are staying connected! This could be anything from a Facetime call to an edited picture making it look like you are giving each other a high five, or even a TikTok. Each campus will be hosting a Senior Community Send-off at their campus. More information will be provided by campuses.

Wednesday: #WellnessWednesday Post a photo of you doing a wellness activity. (Cooking, Exercising, Reading, and Playing an Instrument)

Thursday: #ThrowBackThursday Share a side-by-side photo of you from freshman year and senior year.

Friday: #FutureFriday Showcase your future college, university, or military branch.

7. Celebrate the diploma conferral of all Aldine ISD Class of 2020 Senior Graduates on the Aldine ISD Facebook page, on June 1, 2020. This special ceremony will confirm that our senior students will be awarded a diploma, recognizing the student as an official graduate of Aldine Independent School District. In order to be conferred, a student must have completed all academic requirements and have no outstanding debts to Aldine ISD. Superintendent Dr. LaTonya Goffney will officially confer the diplomas of the Class of 2020, allowing them to move forward with plans after high school.

8. Join the City of Houston for a citywide Class of 2020 high school senior celebration. Mayor Sylvester Turner and superintendents across Houston have planned a collective but personal celebration that salutes the achievement of all Hous-

ton-area graduates. On June 5, seniors are invited to assemble at Thorne Stadium, wear their caps, gowns, and facial coverings while adhering to social distancing. Parents, family members, and friends are invited to participate virtually. You can find more information online at Houston2020seniors.com.

9. Celebrate seniors virtually with YouTube and Former President Barack Obama and Former First Lady Michelle Obama. On June 6 at 7 p.m. CST, Former President Barack Obama will deliver a televised prime-time commencement address for the Class of 2020 during an hour-long event that will also feature LeBron James, Malala Yousafzai and Ben Platt, among several others. The "Graduate Together: America Honors the High School Class of 2020" event will be broadcasted live on ABC, CBS, Fox and NBC.

10. Take part in our 2020 Aldine ISD Graduation Ceremonies. Cheer on our Senior Class of 2020 as they graduate from the Aldine Independent School District. Aldine ISD high school seniors will take part in their graduation ceremonies on July 23 and 24. All ceremonies will take place at the M.O. Campbell Educational Center (1865 Aldine Bender Rd.). View Graduation Times and Dates below:

Thursday, July 23

- Hall Center for Education — 11:00 a.m.

- Eisenhower High School — 12:30 p.m.

- Victory Early College High School — 3:30 p.m.

- Davis High School — 6:00 p.m.

Friday, July 24

- MacArthur High School — 8:00 a.m.

- Carver HS for Engineering, Applied Technology & the Arts — 11:00 a.m.

- Nimitz High School — 1:00 p.m.

- Blanson Career and Technical Education High School — 4:00 p.m.

- Aldine High School — 5:30 p.m.

For all Aldine ISD Class of 2020 specific information please visit aldineisd.org/class-of-2020.

Cheryl Davis saying good-bye to education after a 41-year career



Cheryl Davis is retiring after devoting 41 years as an educator.

Cheryl Davis is saying good-bye to a 41-year career in education with her announcement that she will be retiring at the conclusion of the 2019-20 school year.

Davis spent 31 of her 41 years in education with Aldine ISD. She is retiring after serving as the principal of Dunn Elementary School.

During her 31 years in Aldine, Davis served as a first-grade teacher and parent facilitator at Johnson Elementary School, as an assistant principal at Dunn Elementary and completes her Aldine journey as the principal of Dunn Elementary.

She received her bachelor's degree from Prairie View A&M University and her master's degree from Sam Houston State University.

Davis said choosing education as her chosen profession was an easy decision for her to make.

"I chose this notable career because of a love for culture and knowledge coupled with a desire to want to share this with others," she said. "This career gave me an opportunity to make the world better by making students sensitive about the problems that we are surrounded with and helping to develop the necessary tools in life to solve them. Most importantly, I chose this career because it gave me an opportunity to work with children, have fun and to make a difference in their lives."

She said one of the many highlights of her career has come when former students have invited her to attend their high school and college graduation ceremonies.

She has also enjoyed training and mentoring colleagues to assist them in progressing in their careers.

Davis had a successful career and was a recipient of the Northwest Chamber of Commerce Grant, the Parent Facilitator Award, a Lennar Grant recipient, was named a Sam Houston Area Council Pathfinder and was a nominee for Aldine ISD Principal of the Year during the 2019-2020 school year.

Davis said she would miss her daily interaction with her students and staff.

"I will miss hearing my name called about 20,000 times a day," she said. "Greeting students and staff in the morning, seeing the smiling faces of our students and staff. I will also miss the district's Principal Advisory Meetings and ILT meetings and learning something new each week. Most of all, I will miss the Aldine commitment to education and the Dunn students and staff."

And after 31 years in the district, Aldine ISD will miss Cheryl Davis.

Aldine ISD's youngest students to be celebrated with virtual graduations, curbside events

Aldine ISD's youngest students aren't being forgotten during this challenging school year.

Each primary school in the district will hold virtual graduation and curbside events to celebrate their first year of education.

A list of dates and times for each school's events are:

- Keeble Primary School — May 22 and May 25, 1 p.m., Facebook Live Graduation and Flipgrid presentation
- Griggs Primary School

- May 23, 1 p.m., Zoom Graduation

- Kujawa Primary School — May 26, 10 a.m., Kindergarten Drive-Thru Celebration

- Reece Academy — May 26 and May 28, 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Graduate "Here's to You" Drive Thru

- Vardeman Primary — May 26 and May 28, 8:30 a.m., Kindergarten Drive Thru Send Off

- Garcia-Leza Primary — PK, Ma 27, Kindergarten, May 28, Curbside Sendoff
- deSantiago Primary —

- May 27 and May 28, Drive-Thru Celebration

- Jones Primary — May 27, Zoom Virtual Presentation

- Stovall Primary — May 27, Drive Thru Celebration

- Vines Primary — May 27, You Made It Celebration

- Magrill Primary — May 28, Drive Thru Celebration Dates for celebrations for Goodman Elementary and Worsham Elementary, both ACE schools, have not yet been decided.

Virtual ceremony held for Aldine ISD TAFE students

Although they could not attend a live celebration due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, approximately 70 Aldine ISD TAFE (Texas Association of Future Educators) were honored with a virtual celebration as they received letters of intent to return to Aldine to teach once they have completed their college degrees.

The students joined Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney, members of the Executive Leadership Team, high school principals and CTE teachers via Zoom to celebrate their decisions to become future educators.

The ceremony was held on Wednesday, May 20.

Chief Communications Officer Sheleah Reed delivered the welcome.

"Even though we cannot be together in person, we will celebrate all of you today and your decision to become future educators," Reed said. "We hope you enjoy this presentation and congratulations."

Franklin Higgins, director of Career and Technical Education, then delivered special remarks to the TAFE students.

"On behalf of the CTE Department, I want to congratulate you all on your accomplishments," Higgins said. "This has been an interesting year and I am sure you are seeing now, more than ever, how important of a role that educators play. You have made many opportunities in the classroom and you are a part of an amazing transition. Education will never be the same and

you have a unique perspective from the standpoint as a student who lived through this transition first-hand and as a future educator. Let this time be another opportunity to learn. We are very proud of you and all that you have accomplished in the Educator's program and through your CTSO experiences in FCCLA and TAFE. Congratulations and we look forward to welcoming you back home to Aldine."

Dr. Goffney followed Higgins and also commended the TAFE students for accomplishing their goals during trying times.

"I am super excited to be with you today to celebrate your signing day ceremony," she said. "I wish we could hold this event in person, but due to these challenging times, we will celebrate virtually. I promised the Class of 2020 that we would find ways to celebrate you and this is another way to highlight the successes you have achieved this year."

Dr. Goffney lauded the TAFE students for choosing to be come future educators and shared with the students what an important role her teachers played in her life.

"I grew up with no running water in my home," she said. "When my teachers told me I was smart it ignited something in me."

Dr. Goffney reminded the students they have chosen a noble endeavor to one day become teachers.

"We need good teachers," she said. "I hope you will all work hard to achieve your goals. Go get your bache-

lor's degree and return to Aldine and you will have a job." "Aldine is proud of its long and storied tradition of producing its own through our TAFE and FCCLA program. We are committed to providing you with the opportunity to return home."

Scott Corrick, director of staffing in the Human Resources Department, thanked the students for taking part in TAFE and FCCLA.

"Congratulations on your graduation and accomplishments in TAFE and FCCLA," Corrick said. "I hope at some point each of you take the time to reflect back on your experiences in these organizations. Most, if not all of you had the opportunity to work in our schools helping out in some way. The work you do with students matters and these experiences can lead to a rewarding career in teaching. Historically, Aldine graduates are very successful teachers in our district. When you are from the community and you're connected to the community — that connection brings out the best in people."

Chief Human Resources Officer Dr. Javier Villareal closed out the ceremony.

"Thank you for all of your hard work," he said. "We are very proud of you all and look forward to welcoming you back to us in Aldine."

Brooke Martin, program director of career and technical education, organized the ceremony for the TAFE students.

Houston Community College launches JobsNowHouston.org

New initiative connects displaced workers with in-demand jobs in Houston

HOUSTON, TX (May 21, 2020) – Houston Community College (HCC) has launched a new initiative, JobsNowHouston.org, showcasing in-demand occupations and the accelerated certificate programs offered by HCC needed to obtain these jobs. During this time of significant job loss, HCC is taking a data-centric approach to identify classes and trade skill opportunities to fit immediate and future job openings.

"COVID-19 has challenged us all, forcing us to rethink every facet of education and community responsiveness," said Dr. Cesar Maldonado, Chancellor of Houston Community College. "JobsNowHouston.org will connect people with the resources they need to gain the skills and knowledge necessary to compete in our new workforce and is a great example of how ev-

eryone at Houston Community College is working even harder to provide training and education to fill in-demand jobs."

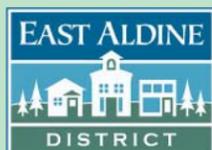
The COVID-19 pandemic has forced more than 1.5 million Texans to file for unemployment. However, across the state, nearly 481,000 job openings have been posted in the last several months. The goal of the JobsNowHouston.org initiative is to retrain and retool Houston's workforce to fill these growing jobs by easily connecting job searchers to relevant programs and certifications.

According to industry data, healthcare, logistics, manufacturing, information technology, and construction are projected to increase hiring during and following the COVID-19 crisis. HCC has 270 certifications and 100 instructional programs in these fields; many of which are offered online or in hybrid

delivery models designed to safely train Houston's future workforce. The College already is working to place current and future students in programs that will lead directly to jobs, and the JobsNowHouston.org initiative reinforces these efforts.

HCC is working with business partners and leaders in Houston to provide the most affordable and reliable training to qualify for critical need jobs. Using labor market analytics, JobsNowHouston.org provides the job title, number of jobs currently open within each industry, average hourly earnings, and the projected salary of the role. From there, the site directs visitors to the relevant HCC training and certification programs that correspond to each job title. The job data is updated weekly.

Take Pride in our
Community
Keep it Clean



COMMUNITY NEWS

Commissioners Court Approves \$30M Fund for Equitable Economic Relief for Vulnerable Residents

A \$30 Million COVID-19 Relief Fund for Harris County

By David Ellison

Harris County Commissioners Court voted to provide economic relief for up to 25,000 Harris County families who are suffering because of the pandemic. Proposed by Precinct One Commissioner Rodney Ellis, the \$30 million COVID-19 Relief Fund will help our most vulnerable residents pay for rent, food, medical care, child care and other basic needs.

The Harris County COVID-19 Relief Fund (HCCRF) -- which will be distributed equitably throughout the county -- will provide \$1,200 for households of one to four residents, and \$1,500 for households of five-plus people. It is expected that between 20,000 and 25,000 households will benefit from the fund.

"The Coronavirus pandemic has created both a health and a financial crisis in our region," Commissioner Ellis said. "Our communities are hurting. And it is our duty as public servants to make sure



Precinct One Commissioner Rodney Ellis

that our most vulnerable residents, who were already living paycheck to paycheck, do not lose everything in the midst of this crisis."

Three weeks ago, Commissioners Court voted to tentatively approve \$15 million for the fund. As the public health crisis continues, the need for relief grows. Increasing the fund to \$30 million will allow doubled the reach and help more people, especially those who are now unemployed, ill or caring for someone who is sick.

"Not all job losses are equal," Commissioner Ellis said. "Our food service, health care and retail workers -- the backbone of our workforce, who are already struggling to make ends meet -- have been hit the hardest. Federal

funding helps, but it is not enough."

"The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Equal Impact Payments did not reach all low-income residents," said Commissioner Ellis. "Students and adults with disabilities who are listed as dependents and many households with immigrants are among those who won't receive a dime."

This fund will target communities who are struggling the most -- households below 60% of the Area Median Income (AMI), victims of domestic violence, youth aged out of foster care, and those in homeless shelters.

The county's Relief Fund will be managed by the Greater Houston Community Foundation, which already is managing a COVID-19 relief fund. The Foundation has the knowledge, capacity, values and community trust to administer the fund. The Foundation will ensure that the funds reach all residents by working with nonprofit, community-based organizations that serve vulnerable communities and through an accessible public intake process.

HCC North Forest Campus remains committed to serving the community in "new normal"

May 20, 2020 (Houston, TX). In the midst of a "new normal," the Houston Community College North Forest Campus located at 6010 Little York Road remains dedicated to providing educational opportunities for the community. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the campus along with the entire HCC district moved all instruction and student services into an online environment, a tremendous undertaking within a short timeframe. The college also implemented strategies to help students which included an emergency fund for students in need, virtual tutoring, and opportunities for students to purchase laptops and access Wi-Fi at discounted prices to support their studies. The college remains ready to serve continuing and new students utilizing online tools.

"We want the community to know that we remain committed and that we are still here to support them as we navigate the new normal and serve as an educational resource as communities recover from the crisis," says president Dr. Monique Umphrey.

The HCC North Forest Campus is currently enrolling for the summer and fall semesters. Online opportunities are available for high school and college students looking to get ahead in coursework, parents desiring to learn a new skill, and jobseekers who are retooling for the future. Continuing and new students working toward a degree or a certificate are able to complete courses as well as receive assistance in a remote setting. Workforce training at the Automotive Center of Excellence is also offered remotely, with skills labs

planned when campus facilities reopen.

For area residents interested in studying at the campus, HCC North Forest Campus staff are still working remotely to provide a variety of support including admissions, financial aid, library services, counseling and advising. Weekly virtual information sessions are also available where students can speak with HCC representatives to receive guidance and help with enrollment. Staff can be reached by phone, email or via the virtual lobby that is found on the college's webpage. Information regarding registration dates, available resources, and updates are also being shared on the college's social media channels.

For more information about programs and course offerings, please visit hccs.edu.

Mayor Turner announces the closure of City swimming pools and splashpads until further notice

Parks Department Also Announces the Reopening of Golf Courses and Tennis Centers on June 1, 2020

Mayor Sylvester Turner has announced that all City swimming pools and splashpads will remain closed until further notice due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The difficult decision comes following careful consultation with local health experts and a consensus that public pools are a particularly difficult venue to protect persons from viral spread.

"We are keeping swimming pools and splashpads closed to help protect our community's health and safety. COVID-19 has not disappeared, and we must work together to save lives," Mayor Turner said. "As people visit parks and enjoy the outdoors, I encourage everyone to maintain social distance, wear face coverings, and wash

their hands. If you are sick or part of the vulnerable population with chronic health conditions, please stay home and stay safe."

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department also announced that beginning June 1, 2020, the following Parks amenities will reopen in accordance to national guidelines regarding restrictions:

- Golf courses and driving ranges at Memorial Park, Sharpstown, and Melrose
- Tennis Centers (Lee LeClear, Homer Ford at MacGregor Park, Memorial Park)
- 5 Disc golf facilities
- Croquet court at Memorial Park

"While we are sad that our City swimming pools and splashpads must remain closed for safety reasons, we are happy to move closer to normal operations with the reopening of some

of our most popular amenities," said Steve Wright, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department. "We know how eager our citizens are to take advantage again of all the features our parks, trails, and greenspaces have to offer. But we just have to do everything we can to make sure our citizens remain safe when visiting our sites."

Visitors are reminded to practice social distancing and follow CDC guidelines on personal hygiene prior to heading out to our parks. This includes washing hands, carrying hand sanitizer, covering your mouth when coughing or sneezing, and staying at home if you are feeling ill. And remember, if you bring litter into City parks, please dispose of it by tossing it in trash bins, or taking it away for disposal elsewhere. For more information, visit www.houstonparks.org.

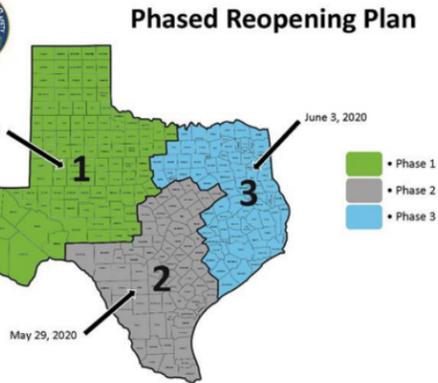
Driver License offices to reopen by appointment only with limited services, additional safety measures enacted

AUSTIN -- On Tuesday, May 26, at the direction of Governor Greg Abbott, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) will begin reopening driver license (DL) offices by appointment only and with limited services. The reopening of DL offices will happen in a phased approach, in order to allow DPS to keep customers and our staff as safe as possible, while also adhering to new safety guidelines and social distancing practices in place due to COVID-19. Appointment availability will be rolled out in phases, with the first phase of appointments becoming available on Friday, May 22, at 1 p.m.

Services Available by Appointment Only

A new appointment solution, which has been in the works for several months, will take effect in DL offices as they reopen. The appointment solution allows customers to book appointments for a specific day and time up to six months in advance. DPS is moving to appointments only as part of our efforts to provide additional convenience and reduce the time Texans spend waiting in line at DL offices.

Within the new online appointment system, customers can walk through the available appointment options, schedule appointments on a specific date and time, receive appointment confirmations, set up a reminder, and reschedule or cancel an existing appointment. Once customers schedule their appointment, they'll receive a confirmation email to bring with them to their



appointment.

Upon arrival at the DL office, customers can check-in with their smart device or by using the kiosk inside the office. Due to social distancing requirements related to COVID-19, we are asking that customers wait in their car after checking in. Customers will receive a text message when it's time to come inside to complete their transaction.

Limited Service Offerings, PHASED REOPENING

As DL offices begin their phased reopening, services will be limited to customers with appointments only who are seeking a first-time Texas DL, commercial driver license (CDL), learner license or identification (ID) card, as well as those who need to take a driving test. These will be the ONLY services available at DL offices during these initial phases of reopening.

Phase 1: Offices in DPS' Northwest and West Texas regions will reopen with limited services beginning May 26, 2020. Customers who currently do not possess a Texas DL, CDL, learner permit or ID card, as well as those who are in need of a drive test, can begin scheduling appointments in these two regions on May 22 at 1 p.m.

Phase 2: Offices in DPS' South and Central Texas regions will reopen with limited services beginning May 29, 2020. Customers who currently do not possess a Texas DL, CDL, learner permit or ID card, as well as those who are in need of a drive test, can begin scheduling appointments in these two regions on May 26 at 1 p.m.

Phase 3: Offices in DPS' North and Southeast Texas regions will reopen with limited services beginning June 3, 2020. Customers who currently do not possess a Texas DL, CDL, learner permit or ID card, as well as those who are in need of a drive test, can begin scheduling appointments in these two regions on May 29 at 1 p.m.

Phase 4: will allow customers to schedule an appointment for all DL office transactions anywhere in the state and is expected to begin midsummer. DPS will announce details on this phase at a later date. Extension for expiration dates will remain in effect until phase 4 is implemented.

As appointments become available throughout the phased reopening plan, customers will be able to book appointments through DPS' website www.dps.gov/DriverLicense/.

Texas Children's Hospital delivers masks to Aldine ISD community

An employee with Texas Children's Hospital provides masks and health care information to Aldine ISD resident on Thursday, May 21. The mask distribution took place at Eisenhower High School. Texas Children's Hospital employees distributed 500 masks between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on May 21.



GIVE BLOOD

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Friday, May 29

10:00 am - 2:30 pm

Fellowship Hall

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- Very Low Income

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8826 Harrell**
Off Jensen between
Berry Road & Aldine
Westfield

OPINION PAGE



Social Security Matters

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

Ask Rusty – What will my Wife’s Survivor Benefit Be?

Dear Rusty: I am a 68-year-old retired male and had planned on waiting to collect Social Security benefits beginning at age 70. My wife is currently 53 years old. When I die, would my wife’s spousal benefit at her full retirement age be equal to what I would be receiving at age 70 or be reduced? Also, if I were to die before 70 and before collecting social security, what would be my wife’s survivor benefit at her full retirement age? Signed: Older Husband

Dear Older Husband: Your wife’s survivor benefit as your widow will depend upon two things – the amount you were receiving (or were eligible to receive) at your death, and the age at which she claims her survivor benefit as your widow. If you were receiving an increased benefit because you waited until age 70, your wife’s benefit – if she has reached her full retirement age – will be 100% of the amount you were receiving at your death. If she hasn’t yet reached her full retirement age when she claims her survivor benefit (she could claim as early as age 60) the benefit will be actuarially reduced according to the number of months prior to her full retirement age (FRA) that she claims it. The amount of reduction for claiming her survivor benefit before her FRA is 0.396% for each full month earlier, which is 4.75% per year earlier than her FRA, to a maximum of 28.5%. And for clarity, your wife isn’t required to take the survivor benefit immediately upon your death; she can wait until the benefit reaches 100% at her full retirement age, if desired and if financially feasible.

If your wife is also

eligible for a SS benefit on her own work record and you die before she reaches her FRA, she will have the choice to take either her own Social Security benefit or her survivor benefit from you. If her survivor benefit will be her highest possible benefit, she would have the option to take her own SS retirement benefit from her own work record first and delay taking the larger survivor benefit until it reaches maximum at her FRA. Or, if her own benefit at age 70 would be more than her survivor benefit from you, she could take the smaller survivor benefit first and delay taking her own SS benefit until it reaches maximum at age 70 and switch to her own benefit at that time. The goal is for her to get the highest possible benefit for the rest of her life.

Finally, if you were to die before you started collecting your increased Social Security benefit at age 70, your wife would still have the same options, but her survivor benefit amount would be based upon the amount you were eligible to receive at your death, even though you were not yet collecting. In other words, all those delayed retirement credits (DRCs) you are now earning (and will continue to earn until you are 70) will not be lost – the benefit you have earned up to the point you die will be what your wife’s survivor benefit is based upon.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org



Texas bolsters efforts to reduce spread of COVID-19

AUSTIN — Testing, sanitizing and emergency food benefits increased as Texas entered its third month of fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.

Notably, Gov. Greg Abbott released a statement concerning an outbreak of the deadly coronavirus in Amarillo, where more than 700 cases were reported on May 16. The report came after the governor’s Surge Response Teams conducted site surveys and testing in high-risk areas, including meat-packing facilities in the Amarillo area. Two more weeks of testing would be conducted in high-risk areas, Abbott said.

Abbott on May 13 announced that Texas National Guard disinfection teams operating in coordination with the Texas Department of State Health Services have been deployed to help limit the spread of the deadly coronavirus in nursing homes. Major Gen. Tracy R. Norris, adjutant general of Texas National Guard, said each of the six teams on duty across the state received training from the Texas Military Department’s 6th Civil Support Team, which specializes in manmade and natural disaster assessment and rapid response in hazardous environments.

The Texas National Guard also fights the COVID-19 pandemic by providing personal protective equipment manufacturing support, food bank support, mobile COVID-19 testing and points of distribution for essential items.

Last week, as more Texans increased public activities, official data showed COVID-19 is not contained. On May 17, cumulative figures posted by the Texas Department of State Health Services showed that some 47,784 people in Texas had been diagnosed with COVID-19 and 1,336 deaths resulting from the influenza-like virus had been confirmed.

Order: Test nursing homes

Gov. Abbott on May 11 directed the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, the Texas Division of Emergency Management and the Texas Department of State Health Services to test 100% of residents and staff in Texas nursing homes. The collaboration of those agencies, Abbott said, would “ensure that any potential clusters of COVID-19 cases in nursing homes are quickly detected and contained.”

Food benefits announced

Gov. Abbott on May 12 announced that the Texas Health and Human Services Commission received approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to provide more than \$1 bil-

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By Ed Sterling

lion in food benefits through the federal Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer program to families with children who have temporarily lost access to free or discounted school meals due to COVID-19-related school closures.

The program, to be administered through the state health department, the Texas Department of Agriculture and Texas Education Agency, provides a one-time benefit of \$285 per child. The benefit can be used in the same way as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food benefits to pay for groceries. Visit hhs.texas.gov/pebt to learn more.

Hospitals receive antiviral

The Texas Department of State Health Services, with FDA approval, on May 12 distributed 1,200 vials of the antiviral drug remdesivir to hospitals to treat patients with COVID-19.

Clinical trials of the antiviral drug reportedly have sped up by several days the recovery time of COVID-19 patients. Remdesivir was provided to the DSHS by the federal government from a supply donated by Gilead, the manufacturer.

Hospitals in these cities received shipments of remdesivir: Amarillo, Austin, Corpus Christi, Dallas, El Paso, Fort Worth, Houston, Laredo, Lubbock, McAllen, Odessa, San Antonio, Tyler and Waco.

Mail-in ballots thwarted

Texans who wanted to vote by mail to reduce their exposure to COVID-19 still must go to their polling place if they plan to cast an election ballot, pursuant to

a stay granted by the Texas Supreme Court on May 15.

In effect, the stay accepts an argument lodged by Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, who said Texas law prohibits a registered voter who is not disabled, not over age 65 and not an absentee from voting by mail-in ballot. Paxton said Texans should not be allowed to vote by mail merely because they fear contracting the deadly coronavirus if they must vote in person.

Texas Democratic Party Chair Gilberto Hinojosa issued a statement in response to the high court’s action, saying, “This is a dark day for our democracy. The Republican Texas Supreme Court is wrong to force the people of Texas to choose between their health and their right to vote. They would have Texans die, just so they can hold on to power.”

Sales tax holidays set

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar last week promoted the state’s Water-Efficient Products and ENERGY STAR® sales tax holidays, May 23-25.

“Inefficient appliances and outdated water systems put a tremendous strain on our power grids and water supplies,” Hegar said. “Even in these uncertain times, Texans can take advantage of this sales tax holiday to buy more energy-efficient items, support local businesses and save money. You can practice social distancing and other precautionary measures when shopping in person or shop online. Qualifying products are tax free.”

More information is available at comptroller.texas.gov.

THE POSTSCRIPT
By Carrie Classon

“Chatting with a Tree”

Every day I look down the trail in either direction, checking to see if anyone is coming. I’d just as soon no one knew I was talking to a tree.

I take the same hike every day. There are a lot of trails and most folks try different trails on different days. I don’t. I do my best thinking on my daily walk. I am not seeking variety. Some days I am seeking inspiration. Some days I’m looking for answers. Some days I just want a little escape. More and more lately, I’ve been looking for comfort.

I visit a particular tree. I walk by a lot of trees, but this pine is special. It may not be the oldest, but it’s awfully old. It has survived at least a couple of major fires and still wears the blackened scars around its base. It has obviously had some close calls, but it is doing well now and it is not an exaggeration to say that this tree cheers me every single day I see it.

Every day, I risk a little embarrassment and have a word with my favorite tree.

I lean in close. “How’re you doing?” I ask.

A few weeks ago, the potential embarrassment of being caught chatting with a tree carried a lot more weight. Right now, I’m happy to get some comfort—and perspective—wherever I can.

I don’t really expect to hear anything back. (I tilt toward the edge at times but I haven’t quite toppled over.) Still, I figure this tree has seen it all: fires and droughts, woodpeckers and chainsaws, lightning and windstorms. All around my tree are the remains of dead trees—some that died within my lifetime, some that died long before I was born. This tree has beaten the odds and is standing here today, letting me know it can be done.

Every morning I read the news and every day I realize with greater certainty that nothing is certain. I have friends and family who rely on theaters and churches and concert halls and ballrooms to make a living and right now, the only thing they know for sure is that they will not know for a very long time when or if they will get their livelihoods back.

My cousin who tours with an a cappella singing group and my brother-in-law who stage manages corporate events and my other cousin who is a minister—they’re all wondering what their lives will look like in a month or a year’s time. They are depressed and angry and confused and anxious in turn, but mostly they are uncertain because the times are uncertain.

In these times, my tree has become a lot more important to me. This tree has seen it all.

And, although the tree doesn’t actually speak to me, it has a story to tell. Because somehow, this old tree managed to make it. It had some luck. It sits in a low spot, where there has been more water over the eons and where fires have been more likely to hop over. Misfortune is never equally shared and this tree has survived, not simply because it is strong, but because it is lucky.

I feel very lucky these days. I feel lucky that I can get out of my house and take these walks in nature, but luckier yet to be like this tree—in a place where there is enough water and the worst of the fire has passed over.

And no, I’m not embarrassed anymore to be chatting with a tree.

Till next time, Carrie
Learn more at CarrieClasson.com.

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SPANISH PAGE

7 estudiantes de secundaria ganan reconocimiento nacional de la Junta Universitaria

Cada año, alrededor de 1.6 millones de jóvenes toman la Prueba Preliminar de Calificación de La Beca SAT/Mérito Nacional (PSAT/NMSQT®). El PSAT/NMSQT es la práctica para el SAT. Al igual que con el SAT, los que toman la prueba de PSAT/NMSQT tienen la oportunidad de optar por el Servicio de Búsqueda de Estudiantes® y recibir comunicaciones directamente de las universidades. Lo que hace que el PSAT/NMSQT sea único del resto de las pruebas es el Conjunto de Evaluaciones del SAT es que es la prueba de calificación para el Programa Nacional de Becas de Mérito®. Los mejores en el PSAT/NMSQT pueden calificar para becas y reconocimiento de este prestigioso programa de premios. Los estudiantes que toman el PSAT/NMSQT y son afroamericanos, hispanoamericanos o latinos, indígenas, o asisten a la escuela en una zona rural o pequeña ciudad, podrían ser invitados a solicitar el reconocimiento académico como parte de los Programas de Reconocimiento Nacional de la Junta

Universitaria*. Para ser considerados, los estudiantes deben tener un GPA acumulado de 3.5 o más a mediados de su año junior. La puntuación de corte regional para la Región Sur es de 1370. Por ejemplo, cada año, el Programa Nacional de Reconocimiento Hispano honra a unos 5,000 de los 250,000 hispanos que toman la prueba. Eso significa que están en el top 2.5 por ciento entre los que toman el examen hispanoamericano PSAT en su región. Pueden solicitar el reconocimiento académico. El NHRP no proporciona una recompensa financiera. Sin embargo, ganar reconocimiento académico es digno, y los estudiantes deben declarar este logro en sus solicitudes universitarias. El College Board también conecta a los alumnos de alto alcance con universidades de todo el país. Las siguientes organizaciones están sirviendo como asesores para los programas que identifican a los estudiantes sobresalientes de alto rendimiento: Reconocimiento Afroamericano

-Fundación Jackie Robinson Reconocimiento Hispano - Fondo de Becas Hispanas Reconocimiento Indígena - Educación Indígena, Inc. Reconocimiento de Ciudades Rurales y Pequeñas-Fundación Jack Kent Cooke Aldine ISD tiene varios estudiantes que califican para prestigiosas becas basadas en sus puntuaciones PSAT: Escuela Preparatoria Blanson CTE - Miguel Chacón - Becario Nacional al Mérito Hispano - Rafael Turrubiarres - Becario del Mérito Hispano Nacional - José Calvillo - Académico Nacional del Mérito Hispano y Académico Nacional al Mérito Indígena - Janet Rodríguez - Académico Nacional del Mérito Hispano Carver HS for Engineering, Applied Technology y Arts - Khaliyl Peterson - Académico Nacional de Logros - Cindy Vega-Aguilar - Académico Nacional del Mérito Hispano Escuela Preparatoria Nimitz - Graziela Encarnación - Académico Nacional del Mérito Hispano

10 maneras en que las familias de Aldine ISD pueden celebrar a la Generación 2020

1. Pida a su alumno Sénior de Aldine ISD que llene un formulario de Spotlight Senior. Cada semana Aldine ISD destaca a los estudiantes a través de SeniorSpotlights en nuestras cuentas de Facebook, Instagram y Twitter de nuestro distrito para reconocer a la Generación 2020. Alentamos a los alumnos sénior a compartir sus planes después de la graduación. Esto incluye alistarse en el ejército o asistir a una universidad, colegio o escuela de comercio.
2. Actualice su perfil de Facebook con un marco de la Generación 2020 de Aldine. Aldine ISD ha creado varios marcos en esta plataforma para mostrar el apoyo a la Generación 2020. Los usuarios de Facebook pueden utilizar los siguientes marcos:
 - Orgulloso alumno sénior de Aldine ISD Generación 2020
 - Orgulloso padre de un alumno de Aldine ISD Generación 2020
 - Miembro de la comunidad que respalda la Generación 2020 de Aldine ISD
3. Etiquetanos en todas tus fotos de alumnos sénior en redes sociales usando el hashtag oficial de la Generación 2020 #AISDClassof2020. A continuación se enumeran algunas ideas interesantes para que los alumnos sénior muestren su culminación de la preparatoria:
 - Posa con tu letrero de patio de la Generación 2020.
 - Decora tu puerta principal con todos tus recuerdos de la escuela preparatoria.
 - Toma una foto llevando la toga y el birrete.
 - 4. Usa Flipgrid para contarnos sobre tu próximo plan después de la escuela preparatoria.
 - 5. Celebra a los alumnos sénior virtualmente en Facebook con Oprah Winfrey. El 15 de mayo a las 1 PM CST, Facebook emitirá #Graduation2020: Facebook e Instagram celebran a la Generación 2020. Oprah Winfrey dará el discurso inicial virtual. Awkwafina, Jennifer Garner, Lil Nas X, Simone Biles y más, compartirán palabras de sabiduría para la Generación 2020. Puede encontrar más información en: Facebook.com.
 - 6. Acompañenos en línea a una celebración virtual de la Semana del Espíritu Sénior Generación 2020, del 25 al 29 de mayo. Los estudiantes de tercero de preparatoria y sus familias están invitados a participar en una

- celebración virtual en todo el distrito que será la Semana del Espíritu Sénior. Las escuelas organizarán eventos específicos. El hashtag oficial para las redes sociales es #AISDClassof2020.
- Lunes: #MondayMotivation Muestra tu orgullo de la escuela preparatoria y publica una foto tuya en una camiseta de la escuela y publica una nota inspiradora a tus compañeros de la generación 2020 en FlipGrid.
 - Martes: #BetterTogetherTuesday ¡Toma una foto «manteniendo la sana distancia» con un compañero de clase para mostrar cómo permanecen unidos! Esto podría ser desde una llamada de Facetime a una imagen editada haciendo que parezca que se están saludando o chocando palmas de la mano, o incluso un TikTok. Cada escuela organizará una salida virtual de la comunidad para alumnos séniores en escuela. Más información será proporcionada por las escuelas.
 - Miércoles: #WellnessWednesday Publica una foto tuya realizando una actividad de salud y bienestar. (Cocinar, hacer ejercicio, leer y tocar un instrumento).
 - Jueves: #ThrowBackThursday Comparte una foto tuya del primero y el último año de preparatoria.
 - Viernes: #FutureFriday Muestra tu futura universidad, colegio o sector militar.
 - 7. Celebrar el otorgamiento del diploma de todos los graduados sénior de Aldine ISD de 2020 en la página de Facebook de Aldine ISD, el 1 de junio de 2020. Esta ceremonia especial confirmará que nuestros estudiantes de último año recibirán un diploma, reconociendo al estudiante como un graduado oficial del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Aldine. Para ser conferido, un estudiante debe haber completado todos los requisitos académicos y no tener deudas pendientes con Aldine ISD. La Superintendente, la Dra. LaTonya Goffney conferirá oficialmente los diplomas de la Generación 2020, permitiéndoles seguir adelante con sus planes después de la escuela preparatoria.
 - 8. Unirse a la ciudad de Houston para una celebración de la Generación 2020 de escuelas preparatorias. El alcalde Sylvester Turner y los superintendentes de todo Houston han planeado una celebración colectiva pero personal

- que reconoce el logro de todos los graduados del área de Houston. El 5 de junio, los alumnos sénior son invitados a reunirse en el Thorne Stadium, usar sus togas, birretes y cubrebocas mientras toman sana distancia. Se invita a los padres, familiares y amigos a participar virtualmente. Puede encontrar más información en línea en Houston2020seniors.com.
9. Celebre a los alumnos virtualmente en YouTube y el expresidente Barack Obama y la ex primera dama Michelle Obama. El 6 de junio a las 7 p.m. CST, el expresidente Barack Obama pronunciará un discurso televisado en horario estelar para la Generación 2020 durante un evento de una hora de duración que también contará con LeBron James, Malala Yousafzai y Ben Platt, entre muchos otros. El evento «Graduate Together: America Honors the High School Class of 2020» será transmitido en vivo por ABC, CBS, Fox y NBC.
 10. Participa en nuestras Ceremonias de Graduación Aldine ISD 2020. Anime a nuestra generación 2020 mientras se gradúan del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Aldine. Los estudiantes de último año de preparatoria de Aldine ISD participarán en sus ceremonias de graduación los días 23 y 24 de julio. Todas las ceremonias se llevarán a cabo en el Centro Educativo M.O. Campbell (1865 Aldine Bender Rd.). Vea los horarios y las fechas de graduación a continuación:
 - Jueves 23 de julio**
 - Hall Center for Education - 11:00 a.m.
 - Preparatoria Eisenhower - 12:30 p.m.
 - Escuela Preparatoria Victory Early College - 3:30 p.m.
 - Escuela Preparatoria Davis - 6:00 p.m.
 - Viernes 24 de julio**
 - Escuela Preparatoria MacArthur - 8:00 a.m.
 - Carver HS for Engineering, Applied Technology & the Arts - 11:00 a.m.
 - Preparatoria Nimitz - 1:00 p.m.
 - Preparatoria Blanson Career and Technical Education - 4:00 p.m.
 - Preparatoria Aldine - 5:30 p.m.
- Para toda la información específica Generación 2020 de Aldine ISD, visite aldineisd.org/class-of-2020.

Aldine ISD organiza ceremonia de otorgamiento de diplomas virtual

El evento tendrá un mensaje de conmemoración, aliento y sabiduría de algunos miembros destacados de la comunidad aldine ISD. Aunque organizaremos las ceremonias de inicio de la Generación 2020 los días 23 y 24 de julio, este otorgamiento marcará la finalización del diploma de la escuela preparatoria de los alumnos sénior graduados. Acompañenos en este evento especial mientras nuestros estudiantes sénior se convierten en miembros de por vida de la comunidad de exalumnos de Aldine ISD.

Esperamos celebrar nuestra Generación 2020 de alumnos sénior. Detalles del evento Estamos muy emocionados de presentar una experiencia virtual, para que nuestros estudiantes de último año graduados y sus familias puedan festejar con toda la comunidad de Aldine ISD, desde la seguridad de sus hogares. Vea el acceso a la Ceremonia de Otorgamiento que se transmitirá en vivo en la página de Facebook de Aldine ISD. Compártalo con sus amigos y familiares en Facebook.

Se alienta a las familias a participar, celebrar y reflexionar mientras escuchan a los miembros de la comunidad aldine ISD durante la ceremonia virtual. A medida que nos acercamos al evento, manténgase en contacto con Aldine ISD en Instagram, Twitter y Facebook los alumnos sénior pueden compartir su mayor orgullo mientras celebran este acontecimiento. Recuerda etiquetarnos en las redes sociales y usar #AISDClassof2020 y #WeAreAldine en sus publicaciones.

ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves by Dave T. Phipps

OK KIDS, I WANT YOU ALL TO SHARE WITH THE CLASS YOUR FAVORITE HOBBIES?
I COLLECT COINS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD.
I HAVE BEEN PLAYING THE PIANO SINCE I WAS FIVE.
I HAVE NO HOBBIES BUT MY MOM SAYS I HAVE A TALENT FOR GETTING INTO TROUBLE.

R.F.D. by Mike Marland

DO YOU HAVE ANY MICROGREENS? WELL, WE HAD SOME...
BUT THEY KINDA GOT AWAY FROM US!

The Spats by Jeff Pickering

JEFFY, I REMEMBER WHEN YOU WERE THIS TALL.
GRANDPA, I REMEMBER WHEN YOU WERE THIS WIDE.

Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle

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| 3 | | | 6 | | | 9 | | |
| | 4 | | 1 | 8 | | 7 | | |

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. Tree is added. 2. Hat is different. 3. Plant is missing. 4. Club is added. 5. Vest is different. 6. Nose is rounder.

Posting Date May 25, 2020

King Crossword

ACROSS

- Dallas cager, briefly
- Frat party supply
- Prejudice
- Expert
- Sicilian spouter
- St. Louis landmark
- Flogged
- Tardy
- Vigorous
- Puncturing tool
- Fa neighbor
- Pulverized
- Pitch
- Irritate
- Foreman opponent
- Check
- Calendar pgs.
- Pageant winner's address
- Scepter top
- Fido's foot
- Insertion mark
- Ran
- Scul tool
- Mentalist
- Geller
- Eaves dropper?
- Deserve
- Played in water
- United nations
- Twistable treat
- Singer
- DiFranco
- "Little Women" woman
- Agrees silently
- Banned bug killer
- Poolroom supply
- A Gershwin brother
- Performance
- The girl
- Insurance fraud factor
- Tussaud's medium
- Numbers course
- Liniment target
- Couturier
- Wang
- Give
- alcohol
- Compass pt.
- He loved Aida
- 29 Promise
- 32 Midwestern capital
- 33 Breaker of Ruth's record
- 35 Apiece
- 36 Chocolate sources
- 38 Intuitive feeling
- 39 Lubricated
- 42 African nation
- 43 Give temporarily
- 44 Fix manuscripts
- 45 Recede
- 46 Heady quaff
- 47 Deteriorate
- 49 Paid athlete

DOWN

- 1 Numbers
- 2 Otherwise
- 3 Mi. or km
- 4 Walked hard (on)
- 5 Juno's counterpart
- 6 Barbecue
- 7 Entree

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. ANATOMY: What is a more common name for the medical condition called desquamation?
2. TELEVISION: Who uttered the catchphrase "you rang?" in the sitcom "The Addams Family"?
3. GAMES: How many dominoes are in a standard set?
4. GEOGRAPHY: In which city is the Basilica de la Sagrada Familia located?
5. MOVIES: Actress Meryl Streep won her first Academy Award for which movie?
6. LITERATURE: What kind of creature was Bagheera in "The Jungle Book"?
7. FOOD & DRINK: What is the primary ingredient of bouillabaisse, a type of stew?
8. PSYCHOLOGY: What fear is represented in the condition called coulrophobia?
9. MUSIC: What is the name of blues guitarist B.B. King's Gibson guitar?
10. U.S. STATES: In which state is Elvis Presley's estate (Graceland) located?

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Trivia Test Answers

1. Peeling skin; 2. Lunch; the butler; 3. 28; 4. Barcelona; Spain; 5. Kramer vs. Kramer; 6. Panther; 7. Seatoad; 8. A Fear of Clowns; 9. Lucille; 10. Tennessee (Memphis)

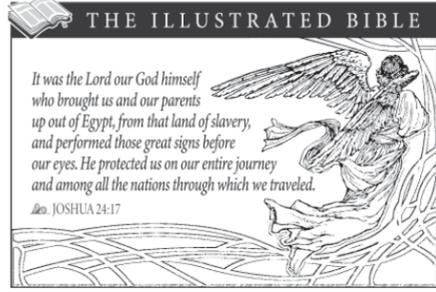
CHURCH PAGE

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

- 1. Is the book of Ezekiel in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Who had 900 iron chariots and made 20 years of life unbearable for the Israelites?
3. How did God evaluate His work after six days, as all He made was ...? Heavenly divine, Righteous sake, Thine image,

- 4. Who was the father of Apostles James and John?
5. 27,000 men were killed when what city's walls fell on them?
6. Who burned his son alive as a sacrifice?
ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Siser; 3) Very good; 4) Zebedee; 5) Aphek; 6) Ahaz



RECENT DEATHS

- Mateo Montalvan
Isabela Montalvan
Thomas Roberts
Florence E. Birmingham
Sreymon Peath
Nicholas Enrique Agreda
DeniseAnn V. Zapata
Myrtle Louise Leggett

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LIFESTYLE

5 Young Aldine ISD Artists Win at 22nd Wells Fargo Student Art Contest

Society for the Performing Arts recently announced the winners of the 22nd Wells Fargo Student Art Contest. Aldine ISD students from pre-kindergarten to high school earned individual honors. Two of the five winners will go on to advance to the next level of the contest, which takes place on Thursday, May 28.

SPA's Art Contest offers all students Pre-K through 12th grade in the greater Houston area a chance to showcase their talents and gain acknowledgment from an acclaimed panel of judges while learning

more about the performing arts

This year's art contest theme, Ingenuity, is inspired by two presentations during the 2019-2020 season: Manual Cinema: Frankenstein, EMN-Ensemble Mik Nawooj, and the theater itself as a place that brings people together. Ingenuity, encourages students to create works of art that explore problem-solving and diversity, answering the question: What is our potential when we work together?

Jamal Cyrus, Eepi Chaad, and Emily Fens served as judges. Houston

native Jamal Cyrus' work has been shown both nationally and internationally and has won several awards, including the Smithsonian Artist Research Fellowship.

Eepi Chaad is a multidisciplinary artist. Chaad is currently Director of Community Engagement at Art League Houston, as well as serving on the board for Artists for Art, and the steering committee for Houston Museum Educators Roundtable.

Emily Fens is a visual artist. Her project Brainbloom, combines art and science. An alumna of

the Glassell School of Art, Fens has been exhibited for MFAH's Music on the Plaza program.

High school senior contest winners will be awarded scholarships in various amounts. One "Best of Show" award of \$2,500 will be given to a graduating high school senior. All winners, including the honorable mention recipients, will receive prizes ranging from tickets to a performance provided by SPA to art supplies, to scholarship funds.

This year's Student Art Contest winners will be celebrated virtually on

YouTube on Thursday, May 28, from 1-2 p.m. Images of winning artwork will be available on the SPA's website in the coming weeks.

Aldine ISD Award-Winning Artwork
 Division PreK
 "Wonder Minds" by Johana Arriaga
 Honorable Mention — Layla McCray for Primary World, Kujawa Primary, Teacher Mikal Boston
 Division A: Grades K-2
 Second Place — Emely Ortega for Space Robot, Carter Academy, Teacher Yvonne López Taylor
 Division C: Grades 6-8

First Place — Johana Arriaga for Wonder Minds, Lewis Middle School, Teacher Catherine Woodwin

Division D: Grades 9-11
 Disclosed at Ceremony — Jada Sawyer for Eyes Wide Closed, Nimitz High School, Teacher Jorge Vázquez

Division E: Grade 12
 Disclosed at Ceremony — Barbara Villarreal for Escapement Wheel, Carver High School for Engineering, Applied Technology, and the Arts, Teacher Matthew Kirkpatrick

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NORTHEAST NEWS

Pick-up Locations

Jed's Hardware & Paint
5415 Aldine Mail Rt
Greenspoint Mall
Lone Star College - Greenspoint
250 Sam Houston Pkwy E.
Lone Star College - East Aldine
Aldine Mail Route
Baker Ripley
3000 Aldine Mail Route
East Aldine District Office
5333 Aldine Mail Route
RED BOX
5327 Aldine Mail Route
Dance Town USA Bingo
7214 Airline Drive
Pari Riko Bakery
Aldine Mail Rt
MacArthur High School
Aldine Mail Rt
High Meadows Branch Library
4550 Aldine Mail Rt
Prosperity Bank Eastex Fwy
3945 Little York
Prosperity Bank Little York
1615 Little York
Prosperity Bank Aldine
1906 Aldine Bender
Mobile Station
9140 Eastex Freeway
Texaco Food Mart
9225 Eastex Freeway
Conoco
11219 Eastex Freeway
Handy Plus #69
11420 Eastex Freeway
Hartz Chicken
12231 Eastex Freeway
Beasley Tire
Eastex Freeway
Dairy Queen
E. Mt. Houston @ Eastex Fwy
Ranchero King Buffet
North Freeway
Mi Rancho
11132 Aldine Westfield
Aldine ISD Services Office
Aldine Westfield
Houston Discount Sales
101 Little York & Airline Drive
You & I Grocery
8009 Airline
Airline Grocery
8104 Airline
Quick Mart
8320 Airline
Harris County Branch Library
11379 Airline
Medical Clinic
8002 Airline

Aldine High School
Airline @ West Rd
Las Banderas Meat Market
11381 Airline
Food Store
1700 Airline
Pilgrim Place Apts
4655 Aldine Mail Rt
Aldine Y.O.U.T.H Comm. Ctr.
4700 Aldine Mail Rt
Harvest Time Church
Imperial Valley
769 Grocery
330 Gulf Bank
K Stop Food Store
340 Gulf Bank
Office Building
Parker Road
HC Senior Center
Hardy Road
HC Senior Center
Bentley
HC Courthouse Annex*
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UT Health Clinic
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Maxim's Seafood
Eastex Freeway
Rosita's Restaurant
Bentley Drive
Shell Station
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Airline Drive
Sol Restaurant
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Aldine Mail Route
Sellers Brothers
Little York
Food City
Aldine Mail Route

And more... call 713-266-3444 if you would like to be on the list.

rev0919

COMMUNITY NEWS

Suspects wanted in murder of a man on Aldine Mail Rt.

Homicide investigators are releasing still photos of vehicle and a male and female wanted for capital murder of a local man. On Thursday, May 14, 2020, at approximately 5:00 PM, deputies responded to the 5200 block of Aldine Mail Route in reference to a shooting. It was found that the victim now identified as 38-year-old Gambino Duarte, arrived at the shopping center and immediately after exiting his vehicle he was approached by a black male suspect. A physical altercation then ensued in which the suspect discharged a firearm striking Duarte.

Gambino was pronounced deceased on scene. Homicide investigators are seeking information on a maroon and tan late model Ford Expedition driven by a black female. Suspect number one is described as a black male with medium dread locks. The female driver was wearing a tan or light colored top. If you have any information in regards to the case or whereabouts of suspect in this heinous crime, you are urged to contact the Harris County Sheriff's Office Homicide Unit at 713-274-9100 or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS.



PICTURE ON THE TOP: the maroon and tan late model Ford Expedition driven by the black female. PICTURE TO THE RIGHT: same Ford Expedition with the male shooter wearing medical mask.



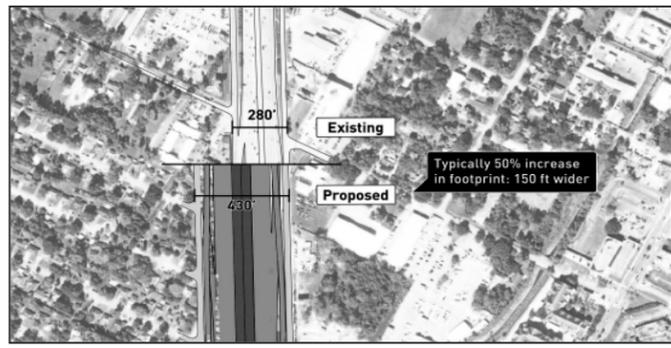
I-45 Expansion plans questioned,

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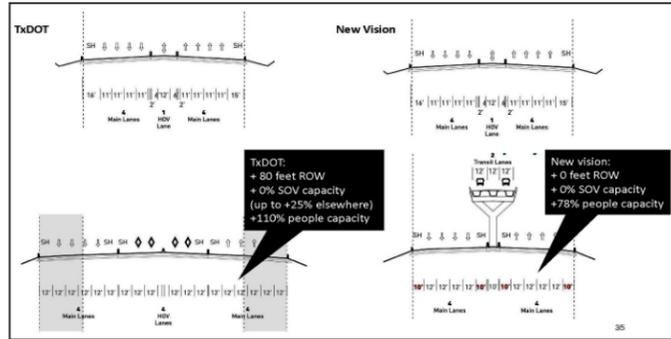
you consider the following:

- Design an alternate lane configuration for Segments 1 and 2 that measurably reduces the required rightofway.
 - Work with METRO to determine how regional express bus and bus rapid transit can reliably operate in the corridor as part of the voter approved METRONext plan, including stops that serve the surrounding communities.
 - Study how bridges and other highway elements can be designed to accommodate future flood mitigation and open space projects on Halls and Little White Oak Bayous.
 - Study how frontage roads can be designed to improve safety and accommodate all road users.
 - Retain and expand local street connectivity, particularly for people walking and biking. Identify ways of improving the freeway aesthetics, especially through trees and landscaping.
- Additionally, I request that TXDOT work with the city to develop programs to ensure that all displaced residents can relocate in their neighborhoods and affordable housing supply is not reduced. Together, these elements significantly contribute to the City's goals. We propose to work in close coordination with TXDOT to evaluate how these elements may be incorporated into the final design of Segments 1 and 2. The coordination between the City, TXDOT and our partners has identified opportunities for civic improvements in neighborhoods around Segment 3. These relate to improved connections, additional park spaces, urban design enhancements, future development opportunities, reuse of ROW and transit improvements.

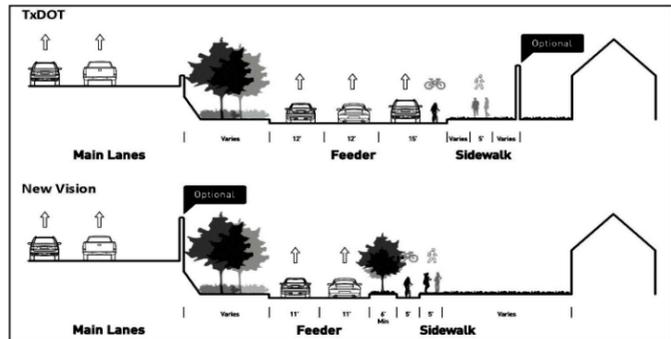
VISION "C" RECOMMENDATIONS:



NEW ROAD CONSTRUCTION WOULD BE NO WIDER THAN THE EXISTING RIGHT-OF-WAY.



BUS AND HOV TRAFFIC WOULD BE ON DEDICATED LANES ABOVE THE MAIN GROUND LEVEL.



FRONTAGE ROADS WOULD BE 2 LANE, WITH LANDSCAPING AND BIKE/WALKWAYS.

Aldine ISD hosts Virtual Conferral Event for Class of 2020

Aldine ISD Board of Trustees and Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney invite you to join the Aldine ISD community as we celebrate the Class of 2020 at the Aldine ISD Class of 2020: Destined Virtual Conferral Celebration at 6 p.m. on Monday, June 1, 2020. The district has planned a memorable event to mark the occasion of diploma conferral for the Class of 2020. During the program, we will recognize our graduating seniors' accomplishments and achievements. The event will include words of celebration, encouragement, and wisdom from some notable members of the Aldine ISD community.

Although we will host the Class of 2020 commencement ceremonies on July 23 and 24, this conferral will mark the completion of graduating seniors' high school diploma. Join us in this special event as our seniors become lifelong members of the Aldine ISD alumni community. We look forward to celebrating our Class of 2020 seniors. **Event Details** We are excited to present a virtual experience, so our graduating seniors and their families can celebrate with the entire Aldine ISD community, from the safety of their homes. Viewing access to the Conferral Celebration will

be broadcast live on the Aldine ISD Facebook Page at Facebook.com/Aldine-SchoolDistrict. Share the celebration with your friends and family on Facebook. Families are encouraged to participate, celebrate, and reflect as you hear from members of the Aldine ISD community during the virtual ceremony. As we approach the event, stay connected with Aldine ISD on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook seniors can share their senior pride while celebrating this milestone. Remember to tag us on social media and use #AIS-DClassof2020 and #WeAreAldine in your posts.

Tax Relief,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tax reform is coming to Harris County seniors and people living with disabilities. This population is particularly vulnerable during the COVID-19 pandemic, and this will help them. It also stems the tide of gentrification because of rising appraisal values in our historic neighborhoods. I'm proud to be the first

Commissioner since 2008 to submit this and put money back into the pockets of hardworking families."

Texas Opens,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

activities may open under Phase II. Child Care Centers (May 18) Massage and Personal-Care Centers (May 18) Youth Clubs (May 18) Rodeo and Equestrian Events (May 22) Bowling Alleys, Bingo Halls, Simulcast Racing, and Skating Rinks (May 22) Bars (May 22) Aquariums and Natural Caverns (May 22) Zoos (May 29) Day Youth Camps (May 31) Overnight Youth Camps (May 31) Youth Sports (May 31) Certain professional sports without in-person spectators (May 31) All sporting and camp activities are required to adhere by special safety standards, and minimum

standard health protocols have been established for all newly-announced opened services and activities. Businesses located in office buildings may also open but must limit their occupancy to the greater of 10 employees or 25% of their workforce. Additionally, restaurants may expand their occupancy to 50% beginning May 22. Bars—including wine tasting rooms, craft breweries, and similar businesses—may open at 25% occupancy but like restaurants, these occupancy limits do not apply to outdoor areas that maintain safe distancing among parties. Opened services and activities under Phase II are subject to certain occupancy limits and health and safety protocols. For details and a full list of guide-

lines, openings, and relevant dates, visit www.gov.texas.gov/open-texas. Certain counties experiencing surges in COVID-19 cases will have their beginning date of Phase II delayed until May 29. These counties include El Paso, Randall, Potter, Moore, and Deaf Smith. Surge Response Teams are actively working in these areas to increase testing, maintain hospital capacity, and ensure that COVID-19 is contained and mitigated. During his remarks, the Governor also presented information on the state's hospitalization and positivity rates—two metrics the Governor and his team of medical experts have used to inform the state's ongoing plan to safely and strategically open.

HARRIS COUNTY HOMESTEAD EXEMPTIONS And Upcoming Changes

HOW DO EXEMPTIONS HELP HOMEOWNERS?
An exemption removes part of the value of your property from taxation and lowers your taxes. For example, if your home is valued at \$100,000 and you qualify for a \$20,000 exemption, you pay taxes on your home as if it were worth only \$80,000.

WHAT KINDS OF EXEMPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE?
School taxes – all homeowners.
County taxes – all homeowners.
Optional exemptions –

WHAT'S CHANGING?
Commissioners Court approved a new plan proposed by Commissioner Adrian Garcia that would eliminate county property tax liability for seniors 65 years of age and older as well as disabled homeowners and disabled military, with homes valued at \$286,250 or less. Qualifying homeowners with homes valued at \$286,200 or more would save at least \$500 next year (and annually going forward) on their property tax bills.

HOW TO FILE?
You can file your homestead exemption online utilizing the HCAD Mobile App. To submit the homestead application using the app, you will need 4 items:
1. The date of occupancy on your residence.
2. Your TX driver license
3. A smartphone
4. The HCAD Info and Exemptions app (found in the App Store or Google Play)

You can also send your application by mail with a copy of your driver license to 13013 Northwest Freeway. PLEASE NOTE: The appraisal district does not assess or collect property taxes. You need to contact the Harris Co. Tax Office (713-274-8000) for questions concerning the amount of your taxes and tax payments or refunds.

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