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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. 24 TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2020 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

NEWS NOTES

Low Cost Internet in Aldine

NEIGHBORS: Comcast's Internet Essentials offer is set to expire on June 30, 2020.

New customers will receive 60 days of complimentary Internet Essentials service, which is normally available to all qualified low-income households for \$9.95/month. Additionally, for all new and existing Internet Essentials customers, the speed of the program's Internet service was increased to 25 Mbps downstream and 3 Mbps upstream. There is no contract, no credit check and no installation fee with the program. Additionally, IE customers have in-home Wi-Fi. Internet Essentials customers are also eligible to purchase a laptop or desktop computer for \$149.99, plus tax. IE Customers can also take advantage of free in-person and online digital training classes.

To learn more, please visit internetessentials.com.

School districts in the Houston area that are auto-approved (meaning customers do not need to show proof of federal assistance) for the Internet Essentials program include: Aldine ISD, Alief ISD, Galena Park ISD, Houston ISD, Pasadena ISD, Sheldon ISD, Spring Branch ISD, Spring ISD and YES Prep Public Schools.

Please contact Melinda Little (Melinda_Little@comcast.com) or Bryce Kennard (Bryce_Kennard@comcast.com) should you have any questions regarding the Internet Essentials Program.

HARRIS COUNTY COVID-19

Walle announces Housing relief

Recovery Czars Rep. Armando Walle and Marvin Odum Launch Effort to Reduce Evictions and Maintain Affordable Housing

Harris County, Texas - Thursday, June 11, 2020 - County and city recovery leaders on Thursday announced the formation of a task force to prevent evictions while bridging gaps in housing stability that have been exposed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Housing Stability Task Force, which will include stakeholders with deep experience in the community who touch all points of the housing stability cycle, will align resources to address evictions while developing strategies and recommendations to strengthen the region's housing delivery system.



Harris County Czar Armando Walle announces housing relief.

Although the city and county each have independent czars leading their respective COVID-19 recovery efforts, city and county leadership decided to unify their efforts to deal with the unprecedented housing crisis through the creation of a joint task force.

"Evictions were a serious issue before the COVID-19 pan-

demie, and they will continue to be of great concern throughout the course of the economic downturn. We unfortunately anticipate a substantial increase in the volume in the weeks and months ahead, and we are determined to make our best attempt at proactive planning to reduce as many as we can. The Houston region had systemic

See *Housing Relief*, Page 6

Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo implements new COVID-19 public threat level system

Harris County Hospital Admissions Reach Highest Level to Date

Harris County, Texas - June 11, 2020, As hospital admissions for COVID-19 in Harris County reach their highest level ever, today County Judge Lina Hidalgo unveiled a new public threat level system designed to help residents understand the threat level from COVID-19 and provide clear guidance on steps the general public must take to protect them-

selves, their community, and support the conditions to avoid a crisis and sustainably reopen the local economy. The system, informed by the latest data from local health authorities, research institutions, and public health experts, informs a color-coded level indi-



4-level, color-coded system to help residents navigate current state of virus spread.

levels: Level 1 severe (red), Level 2 significant (orange), Level 3 moderate (yellow), and Level 4 minimal (green). To help residents easily understand and navigate the current level of risk, the county has shared an indicator dial on readyharris.org, along with descriptions of the latest data-driven community guidelines.

To help residents easily understand and navigate the current level of risk, the county has shared an indicator dial on readyharris.org, along with descriptions of the latest data-driven community guidelines.

"We all want to get back to work, see our friends, hug our family, go out to eat, and resume our livelihoods without limitations, but we still have a long road ahead of us to end this

See *COVID-19 Threat Level*, Page 8

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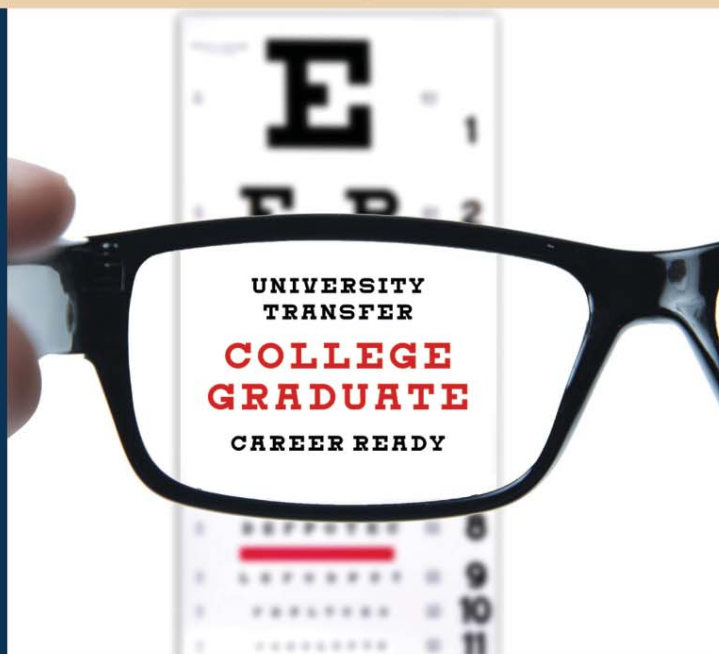
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SCHOOL NEWS

Aldine ISD athletic programs prepare for summer strength and conditioning camps

Aldine ISD athletic programs will begin on-campus strength and conditioning training the week of June 15, 2020. The student-athletes will be the first group of students back on Aldine ISD campuses since March. The health and safety of both students and staff remain a priority for the District. The summer strength and conditioning programs will follow current CDC guidelines.

The athletic directors, coaches, and trainers at each school will communicate the dates and times for all workouts, ensuring

that indoor and outdoor training sessions are properly monitored and within the current CDC guidelines for capacity. All workouts will be planned and organized to keep student-athletes, coaches, and trainers safe and healthy.

KEEPING STUDENTS AND STAFF SAFE

Every coach, trainer, and student-athlete will be required to bring his or her own face covering and water bottle. Staff and students will have daily health screenings, where their temperatures are checked and pre-screening

health questions will be asked upon entry. Sanitizer and hand-washing stations will be available at every workout.

This summer, the strength and conditioning training will be at no cost for families. The district will not be providing transportation services. Therefore, students will be asked to arrange for rides to and from campus this summer.

Aldine ISD looks forward to welcoming back student-athletes, so they will be able to prepare for their upcoming athletic seasons.

Aldine ISD names new principals for Ermel and Sammons Elementary Schools

Aldine ISD is pleased to announce that Erik Torres and Georgina Foroi have been selected as the new principals for Ermel Elementary and Sammons Elementary, respectively. Both will continue to fulfill their roles as assistant principals at their respective campuses, Goodman Elementary and Kujawa Primary, through the end of the year while transitioning to their new roles.

Foroi will ensure several tasks and projects are completed at Goodman Elementary before she leaves, while also meeting the teams at Sammons Elementary to develop plans for the 2020-2021 school year. Torres will also begin working with his staff at Ermel.

Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney, Superintendent of Schools, stated, "Leadership matters. Both Georgina and Erik are amazing. Their experience, commitment to student success, understanding of how to support teachers, and their skills to build strong relationships, are evident in their work. These skills are crucial for effective change and improved outcomes. We are looking for these characteristics in leadership as we build on our strategic plan to ensure our students have access to high-quality schools and learning experiences."

Foroi received her bachelor's degree from the University of Houston-Downtown and her master's degree in educational administration from Sam Houston State University.

Foroi began her educational career 15 years ago in Aldine ISD. She started as a paraprofessional at Conley Elementary School. The following year, she joined the campus as a full-time fourth-grade bilingual teacher. In 2009, she began working as a bilingual skills specialist at Ermel Elementary and then at Johnson Elementary. In 2013, she became an assistant principal at the same campus before transitioning to Goodman Elementary School, serving in the same capacity.

Goodman Elementary is one of Aldine ISD's two Accelerating Campus Excellence or ACE campuses. As part of the leadership team,



Georgina Foroi

Erik Torres

she has received training in the best practices for school processes, procedures, implementation, and student monitoring to make schools better. The ACE model also includes building strong relationships with staff and families to establish a foundation for change and engagement.

"I will miss my Goodman Elementary family, but I am looking forward to the new challenge and my new family at Sammons Elementary," said Foroi. "I will take my skills in strong leadership, effective teaching, and high expectations to build on the success at Sammons."

Torres received his bachelor of science degree from the University of Phoenix and his master's degree in educational administration from Sam Houston State University.

Torres graduated from Eisenhower High School in 2001. He is very familiar with Ermel. It is the elementary school Torres attended as a student in Aldine. He began his career in education in 2010 as a fourth-grade bilingual teacher at Ermel Elementary.

In 2015, Torres advanced to skills specialist at Ermel before serving as the school's assistant principal in 2016.

Torres most recently served as the assistant principal at Kujawa Primary School. A position he held since 2018. Dur-

ing the school's reconfiguration, he was instrumental in implementing data-driven teaching strategies for the newly added kindergarten grade level.

Additionally, Torres serves as an adjunct professor at the University of Houston Downtown's Urban Education Department. He works with future educators with a focus on how to teach the writing process and prepares them for the bilingual certification exam.

"It's like coming full circle," said Torres. "I began my education as a student at Ermel Elementary, and now I will be leading it. I look forward to working with the staff in a new capacity. A strong basis that I have that aligns with the district's strategic plan is in fulfilling the promise we as educators make to students: giving students the skills they need to succeed."

Both Foroi and Torres will report directly to the chief of schools, Katy Roede, who is looking forward to working with them in their new positions.

"Georgina and Erik will be taking the helm of their campuses during an uncertain time as we deal with COVID-19 and begin to look at what the 2020-2021 school year will look like for our students," said Roede. "But I know that they and every leader and educator is committed to offering high-quality instructional opportunities and ensuring that resources and supports are in place to give every student an equitable education."

AISD Director of Athletics Dean Colbert earns CAA certification

The National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) is pleased to announce that Dean Colbert, Director of Athletic Services at Aldine Independent School District, has been recognized by this association as a Certified Athletic Administrator.

To earn this distinction, Colbert has demonstrated the highest level of knowledge and expertise in the field of interscholastic athletic administration. The voluntary certification process included a thorough



Dean Colbert

evaluation of the candidate's educational background, experience and professional contributions, as well as a rigorous, comprehensive written examination.

Colbert is one of an elite group of interscholastic

athletic administrators nationwide to attain this level of professionalism.

The NIAAA is a national professional organization consisting of all 50 state athletic administrator associations and more than 12,000 individual members. It is dedicated to promoting the professional growth of high school athletic administrators and preserving the educational nature of interscholastic athletics and the place of these programs in the secondary school curriculum.

Aldine ISD to host virtual session for male students June 16

On Tuesday, June 16 Aldine ISD will facilitate a virtual discussion, Real Men. Real Talk. A Candid Conversation about Race and Life in America. The virtual conversation, held on zoom, is designed to be a safe space for male, secondary students (grades 6-12) to discuss race, society, and the current tensions following the recent protests and unrest connected to the death of George

Floyd. "We are committed to ensuring schools are designed to be places where students can thrive academically and socially. That includes highlighting student voices and building stronger and genuine relationships with staff," said Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney.

The discussion is closed to the public and will be

facilitated by male district leaders including administrators, principals, counselors, teachers, and coaches from across the district. District partner, Education Elements will host the event.

Students should register to attend the virtual session here: AldineISD.org/RealMen-RealTalk. Attendance is limited to the first 450 students to sign up.

Goodman Elementary School earns distinction as no place for hate schools

Goodman Elementary School earned the distinction as "No Place for Hate Schools" from the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) for schoolwide efforts during the 2019-2020 school year to promote positive school culture and climate built on values like inclusivity, kindness, and respect.

To earn the designation, the school conducted a needs assessment identified areas of growth, formed a No Place for Hate Committee, signed a

pledge of respect, and implemented schoolwide activities to promote and foster kindness and empathy.

"Our school did an excellent job reinforcing values of kindness and respect," said Shalonda Moore, school counselor at Goodman. "At Goodman Elementary, we are extremely committed to creating a culture - whether in person or online - that builds students up positively."

Moore lauds her Stu-

dent-Led Coalition Members for helping her implement the program at Goodman Elementary School. According to Moore, Goodman is the only campus in the school district with the honor.

The school partnered with the ADL at the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year as part of its focus on supporting students' socio-emotional well-being and provide a safe and welcoming culture.

Victory Early College HS, Carver HS make U.S. news & world report 2020 list of best high schools

The U.S. News List of 2020 Best High Schools ranks more than 24,000 public high schools across the nation based on how well they serve all of their students regardless of economic or ethnic background, according to an April 21 news release.

The annual rankings provide comprehensive, data-based information on nearly every public high school in the country.

Families can use this information to see how their local schools compare on graduation rates and state assessments, as well as an overall academic performance by traditionally underserved students - those who are black, Hispanic, or from low-income households. Schools were evaluated on

a variety of factors, including graduation rates, college readiness (which is measured by AP® and IB® exam performance) reading and math proficiency, reading and math performance, underserved student performance and college curriculum breadth, according to the report. The rankings are also offered on the state, metro area, and school district level. Only school districts with three or more high schools were included.

The district's early college high school ranked in the top 5% of schools in the nation. Another Aldine ISD school did well overall. Carver HS for Engineer-

ing, Applied Technology, and the Arts ranked #3,390, placing it in the top 25% nationally.

Victory Early College HS

- National Level: #287
 - Texas: 44th
 - Houston Metro Area: 13th
- Carver HS for Engineering, Applied Technology, and the Arts
- National Level: 3,390
 - Texas: 282
 - Houston Metro Area: 80

On the state level, 7.1% of the 1,485 of Texas schools that were evaluated ranked in the top 5% nationally, while 11.7% ranked in the top 10%, and 24.9% ranked in the top 25%.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Essential programs return to complete spring semester instruction at Lone Star College-North Harris

HOUSTON (June 11, 2020) – Essential training for workforce programs returned to the LSC-North Harris and LSC-East Aldine Center campuses on Monday, June 1, during a limited reopening to facilitate in-person training required for spring semester credit.

The six programs that returned to campus are:

- Electrical Technology
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
- Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC)
- Machining Technology
- Welding Technology
- Inspection Technology

These courses are being completed while following strict safety and social distancing practices. The reopening of the campus was carefully orchestrated so that all students and faculty are checked by health officials as they enter buildings, only enter through designated entrances, and must always wear a face mask.

During the first two weeks back on campus, faculty and students have experienced a smooth transition. For programs like EMS, the added safety guidelines provide students a learning experience that will help them once they enter the workforce.

"The use of PPE has added an element of realism to our coursework in healthcare," said Dan Rathe, EMS program di-



A healthcare worker takes the temperature of a student entering the Construction and Skilled Trades Technology Center before attending his workforce training course.

rector. "The students are having direct experience with the challenges of communicating between each other, much like that of the challenges of working with patients while wearing PPE."

LSC-North Harris is also partnering with the Houston Fire Department to provide students on-site training with EMS professionals who have experienced firsthand the challenges of working during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Partnering with the Houston Fire Department fosters a feeling of pride in the EMS Professions Department," said Rathe. "We

are teaching those who will have a direct impact on the healthcare of the community. LSC-North Harris EMS Professions and HFD are better together."

Workforce programs offer associate degree and certificate options while providing students the opportunity to enter the workforce quickly and with essential skills sought after by employers.

Enrollment is currently open for summer II and fall courses. Summer II sessions begin July 9, and fall classes begin August 24. For more information on the programs offered or to enroll, please visit LoneStar.edu/LearnMore.

Lone Star College is training an essential workforce

HOUSTON (June 9, 2020) – As the nation begins to return to work, having the right skill set is more important than ever. Lone Star College can provide you with the Career and Technical Education (CTE) training to put you on the path to an exciting new career, or help you update your skills.

"Having the right expertise is critical in today's job market," said Linda Leto Head, LSC senior associate vice chancellor, External and Employer Relations. "Now is the perfect time to prepare yourself to re-join the workforce."

LSC has developed over 200 online CTE classes which gives students the flexibility to study at their convenience. Programs include Business and Professional Services; Computer/Digital Technology; Energy, Manufacturing and Construction; Health Sciences; Public Safety; and Education.

"Funding is now available for high demand careers," said Head. "The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act is funding up to 100% of education costs plus unemployment benefits for those who have recently



Lone Star College Career and Technical Education classes are taking place today to put you on the path to an exciting new career tomorrow.

been displaced or currently unemployed."

Students can also apply for funding under the Texas Public Education Grant for fast track training.

LSC CTE students can complete training online and then get hands-on training in an LSC Workforce Center of Excellence which are adhering to regulations set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to provide safe instruction.

Class start dates are available throughout the year and many students qualify for financial assistance which covers educational expenses including tuition, fees, books and supplies.

Students enrolled in LSC CTE programs can earn Fast Track, non-credit workforce certificates designed for quick entry into the workforce. LSC also offers select industry certifications that prepare a student for state, national or global industry-recognized credentials.

Registration is now open. Learn more by visiting LoneStar.edu/Career-Continuing-Education.

"People who are interested in learning more can speak with a workforce advisor if they don't know where to begin," said Head. "Lone Star College is committed to making your training affordable and accessible."

BakerRipley Aldine Bi-Monthly Food Fairs

By Christina Autry

BakerRipley has responded to the Covid-19 pandemic by doubling their monthly food fairs at campuses around Houston, including East Aldine's Town Center location. During the month of April, the non-profit provided essential food items and supplies to about 4,500 families in the Bayou City. They plan to serve the Aldine campus every other Wednesday through the month of August, and continue if needed.

Community Developer Jometra Hawkins has been working behind the scenes to coordinate donations from the Houston Food Bank and other donors, all of which go straight to Aldine families. "Program Coordinator Rocio Wittie work with a team of six people, who create our strategy, and map out the pieces that need to be in place," says Hawkins.

"Families depend on this food," says Hawkins. "A lot of people are without jobs right now, and money is scarce. We want to provide enough food for them to eat for a couple weeks at a time, which is how long our supplies last."

Normally, families attending the food fairs would be allowed into the facility to pick out the items in a shopping-style setup. However, with social distancing measures in place, Hawkins and the BakerRipley team had to develop an entirely new system for getting families what they need.

"Houston Food Bank trucks arrive at about 7:30AM," begins Hawkins. "Volunteers unload the truck and package the bags. We have people walking down the line of cars, asking how many people are in their household. We write the number on the back of their car, so that our volunteers at the front know how many bags to distribute. When cars pull up, we put the bags in their trunk or backseat to avoid contact."

Rosalva Hernandez, who Hawkins says is "normally



BakerRipley volunteers distribute food at East Aldine Town Center location.

our food fair guru," is serving as Volunteer Coordinator, and managing the "day-of" logistics. Her leadership has been crucial as the number of families participating in Aldine's food fair has increased from about 300 families to around 800.

Captains are designated for each step of the process, from packing bags, to crowd control, to logistics. Hardworking volunteers assist each captain at designated stations. The Harris County Sheriff's Office has played an important role in traffic control, preventing cars from cutting in line and maintaining the flow of traffic on streets surrounding Town Center.

Bagged food items vary from week to week, but fresh produce is always included. Other common items include milk, juice, and bread. Now that household products can be difficult to find or purchase, BakerRipley is encouraging donors to include commodities such as hand sanitizer, cleaning and hygiene products. "We recently received a donation of toilet paper which we then added to our bags," says Hawkins. On the May 6th event, State Rep Armando Walle, Senator Carol Alvarado, Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia donated masks, which were included in the food bags.

Many organizations and individuals contribute from week to week, and the Town Center partners have remained fundamental to the event. Lone Star College

and Avalos P-Tech High School have opened their parking lots to host the food fair, and have provided volunteers. Hope Clinic performs temperature checks for all volunteers and staff, and has set up a sanitizer station at the entrance.

"East Aldine District leadership has been amazing in helping us coordinate with our Town Center partners," says Hawkins. "Richard Cantu, Veronica Sanches, and Nataly Perez have provided outstanding help in getting things together." Gustavo Gonzalez has dedicated time and resources to ensuring volunteers are given access to necessary amenities during their shift.

With a brand-new method of conducting the food fairs come new needs as well. "We are reaching out to partners to donate recyclable grocery bags. Partners are welcome to include their logo on the bags," says Harris. "We are always looking for more partners, volunteers, and distribution items. BakerRipley is a non-profit which runs on public donations."

Approximately 50 volunteers are needed for each food fair to run smoothly. With the critical task of unloading trucks and packing bags requiring a good amount of manual labor, BakerRipley appreciates every volunteer that comes out. Those wanting to donate time to this effort can visit the "volunteer opportunities" page on bakerripley.org.

New opportunities begin with Career Star at Lone Star College-North Harris

HOUSTON (May 28, 2020) – Students approaching the end of the school year, or workers looking for new options, can begin planning their next step with Lone Star College's Career Star.

Career Star is an online tool available to future students who are unsure which academic program is right for them. Users can take a career assessment, browse careers and programs of study tailored to their interests, and apply for jobs while they are in school by visiting LoneStar.edu/career-services.

Employees in the workforce who are looking for

new opportunities, or who have been affected by the recent economic changes due to COVID-19, are encouraged to use Career Star to build a resume and search for employment opportunities to help them start on a new path.

After taking advantage of the online resource, LSC-North Harris can help future students achieve their goals through registering for the summer and fall semesters and enrolling in program-specific courses designed to help them in their field of choice.

LSC-North Harris offers low cost, high-quality

workforce degree and certificate programs in energy, manufacturing and construction, health sciences, computer/digital technology and more that can be found by visiting LoneStar.edu/programs-workforce.htm.

In addition to the online resources designed to help users identify programs of interest, LSC-North Harris offers caring professionals available by telephone to provide personalized advising and enrollment support at 281.618.5400. For students who prefer to explore class options online, visit LoneStar.edu/LearnMore.

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NORTHEAST BELTWAY 8 News

OPINION PAGE



Social Security Matters

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

How Do I Apply with Social Security Offices Closed?

Dear Rusty: I am 64 years old and would like advice on how to move forward to apply for Social Security now instead of waiting until I am the "magic" age of 66.5 years. Signed: Ready for Retirement

Dear Ready for Retirement: All Social Security offices are currently closed to public visits, but they are still providing telephone services (although telephone wait times are usually longer these days). You can apply over the phone if you wish. However, the most efficient way to apply for your Social Security benefit, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, is to apply online. You will need to create your personal "My Social Security" account prior to applying online, but that is easy to do at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. For information, Social Security uses a "two-factor" identification process for security purposes, usually by asking you to enter, in addition to your password, a special ID code sent to your cell phone (or email). Once you have set up your personal account, you can use the online application process at www.ssa.gov/retire.

Here is a link to a short video from Social Security which explains the online application process: www.ssa.gov/hlp/video/iclaim_r01.htm. When you start the online process, be sure to write down the reentry code, which will allow you to save and re-enter your online application as many times as needed before you finally submit it. Once it is submitted,

Social Security will call you or write you to get any additional information they need. A couple of things I want to be sure you are aware of:

By claiming before your full retirement age (FRA) your benefit amount will be permanently reduced. The reduction is about 0.556% per month prior to your FRA that you claim (at 64, a reduction of about 15%).

Finally, if you are still working, you'll be subject to Social Security's earnings test until you reach your full retirement age. If you start benefits mid-year 2020, you'll be subject to a monthly earnings limit of \$1520, and if you exceed that limit you won't be eligible for benefits for that month. The following years you'll be subject to an annual limit, until you reach your FRA when there is no longer a limit to how much you can earn.

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Storm preparations begin while state continues to battle COVID-19

AUSTIN — As Tropical Storm Cristobal moved north in the Gulf of Mexico from the Yucatan Peninsula toward Louisiana, the weather system's potential impact on East Texas grew and Gov. Greg Abbott on June 5 addressed the situation in a news conference. Abbott said preparedness is the key in any hurricane season. He added that the Texas Department of Emergency Management and a roster of state agency departments, local responders and FEMA were ready. Meanwhile, he said, the state's ongoing efforts to reduce the spread of COVID-19 also continue and East Texas residents in particular should be extra mindful of both threats.

Cumulative figures posted June 6 by the Texas Department of State Health Services showed that some 74,978 people in Texas had been diagnosed with COVID-19 and 1,830 deaths resulting from the virus pandemic had been confirmed. Officially, hurricane season started June 1 and will continue through Nov. 30. While Cristobal is not expected to generate hurricane-force winds, it may bring high winds, heavy rain and flooding.

State extends SNAP
The Texas Health and Human Services Commission will provide approximately \$177 million in emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program food benefits for the month of June in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Gov. Abbott announced June 4.

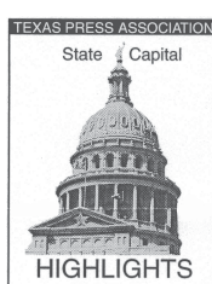
More than 900,000 SNAP households will see the additional amount on their Lone Star Card by June 12. The emergency June allotments are in addition to the \$414.7 million in benefits previously provided to Texans in April and May, Abbott added.

Fomenters are warned
Gov. Abbott and Texas-based U.S. Attorneys John Bash, Erin Nealy Cox, Stephen Cox, and Ryan Patrick warned June 1 that individuals "who come to Texas from out of state to engage in looting, violence or other destructive acts in violation of federal law" would be subject to federal prosecution and transferred to federal custody.

"Today's announcement will ensure there are harsh consequences for those breaking the law and that they will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law," Abbott said.

Ruling draws comments
Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on June 4 commended the New Orleans-based U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit for unanimously ruling to block a San Antonio federal district court order allowing all qualified voters to vote by mail. "I applaud the Fifth Circuit for staying the federal court's erroneous decision and preventing wide-

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Ed Sterling



spread mail-in balloting while the case proceeds," Paxton said. Gilberto Hinojosa, chairman of the Texas Democratic Party, disagreed with the ruling, saying, "We find ourselves in the midst of a once-in-a-century pandemic. Voters who are rightfully worried about the safety of in-person voting should have the option to vote by mail. The Constitution prohibits divvying up our rights by our age, gender or race and the Fifth Circuit decision of today would allow voters of a certain age different voting rights than the rest of us."

Party holds convention
The Texas Democratic Party conducted its first digital, online convention June 1 to June 6. Over those days, the party took up a slate of issues such as vote-by-mail, education, textbook censorship, racism, religious freedom, LGBTQ rights and reproductive rights. Virtual attendees participated in live panels, training and regular party business.

A virtual debate was held June 6 between state Sen. Royce West, D-Dallas, and former Air Force helicopter pilot M.J. Hegar. The two are in a runoff to decide who will face Republican U.S. Sen. John Cornyn in the November general election.

Revenue total drops
Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar on June 1 announced state sales tax revenue totaled \$2.61 billion in May, an amount 13.2% lower than the total reported for the month of May 2019, marking the steepest year-over-year decline since January 2010. Declines in sales tax receipts hit all major economic sectors except telecommunications services, Hegar said. The steepest decline was in collections from oil and gas mining as energy companies cut spending on well drilling and completion following the recent crash in oil prices, he added. Also, Hegar said, business closures and restrictions and stay-at-home orders due to the COVID-19 pandemic spurred deep drops in collections from restaurants, amusement and recreation services, and physical retail stores. Those declines were offset in part by increases from big box retailers and grocery stores that remained open as essential businesses, online retailers and restaurants that could readily pivot to takeout and delivery service.

Enotaph move opposed
State Rep. Kyle Biedermann, R-Fredericksburg, last week asked Gov. Ab-

bott to halt the relocation of the Alamo cenotaph, a 60-foot-tall stone sculpture erected in 1939 to honor the defenders of the Alamo in the historic 1836 battle. Under a \$450 million plan to redevelop the historic zone approved by the state and the City of San Antonio, the cenotaph would be moved from Alamo Plaza to a spot by the Menger Hotel, a short distance away.

Biedermann, in a June 4 letter to Abbott, complained that the proposed site to relocate the cenotaph is outside of the Alamo battlefield footprint. Biedermann asked the governor to insist that the cenotaph remain in place. The governor's office did not respond to a request for comment before the press deadline.

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THE POSTSCRIPT By Carrie Classon

"A Little Awkward"

It's harder to keep in touch with people these days. Things are opening up but it's going to be a while before we hop in a car and visit people the way we used to.

I met the pastor of my church while walking. She told me the youth group had been meeting via Zoom and the kids were overcome with shyness, seeing their faces on the screen. I wanted to say, "Don't they realize they can be seen when they show up in person?" But I sympathized with the teenagers. When my husband, Peter, and I tried Zoom for the first time it was a little awkward. "Shouldn't the camera be higher?" I asked. "You can see right up our noses!" We found a cardboard box and adjusted the laptop angle.

"Why is it so smudgy?" "I had sticky tape over the camera," Peter told me.

Peter cleaned the tape residue off the lens and I realized I looked a lot better smudgy.

But we've been trying to make a point of calling people up more often. (Peter calls it "drunk dialing," although we're not.) Sometimes it takes some effort. Sometimes I've wondered if these unexpected phone calls are more a bother than a pleasant surprise to the folks we call.

Yesterday, I got a surprise call myself from Geri.

I haven't seen Geri since I moved 1400 miles away years ago. She's quite a bit older than me and not someone I knew well, so when I saw her name pop up on my phone yesterday, I was very surprised. I didn't know I even had her phone number, to be honest.

"Geri!" I said, "this is Carrie!" There was a moment of awkward silence.

"Geri, did you butt dial me?" "Carrie? This is Carrie Classon?"

"Geri, you butt dialed me, didn't you?" "No! I was trying to call someone else. Someone to clean my house."

Geri has a huge old wooden house sitting on a hill. It even has a turret on one corner. There are nooks and crannies and stairs everywhere. I would not want to clean Geri's house.

"Geri! I am not going to clean your house!"

"Oh no! But it's so good to hear your voice. How are you doing?"

I knew Geri was getting up in years and her husband, Clarence, was older yet. So I asked, somewhat timidly, "How's your family?"

"Oh, we're fine. But we're old! I am 88 and Clarence is 95!"

"Only 95? He's a pup!" "He parks in the spot reserved for WWII veterans they still have at the grocery store and I think he's the only one who uses it!"

Geri and I chatted for quite a while. We both had news and a lot of shared memories.

"You and Peter have to come and visit sometime!" Geri said. I promised we would next time we were anywhere near.

"Clarence is going to be mad when he finds out you called me up to clean your house and ended up inviting us over," I told her.

"No, no, we would love to see you! It was great talking with you!"

"It was good to hear from you, Geri."

And it was. Talking to Geri made my day. I suddenly felt less worried about those "Hi! We were just thinking about you!" calls Peter and I have been making.

Yes, it's a little awkward making conversation with someone you haven't talked to in a long time, but sometimes a little awkward is okay. I decided. Sometimes a little awkward is a lot of fun.

Till next time, Carrie

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

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SPANISH PAGE

Internet de bajo costo en Aldine

VECINOS: La oferta de Internet Essentials de Comcast expirará el 30 de junio del 2020. Los nuevos clientes recibirán 60 días de servicio gratuito de Internet Essentials, que normalmente está disponible para todos los hogares calificados de bajos ingresos por \$ 9.95 / mes. Además, para todos los clientes nuevos y existentes de Internet Essentials, la velocidad del servicio de Internet del programa se incrementó a 25 Mbps en sentido descendente y 3 Mbps en sentido ascendente. No hay contrato, ni verificación de crédito ni tarifa de instalación con el programa. Además, los clientes de IE tienen Wi-Fi en el hogar. Los clientes de Internet Essentials también son elegibles para comprar una computadora portátil o de escritorio por \$ 149.99, más impuestos. Los clientes de IE también pueden aprovechar las clases gratuitas de capacitación digital en línea y en persona. Para obtener más información, visite internetessentials.com. Los distritos escolares en el área de Houston que están aprobados automáticamente (lo que significa que los clientes no necesitan mostrar prueba de asistencia federal) para el programa Internet Essentials incluyen: Aldine ISD, Alief ISD, Galena Park ISD, Houston ISD, Pasadena ISD, Sheldon ISD, Spring Branch ISD, Spring ISD y YES Prep Public Schools. Comuníquese con Melinda Little (Melinda_Little@comcast.com) o Bryce Kennard (Bryce_Kennard@comcast.com) si tiene alguna pregunta sobre el programa Internet Essentials.

Estudiante de preparatoria fue aceptado en prestigioso programa de ciencias de verano

Muchos estudiantes se toman un tiempo libre durante el verano para relajarse de la escuela y sus estudios. Sin embargo, eso no les ayuda si están buscando ser aceptados en los mejores colegios o universidad. Los estudiantes que se toman tiempo durante este periodo para explorar campos de interés pueden aumentar sus principales oportunidades de elección universitaria. Eso es lo que un estudiante de Blanson Career and Technical Education High School decidió hacer precisamente. El estudiante junior Miguel Chacón fue aceptado en uno de los programas de verano más prestigiosos para estudiantes de preparatoria: el Programa de Ciencias de Verano. Miguel es uno de los estudiantes aceptados en el programa de Becas EMERGE. El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Aldine formó una asociación el verano pasado con la organización sin fines de lucro de preparación universitaria. El programa se dirige a estudiantes de bachillerato de alto rendimiento, en los grados 10-12, para asistir y graduarse de colegios selectivos y universidades de todo el país. Los graduados de EMERGE han asistido a escuelas como MIT, Yale, Rice, Harvard, Johns Hopkins y UT-Austin. A principios de esta primavera, el director de EMERGE de Miguel le aconsejó que investigara los programas de verano. Recomendó a Miguel visitar el sitio web de DiscoverU.

Miguel lo hizo, pero no pudo encontrar nada que le interesara. Aún así, la recomendación lo animó a seguir buscando en línea, que es como Miguel llegó a través del Programa de Ciencias de Verano. Leyó la introducción básica y decidió presentar su solicitud inmediatamente. El proceso incluyó proporcionar la información de contacto necesaria, así como las transcripciones de la preparatoria y los puntajes de las pruebas estandarizadas disponibles. Miguel también tuvo que responder algunas preguntas como un logro del que está orgulloso, un proyecto de investigación y un desafío de la vida. Este año, 1,402 estudiantes solicitaron el Programa de Ciencias de Verano. El SSP seleccionó 144. Eso es apenas superior a 10 de los que se aplicaron al programa. La mitad del grupo está haciendo astrofísica y la otra mitad bioquímica. Miguel ha sido aceptado en el Programa de Astrofísica de la Universidad de Colorado en Boulder. Tendrá lugar del 21 de junio al 25 de julio. En 2020 habrá programas en cuatro campus, cada uno con 36 participantes: El Programa de Ciencias de Verano en Astrofísica en New Mexico Tech El Programa de Ciencias de Verano en Astrofísica en Univ. El Programa de Ciencias de Verano en Bioquímica en la Universidad de Purdue

El Programa de Ciencias de Verano en Bioquímica en la Universidad de Indiana Debido a la pandemia del coronavirus, los estudiantes no podrán viajar a los sitios donde se llevarán a cabo los programas. En su lugar, los estudiantes del Programa de Ciencias de Verano 2020 participarán de forma remota. La tarifa del programa se ha reducido en \$3,000. La ayuda financiera seguirá estando disponible, financiada por los generosos donantes de SSP, de los cuales la mayoría son ex alumnos del programa. Miguel declaró que las palabras no podían expresar su entusiasmo cuando se enteró de que había sido aceptado. «Cuando recibí el correo electrónico, el texto '¡Felicidades!' estaba en el título», dijo Miguel. «Recuerdo haber leído todo el correo electrónico y remitirlo a dos de mis maestros y consejeros que proporcionaron cartas de recomendación. No conseguimos encontrar tu ubicación exacta. ¡Empecé a saltar arriba y abajo con emoción!» Antes de aplicar al Programa de Ciencias de Verano, Miguel compartió que siempre ha amado la ciencia y que probablemente seguirá un programa STEM en la universidad. Después de aprender sobre el Programa de Astrofísica SSP, Miguel ahora se inclina fuertemente hacia la física aplicada y la programación informática. Miguel espera hacer nuevos amigos con intereses similares. Espera que el



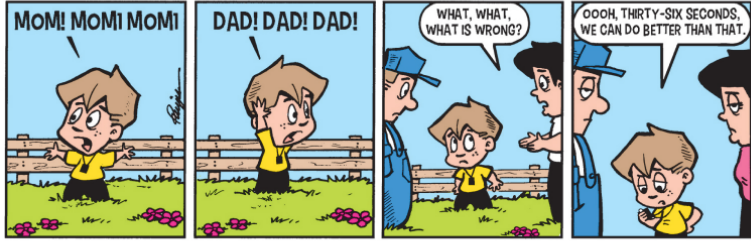
Miguel Chacón durante el Desayuno del Informe Anual del Distrito celebrado en enero de 2020.

«programa genial» haga que su profesor de programación en Blanson CTE High School se sienta orgulloso, afirmando que el instructor le enseñó todo lo que sabe sobre Python. La cohorte de juniors con los que Miguel trabajará rastreará la trayectoria de un asteroide usando un programa Python y cálculo vectorial. «Espero aprender más sobre física aplicada», dijo Miguel. «Mi curso de AP Física ha proporcionado conocimientos fundamentales que puedo utilizar en esta increíble oportunidad. Estoy deseando aprender más a través del programa y escuchar a expertos en el campo». Miguel ocupa el cuarto lugar en su clase. Ha estado aplicando a diferentes oportunidades de becas. Mientras mira varias universidades, su sueño es poder asistir al MIT

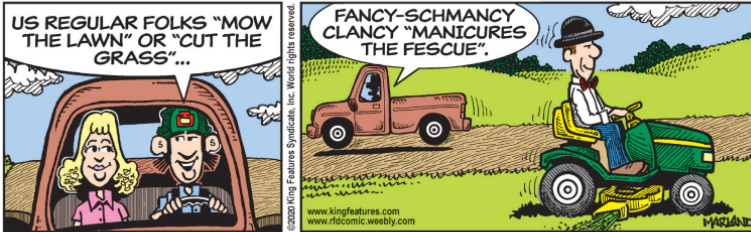
cuando se gradúe el próximo año. El SSP es un programa de 60 años diseñado para ayudar a los futuros científicos, médicos, ingenieros y empresarios a desarrollar todo su potencial. Proporcionando a los participantes los modelos a seguir, compañeros intelectualmente equivalentes, desafío e inspiración que estos estudiantes a menudo encuentran falta en sus escuelas, SSP sumerge a talentosos estudiantes de todo el mundo en ciencia experimental. A lo largo del programa intensivo de 39 días, los estudiantes llevarán a cabo un proyecto de investigación de principio a fin, realizarán excursiones, escucharán a los oradores invitados y, lo que es más importante, participarán en una experiencia que cambiará su vida.

ENTERTAINMENT

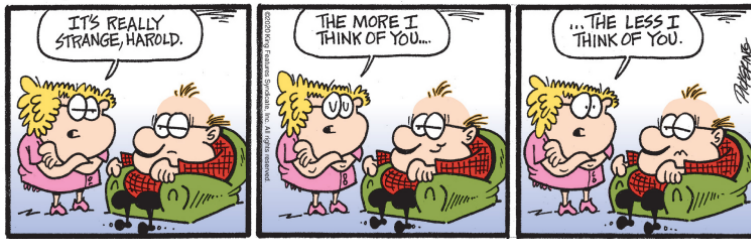
Amber Waves



R.F.D.



The Spats



Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

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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 BOLTIHOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Binds are longer; 2. Picture is missing from table; 3. Boy's shoes are different; 4. Cap is turned; 5. Pillow is smaller; 6. Boy's shirt has long sleeves.

Posting Date June 15, 2020

King Crossword

| | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
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| 53 | | | | | 54 | | | 55 | | |

ACROSS
1 St. Louis landmark
5 Hostel
8 Grime
12 Silver salmon
13 Kan. neighbor
14 Sandwich cookie
15 Destruction
16 Thrilling
18 Passage
20 Idles
21 Still
22 "You've got mail" co.
23 Really fun time
26 Leave out
30 Thither
31 Beer cousin
32 Queue
33 Shout out
36 Co-star with Ball, Arnaz and Frawley
38 Branch
39 Dine
40 Larynx output
43 Surpasses
47 "My bad"
49 By word of mouth
50 Night light?
51 Atmosphere
52 Loosen
53 Paquin or Quindlen
54 Final (Abbr.)

DOWN
1 Land measure
2 Sauce thickener
3 Stylish
4 Sweethearts
5 Klutzy
6 Adjoining
7 Leno's network
8 "Is that so?"
9 Eye part
10 Landlord's due
11 Garb
17 Sporty Camaro
19 Emeritus (Abbr.)
22 Chopper
23 "See ya"
24 Bagel topping
25 Anti-apartheid org.
26 Shade source
27 Samovar
28 "What's up, —?"
29 Ram's mate
31 Intent
34 Gap
35 War god
36 Carpet cleaner, for short
37 Went to a restaurant
39 Put forth, as energy
40 — cava
41 The yoke's on them
42 PC picture
43 Painter Nolde
44 Sea eagle
45 June honorees
46 Coin aperture
48 Water (Fr.)

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. U.S. STATES: Bay Staters hail from which U.S. state?
2. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Lebanon?
3. HISTORY: Which major World War II battle was known by the code name "Operation Detachment"?
4. MUSIC: Which rock group had a 1960s hit with the song "Incense and Peppermints"?
5. MEASUREMENTS: What does a chronometer measure?
6. ADVERTISING SLOGANS: Which automotive company had the slogan, "Quality is Job 1"?
7. MOVIES: Which movie won the 1991 Oscar for Best Picture?
8. SCIENCE: What kind of adaptation allows an organism to blend into its environment?
9. LANGUAGE: What does the Latin phrase "amor vincit omnia" mean?
10. TELEVISION: What is the capital of the Seven Kingdoms in "Game of Thrones"?

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Answer
— Weekly SUDOKU —

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| A | V | A | T | | | | | | | |
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| L | A | V | A | T | | | | | | |

Solution time: 21 mins.
Answers
— King Crossword —

1. Massachusetts; 2. Beirut; 3. Invasion of Iwo Jima; 4. Strawberry; 5. Alarm Clock; 6. Ford Motor Co.; 7. "Dances With Wolves"; 8. Camouflage; 9. Love conquers all; 10. King's Landing

COMMUNITY NEWS

Housing Relief,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

barriers to affordable housing before COVID, and the current crisis has exposed in plain sight the underlying system shortcomings," said State Rep. Armando Walle, Harris County Recovery Czar. "With key players at the table, working together toward the same end goals, we will structure our efforts to be responsive to the immediate crisis, even as we maintain a firm resolve not to lose sight of the importance of future work required to make housing stability a reality for more people."

Former Shell Oil Chairman and President Marvin Odum, who serves as

City of Houston COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Czar, said, "The magnitude of the economic hardship resulting from the pandemic is still unfolding and disproportionately impacts the lower income households in our community. As an example, the City of Houston's rental assistance program was fully subscribed after only 90 minutes of being made available. It is important that we pull together the relevant stakeholders to help identify near-term solutions while laying a foundation to address the longer-term, systemic need to build a resilient housing ecosystem. At the same

time, we must also keep expectations realistic, as there are simply not enough financial resources nor a sufficient supply of affordable housing stock available to avoid an immense amount of pain and difficulty for individuals, families, neighborhoods, and the broader community."

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the city and county were already experiencing a shortage of affordable rental housing and high eviction rates, particularly among low-income communities. The pandemic, compounded by a downturn in the energy industry, has intensified the rental housing crisis beyond just very low-income residents. It has also significantly impacted property owners, who face

increased economic pressures due to the vast numbers of renters who have suffered loss of employment and income.

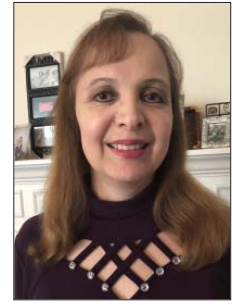
The task force will address three pressing needs:
- Prevent evictions
- Mitigate impacts on tenants and landlords
- Stabilize households for the benefit of public health

On June 3, Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo and Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner called on the county's Justices of the Peace to delay eviction proceedings until August 24, in line with the federal CARES Act timeline. A state eviction moratorium was lifted on May 19, and the protections offered by the CARES Act apply only to properties with federally backed mortgages.

Saucedo, Trujillo top SHABE teachers in Aldine ISD

Lillian Garcia Saucedo of Dunn Elementary School was named Aldine ISD's SHABE (Suburban Houston Association of Bilingual Educators) Bilingual Teacher of the Year and Melissa Trujillo of Bussey Elementary School was named Aldine ISD's ESL Elementary Teacher of the Year.

Lisa Chamberlain of Carmichael Elementary School was named the ESL Elementary Teacher of the Year second runner up and Rachel Kress of Blanson CTE High School was named the district's ESL Secondary Teacher of the



Lillian Garcia Saucedo

Year runner up. Saucedo will compete at the state level for TABE Teacher of the Year in October.

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CHURCH PAGE


BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey--

1. Is the book of Mark in the Old or New Testament or neither?
 2. From Genesis 32, who was "greatly afraid and distressed" about a reunion with a brother he had wronged? Joseph, Jacob, Esau, Peter
 3. In Numbers 20, who died on a mountaintop after being

garment stripped? Moses, Abraham, Noah, Aaron
 4. What city was beat down and sowed with salt? Shechem, Caesarea, Gaza, Berea
 5. Who lost all his horse-drawn chariots in a sea? Ornan, Balaam, Pharaoh, Benaiah
 6. Where did Abraham meet angels? River, Tent door, Juniper tree, Prison
ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Jacob; 3) Aaron; 4) Shechem; 5) Pharaoh; 6) Tent doorComments?

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For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.

1 CORINTHIANS 2:11


"Portrait of a Man" by Erich Heckel (1919)

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rev0919

Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner addresses Aldine ISD seniors



Thorne Stadium for Citywide Class of 2020 Celebration

The 2019-20 school year was anything but normal, especially for the Class of 2020.

When the Class of 2020 left for spring break in early March, little did they know they would not be returning to school for the rest of the school year due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. That meant no senior proms or other traditional senior class events.

But on June 5, seniors in Aldine ISD, Alief ISD, Houston ISD, Spring Branch ISD and Spring ISD were feted with a citywide Class of 2020 Celebration sponsored by the City of Houston and Houston First Corporation.

Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney opened the ceremony by welcoming the Class of 2020 to the event.

"Good evening Class of 2020. I am so excited and thrilled you are with us this evening."

Dr. Goffney then introduced Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner who congratulated the Class of 2020 for its perseverance during this challenging year.

"I want to congratulate all graduates of the Class of 2020," Turner said. "You have persevered and you are an outstanding class. I could not be more proud of you for graduating and not giving up."

Turner encouraged the Class of 2020 to make its own mark in the future.

"Go and make all of us very proud of you," Turner said. "Each of you has been tested and you did not give up."

Following Turner's remarks, a number of celebrities delivered their own congratulatory remarks via a video that was aired at all five districts that participated in the event.

Celebrities who took



Two Davis High School seniors visit

part in the celebration were:

- Houston Astros shortstop Carlos Correa
- Houston Texans defensive end J.J. Watt
- Rapper 50 Cent
- Astronaut Chris Cassidy (who delivered his message from space)
- Actress Chandra Wilson
- Olympic Gold Medalist gymnast Simone Biles
- Rapper Slim Thugg
- Houston Rockets point guard James Harden
- Houston Rockets forward P.J. Tucker
- Master Chef Winner Christine Ha
- Top Chef contestant Vanarin Kuch
- The Suffers' lead singer Kam Franklin
- Fashion designer Chloe Dao
- Saxophonist Kyle Turner
- Houston Dynamo defender Adam Lundkvist
- Houston Dynamo forward Niko Hansen
- Houston Dynamo goalkeeper Marko Maric
- Houston Dynamo midfielder Tomas Martinez
- Houston Dynamo midfielder Memo Rodriguez
- Houston Dash defender Megan Crosson
- Houston Dash midfielder Kristie Mewis
- Nimitz High School senior Aracely Hernandez

told the Houston Chronicle said she enjoyed the event and is looking forward to the district's formal graduation ceremony slated for Thorne Stadium in July when she can share her experience with her family and friends.

"I'm the oldest in my family, and it would mean a lot to have something where my parents could come to have that traditional experience," she said. "But something like this, it still really means a lot to me."

MacArthur High School senior Daisy Urquieto said she was moved by Turner's words.

"This was an awesome experience," she said. "Mayor Turner's speech was amazing. It was so uplifting after what our class has been through this year."

Her classmate, Guadalupe Sanjuan said she thoroughly enjoyed the event.

"I thought it was so much fun and unforgettable," she said. "I want to thank Dr. Goffney and Aldine for putting this on for us."

Crown Castle provided double the bandwidth for Aldine ISD and Spring ISD free of charge to provide a technical advantage for the two school districts.

COVID-19 Threat Level,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

epidemic," said Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo. "We owe it to our residents to make sure we're providing clear, consistent, and data-based information to keep them as healthy and safe as possible. Our only way out of this crisis is for our community to work together to avoid further uncontrolled transmission of this virus so that we can be in a position to reopen our economy in a way that is sustainable over the long term."

Regardless of current level indicated, all residents should continue the use of social distancing, frequent hand washing, and the use of face coverings until there is a vaccine or a treatment for the virus. Additionally, residents exposed to COVID-19 should quarantine for 14 days regardless of level indicated. Consistent with the latest threat data the current level of the advisory system is set to Level 2 (orange): minimize all contacts. Information and

public guidance posture for each level is as follows:

Level 1: Stay Home

Level one signifies a severe and uncontrolled level of COVID-19 in Harris County, meaning outbreaks are present and worsening and that testing and contact tracing capacity is strained or exceeded. At this level, residents take action to minimize contacts with others wherever possible and avoid leaving home except for the most essential needs like going to the grocery store for food and medicine.

Level 2: Minimize ALL Contacts (Current Level)

Level two signifies a significant and uncontrolled level of COVID-19 in Harris County, meaning that there is ongoing transmission of the virus and that testing and contact tracing capacity is likely sufficient to meet demand. At this level, residents should minimize contact with others, avoiding any medium or large gatherings and

only visiting permissible businesses that follow public health guidance.

Level 3: Stay Vigilant

Level three signifies a moderate, but controlled level of COVID-19 in Harris County, meaning a demonstrated reduction in transmission and the local healthcare system is within capacity. Residents should remain vigilant, but resume contact with others and resume leaving home.

Level 4: Resume Normal Activity

Level four signifies a minimal and controlled level of COVID-19 in Harris County, meaning new chains of transmission are limited and quickly broken or a vaccine and/or treatment has been developed and widely deployed. At this level, residents may resume normal contact with others unless sick.

For a complete list of indicators, guidance, and related information read Leading Harris County: Public Guidelines for a Healthy Community on ReadyHarris.org.

Students Can Register for District's Ninth Grade and High School Summer School Programs

The district is offering virtual summer school to rising ninth graders and students in high school, grades 10th through 12th.

The ninth and high school sessions will run between June 8 and July 1.

For those who were not successful in a course, Credit Recovery courses are being offered. Credit Recovery will be provided through Edgenuity from June 8 - July 1, 2020, lasting four (4) weeks. Credit

recovery courses are self-paced, but students should commit to working on each course assigned for at least 2 hours per day. Students can log into Home Access and view their grades to see which course credit they will need to recover. Counselors are also working to identify and contact students who should take advantage of this opportunity to recover credits.

Initial Credit classes are being offered for students who would like to get

ahead on their path to graduate. Initial credit courses will be provided through Schoology from June 8-July 1, 2020, lasting four (4) weeks. However, advanced courses such as Pre-AP Chemistry, Pre-AP Physics, Pre-AP Calculus will last for six (6) weeks. These advanced courses will extend past July 1 for two weeks.

Contact your child's school if you have questions on how to register.

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COMMUNITY WATCH

Woman and toddler in fatal crash on Lee Road

A woman, 25 and a 3-year-old boy died in a car crash at 15200 Lee Road about noon last Wednesday, June 10, 2020, Houston Police reported.

According to officials, the driver of a tractor-trailer truck was traveling westbound on the North Sam Houston Parkway East service road at Lee

Road when, according to witnesses, a Buick Park Avenue traveling northbound on Lee Road ran the red light and was struck by the 18-wheeler. The Buick then struck two other vehicles, a white Ford F-550 pickup truck and a blue Buick Le Sabre, parked in front of a gas station.

The driver of the Buick

was transported to an area hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. The 25-year-old female and 3-year-old boy passengers in the Buick Park Avenue were transported to area hospitals where they were pronounced deceased.

No charges have been filed at this time, as the investigation is continuing.

Man found fatally shot on Northborough Drive

Houston police are investigating the fatal shooting of a man, 53, found at 13355 Northborough Drive about 8:15 a.m. on June 10, 2020.

According to Houston Police officials, patrol offic-

ers responded to a report of an individual deceased on Northborough Dr. Upon arrival, they found the victim lying deceased in a dumpster. He had sustained a gunshot wound to the back.

At this time, there is no known motive nor suspects

Anyone with information on this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS.

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