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NORTHEAST NEWS

Back to School Expo

See details, story below

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 VOL. 44, NO. 30 TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 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 6 for email subscriptions. We thank you for your continued support.

COVID-19
 Cases as of July 28, 2020

HOUSTON AREA
 19 COUNTIES

104,645 POSITIVE
 1,129 DEATHS
 41,346 RECOVERED

TEXAS

406,559 POSITIVE
 5,882 DEATHS
 229,107 RECOVERED

UNITED STATES

4,341,201 POSITIVE
 149,052 DEATHS
 1,325,804 RECOVERED

WORLDWIDE

16,605,067 POSITIVE
 657,643 DEATHS
 9,667,033 RECOVERED

Lone Star College to provide students laptop computers

Houston (July 29, 2020) – Lone Star College has purchased an additional 5,000 laptop computers to assist students taking classes this fall.

“The coronavirus pandemic has exposed the digital divide and the urgency with which we must work toward a solution,” said Stephen C. Head, Ph.D., LSC chancellor. “Lone Star College is committed to finding a solution that makes education accessible to all.”

LSC students will be able to check out the computers, much like a library

book. Application for computers starts July 29 and distribution will begin before the start of the fall semester.

“Providing access to these computers and other resources is part of our promise and our effort to close this technology gap,” said Head.

To qualify for a computer, students must complete



the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA) and enroll in a minimum of six credit hours for the fall 2020 semester. Students can keep the computer for future semesters as long as they stay enrolled at LSC.

LSC also provides students free use of Office 365 on compatible personal devices.

See Digital Divide, Page 3

Aldine Free Back-to-School Expo Aug 5

Aldine Independent School District is hosting its fifth annual Back-to-School Expo. This FREE event is open to families in Aldine ISD with children in prekindergarten to high school. The drive-thru Expo is set for 11 a.m. on Wednesday, August 5 at the M.O. Campbell Educational Center (1865 Aldine Bender Rd.), while supplies last.

This year, Aldine ISD families can pickup FREE backpacks and school supplies, there will be a food fair provided by Baker Ripley, and FREE face masks donated by Representative

Armando Valle.

Beginning at 9 a.m., children will also be able to receive FREE vaccinations at the Aldine ISD Child Nutrition Center (1802 Aldine Bender Rd.), across from M.O. Campbell. Vaccinations are provided by the Office of Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia in cooperation with Texas Children’s Hospital.

The Expo is also being sponsored by the East Aldine Management District, the Greenspoint YMCA, the Aldine Noon Optimist Club, the Aldine Education Foundation and Aldine AFT.

Congressman John Lewis, Civil Rights Icon, dies at 80

By Allan Jamail

It was January 24, 2018 at the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church in Houston’s Fifth Ward, as a photojournalist for the North Channel Star I got to meet Congressman John Lewis of Georgia. I was there covering the Criminal Justice Forum (CJF) spearheaded by Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee.

The North Channel Star put on its front page my article and photos of Lewis and the CJF. You can still read the article by going to; www.northchannelstar.com, search for “crime forum”.

Hundreds gathered at the church to hear Lewis’

speech, here’s part of it, “You must find a way to get in the way. You must find a way to get in trouble, good trouble, and necessary trouble.” “I’ve been arrested about 50 times for getting into good trouble.” “Use what you have to help make our country and make our world a better place, where no one will be left out or left behind... It is your time.”

After the event I made it a point to meet Lewis, I wanted to have a few words with him. As we shook hands and exchanged a few words, I told

See Civil Rights Icon, Page 2



January 2018 - the late Congressman John Lewis gave a rousing speech while in Houston attending a Criminal Justice forum aimed at improving the nation’s Criminal Justice System. Lewis emphasized the need to never use acts of violence to accomplish one’s goal. John Lewis said, “The best non-violent action we can take to correct the unfair Criminal Justice System is to VOTE! Vote like you’ve never voted before. Get everyone to VOTE!”

Photo by Allan Jamail

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East Aldine District reports to the community

JULY 2020 — Harris County Precinct 2 is working on the Aldine Mail Route road reconstruction between Slater Ln to Aldine Westfield with construction set to begin later this year.

Differential Response Team (DRT)
 The DRT deputies are focusing on a community outreach approach (to businesses, residents and area organizations) to address community crime hotspots (cantinassbars, convenience stores, junk yards, apartments, game rooms and smoke shops), and other neighborhood nuisances. In June, DRT

conducted 31 felony/adult misdemeanor arrests, issued 3 Felony/Misdemeanor warrants, 93 Citations, 209 reports, 27 Nuisance Abatement, 20 Nuisance Abatement Follow Up.

Specialized Overtime Patrol Program
 During the month of June, the Specialized Patrol was deployed in the EANM area parks specifically Keith Wiess Park, patrolling the area for reports of illegal ATV activity and other suspicious activities. The specialized patrol spent 75 hours on ATV patrol. 342 citizen contacts were made and 55 Business/ Park Checks.

Responsive Patrol
 In June, the Responsive Patrol Deputies Alma Tristan, David Peterson, Jose Pena, Ray Radney, Tracy San Martin, Eduardo Vela, Rebecca Limon, Aziz Jan, Jose Sanchez, Vanessa Esqueda, Chris Hernandez, and Eduardo Pintor responded to 13 burglaries, 19 thefts/criminal mischiefs, 11 assaults, 9 suspicious persons, 51 suspicious / abandoned / stolen / recovered / speeding vehicles, 21 local/silent/hoidup alarms, 60

See Aldine Reports, Page 2

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 FROM 6:30 PM TO 6:50 PM

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SCHOOL NEWS

Governor Abbott waives grade promotion requirements for 2020-2021 STAAR testing

AUSTIN - Governor Greg Abbott announced that the grade promotion requirement related to the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) test for students in grades 5 and 8 has been waived for the upcoming school year. Typically, school systems must take into account a student's score on the STAAR test to determine whether the student can be promoted to the next grade level. The traditional A-F rating system will remain in place, albeit with certain adjustments due to COVID-19.

Typically, students enrolled in grades 5 and 8 are required to re-take a STAAR test late in the school year, and sometimes again in the summer, if they do not meet grade level when taken during the spring. With this waiver, there will only be one administration of the STAAR grades 5 and 8 mathematics and reading assessments for the 2020-21 school year. The test will be administered in May to coincide with the administration of other STAAR grades 3-8 assessments.

"As always, our goal is to provide a high quality education for every Texas

student," said Governor Abbott. "This will be a uniquely challenging school year, therefore, this year is about providing students every opportunity to overcome the disruptions caused by COVID-19. By waiving these promotion requirements, we are providing greater flexibility for students and teachers, while at the same time ensuring that Texas students continue to receive a great education — which we will continue to measure with high quality assessments."

"Parents deserve to know how well their children have learned grade level knowledge and skills in reading and math, especially in a time when education has been substantially disrupted," said Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath. "And educators use this valuable information to make adjustments to support students the following year. But there is no benefit to our children by requiring them to repeat a year based on a single test score given the disruptions of COVID, so we are waiving the grade promotion requirements from STAAR this year for our students."

"Parents rightfully expect our schools to continue to meet a high bar and it is critically important that teachers and parents know how each child is progressing and whether or not they need additional help. A-F ratings will provide us with important information about school performance and, while we won't use the STAAR test to determine promotions, it will continue to provide us with assessment data that we need. We face some unprecedented challenges in the upcoming year, but we must continue to keep our schools accountable and on track," said Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick.

"With this waiver, we are ensuring that the success of Texas students remains the focus of this school year. These unprecedented times have brought much upheaval to these students' lives and this is one thing we can do at the State level to help ease them back into their educational routines while still ensuring the institutions of education remain accountable," stated Chairman of the House Public Education Committee, Dan Huberty.

Aldine ISD resets and launches Hall Success Academy

This fall, Aldine ISD will launch a new instructional model for Hall Center for Education.

The new school of choice, now called Hall Success Academy, places the emphasis on student-centered blended learning and allows students, in grades 8-12, to take ownership of their learning experience. Beginning this fall, students who are choosing on campus learning will have access to traditional classroom instruction, online educational instruction and structured independent study time. Students choosing to learn from home, will have access to a similar modified virtual learning experience.

"I am excited about our opportunity to offer our students a new learning experience," Marcie Strahan, principal of Hall Success Academy said. "We have determined that business, as usual, will not work in order to serve our district's most at-risk student population."

The intensive program will help both middle and high school students graduate from high school within a time frame that is in line with peers of their same age group. The Hall Success Academy scholars will focus on academic recovery, while earning high school elective credits that will count towards their

graduation requirements.

In addition to closing the academic achievement gap, Hall Success Academy will focus on strategies that help students build self-confidence, self-esteem, self-worth and responsibility. The blended learning environment will promote student academic success, real-world connections and experiences, along with productive, responsible citizenship as students commit to being present, connected, and respectful.

Other Program Benefits:

- Accelerated Credit Acquisition
- College Advisory Counseling
- Career & Technology Certification
- Mentoring Programs
- Smaller Class Size
- Individualized Graduation Plan Support
- Credit Recovery
- Direct Instruction and Online Classes

- Onsite Childcare (limited availability)
- Hall Success Academy applications will be available for interested students beginning Tuesday, July 28. Interested eighth grade students are encouraged to contact Danielle Jackson-Stevenson at atdyjackson@aldineisd.org or Frederick Delk at fdelk@aldineisd.org.

- The changes come as a

result of participation in the Texas Education Agency (TEA) New School Design Fellowship program. After completing the year-long program, Marcie Strahan, Hall Success Academy principal, submitted a New School action fund implementation grant. The grant will provide the campus with \$850,000 to implement the blended learning model throughout the school for the next two years.

Creating a new school model falls in line with the District's New Way Forward strategic plan. The new components of Hall Success Academy are helping redesign the approach to school while creating new opportunities for students. Hall will offer a personalized learning environment and utilize blended learning to address the social-emotional needs of all students, as they maintain the pace for promotion and graduation.

Across the United States, close to 16% of students between the ages of 14 and 15 are considered to be overage students for their grade and at-risk of not graduating from high school. Hall Success Academy aims to start earlier to help close academic achievement gaps for Aldine ISD students that are falling behind in order to improve their odds.

Aldine ISD establishes at-home learning grading guidelines

Aldine ISD has established grading guidelines for students who have opted for at-home learning to begin the 2020-21 school year.

Students enrolled in at-home learning will follow the same grading guidelines as in-person students.

Aldine ISD teachers will receive support and guidance in both instructional models. Teachers will be expected to measure student progress by grading at least two assignments per week (daily grades) and one assessment or project per three-week (major grades). Grades will be posted by teachers on a weekly basis.

Courses taken as Dual Credit or Dual Enrollment will be subject to the grading policies of the Institution of Higher Education (IHE) issuing the college credit.

Additional information on grades is:

- Grades will be taken during each grading cycle of the 2020-21 school year.
- All 9-week cycle grades and semester exams, as applicable, will be used in the calculation of the average for any class.
- Semester exams will be administered for all secondary school courses.
- Teachers will be recording grades, which will be available for parents and students to access

through the Home Access Center (HAC).

• Considerations for grading homework will be finalized.

Attendance Guidelines: At-Home Learning

At-home learning students will be assigned a second period/homeroom. Student attendances will be recorded at 1 p.m. in the homeroom course. Students are by default recorded present. Teachers will mark a student absent if the student fails to log into their Schoology second period/homeroom by 1 p.m.

Students who are engaged in daily at-home learning as defined below will be considered "present" and will not be marked absent:

- Participation in Schoology, the Aldine ISD Learning Management System (LMS), or completion of independent assignments.
- Interaction with the teacher via Google Meet as part of live or small group instruction. When unable to submit via Schoology, students can submit assignments via emails, photos, phone conferences or other forms of documentation.

Parents and students will receive absence notifications via Blackboard Messenger after 3 p.m. each day and will be reminded of the opportunity

to resolve the day's absence if the student engages in learning before 11:59 p.m. of the same day.

Any absence recorded, but resolved by the student logging in to Schoology by 11:59 p.m. on the same day will be automatically reconciled based on login records of Schoology. If the student engages in daily learning with a teacher, but not in Schoology by 11:59 p.m. that same day, the teacher will notify the attendance office the next work day to resolve the previous day's absence.

Aldine ISD reminds parents and students that it is imperative that students log into Schoology during second period/homeroom every day of instruction.

If a student is engaged in remote learning and completes the entire week worth of learning activities on Monday, but does not log in for the remainder of the week, the student will be marked "present" on Monday only and counted "absent" for Tuesday-Friday.

Per state law and Aldine ISD policy, students are required to attend at least 90% of their classes to receive credit and to be promoted. Remote attendance will count in the same manner as on-campus (face-to-face) attendance in satisfying this requirement.

Aldine Reports,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

disturbances/discharge of firearm, 73 conducted meet the citizen/officer, 27 Information Calls, 28 school/welfare/parks/parking lot/contract/business checks, 24 accidents/traffic hazards and 53 traffic stops.

Nuisance Abatement

Sergeant Stormer and DRT Deputies addressed 27 new nuisance issues and 20 follow up cases; writing notices to property owners that have been reported to be nuisances, in addition to mailing letters to property owners re-

garding their issues needing compliance.

County Attorney

Assistant County Attorney is currently gathering information on reported street racers congregating at the Pinewood Shopping Center and along Little York Rd. County Attorney is exploring options to alleviate the issue. The County Attorney also continues to work closely with the HCSO DRT Nuisance for game room cases and other cases being investigated.

ROW Maintenance / Litter Crew

In June, the ROW Maintenance crew removed 42 bags of clippings/trash along 88.6 linear miles of roads, which amounted to 2100 pounds of clippings/trash removed. They also removed 104 tires and 207 bandit signs from the EAMD ROW.

*The Litter crew removed 92 bags of litter totaling 4600 pounds and 203 bandit signs from EAMD ROW.

Civil Rights Icon,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

him he delivered a good speech. And I told him how I respected and admired him for his achievements and his relentless effort to make improvements in civil rights, voting rights and criminal justice reforms. I told him how I hoped my article would help his efforts, he thanked me. Before parting I then told him I'd be praying for him and he thanked me again.

Congressman Lewis served Georgia's 5th congressional district from 1987 until his death Friday, July 17th at age 80. Known as a civil rights icon he was one of the giants in the historic struggle for equal rights in America.

His death came seven months after his public announcement in late December 2019 after a routine examination he had been diagnosed with advanced stage 4 pancreatic cancer. He said then, "I have never faced a fight quite like the one I have now."

Lewis, who was born on Feb. 21, 1940 to sharecroppers in Troy, Alabama, attended segregated public schools and gives credit to the Montgomery Bus Boycott and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s radio broadcasts which inspired his work as an activist.

At 18, he wrote a letter to King, who responded by purchasing a round-trip bus ticket to Montgomery for Lewis so they could meet. "Dr. King, I am John Robert Lewis," he recalled saying to King. "And that was the beginning." Lewis wasted no time organizing, quickly finding himself on the front lines of the civil

rights movement.

As a student at Fisk University, he led numerous demonstrations in Nashville against racial segregation, including sit-ins at segregated lunch counters as part of the Nashville Sit-ins.

Starting in 1961, he took part in a series of demonstrations that became known as the Freedom Rides, in which he and other activists -- Black and white -- rode together in buses through the South to challenge the region's lack of enforcing a Supreme Court ruling that deemed segregated public bus rides unconstitutional.

Upon stopping, the activists on these rides often were arrested or beaten, Lewis included. In his second-to-last tweet before his death, Lewis tweeted, "it was 59 years ago today I was released from Parchman Farm Penitentiary after being arrested in Jackson, MS for using a so-called 'white' restroom during the Freedom Rides of 1961."

And on March 7, 1965 in what would become known as "Bloody Sunday," Lewis, was in the process of leading hundreds of demonstrators in a march for voting rights from Selma to Montgomery when they walked across The Edmund Pettus Bridge, which crosses the Alabama River in Selma.

They were greeted by a "sea of blue" of Alabama state troopers who beat and tear-gassed the demonstrators. One of those troopers fractured Lewis's skull, scarring his head for the rest of his life. The troopers acts of violence

helped make that demonstration a pivotal one in the fight for African-American suffrage.

Often called, "One of the most courageous persons the Civil Rights Movement ever produced," Lewis dedicated his life to protecting human rights, securing civil liberties, and building what he calls "The Beloved Community" in America. His dedication to the highest ethical standards and moral principles has won him the admiration of many of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle in the United States Congress.

This past Sunday, July 26th a horse drawn carriage carried Lewis' casket, draped with the United States flag across the same Edmund Pettus Bridge for the last time.

Sunday Lewis body lied in state in the Alabama state capitol, Monday his body arrived in the nation's Capitol Rotunda to lie in state. Thursday it will make its final stop at a private funeral service in Atlanta, Georgia.

President Barack Obama in 2011 awarded Lewis the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his lifetime of advocacy and activism.

During that February ceremony, Obama said of Lewis: "And generations from now, when parents teach their children what is meant by courage, the story of John Lewis will come to mind -- an American who knew that change could not wait for some other person or some other time; whose life is a lesson in the fierce urgency of now."

Investigation into Shooting at 5728 Tidwell Road

Houston police are investigating the shooting of a man at 5728 Tidwell Road about 4:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 28, 2020.

The victim, 40 to 50 years of age, was transported to an area hospital in an unknown condition.

HPD Major Assaults & Family Violence Division Officers J. Russell and C.

Castellani reported:

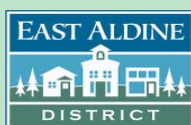
HPD patrol officers responded to a shooting at the above address and found the victim in a convenience store parking lot suffering from a gunshot wound to the neck. Houston Fire Department paramedics transported him to the hospital for treatment.

At this time, there are

no known witnesses to the shooting, however a few individuals reported hearing the gunshot while inside the store.

Anyone with information in this case is urged to contact the HPD Major Assaults & Family Violence Division at 713-308-8800 or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS.

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Keep it Clean



COMMUNITY NEWS

County Attorney Ryan warns residents to avoid COVID-19 scams

Harris County Attorney Vince Ryan reminds everyone to be aware of scams using the coronavirus to try to trick you out of your money or personal information.

Crooks are using the fear of COVID-19 as a way to defraud and steal from people via emails, texts, phone calls, and in one recent case, in person.

Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner warned recently about a scam where men get access to peoples' homes by claiming to be city Public Works employees, saying that their water lines had been poisoned with COVID-19. KTRK-TV reported about a couple who lost an expensive watch and a ring to this scam. In addition to the fact that the virus does not exist in city water, Public Works employees will never ask to enter your home.

"It is unfortunate that bad people will use something like the coronavirus to commit crimes like this," said County Attorney Ryan. "This couple not only lost precious possessions, they could have been seriously hurt."

COVID-19 scams come

in many forms—emails, texts or phone calls:

- Some will try to sell you tests, miracle cures or treatments for the virus you can take at home—there is no such thing.

- Some will ask you for personal or financial information, such as your Medicare number—do not provide any such information.

- Sometimes they will claim to be from Medicare or Social Security and ask for your numbers—do not give out those numbers. The government already has your numbers and will never contact you in an email or by phone, only by letter.

- You do not need to pay a fee to the IRS in order to get your stimulus payment, as one scam tries to convince you.

- And some will try to get you to buy a hot new stock related to the virus—this is a scam.

Government agencies, including the FBI, the Federal Trade Commission, the Federal Communications Commission, the Food and Drug Administration and the Securities and Exchange Commission, are all working to

shut down scammers. The FDA's Operation Quack Hack has shut down hundreds of websites and online marketplaces promoting certain products, including fraudulent drugs, testing kits and personal protective equipment sold online with unproven claims. But new scams pop up every day.

County Attorney Ryan offers these guidelines that will help you avoid being the victim of any scam:

- Never click on a link or attachment in an email or text from someone you don't know.

- Never provide your personal information (address, date of birth, banking information, ID numbers) to people you do not know. Remember, government agencies will never ask you for personal information or money.

- Do not be pressured into making fast decisions.
- Take time to research a supposed charity organization. Look at its website and check it out with the Better Business Bureau.

To report a scam or attempted scam related to COVID-19, please call Office of the Harris County Attorney at 713-755-5101.

Governor Abbott extends early voting period for November 3rd Election

AUSTIN - Governor Greg Abbott issued a Proclamation extending the early voting period for the November 3rd Election by nearly a week. Under this proclamation, early voting by personal appearance will begin on Tuesday, October 13, 2020, and continue through Friday, October 30, 2020. The proclamation

also expands the period in which marked mail-in ballots may be delivered in person to the early voting clerk's office, allowing such delivery prior to as well as on Election Day.

"As we respond to COVID-19, the State of Texas is focused on strategies that preserve Texans' ability to vote in a way that also mit-

igates the spread of the virus," said Governor Abbott. "By extending the early voting period and expanding the period in which mail-in ballots can be hand-delivered, Texans will have greater flexibility to cast their ballots, while at the same time protecting themselves and others from COVID-19."

Congressman Brady: Federal Ruling on Texas High Speed Rail Wrong; Fight not over



CONROE, TX - July 16, 2020 - Congressman Kevin Brady (TX-08) released the following statement after the Surface Transportation Board released a new ruling on Texas Central Railroad's (TCR) petition for exemption:

"While I strongly disagree with this decision, the good news is this doesn't give TCR eminent domain authority to seize property without landowners consent - and finally forces TCR to publicly disclose their shaky financial projections to the Surface Transportation Board in

any future bid to gain authority to construct the project.

"This will reveal why private investors have abandoned the project and why taxpayers should not be on the hook when it ultimately fails."

BACKGROUND:
Today, the Surface Transportation Board ruled that the proposed Houston to Dallas High-speed rail line is subject to Board jurisdiction. This is a change from previous ruling, in which the STB found TCR's project was not subject to the Board's

jurisdiction and therefore did not require Board approval.

However, the Board denies Texas Central's petition for exemption and finds that, should Texas Central wish to request Board authority for its project, an application process under 49 U.S.C. § 10901 would be required. The Board also notes that issues pertaining to eminent domain authority are matters of state law, and that the finding does not confer any federal power to take privately owned property.

Harris County extends contract with Houston Food Bank to provide meals to families struggling due to COVID-19

The Collaboration Provides 4.3M Pounds of Food each Month to Harris County Residents

Choosing between paying the rent and ensuring there's food on the table isn't a choice that Harris County families should have to make. As we continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the economic fallout, Commissioner Rodney Ellis is committed to helping working families have access to food.

That is why Precinct One and Harris County are extending their agreement with the Houston

Food Bank to provide meals for low-income people and seniors in Harris County through December 30. This critical partnership will provide 4.3 million pounds of food to Harris County residents every month.

"COVID-19 has not gone away, and neither has the need for critical services like the food distribution that the Houston Food Bank provides," Commissioner Ellis said. "I am glad that we are extending this partnership to ensure that Harris County residents do not go hungry. We must continue to provide relief

to our most vulnerable residents during these difficult times."

During this crisis, food assistance has been one of the highest requests from Harris County residents. As the unemployment rate in Harris County remains high, particularly among communities of color, Precinct One is committed to protecting those who are struggling to make ends meet.

Residents who need assistance or would like to volunteer are encouraged to visit:

www.houstonfoodbank.org/covid19/

12 year-old arrested, charged in fatal shooting of a woman

Charges have been filed against a 12 year-old arrested in the fatal shooting of a woman at 1000 Greens Road about 4:40 p.m. on Saturday, July 25, 2020.

According to Houston Police Officials, officers responded to a shooting call at an apartment on Greens Rd. Upon arrival, they found the victim lying on the bedroom floor suffering from several apparent gunshot wounds. She was

pronounced deceased by Houston Fire Department paramedics.

Authorities said there were no signs of forced entry and that a witness reported seeing a man, dressed in all black clothing, leaving the scene.

However, further investigation developed information that conflicted with witness statements. The male juvenile witness, 12, was identified as the sus-

pect in this case and he was taken into custody without further incident.

The 12 year-old was referred to Harris County Juvenile Probation authorities on a charges of murder and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

The identity of the victim, 51, is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.

Digital Divide,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

vices. With Office 365, students have access to the latest version of Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote and more.

"Lone Star College is determined to help our students finish their education," said Alton Smith, Ed.D., LSC Board of Trustees chair. "This program will help to bridge the gap for those in our community who lack the technology resources needed to be successful."

Fall registration is currently underway. Visit LoneStar.edu/Laptops for more information on how to check out a computer, access Office 365, apply for FASFA and register for classes.

In addition to purchasing 5,000 computers, an anonymous donor provided more than 50 laptops and web cameras for LSC-

Kingwood students. LSC Foundation placed orders and laptops were delivered to students in time for them to complete their spring 2020 semester.

"My eyes lit up and I had the biggest smile when I opened the box," said Krysten Garza, LSC-Kingwood student. "I am so blessed and thankful that there are people out there spreading love and kindness during this hectic time."

LSC Foundation was also able to redistribute a \$10,000 Wells Fargo grant which was originally awarded for adult literacy classes at LSC-Houston North. When those classes were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Wells Fargo reallocated funds toward immediate student needs for laptop and Wi-Fi purchases.

"The ability to help our students remain connected to their classroom is incredible," said Nicole Robinson Gauthier, CFRE, LSC Foundation executive director. "In so many cases, the delivery of a computer was the difference between a completion of a class or a withdrawal."

In addition to providing laptop computers, LSC is able to provide emergency financial grants to qualified students. These grants help cover expenses related to disruptions due to the coronavirus such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care and child care through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES Act). Fall semester applications for the CARES Act funds are now being accepted at LoneStar.edu/CaresAct.

Aldine ISD Career and Technical Education Annual Notification 2020 - 2021

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

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

Aldine ISD Career and Technical Education Annual Notification 2019 -2020

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

Para más información sobre sus derechos o quejas, comuníquese con el Coordinador del Título IX, Dr. Javier Villarreal, Chief Human Resource Officer, AISD, 2520 W.W. Thorne al teléfono (281)449-1011 y/o comuníquese con la Coordinadora del Artículo 504, Dra. Charlotte J. Davis, directora de consejería, asistencia psicopedagógica y de estudiantes en riesgo, 9999 Veterans Memorial Drive, al (281)985-6472.

OPINION PAGE

NEWSPAPERS
By Texas Press Association

A metro newspaper refugee found success at a weekly

By Jim Iovino
West Virginia University

M.E. Sprengelmeyer called himself a "hired gun" at big-city newspapers for more than 20 years, including the now-defunct Rocky Mountain News, where he was the Washington correspondent.

But he didn't like the direction newspapers of that size were going. Staffs were getting squeezed, and he said he wasn't sold on working for a publicly traded company that was making moves based on profits.

So he left.

M.E. Sprengelmeyer talked on the phone as he supervised work on his weekly. (Photo by Rick Scibelli Jr., The New York Times)

He took his severance and some savings and started a search that would help him control his own journalistic destiny. He ended up in Santa Rosa, New Mexico, in 2009, where he purchased a weekly newspaper called the Guadalupe County Communicator.

"It was awesome," Sprengelmeyer said. "I say this to anyone who asks me. I covered wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, was on the presidential campaign trail for a year. Coverage of sex trafficking in the Philippines. But the stuff I did in the middle of nowhere in New Mexico was the most important work I had ever done. It was the most satisfying. It was also the most frightening."

Sprengelmeyer gained national recognition for his career path, including being featured in the New York Times. He also turned his weekly paper into a journalistic powerhouse in New Mexico, winning numerous awards and shining light on local issues like never before.

Oh, it was also profitable. While stories of major metro newspapers are filled with financial doom and gloom, that's not so for many weekly newspapers across the country - his included.

That's not to say hard work wasn't involved. There were many things Sprengelmeyer had to learn in real time, including how to get over the fear of being the person in charge of not just a newsroom, but also payroll and taxes.

"In 21 years of being in corporate papers, I had never been an editor," he said. "I hadn't supervised anyone. ... The other stuff (payroll, ad sales, circulation, etc.) seems like a drag. The truth of the matter is that kind of takes care of itself. Just do it. You learn it on the job."

Due to family health issues, Sprengelmeyer eventually sold the paper and moved to North Carolina after running the Communicator for more than eight years. He hopes more journalists follow his path to ownership. It may not be something many realize they can do - or even want to do, for that matter. But he said there is great satisfaction personally and an even greater impact on a community.

You will never have more fun and never do more important journalism," he said, "than when you're in a small town running the show."

Jim Iovino is director of NewStart, a program at West Virginia University's College of Media to develop the next generation of community newspaper owners.

This article is one of a series distributed by the Texas Press Association for its members. If you wish more information, call 713-266-3444 or email grafikstar@aol.com



Kristan Hoffman Butler, author of "Little Love Stories" with Reed Butler and Iris Butler.

LITTLE LOVE STORY
By Kristan Hoffman

One Thing I Didn't Expect About Motherhood

How much I would think about bodies. My body. My children's bodies. The way they grow, stretch, scar and heal. Their softness and their strength. Through pregnancy, birth and recovery, I've become more forgiving toward my body, though it hasn't always felt like mine. Its changes aren't easy to accept, nor are the demands to share it so frequently. I marvel at my children, so awkward and elegant. Why are we drawn to embrace so often? Why does touch offer such comfort? I am not religious, but since becoming a mother, I have learned to worship. Our bodies are holy. — Kristan Hoffman

This short story was originally published in the New York Times on July 6, 2020 in a regular column entitled Little Love Stories.

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Kristan Hoffman is the daughter of this newspaper's publishers, an author, and a columnist for this newspaper.

school supplies and backpacks - priced below \$ 100, saving shoppers about \$ 8 on every \$ 100 they spend. Qualifying items are listed at TexasTaxHoliday.org.

"Even though significant uncertainty remains for our public and private schools as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the sales tax holiday is a perfect opportunity to save money on school supplies and other tax-free items at a time when many Texans are carefully monitoring their family finances," Comptroller Hegar said. "Online shopping is covered, so I encourage all Texans to shop online or practice social distancing when making in-store purchases. We want folks to stay safe while saving money."

Chris Cobler is a board member and past president of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas. He welcomes email at ccobler@texaspress.com.

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
By Chris Cobler

Let's search together for capital ideas

Let's search together for capital ideas

Ed Sterling wrote this column for almost three decades, so let's open by celebrating his contributions to the Texas Press Association and its members. Ed was the calm, steady voice keeping us informed and interested.

I am honored to have been asked by Mike Hodges, TPA executive director, and Donnis Baggett, executive vice president, to continue the important work of keeping Texans up to date on what's happening in Austin. The world has changed dramatically since Ed started writing in the early 1990s, but the need for being informed remains greater than ever.

The "Capital Highlights" column appears in more than 100 newspapers across Texas, reaching all the way from the Rockport Pilot to the Moore County News-Press and from the Bowie News to the Seminole Sentinel. From his many years of traveling around Texas and talking to editors and publishers, Ed carried in his head the knowledge of each paper and its readers.

Please help me help sniff out the most useful news to you. Via email at ccobler@texaspress.com, tell me about the state agencies and topics you want monitored most closely. Are you concerned most about the large players like the Texas Education Agency, or do you want me to report the latest buzz from more obscure agencies like the Texas Apiary Inspection Service?

Despite my penchant for dad jokes, I pledge to keep playing this column straight, as Ed did so well. We need more nonpartisan news, which is why you read and support your local newspaper.

The pandemic remained the theme of the news in July, much of it centering on the economy and education. The week opened with Comptroller Glenn Hegar's forecast that Texas faces a \$ 4.6 billion budget deficit and closed with the first hurricane of the season,



Hanna, making landfall Saturday night near Port Mansfield.

ELECTRIC NEWS FOR THE ECONOMY

A jolt of good news came late in the week when Tesla announced it would build an electric-vehicle manufacturing plant in Travis County, bringing at least 5,000 jobs and \$ 1 billion in capital investments.

Austin, offering about \$ 60 million in local tax breaks, beat out Tulsa and other American cities vying for the prize. The factory will produce Tesla's Cybertruck, Semi and Models 3 and Y and be built on 2,000 acres near the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport

"We're going to make it a factory that is going to be stunning," Tesla top executive Elon Musk said. "It's right on the Colorado River. So we're actually going to have to have a boardwalk over you, hiking, biking trail. It's going to basically be an ecological paradise."

GETTING RID OF GOBBLEDYGOOK

Jargon isn't just hard on readers. It also can be bad for business, Texas' insurance commissioner wrote in a column last week.

Kent Sullivan said he has been promoting plain language since becoming insurance commissioner three years ago. One example of policy legalese he noted: "You may qualify for a contingent non-forfeiture benefit."

Instead of this gobble-dygoon, Sullivan wrote, "Why not just say you can still receive benefits even if you stop paying for this

policy?"

The coronavirus outbreak has spotlighted potential confusion and costly legal fallout caused by bewildering insurance policy language, Sullivan said. "We need a coordinated effort to strengthen and enforce plain language requirements in state laws," he added.

ADA TURNS 30

July 26 marked the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The US Census Bureau estimates that one in four Americans, or 61 million adults, have a disability.

The Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities will have its quarterly business meeting from 8 am-5 pm July 30 and 8 am-noon July 31. Because of the pandemic, the meeting will be via Zoom.

One agenda item: How educators wearing face masks affects students who are deaf or who have hearing loss. The full agenda and Zoom meeting information may be found at bit.ly/disabilities0730

LOOKING AHEAD TO TAX SAVINGS

Texas' annual sales tax holiday is Aug. 7-9. The holiday exempts sales tax on qualified items - such as clothing, footwear,

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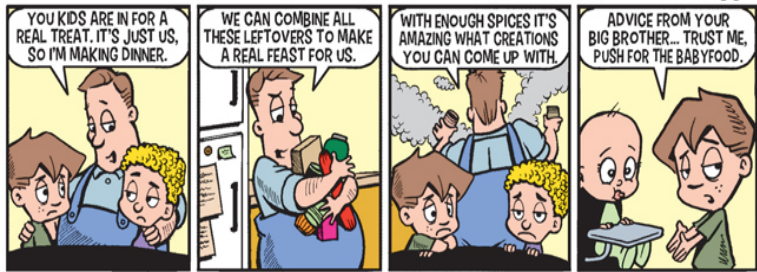
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Take Pride in our Community Keep it Clean

ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



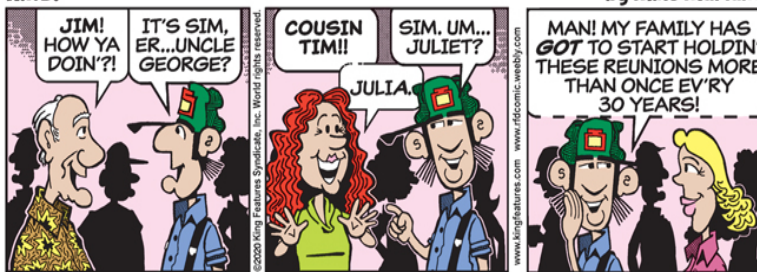
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



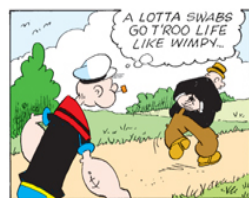
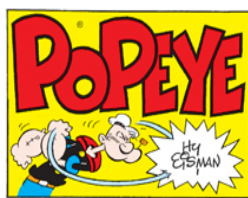
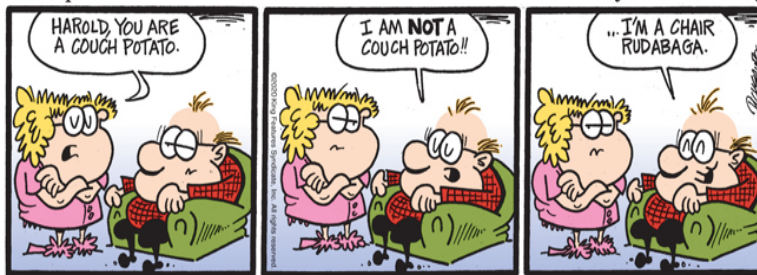
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

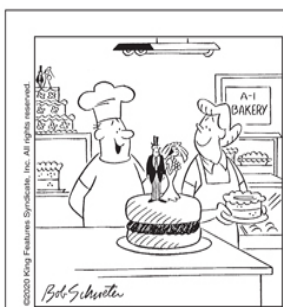


Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



LAFF-A-DAY



"It's for a couple who met at a _____"

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

- Ahead ENBODY
- Pang WETING
- Tremor KASHE
- Beast NIFED

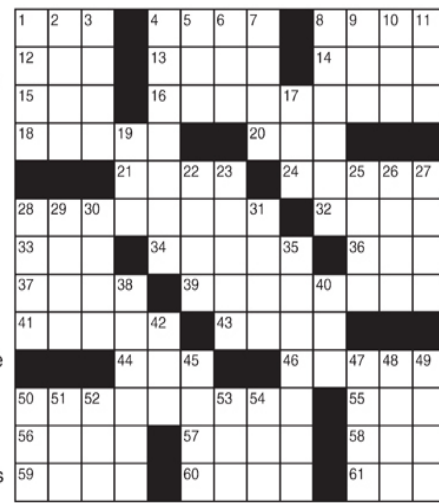
TODAY'S WORD

Posting Date August 3, 2020

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Autumn mo.
- 4 "— Breckinridge"
- 8 Drag along
- 12 That girl
- 13 Quite some time
- 14 Shrek is one
- 15 Remiss
- 16 Flattery
- 18 Eye-related
- 20 Marry
- 21 Hen pen
- 24 Famous
- 28 Flowering vine
- 32 Clinton veep
- 33 Standard
- 34 Billow
- 36 Watch chain
- 37 Sister of Osiris
- 39 Grump
- 41 Eighth Greek letter
- 43 Rip
- 44 Historic period
- 46 Healthy
- 50 Dairy item
- 55 Aye opponent
- 56 Heap
- 57 Carte
- 58 Conk out
- 59 Choir member
- 60 Vail gear
- 61 On in years



- 2 Fellow
- 3 Libretto
- 4 Team animals?
- 5 Evergreen
- 6 Caviar, really
- 7 From the start
- 8 Frank
- 9 — Khan
- 10 Web address
- 11 Albanian
- 17 Coffee break hour
- 19 Lemieux milieu
- 22 Piece of work
- 23 1992 presidential candidate
- 25 Bean curd type
- 27 Society newbies
- 28 Skewer
- 29 Laundry
- 30 One of HOMES
- 31 Chills and fever
- 35 Dutch
- 38 Audiophile's setup
- 40 Expert
- 42 Joan of —
- 45 Weaponry
- 47 Loosen
- 48 Catch red-handed
- 49 Changed the color
- 50 Hot tub
- 51 Painter's medium
- 52 Last (Abbr.)
- 53 "A mouse!"
- 54 Blackbird scholar

DOWN

- 1 Norway's capital
- 19 Lemieux milieu

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



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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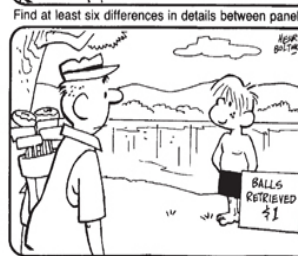


- GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Hungary?
- MOVIES: What is the name of the necklace given to Rose in the movie "Titanic"?
- TELEVISION: Which TV comedy led to a spinoff series called "The Andy Griffith Show"?
- HISTORY: The Motion Picture Association of America established modern movie ratings in which year?
- ADVERTISING: What is the name of the rooster in the Kellogg's Cornflakes advertisements?
- MEASUREMENTS: How many girls are in a pint?
- FOOD & DRINK: What is spumoni?
- LITERATURE: Which 20th-century poet once wrote, "August rain: the best of the summer gone, and the new fall not yet born. The odd uneven time"?
- BIBLE: How many times did Noah send a dove from the Ark to seek land?
- ANATOMY: What is a common name for the clavicle?

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Differences: 1. Golf club is missing. 2. Swim trunks are different. 3. Cloud has moved. 4. Boy's hair is different. 5. Shirt is gone. 6. Hat is different.

CryptoQuip

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

Clue: T equals G

NANDY DXRT GXRGPARNRT Z MPBBXQ

QYX ZBQZID DENBPD QZAEI:

"HYP QPZANRT XM HYP TANR."

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WENDY'S

Today's Word

- 1. Beyond
- 2. Tinge
- 3. Shake
- 4. Tend

SCRAMBLERS

ANSWER

- Budapest
- The Heart of the Ocean
- "The Danny Thomas Show"
- 1968
- Cornelius
- Four
- A layered Italian ice-cream dessert
- Sylvia Plath
- Three
- Clavicle



Solution time: 25 mins.

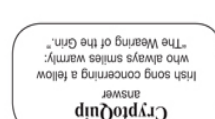
ANSWERS

King Crossword



ANSWER

Weekly SUDOKU



ANSWER

CryptoQuip

First song concerning a fellow who always smiles warmly. "The Weeping of the Ginn."

CHURCH LISTINGS

BAPTIST:

- Betania Baptist Church, 11450 Turn St. 281-442-4258
- Center of Life Baptist Church, 11250 Bentley St. 281-442-5433
- De Priest Baptist Church, 5609 Mount Houston Rd. 281-449-0774
- Esperanza Baptist Church, 14710 Mill Rd. 281-227-0123
- First Baptist Church Kinwood, 5538 Lauder Rd. 281-442-3823
- First Baptist Church N. Houston, 4422 Lauder Rd. 281-449-7201
- First Unity Baptist Church, 2110 Aldine Bender Rd. 281-445-7379
- Grace Missionary Baptist Church, 1823 Aldine Mail Route. 281-442-7137
- Greater Purelight Missionary, 12330 Vickery St. 281-987-1980
- Harmony Baptist Church, 1325 Lauder Rd. 281-442-3444
- Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist, 4730 Gaston St. 281-442-2947
- New Beginning Baptist Church, 10921 Foy Ln. 713-696-9249
- New Mt. Olive Baptist Church, 4706 Mount Houston Rd. 281-227-6885
- Parkwood Baptist Church P.O. Box 60143. 281-442-5359

- Sonrise Community Church P.O. Box 111581. 281-449-0994
- South Aldine Baptist Church 2121 Aldine Mail Rt. 281-442-3124

CATHOLIC:

- St. Leo the Great Catholic 2131 Lauder Rd. 281-449-2344

CHRISTIAN

- Faith Christian Center 10118 Tidwell Rd. 281-459-1709

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 65 Melbourne Street. 281-799-6289.

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE:

- Woodsdale Church of the Nazarene, 4903 Hollybrook Ln. 281-442-4107

JEHOVAH'S WITNESS:

- Jehovah's Witnesses 4416 Mohawk St. 281-442-1612

LUTHERAN:

- St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 11025 Aldine Westfield Rd. 281-442-2180
- Beautiful Savior Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 215 Rittenhouse. 281-445-2203

METHODIST:

- Aldine First United Methodist Church, 4623 Aldine Bender Rd. 281-442-4961.
- El Mesias United Methodist Church, 406 E. Rittenhouse St. 713-699-8990.

PENTACOSTAL:

- Calvary Pentecostal Church of God, 3122 Hopper Rd. 713-694-6112
- Iglesia Pentecostal Unida, 2410 Bertrand St. 281-590-5187
- Temple of Salvation, 4906 Haile St. 281-987-2655

PRESBYTERIAN:

- Westminster Church 14050 Aldine Westfield Rd. 281-442-7210

SPANISH-SPEAKING:

- El Monte Calvario Church P.O. Box 11726. 281-987-1174
- Iglesia de Dios Santidao 11721 Aldine Westfield Rd. 281-219-0707
- La Iglesia de Dios Santa Sion 2332 Aldine Mail Rt. 281-449-0536
- Manantial de Vida 2810 Lauder Rd. 281-442-7709
- Primera Iglesia Bautista 13380 Korenek St. 281-590-5642

NON-DEMOMINATIONAL/ OTHER

- Aldine Christian Church 2233 Aldine Mail Rt. 281-442-9751
- Apostolic Bible Ctr. P.O. Box 8569. 281-442-5171
- Bethel Community Church 2414 Lauder Rd. 281-449-1473
- Church of the Living God 4422 Hopper Rd. 281-219-3853
- Church of the Lord Jesus Christ 11268 E. Hardy Rd. 281-442-0303
- Church of the Lord Jesus Christ 9407 Crofton St. 713-631-7339.
- Emmanuel Deliverance Temple 4718 Littlecrest Rd. 281-987-9166
- Grace Restoration Church 13223 Aldine Westfield Rd. 281-449-5996
- Houston Restoration Church 1831 Hartwick Rd. 281-227-6260
- Houston Revival Temple 5801 Mary Francis Dr. 281-987-3305
- Jesus Center, 11742 Aldine Westfield Rd. 281-590-3216
- Monument of Faith Church-God 2233 Aldine Mail Rt. 281-442-2002
- New Covenant Missionary Church, 2202 Aldine Bender Rd. 281-987-7170
- New Gate Fellowship, 4234 Mount Houston Rd. 713-166-6684
- North Central Assembly of God, 13703 Aldine Westfield Rd. 281-907-6609
- Pillar of Glory, 14341 Lee Rd. 281-449-6404
- Sabbathay Kingdom, 4034 Linder St. at Kelley and Hirsch Rd., Houston, 77026. 713-635-3025.
- Temple de Poder, 10912 Aldine Westfield Rd. 281-372-1060
- Tomb of Jesus, 1301 Aldine Mail Rt. 281-987-1371
- Word of Deliverance Life Ctr 4001 Darwin St. 281-227-0700
- Phuc Vien Temple, 14101 East-

- ex Fwy. 281-449-1900
- Gospel Shop 14341 Lee Rd. 281-227-8898
- Jimmie Guillory 13120 Luthr Rd. 281-449-6016
- Dynamic Global Interprises Inc. 2201 Little York Rd. 713-695-9830
- The Shelter Church, 4102 Lauder Rd. 281-846-4538

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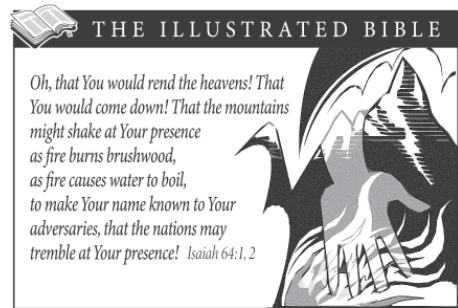
CHURCH PAGE

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Romans in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Acts 8, who tried to buy the Holy Spirit after he saw people receiving it from the apostles? Stephen, Timothy, Caiaphas, Simon
3. With whom did Lot escape the city of Sodom before it rained down brimstone and fire? Wife, Son, Two daughters, Three friends
4. In 2 Kings 9, who was thrown from a window and struck the ground dead? Hezekiah, Jezebel, Joash, Abner
5. From Genesis 2:12, which was good and found in Eden? Sapphires, Rubies, Diamonds, Gold
6. Who was the wife of Joseph? Tamar, Rebekah, Asenath, Taphanes

- ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Simon; 3) Two daughters; 4) Jezebel; 5) Gold; 6) Asenath



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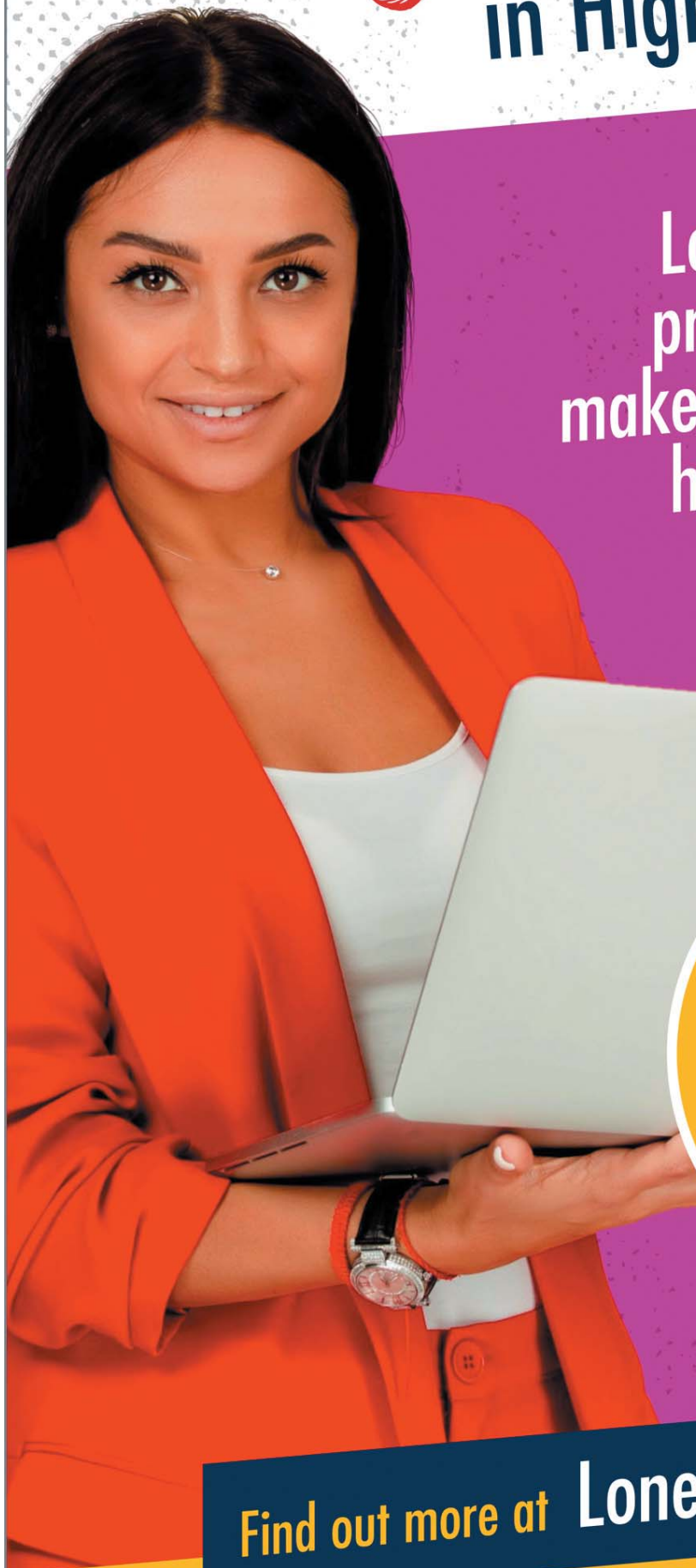
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