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# NORTHEAST

High School Football Season opens.

See Schedules and Previews, Page 5

Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 44 Years VOL. 44, NO. 39 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2020 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

# **NEWS NOTES**

#### TO OUR READERS Pandemic and other economic conditions have caused us to combine some issues every two weeks, and to change distribution to Pickup locations. See page 3 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.



**FOOTBALL SEASON Preview** Column by Mike Keeney on Page 6

# COVID-19

Cases as of September 29, 2020 **HOUSTON AREA** 

**212,688 POSITIVE** 

**2.800 DEATHS** 183,447 RECOVERED

#### **TEXAS**

**763,242 POSITIVE** 15,882 DEATHS 657,407 RECOVERED

#### **UNITED STATES**

7,183,367 POSITIVE 205,883 DEATHS 2.794.608 RECOVERED

#### **WORLDWIDE**

33.489.205 POSITIVE 1.004.278 DEATHS 23.243.613 RECOVERED

#### **Two HCPH Locations** Offering Free **COVID-19 Testing**

There are two stationary sites At the M.O. Campbell Education Center in Aldine, children can also be tested. Hours are 6am-1 pm. Register at www.hcphtx.org or call **832-927-7575**. For the Pasadena stationary

site at San Jacinto Central people can register at www.doineeda covid19test.com or call 832-

#### 927-7575.

#### New ACCESS2Health Services now open

Pct. 2 has installed a Medical Smart Pod office in the parking lot at the Northeast Community Center on Bentley.

The public can get Free COVID-19 tests, and many other medical services. According to Dr. Bernice Koko of United Health Partners, all services are free and walk-ins are welcome, no appoint-

# **Garcia brings Medical Smart Pod to Aldine**

# Will provide accessible Free Healthcare

COMMISSIONER GARCIA BRINGS INNO-VATION TO PRECINCT 2 WITH THE

FIRST BAYLOR SMARTPOD IN THE UNITED STATES.

This week Commissioner Adrian Garcia, along with Baylor College of Medicine and United Health Partners (UHP) announces the arrival and installation of the first of two SmartPods, which are adaptable and mobile health care structures. Designed by Baylor College of Medicine and validation was done with the help of NASA engineers, the SmartPods will be known as ACCESS2HEALTH at Precinct 2 Facilities.

Originally created to treat the Ebola outbreak in Africa, the SmartPods to be utilized in Precinct 2 are the first to be located inside the United States. Initially, ACCESS2HEALTH will be used for COVID-19 testing to be performed by United Health Partners, however, in the future, they will be available to treat infectious diseases and other illnesses.

The first SmartPod will be stationed at Northeast Community Center (10918 Bentley St., Houston, TX



Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia and other officials of Baylor and Pct. 2 participate in the ribbon cutting last Thursday. The SmartPOD is behind them.

77093) in Aldine. The sec ond of the two SmartPod ACCESS2HEALTH units is expected to be stationed at East Harris Activity Center (7340 Spencer Hwy, Pasadena, TX 77505) and should arrive sometime in the Fall. The mobile clinics are an innovative answer to dealing with health care deserts in Harris County Precinct 2.

A similar SmartPod that is currently on loan from Baylor will be moved to Flukinger Community Center in Channelview



Dr. Paul Klotman, CEO of Baylor College of Medicine and Dr. Sharmila Anandasabapathy discuss the POD

(6003 Lorenzo St, Channelview, TX 77530). Precinct 2 will work with Baylor and UHP on programming and services that will best serve the re-

"As County Commissioner of Precinct 2, I am clearly aware that much of my area is classified as being medically underserved, which is why I am so excited to finally have the first of these two SmartPod ACCESS2HEALTH units in place. I've heard from far too many of my constituents that they can't afford to go to the doctor. For some, even if they have insurance, there is not a facility in their area to get help," Commissioner Garcia said, "from day one in my administration, I've prioritized health care access for Precinct 2 residents, and the COVID-19 pandemic illustrates why this is so vital."

"Baylor has been a long time collaborator with Harris County to address the health and welfare of our community, and this continues with the Mobile Healthcare Clinic in Precinct 2," said Dr. Paul Klotman, president, CEO and executive dean of Baylor

See MED POD, page 8

# **ALDINE MAIL ROUTE** Victim of carjacking kills robber instead

Man takes gun from armed robbers; kills one, injures other

ALDINE - A northside man turned the tables on two accused teen robbers who he says tried to rob him, according to authori-

The incident happened at noon in a crowded strip mall parking lot in the 5200 block of Aldine Mail Route at I-69.

According to Harris County Sheriff's Office, the man was getting into his truck to leave when two teenagers walked up to him. The man told detectives at least one of the alleged robbers was armed.

"He's reporting that these two suspects attempted to rob him, to take his vehicle," said Sgt. Jason Brown with the HCSO Homicide Division. "He was able to take one of the pistols from the suspect and (shot) both of those



Investigators from the Sheriff's office examine the truck that was the target of the teenage carjackers.

Derrick Christom who witnessed the event said he was grabbing a hamburger at a nearby restaurant when he heard the commotion

When the shots started you just seen people start running," Christom said.

One of the teens was struck in the head and chest, officials said. He was pronounced dead a short time later at Kingwood Hospital, officials

The second teen was wounded but managed to run into an apartment building across the street, officials said. When he was found, he was also rushed to Kingwood Hospital in unknown condition, offi-

cials said. Detectives said the man who shot the teens is cooperating and giving a statement. They expect the case to be referred directly to a grand jury.

# Garcia proposes County tax cut

HARRIS COUNTY -Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia proposed this week a motion to cut Harris County property tax rates. The motion was approved by Commissioners Court unanimously The Garcia plan proposes



payers 1.3 cents per \$100 of assessed value on their homes. The plan not only saves taxpayers money, it also still funds crucial priorities such as Flood Control and Harris Health.

"This will be our first

consecutive tax reduction in at least ten years, and I'm proud to have proposed the motion to put us on a path toward a rate cut. As we all deal with a pandemic and economic crisis, my hope is that property tax relief will help our neighbors who are struggling. At the same time, essential county services must remain a priority — to both support the local economy, as well as to keep us prepared for any future challenges. Pandemic or not, Harris County remains at risk for devastating flooding, so this proposed tax rate does an effective job of easing the tax burden on residents, while being able county priorities," said Commissioner Adrian Gar-

After an upcoming public input period, the  $\bar{\text{Court}}$ will vote to officially certify the tax rate at the Commissioners Court hearing to be held on October 27th.

#### MARKETPLACE - Please Mention the NORTHEAST NEWS when you visit our Advertisers.



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#### SCHOOL NEWS

# Aldine ISD to provide Free Meals for the rest of the School year

Beginning Thursday, October 1, Aldine ISD Child Nutrition will offer free meals through an extended waiver from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA).

Students learning on campus and at home can receive breakfast and lunch at no cost, for the remainder for the 2020-2021 school year. All students are eligible for one breakfast and one lunch per day per federal guidance. If a student eats breakfast and lunch on campus, the student is not eligible to pick up meals at the curbside meal site.

On-Campus Students

Students attending oncampus instruction are eligible to receive breakfast and lunch at no cost beginning Thursday, October 1. Parents or guardians can add funds to their child's SchoolCafe account for a la carte purchases in preparation for the end of the USDA waiver.

After the waiver expires, Aldine ISD will switch back to the normal School Breakfast and Lunch program. Breakfast will be available for all students at no cost. Lunch will be charged based on meal status as free, reduced-price, or paid. Parents or guardians who need to complete a meal application for the 2020-2021 school year must do so by Thursday, October 1 to avoid a change with student eligibility. Visit SchoolCafe.com to

Home Students and Children 18 and Under

Free Meal Bundles, breakfast and lunch, are available to students participating in virtual learning, as well as

children 18 and under, who are not currently enrolled in Aldine ISD. Participants are able to pick up breakfast and lunch bundles, curbside from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Meals are packaged with heating directions. Two stops and 14 meals

Tuesdays: Breakfast and Lunch Bundle

- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday Thursday: Breakfast and Lunch Bundle
- Friday Saturday
- Sunday
- Monday
- Families with multiple children in different grade levels can pick up meal bundles at any one location. Pick up is available at the following sites:
- · Aldine High School Blanson CTE High School
  - •Carver High School
  - Davis High School • Eisenhower High School
  - MacArthur High School • Nimitz High School
  - Shotwell Middle School •Escamilla Elementary
  - Greenspoint Elementary
  - Jones Elementary • Wilson Elementary

The Texas Department of Agriculture policy requires parents or guardians picking up meals without a child present to present documentation for each child. (Accepted documentation is official letter/email/electronic school application, student report card, student ID card, attendance records with student's names, or a birth certificate. Only one form is required.)

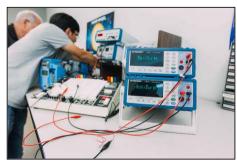
For more information, lease visit the Aldine ISD Child Nutrition website.

# Biomedical Technicians to be discussed by **Houston Community College experts**

 $\begin{array}{c} Houston~(October~1,\\ 2020)-The~COVID\text{-}19 \end{array}$ pandemic has revealed the need for frontline technicians in career fields that range from emergency medical services to infor mation technology (IT). Biomedical electronics technicians are also needed on the frontlines of the pandemic to help keep vi-tal medical equipment maintained and in working order at hospitals and healthcare facilities.

Biomedical industry experts will join Houston Community College (HCC) for an one-hour virtual panel discussion from 12 – 1 p.m. on Friday, October 9 to discuss the increasing need for biomedical technicians and to offer insight into the rewarding and high-wage career. The free discussion is open to the general public but requires general public but requires advance registration at ht-tps://bit.ly/2G4R5Mg "When people visit healthcare facilities and

encounter imaging equip-ment, health monitors, dialysis machines, and now



HCC biomedical student in training

ventilators, they know the critical role they play in sustaining life. However, rarely does one think of the person responsible for ensuring that equipment is functioning properly during a health emergency, that is the biomedical technician's job," says Dr. Mehmet Argin, Dean of Global Energy Center of Excellence. "Job opportunities exist in the field and we want HCC students and others to hear from people with firsthand knowledge

and years of experience in

the industry. Dr. Argin will moderate the virtual session where David Echols, HCC Electronics Engineering Technology Program advisory board chairman and field administration for AEI Medical Equipment Services, Rajan Sharma, vice president for Sunbelt Med ical Corporation, Ronald Robb, assistant director of biomedical engineering with Texas Children's Hospital, and Tim Tatum, di-

rector of biomedical engineering for Harris Health Hospital System will serve as panelists.
The HCC Global Ener-

gy Center of Excellence offers the two-year Associates of Applied Sci-ence in Electronics Engineering Technology with Biomedical Electronics Specialization at the Northeast College. Built on the foundation of electronics engineering technology, the biomedical electronics specialization trains students how to troubleshoot, maintain, and repair medical equipment found in hospitals, research institu-tions, manufacturing, and supply and repair compa-nies. The average hourly wage in Texas for a bio medical technician is \$20 per hour with 1-4 years of experience and increases with more years of experi-

For more information on the virtual discussion or biomedical electronics specialization, visit hccs.edu/ globalenergy or call 713.718.5534.

#### AISD Seniors should fill out the 2020-2021 FAFSA

The 2020-2021 Federal Application for Student Financial Aid (FAFSA) window opens on October 1, 2020, for students planning to attend college during the 2021-2022school year.

Each year the federal gov-ernment offers over 150 billion dollars in federal student aid. Completing the FAFSA is one of the most important steps senior students can take to receive financial aid for college. Several types of financial aid such as grants. scholarships and work study are awarded on a first come first serve basis. It is important for students to complete the FAFSA early. While the

2020-2021 FAFSA is June 30.

the priority deadline for the state of Texas is January 15,

It is important for every senior student to complete the FAFSA even if you believe your family will not qualify based on income.

It is important for every senior student to complete the FAFSA even if you believe your family will not qualify oased on income. Denise Keaton, coordinator of student financial aid for Aldine ISD explained, "many colleges and universities require the FAFSA even in awarding merit based academic scholarships to students that may fall into higher income brack-

Students can begin sub-

mitting FAFSA applications

The first step is to create a Federal Student ID (FSA ID). At least one parent/guardian will need to create an ID that will be used to sign the FAF-SA electronically. Once an ID has been created. Students will need the following docu-ments readily available to

•Social Security number

(if applicable)
•2019 Federal income tax returns, W-2s and other

complete the application:

records of money earned

• Dates of birth for them-

selves and their parents
• A valid email address • Month and year parent(s) were married/separated/divorced/widowed (if applica-

Students who do not meet the citizenship guidelines required by FAFSA may still be eligible for financial aid in the state of Texas by completing the Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TAFSA)

Throughout the year financial aid information se sions, and resources will be provided to senior students through their campus. If you have any questions regarding FAFSA or TAFSA, please reach out to your high school counselor or Aldine ISD Co-ordinator of Student Financial Aid, Denise Keaton, at dakeaton@aldineisd.org.

#### ANUNCIO DEL PERÍODO DE COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS CONTROL DE AGUA DEL CONDADO DE HARRIS Y MEJORA DEL DISTRITO NO. 74 SOLICITUD DE MITIGACIÓN DE SUBVENCIONES EN BLOQUES DE DESARROLLO COMUNITARIO

#### COMPETICIÓN ESTATAL DEL HURACÁN HARVEY

El Distrito de Control y Mejora de Agua del Condado de Harris No. 74 (HC WCID #74) ha preparado un provecto de solicitud para el Huracán Harvey Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de los EE. UU. (HUD) Subvención en bloque para el desarrollo comunitario -Mitigación (CDBG-MIT) competencia y búsqueda de opiniones y comentarios del público. Estas actividades de mitigación están destinadas a reducir o eliminar el impacto de eventos peligrosos. El proyecto propuesto incluye varias de las acciones de mitigación críticas del distrito que abarcan las siguientes áreas:

- 1. Construcción de nuevas instalaciones de la estación de refuerzo de agua en cada planta de agua, incluyendo nuevos edificios, bombas, tuberías, válvulas y controles eléctricos.
- 2. Instalación del Generador de Emergencia de Reserva en la Planta de Agua n.º 1 y reemplazo del Generador de Emergencia existente en la Planta de Agua n.º 2.
- 3. Actualizar/Ampliar las líneas de distribución de agua existentes entre las dos (2) plantas y crear un bucle de sistema de agua redundante para mejorar el servicio dentro de HC WCID #74, incluyendo nuevas válvulas de compuerta, hidrantes, servicios y atenencias
- 4. Inspección, rehabilitación y pintura del Tanque de Almacenamiento Terrestre existente (GST) en la Planta de Agua #1 y el Tanque de Almacenamiento Elevado (EST) existente

Información del Proyecto - El proyecto propuesto beneficiará al área de servicio HC WCID #74 y las comunidades circundantes. El público tendrá acceso a la solicitud del proyecto propuesto para financiamiento y documentos relacionados en línea y en papel. Las copias en papel estarán disponibles en HC WCID #74 (4901 Sandydale Lane, Houston, Texas) y se publicarán para una mayor visibilidad pública.

Reunión Pública Virtual – habrá una reunión pública virtual el 8 de octubre de 2020 a las 5:00 p.m. para brindar información adicional sobre el proyecto propuesto y oportunidades para comentarios públicos. Para obtener el enlace a la reunión, envíe un correo electrónico a HCWCID74@iem.com. El HC WCID #74 amina la participación de los ciudadanos en este proceso de solicitud de CDBG-MIT asistiendo a la audiencia pública virtual o enviando comentarios y sugerencias a la oficina del HC WCID #74 en la dirección que se indica arriba o por teléfono al (281) 442-9072.

Las personas que requieran ayuda o servicios auxiliares para esta reunión deben ponerse en contacto con HC WCID #74 al menos dos días antes de la reunión para que se puedan hacer las disposiciones apropiadas. Para más información en español, comuníquese con Melissa Gonzales al (281) 442-9072.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD HARRIS COUNTY WATER CONTROL & IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 74 APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT MITIGATION HURRICANE HARVEY STATEWIDE COMPETITION

Para más información en español, comuníquese con Melissa Gonzales al (281)

The Harris County Water Control and Improvement District No. 74 (HC WCID #74) has prepared a draft application for the Hurricane Harvey US Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant -Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) competition and seeking public input and comments. These mitigation activities are intended to reduce or eliminate the impact of hazardous events. The Proposed Project includes several of the district's critical mitigation actions that encompass the following areas:

- 1. Construction of New Water Booster Station Facilities at each Water Plant, including new buildings, pumps, piping, valves and electrical controls.
- 2. Installation of Emergency Stand-By Generator at Water Plant #1 and Replacement of Existing Emergency Generator at Water Plant #2.
- 3. Upgrading/Upsizing existing water distribution lines between the two (2) Water Plants and creating a redundant water system loop for improved service within HC WCID #74, including new gate valves, fire hydrants, services and related appurtenances.
- 4. Inspection, Rehabilitation and Re-Painting of existing Ground Storage Tank (GST) at Water Plant #1 and existing Elevated Storage Tank (EST) at Water

Project Information - The proposed project will benefit the HC WCID #74 service area and surrounding communities. The Public will have access to the proposed project application for funding and related documents online and hard copy. Hard copies will be made available at HC WCID #74 (4901 Sandydale Lane, Houston, Texas) and will be publicly posted for increased public visibility.

Virtual Public Meeting - There will be a virtual public meeting on October 8, 2020 at 5:00 pm to provide additional information on the proposed project and additional opportunities for public comment. To obtain the link to the meeting please send an email to HCWCID74@iem.com. The HC WCID #74 encourages citizens participation in this CDBG-MIT application process by attending the virtual public hearing or by submitting comments and feedback to the HC WCID #74 Office at the address listed above or by phone at (281) 442-9072. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact HC WCID #74 at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be

#### COMMUNITY NEWS

### **Lone Star College Leadership High** School prepares tomorrow's leaders

HOUSTON (Aug. 18) -Lone Star College Leader-ship High School (LHS) is currently accepting applications for the 2020-21 year. LHS is a leadership development and community awareness program for sophomore and junior high school students who attend public school and live in the LSC service

area.

"Participating in Leadership High School can help boost a student's college application to display work outside the conventional classroom "said Kay Fitzsimons, LSC Leadership and Economic Development executive director. "It also provides them the opportunity to meet other like-minded students interested in developing leadership skills."
LHS, offered by <u>Lone</u>

Star College, is a program of study that allows stu-dents to identify and develop personal leadership skills and abilities and learn how to initiate positive change in the community. The program is offered at no cost and the deadline to apply is Sept. 25. Students and parents can visit LoneStar.edu/ Leadership-HighSchool to learn more and apply.

"Students are taught important leadership skills which they can use for the rest of their lives," said Fitzsimons.

LHS is scheduled to begin in October with a virtual orientation followed by a series of engaging monthly sessions conclud-

ing with a Certificate Ceremony at the Lone Star Community Building April 17. These day-long sessions offer students the opportunity to interact with community leaders from various backgrounds and industries."We want them to un-

derstand the need for positive student leaders in the community," said Fitzsimons. "The goal is to have students understand the role leaders have in the community and the importance of making personal community service contri-

The program also emphasizes peer-to-peer learning and how to work effectively in a team environment during a community service project.

# LSC Dean says Prepare for flu season

HOUSTON (Sept. 15, 2020) – The Centers For Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are report-ing that reducing the spread of respiratory ill-nesses this fall and winter is more important than ever. As the flu season begins, many health officials worry about the combination of influenza and COV-ID-19.

"Influenza commonly known as the flu and COV-ID-19 are both contagious respiratory illnesses, but they are caused by differ-ent viruses," said Christi-na Hagerty, Ed.D., LSC-CyFair dean, Public Service, Health & Behavioral Sciences. "Because some of the symptoms of flu and COVID-19 are similar, it may be hard to tell the difference between them based on symptoms alone. One should visit a healthcare provider to confirm a diagnosis."

According to the Texas Department of State

Health Services (TDSHS), the official flu reporting season begins in October and continues through May. In Texas, influenza activity usually peaks in January or February. Since it takes about two weeks for immunity to develop after receiving the flu vac-cine, TDSHS recommends getting flu vaccines before the end of October.

"Getting a flu vaccine alone will not protect you against COVID-19, but there are still many impor-tant benefits to getting one," says Hagerty. "Flu vaccines have been shown to reduce the risk of the flu illness, hospitalization and death. Plus, getting a flu vaccine will conserve healthcare resources for the care of patients with COVID-19."

Children under 6 months of age are not recommended to be immunized for the flu shot. In addition, those who have

life-threatening allergies to the flu vaccine or any ingredient in the vaccine should not receive a flu vaccination. Those concerned should speak with their family physician or healthcare provider to share any apprehensions before receiving the flu vaccine. "While everyone is sus-

ceptible to catching the flu, certain groups of people have a higher risk of get-ting really sick," said Hagerty. "Chronic health problems and weakened immune systems make people more vulnerable to complications from the

According to the CDC, children under age two are at greatest risk, but all children under age five are at increased risk. Adults age 65, pregnant women and people with any chronic illness such as heart. lung, or kidney disease are also at a greater risk.

#### Lone Star College named 2020 "Great Colleges to Work For"

HOUSTON (Sept. 17,  $2020)-Lone\ Star\ College$ was named a 2020 Great Colleges to Work For® institution by the Chronicle of Higher Education. This is the fourth year in a row LSC has been recognized.
"This has to be the most

challenging year Lone Star College has ever faced said Stephen C. Head, er Education, in partner-

Ph.D., LSC chancellor. "The dedication our faculty and staff showed in the face of extraordinary circumstances never wavered and I

am very stephen HEAD, LSC CHANCELLOR their efforts

in helping our students." LSC also received special designation as an Honor Roll institution. Honor Roll status is given to institutions that were cited most often in each size cat-

"At the outset, and in the midst of, a world-wide pandemic, 221 colleges and universities across the country intentionally chose to participate in the 2020 Great Colleges to Work For® program," said Richard K. Boyer, Modern Think senior consultant. "Truly great workplaces, and those on the journey to become one, stand by their commitment to faculty and staff engagement in good times, and in bad."

This is the first time LSC was recognized in all 11 categories for two-year institutions:

Collaborative Governance Compensation & Benefits

Confidence in Senior Leadership Diversity Facilities, Workspace &

Job Satisfaction Professional/Career

Development Programs Respect & Appreciation Supervisor/Department Chair Relationship

Teaching Environment Work/Life Balance

"This is especially gratifying because the primary factor in deciding whether an institution receives recognition is the employee feedback," said Head.

In all, 127 four-year institutions and 94 two-year institutions participated in the 2020 survey. Of those institutions, 79 were recognized as a 2020 Great College to Work For®, including 54four-year institutions and 25 twoyear institutions. In addition, 42 institutions are on the Honor Roll, recognized as standouts in their size

The Chronicle of High-

ship with Modern-Think LLC, gathers data directly from employees about what makes their institution a great place to work. The data collected provides senior-level ad-

ministrators and academic leaders with insights on the quality of the workplace experience and the competitiveness of their policies and benefits.

To ensure a positive working environment, LSC developed LSCFocus, a leader-led process designed to create an atmosphere of accountability and achieve key organizational results. This intentional focus on culture and use of several very simple culture management tools allows LSC to make the needed organizational shifts to meet its goals.

The Great Colleges to Work For® program is one of the largest and most resnected workplace recognition programs in the country. Now in its 13th year, it recognizes the colleges that get top ratings from their employees regarding workplace practices and policies.

About The Chronicle of Higher Education:

The Chronicle of Higher Education is dedicated to serving the higher-education community with insights, understanding and intellectual engagement. Academic leaders and professionals from around the world trust the Chronicle's analysis and in-depth exploration to make informed decisions.

About ModernThink

As a research and consulting leader in workplace issues, ModernThink has supported a wide variety of "Best Place to Work" initiatives. Through these programs, the firm has gained substantial survey and industry expertise, including specific insight into higher education. Learn more about the Great Colleges to Work For® program, including all current and previous recognized institutions, Great Colleges Program.comand about ModernThink at Modernthink.com.

About Lone Star Col-

Lone Star College offers high-quality, low-cost academic transfer and career training education to 93,000+ students each semester. LSC is training tomorrow's workforce today and redefining the community college experience to support student success. Stephen C. Head, Ph.D., serves as chancellor of LSC, the largest institution of higher education in the Houston area with an annual economic impact of nearly \$3 billion. LSC consists of seven colleges, 10 centers, two university centers, Lone Star Corporate College and LSC-Online. To learn more, visit LoneStar.edu.

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#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX **INCREASE**

A tax rate of 0.050000 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of Harris County Emergency Services District No.

PROPOSED TAX RATE \$0.049541 per \$100 NO-NEW REVENUE TAX RATE VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE \$0.051366 per \$100 DE MINIMIS RATE \$0.059629 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2020 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for Harris County Emergency Services District 60 from the same properties in both the 2019 tax year and the 2020 tax year

The voter-approval tax rate is the highest tax rate that Harris County Emergency Services District No. 60 may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate, unless the de minimis rate for Harris County Emergency Services District No. 60 exceeds the voter-approval tax rate for Harris County Emergency Services District 60.

The de minimis rate is the rate equal to the sum of the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate for Harris County Emergency Services District No. 60, the rate that will raise \$500,000, and the current debt rate for Harris County Emergency Services District 60.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that Harris County Emergency Services District No. 60 is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2020 tax year.

A public hearing on the proposed tax rate will be held on October 12, 2020 at 7:30 PM at 17432 Old Beaumont Highway, Houston, TX

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, Harris County Emergency Services District No. 60 is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the Board of Harris County Emergency Services District No. 60 at

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE ABOVE RATES CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

D. McCaslin

J. Collins

property tax amount=(tax rate) X (taxable value of your property)/100 The members of the governing body voted on the proposed tax increase as follows:

H. Lauersdorf A. Adams D. Langdon

AGAINST:

PRESENT and not voting:

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by Harris County Emergency Services District No. 60 last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by Harris County Emergency

	2019	2020	Change		
Total Tax Rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.050000	\$0.050000	decrease of	\$0.00000	0 OR
Average homestead taxable value	\$137,796	\$150,513	increase of	9.22%	
Tax on average homestead	\$69	\$75	increase of	\$6 OR	9.23%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$2,404,247	\$2,499,810	increase of	\$95,563 OR	3.979

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for Harris County Emergency Services District No. 60 at 713-274-8000 or tax.office@hctx.net, or visit www.hctax.net for more information.

#### NORTHEAST $\Rightarrow$ NEWS Pick-up Locations

Jed's Hardware & Paint 5415 Aldine Mail Rt Greenspoint Mall

5415 Aldine wen ... Greenspoint Mall Greenspoint Drive Lone Star College - Greenspoint 250 Sam Houston Pkwy E. Lone Star College - East Aldine Aldine Mail Route

Aldine Mail Route
Baker Ripley
3000 Aldine Mail Route
East Aldine District Office
5333 Aldine Mail Route
RED BOX
5327 Aldine Mail Route
Dance Town USA Bingo
7214 Airline Drive
Pan Pike Baken!

Dance Town 10-A Bringo
7214 Airline Drive
Pan Riko Bakery
Aldine Mail Rt
MacArthur Higg School
High Meadows Branch Library
4550 Aldine Mail Rt
Prosperity Bank Eastex Fwy
3945 Little York
1615 Little York
1615 Little York
1706 Aldine Bender
Hobile Station
1906 Aldine Bender
Mobile Station
9140 Eastex Freeway
Texaco Food Mart
9225 Eastex Freeway
Conoco

9225 Eastex Freeway Conoco 11219 Eastex Freeway Handy Plus #69 11420 Eastex Freeway Hartz Chicken 12231 Eastex Freeway

easley Tire Eastex Freeway Eastex Function 
Bairy Queen
E. Mt. Houston 
Eastex Fwy
Ranchero King Buffet
North Freeway

Mi Rancho 11132 Aldine Westfield Aldine ISD Services Office Aldine Westfield

Ouick Mart 8320 Airline Harris County Branch Library 11379 Airline

Aldine High School Airline @ West Rd Las Banderas Meat Market 11381 Airline Food Store 1700 Airline

4655 Aldine Mail Rt Aldine Y.O.U.T.H Comm. 4700 Aldine Mail Rt Harvest Time Church Imperial Valley 789 Grocery 330 Gulf Bank K Stop Food Store 340 Gulf Bank

Office Building Parker Road HC Senior Center

Parker Road
HC Senior Center
Hardy Road
HC Senior Center
Bentley
HC Courthouse Annex®
Wil Clayton Parkway
METRO Park & Ride
Eastex Freeway
Stripes
Aldine Bender
Beltway 8 Travel Plaza
N. Sam Houston Pkwy
UT Health Clinic
Crosstimbers @ Jensen
Mannie's Seafood & Grille
E. Mt. Houston
Maxim's Seafood
Eastex Freeway
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Bentley Drive
Shell Station
Aldine
C.J. Gas Station

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C.J. Gas Station
Airline Drive
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Aldine Mail Route
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Food City Aldine Mail Route

And more... call 713-266-3444 if

#### OPINION PAGE

#### Texas Renaissance Festival Announces New Performers, Vendors and Rides

TRF ready to open October 3 for 46<sup>th</sup>
Season.

Todd Mission, TX (September 24, 2020) – The grounds of the Texas Renaissance Festival have come alive with cast rehearsals and vendors preparing their shops for the opening of the  $46^{\rm th}$  season on October 3, located just an hour north of Houston.

Visitors to this year's festival will notice parking with six-feet between vehicles, line monitors ensuring social distancing, plexiglass partitions at some food booths, socially distanced seating at performance venues and eating areas, spot cleaning at high traffic areas, newly installed hand sanitizers throughout the festival grounds, and face mask break areas. Full 2020 TRF Safety Guidelines can be found at www.texrenfest.com/safety-guidelines.

#### **New Performers**

The Texas Renaissance Festival will welcome The Washing Well Wenches and their good clean fun to the new Forest Gazebo located in the new Enchanted Forest Expansion area. Singer, Songwriter, and Accordionist Amanda Kitchens will delight you at the Cloister in the Green with her toe-tapping tunes that may inspire to get out of your seat to dance! Dangerous Curves will make their debut at The Barbarian Inn this season. This adult "public roast" show will require your "boos". Thomas Wood the Pyrojuggler will make you laugh, scream and squirm three times daily at the Cloister in the Green.

#### Fun for Everyone

Located by The Executioner and Head Toss game, the new **DaVinci's Flying Machine** (695GR) is for young and the young at heart. Take a spin in this colorful ride propelled by humans! Climb the steps and slide down the **Dragon Tower Slide** (1EF), test your puzzle skills at **Airy Botter's Escape Room** (17EF) and see the sights at the **Pirate Museum** (2EF) all at the new Enchanted Knoll.

#### Drunken Chicken, Absinthe and Tequila Oh My!

As you make your way through the German area to the Polish area, stop by the Kackle King (625F) for drunken chicken and pork! Whet your whistle at the new Wyrmwood Public House (Booth #225) where you can enjoy a craft cocktail, indulge in one of the absinthe or tequila tasting parties, or share a drink with the internationally acclaimed performers of The Green Hour. For more information about The Wyrmwood Public House Green Hour, Absinthe/Tequila Tastings and Parade Soiree visit <a href="https://www.texrenfest.com/wyrmwood-public-house">wyrmwood-public-house</a>. If you are a connoisseur of bourbon or rum, tastings will be offered at the new Royal Tastings tent in the Enchanted Forest Expansion area. For those who enjoy teas, Tea and Strumpets offers unique and ethically sourced teas.

#### Shopper's Delight

This season TRF welcomes new and guest vendors for the 2020 season. Please note that some shops will be following capacity limitations and may require a face mask for entry.

#### New Vendors

- Bug in the Box (12EF)
- Gem Stone Mine (692F)
  Elisabella's Royal Closet (#131)
- Sabersmith Swords (#241)
- Kiyan's Cove (#264)Petrified Dragon (#422)
- Primal Dreams (#423) • Journeyman Leather (#511)
- Pandora's Box (F11)
- Artemis Designs (9EF & 10EF)Scribal Workshop (6EF)
- Crimson Chain Leatherworks (18EF)
- H&H Glass Castle (19EF)
   Blackbeard's Booty (4EF)
- Blackbeard's Booty (4EF)John's Wood (15EF & 16EF)
- Widgets and Gizmos (14EF)

#### **Guest Vendors**

- Beaute and the Bath (#79)
- Two Tarts' Toppers (#203) • Blooms and Shrooms (#311)
- Green Faerie Apothecary (#502)
- Legacy Forge (#523A)
  Tipsy's Woodworking (#675WW)
  Henna Body Art (Arena Location)
- Hullabaloo Henna (5EF)
- Face painting by Shandi (#640S)

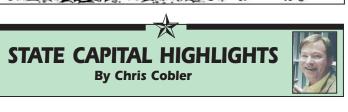
• Stone Wick (7EF & 8EF) • Mischief Masks (670WW)

Date specific tickets are available online at <a href="https://www.texrenfest.com">www.texrenfest.com</a>, Groupon and at H-E-B Business Centers.

#### About the Texas Renaissance Festival

The Texas Renaissance Festival is the nation's largest Renaissance event. Each year over 450,000 patrons enter through the gates of the festival into a 16<sup>th</sup> Century European Village where performers immerse you in the enchantment of the village that feature 21 stages of music and stage acts, 400 shoppes, artisans, and a world tour for the taste buds that of course include turkey legs! The Texas Renaissance Festival is located one hour north of Houston. 2020 TRF season dates are Saturdays and Sundays, October 3 – November 29. More information can be found at <a href="https://www.texrenfest.com">www.texrenfest.com</a>.





# Houston-Dallas Bullet Train says its on fast track

Texas' first- and thirdlargest cities could be in daily commuting distance from each other via the high-speed Texas Central Railroad.

Proponents of the proposed bullet train hailed two historic milestones last week: The Federal Railroad Administration released its rules of the road for the project and approved the environmental review and route for the track between Houston and Dallas.

Commuters would be able to travel the 240-mile route in less than 90 minutes on the Japanese-built train, with departures every 30 minutes daily during peak periods and every hour during off-peak periods. The train, holding about 400 passengers, is projected to travel at speeds of more than 200 mph. Construction could start as early as next year.

"This is the moment we have been working toward," said Carlos Aguilar, chief executive officer of Texas Central Railroad. The Federal Railroad Administration approval "represents years of work by countless individuals, affirming a very thorough and careful regulatory process that will make the Texas Central Railroad the first highspeed rail system to be implemented in the United States."

Opponents said the project still has a long way to go before final approval. Texans Against High-Speed Rail officials contend Texas Central is in financial trouble and has significant regulatory hurdles to clear.

"Texas Central will likely trumpet this decision as major progress for its project, but they are simply arranging deck chairs on the Titanie," said Kyle Workman, chairman and president of Texans Against High-Speed Rail.

CLOSED FOR THE PUBLIC'S BUSINESS

The U.S. treasury has sent \$139 billion to the country's state and local governments in COVID-



19 relief funds, according to the Committee for a Responsible Federal Government.

To track this spending in the Lone Star State, a group called Texas Housers has filed public information requests with major city and county governments, seeking documentation of new expenditures and policies.

"However, recent

Thowever, recent guidance from Attorney General Ken Paxton has eviscerated Texas' Public Information Act and given governments impunity to operate without public scrutiny," Texas Housers, an advocacy group supporting affordable housing, said in a statement. "The guidance allows governments to ignore public information requests if they are operating 'skeleton crews' and working remotely during the pandemic."

during the pandemic."
San Antonio, Dallas
and Fort Worth
responded to Housers'
requests with automated
emails stating that they
are "closed for business"
when it comes to the
Texas Public Information

Act.

"The exploitability of this system is obvious," Housers' statement said.
"A city can be open for business with regards to new expenditures and policies but closed for business with regards to divulging any information about these plans."

The Freedom of
Information Foundation
of Texas has joined in
opposing this suspension
of the Public Information
Act and has asked the

Attorney General's Office for a clarifying opinion.

THIS OLD HOUSE The Association of Texas Realtors is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2020.

For a little perspective the Humble Independent School District reports the price of a new home was \$6,296 in 1920. One hundred years later, the average home price in Humble is \$149,794. What will the price be in 2120? And what will a real estate agent's job look like 100 years from now?

"We are at a crucial juncture within the history of the brokerage industry that will test the survival of every real estate agent ..." Jason S. Weissman, CEO of Bost Realty Advisers, wrote in a recent Fast Company opinion article. "The real estate agents and brokerages who survive and thrive in the coming crunch will be those who embrace technology, not fight it."

#### PECAN PIE GOES WITH EVERYTHING Texans don't really

Texans don't really need a special month to remind them to celebrate pecans or wine, but October offers some emphasis.

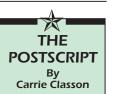
emphasis.
October is specially designated for recognizing Texans pecans and Texas wine.
The Texas Pecan Board and Texas Fine Wine invite people to celebrate by pairing the two tastes together during a virtual tasting event.

To participate in this tasting, purchase a tasting kit through Texas Fine Wine by Friday, Oct. 9, at texasfinewine.com/ upcoming- events. Each kit is \$125 plus tax and includes five bottles of wine, a 1-pound bag of raw pecans and a tasting sheet, recipes and other information produced by the Texas Pecan Board to be used during the event.

"In addition to participating in the tasting, I encourage every Texan to visit their closest pecan orchard and winery to discover what makes Texas pecans and Texas wines so special," said Bob Whitney, executive director of the

Texas Pecan Board.
If \$125 is a little too pricey for your taste, individual Texas orchards and retailers may be running specials throughout the month, the Texas Pecan Board suggests. Share your favorite recipes and wine pairings on social media by using #TexasPecanMonth.

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



#### "Zooming"

Yesterday, I had a nice long Zoom chat with an old friend.

I know this is nothing remarkable these days, but it was the first time my friend, Andrew, had used Zoom and I was frankly a little surprised.

Andrew isn't on Facebook. "It's none of anyone's business what I'm up to!" he tells me. I don't think Andrew is

"up to" all that much, but he takes a particularly fierce view on privacy. He won't buy groceries with his credit card if they are going to track what he buys.

"Why would you care if

"Why would you care if someone knows how much broccoli you're buying?" I ask. "Maybe they'll give you a coupon."

"It's none of their darned business how much broccoli I'm buying!" Andrew tells

me.

He still has the same email account he's had since the 90s. He still has the same telephone answering machine. He recently got a cell phone, but he doesn't text. Andrew answers emails, but they take about as long as standard first-class mail to arrive and get a response. Still, it's all worth it because he is a good friend and he always has a lot of interesting things to say—once I get ahold of him.

Like nearly everyone else, Andrew has been a little lonely. He lives alone and his work doesn't involve much human interaction. I usually see Andrew a couple of times a year when we go to visit my family. But that hasn't happened this year and it doesn't look like it's going to happen for a while

going to happen for a while.

I was contacted by a mutual friend of ours on Facebook about having a Zoom chat with a bunch of high school buddies. I told him that would be fun and he should invite Andrew—by email, of course. Andrew thought that sounded great and we decided to try out this Zoom thing in advance. That turned out to be a good idea.

Andrew didn't use his

Andrew didn't use his real name (of course) so, for a time, I was looking at a blank screen that said, "GREAT." But then he got the video working and he appeared in front of his bright kitchen window.

"Unmute," I messaged him. He did. I still heard nothing. I called him on the phone. "I can't hear you," I told him. Then added, "Your hair is really short."

air is really short."
"I cut it myself."
"Well, your mic isn't

working."
"I know I've used this

microphone before!"
"Let's see it." Andrew
waved the headset and
microphone in front of the
camera.

"Andrew, that is a really old headset." "It is not old!"

"Yup," I told him, "that's a collectible. I think maybe you should call up the folks at Antiques Roadshow. I bet

they'd be interested."
"Ha, ha!" Andrew said.
After several more tries he reluctantly admitted that the ancient microphone might not connect to his current computer.

"I guess I'll need a new microphone," he grumbled. "But we can still talk on the phone."

And we did. We put our phones on speaker and we looked at one another in our monitors and we talked for a long time. I realized, once again and with force, how essential this connection is. It was so good to see my old friend's face—even if his camera was a little fuzzy, even if the light was shining rather brightly behind his closely shorn head.

"Oh my gosh! I've got to go," I said, when I realized how long we'd been talking

how long we'd been talking.
"We should do this
again." Andrew said.

We definitely need to do this again.
Till next time,

Carrie Carrie Classon's memoir is called, "Blue Yarn." Learn

more at CarrieClasson.com.

# NORTHEAST\*NEWS

5906 Star Lane, Houston, TX 77057 (713) 266-3444 • FAX (713) 977-1188 email: nenewsroom@aol.com website www.nenewsroom.com

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Mei-Ing HoffmanAssociate Pub	lisher
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Willie G Glasgow	cutive
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#### SPORTS PAGE

# AISD varsity football teams open seasons this week: Texas looks to send message to rest of Big 12 against OU

It's been a long time coming, but Aldine ISD's five varsity football programs will begin District 14-6A play this week.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the five programs did not start practicing until the week of Sept. 14. They all missed a couple of days of workouts because of Tropical Storm Beta, but on Thursday and Friday of this week, they will begin play against their 14-6A rivals from Spring ISD.

On Thursday, Aldine and Eisenhower will meet at 7 p.m. in Thorne Stadium, and on that same night Davis will take on Westfield in Planet Ford Stadium in Spring. On Friday, MacArthur and Nimitz will meet at 7 p.m. in Thorne Stadium.

Aldine ISD and Spring ISD will play a district-only schedule. The seven-game season will conclude on the weekend of Dec. 3.

While the high school teams start their season, the college lads enter their fifth week of competition. The annual Red River Rivalry will take place on Saturday in the Cotton Bowl when Texas takes on Oklahoma Tom Herman's team wants to send a message to the rest of the Big 12 that they are the team to beat this year and bring an end to OU's seven-year reign as Big 12 champions. Two weeks ago, UT pulled a 15-point deficit in the last three minutes of play at Teas Tech to force overtime and come out on top in a wild 63-56 thriller in

While Texas escaped with a victory, OU blew a 21-point second-half lead en route to a 38-35 loss at home to Kansas State. This is perhaps the youngest team Lincoln Riley has fielded in Norman and the lack of experience, especially on defense, took its toll on the Sooners who will face a much better offense this week. This might be a rebuilding year for Riley, but don't ever underestimate the Sooners when they take on their hated rivals from Austin.

Austin.
In other college action,
Florida and its explosive
offense will visit Texas
A&M, which struggled two
weeks ago in its season
opener. Jimbo Fisher's team
pulled out a less than
impressive 17-12 win in
Kyle Field against a
Vanderbilt team that might
be one of the bottom two
teams in the SEC. While the
Aggies struggled on offense,
the Gators ripped off 51
points at Ole Miss as
quarterback Kyle Trask



threw for six touchdowns, four going to tight end Frank Pitts. In the ACC, Miami will

In the ACC, Miami will look to see if they are for real when they visit No. 1-ranked Clemson. The Hurricane have looked impressive in their first three games, but they face a much bigger challenge when they take on Dabo Swiney and Trevor Lawrence in Death Valley.

In the NFL, the Texans,

In the NFL, the Texans, who lost their first three games, host Jacksonville. Bill O'Brien's seat may be getting a bit toasty and a loss at home to the Jaguars might turn up the heat a degree or two. The Cowboys, who lost a tough one at Seattle two weeks ago (38-31) host the hapless Giants at AT&T Stadium. The Giants and Jets might be playing for the No. 1 pick in the NFL draft, as both have been pretty bad thus far in the season.

The league actually has a good one on Thursday night to kickoff Week 5 as Tom Brady and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers pay a visit to the Chicago Bears. On Sunday, it will be a battle of the Keystone State as the Eagles will visit the Steelers, while Buffalo and Tennessee will meet in Nashville as two of the top teams in the AFC get after one another.

Before we take a look at those games and a handful of others, let's review last week's record. An 8-3 week upped the season record to 21-12 (64%). Now, onto this week's game.

#### HIGH SCHOOL

Aldine vs. Eisenhower: Hank Semler's Aldine Mustangs face off against Eric Jackson's Eisenhower Eagles on Thursday night in Thorne Stadium, Aldine returns 20 lettermen and four offensive and two defensive starters from last year 1-9 team (0-7 in district play. Key returners are quarterback Johnny Toups. running back Elijah Teamer (655 rushing yards, 5 TD) and defensive lineman Lazare Escobar (87 tackles 10 tackles for loss). The Eagles return 27 lettermen and five offensive and five

defensive starters from last year's 4-6 team (4-3 in district). Key returnees are running back/linebacker Wayman Finley (407 rushing yards, 7 TDs/102 tackles, 3 sacks), running back Garryon Carauthers, wide receiver JaMarcus Martin (15 receptions, 177 yards, 3 TDs) and linebacker Christian Dunbar (40 tackles, 2 interceptions). Mypick, Eisenhower 26, Aldine

Davis at Westfield: Scott Joseph's Davis Falcons travel to Spring to take on Westfield on Thursday night at Planet Ford Stadium. Davis returns 26 lettermen, three offensive starters and nine defensive starters from last year's 3-7 team (2-5 in district). Top returnees include wide receiver Isaiah Harrell, running back Azavion Kegler, defensive back Savon Johnson, linebacker Konkheis Sipsey and defensive back Nycolis Prudhomme. Westifled, which finished 13-2 and reached the Class 6A Division II state semifinals returns 36 lettermen, including three offensive and four defensive starters. My pick, Westfield 27, Davis MacArthur vs. Nimitz:

Wayne Crawford MacArthur Generals open on Friday night against Richard Slater's Nimitz Cougars in Thorne Stadium. MacArthur returns 25 lettermen from last year's 5-6 playoff team (4-3 in district), including four offensive and four defensive starters. Top returnees include quarterback Rashaun Jackson (1,582 passing yards, 13 TDs), running back/ linebacker Maurice Woods (403 yards, 6 TD/83 tackles, sacks, 1 interception), running back Avante Reed (227 yards, 2 TDs) and linebacker Paul Newman (76 tackles, 2 sacks). Nimitz returns 20 lettermen from last year's 3-7 team (1-6 in district), including six offensive and five defensive starters. Top returnees include running back Jayvon Davis (709 yards, 6 TDs), quarterback Austin Remo (412 rushing yards, 3 TDs), tight end/defensive end Christain Booker and corner back Jeremiah Jones My pick, Nimitz 24,

#### **NCAA**

Miami at Clemson Miami Hurricane fans believe the 'Canes are back as a national title contender after almost a decade of mediocrity. On Saturday Manny Diaz's team will find out just how "back" they are when they take on the No. 1ranked Clemson Tigers on the road. Former University of Houston quarterback D'Eriq King (736 passing yards, 6 TDs) has provided the Miami offense with the spark it has lacked in recent years, along with running back Cam'Ron Harris (311 yards, 5 TDs). The 'Canes will face perhaps the best quarterback in the country when it faces Trevor Lawrence~(519~yards, 4~TDs)and a loaded Tigers offense that also has one of the top running backs in the nation in the speedy Travis Etienne (170 yards, 1 TD). I think Miami hangs around, but look for Lawrence to be the difference maker late to lead Clemson to the win. My pick, Clemson 34, Miami 24

Texas vs. Oklahoma:

This is supposed to be the year Texas contends for more than just the Big 12 title, but a berth in the College Football Playoffs and replace OU as the Big 12's top team. In their first two games of the season, the UT offense has put up 59 and 63 points thanks to the play of quarterback Sam Ehlinger (688 yards, 10 TDs) and wide receiver Joshua Moore (11 receptions, 200 yards, 4 TDs). While the offense has been ablaze, the defense struggled against Texas Tech two weeks ago allowing 56 points in their wild comeback win. Speaking of struggling defenses, OU has one as well as the Sooners blew a 21-point third quarter lead at home to Kansas State two weeks ago on the way to a 38-35 loss. Quarterback Spence Rattler (677 yards, 8 TDs) and freshman wide receiver Marvin Mims (8 receptions, 111 yards, 3 TDs) should keep the Sooners in this one, but look for Texas to have too much firepower on offense as the Horns pick up a key early-season victory My pick, Texas 36, Oklahoma 33

Florida at Texas A&M:
After playing at Alabama
last week, things don't get
any easier for Jimbo
Fisher's Aggies when they
host No. 3-ranked Florida in
Kyle Field on Saturday. In
their season opener two
weeks ago at Mississippi,
the Gators put up 51 points
as quarterback Kyle Trask
threw for 416 yards and six
TDs, while tight end Kyle

Pitts grabbed eight passes for 170 yards and four touchdowns. The A&M defense will have its hands full, while the A&M offense must play better than it did in its season opening 17-12 win over Vanderbilt two Kellen Mond (189 yards, 1 TD) and running back Isaiah Spiller (117 rushing yards) will need to step up their games if they hope to pull off the upset. I don't see that happening as Florida picks up another big SEC road win. My pick, Florida 33, Texas A&M 27

#### NFL

Tampa Bay at Chicago A good one for Thursday Night Football pits Tom Brady and the high-scoring Bucs offense against a pretty good Bears defense in Soldier Field. Brady (773 yards, 6 TDs) has gotten off to a nice start with his new team and appears to like all of his weapons, especially vide receivers Mike Evans (10 receptions, 108 yards, 4 TDs) and Chris Godwin (11 receptions, 143 yards, 1 TD). He also has a strong running game to turn to now that Leonard Fournette seems to be getting more involved in the offense. The Bears rallied for a 30-26 win at Atlanta two weeks ago after head coach Matt Nagy benched starting quarter back Mitch Trubisky and went with Nick Foles, who threw for 188 yards and three TDs in the fourth quarterback to spark the comeback. Foles is now the starter, which should make Chicago fans happy, at least for a week. My pick, Chicago 26, Tampa Bay 23 Jacksonville at

Houston: If the Texans are going to get back in the AFC South race, they must beat Jacksonville on Sunday at NRG Stadium. Houston has definitely had perhaps the most difficult opening three games of any team in the NFL, having played Kansas City, Baltimore and Pittsburgh. Things should get a bit easier for Deshaun Watson (792 yards, 4 TDs) and Company on Sunday when Garner Minshew III (787 vards, 6 TDs) comes calling. The Texans need to play better on defense and should not take Minshew and his young teammates for granted. O'Brien needs to make sure his team is focused on playing 60 minutes of football (they scored 21 first-half points two weeks ago at Pittsburgh, but were shutout in the second half) on Sunday if they hope to get back in the playoff hunt. My pick,

Houston 26, Jacksonville 20 **Buffalo at Tennessee** Another good one in the AFC pits two of the conferences top teams thus far in the season. This game may or not be played depending on the COVID status with the Titans, who had three players and five other employees test positive after their game at Minnesota two weeks ago. Odds are this one will be played, but keep an eye on what the NFL does. This will be a good test for the Bills who have not as of yet played a quality opponent on the road. Quarterback Josh Allen (1.038 vards, 10 TDs) is off to a blazing start, as is wide receiver Stefon Diggs) 20 receptions, 288 yards, 2 TDs), but those two and the rest of the Buffalo offense will face a very solid Tennessee defense on Sunday. The Titans went to 3-0 two weeks ago with a come-from-behind win at Minnesota when Stephen Gostowski nailed a 55-yard field goal late in the game. Tennessee will go as far as quarterback Ryan Tannehill (809 yards, 6 TDs) and running back Derrick Henry (319 yards, 2 TDs) take them. The Titans offense will also get tested by a good Buffalo defense. Look for Henry to wear down the Buffalo defense as the Titans win a close one at home. My pick, Tennessee 23, Buffalo 20

Philadelphia at Pittsburgh: Eagle fans have to be shaking their heads in disgust with a team that entered Week 4 with a 0-2-1 record after tying the lowly Bengals at overtime. Quarterback Carson Wentz (737 yards, 3 TDs) has struggled early on this year and has thrown six interceptions. Things won't get any easier on Sunday when he faces a Pittsburgh defense that loves to blitz and apply pressure. The Eagles defense will also be tested by Ben Rothlisberger (777 yards, 7 TDs), running back James Conner (224 yards, 2 TDs) and wide receiver JuJu Smith Schuster (17 receptions, 160 yards, 3 TDs). If Wentz struggles again this week will head coach Doug Pederson make a change QB? Only time will tell. My pick, Pittsburgh 31, Philadelphia 23

New York Giants at Dallas: A second straight home game for the Cowboys who could begin to separate themselves from the rest of the weak NFC East. Two weeks ago, the Cowbovs dropped a tough one in Seattle, but they should rebound this week against a bad Giants team that lost star running back Saquon Barkley for the season in Week 2 with a serious knee injury. Look for Cowboys QB Dak Prescott (1,188 yards, 5 TDs) and running back Ezekiel Elliott (219 vards 3 mode and put this one away early. This might be a game where the Dallas defense rebounds after three shaky weeks. My pick, Dallas 34 New York Giants 17

Los Angeles Chargers at New Orleans: A se game for the Monday Night Football gang has the underachieving Chargers taking on a struggling New Superdome. Two weeks ago on Sunday night, Drew Brees (760 yards, 6 TDs) had another rough outing in the Saints' 37-30 home loss to Green Bay. Look for him to rebound this week, especially is star wide receiver Michael Thomas returns to the lineup after missing three weeks with a high ankle sprain. One thing is for sure, the Saints can count on running back Alvin Kamara (153 rushing yards 3 TDs/27 receptions, 285 vards 3 TDs) to have another big night as he's gotten off to an extremely fast and productive start this season. My pick, New Orleans 30, Los Angeles Chargers 21

#### Aldine ISI

2020 6A Football Schedule

Date	Opponent	Stadium	Home/Away	Time
Oct. 8	Eisenhower	Thome	Н	7:00 PM
Oct. 15	MacAthur	Thome	H	7:00 PM
Oct. 23	Davis	Thome	A	7:00 PM
Oct. 31	Dekaney	Thome	H	1:00 PM
Nov. 5	BYE	9		de agresso de la
Nov. 14	Spring	Planet Ford	A	12:00 PM
Nov. 20	Westfield	Thome	Н	7:00 PM
Nov. 27	Nimitz	Thome	A	1:00 PM
Dec. 3	BYE			
		1		

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line ring	Thome	Н	7:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM
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	Thome	H	7:00 PM
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ritz	Thome	H	7:00 PM
c Atthur	Thome	H	1:00 PM
kaney	Planet Ford	Α	6:00 PM
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Aldine Davis	Thome Thome	A	7:00 PM
Davis	Thomas		
	Inome	H	7:00 PM
Spring	Planet Ford	A	7:00 PM
Nimitz	Thome	Н	7:00 PM
BYE			
Mac Atthur	Thome	A	7:00 PM
Dekaney	Thome	H	7:00 PM
Westfield	Planet Ford	Α	12:00 PM
BYE		2.0	
	Nmitz BYE Mac Athur Dekaney Westfield	Nimitz         Thome           BYE         BYE           MacAthur         Thome           Dekaney         Thome           Westfield         Planet Ford	Nimitz         Thome         H           BYE         BYE           MacAtthur         Thome         A           Dekaney         Thome         H           Westfield         Planet Ford         A

Date	Opponent	Stadium	Home/Away	Time
Oct. 9	Nimitz	Thome	A	700 PM
Oct. 15	Aldine	Thome	H	700 PM
Oct . 22	Dekaney.	Thome	Н	700 PM
Oct.3D	Westfield	Planet Ford	A	7:00 PM
Nov. 5	BYE	100	13 02	Baranana
Nov. 13	Eisenhower	Thome	Н	700 PM
Nov. 21	Davis	Thome	Α	100 PM
Nov. 27	Spring	Thome	Н	600 PM
Dec.3	BYE		3	

Date	Opponent	Stadium	Home/Away	Time
Oct. 9	MacArthur	Thome	A	700 PM
Oct. 15	Dekaney	Planet Ford	A	700 PM
Oct. 24	Westfield	Thome	H	100 PM
Oct. 30	Eisenhower	Thome	Α	700 PM
Nov. 5	BYE			
Nov. 12	Davis	Thome	H	700 PM
Nov. 20	Spring	Planet Ford	Α	700 PM
Nov. 27	Aldine	Thome	Н	100 PM
Dec.3	BYE			9
2.0505555	S March	- 3	8	3



(HC) Homecoming (SN) Senior Night

# **HC Household Hazardous Waste** facility now open to the public

The Harris County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility will open to the public beginning Tuesday, September 15thand will be accepting customers by appointment only. Please read all signs at the facility as some procedures have changed.

Please go to our website at www.HCHHW.org and click on the banner at the top. It will allow you to "SCHEDULE A DROPOFF" on the day and time that is convenient for you. This program works best on Google Chrome, Firefox, and Edge.

Appointments will be scheduled on Tuesday,

Wednesday, Thursday, and the 2nd and 4th Saturdays.We will only serve those with appointments at this time.

Please arrive at your appointment time. If you cannot make your appointment, please cancel it and reschedule via our website.

You will be provided a confirmation number when you schedule your appointment. You must provide your confirmation number, your name, or address when you arrive at the facility.

Please stay in your vehicle to be offloaded with your vehicle turned off. We cannot remove your HHW items if you

are out of your vehicle or it is not turned off.

Please review and follow the new COVID-19 protocol listed on the scheduler. You must wear a face covering while at the facility.

We are limiting the interaction between cus $tomers\ and\ staff\ so\ please$ call ahead if you have any questions. Please note our number has changed and is now 346.286.4299. If you have an item

that no longer has its original label, please write what is in the container on the outside of it.

We want to ensure you are safe while visiting our facility.

### **Lone Star SBDC starts Fall Business Success** Seminars

HOUSTON (Sept. 4) -Now more than ever, small-business owners need all the resources they can get. To help them keep the doors open, the Lone Star College Small Business Development Center and CyFair Houston Chamber of Commerce are launching their Business Success Seminar series on Wednesdays in October. The series will cover knowledge needed to pivot businesses for success.

"It is imperative for a small business to understand and respond to business issues caused by the pandemic," said Miguel Lopez, LSC-SBDC executive director. "In this first seminar of the series, a panel of CyFair business

owners will share how they altered their business models to thrive in this

new environment." "Pivot Your Business  $Model-Hear\ from\ the\ Ex$ perts" will be moderated by Paula Harvey, CyFair Houston Chamber of Commerce vice president. It will help small-business owners learn how to think outside the box to deliver products and services to prospects in new ways.

The virtual event takes place Wednesday, Oct. 7, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m There is no cost to attend. You can register for the seminar here.

The event is co-hosted by LSC-SBDC and the Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce.

#### Mayor speaks on ballot box restrictions

HOUSTON -Mavor Sylvester Turner today re-leased the following statement after Gov. Abbott forced Harris County to close 11

mail ballot drop-off sites. "Growing up, I was bused over 20 miles as a student in the first integrated class at Klein High School. Because of the Governor's decision today, I would now have to go even farther to drop off an absentee ballot and make sure my

vote is counted.

"Harris County is the 3rd largest county in the United States, and Houston is the 4th largest city in the country. Reducing the number of mail-in ballot drop-off sites from 11 to one is a direct attempt at voter suppres-

sion.
"We should be focused on making voting more accessible and stop trying to create obstacles and distractions with unsubstantiated claims of voter fraud."

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#### CHURCH PAGE

#### **BIBLE TRIVIA**

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Tamar in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Why had Jonah been thrown

overboard from a ship, later to be swallowed by the big fish? He asked to, For stealing, Being a stowaway, Brandishing his sword

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

The Lord is their strength,

and He is the saving refuge of

His anointed. Save Your people,

and bless Your inheritance;

shepherd them also,

and bear them up forever.

Psalm 28:8,9

3. From Genesis 29, which of Jacob's wives was first to bear children? Leah, Rachel, Bilhah, Zilpah 4. In 2 Kings 16, who burned his

son alive as a sacrifice? Joab, Ahaz, Isaac, Josiah 5. From Acts 22, what famous rabbi

was Paul's teacher? Hillel, Turkel, Zakkai, Gamaliel 6. Who stole idols from her father? Elisabeth, Martha, Rachel, Deborah ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) He asked to; 3) Leah; 4) Ahaz; 5) Gamaliel; 6) Rachel

Sharpen your understanding of scripture with Wilson's Casey's latest book, "Test Your Bible Knowledge," available in bookstores and online.

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# Garcia brings MedPODs to Precinct 2,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

College of Medicine. "This is an important tool to be used in the care and treatment of COVID."

"We are so thrilled to see Precinct 2 lead the way on using our innovative SmartPod in Harris County," said Dr. Sharmila Anandasabapathy, director of Baylor Global Health and professor at Baylor College of Medicine. "Our hope is that this unique, portable COVID unit will

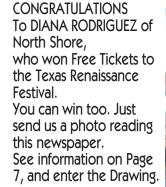
be a great resource for the local community and an effective solution for future emergencies, both hurri-

canes and epidemics."
"UHPhealth's slogan is 'Healthy living is what we give'. We believe that health or healthcare ser-vice is not a benefit, it is a basic human right that all people deserve. Therefore, we do not reinvent the wheel, we close in the health services gaps," said

UHP Executive Director Dr. Bernice Koko, "we are proud to be working with Precinct 2 to bring accessible health care where it's needed most."

To set up an appointment to get FREE

Covid-19 testing, visit covid.uhphealth.org or call (346) 280-4133 (phone line is only operational Monday through Saturday, 8 AM -







benefits. At left, Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, and at right Dr. Paul Klotman, CEO of Baylor College of Medicine. Behind them is the SmartPOD.

#### **SPANISH**

#### El Comisionado Garcia introduce Innovacion SmartPOD al Precinto 2

COMISIONADO GARCÍA INTRODUCE IN-NOVACIÓN AL PRECINTO

2 CON EL PRIMER SMARTPOD DE BAYLOR EN LOS ESTADOS

Esta semana el comisionado Adrian García, junto con Baylor College of Medicine y United Health Partners (UHP) anuncian la llegada e instalación del primero de dos SmartPods, que son estructuras de atención médica adapt-ables y móviles. Diseñado por el Baylor College of Medicine y la validación se realizó con la ayuda de los ingenieros de la NASA, los SmartPods se ACCESS2HEALTH en las in-

stalaciones del Precincto 2. Originalmente creados para tratar el brote de ébola en África, los SmartPods que se utilizarán en Precincto 2 son los primeros en ubicarse dentro de los Estados Unidos. I n i c i a l m e n t e , ACCESS2HEALTH se utilizará para las pruebas de COVID-19 que realizará United Health Partners; sin embargo, en el futuro, estarán disponibles para tratar enfermedades infecciosas y otras enfermedades.

El primer SmartPod estará ubicado en el Northeast Community Center (10918 Bentley St., Houston, TX 77093) en Aldine. Se espera que la segunda de las dos unidades ACCESS2HEALTH esté estacionada en East Harris Ac-Hwy, Pasadena, TX 77505) y debería llegar en algún momento del otoño. Las clínicas móviles son una respuesta innovadora para lidiar con los desiertos de atención médica en el Precinto 2 del condado de Harris.

Un SmartPod similar que actualmente está en préstamo de Baylor se trasladará al Centro Comunitario Flukinger en Channelview (6003 Lorenzo St, Channelview, TX 77530). Precinct 2 trabajará con Baylor y UHP en la programación y los servicios que apo mejor a la

"Como Comisionado del

Condado del Precinto 2, estoy muy consciente de que gran parte de mi área está clasificada como carente de servicios médicos, por lo que estoy tan emocionado de tener finalmente la primera de estas dos unidades SmartPod ACCESS2HEALTH. He escuchado de muchos de mis electores que no pueden ir al médico. Para algunos, incluso si tienen seguro, no hay una instalación en su área para obtener ayuda," dijo el Comisionado García," desde el primer día de mi administración, he priorizado el acceso a la atención médica para los residentes del Precinto 2 y el COVID- 19 pandemia ilustra por qué esto es tan vi-tal."

"Baylor ha colaborado desde hace mucho tiempo con el condado de Harris para abordar la salud y el bienestar de nuestra comunidad, y esto continúa con la Clínica de atención médica móvil en el

Precinto 2" dijo el Dr. Paul Klotman, presidente, director ejecutivo v decano ejecutivo

de Baylor College of Medicine. "Esta es una herramienta importante que se utilizará en el cuidado y tratamiento de

"Estamos muy emocionados de ver que Precinct 2 lidera el camino en el uso de nuestro innovador SmartPod en el condado de Harris", dijo la Dra. Sharmila Anandasabapathy, directora de Baylor Global Health y profesora de Baylor College of Medicine. 'Nuestra esperanza es que esta unidad portátil sea un gran recurso para la comunidad local v una solución eficaz para futuras emergencias, tanto huracanes como epi-

"El lema de UHPhealth es 'Lo que damos es una vida sana'. Creemos que la salud o el servicio sanitario no es un beneficio, es un derecho humano básico que todas las personas merecen. Por lo tanto, no reinventamos la rueda. cerramos las brechas de los servicios de salud," dijo la Dra. Bernice Koko, directora ejecutiva de UHP," estamos orgullosos de trabajar con el Precinto 2 para brindar atención médica accesible donde más se necesita ."

Para programar una cita para obtener pruebas gratuitas de Covid-19 visite covid.uhphealth.org o llame al (346) 280-4133 (la línea lunes a sábado, de 8 A.M. a 3

# **High Speed Rail between Dallas** and Houston gets federal approvel



The TexasCentral train will be similar to this Japanese Bullet Train.

link Dallas and Houston within 90 min-utes has been approved by the Federal Railroad Administration, according to Texas Central Railroad, the company in charge of the project.

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Railroad Administration issued the two key rulings that Texas officials were waiting on to move forward with the project, according to the company, which provide the regulatory framework and the environmental review for the high-speed train. Texas Central expects to start construction in the first half of 2021.

The Federal Railroad Administration did not immediately respond to request for comment and has yet to publicly confirmed the approvals, but Texas Central Railroad said the rulings will be released soon

Although the company had to layoff 28 workers due to the coronavirus-related fi-nancial crisis in March, Texas Central Railroad had described the project as "shovel ready" and waiting for the federal

government's approval.
"This is the moment we have been working towards," said Carlos Aguilar, CEO of Texas Central Railroad in a statement. "The release of the final (approvals) by the Federal Railroad Administration represents years of work by countless individuals, affirming a very thorough and careful federal regulatory process that will make the Texas Central Railroad the first high-speed rail system to be implemented in the United States."

The company estimates that the construction for the project will take up to six years, with a total cost of around \$20 bil-lion. The train will use the same technology as the Shinkansen bullet trains in Japan, which can reach speeds of more

than 200 mph.

The project has seen resistance from property owners in rural areas of Central Texas, where the railroad would travel through. According to Texas Central Railroad, they already have control of over  $600\,$ parcels of land needed for the project. as ell as sites for stations in Dallas, Hous-

The high-speed train that promises to ton and the Brazos Valley. In May, Texas courts ruled in favor of the project and against landowners trying to stop the eminent domain process. As of September, the company hasn't needed to use eminent domain and has not applied to federal grants or subsidies.

"The proposed Dallas to Houston route would threaten the property rights of Texas landowners whose farms, ranches, and homesteads sit along the route – land that has at times been in families for genera-tions," said U.S. Rep. Kevin Brady, who represents part of the areas affected by the project, in a press release earlier this summer. "Plus, the project's cost has already increased by nearly 300 percent and serious economic and safety questions have gone unanswered."

But leaders in Dallas and Houston

have defended the high-speed railroad and worked with the company to secure areas to build stations and lines.

"Today's announcement from Texas Central means that this landmark project is closer than ever to breaking ground. The construction of high-speed rail will have a generational impact, creating thousands of jobs right here in Houston and injecting billions of dollars into our local businesses," said Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner in a statement. "Once operational, the system will create connections and opportunities never thought

At the other end of the line, in Dallas, Mayor Eric Johnson repeated his support for the project.

"High-speed rail will be a major part of the future of transportation in Texas, and it will be transformative for the city of Dallas," Johnson said in a statement. "I am thrilled by the announcement of Texas Central's latest historic milestones, and I am proud to advocate for this project, which will create thousands of jobs in Dallas, attract new businesses, and strengthen our economy for years to

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