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# NORTHEAST NEWS

## Candy Girls



East Aldine District's Veronica Sanchez and Nataly Perez led the parade, passing out bags of sweets and treats.

### \$1,200 in COVID-19 relief money available

**HARRIS COUNTY** — Harris County has issued a new \$40 million COVID-19 relief fund to help residents in need during the pandemic that will be administered by Houston Catholic Charities.

It's set to open on Monday, Nov. 2, and will accept applications through Friday, Nov. 6.

The program will provide one-time payments of \$1,200 to up to 33,333 families struggling with financial hardships related to COVID-19.

The payments will be distributed in two rounds. The first round is already underway and is assisting families who applied, but did not receive help from the county's coronavirus relief program launched earlier this summer.

The second "public" round begins on Monday when anyone can apply.

The money can be used for any type of emergency expense, such as housing, food, utilities, healthcare, childcare and transportation.

Families can apply on their own without cooperation from a landlord or anyone else.

"Thousands of families across Harris County have struggled to overcome the

*Continued. See \$1200 COVID-19 on Page 2*

## Caravan brings Halloween treats to East Aldine community

East Aldine District sponsored a community Halloween "Spook-tacular" that safely brought treats and costumes to neighborhoods and kids around the Aldine area.

The Candy & Costume Caravan started 10am at the East Aldine Town Center, and for four hours wound its way through the residential neighborhoods, where families lined the streets waiting for the fun and decorated autos and

*See HALLOWEEN, page 8*



Dozens of cars and vans joined in the parade, some driven by individuals, others by organizations and civic clubs. The East Aldine District provided lots of sweets and treats that were handed out along the way.



Families throughout the East Aldine District lined the streets last Saturday, to see the Halloween Caravan and get some treats that were passed out along the way by participating groups in their cars.

### Early Voting: Harris County exceeds 2016 Voting Numbers

*1.15 million voted in first two weeks*

In the second full week of early voting in Texas, Harris County residents continued to set turnout records. As of Tuesday morning, 1.15 million Harris County residents had voted early, a record that eclipsed 2016 levels, when 977,000 voters voted early

during the entire 12-day early voting period. With four days of early voting left in addition to Election Day, Harris County has already achieved 88 percent of its total 2016 total turnout (1.3 million).

Joint efforts by civic organizations like members

of Houston in Action in partnership with local officials to expand voter registration, education and equitable voting access have helped ensure Harris County's election infrastructure was prepared to

*See EARLY VOTING, p. 2*

### Residents protest Pollution from Concrete Plant on Hartwick

**ALDINE** — Residents on Hartwick Street, who live near a busy Concrete Batch plant, are complaining that the neighborhood is filled with pollution, causing health problems for the families. The plant also works all hours of the day and night, neighbors said, causing unbearable noise.

Erick Garcia, who lives across the street from the plant, said the previous owner had only a few trucks, and kept the area clean. But in 2014 Integrity Ready Mix, owned by Manuel Malupa, took over the plant. Since then

*See Concrete Plant Protests, Page 3*

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# SCHOOL NEWS

## NEWS NOTES

### 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.hcphx.org](http://www.hcphx.org) or call **832-927-7575**. For the Pasadena stationary site at San Jacinto Central Campus, people must be 13 or older to be tested and people can register at [www.doineeda.com](http://www.doineeda.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 appointment necessary.

### HCEC Blood Drive set for Nov. 13

Harris County Emergency Corps is hosting a Blood Drive at their 1620 Isom location (Off Aldine Westfield) on Friday, November 13 from 1:30 to 4:45.

Sign up at [https://www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/326859](https://www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/326859). All donors entered into raffle for \$50 gift card. For more information contact Lindsey Nanninga Cell: (832)499-9699 E-Mail: [lnanninga@hcec.com](mailto:lnanninga@hcec.com)

### \$1200 COVID-19 Relief

Continued from Page 1

financial damage from COVID-19," said Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo. "While this relief will not reach everyone who needs it, we must do everything in our power to help those who are vulnerable pull through."

The fund is entirely need-based, and the money will be distributed equally across the county's four precincts.

Harris County residents living inside the city of Houston will not be excluded.

Applicants may apply online at [CatholicCharitiesHelp.org](http://CatholicCharitiesHelp.org) starting Nov. 2.

Since the application process requires applicants to upload documents, all applications must be submitted online. For those who want help or who have questions may call the hotline at 832-990-1318 Monday through Saturday between 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

-- Article courtesy of KTRK TV13.

## Assistance available for FAFSA applications

The 2021-2022 FAFSA and TASFA applications opened on October 1, 2020. Completing the FAFSA and TASFA applications for financial aid assistance is one of the most important steps students and families can take to pay for college.

According to the most recent Federal Student Aid annual report, annually the U.S. Department of Education awards around \$121.8 billion in federal grants, loans and work-study funds. Most colleges and universities offer a financial aid package that may include free or reduced tuition for students that complete the FAFSA or TASFA. However, money is awarded on a first come first serve basis.

Aldine ISD Guidance,

Counseling and Student Support Services department wants to ensure all Aldine ISD senior students and families can benefit from the FAFSA and TASFA. District counselors and advisors prepared to help seniors and their families complete the financial aid application. Senior families can sign up for a virtual appointment on November 10 or November 12, 2020.

During your appointment, a counselor will help you complete the 2021-2022 FAFSA or TASFA.

Time is moving fast. Don't wait to complete your application. Plan for college early, apply for financial aid, and get money for college. **SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY!**

## Harris County Launches A Digital Access Call Center For Aldine ISD Families

Harris County has created a special Digital Access Call Center for Aldine ISD students and families. Are you struggling to accessing online learning or completing schoolwork in a digital environment? Aldine ISD and Harris County would like to hear from you.

Students and families can utilize the after-hours call center to log any issue related to online learning. Below are some issues families can log:

- Slow internet or unstable connection speeds in your area
- Affordability of internet connection
- Affordability of devices needed for virtual learning (Chromebooks, laptops, iPads)
- Aldine ISD provided hardware/Chromebooks
- Logging into Aldine ISD sites

- Uploading homework
- Navigating the learning platform, Schoology
- Identifying appropriate digital resources
- Parent or guardian has fallen ill, child is unable to participate in e-learning
- Older siblings are taking care of younger siblings, child is unable to participate in e-learning
- Child has a disability or impairment that is making e-learning difficult or not possible

Harris County Digital Access Call Center Number and Hours:

Call Center number: (281) 885-1374  
 • Weekdays: 5 to 9 p.m.  
 • Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

During regular business hours, please call the Aldine ISD Help Desk at (281) 985-6263 or complete the online help ticket request on [AldineLearns.com](http://AldineLearns.com).

## Early Voting strong,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

handle the enormous turnout.

### Top-line numbers:

- Overall, 1,149,047 million Harris County residents have voted during the first two full weeks of early voting - an 18 percent increase over 2016 levels, in which 977,279 Texans in Harris County voted early during the 12 days of early voting (this year, early voting was extended due to the pandemic).

- With four days of early voting left in addition to Election Day, Harris County has already achieved 88 percent of its total 2016 total turnout (1.3 million).

- Nearly half of all registered voters in Harris County (46%) have already voted.

- Harris County is currently averaging about 82,000 votes per day. If this average holds, it will eclipse total 2016 voter turnout - 1.3 million, which includes both early voting and Election Day voting - by the end of the week.

- Turnout in Harris County accounts for ~15

percent of all ballots cast so far in Texas.

- Thanks in large part to the record-setting pace of Harris County, Texas continues to lead the nation in the number of people who have voted early - over 7.8 million - and in the percentage of its 2016 vote total that has already voted - a whopping 87 percent.

"The level of enthusiasm and turnout that Texans are demonstrating is unparalleled," **Ana Mae Naught, Houston in Action, said.** "For months, community leaders, members of Houston in Action, and local elected officials have worked relentlessly to ensure Harris County voters had multiple ways of casting a ballot safely and securely in the midst of an unprecedented global pandemic. Harris County voters are responding by turning out in record numbers. And that's a good thing, because our democracy is strengthened when more people participate, not less."

## Message from Superintendent LaTonya Goffney

Dear Aldine Community, We are in the middle of October! It has been an unprecedented year as we continue to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic. Even in this uncertain school year, the days have flown by. Aldine is truly a great place to be!

Several of our athletic sports teams have begun their seasons, including football, tennis, cross country, and volleyball. To ensure everyone stays safe, a few of our football players have been reminding us why it's important to stand up for our families.

Additionally, last week brought an end to our first nine weeks. Report Cards will be available in the Home Access Center on Monday, Oct. 26.

Return To Learn: Second Nine Weeks

The second nine-week period starts tomorrow, Tuesday, Oct. 20. All students whose families requested a change from the at-home learning setting during the window between Sept. 21-Oct. 3, will move to the on-campus learning setting.

Aldine ISD will also continue to provide virtual learning for students who opted for the at-home learning model.

On-campus safety protocols should remain top of mind. As more students return, following the guidelines and protocols will be more important than ever. As a reminder, masks are required for staff and students.

We continue to see very few positive cases, and we are aiming to keep this number low. You can always check the COVID-19 dashboard for an overview of the reported positive cases by school.

Our protocols follow the Texas Education Agency's reporting structure, which communicates cases Monday through Saturday and considers a case active for 10 days.

As a reminder, in the event of a positive COVID-19 case, each campus/department will follow the Three Cs:

Contain (student/staff will wait for departure in the wellness room on each campus)

Contact (all those who have been in close contact with the individual are notified)

Communicate (share information about confirmed cases with our community)

Enroll Your Young Learner in Prekindergarten and Kindergarten

There is still time to enroll students in our primary school programs. Each of our 12 primary schools has planned special fall enrollment events that allow families to select the learning option that is best for their family. All of our pre-K students will be given their own technology regardless of their learning



model. Visit your neighborhood campus for details about the event and how to enroll.

Transportation Updates Please check the Here Comes the Bus app or with your campus for details. The app is an excellent resource for families; however, it is important to remember that your bus driver's directions are the most accurate information. Please follow their instructions rather than only relying on the app's GPS service.

Aldine ISD will provide bus service to students returning to in-person learning on Tuesday, October 20. Each student scheduled to receive bus service on October 20 should have received bus route and bus stop information from their campus. Students who are eligible for transportation and would like bus service should reach out to their campus to request transportation services. The campus will process requests on behalf of the parents and students. To learn more, click here.

Free Meals for the School Year The Aldine ISD Child Nutrition Services Department will continue to offer free meals for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year for students learning on campus and at home. All students are eligible for one breakfast and one lunch per day. Free meal bundles are also available to students participating in virtual learning and children 18 and under not currently enrolled in Aldine ISD. A full list of curbside meal sites can be found on our district website.

Family and Community Engagement (FACE)

The FACE Department is offering an informative session online on Wednesday, Oct. 21. Please take advantage of the opportunity to learn more about the resources available to you and how you can participate in your children's education.

Date: Wed, Oct. 21 Topics: How to Apply for Medicaid and CHIP and Understanding the District's Gifted and Talented Process

English Session Start Time: 9:00 a.m. <https://zoom.us/j/99687034156>

Spanish Session Start Time: 11:00 a.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/95196989416>

No password is needed.

Decision Meter Update Leadership is hard — especially during a crisis. However, I hope the fact that we have phased in our return slower than nearly all districts across the state and the Houston area demonstrates our commitment to prioritizing safety without sacrificing learning.

When we created our district COVID Meter, the positivity rate for Houston was over 20%. The positivity rate is now below 10%. It is still an important tool, but it no longer determines our actions. Each week we look at a variety of metrics to maintain the safety of our staff and students. These include:

Monitoring local conditions and seeking feedback from stakeholders and health professionals.

Reviewing the most updated CDC, TEA, UIL, and county guidelines.

Enforcing health and safety guidelines — social distance requirements such as requiring staff and students to stay apart, requiring universal masking, and encouraging frequent hand washing.

These are tough times — unprecedented times, and we are in uncharted territory. No decision is easy, and things are in constant flux. I try very hard to make the very best decisions for our staff and students with the information I have in front of me while also complying with the city, state, and federal expectations. Some days are easier than others, but one thing remains constant: the support of our community.

I look forward to seeing more faces in our school buildings this week. Thank you for your continued support.

Be well and be safe.

With Aldine Pride,

Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney Superintendent

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## Keep East Aldine COVID Safe

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Off Jensen between  
Berry Road & Aldine  
Westfield



COMMUNITY NEWS

Lone Star College and Harris County provide free training for in-demand careers

NORTHEAST – Harris County residents who have been impacted by COVID-19 through furloughs, being unemployed or underemployed can enroll in free training for an in-demand career as part of an initiative announced by Lone Star College and Harris County.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for citizens of Harris County who have been impacted by COVID-19,” said Linda Leto Head, LSC senior associate vice chancellor, Office of External and Employer Relations. “Lone Star College is offering 17 different workforce programs for people to trained before the end of the year.”

Participants will be able to attend classes tuition free. The program also provides funding for books and other costs that starting in a skilled job may require, such as work boots and scrubs.

Programs include Accounting and Bookkeep-



Lone Star College is helping Harris County residents impacted by COVID-19 get back to work by offering free training in many sought-after careers.

ing, Alternative Teacher Certification, Certified Nurse Aid, Machining, Welding, IT Networking, HVAC and more. Visit LoneStar.edu to see all the training programs available and to sign up for more information.

“Time is limited,” said Head. “Interested Harris County residents should apply as soon as possible as the training must be completed by Dec. 31.”

Lone Star College offers high-quality, low-cost academic transfer and career training edu-

cation 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 almost \$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.

Lone Star-North Harris receives national recognition for Mi Casa Es Su Casa program

HOUSTON (Sept. 18, 2020) – Lone Star College-North Harris has been named a finalist for the 2020 Examples of *Excelencia*, a national recognition from *Excelencia* in Education, for its Mi Casa Es Su Casa program. The program encourages students, faculty and staff to connect, acclimate, succeed and achieve.

“Lone Star College is committed to helping all students achieve their dreams,” said Stephen C. Head, Ph.D., LSC chancellor. “We are honored to be recognized for the work done by our incredible faculty and staff.”

Examples of *Excelencia* accepts nominations encouraging individuals and programs to share initiatives accelerating Latino student success in higher education. This year, *Excelencia* received 112 program submissions from 24 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In all, 20 programs received national recognition for strategies advancing equity for Latinos.

“The goal of Mi Casa Es Su Casa is to guide students through three

initiatives,” said Archie L. Blanson, Ph.D., LSC-North Harris interim president. “The first two are designed to connect students to LSC-North Harris resources and opportunities to improve academic preparedness and engagement. The third ensures students are receiving best-fit instruction based on proven methods and needs.”

*Excelencia* in Education will recognize four initiatives as 2020 Examples of *Excelencia* at the annual *Celebración de Excelencia* being held virtually Oct. 20.

“Identifying and advancing what works is central to *Excelencia*’s tactical plan to accelerate Latino student success,” said Deborah Santiago, *Excelencia* in Education CEO. “We look to these evidence-based practices and the leaders working directly with students and community as exemplars of what others can do to ensure our students are served well.”

About *Excelencia* in Education

*Excelencia* in Education accelerates Latino student success in higher education by promoting Latino student achievement, conduct-

ing analysis to inform educational policies, and advancing institutional 11 practices while collaborating with those committed and ready to meet the mission. Launched in 2004 in the nation’s capital, *Excelencia* has established a network of results-oriented educators and policymakers to address the U.S. economy’s needs for a highly educated workforce and engaged civic leaders. For more information, visit EdExcelencia.org.

About Lone Star College

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 almost \$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.

Concrete Plant Protest,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

TCEQ have issued four violations about the plant’s operations, including “failure to prevent visible emissions from the dust collection system.”

State Representative Armando Walle was at the site recently, listening to the complaints of the residents. He said that part of the problem is lack of regulatory authority. Walle said “I want to change state law to five local counties authority to regulate these facilities.”

However, Harris County Pollution Control told media representatives that they had inspected the plant 39 times, resulting in air violations over the last several years. In addition, they said “We are well aware of Integrity Ready Mix’s long history of violations.”

In response, the owner of the plant, Manuel Malupa, said that he is abiding by TCEQ standards and state law. “We’ve always responded to what pollution control and the state has asked of us.”

As for the dust in the air, Malupa said it is not from his concrete plant, but from a vacant lot next door which was recently vacated, leaving dust and dirt uncontained.

Malupa claims he is willing to work out a solution with the neighbors, even though they live in a mixed commercial residential neighborhood. However, HCPC says that the company has several locations, and “has the most violations for a facility of this type in both air and water.”

The constant dust in the air worries nearby resi-



Resident took this photo of dust clouding the street.



State Representative Walle explains the limit of regulation, but agrees neighbors should be upset.



Neighbors say the plant operates well into the night, running about 20 trucks daily, and generates noise and dirt as late as 2 pm.

dents, according to Raymond Vera, who is concerned about long term effects on their health.

Harris County Pollution Control said that due to the complaints, they will schedule another inspection.

Residents want to shut

the plant down, and remove it from their neighborhood. They plan on organizing a meeting among homeowners, and reach out to the County Judge Lina Hidalgo and Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia for help in dealing with the problem.

No Tax increase for fifth year for Lone Star College System

Houston (Oct. 9, 2020) – The Lone Star College System Board of Trustees voted to hold the LSC tax rate at 10.78 cents per \$100 property valuation for the 2020 tax year.

“This is the fifth year in a row Lone Star College has kept the tax rate unchanged,” said Stephen C. Head, Ph.D., LSC chancellor. “We know many families are facing economic burdens during the COVID-19 pandemic and are pleased to be in the position of keeping the tax rate flat.”

LSC had the tenth lowest tax rate of the 50 community colleges in Texas for fiscal year 2020.

The LSCS board voted to approve the tax rate during its regular meeting Oct. 8 following a public hearing that was held at LSC-North Harris Oct. 1.

An LSC homeowner with a house valued at \$100,000 would pay \$108 annually in taxes based on the 2020 tax rate (not including potential additional exemptions which could lower the taxes further).

Homeowners are eligible for a Homestead Exemption of \$5,000 or 1 percent of the value of the home (whichever is great-



DR. STEPHEN HEAD LSC CHANCELLOR

er). Taxes are also frozen for disabled residents and those over 65 years of age residing in the LSC service area as part of the college’s \$75,000 property tax exemption and tax freeze, where the actual dollar amount owed is frozen as of the date the taxpayer qualifies for the exemption – even if the property value increases.

“Lone Star College will continue to practice sound financial practices that are accountable to our community and fairly allocate budget and resources,” said Head.

Property taxes make up 46% of the funding sources for the 2020-21 LSC budget. Student tuition and fees account for 30%, the state of Texas funds 20%, and 4% comes from other sources.

Harris County accounts

for approximately 73 percent of the LSC tax base while Montgomery and San Jacinto Counties make up approximately 27 percent.

“The average taxable value of residence homestead in the LSC district is projected to increase 6% from last year,” said Jennifer Mott, LSC chief financial officer. “In spite of the pandemic, our service area continues to be healthy due to the increase in the number of new properties added to the tax rolls.”

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.

CONGRATULATIONS To Alexia Perez of Crosby, who won Free Tickets to the Texas Renaissance Festival. You can win too. Just send us a photo reading this newspaper. See information on Page 7, and enter the Drawing.



**ALDINE ISD FREE MEAL BUNDLES**  
 Breakfast and Lunch meal bundles available for ALL Aldine ISD students and children 18 and under

**Menus & SchoolCafe**  
 You can view all menus at SchoolCafe.com/AldineISD.

**Meal Benefits**  
 Aldine ISD families can apply for meal benefits throughout the year. Visit SchoolCafe.com/AldineISD.

**What Should I Bring?**  
 If you are picking up meals without your child 18 and under, you must provide one of the following documents for each child:  
 - Student ID number or Student ID card  
 - Student report card  
 - Official district letter/email listing student name(s)  
 - Attendance record from Home Access Center  
 - Birth certificate for (child)ren not of school age

**Curbside Meal Locations**  
 Every Tuesday and Thursday | 11 AM to 1 PM  
 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

**Allergies?**  
 Please contact Aldine ISD Nutritionist Jennifer Earthly at jearthly@aldineisd.org.

**2 STOPS A WEEK = 14 MEALS PER CHILD**



OPINION PAGE

**COUNTY TALK**  
 Harris County Judge  
 Lina Hidalgo



**Statement on State Voter Suppression Efforts**

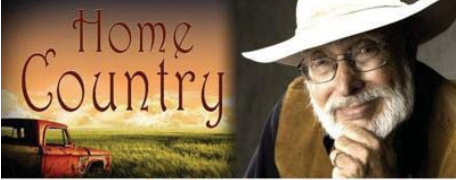
Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo issued the following statement in response to Governor Abbott's executive order closing down 11 mail-in ballot drop-off locations in Harris County 33 days before the general election. Governor Abbott's proclamation reverses previous state guidance allowing counties to provide voters with multiple official ballot drop off locations and leaves Harris County with only one ballot drop-off site.

"The strength of our democracy and our county is only as strong as our ability to support free, fair, and open elections. Geographically, Harris County is larger than the entire state of Rhode Island. Our population rivals that of the entire state of Colorado. To propose only a single, secure drop-off location for a county of our size during a pandemic is ludicrous. Simply put, mail ballot voters should not be forced to drive 30 miles to drop off their ballot, or be limited to relying primarily on a mail system that's facing cutbacks. Governor Abbott's move is transparently about suppression, not security. It is also part of a broader effort by the Trump Administration to confuse voters, discourage voter participation and degrade public confidence in our elections.

We are working with our attorneys to assess any legal options we have, but in the meantime we want to be very clear: Regardless of who you want to vote for, your vote matters. Do not let the forces of voter intimidation prevent or discourage you from making your voice heard. Voters in Harris County who have already taken advantage of drop off locations in our County to date should know that their ballots will still be counted. Drop-off locations for example, require voters to show ID when dropping off their votes."

Over the past year and a half, Harris County has undertaken a series of improvements designed to make voting easier, safer, accessible, and secure. The county has tripled the number of early voting locations, extended voting hours, implemented county-wide voting centers, and undertaken elections security audits. To provide enhanced safety during the COVID-19 pandemic, the county is taking additional precautions, like providing voters with PPE and standing up drive-thru voting options. This week, the county also launched a ballot tracking system to provide mail-in ballot voters with updates on the status of their ballot.

For additional information about this year's election and voting options visit [HarrisVotes.org](http://HarrisVotes.org)



with Slim Randles

**Dog Show**

"I took Duckworth to the dog show up in the city last weekend," Dud said.  
 The other members of the Mule Barn truck stop's world dilemma think tank and philosophy counter just looked at him.  
 Doc put it gently, "Dud, was this so he could get some inspiration on looking good?"  
 Duckworth was a medium-sized dog that found Dud while Dud was walking and thinking about the novel he's writing. No one answered the ad he put in the Valley Weekly Miracle, so he was henceforth known as Duckworth, for some reason Dud seemed to want to keep to himself. To be honest, Duckworth looked like he fell out of the ugly tree and hit every branch on the way down.  
 "No, I was going to enter him in the dog show," Dud said. "Took him right up to the registration table and tried to get him in a class. The lady there looked at ol' Duck and asked to see his papers."  
 Dud grinned. "I told her they were back home on the floor of the laundry room. She didn't think it was funny."  
 Now Duckworth had been introduced to the other dogs in the group at the sale barn, as is the custom, and Dud's pals had been hesitant to ask much about him. Duckworth looked like something put together by a committee with a sense of humor. Oh, he was a dog ... no doubt about that. But what kind of dog was he? It made for interesting coffee speculation, that's for sure.  
 "You know," Dud said, "Anita was against me getting any kind of dog until Duckworth came along. When I explained to her that Duckworth was a bird dog ... a duck dog, actually, and that he'd help me bring more birds home, she finally gave in."  
 "He's a bird dog?" Steve said. "What kind?"  
 "Now that's what that dog show lady asked me, you know? I had to explain to her about canardly terriers, because she wasn't familiar with them."  
 "Canar..."  
 "Canardly terriers, you betcha," Dud said, grinning. "Why, I'll bet you canardly tell what kind of terrier he is!"

Looking for a Christmas gift? "Dogsled: A True Tale of the North" by Slim Randles. Now on Amazon.com.



**THE POSTSCRIPT**  
 By  
 Carrie Classon

**"Scary Stories"**

It's the season for all things scary and I found myself wondering how many people are actually looking for more things to frighten them this year.

There is a new horror movie about Zoom that is supposed to be terrific... and I won't be watching it. I've never been a fan of horror movies. On the very few occasions I've tried to watch a scary movie, I end up both covering my eyes and plugging my ears (the ominous music is the worst part of it) and I end up with a pretty limited experience of the film.

A few weeks ago, I wrote a column about my husband, Peter's war with the rodents, and a friend sent the lyrics to "Ben," a song recorded in the early 1970s by a young Michael Jackson. It was the theme song for the movie, "Ben," which was a sequel to "Willard," which Peter then decided he had to see. The movie is only recently available on DVD and so, when it arrived in the mail, we sat down together to watch it.

"This isn't a horror movie, is it?" I asked Peter for the second or third time.

"No! It's about rats!"

That didn't really answer the question, but I agreed to watch until it got too scary and so I sat with him through the opening credits. The movie starred Ernest Borgnine as the mean boss and Elsa Lanchester (who played the bride of Frankenstein a few decades earlier) as Willard's mom, and a 19-year-old Bruce Davison as Willard. But the real stars of the movie were a lot of rats playing themselves.

And Peter was right, there was nothing remotely scary about the movie until the last fifteen minutes when Willard turns homicidal and enlists the rats to help him. Then the rat named Ben reads the word "pesticide" on the box that Willard is pouring into the rat's dinner bowl (or possibly recognizes the skull and crossbones?) That's when Willard is killed by his little rat friends.

Afterward, I watched a few interviews about the making of the movie. This was before the days of computer-generated imagery and to get the last scene, Bruce Davison was covered with peanut butter and had 600 rats poured on top of him. They said they shot this scene last because they weren't quite sure how it all would all work out.

I didn't learn how much the young Mr. Davison was paid for his role, but I'm guessing it was not enough.

The movie was a huge and unexpected success when it was released, and a slew of killer animal movies followed. There were movies about snakes and killer ants and, of course, "Jaws," a bit later on. The movie also apparently prompted an uptick in pet rat adoptions.

The idea of horror fascinates me. There are movies and books about dolls and babies and clowns and all sorts of things that wouldn't, under normal circumstances, be scary. I can read horror novels only because I can put the book down and reassure myself that I am still in my home, no monsters in sight.


And maybe that's why we need scary stories right now more than ever.

It's good to leave a scary world and realize that everything is not as terrible as the book or movie. Real life might be less certain than usual, but I can take comfort in the fact that I'm not covered in peanut butter with 600 rats swarming all over me.

Sometimes, you have to take what comfort you can get.

Till next time,  
 Carrie  
 Carrie Classon's memoir is called, "Blue Yarn." Learn more at [CarrieClasson.com](http://CarrieClasson.com).

**STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS**  
 By Chris Cobler



**Amazon goes big in Texas**

Amazon delivered good economic news, announcing plans for a 700,000-square-foot distribution center and warehouse in Waco. Gov. Greg Abbott and other state officials heralded the plan to bring up to 1,000 workers to Central Texas at a starting wage of \$15 an hour. The online retailing giant previously announced other expansions in Texas, including Forney, Pflugerville and Richmond. Two other companies also announced plans last week to move to the Lone Star State:

- The nation's largest provider of dredging services is moving its headquarters from Chicago to Houston. Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Company announced it was making the move to be closer to major regional projects. The company, which had annual revenues of \$711 million in 2019, has more than 1,000 employees globally. The company has been based in Chicago for more than 100 years. "The relocation stems in part from changing industry dynamics as the dredging market has shifted from Northern Illinois and the Great Lakes to work along the Gulf Coast and in the northeast and southeast coastal regions," according to the company.
- A manufacturing firm is moving from Southern California to Round Rock, bringing 150 jobs. The company, Saleen Performance Parts, is a U.S.-based manufacturer and distributor of aftermarket automotive performance and restyling parts.

**'JERRY JEFF TRAIN SONGS'**

Jerry Jeff Walker, the Texas music legend who "jumped so high," has died at age 78 from cancer and related illnesses. Walker is best known for writing the iconic song "Mr. Bojangles," which the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band hit big with in 1971. Born in New York, Walker spent most of his life in Austin and is credited with being a godfather of the city's live music scene. "Other than Willie, Jerry Jeff is the most important musician to happen to Austin, Texas, I would have to say," Asleep at the Wheel leader Ray Benson told the Austin American Statesman. "He really brought that folk singer/songwriter form to its height in Texas. And for that, he'll be eternal, because there's all these kids today that write songs in that mode."

**Going hog wild** Texas likes to be No. 1 on many lists, but not this one: The state ranks at the top for the largest population of wild pigs. More than 2.5 million feral swine roam the state, plaguing

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION  
 State Capital  
  
 HIGHLIGHTS  
 By Chris Cobler

Prairie for a partnership with Grand Prairie Independent School District.

- The Entrepreneurship Award to Chris Landry and Ken Brown, business partners and founders of Scan Mailboxes in Austin.
- Large Employer Award to Fidelity Investments in Westlake for being as accessible and inclusive as possible, particularly with changes to its hiring process.
- Medium Employer Award to Weikel's Bakery and Store in La Grange for providing work opportunities for those with disabilities, particularly through a Recipeasy app developed by Philip Weikel.
- Small Employer Award to Mr. Gatti's Pizza in Tyler for owner Lamar Wedell's efforts to provide training for students with disabilities.
- Non-Profit Employer Award to Goodwill Industries in Fort Worth for multiple initiatives to hire and train people with disabilities.

**SMALL BUSINESS MAKES IT BIG**

A San Antonio resident is the winner of the National Small Business Person of the Year award from the U.S. Small Business Administration. Army veteran Timothy Porter, founder and CEO of Appdiction Studios, was recognized for the growth of his company, which started in 2011. The technology developed by Porter's company includes an award-winning anti-bully mobile application for use in K-12 schools. "Timothy's determination, grit and ingenuity characterize so many small business owners," SBA administrator Jovita Carranza said. "His efforts, as well as those of tens of millions of entrepreneurs around the country, are driving economic recovery."

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

**TECH PROF HONORED FOR DISABILITY RIGHTS WORK**

A Texas Tech University law professor is the top winner of state awards honoring those who have helped Texans with disabilities. The Governor's Trophy went to Professor Brian Shannon for significant contributions to disability rights, most notably "for his work at the intersection of mental health and the legal system." Shannon's focus has been on destigmatizing and empowering those whose mental health diagnoses have put them in the criminal justice system. Other winners of the 2020 Lex Frieden Employment Awards for creating a more inclusive workplace for Texans with disabilities:

- The Martha Arbuckle Award to the EPIC fitness center in Grand

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SPORTS PAGE

# Clemson visits ND in meeting of the top five teams; Texans return from Bye week with trip to Jacksonville

It's been a tough season thus far for Texas' two professional football teams.

The Texans lost six of their first seven games and return from their bye week with a trip to Jacksonville to take on the only team they have beaten so far this season. Up 1-45, the Dallas Cowboys entered the 2020 season with Super Bowl aspirations, but have looked anything but a SB contender. After losing quarterback Dak Prescott to a horrible ankle injury, head coach Mike McCarthy turned to former Cincinnati starting QB Andy Dalton to lead the offense. Dalton was knocked silly on a cheap shot by Washington linebacker Jon Bostic two weeks ago (Bostic was rightfully ejected from the game) and might be able to return this week for a home date against Pittsburgh. Dallas has been decimated by injuries, especially on offense where they've lost both starting tackles and Prescott. On defense, Dallas is horrendous. I mean, when you give up 25 points to Washington you know you have issues.

Many are already calling for McCarthy to be one and done and for owner Jerry Jones to clean house. We shall see.

Things could get ugly at AT&T Stadium on Sunday when the Steelers, who look like the best team in the league at the moment, come calling with their high-powered offense and stifling defense.

In college action, all eyes will be on South Bend, IN on Saturday when No. 1-ranked Clemson visits No. 4-ranked Notre Dame. This will be both teams first real test as both have had a relatively easy go of it thus far in the 2020 season. Clemson QB Tyler Lawrence, a Heisman Trophy candidate, will face a ND defense that has allowed 9.8 points per game in its first five games. But that unit will get its first real test against Lawrence and his host of playmakers.

In Big 12 action, Oklahoma State travels to Manhattan to face Kansas State with first place in the league at stake. Both entered their games last week undefeated in the conference. OSU hosted Texas last week and KSU took on West Virginia.

In high school action, four of Aldine ISD's five varsity teams will have their bye weeks. The only District 14-6A game will feature Westfield visiting



Nimitz in Thorne Stadium. Before we check out this weekend's games, let's review last week's record. A 6-4 week brought the season record to 47-27 (64%). Now, onto this week's game.

**HIGH SCHOOL**

**Westfield at Nimitz:** Richard Slater's Cougars will host Westfield on Friday night at Thorne Stadium. The Cougars did not play last week and will count on running back Jayvon Davis (69 yards, 1 TD) to carry the load against a Westfield team that lost to Spring three weeks ago. The Mustangs are led by quarterback Cardell Williams (165 passing yards) and running back Dahmeir Scott (50 yards, 2 TDs). My pick, Westfield 31, Nimitz 23

**NCAA**

**Houston at Cincinnati:** Dale Holgerson's Cougars hit the road to take on a very good Cincinnati team in an important American Athletic game. Two weeks ago, the Cougs picked up a nice road win at Navy as quarterback Clayton Tune (319 yards, 2 TDs) led the way to a 37-21 victory. Tune has a talented receiver to throw to in Marqueeze Stevenson (5 receptions, 118 yards, 1 TD). Stevenson is also a dangerous return man. The Bearcats are a solid bunch on both sides of the ball. Cincinnati is led by quarterback Desmond Ridder (597 yards, 6 TDs) and running back Gerrid Doaks (145 yards, 4 TDs). I think UH hangs around in this one, but look for the Cincinnati defense to be the difference maker in this one. My pick, Cincinnati 31, Houston 26

**Oklahoma State at Kansas State:** This should be a good one in the Big 12 as the Cowboys take on the Wildcats with first place in the conference at stake. OSU is led by true freshman quarterback Shane Illingsworth (483 yards, 3 TDs) and running back Chubba Hubbard (339 yards, 4 TDs), while the Wildcats are led by running back Deuce Vaughn (205 yards, 3 TDs).

The Cowboys are potent on offense and are very good on defense, as are the Wildcats. Look for Hubbard to be the difference maker in this one as Mike Gundy's team picks up a big road win and sets its sights on not only the Big 12 title, but also perhaps a College Football Playoff (CFP) berth. My pick, Oklahoma State 30, Kansas State 27

**Clemson at Notre Dame:** The Game of the Week in college football pits Lawrence's (848 yards, 7 TDs) Tigers against Ian Book's (719 yards, 4 TDs) Fighting Irish in a nationally televised game on NBC. Lawrence is not a one-man team. He has plenty of talent around him like running back Travis Etienne (243 yards, 2 TDs) and wide receiver Amari Rodgers (12 receptions, 206 yards, 3 TDs). ND has been winning with a strong ground game and a stifling defense, as evidenced by the 9.8 points per game they've allowed in their first five games. The ND defense will get its first real test of the season. I think Lawrence and Co. will be too much for ND on Saturday, but I expect these two will meet in the ACC title game in December. My pick, Clemson 26, Notre Dame 24

**Texas A&M at South Carolina:** Jimbo Fisher's Aggies can't afford to look past the Gamecocks when they hit the road on Saturday. Sure, SC lost three of its first five games, but they did defeat Auburn at home three weeks ago and quarterback Collin Hill (502 yards, 3 TDs) is a playmaker. Aggie QB Kellen Mond (507 yards, 4 TDs) must protect the football and make plays with his arm and legs. He can count on running back Isaiah Spiller (142 yards) to lead the way on the ground. Look for the A&M defense to put heat on Hill and force a key turnover or two. This appears to be Fisher's best team in his first three years in College Station and another road win appears to be in the offing. My pick, Texas A&M 27, South Carolina 17

**NFL**

**Green Bay at San Francisco:** A good one for Thursday Night Football pits Aaron Rodgers and the explosive Green Bay offense against a San Francisco team that is beginning to play well on defense and doing just enough on offense to get back in the NFC West race and playoff hunt. Two weeks ago, Rodgers (1,497 yard, 17 TDs) threw four touchdown passes to lead the Packers to a 35-20 win over the Texans. The 49ers also cruised to a win at New England as quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo and the defense routed New England, 33-6. GB wide receiver Davante Adams (30 receptions, 388 yards, 5 TDs) had a big day with 13 catches for 196 yards. Rodgers should have his No. 1 running back return for this one as Aaron Jones (374 yards, 4 TDs) after missing the Houston game with a mild calf strain. Rodgers will need him as he takes on a 49ers defense that has been hit hard by injuries, but thanks to a wealth of depth, the defense has barely missed a beat. The Packers aren't a great defensive team, but they should make some plays against Garoppolo. My pick, Green Bay 26, San Francisco 20

**Houston at Jacksonville:** The Texans return from their bye week with a trip to Jacksonville to face the only team they have beaten this season. Quarterback Deshaun Watson (1,401 yards, 8 TDs) should have a big day against the Jags. He threw for 300 yards or more in three straight games heading into the bye and appears to be getting more comfortable with wide receivers Brandin Cooks, Will Fuller and Randall Cobb. The Jags have also struggled this year, but did put up 29 points two weeks ago in a loss at Los Angeles. Look for Watson to have a big day against a suspect Jacksonville secondary as the Texans pick up win No. 2 on the season. My pick, Houston 33, Jacksonville 26

**Seattle at Buffalo:** The Seahawks make another long trip East to face the Bills in what should be an interesting matchup. Two weeks ago, Seattle dropped a 37-34 overtime loss at Arizona, while the Bills took care of the Jets, 18-10 in The Meadowlands. Seattle QB Russell Wilson (1,673 yards, 19 TDs) is having a MVP-type season. In the loss at Arizona, wide receiver Tyler Lockett (41

receptions, 498 yards, 7 TDs) had a monster night with 15 receptions for 200 yards and three TDs (it was a good night to have him in my Fantasy league!). The Bills have a solid QB in Josh Allen (1,662 yards, 12 TDs), who is also having a very good season. Seattle has to be wary of Allen's scrambling ability because he likes to take off when his receivers are covered. I think Allen and the Buffalo defense will be the difference makers in this one. My pick, Buffalo 27, Seattle 23

**Carolina at Kansas City:** The Chiefs and Patrick Mahomes (1,334 yards, 12 TDs) host a respectful Carolina until on Sunday in KC. Carolina QB Teddy Bridgewater (1,201 yards, 6 TDs) has done a good job of keeping the Panthers in games and he might have running back Christian McCaffery back for this game. McCaffery was injured in the second game of the season with a high ankle sprain. Two weeks ago, the Chiefs rode their special teams and defense (a 102-yard kickoff return and a pick 6) en route to a 43-16 pasting of Denver. Mahomes had a so-so day with just 200 yards passing and one touchdown. Look for him to get back on track on Sunday as the Chiefs roll over the Panthers. My pick, Kansas City 36, Carolina 23

**Baltimore at Indianapolis:** Lamar Jackson (769 passing yards, 7 TDs/235 rushing yards, 1 TD) visit the Colts on Sunday in what should be an interesting game. The Colts have been doing just enough to remain in the AFC South race as quarterback Phillip Rivers (984 yards, 4 TDs) and rookie running back Jonathan Taylor (250 yards, 2 TDs) are leading the way on offense. Both of them will need to step things up on Sunday when they face the ball hawking Ravens defense. The Baltimore defense is adept at forcing turnovers and Rivers has had trouble in that department thus far this season. Look for the Ravens defense to force a turnover or three to lead Baltimore to a solid road win. My pick, Baltimore 26, Indianapolis 23

**Pittsburgh at Dallas:** This one could get ugly early. Dallas is struggling on both sides of the ball and who knows if Dalton will be cleared from concussion protocol for this game. He probably hopes he doesn't have to face the blitz-hap-

py Steelers who have one of the top defenses in the league. The Dallas offensive line is struggling, especially at tackle, so look for T.J. Watt and his mates to have a huge day and should come up with a handful, if not more, sacks. Offensively, look for Ben Roethlisberger (1,446 yards, 13 TDs) to be the next QB to carve up the porous Dallas defense. If Dallas suffers another humiliating defeat, I wonder if owner Jerry Jones would pull the plug on Mike McCarthy. My pick, Pittsburgh 36, Dallas 20

**New Orleans at Tampa Bay:** A good one for Sunday Night Football pits Drew Brees (1,618 yards, 11 TDs) against Tom Brady (1,910 yards, 18 TDs). Brees and running back Alvin Kamara (364 rushing yards, 4 TDs/46 receptions, 460 yards, 3 TDs) will face a very good TB defense that has greatly improved since the first time these two teams met in Week 1 (a 34-23 Saints win). Since that game, the Tampa Bay defense has been a wrecking crew and on offense tight end Rob Gronkowski (22 receptions, 280 yards, 2 TDs) and Brady are connecting in the passing game just as they did when they were teammates in New England for so many seasons. As if the Bucs didn't have enough weapons with Gronk, running back Ronald Jones (506 yards, 4 TDs), wide receivers Chris Goodwin and Mike Evans, they went out and added former Steeler wide out Antonio Brown to the offense. Look for Brady and his teammates to extract revenge for that opening season loss at the Bucs continue their roll. My pick, Tampa Bay 33, New Orleans 24

## Analysis from Week 8

Thankfully for the Texans, they don't play this week so their fans don't have to sit through another long Sunday of watching their deplorable defense get gashed on the ground. Their fans will have to wait until the first Sunday in November when the Texans play at Jacksonville, the only team they have defeated thus far in the 2020 campaign.

At the moment, this is not a playoff team and it might behoove the front office to seriously consider trading players, maybe J.J. Watt, to receive draft choices in return. Remember, the Texans do not have a first- or second-round pick in the 2021 NFL Draft. Watt would bring at least a second-round pick and should be sent to a contender so he can have a shot at making the playoffs as his career winds down.

Just a thought. While the Texans take the week off, the Game of the Week will occur in the AFC North when the Steelers, who entered last week's game at Tennessee at 5-0, visit the Ravens in Baltimore. The winner takes control of the division. The two teams will meet in Pittsburgh on Nov. 26. The Steelers and Ravens are two of the top teams in the AFC, along with Tennessee and Kansas City. These two teams detest one another and these are always physical games.

Other interesting games on this weekend's schedule has a suddenly struggling New England team visiting a Buffalo squad that appears to be the team to beat in the AFC East. The Saints travel to Chicago to take on a Bears team that is playing very well on defense, while San Francisco looks to get back in the NFC West race when it visits the first-place Seahawks. On Sunday Night Football, the Cowboys look to continue the Eagles' miserable season when they play at Philadelphia in prime time.

In college action, Ohio State visits State College, PA to take on Penn State, while Texas looks to get things headed in the right direction when Tom Herman's Longhorns visit No. 6-ranked Oklahoma State.

Before we take a look at those games and a handful of others, let's review last week's record. A 7-3 week upped the season record to 41-23 (64%).

Aldine ISD  
2020 6A Football Schedule

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

Date	Opponent	Stadium	Home/Away	Time
Oct. 9	Nimitz	Thorne	A	7:00 PM
Oct. 15	Aldine	Thorne	H	7:00 PM
Oct. 22	Dekaney	Thorne	H	7:00 PM
Oct. 30	Westfield	Planet Ford	A	7:00 PM
Nov. 5	BYE			
Nov. 13	Eisenhower	Thorne	H	7:00 PM
Nov. 21	Davis	Thorne	A	1:00 PM
Nov. 27	Spring	Thorne	H	8:00 PM
Dec. 3	BYE			

Date	Opponent	Stadium	Home/Away	Time
Oct. 8	Westfield	Planet Ford	A	7:00 PM
Oct. 16	Eisenhower	Thorne	A	7:00 PM
Oct. 23	Aldine	Thorne	H	7:00 PM
Oct. 29	Spring	Thorne	H	7:00 PM
Nov. 5	BYE			
Nov. 12	Nimitz	Thorne	H	7:00 PM
Nov. 21	MacArthur	Thorne	H	1:00 PM
Nov. 27	Dekaney	Planet Ford	A	8:00 PM
Dec. 3	BYE			

Date	Opponent	Stadium	Home/Away	Time
Oct. 9	MacArthur	Thorne	A	7:00 PM
Oct. 15	Dekaney	Planet Ford	A	7:00 PM
Oct. 24	Westfield	Thorne	H	1:00 PM
Oct. 30	Eisenhower	Thorne	A	7:00 PM
Nov. 5	BYE			
Nov. 12	Davis	Thorne	H	7:00 PM
Nov. 20	Spring	Planet Ford	A	7:00 PM
Nov. 27	Aldine	Thorne	H	1:00 PM
Dec. 3	BYE			

Date	Opponent	Stadium	Home/Away	Time
Oct. 8	Aldine	Thorne	A	7:00 PM
Oct. 16	Davis	Thorne	H	7:00 PM
Oct. 23	Spring	Planet Ford	A	7:00 PM
Oct. 30	Nimitz	Thorne	H	7:00 PM
Nov. 5	BYE			
Nov. 13	MacArthur	Thorne	A	7:00 PM
Nov. 19	Dekaney	Thorne	H	7:00 PM
Nov. 27	Westfield	Planet Ford	A	12:00 PM
Dec. 3	BYE			

(HC) Homecoming  
(SN) Senior Night



# COMMUNITY WATCH

## House Fire on Hartwick

NORTHEAST ALDINE – Houston Fire Department battled a House Fire on October 10, 2020 at 7:06 a.m. in the 1200 block of Hartwick Rd. 77037 There were No reported injuries.

The Fire Marshall reported \$75 thousand in estimated property saved, and \$75 thousand in estimated damage. The Cause was ruled unintentional.

Firefighters arrived on scene within six minutes to find heavy fire in the garage area of a 1-story home. They began an offensive attack and conducted a primary search. Crews worked to keep the fire from spreading into the home and knocked the fire down. They conducted salvage and overhaul and conducted a walk through with the owner.

Firefighters from Stations 31, 34, 67, 56, 58, 74 and 30 responded to this incident.

## Auto stolen from owner on the Eastex Freeway

Crime Stoppers and the Houston Police Department's Auto Theft Division need the public's assistance identifying the suspect responsible for an Auto Theft.

On Thursday, August 13, 2020, at approximately 2:30 a.m., an unknown black male suspect stole a vehicle from a business parking lot located in the 9100 block of the Eastex Freeway in Houston, Texas. During the incident, the suspect and another individual approached the victim, who was playing a video game inside the business. The suspect and the other individual engaged the victim in conversation, which distracted his attention. While the victim was distracted, the suspect stole the victim's keys. The suspect was captured on video surveillance driving away in the victim's stolen vehicle.

Crime Stoppers may pay up to \$5,000 for information leading to the identification, charging and/or arrest of the suspects in this case. Information may be reported by calling 713-222-TIPS (8477), submitted online at www.crime-stoppers.org or through the Crime Stoppers mobile app. Only tips and calls DIRECTLY TO Crime Stoppers are anonymous and eligible for a cash reward.

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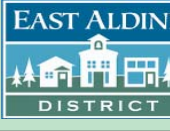
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# CHURCH PAGE

## BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey —

1. Is the book of Beelzebub in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Matthew 12, when an evil spirit returns to a person, how many companions does it bring? 2, 3, 7, 16
3. In which book's 22:18 does it

4. From 1 Samuel 16, what king of Israel was tormented by an evil spirit? Solomon, David, Eiah, Saul
5. Who called the city of Nineveh the mistress of witchcraft? Ahab, Nahum, Lucifer, Peter
6. What mark of the beast number

comes from Revelation 13? 7, 333, 490, 666  
**ANSWERS:** 1) Neither; 2) 7; 3) Exodus; 4) Saul; 5) Nahum; 6) 666  
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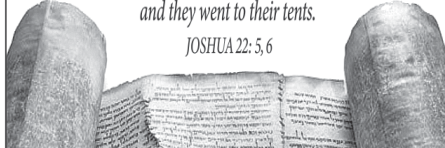
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JOSHUA 22: 5, 6



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## MacArthur Tennis team wins 1st round Playoffs; thanks East Aldine District for support



MacArthur High School Tennis team and coaches, with their UIL First Round Trophy in the UIL State championship Play-offs.

The MacArthur High School tennis team, and their coach Albert Davila, thanked the East Aldine Management District for the continued support of our tennis program.

He reported that they defeated Oakridge in our 1st round play off match and made school history by advancing to the 2nd round of the UIL Team Tennis State playoffs!

"No one has ever done that in Mac-

Arthur's 55 year existence. Additionally we are the first Aldine ISD team in the 21st century to advance to the Area round of playoffs."

The girl who clinched the game winning match today (Briana Valentin) was introduced to tennis via the Girls Summer Camp program that the East Aldine District funded back in 2018.

"We truly could not have made history without the EAMD, thank

you for believing in our community and our kids! You have helped put MacArthur Tennis on the Map, Davila continued.

The 2nd round play-off match was Friday at 2pm vs. Cy Woods at Klein Cain High School/

Thank you again!

—  
Albert Davila  
ESL World History I  
Assistant Tennis Coach  
MacArthur High School  
adavila@aldineisd.org

## Halloween Caravan,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

vans to pass by. The Caravan ended the trip at James Drive Park on Bentley. Participating in the Caravan were groups and businesses, including the East Aldine District, Lone Star College, Aldine ISD, civic clubs, the boy scouts, BakerRipley, and Avalos P-Tech, as well as many individuals.

Cars in the parade included State Representative Armando Walle, Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia staff, Green Forest Civic Club, Hope Clinic, and others.



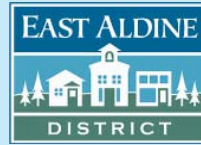
Dr. Luis Lucio, president of Lone Star College East Aldine, got into the spirit of the Caravan dressed as an Egyptian Pharaoh.



The Halloween Caravan was joined on each street by families that had dressed for the holiday and were in the spirit of the event. Here are just a few costumes that were seen along the Caravan route.



The Boy Scouts had one of the most attractive and scariest vehicles, with saber teeth on the front of the truck, and three ghostly figures riding up on top, as well as a trailer load of scouts dressed in various costumes.



## East Aldine District COMMUNITY

### Aldine History

Below you'll find one in a series of articles focusing on the history of Aldine. Our writing staff is exploring local activities, folklore, and documented history in an effort, in part, to ensure Aldine's history is properly celebrated and curated for all to enjoy.

## Two 1990s Major League Pitchers

Earlier this year, the Houston Chronicle compiled a list of the greatest pro athletes from every Houston-area high school.

Two 1990s Major League pitchers head those lists for East Aldine's two largest high schools: Aldine High's Roger Pavlik and for MacArthur, it's Brian Bevil.

We'll start with Bevil. A 1990 graduate of MacArthur, the 6'3" righthander was a 30th round draft pick of the Kansas City Royals. Bevil opted to pitch first for the Roadrunners of Lufkin's Angelina College, which delayed his signing on with the Royals for a year. Bevil enjoyed his finest minor league season in 1996, dividing up a 16-7 record between AA Wichita and AAA Omaha. That punched his ticket to the bigs, where in 1996 he won his first and only Major League decision that year.



BRIAN BEVIL

Bevil remained in the Royals bullpen for the next two seasons and retired after the 1998 season with a 5-3 record and a single save. Ravaged by shoulder injuries, Bevil's career ERA was a stratospheric 6.28, but bear in mind, this was the pinnacle of the era of Peak Roids, when each team on average scored five runs per game.

On retiring Bevil signed on as a deputy with the Harris County Sheriff's Office and has spent much of that time contracted to patrolling the East Aldine District in the "bike" patrol: a squad that keeps the district's trails, parks, and parking lots safe not just on bicycles but also aboard ATVs and horseback.

While he's known today for unenviable landmarks — becoming the first pitcher in American League history to walk the first four batters in a game — and mixed achievements, such as his inclusion on the 1996 AL All-Star team in a season in which his ERA would end north of the 5.0 mark, Aldine High School's Roger Pavlik still accomplished enough in his six seasons in the Texas Ranger pitching rotation to earn him a spot among the top 50 players to have ever suited up for the Arlington nine.



ROGER PAVLIK

Or at least he had as of 2006, and Ranger superfan Adam J. Morris was leery of ranking him that high even then.

And yet Morris makes a compelling case:

Yes, yes, I know...I'm sure that some folks (I'm not going to name names) are probably scoffing, laughing derisively, asking how someone like Roger Pavlik could have made the cut. And yes, part of him making the list owes to the fact that the Rangers history is not the most illustrious...barely 30 years of existence, and a lot of those years dark ones.

But nevertheless, Pavlik had some nice seasons in the Rangers rotation, something that seems to be forgotten when people remember him. Pavlik seems to be remembered as the guy with the bad mechanics who couldn't stay healthy, and who went to the All-Star game with a 5+ ERA because the Rangers scored a ton of runs for him and pumped up his win total. Pavlik's name is one of those thrown out, along with Darren Oliver and Kevin Gross and John Burkett, to illustrate why those great Rangers offenses of the mid- to late-90s couldn't ultimately get the team over the hump....

But the more I looked at it, the more I considered, I finally decided he had to make the cut. He had a couple of very good seasons as a Rangers starter, in 1993 and 1995, plus a decent half-season in 1992 and a decent full season in 1996....

[T]here's something uniquely "Ranger" about Roger Pavlik. The guy had 125 career starts, a 101 ERA+...and yet, he had a whopping 6 starts where he didn't even make it out of the first inning.

That, to me, epitomizes Roger Pavlik...a good pitcher, sometimes great, but sometimes unbelievably bad. And uniquely "Ranger."

Pavlik, known for his knee-buckling curve ball, signed to play for the Texas Longhorns but chose instead to go pro when the Rangers drafted him in the second round of the 1986 amateur draft. Among the few pitchers selected ahead of Pavlik were Sharpstown's future Astro Greg Swindell (a future Astro) and six-time all-star Kevin Brown, a future Astro nemesis. An injury-riddled senior season for the Mustangs likely caused Pavlik to slide to the second round, and it was injuries (many believe brought on by his herky-jerky delivery) that played an outsized role in his equally erratic MLB career.

And not all his landmarks were qualified or simply bad: teaming with fellow Ranger pitcher Ken Hill in 1996, Pavlik became half the first pitching tandem to hurl consecutive one-hitters in the AL since 1919.