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County Judge visits Mobile Vaccine Unit at Greater Pure Light Church in Aldine

EAST ALDINE – Judge Lina Hidalgo visited a mobile vaccine unit operating at the Greater Pure Light Church last Wednesday morning, and give media an update on the county's efforts to vaccinate all residents, especially vulnerable and hesitant communities.

Hidalgo said that Mobile vaccine units are a key part of the county's outreach plan, serving individuals who may not have transportation to a clinic, are hesitant to travel far from their homes or have limited access to current technology.

Judge Hidalgo visited the room where the vaccinations were being administered, accompanied by the church's Pastor Darryl Broussard. The pastor said that the vaccinations were part of their efforts of caring for the community and protecting the well-being of all Aldine residents.

Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo is the head of Harris County's governing body and Director of the Harris County's Office of



Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo visits the Mobile Vaccine unit with Pastor Darryl Broussard at Greater Pure Light Church. MORE PHOTOS on Page 3.

Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Judge Hidalgo, alongside four county precinct commissioners, oversees a budget of approximately \$5 billion that funds services and institutions for the third-largest county in the nation, home to nearly 5 million people. For more information about Harris County and the Office of the County Judge, please visit: cjo.harriscountytx.gov.

East Aldine Families enjoy a "Drive-Thru" Easter Event at BakerRipley last Saturday

EAST ALDINE – The BakerRipley campus in the new Town Center was the site last Saturday morning for a festive Easter Celebration for kids and their families

Balloons, plastic eggs with surprises inside, gift baskets for each child, and a visit with the Easter Bunny were the highlights of the event. The gift baskets included activities for each child to play with.

each child to play with.

The event was billed as an "Eggstravaganza" and was a drive-thru type event on the driveway of the BakerRipley campus. Due to the safety concerns of the pandemic, families were given an appointment time, so that not too many were present at any one time. Masks and social distancing were safety precautions, that made the event family friendly and safe.

BakerRipley managed the event for the community enjoyment, and it was led by Rocio Witte, manager of Community Development for the organization. Also helping were a num-



Families enjoyed meeting the Easter Bunny, and having their picture taken with the Bunny. They also received a gift basket for each child. MORE PHOTOS, Page 3.

ber of volunteers, who met the cars, checked the appointments, and helped distribute the gift baskets.

Also present were several information booths from organizations such as Aetna health insurance. By the end of the three hour event, at least 200 children had participated and joined in the family fun.

Local Leaders oppose SB7 bill as Voter Supression

HOUSTON - Amid a national outcry against proposed restrictive voting bills in many Republican controlled states, Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner and Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo hosted a press conference Monday to voice their opposition to Texas House Bill 6 and Texas Senate Bill 7.

"These bills are going through on our watch," said Turner. "What's happening in the state of Texas, in the legislature, is wrong."

"Soon enough, we will have taken the largest step back since Jim Crow," said Hidalgo. "The dominoes of basic voting rights are starting to fall."

Lt Governor Dan Parick also held a news conference in Austin this week, angrily defending the bills and accusing opponents of lying about whether they restricted or limited voting, and especially minority voters

Among other items, Texas HB 6 would prohibit government officials from sending mail-in ballot applications to voters. In addition, it would require anyone providing help to a disabled voter at the polls to show an ID and share why they're helping the disabled individual.

Texas SB 7 would require people to have legitimate reasons to vote by mail, get rid of drive-thru voting,



Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo



Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner

and allow poll watchers to record video.

"Texas is on the list to potentially become a state known for Jim Crow tactics in 2021," said Bishop James Dixon from the NAACP Houston.

"A poll watcher will be going around video recording," said Turner. "Do you know how intimidating that is?"

Texas State Senator Bryan Hughes drafted Senate Bill 7. "We've had situations where a poll worker says "x" hap-

pened, and the election worker says that didn't happen, and there's no evidence," said Hughes. "That's the reason for allowing videos."

"To those who say there's no evidence of widespread voter fraud, my question to them is how much fraud is acceptable?" said Hughes. "How much is enough? Shouldn't elections be fair? Shouldn't they be accurate? That's what the bill is about."

Hughes, and Republican members of the Texas legislature, believe these proposed bills aren't about preventing votes. SB 7 would also involve a tracking system for mail-in ballots and a type of voting "receipt".

Judge Hidalgo strongly criticized the proposed legislation, issuing this statement:

"During the historic 2020 presidential election, Harris County instituted various innovative and groundbreaking methods to ensure that every eligible resident had the ability to exercise their constitutional rights to vote, such as tripling the number of Early Vote locations, establishing drive-thru voting, and expanding polling hours, including a one day 24-hour voting location. We had the highest turnout in a

Continued. See SB7 OPPOSITION, page 2

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SCHOOL NEWS

TO OUR READERS: Pandemic, weather and economic conditions have caused us to combine some issues every two weeks, and to change distribution to Pick up locations. See page 8 for 50 locations where you can get a copy of the Northeast News, and page 7 for email subscriptions. We thank you for your continued support.

COVID-19 Cases as of April 6, 2021

HOUSTON AREA

622.067 POSITIVE 6.510 DEATHS 573.978 RECOVERED

TEXAS

2,810,317 POSITIVE 21,682,763 TESTS

UNITED STATES

30,835,220 POSITIVE 556,391 DEATHS 399,706,574 TESTS

WORLDWIDE

132.135.010 POSITIVE 2,866,016 DEATHS 75,075,069 RECOVERED

COVID-19 **RESOURCES**

City of Houston Pre-Screening & VACCINE SHOTS 832-393-4220 Harris County Ask a Nurse 713-634-1110 Harris County Pre-Screening 832-927-7575 or readyharris.org Harris County Mobile Tests 713-439-6000 1-888-776-5252 Methodist Hospital Download

COVID-19 VACCINE **RESOURCES**

mymethodist app.

CITY OF HOUSTON Registration HoustonEmergency.org/ covid19 832-393-4220 HARRIS COUNTY readyharris.org OR https://vacstrac.hctx.net 832-927-8787 **RETAIL PHARMACIES** Registration at Websites CVS, Walgreens, Walmart, Sams Club, HEB, Kroger, Randalls **HOSPITALS** houstonmethodist.org nemorialhermann.org ehhc.care (EH Hospital)

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Students earn Top Honors at Annual Texas Academic Decathlon



Several Aldine Independent School District high school students, demonstrating their "brainy" prowess, received top honors at the annual Texas Academic Decathlon held virtually February 26-28.

Teams of nine high school students battle in the 10 different events. The events are based on a college-level, academically rigorous curriculum-linked to a common theme. The USAD designed the competition to challenge students. Students who take part develop, connect, and communicate ideas under pressure.

The Academic Decathlon® is unique. A typical team has nine members: three "A" students, three "B" students, and three "C" students. They must work together as a team to achieve a specific goal.

Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals are awarded for individual events and total scores. Region and state contests are held for schools categorized as large, medium, and small. Based on a point system, the highest-scoring team represents Texas at the national USAD competition.

Every year, the USAD® selects a curricular topic. The 2020-21 theme is the Cold War. The following is general information on the topics in each of the subject areas:

Science: The science topic will be an introduction to astronomy and will include sections on the Space Race between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Literature: The literature curriculum will include critical reading. one long work of literature, and selected shorter works. The long work of literature will be Cat's Cradle by Kurt Vonnegut Jr.

Art: The art curriculum will include a section on art fundamen

tals and focus on exploring art during the Cold War.

Music: The music curriculum will introduce students to various musical works from the Cold War era.

Social Science: The social science curriculum will introduce stu-

dents to the history of the Cold War.

Economics: The economics curriculum will cover fundamental onomic concepts, microeconomics, and macroeconomics. It will also include a thematic section on the economics of the Cold War.

Mathematics: The mathematics curriculum will cover general mathematics, geometry, and an introduction to differential calculus. Students Earning Top State Honors The following Aldine ISD students won distinctions at the state

Anna de la Cuesta, Victory Early College High School 2nd Place in Econom

Eli Bautista-Cortez, Victory Early College High School

Leilani Díaz, Blanson Career & Technical High School 3rd Place in Economics

Sharai Ford, Carver High School for Engineering, Applied Tech-

cology, and the Arts
Asiria Martínez, MacArthur High School 3rd Place in Literature Roxanna Méndez, MacArthur High School 3rd Place in Mathematics

José Hernández, MacArthur High School 3rd Place in Science

Eliab Castelán Ramos, Carver High School

"We are very proud of our students. Their perseverance throughout the pandemic has been inspiring," said Susan Pelezo, executive director of advanced academics.

Jessica Luis and Benjamin Toner serve as sponsors at Blanson CTEHS. Carolyn Carrier-Williams and Robert Blain sponsor the team from Carver HS, Park Van and Sveda Zuma lead MacArthur HS. And Jarrod Fredericks and Jesús Torres head the team Victory ECHS team.

SB7 Opposition,

generation - almost 70% of registered voters voted. Now these advances in equity and access are under direct

attack by proposed state legislation SB7 and related bills. The proposed voting restrictions in SB7 are political theater that sadly harms voters of both parties," said Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo. "Policies grounded in the Big Lie - the falsehood that mass voter fraud exists - are wrong and only harm our democracy. I'm saddened to see any legislative proposal designed to limit voting hours or access to the ballot box. Increasing access to voting shouldn't be a partisan issue.'

SB7 would restrict information on how to vote by mail, preventing the County from sending voters mailin ballot applications. SB7 would also limit voting hours and would completely stop 24-hour voting, shutting out thousands of voters such as first responders and medical workers who work nontraditional hours. It would eliminate drive-through voting, encourage harassment of voters inside polling locations by allowing individuals to approach and record voters inside the polling location, and would lead to long lines by dictating Harris County's distribution of voting machines

We call on leaders, companies, and individuals to make their voice heard against bills that create obstacles to voting, under the guise of voter fraud, of which there is no substantial evidence.

A handful of large companies have voiced their opposition to these proposed bills. American Airlines said in a statement, "...As a Texas-based business, we must stand up for the rights of our team members and customers who call Texas home, and honor the sacrifices made by generations of Americans to protect and expand the right to vote..

"Read the bill," said Texas State Senator Paul Bettencourt. "There's a lot of good things in it and not what's being said. [We're going to] fight for what is right, which is voter integrity. As Senator Hughes says, he's trying to make it easy to vote, but hard to cheat. That's what SB 7 is all about."

"If by chance these bills get through, there is a price for voter suppression," said Turner.

Neither of these proposed bills have been approved.

They can still be changed or rejected. - Article modified from a story by Matthew Seedorff,



Message From the Superintendent, March 30, 2021

Dear Aldine Community,

The spring is always so exciting, especially in education. We begin looking forward to winding down the school year and thinking about new opportunities for the next one. One of the bright spots this year, without a doubt, was last week's Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Day! Educators at schools across the district shared how they support SEL, which focuses on educating the whole child, on social media. Even the district's administrative staff took part. The SEL Department led this inaugural event, including make-and-take stations, information about social-emotional learning activities, and positive affirmations. Mayor Sylvester Turner signed a Proclamation declaring March 26 SEL Day in Aldine ISD.

As we continue to "go as fast as we can, but as slow as we must" back to our "new" normal, it is important to remember that even our events have been reimagined. We are excited to celebrate highly anticipated events like prom. Individual schools will begin promoting these activities, so please be on the lookout for more information from your school's leadership team.

Of course, I cannot let a conversation about springtime in education go by without mentioning graduation. We are excited to announce that we will host outdoor graduation ceremonies at Thorne Stadium. Festivities will kick off on May 27, and you can find up-to-date information about each event here

Choice School Updates

Hall Success Academy Application Opens for 2021-2022 Admission

Two-Way Dual Language Program Application for 2021-2022 School Year is Now Available

Choice School Virtual Lottery The deadline to apply was March 26. The first virtual lottery for Choice Schools will be on April 3. Parents will receive either a text and/or email of lottery results.

Aldine Legacy Builders

MacArthur Grad Paul Mills Has Led Oral Roberts to the Sweet 16

AISD Dominates District 14-6A in Boys and Girls Soccer

More to Celebrate

Our Sixth Podcast Episode: Listen in as Chief Communications Officer Sheleah Reed talks about the benefits of eating a healthy breakfast and lunch with Dani Sheffield, Aldine ISD executive director of child nutrition services. Listen and Subscribe to the All the Things: The Aldine ISD Podcast. Link to anchor.fm/AldineISD

Read the latest news by visiting AldineISD.org

COVID-19 Testing/Safety Protocols/Vaccination News

As a reminder, beginning March 29, Texas has opened COVID-19 vaccine eligibility to all adults. Under the expanded eligibility, Texans 16 and older can receive a vaccine. However, the Pfizer vaccine



is the only approved vaccine available for that age group. The Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines have been approved for people 18 and older. Click here to read more.

Drive-thru rapid COVID-19 testing continues to be available for all Aldine ISD students and staff learning and teaching on-campus

M.B. Sonny Donaldson Child Nutrition Services Building

1802 Aldine Bender Rd., Hous-

Online registration is required and can be found by clicking here

I encourage everyone to continue doing their part: wear a mask, wash your hands, and watch your distance.

Report Cards

Report cards for the third nine weeks have been uploaded to HAC. We know it can be difficult, but it is important that all students whether learning at home or on campus - engage with their lessons and complete assignments, quizzes, and projects. If you do not have a Home Access Center (HAC) account, please sign up via the Home Access Center website.

Teacher Recruitment Expo

AISD is Looking for Amazing, Talented, Caring Teachers! - The district will host a Virtual Teacher Recruitment Expo this Thursday, April 1, 2021. During the one-hour session, prospective teachers will learn about the district, the application process, and how school principals can interview potential educators. For information about job positions and to apply, visit the Human Resources webpage

REMINDER: School Meals <u>Available</u>

Free curbside meals/weekend meal bundles are available for all children 18 and younger. We also offer free evening meals to students at all middle schools, ninth-grade schools, and high schools. It's not easy to learn on an empty stomach - we encourage all of our families who need this program to take advantage of it. Please contact your campus for more information

I wish you a wonderful week

With Aldine Pride, Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney Superintendent

COVID 19 Testing Sites in NE Harris County

CROSBY David H. McNerney Crosby American Legion Make Appointment (936) 333-3333; walk ups welcome 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. Mobile or On-Site Testing Texas Mobile Medical

Labs

Crosby ISD Apt. Necessary (281) 328-14670 FM 2100 Crosby,

Urgent Care MDs No appointment needed 9 until 9 14405 FM 2100, Crosby (832) 821-9780

Neighbors Emergency Center No appointment needed 14120 FM 2100, Crosby, (281) 328-7770

Crosby Community Center (when open) 409 Hare Rd., Crosby, TX

(281) 462-0543 Nova Medical Ctr.

Apt Req. (713) 453-7788 13469 East Freeway, Houston, TX 77015 Open 8:30 a.m.

HIGHLANDS (Go to either Baytown or Channelview))

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HUFFMAN Care Now Urgent Care No Appt. Necessary Humble (281) 397-5258

Urgent Care M.D.s No Appt. Necessar Atascocita (281) 570-6856

Judge Hidalgo visits Mobile Vaccination unit,



Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo and Pastor Darryl Broussard visit the County's Mobile Vaccine unit last Wednesday at the Greater Pure Light Church in Aldine.



Judge Hidalgo shares an "elbow bump" with one of the Vaccination workers at the Church, as she emphasizes the seriousnous of bringing vaccination opportunities to the underserved or immobile population throughout the county.



TOP TEN MOVIES -

- 1. Nobody (R) Bob Odenkirk, Aleksey Serebryakov 2. Raya and the Last Dragon (PG) animated
- 3. Tom & Jerry (PG) Chloe Grace Moretz, Colin Jost 4. Chaos Walking (PG-13) Tom Holland, Daisy Ridley 5. The Courier (PG-13) Benedict Cumberbatch, Merab Ninidze
- 6. The Croods: A New Age (PG) animated 7. The Marksman (PG-13) Katheryn Winnick, Liam
- 8. Boogie (R) Taylor Takahashi, Pamelyn Chee 9. Minari (PG-13) Steven Yeun, Yeri Han 10. Wonder Woman 1984 (PG-13) Gal Gadot,
- Source: Box Office Mojo
- (c) 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

Lone Star College Open House helps students start close, and go far



Virtual Open House sessions will start on April 13 for students that are interested in enrolling in one of the

HOUSTON (April 8, 2021) - Choosing the right college is more important than ever. That's why Lone Star College is hosting a series of virtual LSC Open Houses for students and parents to learn more about why attending LSC is a smart decision.

"I see the tremendous impact COVID-19 has had on our community every day," said Stephen C. Head, Ph.D., LSC chancellor. "The good news is that Lone Star College is ready to help you further your education and give you the skills necessary to be successful."

LSC representatives will explain the different types of programs available as well as how to apply for financial assistance to help pay for college. Find out more by visiting Lone/Star.edu/Open-House.

"Lone Star College has had a great impact on my life," said Martha Rabadan, LSC-North Harris student. "I know I have the endless support of my professors, friends and the school itself. I am glad life brought me to this wonderful school and shaped me into the person I am.'

The Lone Star College Open House schedule is:

LSC-CyFair Thursday, April 154 p.m

LSC-Houston North Thursday, April 15 4 p.m

LSC-Kingwood Saturday, April 17 10 a.m.

LSC-Montgomery Thursday, April 15

LSC-North Harris Tuesday, April 13

LSC-Tomball Tuesday, April 13

LSC-University Park Tuesday, April 13

"Lone Star College offers high quality education that is affordable and close to home," said Head. "I encourage anyone thinking about attending college this fall to attend one of these events."

Students can also learn about the Honor's College at LSC which offers highachieving students the opportunity to graduate with Honors distinction by visiting LoneStar.edu/HonorsCollege. LSC also offers GED® classes for students interested in gaining a high school equivalency diploma to apply to college, start training or get a better job.

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. Lone Star College consists of seven colleges, eight centers, eight Workforce Centers of Excellence, Lone Star Corporate College and LSC-Online To learn more, visit LoneStar.edu.

Easter Drive-Thru Eggstravaganza at BakerRipley,



The Festivities included having your picture taken with the Easter Bunny. (Photos courtesy Rwitte/BakerRipley)



Families drove through the BakerRipley campus, received a gift basket for each child, and were greeted by the Easter Bunny. Over 200 children participated.

LSC grad honored by Drew Brees for COVID-19 work

New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees named Lone Star College-Kingwood graduate Savannah Stuard as his choice for The Real Heroes Project. The project features 14 professional sports leagues who teamed up to highlight health care workers on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandem-

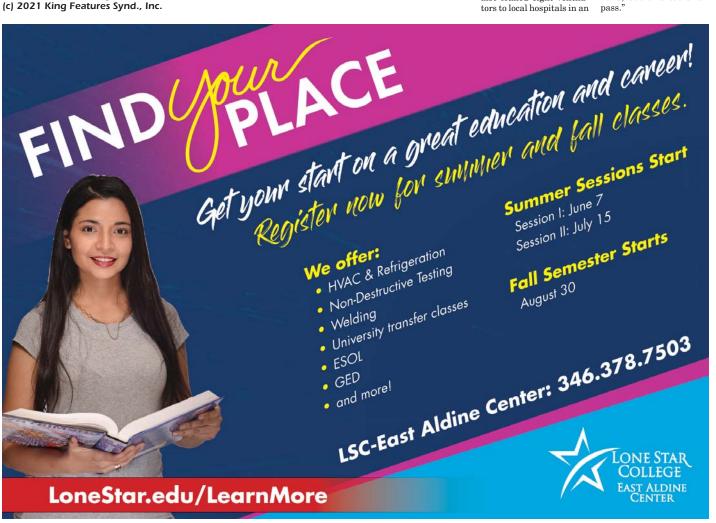
Stuard earned the Wells Fargo scholarship and the Kenny & Mattie McCowen scholarship while studying respiratory therapy. The LSC-Kingwood Respiratory Care Therapist program prepares graduates for acute care settings, including performing diagnostic and rehabilitation therapeutic procedures.

In addition to training students, LSC-Kingwood also loaned eight ventila-



effort to help combat COV-ID. The LSC-Kingwood Respiratory Care program, which uses these ventilators to train students, also donated five nebulizers and 75 personal protective equipment kits.

"Never give up on your dreams or passions," said Stuard. "There will be obstacles, but just keep going forward. These times are hard, but this too shall



★ OPINION PAGE ★



Texas Senate Democrats Condemn Passage of Senate Bill 7

AUSTIN, TX — The Texas Senate Democratic Caucus issued the following statement on the passage today of Senate Bill 7:

"Today, the Texas Senate passed Senate Bill 7, the most significant voter suppression legislation our state has seen in decades. We aggressively fought this bill because we know it will disenfranchise racial and ethnic minority voters and voters with disabilities, including veterans.

"Every eligible Texan deserves to have their voice heard at the ballot box — regardless of their race, ethnicity, disability, gender, age, income, or party. SB 7 makes it harder for every Texan to vote

"If this bill becomes law, we would see more polling places close in historically disenfranchised neighborhoods and reduced voting hours — both of which would have a disparate impact on Black and Latino Texans. Poll watchers would be allowed to video record voters who are receiving assistance in voting, which the TX NAACP, MALDEF, LULAC and other civil rights organizations have warned will be used to intimidate people of color. It is unacceptable that in a state with a history of Jim Crow voter suppression laws, communities of color are once again facing disproportionate barriers to exercising their constitutional right to vote.

"The Senate Democratic Caucus stands united against this voter suppression bill that reads like the Jim Crow laws of the South. In our questions, we echoed the concerns that numerous civil and disability rights groups raised in the committee hearing last week. In addition, we offered over 20 amendments to both diminish the negative impacts of the bill and expand access to the ballot box — the vast majority of which were rejected on a party line vote.

"Texas elected officials have one primary duty: to represent the needs and voices of our constituents. Right now, Texans face serious issues — lost jobs and healthcare a year into the COVID-19 pandemic to the damage and ongoing fallout from Winter Storm Uri. These issues affect the lives of millions of Texans and demand immediate action. Yet instead of taking action to protect Texans from these crises, our Republican colleagues have spent precious legislative time trying to silence the voices of Texas voters.

"This is not what representation looks like. This is not what leadership looks like. We call on our colleagues to put Texans over politics and prioritize tackling the challenges facing our state."

(signed)

Sushma Jasti Smith Senior Counsel Senator Carol Alvarado (SD 6) Executive

Texas Senate Democratic Caucus



with Slim Randles

Fling into Spring

"Fling into Spring!" said our high school art teacher, Janice Thomas to herself as she headed out to pick up some groceries. "That's what I'll call it. Fling into Spring!"

She ear rumpled Woof, her deer pointer (he being half pointer and half cowdog and the herd instinct didn't work well on deer, so he points them now. His tail didn't work for a week.)

She took off down to the Soup 'R' Market and waved to Annette, who masked up and brought her groceries out to Janice's car. Yes, even here.

"What do you think of Fling into Spring, Annette?"
"Love it, Janice," she said. "That's why I picked it."
Janice tried to look puzzled through her mask. "You

"You know ... for the high school picnic theme this year. I'm helping with the planning. But you must've heard about it."

"No ... I thought it would be a good name for my spring art show ..."

art snow ..."

Both women stared at each other's masks, six feet away.

"In that case," Janice said, "I could change it, I guess. If
the locals made jewelry we could call it Spring Bling, but

that just doesn't work too well for paintings, does it?"

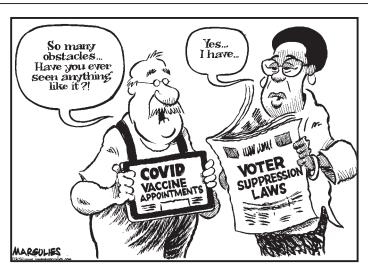
Annette nodded. "I know. How about 'A Sprint to Tint.'?'

Janice started the car. "I guess it deserves a bit more thought."

"I know!" said Annette. "Brush Strokes for Folks!"

Janice nodded, sadly. Sure will be glad when they get a handle on this pandemic.

Brought to you by the 24,000 helpful folks at Hobby Lobby. Buy little tubes of paint online at hobbylobby.com.



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

The latest report on child maltreatment fatalities and near fatalities, compiled by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, indicates 251 children in Texas died in fiscal year 2020 due to abuse and neglect. That figure includes 28 children who died after being left unattended in hot vehicles.

During Child Abuse Prevention Month, DFPS is encouraging communities to increase awareness of resources available to help prevent child abuse in Texas. Resources are available at getparentingtips.com.

DSHS LAUNCHES TEXAS VACCINE SCHEDULER

With anyone 16 and older now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine, the Texas Department of State Health Services has launched the Texas Public Health Vaccine Scheduler. It establishes a single place to sign up for a vaccine through multiple public health agencies. Texans can vaccine debts

lic health agencies. Texans can visit getthevaccine. dshs. texas.gov to create a profile and pick a preferred day and time for an appointment. In most cases, people will be matched with the next available appointment in their home counties.

People without internet service or who have difficulty using the online registration tools can call 1-833-832-7067 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. seven days a week for assistance.

week for assistance.

As of Sunday, 7.92 million Texans had been vaccinated, meaning 41 percent of the state's residents have received at least one shot. Some 4.46 million are fully vaccinated. DSHS announced Friday that more than 2.5 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines are shipping out this week — more than double the previous high.

Meanwhile, new COV-ID-19 cases in Texas dropped again compared to the previous week, with 21,754 reported, down



about 20% week to week. The number of deaths dropped to 637 last week, down about 14% from the previous week. Hospitalizations of confirmed COV-ID-19 patients again dropped, to 2,840 state-wide

MCADAMS APPOINTED TO PUC

Gov. Greg Abbott has nominated Will McAdams to the Public Utility Commission, subject to state senate confirmation. McAdams will join the sole remaining member of the three-person commission, Chairman Arthur D'Andrea, who previously announced his resignation but agreed to stay on until Abbott could appoint new members. McAdams is president of the Associated Builders and Contract

tors of Texas and worked

for legislators for more

than a decade in various senior staff positions.

The PUC came under fire after the disastrous electrical blackouts during the mid-February winter storm, since it has supervisory power over the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, which controls the power grid for most of the state. Nearly half of ER-COT's 15-member board

has since resigned.

An investigation by the Houston Chronicle indicates nearly 200 people died in the winter storm, primarily from hypothermia or carbon monoxide poisoning. More than 4 million homes in Texas were without power at the

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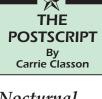
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Published each Tuesday by GrafikPress Corp. Any erroneous statement which may appear will be corrected when brought to the attention of the publisher. Liability for errors is limited to the reprinting of the corrected version. Submissions are encouraged, in person, by mail, by Fax, or by email, to

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Nocturnal Negotiations

It's amazing that anyone shares a bed.

I know there are plenty of married and cohabiting couples who have separate beds, or even separate bedrooms, and I can see the logic in avoiding the snoring, the thrashing, the different sleep schedules, and the need to negotiate the complicated issue of bedding.

But since marrying and moving into Peter's house, we have shared a bed, and it is not a large one. So far, we have negotiated a peaceful settlement. This is because Peter has let me have my way.

There were a lot of improvements needed to the bed when I moved in with Peter.

First of all, he had sheets he described as "microfiber." I don't know what these tiny fibers were, but the only fiber I was interested in having in my sheets was cotton.

peak of the crisis. As State

Rep. Rafael Anchia, D-Dallas, noted in the article, the

winter storm death toll

from Hurricane Harvey in

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY, HOMELESSNESS

A Fiscal Notes report from the state comptrol-

ler's office indicates medi-

an-priced housing in all 10

of the state's largest metro

areas is unaffordable to Texans with median in-

comes. Median income is the point where half the

people earn more and half earn less. For example, the

median income in Austin

in 2019 was \$39,418, ac-

cording to the U.S. Census

Bureau. In Brownsville, it was \$19,432, or less than

half of Austin's median. But in both metro areas, a

home at the median price
— \$491,000 in Austin and

\$167,800 in Brownsville

is unaffordable to families

whose annual income is at

or below the median. (All

figures are from 2019, the

strong correlation between homelessness and housing

affordability. Red-hot real

estate markets in those

metro areas have driven

up home prices and rents.

After a dozen years of de-

creases in the number of

homeless people in the state, the number has risen since 2018. The latest

count of individuals experiencing homelessness on a

given night accounted for

nearly 26,000 in Texas.

DROUGHT CONDITIONS

THE STATE

BLANKET TWO THIRDS OF

While drought condi-

tions have improved in the northern Panhandle, they

have gotten more severe in South and East Texas, with

68% of the state's land now

under drought conditions

ranging from abnormally

dry to exceptional. Accord-

ing to the Texas Water De

velopment Board, for the

first time in five weeks the

total area of the state af-

fected by drought didn't

REENACTS KEY MOMENTS OF BATTLE OF SAN

To mark the 185th an-

niversary of the Battle of San Jacinto, in which Gen.

Sam Houston and the Texian forces defeated Mexi-

can Gen Santa Anna to

secure Texas' independence in 1836, the Texas

Historical Commission is releasing San Jacinto: A

Lone Star Shines video se-

ries. Every day between

April 19-22, the San Jacinto Battleground State His-

toric Site will release a

short digital film depicting

key scenes from the battle

Each day's video will pre-

miere at 11 a.m. with en-

core showings at 3:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. on the San Ja-

cinto Battleground State Historic Site's Facebook

page, and on the Texas His-

torical Commission You

Tube channel. The films are free to view.

NEW FILM SERIES

JACINTO

The report notes a

latest year available.)

EXACERBATED AFTER

STORM, PANDEMIC

was almost double that

I don't think (as Peter implies) this makes me a snob. I am not one of those who requires an absurdly high thread count. It was my wise mother who pointed out that a lower thread count makes for a cozier feeling sheet—provided, of course, that it is washed in unscented laundry soap and dried outside on the line.

I once read a story where a woman was ironing her pillowcases. This activity was proof that she was mentally unstable. I did not find the story convincing. I know my mother is of sound mind, and she'll tell you that a pillowcase is a lot nicer after it's been touched up by a hot iron.

Then there was the matter of blankets. Fortunately, we both like a cooler room at night, thus avoiding most of the disputes that happen between couples in the winter months. But Peter's solution was to toss something on top of the bed that was the size, weight and color of a dead seal. That was obviously not going to work.

Once under the fleshy green leviathan, I could hardly breathe, and any kind of temperature adjustment was impossible.

"What if I get too hot?" I asked Peter.

"You stick a foot out."

"I stick a foot out of the bed?"

"Yeah."
"How does that help any-

thing?"

"It cools you down."

"It cools down one foot! Now I'm still hot but have a cold foot!"

We replaced the dead sea mammal with several blankets that could be used as needed, and I thought we had reached a nice resolution to the whole bedding issue until we visited Europe. There I saw they had one pillow that stretched across the bed that both sleepers could share.

"Ooh! I want one of those," I thought.

But then Peter decided he wanted a peculiar pillow that supported his neck but not his head and looked exactly like a giant upholstered hotdog. I did not. So the lovely European style pillow idea was scrapped.

And still the nocturnal negotiations continue. Peter (unbeknownst to him, he claims) will migrate over onto my side, forcing me to cling to the edge of the bed to keep from falling out. This wakes me up just enough so I can nudge him. He will, with considerable grumbling, roll back over to his side, at which time I hastily grab whatever territory he has relinquished. It's a nightly challenge in a small hed

But it's worth it.

Because, as I move into the warmth that he has left behind, I'm reminded every night that he is there beside me, disturbing my sleep and stealing my covers. It's a nightly reassurance that he is near.

Till next time, Carrie

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

SPANISH PAGE

Mensaje del Superintendente, 30 de marzo de 2021

Estimada Comunidad de Aldine:

La primavera siempre es muy emocionante, especialmente en la educación. Comenzamos a anticipar ansiosos el final del año escolar y a pensar en nuevas oportunidades para el próximo año. Uno de los aspectos positivos de este año, sin lugar a dudas, fue el Día de Aprendizaje Socioemocional (SEL) la semana pasada. Los docentes en las escuelas de alrededor de todo el distrito compartieron cómo apoyan el SEL, lo cual se concentra en educar integralmente al niño, mediante las redes sociales. Incluso participó el personal administrativo del distrito. El Departamento de SEL lideró este evento inaugural, incluyendo estaciones de prepare y lleve, información acerca de actividades de aprendizaje emocional, así como afirmaciones positivas. El Alcalde Sylvester Turner firmó una Proclamación en la que se declara que el 26 de marzo es el Día de SEL en Aldine ISD.

Como seguimos "yendo tan rápido como podemos, pero tan lento como debemos" en rumbo a nuestro "nuevo" normal, es importante recordar que incluso nuestros acontecimientos han sido reconcebidos. Estamos emocionados en celebrar eventos altamente anticipados como el baile de graduación. Las escuelas individuales estarán promocionando estas actividades, así que por favor esté pendiente de más información del equipo de liderazgo de su escuela.

Evidentemente, no puedo permitir que una conversación acerca de la primavera en la educación se realice sin mencionar la graduación. Nos complace anunciar que estaremos celebrando ceremonias de graduación en exteriores en el Estadio Thorne. Las festividades comenzarán el 27 de mayo y podrán obtener información actualizada acerca de cada evento aquí

Actualizaciones sobre Escuelas de Selección

Las aplicaciones a la Academia Hall Success se abren para la admisión para 2021-2022

Ya se encuentran disponibles las Aplicaciones para el Programa de Dos Idiomas para el Año Escolar 2021-2022

Lotería Virtual de Escuelas de Selección – La fecha tope para las aplicaciones era el 26 de marzo. La primera lotería virtual para las Escuelas Selectivas será el 3 de abril. Los padres recibirán o bien un texto y/o bien un correo electrónico con los resultados de la lotería.

Formadores de Legados de Aldine



El Graduado de MacArthur, Paul Mills, ha llevado a Oral Roberts a los Octavos de Final

AISD Domina el Distrito 14-6A en Fútbol de Niños y Niñas

Más para celebrar

Nuestro sexto episodio de podcast: Escuche cómo la directora de comunicaciones, Sheleah Reed, habla sobre los beneficios de comer un desayuno y un almuerzo saludables con Dani Sheffield, directora ejecutiva de servicios de nutrición infantil de Aldine ISD. Escuche y suscríbase a All the Things: The Aldine ISD Podcast. Enlace a anchor.fm/AldineISD

Lea las últimas noticias visitando AldineISD.org

Pruebas de COVID-19/Protocolos de Seguridad/

Como recordatorio, a partir de el 29 de marzo, Texas ha extendido la elegibilidad para la vacuna contra el COVID-19 a todos los adultos. Según la elegibilidad expandida, los Texanos de 16 años de edad y mayores pueden recibir la vacuna. Sin embargo, la vacuna Pfizer es la única vacuna aprobada disponible para los de ese grupo etario. Las vacunas Moderna y Johnson & Johnson han sido aprobadas para las personas de 18 años y mayores. Haga clic aquí para leer más.

Las pruebas rápidas para el COVID-19 desde el carro siguen estando disponibles para todos los estudiantes y personal de Aldine ISD que aprenden y enseñan en el plantel en el:

Edificio de Servicios Nutricionales Pediátricos M.B. Sonny Donaldson

1802 Aldine Bender Rd., Houston, TX 77032

Se requiere la inscripción en línea y puede obtenerse haciendo clic aquí.

Les pido encarecidamente a todos seguir haciendo su parte: llevar mascarilla, lavarse las manos y mantener su distancia.

Las boletas para las terceras nueve semanas han sido colgadas en HAC. Sabemos que puede ser difícil, pero es importante que todos los estudiantes — sea que aprendan en casa o en el plantel — se avoquen a sus lecciones y terminen sus tareas, quiz y proyectos. Si no tiene una cuenta de Centro de Acceso desde el Hogar (HAC), por favor, inscribase mediante el portal del Centro de Acceso Desde el Hogar.

Expo de Reclutamiento de Profesores

:AISD Busca Profesores Asombrosos, Talentosos v Dedicados! — El distrito realizará una Expo Virtual de Reclutamiento de Profesores este jueves, 1º de abril de 2021. Durante esta sesión de una hora, los profesores prospectivos aprenderán acerca del distrito, el proceso de aplicación, y cómo los directores escolares podrán entrevistar a los docentes potenciales. Para información acerca de los cargos laborales y para aplicar, visite el portal de Recursos Humanos.

RECORDATORIO: Hay Disponibilidad de Alimentos Escolares

Hay disponibilidad de alimentos a la orilla de la acera/paquetes de alimentos para el fin de semana gratuitos para todos los niños de 18 años de edad y menores. También ofrecemos alimentos gratuitos para las noches a los estudiantes en todas las escuelas medias, escuelas de noveno grado y secundarias. No es fácil aprender con el estómago vacío — invitamos a todas nuestras familias que necesiten de este programa a aprovecharlo. Por favor, comuníquese con su plantel para mayor información.

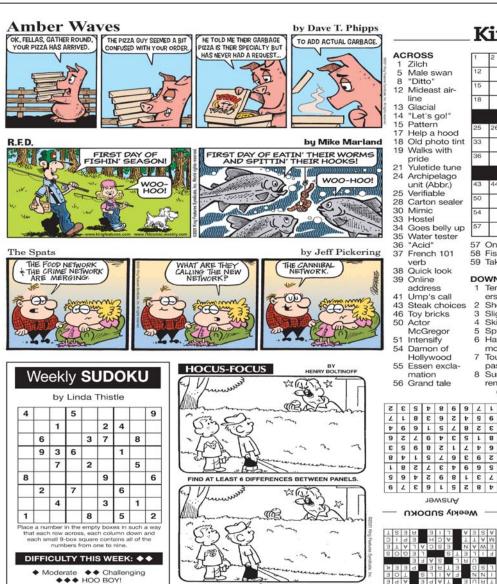
Les deseo una maravillosa semana venidera.

Con orgullo Aldine,

Dra. LaTonya M. Goffney

Superintendente

ENTERTAINMENT







57 On the briny 58 Fish story 9 Walk

ers Sheltered Slightly wet Skiing style Spy org. Halloween

mo. Hollywood 55 Essen excla-mation 56 Grand tale passes 8 Surgery reminders

Tournament

40 Oscar de la -42 Ga. neighbor 20 Cravats 22 Coup d' – 23 Hideaways org. 44 "As — saying 45 Barking critter 47 Be slack-

Up to ER workers Move in waves 29 Entreaty "The Raven

jawed 48 Elevator name

49 Faction

52 High school

subj. 53 "Evita" role

writer 32 "A mouse!"

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. LANGUAGE: What is the word for "M" in

the international alphabet code used in radio?

2. TELEVISION: What was the real first name of the character Fonzie in the comedy "Happy

3. SCIENCE: Which country has the greatest number of tornados annually?

4. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Aus-

ANIMAL KINGDOM: What are the only

5. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What are the only two known mammals that lay eggs?
6. LITERATURE: What was the name of the first monster in "Beowulf"?
7. MOVIES: What was the name of the villain in the movie "Three Amigos!"?
8. U.S. STATES: What is the nickname of Wyoming?

ming?
9. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the color of envy, culturally speaking? 10. BUSINESS: Which country's basic curren-

cy is the sol?

1. Mike; 2. Arthur; 3. United States, central and south regions; 4. Canberr 5. Duck-billed platypus and the spiny anteater; 6. Grendel; 7. El Guapo; 8. The Equality State; 9. Green; 10. Peru Trivia Test Answerst

San Jacinto Battle Celebration set for April 17

ANAHUAC- The San Jacinto Volunteers and the Texas Army will reenact the Battle of San Jacinto not at the location of the battle but at Fort Anahuac Park, 1704 S. Main Anahuac in Chambers County on April 17.

Admission is free, donations are welcome and no alcohol is allowed.

An unveiling of the "First Stand" will occur from 10:30 until 11:00 a.m. A monument commemorating the role of Anahuac, the first battle of the Texas Revolution, featuring art never seen in public before then.

Re-enacting the moments leading up to the Battle of San Jacinto goes on between 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Those in attendance can meet Sam Houston, Santa Anna and the brave soldiers that would make history. This educational feature enables questioning reenectors dedicated to understanding the ways of the early 19th Century, watch the ladies demonstrate camp cooking and survival of the Run-Away

Scrape in 1836.

The Battle begins at 3 p.m. featuring cannon volleys, pyrotechnics, musket fire, and re-enactment up to the capture of Santa Anna

Those who attend should park by the base-ball field, They are free to bring water, chairs, and blankets. On-hand will be sanitizing stations. Social distancing and compliance with updated CDC guidelines is encouraged.

A fried fish and shrimp dinner is to be sold as a fundraiser for the Chambers County Museaum at Wallisville beginning at Noon but tickets bought presale get served first at 11:00. Call Marie (409) 389-2252 to reserve \$15 plates.



Cannon fire comes to Anahuac



Reenactors will be in Anahuac, April 17. Actors and exhibits will be at the San Jacinto Museum in Deer Park for a Texas Historical Commission celebration.

21, 1836.

Reenactors will be at the location beginning Friday and packing up Sunday morning.

DEER PARK - San Jacinto Celebration - Under the Star Celebration marks the 185th Anniversary of the Battle of San Jacinto April 17, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Adults \$12 - Children (11 and under) \$6 - Parking is Free. Tickets include admission to all museum offerings and children's activities. Tickets can be purchased at the gate or through Eventbrite.

The celebration will take place rain or shine – no refunds.

The San Jacinto Celebration "Under the Star" will be held on April 17, 2021, on the grounds surrounding the San Jacinto Memorial Monument. This is a family-friendly event highlighting the events that led up to Texas winning its independence from

Mexico at the decisive Battle of San Jacinto on April

Enjoy a living "Timeline of the Texas Revolution." showcasing the chronology of the San Jacinto story, with living history demonstrations featuring major events that occurred in Gonzales, the Alamo, San Felipe de Austin, Goliad, and Washington-on-the-Brazos, all of which led to the Battle of San Jacinto and the capture of General Santa Anna. Participatory activities allow visitors to interact with historians as they cook food, check weapons, and

Attendees are encouraged to visit the San Jacinto Museum inside the Monument. It will be open all day. The fee for this event includes entrance to all museum venues including the elevator ride to the

engage in the daily rou-

tines of Texians from al-

most 200 years ago.

top of the monument, a special exhibit, and the Texas history film.

The celebration will be a full day of entertainment, food trucks, vendors, Beer Garden, petting zoo, picnic on the grounds, family activities, and cultural exhibits amidst living history. A list of activities will be updated at www.sanjacinto-

museum.org.

Public parking lots are located along Vista Road and other marked areas near the monument. Disabled parking is available near the main ticketing area nearest the monument for vehicles, with a disabled placard or license plate required. A map of parking lots will be posted as the event gets closer.

The San Jacinto Museum of History is the organizer of the event. Our partners in coordinating this event include Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas Historical Commission, Alamo Trust, volunteers from San Jacinto College, and Houston Food Truck Association.

Entertainment:
• Penny-farthing rider (1870s bicycle) and juggler will entertain all day.

• Texas Flyer Trackless Train will be on hand to thrill and transport our little celebrators.

• Bluegrass musicians to entertain.

Historical Storyteller will be on hand telling accounts of bravery and triumph while highlighting general leadership qualities. All children who participate will get a balloon.

• Representatives from the Texas Independence Trail will be on-site to tell their site's part in Texas history:

• Local citIes will share their information as part of the Tourism Trail.

 Run-In-Late Band from Brazoria will be performing all day long. They play traditional Texas Country, Pop and Soft Rock, and even some Island Music.

Vendor booths offer a large selection of hand-crafted items.

Representatives from area chapters of The Sons of the Republic of Texas

HCC offers 4-week drywall technician course to help meet city's needs for installers



HOUSTON (April 9) -In Houston, there is always a need for professional drywall installers for residential and commercial structures. The region experiences flooding and other natural disasters on an annual basis. And the surprising and devastating freeze in the winter of 2021 left many homes and businesses with busted water pipes - and accompanying soggy Sheetrock - in unprecedented numbers.

Finding available drywallers to repair the damage was a challenging task. Every skilled professional seemed to be completely booked and unbelievably busy.

To help address this increased demand for skilled drywallers, Houston Community College's Continuing Education division is offering a fast-track course in drywall installation and repair at HCC South Campus, 1990 Airport Blvd., Houston, TX 77051.

In just four Saturdays in June, students will

learn and practice what the busy pros already know: How to install drywall safely, with precision, and with excellent finishing techniques.

The benefits of completing this course can be substantial. Graduates will be qualified to find work as a drywall installer or develop a potential second-income stream by being an installer on a full- or parttime basis.

Grants are available to qualified applications. Classes start June 5. To register or for more information:

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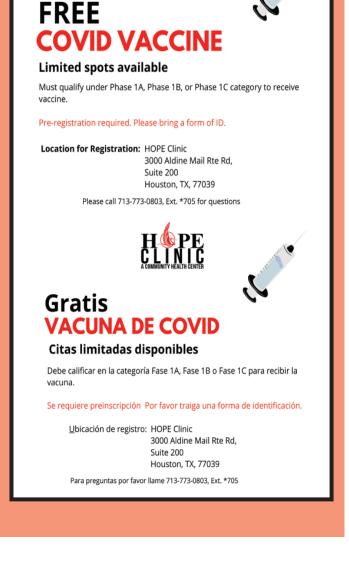
COURSES OFFERED:

Fri. | 6p-10p & Sat. | 8a-5p - or -

Mon.,Tues., & Thurs. | 6p-10p







COMMUNITY WATCH

Shooting at 6817 Homestead Road

Houston police are investigating the shooting of a woman at 6817 Homestead Road about 8 p.m. on Saturday (March 6).

The victim, Zatovia Broussard, 35, was transported to an area hospital in critical condition.

HPD Major Assaults & Family Violence Division Detectives Z. Brumley and H. Martinez reported:

Ms. Broussard, who is four months pregnant, and her boyfriend attended a wake service at the above address. As they were leaving the parking lot, an unknown suspect(s) fired multiple shots at them, striking Broussard multiple times. Her boyfriend transported her to an area hospital. The suspect(s) fled the scene. No witnesses remained at the scene to be interviewed by police.

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

Suspect Arrested in Shooting at 875 West Little York

Charges have been filed against a suspect arrested in the shooting of a man at 875 West Little York Road about 4:15 p.m. on Sunday (April 4).

The suspect, Trent Donta Jefferson (b/m, 27), is charged with aggravated assault of a family member in the

263rd State District Court. A booking photo of Jefferson

is attached to this news release. HPD Major Assaults & Fam-

ily Violence Division Officer C. Grahmann reported: The victim was at his resi-

dence when his stepson, Jefferson, arrived to pick up his

brother. Jefferson and his step-father got into a verbal argument which led to Jefferson producing a pistol. The step-father also produced a pistol and both men exchanged gunfire. Jefferson suffered a gunshot wound to the left arm and the step-father was not injured.

Jefferson fled the scene and was later found at an area hospital. He was taken into custody and subsequently charged for his role in the incident.

Shooting at 8000 W. Tidwell RD

Houston police are investigating the shooting of a man at 8000 West Tidwell Road about 9 p.m. on Sunday (March 28).

The victim, Rene Garza, 30, was transported to an area hospital in an unknown condition

HPD Major Assaults & Family Violence Division Detectives C. Bowling and A. Ferrell reported:

Mr. Garza was seen under the apparent influence of an unknown substance, crawling in the roadway, and charging at vehicles near the above address. A dark sedan of unknown make or model then approached the intersection from Wyandott Street. As Garza aggressively approached the vehicle, the passenger door opened and an unknown suspect inside fired at Garza, striking him in the legs. The sedan then fled the scene in an unknown direction.

Houston Fire Department paramedics responded to the scene and transported Garza to the hos-

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

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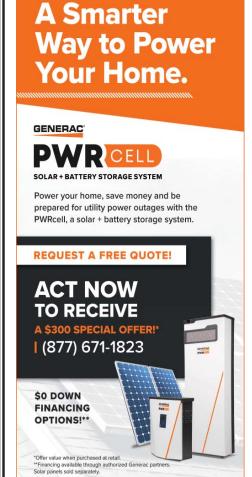
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CHURCH PAGE

SEEDS OF HOPE

We are reminded throughout God's Word that He has given us the gift of choice and its consequences. Nowhere are we told that we cannot choose our destinies. But we are told that our choices determine our destinies.

Even a casual reading of the New Testament tells us that there were those who followed Jesus because they wanted to get something from Him for selfish reasons. We read that when things looked horrible at His trial those who had been with Him for years fled for their lives. In His days of glamour and glory they were close by His side. There were others who wanted to be with Him but they refused to make any sacrifices and went their own way.

A graduate of a Midwestern university was just an average student. He played sports but never made any of the varsity teams. He was never elected to any office and did not make it far up the corporate ladder. When war broke out he was among the first to volunteer. After completing basic training he was sent to a war zone in France.

One day in combat he was serving alongside a soldier in the French army. His comrade was severely wounded and with no thought of himself, he made a decision to get him help.

Unfortunately, he did not succeed and was killed on his way to find a medic.

The French Government learned of his act of bravery and awarded him The Croix de Guerre -Cross of War. And his alma mater posted a plaque in his honor that read, "He played with the

scrubs for four years - but never quit."

The psalmist said, "We will not turn away from You."

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Lone Star College - East Aidine Aidine Mail Foute Baker Ripley 3000 Aidine Mail Route East Aidine District Office 5333 Aidine Mail Route RED BOX 5327 Aidine Mail Route RED BOX 7214 Airline Drive Pan Riko Bakery Aidine Mail Rt MacArthur High School Aidine Mail Rt High Meadows Branch Library 4550 Aidine Mail Rt Prosperity Bank Eastex Fwy 3945 Little York Prosperity Bank Little York 1015 Little York Prosperity Bank Little York 1906 Aidine Banker Mobile Station 1014 Eastex Freeway 9140 Eastex Freeway 9140

Mobile Station 9140 Eastex Freeway Texaco Food Mart 9225 Eastex Freeway

onoco 11219 Eastex Freeway Iandy Plus #69 11420 Eastex Freeway Iartz Chicken 12231 Eastex Freeway

easley Tire Eastex Freeway

Dairy Queen
E. Mt. Houston @ Eastex Fwy
Ranchero King Buffet
North Freeway
Mi Rancho

North Freeway
Mi Rancho
11132 Addine Westfield
Aldine iSD Services Office
Aldine Westfield
Houston Discount Sales
101 Little York & Airline Drive
You & I Grocery
8009 Airline
Airline Grocery
8104 Airline
Guick Mart
8320 Airline
Harris County Banch Library
Harris County
Banch Library
Medical Clinic
Medical Clinic
Medical Clinic
Medical Clinic
Medical Clinic

Aldine Y.O.U.T.H Comm. Ctr. 4700 Aldine Mail Rt Harvest Time Church Imperial Valley 769 Grocery 330 Gulf Bank K Stop Food Store 340 Gulf Bank K Stop Food Store 340 Gulf Bank Office Building Parker Road HC Senior Center Hardy Road HC Senior Hardy Ha Food City Aldine Mail Route

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



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