

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

- HC Judge berates Election Audit, Page 2
- Superintendent's Message, Page 3
- New AEF board members, Page 3
- National Night Out, Pages 1 & 6
- Prosperity Bank HOPP program, Page 6

# NORTHEAST NEWS

**Come Celebrate!**  
**National Night Out @5pm**  
**October 5**  
**East Aldine TownCenter**  
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 VOL. 45, NO. 40 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2021 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

## HS FOOTBALL

# Mac Generals stomp Aldine Mustangs 48-6

The MacArthur Generals varsity football team took a large step toward redeeming their reputation last Saturday, Oct. 2 at Thorne Stadium, defeating the Aldine Mustangs 48-6.

After a 24-10 victory in the first game of the season, the Generals have struggled with their offense, and have not scored any points in the last 2 games. They lost to Nimitz on Friday, Sept. 24 with a score of 3-0. The game had ended in a 0-0 tie, but the Cougars managed to win the game in OT with a field goal.

In this week's game, the General offense came alive, with daring plays well executed. In the 3rd quarter QB #5 Darius Hicks completed a 74 yard pass to #1 Kendrick Dennis for a TD that brought the score to 41-0. Then #1 Jason Crampton rushed 65 yards for another TD.

The Aldine Mustangs managed to salvage a little near the end of the game, with a 70 yard kick return by #23 Daeron Brown to avoid a shutout. The final score was Generals 48, Mustangs 6.

Next week MacArthur plays Dekaney at Planet Ford Stadium on Friday night, with a 7:00pm kick-off.



In the 2nd quarter, #0 Mac Running Back DeMarcus Singletary carries the ball for a 35 yard rushing TD, taking a handoff from the QB #5 Darius Hicks.

**KEENEY'S KORNER**  
 By  
**MIKE KEENEY**

## Texas, OU renew long-time rivalry: Aggies look to shock country when they host Alabama

First-year University of Texas head coach Steve Sarkisian gets his first taste of the Red River Showdown when his Longhorns travel to Dallas on Saturday to take on Lincoln Riley's Oklahoma Sooners in the Cotton Bowl.

OU has won five of the last seven meetings between the two future SEC schools and the Sooners have used that game as a springboard on their way to five straight Big 12 titles (14 overall).

The Sooners have struggled some on offense this year as quarterback Spencer Rattler has been up and down thus far in the season. Texas changed quarterbacks after its 40-21 loss at Arkansas giving the starting job to Casey Thompson over Hudson Card. All Thompson did in his first two starts was lead UT to 58 points against Rice and a whopping 70 points in UT's Big 12 opener against Texas

Tech (as a Tech alumni, that was painful to watch).

OU always seems to have UT's number and Riley and his team know they need to get things rolling if they hope to land one of the four College Football Playoff (CFP) spots.

This should be an interesting one to watch.

While OU and UT fans will focus on their game in Dallas, the rest of the nation will turn its attention to College Station on Saturday night when Jimbo Fisher's Texas A&M Aggies host Nick Saban and his No. 1-ranked Alabama Crimson Tide.

Two weeks ago, the Aggies saw their unbeaten season come to an end with a 20-10 loss against Arkansas in Arlington. The A&M offensive line has issues and if that

*Continued. See Keeney's Korner, page 4*

# 3 Incumbent Aldine Trustees face new challengers

Candidates Forum Wed. Oct. 6 at BakerRipley

ALDINE – The November Election will include a ballot choice for 3 seats on the Aldine ISD school board. Incumbents will have challengers in each of the three positions, an unusual situation in most election years.

Early voting will start on October 18, through October 29. On Tuesday, the polls will be open 7am to 7pm. You may vote at any Harris County location, see [HarrisVotes.com](http://HarrisVotes.com) for more information.

FOR POSITION 3, incumbent Rose Avalos, a retired educator, is challenged by Jimmy Morales and Nico Mathews. Mo-

**INCUMBENT CANDIDATES FOR THE ALDINE ISD BOARD IN THE NOVEMBER 2 ELECTION**



ROSE AVALOS



CONNIE ESPARZA



STEVE MEAD

rales is an insurance agent, and Mathews is in education, according to his application.

FOR POSITION 4, incumbent Connie Esparza, a retired educator, is challenged by Zaheer Malik. Malik is an electrical engineer.

FOR POSITION 5, incumbent Steve Mead, a Salesman in the construction industry, is challenged by Manny Guerrero and Donald Jones. Guerrero is a consultant, and Jones is a nutrition specialist.

BakerRipley is hosting a

Candidates Forum in English and Spanish on Wednesday, Oct. 6 from 6:30 to 8:00pm on their campus, the public is encouraged to come. Attendees are asked to register prior to the event at 346-570-4463 and to wear a face mask at the event.

# Jensen JUBILEE! is October 16

The 7th Annual Jensen JUBILEE Fall Festival will return to the Jensen area next Saturday, October 16 from 10:00am to 2:00pm. The event will take place in Shady Lane Park, on Parker Road.

The event is Free to the public, and will include Food, Entertainment, Health Screenings, a Kids Zone/Area de Niños, and much more according to the organizers, the Houston Northeast CDC and Councilwoman Tarsha Jackson, District B. May-



In previous years, scholarships were presented to the King and Queen. Here UTPhysician's COO Andrew Casas presents two \$1500 scholarships. Also L to R Pastor David Smith, Casas, and Yuroba Harris representing Sylvia Garcia. The community enjoyed the JUBILEE event, with Free food, games, and booths. See p. 6.

or Sylvester Turner will lead a delegation of officials and sponsors on the event stage.

Platinum Sponsor is UTHealth, and UT Physicians, who operate the Clinic on Jensen at Crosstimbers.

If your organization would like to participate, or for more information, call 713-697-0933 or see the ad on Page 6.

The public is invited for a day of fun, food and games with their neighbors.

# Abbott announces 3rd Special Session, agenda

AUSTIN – Governor Abbott today issued a proclamation announcing that he will convene a third special legislative session at 10 a.m. on Monday, September 20, 2021. The proclamation identifies 5 agenda items for the third Special Session.

"The Texas Legislature now has the opportunity to redraw legislative and congressional districts in accordance with the new census numbers," said Governor Abbott. "In addition to redistricting, there are still issues remaining that are critical to building a stronger and brighter future for all Texans."

Agenda items for the third Special Session will include:



- Legislation relating to the apportionment of the State of Texas into districts used to elect members of the Texas House of Representatives, the Texas Senate, the State Board of Education, and the United States House of Representatives.
- Legislation providing appropriations from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), Pub. L. No. 117-2.
- Legislation identical to Senate Bill 29 as passed by the Texas Senate in the

87th Legislature, Regular Session, disallowing a student from competing in University Interscholastic League athletic competitions designated for the sex opposite to the student's sex at birth.

- Legislation regarding whether any state or local governmental entities in Texas can mandate that an individual receive a COVID-19 vaccine and, if so, what exemptions should apply to such mandate.

- Legislation similar to Senate Bill 474 as passed by the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, but that addresses the concerns expressed in the governor's veto statement.

*Continued. See SPECIAL SESSION, p. 2*

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Operations Manager: Veronica Sanches  
 713.595.1226 » [VSanches@AldineDistrict.org](mailto:VSanches@AldineDistrict.org)

Assistant Operations Manager: Nataly Perez  
 713.595.1231 » [NPerez@AldineDistrict.org](mailto:NPerez@AldineDistrict.org)

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**BAA CITIZENS CLASSES & WORKSHOPS**

Next Citizenship Workshops:

-Oct. 16, Champion Forest Baptist Church, 15555 Stuebner Airline Rd.

-Oct. 30, Northwoods Presbyterian Church, 3320 Cypress Creek Pkwy.

-Nov. 6, St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 501 Tidwell Rd.

-Nov. 13, Prince of Peace Catholic Church, 19222 Tx-249

-Dec. 4, Christ the Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 18511 Klein Church Rd.

Call 281-799-9076 or Text 832-906-4214 for more information.

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**Special Session,**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

**Governor Abbott Announces Additional Items For 3rd Special Session**

AUSTIN – Governor Greg Abbott today submitted a message to the Secretary of the Senate identifying two additional agenda items for the Third Special Session that began Monday, September 20.

“These two additional agenda items are crucial to improving the quality of life for all Texans,” said Governor Abbott. “I look forward to working with my partners in the Legislature to pass these additional items that will lower property taxes and keep Texans safe.”

Additional agenda items for the Third Special Session include:

- Legislation providing additional property-tax relief for Texans.
- Legislation proposing a constitutional amendment to further protect the safety of the community, law enforcement, and victims, from accused criminals who may be released on bail, including by giving magistrates the discretion to deny bail under some circumstances to people accused of certain violent, sexual, or trafficking offenses.

Keep East Aldine COVID Safe



**OPINION**  
Harris County Judge  
Lina Hidalgo



*This Trump-backed “audit” is a political ploy to undermine democracy*

Yesterday, former president Donald Trump asked Governor Abbott to investigate the 2020 election in Texas, and within hours, an investigation was announced.

It’s clear that this is nothing more than a political ploy, and we cannot play politics with the integrity of our elections.

First, let me say we’re incredibly proud of the 2020 Election in Harris County.

Between expanded hours of operations, 3 times the number of early voting locations, drive thru voting and more, Harris County ran one of the most accessible, secure elections in modern history. We saw record turnout from both parties, and I was proud of that.

This sensational announcement of an audit by the state is nothing more than a political ploy. This is part of a broader trend, where state leaders are trying to curry favor with the former president to control the extreme flank of their party.

Playing politics with the integrity of elections threatens our democracy. Every time you cry wolf, every time you yell fraud, every time you run a phony audit, you are tearing down our democracy brick by brick.

This irresponsible political trick doesn’t deserve to be treated as a serious audit, so I will not be doing so. I’ll be working to do everything in my power to stop this, secure trust in our system, and protect our elections. To help me keep defending our votes, chip in to our re-election campaign.

The 2020 election is over. The votes have been correctly and transparently counted. It’s time to stop pandering, and to stop using taxpayer resources to undermine trust in our democracy.

And we’ll keep working to make Harris County Elections the most accessible in the country.

*Harris County Nurses need your Help*

We are seeing some signs that we may be reaching a peak to this latest COVID-19 spike, but the raw number of cases and hospitalizations here in Harris County are still catastrophically high. And although our medical professionals are working nonstop to bring those numbers down, there is still a limited number of beds and staff to treat the surge of unvaccinated residents flooding our hospitals. Emergency rooms have had to close. Vital surgeries have had to be delayed. And people are dying when they shouldn’t be. Harris County is home to the world’s biggest and best medical center. This shouldn’t happen anywhere in America, but especially not here.

While we are doing everything possible to support our nurses, they are physically and mentally drained. Since August 11th, Harris County hospitals have received 4 deployments of nurses. Around 1,300 nurses have been sent to Harris County to support the local effort and over 2,000 nurses have arrived in our region, including 622 nurses that Harris County recruited thanks to \$30 million Commissioner’s Court approved last month to secure more help. But additional nurses alone won’t stop the numbers we are seeing — we need the support of our entire community to make it through this and give our medical workers the level of relief they need and deserve.

So please, if you haven’t already, get vaccinated. Until September 30, Harris County residents receive \$100 when they receive their first dose anywhere in Harris County. If you visit a Harris County Public Health site, you will receive a cash card there immediately following your vaccination. If you prefer to use another provider in Harris County, and you are a Harris County resident, you can also fill out our online form to receive \$100 once we verify your vaccination status — no insurance required. Visit ReadyHarris.org or call 832-927-8787 to sign up for an appointment with Harris County Public Health or to claim your \$100 if you got your vaccine at a non-Harris County Public Health provider.

But even if you don’t want to do it for your health, or the cash, do it for our exhausted nurses and medical personnel. And if you have gotten vaccinated already, persuade those in your life who will listen to you to do the same.

The decision to get vaccinated impacts all of us — the next car accident or sudden, treatable illness that requires an ICU bed could happen to someone you know and love, and we need those beds open and ready.



**STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS**  
By Gary Borders



*Secretary of State announces election audits in 4 counties*

In a two-sentence press release, the secretary of state’s office announced an audit of four Texas counties — Dallas, Harris, Tarrant and Collin — for the 2020 election.

The announcement came hours after former President Donald Trump called on Gov. Greg Abbott to add an election audit bill to the current special session of the Texas Legislature. Abbott has not responded thus far. A similar audit in Arizona’s Maricopa County recently ended and concluded Biden won that state’s most populous county, which provided him the winning margin there.

Trump won Texas by 5.6 percentage points in the 2020 election, although three of the four counties to be audited — Dallas, Tarrant and Harris — went for Biden. Officials from those counties told the Texas Tribune that “the development is an unnecessary partisan move aimed at sowing doubt in the results.”

The position of secretary of state has been vacant since the end of May, when Ruth Hughs resigned after the Texas Senate declined to take up her nomination.

**ABBOTT ADDS ITEMS TO THIRD SPECIAL SESSION**

Abbott last week added two agenda items to the special legislative session which began Sept. 20. Legislators will consider additional property tax relief, as well as a constitutional amendment that would allow courts to deny bail to people accused of violent or sexual crimes.

The bail bill has failed in previous sessions. Because it would call for a constitutional amendment election, the bill requires two-thirds approval from both chambers to go forward.

In the current special session, legislators already are considering redrawing the state’s political maps as required every decade. Also under consideration is legislation restricting participation by transgender students in school athletics, plus legislation outlining how to spend \$16 billion in federal COVID-19 pandemic funding.

Additionally, legislators are considering a bill that protects dogs from being chained without adequate shelter or space. Abbott vetoed a similar bill during the regular session.

**SEARCH FIRM NAMED FOR ERCOT BOARD**



The Public Utility Commission has hired Heidrick & Struggles to conduct a statewide search for eight new directors of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, whose board was decimated after the mid-February winter storm knocked out power across the state and nearly took down the electric grid, which ERCOT oversees. More than half of ERCOT’s board, as well as its CEO, resigned after the storm.

The PUC oversees ERCOT. During the regular legislative session, Senate Bill 2 was passed. It established a selection committee to fill the vacant spots on ERCOT’s board. The Legislature directed the committee to retain an outside consulting firm to select eight new directors “who are Texas residents with executive-level experience in any of the following professions: finance, business, engineering (including electrical engineering), trading, risk management, law, or electric market design,” according to the press release.

Actor Matthew McConaughey said in a podcast recently that he is “measuring” a bid to unseat Abbott in next year’s governor’s race, though he has not indicated if he would run as a Republican, Democrat or independent.

The Houston Chronicle reported the Oscar-winning actor made the comments on the “Set it Straight: Myths and Legends” podcast, which is hosted by a band called Midland.

A recent poll by The Dallas Morning News and the University of Texas at Tyler showed McConaughey leading Abbott by 9 percentage points. Former congressman and U.S. Senate candidate Beto O’Rourke is also considering a run.

**MCCONAUGHEY MULLS BID FOR GOVERNOR**

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**INITIATIVE**

A new campaign by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department aims to attract more Texans into the outdoors.

Hunters and anglers fund the bulk of the state’s wildlife management programs through buying hunting and fishing licenses and through sales taxes paid on hunting and fishing equipment, boat fuel, firearms and ammunition.

The Texas Recruitment, Retention and Re-activation (R3) Plan hopes to connect more Texans to outdoor recreation in order to continue funding of conservation programs and “create a better-informed public with more interest in conserving wild things and wild places in Texas and beyond.”

**COVID-19 CASES DROP IN STATE, BUT DEATHS INCREASE**

The number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas dropped again last week to 83,098, down 34% from the previous week. New deaths reported in the same time frame rose to 2,073, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University, up 15% from the previous week. At 280 deaths a day, the state has one of the nation’s worst COVID-19 death rates, the Houston Chronicle reported. In the past month, more than 5,000 Texans have died of the virus.

Hospitalizations of lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients continue to drop, with 10,349 reported statewide by the Texas Department of State Health Services on Sunday. That’s a decrease of 15.4% from the previous week. The number of staffed pediatric intensive-care unit beds continues to drop, however, with just 77 available statewide, according to DSHS.

The number of Texans who are fully vaccinated hit 14.72 million on Sunday, which is 50.5% of the state’s population. The Chronicle reported last week that the state has the lowest vaccination rate of the country’s four most populous states — New York, California, Florida and Texas.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. Email: gbborders@texaspress.com.

**TPWD LAUNCHES NEW HUNTING, FISHING**



## SCHOOL NEWS PAGE

## Message from the Superintendent, September 27, 2021

Dear Aldine Community,

From the moment COVID-19 began to impact our lives and education, the district leadership team has committed to doing all we can to increase the safety and health of our students, staff, and families while implementing measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in our community. But we need everyone to do their part. We want all our students healthy, learning, and thriving in our classrooms. We know our classrooms are the most effective learning environment to deliver on our promise to provide choices and opportunities upon graduating from our district.

Health officials have recommended that residents take all reasonable precautions, including vaccination, to combat the rate of infection. This week, the Board of Trustees, based on science and local health officials' support, approved a COVID-19 Vaccination Incentive Program. Qualifying staff (this includes full-time employees, permanent part-time employees, dedicated substitutes, and long-term substitutes serving as the teacher of record) who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are eligible to receive a one-time \$500 incentive. The program kicked off on September 23, via ePortal, with all incentives paid by December 10, 2021.

Thank you does not even begin to cover it for our education professionals. Your continued hard work and support throughout the pandemic and with all our district initiatives have not gone unnoticed.

### Hispanic Heritage Month

As we continue our Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations, we resume highlighting the achievements of Hispanic people across the country and right here in our community. During Hispanic Heritage Month, we would like to introduce you to a few of our Aldine leaders who make a difference and impact students' lives.

We are so fortunate to have such a talented Executive Leadership Team (ELT) that brings a variety of perspectives and a wealth of experience. I invite you to take a look at each bio of the leaders below to learn a bit more about the phenomenal Hispanic leaders we have on our ELT.

Dr. Javier Villarreal, Chief Human Resources Officer

Dr. Adrian Bustillos, Chief Transformation Officer

Patricia Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Primary and ACE

Dr. Faviola Cantú, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Elementary

Dr. Xochitl Rodríguez, Assistant Superintendents of Schools, High Schools

Abel Garza, Assistant Superintendent of Governmental Affairs and Constituent Services

Alexia Rogers, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance

Paul Córdova, Chief of Police

Be sure to share on social media how you are celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month. Include the hashtags #AISDHM21, #AldineForward, or #AldineAdelante.

With Aldine Pride,

Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney  
Superintendent

### UPCOMING EVENTS

A Reading Club for parents will be offered in both English and Spanish. Please use the link to register for the date and time and if you will take part in the English or Spanish session.

Register: <https://bit.ly/VirtualReadingClub>

Reading Club in English at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 28

Club de Lectura en español at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 30

Middle School Vaccine Clinics: Aldine ISD has partnered with the Houston Health Department and Phoenix Drugstore to provide COVID-19 vaccines (Pfizer) for Aldine ISD students (siblings and family) and staff at the following schools:

Aldine MS, García MS, Lewis MS, and Drew Academy on September 28, 2021, from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (2nd doses – October 26)

Grantham, Hoffman, Jones, and Mead Middle Schools on September 29, 2021, from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (2nd doses – October 27)

Plummer, Teague, and Shotwell Middle Schools and Carver High School on September 30, 2021, from 11 a.m. to



5:30 p.m. (2nd doses – October 28)

Visit our website for more information and to download the consent form.

**October 1:** FAFSA and TASFA applications can be submitted beginning October 1. If you are interested in attending a college or university and need financial aid, make sure to apply early. Visit [studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/afsa](http://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/afsa) for more information.

**October 4:** AISD 11th- and 12th-grade students will have an opportunity to meet with representatives from post-high school options during College Night on Monday, October 4, from 7–8:30 p.m. at the M.O. Campbell Educational Center (1865 Aldine Bender Rd.). To learn more, click here.

**October 25:** There is a COVID-19 vaccination event on Monday, October 25, at the M.O. Campbell Educational Center (1865 Aldine Bender Road) from 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. This is another vaccination event for staff and students (and their siblings and family; students ages 12 and up). Families should RSVP.

RSVP for the Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccines — Custom Care Pharmacy ([ccarerx.com](http://ccarerx.com))

### OBSERVATIONS

#### September

**National School Attendance Month:** Research shows that daily school attendance positively impacts students' social, emotional, and academic development. In-person learning is the best way for students to learn as well as have a rigorous and enriching educational experience that prepares them for success in college, career, and life.

**Suicide Prevention Month:** Suicide is preventable when we ask questions that help identify at-risk individuals and get them the help they need. Click here to read more about how we can prevent unnecessary tragedies.

#### October

**Custodial Worker Day:** The district will observe National Custodial Worker Day on October 1 since it falls on a Saturday (October 2) this year. We will pay tribute to the men and women who work tirelessly to clean and maintain our many schools, buildings, and facilities. Please take time to recognize and show your appreciation.

### REMINDERS

The Aldine Education Foundation Scholars Program gives students the opportunity to start earning college money in their freshman year of high school by achieving high academic standards for all four years of high school. Students who successfully meet the program's criteria will have \$3,000 of scholarship funds ready at graduation – no applications necessary! Click here for more information.

State law requires students to be fully vaccinated to enroll and remain enrolled in school. Students are to be excluded from attendance until fully compliant. Please ensure your school-age children have all of their state-required vaccines to avoid a disruption in attendance. Learn more on the district website.

As COVID-19 continues to be a part of our daily lives, I encourage you to continue to follow the three Ws: Wash your hands, Wear a mask, and Watch your distance. Aldine ISD's top priorities continue to be the safety and academic success of all students. We will post all information related to our operations along with any updates at [www.aldineisd.org/healthalerts](http://www.aldineisd.org/healthalerts).

Please stay connected by visiting the District News page to stay up to date on all the wonderful things happening in our district. You can also connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.



## Aldine Ed. Foundation board welcomes new members

The Aldine Education Foundation (AEF) announced the appointment of six new board members to the board of directors. This brings the number of board members to 29.

New board members **Lynette Sealy, Keishawna Williams, Aldo Roman, Bryce Kennard, Craig Brast and Judy Hoya** have deep experience in nonprofit fundraising.

"The new board members bring expansive expertise from their industries," said board president Richard Cantu. "Aldine Education Foundation is ready to take our fundraising to the next level, and these folks are the professionals that will help accomplish that so we can better support the District."

Ms. Sealy is the District Director – Northwest Region for CenterPoint Energy in the Aldine community and brings years of project management and golf tournament planning skills to AEF, which is instrumental as AEF moves to a more impactful golf tournament.

Ms. Williams is the owner of K. Williams, CPA, is a graduate of Eisenhower High School, and said, "Aldine ISD changed my trajectory with its level of support and I love that I can now give back." She also brings a vast amount of financial and accounting knowledge and experience.

Mr. Roman is the VP of Operations at OS Staffing, a graduate of Aldine High School, has a degree from the University of Houston

in Accounting and Finance, and brings auditing and accounting experience to our fundraising board as well.

Mr. Kennard is the External Affairs Manager at Comcast, and a graduate of Eisenhower High School and said, "I am interested in serving because I have made a commitment to myself to focus on providing educational resources to my community."

"The Aldine Education Foundation will benefit from Mr. Kennard's experience in leading teams, spearheading fundraising efforts for nonprofits, and developing strategic partnerships," said Linda Flores Olson, Director of the Aldine Education Foundation.

Mr. Brast is the Managing Director at Huntington Capital Markets, and serving his second tour on the board of directors. He brings strong finance, accounting, and fundraising experience with him, and enjoys serving in a leadership capacity to the golf committee.

Ms. Hoya, retired Aldine ISD Program Director of Resource Development, brings a wealth of expertise to AEF from the many organizations that she serves and has served. Ms. Hoya said, "As a lifelong educator, I am very passionate about the future of education and our youth." She strongly believes that AEF provides a helpful step to launch the next generation of leaders and said, "I am excited to be a part of such a forward moving organization."

### ABOUT THE ALDINE EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The mission of the Aldine Education Foundation is to provide community-based support to the Aldine Independent School District in pursuit of excellence in teaching, innovation in the classroom, and superior learning opportunities for all students.

Aldine Education Foundation (AEF) was established in 2012 to assist Aldine ISD in reaching its goal to Produce the Nation's Best. Aldine ISD is the 10th largest public school district in Texas and has existed for more than 80 years. Of its 62,000 students at 82 campuses, more than 85% of our students are economically disadvantaged.

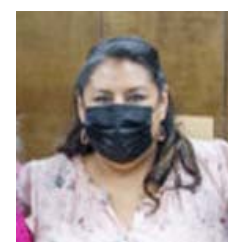
Aldine Education Foundation is led by a volunteer Board of Directors working to raise private funds from individuals, corporations, foundations, and community organizations interested in improving education for the youth of the Aldine area. These monies provide needed resources to supplement ever-dwindling public funds received by Aldine ISD and deliver new programs not funded through traditional revenue streams.

There are many opportunities to support Aldine ISD students and teachers through Aldine Education Foundation. Visit [aldineeducationfoundation.org](http://aldineeducationfoundation.org) to learn more or call AEF at 281-985-6078. We appreciate your interest in improving education in our community and would be happy to discuss ways for you to contribute to our students' success.

## District Names Director of College Readiness

Susana 'Susie' Velis has accepted the Director of College Readiness position for the Aldine Independent School District. Velis will begin her new role on October 11. She has 16 years of experience in education, with most of those years assisting students transition to college.

Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney said, "Susana brings to this position a variety of skills and abilities that will allow her to assist high school students in successfully transitioning to adult life. She will ensure students have opportunities that foster college and career readiness skills."



Velis said she is looking forward to the challenges and rewards of preparing students for college and career readiness. Velis is an Aldine product, having attended Oakwilde Elementary (now Worsham ES), Ruby Reed Intermediate (now Reed Academy), Grantham Middle School

(now Grantham Academy), and MacArthur High School. Her mom is a janitor and crossing guard at Worsham Elementary, and one of her sisters is the librarian at MacArthur HS.

"I hope to match the best resources available to develop student talent and passion," she said. "The main objective of the office will be to support college, career, and military readiness (CCMR) outcomes for Aldine ISD. As a former AISD grad, I know how important it is to prepare students to guarantee they have choices and opportunities today and in the future. I am honored to be part of this team."

## HIGH MEADOWS LIBRARY NEWS

### By Jennifer Nandlal Sr Adult Program Specialist

**GULF COAST READS:** Gulf Coast Reads is excited to announce our 2021 selection is The House in the Cerulean Sea by TJ Klune. Learn more about the author and book at <http://gulfoastreads.org>. Join fellow readers across southeast Texas this October for book discussions and fun events! Follow us on Facebook and Instagram (@high-meadowslibrary) for event information.

**FREE CRAFT KITS:** We've restocked our craft kits! Stop by the library today and pick up

a variety of kits celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month and the 2000s. Kits are available on a first come, first serve basis and they are free.

### BACKPACK BUDDY PROGRAM:

We are looking for school age children and teens who are interested in receiving food during the school year. We are partnering with the Houston Food Bank to provide Backpack Buddies: a weekly food distribution. Registration is required.

### BECOME A FRIEND OF THE LIBRARY:

We need YOU to become a friend of the library. We are currently looking for individuals who would like

to help us form a group to be the voice of the community! If you have what it takes, please contact Jennifer at [jennifer.nandlal@hclpl.net](mailto:jennifer.nandlal@hclpl.net).

For information on any of the above events or programs, please call us at 832-927-5540 or stop by the library.

### HIGH MEADOWS LIBRARY 4500 ALDINE MAIL RTE HOUSTON, TX 77039

Library Hours:  
Mondays-Thursdays:  
10am to 6pm  
Fridays: 1pm to 6pm  
Saturdays: 10am to 5pm  
Sundays: Closed



## SPANISH PAGE

## Mensaje del Superintendente, 27 de septiembre de 2021

Estimada comunidad de Aldine:

Desde el momento en que el COVID-19 comenzó a afectar nuestras vidas y educación, el equipo de liderazgo del distrito se ha comprometido a hacer todo lo posible para aumentar la seguridad y salud de nuestros alumnos, personal y familias mientras implementa medidas para mitigar la propagación del COVID-19 en nuestra comunidad. Pero necesitamos que todos hagan su parte. Queremos que todos nuestros alumnos estén sanos, aprendiendo y prosperando en nuestras aulas. Sabemos que nuestras aulas son el entorno de aprendizaje más eficaz para cumplir nuestra promesa de ofrecer opciones y oportunidades al graduarse de nuestro distrito.

Los funcionarios de salud han recomendado que los residentes tomen todas las precauciones razonables, incluida la vacunación, para combatir la tasa de infección. Esta semana, el Consejo de Administración, basándose en la ciencia y con el apoyo de los funcionarios de salud locales, aprobó un Programa de Incentivo de Vacunación contra el COVID-19. El personal califica-



do (esto incluye empleados a tiempo completo, empleados permanentes a tiempo parcial, sustitutos dedicados y sustitutos a largo plazo que sirven como maestros registrados) que están completamente vacunados contra el COVID-19 son elegibles para recibir un incentivo único de \$500. El programa comenzó el 23 de septiembre, a través de ePortal, con todos los incentivos pagados antes del 10 de diciembre de 2021.

Gracias no es suficiente para nuestros profesionales de la educación. Su continuo trabajo arduo y su apoyo durante la pandemia, y todas las iniciativas de nuestro distrito no han pasado desapercibidos.

Mes de la Herencia Hispana  
A medida que continuamos con nuestras celebra-

ciones del Mes de la Herencia Hispana reanudamos resaltando los logros de los pueblos hispanos en todo el país y aquí mismo en nuestra comunidad. Durante el Mes de la Herencia Hispana, nos gustaría presentarles a algunos de nuestros líderes del Distrito Escolar de Aldine (Aldine ISD) que marcan la diferencia e impactan la vida de los alumnos.

Somos muy afortunados de tener un Equipo de Liderazgo Ejecutivo (ELT) tan talentoso que aporta una variedad de perspectivas y una gran experiencia. Los invito a echar un vistazo a cada biografía de los líderes a continuación para aprender un poco más sobre los fenomenales líderes hispanos que tenemos en nuestro Equipo de Líderes Ejecutivos.

Dr. Javier Villarreal, Director de Recursos Humanos

Dr. Adrian Bustillos, Director de Transformación  
Patricia Rodríguez, Superintendente Asistente de Escuelas, Primaria y ACE  
Dra. Faviola Cantú, Asistente del Superintendente de Escuelas, Primaria

Dr. Xochitl Rodríguez, Asistente del Superintendente de Escuelas, Es-

cuelas Secundarias

Abel Garza, Asistente de Asuntos Gubernamentales y Servicios a los Electores  
Alexia Rogers, Asistente del Superintendente de Negocios y Finanzas  
Paul Córdova, Jefe de Policía

Asegúrese de compartir en las redes sociales cómo está celebrando el Mes de la Herencia Hispana. Incluya los hashtags #AIDH H M 2 1 , #AldineForward o #AldineAdelante.

Con orgullo de Aldine,

Dra. LaTonya M. Goffney  
Superintendente

PRÓXIMOS EVENTOS

Se ofrecerá un Club de Lectura para padres tanto en inglés como en español. Utilice el enlace para registrarse para conocer la fecha y la hora y si participará en la sesión de inglés o español.

Regístrese: <https://bit.ly/VirtualReadingClub>

Club de lectura en inglés a las 6:00 p. m. el martes 28 de septiembre

Club de lectura en español a las 6:00 p. m. el

jueves 30 de septiembre

Clinicas de vacunación para escuelas intermedias: Aldine ISD se ha asociado con el Departamento de Salud de Houston y Phoenix Drugstore para proporcionar vacunas contra el COVID-19 (Pfizer) para los alumnos de Aldine ISD (hermanos y familiares) y el personal de las siguientes escuelas:

Aldine MS, García MS, Lewis MS y Drew Academy el 28 de septiembre de 2021, de 11 a. m. a 5:30 p. m. (segundas dosis: 26 de octubre)

Escuelas intermedias Grantham, Hoffman, Jones y Mead el 29 de septiembre de 2021, de 11 a. m. a 5:30 p. m. (segundas dosis: 27 de octubre)

Escuelas intermedias Plummer, Teague y Shotwell, y escuela secundaria Carver el 30 de septiembre de 2021, de 11:00 a. m. a 5:30 p. m. (segundas dosis: 28 de octubre)

Visite nuestro sitio web para obtener más información y descargar el formulario de consentimiento.

1 de octubre: Las solicitudes FAFSA y TASFA se pueden enviar a partir del 1 de octubre. Si está interesado en asistir a un cole-

gio o universidad y necesita ayuda financiera, asegúrese de presentar la solicitud con anticipación. Visite [studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/afsa](http://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/afsa) para obtener más información.

4 de octubre: Los alumnos de 11.º y 12.º grado de AISD tendrán la oportunidad de reunirse con representantes de las opciones posteriores a la escuela secundaria durante la Noche Universitaria el lunes 4 de octubre de 7 a 8:30 p. m. en el Centro Educativo M.O. Campbell (1865 Aldine Bender Rd.). Para obtener más información, haga clic aquí.

25 de octubre: Hay un evento de vacunación contra el COVID-19 el lunes 25 de octubre en el Centro Educativo M.O. Campbell (1865 Aldine Bender Road) de 10:00 a. m. a 7:00 p. m. Este es otro evento de vacunación para el personal y los alumnos (y sus hermanos y familiares; alumnos de más de 12 años). Las familias pueden inscribirse para confirmar su asistencia.

Inscribanse para confirmar recibir la vacuna contra el COVID-19 de Pfizer — farmacia Custom Care Pharmacy (ccarex.com)

## SPORTS PAGE

## Texas, OU renew long-time rivalry: Aggies look to shock country when they host Alabama

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

group doesn't improve its play, it could turn into a long night at Kyle Field.

Fisher's team is playing for its survival in the SEC West because a second loss would pretty much end its hopes of playing in the SEC title game. The Aggies not only have to deal with 'Bama, but they also have to play a solid Auburn team on Nov. 6 and a very good Mississippi team on Nov. 13.

No one said life would be easy for the Aggies in the SEC West.

The SEC also has another big matchup with No. 2-ranked Georgia visiting Auburn on Saturday.

In the NFL, the Texans host Bill Belichick's New England Patriots, which lost two of its first three games. Rookie quarterback Mac Jones is struggling and to make matters worse, the Pats defense, which played well in its first two games, had a rough going two weeks ago during its 28-13 loss at home to New Orleans.

The Cowboys host the lowly Giants, who two weeks ago lost at home to a then winless Atlanta team on the same day they retired Eli Manning's jersey and put him in the Giants Ring of Honor. Way to go, G-Men!

The focus of the NFL Week 5 schedule will be on the NFC West, where the Rams will visit Seattle on Thursday night and San Francisco will visit Arizona on Sunday afternoon. Thus far in the season, the NFC West looks like the best division in the league.

Before we take a look at this week's schedule, let's review last week's record. An 8-4 week brought the season record to 30-19 (62%).

Now, onto this weekend's game.

## HIGH SCHOOL

**Nimitz at Westfield:** Richard Slater's Cougars face a tall task against a Westfield team that has already defeated perennial power North Shore and opened District 14-6A play with a 56-0 win over Davis High. The Cougars



KEENEY'S KORNER  
By  
MIKE KEENEY

opened league play with an outstanding defensive effort en route to a 3-0 overtime win over MacArthur. The Nimitz defense allowed only 82 total yards of offense to the Generals (20 yards rushing, 62 yards passing) in their league-opening win. Westfield is led by dual threat quarterback Cardell Williams (773 passing yards, 5 TDs/2 rushing TDs). My pick, Westfield 33, Nimitz 17

**Spring at Eisenhower:** Eric Jackson's Eagles host a good Spring team on Thursday evening in Thorne Stadium. Two weeks ago, the Eagles opened league play with a 66-0 win over Aldine High. Quarterback Zachary Henry had a big night completing 6-7 passes for four TDs and he added a rushing touchdown as well. Wide receiver Ryan Niblett grabbed three passes for 150 yards and three score and added a rushing TD as well. Spring is led by quarterback Bishop Davenport (1,317 passing yards, 17 TDs/349 rushing yards, 5 TDs). My pick, Spring 34, Eisenhower 30

**Aldine vs. Davis:** Hank Semler's Mustangs take on Scott Joseph's Falcons on Friday evening in Thorne Stadium. Both teams have struggled thus far this season and the winner of this one remains alive in the 14-6A playoff hunt. My pick, Davis 26, Aldine 18

**MacArthur at DeKaney:** Wayne Crawford's Generals travel to Planet Ford Stadium in Spring on Friday to take on a DeKaney team that lost its first four games. The Generals lost a hard-fought 3-0 overtime decision to Nimitz two weeks ago and will look to get back in the playoff hunt on Friday night in Spring. My pick, MacArthur 23, DeKaney 20

## NCAA

Oklahoma vs. Texas: The Longhorns and Sooners meet

TDs) and running back Tank Bigsby (403 yards, 4 TDs) if they hope to pull off the upset. Don't think it's going to happen. Georgia continues to roll. My pick, Georgia 34, Auburn 20

**Alabama at Texas**

**A&M:** The Aggies host the Crimson Tide in prime time on CBS Saturday evening and Kyle Field should be rocking when the No. 1-ranked team in the country comes calling. Aggie fans have had this date circled on their calendars since last year's 52-24 thumping Saban's team handed them. A&M didn't lose again until two weeks ago when they were upset by Arkansas, 20-10 in Arlington. In that game, A&M's offensive line was exposed and if head coach Jimbo Fisher hasn't fixed the inconsistency of that unit, it could be a long night in College Station. The Alabama defense has some holes as well, but its offense is purring along thanks to quarterback Bryce Young (1,124 yards, 15 TDs, 1 interception). Young has a load of weapons to throw to and Jameson Williams (12 receptions, 299 yards, 3 TDs) and John Metchie III (24 receptions, 240 yards, 1 TD) will test a solid Aggie secondary all night long. A&M will need a big night from quarterback Zach Calzada (609 yards, 4 TDs, 3 interceptions) and running backs Isaiah Spiller (345 yards, 2 TDs) and Devon Achane (227 yards, 2 TDs). It would help if speedy wide receiver Ainaas Smith (15 receptions, 170 yards, 2 TDs) could make some plays downfield. Fisher knows his team cannot afford another loss if it hopes to get back in the SEC West race. I expect the Aggies to give Alabama all it can handle, but look for Young to be the difference maker late in this one. My pick, Alabama 33, Texas A&M 29

**Georgia at Auburn:** Kirby Smart's Bulldogs just might very well be the best team in the SEC (sorry Alabama fans) and in the country at this point of the season. In their first four games, the Georgia defense has given up just 23 points (5.7 points per game). Now granted, the schedule has had a lot to do with that as the Bulldogs have beaten an overrated Clemson team, then waylaid patsies UAB, South Carolina and Vanderbilt. This week the 'Dawgs take a step up in class when they face a solid Auburn team on the road. While the defense has been excellent, the offense has been steady led by quarterback JT Daniels (567 yards, 5 TDs), running backs Zamir White (207 yards, 2 TDs), James Cook (123 yards, 2 TDs) and tight end Brock Bowers (18 receptions, 272 yards, 4 TDs). Auburn will need big days from quarterback Bo Nix (724 yards, 5

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NFC West has the 49ers visiting the Cardinals. Arizona won its first three games and has an electrifying quarterback in Kyle Murray (1,005 passing yards, 7 TDs/3 rushing TDs). Murray has done a good job of spreading the ball around to wideouts Christian Kirk (15 receptions, 239 yards, 2 TDs), DeAndrea Hopkins (13 receptions, 158 yards, 3 TDs) and rookie sensation Rondale Moore (13 receptions, 183 yards, 1 TD). Murray will face a solid 49ers defense but Aaron Rodgers proved two weeks ago you can pass on this bunch. Look for Murray to have another big day as the Cardinals hand Jimmy Garoppolo (760 yards, 4 TDs) and the 49ers another defeat. My pick, Arizona 30, San Francisco 27

**Buffalo at Kansas City:**

A good one for Al and Cris and the Sunday Night Football crew pits the Bills against the Chiefs in a rematch of last year's AFC Championship game. The Chiefs have gotten off to a rocky start, losing two of their first three games heading into their Oct. 3 game at Philly, while the Bills won two of their first three and are humming on offense behind quarterback Josh Allen (807 yards, 7 TDs). After dropping their opener to the Steelers, the Bills routed the Dolphins 35-0 and followed that up with a 43-21 pasting of the Washington Football Team two weeks ago. Allen has a host of weapons to turn to in wide receivers Emmanuel Sanders (11 receptions, 194 yards, 2 TDs) and Stefon Diggs (19 receptions, 191 yards, 1 TD). KC QB Pat Mahomes (940 yards, 9 TDs) has thrown three interceptions in the early going and needs to get back to his dominating self. He has plenty of weapons as well in tight end Travis Kelce (20 receptions, 289 yards, 3 TDs) and speedy wide receiver Tyreek Hill (19 receptions, 267 yards, 1 TD). The Chiefs need to play better on defense and that unit will get a stern test on Sunday night against a very good Buffalo defense. Something tells me KC head coach Andy Reid will have his team ready for this one because he knows it's time to turn things around. My pick, Kansas City 30, Buffalo 27

**San Francisco at Arizona:** Another big one in the



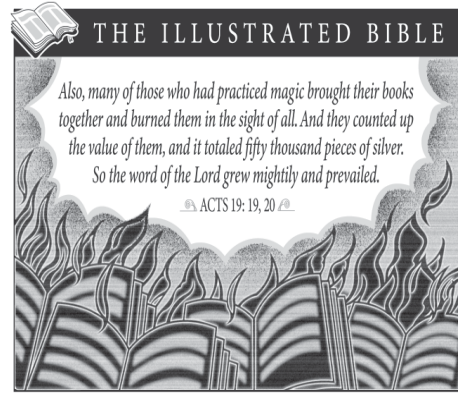
# CHURCH PAGE

## BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey —  
 1. Is the book of Colossae in the Old Testament or New Testament or neither?  
 2. What city was second of the seven churches mentioned by John in Revelation? Derbe, Gomorrah, Beersheba, Smyrna  
 3. From Acts 8, what magician came to be baptized by Philip? Balaam, Endor, Simon, Laban  
 4. What prophet came from among the shepherds of

Tekoa? Joel, Hosea, Daniel, Amos  
 5. Which Biblical name means "God with us"? Nicodemus, Emmanuel, Elijah, Jacob  
 6. What Psalm is the shortest of all? 1st, 3rd, 117th, 123rd

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Smyrna; 3) Simon; 4) Amos; 5) Emmanuel; 6) 117th  
 Comments? More Trivia? Gift ideas? Visit [www.TriviaGuy.com](http://www.TriviaGuy.com)  
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Northeast News is East Aldine's Hometown Newspaper

## NORTHEAST NEWS

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## EMERGE College Prep Program Expands to Additional Aldine ISD High Schools

This fall, the EMERGE program is expanding to include Aldine Senior High School, Avalos P-TECH School and Eisenhower High School, giving Aldine ISD high school juniors and seniors more choices and opportunities now and in the future.

The Houston-based college-readiness program prepares high-performing high school students, in grades 11-12, to attend and graduate from selective colleges and universities across the nation. Students participating in the program will receive SAT preparation, attend college admission and financial aid workshops, receive assistance with college applications, and visit colleges and universities during summer tours.

**APPLY NOW**

The Aldine EMERGE program is currently recruiting junior students to join the Class of 2023 cohort. EMERGE recruiters are visiting each high school to deliver presentations on the benefits of the program. Junior students can learn more about the program and begin the application process online. The deadline for applications is October 3.

Throughout the fellowship, students will develop personal education goals, attend SAT prep sessions, gain leadership skills, and receive one-on-one advice from college counselors. After students are admitted to a top-tier university of their choice, they will be assigned an EMERGE counselor, which will follow them throughout their college experience and provide additional guidance. This includes summer internships, study abroad



Pictured are Victory Early College High School junior EMERGE students: Arielle Goodman, Mayowa Ogunbowale, Jonathan Ortega, Sheyla Quiroz, Nashaly Diaz, Andrea Cruz, and Jonathan Bush.

opportunities, and other resumé-building experiences. EMERGE graduates have attended schools such as MIT, Yale, Rice, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, and UT-Austin.

**CLASS OF 2021**  
Class of 2021 was the first Aldine ISD EMERGE cohort to graduate. Those students are now attending Boston University, Brandeis University, Bryn Mawr College, Connecticut College, Lehigh University, Lone Star College System, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northeastern University, Prairie View A & M University, Syracuse University, Texas A & M University-College Station, The University of Texas at Austin, and Wellesley College.

Aldine ISD alumni, Hannah and Heather Omoruyi, explained how EMERGE helped them personally transition from high school to universities out of state.

Hannah is a 2021 Victory Early College High School graduate, who is now attending Wellesley

College in Wellesley, Massachusetts.

"The EMERGE program taught me how to take full advantage of university resources for academic, social, and professional development," Hannah said. "With the support and encouragement of my EMERGE Program Manager and cohort, I gained the much-needed self-confidence to persevere at a selective, out-of-state university."

Heather echoed her sister's sentiments.

"My participation in EMERGE motivated me to step outside of my comfort zone and believe in my academic abilities," Heather explained. "My program manager, Mr. Fernando Gomes, served as a mentor and key supporter throughout my transition from high school to college. He always encouraged me to persist during difficult times and keep working hard for my success. Mr. Gomes helped me amplify my voice in my college applications to highlight my unique qualities as a student. Overall, EMERGE




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has expanded my academic curiosity, enabling me to set high career goals as a current bioengineering student."

Heather is a 2021 Nimitz High School graduate, who is now attending Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts.

**CLASS OF 2022**

Current EMERGE seniors are working on finalizing personal statements and narrowing down their list of schools they will apply to this fall. The majority of the senior cohort are

working on ApplyTexas applications and most of them are also working on Common App, an online application that simplifies the college application process.

This summer a few of the senior students had a chance to participate in summer learning opportunities. Programs included, Thrive Scholars, University of Southern California's Bovard Scholars Program, Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) Abroad in Madrid,

Spain, Girls Who Code and Yale Young Global Scholars.

There is still space for juniors to apply for EMERGE. The current junior cohort is waiting for your student. For more information, students can reach out to their campus lead counselor or families can reach out to EMERGE Lead Program Manager, Janet Nieto, at janet@emergefellowship.org or 832-481-7079.