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# NORTHEAST NEWS

**Adjunct Faculty Job Fair**

Saturday, Nov. 20 • 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.



See Details on Page 6

Register by Monday, Nov. 15:

Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 45 Years  
VOL. 45, NO. 45 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2021 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

THURSDAY



### Free Entrance to Texas State Parks Nov. 14 in Honor of Veterans Day

AUSTIN—In honor of both active and retired military, daily entrance fees at Texas State Parks will be waived for all day-use visitors Sunday, Nov. 14.

"The dedication, sacrifice and service displayed by the women and men that serve in our country's military is unparalleled and is a source of pride throughout the country," said Rodney Franklin, Director of Texas State Parks. "Their commitment to service undoubtedly inspires us at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. To celebrate their service, Texas State Parks would like to once again invite everyone to spend the day at any one of our beautiful State Parks for free. I am glad that we are able to encourage families to get outside in honor of our veterans."

Anyone planning a trip to a Texas State Park is encouraged to reserve their day passes in advance since some parks are expected to reach their capacity limit. Day passes can be reserved online through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department website or over the phone by calling (512) 389-8900.

## EAST ALDINE FALL FESTIVAL Community Celebrates Dia De Los Muertos



Celebrants include East Aldine's Richard Cantu, Pct. 2 Selina Valdez, and Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia as well as performers.



Sheriff Ed Gonzalez, center, joins in the festivities with many of the costumed dancers.



Neighborhood groups and families presented elaborate decorated altars in memory of their departed relatives.



Sheriff's Deputy Terry Garza was in the tent which displayed a memorial to all the fallen deputies from Harris County.

Photos courtesy of ef1 pro. MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 2.



### Baylor, OU meet in key Big 12 game: Aggies face tough road test at Ole Miss

The college football season is about to get good, really, really good.

November brings with it cooler temps (even here!), Thanksgiving and key conference matchups as teams look to land a spot in their respective league title games the first Saturday in December.

In the Big 12, Baylor hosts Oklahoma with hopes of remaining in the league title hunt. The Bears have one conference loss (to Oklahoma State) and cannot afford another league setback against an OU team that has yet to lose in Big 12 play.

The Sooners are also beginning to roll on offense as evidenced by the 52 points they put up on Texas Tech two weeks ago.

Baylor faced TCU last week in Fort Worth in what could have been a tough game considering the Horned Frogs had parted ways with popular head coach Gary Patterson. I'm sure the Frogs wanted to win one for their old coach.

OU had the week off to prepare for their trip to Waco, which means they should be rested and

Continued. See Keeney's Korner, page 4

### Three incumbent Trustees reelected to Aldine ISD Board

INCUMBENT CANDIDATES FOR THE ALDINE ISD BOARD IN THE NOVEMBER 9 ELECTION



ROSE AVALOS

NORTHEAST – Voters in Aldine ISD went to the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 2 and returned incumbents Rose Avalos, Conception "Connie" Esparza and Steve Mead to their respective seats on the Aldine ISD Board of Education.

Avalos received 1,974 votes to defeat Nico S. Matthews (1,648 votes) and Jimmy Morales (736 votes) in the Position 3 race.



CONNIE ESPARZA

Aldine ISD's school board election follows plurality rules and candidate with the most votes wins the election. There were 4,358 votes cast in the Position 3 race.

Esparza received 2,713 votes and defeated Zaheer Malik (1,547 votes) in the Position 4 race. There were 4,260



STEVE MEAD

votes cast in the Position 4 race.

Mead received 1,599 votes to defeat Emmanuel "Manny" Guerrero (1,378 votes) and Donald Jones (1,375 votes) in the Position 5 race. There were 4,352 votes cast in the Position 5 race.

All three will be sworn in at the Nov. 16 Board meeting.

### Day of the Dead quite a Day

The Aldine community turned out last Saturday on a beautiful sunny day, for the East Aldine District's Fall Festival, and the Dia De Los Muertos, remembrance of those who had passed.

This combination of two events brought fun and satisfaction to many hundreds of families and individuals. The opportunity to share family memories with others, and honor their ancestors, was most rewarding, and interesting to spectators.

The event included music, dancing for children and adults, face painting, games, food trucks and scores of tents with information and activities from organizations and vendors.

Guests at the event included Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, and Sheriff Ed Gonzalez, State Rep. Armando Walle, and members of the East Aldine District, who had organized the event.

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★ OPINION PAGE ★



Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia chats with School Board candidates Rose Avalos, Connie Esparza, and Emmanuel Guerrero.



Many local organizations and individuals had Dia De Los Muertos memorial altars, including this from Bonding Against Adversity.



A caped super hero tries to escape from the threatening Dinosaur, just some of the fun that everyone had on Saturday.



Sheriff's deputies on horseback join in the celebration with costumed dancers, who also performed on stage.



Many of the crowd joined in the fun, with these folks line dancing, against a backdrop of tents with displays and the new East Aldine District office building.



Lone Star College - East Aldine Dean Luis Lucia was helping out in the Lone Star Booth. Many organizations joined in the opportunity to meet the public and tell about their opportunities.



★ STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS ★  
By Gary Borders

COVID-19 vaccines for kids coming to state

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has authorized the emergency use of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for children aged 5 to 11 years. In Texas that could mean nearly 3 million children are now eligible for the vaccine.

The FDA reported immune responses in children in that age range were comparable to those of persons 16 to 25 years old. The vaccine was found to be 90.7% effective in preventing the virus in children 5 through 11. The ongoing study of approximately 3,100 children found no serious side effects.

More than a million doses targeting children in that age group are being sent to providers in nearly half of the state's counties, according to DSHS. As of Sunday, 15.44 million Texans have been fully vaccinated, which is right at 53% of the state's population.

COVID-19 CASES, DEATHS CONTINUE TO DROP

The number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas in the past week dropped to 28,840, and new deaths dipped to 937—the first time below 1,000 since summer, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University.

The total number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations continues to decrease, with 3,571 reported throughout the state, down nearly 19% from the previous week, according to DSHS.

RARE HUMAN CASE OF RABIES UNDER INVESTIGATION

A Medina County child is being treated for rabies in a Texas hospital, the Department of State Health Services reported last week. It is the first case of rabies in a human reported in the state since 2009. The child was bitten by a bat, according to DSHS.

Public health officials have identified all the places where someone could have come into contact with either the bat or the child. Experts are assessing the risk to those people and whether they should receive post-exposure vaccinations to prevent them from contracting rabies.

The department noted that rabies is almost always fatal once contracted, but is preventable if the vaccine and immune globulin are administered before symptoms begin. In Texas, according to DSHS, skunks and bats account for most animal rabies cases. Nearly 600 animals in Texas tested positive for rabies last year, about half of them bats.

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS  
By Gary Borders

10-DIGIT DIALING MANDATORY IN SEVERAL NEW AREAS

The days of being able to just dial seven digits in seven Texas area codes are behind us. In July 2020 the Federal Communications Commission approved 988 as the abbreviated dialing code for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Several Texas area codes (254, 361, 409, 806, 830, 915 and 940) have numbers with a 988 prefix, and had to transition to 10-digit local dialing after the FCC order.

The Texas Public Utility Commission announced effective Oct. 25 that all local calls dialed in those area codes with just seven digits will reach a recording that prompts the caller to redial using all 10 digits. The change does not affect price, coverage area or other rates and services, according to the PUC.

ANOTHER LOOK AT IMPACT OF WINTER STORM URI

More than eight months after an unprecedented snow and ice storm led to widespread power blackouts in Texas, the Texas Comptroller's office took an in-depth look at the state's response and the legislative actions that followed.

Texas is the only state in the continental United States with its own electric power grid, which serves 90% of its population. Parts of East Texas, the Panhandle and El Paso are outside the area managed by the Electric Reliability Council of Texas and didn't experience widespread outages.

Winter Storm Uri knocked out power and disrupted water utilities for nearly 70% of the state's residents for extended periods. Financial loss estimates range from \$80 billion to \$130 billion, according to Comptroller Glenn Hegar.

The comptroller's report explains the economic toll of the storm and the legislative changes to the electric market structure passed in the 87th Legislature. Critics have said the changes do not go far enough to make power companies weatherize their plants to insure against further outages due to extreme weather.

County Offers Vaccine Boosters

Houston - Harris County Public Health (HCPH) is now administering the COVID-19 vaccine booster for people in certain groups. Eligible residents include those who completed their two-dose mRNA vaccine series (Pfizer or Moderna) at least six months ago and anyone who received the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine at least two months ago. Eligible fully vaccinated residents can get a booster dose of the vaccine of their choice.

All COVID-19 vaccines provide strong protection for most people. A booster vaccine in an additional dose given after the protection provided by the original series has begun to decrease over time. The Pfizer booster helps certain groups of people maintain their level of immunity longer.

For individuals who received a Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, the following groups are eligible for a booster shot at 6 months or more after their primary series:

- 65 years and older
- Age 18+ who live in long-term care settings
- Age 18+ who have underlying medical conditions
- Age 18+ who work or live in high-risk settings

Note: The Moderna COVID-19 booster dose is half of the dose that is administered for the primary series dose.

For individuals who received the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine, booster shots are also recommended for those who are 18 and older and who were vaccinated two or more months ago.

Additional Doses

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend that people who are moderately to severely immunocompromised should receive an additional dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine at least 28 days after the initial two doses. This includes recipients of organ or stem cell transplants, people with advanced or untreated HIV infection, active recipients of treatment for cancer, people taking medications that weaken the immune system, and others. A full list of conditions can be found on the CDC's website.

Fully vaccinated people with weakened immune systems do not get as much protection as people with healthy immune systems. The additional dose helps boost their immunity to the level of fully vaccinated people who are not immunocompromised. Please contact your healthcare provider to find out if an additional dose or booster is recommended for you.

Additional doses and vaccine boosters are free at HCPH designated sites and vaccine appointments are not required, although they are recommended. Go to [vastrach.hctx.net](http://vastrach.hctx.net) or call 832-927-8787. To find a location near you click here. Please remember to bring your COVID-19 vaccination card with you to receive a booster shot.

HIGH MEADOWS LIBRARY NEWS

By Jennifer Nandlal Sr Adult Program Specialist

**GRADCAFÉ:** Every Tuesday we will have representatives from GRADcafé at the High Meadows Library.

**WHAT IS GRADCAFÉ?** GRADcafé is a one-stop-shop offering free services to help you decide on a career, explore education and training options, apply to college, and find the financial aid you need.

Whether you want to attend college to get a degree or work on a certificate in a professional trade, we are here to guide you through every step. You're never too young or old to get started. Services are available in English or Spanish.

**NANOWRIMO:** Every November writers across the world take part in the National (Na) Novel (No)Writing (Wri) Month (Mo) challenge to write a complete 50,000-word novel in 30 days. That's 1,670 words a day. Join Camp NaNoWriMo

virtually (Tuesdays & Thursdays) in November for tips, writing prompts, and inspiration to help turn your great idea into a novel. You can find past and current events on our Facebook page by visiting [www.facebook.com/highmeadowslibrary](http://www.facebook.com/highmeadowslibrary)

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@hcpl.net](mailto:jennifer.nandlal@hcpl.net).

ONLINE SERVICES FOR VETERANS:

Are you a Military Service Member or Veteran in need of reliable resources to obtain benefits or just need to talk to a person to answer your questions? Harris County Public Library now has a Veterans Services & Resources website dedicated to serve our Veterans, Active-Duty Service Members, and their Families! We also offer Virtual 1-on-1 services with a

Librarian, or you can call a Branch nearest you!

Website: <https://www.hcpl.net/page/veterans-services-resources>

USING OUR LIBRARY VOICES PODCAST:

Did you know the library has its own podcast? Featuring a variety of voices and topics, the Using Our Library Voices podcast has something for everyone. Listen now wherever you stream podcasts or by going to: <https://www.hcpl.net/podcast>.

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

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

## SCHOOL NEWS PAGE

## Message from the Superintendent, November 2, 2021

Dear Aldine Community,

Suddenly it's November, and it even feels like fall in Houston — it's a sign that the year is coming to a close. Before time gets away from us completely, I want to express my sincerest gratitude for this community — the endlessly hardworking team members, parents, and students who are dedicated to furthering Aldine ISD's mission.

We have two months left in 2021, and as usual, this year has not been without surprises and pivots. Because of this incredible community, however, we have thrived as one Aldine family. Through hard work, generosity of time, the elevation of voice, and so much more, we can continue to make Aldine ISD the best district possible.

With the holidays quickly approaching, we know life will feel busy soon. We have kept the energy high from the Fall Family Conference to the Pro Football Hall of Famer Drew Pearson addressing our athletes! Click here to take a look at some of the work that's been going on.

All The Things: The Aldine ISD Podcast released a new episode about our Multilingual Framework. In this episode, Aldine ISD Executive Director of Multilingual Services, Altagracia "Grace" Delgado, breaks down the new multilingual framework and helps us understand the importance of celebrating students' native language. During the conversation, she explains language acquisition and the benefits of bilingual and dual-language programs. You can listen to Bilingual, Biliterate, Bicultural on [aldineisd.org/podcast](http://aldineisd.org/podcast) or any podcast streaming service.

My hope for our community is that we will root ourselves in gratitude for one another this month and let that energy propel us into 2022.

With Aldine Pride,  
Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney  
Superintendent

## UPCOMING EVENTS

November: Early Head Start Program — Open enrollment for the Early Head Start program is at the Child Development Center. The program serves children from six weeks to three years of age and focuses on building their school-ready skills. No deadline to apply, but seats are limited. Click here for details.

November: The district is undergoing an audit focused on equity as it continues to evaluate how best to serve every student. Click here to learn more about the five-minute phone interview.

November 3: Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney will speak at the Kids in Need Foundation's Champions for Education panel event on November 3 at 12:30 p.m. Click here to join.

November 6: Choice Schools Festival — Saturday, November 6, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Students who live outside of Aldine ISD can also enroll. Click here for details.

November 8: Aldine ISD and Lone Star College are presenting a virtual hour-and-a-half session that will cover dual credit courses, requirements for dual credit, how to apply, and potential courses offered. The session is ideal for current high school 11th- and 12-grade students. Session — one in English and one in Spanish — starts at 6 p.m. Click here for details and how to join virtually.

November 9: Aldine ISD and Lone Star College are presenting an in-person event to help students complete their dual credit applications. Students will need to know their social security numbers. Click here for details and how to sign up for one of three time slots.

November 13: Teacher Job Fair will occur at Davis High School (12525 Ella Blvd. • Houston, TX 77067), from 9 to 11:00 a.m. Click here for more information.



## OBSERVATIONS

### NOVEMBER

- Picture Book Month
- National Scholarship Month
- GenTX Month
- November 2: Election Day
- November 8-12: School Psychology Awareness Week; theme "Let's Get in Gear"
- November 8-14: Children's Book Week
- November 11: Veterans' Day
- November 12: Wellness Day — Theme is Fuel Up With Dairy
- November 15-19: American Education Week
- November 17: National Education Support Professionals Day
- November 18: National Parental Involvement Day

### DECEMBER

- December 2: Special Education Day
- December 6-12: Computer Science Education Week
- December 15: Early Signing Day (Student-Athletes)

## REMINDERS

Aldine's Family and Community Engagement Department has launched the Family and Community University and aims to provide knowledge and resources to empower families to support students academically, socially, and emotionally. All programming is free and open to all Aldine families. Learn more and register today.

The state requires high school seniors to apply for financial aid to graduate. The FAFSA application opened on October 1.

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 and District Podcast pages 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.



## 28 Aldine ISD students named National Recognition Program Scholars

Aldine ISD has 28 students who were named National Recognition Program Scholars by the College Board.

Chief of Schools Dr. Katie Roede made the announcement during the Oct. 19 Board of Trustees.

College Board's National Recognition Programs create pathways to college for students by awarding them academic honors and connecting them with universities across the country. In order to be eligible for the National Recognition Program, students must have a 3.5 GPA or higher and identify as African American or Black, Hispanic or Latinx, Indigenous or attend a school in a rural area or small town.

In addition, they must meet the following requirements: take the PSAT 10 in the spring of their sophomore year and score in the top 10% by state; take

the PSAT/NMSQT in the fall of their junior year and score in the top 10% by state; or earn a score of 3 or higher on two or more AP exams by their junior year.

The program is designed to honor student accomplishments, and to help create additional pathways to college for underrepresented students. Students can include the academic honors on college and scholarship applications, and colleges around the country also use the list of honorees to identify high-potential students from underrepresented groups.

In addition, Davis High School student Renny Hoang has been named a National Merit Scholar and Blanson CTE High School senior Leilani Diaz has been named the recipient of the Hispanic Scholar Award and the National Commended Scholar

Award.

The 28 students who were named National Recognition Program Scholars were: Lauren Baines of Aldine High School; Alexander Guel, Elisabeth Zapata, Gabriel Aguilar, Giovanni Cortes, Diaz, Martin Saenz, Derek King and Jonathan Hartfield of Blanson CTE High School; Ryan Randolph of Carver High School; Hoang and Mike Rodriguez of Davis High School; Sydney Prier and Tiara Anastacio of Eisenhower High School; Shonease Murphy, Alicia Garza, Emily Villegas Garcia, Karla Duran, Mayline Garcia, Melanie Fabela and Vanessa DeOsio of MacArthur High School; and Laila Adams, Yoselin Owolabi, Mayowa Ogunbowale, Andrea Cruz, Kelly Irlas Flores, Graciela De La Cuesta, Nashaly Diaz and Jonathan Ortega of Victory Early College High School.



National Recognition Program Scholar by the College Board. She's pictured with Aldine High Principal, Walter Stewart.



Carver High School student Ryan Randolph was named a National Recognition Program Scholar by the College Board. She's pictured with Carver High Principal Dr. Tracie Robinson.



Davis High School students Renny Hoang and Mike Rodriguez were named National Recognition Program Scholars by the College Board. Renny was also named a National Merit Semi-Finalist. They are pictured with Davis High Principal Anthony Watkins.



Eisenhower High School students Sydney Prier and Tiara Anastacio were named National Recognition Program Scholars by the College Board. They are pictured with Eisenhower High Principal Mandele Davis and School Assistant Superintendent of High Schools Dr. Kochit Rodriguez, right.



MacArthur High School students Shonease Murphy, Alicia Garza, Emily Villegas Garcia, Karla Duran, Mayline Garcia, Melanie Fabela and Vanessa DeOsio were named National Recognition Program Scholars by the College Board. Two of the students are pictured with Chief Transformation Officer Adrian Bustillos.

NOT PICTURED: Blanson CTE High School students Alexander Guel, Elisabeth Zapata, Gabriel Aguilar, Giovanni Cortes, Leilani Diaz, Martin Saenz, Derek King and Jonathan Hartfield were named National recognition Program Scholars by the College Board.



Victory Early College High School students Laila Adams, Yoselin Owolabi, Mayowa Ogunbowale, Andrea Cruz, Kelly Irlas Flores, Graciela De La Cuesta, Nashaly Diaz and Jonathan Ortega were named National Recognition Program Scholars by the College Board. They are pictured with Victory Early College High School Principal Dr. Phyllis Cormier at the Oct. 19 Board of Trustees meeting.

## SPORTS PAGE

## Lady Generals Win Womens Varsity Volleyball League Title With 14-0 Record



The MacArthur High School Lady Generals varsity volleyball team captured its second straight District 14-6A title by going undefeated in league play.

Under the direction of head coach Lynda Eastland, the Lady Generals finished 14-0 and captured its second straight league crown. It marked the first time in 40 years that the MacArthur volleyball team won back-to-back district titles.

"I want to congratulate the Lady Generals for their historical finish in the district," Eastland said. "They took on Spring High in our final district contest with an undefeated league season on the line. The girls walked the court with determination to win, and that's what they did. I am so proud of this group."

The team consists of seniors Sydney Davis, Jasmine Rutledge, and Aaliyah Callaway; juniors Gaby Ruiz, Ivett Esquivel, Emeli Muguatuti'a, and Natalie Gammage; sophomores Renata Rebelledo, Nicole Rebelledo, Kayla Jones and Estefania Negrete; and freshmen Jessika Martinez and NaKisha Nedd.

Leslie Mike, NaTonya Holmes, Linda Paxton, and Mya Rutledge serve as assistant coaches.

## Generals Win Team Tennis Title; Mustangs Finish Second

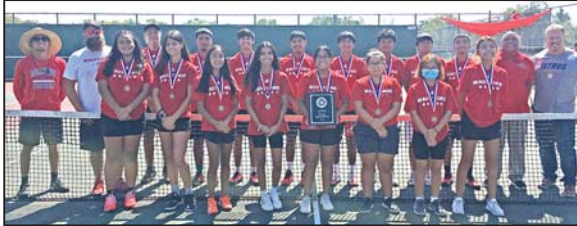
The MacArthur High School Generals won the District 14-6A Team Tennis title, while the Aldine High Mustangs finished second. The Davis Falcons finished in third place, while Nimitz High School finished in fourth place.

Under the direction of head coach Brandon Blake, the Generals faced Oak Ridge on Tuesday, Oct. 12, in bi-district at Davis High School.

Under the direction of head coach Lindsey Eichelman, the Mustangs took on Grand Oaks in bi-district on Oct. 12 at Aldine High School.

The Falcons, under the direction of coaches Steven Hawkins and Amber Cabada, took on College Park in bi-district at College Park High School.

Under the direction of coach Andy Nguyen, the Cougars took on The Woodlands on Oct. 12 in bi-district at The Woodlands High School.



The MacArthur High Generals finished in first place in Team Tennis in District 14-6A.



The Aldine Mustangs finished in second place in Team Tennis in District 14-6A.

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# Baylor, OU meet in key Big 12 game: Aggies face tough road test at Ole Miss

healthy when they hit the road this weekend.

In the SEC, Jimbo Fisher's Texas A&M Aggies travel to Oxford, MS to take on a dangerous Ole Miss team, led by Heisman Trophy candidate Matt Corral. Corral is a dual threat QB, but he will face one of the best defenses in the SEC come Saturday.

No. 9-ranked Michigan plays another tough foe on the road when it visits No. 22-ranked Penn State on Saturday. Two weeks ago, the Wolverines lost at Michigan State, 37-33. Head coach Jim Harbaugh knows his team can't afford another loss if it hopes to remain in the Big 10's Eastern Division race.

In the NFL there's good news for Texans fans. Their hometown team can't possibly lose this week. That's because David Culley's team has their bye this week. It couldn't come at a better time.

Dallas hosts Atlanta and hopes to have quarterback Dak Prescott back for this one. Prescott missed the Cowboys 20-16 road win at Minnesota two weeks ago, but backup Cooper Rush filled in nicely throwing for 325 yards and two second-half touchdowns, the final one coming in the closing seconds to wide receiver Amari Cooper.

New Orleans visits Tennessee in a battle of teams that have lost key parts of their offense in the last two weeks. New Orleans starting QB Jameis Winston tore his ACL in his team's 36-27 win over Tampa Bay, while the Titans suffered a huge loss when star running back Derrick Henry sustained a foot injury two weeks ago at Indianapolis. Henry's loss could be devastating to the Titans' title hopes.

The Chiefs visit Las Vegas in an important AFC West game for both teams, while Seattle hopes to have starting QB Russell Wilson back when it visits Aaron Rodgers and the Green Bay Packers on Sunday.

Before we take a look at those games and a host of others, let's review last week's record. A 10-2 week (a second straight strong showing) upped the season record to 76-39 (66%).

Now, onto this week-



end's game.

### NCAA

**Michigan at Penn State:** The Wolverines will look to get back in the Big 10 Eastern Division race with a win at Penn State on Saturday. Two weeks ago, Michigan lost a 37-33 heartbreaker to Michigan State, while Penn State fought hard before falling at Ohio State, 33-24. Michigan needs a big game from QB Cade McNamara (1,498 yards, 7 TDs) and running back Blake Corum (774 yards, 10 TDs), while the Nitany Lions will look to QB Sean Clifford (2,008 yards, 13 TDs) and wide receiver Jahan Dotson (60 receptions, 679 yards, 6 TDs). My pick, Michigan 31, Penn State 28

**Georgia at Tennessee:** No. 1-ranked Georgia brings the nation's best defense to Knoxville to take on a Vols team that has been up and down this season. Two weeks ago, Kirby Smart's team ran its record to 8-0 with a 34-7 pasting of Florida. In their first eight games, the Bulldog defense has allowed just 53 points (6 points per game). Georgia excels on offense, but is so-so on offense, which is working quite well for the Dawgs. I mean, when you're only giving up 6 points a game, you only need to score 7 to win. Georgia is led on offense by QB Stetson Bennett (1,157 yards, 12 TDs), running back Zamir White (505 yards, 8 TDs) and tight end Brook Bowers (26 receptions, 454 yards, 6 TDs). The Vols will need a monster game from QB Hendon Hooker (1,578 yards, 17 TDs) and wide receiver Velus Jones Jr. (31 receptions, 453 yards, 4 TDs). Good luck Vols, because you're gonna need it. My pick, Georgia 33, Tennessee 10

**Texas A&M at Ole Miss:** The Aggies have a tough road test against

Corral (2,203 passing yards, 15 TDs/519 rushing yards, 10 TDs) and the high-scoring Rebels on Saturday. Two weeks ago, Ole Miss lost at Auburn 31-20, while the Aggies enjoyed the weekend off. Look for the A&M offense to play much better as QB Zach Calzada (1,364 yards, 12 TDs) looks to finish the season strong. He's got a solid running game led by Isaiah Spiller (761 yards, 5 TDs) and Devon Achane (607 yards, 5 TDs) and solid targets in tight end Jalen Wydermyer (25 receptions, 353 yards, 4 TDs) and speedy Aina Smith (31 receptions, 347 yards, 6 TDs). Look for the A&M defense to be the difference maker in this one. My pick, Texas A&M 30, Mississippi 23

**Oklahoma at Baylor:** The Sooners face a tough road test in their quest to win another Big 12 title. Two weeks ago, Baylor overcame an 11-point deficit in the second half to secure a 31-24 win and improve to 7-1 on the season. Baylor is led by quarterback Gerry Bohanon (1,785 yards, 12 TDs), running back Abram Smith (898 yards, 11 TDs) and wide receiver Tyquan Thornton (37 receptions, 601 yards, 5 TDs). OU is starting to roll on offense behind QB Caleb Williams (1,188 yards, 14 TDs), running back Kennedy Brooks (802 yards, 9 TDs) and big-play wide receivers Marvin Mims (26 receptions, 605 yards, 4 TDs) and Mario Williams (29 receptions, 319 yards, 3 TDs). OU has struggled a bit on the road this season, so look for Baylor to give Lincoln Riley's team all it can handle, but Caleb Williams will be the difference maker down the stretch. My pick, Oklahoma 36, Baylor 30

**Purdue at Ohio State:** The Boilermakers own road wins against Iowa and Nebraska, but they face a much bigger challenge when they visit Co-

lumbus on Saturday to take on a surging Ohio State squad. The Buckeyes are loaded on offense led by quarterback C.J. Stroud (2,270 yards, 23 TDs), running back TreVeyon Henderson (845 yards, 12 TDs) and talented wide receivers Garrett Wilson (43 receptions, 687 yards, 6 TDs) and Chris Olave (35 receptions, 562 yards, 9 TDs). Purdue is led by QB Aidan O'Connell (1,551 yards, 9 TDs). Look for the Buckeyes to cruise on Saturday. My pick, Ohio State 43, Purdue 20

### NFL

**Atlanta at Dallas:** The Cowboys host the Falcons on Sunday and even if Prescott is still hobbled with the calf strain, head coach Mike McCarthy knows his offense can still produce yards and scores thanks for Rush, a healthy offensive line and a strong running game. The Falcons will be without big-play wide receiver Calvin Ridley who announced on Oct. 31 that he was stepping away from football to deal with a mental health issue. Good luck to him. In their 20-16 win over Minnesota two weeks ago, Rush made plays down field to wide receivers CeeDee Lamb (39 receptions, 609 yards, 4 TDs) and Cooper (38 receptions, 495 yards, 5 TDs). Look for Ezekiel Elliott (571 yards, 5 TDs) to handle the running chores as the Cowboys look to continue rolling. My pick, Dallas 33, Atlanta 17

**Cleveland at New England:** This is a key game for both teams as they look to contend for a playoff berth. Two weeks ago, the Browns lost to the Steelers at home, 15-10, while Bill Belichick's Patriots picked up a huge road win against the Los Angeles Chargers (27-24). Cleveland is struggling on offense and QB Baker Mayfield (1,699 yards, 6 TDs) and running back Nick Chubb (584 yards, 4 TDs) need to step up their games. NE has gotten a solid season out of rookie QB Mac Jones (1,997 yards, 9 TDs) and running back Damien Harris (517 yards, 6 TDs). Look for the Patriots defense to be the difference maker in this one as Mayfield has another rough outing. My

pick, New England 24, Cleveland 12

**New Orleans at Tennessee:** Two beat up teams meet in Nashville on Sunday. Two weeks ago, the Saints lost starting QB Jameis Winston for the season with a torn ACL. Backup Trevor Siemian (159 yards, 1 TD) stepped up and got the job done, along with a big-play defense. Look for the Saints to feature running back Alvin Kamara (480 rushing yards, 2 TDs/28 receptions, 256 yards, 4 TDs) against a Tennessee defense that came up with three pick interceptions in their 34-31 win at Indy two weeks ago. Now that Henry is probably gone for the season, look for the Titans to unleash QB Ryan Tannehill (2,002 yards, 10 TDs) and wide receiver A.J. Brown (35 receptions, 509 yards, 3 TDs). This should be a defensive battle. My pick, Tennessee 23, New Orleans 20

**Tampa Bay at Washington:** Tom Brady and the Bucs will have had two weeks to stew about their 36-27 loss at New Orleans, which is bad news for the Washington Football Team. Look for Brady (2,650 yards, 25 TDs) to make plays all over the field to wide receivers Chris Godwin (50 receptions, 660 yards, 4 TDs) and Mike Evans (39 receptions, 544 yards, 8 TDs), which should soften up the run game for Leonard Fournette (439 yards, 4 TDs). WFT will rely on the scrambling ability of QB Taylor Heinicke (1,928 yards, 11 TDs). He will face a ticked off TB defense. My pick, Tampa Bay 36, WFT 18

**Seattle at Green Bay:** The Seahawks visit Lambeau Field with hopes that Wilson (1,960 yards, 10 TDs) is back from a finger injury that has made him miss the team's last three games heading into their bye week. If he's back, wide receivers DK Metcalf (39 receptions, 580 yards, 8 TDs) and Tyler Lockett (41 receptions, 579 yards, 3 TDs) should benefit greatly. The Packers will once again rely on Rodgers (1,894 yards, 17 TDs), running back Aaron Jones (463 yards, 3 TDs) and wide receiver Davante Adams (52 receptions, 744 yards, 3 TDs). Adams missed the Pack's 24-21

win at Arizona two weeks ago after testing positive for COVID 19. You can bet that he will be looking to put up big numbers against a suspect Seattle secondary. My pick, Green Bay 34, Seattle 28

**Kansas City at Las Vegas:** This is a big one for the Chiefs who need a win to get back in the AFC West race. The Raiders entered their bye week atop the division as QB Derek Carr (2,269 yards, 12 TDs) has played well this season and second-year wide out Henry Ruggs III (24 receptions, 469 yards, 2 TDs) has given him the deep threat he has been missing the last few seasons. The Chiefs need QB Patrick Mahomes (2,368 yards, 19 TDs, 10 interceptions) to do a better job of protecting the football. He will once again rely on speedy wide receiver Tyreek Hill (64 receptions, 735 yards, 6 TDs) and dependable tight end Travis Kelce (49 receptions, 560 yards, 4 TDs). The Raiders are much improved, but the Chiefs are a desperate team, which makes them dangerous. My pick, Kansas City 33, Las Vegas 30

**Los Angeles Rams at San Francisco:** These two long-time rivals close out Week 10 on Monday Night Football. The Rams are rolling and got better on defense when the team traded for Denver line-backer Von Miller on Nov. 1. This could be a very scary defense the rest of the season. The offense is plenty scary itself led by QB Matthew Stafford (2,477 yards, 22 TDs) and wide receivers Cooper Kupp (63 receptions, 924 yards, 10 TDs) and Robert Woods (38 receptions, 458 yards, 4 TDs). The Rams have also gotten nice production from running back Darrell Henderson (507 yards, 5 TDs). The 49ers have struggled this season, but two weeks ago they picked up a big road win at Chicago (33-22). Rookie running back Elijah Mitchell (433 yards, 3 TDs) has been a big boon to the team this year. QB Jimmy Garoppolo (1,428 yards, 6 TDs) and wide receiver Deebo Samuel (44 receptions, 819 yards, 4 TDs) need to make plays in the passing game to keep this one close. Probably not gonna happen. My pick, Los Angeles 34, San Francisco 23

CHURCH PAGE

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey —

- 1. Is the book of Amariah in the Old Testament or New Testament or neither?
2. From Acts 5, who convinced the Jerusalem council not to stone the apostles? Haggai, Shebna, Gamaliel, Levi
3. The scriptures often use the word "Gehenna," which translates into English as? Hell, Paradise, Poem, Soul
4. In 2 Corinthians 5:17, who does Paul describe as a "new creature"? The unborn, Innocent children,

Commandment keepers, Anyone in Christ
5. Besides Abiathar, who was a high priest during the reign of David? Passhur, Zadok, Caiaphas, Zebedee
6. How old was Moses when he died? 33, 100, 120, 164

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Gamaliel; 3) Hell; 4) Anyone in Christ; 5) Zadok; 6) 120
"Test Your Bible Knowledge," a book with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in stores and online.
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If you extend your soul to the hungry and satisfy the afflicted soul, then your light shall dawn in the darkness, and your darkness shall be as the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually...
ISAIAH 58: 10-11
Detail of "L'Homme Guide par l'Eternel" by Marc Chagall (1956)

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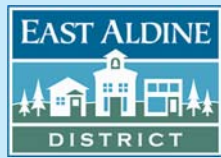
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## East Aldine District COMMUNITY NEWS

### East Aldine ambulance/ firefighting service saves lives and money

Due to quicker response times to fires and other emergencies, many Aldine area homeowners could see a drop in their insurance premiums.

The change is due to the work of the Aldine Fire Department, which runs fire and rescue teams in Emergency Services District 24. The district covers 19 square miles and serves more than 38,000 people in the Aldine area.

The department also works cooperatively with the Westfield



Volunteer Fire Department, providing emergency medical services in the East Aldine Management District.

The Aldine Fire Department, which started as a one-station, all-volunteer department in 1968, has grown to four fire stations with a total staff of 90 firefighters or EMTs. The addition of a fourth station cut two to three minutes off the response time to fires and medical emergencies.

Not only does that save lives, it also lowers the costs of homeowners' insurance, District Fire Chief Rick Reeg said.

Construction of the department's fourth station, Station 41, located at Farrell and Aldine Westfield Road, was completed three years ago. Because the station is located across Union Pacific railroad tracks from the other stations, it helped cut response

times for all four, Reeg said.

The department operated out of a home until the first Aldine fire station was built on Aldine Bender in 1971. The station was expanded and renovated in 1985.

Reeg said the majority of the department's calls are for EMS services. The Aldine department works closely with Harris County EMS.

"We do get an occasional fire, but it's occasional. We do help our neighbors, but there's not a lot of fires," he said.

Most of the ambulance calls stem from motor vehicle crashes, and their leading are drivers' heavy consumption of alcohol, speeding and/or cell phone distractions.

"Right now, I would say that texting and driving, and alcohol are probably about equal," Reeg said.

And even though newer cars are frequently equipped to "lock" cell phones, other on-board automotive technology could add to danger, Reeg said.

"Is it going to solve the problem, or is it going to create another problem?" Reeg said.

The Aldine Fire Department is what Reeg calls a "combination department" with trained volunteer firefighters who work with the paid firefighters. The paid firefighters work 48 hours on and 96 hours off, like at many other area fire departments.

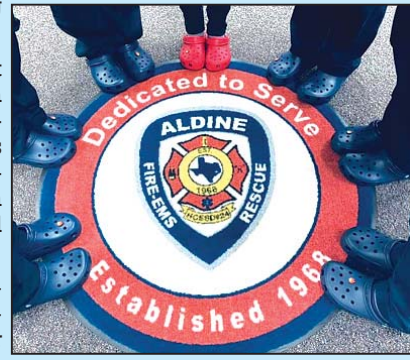
With that scheduling structure, the Aldine department can and does employ firefighters on a part-time basis from the Houston Fire Department, as well as staff from departments in Texas City, Little York, Klein, Cy-Fair, Magnolia and Needham.

The department is overseen by an elected five-member board: President Jerry Loyd, Vice President Eva Garcia, Treasurer Lee Spillman, Secretary Loretta Robinson and Assistant Secretary Maria Gomez.

Fire Chief Dave Parker has put an emphasis on community education and public safety education. Franchesca Santiago, a former volunteer, works full-time as community relations liaison and coordinates events such as the installation of child safety seats in residents' vehicles.

<https://www.facebook.com/aldinefire/>

— by Anne Marie Kilday



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