

NORTHEAST XIEWS



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County raises COVID threat level

Harris County Judge Raises COVID-19 Threat Level to Level 2: Orange

CDC: number of Omicron cases doubling every 2-3 days; Judge Hidalgo strongly urges those 65 and older to get booster shot as soon as possible

Harris County, Texas - December 20, 2021, Judge Lina Hidalgo announced that she is raising the county's COVID-19 Threat Level Indicator from Level 3: Yellow to Level 2: Orange, the system's second highest threat level. The threat level has increased due to a number of factors,

including a rapid increase in new cases and positivity rate.

Due to the explosive

growth of the Omicron variant of the COVID-19 virus across Harris County, public health officials are strongly urging all eligible Harris County resiespecially individuals 65 and older, to get their booster shots as soon as possible. Residents who are not vaccinated are cautioned to do so immediately. Regardless of vaccination status, wear a mask and get tested before attending holiday gather-



"Unfortunately, the Omicron variant has arrived in Harris County in full force," said Judge Hidalgo. "These trends are understandably frustrating - especially as we close out the year with friends and family. But we can still blunt the force of this latest wave if we take action. As we approach Christmas and New Years, consider giving yourself and your family the gift of health by getting your booster, getting tested before any gatherings of people outside of your household, and wearing a mask. It could very well

save your life or that of a

Level 2 signifies an ongoing, uncontrolled level of COVID-19 in Harris County. At this level, unvaccinated residents should minimize contact with others, avoiding any medium or large gatherings, and only visiting permissible businesses that follow public health guidance.

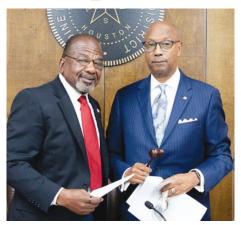
The COVID-19 vaccine and booster continues to be available at no charge for all Harris County residents. To find out more information, locations and hours, ReadyHarris.org.

Randy Bates new School Board president

The Aldine ISD Board of Trustees approved a new slate of officers during its Dec. 14 Board meeting. The Board's Nominating Committee, consisting of Randy Bates, Dr. Viola M. Garcia and Steve Mead, recommended that Mr. Bates serve as president, Dr. Kimberley Booker serve as vice president and Rose Avalos serve as secretary. Dr. Garcia, Connie Esparza, Mr. Mead and Paul Shanklin will serve as members.

Mr. Shanklin thanked his fellow Trustees for their support over the last two years when he served

Continued. See School Board President, Page 2



Paul Shanklin, the outgoing president of the Aldine ISD Board of Trustees, hands the gavel to Randy Bates, the incoming president of the Board during the Dec. 14 AISD school board meeting.

County now offers COVID-19 Vaccine Booster shots to all

BOOSTER DOSES AVAILABLE FOR QUALIFYING FULLY VACCINATED RESIDENTS

Houston - Harris County Public Health (HCPH) is ow 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 singledose 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 condi-

ons
• 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

Continued. See Vaccine Booster shots, Page 2

NORTHEAST NEWS' DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF YEAR

Huff lets his actions do his talking for him

By Mike Keeney Contributing Writer

Cory Huff doesn't talk a lot, but he lets his actions do his talking for him, and that's just fine with Nimitz High School head coach Richard Slater.

Huff, a junior, was perhaps the Cougars' best defensive player during the 2021 season that saw Nimitz earn its first playoff berth in six years.

The 5-11, 185-pounder recorded 55 solo

The 5-11, 185-pounder recorded 55 8010 tackles, 21 assists (76 total tackles, an average of 7.6 per game), had one tackle for loss, intercepted three passes, broke up 20 passes and forced one fumble.

Those numbers earned him the Northeast News' Defensive Player of the Year honors.

And the good news for Slater and his staff is that Huff has a year left to improve his game and to produce even bigger numbers.

Slater isn't the only one who thinks his safety is a pretty special player. Colleges also have taken notice of the hard-hitting,



Nimitz High School safety Cory Huff, right, poses with former Nimitz High star defensive back Michael Thomas at Thomas' summer football camp.

Continued. See DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF YEAR, page 5

Book Review: "Texas for Kids"

By Kristan Hoffman and Iris Butler

Although I was born and raised in Houston, I now live in Cincinnati with my husband and kids, so it was great to receive these two books as gifts to help teach my 5-year-old daughter Iris a bit about where I came from, in a fun

"LOL JOKES: TEXAS"

We started with the jokes, because I thought that would be more entertaining for my daughter. The book is divided into 6 sections: jokes about the state of Texas, cities in Texas, food, animals, nature, and sports. Most of the city- and state-specific ones went over my daughter's head, but the animal section was a hit. In general, the jokes are punbased "groaners" - the kind that make you smile



IRIS BUTLER, BOOK REVIEWER

in spite of yourself — but we bookmarked several to remember and share. We also appreciated the illustrations and fun facts.

Iris says: I liked it! My favorite jokes were the ones about the ghost cowgirl, the cat in a blanket, the outer space cow, and nacho cheese.

"SUPER CITIES! HOUSTON"

Like all Texan children, I spent 7th grade learning

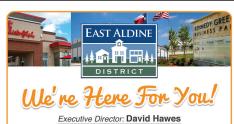
Texas history, but this book reminded me of just how much I have forgotten. Also, the focus on Houston sparked a lot of hometown pride as I read through the pages with my daughter. This book offers a great overview of the city's past and present, and highlights many unique attractions, with ev-

erything laid out nicely and accompanied by good photographs. I especially loved the spotlight on Houston's cultural diversity, which is a big part of what makes our city so rich in good food, art, and other accomplishments.

Iris says: I liked learning about Houston. Now I really want to go to the rodeo and eat a corn dog. I also want to listen to

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New Board President,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"It has been my pleasure to serve as board president for the last two years, during some very difficult times. I want to congratulate our new board officers and wish them well," he said.

Mr. Bates thanked Mr. Shanklin for his service over the last two years when the district dealt with COVID-

"I want to thank Mr. Shanklin for his service over the last two years," Mr. Bates said. "It has not been an easy job. We come together for the good of Aldine. I also want to thank (Aldine ISD Superintendent) Dr. Goffney and her team for their leadership and hard work.'

Vaccine Shots,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

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

Fully vaccinated people with weakened immune systems do not get as much protection as people with healthy immune systems. The additional dose helps 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 vacstrac.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 re-

HIGH MEADOWS LIBRARY NEWS

By Jennifer Nandlal Sr Adult Program Specialist

LIBRARY HOURS

EXPANDING:
The High Meadows Library will be expanding our opening hours. Beginning in January, we will our new hours will be:

Mondays: 11am to

Tuesdays: 10am to

6pm Wednesdays: 10am to

Thursdays: 10am to Fridays: 1pm to 6pm Saturdays: 10am to

Sunday: Closed

IN PERSON PROGRAMMING:

We will soon begin our in person programming to include computer classes. storytimes, teen programming and more. For more information on any of these upcoming events, please stop by the library for our program calendar.

LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE:

Join us on January 24th from 12pm to 4pm for our open house. Learn about our upcoming in person programming, register for a library card, or discover all of the FREE services we have to offer.

CLASSES:

Our ESL and Citizenship Classes are begin-ning. If you or someone you know would like to attend an ESL or Citizenship Class for free stop by the library or call us. Space is limited.

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

AIRLINE LIBRARY NEWS

Library Capacity Increased:

The Aldine Branch Library is currently operating at 50% capacity. We are beginning to incorporate in-person programming starting this

Extended Hours:

Starting Jan. 3, the Aldine branch library will be open at the following times:

Mondays: 11am 6pmTuesdays: 10am -8pmWednesdays: 10am 6pmThursdays: 10am -8pmFridays: 1pm - 6pm-Saturdays: 10am - 5pm-Sundays: closed

English Language

If you or someone you know needs help learning the English language, join us on Tuesdays starting January 18 for this evening class in person. To register, get an assessment at the front desk or give us a call: 832-927-5410!

Citizenship Class-

Our citizenship class is now available in person, 10 am - 11 am every Thursday , in our meeting room. Class will be designed for adults who are preparing for the United States Naturalization Test and tutors will cover the Civics portion of the Naturalization interview.

Register Feb. 3 at class meeting. Session 1 begins Feb 3rd - April be at the Aldine Branch

Session 2 May 26th -

Aug 25th Session 3 Sept 29th December 17th

Computer Classes:

In addition to our online computer classes in both English and Spanish we will now be offering computer classes in person at the library. If you want to participate, call us to register: 832-927-5410.

Tuesdays: various topics (Spanish computer class), 5-7pm, at the li-

Wednesdays: Beyond the Essentials with Office 365 plus Google Apps, 5-7pm, online

Thursdays: Beyond the Basics with Office $365~\mathrm{plus}$ Google Apps (English computer class).

5-7pm, at the library

Book Clubs for Adults -

• DIG (Devouring Infinite Genres) Book Club for adults at Aldine will meet again on Jan. 8 at 2pm in the library meeting room for our discussion of our realistic fiction selections. We will also discuss Neil deGrasse Tyson's podcasts for our Pages & Stages book club selection. Go to StarTalkRadio.net and choose one to discuss!

• Lectores avidos - This book club for adults reads and discusses books in Spanish. The next meeting is Jan. 29, 10-11am in per-

Wills & Estate Planning Program -

Lonestar Legal Aid will

Library for those Interested in learning how to manage their affairs & prepare their assets for loved ones. Legal experts will answer your ques-tions about Wills & Estate Planning on

Tuesday, January 25th at 6:00pm. Please register for the program to attend in person: https://bit.ly/ 3FjxRfX

You can also join us virtually on Teams using this link: https:// bit.ly/329z9Md

We will also post a re- $\boldsymbol{cording}$ of the program

on social media! Fitness Class

POUND It's a new year! Why not start a new workout? Why not start a workout that's so fun you won't even know you're work-ing out? That's POUND and it's at the Aldine Library on Jan. 22 at 11am. Join certified instructor Momo Foster as we rock out our workout!

For information on any of the above events or programs, please call us at 832-927-5410 or stop by the library.

ALDINE BRANCH LIBRARY 11331 AIRLINE DR. HOUSTON, TEXAS 77037

Michelle Pichon Library Program Spe-

Harris County Public Library

Aldine Branch Library 11331 Airline Dr. Houston, TX 77037 832-927-5410

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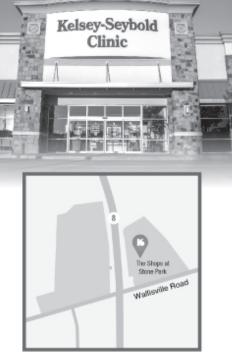
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SCHOOL PAGE NEWS

Message from the Superintendent, January 4, 2022

Welcome back and happy New Year! I hope you and your family had a great, relaxing holiday break and are recharged. A new year creates an opportunity to give yourself a fresh start, whether starting on a project, taking a life-changing step, or simply bringing more joy into your life. Let's all do our part to make 2022 a year full of excitement and possibilities for

We are excited to welcome all of our students back to school tomorrow: Wednesday, January 5. I think it goes without saying that we are all starting to feel the fatigue of $% \left\{ 1\right\} =\left\{ 1\right\} =\left\{$ fighting COVID-19 as we enter another year of the pandemic. While that may be the case, I do hope we can continue to find ways to generate excitement for our students. From the start, we came together to fight COVID-19 and will always prioritize a safe and healthy learning environ-

At the beginning of the pandemic, we shared our Core Beliefs. These beliefs still guide our work today as we kick off the spring semester. We know that the best place for our children is in school learning with their peers and teachers. 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. We know that we are prepared to do what it takes to maintain the health and safety of our community. We will continue to go as fast as we can but as slow as we must to ensure we are prioritizing safety without sacrificing learning. We must remain resilient and not let our guard down. I am confident that we will have a great year ahead if everyone does their part. I encourage you to continue to follow the three Ws: Wash your hands, Wear a mask, and Watch your distance. Below, we've included a list of updates related to COVID, including our updated protocols for students and staff.

Before I close, I ask that you take a moment to thank our Board of Trustees. Our school board members are volunteers who shoulder critical responsibilities and often make difficult choices for our district — all without pay. Their goal is always focused on the best interests of our students and staff. Join me in celebrating School Board Recognition Month throughout January

Have a great rest of the week, and wishing you all a happy, healthy, and prosperous new year

With Aldine Pride,

Dr. LaTonya M. GoffneySuperintendent

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 13: In-person ceremony for district winners of HLS&R School Art Contest. For more information,

${\color{red} {\bf OBSERVATIONS}}$

January

School Board Recognition Month

Jan. 17: Martin Luther King Jr.

Jan. 24-28: Holocaust Remembrance Week

Black History Month

Feb. 7-11: National School Counseling Week

Feb. 18: Student Holiday; Staff Development/Work DayFeb. 21: Presidents Day (Student Holiday)

Feb. 22: School Bus Drivers Appreciation Day

 $\textbf{Feb. 25:} \ \textbf{Wellness Day} - \textbf{Theme is}$ Love Your Heart Month

ALDINE ISD COVID-19 UPDAT- $\underline{\mathbf{ES}}$ The district leadership team is 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. We want all our students healthy, learning, and thriving in our classrooms. I ask for your continued $% \left\{ \mathbf{r}_{i}^{\mathbf{r}_{i}}\right\} =\mathbf{r}_{i}^{\mathbf{r}_{i}}$ support as we tackle the Omicron

Face Masks: As we have done throughout the pandemic, we will continue implementing COVID mitigation protocols. While we had hoped to lift the mask mandate after the midwinter break, we decided to maintain the mask requirement until further notice with



rising numbers of COVID-19 cases in the Houston area. The district will require students, staff, and visitors to wear face masks at all district facilities - schools, buildings, facilities, and school buses - and

Symptoms: We strongly encourage you to please keep your child home if they have COVID or any other communicable disease (.e.g. flu, whooping cough, measles, chickenpox) symptoms. Have your child tested if you suspect it is COVID-19. Here is a link to our Health Alerts web page regarding when to keep your student/child home.

Reduce Spread of Any Communicable Disease: Please continue to protect yourself and others by taking precautionary measures to prevent infection of all viruses, including COVID-19: wash your hands often, cover your coughs and sneezes and keep a safe distance from others

Protocols: Our district administrative leadership team has been, and is, in constant communication. Based on CDC recommendations, we updated our protocols and guidelines. Our COVID reporting proce dures have not changed. We will continue to monitor local and school cases to further adjust health and safety protocols as appropriate.

District Dashboard: Families can always check the COVID-19 dashboard for an overview of the active cases by school.

Testing Sites: Please get tested if you exhibit symptoms or have been exposed to someone with the virus, or have been with groups of people over the holidays and/or traveled. Click here for a list of testing sites and to register online.

Vaccinations: The district continues to work with local officials, including Harris County Public $Health \ (HCPH), \ to \ communicate \ the$ availability of the COVID-19 vaccine. The COVID-19 vaccine is available to individuals five and older. On January 3, 2022, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) expanded the emergency use authorization for Pfizer's COVID-19 booster vaccine in adolescents from 12 to 15 years. Booster doses are now available to everyone in the country over the age of 12. The FDA also shortened the time to receive the booster after completing the two-dose schedule. It went from six months to five months, at which point all people over the age of 12 are eligible for a booster shot. The FDA also authorized the third dose as part of the primary series for certain immunosuppressed children between 5 and 11.

REMINDERS

Aldine's Family and Community Engagement Department launched the Family and Community University. It 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 all students' safety and academic success. The district will post all information related to operations along with any updates at www.aldineisd.org/healthalerts

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



Ceremony for District Winners of HLS&R School Art Contest set for January 13

Selected artworks advance for auction at the 2022 RODEOHOUSTON®.

Ceremony for student winners of the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo (HLS&R) School Art Contest on Thurs-

2022 HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW &

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13 THE EVENT RUNS FROM 5:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.; AWARDS CEREMONY STARTS AT

6:00 P.M. M.O. CAMPBELL EDUCATIONAL CENTER — FOYER (UPSTAIRS) 1865 ALDINE BENDER RD. • HOUSTON, TX

The district strongly encourages wearing face masks, especially for unvaccinated individuals, to minimize the spread of the coronavirus

Aldine ISD and other Houston-area school districts host district-level competitions each year. The HLS&R School Art Committee visits participating districts to judge entries. District-level winners and students advancing to the HLS&R competition will be announced on January 13.

Each entry receives a red, white, or

blue ribbon. Judges select the Best of Show, Gold Medal, and Special Merit and Learning link.

The district will host a Virtual Awards Awards from the blue-ribbon group. Judges choose winners in elementary, junior high, and high school levels. All work by high school participants is eligible for the Show's School Art Auction. The HLS&R recently rescheduled their event from March to May 2021.

The Mission of the HLS&R School Art Program is to promote an awareness of agriculture, Western Heritage, and Show ac tivities through artistic competitions for area students. The subject matter for all artwork entered in the School Art Program must be Western Art, which is defined as art that depicts the West's heritage, life-style, and landscapes, both historical and

present day.

Hosted by Aldine ISD's Visual Arts Department, Kaileigh Newman, director of visual arts, invites families, staff, and community members to attend the in-person

ceremony to support students.

HLS&R will hold an Awards Ceremony in March. RODEOHOUSTON® runs Feb. 28-March 20, 2022.

For any questions, please use the Let's Talk two-way communication platform Submit your questions to the Visual Arts Departments by clicking on the Teaching

Teague Middle School Counselors Offer Community Webinar on Mental Health & Suicide Prevention

Teague Middle School Counselors are facilitating a conversation about mental health and suicide prevention from 5:30 to 6:30

p.m. on January 13, 2022. The campus is inviting student families and community members to a webinar on suicide prevention and mental from Talk Saves Lives. Talk Save Lives is a 45-60minute education program that provides participants with common risk factors, how to spot warning signs, and how to keep those in our community safe.

Topics covered include:

Scope of the Problem: The latest data on suicide in the U.S. and worldwide Research: Information from research on what causes people to consider suicide, as well as health, historical, and environmental factors that put individuals at risk

Prevention: An understanding of the protective factors that lower suicide risk, and strategies for managing mental health and being proactive about self-care

What You Can Do: Guidance on warning signs and behaviors to look for. and how to get help for someone in a suicidal cri-

Register for the virtual

AEF, Lone Star Foundation Receive \$20,000 From AISD

During the Dec. 14 Trustees meeting, Aldine ISD provided \$20,000 to the Aldine Education Foundation and the Lone Star College Foundation. Both organizations support Aldine ISD students with much-needed scholarships to help them pursue their dreams. AEF Director **Linda Flores-Olson**, and AEF Board Members Dr. Charlotte Davis and Stacey Smith received both $checks \ on \ behalf \ of \ the \ two \ organizations.$ "The Aldine Education Foundation is a ear-old nonprofit that has worked hard to build an endowment valued at

\$1.5 million for our students, and another endowment for Aldine ISD students to attend Lone Star College, valued at \$2.2 million," Flores-Olson said. "We are grateful for the past and current AED board members and staff who have made this incredible achievement possible for our beloved students in AISD. We want to show our appreciation for the work AEF has done and ensure that this important work continues. Aldine ISD is making a gift of \$10,000 to the scholarship fund, and another \$10,000 for Aldine ISD students to attend Lone Star College.

Teaching, Leading and Learning **Department Recognizes School Nurses**

During the Dec. 14 Board meeting, Chief of Schools Dr. Katy Roede recognized Aldine ISD's school nurses during the Teaching, Leading, and Learning Department's presentation. She introduced the district's five Lead Nurses, chosen based on their outstanding performance and dedication to their jobs. The district's five Lead Nurses are Ingrid Pool of Hill Elementary School Vickie Jones-Williams of García Middle School, Erika Young of Carroll Elementary School, Theria Malone of Reed Academy, and Patricia Pérez from Oleson Elementary School. AISD's Lead Nurses continue their daily duties plus take on extra tasks of performing district training, meetings, and assisting other nurses with daily concerns, clinical care. and other tasks. The Lead Nurses work

closely with the district's Director of Health Services to review, revise, and write policies/procedures to bring the health services guidelines/policies up to date. Their future focus will be on a plan to reduce the district's immunization delinguencies, continue to encourage students and staff on COVID-19 precautions, be trained on the new Electronic Medical Record (EMR), and effectively train their fellow nurses. "School nurses inspire students, staff, and each other to take ownership of their physical, mental, and social well-being," Dr. Roede said. "They connect with their peers by letting them know that they are available as a resource when needed. They assist in providing ongoing training for new nurses to ensure they are able to meet the expected standards of Al-

FACE Recognizes Community Partner TNTP

Dr. Martha Escalante, Executive Director of FACE (Family And Community Engagement Department), recognized TNTP, one of FACE's community partners, during the Dec. 14 Board meeting. TNTP is a professional learning partner that supports the district's Teaching, Learning, and Leading Department and the School Office Department on curriculum implementation. But they also as-

sist FACE by being involved in several initiatives by offering parent-training sessions and have provided donations and other resources to FACE. **Kristen** McQuillan from TNTP contacted Dr. Escalante to learn more about FACE and what the company could do to help. TNTP was represented by Gerald Boyd, Ginny Johnson, and Reginald Hutchins at the Dec. 14 Trustees meeting.

OPINION PAGE

Tribute to Betty White



BETTY WHITE 1922-2021

"Betty White Goes Wild!" (PG) — Everyone's favorite nonagenarian comedic actress would have reached 100 years old this month, and Disney+ had already planned to re-release her 2013 NatGeo documentary in celebration of the milestone. Now

it's being shown in tribute to a life well lived. In the special, Betty visits two California wild animal parks and spends time learning about all the varieties of big cats. One particularly unexpected and beautiful scene captures her remarkable ability to establish a calm rapport with a roaring lion that had the rest of her crew ducking out for safety. The lifelong animal lover and advocate
was truly in her element
White's work to be rewas truly in her element in this show, and the joy the animals brought her



released as a tribute on Disney+

is what makes watching it so pleasurable. (Disney+)



with Slim Randles

Earning An Honorary Degree...

It wasn't like this idea just popped into his head all at once. Great notions often take time to fester, you know. It was like that with Windy Wilson a couple of weeks back.

Our semi-legendary cowboy, camp cook, and storyteller might have seen this coming on, but we missed the signs. There was that piece in the Valley Weekly Miracle about our pal, Doc, receiving that honorary associates' degree from Jerry Hat Trick Junior College, the one financed and named for that hockey player. Now we knew Doc had more degrees than a thermometer already and it puzzled us why he needed another one.

"Doc?" said Windy over coffee, "that new diploma thingie you got is shore 'nuf nice. Does it help you operate on folks?

Doc laughed, and so did the rest of us. "Nope. Not really. All I did was make a contribution to their new gym. This was their way of thanking me, I

"Well you know," said Steve, "this changes everything. Now, instead of calling our pal Doctor, we'll have to update it and call him Associate, I

"That's kinda long to say, isn't it? Now if we were to shorten it to just the first three letters...."

"That's not funny, Herb!"

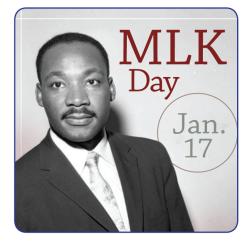
"Then why are you laughing, Doc?"

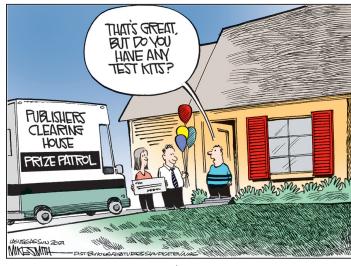
I guess we all were. Truth was, they couldn't trot out too many honors for Doc. Prince of a guy.

"You know" Windy whispered to Steve "I'd like to get one of them things my ownself. How do you do

"Windy, that's one of the goofy things about an honorary degree. If you think you deserve one, you don't get one.'

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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS **By Gary Borders**

State's Workforce surpasses Pre-Pandemic high

The Texas labor market exceeded the previous prepandemic high in February 2020 by hitting just under 13 million nonagricultural jobs in November, the <u>Texas</u> Workforce Commission reported last Friday. The adjusted jobless rate was 5.2% last month, down slightly from the previous month.

"Reaching this milestone for job creation in Texas shows the strength of our economy," TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel

The Amarillo area had the lowest unemployment rate among Texas Metropolitan Statistical Areas at 3.1%, followed by the Austin-Round Rock MSA at 3.2% and College Station-Bryan at 3.5%

Texas continues to reach unprecedented milestones thanks to our unwavering commitment to economic freedom and our young, skilled, growing, and diverse workforce, Gov. Greg Abbott said.

PUC APPROVES ELECTRIC GRID RELIABILITY MEASURES

The state Public Utility Commission last week voted unanimously to enhance both short-term and long-term reliability of the state's electric grid through what it termed "major reforms" to the state's wholesale electricity market.

"In prior years, any single one of these changes would have been considered significant. Taken together, they are a generational shift in the Texas electricity market," said Peter Lake, PUC chairman. "This (is) a move away from the crisisbased business model we have operated under for the past two decades. This liability."

Some of the major changes:

· Changes in the mathematical formula used to price electricity when reserves become scarce. The change will provide earlier price signals to add additional generation of power and for large consumers to reduce demand.

 Increasing incentives for large consumers to cut usage when the grid needs additional power.

· New or revamped ancillary services that increase the capacity for generators to react to sudden swings in electricity supply and demand.

Phase two of the process will provide "long-term incentives for investment in reliable power generation infrastructure to ensure Texas will have the power the state's needs for decades," according to the news release.

COUNT OF FATAL JOB **INJURIES FOR 2020**



RELEASED

A total of 469 people working in Texas died in work-related incidents in 2020, according to the Texas Department of Insurance. That is a 23% decrease from 2019. The state's incident rate for fatalities was 3.9 per 100,000 full-time employees in 2020, while the national incident rate stood at 3.4.

The construction industry accounted for 27% of the fatalities, with 127 incidents, according to TDI. Fatalities in the transportation and warehousing industries had the second highest, accounting for 20.4% with 96 people killed. Natural resources and mining recorded the third-highest number with 54 fatalities, or 11.5%.

RAISING THE BAR FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

The Commissioner of Higher Education said last reek the state is raising the bar for higher education. In an address before nearly 200 higher education leaders. Harrison Keller released "an ambitious vision for higher education," according to a news release from the <u>Texas Higher Educa</u>tion Coordinating Board.
The updated strategic

plan for the state's higher education system includes: Adding a new goal for

35- to 64-year-olds who need new skills to compete in today's economy.

• A broader range of postsecondary credentials of value to fit workforce

· The goal of students having no college debt or at least a low, manageable debt A greater focus on re-

search and development to drive innovation. • Renewing the state's commitment to advancing

degrees and certificates. Keller called the present time "the greatest opportunity since the end of World War II to make an impact in higher educa-

equity for all Texans to

complete post secondary

"As we emerge from the global pandemic, we arrive at another defining moment in history," he said. "In Texas, the window of opportunity is open for us

to work together to advance and enhance this vision for higher education and enrich the lives of generations to come.

VACCINE BATTLE MANDATE LIKELY HEADED TO SUPREME COURT

The fight over a federal COVID-19 mandate for companies with more than 100 employees is likely headed to the U.S. Supreme Court after the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overruled a lowercourt decision that had paused the mandate nationwide. The mandate from the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration is now scheduled to take effect Jan. 4.

Republican state attorneys general in 27 states, including Texas, are suing OSHA over the mandate, joined by conservative groups, business associations and individual businesses, <u>The Dallas</u> Morning News reported.

The Biden administration issued a statement after the appeals court ruling: "Especially as the U.S. faces the highly transmissible Omicron variant. it's critical we move forward with vaccination requirements protections for workers with the urgency needed in this moment.'

Meanwhile, Abbott announced last week that he had sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin reaffirming the state would not enforce the mandate on members of Texas National Guard.

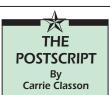
"The state of Texas will not enforce this latest COVID-19 vaccine mandate against its guardsmen," Abbott said. "If the federal government keeps breatening to defund the Texas National Guard, I will deploy every legal tool available to me as governor in defense of these American heroes."

The number of new cas es of COVID-19 reported last week stood at 36,508, according

the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University, down slightly from the previous week. while deaths rose to 478.

The number of law-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations totaled 3,117 on Sunday, virtually unchanged from the previous week, according to the Texas State Department of Health Services.

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



Stringing Lights

I walk around my neighborhood later in the evening these days, mostly so I can see the lights.

There are some impressive houses just a mile or so away, and I walk down the sidewalks and see what has appeared on the lawns and in the windows now, right before Christ-

Some of the houses clearly had outside assistance. There are lights hung in places that only a cherry picker could reach. One house had four such enormous trees in a row, all in uniform white lights, until the top half of one of them went out (which completely spoiled the look) and all four trees have been dark ever since.

I see florist vans parked outside some houses as elaborate arrangements of pine and birch and colored berries are delivered. The result is splendid, if a little predictable. Some houses have an electric candle in every window—and there are a lot of windows. Some have put a lit Christ-mas tree in the attic window. One house has matching trees shining out of two windows on the second floor, decorated in brilliant red lights. It's a

stunning sight.
But the thing that stopped me in my tracks the other night was a single small tree and a woman stringing lights just before Christmas.

It was dark, and I was across the street. The house was large and old and on the porch was a skinny tree—a live Christ-mas tree—and there was a woman stringing lights around it. The woman was also old. Her movements were slow, and I could see she was a little bent over. But she was determined to decorate this little tree, standing to the side of her front door, and I watched as the lit bulbs were wound with infinite care around the narrow tree frame.

Progress was slow. But it was a warm night and the action, for some reason, transfixed me. The woman had large golden bulbs wound around the center of the tree from the bottom to the top, and now she was winding smaller golden lights around the exterior of the branches. The lights were nested densely to gether, and it looked as if the tree was ablaze with warm yellow light. It was the only decoration in the front of her big house, and I could tell she was deter-mined to get it exactly right. And, by the end, it was. Her little tree, covered in golden lights of different sizes, was this small, per-fect thing, blazing from her porch, visible up and down the street.

Something about that tree made my heart hurt.

I wanted to tell that woman how much at leas one passer-by appreciated her small, bright tree, and how I knew how long and hard she'd worked to get it right. I wanted to tell her that, while the season is short, I will enjoy her tree every time I walk by it, and I will remember it long after it is taken down.

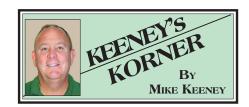
But it was more than that.

I wanted to be like that woman who did this one beautiful thing so well. I wanted to be like her tree that shone so brightly from the porch, creating a sort of magic that stopped me on the sidewalk. I wanted to lift someone's spirits in the way that tree lifted mine and be a reminder of the small, bright things that fill our lives if we only stop long enough to enjoy

But the best I can do is to tell you about it. And so

Till next time,

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



NORTHEAST NEWS' DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF YEAR

Huff lets his actions do his talking for him

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and fast safety. Huff has garnered interest from Baylor, Colorado, the University of Texas-San Anto-nio (UTSA), Illinois and Utah. If he has a big senior season, Slater believes he could be sought by other schools as well.

Slater said Huff has the tools to play at the next

"He's a down hill player," Slater said. "He knocks people back when he hits them. He's a thumper.'

Huff has started in the Nimitz secondary since he was a sophomore and is dedicated to his craft.

"Cory really got better as we worked through COVID," Slater said. "He

was here everyday working in the weight room. He's a hard worker and a student of the game. Football is very important to

Huff also has good speed, (Slater says he's "super fast.") and that could be because he also runs track and plays basketball. Huff is definitely a good athlete.

In the Cougars' 38-31 win over Eisenhower, Huff $had\ perhaps\ his\ best\ game$ of the season with 10 solo tackles and four assists. He did a good job of containing one of the District 14-6A's best offensive players in Ike wide receiver Ryan Niblett, the 2020

Northeast News' Offensive Player of the Year.

"He shut Niblett down, and that's saying something. Cory ran with him all night and went toe-totoe with him."

While he isn't the most vocal player on the team, Slater said he expects Huff to be one of the team leaders his senior year.

"Cory is a smart kid, and he picked up our defense really well as a sophomore," Slater said. "He will be a team leader for us next year. He doesn't talk a lot and he leads by how he plays.

And that says it all!

Aldine ISD Mask Requirement to Remain in **Effect Until Further Notice**

Due to an upward trend in local COVID cases, Aldine ISD has determined that its mask requirement will remain in effect until further notice. Upon return from the holiday, the district will continue to require students, staff, and visitors to wear face masks at all district facilities and events.

Superintendent LaTonya M. Goffney said that all pandemic-related decisions are based on the data and facts available to Aldine ISD, and the district will continue to prioritize safety while never sacrificing learning.
"Since the beginning of

the pandemic, every decision we have made has been for the safety and well-being of our Aldine ISD community," she said. "We will continue to adjust our protocols as appropriate and are confident that we will get through this pandemic together. Please continue to protect your-self and others by taking

precautionary measures to



prevent infection of all viruses, including COVID-19: wash your hands often, cover your coughs and sneezes and keep a safe distance from others."

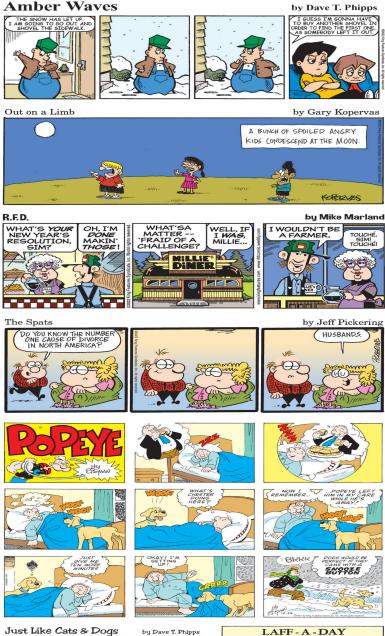
While the COVID-19 vaccine is not required, the district encourages all eli-gible students and staff to get vaccinated. AISD will continue to work with community partners to help ensure the community is educated and has access to testing and vaccines.

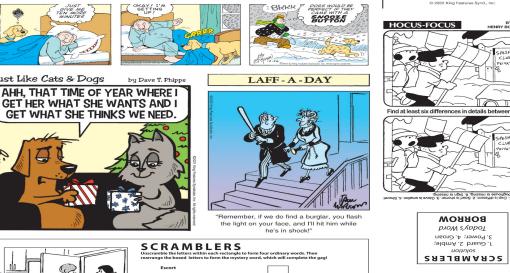
The district will continue to monitor local and school cases to further adjust health and safety pro-

tocols as appropriate. Aldine ISD's COVID-19 dashboard will also continue to be updated daily with active lab-confirmed cases of Aldine staff and students who have been in district schools and facilities. District health and safety protocols can be found on the Health Alerts page. Harris County provides COVID-19 Testing Centers to meet the needs of the communi-

Aldine ISD will resume testing for COVID-19 at select campuses on Janu-

ENTERTAINMENT







January 3, 2022 Posting Date

King Crossword														
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44 Idle or Clapton 48 Khan title 49 Close

DOWN

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Brothers song
5 Supernatural
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Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle 5 1 8 3 in the northern hemisphere? 3. LANGUAGE: What does the Latin phrase 'persona non grata' mean? 4. U.S. STATES: Which state's flag is 3 8 the only one currently that is two-sided? 5. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Wha was the first animal to appear on a U.S 2 8 9 2 coin? 6. FOOD & DRINK: How many herbs and spices are in the original recipe of Kentucky Fried Chicken? 7. MOVIES: How many movies did Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire make

7

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆



CryptoQuip

VID LMBULJSDE VIZED TAXE TJHD VIDSEDPHDE JFD ZU, WAV VIDX SZAPG IJHD WDDL IJLGPDG WDVVDF





Solution time: 21 mins. - King Crossword

меекіл зпрокп

Harris County Reports First COVID-19 Omicron **Related Death**

Houston - Harris County Public Health (HCPH) is reporting the first COVID-19 Omicron-variant-associated death in the County.

The death reported this afternoon was of a man between the ages of 50-60 years old who was unvac-cinated and had been infected with COVID-19 previously. The individual was at higher risk of severe complications from COV-ID-19 due to his unvaccinated status and had underlying health condi-

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the pa-tient's family, and we extend our deepest sympathies," said Barbie Robinson, HCPH Executive Director. "This is a reminder of the severity of COVID-19 and its variants. We urge all residents who qualify to get vaccinated and get their boost-er shot if they have not already.'

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have reported that the Omicron variant is widespread. There is still a lot of unknown information about the Omicron

variant, though this case has been confirmed through additional testing that may not reflect the total number of cases in

our community. Variants are mutations or changes to the genes of the original virus and there are currently several notable COVID-19 variants in the U.S. The Omicron variant was first identified in South Africa in November 2021 and currently is a concern for public health.

HCPH recommends all individuals five years and older get vaccinated as soon as possible. To be protected against all current COVID-19 variants, including Omicron, individu-als must be fully vaccinated and get a boost-er shot when they are eligible. Being vaccinated provides the best protection from developing complications or death resulting from COVID-19.

To find a HCPH vaccine site near you, click here. If you prefer to make an appointment, go to vacstrac.hctx.net or call

COMMUNITY WATCH

FATAL STABBING 179 Aldine Bender Road

Houston police are investigating the fatal stabbing of one male and the stabbing of another at 179 Aldine Bender Road about 1:35 a.m. on Sunday (Nov. 28).

The identity of the deceased male, 34, is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences. The other male was transported to an area hospital with what are believed to be non-life threatening injuries.

HPD Homicide Division Detectives L. Kauffman and A. Hernandez reported:

Officers were dispatched to a stabbing at a restaurant at the above address and located an unresponsive male and another wounded male on the ground outside the business. Paramedics pronounced one of the men deceased and transported the other to a hospital. Both males had sustained multiple stab wounds.

Anyone with information in this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS.

Fatal Crash, Cyclist killed at **7500 Northline Drive**

Houston police are investigating a fatal crash that occurred at 7500 Northline Drive about 12:20 p.m. last Friday (December 10).

The identity of the male victim, 65, is pending notification to family members by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.

HPD Vehicular Crimes Division Sergeant G. Lopez and Officer J. Wu reported:

The driver of a red Freightliner truck was traveling southbound on Northline Drive and turned west onto East Little York. At the same time, a cyclist (victim) was traveling eastbound on East Little York Road and turned south in an attempt to cross East Little York. The Freightliner struck the victim. Paramedics pronounced the victim deceased at the scene.

The driver of the Freightliner remained at the scene, was questioned and released. He consented to a blood draw and did not show signs of intoxica-

At this time, the investigation is continuing to determine who had the right-of-way at the time of

Fatal Crash at 5800 Airline Drive

Houston police are investigating a fatal auto-pedestrian crash at 5800 Airline Drive that occurred about 5:50 $p.m.\ on\ Monday\ (December\ 13).$

The identity of the male victim is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences

HPD Vehicular Crimes Division Sergeant G. Clark and Officer N. Luu reported:

A white Ford F-150 pickup truck was traveling northbound near the above address when the victim ran out into the roadway in an attempt to cross Airline Drive. A vehicle in front of the pickup braked to avoid hitting the pedestrian. The driver of the pickup truck veered to the left to avoid striking the stopped vehicle, went into the turning lane, and struck the pedestrian, who was standing in the turning lane waiting for southbound traffic to clear and continue crossing.

Houston Fire Department paramedics responded to the scene and transported the victim to Ben Taub General Hospital where he was pronounced deceased. The driver of the pickup truck, who remained at the scene, was determined not to be impaired and was questioned and released

No charges have been filed at this time, as the investigation is continuing

Suspect Arrested, Charged in **Fatal Shooting of Deputy**

Charges have been filed against a suspect arrested in the fatal shooting of a Harris County Precinct 4 Constable deputy and the wounding of two other deputies at 4479 North Freeway (North Interstate Highway 45) service road about 2:15 a.m. on October 16.

The suspect, Eddie Alberto Miller (H/m, 19), is charged with capital murder of a police officer in the 248th State District Court and attempted capital murder of a police officer and aggravated assault against a police officer in the 179th State District Court.

HPD Special Investigations Unit Detectives M. Millington, D. Hammons and M. Childs reported:

Three Harris County Precinct 4 Constable deputies were working an extra job at a bar at the above address when they were directed to a possible disturbance/ robbery in the parking lot. The deputies attempted to detain an individual related to the incident when all three of the deputies were ambushed and shot by an unknown Hispanic male armed with a rifle.

After the shooting, the suspect fled the scene. The deputies were then transported to Memorial Hermann -Texas Medical Center where one of them was pronounced deceased. A second deputy was in critical, but stable condition and the third deputy was in stable condition.

Further investigation identified Miller as the suspect in this case. On Sunday (December 12), he was arrested in the 4400 block of Williams Way Boulevard by HPD SWAT officers with assistance from Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office deputies.

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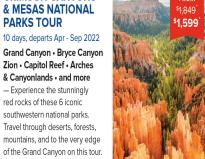
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BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey —

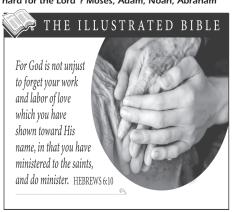
1. Is the book of Capernaum in the Old Testament or

New Testament or neither?

2. From 1 Corinthians 14, who advised young Christians to stop thinking like children? Luke, Paul,

3. For how many days did Goliath take his stand for a man to fight him? 2, 6, 10, 40

4. In Genesis 18. whom did God ask, "Is anything too hard for the Lord"? Moses, Adam, Noah, Abraham



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5. How many loaves of bread were used to feed the

5,0007 2, 3, 4, 5 6. In Mark 12, whom did Jesus accuse of devouring widows' houses? Sadducees, Midianites, Israelites, Pharisees ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Paul; 3) 40; 4) Abraham; 5) 5; 6) Pharisees

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

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Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for BQ Beer and wine license by Elote Feliz, to be located at 5129 Aldine Mail Rd Ste B, Houston, Texas 77039 Harris County, Texas. Officers of said Sole proprietorship is Roque Vega (owner).

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF SALE

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NOTICE is hereby given that at 10:00 a.m. on January 20, 2022, Harris nty Water Control and Improvement District #74 will be holding a public

A 2007 Chevy Silverado Pickup VIN:1GCHC24U77E105893 Mileage: 152,150 Miles

auction at which the following property will be sold:

The vehicle will be available for visual inspection at 9:00 a.m. on January 20, 2022. The Inspection period will close at 9:45 a.m. and following the close of the Inspection period BIDDING will begin at 10:00 a.m. where the vehicle will be sold to the highest bidder for cash or certified funds. If certified funds are used the vehicle will not be delivered until the funds have cleared the bank.

Malcolm D. Dishongh, Attorney for Harris County Water Control and Improvement District No. 74

02-2t

NORTHEAST 🖈 NEWS Pick-up Locations

Jed's Hardware & Paint 5415 Aldine Mail Rt Greenspoint Mall Greenspoint Drive Lone Star College - Greenspoint 250 Sam Houston Pkwy E. Lone Star College - East Aldine Aldine Mail Route Baker Ripley

Lone Star College - East Aldine Aldine Mail Route Baker Ripley
3000 Aldine Mail Route East Aldine District Office
5333 Aldine Mail Route RED SOX
3000 Aldine Mail Route RED BOX
2014 East Route Mail Route
214 Airline Drive
214 Airline Brive
214 Airline Brive
215 Aldine Mail Rt
MacArthur High School
Aldine Mail Rt
High Meadows Branch Library
4550 Aldine Mail Rt
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3945 Little York
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216 Little York
217 Prosperity Bank Aldine
21906 Aldine Bender
Mobile Station
2140 Eastex Freeway
225 Eastex Freeway

Texaco Food Mart
9225 Eastex Freeway
Conoco
11219 Eastex Freeway
Handy Plus #69
11420 Eastex Freeway
Hartz Chicken
12231 Eastex Freeway
Beasley Tire
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Aldine ISD Celebrates School Board **Recognition Month This January**



- Paul Shanklin, Rose Avalos, Conception 'Connie' Esparza, Dr. Kimberley Booker, Dr. Viola M. García, Randy Bates Jr., and Steve

January is School Board Recognition Month, and Aldine ISD is honored to celebrate its Trustees for their dedication and commitment to the district's schools and students. This year's theme is Rising Above.

"Our school board members are selfless volunteers who spend long hours working to ensure all of our students have the opportunity to learn and grow," Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney said. "Celebrating School Board Recognition Month is one way to say thanks for all they do."

School board members serve as a link between the community and the classroom. They are elected to establish the policies that provide the framework for public schools. Local school board responsibilities can be grouped into five categories:

Adopt goals and priorities and monitor success-

Adopt policies and review for effectiveness

Hire and evaluate the Adopt a budget and set

a tax rate Communicate with the

community
"School boards are es-

sential to a strong public education system," Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) Executive Director Dan Troxell said. "They provide the local governance and oversight that makes it possible for school districts to serve students, including adopting policies, approving a budget, and selecting and evaluating a superintendent. It's fitting that we celebrate them in January as their leadership is key to the success of every school district in Texas.'

The 2021-2022 budget is $$650,216,\ 641.$ Aldine ISD has more than 62,000 students, nearly 10,000 employees, and 83 cam-

Board service is a volunteer effort, accepted by only a few in the community. It is a tough job with no salary. It is a critically important job that requires an election and then mandated training. It is a responsibility that takes time, a mature outlook, and careful decision-

making. School board members are the largest group of elected officials in the state, numbering more than 7,000 statewide. They are farmers, doctors, business owners, retirees, and professionals. You see them in the store, at the game, and in your neighborhood. They are often overlooked, but their contributions cannot be overstated. They are shaping tomorrow

Please take a moment to recognize our Aldine ISD School Board Trustees

 Paul Shanklin, Rose Avalos, Conception 'Connie' Esparza, Dr. Kimber-ley Booker, Dr. Viola M. García, Randy Bates Jr., and Steve Mead —and honor their work to help your students sail into the future. Thank them for their work on behalf of our students and community.





We are open and here to help you move forward.

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Lone Star College students selected for exclusive Dell mentorship

Houston - Lone Star College students have been chosen to participate in Excel with Dell, an early engagement mentorship program where Dell team members are able to instruct and guide students. LSC had 24 students selected, the most of any from Dell's partnerships

"Lone Star College has long enjoyed a partnership with Dell Technologies," said Stephen C. Head, Ph.D., LSC Chancellor. "This program will provide students with real, professional guidance and the opportunity to build relationships and network with people in their desired career fields."

Selected mentees will participate in professional development events and have regularly scheduled meetings with their mentors beginning January 2022. The four-month program will be held virtually, allowing students to continue their studies at home while being instructed by Dell employees.

"I'm hoping to gain the strength, knowledge and help overall that I need to succeed in college and in my career," said Subastiana Polk, LSC Nursing student and Excel with Dell mentee. "I am grateful for the opportunity and I can't wait to share my journey with others

Dell is among the world's leading technology companies helping to transform people's lives with extraordinary capabilities. From hybrid cloud solutions to highperformance computing to ambitious social impact and sustainability initiatives, what Dell does impacts everyone. everywhere.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for students to gain firsthand knowledge about their career field of choice," said

Registration for the spring semester is underway at LSC. Visit LoneStar.edu to learn more about all the opportunities LSC has to offer.





Lone Star College students will be participating in the Excel with Dell engagement mentorship program. Pictured is Subastiana Polk, LSC Nursing student and one of the 24 LSC students selected for the program.

Lone Star College offers high-quality, -cost academic transfer and caree training education to 93,000+ students each semester. LSC is training tomorrow's workforce today and redefining the community college experience to support student success. Stephen C. Head, Ph.D., serves as chancellor of LSC, the largest institution of higher education in the Houston area and has been named a 2021 Great Colleges to Work For® institution by the Chronicle of Higher Education and ranked 35th in Texas in the Forbes 'America's Best Employers By State' list. LSC consists of seven colleges, seven centers, eight Workforce Centers of Excellence, Lone Star Corporate College and LSC-Online. To learn more, visit LoneStar.edu.

