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NORTHEAST NEWS

Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 45 Years
VOL. 46, NO. 5 TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2022 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

Vigil for Fallen Deputy



HCSO Deputies at East Aldine District. See page 2

NEWS NOTES

\$500 to \$1000 gift cards to those who vaccinate

Houston Health Department is launching a \$1,000 COVID-19 vaccination incentive program, or Hundreds of people can get a chance at \$50 gift cards.

HOUSTON – The Houston Health Department is launching a new program to encourage more Houstonians to get vaccinated against COVID-19. The 6-week initiative will award 12 people \$1,000 gift cards and provide \$50 gift cards to hundreds of additional people.

People who get their first dose or booster shot at eligible health department vaccination sites between January 29 and March 10, 2022, will be entered into drawings for \$1,000 gift cards. Two \$1,000 winners will be selected on Fridays starting February 4 for a total of 12 winners over six weeks.

Fixed vaccination sites eligible for the \$1,000 incentive program are:

Acres Home Multi-Service Center, 6719 W. Montgomery Rd.

Hiram Clarke Multi-Service Center, 3810 W. Fuqua St.

La Nueva Casa de Amigos Health Center, 1809 North Main St.

Magnolia Multi-Service Center, 7037 Capitol St.

Northside Health Center, 8504 Schuller Rd.

Sharpstown Health Services, 6201 Bonhomme Rd.

Southwest Multi-Service Center, 6400 High Star Dr.

Sunnyside Health Center, 4605 Wilming-ton St.

Fixed vaccination sites closed at 11:30 a.m. on the second Wednesday of every month.

Many of the department's pop-up vaccination sites are also eligible for the \$1,000 incentive program. Weekly schedules listing eligible pop-up vaccination sites are available at houstonhealth.org or by calling 832-393-4220.

Once a person is entered into the pool for the \$1,000 drawings, their name will remain in

Continued. See Vaccinations, Page 2

Aldine ISD cancels Friday classes for next 3 weeks

'Educators are feeling overwhelmed'

HARRIS COUNTY, Texas — Students of Aldine ISD will be given an unexpected break the next three weeks. The district's superintendent announced that Aldine ISD's board has approved an adjustment to the 2021-22 academic calendar.

Starting Jan. 28, and for three straight Fridays, the district will transition from their regular schedule to Student Holidays/Staff Planning Days. With the updated academic calendar, the three Student

Holidays/Staff Planning Days will be Friday, Jan. 28, Feb. 4 and Feb. 11.

All campus-based staff will report to their school, while students will not be required to make up the three days.

The district's move comes centered around the desire to give students a better learning experience amid issues with staff shortages and the pandemic. In an online message spelling out the change, the superintendent noted increased workloads for staff and teacher shortages due to COVID-19.

"Our teachers and staff have met challenges head-



Producing the Nation's Best

on, experiencing increased workloads, teacher shortages due to COVID and more," the superintendent wrote. "During these challenging times, we want to ensure that our teachers have the necessary time to

be fully prepared so they can provide our students with the best learning experience possible."

Parents and teachers had mixed reactions to the schedule change on such short notice. "I think it's a good idea because, with all the overload that the teachers are having to deal with right now due to the COVID situation, I think it'll get the teachers a little more organized," said parent Erica Herrera.

Some people took issue with the timing. The school board approved the change on Monday.

"It's kind of short notice for everybody to now find

out and be able to figure out what we're going to do as far as with our kids and stuff, especially the parents who work," said parent Mariah Butcher.

The union that represents teachers said the planning time is needed.

The superintendent is also asking the community to take two surveys that will be used to make recommendations to the Board of Trustees.

One survey involves how to use funds from the American Rescue Plan Act, while the other survey gives the community a chance to choose the 2022-23 academic calendar.

Walle authors New Texas law that warns renters of flood-prone properties

HOUSTON — Starting in January landlords must abide by a new law warning renters of the potential flood risk for a property.

The bill authored by Texas Representative Armando Walle was signed by Gov. Greg Abbott this summer.

"All we want to do is empower communities, empower tenants of their rights and one of those rights is a warning that this particular home was flooded in the past," said Walle.

His bill mandates landlords tell potential tenants that a property is in a 100-year flood plain and if it has flooded in the last five

years. It only applies to tenants who sign or renew a lease starting January 1, 2022. Landlords with certain raised properties in the 100-year flood plain are exempt.

"More than half of the population in Harris County, they're renters," said Walle, which means his new law will have wide-reaching impact.

The flood warning should be a written notice given to a potential renter before or during the lease signing.

Renters near Brays Bayou who have seen the area significantly flood three times since 2016 say this new law is a great pro-



tection.

"I am very happy to hear that, anything would help," said Daniel Quiroz.

"They need something like that because people have to know. It's like buying a used car, you don't

know if it's been flooded or not until you drive it," said Bob Culver.

Tammy Goodall moved into an apartment across the street from Brays Bayou two years ago.

"I've watched the bayou come all the way to the top, like literally from my apartment I could see the water, so it was very overwhelming and scary," she recalled.

Goodall wasn't here during the Tax Day or Memorial Day floods that filled the streets and homes of southwest Houston. And her landlord has never told her about the flooding risk of her apartment, located in a 100-year

flood plain.

"No, they haven't told us that, I knew nothing about that," said Goodall.

And that lack of knowledge is what State Rep. Armando Walle is trying to change.

If a renter is not given this warning with a new lease in January and succumbs to flooding, the law allows the renter to break their lease.

"If they're not given the warning, they are allowed to break the lease and recover costs for breaking that lease," said Walle.

He says this new law brings renters in line with home buyers, who already have this protection.

63rd Annual FFA Show returns with strong sales

ALDINE – The FFA held their 63rd Annual Sale of Champions last Friday afternoon, in the M.O. Cambell Center.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the format of the show and sale was modified from previous years. The sale was held in the afternoon, with a video feed for those who could not attend in person.

However, the stands were filled with eager buyers, and the animal stalls were neatly organized in a somewhat smaller area than before. Exhibitors and school staff wore face masks, and kept a distance between each other.

There were a total of 54 lots auctioned off by auc-



The Grand Champion Steer was exhibited by Kevin Hart, and purchased by the Superintendent's Group for \$12,000.

tioner Hines, and he kept the sale moving briskly, but also bringing strong bids. A preliminary total for the sale was over \$165,000, comparing favorably with previous years.

The sale also included Rodeo art earlier in the day. A complete report and more photos will appear in a future issue of this newspaper.

Killing of 16 FFA turkeys mars opening of Show

HOUSTON — The Aldine Independent School District Police Department is hoping to find the person or people responsible for stabbing and killing more than a dozen turkeys.

The district said 16 turkeys that were part of two students' Future Farmers of America project were found dead Wednesday morning. The animals were being kept at the district's barn located near Veterans Memorial Drive and Frick Road on Houston's northside. They said the other animals inside were unharmed.

The district said it's a major loss for the students who had been working on



Aldine ISD Police at the FFA Ag barn.

the projects for longer than a year. Students were planning to showcase and sell the animals at their annual livestock show.

Aldine ISD issued the following statement:

"Aldine ISD is aware that two Aldine

Continued. See FFA Turkeys killed, Page 2

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FFA Turkeys killed,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

High School FFA students’ livestock projects were attacked overnight prior to the start of the district’s FFA Livestock Show, which is scheduled to begin today. The Aldine ISD Police Department is currently investigating this incident and security measures have been put in place to protect other students’ projects. We are deeply saddened for the students whose projects were destroyed as they have worked for almost a year to raise their projects and this senseless act has denied them their opportunity to reap the benefits of their hard work. We will use all of the resources we have to identify the person or persons responsible.”

Sheriff’s deputies hold vigil for Sgt. Gutierrez at East Aldine District Bldg.

Our entire Sheriff’s Office family is grieving the sudden and heartbreaking loss of our long-time brother, Sgt. Ramon Gutierrez, and the senseless murder of Harris County Precinct 5 Cpl. Charles Galloway during a traffic stop in west Houston. And on Thursday, three Houston Police Department police officers were in stable condition after being shot near Third Ward.

This past week’s tragedies are a stark reminder of the day-to-day dangers police face on the job and the work that still must continue to improve dangerous roadways and gun violence in our communities.

Sgt. Gutierrez, a 20-year agency veteran, was fatally struck by a suspected intoxicated driver while serving as an off-duty motorcycle escort for an oversized load in northeast Harris County.

Sgt. Gutierrez was a supervisor in the Vehicular Crimes Division. He joined the Sheriff’s Office in 2002 and previously served as a detention officer, patrol deputy, and accident investigator.

On Thursday evening, we came together for a candlelight vigil outside East Aldine District in honor of his memory. Sgt. Gutierrez’s profound impact on the Sheriff’s Office was evident in the many anecdotes shared there.

\$1000 vaccination incentive,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

unless it’s selected. People may only enter the pool once.

In addition to being entered into the \$1,000 drawings, people who get their first dose or booster shot at select pop-up sites will receive a \$50 gift card until a total of 760 cards are distributed.

Sites and schedules eligible for the \$50 incentive are:

Lyons Elementary, 800 Roxella St, 77076
January 29, 2022
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Benavidez Elementary, 6262 Gulfton St, 77081
February 5, 2022
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Brookline Elementary, 6301 S Loop E Fwy, 77087
February 12, 2022
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

The program is a partnership

with Houston in Action and Human Age Digital, which received \$50,000 in grant funds to support efforts to increase vaccination rates in Houston.

Participants must sign a declaration affirming eligibility for the program, and verification will occur using the Texas immunization database.

People ages 5 and up are eligible for the Pfizer vaccine, while people ages 18 and up are eligible for the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines. In addition, booster shots are available to people ages 12 and up.

Getting vaccinated or tested for COVID-19 at health department-affiliated sites is free and does not require proof of residency, citizenship, or insurance.

Sheriff’s deputies search for hit and run driver in pedestrian death on Lillja

HARRIS COUNTY – The Harris County Sheriff’s office is asking for the public’s assistance in finding the driver responsible for hitting and killing a woman in North Harris County.

Family and friends identified the victim as 23-year-old Rosa Cruz.

“I still feel like it’s really unreal to me and I’m pretty sure to everybody,” said friend Juan Pena.

HCSO investigators said Cruz was walking in the 15500 block of Lillja at about 10 p.m. on January 22nd when they believe a 2016 to 2018 GM Sierra Pickup struck her and failed to stop and render aid.

ROSA CRUZ

Authorities say Cruz died at the scene.

“She’s one of those people that would take care of anybody before she put herself first,” said friend

Codi Zapata.

Friends and family have since put up a makeshift memorial at the location of the crash and are asking for anyone with information to come forward.

“I would tell you to please come forward it would help a lot,” said friend Stephanie Rodriguez.

If you would like to help the family with funeral expenses during this difficult time you can visit:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/rosa-cruz-funeral-expenses-and-memorial>

Apartment fire on Greens Road

Houston Fire Department reports an Apartment Fire on January 22, 2022 at 8:49 a.m. at 400 Greens Rd.

There were no reported injuries. Property saved amounted to \$250,000 in estimated property. There was \$55,000 in estimated damage.

Cause of the fire was Failure of equipment or heat source (initial cause) Firefighters arrived on

scene within four minutes to find smoke coming from a 2-story apartment building. The fire was found in the ceiling space where furnace was located and had extended into floor joist space and duct work. Crews extinguished the fire and contained it to the joist and walls of the one unit.

About two hours prior, HFD responded to a small

fire caused by an overheated or malfunctioning heating unit in the same apartment. It appeared this fire was caused by a possible rekindle from the earlier incident.

The American Red Cross was contacted to assist the residents. Crews from Stations 84, 64, 11, 31, 74, 30 and the Aldine Fire Department responded to this incident.

Fatal crash at 12400 North Freeway

Houston police are investigating the fatal crash that occurred at 12400 North Freeway (North Interstate Highway 45) service road about 5:15 p.m. on Tuesday (January 25).

The identity of the female victim, 23, is pending notification to family members by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.

HPD Vehicular Crimes Division Sergeants S. Jewell and P. Lee and Officer D. Vinton reported: The victim was driving

a blue Hyundai Accent westbound on Greens Road at the intersection of the North Freeway service road when her vehicle was struck by a black Chevrolet Volt traveling southbound on the North Freeway service road. The impact caused the Hyundai to roll over and came to a rest on the sidewalk. The Chevrolet struck a pole. According to witnesses, the driver of the Chevrolet ran the red light when it struck the Hyundai.

The driver of the Hyundai was pronounced dead at the scene. The driver of the Chevrolet, as well as three passengers inside the vehicle, fled on foot without rendering first aid. Both the driver and a passenger of the Chevrolet were detained near the scene by responding HPD patrol officers. The driver of the Chevrolet was not found to be intoxicated. No charges have been filed at this time, as the investigation is continuing.

HIGH MEADOWS LIBRARY NEWS

By Jennifer Nandal Sr Adult Program Specialist

IN PERSON PROGRAMMING:

We’ve begun a soft in person program schedule. Due to CoVid-19 regulations and library capacity, all of our programs have limited space. If you’d like to attend a program, stop by the library and ask for our February Programming Calendar. Masks and social distancing are required at the library.

TOMMY TERRIFIC:

Tommy Terrific will be at High Meadows Library on February 9th at 11am to present a magical show about the Tuskegee Airmen. The show will feature magic tricks of things that fly, from balloons to planes to rocket ships in a very fun and engaging way. Tuskegee Airmen were the first African American military aviators in the U.S. Armed Forces.

DACAMERA PRESENTS THE JALEN BAKER TRIO:

DACAMERA and HCPL present a live performance by The Jalen Baker Trio at the High Meadows Library on Tuesday, February 15th at 6pm. Featuring Jalen Baker, vibraphone; with Nils Aardahl on bass and Gavin Moolchan on drums. The members of the trio are the first emerging Houston-

based jazz musicians to join DACAMERA’s Young Artist Program, which seeks to encourage musicians to develop the skills necessary to become passionate, forward-thinking, and community-focused citizen artists. This event is presented in celebration of African American History Month.

UNO, DOS, TRES, BILINGUAL STORYTIME:

Come join us for stories, songs, finger-plays, and other fun! Presented in English and Spanish. No need to register, all ages are welcome. Bilingual Storytimes for February are scheduled for the following days and times:

February 1st at 11am.
February 3rd at 1pm.
February 15th at 11am.
February 17th at 1pm.

PAJAMA STORYTIME:

Pajama Storytime returns on February 7th at 5pm. Stop by the library in your pjs and enjoy a fun evening storytime.

STORYTIME:

Come join us for stories, songs, finger-plays, and more! Presented in English. No need to register, all ages are welcome. Storytimes for February are scheduled for the following days and times:

February 8th at 11am.
February 10th at 1pm.
February 22nd at 11am.
February 24th at 1pm.

TEEN EVENTS AT THE LIBRARY:

Join us Tuesdays at 3:30pm for Teen Central Crafting. Teens are welcome to come as you are, and have fun and be creative. We will provide all supplies needed.

Manga Express begins on February 2nd at 3:30pm for teens. Stop by and enjoy talking about all things Manga and Anime.

CAREER CONNECTIONS:

Are you looking for a job or need help building your resume? High Meadows is launching an 8-week program to help you through the job search process. Classes begin in February and space is limited. Registration is required. Call the library today and register!

COMPUTER CLASSES:

Beginning in February, we will be offering computer classes with limited seating. Classes will cover computer basics and keyboarding skills. Stop by the library or call us to register today.

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

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH MOVIE MATINEES

We are celebrating African American History Month by celebrating African American actors, directors, and characters! All ages are welcome to join us every Saturday in February at 2pm for Movie Matinees!

Feb. 5 - Black Panther
Feb. 12 - Little
Feb. 19 - Spiderman Into the Spideverse
Feb. 26 - Home
Open to all ages.

U.S. CITIZENSHIP CLASSES - FEB. 3, 10AM

Citizenship class starts on February 3rd. We meet every Thursday at 10 am. We’ll help you prepare for the civics portion of your Naturalization interview! Study Materials included. Registration is on first day of class. For more details, call 832-927-5410 or email ald@hcpl.net or visit tinyurl.com/ALDCTZ-clases.

DIG (DEVOURING INFINITE GENRES) BOOK CLUB FOR ADULTS – FEB. 5, 11AM

Meets again on Feb. 5 at 11am in the library meeting room for our discussion of our science fiction selections. We will also discuss our Fran Lebowitz interview selections for our Pages & Stages meeting.

MEDICARE & YOU - TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH 11 AM.

Join us for an informational session on Medicare.

COMMUNITY YOGA - FEB. 19, 10AM

Instructor Kevia Jones will lead a community yoga class open to all ages and abilities on Feb. 19 at 10 a.m. Bring a yoga mat or borrow one of ours. Join us! Breathe. Release. Chill. Sign up online to let us know you’re coming <https://forms.office.com/r/JNsduMnhVq> or give us a call at 832-927-5410.

GROWING READERS

HCPL has created our new Growing Readers Program to help parents with developing their child’s early literacy skills. Ranging from prenatal up to preschool, Growing Readers has created a variety of activities to help bring literacy easily into daily life.

Growing Readers focus on the 5 key aspects of early literacy: Reading, Talking, Singing, Playing, and Writing.

With our Little Bud (toddler) and Little Reader (preschool) take home kits, parents can play and create with their children while focusing on improving those 5 concepts. Kits include free board books to help jumpstart your home library!

With our age targeted Flashcard sets, these cards give parents/ caregivers quick tips and activities to try at home or on the go!

Our 1,000 Books before Kindergarten program on Beanstack will help make sure your child is reading ready come school time. Sign up on Beanstack.org to receive free board book

prizes as you reach your 1,000 book goal! Sign up early to receive an interactive sticker book to help your track your journey.

LENA

LENA Start is coming to Aldine Branch Library this spring! LENA Start is a 10-week program that teaches parents and caregivers of children 0-3 years how to “build babies’ brains” and make a difference in their future success through early talk and interactions!

Orientation is Tuesday, February 8 at 10:30 a.m. in the Aldine Branch Library Meeting Room. For more information on how to participate call (832) 927-5410 or email ald@hcpl.net.

CALL FOR LITERACY TUTORS

Would you like to be a part of making an impact on people’s lives? If you are interested in becoming a literacy tutor at the Aldine Branch Library, we want to talk to you! We are looking for volunteers to teach English language classes in person and virtually. Call 832-927-5410 or email for info: ald@hcpl.net

MICHELLE PICHON LIBRARY PROGRAM SPECIALIST
HARRIS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
ALDINE BRANCH LIBRARY
11331 AIRLINE DR.
HOUSTON, TX 77037
832-927-5410

SCHOOL NEWS PAGE

Message from the Superintendent,
January 24, 2022

Dear Aldine Community,

We strive to always do what’s best for the Aldine community and are unyielding in our commitment to our students so that they can thrive to their fullest potential. I am incredibly proud of our staff’s dedication and teamwork, especially these past weeks during the Omicron surge. I am also proud of our parents’ partnership and support in working with us by monitoring their children, reporting symptoms and cases, and ensuring we’re all working together for our students and teachers.

Our teachers and staff have met challenges head-on, experiencing increased workloads, teacher shortages due to COVID, and more. During these challenging times, we want to ensure that our teachers have the necessary time to be fully prepared so they can provide our students with the best learning experience possible.

With the Board’s approval, the district has adjusted the 2021-2022 academic calendar. **We changed three Fridays to Student Holidays/Staff Planning Days.** Students will not be required to make up the three days. All campus-based staff will report to their school.

Please update your calendars to include these Student Holidays/Staff Planning Days:

- Friday, **January 28**
- Friday, **February 4**
- Friday, **February 11**

Last week, you received an email about the **American Rescue Plan Survey** regarding Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funding. Your feedback in four areas is vital to planning and implementation efforts as we move forward, recovering from COVID-19 and utilizing the funding to make the most significant impact for our students. To take the survey, please click here.

Today, we opened the survey for the 2022-2023 academic school year calendar. I encourage you to take the survey and provide as many details as possible. Your feedback will be reviewed and used to make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees. The survey will remain open until **Friday, January 28**. The final calendar for the 2022-2023 school year will be announced in February. Click here to take the survey.

Earlier this month, the district and community honored our Board Trustees during the board meeting to celebrate School Board Recognition Month. It is fitting that the featured guest on the most recent episode of **All The Things: The Aldine ISD Podcast** is one of our Board of Trustees, Mr. Paul Shanklin. I encourage you to click here to listen as he talks about making a difference as a school board member and providing choices and opportunities for students.

Lastly, I hope to see many of you at the 63rd Annual Aldine ISD FFA Livestock Show set this week, Wednesday, January 26 through Friday, January 28. Our Future Farmers of America students put in many hours of work year after year — let’s go out to support them as a community!

With Aldine Pride,

Dr. LaTonya M. GoffneySuperintendent



- Shanklin
- February**
- Black History Month
- **Feb. 7-11:** National School Counseling Week
 - **Feb. 18:** Student Holiday/Staff Development Day
 - **Feb. 21:** Presidents Day (Traditional Calendar-Student Holiday)
 - **Feb. 21:** ADSY Schools — Ermel and Vines — Regular Day for Students
 - **Feb. 22:** School Bus Drivers Appreciation Day
 - **Feb. 25:** Wellness Day — Theme is Love Your Heart Month
- Aldine ISD COVID-19 UPDATES**
- 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 support as we prioritize safety without sacrificing learning.
- **Face Masks:** As we have done throughout the pandemic, we continue implementing COVID mitigation protocols. While we had hoped to lift the mask requirement 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 requires students, staff, and visitors to wear face masks at all district facilities — schools, buildings, facilities, school buses — and events.
 - **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 keeping 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 procedures 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, have been exposed to someone with the virus, have been with groups of people, or travel. Click here for a list of testing sites and to register online. Additionally, each campus has a testing opportunity weekly or biweekly. A parent/guardian must consent for testing.
 - **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 over the age of 12. The FDA



AISD to Extend ACE Model at Worsham and Goodman

Aldine ISD officials have announced that the ACE (Accelerating Campus Excellence) model will be extended for another two years at Goodman Elementary and Worsham Elementary. The extension will run through the 2023-24 school year.

Goodman and Worsham were designated at ACE campuses at the start of the 2019-20 school year.

Aldine ISD selected the ACE model to demonstrate what is possible. By extending ACE, the district is showing its commitment to its students to do what is in their best interests, academically and socially, especially considering the impact of the pandemic.

Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney has evidence that the ACE model school concept is working. She is excited the model will be extended for another two years.

“These uncertain times, while challenging for us all, have not diminished our commitment to providing our students with the best education possible so that they graduate from our district with choices and opportunities,” she said. “The ACE model was intended to support a positive trajectory for each student’s educational journey to help them reach their full potential. Originally a three-year commitment, the pandemic posed challenges to the program’s full implementation, and we believe additional time is needed to reach the established goals. Aldine ISD remains committed to maintaining its same academic rigor and high expectations. Therefore, we will be extending the ACE program at both campuses through the 2023-24 school year.”

While Dr. Goffney is proud that the data shows the ACE model is benefitting students, another factor excites her about extending the ACE model for another two years.

“The real measure of progress isn’t solely based on achievement data. I can see the difference when I step onto each of these campuses. When I talk to Goodman and Worsham leaders, teachers, and students, I know that they are fighting to make a difference in the lives of our students through big and small measurable actions every single day. I am grateful for everything the staff members from each campus are doing to impact our young students and inspire them to greatness.”

The ACE model, applied in several school districts throughout the state, including Dallas ISD, Fort Worth ISD, Garland ISD, and Richardson ISD, is designed to bring the most accomplished educators to struggling schools.

Even though the two campuses had to

deal with the challenge of the pandemic, the ACE model is proving to be a strong model at both Goodman and Worsham.

The following data indicates that the ACE model is working:

In year one (2019-2020), the two ACE campuses exceeded district growth at the beginning of the year (BOY) to the middle of the year (MOY) by 3-4 times in reading and math. The ACE campuses had higher remote learning engagement than other schools in the district.

In year 2 (2021-22), ACE campuses outperformed the district in reading and math, and they exceeded other schools in the district in STAAR math and STAAR reading results.

The two ACE campuses have shown a high talent retention rate among their staff, beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.

The district has decided to extend the ACE model for the following reasons:

Commitment to Equity – Extending the ACE model enables Aldine ISD to further student growth and achievement toward A/B accountability ratings and demonstrate what is possible with school-based intervention, effective leaders and teachers, and additional resources.

Leader and Teacher Development – ACE has helped leaders build instructional leadership capacity and has created teacher leaders with experience closing student gaps.

Demonstration School – ACE campuses collaborate, and their learning and best practices are then shared and implemented across the district.

Choices and Opportunities – ACE is a high-quality school option within Aldine; Students at ACE campuses are able to develop a strong foundation in both academics and character and have access to additional learning through extended day and afterschool enrichment.

The five pillars of the ACE model will continue to be implemented for the next two years. Those pillars are:

- Effective principals and teachers
- Instructional excellence
- Extended school day
- Social and emotional support
- Parent and community partnerships

LaDon Ward is the Principal of Goodman Elementary, while Jacqueline Beas is the Principal of Worsham Elementary.

For more information on the ACE program, individuals can visit the ACE Program website.

Aldine ISD earns state’s highest fiscal accountability rating for 18th straight year

For the 18th consecutive year, Aldine ISD received a rating of “Superior” under Texas’ School FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas) accountability rating system. The “Superior” rating is the state’s highest, demonstrating the quality of Aldine ISD’s financial management and reporting system. Aldine ISD received a score of 96 out of a possible 100 points.

The primary goal of the School FIRST system is to ensure that Texas public schools are held accountable for the quality of their financial management practices. The School FIRST system is designed to encourage Texas public schools to better manage their financial resources to provide the maximum allocation possible for direct instructional purposes.

The School FIRST system has 15 indicators that are evaluated. The first five indicators are critical indicators and must

be met to avoid failure. The other 10 indicators evaluate financial solvency and financial competency.

According to Alexia Rogers, Aldine ISD’s Executive Director of Finance, Aldine met the requirements of the five critical indicators. Those indicators are: filing of the district’s annual financial report within a month, the districts annual financial report was free of any instances of material weaknesses, the district was in compliance with the payment terms of all debt agreements at the end of the district’s fiscal year, the district made timely payments to the Teachers Retirement System (TRS), Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), the IRS and other governmental agencies, and the district’s total unrestricted net asset balance in the Statement of Net Position/Assets was greater than zero.

- UPCOMING EVENTS**
- **Jan. 24 – Feb. 17:** Black History Oratory Campus Competition
 - **Jan. 25:** Aldine ISD has partnered with the University of Houston-College of Education in the Community Teacher Equity Development (CTED) program. The CTED program is now recruiting community teachers of color, especially male teachers of color. Interested individuals can RSVP to join an information session on Tuesday, Jan. 25, at 4 p.m. Click here for details about the CTED program, how to apply, and how to RSVP for the session.
 - **Jan. 26-28:** The 63rd Annual Aldine ISD FFA Livestock Show will be held at the M.O. Campbell Educational Center, 1865 Aldine Bender Rd. (Houston, TX 77032). Click here for details including, the Buyers’ Luncheon, the Sale of Champions, and how to view the Show online.
- OBSERVATIONS**January School Board Recognition Month**New!** All The Things: The Aldine ISD Podcast episode with Aldine ISD Trustee Paul

open to all Aldine families. 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.

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OPINION

By Carol Alvarado



It's Past Time for online Voter Registration in Texas

The state’s chief election officer, the Texas Secretary of State, recently announced that supply chain issues have forced the state to reduce the number of voter registration card applications available for the public.

Voter registration organizations who have requested applications are only receiving a fraction of the number they request. This is inexcusable, indefensible and downright embarrassing.

New 18-year-old adults, citizens who have moved to Texas from other states, naturalized citizens and previously unregistered Texans might not be able to exercise their right to vote in the upcoming election on March 1 because of a supply shortage of voter registration cards. We are not talking about not being able to buy toilet paper—it is our sacred right to cast a vote. This is sad, tragic, laughable and happening in real time.

It didn’t have to be this way.

I have filed legislation to allow universal online voter registration every session since 2013 and I will file a bill next session. If my bill gets a hearing, I will not need to call up a panel of experts to testify why we need the bill; I will just point to the events of this past week to make a compelling case.

Online voter registration is safer, more secure and cheaper than its paper equivalent. It was first implemented close to 20 years ago in Arizona. Now 42 states and the District of Columbia allow online voter registration. This includes red, blue, purple, small and large states. Notably there have been no major scandals involving fraud or other issues that have caused states to scale back use of online voter registration.

In August of 2020, a federal court ruled that Texas was in violation of the National Voter Registration Act because the state was not giving residents the option to register to vote when they renewed their driver’s license. Texas was forced to comply and since then, 1.5 million Texans have used the online system to register to vote or change their voter registration address. We have not heard any reports from the Texas Secretary of State that this system is being abused with fraudulent registrants.

This latest episode of voting in Texas confirms the obvious. Texas is not a voter friendly state.

Last summer, I stood for 15 hours straight on the floor of the Texas State Senate to bring national attention to legislation that makes it difficult for Texans to access the ballot box. During my filibuster Texans from across the state sent me their concerns about this bill, including how difficult it would be for older Texans, veterans and those with disabilities to cast their vote. Nevertheless, Texas adopted the most restrictive voting measure of any state in the nation and we are already paying the price.

One of the provisions I spoke out against was a new requirement for voters to include their state-issued ID card number or the last four digits of their social security number on mail ballot applications. The number needs to be the exact same one a voter used when they first registered to vote—even if it was decades ago. If the number doesn’t match, then the application must be rejected. So if you used your driver’s license number when you registered to vote but then you used your SSN for the mail ballot application, you’re out of luck.

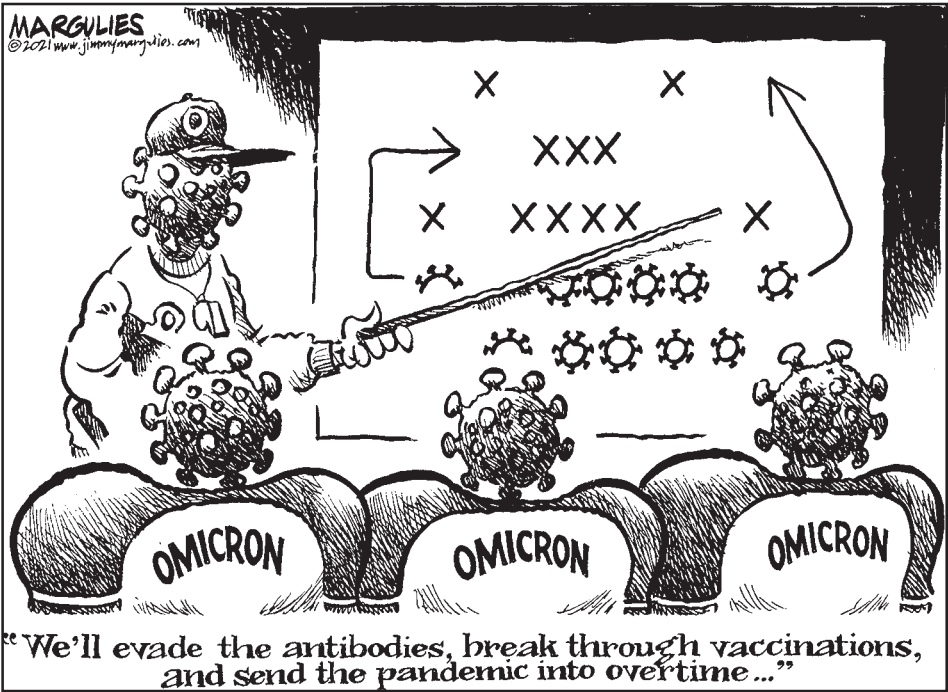
I warned that mail ballot applications would be rejected because of this unnecessary requirement. I was correct. We are now getting reports that election officials across the state have been forced to reject up to half of mail ballot applications because of confusion over what must be included on the application. What’s worse is the state has not provided a way for voters to correct their applications. We’re running out of time; mail ballots are already being sent out. It looks like the so-called election integrity legislation will disenfranchise many Democratic and Republican party primary voters.

It is no secret that those in control of state government want to make it hard for certain folks to vote. That was on full display last year during the regular legislative session and subsequent special called sessions. There is however a difference in making it harder to vote and not letting you vote.

The jig is up. Enough. Let’s join the rest of the country in the 21st century and get online with voter registration.

Senator Alvarado represents District 6 in the Texas State Senate.

EDITOR’S NOTE: *Opinions expressed here are not necessarily that of this newspaper or its staff. YOUR OPINION is welcome. Send a letter for possible publication to Grafikpress Newspapers, 5906 Star Lane, Houston TX 77057 or an email to GRAFIKSTAR@aol.com. Please limit your words to about 200. Letters will be subject to editing. Thank you.*



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STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Registration Form shortage as Deadline nears

Less than a week remains before the Jan. 31 deadline to register to vote in the March 1 primary. While Secretary of State John Scott publicly assured Texas voters that “every single eligible Texas voter will be able to register to vote if they have not done so already,” the League of Women Voters on Friday threatened to sue his office if the nonpartisan group isn’t provided with additional voter registration forms.

The Austin American-Statesman reported the league contends the state has decided to “sharply limit” the number of voter registration forms distributed to the league and other groups, claiming that is a violation of the National Voter Registration Act.

“It is crucial that the Secretary of State’s office act swiftly to provide the necessary voter registration forms for the people of Texas. The deadline to register to vote for the upcoming primary election is quickly approaching, and Texas is one of 11 states without online voter registration,” said Grace Chimene, president of the League of Women Voters of Texas.

Sam Taylor, assistant secretary of state for communications, told KUTV that supply chain issues have made it harder and more expensive to get paper, which means the Secretary of State’s office will be giving out fewer voter registration forms to groups ahead of elections this year.

“We are limited in what we can supply this year because of the paper shortage and the cost constraints due to the price of paper and the supply of paper,” he said.

Texas is one of the few states that does not have online voter registration.

LEANDER MAN CHARGED FOR THREATENING ELECTION OFFICIALS

A Leander man is the first person to be charged by federal officials in a case brought by a task force formed to combat threats against election officials. Numerous media outlets reported that Chad Christopher Stark posted a message last January on



Craigslist, saying it was time to kill a Georgia elections official.

“Georgia Patriots it’s time for us to take back our state from these Lawless treasonous traitors. It’s time to invoke our Second Amendment right it’s time to put a bullet in the treasonous Chinese [Official AJ]. Then we work our way down to [Official BJ] the local and federal corrupt judges,” Stark wrote, according to the indictment.

The three officials allegedly threatened were not named.

The Texas Tribune reported Georgia officials were especially targeted by a flood of hostile messages after they refused to back then-President Donald Trump’s claims of election fraud. Election officials across the country have faced criticism and personal attacks by Trump supporters claiming the election was stolen. No widespread instances of election fraud have come to light despite dozens of investigations.

STATE AGAIN REACHES RECORD JOB LEVEL

The Texas Workforce Commission reported last week that the seasonally adjusted state unemployment rate dropped to 5.0% in December, down 0.2 percentage points from the previous month. The state added 50,000 nonagricultural jobs last month — marking job gains in 19 of the last 20 months. The state set another record level of employment with more than 13 million jobs.

“Seeing a second consecutive month of record-setting employment, with

more than 13 million jobs, highlights the underlying strength of the Texas economy,” said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel. “This economic strength creates an environment for Texas employers to continue to create jobs and provide opportunities for the workforce in the Lone Star State.”

The state has added 694,000 jobs since December 2020.

COVID-19 CASES SET RECORD HIGH

Spurred by the omicron variant, the number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas in the past week climbed to a record 433,584, with 971 new deaths reported as well by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. Since the pandemic began in March 2020, the state has recorded 5.9 million cases and 78,055 deaths — equivalent to the entire population of Cedar Park.

Hospitalizations in Texas of lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients also continued to rise, up 36% from the previous week at 13,324, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services. That figure is approaching the record high of 14,106 set in January 2021.

PAXTON DENIES OPEN RECORDS LAW VIOLATION

Attorney General Ken Paxton denied that he violated the state’s open records law, rejecting an allegation by the Travis County district attorney that his office should release communications from the week of the Jan. 6, 2021, Capitol attack. The Dallas Morning News reported.

Five of the state’s largest newspapers filed a joint complaint after Paxton denied their open records requests. The district attorney’s office warned it would file suit if Paxton did not release the information. In a letter to the Travis County district attorney’s public integrity unit, Paxton’s office called the claims “meritless” and said there was “no violation to cure.”

Editors for the newspapers released a joint statement saying: “We believe these records are public and should be released. We hope the Travis County district attorney continues to hold the attorney general accountable for following our state’s open records laws and continues to advocate for the public’s right to know in this case.”

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

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THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

A better way

“You’ll never guess what I did!” my husband, Peter, announced.

“You’re right. I won’t.”

“I microwaved the masking tape!”

I can’t tell you how pleased he was with himself.

My husband has a hack for everything. When I buy a roll of masking tape that is good for nothing but causing intense frustration, I am willing to give it up, toss the tape, and call it a lesson learned.

“Next time, I’m buying the expensive kind!” I said to Peter, after the tape shredded into itty-bitty bits just trying to get a few inches out to secure a box.

I was packing away the last of the holiday stuff—rather late—as I am supposed to be packing for Mexico. We are leaving next week and, so far, the packing has all occurred in my head. I know what I am bringing, more or less.

Meantime, Peter has all the items he plans to pack laid out in a line that fills most of his office (aka “the brooding room”) and new unidentified items are arriving in the mail daily.

“What is that?” I ask, concerning the latest mysterious package.

“It’s a battery phone charger.”

“For when there’s no electricity?”

“Yup!”

“When will there not be electricity?”

Peter has some sort of plan in mind, and I will not be at all surprised when his battery phone charger saves the day. Peter is always thinking of a better way to do things, which brings me back to the masking tape.

“You microwaved the masking tape?” I said, not quite sure I’d heard correctly.

“I did!”

“And?”

“And now it works perfectly! It was just old. I microwaved it for 15 seconds and now look!” Peter grabbed the roll of tape and effortlessly pulled off several inches—just for fun.

“Wow.” It was impressive.

“I think you should go back to the hardware store and tell them,” Peter said. “A lot of customers could be spared frustration if they just put their tape in the microwave!”

I considered doing this for exactly two seconds, and rejected the idea. I think the guys at the hardware store might think I’m a little odd already. This would seal the deal, so to speak.

But it’s nice to have a husband who is always thinking of everything. We have every imaginable form saved to the cloud. We bring our own knives and kitchen odds and ends so we can cook wherever we are. Peter uses our departure on an extended trip as an opportunity to update his end-of-life instructions, should we both suddenly die or disappear in Mexico.

“I don’t plan on dying this trip,” I informed him.

“You should have seen how out of date the document was!” he marveled, ignoring me.

I used to think of myself as someone who was reasonably well-prepared for whatever life threw at me, but it would never have occurred to me to raise a roll of masking tape from the dead.

Today, I need to start packing. So far, my focus has been on whether I am bringing enough warm clothes to wear inside as we will start out in the mountains, there will be no central heating—and it can get chilly at night. Peter is not concerned about keeping warm.

“I’ll wear my raincoat!” he tells me. And I know he will.

Peter will keep warm and he will make sure we have what we need. After a life of mostly taking care of myself, it’s nice to rely on Peter to figure out a better way to do everything.

Till next time,

Carrie Classon’s memoir is called “Blue Yarn.” Learn more at CarrieClasson.com.

CELEBRITY EXTRA

By Dana Jackson



Q: Is Mayim Bialik still doing her sitcom, or will she become the full-time host of “Jeopardy?” I think she does the best job since Alex Trebek. - R.V.

A: Yes, I believe that as long as Bialik enjoys acting in comedies, “Jeopardy” will just have to be a part-time gig for her. Season two of her sitcom “Call Me Kat” just kicked off on Fox. She juggles her busy schedule by also hosting the syndicated game show “Jeopardy!” with Ken Jennings. Both are committed to sharing these duties



Mayim Bialik is co-host of the hit game show “Jeopardy!” Photo credit: Deposit Photos —

through the current season, which concludes July 29 of this year.

Q: I can’t believe they’re making a sequel to “A Christmas Story.” How can they possibly recapture the heart of the original when the actor who played the cranky but loveable dad is deceased? Is it going to be set in modern times? — Y.B.

A: When I first heard

that HBO Max was planning to air a sequel to the 1983 classic “A Christmas Story,” with Peter Billingsley (Ralphie), I had the same hesitation. The 1940s setting with father Darren McGavin yelling at the Bumpus’ dogs stealing the turkey was perfection. How could they possibly recapture this magic in a modern sequel? Then I read that the new film will be set in the 1970s, and I have to admit, I’m a little more hopeful. As for the plot, according to Entertainment Weekly, Ralphie, now a father, “returns to the house on Cleveland Street to deliver his kids a magical Christmas like the one he had growing up.” He greets old friends and pays tribute to the passing of his “old man.” Billingsley is no stranger to Hollywood since his child acting days. He’s become a successful director and producer. He directed the 2009 comedy film “Couples Retreat,” starring Vince Vaughn.

Free COVID-19 Boosters

January 20 & 28
February 2, 7, & 9



2800 Aldine Bender Rd. Houston, TX 77032

Eligibility:
18 years and older, and
5 months+ since 2nd Pfizer, or
5 months+ since 2nd Moderna, or
2 months+ since Johnson & Johnson

**Available by Appointment Only -
Scan QR Code Below:**



ENTERTAINMENT

Amber Waves

WE CAN'T PLAY VIDEO GAMES. MY MOM WANTS ME TO GET SOME FRESH AIR.

I DON'T GET IT. THE AIR OUT HERE SEEMS JUST THE SAME AS IT IS IN THE HOUSE.

YOUR MOM SAYS THE SAME THING. I THINK THIS IS SOME KIND OF CONSPIRACY.

WHATEVER IT IS MUST BE EXHAUSTING AS SHE ALWAYS FALLS ASLEEP WHEN I LEAVE.

by Dave T. Phipps

THE TAN VOLVO...

DOG PARK

by Gary Kopervas

...AND NOW HERE'S DAVE WITH THE FORECAST...!

NOT SURE I LIKE THIS NEW WEATHER GUY...

HE SAYS WITH ALL THE ACCESS TO WEATHER DATA WE HAVE THESE DAYS THERE'S NO REASON FOR HIM TO GET TOO DETAILED.

TODAY: BAD. TOMORROW: NOT MUCH BETTER. WEDNESDAY: SORTA OKAY. THURSDAY: KINDA SO-SO. FRIDAY...

by Mike Marland

WHAT'S BETTER THAN TED DANSON?

I GIVE UP, WHAT?

TED SINGIN' AND DANSON!!

by Jeff Pickering

POPEYE

WHAT HAVE YOU THERE, BRUTUS?

AN APPLE PIE FROM THE FOOD DEPOT

...BAKED WITH FERROUS SULFATE, MALTODEXTRIN AND SODIUM STEAROYL...

MOOCHING POPEYE WAS A WASHOUT?

A COMMERCIAL PIE? DO YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU ARE INGESTING?

...NOT TO MENTION CELLULOSE GUM?

DO YOU WISH TO CONSUME APPLES LECITHIN AND TREATED WITH SULFITES...

HYDROXYLATED LECITHIN AND HYDROGENATED SOYBEAN OIL...

ALLOW ME TO RELIEVE YOU OF THAT FOUL MESS?

GEE, THANKS, WIMPY!

...WITH WHAT I APPROACHES TO A COMESTIBLE...

by Dave T. Phipps

AS A HOMEOWNER I'M BEGINNING TO THINK THIS IS THE "CIRCLE OF LIFE."

by Dave T. Phipps

LAFF-A-DAY

"Don't even say hello to him, Evelyn—he's in no mood for it."

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Swallow

SIGNET

Maps

STARCH

Equip

REAPPER

Plod

GUDTER

TODAY'S WORD

"Mr. Principal, class teachers, distinguished audience ... I forgot my _____."

January 31, 2022 Posting Date

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Kitten's cry
4 Opera set in Egypt
8 Garden intruder
12 Eggs
13 Some deer
14 — -bitty
15 Containers for laundering
17 Appease
18 "So there!"
19 Pittsburgh pro
21 Emphasize
24 Droop
25 Chop
26 Pirate's potation
28 Yokels
32 "I've Got — in Kalamazoo"
34 Pinnacle
36 " — come back now, hear?"
37 Trifled (with)
39 PC alternative
41 Roman 151
42 " — the season ..."
44 NASA vehicle
46 Critic's essays
50 Part of DJIA
51 Send forth
52 Give a faded look to, as jeans
56 Lettuce vari-

ety
57 Think (over)
58 HBO rival
59 Sheltered
60 Between jobs
61 Layer

DOWN

1 Trim the grass
2 Actress
3 Remove by cleaning
4 Tennis legend
5 Debtor's note
6 Society new-bies
7 Admin. aides
8 Know-it-all
9 And others (Lat.)
10 Diminutive suffix
11 Color worker
16 Dinner for Dobbin
20 Corn spike
21 Excellent, in slang
22 Toy block name
23 Place
27 May honoree
29 Aftermath
30 Vogue rival
31 Thin cut
33 Beatles classic
35 Standard
38 Conk out
40 Pamper
43 Sage
45 Farm female
46 Country's McEntire
47 Actor
48 Jannings
49 Unspoken feeling
53 Unwell
54 Yon maiden
55 Sweetie

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	2			7				4
1					2			3
		8	3			9		
4				2				7
		5				8		1
		1		4			7	
5					9	4		
	7	5						6

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. LANGUAGE: In British English, what is a singlet?
2. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a mummuration?
3. MOVIES: Which 1951 adventure film features a character named Charlie Allnut (played by Humphrey Bogart)?
4. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president campaigned for reelection with the slogan, "Don't change horses midstream"?
5. HISTORY: Where did the St. Valentine's Day massacre (murder of seven gangsters and associates) take place?
6. TELEVISION: How many seasons did the original "Star Trek" series run?
7. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the basic currency used in Kenya?
8. MEASUREMENTS: What is a furlong?
9. GEOGRAPHY: What is the longest river in Europe?
10. ANATOMY: What is the basic component of hair, skin and nails?

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

1. A dog is missing. 2. Chair is missing. 3. Chair is moved. 4. The dog is different. 5. Budge is moved. 6. Arm is moved.

SCRAMBLERS

Today's Word

1. Ingest 2. Charts

3. Prepare; 4. Trudge

CRYPTOQUIP

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: C equals B

QP GFWM EGHX PTBB QX CGQVS
YGHQDM EGHXGB CM CTSX QTVVM,
YG WQSYE CG YHQQVS H CHB
YHUG BHM.

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King Crossword

Answers

1. An undershirt
2. The flight of a large flock of starlings
3. "The African Queen"
4. Abraham Lincoln, 1864
5. Chicago
6. Three
7. Kenyan shilling
8. An eighth of a mile
9. The Volga
10. Keratin

Weekly SUDOKU

Answers

1. 2 4 6 8
2. 3 5 7 9
3. 1 3 5 7
4. 2 4 6 8
5. 1 3 5 7
6. 2 4 6 8
7. 1 3 5 7
8. 2 4 6 8
9. 1 3 5 7

SPANISH PAGE

Mensaje de la Superintendente,
24 de enero de 2022

Estimada comunidad de Aldine:

Nos esforzamos por hacer siempre lo mejor para la comunidad de Aldine y somos inquebrantables en nuestro compromiso con nuestros alumnos para que puedan desarrollar su máximo potencial. Estoy increíblemente orgullosa de la dedicación y el trabajo en equipo de nuestro personal, especialmente en las últimas semanas durante la oleada de ómicron. También estoy orgullosa de la colaboración y el apoyo de los padres para trabajar con nosotros al monitorear a sus hijos, informar sobre síntomas y casos y garantizar que todos trabajemos juntos para nuestros alumnos y maestros.

Nuestros maestros y personal han enfrentado desafíos de frente, experimentando una mayor carga de trabajo, escasez de maestros debido a COVID y más. Durante estos tiempos difíciles, queremos asegurarnos de que nuestros maestros tengan el tiempo necesario para estar completamente preparados para brindarles a sus alumnos la mejor experiencia de aprendizaje posible.

El distrito ha ajustado el calendario académico. **Cambiamos los tres siguientes viernes a días de vacaciones para alumnos/días de planificación para el personal.** No se requerirá que los alumnos recuperen los tres días. Todo el personal de las escuelas se presentará en las escuelas. Maestros, acepten este regalo de tiempo para planificar y colaborar. Actualice sus calendarios para incluir estos días de vacaciones para alumnos/días laborales del personal:

- viernes, 28 de enero
- viernes, 4 de febrero
- viernes, 11 de febrero

La semana pasada, ustedes recibieron un correo electrónico sobre la **Encuesta del Plan de rescate americano** con respecto a los fondos de ayuda de emergencia para escuelas primarias y secundarias. Sus comentarios en cuatro áreas son vitales para los esfuerzos de planificación e implementación a medida que



avanzamos, recuperándonos de COVID-19 y utilizando los fondos federales de educación para lograr el impacto más significativo en el aprendizaje de nuestros alumnos. Para tomar la encuesta, hagan clic aquí.

Hoy, abrimos la **encuesta para el calendario académico del ciclo escolar 2022-2023.** Los animo a que tomen la encuesta. Sus comentarios serán revisados y se hará una recomendación al Consejo Escolar de Aldine. La encuesta permanecerá abierta hasta el viernes 28 de enero. El calendario final para el ciclo escolar 2022-2023 se anunciará en febrero. Hagan clic aquí para tomar la encuesta.

Los miembros del Consejo Escolar son voluntarios desinteresados elegidos por la comunidad. Pasan muchas horas trabajando para garantizar que todos nuestros alumnos tengan la oportunidad de aprender y crecer. A principios de este mes, el distrito y la comunidad honraron a nuestros miembros del Consejo Escolar de Aldine durante la reunión de la junta para celebrar el Mes de Reconocimiento de Consejos Escolares. Es apropiado que el invitado en el episodio más reciente de **All The Things: The Aldine ISD Podcast** sea uno de nuestros miembros del Consejo Escolar, el Sr. Paul Shanklin. Los animo a hacer clic aquí para escuchar mientras habla de marcar la diferencia como miembro del Consejo Escolar de Aldine y brindar opciones y oportunidades para los alumnos.

Por último, espero ver a muchos de ustedes en la 63.ª Exposición Anual de Ganadería de la FFA de Aldine ISD esta semana, del **miércoles 26 de enero**

al **viernes 28 de enero.** Nuestros alumnos de Futuros Agricultores de América (FFA) dedican muchas horas de trabajo año tras año; ¡mostremos nuestro apoyo a ellos!

Orgullosa de nuestro distrito,

Dra. LaTonya M. GoffneySuperintendente de Aldine ISD

PRÓXIMOS EVENTOS

- **24 de enero-17 de febrero:** Concurso escolar de oratorio de historia afroamericana
- **25 de enero:** Aldine ISD se asoció con la Universidad de Houston-Colegio de Educación en el programa Community Teacher Equity Development (Desarrollo de equidad educativas de maestros comunitarios o CTED por sus siglas en inglés). El programa CTED ahora está reclutando maestros comunitarios de color, especialmente maestros varones de color. Las personas interesadas pueden confirmar su asistencia para unirse a una sesión de información el martes 25 de enero a las 4 p.m. Hagan clic aquí para obtener detalles sobre el programa CTED, cómo presentar una solicitud y cómo confirmar su asistencia a la sesión.
- **26-28 de enero:** La 63.ª exhibición anual de ganado de Future Farmers of America (Futuros Agricultores de América o FFA por sus siglas en inglés) de Aldine ISD se llevará a cabo en el Centro Educativo M.O. Campbell, 1865 Aldine Bender Rd. (Houston, Texas 77032). Hagan clic aquí para obtener detalles, incluido el Almuerzo para compradores, la Venta de campeones y cómo ver el Show en línea.
- **OBSERVACIONES:** Enero: Mes de reconocimiento del consejo escolar**24-28 de enero:** Semana de Conmemoración del Holocausto**¡Nuevo!** All The Things: The Aldine ISD Podcast episodio con miembro del Consejo Escolar Paul Shanklin**Febrero:** Mes de la Herencia Afroamericana (EE. UU.) o Mes de la Herencia Negra
- **7-11 de febr:** Semana nacional de consejeros escolares
- **18 de febr:** No hay clases/

Día de desarrollo del personal

- **21 de febr:** Día de los Presidentes de EE.UU. (No hay clases)
 - **21 de Febr:** Escuelas en el calendario ADSY — Ermel y Vines — Día de asistencia estudiantil
 - **22 de febr:** Día de agradecimiento a los conductores de autobuses escolares
 - **25 de febr:** Día de bienestar — El tema es mes del corazón — la salud cardiovascular
- ACTUALIZACIONES DE ALDINE ISD ACERCA DE COVID-19**El equipo de liderazgo del distrito está comprometido a hacer todo lo posible para aumentar la seguridad y salud de nuestros alumnos, personal y familias mientras implementan medidas para mitigar la propagación de COVID-19 en nuestra comunidad. Queremos que todos nuestros alumnos estén sanos, aprendiendo y prosperando en nuestras aulas. Espero contar con su apoyo mientras priorizamos la seguridad sin sacrificar el aprendizaje.
- **Mascarillas:** Como lo hemos hecho durante la pandemia, continuaremos implementando protocolos de mitigación de COVID. Si bien esperábamos levantar el mandato de la mascarilla después de las vacaciones de invierno, decidimos mantener el requisito de la mascarilla hasta nuevo aviso con un número creciente de casos de COVID-19 en el área de Houston. El distrito requiere que los alumnos, el personal y los visitantes usen mascarillas en todas las instalaciones del distrito (escuelas, edificios, instalaciones y autobuses escolares) y eventos.
 - **Síntomas:** Les recomendamos que mantengan a su hijo en casa si tiene síntomas de COVID o cualquier otra enfermedad contagiosa (por ejemplo, gripe, tos ferina, sarampión, varicela). Hagan que le hagan una prueba a su hijo si sospechan que es COVID. Aquí hay un enlace a nuestra página web de Alertas de salud con respecto a cuándo mantener a su hijo en casa si se encuentra enfermo.
 - **Reduzcan la propagación de cualquier enfermedad a d a transmisible:** Continúen protegiéndose a sí mismos y a los demás tomando medidas de precaución para prevenir la infección de todos los virus, incluido

el COVID-19: lávense las manos con frecuencia, cúbranse al toser y estornudar y mantengan una distancia segura de los demás.

- **Protocolos:** Nuestro equipo de liderazgo administrativo de distrito ha estado, y está, en comunicación constante. Según las recomendaciones de los CDC, actualizamos nuestros protocolos y pautas. Nuestros procedimientos de notificación de COVID no han cambiado. Continuaremos monitoreando los casos locales y escolares para ajustar aún más los protocolos de salud y seguridad según corresponda.

- * **Panel de información:** Las familias siempre pueden consultar el panel de información sobre el COVID-19 para obtener una descripción general de los casos activos por escuela.

- **Sitios de prueba:** Háganse la prueba si presentan síntomas o han estado expuestos a alguien con el virus, o han estado con grupos de personas durante las vacaciones o si han viajado. Hagan clic aquí para obtener una lista de los sitios de prueba y para inscribirse en línea. Las pruebas rápidas COVID-19 están disponibles para todos los alumnos y el personal de Aldine ISD en el M.O. Campbell Educational Center, 1865 Aldine Bender Rd., Houston, TX 77032. Es necesario inscribirse en línea haciendo clic aquí. Además, cada escuela tiene una oportunidad de evaluación semanal o quincenal. Un padre/tutor debe dar su consentimiento para la prueba.

- **Vacunas:** El distrito continúa trabajando con los funcionarios locales, incluido el Departamento de Salud Pública del Condado de Harris (HCPH), para comunicar la disponibilidad de la vacuna contra el COVID-19. La vacuna contra el COVID está disponible para personas mayores de cinco años. El 3 de enero de 2022, la Administración de Alimentos y Medicamentos de EE.UU. (FDA, por sus siglas en inglés) amplió la autorización de uso de emergencia para el refuerzo de la vacuna de Pfizer contra el COVID-19 en adolescentes de 12 a 15 años. Las dosis de refuerzo ahora están disponibles para todas las personas mayores de 12 años en el país después de completar el esquema de dos dosis. La FDA también

redujo el tiempo para recibir el refuerzo después de completar el esquema de dos dosis. Pasó de seis meses a cinco meses, momento en el que todas las personas mayores de 12 años son elegibles para una vacuna de refuerzo. La FDA también autorizó una tercera dosis como parte de la serie primaria para ciertos niños inmunosuprimidos entre 5 y 11 años. Los CDC anunciaron el 10 de enero que los estadounidenses en riesgo (inmunocomprometidos) son elegibles para la cuarta dosis de COVID.

RECORDATORIOS

- Hagan clic aquí para ver las pautas de teléfonos celulares del distrito (actualizado en noviembre de 2021).
- El Departamento de Relaciones con la Familia y la Comunidad (conocido por su acrónimo FACE en inglés) de Aldine lanzó un nuevo programa este año escolar, Universidad de la familia y la comunidad. La misión de Universidad de la familia y la comunidad es proporcionar el conocimiento y los recursos necesarios para generar confianza y empoderar a las familias para que apoyen a los alumnos académicamente y fomentar el desarrollo de habilidades socioemocionales. Toda la programación es gratuita, se ofrece de forma virtual y en persona, y está abierta a todas las familias de Aldine. Obtengan más información e inscribirse hoy.
- El estado de Texas requiere que los alumnos del último año de la escuela secundaria (*high school*) soliciten ayuda financiera para graduarse. La solicitud de FAFSA se abrió el 1 de octubre.
- Las principales prioridades de Aldine ISD continúan siendo la seguridad y el éxito académico de todos los alumnos. Publicaremos toda la información relacionada con nuestras operaciones junto con cualquier actualización en www.aldineisd.org/heathalerts.
- **Manténganse conectados** visitando la página de Noticias del Distrito y el Podcast del Distrito para mantenerse actualizados sobre las cosas maravillosas que suceden en nuestro distrito escolar. También pueden conectarse con nosotros en Facebook, Twitter e Instagram.

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CHURCH PAGE

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey —

1. Is the book of Philemon in the Old Testament or New Testament or either?

2. From Genesis 6:14, what was another name for the natural asphalt used to caulk Noah’s Ark? Gopher, Pitch, Chimera, Helios

3. Who told Laban he had gone 20 years without a decent sleep? Adam, Jacob, Moses, Noah

4. In John 3, who said, “How can a man be born if he

is old”? Obadiah, Nicodemus, Joshua, Job


5. From Acts 13, who was called “a man after thine own heart”? David, John the Baptist, Gideon, Peter

6. Philippians 4:13 says, “I can do all things through ...”? Prayer, Belief, Deeds, Christ

ANSWERS: New, Pitch, Jacob, Nicodemus, David, Christ

Hardcore trivia fan? Visit Wilson Casey’s subscriber site at www.patreon.com/triviaguy.


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THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Job further continued his discourse, and said, Oh, that I were as in months past, as in the days when God watched over me; when His lamp shone upon my head, and when by His light I walked through darkness... JOB 29:1-3

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LEGAL NOTICE

Take Notice (MANUEL DE JESUS ENAMORADO PAZ) that a final hearing has been scheduled on **MARCH 4, 2022 at 10:15 am** to which you are a named Defendant (Case Number-2021-DR-26-2412) at the Horry County Courthouse, Conway, South Carolina.

03-3t

LEGAL NOTICE

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Northeast News is East Aldine’s Hometown Newspaper

NORTHEAST NEWS

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15 District Students Advance to Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo School Art Contest

The students will compete with peers across the Houston area at the NRG.

Aldine ISD held a reception on January 13 to announce the winners in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo (HLSR) School Art Program this week.

Judges that selected the top artwork included art teachers and the Texas Art Education board members. The selections have been taken to the NRG Arena for the next level of the contest and auction.

Students, families, art instructors, and campus and district leaders. Kaileigh Newman, AISD director of visual arts, shared that the vice president of the HoustonRodeo® School Art Contest attended “to thank us for an amazing show.”

The 15 AISD winners in the high school, middle school, and elementary school divisions will be displayed in the Hayloft Gallery at the NRG Center during the RODEOHOUSTON® season, which runs Feb. 28-March 20, 2022. RODEOHOUSTON® will hold an Awards Ceremony for the School Art Contest in March.

District Winners Advancing to HLS&R Contest
High School 3D
Best of Show



Best of Show in 3D High School Division
Melody Caniz
Campus: Eisenhower High School
Teacher: Sara Schoborg

Gold Medal
Kate Gonzalez
Campus: MacArthur High School
Teacher: DeGroot
Rosalinda Paolarez
Campus: MacArthur HS
Teacher: DeGroot
High School 2D
Best of Show

Best of Show in 2D High School Division



Wendy Córdova
Campus: MacArthur HS
Teacher: Chow
Gold Medals
Danna Santamaria
Campus: MacArthur HS
Teacher: Chow
Jennifer Gonzalez
Campus: Eisenhower HS
Teacher: Gross
Special Merit
Minh Le
Campus: Eisenhower HS
Teacher: Medina
Melanie Ramírez
Campus: Nimitz HS
Teacher: Vásquez
Alex Baltazar
Campus: Eisenhower HS

Teacher: Gross
Joselyn Toledo
Campus: Nimitz HS
Teacher: Vásquez
Monserat Maldonado
Campus: MacArthur HS
Teacher: DeGroot

Middle School Division

Best of Show Middle School Division
Best of Show



Leylah Rolle
Campus: Jones Middle School
Teacher: Kersh
Gold Medal
Lailah Graves
Campus: Aldine Young Women's Leadership Academy (YWLA)
Teacher: Herrera
Elementary School Division

Best of Show Elementary School Division



Best of Show
Jeremiah Barahona
Campus: Anderson Academy
Teacher: McMillian
Gold Medal
Evan Valasquez
Campus: Carter Academy
Teacher: López-Taylor

Lone Star College nursing students help COVID-19 health care shortage

Houston – Lone Star College first- and second-year nursing students are being recruited to assist local hospitals impacted by the overwhelming demand for health care due to the COVID-19 surge.



“Since the beginning of the pandemic, Lone Star College has been actively involved in helping our community,” said Stephen C. Head, Ph.D., LSC chancellor. “From loaning ventilators, providing COVID-19 testing and vaccination sites, and conducting face mask and food drives, we will do whatever we can to help those in need.”

U.S. Rep. Shelia Jackson Lee organized a partnership program to have first- and second-year student nurses from Lone Star College help the staff which oversees United Memorial Medical Center, Lyndon B. Johnson Hospital and Ben Taub Hospital. Currently, the greater Houston area is facing an acute shortage of nurses.

LSC has a long tradition of training qualified health care workers and recently started to offer Bachelor of Nursing degrees with its inaugural class set to graduate later this month. The LSC nursing programs offer state-of-the-art simulation equipment and laboratories, classrooms and clinical facility rotations.

“Lone Star College remains committed to providing the resources necessary to wherever it's needed and strongly encourages everyone to become vaccinated and wear a mask when on campus,” said Head.

The LSC nursing students will work in non-COVID-19 areas to allow full-time staff to attend to those suffering from the pandemic.

Visit [LoneStar.edu/Nursing](https://lonestar.edu/Nursing) to explore all the health care programs available at LSC.

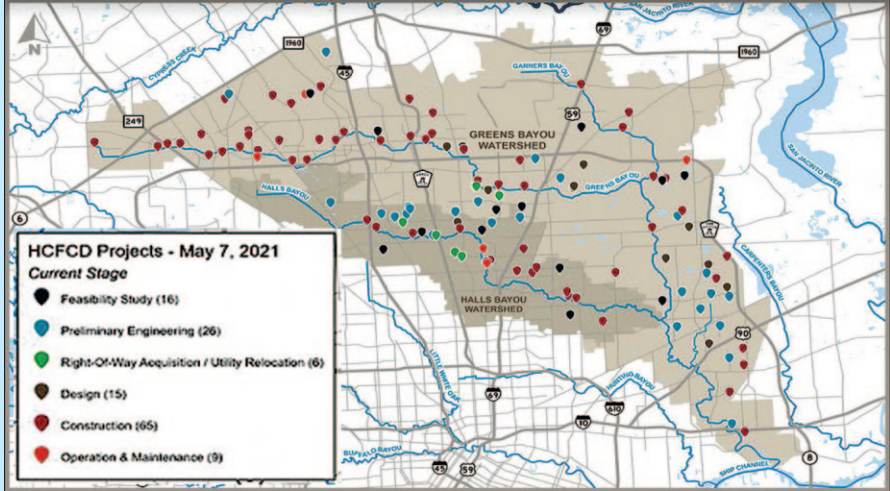


East Aldine District COMMUNITY NEWS

New Halls Bayou project may spared East Aldine from flooding

A January storm front triggered tornadoes from Spring Branch to Humble and brought an unusually high amount of rainfall for the season as area residents were kept awake overnight by severe weather alerts.

But, despite 4.16 inches of rain on I-59 near Beltway 8 and 3.92 inches of rain on Interstate 45 just north of the Beltway, there were no reports of house flooding in the East Aldine area.



Harris County officials were reluctant to say for sure that a recent major flood control project along Halls Bayou had fulfilled its promise. The \$7.9 million stormwater basin was completed in August 2021.

But long-time East Aldine resident Connie Esparza, whose home has flooded three times since 2001, said she has no doubt that the project spared the area from widespread flood damage.

“I know that it worked. There was no standing water,” Esparza said. “Nothing like that has ever happened when we’ve had so much water.”

The basin was designed to hold 65 million gallons of water in an effort to spare 300 East Aldine homes and businesses from flooding.

It is just one part of a series of complex solutions aimed at alleviating flooding throughout the Harris County Flood Control District.

The bayous “stayed within their banks,” said Jeremy Ratcliff, flood and project coordinator for the district.

“Flood control is just so complex, and we’ve still got so much work to do. The main thing is trying to get our waterways to carry storms out into the Gulf. And that’s going to take a long time,” he said.



Flood control work on Little York

Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia was relieved to hear that East Aldine residents had been spared any serious flooding from the storm.

“Reducing chronic flooding has been one of my top priorities since taking office, and remain a top priority going forward. I’m glad the project along Halls Bayou was completed last year. Every project like this one makes a positive difference, especially in rain events like the one we just had,” Garcia said.

“This is why I have been pushing to get more projects done, particularly in areas that were not previously included in the flood bond program.

“It is reassuring to hear positive feedback from East Aldine residents because they have been repeatedly impacted by flooding,” Garcia said. “There’s much more work left to do, but this project represents the kind of progress residents need to see...”

It had been classified as a sub-watershed of Greens Bayou, but in 2021 the Flood Control District designated Halls Bayou as its own watershed, making it Harris County’s 23rd.

The watershed comprises approximately 45 square miles, mostly developed with a mix of residential, commercial and industrial uses. The population of the watershed is approximately 160,100, based on the 2010 Census.

A bond issue approved by voters in 2018 includes more than \$110 million for Halls Bayou watershed work, which has the potential to leverage more than \$346 million altogether, depending on federal funding.

— By Anne Marie Kilday