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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. 11 TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2022 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

THURSDAY

St. Patrick's Day

MAR. 17

Sheriff's Storefront Office has Reopened

The Harris County Sheriff's Office Storefront at the East Aldine Town Center Building has reopened to the public. The office is located in the East Aldine District Building, on East Aldine Amphitheater Drive, off Aldine Mail Route.

La Oficina del Harris County Sheriff en East Aldine Town Center Ya está ABIERTA.

Public Safety Meeting on March 24

The East Aldine District will host the Harris County Sheriff's Office in a Public Safety Community Forum Meeting on Thursday, March 24 starting at 6:30 pm in the East Aldine District Office Building, 2909 East Aldine Amphitheatre Drive. The public is invited, please RSVP and send questions for discussion, to info@aldinedistrict.org.

Reunion de Seguridad Publilca

El Distrito de Aldine Llevara acabo el foro de Seguridad Publica el proximo Jueves 24 de Marzo a las 6:30pm en el edificio de las oficinas del Sheriff de East Aldine en el 2909 East Aldine Amphitheatre Drive. Sera abierto al publico, si desea asisitir favor de confirmar su asistencia, si desea mas informacion favor de enviar un correo electronico a info@aldinedistrict.org.

Daryle Freeman, Linda Nigro named top AISD educators

LaDon Ward, Christi Van Wassenhove are top principals

ALDINE – Aldine ISD celebrated its top teachers and principals at the Educator of the Year Breakfast, held Friday, March 11 at the Hyatt Regency Houston Intercontinental Hotel. This year's theme was "Garden Tea Party."

Aldine ISD Trustees, district administrators, campus administrators, teachers and business partners donned their best high team ware to celebrate Aldine's top educators.

Daryle Freeman of Davis High School was named the district's Secondary Teacher of the Year, while Linda Nigro of Vardeman Primary School was named the district's Elementary Teacher of the Year. Freeman is the choir director at Davis High



Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney is pictured at center with Aldine ISD's Secondary Teacher of the Year Daryle Freeman and AISD's Elementary Teacher of the Year Linda Nigro. Also pictured at left are LaShon Ormand from Amplify, and at right AISD Board member Rose Avalos and Richard Cantu, President of the Aldine Education Foundation.

School and Nigro is a physical education teacher at Vardeman Primary School.

The four Teacher of the Year finalists were Chantil Gill of Kujawa Elementary School, Jordy Rios of Oleson Elementary School, Carissa Clohessy of Drew Academy and Mackenzie Cho of MacArthur High School.

For the third consecutive year, the district also announced its Rookie Educators of the Year. Griselda Calvo of Hinojosa Primary School was named the Rookie Elementary Teacher of the Year, while Brandon Jordan was named the Rookie Secondary Teacher of the Year.

In addition, Aldine Continued. See EDUCATORS, Page 2

Authorities close Baywatch Event

ALDINE – An event hosting more than 3,000 people was shut down last Saturday night after officials from the Harris County Fire Marshal's Office said its promoter did not have a permit to have that many people in attendance.

The function took place at the Maya Lagoon Park in the 2000 block of Connovale Road in Aldine.

According to officials,

residents in that neighborhood began complaining as thousands of event-goers began flocking to the park for the Baywatch Weekend event.

Officials from the HCFMO were called and issued a stop-work order on the event. Those in attendance were asked to leave the property immediately, which caused heavy traffic

Continued. See EVENT CLOSED, Page 6

Houston FD inducts Devarjaye Daniel

HOUSTON – The Houston Fire Department is the first fire agency to induct Devarjaye Daniel to be an honorary fireman.

Fire Chief Samuel Peña and the Houston Fire Department (HFD) Command Staff were at the induction ceremony of Devarjaye Daniel (D.J.). Chief

Continued. See HOUSTON FD, Page 2



D.J. Daniel, an Aldine Stephens Elementary student, at the Houston FD swearing-in ceremony in his honor.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Women's History Month Celebration

PART 1 OF A SERIES...

By Allan Jamail

March 9, 2022 – The month of March gives us the opportunity to celebrate Women's History Month. In our today's world we're seeing more and more how women are contributing to improving the world in ways never seen before. Some call the larger roll women are now taking in the world as the "new women's movement" or "women's lib movement". Regardless of how

women have begun to be more instrumental in our lives, I welcome it.

Women's History Month, a national recognition of the vital roles women have played throughout history. This recognition began in one town in 1978 when the Education Task Force of the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women celebrated "Women's History Week" in Santa Rosa, California. The week was chosen to include International Women's Day, March 8.

The movement spread

to other communities, so in 1980 a consortium of women's groups and historians asked the federal government for recognition. President Jimmy Carter proclaimed the week of March 8, 1980 to be National Women's History Week, citing in his proclamation that the "achievement, leadership, courage, strength and love of the women who built America was as vital as

CONTINUED. SEE WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH, PAGE 6

Houston's Barbara Jordan

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH HONOR'S HOUSTON'S BARBARA JORDAN
PART 2 OF A SERIES...

By Allan Jamail

Houston, TX. – March 8, 2022; in celebration of Women's History Month Houston Barbara Jordan is recognized for her outstanding achievements in making sustainable progress as a Black Women. Jordan, a Houston native, was the first African-American woman



BARBARA JORDAN

CONTINUED. SEE BARBARA JORDAN, PAGE 6

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NEWS NOTES

BAA Zumba @ The Park and #COVID-19 on Sat. March 19

You are invited to a special Zumba Fitness session by Bonding Against Adversity (BAA) on Saturday, March 19 at James Driver Inclusive Park. Located on Bentley Street off Little York.

You can also get a COVID-19 shot on the same day.

Raffles, Speaker, and Service Providers will be present.

Registration starting at 9am. COVID-19 shots all day, from 8am to 5pm. Thanks to our sponsors, see ad below.

HCSO Citizens’ Police Academy

The HC Sheriff’s office is starting a new class of the Citizens’ Police Academy. Learn about law enforcement in person.

Apply at <https://bit.ly/315kxQM>, or call 346-286-3125. Application Deadline March 10, classes every Thursday night Mar. 31 to May 5.

Houston FD honors D.J.,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Peña swore-in and “pinned” D.J. making him an honorary member of the HFD.

The ceremony took place on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 12:30pm at the Houston Fire Department Headquarters, at 500 Jefferson Street.

D.J. is a 10-year-old boy who is battling brain and spine cancer. He has been sworn-in as an honorary officer with more than 100 law enforcement agencies and would now like to continue his many accomplishments by becoming an honorary firefighter with the HFD.

For more information on D.J.’s story please search the web using “Davarjaye Daniel”.

Educators of the Year named,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ISD’s Principals of the Year and Rookie Principal of the Year were also announced.

LaDon Ward of Goodman Elementary School was named the Elementary Principal of the Year, while Christi Van Wassenhove was named the district’s Secondary Principal of the Year. Charles Land of Nimitz Ninth Grade School was named the Rookie Principal of the Year.

The two overall winners, the four finalists and all Campus Teachers of the Year received monetary awards from the Aldine Education Foundation. Freeman, Nigro, Ward and Van Wassenhove each received two round trip airfare tickets from United Airlines.

The two winners also received gifts from Whataburger and Josten’s.

Dr. Xochitl Rodriguez, School Assistant Superintendent of High Schools, announced the Rookie Principal of the Year.

Land said it is important for him to serve as the leader and example setter at his campus.

“As the instructional leader, I must continue to learn and grow. I can’t expect others to grow and learn if I am not growing and learning,” he said. “The district’s ‘inspire’ indicator talks about recognizing potential, encouraging risk taking and supporting the growth of others. That is what I hope to do each day on my campus.”

LaTonya Amerson, School Assistant Superintendent of Middle Schools, introduced Van Wassenhove.

Van Wassenhove said she believes it is her duty to create a safe and nurturing environment at her campus for her staff and students.

“To create and foster a safe environment for my staff, I make a concerted effort to get to know each staff members so I have a better understanding of how to effectively communicate with each person,” she said. “My goal is to make everyone feel comfortable and encouraged to reflect and grow.”

Patricia Rodriguez, School Assistant Superintendent of Primary and ACE Schools, introduced Ward.

Ward said she encourages her students and staff to expand their horizons.

“We encourage teachers and students to think outside of the box and take some risks,” she said. “In order for teachers to feel safe doing that, they must feel secure and supported. Our expectation is for our staff to grow professionally, so we encourage them to apply for positions outside of the classroom.”

Dr. Javier Villarreal, Chief Human Resources Officers, announced the Rookie Teachers of the Year and the Secondary and Elementary Teachers of the Year.

Calvo began her career as a virtual bilingual teacher. Dr. Villarreal said she is poised, ambitious, professional, hard-working and an effective teacher.

Dr. Villarreal said Jordan possesses an ability to motivate his students to perform, particularly with at-risk students and student who are struggling with the English language. He fosters a safe, judgment-free space and stimulates autonomy by helping students learn how to make positive choices.

Freeman said music has always played an important role in his life and he cherishes sharing that love with his students at Davis High School.

“I was born a choir and band student,” he said. “My first students were my high school band peers. From increasing the membership of my first choir program from 76 to 150 students, to being the first choir to earn four sweepstakes ratings at UIC Concert and Sight-Reading in one year, I have accomplished many firsts in Aldine ISD.”

Nigro said she relishes the challenge of getting the most out of her young athletes.

“My greatest contribution to education as a teacher is the ability to take a group of ordinary students and train them to be amazing runners,” she said. “I think teaching physical education and coaching is a great combination. I am able to enhance learning, connect and challenge my students.”

Aldine High School senior Aaron Johnson opened the event with welcoming remarks and told the audience what a profound influence teachers have had on his life. He told the audience how thankful he was to the many teachers who helped him overcome a number of challenges.

“You comforted me, you made me feel as if I was not different. You made me feel better about my situation by providing support,” he said. “You offered me help. You prepared me so I could be strong and wide. You knew what needed to be done. So I thank God for every last one of you, because you dedicate your life to children like me and those who will come after me.”

Breanna Jagodzinski, the 2021 Elementary Teacher of the Year, introduced Aldine ISD Trustees, Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney and her Executive Leadership Team, and recognized all of the Campus Teachers of the Year and their Principals.

“Every educator being celebrated today knows what it means to sacrifice,” she said. “You go above and beyond when it comes to giving. And not because you are forced to, because it’s innate. You are simply doing the job that you were called to do!”

Following breakfast, Richard Cantu, President of the Aldine Education Foundation, thanked the sponsors who made the Educator of the Year Breakfast possible.

Amplify was the Exclusive Presenting Sponsor, while United Airlines served as the Platinum Sponsor. The Gold Sponsor were Sarah and Doug Foshee. Silver Sponsors were Prect. 2 County Commissioner Adrian Garcia, GLF Environment, Howard Kelly and the Elizondo Family, Margaret and Bill Ginder, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center and Dr. Yacovodanato Educational Consulting LLC. The Campus Sponsors were the Aldine Federation of Teachers, Camdon Graphics, LLC, Carrie Durley, Claire and Joe Greenberg, Renaissance/Muses3 LLC, Solid IT Networks, Tarkett and Teach for America. The EOY Breakfast Underwriters were H-E-B, who provided the centerpieces, Josten’s (who provided calendars for all winners and rings for the finalists) and Whataburger (gift cards for all Campus Teachers of the Year and Whataburger for a year for the winners).

Following the announced of the two Teachers of the Year, Aldine ISD Board Secretary Rose Avalos delivered remarks.

Ms. Avalos, who served Aldine ISD as an educator for close to 35 years, said she knows the vital role teachers play in the lives of their students on a daily basis.

“On behalf of my fellow Trustees, we want to you to know how much we value each and everyone of you and we can’t thank you enough for your dedication and devotion to the children of Aldine,” Ms. Avalos said. “All of you have stepped forward in the last three years to meet the academic needs of your students and we will forever be grateful to you for working through these challenging times.

“As a former educator, I am well aware that teaching is a calling and those who answer that call play a vital role in preparing students for college, and successful careers so that they can enjoy bright and unlimited futures. All of you have selected the most worthwhile profession on earth,” she said.

Dr. Goffney delivered closing remarks.

She also thanked teachers for all that they do for students in Aldine on a daily basis.

“We absolutely cannot, we cannot provide choices and opportunities for our students without the passion and hard work of our educators,” Dr. Goffney said. “Each of you is the reason we can deliver on the program for what every Aldine ISD student deserves – an education that opens doors to choices and opportunities now and in the future. You lead and inspire your students each and every day. You show them what it means to be a positive contributor to their community. You model for them inclusion, support, equity, empathy and resilience. You inspire me each and every day.”

Prior to the start of the Educator of the Year Breakfast, the Carver High School String Ensemble performed.



Free Flu Vaccines and Immunizations in March from Harris County Mobile

HOUSTON* — During March, Harris Health System’s Troubleshooters Mobile Immunization Program is offering free immunizations for children two-months to 18-years of age and free flu vaccines to children six-months to 18-years of age.

To receive immunizations, a parent must be present with the child’s shot record. All shots will be given based on availability.

Schedule
(All times are 9 a.m.-1 p.m. except when noted)

- Tuesday, March 15, Northeast Multi-Service Center WIC, 9720 Spaulding St., Houston, TX 77016
- Wednesday, March 16, Consulate General of Mexico, 3200 Rogerdale Rd., Houston, TX 77042
- Thursday, March 17, Alief WIC, 12660 Beechnut St., Houston, TX 77072
- Friday, March 18, Memorial Assistance Ministries, 1625 Blalock Rd., Houston, TX 77080, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Monday, March 21, Major Elementary School, 16855 Sugar Pine Dr., Houston, TX 77090
- Tuesday, March 22, Steve Radack Community Center, 18650 Clay Rd., Houston, TX 77084, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 23, Drew Academy, 1910 W. Little York, Houston, TX 77091
- Thursday, March 24, Hoffman Middle School, 6101 Little York, Houston, TX 77091
- Friday, March 25, Woodson K-5, 10720 Southview St., Houston, TX 77047
- Monday, March 28, Hambrick Middle School, 4600 Aldine Mail Rd., Houston, TX 77039
- Tuesday, March 29, Hambrick Middle School, 4600 Aldine Mail Rd., Houston, TX 77039
- Wednesday, March 30, Hines-Caldwell Elementary, 5515 W. Orem Dr., Houston, TX 77085, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

HIGH MEADOWS LIBRARY NEWS

LIBRARY CAPACITY UPDATE:

The library capacity has been increased to 50% due to the reducing spread of CoVid-19. Masks are required while in the library building.

GRADCAFÉ:

Every Tuesday we will have representatives from GRADcafé at the High Meadows Library. GRADcafé is a one-stop-shop offering free services to help you decide on a career, explore education and training options, apply to college, and find the financial aid you need. Whether you want to attend college to get a degree or work on a certificate in a professional trade, we are here to guide you through every step. You're never too young or old to get started. Services are available in English or Spanish.

THE LIBRARY

We have FREE WiFi hotspots available on a first come, first serve basis. If you don't have internet service where you live or if your internet is slow and unreliable, you can check out a WiFi hotspot with unlimited data FREE. All you need is an HCPL library card and if you don't have a library card, we will get you one.

CITIZENSHIP CLASS

We offer free in person and online citizenship classes. If you need help studying for the Citizenship Test, the library course is here to help. Classes require registration.

BECOME A FRIEND OF THE LIBRARY:

We need YOU to become a friend of the library. We are currently looking for individuals who would like to help us form a group to be the voice of the community!

FREE WIFI HOTSPOTS AT

1,000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN:

Harris County Public Library invites parents and caregivers to participate in the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program! Beginning at birth, children can participate in this ongoing program by signing up through the Beanstack website and app (<https://hcpl.beanstack.org/>)

CONVERSATIONAL ESL CLASS

We will begin an in-person ESL Class starting March 24th. To register for this free class, please give us a call.

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

AIRLINE LIBRARY NEWS

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH MOVIE MATINEES

We are celebrating Women's History Month by celebrating women and women identified actors, directors, and characters! All ages are welcome to join us **every Saturday in March at 2pm** for Movie Matinees!

Mar. 19 - Little Women
Mar. 26 - Mulan
Open to all ages.

MAR. 19 - GENERATION POUND FITNESS

Let's make some noise in the library! Join us for fun fitness as Momo Foster leads this POUND session designed especially for KIDS and ADULTS together! Open to ages 6 and up and all abilities on **Mar. 19 at 11 a.m.** Bring a yoga mat or borrow one of ours. Join us! Move, Rock, Play, and MAKE NOISE! Let us know you're coming and sign up here: <https://forms.office.com/r/NciYnDYSD>

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 required. 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

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 library

Wednesdays: Beyond the Basics with Office 365 plus Google Apps, (English computer class), 5-7pm, online

Thursdays: Beyond the Basics with Office 365 plus Google Apps (English computer class), 5-7pm, at the library

HCPL CONNECTED LAUNCH

Harris County Public Library is teaming up with T-Mobile and Google for the launch of HCPL Connected, a community-wide internet connectivity campaign for Harris County residents in need of online access. You can borrow a T-Mobile WiFi hotspot with unlimited data from HCPL. You can also borrow a Google Chromebook laptop. To qualify you will need an HCPL library card. Available while supplies last.

MICHELLE PICHON LIBRARY PROGRAM SPECIALIST

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SCHOOL NEWS PAGE

Message from the Superintendent,
March 7, 2022

Dear Aldine Community,

Let's start off with some good news — next week is Spring Break! This holiday marks the halfway point of our spring semester. When we return, the countdown will begin toward the end of the school year. I am looking forward to spending time with my family, reading, and traveling. Please, take the time to re-charge for the final stretch of the semester. As you are relaxing, I would love to see how you are practicing self-care throughout the week. If you get a chance, share your Spring Break pictures on social media using the hashtag #Aldine-SpringBreak22 for a chance to be featured on Aldine social media channels.

At the end of February, I had the pleasure of participating in a Discovery Education panel about equity. As we take stock of our equity efforts within the district, a key factor that should not go unmentioned is gender equality. **Tomorrow, March 8th** is International Women's Day. Let's strive toward a more equitable future for all genders as we move forward. Here in Aldine, we are committed to just that. We are excited to celebrate the women within our community and all of the contributions they make daily. I encourage everyone to wear pink, purple, and/or pearls with jeans tomorrow to celebrate.

I want to send a shout-out to a few groups of staff members. This week marks Texas Educational Diagnosticians Week and National School Social Work Week. To all the diagnosticians and school social workers, I want you to know how much I appreciate all you do for our students, staff, and families every day. They advocate for students to ensure they have the support they need. Most of all, they multiply hope for our students. When most people think of education, they think of teachers, but a village is helping our students thrive. Please, take a moment this week to thank these amazing individuals.

Also being observed are National School Breakfast Week and International #SELDay on March 11th. Both deal with students' overall well-being. You will hear me say that school is more than teaching the three R's of education (reading, writing, and arithmetic). It's a place that serves to support the whole student. The mind, body, and heart are just as important if not critical to helping students' academic growth. I hope you encourage your child to take advantage of the free school breakfast program. Social-emotional learning (SEL) helps students better understand and identify their emotions. No matter how good the curriculum, none of it matters unless a child shows up ready, willing, and able to learn. SEL is crucial in helping our students succeed in school, college, and work. It makes me so proud to know that we create environments that live up to our mission and vision.

Finally, I want to remind everyone that The Holdsworth Center survey closes tomorrow, March 8th. The Center is looking to collect valuable information from



Aldine ISD employees. I want to strongly encourage everyone to take the time to complete the survey.

I hope all of you enjoy a safe and relaxing Spring Break, and I look forward to seeing everyone when we return on Monday, March 21st.

With Aldine Pride,
Dr. LaTonya M. GoffneySuperintendent

- UPCOMING EVENTS**
- **Mar. 14-18:** Spring Break
 - **Mar. 21** on Traditional School Calendar: Student Holiday and a Professional Development Day
 - **Mar. 21** on ADSY Calendar (Ermel and Vines) is regular School Day and Staff Work Day
 - **Ongoing Until May 31:** Preregistration for eligible PreK3, PreK4, and kindergarten students is open for the 2022-2023 school year. Click here for details on how to register.

- OBSERVATIONSMarch**
- **Mar. 6-12:** Texas Educational Diagnosticians' Week
 - **Mar. 6-11:** School Social Work Week
 - **Mar. 7-11:** National School Breakfast Week
 - **Mar. 8:** International Women's Day
 - **Mar. 11:** International #SEL-Day
 - **Mar. 31:** César Chávez Day
- REMINDERS**
- Aldine's Family and Community Engagement Department launched the Family and Community University. Programming is free and open to all Aldine families. Register today.

- The state requires high school seniors to apply for financial aid to graduate. The FAFSA application or TASFA application.
- The state requires all entering college students to take the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Assessment. Click here for more information.
- 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.

Lone Star College-NH has \$200k “Dual Credit for All” grant for CTE students

HOUSTON (Jan. 12, 2022) – The Greater Texas Foundation awarded the four-year, \$200,000 Dual Credit for All grant to Lone Star College-North Harris to reach local high school students.

The grant focuses on Aldine and Spring ISD students pursuing a certificate in one of five Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs: Automotive Service Technician Certificate I, Computer-Aided Design, Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Occupational Entry Certificate Level I, First Line Logistics Leader Certificate Level I, and Shielded Metal Arc Welding Certificate Level I.

“LSC-North Harris will serve additional students by covering the program costs, which can often be expensive for

many of our students,” said Cathleen Tyson-Ferrol, Director, Educational Services and Partnerships. “This grant will help increase the supply of students pursuing CTE certification to meet the demands of the Houston economy while exposing additional students to stackable educational options after they obtain level I certification.”

- The purpose of the grant is to:
- Increase Dual Credit enrollment by 23%
 - Enroll 70 additional economically distressed students into CTE courses
 - Increase Dual Credit CTE completion by 20%
 - Increase Aldine and Spring ISD College, Career, and Military Readiness funding by an additional \$350,000



Aldine ISD’s JROTC programs honor Franklin Higgins

During his tenure as Director of Career and Technical Education, Franklin Higgins has been a strong supporter of the district's JROTC programs at the district's five traditional high schools.

All five of the programs thanked him for his support when they surprised him recently with the Order of the Sword ceremony, held in the lobby of the Bamberg Professional Development and Resource Center.

Lt. Col. Porfirio Munoz, the Senior Aerospace Science Instructor at Davis High School, presided over the ceremony.

“Today we are represented by instructors and cadet leaders of the five Aldine ISD JROTC programs. This is not only a demonstration of our program's appreciation of Mr. Higgins' support to JROTC, but also an induction ceremony for our adaptation of one of the oldest military awards, the Order of the Sword,” Porfirio said.

Porfirio said the Order of the Sword dates back to the early 12th Century when King Gustave I of Sweden enjoined the noblemen commissioned to him (known as officers today) to appoint other officers to serve them. Those people became the noncommissioned officers, as they are known today. They were accountants, builders, craftsmen, teachers and other leaders responsible for conducting the daily affairs of the kingdom, Porfirio explained.

That system worked so well that is was incorporated in the Army as a way to establish and maintain a cohesive, disciplined, and well-trained force for protection of lives and property in the kingdom. The ancient noncommissioned officers would on occasion honor a leader and pledge their loyalty by ceremoniously presenting that individual with a sword. The sword, a symbol of truth, justice and power rightfully used, served as a token for all to see and know that there

was a leader among leaders and man among men.

This ceremony became known as the “The Royal Order of the Sword.” It came to the United States around the time of the Revolutionary War, Porfirio said. It



Franklin Higgins accepts a sword from an Aldine ISD JROTC Cadet during the Order of the Sword ceremony held at the Bamberg Professional Development and Resource Center. The ceremony was held to honor Higgins for his support of AISD's JROTC and LOTC programs.

was dormant for many years, with the only known instance of its use being in the 1860s when General Robert E. Lee was presented a sword by his command.

The ceremony has been revived, updated and adopted by the noncommissioned officers and now by Aldine ISD JROTC cadet corps as their method for paying tribute to individuals who they hold in the highest regard.

Higgins was moved by the surprise ceremony and was thankful to the JROTC cadets for their kind gesture.

“The honor the JROTC cadets bestowed upon me left me speechless,” Higgins said. “I am thankful for this honor. It has been a blessing to work with each of the JROTC programs. The program has provided excellent leadership for our students throughout the years. Our JROTC students have competed on the local, state and national levels in drill meets. I am proud to have worked with men and women that have served our country and now are continuing to work with our students. This is a great honor and one of the highest honors one can receive and I am so grateful.”

Aldine Names New Chief Information Officer

Aldine Independent School District Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney has named Adam Galván the Chief Information Officer (CIO). He will oversee the district's technology systems and services that support AISD's mission and strategic priorities, effective March 21. He previously served as the assistant superintendent of operations and technology for Lockhart ISD.

“Adam comes to Aldine with 24 years of experience in technology with 12 of those years in educational technology,” said Goffney. “He has administrative and management skills in K-12 education — including experience implementing new technologies and developing long-range technology plans that make him uniquely qualified to oversee our IT technology and services. Adam's leadership will help move our district forward, ensuring that Aldine ISD is innovative, safe, and fully supports our students, families, and employees.”

As CIO, Galván assumes responsibility for a technology system that, in size and complexity, rivals that of major industries and government agencies. He has been charged with evaluating, modernizing, and consolidating software platforms, improving access, security, and privacy for students, families, and teachers throughout the system, and ensuring equitable access to learning technologies for all Aldine ISD students.

At Lockhart ISD, serving more than 6,100 students, as the assistant superintendent of operations and technology, Galván was charged with improving and implementing new procedures in all areas, identifying growth areas, and pro-

viding a paperless environment for all departments. Galván also provided new direction and professional development for the instructional technology department.



AISD's new Chief Information Officer Adam Galván and his wife pose at the Board of Trustee meeting in February 2022.

He provided long-term planning for the district's continued growth, led the modernization of existing technologies, and increased technical support for staff and families while saving the district money.


“I am honored and grateful for the opportunity to join the Aldine ISD team as your Chief Information Officer,” said Galván. “As CIO, I will leverage my knowledge and skills towards empowering students to thrive in bold and visionary ways through innovative technology solutions.”

As Chief Information Officer, Galván joins Chief of Staff Sheleah D. Reed, APR; Chief Academic Officer Dr. Todd Davis, Chief of Schools Dr. Katy Roede, Chief Business and Operations Officer Dr. Tamika Alford-Stephens, Chief of Human Resources Officer Dr. Javier Villarreal, Chief of Strategic Initiatives and Accountability Dawn Ayers-Rodríguez, and Chief Transformation Officer Adrian Bustillos.

★

OPINION

By U.S. Senator JOHN CORNYN



This Ain't Our First Rodeo



Barrel racing, mutton bustin', and bull riding are just some of the many events you can catch at one of Texas' many rodeos. Recognized as the official sport of Texas, the history of rodeos in the Lone Star State dates much further back than its official proclamation by the Texas Legislature 25 years ago.

The Spanish conquistadors and Spanish-Mexican settlers that first arrived in Texas came with horses and cattle, kicking off our state's rich and deep roots in the livestock industry. This new livestock led to the rise of ranchers and *vaqueros*, or cowboys. After the Civil War, the Southwest became the hub for cattle drives, large ranches, and range cowboys which are now pillars of the celebrated culture we know today.

While overseeing their pastures and driving cattle, these cowboys earned their spurs learning how to rope, ride, and wrangle livestock. These tricks of the trade traveled throughout Texas, and cowboys showcased these skills at local rodeos. The word "rodeo" came from a Spanish word meaning "round up," an incredibly important activity where cattlemen gather their cattle to brand the new calves or move them to new pastures.

The first official rodeo took place in 1883 in Pecos, Texas. The Pecos Rodeo began as a competition for bragging rights between two cowboys duking it out to see who was the best in Texas. 140 years later, this renown rodeo continues to this day and attracts some serious competitors.

As more cowboys were crowned rodeo champions across the Lone Star State and the country, a unified effort to grab the reins and organize official competitions began. In 1936, the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association established official rules to formalize the sport nationwide. By 1948, a determined group of women met in San Angelo, Texas with a mission to jump into the ring and create the Girls Rodeo Association, known now as the Women's Professional Rodeo Association. The Association became the United States' first women's sports organization and still remains as the oldest women's professional sports organization in the country. These visionaries branded themselves as trailblazers for women in the rodeo arena. Today, the Association is the only rodeo organization governed entirely by women and they work year-round to host competitive events across the nation.

No one deserves the grand champion belt buckle more than Mesquite, Texas. Since Mesquite hosts the most rodeos in our state, the Texas Legislature declared Mesquite the official rodeo capital of Texas in 1993. For over 60 years, the Mesquite Championship Rodeo has been quintessential to the rodeo experience with numerous events such as saddle bronc riding and team roping. To date this rodeo has been one of the most watched on television, with over 8 million households tuning into the events.

Following the trailheads south from Mesquite, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo always rounds up quite a crowd. Previously known as the Houston Fat Stock Show and Livestock Exposition, this rodeo began in 1931 at the Texas State Hotel as a way to grow the area's cattle industry. More than 90 years later, this event moved to the Astrodome, and it now takes place at the neighboring NRG Stadium which was specially built for rodeo and the NFL. Cowboys and rodeo enthusiasts of all ages can enjoy the annual kick-off rodeo parade, trail rides, and concerts from a variety of music genres. The King of Country, George Strait, even debuted at the Houston Rodeo as a newcomer to the country music scene way back in 1983.

This year, I had the honor to saddle up on a horse named Cinch and ride in the Houston Rodeo kick-off parade, as I have frequently done in the past. Apart from living out my John Wayne dreams, it is a great chance to visit with Texans who support this great tradition that marks the start of the three week-long event thanks to the help from over 35,000 volunteers. The Houston Rodeo also awards over \$14 million to the bright minds of student cowboys and cowgirls across our state, with \$1.4 million going towards Texas 4-H scholarships.

Regardless if you're competing in the stock show and rodeo events or just wanting to horse around, I hope you find a chance to wrangle up your friends and family and rope them into going to the local rodeo this year.



★

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Several Statewide Races Headed to Runoffs May 24

A number of statewide races are headed for a May 24 runoff after the votes were tallied in the March 1 primary.

Topping the ballot in the Republican races is the contest for attorney general, where incumbent Ken Paxton led the field with 42.7% of votes cast, followed by George P. Bush, current land commissioner, who garnered 22.8%. The remainder of GOP ballots went to former Supreme Court justice Eva Guzman at 17.5% and U.S. Rep. Louie Gohmert with 17%.

In the Democratic race for lieutenant governor, Houston businessman Mike Collier took 41.5%, with Carrollton state Rep. Michelle Beckley getting 30.2%. They will face each other in the runoff to determine who will face incumbent Dan Patrick in November. Patrick handily won the GOP primary with 76.6% of the vote.

In the race to succeed Bush as land commissioner, there will be runoffs in both parties, with State Sen. Dawn Buckingham, R-Lakeway, taking 41.8% and Tim Westley, the historian for the Texas Republican party, trailing with 14.8%. On the Democratic ballot, Sandragrace Martinez, a San Antonio licensed professional counselor, took 32% while Jay Kleberg, a conservationist whose family owns the storied King Ranch, trailed with 25.8%.

Two Democrats are vying to face incumbent Glenn Hegar in the race for state comptroller. Janet T. Dudding, who retired from Texas A&M to run, led the field with 46.2%. She will face Angel Luis Vega, a business strategist, who received 34.7% of the vote.

GOP incumbent Wayne Christian, chair of the Texas Railroad Commission, fell short of gathering a majority in the primary with 47.2% of the vote. Sarah Stogner, a Midland attorney who gained attention by posting a semi-nude video of herself on top of an oil pumpjack, finished second with 15.1%.

Voters may cast ballots in a party's runoff races if



they originally voted in that party's primary or didn't vote at all. Voters who cast ballots in the Republican primary can't cross over and vote in the Democratic runoff, and vice versa. Early voting runs from May 16-20.

OPERATION LONE STAR MARKS ONE YEAR

Gov. Greg Abbott, the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Texas National Guard last week marked the one-year anniversary of *Operation Lone Star*, the state's effort to "secure the border." Since its launch, more than 208,000 migrants have been apprehended, with 11,800 criminal charges filed.

In the last legislative session, lawmakers approved an additional \$1.8 billion in state funding, bringing the total of funding for border security to \$3 billion.

EMERGENCY SNAP BENEFITS AGAIN EXTENDED

The U.S. Department of Agriculture again has extended emergency food benefits for eligible Texas families, with more than \$310 million going to more than 1.5 million Texas households for the month of March. The allotments are distributed through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and administered by the [Texas Health and Human Services Commission](#).

"Putting food on the table is critical for the health and well-being of families, and we're proud to continue helping with these most basic needs," said Texas

HHS Access and Eligibility Services Deputy Executive Commissioner Wayne Salter.

Since April 2020, more than \$6.13 billion in emergency food benefits have been provided through SNAP. All SNAP households will receive at least \$95 in emergency allotments by March 31.

NEW WEBSITE HIGHLIGHTS EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES

A streamlined resource for Texas parents to get information about early childhood services is now up and running. The new website, [earlychildhoodtexas.gov](#), serves as a one-stop-shop to connect Texas parents with access to a variety of free or low-cost services and resources.

The website offers information and resources for health and development, parenting, child care and education.

FEDERAL COVID-19 FUNDING TOPS \$75.6 BILLION

The Legislative Budget Board reports that the state received an estimated \$75.6 billion in COVID-19 federal funding, not counting funds awarded directly to individuals and local entities. The funding came from a half dozen pandemic response packages passed by Congress since March 2020.

The funding provided assistance to Texas public schools, higher education, local governments and health care providers. More detailed information can be found at the budget board's website: [lbb.texas.gov/Covid-19](#).

Meanwhile, the state's Division of Workers Compensation reported more than 78,000 workers' compensation claims with 422 fatalities. More than half of the fatalities involved first responders and correctional officers.

COVID-19 CASES CONTINUE TO DROP

The number of COVID-19 cases continues to drop across the state, with 26,520 reported in the past week by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University, along with 936 deaths. The omicron variant continues to wane, with lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations dropping to 2,838 statewide, according to the [Texas Department of State Health Services](#).

The number of Texans who are fully vaccinated now stands at 17.282 million, according to [DSHS](#), with 6.322 million getting a booster dose as well. As of Sunday, 59.2% of Texans are fully vaccinated.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span.

★

THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

Room for More

My husband, Peter, and I were traveling in Mexico when we suddenly found ourselves without a place to stay.

Over the years, all our accommodations while traveling have been quirky in one way or another, but they have all been pretty much what we were expecting, and we've never had any insurmountable problems.

This week, we encountered insurmountable problems.

When we arrived at the airport, the caretaker stood us up. That was not a good sign. We found other transportation and, when we finally found the caretaker, we were glad he had not come, as he was in no condition to drive and the car he would have driven didn't look much better.

Things got worse from there.

We were going to have guests join us, and the guesthouse was supposed to have two bathrooms. There was just one and it was filthy, along with the rest of the house. There were junked vehicles piled around the property, windows were broken, and everything was covered with a thick coat of dust.

"We can't stay here a month!" I said to Peter.

"We can't stay here at all!" Peter answered. I was relieved we were obviously on the same page.

"I want to go back to San Miguel!" Peter said before I had a chance to.

We had just left San Miguel de Allende, which we loved. But finding a place to stay—anywhere—was not going to be easy with universities on break and people finally taking vacations. Then I remembered how helpful the residents of San Miguel had been. I asked for help on their Facebook page.

Literally within minutes, a man named Jorge said he had a one-bedroom apartment in a hotel with a fully equipped kitchen. "I am the owner," he said. He gave the address. It couldn't have been in a better location.

"This is going to be expensive," I thought. "How much for an extended stay?" I asked.

"30 dollars per day," he answered. "Housekeeping included."

"Well, that's not gonna be any good!" I said to Peter.

"It will give us a place to land and we can look for something better," Peter said.

We hustled out of town, sending a note to the absentee landlord in Europe, telling her we would be pursuing a refund. "And we'll get it!" Peter told me, in a tone that he reserves for the rare instances when he gets seriously angry.

Late that evening we showed up at "Casa de Los Soles," which means "House of the Suns," and Jorge was sitting at the front desk.

"You must be Carrie!" he said, and I got a very good feeling.

He showed us the immaculately clean apartment. There was a bedroom with a balcony, and a rooftop terrace, and a place for me to write, and a fully equipped kitchen, and sunshine pouring into every room.

Best of all, there were suns everywhere. Smiling ceramic depictions of the sun in every color and style imaginable covered the three-story-high walls of the courtyard and the lobby and the stairs leading to our apartment. Every brick and stucco wall was covered in smiling sunny faces.

"How many are there?" I asked Jorge after he had shown us the apartment and after I had almost burst into tears at how comfortable and clean and charming it was.

"2,504," Jorge answered.

"Really?" I said, in amazement.

"But next week, I will get more," he added.

I couldn't imagine how there could be room for one more smiling face. But I knew Jorge would somehow manage to find room for more.

Till next time,
Carrie

Carrie Classon's memoir is called "Blue Yarn." Learn more at [CarrieClasson.com](#).

NORTHEAST★NEWS

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COMMUNITY WATCH

UPDATE: Investigation into HPD Officer-involved Shooting Incident at 7800 Tidwell Road

Houston police have learned a suspect who fired shots at HPD officers and was then shot by officers at 7800 Tidwell Road about 8:40 a.m. on February 27 has died.

The male suspect, Marcelo Alfredo Suarez, 24, was pronounced deceased on Sunday (March 6).

The three HPD officers who discharged their weapons were P. Foster of the Tactical Operations Division, and D. Jenkins and C. Welch of the Northeast Patrol Division. Officer Foster was sworn in as an officer in April 2008, Officer Welch in May 2017 and Officer Jenkins in May 2019.

HPD Special Investigations Unit Sergeant J. Hekimian and Detectives N. Arellano, V. Nguyen and C. Walker reported:

The suspect stole a man’s vehicle at gunpoint in the southwest area of Houston and fled the area. Officers from the Northeast Patrol Station and K-

9 Units received information from a dispatcher about the robbery and vehicle. A K-9 unit officer (Foster) spotted the vehicle and attempted to stop the vehicle with his lights and sirens. The suspect ignored the officer and a pursuit ensued. Other officers from Northeast Patrol assisted in the pursuit. The officers followed the suspect to the 7800 block of Tidwell Road where the suspect got out of the stolen vehicle and fled on foot. During the foot pursuit, the suspect discharged his weapon towards the officers and K-9 Nate. At that time, the three officers returned fire and struck the suspect. Paramedics transported the suspect to the hospital in critical condition.


One officer sustained a minor injury. The two other officers and K-9 Nate were not injured.

The following day (Feb. 28), Suarez was charged in the incident with two counts of aggravated assault against a peace officer in the 176th State District Court.

On March 6, doctors pronounced Suarez deceased at Ben Taub General Hospital.


As is customary in HPD officer-involved shooting incidents in the Houston city limits resulting in injury, the incident is being investigated by the HPD Special Investigations Unit, Internal Affairs Division and the Harris County District Attorney’s Office.

HCSO 2022
Senior
Citizen's Police Academy Class




Free Online Class
Must Register at:
<https://bit.ly/3H31qT0>
Registration Deadline
March 8, 2022

Every Tuesday
Beginning March 22nd – April 19th
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.



SHERIFF ED GONZALEZ

Learn about the topics below and much more!



- Fraud & Scams
- Identity Theft
- Romance Scams
- Living Life Online
- 911 Communications

NOTE: MUST ATTEND ALL CLASSES IN ORDER TO GRADUATE

For more information, please contact the HCSO Community Engagement Division at 346-286-3125.

ENTERTAINMENT

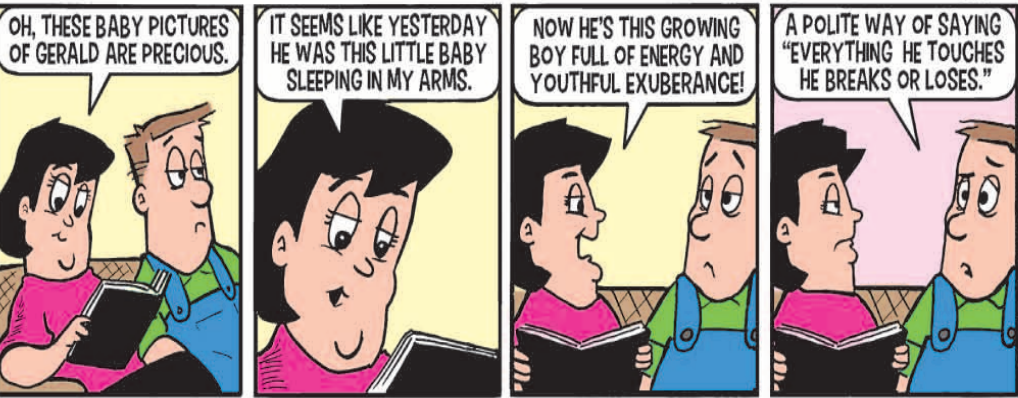
Amber Waves

OH, THESE BABY PICTURES OF GERALD ARE PRECIOUS.

IT SEEMS LIKE YESTERDAY HE WAS THIS LITTLE BABY SLEEPING IN MY ARMS.

NOW HE'S THIS GROWING BOY FULL OF ENERGY AND YOUTHFUL EXUBERANCE!

A POLITE WAY OF SAYING "EVERYTHING HE TOUCHES HE BREAKS OR LOSES."



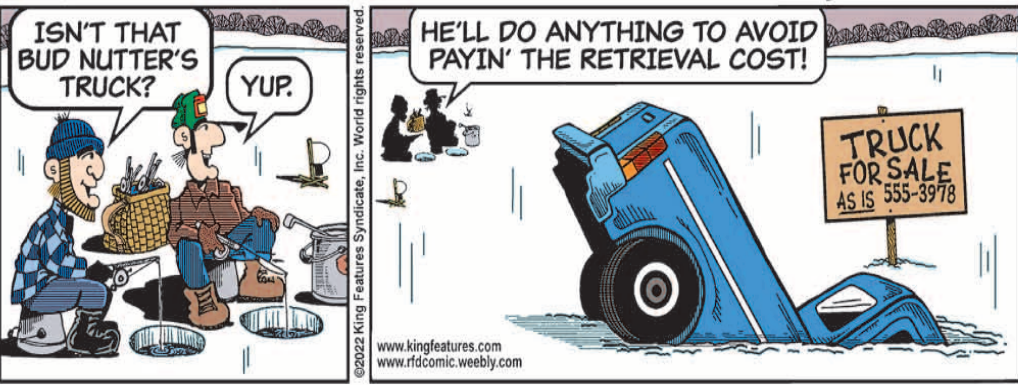
by Dave T. Phipps

R.F.D.

ISN'T THAT BUD NUTTER'S TRUCK?

YUP.

HE'LL DO ANYTHING TO AVOID PAYIN' THE RETRIEVAL COST!



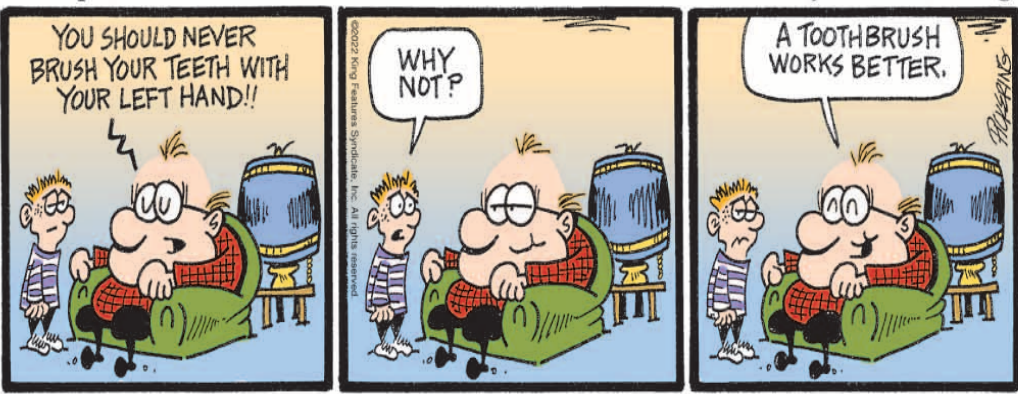
by Mike Marland

The Spats

YOU SHOULD NEVER BRUSH YOUR TEETH WITH YOUR LEFT HAND!!

WHY NOT?

A TOOTHBRUSH WORKS BETTER.



by Jeff Pickering

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Hockey stick is missing. 2. Tassel is shorter. 3. Arm is moved. 4. Tree is missing. 5. Sign is different. 6. Log is shorter.

March 14, 2022 Posting Date

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Soak up the sun

5 Joke

8 Sports figure?

12 Penne — vodka

13 Playwright Levin

14 "Oops!"

15 Picnic spoiler

16 Vacuum's lack

17 Novelist Jaffe

18 Chinese food assortment

20 Some mixologists

22 Docs' org.

23 "Uh-huh"

24 Touse

27 "Locksley Hall" poet

32 Year in Mexico

33 Sock part

34 Stop — dime

35 Short recital piece

38 Uppity one

39 Spike's warning

40 Three, in Rome

42 JFK's vessel

45 Brother's son

49 Leveling wedge

50 Jurist Fortas

52 "I did it!"

53 Antitoxins

54 "— the sea-son ..."

55 Ireland

56 Tiny amounts

57 Six-pack muscles

58 Head, to Henri

7 Attire

8 "Oklahoma!" carriage

9 Oscar-winning actress Emma

10 Top-of-the-line

11 Compared to

19 Hesitant sound

21 Objectivist Rand

24 More (Sp.)

25 Popular card game

26 Lark, for one

28 Very long time

29 Fastidious trait

30 Yoko of music

31 Collar

36 Scents

37 La-la lead-in

38 Music for seven

41 Concerning

42 "Hey!"

43 Ellington's "Take — Train"

44 "Toodle-oo!"

46 Aesopian also-ran

47 Tend texts

48 Fade away

51 Clothing protector

DOWN

1 Poet of yore

2 Jai —

3 Slender

4 Sunflower State

5 "Billions" actor Paul

6 "Exodus" hero

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

Solution time: 25 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. GEOGRAPHY: Where is the Adriatic Sea located?

2. MEASUREMENTS: How many centimeters are equivalent to 100 inches?

3. MOVIES: Who was the famous person portrayed in the movie "The Aviator"?

4. FOOD & DRINK: When did the first self-serve grocery store open?

5. FAMOUS QUOTES: Which 19th century author once wrote, "It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade"?

6. TELEVISION: Frank Costanza was the dad in which 1990s TV comedy show?

7. LITERATURE: Sir Walter Scott wrote novels about which country?

8. ART: What kind of stone did the Renaissance artist Michelangelo like using in his sculptures?

9. ADVERTISING SLOGANS: What product did the "Most Interesting Man in the World" advertise on TV?

10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What unique sense do butterflies have in their feet?

SPANISH

PAGE

Mensaje de la Superintendente,

7 de Marzo de 2022

Estimada comunidad de Aldine:

Comencemos con algunas buenas noticias: ¡la semana que viene son las vacaciones de primavera! Estas vacaciones marcan el punto medio de nuestro semestre de primavera. Cuando regresemos, la cuenta regresiva comenzará hacia el final del año escolar. Tengo muchas ganas de pasar tiempo con mi familia, leer, leer y viajar. Por favor, tómense el tiempo para recargar para el tramo final del semestre. Mientras se relajan, me encantaría ver cómo practican el cuidado personal durante la semana. Si tienen la oportunidad, compartan sus fotos de las vacaciones de primavera en las redes sociales usando el hashtag #AldineVacacionesDePrimavera22 para tener la oportunidad de aparecer en los canales de las redes sociales de Aldine.

A finales de febrero tuve el placer de participar en un panel de Discovery Education sobre equidad. Mientras hacemos un balance de nuestros esfuerzos de equidad dentro del distrito, un factor clave que no debe pasarse



por alto es la igualdad de género. Mañana 8 de marzo es el Día Internacional de la mujer. Luchemos por un futuro más equitativo para todos los géneros a medida que avanzamos. Aquí en Aldine, estamos comprometidos con eso. Estamos emocionados de celebrar a las mujeres dentro de nuestra comunidad y todas las contribuciones que hacen a diario. Animo a todos a vestir rosa, morado y/o perlas con pantalones de mezclilla mañana para celebrar.

Quiero reconocer a algunos grupos de nuestro personal. Esta semana marca la Semana de los especialistas en diagnósticos educativos de Texas y la Semana nacional del trabajo social escolar. A todos los especialistas en diagnósticos y trabajadores

sociales escolares, quiero que sepan cuánto aprecio todo lo que hacen por nuestros alumnos, el personal y las familias todos los días. Abogan por los alumnos para asegurarse de que tengan el apoyo que ellos necesitan. Sobre todo, multiplican la esperanza de nuestros alumnos. Cuando la mayoría de la gente piensa en educación, piensa en maestros, pero un pueblo está ayudando a nuestros alumnos a prosperar. Por favor, tómense un momento esta semana para agradecer a estos individuos increíbles.

También se observa la Semana nacional del desayuno escolar y el Día internacional de aprendizaje socioemocional (#SELDay en inglés) el 11 de marzo. Ambos se ocupan del bienestar general de los estudiantes. Me escucharé decir que la escuela es más que enseñar las tres “tres erres” cuales son las llamadas “disciplinas básicas”: reading, writing y arithmetic (lectura, escritura y aritmética). Es un lugar que sirve para apoyar el desarrollo integral del alumno. La mente, el cuerpo y el

corazón son igualmente importantes, si no críticos, para ayudar al crecimiento académico de los alumnos. Espero que animen a sus hijos a aprovechar el programa de desayunos escolares gratuitos. El aprendizaje socioemocional (SEL) ayuda a los alumnos a comprender e identificar mejor sus emociones. No importa cuán bueno sea el currículo, nada importa a menos que un niño se presente listo, dispuesto y capaz de aprender. SEL es crucial para ayudar a nuestros alumnos a tener éxito en la escuela, la universidad y el trabajo. Me enorgullece saber que creamos entornos a la altura de nuestra misión y visión.

Finalmente, quiero recordarles a todos que la encuesta del The Holdsworth Center cierra mañana, 8 de marzo. El Centro busca recopilar información valiosa de los empleados de Aldine ISD. Quiero animar a todos a que se tomen el tiempo para completar la encuesta.

Orgullosa de nuestro distrito,

Dra. LaTonya M. Goffney Superintendente

PRÓXIMOS EVENTOS

14-18 de marzo: Vacaciones de primavera El 21 de marzo bajo el calen-

dario tradicional no habrá clases pero es un Día de desarrollo profesional para el personal

El 21 de marzo bajo el calendario con días escolares adicionales (Ernel y Vines) será un día de asistencia escolar y día de trabajo para el personal

En curso hasta el 31 de mayo: Se abre la preinscripción para aquellos elegibles para asistir prekínder para niños de tres años y cuatro años para el ciclo escolar 2022-2023. Hagan clic aquí para obtener detalles sobre cómo matricular a sus hijos.

OBSERVACIONES

March 6-12 de marzo: Semana de especialistas de Texas que realizan diagnósticos educativos

6-11 de marzo: Semana del Trabajador Social Escolar

7-11 de marzo: Semana Nacional del Desayuno Escolar

8 de marzo: Día Internacional de la Mujer

11 de marzo: Día Internacional del Aprendizaje Socioemocional

31 de marzo: Día de César Chávez

RECORDATORIOS

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. 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 o una solicitud TASFA.

The state requires all entering college students to take the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Assessment. Click here for more information.

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/healthalerts.

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.

Houston’s Barbara Jordan,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

elected to the Texas Senate and the first African-American woman elected to the U.S. Congress from the South.

Rosemary McGowen and I have been friends for many years and she’s given me personal experiences she and Barbara have had together. She’s Barbara’s only living sibling and she joined State Rep. Shawn Thierry today on Women’s Day for the unveiling of the Barbara Jordan Memorial Parkway. It’s the stretch of Highway 288 from Cleburne, which runs into Texas Southern University where Jordan earned an undergraduate degree, to the Beltway 8.

“I’m delighted this is being done in her honor and celebrates the accomplishments she made,” McGowan said.

Representative Thierry wrote the bill to rename the highway. It was signed into law on June 19, 2019, also known as Juneteenth, the day in which enslaved Texans learned of their freedom. Because the state does not appropriate funds for signs, Thierry said CenterPoint Energy is underwriting the cost of the

signs.

“It really has been a labor of love visualizing and then working on this project for so many years,” State Representative Shawn Thierry said. “This highway dedication is a permanent memorial for future generations to witness.” “We are honoring an iconic woman who was such an inspiration. This is a permanent memorial to a great woman for all to see,” Thierry said.

BARBARA CHARLINE JORDAN HISTORY: She was a product of Houston’s Black Fifth Ward; she opened the door in the political arena for both Blacks and women. Elected a State Representative from Texas; February 21, 1936; she was educated in the public schools of Houston; graduated, from Phillips Wheatley High School, in 1952. She got her B.A., at Houston’s Texas Southern University in 1956 and her law degree at Boston University School of Law, Boston Mass. 1959. She was admitted to the Massachusetts and Texas bars in 1959 and commenced

practice in Houston in 1960.

Jordan was elected to the Texas senate in 1967 and re-elected and served until 1972; served as administrative assistant to Harris County’s Judge. In 1966 she was a delegate to Texas State Democratic conventions, 1967, 1969 and a delegate to Democratic National Convention of 1968.

She was elected as a Democrat to the Ninety-third, Ninety-fourth and Ninety-fifth Congresses (January 3, 1973-January 3, 1979); and was not a candidate for re-election in 1978 to the Ninety-sixth Congress. She was a professor at the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas in Austin, 1979-1982, and Lyndon B. Johnson Centennial Chairman in National Policy, 1982-1986; She chaired the Commission on Immigration Reform; was a resident of Austin, Tex., until her death there on January 17, 1996; her interment is in Texas State Cemetery. Allanj211@aol.com

Authorities close Baywatch Weekend Event in Aldine,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

throughout that area for some time afterward.

Various videos across social media under the hashtag #BaywatchWeekend show the thousands of people partying while surrounding a pool.

The shut down took place on day two of the event’s three-day weekend, intended to ‘kickoff Spring Break,’ according to its Eventbrite link.

A spokesperson for Baywatch Weekend released the following statement:

“Baywatch Weekend started on Friday with 2,000 people in attendance with no complaints. On Saturday about 1,000 more people came. The party started at 3 p.m. and [was] scheduled to end at 2 a.m. We were ordered to vacate

around 10 p.m. Harris County Fire Marshal’s Office told us that we had to leave since we didn’t obtain a large gathering permit and the amount of people in the pool caused an occupancy hazard in the pool. Today (Sunday) we have changed venues for Baywatch Weekend after being informed by Harris County Fire Marshal’s Office that the event cannot happen at Maya Lagoon Park without a large gathering permit. Baywatch Weekend set up a day party and night party at two different locations. Baywatch Weekend wants to send love and care to our supporters.”

Harris County Fire Marshal Laurie L. Christensen said:

“It is imperative event promoters submit the appropriate application and documents detailing safety measures, which are reviewed by the HCFMO. The event has no known crowd control, emergency plans, and it is unknown what safety precautions were in place. Without obtaining a permit and providing the appropriate information, Harris County cannot ensure the event and promoters have all safety elements in place for participants taking part in these large events.”

Information on how to properly obtain a permit for large events can be found at The Harris County Fire Marshal’s Office website.

Women’s History Month,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that of the men whose names we know so well.”

The recognition was renewed by later presidents until 1987, when Congress designated March as “Women’s History Month.”

Women’s contributions through the years have often gone unappreciated and forgotten. The month of March provides us a time to set aside for reflection, appreciation, and celebration; it’s our time to recognize contributions both large and small they’ve made to change our lives for the better.

Each of us can reflect back on our personal history of how significant our own mother was to us and her care and influence she made on us. My mother has passed but her memories live on within me daily. I think of her care for me as well as the disciplining of me, both she dished out because of her love for me. It made me a better person and her lesson on life still influences my behavior.

Sadly to say women have been discriminated against in so many areas of life, equal pay, job promotions, sexual harassment to name a few.

Laurie Fickman, of the University of Houston (UH) released the study by the University of Houston Institute for Research on Women, Gender & Sexuality (IRWGS) stating that women lag far behind men on multiple fronts in Harris County. Women are almost 50% more likely to live in poverty than men and the wage gap for men and women by race and ethnicity is considerably greater here than nationally.

In Harris County during 2017, women’s poverty rate (15.3%) was nearly 50% higher than the male poverty rate (10.4%). The gender gap is higher than observed nationally, statewide (Texas) and in comparable counties in the United States.

Wage gap data for men and women by race/ethnicity in Harris County is considerably greater than the national wage gap, with the median non-Hispanic (NH) white woman here making 69.4 cents on the dollar made by the median NH white man; the median NH Asian woman making 63.6 cents; the median NH black woman making 47.1 cents; and the median Hispanic woman making 33.5 cents.

Next week we’ll honor more women’s social, economic and political achievements. Allanj211@aol.com



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CHURCH PAGE

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Ezra in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. What color was the cord that Rahab hung out of her window? White, Scarlet, Purple, Black

3. From 1 Kings 17, who was called the "Tishbite"? Elijah, Goliath, Job, Samson

4. Who was the father of John the Baptist? Uriah,

Peter, Zechariah, Amaziah

5. From Acts 14, where was Paul mistaken for Hermes? Antioch, Perga, Gibeon, Lystra

6. Who named all the animals on earth? Adam, Eve, Noah, Moses

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Scarlet; 3) Elijah; 4) Zechariah; 5) Lystra; 6) Adam

Comments? More Trivia? Gift ideas? Visit www.TriviaGuy.com

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THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man's devising.

ACTS 17:29

Pre-Columbian Mayan carving from Tikal, Mexico

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Black History Oratory Competition winners announced at Board meeting

The winners of Aldine ISD's second annual Black History Oratory Competition were announced at the March 8 Board of Trustees meeting.

LaTashia Abrams, Director of Family and Community Engagement (FACE) announced the top three winners. Students in grades 3-12 individually created a spoken presentation related to the theme, "ChangeMakers." Students identified an African American leader they believed has made or is making a difference in the world by inspiring others, connecting people of different cultures and impacting change.

The first-place winner from each campus moved on to compete in the district finals. In the high school division, Jordan Nelson of Carver High School took first-place honors, while Stacy Uzowuru of Davis High School finished second and Elizabeth Rubio of Eisenhower High School finished in third place.

In the middle school division, Katheryn Trail of the Young Women's Leadership Academy took first-place honors, while Ke'Sean Francis of Stovall Middle School finished in second place and Jeromy Quaye of Aldine Middle School finished in third place.

In the elementary school division, Alexia Watts of Calvert Elementary School took first-place honors, while Skye Stewart of Marcella Elementary School finished in second place and Gabriel Madrid of Gray Elementary School finished in third place.

All of the students received trophies from Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney and Board President Randy Bates. The overall winners in each category recited their award-winning speeches for the audience.



Carver High School student Jordan Nelson, with trophy, took first-place honors in the second annual Black History Oratory Competition. He's pictured with Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney, Aldine ISD Board President Randy Bates, Carver High staff and his family.




Young Women's Leadership Academy student Katheryn Trail, pictured with trophy, took first-place honors in the second annual Black History Oratory Competition. She's pictured with Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney, Aldine ISD Board President Randy Bates, YWLA staff and her family.




Calvert Elementary student Alexia Watts, pictured with trophy, took first-place honors in the second annual Black History Oratory Competition. She's pictured with Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney, Aldine ISD Board President Randy Bates, Calvert Elementary staff and her family.

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