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# NORTHEAST NEWS



At the East Aldine District Public Safety Meeting, Araceli Ramos said the Northeast News was a good source of crime information and keeping in touch with law enforcement.

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**NEWS NOTES**

## EAST ALDINE DISTRICT

# Community leaders meet on Public Safety issues

By Gilbert Hoffman

The East Aldine community held a district-wide public forum last Thursday evening, March 24 to discuss their concerns about crime rates and efforts to reduce crime incidents by public officials.

Present at the meeting were about 75 persons, including the public, law enforcement officers, and government leaders.

"Too much crime, and not enough police response" is the statement heard over and over at this meeting and throughout the county.

The purpose of the



Over 75 community members, including homeowners, students, law enforcement officers, educators and community leaders met last Thursday evening, March 24 at the offices of the East Aldine District, for a discussion on public safety and crime enforcement. Above, East Aldine District Executive Director Richard Cantu welcomes the attendees and moderates the introductions and discussion.

meeting was to share information among the parties about crime incidents, and ongoing and new efforts by law enforcement to deal with and reduce the problem.

After listening to each of the public participants give detailed descriptions of the crime problems in their areas, officials responded with details of new efforts to reduce crime.

EAD director Richard Cantu told the group that the District has just voted more money for additional patrols. There will be a

*Continued. See Public Safety Forum, page 8*

**Press Conference on proposed Concrete Plant Wed. April 6**

Government officials will hold a press conference and discussion of the proposed new Concrete Batch plant, proposed to be built on a site on the Eastex Freeway Frontage Road, next to the new James Driver All-Inclusive Park.

The conference will be held Wednesday, April 6 at 3:30pm at James Driver Park. Planning to attend are Commissioner Adrian Garcia, State Sen. Carol Alvarado, and State Rep. Armando Walle. The public is asked to attend, with your comments on the concrete plant location.

**Public Meeting on proposed Concrete Plant Thurs. April 7**

You are invited to join the East Aldine District and the TCEQ for a public meeting concerning the proposed concrete batch plant near the James Driver Park and the Tasfield residential subdivision.

The meeting is Thursday, April 7 starting at 7:00pm at the East Aldine District Office, 2909 East Aldine Amphitheatre Drive. See MORE information on Page 8.

**Turner Family Day Sat. April 9**

The 14th Annual Family Day will be held from 2 to 6 pm on Saturday, April 9 at Sylvester Turner Park, 2800 W. Little York. The event is free, and includes music, baseball, games and food. SEE PAGE 6.

## BAA Zumba in the Park draws crowds

### Day full of healthy activities

Bonding Against Adversity hosted a Zumba at James Driver Park event where there were free COVID-19 vaccines, raffles, prizes and giveaways.

Some of the service providers were Harris County Pct. 2, Green Forest Civic Club, Houston Area Urban League, Harris County Public Library, United Health Care, Sea Smile Dental, Avenue 360 Health & Wellness, Houston Women Voters, Zumba



Amigas, VAX HOU and Baker Ripley.

This event was part of the "Safe Together" campaign to inform and educate people about facts and rumors of COVID-19. Another event is planned for June 18 at the East Aldine District Amphitheater. Stay tune for more details. --By Julieta Paita

AT LEFT: Some of the participants in the Zumba Event. MORE on Page 2.

## Concrete plant proposal raises concerns in Aldine

**Planned concrete plant sparks concern before April 7 public meeting**

EAST ALDINE – Raising concerns among many residents, a company based in La Porte proposes to build and operate a concrete-making plant near Little York Road at the Eastex Freeway, next to a county park and a residential subdivision, in the East Aldine Management District.

Residents, community representatives and the Air Alliance of Houston group worry that the plant would endanger the health

of people in the area, reduce property values and create related problems.

The proposed plant is located next to the Tasfield neighborhood and near the recently upgraded and re-equipped James Driver Park.

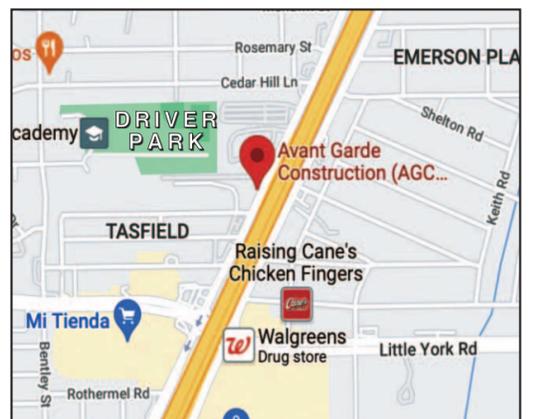
The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) will conduct a public meeting about the proposal at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 7, at the East Aldine Town Center, 2909 East Amphitheatre Drive at Aldine Mail Route Road.

The TCEQ leaves no doubt that the plant would emit particles of cement,

road dust, and other substances. But that doesn't mean the state is convinced the operation could damage the health of nearby residents and park users.

In fact, the agency's executive director has ruled on a preliminary basis that the plant's permit application "meets all of the requirements of a standard permit authorized by (state regulations) which would establish the conditions under which the plant must operate."

*Continued. See Concrete Plant, p. 8*



LOCATION OF CONCRETE PLANT IS NEAR RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD AND NEW PCT. 2 JAMES DRIVER ALL-INCLUSIVE PARK

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# WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

## Sylvia Mendez awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom

Women's History Month /  
One of a weekly series

By Allan Jamail

March 29, 2022 Women's History Month - Sylvia Mendez at age eight, played an instrumental role in the Mendez v. Westminster case, the landmark desegregation case of 1946. The case successfully ended de jure segregation in California and paved the way for integration and the American civil rights movement. Later in life for her continued activism for civil and equal rights she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the United States' highest civilian honor, on February 15, 2011 by President Obama. (See Mendez wearing Freedom Medal in photo)

Upon receiving the medal Sylvia Mendez smiled through tears when President Barack Obama draped the Medal of Freedom around her neck, overcome as she remembered the desegregation fight her parents waged on her behalf.

"I never could have

imagined as a child battling segregation that I would end up one day meeting the president and receiving such a tremendous honor," said Mendez, 74, of Fullerton, CA. "My parents just wanted what was best for their children. So I have made it my life's work to spread their message."

In 1947 Mendez's parents challenged the practice of school segregation in California. The Mendez couple, joined by the families of Ramirez, Palomino, Estrada and Guzman, filed a lawsuit against the Westminster, Garden Grove, Santa Ana and El Modena (in Orange) school districts on behalf of 5,000 children who had been excluded from attending white-only schools.

The Mendez v. Westminster case made California the first state in the nation to end school segregation, paving the way for Brown v. Board of Education. Attorney Thurgood Marshall's amicus brief filed for Mendez on behalf of the NAACP contained the arguments he would later use in the famous Brown case.

Mendez grew up during



Sylvia Mendez is an American civil rights activist of Mexican and Puerto Rican heritage.



Sylvia Mendez when she was 8 years old.

a time when most southern and southwestern schools were segregated. In the case of California, Hispanics were not allowed to attend schools that were designated for "Whites" only and were sent to the

so-called "Mexican schools." The school principal when denying Sylvia to attend said, "Her skin is too dark for her to attend here." And told her parents she'd have to attend Hoover Elementary that was a two-room wooden shack in the middle of the city's Mexican neighborhood, along with the other Hispanics.

When Sylvia Mendez was denied enrollment to a "WHITES ONLY" school, that event prompted her parents to take action and together organized various sectors of the Hispanic community who filed a lawsuit in the local feder-

al court. The success of their action, of which Sylvia was the principal catalyst, would eventually bring to an end the era of segregated education.

On May 23, 2018, the school Sylvia was denied to attend the board of Berkeley Unified School District voted unanimously to rename Le Conte Elementary School, Sylvia Mendez Elementary School. The school is a Spanish-English two-way immersion school. Mendez has been a spokesperson at Berkeley schools and her story has been inspirational to Berkeley students, teachers, and parents.



Felicitas Gómez Martínez de Mendez & Gonzalo Méndez parents of Sylvia Mendez.

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In Aldine everyone reads the NORTHEAST NEWS

## HIGH MEADOWS LIBRARY NEWS

### 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.

### FREE WIFI HOTSPOTS AT 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.

### BECOME A FRIEND OF THE LIBRARY:

We need YOU to become a friend of the library. We are currently looking for individuals who would like to help us form a group to be the voice of the community! If you have what it takes, please contact Jennifer at [jennifer.nandlal@hcpl.net](mailto:jennifer.nandlal@hcpl.net).

### TAX FORMS

If you need 1040 or 4868 Extension Forms, the library has a limited supply of forms and instruction booklets. We also have extension forms.

### VOTER REGISTRATION

Register to vote at your local library. We have registration forms available in English & Spanish.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are seeking volunteers to help teach our ESL Classes. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer with the library, please contact us and ask for Jennifer.

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

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LITTLE. TOGETHER WE  
CAN DO SO MUCH."**

## BAA Zumba in the Park draws crowds

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



### GREEN FOREST CIVIC CLUB

Thanks to the volunteers who helped us at our table. L-R Sitting: Napoleon, volunteer lady in turquoise, Jovita. Standing behind them L-R: Jose Luis Acevedo, Marina Sugg, Kenneth Sugg, Annie LaMott, Lucy Hernandez. In front of table, Mr. & Mrs. Ronquillo, parents of Shirley Ronquillo.

## AIRLINE LIBRARY NEWS

### JOB LAB

If you are interested in gaining or improving your resumé skills, we can help! Come join us Apr. 8, 1-2pm, in the computer lab to work on creating your resumé!

### CRAFTY CORNER

Join us for Crafty Corner on Sat. April 9 at 2pm! We'll be making birdfeeders & bug houses out of natural and recycled materials to support the wildlife in our yards or on our balconies. A naturalist will be available to talk about the importance of nurturing and protecting pollinators by providing spaces for them.

### 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](http://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 you track your journey.

### TEEN THURSDAYS

New in April! Teen Thursdays are back! Join us on Thursday afternoons starting at 3:30pm. Each week we will have a fun activity for teens ages 12-18.

### LENA

Registration is still open for the English session of Lena Start at Aldine Branch Library this Spring!

Qualifying participants may be eligible to receive \$100!

To register call (832)927-5410 or email [ald@hcpl.net](mailto:ald@hcpl.net). 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!

### 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](mailto: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

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## GFCC Booth had 2 petitions to sign

By Marina Sugg and Ruben Salazar

On Saturday, March 19, members and volunteers of Green Forest Civic Club (GFCC) participated in Bonding Against Adversity's "#Covid 19 Zumba Event at the Park" at James Driver Inclusive Park on Bentley. The civic club was pushing signatures on two important petitions concerning major issues in East Aldine.

One petition was to PROTEST the proposed construction of another CONCRETE BATCH PLANT (CBP) in East Aldine (EA). Marina Flores Sugg, Vice President of GFCC, said that Avant Garde Construction Co.'s plans were to build the CBP on Eastex Fwy near Little York, next door to James Driver Inclusive Park, the Tasfield Subdivision, and a couple of blocks away from Scarborough Elementary and RYSS North East STEM Academy. Marina added that GFCC members were concerned because there were already eight (8) other concrete plants in EA. She said she confirmed the harm concrete dust does to people by conducting a simple search on the

internet. Marina also said that she, civic club president, Ruben A. Salazar, and all of the GFCC members, were strongly encouraging EA residents to protest the construction of this new plant by registering their eComment with the TCEQ at <https://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/>, Permit No. 167453. She said that residents could also register their comment at an in-person PUBLIC HEARING hosted by State Representative Armando Walle. She said the hearing was scheduled for Thursday, April 7, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at East Aldine Management District located at 2909 E. Aldine Amphitheater Dr., in the East Aldine Town Center.

Marina then said that the other petition they were pushing at the Zumba event was for the EXPANSION of ALDINE-WESTFIELD RD. (AWR), the section that ran through East Aldine. She said that AWR belonged to the City of Houston, NOT Harris County, and that it was the CoH's responsibility to work on this road. She added that most of AWR was in pretty good condition, except the section that ran through East Aldine from

Little York to Beltway 8. She said that GFCC members agreed that expansion and repair of AWR was long overdue!

Marina also said that another project of GFCC was called "Light Up East Aldine." Through this project, GFCC was advocating for streetlights for all of East Aldine. She said GFCC was continuously gathering information from the EA community through social media and providing it to Harris County Pct. 2 and the East Aldine Management District. She said that, so far, GFCC had been involved in bringing streetlights to the neighborhoods of Oakwilde (East), High Meadows (South), Fairgreen, and Eastex Freeway Forest (South).

For additional information about Green Forest Civic Club, "Like" or "Follow" their page, Green Forest Civic Club, on Facebook, and/or contact them by email at [greenforestcc1983@gmail.com](mailto:greenforestcc1983@gmail.com). Their monthly meetings are held on the LAST TUESDAY of each month in the offices of the East Aldine Management District, 2909 E. Aldine Amphitheater Dr., Houston, TX 77039.

## SCHOOL NEWS PAGE

## Message from the Superintendent, March 29, 2022

Dear Aldine Community,

We know that the mind, body, and heart are just as important if not critical to helping students' academic growth and better handling of life's challenges and stresses. The spring semester is always exciting and full of opportunities for students, families, and staff members. One of those opportunities was Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Week, which began last week with a professional learning day for all teachers focused on empathy, relationship-building, self-care, and restorative practices. The week ended with educators at schools across the district sharing how they support SEL on their campuses on social media. It was exciting to see the district's administrative staff participate. The SEL and Culture Department transformed the Administrative Building with a multitude of booths with mindfulness and self-care activities, a staff wellness room, and invited district partners who provide support for our SEL initiatives.

It was also great to see more than 400 community members who attended the district's inaugural Family Health Fair, hosted by the Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Department. Thank you to all who took advantage of the opportunity to focus on health.

This week, FACE continues to host its Power of Education Series, featuring guest speaker Robert Harper II. The series, which runs through March 31, centers on providing tools to conquer self-doubt and encourages a growth mindset.

Spring is the period when students, including my daughter, a senior, anticipate high school rights of passage like prom. Individual schools will begin promoting these activities, so please be on the lookout for more information from your school's leadership team.

Graduation is another milestone many seniors are looking forward to. Each high school campus graduation ceremony will be held at the M.O. Campbell Educational Center. The first ceremony is set for May 26.

Springtime is also about growth, and we are doing just that. Our latest Choice School option was born out of our dedication to student achievement and builds on our strategic plan to give all students access to high-quality schools and educational experiences that prepare them for their future. Our all-boys campus will be named Impact Leadership Academy at Wilson. The academy is geared toward students in grades first through eighth. Boys at the campus will thrive in a school culture where they will have opportunities and resources to explore deeper learning, prepare them for high school and college, and ultimately close the achievement gap.

We are also expanding the additional school year calendar (ADSY) at two more schools — Harris and Smith elementary schools — after the initiative's success at Ermel Elementary School and Vines Primary this year. For students attending the district's four schools on the ADSY calendar, the first day of instruction is July 18, 2022.

March is Women's History Month, so it is fitting that the featured guests on the most recent episode of All The Things: The Aldine ISD Podcast are two outstanding district leaders — Associate Superintendent Dr. Xóchitl Rodríguez and School Assistant Superintendent Dr. Faviola Cantú. I encourage you to click here to listen as they discuss how the women in their lives empowered them to be tenacious, speak their minds, and walk with purpose.

César Chávez Day is on Thursday, March 31. Chávez, along with fellow labor leader and activist Dolores Huerta, co-founded the National Farmworkers Association. It later merged with the Agricultur-



al Workers Organizing Committee to become the United Farm Workers. The observation celebrates contributions that Latinos and people of color made for the betterment of our country. We should not, cannot, and will not allow anyone to erase their contributions from the pages of history. Our children need role models, and César Chávez is a role model our students can look up to for his courage and humanitarian work. Remember ¡Sí se puede! — Yes, we can!

Lastly, I want to congratulate the MacArthur boys' and girls' soccer teams, who advanced to the area round of the playoffs. Show your support to these two teams who play today.

Have a great rest of the week, and let's continue to create meaningful learning experiences for students in the last quarter of the school year.

With Aldine Pride,

Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney  
Superintendent

### UPCOMING EVENTS

•**Mar. 22-31:** Power of Education Series — Upcoming dates are March 29 (Carver HS), March 30 (Anderson Academy), and March 31 (Cypresswood ES). Click here for details.

•**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.

•**April 1:** Virtual Parent Meeting on the STAAR Assessments — Families will learn about the state-mandated STAAR assessments and how to assist their children at home. Click here for details and how to register.

•**April 9:** 2022 TeenBookCon — Aldine ISD will host this year's free event at Davis High School. Popular young adult authors to speak on panel sessions throughout the day and participate in Q&A sessions. This year's event is back in person and has a virtual access option.

### OBSERVATIONS

#### March

•**Month of March:** Women's History Month

•**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. Click on the FAFSA application or TASFA application links.

•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 and any updates at [www.aldineisd.org/healthalerts](http://www.aldineisd.org/healthalerts).

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

## ALDINE ISD NEWS

### Aldine ISD Announces Expansion of ADSY to 2 Additional Elementary Schools

**Additional Days School Year offers many benefits instrumental in students' growth.**

Aldine ISD has decided to expand the Additional Days School Year (ADSY) program to Harris and Smith elementary schools in the 2022-2023 school year. After its successful pilot launch of ADSY at Vines Primary and Ermel Elementary schools in the 2021-2022 school year, the district moved to expand. The state-funded ADSY initiative added 30 days throughout the regular school calendar. It was created by the community, for the community, through feedback collection. All ADSY school students and staff will begin the new school year on July 18, 2022, and the school year will conclude on June 16, 2023. Students will attend school for 210 days during the 2022-2023 school year. Staff will attend eight days of professional development for 216 days.

"Based on the amazing year both Ermel and Vines had upon implementing ADSY at their respective campuses, we are looking forward to implementing the initiative here at Smith," Smith Principal Ida Carter said. "We are thrilled to bring the opportunity of carrying the momentum of each school year through to the next for our students while also applying innovative learning practices that

will equip our students with the tools they need to be successful in life."

With the expansion of ADSY, Aldine continues its commitment to providing choices and opportunities to students and families. ADSY offers several benefits for students, staff, and families, including:

- Increased achievement and growth opportunities for Hispanic and African American learners

- More recess and brain breaks during the school day for students, with more class time directed at their individual needs and working on projects with peers.

- Additional time for staff to collaborate (including small-group time), plan for students' needs and participate in professional development.

- More time for families to hear about their child's progress, see what their students are learning and creating, and connect with their respective campuses.

"I am thrilled that Aldine has chosen to keep this initiative in place and expand it to additional schools," Ermel Principal Erik Torres said. "The additional instructional time, project-based learning, and whole child approach we implemented between last school year and this year has been instrumental in our students' growth."

### Aldine ISD Names Newest All-Boys Choice School

Impact Leadership Academy at Wilson will be the name of Aldine ISD's newest Choice School. The academy will focus on developing young males of color, slated to open during the 2022-2023 school year.

An extension of the district's five-year strategic plan, A New Way Forward, the academy is geared toward students in grades first through eighth students. The academy's goal is to provide a culture in which students will thrive and opportunities and resources for boys to explore deeper learning, prepare them for high school and college, and ultimately close the achievement gap. The school is part of a collaborative partnership with Prairie View A&M University and will also allow students to learn more about community engagement, social justice, and advocacy work.

"Impact Leadership Academy was born out of our dedication to student achievement," said Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney. "Impact Leadership Academy builds on Aldine ISD's strategic plan to give all district students access to high-quality schools and educational experiences that prepare them for school, college, career, and life," said Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney.

Impact Leadership Academy at Wilson will open next fall with boys in grades 1, 2, and 6. The campus will eventually serve boys in grades 1-8. The school will enroll 125 students for each grade level. Once the campus reaches capacity, additional students may be enrolled utilizing a lottery system.

The selection of a current Aldine ISD campus was determined to be the best use

of district resources. The district selected Wilson Elementary School as it utilized less than 30% of its building capacity with several nearby campuses that are not at their total capacity and can accept additional students.

The district will rezone students currently enrolled at Wilson Elementary School to neighboring campuses, Carter Academy and Carmichael Elementary School. Current Wilson ES school students in grades 1 and 5 will have priority.

Jonathan Kegler, who currently serves as Assistant Principal of Jones Middle School, looks forward to serving as Principal of Impact Preparatory and is excited to welcome students, staff, and parents in the fall.

"I sincerely believe in a school environment that is collaborative in nature and draws on the strengths of all stakeholders in striving for improving student outcomes," said Kegler. "Working together makes a difference in the lives of our students, and I look forward to working with all the wonderful students, parents, staff, and members of the community to make this year a success."

In January, Kegler and Adrian Bustillos, Aldine ISD's Chief Transformation Officer, shared more about the new academy during an Aldine ISD podcast. [Listen to the episode, 'New Campus on the Block.'](#)

The district announced the opening of its newest Choice School and first all-boys school during a virtual media event last October. [Watch the virtual media event here.](#)

### District to Host The Power of Education Speaker Series Starting March 22

Robert Harper II



The Power of Education Series will feature Robert Harper II. Harper is a sensational motivational speaker, author, educator, and minister with a style that's all his own and a message full of hope, passion, and sincerity. He is a native of Houston, TX, and a graduate of the University of Houston.

Robert is also the author of the book *Talk to Yourself*, designed to give individuals the tools to conquer self-doubt, limited thinking, and negative self-talk and take them from a fixed mindset to a growth mindset.

There will be six different opportunities to attend The Power of Education speaker series, which the Department of Family and Community Engagement is presenting:

#### Dates/Times and Locations

March 22, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Nimitz High School 2005 W.W. Thorne Dr.

March 23, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Jones Elementary School 7903 Forest Point Dr.

March 24, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Francis Elementary 6525 Greens Rd.

March 29, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Carver High School 2100 South Victory St.

March 30, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Anderson Academy 7401 Wheatley St.

March 31, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Cypresswood Elementary 6901 Cypresswood Point Ave.

Please direct all questions to FACE Specialist Ivan Tamayo: [itamayo@aldineisd.org](mailto:itamayo@aldineisd.org).

OPINION PAGE

OPINION

By U.S. Senator JOHN CORNYN



Cornyn Travels to Poland, Germany

The group of 10 senators visited U.S. troops and met with military leaders, Ukrainian civil society, refugees and NGOs, and U.S. State Department personnel.

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) returned from a congressional delegation (CODEL) to Poland and Germany this weekend. The delegation included Senators Joni Ernst (R-IA), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), Susan Collins (R-ME), Jerry Moran (R-KS), Angus King (I-ME), Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), Steve Daines (R-MT), Jacky Rosen (D-NV), and Roger Marshall (R-KS).

“Poland, Germany, and really all of our NATO allies in Europe have been heroic in their response. It was heartwarming to see how they have opened their hearts, doors, and homes to the women and children, the elderly and infirm trying to make their way out of Ukraine for safety,” said Sen. Cornyn. “Ukrainians are showing great courage, but one thing we heard is that they need more humanitarian relief and weapons to defend themselves and their country. We ought to provide the Ukrainians what we know they need, and that was a subject of intense questioning and discussion during our visit.”

Yesterday, Sen. Cornyn joined Fox News’ America’s Newsroom to discuss the trip and future support for Ukraine.

Background:

The bipartisan delegation engaged with military leaders from United States Army Europe-Africa (USAREUR-AF) in Wiesbaden, Germany about the United States’ and NATO alliances’ commitment to freedom over tyranny. Sen. Cornyn had the opportunity to thank Texans serving overseas in Germany.

From there, the delegation met with U.S. officials in Berlin at the U.S. Embassy to get an up-to-date brief on American-German long-term economic and security cooperation goals

In Berlin, the group of bipartisan senators discussed our continued security partnership with German State Secretary of the Federal Foreign Office Andreas Michaelis. The members met with German Parliamentarians over dinner in Berlin.

The next day, the senators had a security briefing with U.S. Army leadership in Poland and learned more about their effort to assist and deter Russia from further aggression. The military leaders then led a roundtable discussion with the senators, NATO allied military leaders, and non-government organizations (NGOs) helping with the humanitarian needs in Ukraine and throughout Europe.

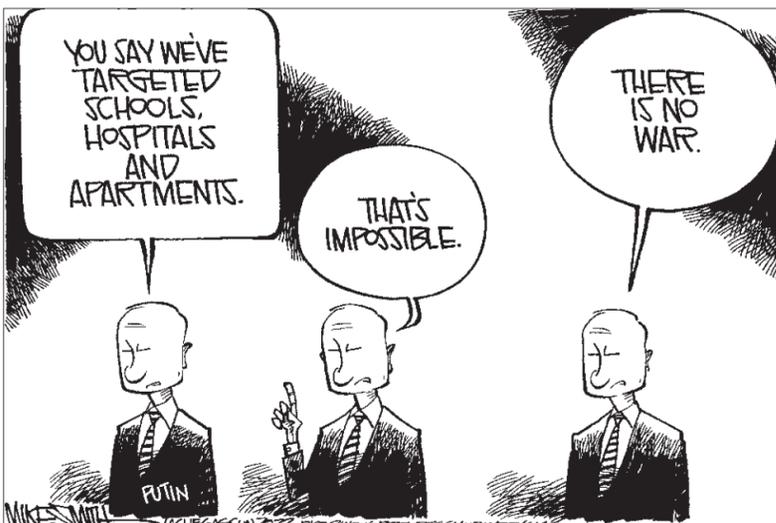
The bipartisan delegation visited a refugee processing center near the Ukrainian-Polish border where they saw firsthand how organizations are working with the Polish military and government to care for Ukrainians who’ve fled their homes.

The final stop in Poland was a discussion with members of Ukrainian civil society. This included a group of passionate women who provided a clear message to the senators: Ukraine needs more military and lethal aid to win this fight. Sen. Cornyn discussed his Ukraine Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act during this meeting as an additional effort to support Ukraine with military equipment. Included in the meeting were State Department officials originally stationed at Embassy Kyiv.

On the last day of the CODEL, the 10 senators visited a U.S. Army base in Grafenwohr, Germany. They received a firsthand briefing of the military mission, met with constituents from each of the states represented on the CODEL, and saw the might of the U.S. Army in action.

The bipartisan CODEL returned to the United States late on Sunday, March 20.

Senator John Cornyn, a Republican from Texas, is a member of the Senate Finance, Intelligence, and Judiciary Committees.



THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

A Dog Knows

“What a sweet dog!” I said, in Spanish.

“She is a sweet dog,” the man walking her answered, in English. He had an Irish accent and was walking the young dog down the street as my husband, Peter, and I made our way home from dinner.

“And she has no idea what will happen tomorrow,” he added.

“What will happen tomorrow?” I asked.

“She will get on a plane and fly to California!” he said.

“Really?” “Really,” He sounded a little sad.

“Are you going with her?” I asked.

“No,” he said, “I am not. I’ve just been taking care of her until she is ready for her forever home.”

“Oh my gosh! She will miss you,” I told him.

“I will miss her!” he answered. Then he added, “Maybe she will miss me, too—for a little while.”

I had heard about this. Peter and I are staying in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, and they have several dog rescue operations. Street dogs are picked up and fostered until they have all their vaccinations and deworming done. Then they either find homes here in town, or are flown or driven off to the U.S. to be adopted.

I looked at the little brown dog with floppy ears and a concerned look on her face. If she was concerned now, I wondered how she was going to feel when she was put into an airplane full of dogs headed to California.

But it was good she would have a home. One of the many things I like about this town in Mexico is that every dog seems to have a home—or will soon find one.

There is the miniature poodle mix who was a stray three years ago and now has a string of sparkly plastic pearls and a perfect coif as she walks down the street with her owner. There is a black Lab whose owner sells lunches to the folks catching the bus. Keeping his owner company all day while she sells burritos is exhausting work. By afternoon, the Lab has his chin resting on the step, watching the pedestrians go by, too tired to move anything but his eyes.

“You are a such tired dog!” I tell him when I pass. “Pobrecito! Poor baby!” The dog agrees. His owner laughs.

I see all these dogs—some happily in their homes, some seeking new ones—and I know I’m no different from them. A dog needs relatively simple things to be happy, and so do I. The only difference between us is that a dog knows what it needs, whereas I often make the mistake of thinking the things I need to be happy are complicated.

I need satisfying work and healthy food. I need to take my walk every day and I need a safe home. I need to know I am cared for and, sometimes, I need to play.

I’m thinking of that dog on her way to California. I’m wishing the best for her. She’s headed to a new life and a new world filled with experiences she’s never had and luxuries she’s never dreamed of. The people who will adopt her will never know where she came from or what she had to go through before her big plane ride. She’ll probably get a nice bed and good food, and she’ll go on vacations and maybe, in time, even get a little fat. I’m happy for her.

But I’m even happier for the people who will be her new family. I think she’ll have a lot to teach them.

Till next time, Carrie

Carrie Classon’s memoir is called “Blue Yarn.” Learn more at [CarrieClasson.com](http://CarrieClasson.com).

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Wildfire risk remains high in much of state

Much of the state remains at considerable risk for wildfires through this week, largely because of higher-than-usual temperatures and drought conditions. More than 40% of the state is suffering extreme drought conditions, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. Nearly the entire state is in some form of drought, with much of the Panhandle, High Plains and west central Texas most at risk.

Nearly 123,000 acres in Texas have burned in March alone, according to Texas A&M Forest Service. Earlier this month, more than 54,000 acres burned in Eastland County, between Fort Worth and Abilene. A sheriff’s deputy died while trying to rescue others from that blaze.

A fast-moving fire forced Medina County residents near Medina Lake to evacuate on Saturday, according to the San Antonio Express-News. That blaze reportedly started with a vehicle fire and quickly covered nearly 1,000 acres.

Climate change is playing a role in this hot and dry spring, John Nielsen-Gammon, the state climatologist, told the Texas Tribune.

“There are enhanced chances of warmer-than-normal weather for literally the foreseeable future because of the combination of La Niña and climate change,” Nielsen-Gammon said.

La Niña is a weather pattern that occurs in the Pacific Ocean. It typically brings colder, wetter weather to the Northwest and drier, hotter conditions in Texas and the South.

INSURANCE TIPS AFTER SPRING STORMS

It’s spring storm season. More than two dozen tornadoes swept through Central and East Texas early last week, damaging about 1,000 homes from Round Rock, north of Austin, to Gilmer in Northeast Texas. The Texas Department of Insurance is available to provide contact information for insurance companies to homeowners and businesses and can also



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

help with questions about how to file a claim. Its Help Line —800-252-3439 — is staffed from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

TDI advises folks to report property damage as soon as possible to their insurance agent or company. Other tips:

- Take pictures and video of the damage. Don’t throw away anything until the insurance adjuster tells you.
- Make temporary repairs, such as covering broken windows and removing standing water.
- Don’t make permanent repairs before the adjuster sees the damage.

TPW AWARDS \$12.5 MILLION IN PARK GRANTS

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission last week awarded more than \$12.5 million in grants to enhance and expand outdoor recreational spaces at 26 community parks statewide. The money is provided on a 50/50 match and is used to create more nature trails, native gardens, playgrounds, dog parks and athletic fields.

Money was awarded in three categories: cities with more than 500,000 population, cities with less than 500,000 population and towns of less than 20,000 population. A complete list of grant recipients can be found at [tpwd.texas.gov/newsmedia/releases](http://tpwd.texas.gov/newsmedia/releases).

ARLINGTON DOCTOR GETS PRISON TIME FOR FRAUD, DRUG CRIMES

A federal judge sentenced an Arlington doctor to 12 years in prison after he pleaded guilty to sub-

mitting fraudulent bills for physical therapy and office exams and illegally issuing prescriptions for controlled substances. Dr. Clinton Battle pleaded guilty last July to the charges after an investigation conducted by the Texas Division of Workers’ Compensation’s Fraud Unit and federal investigators.

“Health care fraud impacts everyone in the Texas workers’ compensation system, and thanks to the teamwork between the Texas Division of Workers’ Compensation (DWC) Fraud Unit and federal investigators, we were able to ensure justice was served in this case,” said Debra Knight with DWC.

STUCK IN THE MIDDLE WITH YOU

This tidbit comes from “Game Warden Field Notes,” compiled from TPWD law enforcement reports:

“Val Verde County Game Wardens received information about a fishing boat that ran aground on the Rio Grande River. The area recently accumulated excess silt from the Amistad Dam. Combined with decreasing water levels on the river, the exposed silt became sticky and acted as quicksand. The two boaters were unharmed but unable to vacate the boat without sinking into the mud.

One of the wardens moved to an overlook point and located the boat. The wardens confirmed there was no way to reach them through waterways or on land. A call was placed for a helicopter with hoist capability. A municipal helicopter reached the individuals, and the rescue was completed successfully. The boaters did not require medical attention.”

COVID-19 CASES, DEATHS RISE IN PAST WEEK

The number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas doubled in the past week compared to the previous week, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. A total of 37,030 cases and 533 new deaths were reported, both up considerably in what could be a timing issue. New cases, spurred by the omicron variant, have dropped considerably since January.

Reflecting that trend, despite this week’s increase, the number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations as of Sunday dropped to 1,245, down 22% from the previous week.

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](mailto:gborders@texaspress.com).

LETTERS To The Editor

To The Editor,

Thanks so much for the coverage of my chairmanship for the upcoming “March of Dimes March for Babies!” It’s a great cause and I’m happy to be involved. And I Love being featured in my hometown paper!

---Jeanna Bamberg

CEO HCA Healthcare Southeast

NORTHEAST NEWS

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# SPANISH PAGE

## Mensaje de la Superintendente, 29 de Marzo de 2022

### Estimada comunidad de Aldine,

Sabemos que la mente, el cuerpo y el corazón son importantes, sino críticos, para ayudar al crecimiento académico de los alumnos y a manejar mejor los desafíos y el estrés de la vida. El semestre de primavera siempre es emocionante y está lleno de oportunidades para alumnos, familias y miembros del personal. Una de esas oportunidades fue la Semana de Aprendizaje Social y Emocional (SEL por sus siglas en inglés) que comenzó la semana pasada con un día de aprendizaje profesional para todos los maestros centrándose en la empatía, la construcción de relaciones, el autocuidado y las prácticas restaurativas. La semana terminó con educadores en escuelas de todo el distrito compartiendo cómo apoyan a SEL en sus escuelas en las redes sociales. Fue emocionante ver participar al personal administrativo del distrito. El Departamento de SEL y Cultura transformó el Edificio Administrativo con una multitud de cabinas con actividades de atención plena y autocuidado, una sala de bienestar para el personal y socios invitados que brindan apoyo a nuestras iniciativas de SEL.

También fue genial ver a más de 400 miembros de la comunidad que asistieron a la Feria de Salud Familiar inaugural del distrito el sábado. Gracias a todos los que aprovecharon la oportunidad para enfocarse en la salud. Esta se-



mana, FACE continúa organizando sesiones presentadas en la Serie *Power of Education* (El poder de la educación) de FACE, con el orador invitado Robert Harper II. La serie que se extenderá hasta el 31 de marzo, se centra en proporcionar herramientas para conquistar la duda y fomenta una mentalidad de crecimiento.

La primavera es el período en el que los alumnos, incluida mi hija, una estudiante de último año de la escuela secundaria (*high school*), anticipan los derechos de paso de la escuela secundaria como el baile de graduación. Las escuelas individuales comenzarán a promover estas actividades, así que esté atento a más información del equipo de liderazgo de su escuela. Otra es la graduación que muchos alumnos de último año de *high school* están esperando. Cada ceremonia de graduación de cada escuela secundaria se llevará a cabo en el Centro Educativo M.O. Campbell. La primera ceremonia está programada para el 26 de mayo.

La primavera también tiene que ver con el crecimiento y estamos ha-

ciendo precisamente eso. Nuestra última opción de Choice School (Escuelas de Opción) nació de nuestra dedicación al logro estudiantil y se basa en nuestro plan estratégico para brindar a todos los alumnos acceso a escuelas de alta calidad y experiencias educativas que los preparan para su futuro. Nuestro colegio de sólo un género se llamará Impact Leadership Academy at Wilson. La academia está dirigida a alumnos masculinos de primer a

octavo grado. Los niños en el colegio prosperarán en una cultura escolar donde tendrán oportunidades y recursos para explorar un aprendizaje más profundo, prepararnos para la escuela secundaria y la universidad y en última instancia, cerrar la brecha de rendimiento. También estamos expandiendo el calendario adicional del año escolar (ADSY por sus siglas en inglés) en dos escuelas más, las escuelas primarias Harris y Smith, después del éxito de la iniciativa en Ermel Elementary School y Vines Primary este año. Para los alumnos que asisten a las cuatro escuelas del distrito en el calendario ADSY, el primer día de instrucción es el 18 de julio de 2022.

•Marzo es el Mes de la Mujer, por lo que es apropiado que las invitadas destacadas en el episodio más reciente de All The Things: The Aldine ISD Podcast sean dos increíbles líderes del distrito: la Superintendente Asociada Dra. Xóchitl Rodríguez y la

Superintendente Asistente Escolar Dra. Faviola Cantú. Les animo a que hagan clic aquí para escuchar mientras discuten cómo las mujeres en sus vidas las empoderaron para ser tenaces, decir lo que piensan y caminar con propósito.

El Día de César Chávez es el jueves 31 de marzo. Chávez, junto con la también líder sindical y activista Dolores Huerta, fundaron la Asociación Nacional de Trabajadores Agrícolas. Más tarde se fusionó con el Comité Organizador de Trabajadores Agrícolas para convertirse en el United Farm Workers. La observación celebra las contribuciones que los latinos y las personas de color hicieron para el mejoramiento de nuestro país. No debemos, no podemos y no permitiremos que nadie borre sus contribuciones de las páginas de la historia. Nuestros niños necesitan modelos a seguir y César Chávez es un modelo a seguir que nuestros alumnos pueden admirar por su coraje y trabajo humanitario. Recuerdan ¡Sí se puede!

Por último, quiero felicitar a los equipos de fútbol masculino y femenino de MacArthur, que avanzaron a la ronda de área de los *playoffs*. Por favor muestren su apoyo a estos dos equipos que juegan hoy.

Espero que tengan una buena semana y continuemos creando experiencias de aprendizaje significativas para los alumnos en el último trimestre del ciclo escolar.

Orgullosa de nuestro distrito,  
Dra. LaTonya M. Goffney Superintendente

### PRÓXIMOS EVENTOS

•**22-31 de Marzo:** Power of Education (El poder de la educación) — Las próximas fechas son el 29 de marzo (Carver HS), el 30 de marzo (Anderson Academy) y el 31 de marzo (Cypresswood ES). Hagan clic aquí para detalles.

•**En curso hasta el 31 de mayo:** Se abre la pre-inscripción 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.

•**1 de abril:** Reunión virtual para padres donde se hablara de la prueba STAAR (exámenes mandatorios por el estado). Las familias aprenderán acerca de las evaluaciones STAAR y cómo ayudar a sus hijos en casa. Hagan clic aquí para obtener más información y cómo inscribirse para participar.

•**9 de Abril:** TeenBook-Con 2022 Aldine ISD será anfitrión del evento gratuito este año que se celebrará en Davis High School. Autores de literatura para adultos jóvenes populares hablarán en sesiones de panel durante todo el día y participarán en sesiones de preguntas y respuestas. El evento de este año está de vuelta en persona y tiene una opción de acceso virtual. Hagan clic aquí para obtener más detalles o inscribirse para participar.

### OBSERVACIONES

#### March

• **March:** Women's History Month

•**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 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. Hagan clic en el enlace de la solicitud de FAFSA o solicitud TASF-A.

•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 noticia en [www.aldineisd.org/healthalerts](http://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.

# ENTERTAINMENT

### Amber Waves



### R.F.D.



### The Spats



### Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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	4		2			8		
7			3					5
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		9			7	4		

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 BOLTIHOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Hair is different. 2. Bush is missing. 3. Arm is missing. 4. Shirt is different. 5. Vase/urn is missing. 6. Poster is missing. 7. Skipper is missing. 8. Arm is moved. 9. Skipper. 10. Ireland.

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### March 28, 2022 Posting Date King Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
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**ACROSS**  
 1 Bar legally  
 6 Decorator's theme  
 11 Floodgate  
 12 Apple music service  
 14 Maidens of myth  
 15 Nap  
 16 Doctrine  
 17 Varieties  
 19 Up to  
 20 Casual tops  
 22 — Paulo  
 23 Optimum  
 24 Passover repast  
 26 Heller and Conrad  
 28 Chips go-with  
 30 Small barrel  
 31 High-ranking angels  
 35 Nintendo princess  
 39 Neural transmitter  
 40 Snitch  
 42 Eye drop  
 43 Spasm  
 44 Croc's kin  
 46 GI's address  
 47 Runs off to wed  
 49 Transforms (into)  
 51 Safe and sound

**DOWN**  
 6 Identified incorrectly  
 7 Elevator name  
 8 Calendar abbr.  
 9 Foot part  
 10 Fixation  
 11 Tizzies  
 13 Mariners  
 18 British rule of India  
 21 Auto style  
 23 Sire  
 25 Shred  
 27 "— who?"  
 29 Sentence parts

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### Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- LANGUAGE: What is a demonym?
- MEDICAL: What's the common name of a condition called otitis externa?
- GEOGRAPHY: Which large body of water lies to the south of Ukraine?
- FOOD & DRINK: Which nut is used to make marzipan?
- LITERATURE: Who is the author of the poem "The Gift Outright," which was read at President John Kennedy's inauguration in 1961?
- MEASUREMENTS: What is an octant?
- GEOLOGY: Which mineral is the softest on the Mohs Scale?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is the name of a porcupine's baby?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the name of Barbie's younger sister, introduced in 1964?
- HISTORY: In which country did the Easter Rising take place in 1916?

**Answers**

**King Crossword**

Solution time: 21 mins.

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# Family Day at Sylvester Turner Park April 9



Students from Aldine Carver High School dress as animals and join local children in dancing at Family Day at Sylvester Turner Park. This year's event is April 9. Entertainment, games and food are all free.

## The Fun Begins April 9

Sylvester Turner Park is where the fun begins Saturday, April 9, with music, baseball, games and food.

The 14th Family Day will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 19, at Sylvester Turner Park, 2800 West Little York. The event is free.

Family Day features three stages with music and other entertainment. J. Paul Jr. and the Zydeco Nubreeds, Carver High School Performing Arts Students, Tiger Rock Martial Arts, Operation Get Fit and more will perform throughout the afternoon.

There will be inflatable games, a rock wall to climb, train rides for the little kids, facepainting, a senior tent will provide a place to gather for our seniors and the Zoomobile will bring some animals to meet.

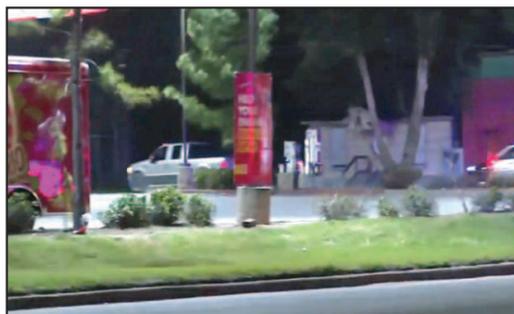
The Major League Baseball/Houston Astros Urban Youth Academy at the Park will hold youth baseball games on three of the park's fields beginning at 12 noon.

Better come hungry because the food is plentiful and free. Feast on turkey legs, hot dogs, sausage on a stick, corn on the cob, nachos, popcorn and snow cones.

Metro will be providing free shuttle buses from two off-site parking locations: Carver High School, 2100 S. Victory, and Lone Star College, Victory Campus, 4141 Victory. In addition, attendees can park free at Living Word Fellowship Church, 7350 T.C. Jester, and walk the two blocks to the Park.

Family Day at Sylvester Turner Park is produced by the Greater North Houston Youth Alliance and the Mayor's Office of Special Events. Special thanks to the Houston Police Department for organizing security. Big thanks to our sponsors: AT&T, Aldine ISD Police Department, Amerigroup, CenterPoint Energy, Coca-Cola, Comcast, Precinct 1 Constable Alan Rosen, the Harris County Sheriff's Office, HEB, the Houston Astros Foundation, Inframark, MLB/Houston Astros Urban Youth Academy, Major League Baseball, Pepsico, Plumbers Local 68, ReddyIce, Turkey Leg Hut and the following Houston City departments: Police, Neighborhoods, Parks and Recreation, Public Works and Solid Waste.

# Lengthy Police Chase ends on Chrisman in Aldine



The stolen pickup truck passes a gas station on Aldine Mail Route, with the Houston Police in pursuit at right.

North Harris County, March 26—Houston police said they tried several pit maneuvers to stop a pickup truck in a chase they were led on for 30 minutes, but in this case those tricks did not work on the suspected robbers.

The chase started near Little York Road and Shady Lane. It ended at about 1:40 a.m. Saturday at Chrisman and Aldine Mail Route in north Harris County.

Police said the chase started because the truck had been reported stolen out of Conroe and believed to have been used in multiple robberies.

During the chase, video shows officers trying to ram the pickup several

times to get it to stop. That is called a pit maneuver. It did not work.

"They did try several pit maneuvers during the car chase. The truck was very heavy. There was a lot of stuff in the back of the truck, so it wasn't successful," said Lt. R. Willkens.

Officers said the driver ran after stopping but was caught behind a trailer. Three people, including a woman, were taken into custody, according to police.

Police said they are looking into whether the suspects fired shots at someone around I-45 and Little York before the chase started.

No one was reported hurt during the chase.

# Rep. Sylvia Garcia secures \$10mil for Houston, South Houston, Galena Park and Jacinto City Projects

Washington, D.C. — Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia (TX-29) voted to pass the historic \$1.5 trillion Bipartisan Omnibus Appropriations Bill. As part of the package, 9 Community Project Funding (CPF) requests led by Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia were secured. The bill's transformative investment will help Texas families with cost-of-living increases, good-paying jobs, and local community projects.

"I was proud to secure nearly \$10,200,000 in Community Project Funding for Houstonians across our community," said Congresswoman Garcia. "These critical funds will invest in local neighborhoods, strengthen communities, and foster economic development for Texans. This will improve our district and benefit all district residents for years to come."

The legislation includes the following Community Project Funding secured by Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia:

— Project: City of Galena Park Water Line and Fire Protection Improvements

Amount: \$3,000,000

Background: This water infrastructure project will replace existing 80-year-old water mains serving a region from Market Street to Lane Street. This will yield a significant increase in water flow and pressure to ensure access to potable water and required water pressure for fire protection.

—Project: YMCA of Greater Houston, TX for the Early Childhood English Language Learner Initiative

Amount: \$700,000

Background: The project proposes to create and pilot the Early Childhood English Language Learner Initiative/ECELLI that aims to support the success of English Learners enrolled in licensed childcare facilities and home childcare programs in underserved communities.

—Project: The Houston Financial Empowerment Center (HFEC)

Amount: \$621,000

Background: The HFEC

Background: This water infrastructure project will replace existing 80-year-old water mains serving a region from Market Street to Lane Street. This will yield a significant increase in water flow and pressure to ensure access to potable water and required water pressure for fire protection.

—Project: YMCA of Greater Houston, TX for the Early Childhood English Language Learner Initiative

Amount: \$700,000

Background: The project proposes to create and pilot the Early Childhood English Language Learner Initiative/ECELLI that aims to support the success of English Learners enrolled in licensed childcare facilities and home childcare programs in underserved communities.

—Project: The Houston Financial Empowerment Center (HFEC)

Amount: \$621,000

Background: The HFEC

launched in January 2020 as a free, on-demand, professional financial counseling service for all Houstonians regardless of income, employment status, or resident status. The professionally trained counselors help individuals manage their finances, pay down debt, increase savings, establish and build credit, and access safe and affordable mainstream banking products. The program has three locations, including the Magnolia Park Multi-Service Center.

—Project: TXRX LABS, Houston, TX for employment and training activities, an apprenticeship program, and a youth STEM initiative.

Amount: \$550,000

Background: The project proposes to train more than 150 veterans and second-chance residents, and service another 75 adults through the apprenticeship programs. The youth STEM initiative will train over 500 local high school kids in innovative and relevant job skills for the future of our workforce.

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### BakerRipley is Hiring a Community Development Manager Description

The Manager of Community Development manages the day-to-day operations of the BakerRipley East Aldine Campus. The Manager oversees and leads the daily integration of all agency programs working and offering services on the campus. They will be responsible for leveraging resources and overseeing budget to align to program plans.

**Core Responsibilities:**

- Establishes meaningful relationships with community center members and partners in the East Aldine region; utilizes these relationships to increase community engagement and participation in campus activities.
- Thoughtful planning and execution of enrichment programming, workshops, and large scale events that meets the needs of the community.
- Effectively manages campus budget and campus data, and remains on target for budget and output goals.
- Promotes Appreciative Community Building to develop ideas for new programming, partnerships, and events.
- Develops and maintains tools and basic needs resources for community members facing economic, health, and disaster related crises.
- Oversee community center events, operations, and logistics
- Supervises Program Assistants and Community Resource Specialists
- Coordinates relationships and contracts with partners
- Works with the Community Developer to maintain strong relationships with community members, partners, community leaders, and stakeholders in order to better advocate for our neighbors.
- Support programs housed at the center
- Monitor budget and ensure programs remain on target with revenues and spending
- Submit budget recommendations for annual projections
- In partnership with Community Developer, serve as the leader of the Appreciative Community Building process in the neighborhood, and effectively uses information gathered through ACB to create programming and events.
- Collect and compile all data and evaluations required for compliance management and accountability reports.
- Monitor accuracy of all agency internal data management system
- Serve as safety liaison for community center
- Manage volunteer engagement
- Support civic engagement goals for the campus
- Ability to work flexible schedule, to include some evenings and weekends as needed

**Qualifications**

Education  
Required Bachelors or better

**Experience**

Required 3 years Community Development

BakerRipley East Aldine Campus  
3000 Aldine Mail Route  
Houston, TX 77039

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Req. No. MANAG002939

## We are hiring!

The East Aldine District is looking to fill the following two positions:

### Marketing Specialist

Responsible for managing, coordinating, and administering marketing and branding efforts on behalf of the East Aldine Management District, served by Hawes Hill & Associates LLP, in accordance with the district's approved Service and Improvement Plan. The Marketing Specialist reports to and works under the general supervision of the district's Executive Director.

### Community Engagement & Events Specialist

Responsible for managing, coordinating, and administering special events, activities, and programs as well as general community outreach on behalf of the East Aldine Management District, served by Hawes Hill & Associates LLP, in accordance with the district's approved Service and Improvement Plan. The Community Engagement & Events Specialist reports to and works under the general supervision of the district's Executive Director.

### District Services Assistant / Front Desk Attendant

This position serves as the first point of public contact for members of the public, guests, visitors, tenants, stakeholders, staffers, public officials, and all individuals who enter the East Aldine Management District's Town Center office facility located at 2909 East Aldine Amphitheatre Drive. The East Aldine Management District is a municipal management district served by Hawes Hill & Associates, LLP. The Front Desk Attendant/District Service Assistant reports to and works under the general supervision of the District Operations Manager and works closely with other District staff members to carry out day-to-day operations.

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# CHURCH PAGE

## BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey —

1. Is the book of Iscariot in the Old Testament, New Testament or neither?
2. From Matthew 28:2, who rolled back the stone from the door of Jesus' tomb and sat upon it? Simon, An angel, Villagers, Disciples
3. When Mary Magdalene and "the other Mary" came upon the risen Jesus, who did He ask them to inform? Priests, Disciples, No one, Villagers
4. From John 20, which disciple doubted Jesus had

risen unless he could see the wounds? Peter, Andrew, Thomas, Thaddeus

5. How long did Jesus remain after His resurrection before He ascended into heaven? Instantaneously, 1 hour, 7 days, 40 days
6. According to the apostle Paul, above what number saw the risen Christ at one time? 100, 300, 500, 1000

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) An angel; 3) Disciples; 4) Thomas (called Didymus); 5) 40 days (Acts 1:3); 6) 500 (1 Cor. 15:3-8)

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

## THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve.

1 Corinthians 15: 3-5

Detail of "The Resurrection" by Albrecht Dürer (1471-1528)



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PM Worship - 5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study: All Ages - 7:00 p.m.  
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LEGAL NOTICE	LEGAL NOTICE	LEGAL NOTICE	LEGAL NOTICE
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<h2 style="margin: 0;">NOTICE TO BIDDERS</h2> <p>SEALED BIDS, in duplicate, addressed to East Aldine Management District (EAMD), will be received at Cobb, Fendley &amp; Associates, 13430 Northwest Freeway, Suite 1100, Houston, Texas 77040 until 2 PM on April 21, 2022, at which time all bids will be opened and read for the construction of the project:</p> <p>"East Aldine Management District – East Mount Houston Esplanade Rehabilitation"</p> <p>The project work limit is East Mount Houston Road directly East and West of the intersection at Interstate 69. Project consists of the following major work items: installation of reinforced concrete pavement with monolithic curbs, re-installing &amp; re-sanding the concrete pavers as shown on plans. The work will also include minor localized resealing the expansion joints and minor repair of the damaged esplanades curb. The construction activities will require implementation of storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) &amp; Traffic Control Plan as indicated on plans.</p> <p>The above described construction will be performed in accordance with plans and specifications and any addenda thereto which may be issued prior to forty-eight (48) hours before the opening of bids. Prospective bidders may obtain drawings, specifications, and bidding documents at www.civcastusa.com without charge.</p> <p>There will be a Non-Mandatory pre-bid conference at Cobb Fendley &amp; Associates, 13430 Northwest Freeway, Suite 1100, Houston, Texas 77040 on April 14, 2022 at 1:30 PM.</p> <p>Each bid shall be accompanied by a bid guarantee in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, or acceptable Bid Bond, payable to East Aldine Management District in an amount not less than 5% of the maximum Bid price submitted, as a guarantee that the bidder will enter into a contract within Ten (10) days after receipt of the contract documents. The right is reserved, as the interest of the Authority may require, to reject any and all bids and/or to waive any informality in bids received.</p>							
<h1 style="margin: 0;">Business Directory</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">SHOP LOCALLY -- Save Time &amp; Money</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>SCREENS AND SHADES</b></p> <p><b>Beat the Heat!</b></p> <p>Exterior Solar Screens and Insect Shades</p> <p>Free Estimates</p> <p><b>832-247-4581</b></p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>UPHOLSTERY &amp; AWNING</b></p> <p>Tapiceria PRAT</p> <p><b>Upholstery &amp; Awning</b></p> <p>COMMERCIAL &amp; RESIDENTIAL</p> <p><b>RAPHAEL PRAT</b></p> <p>2021 Aldine Mail Rt. Suite 902 Houston, TX 77039</p> <p>281-590-7562</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>COMMERCIAL PRINTING</b></p> <p><b>Commercial Printing</b></p> <p>We specialize in 4 Color Brochures, Magazines, Sale Flyers, We print Newspapers, too.</p> <p>Call for a Quote</p> <p><b>GRAFIKSHOP</b></p> <p>713-977-2555</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>HOUSE CLEANING</b></p> <p>THE OLD LADY CLEANING SERVICE</p> <p>LET AN OLD LADY CLEAN YOUR HOME OR APARTMENT.</p> <p>REASONABLE RATES. OLD LADY APPROVED.</p> <p>CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT.</p> <p>281-961-2768</p> </td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">CALL 713-266-3444 to place your Business Card in our Directory. Thousands of Readers in this area will see your message.</p>				<p><b>SCREENS AND SHADES</b></p> <p><b>Beat the Heat!</b></p> <p>Exterior Solar Screens and Insect Shades</p> <p>Free Estimates</p> <p><b>832-247-4581</b></p>	<p><b>UPHOLSTERY &amp; AWNING</b></p> <p>Tapiceria PRAT</p> <p><b>Upholstery &amp; Awning</b></p> <p>COMMERCIAL &amp; RESIDENTIAL</p> <p><b>RAPHAEL PRAT</b></p> <p>2021 Aldine Mail Rt. Suite 902 Houston, TX 77039</p> <p>281-590-7562</p>	<p><b>COMMERCIAL PRINTING</b></p> <p><b>Commercial Printing</b></p> <p>We specialize in 4 Color Brochures, Magazines, Sale Flyers, We print Newspapers, too.</p> <p>Call for a Quote</p> <p><b>GRAFIKSHOP</b></p> <p>713-977-2555</p>	<p><b>HOUSE CLEANING</b></p> <p>THE OLD LADY CLEANING SERVICE</p> <p>LET AN OLD LADY CLEAN YOUR HOME OR APARTMENT.</p> <p>REASONABLE RATES. OLD LADY APPROVED.</p> <p>CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT.</p> <p>281-961-2768</p>
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# EAST ALDINE DISTRICT Community leaders meet on Public Safety issues

new night shift unit, consisting of a Lieutenant, Sergeant, and four deputies available to answer calls and patrol the district. Lt. Mike Santos was introduced as the new supervisor of the night shift. He urged citizens to contact him and report problems. The HCSO phone is 713-221-6000 or 911 if life threatening. He can also be reached at [michaelsantos@sheriff.hctx.net](mailto:michaelsantos@sheriff.hctx.net).

In addition, the district has a staff member, Victor Beserra, who is in charge of public safety matters, and is a former police officer. He regularly interacts between the community and officials on safety matters.

Attendees voiced a litany of crime problems and nuisances, including random gunshots, robberies, vehicle crimes, speeding, drugs in schools and on the streets, gun violence among teens and adults, catalytic converter thefts, homelessness, elderly violence, road rage, porch thefts, noise, extortion, sex trafficking and more.

Lt. Santos explained that successful crime fighting depended very much on cooperation from the community. The old adage "SEE SOMETHING SAY SOMETHING" works, he said. He reminded the public that officers speak Spanish, and he is an Aldine/MacArthur native.

Besides reporting problems, he asked residents to have house numbers visible, and not to leave guns in cars or accessible.

Director Cantu ended the meeting by thanking the large crowd for attending, and noting that "It will take working together" to solve the crime problems.



East Aldine District board chair Joyce Wiley, and Executive Director Richard Cantu, moderated the discussion among the participants.



Lt. Mike Santos is in charge of the Harris County deputies that patrol East Aldine.



Sergio Hernandez, center, from State Senator Carol Alvarez' office, represented government interests in the Public Safety forum. At left, Deputy Coronado and at right, Amy Corbett of the HC Emergency Corps.

# Concrete plant proposal raises community concerns,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

A final decision will come sometime after the meeting, which will include an informal question and answer session and a public comment period, according to the TCEQ.

However, members of the public who wish to make comments for the TCEQ to formally consider should submit them in writing during or before the public meeting. Go online to <https://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/>, fill in the project's pending permit number, 167453, and enter a comment, or send it by mail to the Office of the Chief Clerk, TCEQ, Mail Code MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087.

The La Porte-based Avant-Garde Concrete Co. started seeking the state's permission to create the plant at 10945 Eastex Freeway in December.

Company owner Meliton Gomez said he has been distressed by opposition to his proposal. By living in La Porte, he said, he has seen that residential neighborhoods can co-exist safely with industrial facilities.

"I am all for regulation," Gomez said. "I have lived in La Porte long enough to see that it can make a real difference."

In fact, Gomez said that he and his son are hoping to buy a home in the East Aldine area to avoid a long commute to their proposed new business.

Gomez said he plans to attend the public meeting.

"We will strive to be good community partners," Gomez said. "Responsible compliance with environmental and safety requirements is paramount to our operations. We will have onsite compliance and re-

porting logs."

"In addition to adhering to numerous state and federal regulations, (the company) will incorporate best management practices to mitigate airborne emissions, noise control and truck traffic," Gomez said.

But Flor Zarzosa, a Tasfield subdivision resident, said she is very unhappy about the proposed plant.

"Having a cement plant will bring in a lot of dust," she said. "We already have problems with people burning trash; we've complained about that."

"Everybody in my community is concerned," Zarzosa said. "Mainly, it's because of the kids who play outside. Our neighborhood isn't the best, but we are fighting to keep it clean and keep it decent."

"And what's going to happen to the value of our homes? It's going to affect us on so many levels," Zarzosa said.

State Rep. Armando Walle requested the public meeting and "has become the flag-bearer" for residents in his district who have raised concerns about the proposed plant, said Richard Cantu, executive director of the East Aldine Management District.

The District plans to file a letter with TCEQ opposing the proposed plant.

The project also has drawn the concerns of state Sen. Carol Alvarado and Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia. He led the redevelopment of James Driver Park, which was designed specifically to be an "all access park" to accommodate people with physical challenges or disabilities.

Air Alliance of Houston has raised concerns about the proposed plant's poten-

tial to contribute to air pollution in East Aldine. In a Feb. 14 letter to TCEQ, Air Alliance opposed the approval of a permit for Gomez, and the management district plans to send a similar letter.

The area is already home to four concrete plants, Cantu noted.

Because the proposed site is in unincorporated Harris County without municipal trash removal, some East Aldine residents frequently burn trash, which can contribute to air pollution.

"It wouldn't surprise me to find that there is a higher rate of breathing problems, such as asthma, in the community," Cantu said.

In addition to dust and air pollution, Cantu said heavy trucks and equipment used by the concrete plants in the area contribute to damage to roads and other infrastructure.

Gomez, the president of Avante, listed in writing some actions he said the plant will carry out:

A barrier to control dust, noise, and light suppression around the site.

Concrete paving of the high-traffic areas on the site, along plant-bunkered aggregate, to minimize potential dust.

Sloping truck loading and truck washing areas to collect water run-off in basins.

A sprinkler system and wheel truck wash areas to minimize dust and dirt leaving the site.

Minimal plant lighting to prevent creation of a visual nuisance at night.

— By Anne Marie Kilday

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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (TCEQ)

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**APRIL 7 THURSDAY 7PM**

**EAST ALDINE DISTRICT OFFICE**  
2909 East Aldine Amphitheatre Dr  
REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

**ABOUT THE HEARING** **SOBRE LA AUDIENCIA**

Please join the East Aldine District and TCEQ for a public hearing concerning the proposed concrete batch plant near the James Driver Park and the Tasfield subdivision.

Por favor, únase al distrito de East Aldine y la organización TCEQ para una audiencia pública sobre la planta de concreto propuesta cerca del parque James Driver y la subdivisión Tasfield.

for more info please scan the code or visit the link below  
para más información escanea el código o visit [AldineDistrict.org/TCEQ](http://AldineDistrict.org/TCEQ)