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Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 46 Years VOL. 46, NO. 23 TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2022 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com



# **NEWS**

# Summer Fair Event in Town Center Park June 18

Safer Together Celebration

### Father's Day **Family Fun June** 25 in East Aldine

East Aldine District has planned TWO Events for families to enjoy on Father's Day Saturday, June 25th.

FAMILY FUN will take place at the Amphitheatre at Town Center, from 3pm to 7pm. It will include Boxing Demo, Tent Building Contest, Boat Rading, Rock Climbing, Music, Food Trucks, and more Fun. (Bring chairs, blankets, and sun and bug protec-

FISHING EVENT will take place later in Keith Wiess Park, starting at 7pm. Enter at 12300 Aldine Westfield Road, but register earlier at the Amphitheatre. Enjoy Fishing with an expert for advice, all evening with your Father and Family.

### **East Aldine TC Building wins Landmark Award**

New, multi-use office building was named among the Houston area's three top commercial real estate structures.

### Aldine Region Comprehensive Study (ARCS) Meetings

Tuesday, June 21 Aldine High School 11101 Airline Drive,

Houston, TX 77037 Thursday, June 23 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. East Aldine Management District 2909 E. Aldine Amphi-

theatre Drive, Houston,

TX 77039 Saturday, June 25 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. James Driver Park Basketball Pavilion (Outdoors) 10918 Bentley Street,

Houston, TX 77093

EAST ALDINE - Everyone is invited to a SUM-MER FAIR this Saturday, June 18th from 10am to 2pm at the East Aldine Amphitheatre in Town Center. This is the new park development behind BakerRipley on Aldine Mail Route.

This free event is sponsored by the East Aldine District, and Bonding Against Adversity. It is named "Safer Together Celebration" because attendees will be able to get free COVID-19 vaccine shots, as well as to participate in a number of fun activities.

Sponsors also are planning on awarding a Free TV to some lucky person attending the event, acording to Mariana Sanchez of B.A.A.



The SUMMER FAIR events will take place Saturday at the Town Center Amphitheatre and Park, and the kids' Splash Pad. Included are Free COVID shots, a Raffle for a Free TV and other prizes, Zumba, Face Painting, food trucks and entertainment. A great Family Fun event, don't miss it!

Activites planned for the day include face painting, Zumba, prize drawings, and free COVID shots. You are also reminded to bring a blanket and lawn chair to sit on the grass in front of the amphitheatre. You can expect some food trucks and music to round out the day.

Parking will be available at the Town Center, and at the Lone Star College campus next door.

Additional sponsors include the Hope Clinic, Pct. 2 Adrian Garcia, VAX HOU, Lone Star College East Aldine Center, and Houston in Action.

Everyone is welcome, and you should come and have a good time, while you are being "Safer To-

# Housing planned on **Greenspoint Mall site**



Architect's View of the 325 Housing Units to be built on the site of the Greenspoint Mall.

 $July\ of\ 2021,\ the\ Houston$ City Council approved Summit at Renaissance Park, a 325-unit affordable housing complex on the Greenspoint Mall property.

The four-story housing development will include modern amenities, retail components and up to four-bedroom units, which should appeal to families in the area. The new development is designed to serve as a housing alternative for citizens who are living in

GREENSPOINT - In flood-prone areas along Greens Bayou. The project received incentives from the City of Houston tied back to Hurricane Harvey flood relief funds as part of the City Council's ongoing commitment to ensuring Houstonians have safe, accessible housing. Updates will be provided by the developer, Ziebengroup, as construction progresses.

> You can visit the developer's website at ziebengroup.com for additional information.

# HTX Art Bus opens permanent new home on Jensen Drive



Named "ART in the HEART" the new studios and home of the HTX Art Bus will serve the East Aldine and Northeast Houston communities.

NORTHEAST - Ronnie Cabrera held a grand opening of their new permanent home for the Art Bus last May 28th, at 8321 Jensen Drive. As Houston artist and inspired educator Ronnie Cabrera's Cinderella story grows, so does her workspace.

Her original traveling studio and classroom that has helped enrich public events in the East Aldine Management District, is the 115.5 square feet inside a used school bus called the Art Bus.



Norberto Moreno and Ronnie Cabrera on TV

### **FUNDING SURPRISE!**

In fact, she and her husband, Norberto Moreno, and their four sons have supported community events with arts activities

and classes for kids of all ages throughout northeast Harris County.

Cabrera aims to contin-

Continued. See Art Bus, Page 2

### MARKETPLACE - Please Mention the NORTHEAST NEWS when you visit our Advertisers.









### Open for (more) **Business?**

Be sure to let everyone know you are now open with a small notice in this newspaper.

Thank you.

### **NORTHEAST NEWS**

713-266-3444

# H.U.D. Efficiency/ One Bedroom Housing for the Elderly and Disabled

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**ELIGIBILITY:** 

- A - (2 - 14- -
- Age 62 or older
- Disabled
- Very Low Income

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APPLY TO:
W. Leo Daniels Tower
8826 Harrell

Off Jensen between Berry Road & Aldine Westfield





# Aldine ISD statement on School Security

In the wake of the mass school shooting in Uvalde, Texas last week, the Aldine ISD District has issued the following statement about their security protocols:

The safety and security of Aldine ISD's students and staff will always be the district's top priority. To that end, the district is fortunate to have its own full-time Police Department that includes officers who are assigned to all high schools and middle schools, and patrol the other campuses and district facilities. Aldine PD officers are on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Because of this, Aldine ISD does not implement the school marshal program. The only authorized firearms on our campuses are carried by fully-licensed police officers.

All 82 campuses have metal detectors that are used eveeryday during the school year. All high schools and middle schools have police officers assigned to their campuses.

**QUALIFICATIONS** 

Disabled Persons

60 years and older

Fixed / low income

Must Reside in Precinct 2

Must APPLY by June 15th

# COMMUNITY WATCH

### Fatal Crash at 15900 Lee Road

Houston police are investigating a fatal crash at 15900 Lee Road about 10:30 p.m. on Wednesday (June 1).

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

HPD Vehicular Crimes Division Sergeant P. Pham and Officer C. Brothers reported:

The male was driving a blue Buick LeSabre northbound near the above address, ran the red light at the intersection of Greens Road and struck the front of a maroon Jeep Cherokee traveling eastbound on Greens Road. The Buick went into a ditch and rolled onto its roof.

The Buick's driver was pronounced deceased. The Jeep's female driver, 22, was not injured. She did not show signs of intoxication and was questioned and released.

The investigation is continuing.

# Fatal Shooting at 1300 West Tidwell Road

Houston police are investigating the fatal shooting of a man at 1300 West Tidwell Road about 9 p.m. on Tuesday (June 7).

The identity of the victim, 18, is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.

HPD Homicide Division Detectives D. Hobson and R. Rivera reported:

Officers were dispatched to a hospital near the above address pertaining to a man who arrived to the hospital and was pronounced deceased a short time later. He had suffered a gunshot wound.

The officers learned the man was shot at the above address near the Bersey Lane intersection. At this time, there is no known suspect(s) description or motive in the shooting. Detectives were advised the suspect(s) was driving in a vehicle described only as a Honda Civic.

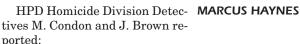
Anyone with information in this case is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS.

### Fatal Shooting at 400 Greens Rd.

Houston police are asking for the public's help in locating a person of interest wanted for questioning in the fatal shooting of a female that occurred at 400 Greens Road about 10:15 a.m. on Tuesday (June 7).

The person of interest is identified as Marcus Haynes, 22. A photo of Haynes, who is not charged at this time, is attached to this news release.

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



Multiple persons were inside an apartment at the above address when one of the persons fired at least one shot. The victim was struck by the gunfire and pronounced deceased. The shooter and several witnesses present at the time also fled the scene.

Detectives would like to speak with Marcus Haynes regarding the incident.

Anyone with information in this case or on the whereabouts of person of interest Marcus Haynes is urged to contact the HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600 or speak anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS.

The AC Units will be offered

to qualifying seniors or

individuals with disabilities

who have not received a unit

from any other program.

### Art Bus has a new home,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Art Classes were originally taught on the Art Bus, as seen above. This will continue, in addition to the new studio, class and exhibit space on Jensen Drive.



Klds display their artwork at one of the on-site pop-up art events.

ue bringing the bus and its art classes to the East Aldine and the Eastex-Jensen communities. But now, she has built out a bright-yellow, 8,950-square foot, two-story studio, called ART in the HEART, that will house art classes and exhibitions for kids and artists. It's a short trip south of the East Aldine District at 8321 Jensen, where an open house took place May 28.

The location includes a backyard home for the Art Bus, a big stucco wall for murals, and a bright lounge area for parents and artists to drink coffee in the air-conditioned space.

Registration for summer classes is already underway as Cabrera and her family and friends rush to put the finishing touches on the "brick and mortar" space. Moveable walls will allow the studio to be divided for summer camp group and arts classes or opened for art exhibits.

It's been just over two years since the couple decided to purchase a brokendown, old school bus and convert it into a mobile art studio that has offered classes to underserved kids across Houston. Their teen-aged sons, who ripped out the seats and helped stain the floor of the old bus, are taller and wiser. Although the boys frequently help set up for community events, they now know to bring their music and headphones, or board games, for entertainment.

After the East Aldine Management District published an article about the Art Bus in February 2021, Houston's NBC TV affiliate, KPRC-TV Channel 2, picked up the story.

A producer for Texas-born Kelly Clarkson's NBC Christmas TV special saw the TV news report. The show offered to fly Moreno and her family to Los Angeles for a video-taping of the annual holiday program. During the taping, Clarkson, comedian Amy Poehler and the H-E-B supermarket company gave Cabrera a surprise \$100,000 grant to obtain a building where she could expand her programming on wheels into an art studio.

The rest, as they say, is history — in the present tense: Cabrera recently drew a large crowd at "Toddler Tuesday" at downtown's Discovery Green, where very young artists were enchanted by a larger-than-life representation of a toddler who prowled the colorful bus. The bus was also on hand for a celebration of the late singer Selena's birthday, where customers at Blanca's Café in the East End neighborhood sang karaoke to the Latina star's most popular songs.

Cabrera has leased her studio from Raymond Taylor, "who is passionate about arts and the community," she said, and Taylor even agreed to build an 8-foot stucco fence around the parking lot.
"Eventually, we will be able to paint murals on the fence," Cabrera said.

"Infected" by Cabrera's fever, Taylor recently purchased the vacant lot next door to the studio for future pop-up markets or permanent art installations, like sculpture crafted by local artists and welders.

"He's really gotten caught up in this," Cabrera said. "Mr. Taylor wants to see a difference in the neighborhood."

Cabrera hopes to remodel the second floor into lofts for area artists who will be encouraged to lend a hand teaching classes.

The downstairs area has a cozy and brightly colored seating area. A labyrinth has been painted in the center of the highly waxed concrete floor, which will serve as the exhibit space.

The studio will also feature a 3-D printer and a laser cutter, "because technology and art go hand in hand now. It's good to give people experience in these things," Cabrera said.

The studio name ART in the HEART is based on Norberto Moreno's idea of "Houston, Economy, Arts, Recreation and Technology." All of those factors can contribute to growth and prosperity in the northeast Harris County economy, Cabrera said: "To be able to have a space like this, where people can come, is a real blessing. What we hope to do is bring art and color to the community."

"When you come into parts of this neighborhood, all you (might) see is trash, concrete and construction," Cabrera added. "If you bring a bunch of artists into the community, you will start to see beauty."

Cabrera, who lived for a while with her grandmother while growing up, still remembers how she wanted to "paint and draw" on everything. So, her focus remains on the children she is reaching through art.

In a class she taught this year for the Attack Poverty program, Cabrera had a young student who had recently lost her father. The shy girl was sad and didn't want to attend school, but her mother coaxed her into the art class on the bright bus.

"She began to look forward to Tuesdays, because that's when the art classes were held," Cabrera said. "We had a big exhibit the last night, and everybody's art was on display, and they all got dressed up."

At the end of the exhibit, the little girl didn't want to leave, Cabrera said.

"Fortunately, we were able to hold a second semester of classes," Cabrera said. "I don't think I'll ever forget the look on her face."

"Being able to reach these kids through art is a real gift," Cabrera said.

art is a real gift," Cabrera said. — Story By Anne Marie Kilday

# PORTABLE A/C PROGRAM ONE UNIT PER FAMILY Commissioner Garcia is committed to keeping seniors safe during the hot summer months and will be offering 100 portable A/C units to seniors who need it the most. Units will be available on a first come, first served basis.

Contact the Precinct 2 Call Center to see if you qualify

### Let's Chat! METRO Adds Customer Service Text Messaging Feature

METRO has launched a new text messaging feature that makes communicating with the Customer Service Center easier than ever.

The new service allows you to directly connect with a METRO representative who can assist with trip planning and answer any questions or concerns quickly, conveniently, and all with a few key strokes. Riders can also send pictures and receive links.

To reach a METRO customer service representative, call or text 713-635-4000. METRO's Customer Service Center is open daily from 8 a.m. until

The Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (METRO) is the region's largest public transit provider, offering safe, clean, reliable, accessible and friendly transportation services. METRO's transit network includes local bus, METRORail which includes the Red Line (Main Street and Northline), the Green Line (East End) and the Purple Line Park & Ride (Southeast), buses, METROLift paratransit service, HOV/HOT lanes, Community Connector microtransit and Star Vanpool. In 2020, the Authority introduced the METRORapid Silver Line, the region's first bus rapid transit service. Bike & Ride programs and road improvement projects are also part of METRO's commitment to the region. Focused on investing in the region's future mobility needs, the Authority developed the <u>METRONext</u> <u>Moving Forward Plan.</u> METRO is also the first transit provider in region to pilot autonomous vehicle shuttle technology. Learn more about METRO services at ridemetro.org where you will also find useful tools like the RideMETRO app where you can plan your trip and even pay your fare from your phone.

### PAGE SCHOOL NEWS

# 4 Aldine District High School **Students Named Winners of Prairie View A&M University Inaugural Toni Morrison Creative Writing Contest**

Andrea Martínez, Frank Rojas, and Selena Tovias from Aldine High School and student Melanie González from Carver High School are winners of Prairie View A&M University's Toni Morrison Writing Program

The program, which launched last year, bears the name of writer Toni Morrison. It amplifies the work of poignant writers who attended historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs). The curriculum honors Morrison by focusing on how Morrison's alma mater Howard University was instrumental in shaping her path. It also empowers writers who will transform the future of literature. One of the most celebrated and widely published writers, Morrison won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and the Nobel Prize for literature. President Barack Obama also awarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

As part of the program, the Texasbased institution appointed a Writerin-Residence to introduce students to the different facets of African American literature through an array of seminars and workshops. The Writerin-Residence, who has a one-year visiting appointment at Prairie View A&M University — focused on amplifying the work of writers who attended HBCUs. PVAMU also led the high school creative writing contest and provided the winners with scholarships.

The inaugural Writer-in-Residence was the legendary Nikki Giovanni. She won the Carl Sandburg Award, the Langston Hughes Award for Distinguished Contributions to Arts and Letters, the NAACP Award, and the First Rosa Parks Women of Courage Award. Last year marked the 50th anniversary of Nikki Giovanni's poetry set to music, an album titled "Truth is on its Way."

The \$3 million initiative is funded

by a gift made by novelist and philanthropist MacKenzie Scott, a former student of Morrison's at Princeton University. Scott donated \$50 million to Prairie View A&M University in 2020. PVAMU Provost Emerita Emma Joahanne Thomas-Smith, Ed.D., spearheads the Toni Morrison Writing Program.

Also present were Dr. James M. Palmer, provost and senior vice president of academic affairs, Aldine High School Principal Walter Stewart, the students' parents, and their

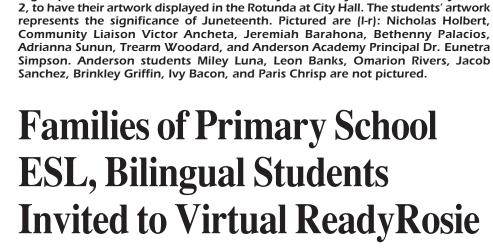
Students who compete and win in the Morrison writing contest need not have selected Prairie View A&M University as the college they will attend. Still, those who gain entrance and enroll as full-time freshmen will receive a scholarship equal to the amount already received as a cash

### Aldine ISD Results in Toni Morrison Creative Writing **Contest**

1st Place in Poetry — \$3,000 Award\* Melanie González Carver High School for Applied Technology, Engineering and The Arts\*If she attends Prairie View A&M University for the 2022-2023 academic year, she will receive an additional \$3,000. 1st Place in Fiction — \$3,000 Award Selena Tovias12th grade, Aldine High SchoolEnglish Teacher: Lincoln Leatherman\*If she attends Prairie View A&M University for the 2022-2023 academic year, she will receive an additional \$3,000. 2nd Place in Nonfiction — \$2,000 Award

Andrea Martínez10th grade, Aldine High SchoolEnglish Teacher: Ms. Barnes

2nd Place in Poetry — \$2,000 Award Frank Rojas10th grade, Aldine High SchoolEnglish Teacher: Ms. Barnes



A group of students from Anderson Academy visited City Hall on Thursday, June

The district will host a virtual ReadyRosie Workshop on Wednesday, June 8. Took place the first of several workshops of the ReadyRosie summer program, created for families of primary school students in ESL (English as a Second Language) and dual language education programs. The sessions available in English and Spanish will help families better use the ReadyRosie materials they received.

Using researched-based learning strategies, ReadyRosie is an educational resource to share powerful games and videos that support families and their children in their learning. Join us and discover how to make learning fun at home.

The district offers morning, afternoon, and evening sessions. Every session for a scheduled workshop on a set date will cover the same information. Families need only attend one session for each scheduled workshop.

FUTURE READYROSIE WORK-

Wednesday, June 15Topic: Words Matter!English9:00-10:00 a.m.3:00 4:00 p.m.Link: https://bit.ly/3axhFgAMeeting ID: 940 6040

8183Password: 4fd78c

Miércoles 15 de junioTema: ¡Las palabras importan!Español11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.5:00-6:00 p.m.Link: https:// bit.ly/3axhFgAMeeting ID: 940 6040 8183Password: 4fd78c

Wednesday, June 22Topic: Math Matters!English9:00-10:00 a.m.3:00-4:00 p.m.Link: https://bit.ly/3axhFgAMeeting ID: 940 6040 8183Password: 4fd78c

miércoles, 22 de junioTema: ¡Las matemáticas importan!Español11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.5:00-6:00 p.m.Link: https://bit.ly/3axhFgAMeeting ID: 940 6040 8183Password: 4fd78c

Wednesday, June 29Topic: Relationships Matter! English 9:00-10:00 a.m.3:00-4:00 p.m.Link: https://bit.ly/ 3axhFgAMeeting ID: 940 6040 8183Password: 4fd78c

miércoles, 29 de junioTema: ¡Las relaciones importan!Español11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.5:00-6:00 p.m.Link: https://bit.ly/3axhFgAMeeting ID: 940 6040 8183Password: 4fd78c

Questions

Call (281) 985-3760 or email SGalvan@AldineISD.org if you have any questions.



# **Anderson Academy Students to** have Artwork on Display in City Hall Rotunda

A group of students at Anderson Academy visited City Hall on Thursday, June 2, and brought along with the artwork on display in the Rotunda at City Hall.

In the spring, Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner visited Anderson Academy. He presented Principal Dr. Eunetra Simpson with a challenge to have her students create artwork to represent the significance of Juneteenth.

Anderson student Trearm Woodard created a "Freedom" portrait that won first place in the Houston Bar Association's Law Day contest. Trearm's fellow students created extensions of her first-place creation. The students are under the direction of Anderson art teacher Tony McMillian.

Trearm and fellow students Miley Luna, Leon Banks, Omarion Rivers, Nicholas Holbert, Jeremiah Barahona, Adrianna Sunun, Jacob Sanchez, Brinkley Griffin, Bethenny Palacios, Ivy Bacon, and Paris Christ received certificates from the City for their hard work.

Mayor Turner was unable to attend

the ceremony, but Director of Cultural Affairs Necole Hunter and Community Liaison Victor Ancheta were impressed with the Anderson students' artwork

In addition, the students had the chance to meet and ask questions of Chief of Staff Marvalette Hunter. The students also toured City Hall, visited the Proclamation Room, and had the opportunity to sit in the Houston City Council Room.

The Anderson Academy Juneteenth Series will remain in the Rotunda of City Hall for the entire month of June. The series is open to the public to view during visitation hours.

"It was a privilege to accompany our talented scholars to City Hall again," Dr. Simpson said. "As Anderson Academy aims for astronomical achievement, it is imperative to provide our esteemed Magnet students opportunities to showcase their unparalleled talents and gifts. I am grateful to the Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs and their ongoing support of our school's innovative programs."



**Danelle Pruitt** 

Aldine ISD is pleased to announce that Phoebe Danelle Pruitt has been selected as the new principal for García Middle School.

Pruitt's entire educational career has been in the Aldine Independent School District, where she has served for 24 years. She began as a thirdgrade teacher at Carmichael Elementary Schoo in 1998 before joining Aldine Middle School in 2001. Pruitt wanted to share her love of reading and knew some students struggled to read at the middle school level. She began to focus on this need and continued to pursue her passion for developing young readers. While at Aldine Middle School, Pruitt quickly became a team lead and then department chair. As an English language arts (ELA) teacher, she proved effective in helping her English learner (EL), and special education populations grow and thrive. By the

fall of 2006, she was invited to help open Plummer Middle School. While at Plummer MS, she served as the ELA skill specialist and centered on teacher development and student success. This opportunity led to a campus leadership position at Hambrick Middle School, serving as assistant principal. She helped Hambrick MS students succeed and helped guide teachers in their professional growth.

Pruitt is from Dallas, where she attended the first Black-owned and accredited school in the state of Texas, Lobias Murray Christian Academy. She obtained a bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies, a master's degree in Reading Education, and a master's degree in Educational Leadership from Prairie View A&M University.

She is s member of Kappa Delta Pi and Delta Sigma Theta; Pruitt served as president of the Kappa Delta Pi.

Pruitt and her husband, Marcus Pruitt, are the proud parents of Micah Pruitt. Mr. Pruitt is the principal of Jones Middle School.

Phoebe leans forward to driving initiatives that will Connect, Inspire, and Impact all stakeholders.

Pruitt will report directly to Dr. LaTonia Amerson, school assistant superintendent of middle schools. Chief of Schools Katy Roede, who provides leadership over school administration, is looking forward to working with Pruitt in her new position. She lauded Pruitt's experience in students' holistic wellbeing and academic achievement as crucial for the work at García Middle School.

### ★ OPINION PAGE ★



### A Sailor's Surprise

he Coast Guard Cutter USS EAGLE is now in Galveston Harbor, paying a public relations visit to the historic town for the first time in 50 years. It is one of only two American square-rigged sailing vessels in the U.S. Public tours were available last weekend, but long lines meant many folks simply looked on from a distance, and I might add, with awe. The 295 foot cutter, with its 3 masts and sleek lines, is a sight to see. And that brings me to my personal story about the first time I saw the ship.



USCGC USS EAGLE under full sail. The Ship is now paying a visit to Galveston Harbor.

I have been a sailor of small personal boats since my days in Connecticut, starting in the 1960's. A good friend of mine, David Kilgore, and I worked in the architectural office of Eero Saarinen, and for a break we bought a sailboat, and learned to sail it by reading a book. We kept the boat at a small village on the coast of Long Island, where we sailed among what are known as the Thousand Islands (count them, only 360 in reality).

We usually sailed on the weekends, among the islands and out into the Sound. It was on a summer morning in 1964 that we were sailing like this, and the fog had not totally cleared. The water was rough, and we were busy with the sheets and tiller. Occasionally we would look out and through the fog see another boat, or more often a tug pushing a load of barges.

But as we got farther out into the Sound, the fog lifted slightly and much to my amazement, it revealed a 3-masted, square-rigged cutter right out of the history books. Through the fog, I couldn't believe my eyes. I did not know that



A 19-FOOT LIGHTNING DAYSAILER similar to the Publisher's first sailboat.

anything like it existed in modern times, and to see it so close, and so large was a thrill and a threat at the same time.

It was not until the next day, in Sunday's New York Times, that we learned that dozens of these "Tall Ships" had gathered in New York harbor for a celebration called "Operation Sail" to commemorate the New York World's Fair of 1964.

We learned also that there are two square-rigged ships in the US military. The other is the USS Constitution, a wooden cutter built in 1794 and usually kept in Boston harbor when not sailing. The USS Eagle is actually a modern cutter, built by the Germans in 1936 and confiscated by America after World War II. It is made of steel, not wood, and is 295 foot long, with a crew of 12 officers, 68 crew, and 150 trainees when used for training recruits. There is also a smaller Frigate, USS Constellation, built in 1854 are kept in Baltimore harbor but not sailed.

Sailing has brought me many joys, from the fun of the sport to an appreciation for the weather conditions from storm to eery calm.

When I moved to Texas, it was not long before I acquired another sailboat, a 23 foot Pearson. Not only was it larger than the Lightning, but it had a cabin with sleeping and eating facilities. For almost twenty-five years we sailed on Clear Lake and Galveston Bay. Although age finally dictated that we give up the sport, a visit from the USS EAGLE brought back lots of pleasant memories and a latent desire to be back on the water.



# STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

**By Gary Borders** 



# TEA directed by Abbott to make schools safer

Gov. Greg Abbott has directed the Texas Education Agency to ensure school facilities are made safer in the wake of the killing of 19 children and two teachers at Robb Elementary in Uvalde.

In a letter to TEA Commissioner Mike Morath, the governor requested the agency:

- Instruct school districts to identify actions to make campuses more secure prior to the start of the new school year.
- Instruct all school districts to conduct weekly inspections of exterior doors to verify they are secure during school hours.
- Develop strategies to encourage school districts to increase the presence of trained law enforcement officers and school marshals on campuses.

The state has made an initial \$5 million investment to establish a Family Resiliency Center in Uvalde County. The center will provide psychological services, crisis counseling and other health services for those affected by the massacre.

To date, the governor has rejected calls for a special session to consider additional gun control measures. Instead, he has a s k e d legislative leaders to convene special committees to develop recommendations on school safety, mental health, social media, police training, firearm safety and other issues.

### GOP DONORS URGE CONGRESS TO ACT ON GUN CONTROL

GUN CONTROL

More than 250 major Republican donors in Texas signed an open letter published in The Dallas Morning Newsurging congressional action to increase gun restrictions. The letter was published as a full-page ad on Sunday. It endorses the creation of red-flag laws, raising the age to purchase a gun to 21, and expansion of background checks.

"Most law enforcement experts believe these measures would make a difference," the letter reads. "And recent polls of fellow conservatives suggest that there is strong support for such gun-safety measures."



By Gary Borders

Texas Sen. John Cornyn is leading bipartisan negotiations on possible gun reform measures.

"We are grateful that our Senator John Cornyn is leading efforts to address the recent tragedies in Uvalde and elsewhere across our great Country," the letter says. "He's the right man to lead this bipartisan effort, as he has demonstrated throughout his career."

Among those signing the letter are major financial supporters of Abbott.

### INFLATION INCREASE IS HIGHEST IN 40 YEARS

A report by the <u>state</u> <u>comptroller's office</u> notes that inflation increased to 8.5% nationally in March—"the highest year-over-year percent change in consumer prices since January 1982."

Food and energy prices were the leading contributors, with gas prices reaching record levels. The largest source of inflation in food products were in meat, poultry, fish and eggs, up 14.3% in the past year.

The comptroller's report said the increase in prices is likely a "confluence of economic pressures related to the coronavirus pandemic stemming from both the supply side and the demand side."

The pandemic disrupted production and transportation lines in the global supply chains, which are not expected to fully recover until next year. In addition, demand now exceeds production capacity, often leading to empty grocery shelves and nearly empty lots at car dealerships.

Finally, Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the

subsequent sanctions on that country have contributed to driving up the cost of oil.

Inflation decreased slightly in April.

### EMERGENCY SNAP BENEFITS AGAIN EXTENDED

Once again, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission has received approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to provide nearly \$318 million in emergency food benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for June.

All SNAP households will get a minimum of \$95 in additional food allotments on top the regular allotment. More than \$6.9 billion in emergency benefits have been provided to Texans since April 2020.

"We're here to support families when they need us most," said Texas HHSC Access and Eligibility Services Deputy Executive Commissioner Wayne Salter. "Providing access to fresh, nutritious foods is essential for healthy families."

### VEHICLE DEATHS REACH 41-YEAR HIGH IN 2021

The number of people killed in vehicle crashes totaled 1.532 last year. with 6,493 major injuries the highest level since 1981. More than a third of those deaths involved excessive speed, according to the Texas Department of <u>Transportation</u>. With a 16% increase last year in speed-related wrecks. Tx-DOT is urging drivers to slow down and drive to weather and traffic conditions.

"Speed is the number one factor in roadway crashes in our state, causing 1 out of every 3 traffic deaths," said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "When you speed, you increase the risk of death and serious injury in a collision. By observing the speed limit and driving to specific weather and road conditions, Texans can make our roads safer for everyone."

### COVID-19 CASES CONTINUE TO RISE

The number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas during the past week rose to 46,946, with 42 new deaths reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. That is more than double the number of new cases reported a month ago. The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations across the state also rose to 1,168, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services.

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.

edar Park. Email:gborders@texaspresscom.

# THE POSTSCRIPT By Carrie Classon

### Hot Sandwiches

I have been trying, for as long as I can remember and with limited success, to learn Spanish.

My husband, Peter, says I am good, but that is because he does not speak Spanish, so if I say anything that is understood by anyone, he regards it as a minor miracle. I feel that I have been stuck at about the same level of Spanish for at least 20 years. I can ask where things are and communicate in emergencies and exchange the usual greetings, then I dry up. I'd like to change that.

Since we are now planning to spend more time in Mexico, I've been taking this whole learning Spanish thing more seriously. I've been using Duolingo, which is a free program online, and I seem to be making progress, albeit slowly.

Duolingo relies on repetition—a lot of it. It tries to replicate the way a child would learn a language, so instead of lessons to memorize, there is simply exercise after exercise that builds on one another. Just as a toddler repeats the same thing over and over again, Duolingo does its best to turn me into that toddler, repeating nonsensical phrases until they finally stick in my brain and become second nature. At least that's the theory.

"I really like hot sandwiches," I say in Spanish over and over again.

As I say this, it occurs to me that I have not actually eaten a hot sandwich in years. I'm trying to remember if I have ever had a hot sandwich. I try to imagine where in Mexico I might find a hot sandwich and have an opportunity to tell someone how much I like it. Then I realize that I'm not even sure that I do especially like hot sandwiches. And even if I did, who would care?

The next phrase is waiting for me. I move on.

"My dog never takes a shower."

Well, I no longer have a dog, so this phrase appears to be of even less use. It is true, when I had a dog, he never took a shower. Was he supposed to, I wonder? Would someone ever ask me this, in Mexico or anywhere else? Under what circumstances would someone ask, "Say, how often does your dog shower?"

"Oh," I'd confidently reply, "My dog never takes a shower!"

Again, I'm coming up with very few instances when this phrase would have much practical value.

When I get an answer correct in Duolingo, a little animated animal jumps for joy. While I would like to say that I find this ridiculous and unnecessary, I would be lying. Making that little owl do a somersault is deeply satisfying.

I don't honestly know if this is the best way to learn Spanish or not. There are a lot of programs out there. But most of them do not involve animated animals celebrating every time I get an answer correct and I might need that kind of encouragement if I'm ever going to get any better. These little animals seem to know I'm not the brightest Spanish student they've ever had, but they are patient. If I can correctly tell them about my dirty dog or my love of hot sandwiches, they are over the

When I finish a lesson, a horn sounds, as if this is a grand accomplishment. I know it's not. The overexcited owl knows it's not.

But learning just a little bit of Spanish every day feels as if I am accomplishing something, so, what the heck. Let's celebrate with a hot sandwich.

Till next time,

Carrie

Follow me on Facebook at: CarrieClassonAuthor.

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### SPANISH PAGE

### 4 Alumnos de Secundaria Ganadores del Concurso Inaugural de Escritura Creativa Toni Morrison de Prairie View A&M University

Andrea Martínez, Frank Rojas y Selena Tovias de Aldine High School y la estudiante Melanie González de Carver High School son ganadores del Concurso del Programa de Escritura Toni Morrison de Prairie View A&M University.

El programa, que se lanzó el año pasado, lleva el nombre de la escritora Toni Morrison. Amplifica el trabajo de escritores conmovedores que asistieron a colegios y universidades históricamente negros (HBCU). El plan de estudios honra a Morrison al centrarse en cómo el alma mater de Morrison, la Universidad Howard, fue fundamental para dar forma a su camino. También empodera a los escritores transformarán el futuro de la literatura. Uno de los escritores más célebres y ampliamente pub-

licados, Morrison ganó el

Premio Pulitzer de Fic-

ción y el Premio Nobel de

Literatura. El presidente

Barack Obama también

le otorgó la Medalla Pres-

idencial de la Libertad. Como parte del programa, la institución con sede en Texas designó a un escritor en residencia para presentar a los estudiantes las diferentes facetas de la literatura afroamericana a través de una variedad de seminarios y talleres. El escritor en residencia, que tiene una cita de visita de un año en Prairie View A&M University, se centró en amplificar el trabajo de los escritores que asistieron a las HBCU. PVAMU también dirigió

creativa de la escuela secundaria y proporcionó becas a los ganadores.

El escritor residente inaugural fue el legendario Nikki Giovanni. Ganó el Premio Carl Sandburg, el Premio Langston Hughes por Contribuciones Distinguidas a las Artes y las Letras, el Premio NAACP y el Primer Premio Rosa Parks Mujeres de Coraje. El año pasado se conmemoró el 50 aniversario de la poesía musicalizada de Nikki Giovanni, un álbum titulado «Truth is on its Way».

La iniciativa de \$ 3 millones está financiada por una donación hecha por el novelista y filántropo MacKenzie Scott, un ex estudiante de Morrison en la Universidad de Princeton. Scott donó \$ 50 millones a Prairie View A&M University en 2020. La rectora emérita de PVAMU, Emma Joahanne Thomas-Smith, Ed.D., encabeza el Programa de Escritura Toni Morrison.

«El esfuerzo ayuda a los estudiantes a desarrollar sus habilidades y encontrar sus voces en la literatura. La facultad, el personal y las escuelas secundarias del área de la universidad comparten las actividades del programa. También se benefician del Writer-in-Residence y de otros artistas que representan toda la gama de géneros literarios», dijo Thomas-

También estuvieron presentes el Dr. James M. Palmer, rector y vicepresidente senior de asuntos académicos, el

cundaria Aldine, Walter Stewart, los padres de los estudiantes y sus mae-

Los estudiantes que compiten y ganan en el concurso de escritura de Morrison no necesitan haber seleccionado Prairie View A&M University como la universidad a la que asistirán. Aún así, aquellos que obtengan la entrada y se inscriban como estudiantes de primer año a tiempo completo recibirán una beca igual a la cantidad ya recibida como premio en efectivo.

Aldine ISD resulta en el Concurso de Escritura Creativa Toni Morrison 1er Lugar en Poesía — Premio \$3,000\*

Melanie González Escuela Secundaria Carver de Tecnología Aplicada, Ingeniería y Artes\* Si asiste a Prairie View A&M University para el año académico 2022-2023, recibirá \$ 3,000 adicionales.

1er Lugar en Ficción — Premio \$3,000

Selena Tovias12° grado, Aldine High SchoolProfesor de inglés: Lincoln Leatherman\* Si asiste a Prairie View A&M University para el año académico 2022-2023, recibirá \$ 3,000 adicionales.

2º Lugar en No Ficción — Premio de \$2,000

Andrea Martínez10° grado, Aldine High SchoolProfesora de Inglés: Sra. Barnes

2º Lugar en Poesía -Premio \$2,000

Frank Rojas10° grado, Aldine High School-Profesora de Inglés: Sra.



Estudiantes de Anderson Academy exhibirán obras de arte en Rotunda at City Hall. La obra de arte de los estudiantes representa el significado de Juneteenth. En la imagen (izq.-der.): Nicholas Holbert, enlace comunitario Victor Ancheta, Jeremiah Barahona, Bethenny Palacios, Adrianna Sunun, Trearm Woodard y la directora de la Academia Anderson, la Dra. Eunetra Simpson. Los estudiantes de Anderson Miley Luna, Leon Banks, Omarion Rivers, Jacob Sánchez, Brinkley Griffin, Ivy Bacon y Paris Chrisp no aparecen en la foto.

### Estudiantes de Anderson Academy Exhibiran Obras de Arte en City Hall Rotunda

Un grupo de estudiantes de la Academia Anderson visitó el Ayuntamiento el jueves 2 de junio y trajo consigo las obras de arte que se exhiben en la Rotonda del Ayuntamiento.

En la primavera, el alcalde de Houston, Sylvester Turner, visitó la Academia Anderson. Le presentó a la directora Dra. Eunetra Simpson el desafío de que sus estudiantes crearan obras de arte para representar el significado de Juneteenth.

El estudiante de Anderson Trearm Woodard creó un retrato de «Libertad» que ganó el primer lugar en el concurso del Día de la Ley de la Asociación de Abogados de Houston. Los compañeros de Trearm crearon extensiones de su creación de primer lugar. Los estudiantes están bajo la dirección del proTony McMillian.

Trearm y sus compañeros de estudios Miley Luna, Leon Banks, Omarion Rivers, Nicholas Holbert, Jeremiah Barahona, Adrianna Sunun, Jacob Sánchez, Brinkley Griffin, Bethenny Palacios, Ivy Bacon y Paris Christ recibieron certificados de la Ciudad por su arduo trabajo.

El alcalde Turner no pudo asistir a la ceremonia, pero el Director de Asuntos Culturales Necole Hunter y el Enlace Comunitario Victor Ancheta quedaron impresionados con las obras de arte de los estudiantes de Anderson.

Además, los estudiantes tuvieron la oportunidad de conocer y hacer preguntas a la Jefa de Gabinete Marvalette Hunter. Los estudiantes también recorrieron el Ayuntamiento, visitaron la Sala de Proclamación fesor de arte de Anderson y tuvieron la oportunidad

de sentarse en la Sala del Consejo de la Ciudad de Houston.

La Anderson Academy Juneteenth Series permanecerá en la Rotonda del Ayuntamiento durante todo el mes de junio. La serie está abierta al público para verla durante las horas de vis-

«Fue un privilegio acompañar a nuestros talentosos académicos al Ayuntamiento nuevamente», dijo el Dr. Simpson. «A medida que Anderson Academy apunta a logros astronómicos, es imperativo proporcionar a nuestros estimados estudiantes de Magnet oportunidades para mostrar sus talentos y dones incomparables. Estoy agradecida con la Oficina de Asuntos Culturales de la Alcaldía y su apoyo continuo a los programas innovadores de nuestra escuela».

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by Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD — Becoming Elvis Presley landed Austin Butler in a hospital. To become "The King" for his movie role, Butler immersed himself in everything Elvis, and his body went into overdrive. Even when production shut down due to Tom Hanks testing positive for COVID, he continued his character study. Butler revealed, "The day after we wrapped, I woke at 4 a.m. with excruciating pain and was diagnosed with a virus that simulates appendicitis that hospitalized me for a week." He attributes his collapse to living, breathing and doing everything Elvis to build his portrayal. The usually jaded audience at the Cannes Film Festival gave the film a 12minute standing ovation, and when Butler recreated some of Presley's greatest hits — including "Jailhouse Rock," "Blue Suede Shoes" and "Suspicious Minds" — the audience went wild. Then when Priscilla Presley (Elvis' former wife) hugged him, the audience broke out in spontaneous applause yet again. "Elvis" opens in theaters Friday, June 24. Little known fact: When Butler appeared on Broadway in "The Iceman Cometh," starring Denzel Washington, his dedication to the role and the play impressed Denzel so much that he started coaching him, and unbeknownst to Butler, Denzel called Baz Luhrmann (who he'd never met and didn't



**SHARON STONE** 

es of his cast member. Butler admits, "Denzel didn't call me beforehand, he didn't call me afterward; it was just this generous thing he did!"

\*\*\* Sharon Stone, who played a villain in "Catwoman" (which starred Halle Berry in the title role), will again play a villain in the upcoming Warners/DC film "Blue Beetle," due August 2023. Stone's career has had a lot of ups and downs: "Basic Instinct" (1992) made her a star, and "Casino" (1995) earned her an Oscar nomination. But "Catwoman" bombed, as did the sequel to "Basic Instinct" in 2004. While awaiting release of "What About Love," with Andy Garcia, she's currently in TV ads for Slotomania, a game you can download for free but eventually wind up paying through the nose for. Caution: Don't get stung by Captain Slotostar, aka Sharon Stone!

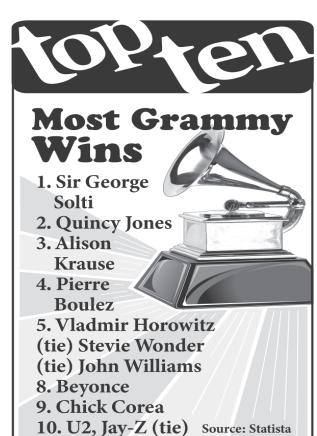
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# MacArthur HS Cross Country team on the way to daily practice at Jesse Jones Park



MACARTHUR cross country going to Jesse Jones Park to run. They started at 8. Every morning. Even holidays. MacArthur Cross Country team practices daily. The MacArthur Cross Country team thanks East Aldine District for your financial support.





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ENTERTAINMENT

### Amber Waves



R.F.D.

know) and sang the prais-







by Mike Marland









**HOCUS-FOCUS** 



HENRY BOLTINOFF

### Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle 6 2 5 8 2 7 9 2 8 1 6 3 4 5 1 9 3 2 3 9 8 4 1 6 3 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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Find at least six differences in details between panels Differences: 1. Frame is missing. 2. Gloves are missing. 3. Fringe is missing. 4. Number is changed. 5. Earrings are different. 6. Bracelets are missing.

10. Plants' rate of growth 8. Organ meat from the pancreas and thymus gland; 9. "Ode to a Nightingale"; another, especially animals to humans.; 5. "Community"; 6. O negative; 7. Ireland; 2. "Beauty and the Beast"; 3. Bob Dylan; 4. A disease that can pass from one species to 1. 1773, when colonists dumped a shipment of tea into the Boston Harbor to protest taxes.; Trivia Test Answerst

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Embassy VIP Apple tablet

Mexican money

12 Scratch 13 "It can't be!"

14 Eve's man 15 Finished

17 Latvia's capital

18 Gusto 19 Neptune's

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### June 13, 2022 Posting Date **King** Crossword



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1. HISTORY: In what year did the Boston Tea Party take place?

2. MOVIES: Which 1990s animated movie has

a character named Lumiere?

3. MUSIC: Who wrote the song "Make You Feel My Love," performed by Adele?
4. LANGUAGE: What is a zoonotic disease?

5. TELEVISION: Which TV sitcom was set at Greendale Community College?

6. ANATOMY: What blood type does a universal donor have?

7. GEOGRAPHY: Bantry Bay is an inlet in which European country?

8. FOOD & DRINK: What are sweetbreads? 9. LITERATURE: What kind of bird is titled in

a John Keats' poem? 10. SCIENCE: What does an auxanometer measure?

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Answers - King Crossword

### CHURCH PAGE

### **BIBLE TRIVIA**

by Wilson Casey -

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

2. From Psalms 141, "Let the righteous smite me; it

shall be a ..."? Judgment, Scorn, Grief, Kindness 3. His favorite was Joseph, but how many sons did Jacob have? 2, 5, 8, 12

4. From Genesis 7, how old was Noah at the time of the flood? 100, 200, 600, 800

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

From heaven the Lord looks down

and sees all mankind;

from His dwelling place He watches

all who live on earth—

He who forms the hearts of all,

who considers everything they do.

Psalm 33: 13-15

Detail of "Head of a Girl"

by Leonardo da Vinci (1483)

5. In John 10:14, Jesus said, "I am the good ..."? Samaritan, Storyteller, Fisherman, Shepherd 6. Which book reads like a love story? Song of Solomon, Daniel, Titus, Jude

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Kindness (141:5); 3) 12; 4) 600; 5) Shepherd; 6) Song "Test Your Bible Knowledge," a book with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in stores and online.



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## Free "Karate In the Park" at James Driver Park

are now going on at James Driver Park. Classes are held at the Northeast Harris Community Center every Thursday at 6:00 p.m. Karate is a fun sport that later turns into awesome self-defense. It builds

Free Karate Classes confidence that last into adulthood and helps make successful adults. Karate instills self-respect, respect for others, and respect for authority figures. As children progress to higher levels, they develop leadership skills by assisting in-

Summer session starts June 9th. Children 6 yrs. To 12 yrs. At 6 p.m Adults 13 yrs. To 80 yrs at 7:00

For more information contact Sue Diaz at 713-962-6641



Instructor Sue Diaz and assistant instructor Kayla VanDyke with Karate



Hernandez family (brothers and cousins) celebrating at belt promotion ceremony





# Lone Star College partners with universities to increase credit transfer pathways



Lone Star College has partnered with eight universities to build greater access for its students interested in advancing their education.

HOUSTON (June 2, 2022) – Lone opportunity to earn a Lone Star College Star College has signed new articulation partnerships with eight additional universities to build greater access for students interested in advancing their education. An articulation agreement is a formal document that allows academic institutions to partner in developing transfer degree plans that guide students to completion at both, LSC and universities.

"These articulation agreements provide Lone Star College students with another option to pursue their baccalaureate degree," said Dwight Smith, Ed.D., LSC Vice Chancellor Academic and Workforce Success. "We are grateful to our university partners for working with us to help our students be able to further their education."

LSC has formed partnerships with Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Tarleton State University, McNeese State University, Houston Baptist University, Texas Women's University, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, Abilene Christian University and Arizona State University since the be-

ginning of 2022. The goal of the articulation agreement is to provide a seamless transfer

for students enrolling at the other institution to complete a baccalaureate "In addition to the recent articula-

tion agreements, students also have the

Nursing; and Energy, Manufacturing and Trades Management," said Smith. "The LSC-University Center, located in The Woodlands and University Park, also allows students to earn their bachelor's and master's degrees close to home from partner universities in a variety of programs." Fall registration is underway with

bachelor's degrees in Cybersecurity;

classes beginning Aug. 29. Visit LoneStar.edu/Start to learn how LSC can you get started on your new educational journey.

Lone Star College enrolls over 80,000 students each semester providing highquality, low-cost academic transfer and career training education. LSC is training tomorrow's workforce today and redefining the community college experience to support student success. Stephen C. Head, Ph.D., serves as chancellor of LSC, the largest institution of higher education in the Houston area and has been named a 2021 Great Colleges to Work For® institution by the Chronicle of Higher Education and ranked 35th in Texas in the Forbes 'America's Best Employers By State' list. LSC consists of eight colleges, seven centers, eight Workforce Centers of Excellence and Lone Star Corporate College. To learn more, visit LoneStar.edu.