

- Keeney Football Preview, Pages 1,7
- County Bond Hearings, Page 2
- Aldine School News, Page 3
- OP-ED County Budget, Page 4
- HC Crime Reduction Program, Page 8

Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 46 Years
VOL. 46, NO. 37 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2022 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT IN EAST ALDINE 2021.
This large crowd enjoyed music, entertainment,
and spending an evening with their neighbors.

NEWS NOTES

National Night Out observed Tuesday, Oct. 4

Aldine ISD reminds fans, students and the public that for the next two years, Aldine ISD's five varsity football teams will play their home District 14-6A games at Spring ISD's Leonard George Stadium as plans are underway for AISD to build a new state-of-the-art facility that will open in August 2024.

National Night Out in the East Aldine District will take place on Tuesday evening, October 4th from 6pm until 9pm at the Amphitheater and surrounding grounds next to the East Aldine headquarters building. The address is 2909 East Aldine Amphitheater Drive.

There is plenty of parking adjacent to the theater. The public is welcome to this free event, and it is suggested you bring a chair and blanket for the grass seating.

You can come and meet your neighbors in Aldine, and also those in public safety jobs that keep our community safe.

There will be fire departments, ambulance services, sheriff's department deputies, scouts, and more.

You can also experience the activities such as rock climbing, a train ride for children, face painting, prizes, food from the area's best food trucks, games for children and adults, music with a live DJ, and much more.

Sponsors for the NNO event include East Aldine District, BakerRipley, Harris County Pct. 2, Harris County Sheriff's office, Lone Star College-East Aldine, State Representative Armando Walle, Westfield Fire Department, and Harris County Emergency Corps.

The North Houston District will bring together area residents, businesses, military members and law enforcement for its 2022 National Night Out on



Enjoy a petting zoo, movie characters, helicopters, epic giveaways, and more at North Houston District's National Night Out event. Celebrate public safety partnerships at one of the largest NNO celebrations in Houston!



Tuesday, Oct. 4 at Tom Wussow Park starting at 5pm. This annual family-friendly event, one of the largest in Houston, is designed to enhance relationships among neighbors and law enforcement in a

positive setting and to foster a sense of community within the North Houston area. Although National Night Out is celebrated in August in most parts of the country, it is scheduled in October in Texas to take

advantage of more moderate weather.

Several activities are planned over the course of the three-hour event, in

*Continued. See NNO
North Houston, Page 8*

School Safety Forum at EAD reviews status, techniques



East Aldine District's Public Safety Director, Victor Beserra, at left, led a round-table forum of educators, public safety responders, and the public in a discussion of Best Practices. Above, Beserra with deputies, first responders, and State Representative Armando Walle.

EAST ALDINE – The public, educators and authorities involved in school safety held a face to face discussion last Monday, September 19 at the offices of the East Aldine District. EAMD Public Safety director Victor Beserra led the discussion, which covered concerns, status reports, and best practices to keep school children safe through the school year while on school property and traveling to school.

Participants included
Aldine and Harris County

School officials and area principals, police officers from Aldine and Harris County, HCEC officials, HCDE representatives, civic club and public participants, and State Representative Armando Walle. Walle was especially interested in possible legislative solutions to enhance the safety protocols.

Beserra started the meeting with a 10 minute video on how to deal with an active shooter who enters a school. The video illustrates the

"Hide-Run-Fight" advice used in most training, Bessera said. It was produced by a school district in Santa Ana California. This well-done training film vividly shows the resistance techniques that can be used by students and staff in a dangerous Active Shooter situation.

The group then went around the room with introductions, and reports on the steps each had taken

Continued. See School Safety, Page 2

Chargers look to avenge last year's upset by Texans: Aggies hit the road for 2nd straight week with trip to MSU

The Texans return home after a two-week road trip that took them to Denver and Chicago to face the Los Angeles Chargers, a team they upset in 2021, 41-29.

That unexpected loss to what would become a four-win Houston team, probably cost star quarterback Justin Herbert and his teammates a shot at a postseason berth, so you had better believe they won't take the lowly Texans lightly this time around. Or will they?

The Chargers have as much talent as any team in the AFC this side of Buffalo and Kansas City, but they have a penchant for playing down to the level of their competition. It cost them dearly a year ago and if they don't change their ways, it could happen again.

Houston continues to struggle on offense as evidenced by their inability to score a touchdown against Denver two weeks ago as they fell 16-9 to the



KEENEY'S KORNER

By
MIKE KEENE

underwhelming Broncos. Quarterback Davis Mills continues to struggle to make plays in the Red Zone, but rookie running back Dameon Pierce had his moments in the Mile High City. He ran hard between the tackles and maybe it's time to give him more carries to open things up for Mills. We shall see.

There are some other interesting games in the NFL this weekend, starting with the Thursday night game pitting Miami against defending AFC Champion Cincinnati. The Dolphins overcame a 35-14 fourth-quarter deficit two weeks ago at Baltimore, scoring 28 points in the final stanza to

pull off a wild 42-38 win as QB Tua Tagovailoa passed for 469 yards and six TDs. The Bengals have lost their first two games and if they hope to defend their AFC title, QB Joe Burrow and Co. need to get things going. Dallas hosts Washington in a key NFC East game for both teams. The Cowboys, behind backup quarterback Cooper Rush and six sacks by the defense, picked up their first win two weeks ago with a 20-17 last-second win over the Bengals, while the Commanders fell at Detroit, 36-27. Sunday Night Football

*Continued. See
KEENEY'S KORNER,
Page 7*

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

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

JOIN US TO MEET NEIGHBORS AND CELEBRATE THOSE WHO HELP KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE!

OCT 4

TUESDAY \ MARTES

6PM UNTIL 9PM

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[illegible]

A painting of a monarch butterfly with orange and black wings, perched on a cluster of small pink flowers. The background is a textured green, suggesting foliage. The text "BUTTERFLY" is written in white capital letters at the top left, and "PAINTINGS BY MEI - 713.906.4585" is written in white capital letters at the bottom.



EAST ALDINE DISTRICT

We're Here For You!

Executive Director: David Hawes
713.595.1209 » DHawes@AldineDistrict.org

Operations Manager: Veronica Sanches
713.595.1226 » VSanches@AldineDistrict.org

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COMMUNITY WATCH

Help Wanted to Identify Aldine Bender Robbery Suspect

Investigators need the public's help in identifying a suspect wanted for two robberies of two businesses within a few minutes of each other.

On Sunday September 18, 2022, at 9:30 am, a male suspect entered the Subway Sandwich Shop located at 5627 Aldine Bender Rd in north Harris County.

As he approached the counter, the man demanded the money from the cash drawer, the employee complied and he exited the store.

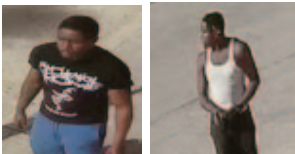
He is observed on surveillance video wearing a white singlet t-shirt, black shorts with white athletic leggings underneath.

At 10:09 am, a robbery call was answered by deputies at the Pizza Hut located in the same shopping complex.

The same male now wearing a black t-shirt with the band My Chemical Romance on the front, blue sweat pants entered the store.

He told the employee he needed the cash from the register.

The suspect indicated he had a gun, but did not display it to



wards employees.

The suspect then fled the store running in the direction of the Haverstock Hills Apartments located directly behind the complex.

He is a black male, 5'9 to 5'10 in height and a medium build. He has a distinctive tattoos on his right forearm and extending down to his wrist.

Anyone with information on this suspect is urged to call the HCSO Violent Crime unit at 713-274-9100 or Crime Stoppers may pay up to \$5,000 for information leading to the charging and/or arrest of the suspect(s) in this case. Information may be reported by calling 713-222-TIPS (8477), submitted online at www.crime-stoppers.org or through the Crime Stoppers mobile app. Only tips and calls DIRECTLY TO Crime Stoppers are anonymous and eligible for a cash reward.

School Safety Meeting,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



About 50 persons attended the School Safety Forum at the East Aldine District offices last Monday, September 19. EAMD Safety director Victor Beserra said that there will be more meetings of this type in a few months.



State Representative Armando Walle exchanges ideas with attendees at the School Safety Meeting, including Harris County deputies, Aldine ISD police officers, and Harris County Department of Education Safe and Secure Schools representatives.

HIGH MEADOWS LIBRARY NEWS

AMERICAN ARTIST APPRECIATION MONTH:

August is American Artist Appreciation Month! Join us at High Meadows for fun crafts, awesome story times, and interesting talks/classes taught by local artists themselves as we celebrate American artists.

THE ART THING FOR TEENS:

Every Monday at 3pm, we are celebrating local and American artists by playing with various art mediums and channeling our creativity through different art projects. This program is for teens/young adults looking to make quick and incredible pieces of art!

ARTISTIC ADVENTURES STORYTIME:

Every Tuesday at 11:30 am we will have Artistic Adventures Story Time! Join us as we read books, sing songs, and explore our creativity as we do art projects inspired by American artists. This program is for children 3-8 years old.

COLORFUL EXPRESSIONS:

On Wednesdays at 5:30pm, we invite adults to Colorful Expressions. Discover local and Amer-

ican artists, discuss artists' lives and processes, and try your hands at various art forms.

HM HEALTH FAIR:

The library will host a health fair for the community on Thursday, August 25th from 10am-3pm to 2pm. Stop by the library and discover health resources for your family and get your children vaccinated.

ARTISTS' PLAYGROUND:

Join us on August 25th from 10am-3pm for our Artists' Playground. We will have a special story time and fun art activities.

KNIT & CROCHET CLUB:

We will have a new monthly Knit & Crochet Club. Our first meetup will be on Saturday August 27th at 12pm and we will have a special guest teacher. Bring your own projects or start a new one here at the library.

A NOVEL IDEA BOOKCLUB:

Our monthly book club will be meeting again on Monday, August 29th at 6pm. Join us as we discuss "The Next Thing You Know" by Jessica Strawser.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

We are in search of volunteers to help us with a variety of projects from shelving to teaching liter-

acy classes. If you are interested in volunteering, please email Jennifer at jennifer.nandlal@hcpl.net.

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.

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

**JENNIFER NANDLAL
SR ADULT PROGRAM
SPECIALIST
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HOUSTON, TX 77039
832.927.5540**

AIRLINE LIBRARY NEWS

KIDS CLUB

Kids Club is back this **Wednesday, Sept. 28 at 4:30pm!** Come and have some fun!

BILINGUAL STORY TIME

Join us back in the library for story time in English and Spanish **Wednesdays at 10:30am!**

TEEN THURSDAYS

Teen Thursdays are back! Join us on **Thursday afternoons** starting at **3:30pm**. Drop on in!

SMARTPHONE WORKSHOP

Do you have a smartphone but don't quite understand how to use it? Join us to learn how to use all the great features of your phone and maintain peak performance. Our first session is Sept. 23, 4-5:30pm and we will cover what to look for when purchasing a smartphone. Call us to register: 832-927-5410.

COMPUTER CLASSES

In addition to our on-line 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 basic 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: various basic topics (Spanish computer class), 5-7pm, at the library

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**

ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you need to earn vol-

unteer hours or are just looking for a meaningful way to spend your time? Volunteer at the library! Pick up an application at the Aldine Branch Library or call 832-927-5410.

PASSPORT SERVICES

Do have plans to travel out of the country soon? Get on the ball and make sure you get your passport in order NOW! You can make an appointment for passport services at Aldine Branch - <https://www.hcpl.net/services/passport-services>

E-NEWSLETTER

Sign up to get our newsletter delivered straight to your mailbox each month! **<http://eepurl.com/h3wOXH>**

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HARRIS COUNTY \$1.2B BOND

County schedules hearings on November Bond vote

2022 OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE
Dates and locations are subject to change.

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 26

Sept 26
6pm - Gulfton Sharpstown Campus
6500 Rookin St, Houston, TX 77074
Precinct 4

Sept 27
6pm - Jersey Village Civic Center
16327 Lakeview Dr, Jersey Village, Texas
77040
Precinct 3

Sept 28
6pm - James Driver Park
10918 Bentley St, Houston, TX 77093
Precinct 2

Sept 29
12pm - Virtual Meeting
6pm - Tomball Community Center
221 Market St, Tomball, TX 77375Precinct 3

WEEK OF OCTOBER 2

Oct 3
6pm - Shirley Acres
217 Woerner Rd, Houston, TX 77090
Precinct 3

Oct 4
6pm - Humble Civic Center
8233 Will Clayton Pkwy, Houston, TX 77338
Precinct 3

Oct 5
6pm - Dream Palace Banquet Hall
11225 Bissonnet St, Houston, TX 77099
Precinct 4

Oct 6
6pm - Fountain Life Center
14083 S Main St, Houston, TX 77035

Precinct 1

WEEK OF OCTOBER 9

Oct 10
6pm - Bellaire Civic Center
7008 S Rice Ave, Bellaire, TX 77401
Precinct 1

Oct 11
6pm - Alegria Gardens at Clay
18311 Clay Rd, Houston, TX 77084
Precinct 4

Oct 13
12pm - Virtual Meeting

Oct 15
10am - Felix L. Baldree Community Center
13828 Corpus Christi St, Houston, TX 77015
Precinct 2

WEEK OF OCTOBER 16

Oct 17
6pm - BakerRipley Pasadena Campus
720 Fairmont Pkwy, Pasadena, TX 77504
Precinct 2

Oct 18
12pm - Virtual Meeting
6pm - Virtual Meeting

Oct 19
12pm - Virtual Meeting
6pm - Virtual Meeting

Oct 20
12pm - Virtual Meeting
6pm - Virtual Meeting

SCHOOL NEWS PAGE

New Staff Assignments Announced at Sept. 20 Board Meeting



During the Sept. 20 Board meeting, Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney announced several staff assignments.

- *Purvi Benitez was named Tax Attorney after serving as an Associate Attorney at Dore Rotherberg McKay, PC.
- *Kanika Middleton was named a Tax Attorney after serving as a Principal Attorney and Consultant at Walker Middleton.
- *Salvador Peralta was named Principal of Aldine Middle School after serving as an Assistant Principal at MacArthur High School.
- *Eva Carrillo-Iniguez was named Director of Multilingual Services after serving as a Program Director of Multilingual Compliance.
- *After serving as a Network Engineer, Derrick Brown was named Director of Technology Support Services.
- *Kalwenda Lott was named Program Director of Career and Technical Education after serving as a Career and Technical Education Teacher at Drew Academy.
- *After serving as an Academic Specialist at Aldine Middle School, Taryn Meier was named Program Director of Testing.
- *X'Zavier Bloodsaw was named an Assistant Principal at Teague Middle School after serving as a CTE Business Teacher at Nimitz High School.
- *Carolyn Jones was named an Assistant Principal at Aldine Middle School after serving as the Social Emotional Learning Instructional Coach with Fort Bend ISD.
- *Matthew D'Camp was named an Assistant Principal at Aldine Middle School after serving as a Career and Technical Education Teacher at Stovall Middle School.
- *Louis Evans, IV was named an Assistant Principal at MacArthur High School after serving as a Special Education Teacher at Klein Forest High School.
- *JoAnn Payne was named an Assistant Principal at Jones Elementary School after serving as an Assistant Principal at KIPP Connect Middle School.
- *Lenora Jones was named an Assistant Principal at Knippel Education Center after serving as an ELA Teacher at that same campus.

- *Crystal Kennedy was named an Assistant Principal at Calvert Elementary School after serving as the District Literacy Coach.
- *Earnest Washington was named an Assistant Principal at Aldine High School after serving as the Substitute Campus Administrator.
- *Erica Bostic was named an Assistant Principal at Raymond Elementary School after serving as the District Literacy Coach.
- *Stelleshia McClelland was named a Counselor at Aldine Middle School after serving as a Science Teacher at Lewis Middle School.
- *Monique Juliangarza was named a Counselor at Davis Ninth Grade School after serving as a College Readiness Counselor at DeKaney High School.
- *Orquidea Torres was named a Counselor at Eisenhower High School after serving as a Diagnostician/ARD Facilitator with Royal ISD.
- *Sherry Kelly was named a Counselor after serving as a Science Teacher at Shotwell Middle School.
- *After serving as the RTI Coordinator at Atascocita Middle School, Courtney Leva was named a Counselor.
- *After serving as a Montessori Teacher at Anderson Academy, Kailyn Smith was named a Counselor.
- *Ricardo Macedo was named Network Architect after serving as a Mobile Device Technician.
- *Eric Levels was named Executive Director of Digital Learning after serving as Director of Digital Learning.
- *Ashley Stancil was named a Counselor at Shotwell Middle School after serving as a Counselor at Grantham Academy.
- *Mindy Smith was named Executive Director of Total Awards after serving as Director of Benefits.
- *After serving as Principal of Eisenhower Ninth Grade School, Jane Ocanas was named Program Director of High School English Language Arts.
- *Suzanna Garcia was named Director of New Teacher Support after being Director of Blended Learning.
- *Kimberly Gollihar was named Director of PEIMS and Data Quality after serving as the District PEIMS Coordinator.

Aldine ISD to host Transition Expo Oct. 1

Aldine ISD's Special Education Department will host a Transition Expo on Saturday, Oct. 1 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. The Expo will be held at the M.O. Campbell Educational Center (1865 Aldine Bender Rd.).

This event is an opportunity for families with disabilities (ages 3-22) to meet with agencies and organizations that can meet the needs of their children while they are in school and also help them transition into adulthood.

Events scheduled are:

- 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. – Free childcare for parents attending the event
- 9 a.m.-10 a.m. – Guest speaker from the Harris Center (breakfast provided)

- 10 a.m.-2 p.m. – Agency Exploration (TWC, colleges, vocational programs, Lane School, agencies, Day Habs, social and athletic clubs and more.
- 11:30-2 p.m. – Harris County Fired Department, fire truck tours, safety and career exploration. Aldine Police Department, patrol car tours, safety and career exploration. Harris County Emergency Corps, EMT tours, safety and career exploration.

Food trucks will be present for participants to purchase lunch.

To register or to learn more about the Expo visit AldineISD.org/TransitionExpo.

District Names New Eisenhower Ninth Grade School Principal

Darrell Ross has been named the new principal of Eisenhower Ninth Grade School. Ross will start on Tuesday, September 20, 2022.

Ross brings 30+ years of experience in education, with many of those years serving as a campus leader. He is also familiar with Aldine ISD, having served as a teacher and coach at MacArthur HS. Ross is rejoining Aldine ISD after serving as assistant principal of B.F. Terry HS with Lamar Consolidated Independent School District in Rosenberg.



School. That year, the team won the State Championship.

His career has led him to serve as assistant principal, associate principal, and principal in several schools across the country. Ross had stints in Flint, Michigan; Houston, TX; and Oakland, CA.

“My mission is to bridge the gap from high school to college and career by equipping educators to empower students. In turn, students become self-motivated learners who empower others to succeed,” said Ross.

He holds a bachelor's degree from Ouachita Baptist University and a master's degree in education/art of teaching from Marygrove College. Ross also has a principal certification (EC-12) in Texas and California. He was honorably discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve.

Spring ISD Shares George Stadium Policies for Fans Attending District 14-6A Games

For the next two years, Aldine ISD's five varsity football teams will play their home District 14-6A games at Spring ISD's Leonard George Stadium as plans are underway for AISD to build a new state-of-the-art facility that will open in August 2024.

Spring ISD has shared the following stadium policies AISD fans should adhere to when cheering on their favorite squads.

Those policies are:

- *Spectators are not allowed on the field before or after the game. Only students of school organized and approved activities will be allowed on the field.
- *Only drill team, band students, or cheerleaders, in uniform, may form victory lines on the playing field.
- *Air horns, bells, and other mechanical noise makers are prohibited in all District athletic football contests.
- *Glass bottles or glass containers are prohibited in the complex.
- *The use of confetti is prohibited in the complex.
- *Live animal mascots are not allowed in the complex. Dummy mascots, signs, etc., may be displayed on respective sidelines.
- *No band, drill team, cheerleaders, photographers, or mascot guards may encroach upon the restraining lines (dotted) or the bench area (25 yard line to 25 yard line) during the course of the game.
- *Spirit Signs are allowed on the top fence of each sides stands and along walkway rails on each side. All signs should be removed at the conclusion of the contest.
- *No ticket refunds will be given. No re-entry is allowed.
- *State laws and school policies will be in effect concerning alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, and distribution of any type of literature.
- *All people on the sidelines outside of the bench area, who are not in uniform, must have a sideline pass. No one is allowed to stand, photograph, or film from the end zone area of the field without authorization.
- *Only authorized personnel will be allowed on the field or in the team area before the game, at half-time, or after the game.

- *Run-thru signs may not be placed on the field if it has been raining and acrylic type paint has been used.
- *TEAMS: Gates will open two hours before game time. The home and visiting teams will enter on the north end of the stadium and use dressing rooms that are designated for their school.
- *The only groups that are permitted to sell products in the stadium are groups that have been approved by the Spring ISD Athletic Department.
- *PRESS BOX: Team rosters should be sent to the Press Box announcer no later than 30 minutes before game time.
- *BUS PARKING: All band and support group buses will park in the South end parking lot that is designated for their bus parking only.
- *Officials and coaches parking: All officials and coaches driving personal vehicles will park in the north end of the stadium in the fenced in parking lot.
- *PHOTOGRAPHERS: All school photographers must have a school media pass to take pictures on the field. This pass is NOT good for free entrance to the game. Each team and district video personnel should be limited to four people.

The following passes will be honored:

- 1.Official District passes (member plus one)
- 2.Texas High School Coaches Association (current membership care, plus one)
- 3.Texas Girls Coaching Association (current membership card, plus one)
- 4.Texas Association of Sports Officials (current membership card, member only)
- 5.14-6A UIL Pass (card member plus four)
- 6.Texas High School Athletic Directors Association (member plus one).

*TICKET GATE: Ticket gates will open 60 minutes before the game. Spectators must enter on the side in which they want to view the contest. Crossing sides is NOT permitted.

*The use of tobacco products is prohibited on the property of any athletic facility of Spring ISD.

*Spring ISD enforces a clear bag policy. George Stadium is located at 19428 I-45.

Two New Roles to the Family and Community Engagement Department



Gina Mann



Charlotte Wynn

With the 2022-2023 school year underway, the Family and Community Engagement Department has hired two new FACE liaisons to assist with campuses in the district.

The new FACE liaisons are Gina Mann and Charlotte Wynn.

As liaisons, they will be in charge of overseeing two schools each, Cypresswood Elementary, Francis Elementary, Jones Middle School and Jones Elementary School respectively, by communicating between the school and the FACE Department. They will also assist each campus through various trainings and events that aim at helping students with their academic lives.

The Family and Community Engagement Department was created in 2020 with the purpose of finding ways to engage with the families of the district, while also empowering parents to become more active with their children's education.

Since its inception, the department has created many initiatives, programs and events. Of the various endeavors, one of the roles they implemented was a FACE liaison for each of the campuses.

The liaison is to act as a point of contact for families at Aldine ISD campuses and the FACE department, to communicate the various tools and benefits FACE provides, and assist with events FACE has planned for different campuses.

While there have been liaisons on the campuses since the department was formed, the main difference is that these two new team members will function as liaisons solely. In recent years, campus employees served as the liaison for the FACE Department.

“I think this is a great start,” said Dr. Martha Escalante, FACE Executive Director. “We have seen how much help the liaisons can have with supporting the families of our campuses, so to be able to add these roles, in which they are able to fully focus on helping families, it will make a huge difference in the amount of support they will be able to provide.”

The Family and Community Engagement Department has steadily brought new and engaging undertakings to provide support to the families of Aldine, and with the addition of these two new roles, FACE will be able to continue that progress in AISD.

★

OPINION PAGE

★

★

OPINION

By HC Pct. 3 Commissioner
TOM RAMSEY



Republican Commissioner Tom Ramsey on County Budget Controversy

“As we all know, there are two sides to every story. Judge Hidalgo and others would have you believe that since there was not a quorum at today’s Commissioners Court, the budget will fail. In reality, the lack of a quorum simply means that the maximum tax rate allowed by law - without voter consent - cannot be implemented. Instead, a smaller budget will be adopted.

The difference between the two budgets is \$100 million. Of course, to you and I that’s a lot of money but in a \$2.2 billion budget, it’s 4.5%. That’s half of the current inflation rate.

My top priority is law enforcement. If you listen to their side of the story, this budget addresses that but let’s look at the actual facts. You’ve heard that there are 400 open positions and you’re led to believe that those are patrol officers. That number, however, is actually all the open positions in Harris County in the Sheriff’s department, in the Jail system, in the Constable programs, and numerous other agencies. Those vacancies include administration, dispatchers, clerical and on and on. As one Constable told me, many of these positions are open because the “weight of the badge is heavy” and a lack of support from the public and elected leaders has them looking elsewhere to serve and protect.

You have to ask why there is no desire to add Constables to the budget. You have to ask why there are just raises, but not more officers patrolling our streets. Why does the Sheriff’s department get some patrol positions - which I applaud - but far more of the positions do not meet criminals face to face on our streets. What is this court doing in a time where you know what the crime rate is - you don’t have to listen to politicians debate it. Even the local paper and evening news can’t ignore the facts of historic high murders, police officers being murdered, and those committing murder out on multiple bonds. Why did Judge Hidalgo specify that the full budget will add “...35 investigators...” and “...100 detention officers...” for a jail system that hasn’t added a single cell and yet didn’t mention one patrol officer? My budget opponents say phrases like “safety and justice”. How exactly do they define those words? For me, it’s officers.

You’re also led to believe that if the maximum budget and tax rate isn’t passed, 180 flood projects will “...affect the lives of every single resident in Harris County.”

Here’s the other side of the story. The difference between the two budgets for flood control is \$14 million. That’s .6% of the budget. Point six per cent.

Flooding, of course, is important and that’s why myself and Commissioner Cagle have committed to spending \$7 million each from our precinct budgets to make up the “two budgets” difference.

Problem solved. Imagine what we could do if Commissioners Garcia and Ellis also pledged \$7 million each.

Judge Hidalgo alluded to the fact that not passing the Voter Approved Rate budget instead of the No New Revenue budget would dramatically affect the Harris Health System. Their budget is \$2.38 billion dollars. The difference between the two budgets is less than 2%. Many of Dr. Porsa’s requests and his plea for more money is for capital investments which are not a part of these budgets at all. That, however, doesn’t make for good headlines and so we are led to believe that catastrophe will strike when all it would take is for my request to have more officers to alleviate this situation.

There are other issues as well that you will be asked to fret over but do not be fooled into thinking that Harris County is on the brink of disaster because the No New Revenue budget - the lower of the two - is implemented.

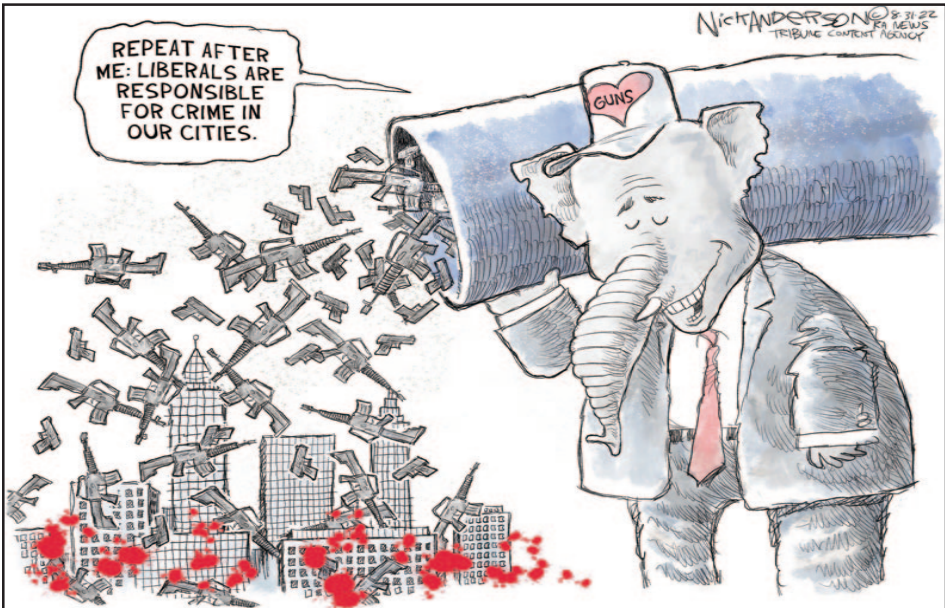
One of my objections to the “Voter Approved Rate” (clever, isn’t it? You don’t actually get to approve it but that’s the official name of the budget that taxes you at a higher rate) is that it does not add officers to our Constable programs who are responsible for many Harris County residents NOT protected by Houston police. It’s quite a sizable number.

Finally, I’ve also identified over \$100 million in the budget that I - and I think you - would consider waste. Those conversations, however, are not part of Judge Hidalgo, Commissioner Ellis and Commissioner Garcias’ plan. Those conversations aren’t allowed to be discussed in Court. If you’d like me to point you to where that’s happened publicly, I’d start with when Commissioner Cagle wasn’t even allowed to speak on adding Constables and discussion ended immediately so that the court majority could silence the concerns of voters in Precincts 3 and 4.

From the day I decided to run as your representative, I told you my focus would be first on three things - Crime, Infrastructure and Taxes. I’m not against spending money. I’m for using it properly, not wasting it, not passing it out to “friendly” consultants and I will continue to represent you with those priorities for your family and mine.

Finally, my job is not defined by attendance. My job is defined by representing the voters of Pct 3.”

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



★

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Hispanic Texans Likely Largest Demographic Group

The U.S. Census Bureau released its latest estimate, which indicates Hispanic residents in Texas make up more of the state’s population than white residents. The new population figures from the American Community Survey indicate Hispanic Texans comprise 40.2% of the state’s population last year, while non-Hispanic white Texans made up 39.4%, as reported in the Texas Tribune

The estimates, from July 2021, are not considered official but reflect trends that demographers have been tracking for years. Hispanics accounted for nearly half of the state’s population increase of 4 million residents since 2010. Census figures indicate almost half of Texas residents under the age of 18 are Hispanic.

The survey showed that Hispanic residents are more than twice as likely as white residents to live below the poverty line. The median income for a white household last year was \$81,235, compared to \$54,857 for a Hispanic household.

MORE THAN 10,000 MIGRANTS BUSED ELSEWHERE

With Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis grabbing headlines by flying migrants from Texas to Martha’s Vineyard, Gov. Greg Abbott’s office announced that it has now bused more than 10,000 migrants to what he terms “sanctuary cities” such as Washington, D.C., New York and Chicago. Last week, at Abbott’s behest, two buses of migrants from Texas were dropped off outside Vice President Kamala Harris’ residence at the United States Naval Observatory in the nation’s capital.

Abbott has long criticized the Biden administration’s approach to migrants seeking asylum in the United States, and Texas has boosted border security funding by \$4 billion. Biden last week said the administration has a process to deal with migrants at the border.

“Republicans are playing politics with human beings, using them as props.



What they’re doing is simply wrong,” he said at a gala for the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, according to Politico.

DISASTER ASSISTANCE APPROVED AFTER NORTH TEXAS FLOODING

The U.S. Small Business Administration has approved Abbott’s request for disaster assistance for seven North Texas counties affected by flooding last month. As much as 10 inches of rain fell in the Dallas area in late August, causing widespread damage to businesses and homes.

Counties included in the disaster declaration are Dallas, Collin, Denton, Ellis, Kaufman, Rockwall, and Tarrant. Applicants can download applications and get further information at disasterloanassistance.sba.gov.

‘MODERATE’ DEER HUNTING SEASON PREDICTED

Biologists with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department are predicting a moderate season for deer hunters, with archery season kicking off on Oct. 1.

“Overall, 2022 year is expected to be good in terms of harvest numbers and opportunities, so don’t let the chance to spend time afield with family, friends and fellow hunters pass you by,” said Alan Cain with TPWD.

The statewide drought, while now largely in remission, has adversely affected natural forage for deer in late summer, especially in the central, south, and western parts of the state, according to Cain. Wildfires caused significant habitat loss, but those ar-

eas are quickly rejuvenating, especially with the recent rains.

“Where fires have occurred, there’s been new grass and weed growth providing some much-needed nutrition and cover for deer,” Cain said. “Although habitat conditions have improved immensely with recent rains, the timing was a bit late to have any meaningful influence on antler quality.”

TABC BUSTS 131 RETAILERS FOR UNDERAGE ALCOHOL SALES

A statewide sting of alcohol retailers in college towns across Texas netted 131 retailers accused of selling alcohol to minors. The effort by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission coincided with the start of the college fall semester. Minor-aged volunteers under the supervision of undercover TABC agents attempted to buy alcohol from licensed retailers at 1,131 locations. They found a total of 131 violations, or 14% of the locations visited.

Businesses cited for selling booze to a minor could face civil fines and possible suspension of their liquor license. Individual employees would face misdemeanor charges as well.

POP-UP COVID-19 VACCINE LOCATIONS ANNOUNCED

While new cases of COVID-19 cases continue to wane, with 36,856 reported in Texas by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University in the past week, along with 144 deaths, parking lot pop-up vaccine sites are taking place at select Walmart locations across Texas until Sept. 25.

Updated booster vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna address the newer variants, according to officials with the Texas Department of State Health Services.

“Vaccination remains our most important tool in the fight against severe illness and death from COVID-19,” said DSHS Commissioner Dr. John Hellerstedt. “And the new bivalent vaccines promise an even more effective and safe protection from Omicron variants, which continue to be the leading cause of COVID-19 illness in Texas and across the U.S.”

DSHS reported 2,161 lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations as of Sunday, down slightly 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.

★

THE POSTSCRIPT

By Carrie Classon

“On the Sidewalk”

I met Betty sitting outside on the sidewalk.

Betty spends a lot of time there. She lives in the adjacent building. It is a place for older folks who need a lot of help and don’t have a lot of money. Betty lost both legs, below the knee, at some point. She wears a curly wig pulled down low on her head, and she is usually smoking a cigarette, out on the sidewalk, accompanied by a few other residents from her building.

I walk by Betty’s building a lot. “How are you doing today?” I always ask the residents as I pass.

The building is made of brick, in a pattern that looks like weaving. This has led my husband, Peter, and me to privately call it the “basket building,” and its occupants the “basket cases.” I know this is not nice, but it’s what we do.

“Doing great! How are you?” Betty and most of her companions always reply. There is usually a gathering of residents, most of them in wheelchairs. They always say they are “doing great!” as they sit in their wheelchairs, smoking cigarettes, gossiping about things I will never know about.

One day, I saw Betty out by herself.

“I don’t actually know your name,” I confessed.

“I’m Betty.”

“I’m Carrie.”

“Nice to meet you, Carrie.”

Then, yesterday, I was on my way to the drugstore, and there was Betty, several blocks from the basket building, with her wheelchair parked and facing the street.

“Hello, Betty!”

“Oh, hello!”

“It’s a beautiful day, isn’t it?” I said.

“Oh, it is!” she agreed.

“What’re you looking at?” Betty gestured across the street. There was a small park with trees, and taller buildings in the background. There were flowers in the foreground and a brick walkway in the park.

“It’s beautiful, don’t you think?” she asked. “The whole thing; it’s a beautiful picture.”

I was not in a hurry to get to the drugstore, I realized. I looked across the street. It was late afternoon, and the sun was shining through the trees in the park, and the bricks were shiny, and the flowers were in full bloom. Betty was right. It was beautiful, and I would have walked right past it without a glance.

“I sometimes sit here and just look at it,” Betty told me. “One day, they had a wedding here!”

“Oh, that would be a great place for a wedding,” I said.

“Uh-huh,” Betty agreed.

“What was your name again?” she asked.

“Carrie. Like the Stephen King novel.”

“Oh, yeah!”

I stood there in silence for a long moment, looking at the park, taking in the scene.

“Well, I’ll see you around, Betty,” I finally said. Betty smiled and looked back at the park.

As I headed down the sidewalk to the drugstore, I took one last look back at Betty. She was sitting in a patch of warm autumn sunshine, and her eyes were focused on the scene across the street. She had a smile on her face and a peacefulness about her that I only manage for moments in a day—if I’m lucky.

I don’t know a thing about Betty. And, when I see her on the sidewalk, in her wheelchair, smoking her cigarettes, I’ve been pretty quick to assume that hers is not a happy life.

But I had to wonder, if in her place, I would have wheeled myself down three blocks just to look at a sight that pleased me, just to sit in the sun, just to take in the beauty.

I hope so.

Till next time,

Carrie

Photos from the column and a link to YouTube videos can be found at CarrieClasson.com.

NORTHEAST★NEWS

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Harris County Water Control Improvement District No. 74
Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The **Harris County Water Control Improvement District No. 74** will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2022 on **October 11, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.** at 4901 Sandydale Lane, Houston, Texas 77039. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal: Ray Griggs, Ramiro Vazquez, Sonia Gomez, Jose Reyna
& Homero Campos
AGAINST the proposal: None
PRESENT and not voting: None
ABSENT: None

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	2021 Last Year	2022 This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.8328/\$100 Adopted	\$0.7817/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$-0.0511/\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-6.13%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 126,564	\$ 139,540
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	20%	20%
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 101,251	\$ 111,632
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 843.21	\$ 872.62
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$29.41 3.48%

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Utility Tax Service, LLC
(713) 688-3855

WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE

The PINEVILLAGE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2022 on October 12, 2022 at 4:30 pm. The meeting will be held at Bowden Education Bldg. 3000 Aldine Mail Route Rd. Houston, Texas 77039. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal: Jacqueline Joseph-Howard, Violet Allen, Emma Hall and Augustine Rodriguez
AGAINST the proposal: NONE
PRESENT and not voting: NONE

ABSENT: Judy Shilling
The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	<u>\$0.99</u> /\$100 Adopted	<u>\$0.91</u> /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of		<u>-\$0.080000</u> /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-8.080808%
Average appraised value	\$41,302	\$48,147
General Exemptions Available		
(Excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$8,260	\$9,629
Average taxable value	\$33,042	\$38,518
Tax on average residence	\$327.12	\$350.51
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$23.39 7.150281%

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 8 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23601, Water Code. 50-858

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Sheldon Road Municipal Utility District
Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The **Sheldon Road Municipal Utility District** will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2022 on **October 10, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.** at 9414 Lamkin Road, Houston, TX 77049 and the public is invited to attend or participate via Zoom video/audio conference. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal: Wade Landry, Charlotte Pierce, Larry Allen, Leslie Brown
& Cecilia Casas
AGAINST the proposal: None
PRESENT and not voting: None
ABSENT: None

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	2021 Last Year	2022 This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$1.475/\$100 Adopted	\$1.50/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$0.025/\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		1.69%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 88,733	\$ 96,405
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	20%	20%
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 70,986	\$ 77,124
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 1,047.04	\$ 1,156.86
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$109.82 10.48%

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

Sheldon Road Municipal Utility District proposes to use the tax increase for the purpose of essential water, sewer, drainage services and related operational, bond issuance and maintenance administrative services.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Utility Tax Service, LLC
(713) 688-3855

WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE

The SEQUOIA IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2022 on October 10, 2022 at 6:30 pm. The meeting will be held at 14435 Sequoia Bend Houston, Texas 77032. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal: Richard Slater, Karen Baker, Jason Simpson, James Eastham, Sr., and Gilbert Arauza
AGAINST the proposal: NONE
PRESENT and not voting: NONE

ABSENT: NONE
The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	<u>\$0.40</u> /\$100 Adopted	<u>\$0.37</u> /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of		<u>-\$0.030000</u> /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-7.500000%
Average appraised value	\$139,311	\$154,052
General Exemptions Available		
(Excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$27,862	\$30,810
Average taxable value	\$111,449	\$123,242
Tax on average residence	\$445.80	\$456.00
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$10.20 2.288022%

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code. 50-860

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

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SPORTS PAGE

FOOTBALL SEASON WEEK 5:

Chargers look to avenge last year’s upset by Texans: Aggies hit the road for 2nd straight week with trip to MSU

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

has a good one as Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs visit Tom Brady and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Week 4 concludes on Monday Night Football with a key NFC West encounter as the defending Super Bowl champion Los Angeles Rams take on long-time rival San Francisco.

In college action, Jimbo Fisher’s Texas A&M Aggies travel to Starkville, MS to face Mike Leach and the Mississippi State Bulldogs. This will mark the Aggies second straight SEC road game after opening conference play last Saturday in Arlington against No. 10-ranked Arkansas. In another key SEC tilt, No. 2-ranked Alabama plays its second road game in just three weeks when Nick Saban’s team visits a talented Arkansas team.

Before we take a look at those games and a host of others, let’s review last week’s record. Finally, something to crow about as a 10-2 week brought the season record to a respectable 21-15 (58%). Told you I wouldn’t stay down for long!

Now, onto this weekend’s game.

HIGH SCHOOL

Davis vs. Spring: Scott Joseph’s Falcons take on the Spring Lions on Thursday night in George Stadium. Davis will be looking for another big night from running back Maurice White, while the Lions, who lost two of their first three games, while Davis won two of their first three, will rely on QB Clourid Johnson (393 passing yards, 2 TDs) and running back Tyrhan McNeal (133 yards). My pick, Davis 23, Spring 21

Nimitz vs. Eisenhower: Cornelius Harmon’s Cougars take on Eric Jackson’s Eagles on Friday night at George Stadium in Spring ISD. The Cougars won two of their three non-district games and are led by quarterback Brayden Whithead, running back Joseph Sanders and wide receiver Noah Allen. The Eagles dropped all three of their non-district games and are led by quarterback Zacchaeus Henry and wide receiver Ryan Niblett. My pick, Nimitz 31, Eisenhower 28

Aldine vs. MacArthur: Cirilo Ojeda’s Mustangs take on Wayne Crawford’s Generals as they two long-time rivals meet on Saturday evening at George Stadium in Spring ISD. The Mustangs are led by running back Damian Paredes (160 rushing yards, 3 TDs in first three games of the season), while the Generals are led by running back Christopher Gibson and wide receiver/defensive back Justin Williams. My pick, MacArthur 23, Aldine 21

NCAA

North Carolina State at Clemson: No. 12-ranked North Carolina State takes on No. 5-ranked Clemson in a big early-season ACC Atlantic battle. The Wolfpack have won their first three games of the year and are a legitimate contender for the ACC title. NC State is led by QB Devin Leary (570 yards, 5 TDs), running back Demie Sumo-Karngbaye (203 rushing yards/6 receptions, 102 yards, 3 total TDs) and wide receiver Thayer Thomas (10 receptions, 102 yards, 1 TD), while Clemson is led by QB DJ Uiagalelei (662 yards, 5 TDs), and running back Will Shipley (249 yards, 6 TDs). The winner of this game takes a leg up in the race for the Atlantic Division title. NC State is underrated on



defense. Look for Leary to be the best QB on the field this Saturday. My pick NC State 33, Clemson 30

Kentucky at Ole Miss: A big win on the SEC pits the No. 8-ranked Wildcats against the No. 16-ranked Rebels. Kentucky already owns a solid road win at Florida, while Ole Miss outscored its first three opponents 129-13 (the offense is averaging 43 points per game). Kentucky is led by quarterback Will Levis, a probably first round pick in next April’s NFL Draft. Levis has thrown for 882 yards and 6 TDs, and gets a lot of help from running back Kavosley Smoke (178 yards, 1 TD) and wide receiver Dane Kay (13 receptions, 226 yards, 3 TDs). The Rebs have a strong running game led by former North Shore star Zach Evans (317 yards, 3 TDs) and Quinshon Judkins (289 yards, 1 TD). They also have a solid WR in Jonathan Mingo (9 receptions, 203 yards). The Wildcats could be the surprise team of the SEC and their defense will be the difference maker in this one. My pick, Kentucky 26, Ole Miss 23

Texas A&M at Mississippi State: This game will feature a solid A&M defense against a high-scoring MSU offense, so something will have to give. Jimbo Fisher’s Aggies picked up a huge win over Miami two weeks ago as the defense led the way to a 17-9 win. Fisher changed QBs in that game sitting former starter Haynes King and replacing him with Max Johnson (163 yards, 1 TD). The change seemed to spark the Ags. A&M still has issues on the offensive line, but look for Johnson, running back Devon Achane (196 yards, 3 total TDs) and wide receiver Ainias Smith (14 receptions, 259 yards, 2 TDs) to take a big step forward against a Bulldog team that is suspect on defense, as evidenced by its 31-16 loss at LSU two weeks ago. Leach’s team has a solid QB in Will Rogers (977 yards, 10 TDs) and two solid WRs in Rara Thomas (14 receptions, 211 yards, 2 TDs) and Caleb Ducking (14 receptions, 162 yards, 3 TDs). A&M’s defense will slow the Bulldogs down this Saturday on the road. My pick, Texas A&M 31, Mississippi 17

Alabama at Arkansas: Saban’s No. 2-ranked Crimson Tide face perhaps their toughest test (yes, even tougher than the game against Texas, Longhorn fans!) of the 2022 season when they head to the Hills to take on the No. 10-ranked Razorbacks. Sam Pittman’s team won its first three games prior to last week’s contest against A&M to open SEC play. Arkansas has a real dual threat at quarterback in K.J. Jefferson (770 passing yards, 3 TDs/169 rushing yards, 3 TDs) and another key weapon in running back Raheim Sanders (440 yards, 3 TDs). They entered the A&M game with the three top sack producers in the SEC, which means ‘Bama QB Bryce Young (644 passing yards, 9 TDs/144 rushing yards, 2 TDS) had better hope his inexperienced offensive line holds up on Saturday. Look for Saban to give the ‘Hogs a steady dose of running backs Jose McClellan (167 yards, 1 TD) and Jahmyr Gibbs (151 yards, 2 TDs) and look for wide receiver Traeshon Holden (12 receptions, 169 yards, 3 TDs) to make plays in the passing game. Saban will need a big game from linebacker Will Anderson

Jr. (15 total tackles, one interception, one TD return) to be the difference maker on defense. After the near upset in Austin on Sept. 10, you had better believe Saban will have the Tide ready for this game. My pick, Alabama 31, Arkansas 20

NFL

Miami at Cincinnati: An interesting game to kickoff Week 4 of the 2022 NFL season pits the offensive-minded Dolphins against a struggling Cincinnati team on Thursday Night Football. As mentioned earlier, Miami erupted for 28 fourth-quarter points at Baltimore to overcome a 21-point deficit on their way to a 42-38 road win. Tua (739 yards, 7 TDs in first two games) was magnificent in the final stanza, as were wide receivers Tyreek Hill (19 receptions, 284 yards, 2 TDs) and Jalen Waddle (15 receptions, 240 yards) as they accounted for 22 receptions for 262 yards and four TDs against the Ravens. Wow! While the Dolphins are off to a hot start, the Bengals dropped their first two games and still have issues on the offensive line. QB Joe Burrow was sacked six times in the 20-17 loss to Dallas. It’s time for Cool Joe (537 yards, 3 TDs/4 picks) to pick up his game. Look for a big night from him and wide receiver Ja’Marr Chase (15 receptions, 183 yards, 1 TD) as Cinci gets its season back on track. This should be an offensive shootout. My pick, Cincinnati 34, Miami 31

Los Angeles Chargers at Houston: After last year’s upset at the hands of the Texans, I don’t expect the Chargers to take them for granted on Sunday at NRG Stadium. A lot will depend on the health of Herbert (613 yards, 6 TDs). He fractured some ribs in LA’s 27-24 loss at KC two weeks ago, but should be ready for this game. Even if he’s unable to go, look for running back Austin Ekeler (75 rushing yards/13 receptions, 91 yards) and wide receiver Mike Williams (10 receptions, 123 yards, 1 TD) to pick up the slack. The Texans must be more productive on offense, so look for them to let rookie back Pierce (102 yards) to get plenty of work in this game. Houston’s defense has played well thus far, but if Herbert is under center this Sunday, that unit will face its toughest test of the season. My pick, Los Angeles Chargers 31, Houston 18

Washington at Dallas: The Cowboys may have saved their season two weeks ago with a gritty 20-17 win at home against Cincinnati. Reserve QB Cooper Rush (299 yards, 1 TD) looked calm and reserved and made plays in the passing game to his favorite new target, Noah Brown (10 receptions, 159 yards, 1 TD) and budding superstar CeeDee Lamb (9 receptions, 104 yards). Dallas also got production in the running game from Ezekiel Elliott (105 yards) and Tony Pollard (one TD in the game), but it was the defense that saved the day. Second-year star running back Micah Parsons had his second straight game with two sacks and the Pokes picked up four more as they harassed Joe Burrow all afternoon long. Parsons and Co. will have to carry this team until Dak Prescott returns at QB and they should have another big day against the Commanders and turnover-prone QB



In 2021 the Texans upset the Chargers, in a game played in Houston, by a score of 29-41.

Carson Wentz (650 yards, 7 TDs). Two weeks ago, the Commanders lost at Detroit, 36-27. Look for it to be another tough day on the road for Washington. My pick, Dallas 23, Washington 17

Kansas City at Tampa Bay: What a game for the Sunday Night Football crew as Patrick Mahomes (595 yards, 7 TDs) takes on Tom Brady (402 yards, 2 TDs) in prime time. This game will pit the up-and-coming star QB in the league against the GOAT, but it might be the Tampa Bay defense that determines the outcome of this contest. The Bucs have looked really good on defense in their first two games, allowing just 13 points in wins at Dallas and New Orleans. That unit will really get tested Sunday night in Tampa when Mahomes, tight end Travis Kelce (13 receptions, 172 yards, 1 TD), wide receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster try to

dent this skilled unit. Brady and the Bucs offense have gotten off to a slow start, as injuries and suspensions have taken their toll. Brady hopes to have back big-play WR Chris Godwin for this game and should have reliable wideout Mike Evans (8 receptions, 132 yards, 1 TD) back for this game after Evans sat out last week’s game against Green Bay after being suspended for his role in an altercation two weeks ago against the Saints. It’s tough to go against Brady in a big game and remember, when these two met two years ago in the Super Bowl, Brady came out on top. My pick, Tampa Bay 30, Kansas City 28

Los Angeles Rams at San Francisco: Week 4 concludes on Monday Night Football with an important early-season NFC West contest between the Rams

and 49ers. Two weeks ago, LA almost blew a 28-point lead at home to the Falcons but held on for a 31-27 win, while the 49ers took care of Seattle 27-7 but in the process lost starting QB Trey Lance for the season to a broken ankle. Jimmy Garoppolo (154 yards, 1 passing, 1 rushing TD) came off the bench to save the day and it’s a good thing the 49ers didn’t trade him prior to the start of the season. The Rams will once again be led by QB Matthew Stafford (512 yards, 4 TDS) and WR Cooper Kupp (24 receptions, 236 yards 3 TDs) on offense, but the defense needs to shore things up. In their first two games, the Rams “D” has allowed 58 points. That won’t get it done. SF is tough at home, especially against the Rams, so look for the 49ers to take care of the Rams on Monday night. My pick, San Francisco 26, Los Angeles Rams 23

MacArthur Volleyball Player Jessika Martínez Named to GHVCA Pre-Season Team

MacArthur High School sophomore volleyball player Jessika Martínez has been named to the Greater Houston Volleyball Coaches Association Pre-Season Team.

Martínez is an outside/middle hitter for head coach Lynda Eastland’s team.

“Jessika Martínez is a sophomore that has an impeccable knowledge of volleyball,” Eastland said. “Jessika is very athletic and a fundamentally sound athlete. She is dedicated and a hard worker. She works extremely hard on and off the court to get better, stronger, and faster. Jessika has the head of a student-athlete. She is currently leading District 14-6A in kills and hitting percentage.”



Jessika Martinez

Save the Date

9th Annual M.B. “Sonny” Donaldson Golf Tournament

Supporting the Aldine Education Foundation

Thursday, October 27, 2022

Raising funds to support the students of Aldine ISD

AldineEducationFoundation.org/golf

281-924-6088

***** NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

FREE EVENTO GRATIS

EAST ALDINE DISTRICT

JOIN US TO MEET NEIGHBORS AND CELEBRATE THOSE WHO HELP KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE!

OCT 4

TUESDAY \ MARTES

6PM UNTIL 9PM

EAST ALDINE AMPHITHEATRE

2909 East Aldine Amphitheatre Dr.

¡CONOCE A TUS VECINOS Y A LAS PERSONAS QUE MANTIENEN NUESTRA COMUNIDAD SEGURA!

BRING A BLANKET / CHAIR

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ROCK CLIMBING • TRAIN RIDE • LIVE DJ • FOOD PRIZES • FACEPAINTING • GAMES & MORE

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parking/estacionamiento: LONE STAR COLLEGE - EAST ALDINE CENTER

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HARRIS COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE



Harris County to Donate Safety Equipment to Ukraine Troops

Harris County supports the sovereignty of the nation of Ukraine and their fight for peace. So, our Harris County Fire Marshal was happy to comply when the Daar Charitable Foundation requested supplies to assist and aid Ukrainian troops as part of the Texas Law Enforcement for Ukraine initiative.

Harris County was able to provide old and out-of-service ballistic body armor equipment, which includes 52 sets of complete set armor, 15 each of individual panels, and 16 each of empty carriers.

The equipment will go to Ukrainian civilian volunteers and territorial defense. The Daar Charitable Foundation has operated a US-based nonprofit entirely focused on Ukraine for 20 years. With their extensive connections in Ukraine, they aim to provide aid to those Ukrainians remaining in-country, currently in conflict zones.

County announces new crime reduction initiative \$150 million for “Safe Harris” and VIPER

HARRIS COUNTY – County leaders on Wednesday touted an overall decrease in violent crime across the region and announced the Safe Harris initiative — a four year \$150 million public safety investment focused on further reducing crime in Harris County.

According to Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo, the county saw a 7% decrease in violent crime since June 2021, with a 4% decrease in homicides. Additionally, Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez added that since December 13, his department seized 279 guns, cleared 1,303 warrants, and filed over 1,000 charges — a majority of those being felony charges, Gonzalez said.

“We’re moving in the right direction,” Gonzalez said. “We’re taking crime seriously here in Harris County, and we’re going to continue to work collaboratively and learn



Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez (middle) speaks to reporters about the county’s Safe Harris initiative on August 17, 2022. At left is County Judge Lina Hidalgo, at rear Pct. 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, and at right Deputy County Administrator for Public Safety Perrye Turner.

from what’s working and what’s not working.”

The additional money will bolster the county’s ongoing public safety investments and help fund the Violent Persons Task Force, or Viper, which will launch next month in Harris County with the aim to “take the most dangerous individuals off the street,” according to Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia.

“These efforts are part

National Night Out Oct. 4,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



EAST ALDINE’S NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2021 included performances by Karate Class Groups, and other music and performing entertainment venues. A large crowd was on hand for the whole evening with food, games, and other family and individual activities.

cluding a “friendly” tug of war competition featuring Houston Police Department versus Harris County Sheriff’s Office and US Airforce recruits versus US Marine recruits. Raffles and drawings for giveaways of tablets, gift cards, gaming systems and TVs will be held near the end of the event. Other fun and family-friendly plans include:

- Petting Zoo
- HPD Mounted patrol, K9 officers
- Harris County Sheriff’s Office Helicopter, High Water Rescue boat, motorcycle unit
- US Marines combat simulation trailer
- Face paintings
- Free food from Chick-Fil-A, snow cones and refreshments
- Disney characters
- “Chase” from Paw Patrol
- DJ with dancing

WHO: Participants will include area residents, local law enforcement, businesses and community partners and elected officials (See full list below)

WHEN: Tuesday, Oct. 4 from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.

WHERE: Tom Wussow Park, 500 Greens Rd. (Near I-45 North & North Sam Houston Parkway/ Beltway)

WHY: Public safety is one of the North Houston District’s priorities, which is why it hosts one of the largest National Night Out events in town.

COST: The event is free and open to the public.

2022 Community Participants

Aldine-Greenspoint Family YMCA
Amazon
AT&T
Atlantic Methanol
Buckhead Meat & Seafood
Build a Pizza



Informal dance group at North Houston NNO.



Kids enjoy checking out a police helicopter at North Houston NNO.

Chick-fil-A
City of Houston District B Council Member Tarsha Jackson
Eyes on Me
Green House International Church
Greens Bayou Coalition
Harris County Sheriff’s Office
Home Depot
Houston Fire Department
Houston Police Department
IDEA Public Schools
Landcare
Lone Star College-Houston North
METRO
North Houston District
Rockstar Energy Bike Park
Rodeo Dental
Spartan Security Services
Texas Excel Management
Texas General Land Office
The Harvest
U.S. Air Force
U.S. Army
U.S. Marines

Villa Serena Communities

About the North Houston District

Created in 1991 by the Texas Legislature, the **North Houston District** is a business improvement district that leverages public and private partnerships to provide enhanced services in transportation mobility, public safety, beautification and recreational development, marketing and strategic planning and development. Minutes from Bush IAH, the District’s 12-square-mile service area has 20 million square feet of office, retail and industrial properties. The District area includes more than 3,800 businesses, 68,000 employees and 118,500 residents. For more information, visit www.northhouston.org.

according to the Safe Harris website.

Judge Hidalgo added that the budget for the Harris County DA’s Office has increased by \$12.7 million from 2019 to 2021 and adamantly dismissed accusations of defunding law enforcement — claims that Hidalgo said were purposefully perpetuated by political opponents during an election year.

“We have increased the funding for every single law enforcement agency, so it is a lie,” she said. “You are hurting our law enforcement and you are hurting our democracy when you’re willing to spread lies.”

Harris County Commissioners Court previously allocated millions to several programs aimed at reducing crime and increasing community safety, including a controversial “ShotSpotter” gunshot detection pilot program in Aldine and two public safety programs meant to decrease reliance on police intervention.

ed the Safe Harris website, which compiles already existing dashboards — including data on Harris County Jail’s population and the county’s criminal court backlog — into one centralized location, along with information about the county’s public safety spending.

“SafeHarris.com is for you, our community, and is designed to give you a full view of the money and programs being developed and implemented,” said Deputy County Administrator for Public Safety Perrye Turner.

During the briefing, the focus shifted to the county’s short fiscal year \$1.3 billion budget, which focused heavily on public safety.

The Harris County Sheriff’s Office saw a \$123.6 million increase in total funding from from 2019 to 2021, which funded additional overtime and increased salaries for county law enforcement,