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# NORTHEAST NEWS

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Jan. 14 & 21

LSC-NORTH HARRIS

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VOL. 47, NO. 2 TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

**NEWS NOTES**

**JAN. 17 to FEB 3 I-45N Planning & Environmental Study Meetings**

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Houston District is holding a third virtual public meeting with two in-person options to gather public input on the I-45N: Beltway 8 North to Loop 336 South (Conroe) PEL Study in Harris and Montgomery Counties.

Through public and stakeholder engagement, the PEL study will explore transportation alternatives to address the growing safety, mobility and multimodal needs along the corridor due to the projected population and employment growth in the Houston metropolitan area.

The virtual and in-person meeting options provide an opportunity for the community to review and comment on the reasonable alternatives developed to address the I-45N corridor needs and the evaluation process that will be used to identify the recommended alternatives. The virtual and in-person meetings will cover the same content.

**MEETING SCHEDULE:**  
VIRTUAL - Jan. 17 through Feb. 3, see details on Page 8  
TUESDAY, JAN. 17, 2023 5:00 - 7:30pm In Person Oak Ridge High School 27310 Oak Ridge School Road Conroe, TX 77385  
THURSDAY, JAN. 19, 2023 5:00 - 7:30pm In-Person Hochzeit Hall 427 Gentry Street Spring Texas 77373 See more details in Ad on Page 8, and at www.txdot.gov. keyword search "I-45N PEL"

**JAN 17, 19, 21. Aldine Regional Study Meetings**

You are invited to Join the Study Group at the 3rd Round of Public Meetings.

Harris County needs the Aldine community's help in determining projects which will improve this vibrant community the most. Your input from rounds one and two of our public meetings in 2022 showed us which 20 projects you rank the highest.

Now we are working to get to a prioritized list of 20 project to implement, and we need to hear from you again.

**MEETING SCHEDULE:**  
Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2023 6pm - 7:30pm North East Community Center, 10918 Bentley.  
Thursday, Jan. 19, 2023 6 pm - 7:30pm North East Community Center, 10918 Bentley  
Saturday, Jan. 21, 2023 11:30am - 1:30pm James Drive Park Pavilion 10918 Bentley

## RodeoHouston 2023 performers announced; Tickets on Sale now

**2023 RODEO HOUSTON ENTERTAINER LINEUP**

Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo officials released the entertainment lineup for the 2023 Rodeo season, scheduled for Feb. 28 – March 19. The lineup features a mix of genres, including Country, EDM, Hip-Hop, Norteño, Pop, Rock, and Christian. Many of the artists will make their RODEO-HOUSTON® debut in 2023.

"We are thrilled to welcome back so many talented artists including some fan favorites such as Houston rap legend, Bun B who will be taking the stage alongside some additional iconic southern performers," said Chris Boleman, Rodeo President and CEO.

Continued. See RodeoHouston, Page 5

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>RODEOHOUSTON 2023 STAR ENTERTAINER LINEUP</b>	28 OFFENDING DAY presented by Texas Capital Bank	1 ARMED FORCES DAY presented by Cream Royal	2	3 BLACK HERITAGE DAY presented by Burger	4
5	6 FIRST RESPONDERS DAY presented by BP America	7	8 COMMUNITY DAY presented by IC Energy	9	10	11
12 GO TEXANO DAY presented by Ford Mustang	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	<b>STAR ENTERTAINER LINEUP</b> Feb. 28 - March 19, 2023 ★ rodeohouston.com					

**KEENEY'S KORNER**  
BY MIKE KEENEY

**NORTHEAST NEWS OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR**  
**Nimitz Senior Quarterback Brayden Whitehead named Offensive Player of the Year**

By Mike Keeneey  
Contributing Writer

First-year Nimitz High School head football coach Cornelius Harmon did his homework before accepting the job last spring. He researched the team's roster and once he discovered he had a big-armed quarterback with two years of experience, he was sold on the job. And senior quarterback Brayden Whitehead.

As a senior Whitehead threw for 2,389 yards, completing 157 passes and he tossed 28 touchdown passes. He also picked up another 121 yards on the ground and four more scores.

Whitehead helped lead the Cougars to a second straight playoff appearance and a six-win season. That effort earned him the Northeast News' Offensive Player of the Year.

Harmon said Whitehead definitely has talent,



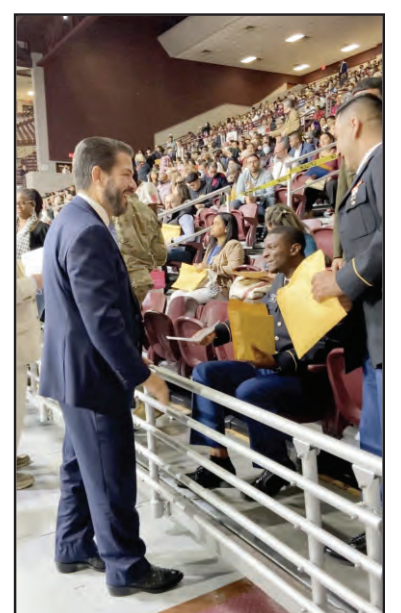
Nimitz Senior QB Brayden Whitehead

but he possesses a more important trait that a quarterback needs, leadership.

"Brayden is one heck of a player," Harmon said. "He's a true leader, a natural born leader. He was a bridge between me and the team. We would talk on a daily basis and he would share with me how his teammates felt about the change (of coaches). It was a good thing for me and the team." Brayden definitely helped stabilize things. Our relationship was close."

CONTINUED. SEE OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR, PAGE 5

## New Year, New Citizens at Aldine's M.O. Campbell Center



Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia was the featured speaker at a New Year's Citizenship ceremony at M.O. Campbell Center.

Garcia welcomed the new citizens with a rousing CONGRATULATIONS! It was a beautiful start to the day witnessing more than 1000 new U.S. citizens beam with pride and joy at a naturalization ceremony in Aldine. More than 115 countries were represented and 16 members of the military!



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See details on Page 6

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LoneStar.edu/Start

# Lone Star College gears up for spring 2023 semester

HARRIS COUNTY – With fall 2022 in the rear-view mirror, Lone Star College is ready to welcome students for the spring 2023 semester.

“Lone Star College made college less scary for me and offered so many accessible programs, tutors, services, professors and more,” said Angelina Gamez, LSC-Montgomery Nursing and first-time college student. “Lone Star College has provided me with a valuable and challenging education and has opened doors for me financially.”

LSC offers a variety of credit, workforce, continuing education and other options to help people meet their academic or career goals. Registration is open, and students are encouraged to enroll at LoneStar.edu/Registration to ensure they get the course, class mode, date or time that fits their schedules.

The spring 2023 semester starts Jan. 17, and LSC has more than 200 programs for students to choose. Some of those include accounting, anthropology, arts, biology, business, chemistry, criminal justice, communications, economics, drama, government, EDUC 1300, English, foreign languages, health care programs, history, humanities, math, speech and various workforce programs.

“Lone Star College has guided me toward realizing my passion for research, volunteerism and leadership,” said Madison Terry, LSC-Tomball Honors College student.



The Lone Star College spring 2023 semester begins Jan. 17. Registration is open and courses are available at all campuses and centers.

“The opportunity to be a pre-professional leader, conduct insightful research, and receive an international internship has restored my confidence and motivated me to achieve my goals.”

The LSC Honors College helps meet the needs of high-achieving students looking to enhance their college transcripts with challenging coursework across various disciplines. Courses are designed to engage and test students inside and outside the classroom with small classes and close interaction alongside dedicated faculty.

LSC has many resources, including scholarships, student clubs, as well as services and technology designed to set students up for success. The LSC TechConnect program allows eligible students to borrow, for free, a laptop or an iPad bundle. This program helps students remove their technology barriers while they accomplish their educational goals. To qualify, credit students must enroll in six hours and continuing ed-

ucation students must take at least one class.

Lone Star College enrolls over 80,000 students each semester providing high-quality, 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 2022 Great Colleges to Work For® institution by the Chronicle of Higher Education, ranked 35th in Texas in the Forbes ‘America’s Best Employers By State’ list and recognized by Fortune Magazine and Great Place To Work® as one of this year’s Best Workplaces in Texas™. LSC consists of eight colleges, seven centers, eight Workforce Centers of Excellence and Lone Star Corporate College. To learn more, visit LoneStar.edu.

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SCHOOL NEWS PAGE

Message From the Superintendent, January 12, 2022

Dear Aldine Community:  
Happy New Year!

Welcome back to school! I hope everyone had a restful and relaxing break and is having a wonderful back-to-school week. It is always great to tap on the brakes and recharge the batteries for the second half of the school year. We are also excited to continue strengthening and building our programs.

So many members of our community have shared your New Year's Resolutions or your one word for the year with me. Many of you plan to improve your grades, and others want to spend more time with family members and friends. Many staff members also shared their one word for the year with me. They included words like grateful, forward, fearless, and joy.

Over the years, I've read and binge-watched numerous self-help books and series. I have taken the time to reflect. I can tell you that life is about doing, being, and becoming. Take time to hit the refresh button to spark new ideas. Look for golden moments to take risks or to encourage and support your student in taking healthy risks. Try to work smarter, not harder. Silence your inner critic and savor your accomplishments. And be present when you are with your friends and family, and be present at work. You'll find your relationships flourishing, and you'll find that you are more productive when you need to be. That helps you feel more balanced with life and work. And remember to treat yourself! It doesn't have to be a brand-new car! It can be small indulgences like drinking your favorite cup of coffee or tea you have stashed in your office or classroom, reading from a book you are trying to finish or a meditation moment during your 15-minute break. Make a little time for yourself every day.

These things might seem trivial or easy to achieve, but we must remember their importance. These little things can increase our joy in everything we do, our outlook on life, and the happiness of those around us. They also help us give our very best to the most important group we serve — our students!

And remember: You are doing a fantastic job! Keep up the good work!

2nd Semester Has Started Schools are already in full swing in the second semester. We're confident that students will receive the support they need to be well-prepared, but we also know that both students and teachers want to make the most of every moment in the coming days. Remember: You've got this!

January is School Board Appreciation Month School board members represent the public interest in schools and serve as advocates for our students, staff, and local communities regarding education. They help support the district's mission, vision, values, and goals, spending countless hours of unpaid time working to provide the best possible education for our students.

They are the heart and soul of what makes a stable school district. Our school board members keep us grounded in our community to ensure we deliver on the promise of the best education possible for all our students.

Wellness We have all been experiencing the Texas winter that flip-flops between hot days to biting cold stretches. It is a time of year when many can fall ill.

If you are worried about your children's well-being, please don't hesitate to contact their school for support. School teams do their best to help struggling students have access to the resources they need. Skilled counselors and nurses are available to help, and community resource referrals that can be made if required. I encourage everyone to take good care of themselves and to consider colleagues and students if you or your child is ill or not feeling well.

A Few Celebrations Our hashtag is #AldineConnected. What better way to kick off 2023 than with a new initiative to connect more with staff and students? Monday, I started my morning with three Board Trustees and our senior leadership team at our first Aldine ISD Boardwalk at Keeble EC/PreK/K School. Worsham Elementary was our second Boardwalk visit this



week. I loved seeing students engaged. Good job, everyone, on a fantastic start to the 2023 year!

January 9th was Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. Hard-working, dedicated team members comprise the Aldine ISD Police Department. Thank you for your commitment to keeping our students and staff safe and for all you do within our communities and schools.

Monday, January 16th, is the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. It is a national day of service that honors Dr. King's tireless efforts in pursuing social justice and embraces his teachings on community service. I know everyone is excited about the long weekend; however, I encourage you to take a moment to remember Dr. King's legacy as a nonviolent leader in the civil rights movement. Click here to learn more about MLK Day.

School Attendance In closing, I emphasize the importance of student attendance. Please ensure that your students arrive at school on time each day, well-rested, and prepared to have a great day!

Have a great week and an incredible year ahead! And enjoy the long weekend!

With Aldine Pride,  
Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney Superintendent of Schools

RECENT NEWS & ALDINE ISD PODCAST

La Promesa Students Learning Responsibility, Service to Community Running School's Food Bank

Aldine ISD Hosts Share the Joy Event at M.O. Campbell Education Center

District Seeking Community Input on 2023-2024 Academic Calendar

Ermel Elementary Makes a Slam Dunk With New Basketball Court Donation From Bimbo Bakeries

All The Things: The Aldine ISD Podcast – Episode 8, Season 3

Free GED Classes for Aldine Parents

MONTHLY OBSERVATIONS

January January School Board Appreciation Month

Jan. 9: Start of 9 Weeks

Jan. 16: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

February CTE Month Financial Aid Awareness Month Magnet School Month Black History Month

Feb. 1: National Signing Day (student-athletes)

Feb. 6-10: National School Counseling Week

Feb. 20: Presidents Day

Feb. 24: Go Texas Day!

Click here to view the 2022-2023 school year calendars — traditional and Additional Days School Year (ADSY).

REMINDERS FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

Outside food and beverages are prohibited on the premises of secondary schools (middle school, ninth-grade schools, and high schools). Click here for details.

The state requires high school seniors to apply for financial aid to graduate. — FAFSA Application link or TASFA Application links

The state requires all entering college students to take the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Assessment. (Details).

Aldine ISD's top priorities are students' safety and academic success. The district posts information related to protocols along with any updates at www.aldineisd.org/healthalerts.

Awards Ceremony for District Winners of Houston Rodeo's School Art Contest Set for January 19

The district will host an Awards Ceremony for student winners of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo School Art Contest on January 19. Selected artworks advance for auction at the 2023 RODEO-HOUSTON@.

2023 Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo Thursday, January 19 Doors open at 5:00 p.m.; the Awards Ceremony starts at 6:00 p.m. M.O. Campbell Educational Center — Foyer (upstairs)

1865 Aldine Bender Rd. • Houston, TX 77032

Note: Light refreshments will be provided.

Hosted by Aldine ISD's Visual Arts Department, Kaileigh Newman, director of visual arts, invites families, staff, and community members to attend the in-person ceremony to support students.

Aldine ISD and other Houston-area school districts host district-level competitions each year after the Rodeo's School Art Committee visits participating districts to judge entries. District-level winners and students advancing to the Rodeo competition will be announced on January 19.

All work by high school participants is eligible for the Show's School Art Auction. Each entry receives a red, white, or blue ribbon, with judges selecting the Best of Show, Gold Medal, and Special Merit Awards from the blue-ribbon group. Winners are chosen at the elementary, junior, and high school levels.

The mission of the Rodeo's School Art Program is to promote an awareness of



Auction artwork from 2022 by then-senior Jennifer González from Eisenhower High School.

agriculture and Western heritage as well as Show activities through artistic competitions for area students. The subject matter for all artwork entered in the School Art Program must depict the West's heritage, lifestyle, and historical and present-day landscapes.

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo will hold an Awards Ceremony in March. The Rodeo runs Feb. 28-March 19, 2023, at NRG Park.

La Promesa Students Learning Responsibility, Service to Community running school's food bank



CAPTION: La Promesa students pose with a packet of food at the school's Sunshine School Market food bank. The students run the food bank under the direction of Counselor Karen Lucario, (far left).

A group of students at La Promesa are learning about responsibility and service to their community by running the school's food bank.

The food bank, named the Sunshine School Market, was the dream of La Promesa Counselor Karen Lucario.

Lucario said one of the goals of the school was to get students involved in working with the community and a food bank was a perfect way to do just that.

"We identified our student's needs, and one of the main concerns we had was for our students to work," Lucario said. "Students mentioned that they wanted to work because they wanted to help their households they lived in and that began our partnership with the (Houston) Food Bank."

Lucario reached out to the Houston Food Bank in 2021 seeking ways to provide home deliveries for La Promesa students and members of the community. The program began with mobile deliveries in 2021. Once La Promesa had a permanent building in a wing at Aldine High School, Lucario began recruiting students who would serve as volunteers working in the school's food bank and earning community service hours along the way.

The La Promesa students who work the food bank are Fernanda Rodriguez, Felicitas Rodriguez, Daniel Diaz, Maylin Hernandez, Sheyli Velasquez, Miguel Benitez, Luis Benitez, Yeferson Cortes, Javier Aleman, Cesar Espinal and Helmut Borjas.

The students deliver food in the community twice a month. The food bank receives five to 13 pallets of food from the Houston Food Bank. The food comes in boxed and the student organize it in the pantry, which is located in the school.

The La Promesa students who work in the food bank go to Sunshine Food Market every other Friday to shop to re-supply the

shelves at their food bank. Students shop for cereal, red beans, rice, can goods and occasionally poultry, fruits and vegetables.

In addition to delivering food to homes in the La Promesa community, each Tuesday parents can come to the food pantry to pick up groceries with Lucario's assistance.

The food bank will run throughout the school year.

Lucario is proud of the students for taking the initiative to run the food bank and for serving their community.

"When our students were informed that we would have a food pany on campus, they were instantly filled with joy," she said. "They take on the responsibilities of unloading, unboxing and organizing the food items and they take these tasks very seriously. Our students love being able to shop for themselves and their families without the financial burden. Most of our students came into this country alone and with little to no resources to survive. So, they understand the struggle of having to worry about where their next meal will come from.

"Most of our students and their families have to make decisions between buying food or paying bills, often left with nothing until their next paycheck."

Lucario also thanked the Houston Food Bank for their assistance and partnership with La Promesa's food bank.

"I want to thank the Houston Food Bank and its partners for helping our students earn a sense of pride in being able to provide ongoing nutrition for themselves and their families," Lucario said. "This is just the beginning for the Sunshine School Market. We hope to find business partners that will be willing to donate reusable bags so that our students can transport their groceries home."

You can read the Northeast News current and back issues on our website: www.nenewsroom.com



OPINION PAGE

**OPINION**  
By U.S. Representative  
**SYLVIA GARCIA**



# Remembering Sandy Hook

December 14 is the 10-Year Remembrance of the tragic school shooting that took place at Sandy Hook Elementary School. Sadly, 20 innocent elementary school students and 6 brave teachers were taken from their families by a senseless act of gun violence that day.

No family should ever experience the pain of losing a loved one to gun violence. A decade later, my House colleagues and I remain committed to ending this epidemic.

That's why this Congress we passed the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act – which President Biden signed into law this summer.

This will save lives because it delivers:

- 750 million for states to create laws that keep guns out of the hands of people who are a danger to themselves and/or to others.

- enhanced background checks for people under age 21.

- more than \$2.3 billion for school safety programs, mental health support for students, and improved learning conditions.

- \$250 million in community-based violence prevention programs.

- better protection for victims of domestic violence by stopping convicted abusers from purchasing firearms.

This is the most significant gun violence reduction effort in the last 30 years. But we must do more to protect families and children.

That's why today, on the 10-Year Remembrance of the Sandy Hook Shooting, I'm continuing to fight for gun control legislation in Congress.

I won't stop until we are all safe from preventable gun violence. That's my promise to all my constituents.



**Home Country**  
with Slim Randles

# Running... the easy way

Doc was just getting up to leave the philosophy counter as Herb walked in. Herb was grinning and flexing muscles and had the look of eagles in his eyes. We stared.

"Herb," said Doc. "You know, you can overdo a good thing."

"Why Doc ... whatever do you mean?"

"I realize that getting more exercise is your resolution for the new year, but a man your age ... you need to pace yourself a little, that's all. Don't try to get in shape all at once."

"Why Doc, I've never felt better in my life. Hey, you were so right to get me on this exercise kick. I've been meaning to thank you. It's just what I've been needing. What would you think about my playing some football in the spring? I mean, it's just touch football, but I miss the ol' razz-matazz, you know?"

Doc shook his head sadly and walked out. Herb started laughing and sat down with us and flipped his cup over for his morning eye opener.

"What was that all about, Herb?" Dud asked.

"A little joke I'm playing on Doc, that's all," Herb said. "You remember how Doc has been on my case to get more exercise and slim down some? Well, there was only one way to shut him up, so I started running. I bought a sweat suit and started running. I run past his house each morning. Then, about an hour later, I run past his house the other direction, huffing and puffing and looking at my watch."

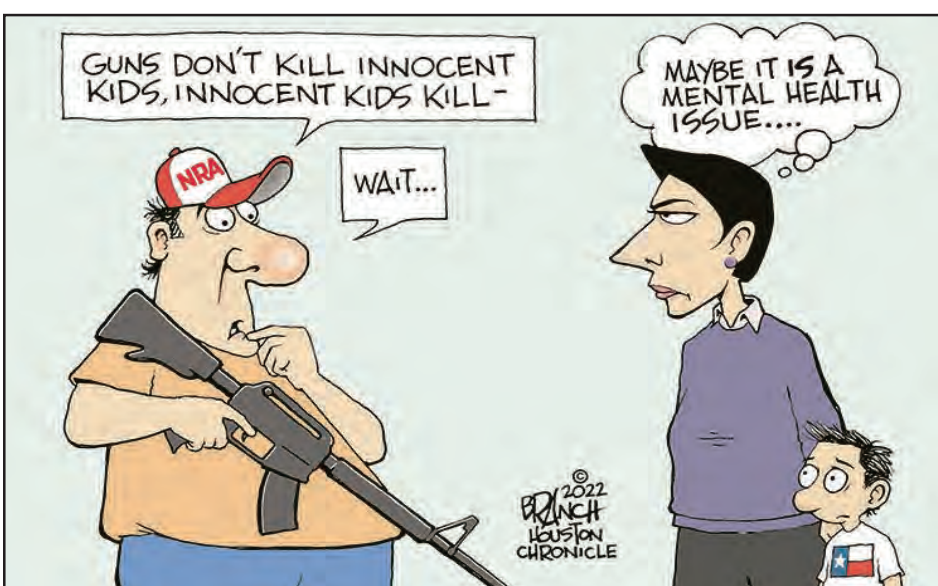
"An hour? You run for an hour each morning?"

"Of course not," Herb said, laughing. "I run past Doc's house then walk the block to the library. An hour later, I run past Doc's house and then walk two blocks home."

We stared at him.

"What?" he said. "You know Doc's going to worry about me one way or the other. I just thought I'd change it up a bit."

Brought to you by Saddle Up: A Cowboy Guide to Writing by Slim Randles. Now available as a Kindle book on Amazon.com.



**STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS**  
By Gary Borders



# Texas Speaker open to resort-style Casinos in the state

House Speaker Dade Phelan, R-Beaumont, told The Dallas Morning News and other media outlets that he is open to bringing resort-style casinos to Texas. But don't expect to find slot machines in 7-Eleven stores if casino gambling is legalized.

"What I don't want to see is to walk into every convenience store and see 15 slot machines," Phelan said. "I want to see destination-style casinos that are high quality and that create jobs and that improve the lifestyle of those communities."

The gambling industry is preparing for another strong push to bring gaming to one of the few major markets that doesn't allow it. But other state leaders seem more hesitant, including Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who said in December that he "doesn't see any movement on it."

Gov. Greg Abbott has softened his once-strong opposition to legalized gambling, echoing Phelan's support for casinos that also feature golf courses, luxury hotels and other amenities.

The Morning News report said the Dallas-Fort Worth area would be a top location because of its strong convention and tourism industry, as well as access to major airports.

### HOUSE RULES ALLOW DEMOCRATS TO CHAIR COMMITTEES

New House rules adopted in the first week of the legislative session allow the appointment of Democrats to chair certain committees, despite being in the minority in that chamber. The Texas Standard reported that was a victory for Phelan, who defied Republicans wanting to ban Democrats from holding chair positions.

In Phelan's first speech after being reelected speaker, he talked about the importance of both parties working together.

"After watching Congress attempt to function last week, I cannot imagine why some want Texans to be like D.C.," Phelan said, referring to the protracted battle over electing a U.S. Speaker of the House.

Another provision is aimed at stopping legislators from skipping sessions to break quorum by levying fines every day



they are absent without leave. During the 2021 session, House Democrats left Texas for 38 days in an ultimately unsuccessful attempt to block passage of a slate of voting restrictions.

### WILDFIRE DANGER RETURNS TO STATE

A series of dry cold fronts sweeping through the next this week bring the potential of increased wildfire risk to parts of the state, according to the Texas A&M Forest Service. On Jan. 11, the service responded to five requests for assistance on wildfires that burned more than 740 acres across the state. The largest of these was the Cellers Hill Fire in Throckmorton County.

As of Sunday, the only active blaze was the 23-acre Grub Hill Fire in Wise County, which was 90% contained. Currently, 69 counties are under burn bans.

### PRISONERS LAUNCH HUNGER STRIKES OVER SOLITARY CONFINEMENT

A large-scale hunger strike protesting the state's solitary confinement practices began last Tuesday, with about 300 people in Texas prisons reportedly participating, according to the Texas Standard. The prisoners are protesting the state's practice of placing inmates in solitary indefinitely.

Michele Deitch, director of the Prison and Jail Innovation Lab at the University of Texas at Austin, said prisoners have gone on hunger strikes to push the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to meet months-long demands for change. Besides ending indefinite solitary confinement, also called restrictive housing, the prisoners want to move to a

behavioral-based system rather than a status-based system. Under the latter, prisoners can be placed in solitary simply by being labeled a gang member, not necessarily for breaking any rules.

"I do believe that it is something that the agency should take a very hard look at, whether there are ways that they could be approaching this issue that are both safe and more appropriate," Deitch told the Standard.

### FROM LA NIÑA TO EL NIÑO? POSSIBLY

The 2022 drought didn't turn out to be as severe as that of 2011, but it still caused widespread economic damage to crops and livestock, as well as shrinking water-supply reservoirs. As the state heads into 2023, Dr. Mark Wentzel, hydrologist with the Texas Water Development Board, is among forecasters predicting an end to the conditions that resulted in reduced rainfall and warmer temperatures for the last few years.

"The National Weather Service is expecting that La Niña will dissipate, and then, possibly by the summer to next fall, we might actually be in El Niño conditions, the opposite to La Niña. And those conditions (could) actually bring Texas a wetter and cooler winter than is normal," Wentzel wrote.

The most severe drought now is centered in the Texas Hill Country, in Kendall and surrounding counties, and in the extreme northern boundary of the Texas Panhandle. Drought conditions have ended in East and Southeast Texas.

Wentzel wrote he expects "some easing" of drought conditions this spring.

### WILDLIFE VACCINE BAIT AIRDROP UNDERWAY

The Texas Department of State Health Services has renewed its battle against rabies along the Texas border by air-dropping vaccine bait from planes leaving Edinburg, Del Rio and Alpine.

"Our goal is to vaccinate wildlife, with target species being coyotes and gray foxes, along the border to maintain herd immunity and to keep past variants from being reintroduced or new variants from entering Texas," said Dr. Susan Rollo, director of the Oral Rabies Vaccination Program. "We will be delivering vaccine baits to 18 counties this year."

About 814,000 oral rabies vaccine baits will be dropped in the 29th year of the program.

### COVID-19 CASES RISE SLIGHTLY

New cases of COVID-19 in Texas in the past week rose to 35,632 with 148 deaths, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. DSHS reported 3,427 lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients in Texas hospitals, also an increase.

**THE POSTSCRIPT**  
By  
**Carrie Classon**

# Imperfections

I almost threw away my old lace napkins.

They have rust stains on them. In order to cover the stains, I threw them in a pot of green dye and boiled them. The dye was not a success. The napkins all came out in slightly varying shades of green, and the rust stains—while less noticeable—were still there. I used them once and was self-conscious the whole time.

"People are going to think I didn't wash the napkins!" I worried. But I washed them again, ironed them and kept them anyway.

Then, over the holidays, I had the whole family over. I eyed the old green napkins.

They have what appears to be handmade lace around the edges and a crocheted medallion in one corner. They are a generous size and made of good, sturdy cotton. They are serviceable napkins in every way except for the small spots that appear on almost every one of them.

"Not one person in 10 can see those spots!" my husband, Peter, says when I tell him I'm thinking of throwing out the old napkins.

(There are 12 napkins so, even if Peter is right, that still means one person might notice and think, "Did she wash these napkins?")

But I used them anyway. I don't think anyone noticed. Then I washed them again and looked at them before I ironed them. The stains were just as noticeable. The shades of green are no more uniform.

And I realized I kind of liked them.

I have no idea where these napkins came from. I found them when I was cleaning out my barn, preparing to sell my old farmhouse years ago. They are not family heirlooms. I have to assume I picked them up at a garage sale somewhere. I probably didn't look at them closely until I got home, saw the rust stains on them and tucked them away—unsure from the very beginning whether or not I should keep them.

I wonder who made them. It was a lot of work. I wonder where the rust stains came from. That must have been disappointing for whoever owned them. I'm guessing it happened many years ago. And here I am, still using them. And I do like them.

Things don't have to be perfect. That's what I'm finally coming to accept.

My own inability to reach perfection was an ongoing source of frustration for decades until I reconciled myself to the fact that I was, in fact, good enough. Good enough was a laudable goal. And these napkins, while they would never be featured on any magazine cover, are good enough—more than adequate, in fact—for the celebrations I host, which will also not be perfect, but hopefully good enough for everyone in attendance.

It is nice to use something that is old and loved and imperfect.

I look at these napkins and imagine the life they must have had when they were new. Likely they were a wedding present to somebody a very long time ago. They were used for festive gatherings I cannot imagine by people I never knew and maybe just a little of that history is left, maybe a little of that laughter remains, somewhere in their imperfections.

I ironed the old napkins. I folded them. I put them in the drawer for another use at another celebration with different people—of whom, perhaps, one in 10 might wonder about the rust stains, now camouflaged with green dye.

They still have a purpose—imperfect as they are. And I take inspiration from that.

Till next time, Carrie

Photos and other news can be found at CarrieClasson.com.

**NORTHEAST NEWS**  
5906 Star Lane, Houston, TX 77057  
(713) 266-3444 • FAX (713) 977-1188  
email: neneersroom@aol.com  
website: www.neneersroom.com

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Gilbert Hoffman.....Editor & Publisher  
Mei-Ing Hoffman.....Associate Publisher  
Willie G Glasgow.....Marketing Executive  
Kristan Hoffman.....Website Editor  
Julieta Paita.....Assignment Editor  
Gerardo Hernandez.....Asst. Production Mgr.  
Contributing Writers: Mike Keeney, Charlotte Jackson, Allan Jamail, Kristan Hoffman

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Founding Member North Houston Chamber (now Houston Intercontinental)  
Member Texas Press Association



# RodeoHouston 2023 performers announced; Tickets on Sale now

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"The level of talent we have in this lineup will get the fans excited, including Texas' own Parker McCollum, who is helping us kick off this 2023, star lineup on Opening Day."

Individual RODEOHOUSTON tickets will go on sale to the public Thursday, Jan. 12. For the first time, they will be sold in two waves, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., at rodeohouston.com. Ticket prices start at \$25, plus a \$4 convenience fee.

### STAR ENTERTAINMENT

The following entertainers will perform on the RODEOHOUSTON stage in NRG Stadium, Feb. 28 – March 19.

- Tuesday, Feb. 28 – Opening Day, presented by Texas Capital Bank Parker McCollum
- Wednesday, March 1 – Armed Forces Appreciation Day, presented by Crown Royal Brooks & Dunn
- Thursday, March 2 Lauren Daigle
- Friday, March 3 – Black Heritage Day, presented by Kroger Bun B's Southern Takeover
- Saturday, March 4 Walker Hayes
- Sunday, March 5 Zac Brown Band
- Monday, March 6 – First Responders Day, presented by BP America Jason Aldean
- Tuesday, March 7 New Kids on The Block
- Wednesday, March 8 – Community Day, presented by TC Energy Jon Pardi
- Thursday, March 9 Ashley McBryde
- Friday, March 10 The Chainsmokers
- Saturday, March 11 Turnpike Troubadours
- Sunday, March 12 – Go Tejano Day, presented by Fiesta Mart La Fiera de Ojinaga
- Monday, March 13 Cody Jinks
- Tuesday, March 14 Machine Gun Kelly
- Wednesday, March 15 Kenny Chesney
- Thursday, March 16 Chris Stapleton
- Friday, March 17 Cody Johnson
- Saturday, March 18 Brad Paisley
- Sunday, March 19 – RODEOHOUSTON Finals Luke Bryan

### INDIVIDUAL RODEO TICKETS

- Tickets will go on sale at rodeohouston.com Thursday, Jan. 12, 2023, in two waves, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.
- Wave 1 tickets for Feb. 28 – March 9, performances.
- Wave 2 tickets for March 10 – 19, performances. (The Online Waiting Rooms will open at 9:30 a.m. for Wave 1 and 1:30 p.m. for Wave 2. Customers in the Waiting Room will be randomly selected to enter the store to purchase tickets at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.)
- A place in the Waiting Room does not guarantee tickets.
- Ticket prices start at \$25, plus a \$4 convenience fee.
- Individual Rodeo tickets can be purchased online at rodeohouston.com.
- All tickets will be delivered electronically via AXS Mobile ID Delivery; please allow 48 hours for delivery.
- To access your purchased tickets, download the AXS mobile app and login with the email used to purchase tickets.

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo promotes agriculture by hosting an annual, family-friendly experience that educates and entertains the public, supports Texas youth, showcases Western heritage and provides year-round educational support within the community. Since its beginning in 1932, the Rodeo has committed more than \$575 million to the youth of Texas and education. The 2023 Rodeo is scheduled for Feb. 28 – March 19. The 2023 World's Championship Bar-B-Que Contest, presented by Cotton Holdings, is scheduled for Feb. 23 – 25. For more information, visit rodeohouston.com and connect with #RODEOHOUSTON online via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube for all the latest news.



### NORTHEAST NEWS OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

# Nimitz Senior Quarterback Brayden Whitehead named Offensive Player of Year

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The 6-1, 215-pounder is a three-year starter and letterman. He hopes to continue playing football in college. He's received offers from Midwestern State in Wichita Falls, Navarro College and other schools.

When Harmon was the offensive coordinator at Summer Creek, he saw Whitehead play in seven-on-seven tournaments during the summer. Watching him perform in those seven-on-seven games made Harmon's decision an easy one when he was offered the job to be the head coach at Nimitz. "I knew he was coming back and I'd seen him com-

pete against other teams in those seven-on-seven games. I had a pretty good idea of who he was," Harmon said.

Harmon said Whitehead's strength is his strength and strong right arm. He needs to improve on his 4.8 time in the 40 to compete at the next level.

That's why Whitehead, whose likes to watch Buffalo Bills quarterback Josh Allen ply his trade on Sundays, is passing on playing basketball his senior season to concentrate on improving his speed.

"I need to get faster and more explosive," Whitehead said.

He hopes running track this spring will help him improve his speed. Whitehead runs the 200-meter dash for the Nimitz track team.

As for his leadership skills, Whitehead said he learned those from his parents.

"That comes from my parents," he said. "They taught me to be a leader, not a follower, to follow my own path."

When asked if he was looking forward to playing college football, Whitehead quickly responded, "Yes sir, without a doubt."

And let's hope he gets to do just that!

# Pct. 2 calls for Partnership Proposals

Commissioner Adrian Garcia is pleased to open proposals for his fourth annual partnership program for capital improvement and maintenance projects. The Precinct 2 Partnership Program looks to assist Local Governments, MUDs, School Districts, Public Transit Providers, Economic Development Corporations, TIRZ, Management Districts, Public Ports, and

the like, with significant infrastructure projects. Other project sponsors must have a letter of support from the owner of the asset or government entity.

Since 2020, Harris County Precinct 2 has partnered on more than 35 CIP and drainage projects. The precinct committed to more than \$73 million dollars for sidewalk, road, drainage,

hike and bike trail improvement projects.

See below for further information and a link to apply. Applications close February 10, 2023. For any questions, please contact Mr. Byron Acevedo, Sr. Director of Engineering at (713) 875-9758.

<https://www.hcp2.com/Projects/2023-Partnership-Projects>

## ENTERTAINMENT

### Amber Waves



### Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

### HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

1. Fence board is moved. 2. Collar is different. 3. Bow string is different. 4. Arrow is moved. 5. Hair is different. 6. Can is missing. 7. Family feud. 8. Seven. 9. Palmolive dishwashing liquid. 10. Blood poisoning.

### January 16, 2023 Posting Date King Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13						14	
15		16							17	
		18			19		20			
21	22	23			24					
25			26	27		28			29	30
31		32		33		34		35		
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	41			42		43		44		
45	46					47				
48			49	50				51	52	53
54			55					56		
57			58					59		

**ACROSS**

- Energy
- Amtrak express
- Sushi fish
- Praise in verse
- VIP on Air Force One
- Tennis feat
- Museum piece
- Train lines (Abbr.)
- Sprite
- Holler
- Word game with dice
- Horseshoe site
- Brit. record label
- Not 'neath
- Bolivian city
- Wilson's predecessor
- Observe
- Castle
- Caper
- Music booster
- GPS suggestion
- Skip
- Telethon array
- Soft and weak
- Kanga's kid
- Use a shovel
- Land in the Irish Sea
- Oklahoma city
- Beethoven's "Fuer —"
- Kimono sash
- Unruly group
- Impudent
- Tex- — cuisine
- Music booster
- GPS suggestion
- Skip
- Telethon array
- Soft and weak
- Kanga's kid
- Use a shovel
- Land in the Irish Sea
- "The Addams Family" butler
- Houston team
- Picnic veggie
- Beige
- For fear that
- Small barrel
- Thy
- Alpha follower
- Muscat's land
- Eloquent person's talent
- Actor Stephen method
- Moon mission
- Brewed beverages
- JFK info
- Catherine, notably
- Municipalities
- "Nuts!
- Inventor
- Nikola
- Gut-punch reaction
- Wax-coated cheese
- Rover's pal
- 50 Fleur-de —
- 51 Oft-tattooed word
- 52 Jurist Fortas
- 53 Kibosh

**DOWN**

- Pledge
- Wedding words
- Mal de —
- Moon mission
- Brewed beverages
- JFK info
- "The Addams Family" butler
- Houston team
- Picnic veggie
- Beige
- For fear that
- Small barrel
- Thy
- Alpha follower
- Muscat's land
- Eloquent person's talent
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- 51 Oft-tattooed word
- 52 Jurist Fortas
- 53 Kibosh

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### Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- GEOGRAPHY:** What is the second-longest river in North America?
- MOVIES:** Which 1973 movie advertised itself as a place "where nothing can possibly go wrong"?
- GAMES:** Which party game claims that it can "tie you up in knots"?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS:** Which president was the first to appoint an African American as a member of his Cabinet?
- HISTORY:** When was the Warsaw Pact between the Soviet Union and seven Eastern Bloc countries signed?
- TELEVISION:** Which TV game show often uses the phrase "Survey says...?"
- ANIMAL KINGDOM:** What is a female peacock called?
- FOOD & DRINK:** How many meals do Hobbits eat in a day, according to the movies?
- ADVERTISING:** Which product used a manicurist named Madge in its advertisements?
- MEDICAL:** What is a common name for the condition called septicemia?

**Answers**

1. The Mississippi. 2. "Westworld." 3. Twister. 4. Lyndon Johnson. 5. 1955.
6. "Family Feud." 7. A peahen. 8. Seven. 9. Palmolive dishwashing liquid. 10. Blood poisoning.

**King Crossword**

Solution time: 22 mins.

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# CHURCH PAGE

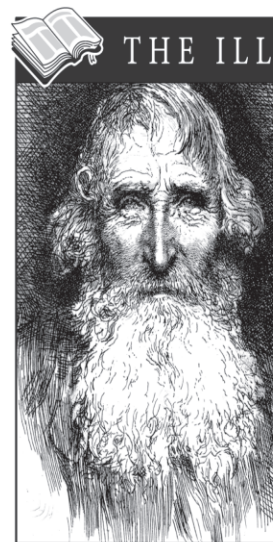
## BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Joshua (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From John 3, who asked "How can a man be born who is old"? Stephen, Nicodemus, Paul, Thomas
3. What notoriously wicked woman married King Ahab? Candace, Shiprah, Adah, Jezebel
4. From Esther 5, who was the wife of Haman of Persia? Naaman, Zeresh, Not named, Delilah

5. Where were Adam and Eve married? Heaven, Haran, Midian, Eden
6. Who wrote the most of the Psalms? Solomon, Moses, David, Micah

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Nicodemus, 3) Jezebel, 4) Zeresh, 5) Eden, 6) David  
 "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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**THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE**

*O God, You have taught me from my youth, and I still declare Your wondrous deeds. And even when I am old and gray, O God, do not forsake me, until I declare Your strength to this generation, your power to all who are to come.*

PSALM 71: 17, 18

*Detail of "Bearded Man" by Hubert von Herkomer (1849-1914)*

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### BID NOTICE

## INVITATION TO BID

**BID TITLE: SEALED BIDS FOR CHURCH RENOVATION.** Our church needs several repairs.

**Electrical:** Electrical will need to be replaced throughout the church sanctuary meeting room and offices and ceilings.  
**Plumbing:** There is a need for plumbing for the restrooms and kitchen.  
**Roof:** Entire roof needs to be replaced on the entire church.  
**Ceiling:** Sheetrock needs to be replaced  
**Walls:** Sheetrock throughout the building needs to be replaced in offices, sanctuary, restrooms and ceilings.  
**Doors:** All doors will need to be replaced on the interior and exterior of the building  
**Flooring:** Flooring will need to be replaced throughout the sanctuary, restroom, meeting rooms, offices.  
**Siding:** Siding needs to be replaced on the outside of the building wood and brick

Details of the BID can be requested via email **RONCRAWFORD85@GMAIL.COM**,

Small and minority owned businesses are encouraged to submit a bid

The period of the bid will be for 2 weeks, dates from **01/13/2023-01/27/2023** please contact me via email **RONCRAWFORD85@GMAIL.COM** so that we can schedule time if you like to come look at the building.

**BID MEETING:** will be held at **9505 GREENWICH ST HOUSTON TX 77078** on **01/20/2023** at **1:30PM**  
 Sealed Bids will be received at **9505 GREENWICH ST HOUSTON TX 77078** until **01/27/2023**

Please send bids to **9505 GREENWICH ST, HOUSTON TX 77078**. Envelopes must be marked on the outside "SEALED BID."

THE LOWEST BIDDER WILL BE AWARDED BY **02/10/2023**

A debarment check of the awarded vendor on the SAM.gov website will be completed

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**  
 Pastor Ronald Crawford Jr  
**9505 GREENWICH ST**  
**HOUSTON TX, 77078**  
**RONCRAWFORD85@GMAIL.COM**

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### BID NOTICE

### BID NOTICE

### BID NOTICE

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 Hurley is the first street before Tidwell

**CALL 713-266-3444 to place your Business Card in our Directory. Thousands of Readers in this area will see your message.**



# Aldine ISD's Conley Elementary at the MLK Parade in downtown



Aldine ISD and the Aldine community were well represented at the MLK Parade last Monday, ABOVE, the marching band from Conley Elementary, and BELOW Aldine's Superintendent Dr. LaTonya Goffney with State Representative Armando Walle and others.

Walle said on this occasion: "Appreciate opportunity to participate in Houston's MLK Parade in Downtown Houston. We must always be reminded the dream MLK had for America is one we need to work on if we are to live up to its promise. Loved being with so many friends and colleagues on this blessed day."



## COMMUNITY WATCH

### Fatal Stabbing at 12221 Fleming Drive

Houston police are investigating the fatal stabbing of a man at 12221 Fleming Drive about 3:05 a.m. on Saturday (Dec. 10).

The identity of the victim, 34, is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.

HPD Homicide Division Detectives J. Escobar and G. Zavala reported:

Officers were dispatched to a stabbing call at an apartment at the

above address. A witness arrived to the apartment and found the victim with multiple stab wounds. Paramedics pronounced the man deceased.

At this time, there is no known suspect(s) or motive in the incident.

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

### Fatal Shooting at 8600 Mesa Road

Houston police are investigating the fatal shooting of a man at 8600 Mesa Road about 9 p.m. on Sunday (Dec. 11).

The identity of the victim, 19, is pending verification by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.

HPD Homicide Division Sergeant K. Meeks and Detective J. Gardner reported:

Officers responded to a shooting call at strip center parking lot at the above address and found an unresponsive male in the driver's seat of

a vehicle. He had been shot several times and was pronounced deceased by paramedics.

Based on witness statements, it is believed a robbery took place during the sale of narcotics, which led to the suspect shooting the victim. Witnesses stated the suspect fled the scene in a cream-white colored sedan.

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

### Crime Stoppers reward for information on fatal shooting on Homestead Road

Who killed Manuel Vidal Garza? Crime Stoppers and the Houston Police Department's Homicide Division need the public's assistance identifying the suspects responsible for a Murder.

On Tuesday, December 21, 2021, two victims were shot in the 9600 block of Homestead Rd. in Houston, Texas. During the incident, the victims were in their residence when several unknown males forced entry into the location. Both victims were shot during the incident, and sadly one victim died from the gunshot wounds they sustained. Afterwards, the suspects fled the location in a

white Ford 4-door vehicle with extremely dark tinted windows.

The family of Manuel Vidal Garza is requesting the community's help with identifying the suspects responsible for this Murder.

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](http://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.

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## AIRLINE LIBRARY NEWS

We will be closed Monday, Jan. 16 in observance of the MLK Holiday and reopen Tuesday, Jan. 17 at 10am

#### PARA LOS NIÑOS

Para los Niños will be meeting every Saturday in January from 11 am - 12 pm in our meeting room.

Each workshop provides parents with resources, strategies, and activities to improve family literacy, learning practices, and parents' abilities to serve as their child's first teacher.

All materials and resources needed to establish a program are available at no cost.

For parents and children under 8 years (and siblings too!)

Calendar:

January 21 - Raise a Reader  
January 28 - Building Blocks

#### LUNAR NEW YEAR PARTY!

Join the Aldine Branch Library as we celebrate Lunar New Year! The Year of the Rabbit is beginning, and the library has tons of fun and educational activities to kick it off right! Saturday, Jan. 21 from 2-4pm. No registration required!

#### BILINGUAL STORY TIME

Join us in the library for story time in English and Spanish now on Tuesdays at 11:00am!

#### LUNAR NEW YEAR MOON CAKE CRAFT

Celebrate Lunar New Year by making clay versions of moon cakes! This is a family friendly event, but space is limited. Friday, Jan. 20, 2pm.

#### KID'S CLUB

Kids ages 6 - 13 can join us for some Lego fun Wednesday, Jan. 18 from 4:30 - 5:30pm.

#### TEEN VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Are you a teen ages 15-18 interested in volunteering at the library? Volunteering helps build skills for the job market and college, including communication, time management, and dependability. Start building your skills and gaining experience at the Aldine Branch Library! We will be hosting two mandatory orientation sessions for new teen volunteers on January 25 at 3:30pm and January 26th at 4pm. Volunteers must apply in advance and have parental permission to attend.

#### COMPUTER CLASSES

In addition to our online computer classes in both English and Spanish we will now be offering computer classes in person at the library. If you want to participate, call us to register: 832-927-5410.

Tuesdays: various basic topics (Spanish computer class), 5-7pm, at the library

Wednesdays: Beginner Computer Class (English), 1:30pm, at the library

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

Thursdays: various intermediate topics (Spanish computer class), 5-7pm, at the library

#### VOLUNTEER TUTOR ORIENTATION

Are you our next tutor? Join us for a volunteer tutor orientation on Saturday, January 28th at 10:30am to find out how you can teach classes & support the community!

- English language acquisition
- reading
- citizenship

Register in-person at the library or follow this link: <https://bit.ly/ALDtu-tororientation>

#### ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Would you like to be a part of making an impact on peo-

ple's lives? Are you looking for a meaningful way to spend your time? We are looking for adult volunteers to help with tasks and programs at the library as well as volunteers to teach English language classes and citizenship classes in person and virtually. Pick up an application at the Aldine Branch Library or call 832-927-5410. We will have an orientation on Jan. 28 at 10:30am. Call 832-927-5410 or email for info: [ald@hcpl.net](mailto:ald@hcpl.net).

#### 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>

Our passport hours - Mondays and Wednesdays 12pm - 5pm; Tuesdays and Thursdays 12pm - 7pm; Saturdays 10am - 12pm and 2pm - 4pm. We also have walk-in service from 2-4pm on Fridays on a first come first served basis. Those wishing to get a passport executed must have all necessary documents and required people present with them.

#### E-NEWSLETTER

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

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

## HIGH MEADOWS LIBRARY NEWS

#### JANUARY HOLIDAY OBSERVANCE:

The library will be closing at 5pm on January 13th and will remain closed through January 16th in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr Holiday. We will reopen Tuesday, January 17th at 10am.

#### ROBLOX TOURNAMENT:

Kids ages 7-13 are invited to join our Roblox Tournament on January 20th at 4:30pm. Play and compete in a variety of games! Registration is required.

#### FAMILY TIME:

Family Time is back. Every Saturday, bring the family to the library and create memories with crafts, games, and more!

#### ESL & CITIZENSHIP CLASSES:

Our ESL and Citizenship classes are open for registration. Stop by the library and ask the staff to register for a class today. All classes are free.

#### ANIME CLUB:

Join us for a teen anime club every Tuesday at 3pm.

#### PINT-SIZED SCIENTIST:

Pint-Sized Scientist is now a pop up program. Try quick experiments made for curious kids. New experiments each week!

#### GRADCAFÉ:

Every Tuesday from 10am-6pm 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, ex-

plore 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.

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## HCC fashion design student finalist in Pierre Cardin Young Designers Contest

HARRIS COUNTY – Marian Magdaniel always wanted to express herself through fashion and the creative arts. She loved drawing, painting, violin, guitar and design, and especially believed that fashion was a great way to make something “come to life on your own.”

Now, the 28-year-old Venezuelan-born, Houston-raised fashion student at Houston Community College’s Central Campus has learned that her multiple artistic abilities have placed her in rarified air.

She is one of just six fashion students in the U.S. – and the only one from a community college – to be selected as a finalist for the Pierre Cardin Young Designers Contest. The event features leaders at the design house built by the late Pierre Cardin – the famed Avant Garde designer – which held Master Classes at a handful of colleges and then select a handful of talented designers for a chance to work alongside them in France.

As a finalist, Magdaniel will fly to New York City (Wednesday, Nov. 16) for a gala event where she will vie for the contest’s grand prize: A three-month, all-expense paid apprenticeship in Paris with the opportunity to work closely with the Pierre Cardin design team.

“I’m excited to go to New York and hopefully get this win not only to experience this amazing opportunity, but also to also proudly represent Houston Community College,” Magdaniel says.

The grand prize includes room and board for three months in a Paris apartment and restaurant tickets for meals. Should Magdaniel win, her design/sketch will be cut, sewn



Marian Magdaniel

and mounted by the Pierre Cardin design team. She’ll also receive an apprentice salary of \$1,000 a month for three months.

“Marian is an excellent student in the fashion design program. She is always willing to learn, listens and takes constructive criticism well,” says Andrea Bonner, program chair of HCC’s Consumer Arts and Sciences Center of Excellence, which houses HCC’s Fashion Design program. “She is a great student and colleague to her fellow students. She represents the program and college in an exemplary way.”

Bonner adds that the opportunity for Magdaniel is extraordinary and continues to put HCC on the worldwide fashion map.

“To have the international design house of Pierre Cardin facilitate a Master Class with our fashion design and fashion merchandising students was an invaluable experience for students and faculty,” Bonner said. “We are the only community college and the first stop on Pierre Cardin’s U.S. visit, which is commendable. The team members said they were not only impressed with our students’ works, but also by our Fashion Archive, our faculty and our overall fashion department facilities.”

Learn more about the HCC Fashion Design program at [www.hccs.edu/programs/areas-of-study/art—design/fashion-design](http://www.hccs.edu/programs/areas-of-study/art—design/fashion-design).

For information about the Pierre Cardin Young Designers contest, visit <https://www.pierrecardin-award.com>.



Some of Magdaniel’s fashion sketches

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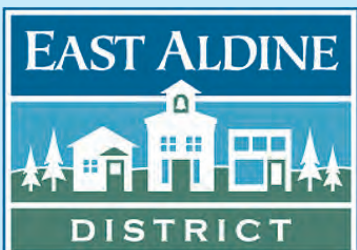
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- Petroleum Technician
- Police, Fire, & EMS
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- Air Conditioning Technician I & II
- **Bilingual AC Technician I & II (new)**
- Plumbing Technician I & II

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- Northline Campus** | 8001 Fulton Street | Houston, TX 77022
- North Forest Campus** | 6010 E. Little York Road | Houston, TX 77016
- Northeast Campus** | 555 Community College Drive | Houston, TX 77013
- Automotive Tech. Training Center** | 4638 Airline Drive | Houston, TX 77022

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## East Aldine District COMMUNITY NEWS

### East Aldine’s ready-for-business mindset reflects its history

Long-time Houston journalist and professor Michael Berryhill painted an insightful picture of the East Aldine area in a 2016 article.

“East Aldine is a place you are born into, or drawn to. You work your way up but not out. The public schools are a source of pride and community development. Students graduate and come back to teach. People help themselves and others,” he wrote in Places Journal.

The area’s history — especially its role as home to hardworking immigrants from Germany, then Latin America and elsewhere, for more than 100 years — is a key part of its current status as a growing, business-friendly place with plenty of economic development potential.

The main focus of Berryhill’s article was the history of the nonprofit BakerRipley agency’s strong social services, including courses in how to create and grow small businesses in East Aldine.

BakerRipley’s East Aldine facility is at the East Aldine Town Center, which the East Aldine Management District built next to the 500-acre Keith-Wiess Park. The Town Center also includes a branch of the HOPE Clinic, a three-story office building with a Sheriff’s Office storefront on the ground floor, an amphitheater where free community events are held, a playscape for children, the 911 Call Center for the Sheriff’s Department and the Lone Star College’s East Aldine campus.

The Town Center office/community building opened in 2021 as a dream realized by community leaders. Unfortunately, long-time board member and former chairman Gerald Overturf passed away just before the grand opening ceremony. Overturf did not always paint a bucolic picture of the land where the busy Town Center stands.

“There used to be nothing out here but pig trails,” he once observed, referring to the abundant population of feral hogs that roamed freely in the unincorporated area. A floor-to-ceiling mural in the lobby of the office building depicts East Aldine’s colorful history and transition from the days when Overturf attended a one-room schoolhouse.

Not long after a veteran of Texas’ War for Independence, John Schlobohm settled in the area, the



International and Great Northern Railroad opened a route from Houston to Palestine. “Prairie Switch,” in the Aldine area, served as the place where trains would switch engines. The railroad, now known as the Missouri Pacific, became essential for travel and shipping products to other areas. Although there is no official record of how Aldine got its name, some historians say it stems from the railroad workers who would yell “All done!” when the train engines were switched and ready to roll. Descendants of Schlobohm still live in the area.

A key part of Aldine’s rich history is the development of the Aldine Independent School District, which started with that one-room schoolhouse depicted in the mural. The school district was officially created in 1935. There are nearly 65,000 students enrolled in AISD schools now. The school district offers a variety of new educational opportunities, including an All Girls’ Preparatory Academy and the new All Boys’ Academy.

In 2009, the Aldine ISD was awarded the coveted Broad Prize, a national award that recognizes excellence in public education. The award noted that Aldine ISD closed achievement gaps between higher-income and low-income students, and commended the district for its “aggressive efforts to recruit high-quality teachers.”

A century earlier, East Aldine was primarily a rural and farming community. Attempts to establish citrus orchards were not successful in Houston’s climate, so figs became a popular crop. This inspired John C. Carpenter to open a fig cannery in 1910, which provided jobs in the area. However, sugar rationing during World War I forced the cannery to close.

Economic development in East Aldine since then has relied partly on a “service economy,” with many local restaurants and retail businesses. Warehousing and industrial services now form another part of the area’s economic backbone.

Local government has also strengthened the area with direct investments. The District has spent more than \$50 million to improve water and sewer service, which includes funding from the Texas Water Development Board.

Because East Aldine is nestled between both Halls Bayou and Greens Bayou, the area has been subject to severe flooding in several historic storms. But the Harris County Flood Control District has continued to work with property owners in East Aldine to alleviate potential flooding and purchase and demolish flooded properties.

A bond issue approved by voters in 2018 includes more than \$110 million for Halls Bayou watershed work, with the potential to leverage more than \$346 million altogether, depending on federal funding. The management district has contributed to some of those efforts.

The district also has funded \$12 million toward public safety improvements, including the funding of extra patrols by 21 Harris County sheriff’s deputies and supervisors. The District has also installed about 750 streetlights in residential neighborhoods.

In addition, the East Aldine Management District provides dozens of scholarships each year to graduating high school students and plans to provide \$1,000 for each graduate of Avalos P-Tech High School, a “pathways in technology” early college high school at the Lone Star College campus at the Town Center.

In all, East Aldine grows and improves while hewing to its roots of hard work, enterprise, and loyalty to the community — thus giving it a distinct identity that is ripe for business development.

— by Anne Marie Kilday