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NORTHEAST NEWS

RodeoHouston 2/28-3/19



See Schedule of Entertainers Below

Serving the Neighborhoods of Aldine, Greenspoint, US59 Eastex, Beltway 8 and North Forest for over 47 Years
VOL. 47, NO. 9 TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

NEWS NOTES

BAA Civic Engagement Roundtable March 18

The next BEYOND CITIZENSHIP event in Aldine will take place on March 18, 2023 at the East Aldine District building from 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm. It will be a Civic Engagement Roundtable with voters registration, voting machines demonstrations and important information about the upcoming local elections in May of this year.

Please visit baatexas.org for more details.

1st Baptist Yard Sale Sat. March 11

First Baptist Church North Houston is having a Yard Sale on Saturday, March 11 from 8:00am to 2:00pm at 4422 LLauder Road, Houston.

On sale is "A Little Bit of Everything" you would expect at a Yard Sale.

Proceeds are to help fund the church. Delicious BBQ sandwiches will be available for sale, as well as other refreshments. Everyone Welcome.



At the Rodeo:

- WEDNESDAY MAR 8**
Jon Pardi
- THURSDAY MAR 9**
Ashley McBryde
- FRIDAY MAR 10**
The Chainsmokers
- SATURDAY MAR 11**
Turnpike Troubadours
- SUNDAY MAR 12**
La Fiera de Ojinaga
- MONDAY MAR 13**
Cody Jinks
- TUESDAY MAR 14**
Machine Gun Kelly
- WEDNESDAY MAR 15**
Kenny Chesney

East Aldine approves expanded budget for 2023; elects new board officers

\$13.5 million budget will increase public safety and community projects

By Alan Bernstein

HOUSTON — The East Aldine Management District board of directors adopted a \$13.5 million budget on Feb. 21, 2023 that expands its work on public safety and other crucial community improvement projects.

The budget, funded by local sales tax revenues, includes:

- Additional park patrols by Harris County Sheriff's Office deputies working overtime.
- An additional 250 neighborhood streetlights.
- Additional security cameras to deter illegal



CARLOS SILVA
EAMD Chairman



BOB BEASLEY
EAMD Vice Chairman

dumping.

— Completion and operation of a soon-to-be opened Neighborhood Depository & Recycling Center.

Several budget items

expand on innovative programs the District initiated in previous years. Those include establishing the county's largest overtime patrol contract with the Sheriff's Office,

the streetlights program, public art installations and plans for vehicle and pedestrian access to Keith-Wiess Park from the East Aldine Town Center.

The completion of Phase Two of the Town Center in late 2021 has attracted commercial development to the area and enabled the District to provide several popular, annual, family-friendly public events on site.

"We are excited to continue having a growing local economy that is fueling our district's ability to invest in the area's improvements to the

quality of life in East Aldine," District Executive Director Richard Cantu said.

NEW OFFICERS

Choosing from among its members, the board elected Carlos Silva as chairman and Bob Beasley as vice chairman. Other officers are Secretary Deborah Foster, Treasurer Abel Garza, and Assistant Secretary Reyes Garcia. Other members are Dr. Luis Lucio, Flor Zarzoza, Gilbert Hoffman, and Patti Acosta.

Members are appointed by the Harris County Commissioners Court.

BAA celebrates Presidents Day at JFK statue

By Julieta Paita

EAST ALDINE – As a part of its BEYOND CITIZENSHIP program, Bonding Against Adversity (BAA) in partnership with the East Aldine Management District, celebrated Presidents' Day at the newly installed massive sculpture of the bust of the late President John F. Kennedy which is located on JFK Blvd. and Aldine Bender.

"JFK Blvd. crosses the East Aldine District and there is only one JFK Blvd. in the City of Houston," East Aldine Management Chairman Carlos Silva



On Presidents Day, Monday Feb. 20 a group of new citizens and friends met at the JFK Statue on JFK Boulevard in East Aldine, and heard a short talk by EAMD chairman Carlos Silva on our appreciation of contributions to the country by John F. Kennedy. (Photo by Julieta Paita)

Continued. See JFK, Page 2

Green Forest Civic Club elects new officers

By Marina Sugg

EAST ALDINE – Hello, East Aldine Residents. It's been a while since I've updated you on what's going on with our Green Forest Civic Club. In January 2023, Ruben Salazar resigned as president of the GFCC. I wish him good luck in all his future endeavors. I also hope that what he learned in his year as our GFCC president he will use for the betterment of not only our community, but of the world.

Also, contrary to what you may be hearing out in the community, GFCC was not dissolved. In fact, on February 28, 2023, we held elections for new

members of the board of directors, and officers of the board of directors. We had a very low turnout of civic club members, so we were only able to vote in three board members and three officers. They are as follows: Selina Valdez, President; Marina Flores Sugg, Vice President; and, Guadalupe Jimenez, Treasurer.

At the present, this small board of directors is working diligently to resolve an issue GFCC has with its non-profit status. However, you can rest assured that this board has no intention of turning its back and walking away from an organization that has, under various lead-



SELINA VALDEZ
President, GFCC

erships, been in existence since the early 1960s. This board, along with members of the civic club, will continue to serve the community of East Aldine as it has for many, many years.

We invite you, and

your family members and friends, to attend our next civic club meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 28, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. All of our meetings take place on the last Tuesday of the month at the offices of the East Aldine District, 2909 East Aldine Amphitheater Drive, 77039. Our meetings are open to the public.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Marina Flores Sugg, Vice President, GFCC

MESSAGE FROM GFCC PRESIDENT SELINA VALDEZ

Thank you for the update, Marina. The Green

Forest Civic Club has always worked as a partner with members to benefit only the greater community. I am honored to serve as its newest President and look forward to shouldering down and leaning into the very resolvable issues at hand, be they real or imagined. In the meantime, we need to stay focused on our core principles: serving others first, speaking for those who feel like their voice is a whisper, and supporting all the great things that make us East Aldine! Thank you, Marina Flores Sugg, and all

Continued. See GFCC Page 2

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EAST ALDINE DISTRICT

We're Here For You!

Executive Director: **Richard Cantu**
713.595.1220 RCantu@AldineDistrict.org

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

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COMMUNITY WATCH

Fatal Motorcycle Crash at 6301 Hardy Toll Road

Houston police are investigating the fatal crash that occurred at 6301 Hardy Toll Road about 3:50 p.m. on Sunday (Feb. 19).

The identity of the deceased male, 16, is pending notification to family members by the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences.

HPD Vehicular Crimes Division Sergeant S. Jewell and Officer C. Song reported:

The male was operating a blue Kawasaki motorcycle southbound on the Hardy Toll Road exit ramp to Interstate Highway 610 westbound when he failed to maintain a single lane and struck the highway barrier wall. He and the motorcycle fell over the retaining wall and landed on the ground below at 6100 Frisco Street. The male was pronounced dead at the scene.

There were no other persons or vehicles involved in this crash.

Fatal House Fire in the East Little York / Homestead Area

Houston Fire Department reports a House fire on Feb. 17 at 6:33pm, at 12200 block of Clear River near Moss Oaks Drive.

One civilian was transported and passed away at the hospital. \$70,000 in estimated property saved. \$60,000 in estimated damage. The cause is under investigation.

Firefighters arrived on scene within a minute to find heavy smoke and fire coming from a 1-story house with a report of victims trapped. They made entry into the home and rescued a resident from the home. EMS crews began immediate life-saving efforts and transported the individual to the hospital, where, unfortunately, they passed away.

Crews ventilated the home and continued the search, finding no one else. The fire was extinguished and HFD Arson investigators were requested to determine the cause and origin. CenterPoint was also notified due to burned powerlines. Firefighters from Stations 56, 17, 30, 15, 34, 64, 32, 39, 43, 105, 24 and Rescue 42 responded to this incident.

Fatal Bicycle Crash at 10200 Aldine Westfield Road

Houston police are investigating a fatal crash at 10200 Aldine Westfield Road about 7:35 p.m. on Thursday (February 23).

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

HPD Vehicular Crimes Division Sergeant E. Alejandro and Officer D. Hoang reported:

A gray Ford F-150 pickup truck pulling an HMDE trailer was traveling southbound at the above address while the male was riding a bicycle on the sidewalk, also traveling southbound. It is believed the male lost control of the bicycle, fell into the roadway between the pickup truck and the trailer and was struck.

Houston Fire Department paramedics responded to the scene and pronounced the male deceased. The driver of the Ford, who remained at the scene, was determined not to be impaired and was questioned and released.

The investigation is continuing.

16-year-old shot outside Imperial Valley strip center

HARRIS COUNTY — Deputies are investigating a shooting in north Harris County that reportedly involved a teenager, officials said.

According to the sheriff's office, the shooting occurred in a commercial strip center in the 22900 block of Imperial Valley.

Preliminary information states that the teen was in the parking lot interacting with several cars in the area, officials said.

Shortly after, a gray vehicle approached the teen and he allegedly spoke to someone inside. A person from inside the car then shot the teen twice and sped away, officials said. The 16-year-old victim ran away, but died from his injuries, HCSO says.

At this time, there is no official word on a suspect's description or how many people were inside the vehicle

BAA celebrates Presidents Day at JFK Statue,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

mentioned. The giant JFK sculpture has not been inaugurated officially; however, "BAA Beyond Citizenship program is small but significant events like this one where new sworn-in citizens can learn more about USA history and be good citizens by getting involve in community activities and events," Mariana Sanchez, BAA Chief Operation Officer stated.

"We chose to go to the moon and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard," Silva recalled the JFK speech at Rice University back in 1962. In the same way, becoming a naturalized USA citizen is not an easy path, and you chose to do it. It opens new doors and with events like Presidents' Day in Aldine, you get to know what opportunities are in your community and give back," Silva concluded.

The next BEYOND CITIZENSHIP event in Aldine will take place on March 18, 2023 at the East Aldine District building from 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm.



BAA president Mariana Sanchez, and EAMD chairman Carlos Silva speak at the JFK statue about the importance of Presidents Day. (Julieta Paita photo)

It will be a Civic Engagement Roundtable with voters registration, voting machines demonstrations and important information

about the upcoming local elections in May of this year. Please visit baatexas.org for more details.

Green Forest Civic Club new officers,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the other great people that have served or are serving as leaders, as mentors and as members at large! I see you, and I hear you! I commit to you that I will serve to only reflect the best our community offers and make

"East Aldine Unite" a reality! You really have a vision for the greater good of our community at heart, and I will always support serving with my heart, mind and all of my being. Please join us to preserve, protect and de-

pend this endeavor and let's move forward together. Si se puede! Looking forward to our BEST chapter yet!

Selina Valdez, President, Green Forest Civic Club

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ADRIAN GARCIA
COMMISSIONER

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SATURDAY MARCH 11
8:00 AM - 2:00PM
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SCHOOL NEWS PAGE

Message From the Superintendent, March 1, 2023

Dear Aldine Community,

As we mark the end of Black History Month, I hope all of you enjoyed the celebrations on campuses and in our administrative buildings. Seeing and participating in so many celebrations has been so much fun, including our Carver High School students singing the National Anthem at the HBCU Weekend Classic at Minute Maid Park and our HBCU/Divine 9 Day. Today, we ended our celebrations with our Black History Month Book Study, where we discussed *Black Joy: A Story of Resistance, Resilience, and Restoration* by Tracy M. Lewis-Giggettts.

Monthly observances, like Black History Month, present many opportunities for growth and learning. We approach cultural diversity with a mindset and actions that embrace this fact, which leads to many benefits, like compassion and understanding and ensuring we get it right for all students.

Cultural diversity is an integral attribute of our school district. With families speaking over 45 different languages, our efforts to promote cultural diversity are driven by necessity and a desire to celebrate our students' unique backgrounds and customs.

Daily, I am reminded of one of my favorite quotes from legendary civil rights leader John Lewis, who would have been 83 on February 21. And it is one that I refer back to in my work as an education leader:

"Do not get lost in a sea of despair. Be hopeful, be optimistic. Our struggle is not the struggle of a day, a week, a month, or a year; it is the struggle of a lifetime. Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble."

Aldine ISD will continue fulfilling our strategic plan. Our collective efforts ensure that our design, intent, and actions lead with love and care for the students, families, and communities we serve. All Aldine ISD students will graduate with choices and opportunities. Toward that goal, our students will continue to have access to high-quality schools and learning experiences that prepare them for their futures.

To do what is necessary, we must surround ourselves with good people. Make good decisions based on good information and feedback. We must all be committed and intentional and do work that matters. It is not a title that will mark my or your legacies but whether our work positively impacts others in our community. We must do right by our students. We must give all children every opportunity to succeed and thrive in school, college, and life.

Let's continue to create opportunities to guide students to fulfill their potential and reach their aspirations. We must continue to work together to fulfill our promise to them. I encourage all of us to move with actions steeped in equity, love, and progress. Let's get into some good trouble for their future and future generations.

Early Childhood Learning Preregistration On the subject of students fulfilling their potential and reaching their dreams, we have several opportunities for our youngest learners to our older students. I firmly believe in the power of starting school early, but I am not the only one. Study after study shows the value and importance of early childhood learning. And we offer many choices for eligible families, like our free, full-day programs for 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds (Head Start/PreK/K). We have great neighborhood schools, Choice Schools with specialized programs, and schools that offer dual language instruction in English and español. I encourage every family with eligible students to take advantage of preregistering now for the 2023-2024 school year! Click here for more information.

Getting A Head Start in College Join us at our Advanced Academics Night on March 7 to learn about our multiple course options to challenge students to grow and advance in their high school journey.

Everyone in the Aldine community is invited to this event. Still, incoming first-year students and their parents will especially want to attend to meet and hear from representatives from The College Board, University of Texas-OnRamps, and Lone Star College. Learn about expectations about courses offered in our district, and see what they can expect next year. This is also your first look at what advanced academics are like at your new school! Click here for details.

Teacher Recruitment Fair Teachers are a big part of ensuring our students have high-quality schools and learning experiences. And we are looking for the best because our students deserve nothing less! If you know of incredible teachers, soon-to-be college graduates, retired teachers considering returning to the field, and individuals with bachelor's degrees looking to switch careers, invite them to our Teacher Job Fair on Saturday, March



4, at Davis High School! We are offering incentive pay for recruiting teachers!

Teacher Incentive Allotment We are excited to announce that Aldine is a TIA-approved district! In the 86th Legislative Session, HB 3 provided funds for districts in Texas to incentivize high-performing teachers through the Teacher Incentive Allotment. Aldine district leaders began investigating this program in the summer of 2019. The district received notification this month that the district's application for the Teacher Incentive Allotment was approved for the 2022-2023 school year. TIA approval means that in addition to their regular salaries, designated Aldine ISD teachers may now qualify for up to \$30,000, depending on the campus need, which the Texas Education Agency determines, and their designation level. In May 2023, teachers will receive official notification of their designation from TEA through their TEAL accounts. TIA fund distribution will take place in June 2023. More detailed information will be shared shortly.

I look forward to TIA's impact on recruiting, retaining, and rewarding Aldine's most highly effective teachers.

Family Health Fair Healthy families mean healthy students ready to learn! Join us at the M.B. Sonny Donalson Child Nutrition Center this Saturday, March 4, from 9 a.m. to noon. Our Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Department is hosting its annual Family Health Fair in partnership with many of our community partners. The FREE event will offer testing, vaccines, resources, and more. We have planned activities for all ages, including seeing Mirabel Madrigal from Disney's 'Encanto' and door prizes! Click here for details.

Congratulations, Milestones & Shout-outs Congratulations to MacArthur High School's Coach Ernest Gonzales on his 400th career baseball win! What an incredible milestone! Go, Coach Gonzalez, and Go Big Red!

March is around the corner (tomorrow!), meaning it's that time of the year when we start to hear about the current graduating class and where its seniors are headed off to after graduation. I found out about this shout-out because the school tagged me on Twitter. Congrats to David Villa, the 2023 Valedictorian at Aldine High School! In the fall, David will attend John Hopkins University, one of the top research institutes in the U.S.! Click here to read about the future biomedical engineer! This is an outstanding accomplishment, David. Aldine HS, thank you for sharing and keeping me #AldineConnected! I can't wait to read about the amazing students from all our high school campuses!

Have a great rest of the week!

With Aldine Pride,

Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney Superintendent of Schools
Twitter: @drgoffney Contact Me

MONTHLY OBSERVATIONS

March

Mar. 1: ENVI2ION School Day (ADSY Calendar)

Mar. 6-10: Celebrate Texas Public Schools Week

Mar. 6-10: National School Breakfast Week

Mar. 8: International Women's Day — Wear purple! (#EmbraceEquity)

Mar. 10: End of Nine Weeks (Traditional Calendar)

Mar. 13-17: Spring Break (All AISD Schools)

Mar. 20: Start of Nine Weeks (Traditional)

Mar. 20-24: Aldine ISD SEL Week — Join us at the Bamberg Professional Development and Resource Center for some yoga, exercise, a sound bath, and more. Click here for the celebration information, and click here for activities.

Mar. 22: ENVI2ION School Day (ADSY Calendar)

March 27: Report cards for the third nine weeks will be available in Home Access Center (HAC)

Mar. 29: ENVI2ION School Day (ADSY) Click here to view the 2022-2023 school year calendars — traditional and Additional Days School Year (ADSY).

Aldine is a TIA-Approved School District

Designated teachers working for the Aldine Independent School District may now qualify to earn salaries in the six figures. Aldine ISD was recently notified that their Teacher Incentive Allotment (TIA) application was approved for the 2022-2023 school year. TIA approval means that in addition to their regular salaries, designated Aldine ISD teachers may now qualify for up to \$30,000, depending on the campus need, which the Texas Education Agency determines, and their designation level.

In June 2019, the Texas Legislature passed House Bill 3. This bill established an optional Teacher Incentive Allotment with the stated goal of a six-figure salary for teachers who prioritize teaching in high-needs areas and rural districts.

Aldine ISD has approx-



imately 380 teachers who have earned designations awarded by the state through the Teacher Incentive Allotment (TIA).

In May 2023, teachers will receive official notification of their designation from TEA through their TEAL accounts. TIA fund distribution will take place in June 2023. The district looks forward to TIA's impact on Recruiting, Retaining, and Rewarding the most highly effective teachers in Aldine.

Learn More

Click here to learn more

about TIA and the Texas Teacher Evaluation and Support System, T-TESS, in Aldine ISD. T-TESS is the statewide teacher evaluation system for the state of Texas. It supports teachers' professional development and helps them grow and improve as educators.

Join Aldine ISD! To learn more about joining Aldine ISD, join us at Aldine ISD's Spring 2023 Teacher Job Fair on Saturday, March 4, from 9 – 11 a.m. at Davis High School, located at 12525 Ella Blvd., or call (281) 449-1011.

Aldine ISD Announces Winners of the 2023 Black History Oratory Competition

Aldine ISD students in grades 3-12 performed phenomenal speeches during the district's 3rd annual Black History Oratory Competition. The competition brought together some of the most talented orators from the district to showcase their skills and pay tribute to the resilience of African Americans throughout history, and how resilience has made them the person they are today.

The competition was fierce, with each participant delivering a powerful speech that highlighted the struggles and triumphs of African Americans. However, in the end, there could only be a few winners.

Once campus winners were determined district judges selected first, sec-

ond, and third place winners from each grade level. Three first-place winners (Elementary, Middle, and Ninth Grade and High School) were named 2023 Aldine ISD Black History Oratory winners. The winners will receive a trophy and will be honored at the March School Board meeting.

The 3rd Annual Black History Oratory Competition was a testament to the resilience and strength of the African American community. Through their words and their passion, the participants showed that the legacy of African Americans will continue to inspire and motivate generations to come.

Congratulations to our District-Level Black History Oratory Competition

Winners!

Ninth Grade and High School Category

1st First – Place Ivanna Carrington, Blanson CTE

2nd place – Brenda Brooks, Victory EC

3rd Place – Emily Spiller, Hall Success Academy

Middle School Category

1st Place – Sade Jackson, Young Women's Leadership Academy

2nd Place – Isabel Escobar Phan, Garcia Middle School

Elementary School Category

1st Place – Jessica Bholala, Marcella Elementary

2nd Place – Julianny Hernandez Mejia, Houston Academy

3rd Place – Matias Bermeudez, Kujawa Elementary

Aldine ISD's Communications Department Earns 15 awards at State Conference



Aldine ISD's Communications Department won 15 TSPRA (Texas School Public Relations Association) Star Awards. The award winners were announced at TSPRA's Annual Conference, held Feb. 20-24 in Fort Worth.

The department consists of Executive Director of Communications Sylvia Saumell-Baston, Director of Internal Communications Leticia Fehling, Director of External Communications Mike Keeney, Director of Brand Communications Chris Labod, Multimedia Communications Specialist Luke Rabalais, Communications Specialist Dylan Esquina, Social Media Specialist John Hickman and Executive Assistant Emily Erriguin. "This team never ceases to amaze me," Saumell-Baston said. Reed said. "This is a talented group of professionals who do an outstanding job

of promoting Aldine ISD. It's exciting to see their hard work so richly rewarded. I know our team is the best compared to others in the state, and now others know as well." The department won one Crystal Commendation, two Best of Categories Awards, seven Gold Star Awards, three Silver Star Awards and two Bronze Star Awards. Here is breakdown of the awards won per individuals: Rabalais: 1 Crystal Commendation for Aldine ISD Video Portfolio, 2 Best of Category & Gold Star Award for The Spirit of Aldine for Video Marketing and Best of Category for Teacher of the Year 2022 for Video Documentary, 4 Gold Star Awards for National Principals Month Yearbook for commemorative, Teacher of the Year 2022 for Video Documentary, The Worth of Sisterhood for Video Promotional

and The Story of La Promesa for Video Production in a Language Other than English; 2 Silver Star Awards for The Universal Language for Photo – Academic/Classroom Subjects and Summer STEM for Photo – Other Subjects and 1 Bronze Star Award for Knippel Education Center Dedication Video for Video Feature Story. Fehling: 1 Gold Star Award for Alumni Success Story: 2016 Alumnus, Ivan Delgado, Achieves Dreams with NASA for Published News or Feature. Dylan Esquina: 1 Gold Star Award for From Unlikely Childhood Friends to Dynamic Teacher Duo in Specialty/Novelty Writing. Keeney: 1 Silver Star Award for The Sky is the Limit for 3 Davis HS Students in Writing. Labod: 1 Bronze Star Award for Aldine ISD Choice Schools for Image/Identity Package.

★ OPINION PAGE ★

OPINION

By Stephanie Swanson
League of Women Voters of Texas

The League of Women Voters: Fighting for Voting Rights and Democracy for 103 Years

Austin, TX – For over 100 years, the League of Women Voters (LWV) has been working to protect and expand voting rights and ensure everyone is represented in the American democratic system. On February 14th, 2023, the League of Women Voters of the United States turns 103 years old.

The League was officially founded in Chicago in 1920, just six months before the 19th amendment was ratified and women won the right to vote. Formed by the suffragists of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, the League began as a “mighty political experiment” designed to help 20 million women carry out their new responsibilities as voters.

Over the last century, the League has fought for election protection, democracy reforms, and equal access to the ballot—all while maintaining a commitment to nonpartisanship and fostering an informed electorate.

One of the League’s many notable successes was the national grassroots campaign to reform voter registration that resulted in passage of the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA), also known as the “motor-voter” bill. The goal: increase accessibility to the electoral process. The motor-voter bill enabled citizens to register at motor vehicle agencies automatically, as well as by mail and at agencies that service the public.

When the 2000 election exposed the many problems facing the election system, the League began to work on election reform. Working closely with a civil rights coalition, LWV helped draft and pass the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), which established provisional balloting, requirements for updating voting systems, and the Election Assistance Commission.

The League, well known for their nonpartisan Voters Guide, launched VOTE411.org in 2006, an online version of the Guide and a “one-stop-shop” for election-related information. Today, VOTE411 provides both general and state-specific nonpartisan resources to the voting public, including a nationwide polling place locator, a ballot look-up tool, candidate positions on issues, and more. In 2022, over one million Texans were informed voters because they used the the Voters Guide and VOTE411.org.

In June 2019, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that partisan gerrymandering cannot be solved by the federal courts. In response, the League initiated People Powered Fair Maps™, a coordinated effort across all 50 states and D.C. to create fair and transparent, people-powered redistricting processes to eliminate partisan and racial gerrymandering nationwide. This fight continues today.

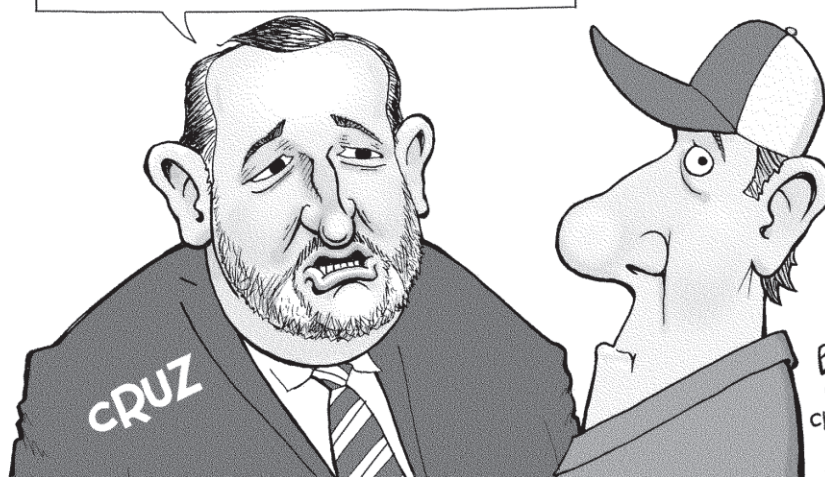
February 14th, 2023, marks 103 years that the League of Women Voters has empowered voters and defended democracy. The League of Women Voters has evolved from a political experiment designed to help women vote in 1920, to a nonpartisan organization that is a recognized force in shaping public policy and promoting informed civic participation. Moving forward, the League aims to build power for the next generation of women leaders and voting rights activists.

To celebrate their 103rd birthday, the League of Women Voters of Texas is hosting “Women Power Texas ~ A Making Democracy Work Dinner” on Monday, February 27th, 2023 from 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. in Austin, Texas. The keynote speaker is Rochelle Garza, who was recently named President of the Texas Civil Rights Project, and the honorees are Texas Gun Sense, Texas Impact, and The Texas Tribune. For more information about the “Women Power Texas” dinner, visit www.lwvtexas.org/Women-Power-Texas-Dinner-2023.

To join the League of Women Voters of Texas, visit www.lwvtexas.org.

About the League of Women Voters of Texas: The League of Women Voters is one of America’s oldest and most trusted civic nonprofit organizations. Formed in 1919, the Texas League represents more than 13,500 grassroots advocates and 34 local Leagues across the state. The League never supports or opposes candidates for office or political parties. The League encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League also seeks to influence public policy through education and advocacy. Membership is open to people 16 years and older. Learn more about the League of Women Voters of Texas at LWVTexas.org.

I PROMISE TO FIGHT FOR TERM LIMITS FOR AS LONG AS I KEEP GETTING RE-ELECTED...



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



Texas again leads Country in New Corporate Projects

Texas once again has topped the list for new and expanded corporate facilities added in a year, according to Site Selection Magazine. With 1,028 new projects in 2022, the state had more than the next two states combined – Illinois and Ohio.

“Texas truly is America’s economic engine, and we stand apart as a model for the nation,” Texas Gov. Greg Abbott said, according to The Dallas Morning News. “When choosing where to relocate or expand their businesses, more and more innovative industry leaders find themselves at home in our state.”

Two projects valued at \$8.5 billion each helped snare the state’s top spot: a chemical plant in Orange and a liquefied natural gas plant in Corpus Christi. They were followed by a \$5 billion silicon wafer plant in Sherman.

“The Lone Star State’s economy is larger than that of Canada, South Korea and Australia,” Site Selection said in its March issue.

NEW COURT SYSTEM FOR BUSINESSES PROPOSED

A new court system devoted solely to settling business disputes is being proposed by the state’s top three elected officials, though it has its share of critics as well. The Austin American-Statesman reported Abbott, House Speaker Dade Phelan and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick in separate announcements proposed the creation of a specialty business court, modeled after the Chancery Court of Delaware. The court has been in existence for more than two centuries and has been emulated by a few dozen states. The specialty business court has been listed as a top priority of legislators during this session.

Abbott said the court would provide consistency in applying state law when businesses end up court disputes. A high-powered lobby group, Texans for Lawsuit Reform, is backing the plan.

“Businesses today know the same case with the same facts can produce wildly varying outcomes simply based on which part of the state it’s filed in and which judge is hearing it, and we know at-



torneys are telling their clients not to litigate in Texas because of this unpredictability,” TLR spokeswoman Lucy Nashed Cafrelli said in the Statesman story.

The judges for the business court would be appointed by the governor, according to House bill 19, filed last week. The president of the Texas Trial Lawyers Association called that problematic.

“The bottom line is that Texans value electing their judges,” San Antonio attorney Laura Tamez said.

CHILD FATALITIES DROP IN LAST FISCAL YEAR

The number of children in Texas who died due to accidents, maltreatment and unsafe sleep declined by 27% in the last fiscal year. The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services reported 182 children died due to abuse and neglect in the state during fiscal year 2022. The most common causes of fatalities involving neglect were drowning, unsafe sleep, physical neglect and medical neglect, DFPS reported.

Children 3 years of age and younger comprised almost 80% of all confirmed child abuse and neglect fatalities over the past 10 fiscal years. However, in the past three years, there has been a marked increase in fatalities involving older children. In all confirmed cases of abuse and neglect, parents were the most common perpetrators.

COLLEGE STUDENTS JOIN FIGHT TO END DUI DEATHS

With spring break approaching, the Texas Department of Transportation is joining with students at Tex-

as A&M in a peer-to-peer program focused on highlighting the dangers of driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

One person in the state dies every 7 hours and 41 minutes in a DUI-related crash, according to TxDOT. During spring break of 2021, Texas had 874 alcohol-related traffic crashes with 31 deaths and 107 serious injuries. TxDOT is partnering with U in the Driver Seat, a peer-to-peer program led by A&M students that is focused on saving lives by preventing DUI-related crashes. Student leaders from around the state are joining the campaign and urging fellow students to always find a sober ride.

“Our message to students is this: Help keep yourself and others safe by finding a sober ride, taking a cab, using a rideshare, or simply staying put,” said Marc Williams, TxDOT executive director.

TPWD CELEBRATES PARK CENTENNIAL WITH GRANTS

As Texas state parks mark their 100th anniversary, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is awarding the largest sum of grants in the program’s history. The agency is distributing more than \$2.8 million to create 55 new grant-funded partnerships across the state to promote conservation and recreation.

The Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) was established in 1996 to introduce under-represented audiences to outdoor recreation, conservation and environmental education. Among the projects approved are students monitoring water quality along the Rio Grande, communities of color learning about the cultural history of the Buffalo Soldiers while hiking at Fort Davis State Park, and breast cancer survivors learning to fly fish in the state’s rivers.

The grants are funded through a portion of Texas’ sporting goods sales tax.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME STARTS SUNDAY

Spring is approaching, and so is daylight saving time, which starts at 2 a.m. Sunday, March 12. Clocks jump ahead an hour, so if you forget to adjust the time you are liable to show up for church an hour late and miss the service.

The first two countries to use daylight saving time were Germany and Austria in 1916. They did so to save fuel used for artificial lights during World War I. The United States followed suit in 1918.

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

“Mr. Muscle”

My husband, Peter, is learning Spanish his own way.

I do Duolingo online. It is free. It is easy to do. The whole thing is designed like a game, and dancing animated creatures hop up and down and celebrate every time I get five answers in a row correct. This shouldn’t matter to me—yet I find it deeply satisfying. Peter doesn’t do any of this.

Peter learns Spanish by talking with the sandwich shop staff.

Since we started staying in our little apartment in Mexico, Jorge, the resourceful owner, has converted what used to be a storage room into a sandwich shop. The sandwich shop is not large. There is a grill and a counter with a few stools, and that is it. But they make everything from scratch, and it is very good. Peter takes his long morning hike and stops by the sandwich shop, just inside the hotel, on his way back. He orders lunch.

Ten minutes later, either Eduardo or Miriam, the employees of the sandwich shop, knock on the door. Sometimes Miriam is accompanied by her small son, Santiago. Peter’s lunch arrives on a plate, and he pays for it, along with a generous tip. There is usually enough for two lunches, so he puts the leftovers in the refrigerator, and he’s all set for the next day.

I recently pointed out the obvious to Peter. “You are getting very spoiled.”

He does not argue. But in addition to getting a delicious lunch, Peter is working to improve his Spanish, and Miriam and Eduardo are eager to assist. The problem is that Peter has decided to forgo the usual “How are you? I am fine” first steps in language acquisition and jump right into real conversations. This has not always been successful.

“They were laughing like crazy at me!” Peter announced, not for the first time.

“What did you say?” I asked, a little afraid.

“I was trying to ask if Miriam and Eduardo were siblings. I asked them if they were hermosos.”

“They were laughing because you asked them if they were beautiful.”

“Oh! I meant *hermanos!*”

“Yes, that would be different.”

Miriam and Eduardo (and the rest of the staff) were still laughing about this when I left later in the day. I assured them that we thought they were all beautiful. A couple of days later, Peter came up from ordering lunch and reported that he’d done it again.

“Oh, boy! They are really laughing at me today.”

“What did you say this time?” I asked.

“I tried to say ‘Mr. Muscles’ and they just stared at me. I said Eduardo was Mr. Muscles because he was squeezing fresh orange juice by hand. But I said it again, and they started laughing. So I wrote it out on a paper—and they started laughing even harder!”

Peter showed me the paper as evidence.

“So, why are they laughing?” I asked.

“They said it was slang—that I said, ‘Show me your butt!’”

“Oh, dear.”

“They are still laughing!”

Miriam and Eduardo are laughing almost every day at Peter, and I think Santiago, who is only four, may have joined in.

But, amazingly, while providing daily entertainment, Peter is picking up quite a lot of Spanish. The first rule in learning a second language is to let go of the fear of making mistakes. Mistakes are a necessary part of the process.

Peter is very fortunate. He has found teachers who will not only forgive his mistakes—they are eagerly looking forward to the next time he makes one.

Till next time,
Carrie
Carrie’s memoir is “Blue Yarn.” Learn more about her writing at CarrieClasson.com.

Americanisms

“Mankind must put an end to war, or war will put an end to mankind.”
— John F. Kennedy

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NORTHEAST NEWS

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Houston Northeast Community Development Corporation

The mission of this organization is to engage with the community for the development and sustaining of educational and economic empowerment.

The focus is on providing life-changing solutions aimed at meeting the needs of the elderly, economically disadvantaged adults, and at-risk youth.

This organization, led by Pastor David Smith, serves the Eastex/Jensen community.

The signature event is the annual Jensen Jubilee, a festival that brings together several health, education, and social service organizations along with elected officials for the purpose of serving the community and providing scholarships for local students.

For more information about the Houston Northeast Community Development Corporation, visit the website below.

houstonnecdc.org



No More Late Fees at Harris County Libraries!

HARRIS COUNTY – Commissioners Court unanimously approved a proposal by Harris County Public Library (HCPL) to end library fines on books and DVDs that are returned late. With the Commissioners’ backing, HCPL joins a growing number of public library systems across the country that have eliminated late fees over the last several years.

Harris County Public Library has waived late fees since March 2020 when the Covid-19 pandemic forced the closure of all its branch locations. Harris County Commissioners on Tuesday made the policy permanent. Under the new policy, patrons will still be charged for lost or damaged items, but effective at once, patrons will not be charged for returning items past their due dates, and overdue fines that are already on library users’ accounts will be forgiven, though it may take some time for these changes to appear on library accounts.

For HCPL, like many other libraries, the decision boils down to matters of economics—both for the library and the communities it serves. Chief among them is the fact that late fees hit low-income households harder than others. Late fees—even relatively small amounts—can and do effectively block economically disadvantaged people from using the library.

“The elimination of late fees makes HCPL the open, free public resource it was always meant to be,” said Edward Melton, HCPL’s Executive Director. “We want to remove barriers and ensure that our collections and services are



Harris County Public Library eliminates fines to ensure equal access to materials for those who may need it most.

available equitably,” Melton continues, “A late fee should not keep someone from the information and resources that can literally change their lives for the better.”

Other factors in the decision to do away with late fines include the fact late fees generate less revenue than it takes to collect and process them, that fines have proven to be an ineffective deterrent to late returns, and most importantly, that libraries that have stopped assessing late fees have seen significant growth in library use, circulation, library card applications and returned the materials.

“We hope, and the experience of libraries that have gone fine-free bears this out, that this will bring people back to our libraries,” said Linda Stevens, HCPL’s Division Director for Programs, Partnerships and Outreach, “not only to check out books and DVDs, but for things like our early literacy story times, Family Place Learning Centers and all the other interactive, educational programs we offer.”

About Harris County

Public Library:

The Harris County Public Library (HCPL) mission is to provide information and resources to enrich lives and strengthen communities through innovative services within and beyond our walls. The library has an annual circulation of over 10 million items and is a network of 26 community-focused branch libraries and is committed to providing excellent customer service, strong collections, and cutting-edge information technology for the 21st Century. Visit www.hcpl.net for more information



HIGH MEADOWS LIBRARY NEWS

WEEK: 2/27 - 3/4

MONDAY - 2/27

Adult Lunch and Learn - Life and Financial Literacy for adults
 PJ Pals - Storytime, crafts, and more

TUESDAY - 2/28

Teen Anime Club - 3:00 PM

WEDNESDAY - 3/1

Teen Arts and Crafts - 3:00 PM

Saturday - 3/4

Family Time- Interactive Program - 1:00 PM

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SENIORS UNITED COMMUNITY

11:30AM-1PM

Seniors ages 60+ are welcome to join us along with EVERYONE-Counts for our monthly get togethers! Join us for prizes and resources from community partners. Must call to register.

¡Las personas mayores de 60 años pueden unirse a nosotros junto con EVERYONE-Counts para nuestras reuniones mensuales! Únase a nosotros para obtener premios y recursos de socios de la comunidad. Debe llamar para registrarse.

January/enero 19	April/abril 20	July/julio 13
February/febrero 15	May/mayo 18	August/agosta 24
March/marzo 16	June/junio 15	October/octubre 19

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 (346) 570-4463

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

International Women's Day is a global holiday where we celebrate women's rights, and we bring attention to gender equality, reproductive rights, violence and abuse against women. Join us for brunch and fun activities, in celebration of social, economic, cultural & political achievements of women.

El Día Internacional de la Mujer es una fiesta mundial en la que celebramos los derechos de las mujeres y llamamos la atención sobre la igualdad de género, los derechos reproductivos, la violencia y el abuso contra las mujeres. Únase a nosotros para un desayuno y actividades divertidas, en celebración de los logros sociales, económicos, culturales y políticos de las mujeres.

Saturday | Sabado
 March 11th | Marzo 11 | 10:00AM - 1:00PM
 To RSVP: 346.570.4463

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Follow us on Facebook: BakerRipley East Aldine Campus

AIRLINE LIBRARY NEWS

BILINGUAL STORY TIME

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

KID'S CLUB

Kids ages 6 - 13 can join us for some games, building, crafting, and more! **Wednesday, Mar. 8 from 4:30 - 5:30pm.**

TEEN THURSDAY

Teen Thursdays are a fun, safe environment for teens (ages 12-18) to hang out after school. Join us **Thursdays from 3:30 - 5:30pm.**

CHIT CHAT COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Are you learning English and would like to practice your conversation skills? Are you a native English speaker who would like to help others become more fluent? Join us for some easy-going conversation with friends over coffee! This is NOT a class. This is just for fun and experience. Mar. 11, 2pm.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH MOVIES

March is Women's History Month and we are showcasing women in movies. Join us again **March 25 at 1pm** for a movie about women who helped shape our world.

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 ba-

sic 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

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.

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1:30pm, at the library

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

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E-NEWSLETTER/CALENDAR

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

MICHELLE PICHON
 LIBRARY PROGRAM SPECIALIST
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CHURCH PAGE

BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Athens (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. In 2 Kings, which prophet's word caused Syrian soldiers to be struck blind? Gad, Jubal, Solomon, Elisha
3. Where were Saul and Jonathan's bodies nailed to a wall? Troas, Nob, Beth-shan, Sychar
4. On fleeing from Jezebel, which prophet hid in a

cave? Elijah, Nathan, Daniel, Amos
 5. Which converts burned their books of magic? Philistines, Ephesians, Hittites, Canaanites
 6. In which book is the phrase, "Holier than thou"? 1 Kings, Ezra, Amos, Isaiah

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Elisha, 3) Beth-shan, 4) Elijah, 5) Ephesians, 6) Isaiah 65:5
 "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

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

ACTS 17: 29

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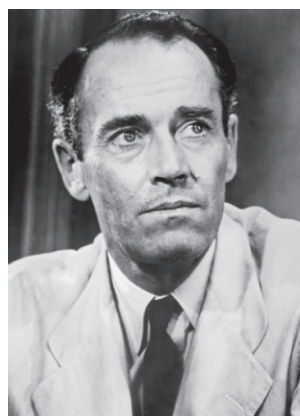
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celebrity extra by Dana Jackson

Q: My son is reading the play "12 Angry Men" in his English class...



Henry Fonda in "12 Angry Men" (1957)

A: "12 Angry Men" was originally written as a one-hour live play to be broadcasted for television...

It wasn't a box-office hit, but it was critically acclaimed and nominated for several Oscars...

just because it's in 4K doesn't mean they're colorizing the original. According to Collider.com...

Q: Is Sally Field going to be starring in anymore movies soon? I saw that she was in "80 for Brady"...

A: The two-time Academy-Award-winning actress Sally Field was recently honored by the

Screen Actors Guild with a Lifetime Achievement Award. She's had a long, storied career in Hollywood since she was a teen...

Her early TV roles in "Gidget" and "The Flying Nun" showcased her charm, but once she graduated to film with more meaty, dramatic roles...

She's even tried her hand at superhero movies, having played Peter Parker's Aunt May in the two "Amazing Spider-Man" films...

Q: I was thrilled to see that "The Blacklist" is back on TV. Is it true that this is the final season, though? — P.J.

A: Yes, the 10th and final season of NBC's "The Blacklist" premiered on Feb. 26, but it'll have plenty of content to be enjoyed for months to come...

Send me your questions at NewCelebrityExtra@gmail.com, or write me at KFWS, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

HOLLYWOOD by Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD — Two-time Oscar winner Mahershala Ali has been cast to take over the "Blade" franchise from Wesley Snipes...



Mahershala Ali ("Green Book" and "Moonlight")

*** In other "Marvel World" news, Tom Holland, whose "Spider-Man: No Way Home" hit over a billion dollars worldwide...

Holland will also play Milan native Pino Lella, who, at 17, infiltrated the Nazi party during World War II by enlisting in the German army...

*** When I was 19, I was a huge fan of Kim Novak. I took so many pictures of her that we sort of became friends. When she arrived at the post-party for the premiere of "The Amorous Adventures of Moll Flanders" (1965)...

Some of her greatest films were "Picnic" (1955) with William Holden; "The Man With the Golden Arm" (1955) and "Pal Joey" (1957)...

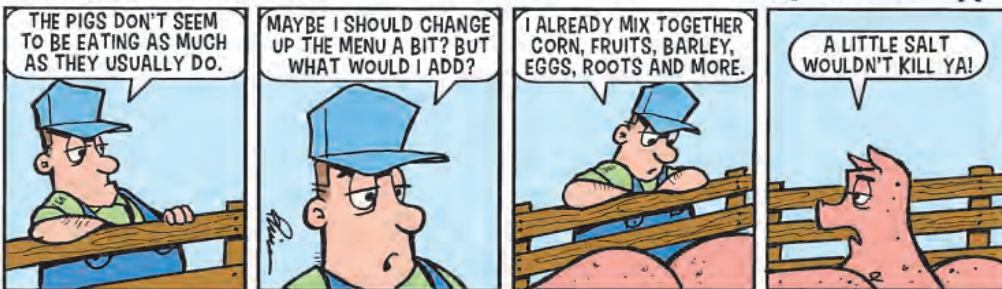
Stewart, to name some. Kim eventually moved from Big Sur, California, to a 43-acre ranch in Sams Valley, Oregon...

The Butler Institute of American Art in Youngstown, Ohio, hosted a retrospective of her work in 2019, and in 2021, they published a book of her paintings titled, "Kim Novak: Her Art and Life"...

ENTERTAINMENT

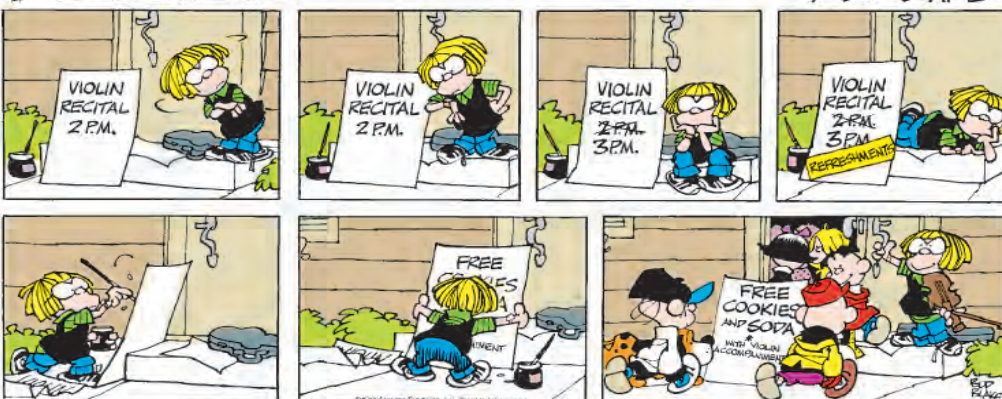
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



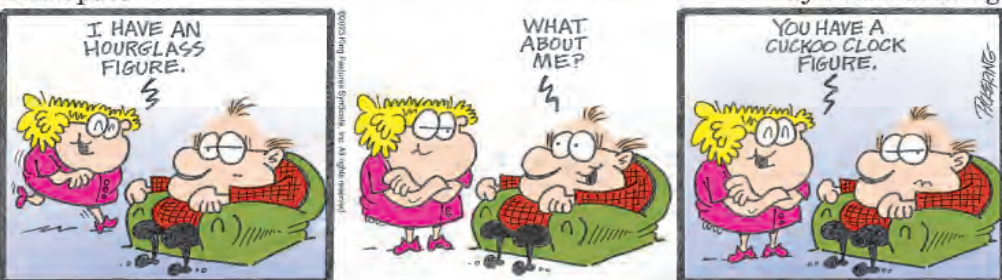
TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

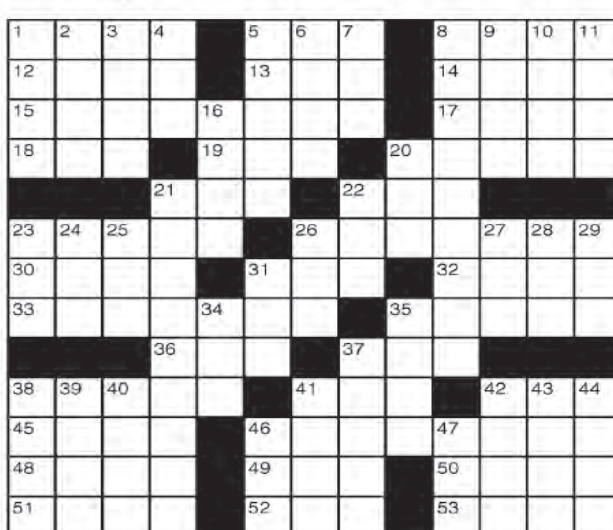


March 6, 2023 Posting Date

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Two-wheeler
5 Bumped into
8 Pack (down)
12 Ireland
13 Peyton's brother
14 "The Time Machine" people
15 Octopus arm
17 Lunch hour
18 Request
19 IV measures
20 Must-haves
21 Chai, e.g.
22 Vagrant
23 More recent
26 Goddess of wisdom
30 Tehran's country
31 Sly one
32 Tidy
33 Workshop cutter
35 Rock
36 Very long time
37 Possesses
38 Brainy
41 Small barrel
42 "The Wedding Planner" actress, to fans
45 New York's — Field
46 Bicycle type
48 N. Mex. neighbor
49 — Lingus



- 50 Pitt of "Moneyball"
51 Carry
52 Layer
53 Round Table titles
10 plant
11 Disposition
16 Computer brand
20 Convent manager
21 Prepare meat for cooking
22 Beiderbecke of jazz
23 Pen tip
24 Mound stat site
25 Pallid
26 Trim the grass
27 Old
28 Moving day rental
29 Packed away
31 Summer cooler
34 Drunkard
35 Droops
37 Ford or Hudson
38 Ella's style
39 Surrealist
40 Bickering
41 Fall (over)
42 Ryan of "Boston Public"
43 Tragic king
44 Probability
46 Light touch
47 "Frontline" ailer

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

Sudoku grid with numbers 6, 4, 5, 3, 8, 7, 3, 4, 1, 9, 2, 6, 1, 3, 4, 8, 1, 9, 6, 7, 8, 1, 4, 8, 9

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

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

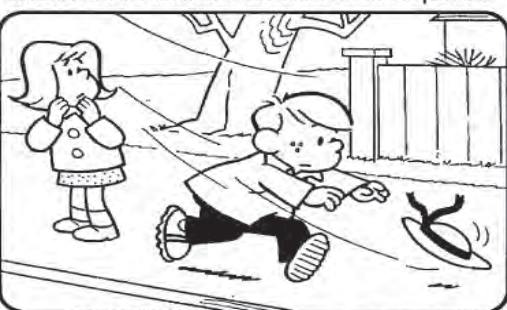
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Jacket is different. 2. Pocketbook is missing. 3. Sign is missing. 4. Leg is moved. 5. Post is different. 6. Hat is moved.

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

Sudoku grid with letters: S I S, P L Y, T O T, A H R I Z, T E N, O M A R T, S H A, S A V, N O L, N S, M Y S, O N V, L T, E A V, N X O F, N A V, I, N E W, M I M, I N, E W, L, M, U, M, A, S, K, C, O, C, S, T, E, N, T, A, C, L, E, L, I, O, B, I, K, E, M, E, T, T, A, M, P

Solution time: 23 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

- 1. FOOD & DRINK: Which U.S. city is known for its square pizzas with crunchy corners?
2. TELEVISION: Which character became a fugitive in the final season of "The Office"?
3. GEOGRAPHY: Which of the Great Lakes lies entirely within the United States?
4. LITERATURE: Which famous novelist wrote his last book in crayon due to poor eyesight?
5. GAMES: What are the two most valuable letters in Scrabble?
6. MOVIES: Which movie series features a character named Ellen Ripley?
7. LANGUAGE: What is a "schwaa"?
8. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which nation is credited for being the top beer-drinking country in the world?
9. ANATOMY: What is a common name for the axilla?
10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What do you call an ant's home?

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- 1. Detroit; 2. Creed Bratton; 3. Lake Michigan; 4. James Joyce; 5. Q and Z (10 points each); 6. "Alien"; 7. Unstressed vowel represented by an upside-down "e"; 8. Czech Republic; 9. Armpit; 10. A nest or fornicatory.

Lone Star College spring enrollment increases

HOUSTON (Feb. 2) – Lone Star College experienced a 3% increase in spring enrollment from a year ago, going against a nationwide trend. LSC reported 80,595 enrolled students in spring 2023 compared to 78,463 in spring 2022.

“The last few years have been challenging, but I am very pleased that students continue to put their trust in Lone Star College,” said Stephen C. Head, Ph.D., LSC Chancellor. “Whether a person is interested in academic transfer programs or workforce training, Lone Star College is ready to help them be successful.”

The data comes from the Spring 2023 LSC Official Day reports and represents credit enrollment only. LSC helps more than 90,000 credit and non-credit students start close and go far each semester.

Enrollment in Texas community colleges fell 1.7% from 2020 to fall 2021, according to the latest data available. Nationally, community college enrollment dropped 7.8% as reported by the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center.

“We are also seeing more students choosing face-to-face instruction,” said Head. “Lone Star College faculty, staff and administrators remain committed to providing high-quality education whether a student chooses



Lone Star College saw a 3% increase in spring enrollment from 2022. The data comes from the Spring 2023 LSC Official Day reports and represents credit enrollment only.

in-person, online or a combination of the two.”

This semester saw 42% of LSC students receiving face-to-face instruction compared to 34% in spring 2022. In addition to supporting in-person and online students, LSC recently launched its eight campus, LSC-Online to provide a guaranteed schedule that will allow students to earn their degree in two years.”

LSC offers maximum flexibility with multiple start dates. Students receive the same content and the same credit regardless of when they start classes. Many students also qualify for financial assistance which covers educational expenses, including tuition, fees, books and supplies. Learn more at LoneStar.edu/Class-Start-Options.

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.

LONE STAR COLLEGE

You're invited

April 11

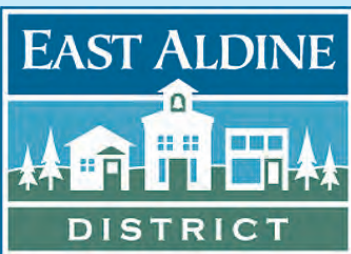
Open House

Attend a LSC Open House event
Tue., April 11, 4-7 p.m.

at any of our campuses to learn about all the great opportunities LSC has to offer. The campuses roll out the red carpet to greet new and current students and answer your questions. Resources are available including guidance from admissions and advising to financial aid.

More info: LoneStar.edu/OpenHouse

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



East Aldine District COMMUNITY NEWS

East Aldine District wins statewide recognition from TEDC, only one of two management districts recognized for Economic Development

East Aldine is one of two management districts to win statewide recognition recently from the TEDC, or Texas Economic Development Council.

Management districts in East Aldine and Spring Branch are the only two in the state to receive 2022 Economic Recognition Awards from the Texas Economic Development Council.

The awards were presented Feb. 24 at the TEDC’s 2023 Legislative Conference in Austin.

The East Aldine Management District and Spring Branch Management District have now won the award for the second year in row. They are clients of Houston-based Hawes Hill and Associates LLP, whose employee Lance Dean serves as economic development director for both districts.

The East Aldine district’s recent initiatives include organizing and hosting seminars for local businesses at its newly expanded East Aldine Town Center.

With public safety serving as a bedrock of economic development, the district funds exclusive patrol services and graffiti and litter abatement in their services areas,

among other things.

Management districts are economic development government agencies formed under state law.

The non-profit TEDC said the awards provide “recognition to economic development organizations that meet a desired threshold of professionalism.”

“Recipients qualify for recognition based on training taken by their governing board/council as well as the economic development director and professional staff,” the TEDC said. “Certifications, professional memberships and activities, and organizational effectiveness of the economic development staff also contribute to the standards for qualification.

“This recognition from TEDC continues to highlight the quality and competence of our staff, especially our Director of Economic Development Lance Dean, and the dedicated work that is being put in every single day to make it known far and wide that East Aldine is open for business, open for development, and open for establishments looking to set up shop in our community,” said East Aldine Chairman Carlos Silva.



The other 52 award recipients included the City of League City and economic development corporations in municipalities such as Sugar Land, New Braunfels and Amarillo.

“The TEDC’s Economic Excellence Recognition program is one of the ways in which our organization honors the outstanding commitment to excellence of our communities and regions, their leaders, and their economic development professionals have toward the professionalization of their economic development efforts,” said Carlton Schwab, president/CEO of the TEDC.”

The Texas Economic Development Council, established in 1961, is an Austin-based, statewide, non-profit professional association dedicated to the development of economic and employment opportunities in Texas. The TEDC provides information, educational and legislative services to more than 950 members. The organization’s objective is to support the economic growth of Texas and develop strategies that promote a positive business climate in the state.

--Alan Bernstein