

## NEWS NOTES

## Jazz music fills the air in East Aldine <br> Families enjoy all-day performances and activities at Town Center



Lone Star College Summer \& Fall Registration Reach your highest
potentiall Your future awaits. Lone Star College Fall Registration Opens
April 6 . Register now for April 6. Register now for
Summer and Fall classes. Lonestar.edu/learnmore.
See more info on Page 8. BakerRipley April Events Calendar
April 5th - Food F
7:30am - 11 am April Sth - Fo
7:30am - 1 1am
April 8 th - Eg April lth - Eggstravaganza,
$10 \mathrm{am}-1 \mathrm{l}$, April 10th - World Autism
Awareness Parent Talk, 5pm 6pm Aoril 2oth - Senior Games April 20th - Senior
11:30am - 1pm April 26th - Farmers Market, $10 \mathrm{am}-1 \mathrm{pm}$ May 13 th - Asian American
\& Pacific slander Cutural \& Pacific IIlander Cultural
Celebration, 10 am - 1 pm
APR. 29, SATURDAY EAMD Unlimited PossABILITIES Day at Town Center A Day of Fun and
Adventure at East Aldin Town Center. Where your abilities and
disabilities become disabilities be
possibilities! possibilities!
9am to $2 p m$ at Town Center, Fun Run,
Basketball. Origam Basketball, Origami,
Miss AMazing Pageant,
Kin Miss AMazing Pageant
Yoga, Face Painting, Yoga, Face Painting,
Music, Balloon Artists, Petting Zoo, Fire Truck and so much more. Bring a blanket, a chair, and come have fun. Oh,
it's FREE!


Performing their special jazz numbers were bands School, Mead Middl School, Wheatley High School, Humble High
School, Aldine ISD Collec tive, Waltrip High School 2, Atascocita High School Raul Yzaguirre High
School, MacArthur High School, Waltrip High School 1, and the Calient
Band. Band.
Solo performances by guest artists included Brit
tney Bloom, Robert White tney Bloom, Robert White,
Woody Witt, Horace Alex Woody Witt, Horace Alex-
ander Young, and DJ Rev.


## Aldine ISD to hold Community Meetings

Talk with District leaders about the latest campus news


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Wéne Ftene Fon You!
Executive Director: Richard Cantu 713.5x95.1220 RCantu@AldineDistrict.org Operations Manager: Veronica Sanches 713.595 .1226 VSanches@AldineDistrict.org

## FREE INTERNET

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Fatal Crash on Golf Cart at 14070 JFK Blvd.

Houston police are investigating a fatal crash Kennedy Boulevard about 11 a.m. on Saturday (March 25).
The identity of the deensed female, 54, is he Harris County Instiute of Forensic Sciences
HPD Vehicular Crimes Division Sergeant G. Lo pez and Officer Mathews reported:

The woman was driv-
ing a golf cart eastbound
through the parking lot at the above address and
struck two parked trac tor-trailer trucks. Houson Fire Department paramedics responded to the scene and pronounced the woman deceased. It is believed she suffered a medical episode just prir to the crash.
The investigation is
ontinuing.


## COMMUNITY <br> WATCH

Carjacking, robbery at north Houston vape shop


HOUSTON - A carjacking and robbery at a north Houston vape shop Thursday has led to the discovery of other crimes committed by the suspects, according to the Harris County Sheriffs Office.
Deputies said a group of suspects between the ages of
15 and 20 robbed an employee's vehicle at Vape City, 15 and 20 robbed an employee's vehicle at Vape City,
cated at 10255 North Freeway, at around 12:20 a.m. When units arrived at the scene, they saw two vehicles
speeding away. Deputies said they immediately started speeding away. Deputies said they immediately started
chasing the two vehicles and caught up with a driver who chasing the two vehicles and caught up with a driver who
was in a white Jeep at North Shepherd and West 11th was in a white Jeep at North Shepherd and West 11th
Street. Authorities found and recovered the second vehicle - a Dodge Charger that belonged to a vape shop employee - a short time later.HCSO said they also found a black bag on top of the white Jeep that had about $\$ 200$ in it that
was also stolen. Deputies said the Jeep was stolen and tied was also stolen. Deputies said the Jeep was stolen and tied
to another carjacking and robbery.
Employees at the vape shop told a reporter that the emEmployees at the vape shop told a reporter that the em-
ployee whose vehicle was stolen is doing OK. Deputies said ployee whose vehicle was stolen is doing OK. Deputies said
no one was hurt.Of the four to five suspects involved, investigators said only one of them is in custody. A search is underway for the others.

Jazz Fest Performers,
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1


RAUL YZAGUIRRE HS JAZZ ENSEMBLE HAROLD SEDANO, DIRECTOR


Suspect shot, killed by FBI agents during hostage situation in Greenspoint

HOUSTON - A hostage rescue that left a suspect fa Houston began days in Houston began days ago
when three migrants were kidnapped from a vehicle in a neighboring county, ac cording to a prosecutor. The three migrants had been traveling in a vehicle
on Interstate 10 in the southern part of Walle County on March 18 when they were stopped by kid nappers and forced into an
other vehicle, said Sean other vehicle, said Sean
Whittmore, a prosecutor Whittmore, a prosecutor
with the Waller County District Attorney's Office. It is believed the mi grants' driver called 911 and informed the Waller Coun ty Sheriffss Office about the
kidnapping, Whittmore said. The sheriffs office lat er worked with the FBI, whose agents were involved in a shooting early Thurs day morning in north Hous ton in which two people
were rescued.
The kidnapp

The kidnappers demand-

ed money from the family of and were paid, but then they asked for more, according to a person familiar with the matter. The person said that the kidnappers sent the family videos, which they
shared with law enforcehared with law enforcenappers were armed and the hostages were alive, including one of them beating one of the hostages, an old-
er man.
Gunfi

tween FBI agents and the hostage-takers before daybreak Thursday, leading to one of the kidnappers being killed and another being arrested, said the person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were
not authorized to discuss the case publicly. Agents with the FBI's Agents with the FBr's rescuing the migrants when the shots broke out, said
James Smith, special agent in charge of the FBI's Hous-

Ton office, during a brief ing the integrity of the on $\begin{array}{ll}\text { Thursday news conference } & \text { going investigation, we can- } \\ \text { where he took no questions. }\end{array}$ where he took no questions. not provide any more details
Smith said one suspect at this time," Smith said. $\begin{aligned} & \text { Smith said one suspect } \\ & \text { was fatally shot while an- this time," Smith said. } \\ & \text { The FBI's Houston office }\end{aligned}$ other suspect was taken declined to comment on how into custody by the Harris they found the migrants County Sheriffs Office. Se- what led up to the shooting nior Deputy Thomas Gilli- or how many agents wer land, a spokesman for the sheriffs office, said he could
not provide any information on the suspect as that per- ing the shooting, there was son was arrested as that perSmith said agents res-
cued two people who were cued two people who were
being held at a motel. being held at a motel.
After the news conference, Whittmore told The Associated Press it was still his understanding that three people had been kid-
napped. He referred quesnapped. He referred ques-
tions on the discrepancy to tions on the discrepancy to
the FBI. Smith did not address the discrepancy during his news conference. Smith said no agents were injured and an FBI review team will investigate
the shooting. "In the interest of protectno longer a threat to public safety.

The kidnapped migrant had crossed into the U.S. il legally from Mexico, accord-
ing to the person familiar ing to the person familia
with the case. Whittmore declined to comment on the migrants immigration status, nation alities or whether they were
being illegally transprted at the time of their kidnapping.In an email, Tim Oberle, an Immigration and Customs Enforcement spokesman, declined to dis cuss the people's immigraquestions to the FBI.

## AIRLINE LIBRARY NEWS

Resume 101 Learn to create a re-
sume for jobs, college apsume for jobs, college applications, scholarships, and more! This program
is for teens ages $15+$.

Bilingual Story Time
Join us in the library for story time in English
and Spanish now and Spanish now 11:00am!
$\frac{\text { Kid's Club }}{\text { It's }}$ It's that time again:
Lego Night! Kids 5 and up come and join us Wednesday, Mar. 29, 4:30pm!
Teen Thursday Teen Thursdays are a teens (ages $12-18$ ) to hang out after school. Join us Thursdays from 3:30-5:30pm.
Mindfulnes for $\frac{\text { Teens }}{\text { Teens ages } 12 \text { to } 18}$ can learn stress relief techniques through mindfulness with Cre-
ative Minds Center urday, Apr 1, 2-3pm
Como Mantener Calma en Momentos de Crisis

- En este taller abord aremos las razones biologicas y fisiologicas y la ansiedad y como salir y la ansiedad y como salir
de estos estados. - Ven y aprende her ramientas para controlar la ansiedad y el estres en cuestion de minutos.
- Conoce tecnicas de res - Conoce tecnicas de res
piracion y meditación. Saturday, Apr. 1, 3 4 pm , con Creative Monds Center, solo en español
Monthen's History Month Movie Join us for a celebration
of Women's His with movies History Month with movies based on real
women who have made dif women who have made dif-
ferences and contributions ferences and contributions
to American History! Snacks provided. Saturday, Apr. 1, 2pm. Computer Classes We have compute classes in Spanish and in
English, online and in-perEnghish, online and in-per
son. If you want to participate, call us to register: 832-927-5410. Wednesdays: Cloud
Computing - Office 365 Computing - Office 365 (English, Online) 5 -7pm (English, Online), $5-7 \mathrm{pm}$
Thursdays: Office 365 - PowerPoint I (Spanish, in person), $5-7 \mathrm{pm}$ $\begin{array}{ll}\text { Thursdays: Office 365 } & \text { BRANCH LIBRARY } \\ \text { 11331 AIRLINE DR. } \\ \text { - PowerPoint I (Spanish, } \\ \text { in person), } \\ & \text { HO-7pm }\end{array}$
${ }_{832-927-5410}$ Passport Services
Do have plans to travel out of the country
soon? Get on the 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/ www.hcpl.net/serv ourpassport Our passport
hours- Mondays and Wednesdays 12 pm 5pm; Tuesdays and Thursdays 12pm
7 pm; Saturdays 10 am 12pm and 2 pm - 4pm. We also have walk-in service from 2-4pm on Fridays on a first
come first served bacome first served ba-
sis. Those wishing to get a passport executed must have all necessary documents and required people
present with them.

MICHELLE PICHON LIBRARY PROGRAM SPECIALIST
HARRIS COUNTY PUBLIC HARRIS CO LIBRARY
BRANCH LIBRARY


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.
iLas personas mayores de 60 años pueden unirse a nosotros junto con iLas personas mayores de 60 anos 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.


March/marzo 16
April/obril 20
May/mayo 18 June/junio 15

## SCHOOL NEWS PAGE

## Message From the Superintendent, March 30, 2022

 the classroom, programs ike our Young Women's our GIRLS Empowerment Summit, we are vested in advancing our young wom-
en to lead and fulfill their imitless potential. Latest All the Things
PodcastWith that thought in mind, I urge everyone to listen to the latest The All the Things podcast. Chief of taff Sheleah Reed talks with Dr. Anne McClellan, namic systems architect. In this episode, she shares valuable insights on the benefits of writing down
your own ideas and practicng the voice you want to be discu what you're good at. She believes that everyone has unique strengths and talents that can be leveraged \#AldineBoardWalk One of the things I enjoy most is meeting and speak-
ing with students and staff in our schools. I started my week on Monday with our district leaders for \#AldineBoardWalk at Hall Success Academy. Hall students are our non-traditional stuents. Non-traditional things differently, primarily because they have different needs. Hall Success Academy is an example of all the great programs and has for our students. All means all in Aldine. And thank you, Hall students' for the rose you made for
me. I love it! We also visited

Jones Elementary. It never gets old seeing the excite-
ment of our students and the love from our teachers. I loved seeing our amazing
teachers facilitate engagin teachers facilitate engaging
lessons for our students. To everyone working with our students, thank you for staying \#AldineConnected! Community MeetingsStaying connected with
our community members is our community members is
crucial to the work we do This is why I am excited that we are once again host ing our community meet-
ings this spring. I will give ings this spring. I will give
summarized updates on summarized updates on
school district news while allowing time for open questions from parents/guard ians and community members. You'll also get to speak one-on-one about im-
portant issues involving our portant issues involving our
schools with district leaders and me. The first of these community meetings, which all run from 6-7:30 p.m., will be on April 4 at Aldine HS
Click here for all the dates Click here for all the dates community members are in vited to attend these infor mative Community Meetings, whether they
have children in Aldine have children in Aldin
schools or not. Join us! Hea our journey and about Aldine's future.
Long-Range Planning
Committee - Facilitin Committee - Facilities AssessmentWe are always
moving forward in Aldine moving forward in Aldine
including planning for the future. The district's longrange planning committee held its second meeting last week. We are reviewing Al
dine's facilities assessment. We are thinking about the
future. Do we really want to
consider renovating and remodeling, or do we want to consider building new? Do we consolidate? What are
the communities' needs? the communities needs?
And how do we best meet those needs while ensuring our students have access to high-quality schools and learning experiences? We'll
present the committee's suggestions to the Board of Click here to view our longrange planning committee
webpage. CongratulationsSpring
is bustling is bustling with activity!
And our students are demonstrating their skills in so many diverse areas. Congratulations to Victory Eary College students that competed in the FBLAState Galveston. Their teammate
David Allen won 5th Place! David Allen won 5th Place!
Aldine hosted the FIRST in Aldine hosted the FIRST in
Texas FTC Championship Competition, where we had Arthur and Carver High Schools compete this year! What a fantastic experience for you! We have had over
560 CTE students compete 560 CTE students compete competitions levenclude and we roll into nationals, Aldine currently has 64 students who have advanced to Nationals. Congratulations
to Carver High School's theter troupe for advancing to the UIL Texas Area OAP contest! Their schoolmate Daniel Robinson received a
National Silver Medal fro National Silver Medal from
Scholastic Art \& Writing Awards for his photograph The Harris County Department of Education will honor Daniel and all the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards winners from the month Our students earned a total of 50 Regional Scholastic Art awards! And we recently discovered wro Aldine students won in writing. Congratulations to
Eleazar Lucio from Blanson CTE High School and Tahamid Bhuiyan from Eisenhower High School! They both earned Silver Keys for

Kelvin Chatham, The Next Football Coach and Campus Coordinator For Davis HS

During Tuesday's
board meeting, Aldine officially meeting, Aldine officially announced
Kelvin Chatham as the Kelvin Chatham as the and campus coordinator for Davis High School, returning to Aldine ISD after spending two sea-
sons as HISD Booker T. Washington. He replaces cott Joseph, who rein late February with a record of 12-24.
He began his coaching career back at Citrus coached receivers, before coming to his alma mater Aldine Nimitz to coach receivers. During his Eame with the Golde record of $12-8$, highlight ed by the $9-1$ record this past season, winning district for the first time since 2006 and qualifying for the playoffs. Growing up in Aldine, Chatham is excited to coach what he calls home. This is really a said. "Aldine is my community. I grew up in Greenspoint, and it gives me chills to go back into the community that poured so much into me. I feel like I understand where these kids come from and I want to give

back, because this place gave so much to me." Chatman grew up in Aldine ISD and graduat ed from Nimitz High School before his college playing career at Citrus ifornia, and at Illinois State. After finishing up at Illinois State Chatham had a brief stint in some NFL camps and spent time in the Ca nadian Football League "I love the kids and
community at Booker T.," Chatham said in a statement addressing his departure. "The work they put in was unbelievable. It was a great time, and words can't explain staff and those kids. I am taff and those kids. I am Houston ISD and the administration to give me my first shot to be a head coach, I wouldn't be where I am without them taking a chance on me."

tasy works! We have amazing talent among our stu dents, and I laud thei
incredible teachers and incredible
And what a night for the MacArthur High School boys' soccer! Last night the team beat Cypress Springs
$4-0$ to advance to the region-$4-0$ to advance to the region-
al quarterfinals for the third consecutive year! iViva el fútbol!
Thank you for tagging
me on social me on social media or reach ing out to our Communica-
tions Office to make us tions Office to make us credible achievements. G OO-D J-O-B! Good Job! Good Job!
Before I
Before I close, don't for
get we are hosting our Pre get we are hosting our Pre day, April 1. Join us to learn day, April 1. Join us to eear portunities we offer ou youngest learners, ages 3,4 ,
and 5 . Meet school staff and preregister your student preregister your students
for the $2023-2024$ school
year. GOING EVENTS FOR THE COMMUNITY March 30: GIRLS Em
ment is holding monthly
CPR classes. (Click here) April 29: AISD's 2nd
Annual Festival de Primavera (an all-Spanish event), from 9 a.m. to noon, at the M.O. Campbell Educational Center
Now-June Now-June 1: AISD is applying to receive its share of
ARP ESSER III (ESSER III) funding as determined by the Texas Education Agency. Aldine ISD seeks
feedback from all distrit feedback from all district and community stakehold-
ers to help determine how the district should best utilize these resources. Click here to take the survey. Ongoing: Family and Community University's
2022-2023 - Click here to
2022-2023
register.
register.
Ongoing: iEducate is hiring college students, especially Aldine ISD grads, as tutors to work with Aldiaccepts applications on a accepts applications on a ed students are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.
RECENT NEWS \& ALDINE ISD PODCAST Join Us at the
 on April 1 Aldine ISD to Host Community MeetingsAldine ISD to Host its Inaugural Soñadores Summit for All High District Student Amb sadors Visit the Texas State Capitol

District Student Named a 2023 Scholastic Art and Writing National Winner; 2
Students Earn Silver Keys in Regional Contest Preregister Your Eligible Head Start, Prekindergarten, and Kindergarten Students for 2023-2024

All The Things: The Al6, Season 4 gram. Free Headers Promo Time Houston Dyna Eisenhower College $\frac{\text { Prep to Open in Fall } 2023}{\text { View }}$ AISD School Year Calen

## dars

TIONS
March 27: Report card are to be available to stuMar. 29: ENVI2ION Shool Day (ADSY) REMINDERS FOR
STUDENTS AND STUDENTS AND FAMILIES
Outside food and bever-
ages are prohibited ages are prohibited on al
secondary school campuse secondary school campuses
(middle, ninth-grade, and high school campuses) pre mises. Click here for details.
The state requires The state requires high
school seniors to 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 In take the Texas Success Ini-
tiative (TSI) Assessment (details).

Aldine ISD's top priorities are students' safety and trict posts information rela ed to protocols along with any updates at a
www.aldineisd.org/healtha lerts.
FOLLOW US! Stay connected by visiting AldineISD.org. Check out our District News and
Aldine ISD Podcast pages to stay updated on all the great things happening in our district. You can also connect ter, and Instagram.
here)
April 1: PreK Expo En rollment (Click here) April 15: Soñadore
Summit from 9 a.m. to Summit from 9 a.m. to 1
p.m. at Aldine High School p.m. at Aldine High Schoo outside the U.S. (Click here for details)
and ESL classes for AISD parents with a student en rolled in the bilingual or ESL program in AISD
Click here for details and to
register. ${ }^{\text {Now-Apr. 22: AISD's }}$
Health Services Depart

## Ralph O.Norman Jr., Retired AISD Administrator Passes Away

Long-time district lead er Ralph Odell Norman,
Jr. passed Jr. passed away peacefully in his home with his family at his side on March
Mr. Norman grew up in Mr. Norman grew up in
Houston. He attended Al dine schools and graduat-
ed from Aldine High ed from Aldine High
School. He received his bachelor's and master's
from Sam Houston State University, where he was a Sigma Phi Epsilon Fra-
ternity member His dediternity member. His dedication to Aldine ISD led
him to teach at Carver him to teach at Carver
High School. During his career, heo served as a
counselor at Eisenhower
cole counselor at Eisenhower
High School, assistant principal at Carver HS,
founding principal of the founding principal of the
Aldine Contemporary Education Center, and prin

Nearing Peak World Population

Iregularly talk to well-informed people who do not realize that world population growth is
rapidly slowing and that global population rapidly slowing and that global population century. Currently, the UN estimates the most century. Currently, the UN estimates the most
likely case is that the world's population will top out around 10 billion in 2080 and then begin a long, slow decline. Other modelers are projecting the peak will be reached in 2060 at 9 billion and then decline more rapidly. Some scenarios predict there will be fewer peopl.
than now.
The UN's predictions for the U.S. are similar with our population topping out at around 380 million near the end of the century. This is consis-
tent with the Congressional Budget Office projections, which assume the U.S. annual population rowth rate over the next 20 years will decline from $.5 \%$ to $.2 \%$. Without immigration, the U.S. population would begin to decline around 2035.
Many of us grew up reading the Ehrlichs' Populaion Bomb, which predicted a worldwide apocalypse was just around the corner. The book, written in ll of humanity is over. In the 1970s hundreds of millions of people will starve to death..." Of course, that did not happen and since around 2000 , researchers have found there have been more obese people in the world than those who are undernour-

In part, it did not happen because of an explosion f agricultural technology in the 1950s and 1960s prediction also never came to pass because they missed that by the time they were writing the book, women had already begun having fewer babies.
The critical metric for population growth is the verage number of children women are having at Other factors, such as childhood survival and ongevity, also affect population growth but the ertility rate is the big driver. It takes a fertility rate of 2.1 children per woman to maintain a stable population, known as the "replacement rate." Anything above that a
and below that it falls.
When the Ehrlichs wrote their book the fertility rate was stunningly high at 5 . That astronomical rate would go on to cause the world population to
double just 40 years later. But what was not appa ent to the Erhlichs at the time was that the fertility rate had peaked about five years earlier at 5.3. That began a steady slide downward to 2.3 today, just barely above the replacement rate.
However, a decline in fertility rate does not show up at once. It takes a while for that lower rate to work through the generational cycle, something refrred as "population momentum." That is why
you still see a hefty $25 \%$ increase in the world's opulation in the projections before it tops out in 2080.

Many countries around the world are already beginning to feel the effects of slowing population growth. Japan and Russia both face looming drastic population declines. China announced this year that or the first time its poploties have begun adopting policies to encourage young couples to have more children.
Of course, there is no question that the decline in population growth is very welcome news. Indee pocalypse that the Erhlichs foresaw as we put increasing demands on the earth's finite resources And polling in the U.S. generally finds that most people would like to see a lower population
But for the last three centuries our civilization as been based on steady population growth and astronomical population growth since the midnd Medicare will not work in a world where the population is flat or declining, at least, not without some substantial modification.
Because lower fertility rates are correlated with educational attainment, the most uneducated, poorest parts of the world will be growing the astest. The only places in the world currently with a fertility rate well above the replacement rate are
sub-Saharan Africa and central Asia. This dichotomy will result in greater wealth disparity and conflicts.
The new population paradigm will cause many headaches which our children and grandchildren
will have to wrestle. Some are obvious and some will have to wrestle. Some are obvious and some world could start thinking through those issues now and begin to prepare. However, human behavior over the centuries has shown that kind of long-term planning is not one of our strong suits.

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


## K <br> STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS By Gary Borders

## Texas Leads Nation in Jobs Added

The Lone Star State confinues to lead the nation in positions in February new positions in February, bring-
ing the state to nearly 14 million total nonfarm jobs, according to the Texas Workforce Commission. February also marked two full years of
uninterrupted job growth in the state.
"The past 24 months of show the strength of the Texas economy and ongoing ecoTexans," said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel.
The state's jobless rate in February was $4.5 \%$, which is higher than the national rate Sureau of Labor Statistics. The highest jobless rate in a Texas metropolitan statistical area is $6.8 \%$ in McAllen-Edinburgh-Mission. The lowest rate in
in Midland.

## RAINY DAY FUND HITS CAP

FOR FIRST TIME
The state's piggy bank is nearly full.
Comptroller Glenn Hegar called Rainy Day Fund, officially the Economic tabilization Fund, will reach which is $10 \%$ of what is de, posited in the General Revenue Fund. Rising revenues fueled by spikes in energy prices and inflation have filled the state's coffers, Hear said.
hat we have seen truly have been historical and unprecedented. We have never seen anything like this in the past, and I don't think well see anything like
The state experienced
ecord growth in tax collec tions in 2022 of $25.6 \%$ from he previous year, filling the of $\$ 32.7$ billion.
"I am glad to see that lawmakers are giving careful hought to how this tremendous asset can be best put to ork for Texans," Hegar add-

SENATE PASSES BILL TO LIMIT OVERNOR'S POWERS The Texas Senate unanimously passed a bill to rein
in the governor's authority during emergencies or disasters, the Austin American-

matching proposal in th House is awaiting a commit sored by state Sen. Brian Birdwell, R-Granbury, would require the governor to cal
the Legislature into specia session if the executive office wants to extend a disaster or emergency declaration past
30 days. Only the Legislate 30 days. Only the Legislature
would be able to put restricwould be able to put restric
tions on businesses such those imposed during the initial weeks of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We must no longer allow im to be leveraged against th Legislature, especially during times of emergency disaster that affect a significant num ber of Texans," Birdwell said ter declarations last 30 day ter declarations last 30 day
but can be renewed by the governor. For example, Gov Greg Abbott has extended disaster declaration relating
to illegal border to illegal border crossings each month since May 202
according to the Statesman Abbott expressed support in his State of the State address in January for involving the Legislature in deal with public health crises.

## SENATE BACKS BOOST FO

RETIRED TEACHERS
The Texas S The Texas Senate also unanimously approved
package that allocates $\$ 4.7$ billion from the budget surplus to increase monthly pay ments for retired teachers and gives a one-time bump to the Statesman reported. The bill is now headed to the
House for consideration. The measure calls for a $2 \%$ raise for teachers who retired between Sept. 1, 2013, an
Jan. 1, 2022, and a 4\% rais for those who retired before Sept. 1, 2013. Senate Bill 10 also provide Sonat

## NORTHEAST $\star$ NEUS

(713) 266-3444 • FAX (713) 977-118
email nenewsroom@aol.com
email: nenewsroom@aol.com
website: www.nenewsroom.com

## Founded 1 Gilbert Hofman..

Gilbert Hoffman.
Mei-Ing Hoffman
Willie G Glasgow.
Kristan Hoffgan
Julieta Paita....
Gerardo Herna

Contributing Writers: Mik
Jamail, Kristan Hoffinan
Jamail, Kristan Hofft
Published each Tuessay by G


enewsroom@aol.com
Founding Member North Houston Chamber (nuw Houss
Member Texas Press Association
pend of $\$ 7,500$ for retirees older than 75 . The bill affects teachers. "This is a significant financial commitment from the tate," state Sen. Joan Huffman, R -Houston, said. "Many ling for so long. We needed to do this."
Retired teachers on aver-
age make $\$ 2,100$ a month through the Teachers Retirement System

## OATERS, ANGLERS URG

 TOA AVOD COASROOKRIES
Anglers and boaters along the Texas coast are urged to
watch out for nesting birds during this peak breeding and nesting season, according to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Brown peliblack skimmers and reddish egrets are among the birds nesting in dense colonies, called rookeries. TPWD encourages folks to watch out for these nesting birds so they rensitive time.
"With too many disturbances, an entire colony of thousands of birds may abandon an island and give up on can potentially lead to drastic population declines," said Trey Barron, a diversity biologist with TPWD. "When approached too closely by boaters or people wading off their nests, leaving eggs and chicks exposed to the summer sun, which can cause them to overheat. The abandoned nests also allow opporand grackles to quickly swoop in and feed on them."
Boaters and anglers are also encouraged to properly dispose of fishing line, tackle does not harm birds, turtles or other marine life.
"The habitats that waterbirds use are the same habitats in which we - including myself - enjoy fishing, hunting and photographing wild-
life," Barron said. "We just have to remember to give
them their space, especially during the nesting season, and pick up after ourselves. look for the yellow signs that dentify rookery islands and keep your distance. We can all enjoy the same places, as
long as we do it responsibly."

## HOUSE PASSES DIAPER,

 PERIOD PRODUCTS BILLThe Texas House last a bill repealing the state sales tax on diapers, period prodtems. The measure now heads to the Senate.
Its sponsor, state Rep.
Donna Howard, D-Austin,
Donna Howard, D-Austin, has tried for several sessions "This bill provides an opportunity to help Texas famiies at every stage of life," Howard said Tuesday, as reported by The Dallas Mornexempts adult diapers.

## "Dog Friends"

My husband, Peter, is try ing to impress a local collie.
Peter knows better than this. He had a collie for many years. Collies are not easily
impressed. They have their own priorities and their own agenda and if it happens to coincide with yours, you can pretend they did something on your behalf-but
ing to yourself. ing to yourself.
But Peter stiver But Peter still loves collies.
The current object of Peter's The current object of Peter's
affection is named Lassero and lives on a road Peter takes ev ery day on his hike.
Peter met the collie one day
when the dog was sticking his when the dog was sticking his
head through the curtains. Pe ter learned his name from the ter learned his name from the
collie's owner, and went on to
assumehe andthe assume he and the collie would
be fast friends. Every day, be fast friends. Every day, as
Peter walked by, he called out, "Lassero!" and the collie ig-
nored him. So Peter decided he nored him. So Peter decided w Peter brought a cookie and put it on the windowsill. The home, Peter checked the win dome, Peter checked the wine Peter did this for several days running.
"Maybe Lassero's owner is finding the cookies," I said
"Maybe he is throwing them away!" Peter was not
vinced.
Then one day, Lassero was at the window. Peter gave him a cookie. Lassero ignored it Peter put it down on the sil.
Lassero poked it with his nose He eventually ate it, but did not seem excited.
"I don't think Lassero likes cookies," Peter concluded. The next day, he went out an
bought corn chips bought corn chips.
he's not going to like corn chips!"' I told Peter. "He's wait ing for organic sun-dried beef chips." Peter looked as if he
was considering this was considering this. "I co
said.
"You
"You can't take chicken on your hike!" I figured there wasn't much Peter wouldn't do to capture this dog's affection.
Then Peter had an idea "Popcorn! Dogs love popcorn even more than beef!" Peter packaged up some popcorn and put it in his back pack. "Lassero!"' he called. The
dog did not answer. Peter left popcorn on the windowsill O his way down, he checked. The popcorn was still there, but one piece had been moved. It was now in tiny, wet pieces. Appar-
ently, Lassero did not like popently, Lasser
corn either.
Some dogs will do anything for affection. Some dogs will give you affection once they figure you've earned it. And some dogs are always going to play
hard to get. I had a feeling that Lassero might not be in the

## We're having a giant egg hunt in...




Priests, Disciples, No one, Villagers
5. From John 20, which disciple doubted that Jesus had risen unless he could see the wounds? Peter Andrew, Thomas, Thaddeus
6. How long did Jesus remain after His resurrection before He ascended into heaven? Instantaneously, 1 hour, 7 days, 40 days
ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Matthew (27:65-66), 3) An angel, 4)
Disciples, 5) Thomas (called Didymus), 67) 40 days (Acts $1: 3$ ) Sharpen our understanding of scripture with wiison's Casey's latest bool Test Your Bible Knowledge," available in bookstores and online. (c)
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# SENIOR NEWS LINE 

## by Matilda Charles

## Rising Cost of Home Insurance

When I got my home howed a massive pay ment for my policy renewal, I actually laughed. I flipped the page over, believing I'd received someone else's mail by mistake ... probably a neighbor down the stree
But when I saw my own name, I wasn't laughing anymore when and discovered that the new amount was a $45 \%$ ncrease over last year. Still, ever hopeful, I called my insurance company, wondering if someone else's home had been plugged into my account. listed was indeed for my ome, as were the num bers for out buildings,
 and all the price increases hit them. There are several reacrease, such as increased assessment, material and labor (which is the big one right now), additions to the house, number of pri-
personal property and ible, your credit score and temporary living expens- the breed of dog you own.
es. I called several neigh- different insural calls to bors: Has your insurance panies, it's not looking gone up? No, they all good. What I get so far is
said. I discovered the that if I decide to gamble likely reason for that dur- and lower my coverage ing a call to a friendly lo- level, I run a risk that cal insurance agent. something will happen They're no doubt in the and I'll be stuck for mammiddle of a policy period, moth amounts of money he said. Their bad sur- that insurance won't covprise will come when it's
time to renew that policy
 or claims, your deduct Good luck. (c) 2023 K


## hullywuuu

 by Tons RizzoHOLLYWOOD - Bill Skarsgard was third-billed for "John Wick," probably because of his visibility as Pennywise in
"It" (2017), which catapulted the $\$ 40$-mil"It ( film to a $\$ 701.8$ million gross. And in lion film to a $\$ 701.8$ million gross. And in
2019, the sequel, "It Chapter Two," turned a $\$ 79$ million cost into $\$ 473.1$ million at the box office. This year, Skarsgard is working nonstop - first up, he
has "Boy Kills World" (about a deaf-mute has "Boy Kills World" (about a deaf-mute who escapes after his family is murdered
into the jungle where he's trained by a mysterious mentor). Then, he has the $\$ 50$-million supernatural superhero film "The Crow," opposite Danny Huston, as
well as the Gothic horror film "Nosfer well as the Gothic horror film "Nosferatu," co-starring Lily-Rose Depp (Johnny
Depp's daughter), Nicholas Hoult and Willem Dafoe. Not bad for a budding 32-year-old star.

Keanu Reeves, now 58 , is lighting his wick at both ends. He jumped right from "John Wick: Chapter 4," which opened last week, into yet another " "ohn Wick" feature - a spin-off called "Ballerina,"
co-starring Ana de Armas as a ballerina-co-starring Ana de Armas as a ballerina-
assassin, Ian McShane, Lance Reddick, assassin, lan McShane, Lance Reddick,
Anjelica Huston, Bill Skarsgard, Gabriel Byrne and "The Walking Dead's" Norman Reedus. Shooting began in Prague last
November. November.
"The Walking Dead's" not done with Norman Reedus. He's headlining the upcoming AMC spin-off "The Walking Dead:
Daryl Dixon," which drops later this year. Dary ixon,
In the interim, he's starring opposite Austin Butler, Jodie Comer, Michael Shannon and Tom Hardy in the upcoming drama film "The Bikeriders." Meanwhile, Butler is toplining the AppleTV+ series "Masters of the Air," in the vein of "Band
of Brothers." of Brothers.

Morgan Freeman is still going strong at 85 , with over 100 films under his belt. Among them are such classics as "Street
Smart" (1987), which brought him his first Oscar nom; 1989's "Driving Miss


Daisy," which brought him his second Oscar nom; "The Shawshank Redemption",
(1994); and 2004's "Million Dollar Baby," which earned him his Oscar win for Best Supporting Actor. Freeman is now starring in "The Ritual Killer," with Cole Hauser, which arrived March 10. "A Good Person," with Florence Pugh and Molly
Shannon, opened March 24, and he also Shannon, opened March 24, and he also
has the upcoming sci-fi thriller " 57 Seconds," with Josh Hutcherson, as well as the Paramount+ spy series "Lioness," opposite Zoe Saldana and Nicole Kidman. "Freeman, who played God in 2003's "Bruce Almighty" and 2007's "Evan Almighty," has shared his views on God. "I
think we invented God," he explained. "So, think we invented God," he explained. "So,
if I believe in God, and I do, it's because I think I'm God!" Freeman is a practicing Zoroastrian who has been married and divorced twice. He has fathered four children and divides his time between New York City. He got his pilot's license New York City. He got his pilots slicense
at 65 and owns three private planes. It stands to reason - if you're a method actor and you're playing God, you have to believe you are God! Holy moly! (c) 2023
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ENTERTAINMENT

April 3, 2023 Posting Date King Crossword


$$
\begin{aligned}
& 56 \text { Take offense } \\
& \text { at } \\
& 57 \text { "Leda and the } \\
& \text { Swan" poet }
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Weekly SUDOKU

| by Linda Thistle |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 4 |  |  |  | 9 |  | 8 |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2 | 4 |  |  |  |  | 3 | 3 |
|  | 7 |  |  |  | 6 |  | 5 |  |  |
|  | 3 |  |  |  | 4 | 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  | 1 | 8 | 5 |  |  |  | 9 | 9 |
| 2 |  |  | 6 |  |  |  | 4 |  |  |
| Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and numbers from one to nine. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ***
$\bullet$ Moderate $\uparrow \leftrightarrow$ Challeng

## HOCUS-FOCUS

 -

Lone Star College receives $\$ 325,000$ grant to expand job placements for students

he Texas Workforce Commission presented Lone Sta college and Lone Star Corporate College with a grant from the Texas Talent Connection Fund. Pictured, from left, are Stephen C. Head, Ph.D., LSC Chancellor; Bryan
Daniel, TWC Commissioner and Chairman and Mary York, TWC Outreach and Employer Initiatives Director.
HOUSTON - The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) presented Lone Star College and Lone Star Cor Fund at a recent check signing event at LSC-University Park.
LSC will use the $\$ 324,792$ grant to develop partnerships with area corporations to offer enhanced job placement services for graduates of the associate degree and ertificate workforce programs. This joint venture will increase the production of a skilled workforce in six ndustries: manufacturing, automotive, information
echnology, business, visual communication and health care.
"Lone Star College is extremely grateful for the support shown to us by the Texas Workforce Commission, joy the relationship we have and look forward to strategically planning how to use these funds to ensure student success."
The TTC grant is an initiative of Texas Governor Greg Abbot and is funded by the Wagner-Peyser 7(b) ederal funds. The money will benefit people particifeer Planning project. The funds will also assist first-generation students enrolled in career preparation training programs and workforce associate of applied science degrees that yield industry-specific redentials.
"In Texas, $52 \%$ of the labor market requires some training after school, which disqualifies $24 \%$ of job seekers who do not have those criteria," said Bryan Daniel, Texas Workforce Commission Commissioner and Chairman. "The Texas Talent Connection Grant will help
educate and train the workforce which will help ad dress the growing shortage in critical fields."
There are 14.5 million people in the workforce, and There are 14.5 million people in the workforce, and gree, which a third of the workers have, according to TWC. There are 500,000 unemployed (who want to work and are looking for jobs) people and 525,000 open posiions. TWC said the lack of training and educational programs leaves the unemployed population unqual
fied for vacant jobs.
ed for vacant jobs.
"Lone Star College will use the grant to create bet ter employment opportunities for our students and in troduce our students as a highly-skilled workforce for
our corporate partners," said Linda Leto Head, LSC Senior Associate Vice Chancellor External and Employer Relations. "We will help students find jobs in school and after graduation while finding meaningful ways to row, cultivate and engage employers,"
Other speakers at the TTC check signing event in luded James Giles, National Oilwell Vargo Talent Ac quisition Manager and Rick Cochran, HMG Healthcare ed LSCS Board of Trustees Jim Cain, Ed.D., and Rebec ca Broussard; Seelpa Keshvala, Ph.D., LSC Executive Vice Chancellor and LSC-Online CEO; Dwight Smith, dd.D., LSC Vice Chancellor Academic and Workforce uccess; Melissa Gonzalez, Ph.D., LSC-Kingwood Pres dent; Rebecca Riley, Ed.D., LSC-Montgomery Presi President.
In Lone Star College's 50 -year history, various agenies have given funds to help create and support inno ative educational programs. In the last two years, the texas Workforce Commission has gra
"The Texas Workforce Commission has awarded several grants to Lone Star College to implement workforce programs and customized training that can lead to high-earning employment and retention strategie
for our business partners," said Leto Head.
Lone Star Corporate College partners with corporations to offer customized training, open-enrollmen job function for LSC students. The focus is on the ene y, computer technology and manufacturing sectors; however, training opportunities are available for re tail, hospitality, school districts, health care organiza ions, nonprofits and other industries. Visi oneStar.edu/CorporateCollege to learn more
Lone Star College enrolls over 80,000 students each semester providing high-quality, low-cost academic
transfer and career training education. LSC is trainng 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 Hous on 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 For tune Magazine and Great Place To Work® as one of this year's Best Workplaces in Texas ${ }^{\text {TM }}$. LSC consists of eight colleges, seven centers, eight Workforce Cen ters of Excellence and Lone Star Corporate College. To earn more, visit LoneStar.edu.


Fall Registration Opens April 6
LoneStar.edu/LearnMore


## EGBSTRAVIGANZA

Saturday, April 8th I Sabado, Abril 8 10AM-1PM

Join us for Eggstravaganza at the East Aldine Town Center! We will have an epic egg hunt, kite flying, arts \& crafts, sports games, chalk ort, Fob Lab paper rocket launch, face paintina, henna, bubble station, door orizes \& more, Come picture ready for the fomily photo station
Bring your own kite \& baskets. This event is for the whole family! Call $346-570-4463$ for more informotion.
iÚnase a nosotros para Eggstravaganza en East Aldine Town Center! Tendremos una busqueda de huevos épico. vuelo de cometas, artes y manualidades Juegos deportivos, arte con tiza, lanzamiento de cohetes de papel Fab Lab, pintura
facial, henna, estación de burbujas, premios de puerta y mós.
Ven a lista para la estación de fotos familiares
Traiga su propio cometo y conasto. IEste evento es para toda la fomilio Llame al 346-570-4463 para más información.


Keep East Aldine Clean \& Green!


